

# Application form: **THE CIVIL SOCIETY FUND PARTNERSHIP INTERVENTION** (less than DKK 500,000)

**February 2013**

This form must be used to apply for funding of a partnership intervention. It is divided into four parts:

**1. Cover page with basic information**

Applicant, partners, synthesis, title, amount applied for, etc.

**2. Application text**

This part is built around a structure, which must be adhered to in the description of the partnership intervention. Instructions on how to fill in this framework are reproduced at the end of the form.

**3. Budget summary**

The main items of the budget drawn up for the partnership intervention. Please, note that the budget summary must be elaborated upon in the annex *Budget format*.

**4. List of annexes**

This is to indicate the obligatory and supplementary annexes that support the application.

## **Instructions**

The instructions elaborate on what should be included under each section and subsection in order to have the application assessed.

### **Please, note:**

- **NUMBER OF PAGES:** Part 2 'Application text' must not exceed 16 pages. Applications longer than that will be turned down.
  - **SIZE OF ANNEXES:** The length of supplementary annexes must not exceed 30 pages.
- LANGUAGE:** The description of the partnership intervention must have been drawn up in cooperation between the Danish applicant organisation and its local partner. Consequently, a document must be available in a language commanded by the local partner. The actual application, however, can only be submitted in Danish or English.

The application form and all annexes must be submitted in three printed copies to:  
**CISU – Civil Society in Development, Klosterport 4A, 3.sal, DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark**

In addition, the application form and Annexes A-C must be sent electronically to: [civilsamfundspuljen@cisu.dk](mailto:civilsamfundspuljen@cisu.dk).  
Annexes D-F may also be submitted in an electronic format, although this is not required.

# 1. Cover page

Ref. no. (to be filled out by  
CISU)

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## THE CIVIL SOCIETY FUND PARTNERSHIP INTERVENTION (less than DKK 500,000)

<b>Title of partnership intervention:</b>	Building the network: Spreading eco-strategies in Ghana		
Danish applicant organisation:	LØS (Danish Association of Ecovillages)		
Local partner organisation(s):	KITA – KUMASI INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE		
Country(-ies):	Ghana	Country's GNI per capita: USD \$1760	
Commencement date: 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2015	Completion date: 30 <sup>rd</sup> March 2016	Number of months: 12 months	
Contact person for the partnership intervention: Name: Pernille Rydahl Email address: pernille.rydahl@munksoegaard.dk			
<b>Amount requested from the Civil Society Fund:</b> 485.059,00	<b>Annual cost level:</b> (Total amount requested divided by number of project years): 485.059,00		
Is this a re-submission? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, previous date of application: September 2013 (J.nr.: 13-1367-PA-sep)			
Do you want a response letter in (choose one): <input type="checkbox"/> Danish or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English?			
<b>Synthesis</b> (maximum 10 lines – must be written in Danish, even if the rest of the application is in English) Projektet omhandler et nyt partnerskab mellem den nationale organisation af økosamfund i Danmark (LØS) og KITA i Ghana, som den primære initiativtager til netværket Global Ecovillage Network (GEN) Ghana. KITA er projektpartner, men sigtet er gennem partnerskabs interventionen at styrke GEN Ghana som en ny og hurtigt voksende netværksorganisation, der har brug for at slå sig fast som aktør i Ghana. Der skal opbygges organisatorisk kapacitet og afholdes et Ecovillage Design Education kursus (se bilag). Den skal samle forskellige aktører i Ghana gennem en konkret aktivitet. På den måde konsolideres GEN Ghana gennem en praktisk, internationalt FN anerkendt aktivitet med bæredygtighed som sigte. KITA har kapaciteten til at være 'inkubator' for GEN Ghana's konsolidering som netværk og LØS ser det som en oplagt mulighed for at være med i arbejdet, at lære og at bidrage. Projektet knytter an til den internationale økobevegelse gennem LØS' engagement i GEN Europe og KITA's tilsvarende i GEN Africa.			

14.12 2014



Date

Person responsible (signature)

Trekroner, Denmark

Pernille Rydahl, International Committee, LØS

Place

Person responsible and position (block letters)

## 2. Application text

### Structure:

#### A. THE PARTNERS

##### A.1 The Danish organisation

LØS (the Danish Association of Ecovillages) is a national network of Danish ecovillages and projects – the first of its kind in the world. LØS is referred to as Global Ecovillage Denmark (GEN Denmark) in the international Global Ecovillage Network (GEN).

LØS has faced similar challenges to what the GEN Ghana (Global Ecovillage Ghana) is also facing. These challenges include trying to mobilize members in the national networks, while the member organizations are occupied with other commitments as well. To address this challenge, LØS representatives from the member organisations form committees on specific topics. For example, an educational committee, handling the capacity building of the members, and an international committee. The international committee represents LØS in international meetings, European projects and working groups etc. and is also responsible for this application. This committee involves LØS in international development activities, and also encourages strong engagement in the Danish civil society. Part of this process is being a member of CISU.

Being a founding member of Global Ecovillage Network Europe, great interests in working internationally exists in LØS, though until now mostly on a European level. Furthermore, LØS is one of the founding members of the Baltic Ecovillage Network and ECOLISE, which stands for a more networked and advocacy oriented approach. Currently LØS is engaged in the new Erasmus+ scheme primarily through mobility grants (capacity building), and in two strategic partnership projects, one about building stronger national networks and another about Transition to Resilience training. The involvement of LØS in such activities is anticipated to feed positively into the proposed partnership intervention with GEN Ghana. This partnership intervention will serve as an avenue for LØS to mobilize more active members to contribute their various competencies to make LØS stronger internationally. As such, partners in Ghana and in Denmark can learn from each other's experiences and build even stronger organisations and networks.

##### A.3 The local organization

For the purpose of the application for this partnership intervention, Kumasi Institute of Tropical Agriculture (KITA) in Ghana is the project holder, representing GEN Ghana. The partnership intervention itself will be inclusive of many GEN Ghana members, and the main activity will be hosted at the KITA campus in Kumasi.

KITA is a non-profit agricultural institution Ghana, established in 1984, providing training, consultancy, research and rural extension in tropical agriculture to prospective and practicing farmers. KITA is focused on youth, women and peasant farmers at the grassroots level. KITA is also involved in building the capacity of local organisations and civil society organisations to be involved in advocacy and decision-making process at district, regional and national levels regarding food security, environmental conservation, renewable energy and sustainable development. Through strong local and international networks, KITA uses permaculture and agroforestry principles to show struggling farmers in Ghana ways in which they can achieve alternative, sustainable and more resilient livelihoods.

KITA has been working in about 250 local communities, 60 schools and with 40 civil society organisations to promote agroforestry, permaculture, ecovillage strategies and sustainable agriculture, including agribusiness and entrepreneurship development services. KITA has a college and a centre for community development and outreach and has trained over 25,000 youth, including women in improved agricultural practices.

KITA has for long been an active member of different Ghanaian networks of NGO's or civil society organisations that influence government policy and provide an opportunity for marginalized people to voice their issues to both the government and development organisations through various forums and platforms. These platforms include the Farmers Forum, Peasant Farmers Association, the policy advocacy network FOODSPAN, Youth in Agriculture, as well as other environmental, climate change, renewable energy and sustainable development initiatives.

## **GEN Ghana**

In consultation with networks of civil society organisations involved in ecological agriculture and environmentalism, including the Ghana Permaculture Network and KITA, the Ghana Ecovillage Network – GEN Ghana - was established and registered in 2013, by 7 founding members.

