



Life Beacon

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

An account of Life Beacon International's Charity activities in the year 2023.

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Life Beacon



C'est un monde avec
QUI EST

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

It is with immense gratitude and honour that I share with you the impact and accomplishments of Life Beacon International over the past year. As we navigate the challenges and opportunities of our ever-evolving world, our commitment to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development set by the United Nations in 2015 to ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030 continues to guide and shape our diverse projects we undertake each year.

Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, and 17 are not just benchmarks; they resonate deeply with the core of our mission. Life Beacon stands as a beacon of hope, and we remain steadfast in our dedication to making a lasting difference in these critical areas. By aligning our projects with these goals, we aim to make a meaningful impact on the most pressing issues affecting communities worldwide.

The urgency of our work becomes apparent when we reflect on the sobering statistics that highlight the stark realities facing the youth in our communities globally. In the UK alone, where we operate from, about 36% of the world's unemployed population are young people, with over 169 million young people earning less than \$2 per day. The problem is even greater among the Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) group.

Despite the challenges, our focus on youth has yielded positive outcomes. This year, we are especially proud of the strides we've made in the realm of education. Through our initiatives, we have been dedicated to providing access to quality education, empowering individuals to break the chains of poverty and build a brighter future.

The establishment and launch of the University of Ghana Life Beacon Club mark a significant milestone in this journey, and it's a testament to our unwavering commitment to educational empowerment. In the spirit of collaboration and collective action, I am thrilled to report that our efforts have not gone unnoticed. Life Beacon International, with its network of dedicated changemakers, has positively impacted over 10,000 people worldwide.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, we acknowledge that the road ahead is long, and there is much more to be done. The challenges we face require continued dedication, innovation, and collaboration. Our dedication to the Global Goals fuels our determination to continue working tirelessly, leaving no stone unturned until we witness a world where all young people have the opportunity to thrive.

None of this would be possible without the steadfast support of our donors, partners, and the incredible Life Beacon International team. Your belief in our vision fuels our passion and propels us forward. In the coming year, we renew our pledge to create a better, more sustainable world through diverse projects.

Thank you for being a vital part of our journey toward a brighter, more sustainable future. Together, with your continued support, we will amplify our impact, foster positive change, and we can be the change we wish to see in the world.



Dr Ruby Appiah-Campbell (PhD)
Chairperson





Organisational Profile

- Mission
- Vision
- Core Values
- Our Model
- The Leadership Team
- Volunteers

Our Mission

Our mission is to support, educate, and empower young people and volunteers, while promoting a sustainable future for all. We prioritise key areas of education, wellbeing, and faith, working at the individual, group, and community levels to foster positive change and resilience as we strive to create a more sustainable, equitable, and thriving society.

Vision

Provide sustainable education, well-being, and overall living for young people around the world, now and for the future.

Core Values

1. Integrity
2. Continuous personal development
3. Inclusion
4. Empathy
5. Creativity

OUR MODEL

Life Beacon International's model is centered around young people. Our goal is to transform the lives of marginalised young individuals through their peers. We believe this demographic is best suited to lead our projects and realise our vision and mission, given their lived experiences.

This lived experiences enables them to understand the challenges faced by young people globally and determine the most effective ways to reach and create a lasting impact on their lives.

Moreover, this approach offers young volunteers the opportunity for personal development as they contribute to achieving the organisation's goals.



Children and youth in lack of access to welfare, mentoring and education



Children and youth accessing welfare and educational interventions.



Children and youth growing into confident adults thriving for sustainable lives



Responsible adults facilitating more sustainable development interventions in their communities to impact more children and youth

THE LEADERSHIP TEAM



**The Chairperson -
Dr. Ruby Appiah-Campbell**



**Executive Assistant to the
Chairperson -
Mrs Flany Koulibaly Akintola**



**Finance Department
Coordinator-
Dr Gloria Wie-Addo (PhD)**



**Administration
Department Coordinator -
Mr. Ebenezer Solomon**



**Public Engagement
Department Coordinator-
Ms. Nadia Berchtenbreiter**



**Research and Development
Department Coordinator-
Dr Wolé Adaramoye (PhD)**



**Faith-Based Department
Coordinator-
Rev Nana Yaa Nsiah Appiah**



**Mum and Child Department
Coordinator-
Ms. Dinah Naa Aryeh**



**Wellbeing Department
Coordinator-
Ms. Kemi Ojo-Osagie**



**Enterprise Department
Coordinator-
Mr. Olubunmi Akintola**



**Mentoring Department
Coordinator-
Dr Richlove Frimpong (PhD)**



**West Africa Regional
Coordinator-
Ms. Nancy Sweety Manful**



**Supporting Coordinator-
Dr Innocent Kamara Tumwebaze
(PhD)**

VOLUNTEERS



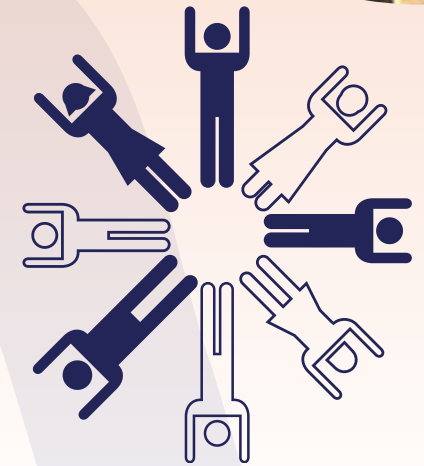
At LBI, our key focus is ensuring volunteers grow personally while making a positive impact on society. We evaluate their progress to measure program effectiveness and track their development. By prioritising skill-building and leadership, we empower volunteers to be agents of change in their communities. Our streamlined evaluation process reflects our commitment to high standards in volunteer engagement, fostering an environment where individuals not only benefit from our initiatives but also contribute to positive societal change.



In 2023, our volunteers gained recognition through prestigious awards, underscoring their exceptional contributions and the impactful outcomes of our initiatives. This accolade serves as a testament to the dedication and effectiveness of our volunteer community in driving positive change.



Our volunteers achieved significant academic milestones in 2023, with several successfully completing PhD, master's, and undergraduate courses. Their academic accomplishments highlight their dedication and perseverance, reflecting the success of our support programs in fostering educational excellence.



Our diverse volunteer base, comprising students, working professionals, and parents, plays a pivotal role in the success of Life Beacon. As both contributors and beneficiaries, we support them in advancing their education, careers, and overall well-being.



Since its inception in October 2020 with a modest team of 10 volunteers, LBI has experienced exponential growth, currently boasting 32 short-term and 48 long-term volunteers as of December 2022. The long-term volunteers play a vital role, collaborating closely with coordinators to drive the activities of Life Beacon's departments.

OUR **IMPACT** IN FIRST 3 YEARS OF EXISTENCE AS A CHARITY SINCE 2020



+11,927

TOTAL BENEFICIARIES REACHED WORLDWIDE



+80

VOLUNTEERS WORLDWIDE



+30

INTERVENTIONS



+10

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Our Works in 2023

Our Work in 2023

- Going to University Project- Loughborough Student Union (LSU)
- Entrepreneurial Mindset Project
- Mental Health Awareness Project
- Capacity Building Projects
- Mother at Birth Project