The current aim of GEN Ghana is to utilize its network of members to spread ecovillage strategies across Ghana and to form a joint and stronger advocacy platform. GEN Ghana is today a registered network of 16 civil society organisations from all regions of Ghana that believe in and work for environmental sustainability, environmental governance and sustainable development. GEN Ghana members include established/emerging institutions/organizations, individuals, communities (eg. Mognori Ecovillage).

The purpose of the ecovillage movement in Ghana is to enable villages and communities to become more sustainable and resilient through increasing local food production, renewable energy integration into communities as well as advocacy in sustainable development issues at the local, regional and national levels. GEN Ghana is formally part of the Global Ecovillage Network (GEN) in Africa and is therefore involved in co-creating the growth and emergence of GEN Africa, with technical, moral and financial support from GEN Europe. A GEN Ghana interim Board has been formed and is now to set up a temporary GEN Ghana secretariat at KITA. The GEN Ghana Board includes representatives from member organisations and community leaders to ensure accountability in the management of the interventions and secure alignment with GEN Ghana objectives.

### **A.4 The cooperative relationship and its prospects**

In August 2012, the first Danish 4 week long Ecovillage Design Education (EDE) was held. Two representatives from Ghana (one from KITA and one from the Ghana Permaculture Institute) participated, financed by a reverse travel grant from DANIDA. Besides the EDE the programme for the stay focused on visiting Danish ecovillages, learning about ecovillage activities Denmark and sharing experiences, concerning network building. Information work about Ghana and eco-strategies was shared.

Since the 6-week long stay in 2012, communication has transpired between Ghana and Denmark on how to strengthen and continue the growing partnership. People from ecovillages in Denmark were curious about the happenings in Ghana and a representative from the International Committee in LØS has visited KITA in Ghana twice. An article about Permaculture in Ghana, written by KITA staff, was published in the Danish Permaculture Magazine and communication between individual ecovillages and the representatives from Ghana has continued ever since the visit.

The proposed partnership intervention revolves around holding an EDE in Ghana, with adapted curriculum and co-facilitation support provided by both LØS and GEN Ghana members. The intervention also includes a pilot project of mapping ecovillages in Ghana. By the end of the intervention the capacity of GEN Ghana members will be built in facilitating EDEs and other ecovillage trainings. LØS members will also have the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding about what ecovillages are, in the context of the Global South. LØS members will also provide advice and expertise in how to strengthen the network of GEN Ghana, including setting up the membership base and the administrative framework.

### **Prospects**

After the completion of this partnership intervention, the next steps taken will include future EDE's hosted by GEN Ghana, for different target groups, collaborative projects between GEN Ghana members, incorporation of Ecovillage Design Strategies into existing training curriculum of GEN Ghana members, continued communication and advice transfer between LØS and GEN Ghana, and further mapping of ecovillage projects in Ghana. The GEN Ghana members trained during the EDE will share their knowledge across Ghana through numerous short term and long-term trainings and projects. The new skills gained by GEN Ghana members in how to facilitate high-quality trainings will also be utilized. These activities will lead to the dissemination of ecovillage strategies across Ghana to numerous beneficiaries.

Additional joint projects and direct collaborations between GEN Ghana members and LØS members will also be pursued. KITA and GEN Ghana will continue to keep the LØS International Committee informed of its progress and challenges in creating a strong network, meaning both an active membership base, a functioning administrative framework and a strategic advocacy position. LØS will provide continued support and encouragement to GEN Ghana from Denmark. The partnership will go on from there.

## **B. CONTEXT ANALYSIS**

### ***Ecovillages in the Ghanaian Context***

Ecovillages are communities of people who strive to integrate a supportive social environment with a low-impact way of life. They are human-scale settlements, consciously designed through local, participatory processes to secure long-term sustainability. Ecovillages represent an effective, accessible way to combat the degradation of social, ecological, economic, and cultural environments and to further climate adaptation and mitigation strategies. Ecovillages integrate ecological design, permaculture, ecological building, green production, renewable alternative energy, community building practices, and much more, according to local contexts, needs and requirements. Generally, ecovillages in the Global North tend to focus on rebuilding resilient communities, scaling down their life styles and ecological footprints. In contrast, ecovillages in the Global South, such as in Ghana, most often need to 'scale up' in order to meet their basic needs. The question at stake is how the 'up scaling' should be planned; by whom and according to which parameters of sustainability, if any. In many areas of the Global South, social systems of solidarity in communities are still alive, while ecological footprints are currently low.

The purpose of promoting ecovillages in Ghana is to integrate traditional Ghanaian knowledge into new and adapted technologies, based on an ecological approach, putting sustainability high on the development agenda. Ecovillages in Ghana will have to promote the integration of ecology, innovation, participatory decision-making, and economically viable, environmentally sustainable activities. Ecovillage design therefore seeks to contribute to sustainable community development in a country where development is being highly sought after, but where different types of development are influenced heavily by different actors and agendas. There is therefore a need to influence the design of the transition of traditional villages and communities in Ghana in a more sustainable and ecologically friendly direction. For this, many strong actors are needed: KITA with its strong background in training in ecological farming - being the only accredited private tertiary agricultural college in Ghana in this specific field - and the emerging GEN Ghana, which is meant to potentially grow to become a strong lobby organisation for pushing the development agenda in this more 'green' and sustainable way.

### ***Challenges to the Eco-movement in Ghana***

The ecological movement in Ghana is competing against many different factors. Ecological agriculture is competing against the strong influence of agro-chemical companies, foreign direct investment in industrial agriculture, and a worldview that places industrial agriculture above traditional ecological agricultural practices. Renewable energy is competing against cheap fossil fuels, which have external social, environmental and economic impacts, which are not factored into their price. Eco-building design is competing against the misguided perception that concrete and other imported materials are the optimal building materials, and that local materials are a lower standard. As described, there are numerous challenges to the eco-movement in Ghana, and building the capacity of GEN Ghana through KITA will help to address these.

### ***Strong Actors are Needed***

In spite of good intentions and many good (but fragmented) initiatives and projects, there seems to be a lack of the necessary capacity, legitimate position and especially a clear direction among the green civil society actors to influence and make themselves heard. This has caused the emergence of GEN Ghana, as an umbrella for all the green organizations. The issue at stake here is the need to gather the initiating actors behind GEN Ghana, get more organisations on board and set objectives, develop strategies and plan actions, that will make GEN Ghana stronger. KITA can temporarily lead that process, as the main project holder and as an organisation with the capacity to implement projects of this kind, until GEN Ghana has a stronger footing. LØS can assist with knowledge and experience, having gone thorough similar processes, forming LØS 20 years ago and yet to make its strategic plan for the coming period as there seems to be a need for a more wholehearted intervention and a direction that can guide the network. There is therefore a momentum right now, where strong actors are needed in civil society to influence the development agenda and propose sustainable solutions.

## **Relevance of the Partnership Intervention – Capacity Building and Networking**

The objectives of ecovillages in Ghana are to restore/protect nature and create environmentally healthy and economically less dependent settlements, using renewable energy technologies, eco-building design, and ecological agriculture. This requires capacity building in a range of technical/practical topics like ecological agriculture, eco-tourism, wetland preservation, forest preservation, waste reduction and recycling. To strengthen GEN Ghana, capacity building is also needed in drafting funding proposals, understanding group dynamics and financial and administrative group management.