AMSTERDAM

HONG KONG

SYDNEY

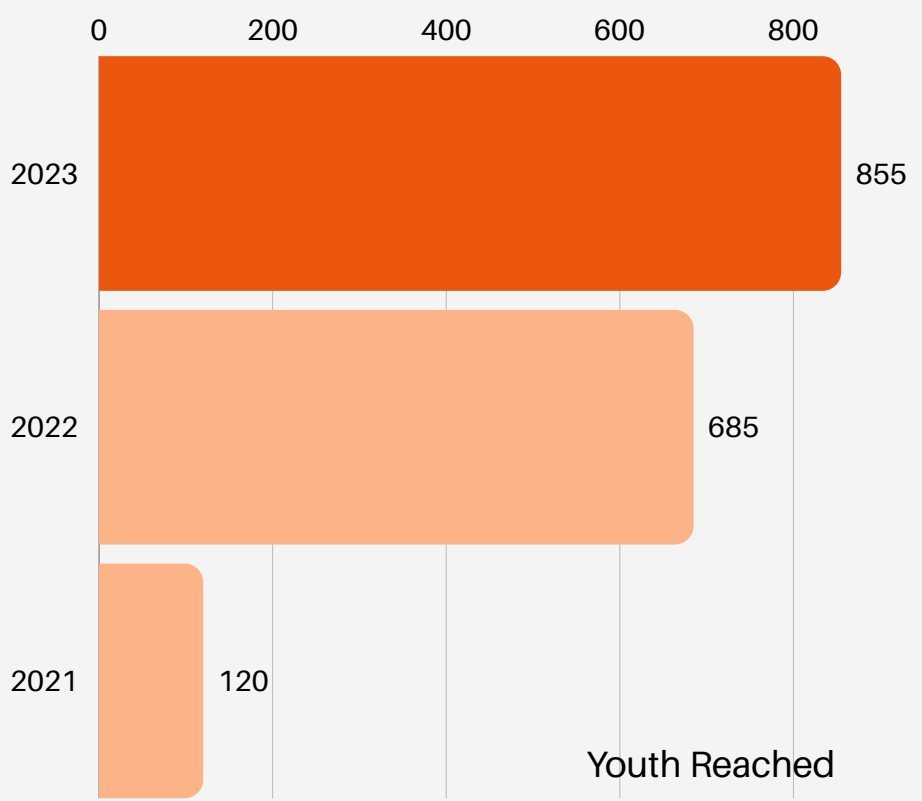
GOING TO UNIVERSITY (GTU) PROJECT

The GTU project was established and officially implemented in 2021 to ignite the desire of secondary school leavers and final year high school students to pursue higher education. The goal is to ensure that the right and adequate information needed for such students is made available and accessible, making it easier for them to transition into the university system. An array of subjects is addressed during these student meetings, fostering highly engaging and interactive discussions.

The Going To University Project serves as a forum where we engaged high school students in discussions about college life and how to navigate it successfully right from the beginning, helping them adjust to the college environment. In 2023, we visited three high schools: De Lisle School and Limehurst Academy in March, and Rossall School and De Lisle School again in November. The topics covered during these visits included discovering one's preferred courses, the university application process, independent living, managing one's finances, and the benefits of further education.

In March 2023, our mentoring department, in collaboration with LSU Action and LBI volunteers, conducted workshops at Limehurst Academy and De Lisle College on the 6th and 15th. They virtually engaged with approximately 360 year 7-10 students from Limehurst Academy via Microsoft Teams on the 6th. On the 15th of March, another session was held with De Lisle Year 10 students. Both sessions aimed to encourage students to start thinking ahead about the future option of studying at university and its associated benefits.

Additionally, on the 1st of November and the 28th of November, the team visited Rossall School in Fleetwood and De Lisle College in Leicestershire, respectively.



THE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES REACHED FROM THIS PROJECT HAS HAD A 612.5% INCREASE SINCE 2021!



ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET PROJECT



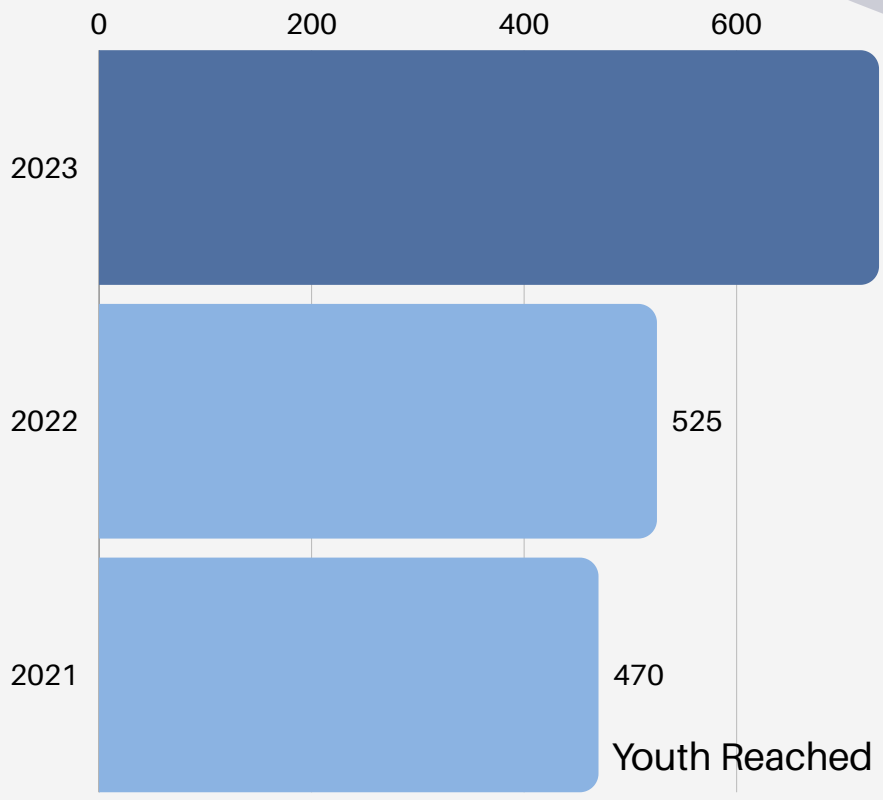
The Entrepreneurial Mindset Project stands as a strategic avenue facilitating the development of an entrepreneurial mindset among young people. It serves as a comprehensive platform for skill acquisition, business idea incubation, and the realisation of entrepreneurial ventures. This project assumes a pivotal role in coaching, mentoring, advising, and training young talents within the entrepreneurial landscape, contributing significantly to their professional growth and success.