Currently, there is lack of awareness of ecovillage strategies across Ghana, and the proponents of the eco-movement are acting independently of one another in decentralized and small-scale projects. This partnership intervention will, among others, serve two purposes:

1. To raise awareness of ecovillage strategies among relevant actors, creating a shared reference. This will be done through a capacity building effort in the form of an Ecovillage Design Education (EDE) course specific for the ecovillage movement, strong media coverage and attendance of government representatives.
2. To bring together prominent ecovillage actors with the main aim to ground the GEN Ghana process, but also to build on their existing knowledge of ecological strategies and create plans for future collaborative projects.

As the GEN Ghana members primarily communicate electronically, through Skype, whatsapp, phone calls etc. and do not often have the opportunity to meet in person to plan projects and collaborations in depth, the EDE will give members an opportunity to make plans with each other and in particular how to propel GEN Ghana forward.

The EDE is a relevant exercise in building the capacity of both the GEN Ghana network and the GEN Ghana members as it addresses environmental, social and economic issues that the Government of Ghana and its institutions are currently unable to address fully. Some of the GEN Ghana members like KITA and Ghana Permaculture Institute, the most active members, are already playing a role promoting sustainable development strategies.

Ghana is currently experiencing both energy and economic crises, which are felt in frequent blackouts and rising food costs. By promoting reliance on alternative energy sources and food self-sufficiency, these crises can be mitigated through ecovillage strategies. The Government of Ghana has not taken the lead on these initiatives, so non-governmental organizations are left to invent and implement the solutions. Climate change, loss of biodiversity, illegal logging/mining, unsustainable agricultural practices, destruction of natural habitat, and land degradation are adversely affecting Ghana and will only worsen with time.

The EDE seeks to propose strategies to mitigate these challenges and propose alternatives. Capacity building is needed for the actors to be able to address these competently. By building the capacity of GEN Ghana members, who are actively working in rural and urban communities, they will be better placed to interrupt unsustainable practices, with ecovillage and permaculture strategies, in a joint manner. KITA and GPI have both been pioneering in this field, for a long time, providing training and practical solutions among especially rural communities. But many new initiatives have come on board and together the different actors can create a shared platform for action in GEN Ghana, using the collective wisdom and experience to stand more powerfully in influencing the political agendas so necessary for Ghana's sustainable development. Therefore the project has come at a right time and is highly relevant.

#### **B.2 In what context is the intervention placed?**

The partnership intervention to take place in Ghana. Specifically, the main partnership intervention activity, the EDE, will take place in Kumasi, located in the Ashanti Region of Ghana. This is where KITA is located and has its training facility and it is close to GPI, with its practical demonstration farms and many projects. But the mapping activity will take place across Ghana.

### ***Political Context of the Intervention***

Ghana is a country, which has seen progressive economic growth, with a relatively peaceful and democratic political system. But the Government of Ghana (GoG) is weak in terms of implementing environmental policies and practices. It is the NGOs and CSOs that have taken the lead in promoting sustainability and environmental initiatives in Ghana, without any political direction and/or support. What could be needed is government adoption and dissemination of the NGO initiatives, and close cooperation between academia, NGOs and government institutions.

### ***Economic Context of the Intervention***

Despite being seen as the newly oil-wealthy country, Ghana is currently in the midst of an economic crisis due to soaring inflation and interest rates, coupled with a plunging currency. This crisis has increased the cost of living dramatically, with increases in fuel and utility prices, and many people struggle to afford increasingly costly food. In the past year, the Ghanaian Cedi has dropped 40% against the US Dollar, making it the world's worst performing currency. Yet a growing middle class, aspiring to buy foreign products is increasing the demand for imports, and further harming the economy, as domestic producers are outcompeted. Ghana lacks food security and food self-sufficiency, relying heavily on imported goods and foreign exchange from exported goods. Ghana's focus on export-oriented agriculture creates vulnerability to international market prices, currency fluctuations, and creates a lack of subsistence food to fall back on in times of emergency. Infrastructural issues furthermore hamper Ghana's economy, which includes frequent electricity blackouts (as demand for electricity outstrips supply), lack of clean drinking water, poor road conditions in some parts of the country etc.

### ***Environmental Context of the Intervention***

Political and economic issues affect heavily the environmental agenda in the country. Most electricity is supplied by hydropower and fossil fuels. Other forms of renewable energy are not heavily invested in, including wind, solar, biomass, geothermal etc. – even a claim has been raised by civil society actors to transform the current and future oil revenue into renewable energy. Contributors to the current electricity crisis include low rainfall levels in the Akosombo Dam catchment area, lack of support for the renewable energy sector, and unstable fuel supply imported from Nigeria. A World Bank report says that Ghana has the right energy sector policies but is failing in its implementation.

The country is highly vulnerable to climate change, variability and uncertainty. Unsustainable practices have resulted in deforestation, land degradation, air and water pollution, soil erosion, overgrazing, and destruction of biodiversity. With an economy heavily rooted in agriculture<sup>1</sup>, the livelihoods of many in Ghana are vulnerable to recent fluctuations in climate and rainfall patterns. Ghana as most of the countries in the West African Region are highly impacted by the increasing effects of climate change, especially in the northern part of Ghana.

Increases in the frequency and intensity of rainfall, floods and landslides, along with the occurrence of extended periods of drought and intense heat, have been linked to changing climatic patterns. Excessive rainfall has led to the overflow of Ghana's major water bodies. In 2010, an estimated 378 000 people were displaced as a result of the flood, which are becoming more common. As in other developing countries, the effects of climate change and variability in Ghana intensify the existing challenges of poverty and rural marginalization, rapid urbanization and growth of informal settlements, land depletion and fragile ecosystems. Such extreme and unpredictable events have devastating consequences for Ghana's socio-economic development and food security, particularly for the millions of people whose livelihoods depend on agriculture and livestock. Tensions and conflicts are likely to increase further as natural disasters; resource depletion, water scarcity and economic instability are exacerbated. According to a World Bank study, increased heat stress and drought-related deaths in both humans and livestock are already occurring in the extreme north of Ghana. Further risks are related to the higher incidence of malaria and parasitic infections that are linked to flooding.

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Approximately 70 per cent of the population depends directly or indirectly on agriculture and forestry, making agriculture and food security particularly vulnerable to climate changes and extremes.  
THE CIVIL SOCIETY FUND – Partnership intervention (less than DKK 500,000)

Key problems facing the environment in Ghana are therefore climate change, loss of biodiversity through illegal logging, unsustainable agricultural practices, and destruction of natural habitats. Land degradation is also a major environmental issue in Ghana. It is estimated that land degradation reduced agricultural income in Ghana by US\$4.2 billion, between 2006-2015. The human-associated factors driving long-term soil and vegetation degradation in Ghana are reflected in unsustainable farming practices, removal of vegetation cover (including deforestation and overgrazing), mining activities, and urbanization and industrial activities caused by increased population growth pressures. The rotational bush fallow system, which is characterized by clearing and burning of the vegetative cover, is the dominant farming system throughout Ghana. This clearing and burning destroys vegetative cover and makes the soil susceptible to erosion and leaching, contributing to soil infertility. Population growth and urbanization mean that periods of drought and flooding place stresses on the availability of water for domestic use. Water deficits have negative impacts on industry, hydro-electric generation and food security.

### ***Social Context of the Intervention***

The rate of youth unemployment in Ghana is high. The situation needs immediate resolution in the form of capacity/skills building and the creation of relevant employment opportunities. Many small-scale farmers also face economic, social and environmental hardships, but do not have adequate and effective platforms to voice their difficulties to government. Most rural villages in Ghana are extremely poor and struggle to break out of a cycle of poverty, emigration of young people, and unsustainable use of natural resources and energy. Widespread poverty and a lack of alternatives traps people in environmentally destructive systems, such as bush burning and deforestation, as they lack access and means to optimized knowledge. Due to lack of alternatives, many rural, peri-urban and urban communities are trapped in a cycle of poverty and environmental destruction. Another issue is also the growing middle class in Ghana, who is now adopting western lifestyles, leaving large ecological footprints (consumption, waste production, increased imports etc.).

### ***Context Summary***

Ghana relies heavily on imported goods and non-renewable fuel sources. The agricultural industry of Ghana is transforming from subsistence/organic farming to industrial farming, making it difficult for rural farmers to compete and sustain themselves. This transition in agriculture is also accompanied by excessive use of synthetic pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers etc. If action is not taken immediately, Ghana's agricultural industry will follow the same mistakes the Western World has made in agriculture: depleting the land of nutrients, polluting the air/water/soil, contributing to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, depleting non-renewable fuel sources, and creating production systems more vulnerable to pests, diseases, climate shifts, fluctuations in oil prices etc. There is a need to promote a sustainable local economy in Ghana, by localizing the production of ecological food products, and by promoting local economies. A localized economy will reduce Ghana's dependence on fossil fuels as sources of energy, provide sustainable income for local farmers and producers and reduce climate change repercussions.

### ***Perceptions of Permaculture in Ghana***

Utilizing and developing permaculture and ecovillage design principles are proven solutions to meet many of the challenges above. Currently, there is a lack of awareness of these strategies for the majority of Ghanaians, especially in the rural areas, where these low-tech strategies should be most accessible. KITA and other GEN Ghana members have introduced permaculture/eco-concepts to schools, communities and farmers, to mining companies, government and NGOs in Ghana. On a long-term basis, the idea is to develop communities as model ecovillages and permaculture demonstration sites, where people can teach each other through their experience and the positive examples of working systems.

KITA has years of experience training farmers, students, and rural communities in aspects of permaculture. These trainings are carried out with men, women, and youth etc. and the trainings heavily focus on practical solutions. The trainings include integrated pest management, composting, forest gardening, integrated animal/crop systems, alley cropping etc. GPI is also promoting permaculture in their trainings. For example, they train farmers how to produce biochar and compost to fertilize their crops, they teach crop rotation/intercropping to maintain soil fertility,



they teach how to build houses/chicken coops from car tires, they teach how to use “permaculture zones” to design sustainable landscapes etc.

The acceptance of and enthusiasm for permaculture practices has been high. This is not particularly due to an idealistic commitment to environmentalism, but because the permaculture solutions promoted by KITA and GPI provide means to generate additional income, diversify income sources, and reduce costs on agricultural inputs. Many farmers in Ghana have the perception that “modern” agriculture must include synthetic pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers etc. in order to be profitable. However, many of these farmers are not able to afford (or to access loans for) these expensive inputs, or they have encountered health problems from the application of the exact same chemicals. This creates an opportunity for permaculture to deliver alternative ways to farm sustainably or generate income from alternative sources, which will be highly embraced.

Based on the described context, and in particular the critical environmental situation, the relevance of more sustainable policies and practices in Ghana is evident. Additionally, the most promising initiatives targeting climate change adaptation and mitigation are coming from the international donor society, NGO’s and other civil society actors, like KITA, GPI and members of GEN Ghana.

### **B.3 How has the partnership intervention been prepared?**

In July 2013, GEN Europe invited the board of GEN Africa for its annual conference. At the one week long conference, GEN Africa developed its priorities and shared them with the European national networks represented at the conference. The main purpose was to establish partnerships between European and African networks. Ghana was mentioned as having a growing network, with a lot of future potential, but in need of capacity building in network building and strategies. Denmark and Ghana were coupled, due to the shared history and strong ties between Ghana and Denmark, but also because cooperation between Denmark and Ghana had already started.<sup>2</sup>

During the 4 week EDE in Denmark, the team from Ghana was part of a group developing a proposal for action on how to support the transformation of Ghanaian communities into ecovillages and how to strengthen the position of GEN Ghana in the process.

Representatives from KITA and LØS – the ones involved in the conference and in the EDE - collaborated over Skype and decided to embark on a shared application for a CISU project. The first proposal was far too ambitious and had the establishment of GEN Ghana as its core. This application is the result of a revision and narrowing of the first proposal: now focused on hosting an EDE in Ghana, thereby building the relationship between actors in Ghana and Denmark, but primarily to give GEN Ghana members a shared reference point, for their organizational development and for their capacity building tasks ahead.

This project has been proposed after several meetings and consultations with leaders of grassroots civil society organisations in Ghana who are undertaking initiatives to improve the living conditions of vulnerable people affected by the challenge of climate change and poor environmental management. KITA as the main project holder has put a lot of effort into this, but also CAN Ghana, Ghana Permaculture Institute (GPI), Youth Volunteers for the Environment, Millennium Development Institute, Social Impact (Ghana), African Farming Families foundation, Professional Farmers Association, College of Tropical Agriculture, Trees for the Future Ghana, Ghana Youth Environmental Movement, African Youth Initiative on Climate Change Ghana, Environmental Development Youth Movement and other organisations have expressed the need for capacity building and improved networking initiatives among NGO’s and CSO’s to ensure better project delivery and to embark on advocacy initiatives to help influence government policy on sustainable development. These organisations all have their capacities that will be integrated in the GEN Ghana collective, and are thus potential network members.

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EDE in Hallingelille in 2012, where two participants from GPI and KITA attended.

## C. THE PARTNERSHIP INTERVENTION

### C.1 Objective and expected processes

#### **The overall objective:**

*A well-functioning ecovillage network is contributing to the adoption of ecovillage strategies as models for sustainable development in Ghana.*

#### Immediate Objective 1: STRENGTHEN THE GEN GHANA NETWORK

*The organisational framework of GEN Ghana has been strengthened, particularly in terms of administration, membership structure and constitutional obligations concerning direction and activity planning.*

#### Immediate Objective 2: CAPACITY BUILDING OF GEN GHANA

*The capacity of key actors of GEN-Ghana to handle further capacity building initiatives has been improved through the joint planning and implementation of an Ecovillage Design Education course (EDE), in appropriate ecovillage and permaculture strategies.*

Both immediate objectives will lead to a strengthened relationship between members of GEN-Ghana and LØS in Denmark, thus fostering platforms for cooperation for future symbiotic growth.

#### **The specific process that this partnership project will set in motion:**

##### - Organisational capacity building

Several necessary processes of organisation building will be introduced; first mapping the field, then gathering all potential actors, proposing the wording of the constitution and setting up organisational strategies and then approving these, to ensure shared ownership.

##### - Capacity building of GEN Ghana

Planning and implementation of an EDE course, which will give participants competencies to further train others in ecovillage strategies. The EDE will be held in cooperation with GAIA Education trainers and LØS members, to build on international experience and network opportunities.

##### - North/south cooperation

LØS and KITA as partners will both support the development of a functional GEN Ghana setup, with their profound knowledge and experience, as project holders. As the two partners are 'holding' the project, they are the key actors in the EDE planning.

Together, the above processes are meant to create a solid platform for GEN Ghana, for the network to become functional, to thrive and to engage in joint advocacy interventions in Ghana.