In 2023, our enterprise department collaborated with mentoring volunteers to facilitate workshops in March 8th and November 8th at De Lisle College, tailored for Year 10 and 11 students. Throughout the sessions, students actively engaged in diverse group tasks centered on identifying potential business opportunities.

Their exceptional creativity shone through as they generated fantastic ideas, showcasing remarkable enthusiasm and keen interest in entrepreneurship. The sessions further delved into the intricacies of initiating a business, elucidating the various steps involved in developing innovative business ideas, and underscored the critical importance of crafting a comprehensive business plan.

Additionally, an online session was conducted, extending its invitation to all young individuals, including Life Beacon volunteers.

The Entrepreneurial Mindset Project sessions in 2023 left a profound impact on young participants, focusing on the benefit of entrepreneurship and instilling essential skills and attitude crucial for cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset.



THE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES REACHED FROM THIS PROJECT HAS HAD AN 81.9% INCREASE SINCE 2021!

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS PROJECT

This project aims at encouraging individuals to give maximum importance to their mental health and seek help when needed, just as they prioritise their physical well-being.

Mental Health Flyer

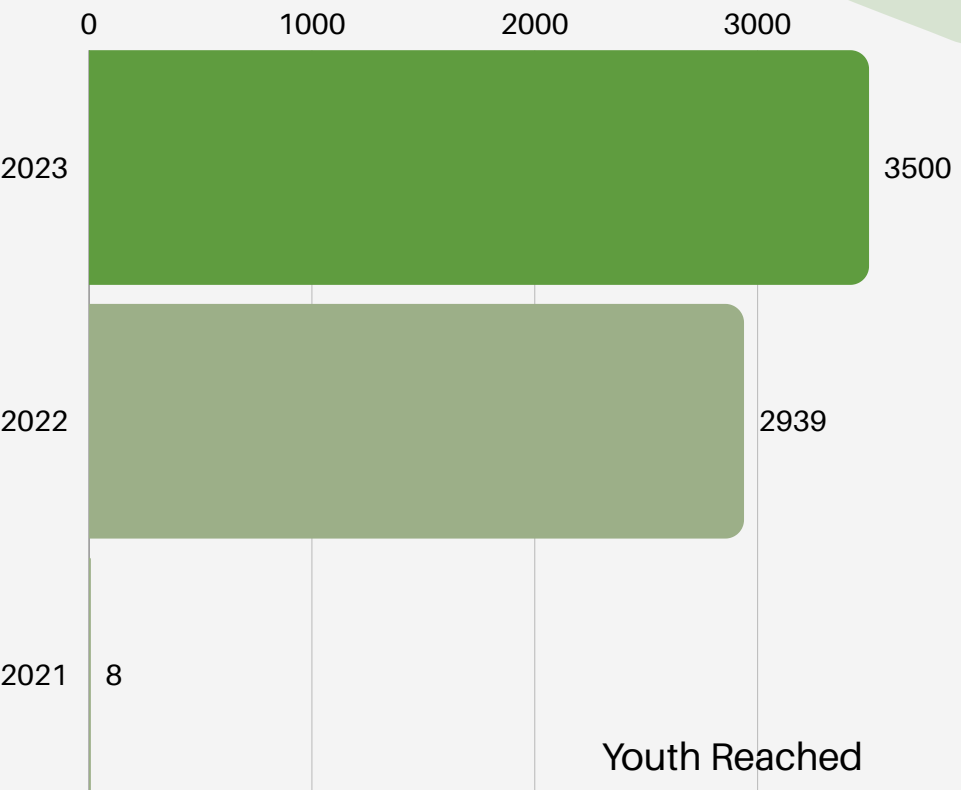
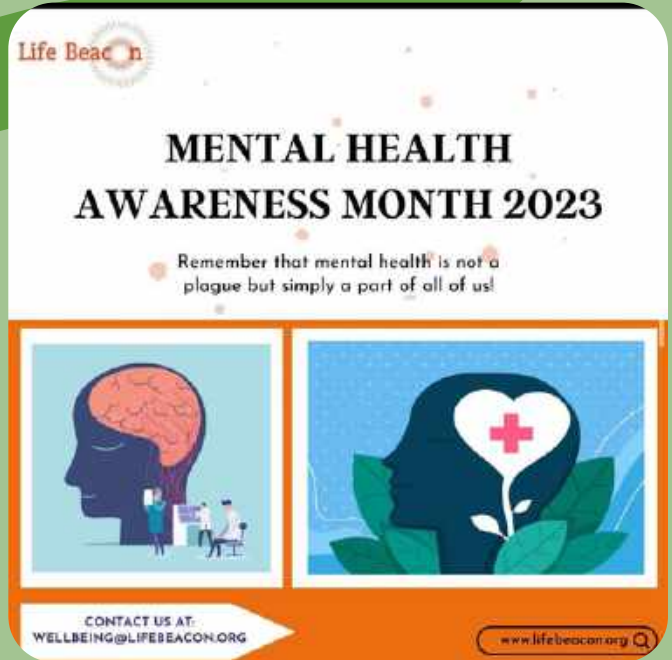
Our primary method for raising awareness was the creation of a flyer containing essential information. Through this approach, we successfully reached out to numerous people. During Mental Health Awareness Month, we distributed flyers to enhance awareness and promote the significance of prioritising mental health.

Additionally, as part of our awareness campaign, free counseling sessions were launched in 2023 for LBI volunteers.

To complement these efforts, a variety of multimedia content is created annually to sensitize both our online and in-person audiences about the importance of mental health. In 2023, we consistently produced and disseminated this content across our various online platforms.

Mental Health Free Counseling