#### **The most significant positive changes that the intervention is expected to achieve:**

- Increased awareness of the potential of ecovillage strategies, among the members of GEN Ghana.
- A strong partnership is developed between GEN Ghana and LØS.  
This partnership represents the growing relations between GEN Africa and GEN Europe, as a role model example of how two partners of different nationality can potentially work together, both being part of their regional networks.
- Key actors from GEN Ghana should have the capacity to facilitate EDE and/or other relevant courses, spreading ecovillage strategies to a wider audience.
- During the EDE, four different project designs for transformation of traditional villages in Ghana to become ecovillages have been produced.
- Members of GEN Ghana have drafted a Constitution, Vision and By-Laws that would guide activities in the network.

#### **How the objective of the partnership intervention will strengthen the local partners in the longer term as regards to their active role in civil society:**

In relation to Immediate Objective 1: STRENGTHEN THE GEN GHANA NETWORK

- The partnership intervention will strengthen the organisational framework of GEN Ghana in terms of

administration and membership structure and thus enhance the ability to further administrate and coordinate projects and activities, which will on a longer term be spreading of ecovillage strategies to a wider audience.

- Through the strengthened organisational framework that includes a mapping of the field and gathering of potential actors GEN Ghana will have an enhanced ability and focus on the coordination of network among civil society organisations in Ghana that works with sustainability.
- The partnership intervention will help develop a strong GEN Ghana, by empowering the members with the required knowledge and tools to actively participate in the promotion of ecovillage strategies.
- The partnership intervention will increase the number of members of GEN Ghana, and thus the base for advocating for the adoption of permaculture and ecovillage strategies, based on shared knowledge and innovation will be enlarged.

In relation to Immediate Objective 2: CAPACITY BUILDING OF GEN GHANA

- Key actors KITA, GPI, Unity Ecovillage etc. of GEN Ghana will be trained through the EDE curriculum. Participants will develop action plans to implement ecovillage strategies in four traditional villages. This will enhance their capacity to advocate effectively at the national and local levels as well as implement projects using ecovillage models.
- The partnership intervention will enhance the development of potential future projects and action plans for ecovillage strategies for four different traditional villages by members of GEN Ghana and thus by civil society leaders. The ecovillage designs will provide the civil society in their local communities with the opportunity of implementation of ecovillage strategies and further advocacy in their local communities.

## **C.2: Participants**

KITA is representing GEN Ghana for the purpose of this application due to their relatively strong position in GEN Ghana. KITA and Ghana Permaculture Institute (GPI) are currently the leading partners of GEN Ghana due to their central locations in Ghana, their high level of activity in ecovillage and permaculture activities, and their advocacy position in Ghana, meaning their strong influence within a wide civil society network of other organizations and individuals in Ghana.

Approximately 10 key staff members of KITA and GPI including Directors, Project Managers, Lecturers, Field Staff etc. will lead the processes strengthening GEN Ghana. This includes activities like mapping of the field, gathering of potential partners, setting up a proposed membership structure and shaping the frames for the drafting of constitutional obligations that will guide further strategy and activity. Besides working on the preparation for the GEN Ghana on the organisational level, the KITA and GPI members will also be the lead planners of the EDE, together with a group of 4-5 LØS members, but supplemented by resource persons from the wider GEN network, both in Ghana, but also with inclusion of 2 facilitators from GEN Africa (Senegal) and GEN Europe (an experienced GAIA Education trainer), respectively. All EDE holders from Ghana will be invited for the planning of this first Ghanaian EDE.

Among the 50 participants for the EDE will be:

- 40 selected GEN Ghana members and potential member organisations
- Members of GEN Ghana include KITA, GPI, Unity Ecovillage, Sow Green Farms, Mognori Ecovillage etc. They will participate in order to enhance their competencies for further training of others in ecovillage strategies and thus ensure a dissemination of knowledge and skills of ecovillage strategies through their organisational platforms. The purpose is to gather GEN Ghana members and potential members in one place, to develop GEN Ghana as proposed (governance, objectives, strategies and activity plan)
- 4 people from government institutions like Ministry of Food and Agriculture
  - 2 representatives from GEN Africa
  - 2 representatives from GEN Europe (self paid)
  - 2 representatives from LØS.

To ensure a proper gender balance, affirmative action will be suggested, to ensure female participation in a field that is easily male dominated. Also, a special focus will be on the youth.

The EDE will provide a multi-stakeholder forum at the closure of the EDE, where other stakeholders can hear the EDE participants and faculty presenting the various projects derived from the ecovillage design strategies from the EDE. Among the stakeholders, government representatives from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources will be invited to the opening and closing ceremonies of the EDE, utilizing the opportunity to showcase GEN Ghana at such a profiled and large activity as a 4 week training course.

### **Criteria for selection of participants**

The core group for this partnership intervention is the 10 people from KITA/GPI and the 5 people from LØS, who will together strategize the partnership project.

Criteria for participation: members or aspiring members of GEN Ghana representing organizations. This partnership intervention is not for what would be seen as beneficiaries, but for organisational holders that are members or potential member organisations of GEN Ghana, which comply with the objectives of strengthening and building the capacity of GEN Ghana. Other civil society organizations, farmer groups, women and youth groups, local community leaders and indigenous groups in Ghana are seen as secondary target groups who will benefit in a broader perspective from this project, by building the capacity of member organisations in GEN Ghana to take a stronger position as civil society actors, both in terms of advocacy and capacity building.

Furthermore, the criteria for selecting participants will be based on those, whose activities affect many people at the grassroots level, those engaged in participatory processes to improve community governance, as well as those whose activities directly target climate change adaptation and environmental conservation. Among the representatives of members or aspiring members of GEN Ghana are also selected leaders of civil society groups that are assessed to be influential.

For LØS, the project will find its base in the international committee. It will be anticipated, that the LØS Ghana group will consist of people from the committee, preferably supplemented with other members of LØS who have not been active before, but see this as an interesting opportunity for engagement.

The international representatives will be people who have skills/experience to contribute as facilitators of sessions. This counts also for many of the participants, as there will be plenty of peer to peer work at the EDE. They will participate also to strengthen the tie to GEN International, thereby investing in the network.

### **C.3 Methodology and modus operandi**

The objectives will be met through three interrelated methods. These methods are:

1. Local administrative capacity building
2. Increased membership representation and fostering cohesion and strategy
3. Capacity Building and training through EDE and training in Ecovillage Strategies

The three methods together form the strategy that will foster enhanced North-South cooperation between LØS and GEN Ghana or between member organisations of the networks (Like KITA in this example). Further the methods enhance the possibility of awareness creation and promotion, policy support, research and advocacy, which can potentially be achieved through possibly subsequent interventions.

Method 1 and 2 will set in motion the desired process of organisational capacity building. While method 3 will set in motion the process of capacity building of GEN Ghana. In total all three methods will set in motion the process of north/south cooperation. The project will support a learning and exchange platform between LØS and GEN Ghana. Two members of LØS will visit Ghana, learn and share experiences with members of the growing ecovillage network in Ghana. They will visit selected communities where GEN Ghana members are engaged, undertake presentations and support the capacity building of members in Ghana, which is further outlined below.

#### **Method 1: Local administrative capacity building**

LØS members will provide training to key GEN Ghana members such as KITA and GPI in processes of organisation building and expose key GEN Ghana members to the administrative processes that LØS employs in their own network. LØS has experience in gathering and mapping of networks as well as administrative skills for running a network. A model for a rotation host for the GEN Ghana secretariat will be set up. The GEN Ghana secretariat will administrate membership structure and activity planning. The idea of a rotating host is that each hosts' capacity will be enhanced and each host would be able to add a new dimension to the network building. This is important in order not for other GEN Ghana members than KITA to feel that KITA wants to hijack the GEN Ghana administration. Training and guidance in the management of membership dues in a transparent manner, will be provided by LØS. This will help GEN Ghana to transparently manage their finances, and ensure the financial sustainability of the network.

#### **Method 2: Increase membership representation and foster cohesion**

Under this component key actors of GEN Ghana, such as KITA, will organize targeted events to increase membership of the ecovillage network. Firstly this will include an identification and subsequent mapping of ecovillage projects in Ghana and the creation of a database. The database will support information sharing. Under this method, two general meetings of the network membership will be organized by KITA in order to foster group cohesiveness. Through these meetings, GEN Ghana will be able to establish national

representations, district and local representations. A strategic plan will be developed through these meetings, values, constitution, by-laws, visions as well as guidelines for GEN Ghana will be developed. These meetings will also enable members to know each other, share experiences, and showcase best practices among members. Through these meetings, three regional coordinating committees will be set up to coordinate activities in the northern, central and southern sectors of Ghana. The committee leaders will be tasked to ensure successful dissemination of ecovillage strategies at the local level.. The idea of the regional coordinating committees is to enhance better representation and make it easier to coordinate activities at the northern, middle and southern regions. In order to foster cohesion, the two general meetings will involve team building sessions that will bring members to work together to meet a common goal. This will develop the capacity of participants to engage, develop joint plans and solve problems as a team. This process will be supported by LØS, who has the experience in processes of organisational framework setting.

### **Method 3: Capacity building through EDE and Training in Ecovillage Strategies**

One of the most effective ways of building capacity of spreading of ecovillage strategies while building networks of support and collaboration is through Ecovillage Design Education (EDE). An EDE is a four week-long training where the curriculum has been recognised and endorsed as setting a standard for the United Nations' 'Decade of Education for Sustainable Development – 2005-2014'. The EDE is universal in scope but local in application, directed towards honouring and drawing out valuable cultural diversity, running on all continents promoted by local trainers. An EDE covers four aspects of ecovillages, including Worldview, Social, Economic and Ecological. The EDE proposed for Ghana will cover all these aspects, but focus more heavily on the ecological dimensions. The ecological dimensions include, but are not limited to, Green Building and Retrofitting, Local Food, Appropriate Technology, Restoring Nature and Rebuilding After Disasters, and Integrated Ecovillage Design. The EDE will include training in permaculture. Permaculture is a design system for creating sustainable human environments, incorporating renewable energy, ecological agriculture, and localized production. The EDE as a globally recognized capacity building activity will seek to strengthen KITA and other key members of GEN Ghana as organisations, which will then facilitate the strengthening of GEN Ghana as a network. During the planning and implementation of the EDE the other key actors of GEN Ghana will be involved primarily in training.

Several key persons, from primarily KITA but also from other GEN Ghana member organisations, have attended 4 week EDE courses in Europe. The EDE will be locally adapted, and the experienced persons from GEN Ghana will also ensure the adaptation of the EDE from a Global North perspective to the context of the Global South, which will focus on environmental preservation and adaptation of indigenous ethnic traditions and lifestyles, and a reintroduction on the best of these disappearing traditions. Techniques for working with and fundraising through development assistance agencies, including national government, multilateral and bilateral agencies, NGOs and other donors will be included. The EDE will use participatory principles and attempt to design ecovillages in the process of teaching the curriculum. The training will include basic literacy in records keeping, management and other capacity-building skills. This course will be the first EDE course offered in Ghana. Appendix G offers an overview of the Ecovillage Design Education Curriculum, and appendix H an example of EDE adaptations for Global South.

After the EDE, promotional materials will be distributed throughout the GEN Ghana network, dispersed throughout the country to inform large numbers of civil society organizations and local communities, governments and its agencies on ecovillage strategies. LØS, and its members with experience in developing promotional materials, will assist with this.

GEN Ghana will need support from LØS, which includes experienced EDE facilitators from Denmark. The GEN-Ghana members at KITA and GPI, who have attended EDEs will help facilitate the EDE. This EDE will seek to unite the members and new members of GEN-Ghana in a concrete, physical activity of designing at least four different project designs for transformation of traditional villages in Ghana to become ecovillages; educate new members on the ecovillage curriculum, place Ghana in the EDE landscape, but also serve as a hands on activity for LØS and KITA to engage in.

The strong attention to the planning and implementation of an EDE in Ghana is inspired by the case of GEN Senegal, which illustrates the powerful effect that EDEs can have. A network of 45 ecovillages came into being as a direct result of an EDE program in Senegal. Civil society efforts showcased best practices, such as integration of solar cookers, drip irrigation, permaculture design, reforestation programs, etc. The EDE demonstrated the potential of an ecovillage approach for sustainable development (see [www.gensenegal.org](http://www.gensenegal.org)). The government of Senegal was attentive to the effectiveness of this approach for rural sustainable development and adopted a national strategy to transform 14,000 traditional villages into ecovillages throughout Senegal. A Ministry of Ecovillages has now been installed in Senegal. Ministers from other African nation states have officially declared that they wish to follow the Senegalese example. The partnership between KITA and LØS, detailed in this document, will be the first step to follow the Senegalese transformation.

The EDE will provide contextualized training for all participating people. Some are experienced, but many are new and did not attend trainings before. However many members of GEN Ghana are already actively promoting ecovillage and permaculture strategies across Ghana, so the knowledge gained from the EDE will help to incorporate more strategies into their current curriculum, trainings, workshops, consultancy, research etc. After the EDE, they will have the capacity to give shorter-term and more focused trainings on EDE topics, not necessarily only full EDEs. The EDE will provide an opening and closing ceremony. During the EDE a position paper will be drafted and finalized by GEN Ghana members and submitted to the Ministry officials present on the closing day of the EDE. LØS facilitators will assist in the formulation of the document.

**How is the strategy for the partnership intervention linked to subsequent planned interventions?**

On a longer term it is expected that the strategy will contribute to subsequent interventions. For example, a volunteering partnership will be developed between LØS ecovillages and GEN Ghana projects to enhance student interns, researchers, Danish volunteers and experts to periodically visit projects in Ghana and preferably vice versa. Support programs from Danish ecovillages can emerge to help traditional and resource poor communities in Ghana to improve livelihoods. Education of promising Ghanaian youth and leaders in Denmark and scholarship opportunities from friendship ecovillages can emerge through this cooperation to empower more people from Ghana. Exchange of traditional ecological knowledge will also take place, as traditional sustainable practices in Ghana can be shared.

At the end of the intervention it is estimated that a proposal for a future project between LØS and GEN Ghana or between LØS and one of the key actors of GEN Ghana is proposed., at least two joint-projects will be identified and two Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) documents prepared as evidence of the strong partnership between networks in Ghana and Denmark.

**Set out how the intervention seeks to ensure women’s and men’s equal participation and benefit.**

The main task of GEN Ghana is to create awareness and promote the development and adoption of ecovillage strategies as models of sustainable development in Ghana. The awareness creation will primarily on a longer term also include the sensitization of members to understand the essence of gender analysis, and economic empowerment of women in order to mainstream gender issues into the national development programs for the efficient adoption of ecovillage strategies.