The Wellbeing department launched the free Mental Health Counseling initiative, offering volunteers the privilege of one-on-one meetings with seasoned counselors. This program aims to make seeking professional help accessible and easy, aiming to break down barriers that often make it difficult for individuals to seek the support they need.



THE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES REACHED FROM THIS PROJECT HAS HAD A 43,687.5% INCREASE SINCE 2021!

CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECTS

Our capacity building projects are designed to empower volunteers and external participants, facilitating their personal and professional development. Various events were organised to provide participants with the right information, skills, and knowledge. We successfully reached over 250 beneficiaries through our capacity building projects, which included the following:

Master The Art of CV Crafting:

This event aimed to guide over 100 students on writing an excellent CV to stand out. Participants were informed about what interviewers or employers look for in a job applicant's CV, including the skills and experiences they seek. After the session, we gathered feedback from participants, which was shared with our guest speaker for further insights.

Building Strategic Relationships

In October 2023, we hosted another event to educate young people on the importance and relevance of building strategic relationships. Participants were enlightened about the various types of relationships, the necessity of fostering good and healthy connections with others, and the strategies for creating and maintaining these relationships. The session delved into how these relationships can significantly impact their lives. A total of 24 participants actively engaged in the session.

Preparing for your Professional Exams in Accounting

The Finance Department organized an event to assist individuals in registering and preparing for their professional exams in accounting. The session, attended by 20 participants, provided valuable guidance and information on the necessary steps to navigate the process of exam registration and preparation effectively.

LBI Bible Discussions

In LBI, the spiritual growth of our volunteers is also a key goal. To facilitate this, every second Saturday of every month throughout 2023, we organised a series of Bible discussions covering various themes. These sessions were designed to assist individuals in growing in their faith and strengthening their walk with God.