**C.4: Activity Plan and Specific Outputs**

OBJECTIVE	EXPECTED OUTPUT	ACTIVITIES	TIME FRAME
<b>Immediate Objective 1: STRENGTHEN THE GEN GHANA NETWORK</b>	An Inventory of ecovillages in Ghana with reliable data like their profiles, locations and projects highlighted in a Ghana Ecovillage online Catalogue.	Mapping of ecovillages and potential ecovillage projects in Ghana	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2015 to June 30 <sup>th</sup> 2015
	Increased membership representation: at least 40 ecovillage projects/CSOs registered as aspiring members of GEN Ghana	Information material produced and distributed.	By Sept 30 <sup>th</sup> 2015 (by end of second quarter)
	Increased awareness on GEN Ghana and importance of Ecovillage Strategies.	Development, printing and dissemination of 500 posters and 500 leaflets.	1 <sup>st</sup> April to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2015
	3 local branches with coordinating committees created, enhancing mobilization and coordination of activities, and communication of members, in northern, middle and southern sectors of Ghana.	Create three local branches of GEN Ghana in 3 strategic regions of Ghana. Results of the mapping needed for this.	Oct 1 <sup>st</sup> to Dec 31 <sup>st</sup> 2015 (by end of 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter)
	GEN Ghana website designed	Employ webmaster to Design a GEN Ghana website that includes mapping results and space for GEN Ghana to	Jan 1 <sup>st</sup> to Feb 28 <sup>th</sup> (by 2 <sup>nd</sup> month of last

	<p>Guidelines and modalities for a rotating secretariat of GEN Ghana.</p> <p>GEN Ghana Annual Assembly - membership - governance - secretariat - strategy - action plan</p> <p>Two General Assembly Meetings organized for GEN Ghana members including team building sessions and presentation on Best Practices by Project leaders</p>	<p>develop Create and sponsor design, hosting, and optimization of a website and social media pages for GEN Ghana</p> <p>LØS assistance in the planning of a rotating host for the GEN Ghana Secretariat, between member organizations, and the incorporation of this plan into the GEN Ghana AG</p> <p>Strengthen internal systems of GEN Ghana, increased networking and cohesion among members</p> <p>Develop action plans, constitution, by-laws, visions, values and getting them approved by all members</p> <p>Relevant documents for group management prepared</p>	<p>quarter)</p> <p>By Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 2015 (by end of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter)</p> <p>(Oct to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 2015) End of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Jan to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 (By end of last quarter)</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Jan to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 (By end of last quarter)</p>
<p><b>Immediate Objective 2: CAPACITY BUILDING OF GEN GHANA</b></p>	<p>50 Leaders of GEN Ghana members participate in the EDE course.</p> <p>The 50 participants develop four ecovillage design strategies to be able to transfer knowledge to their communities</p> <p>Three Ecovillage Design practice guides or manual applicable to Ghana developed</p> <p>GEN Ghana Organizations and their members receive copies of practicing reference guides</p> <p>GEN Ghana organizations and their members to have continuous access to ecovillage reference materials to enhance the practice of ecovillage adaptation strategies</p> <p>Initial drafting of future project proposal or partnership</p>	<p>Organize EDE course to build capacity of GEN Ghana in ecovillage strategies and Advocacy. Herunder develop ecovillage designs for four traditional villages.</p> <p>Four ecovillage design strategies</p> <p>Three Ecovillage Design practice guides or manual applicable to Ghana developed</p> <p>GEN Ghana Organizations and their members receive copies of practicing reference guides GEN Ghana organizations and their members to have continuous access to ecovillage reference materials to enhance the practice of ecovillage adaptation strategies.</p> <p>GEN Ghana members and affiliates in other GEN Africa countries to have access to an online platform where they can share EDE relevant experiences and best practices</p>	<p>July 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept 30<sup>th</sup> (by end of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter)</p> <p>By end of the EDE</p> <p>By end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter</p> <p>During the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly (By Feb 2016)</p> <p>By end of last quarter (31<sup>st</sup> march 2015)</p> <p>During the EDE or immediately after.</p>

	<p>intervention; It is estimated that the partnership intervention will at least lead to initial proposal of a future project or partnership intervention either between LØS and GEN Ghana or a key actor of GEN Ghana directly or between two of the member organisations</p> <p>Organize an opening and closing ceremony for the EDE. Inviting Government representatives and media outlets</p> <p>Position paper promoting ecovillage strategies in government policies presented to government representatives</p>	<p>Awareness of importance of ecovillage strategies within government ministries</p> <p>Development and submission of position paper to government representatives present at the EDE.</p>	<p>During the EDE.</p> <p>During the EDE.</p>
<p><b>Foster North/South Cooperation between GEN Ghana and/or key GEN Ghana actors (KITA and GPI) and LØS</b></p>	<p>Two members of LØS have visited Ghana and participated in capacity building of GEN Ghana</p> <p>GEN Ghana members gain skills in mobilization and management of membership dues</p> <p>GEN Ghana leaders increase their administrative capacity</p>	<p>Sharing of expertise in ecovillage development.</p> <p>LØS trains GEN Ghana members in transparent management of membership dues.</p> <p>LØS trains GEN Ghana members in sustainable network building and administrative processes.</p>	<p>During EDE and Immediately after EDE (July 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Sept) By end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter</p>

### C.5 Assumptions and risks

Describe the main assumptions that must hold true for the intervention to be successfully accomplished. Indicate any external factors (risks) that may jeopardise achievement of the intervention's objectives or delay its implementation significantly.

No.	Risk	Impact	Risk Level	Action for Risk Mitigation
1	Conflicting competition or lack of shared views among members in GEN Ghana	Negative impact on atmosphere leading to members losing interest	Mo	This risk can be moderated by involving independent and neutral parties (such as our Danish partner) and by organizing well-moderated team building meetings.
2	Decline in confidence in the project by members of GEN Ghana.	No interest in participating and contributing to activities	Mo	To moderate this risk interesting beneficial activities must be organized for civil society members throughout the country.
3	Non-payment of dues by members	Affects long term sustainability and local contribution	Mi	The membership fee is low and members get value for money.
4	Inadequate funding and technology/equipment acquisition for scaling up.	Members constrained	Mi	During the EDE Empower a committee to support serious fundraising to support administrative and project activities.



5	Inadequate project management and monitoring	Lack of interest in donors in providing funding	Mi	KITA and LØS provides technical backstopping and capacity building in financial management for GEN members
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N (Negligible), Mi (Minor), Mo (Moderate), S (Serious), C (Critical)

## D. ORGANISATION AND FOLLOW-UP

### D. ORGANISATION AND FOLLOW-UP

#### D.1 Division of responsibilities and tasks in the partnership intervention between the Danish and the local organisation

LØS will provide guidance and monitoring for the project. Monitoring will be during the EDE and by continuous contact with KITA to monitor compliance with objectives by reporting from KITA. KITA staff will provide project implementation and management skills to ensure the successful achievement of the partnership intervention – having in mind that it is GEN Ghana being in the centre of the intervention.

The GEN Ghana committee will be responsible for grassroots mobilisation of members to participate in project activities. KITA will oversee project management, supervision and reporting on the project. LØS will provide technical and managerial training and capacity building to members in need. Ghana Permaculture Institute will be involved as an important stakeholder, primarily in training during the EDE, but also in setting up the framework for GEN Ghana, where GPI is a central actor.

#### **General Strategy: How are responsibilities and competencies distributed within the local organisation? Have any particular individuals or committees been designated to take on responsibility for the partnership intervention?**

A project steering committee from KITA but represented by elected executives of GEN Ghana will be responsible for project implementation. The project steering committee will use the project management and administrative systems of KITA to ensure effective management of the project and reporting.