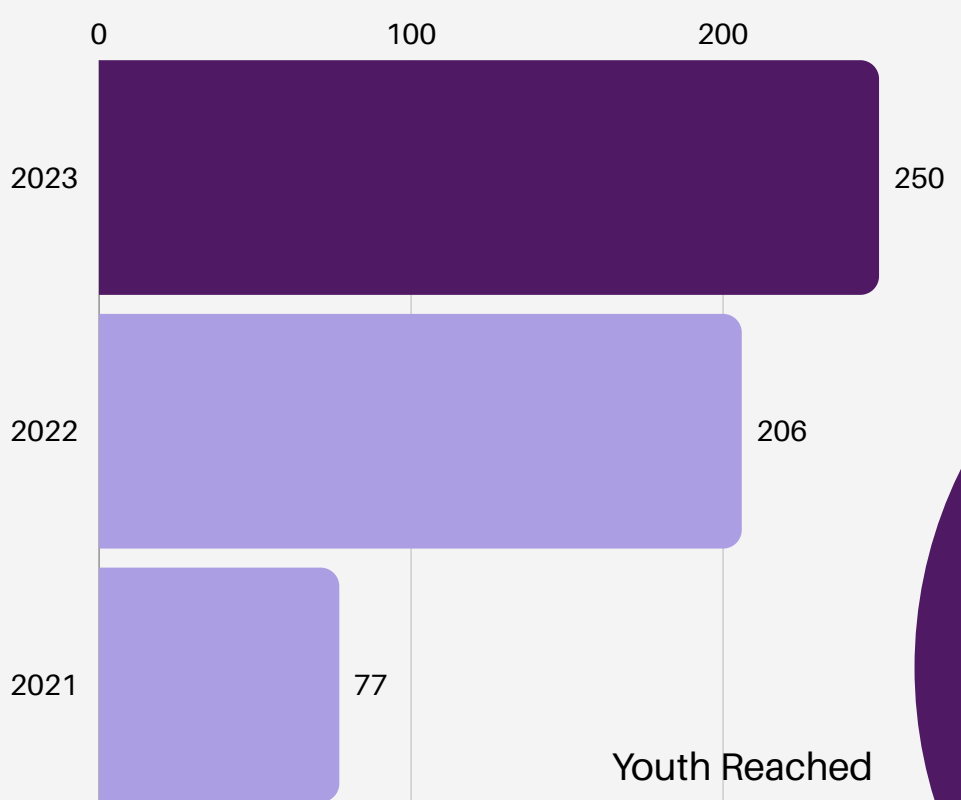
Guest Speaker

Angela Okae
Senior HR Practitioner,
Relationship Coach



REGISTER!

Guest Speaker
Dr. Freeman B. Owusu, AC
Senior Lecturer at Nottingham
Trent University, UK