The Danish partner will through the EDE provide technical and managerial training and capacity building. The project will be coordinated from KITA's headquarters in Kumasi, located in the Ashanti Region, where the GEN Ghana secretariat is proposed to be located at the premises of KITA.

KITA will oversee project management and supervision and reporting on the project. KITA has a strong project management team. Project coordinators will include:

- Samuel Owusu-Takyi - Acting Director (MSc)
- Kwaku Addai - Monitoring and Evaluation coordinator
- Lovans Owusu-Takyi - Director of Programs and projects
- Richard Antwi - Director of Finance and Administration
- Prof. Seth Laryeah - President of GEN Ghana
- Paul Yeboah - Director Ghana Permaculture Network/Permaculture Trainer

The GEN Ghana committee will be responsible for mobilization of members, facilitating training workshops at the EDE and supporting the coordination of project activities with KITA staff. Some members will be part of the Project Management Committee to be set up to manage the project.

- Prof Seth Laryeah
- Paul Yeboah
- Lovans Owusu-Takyi
- Llord Titus Amedome
- Fati Bamba

#### **Project Monitoring**

KITA has a well-established Project Monitoring and Evaluation (PME) system. The proposed project, when approved, will be entered into the PME system. This will allow close monitoring of progress and production of status reports. Periodic monitoring and reporting will be conducted to ensure successful project implementation. LØS will also be able to monitor progress of project implementation through reports generated and the monitoring visit during the EDE.

#### **Financial Management and Procurement**

KITA will use its established Financial Management System and Procurement Procedures. All procedures have been found to meet the requirements of major donors.

## Endorsement

The project is endorsed by the African Ecovillage Network GEN Africa [www.gen-africa.org](http://www.gen-africa.org) and GEN International and will be followed closely.

### **How are implementation responsibilities to be distributed within the Danish organisation? Also specify who is expected to be directly involved in implementation of the partnership intervention.**

The board of LØS has in cooperation with the International Committee of LØS approved the involvement in the partnership intervention. The International Committee consists of five members of LØS and a representative from the board. Pernille Rydahl from the ecovillage of Munksøgård and Camilla Nielsen-Englyst from the ecovillage of Hallingelille will form core of the implementing team. Other members from the international committee might be part of the implementing team, as well as other interested members.

## D.2 Systematisation of experiences – during and after implementation

**Describe how it has been planned to gather and systematise experiences both during and at the end of the partnership intervention. Describe how it has been planned to use the experiences gained in the future. Indicate who will be responsible for systematising the experiences and ensuring that they are used.**

- At the end of the EDE and the team building training, evaluation forms will be circulated for participants to write how they feel about the activity, how the activity will benefit them, and what recommendations they have for future events like it
- There will be periodic meetings by team members to evaluate experiences, document and prepare reports
- At the end of the partnership intervention, project coordinators and participants will present reports and evaluations about how they experienced the project and its impact and these will be collated in the final report as well as documented in our GEN Ghana resource library for future reference.
- Also video and pictorial documentation will be produced to document experiences from the project
- The experiences from the project will be documented and shared among the GEN Ghana members, GEN Africa network as well as with all Danish partners. The information will be available to enable civil society organisations and members to use knowledge gained to improve their future experiences.
- For example, the project coordinator Lovans Owusu-Takyi participated in a Transition to Resilience Workshop in Scotland and presented his experiences, which are posted on the internet and shared with all the members of the network.  
[http://gen-africa.org/public/T2R\\_Report\\_Lovans\\_Ghana.pdf](http://gen-africa.org/public/T2R_Report_Lovans_Ghana.pdf)

Lovans Owusu-Takyi is a key staff even within GEN Africa (IT supporter) and will be responsible for systematising the experiences and ensuring that they are used. He will be supported by other KITA staff and the GEN Ghana committee members who will be involved in documenting, collating reports and experiences. Lovans, with his experience in website design and in the coordination network building, will ensure that these experiences are shared among the GEN Ghana Network as well as GEN Africa and GEN Europe. Also, several civil society organisations will benefit from the information that is collated.

## E. INFORMATION WORK

### **E.1 Has information work in Denmark been planned in connection with the partnership intervention?**

LØS will promote the partnership with a column in each of its magazines. This will be the international project in LØS, apart from our EU funded learning partnerships in Europe and attending GEN conferences. When the two representatives from LØS have been to Ghana for the EDE, there will be information work done on the cooperation between two sister organisations that can learn a lot from each other.

Furthermore, a LØS Ghana tour during the EDE will be planned. LØS members will then have the opportunity to come to Ghana and participate, without having 'expert' status. We expect a group of 10 people (self-paid) to join the two EDE facilitators. This should also serve as a platform to engage more LØS members in international collaboration.

**Notice:** The application text **must** adhere to the above structure, which also underpins the instructions available on the following pages. The total application text (sections A-E) cannot exceed 16 pages.

### 3. Budget summary

Here a summary of the main budget items should be provided.

A detailed budget with notes must be submitted in the annex '*Budget format*', which can be downloaded at: [www.cisu.dk](http://www.cisu.dk). NOTICE: Remember to click on all three tabs in order to fill in all three spreadsheets.

See also 'Guide to budget preparation' at [www.cisu.dk](http://www.cisu.dk)

Budget summary		Currency
Indicate the total cost (i.e. including contributions from the Civil Society Fund as well as other sources)	<u>485.059</u>	DKK
Of this, the Civil Society Fund is to contribute	<u>485.059</u>	DKK
Of this, indicate the amount to be contributed by other sources of finance, including self-funding by the Danish organisation or its local partner, if any		DKK
Indicate total cost in local currency	<u>265293</u>	GHC
Indicate exchange rate applied	<u>0541/1,828</u>	

Main budget items:	Full amount	Financing plan	
		Of this, from Civil Society Fund	Of this, from other sources
1. Activities	328.401	328.401	
2. Investments			
3. Expatriate staff			
4. Local staff	12.000	12.000	
5. Local administration	19.198	19.198	
6. Monitoring of the intervention	47.970	47.970	
7. External evaluation			
8. Information in Denmark (max 2% of 1-7)			
9. Budget margin (min 6% and max 10% of 1-8)	40.757	40.757	
10. Activity expenses in total (1-9)	448.326	448.326	
11. Auditing in Denmark	5000	5000	
12. Subtotal (10 + 11)	453.326	453.326	
13. Administration in Denmark (max 7% of 12)	31.733	31.733	
14. Total	485.059	485.059	

# 4. ANNEXES

## OBLIGATORY ANNEXES

The following annexes must be submitted both in print by post and electronically by email:

- A. Basic information about the Danish applicant organisation
- B. Factsheet about the local organisation
- C. Budget format

*Annex B is filled in and signed by the local partner. It can also be submitted in a copied/scanned version.*

The following annexes about the Danish organisation must be submitted in print by post:

- D. The organisation's statutes
- E. The latest annual report
- F. The latest audited annual accounts

## SUPPLEMENTARY ANNEXES (max 30 pages):

Annex no.	Annex title
G	Overview of Ecovillage Design Education Curriculum
H	APPENDIX H: EDE Adaptations for Global South (excerpt from Gaia's Education EDE Curriculum

**Notice:** All annexes should be submitted in print in three copies (no magazines, books, newspaper cuttings or ring binders, but copies of relevant excerpts thereof).