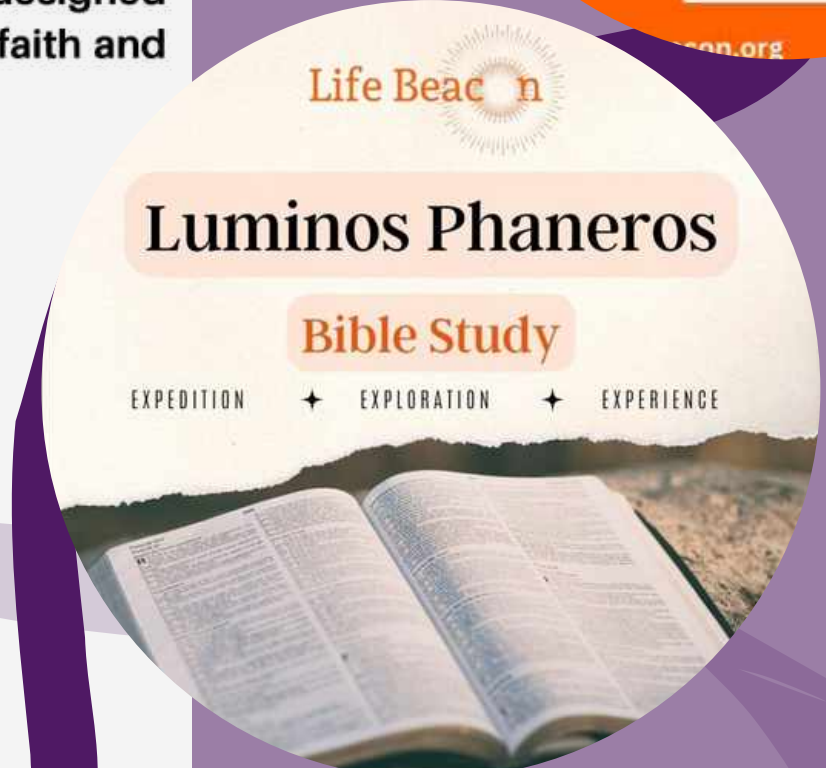


THE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES REACHED FROM THIS PROJECT HAS HAD A 224.68% INCREASE SINCE 2021!



GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Amanda Berry
Academic Lead for Student & Grad



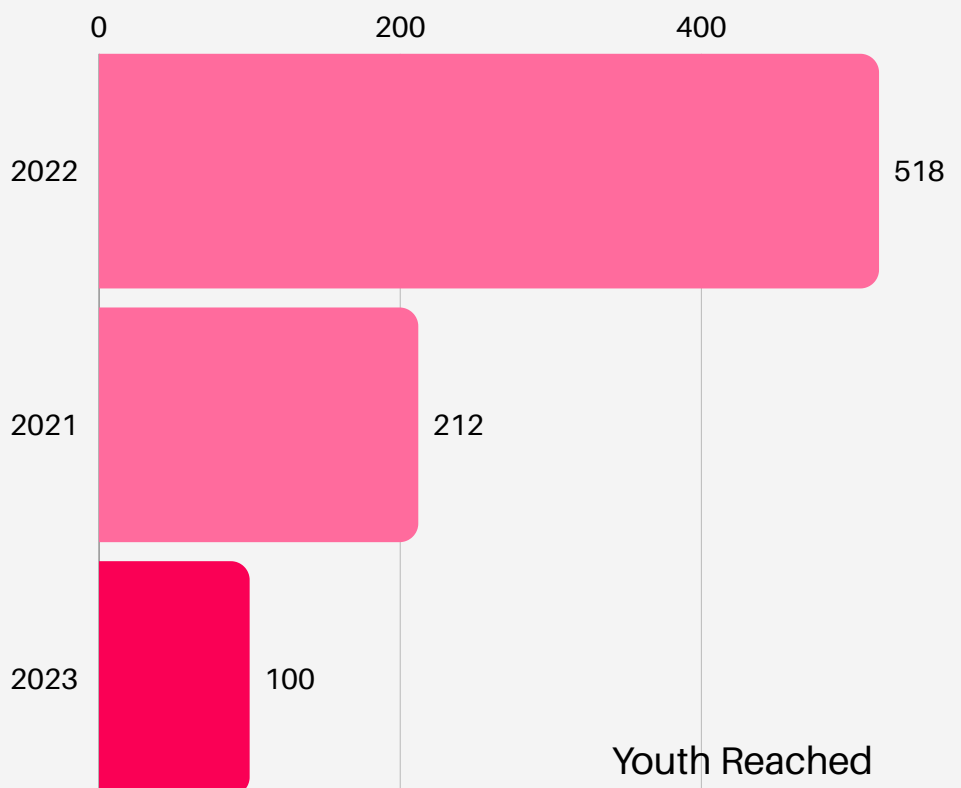
MOTHER AT BIRTH PROJECTS

At LBI, we believe in giving children a positive start in life. Our Mum and Child department plays a crucial role in bringing this vision to reality through two key projects: our Back to School project and our Mother at Birth Project.

The Mother at Birth project is implemented as our international LBI volunteers visit health facilities in underprivileged communities to provide pregnant, lactating, or new mothers and their babies with essential items for the early stages of motherhood.

On the 6th of January 2023, we reached out to over 100 mothers at a community-based health planning service facility in Chokor-Chemuna and the Mamprobi Polyclinic in the Greater Accra.

The project was conducted in two hospitals in Ghana where the women were engaged in discussions and advised on various aspects related to pregnancy. This included recommendations on the types of pomade, soaps, and other products suitable for their babies. Additionally, they were educated on the importance of attending both antenatal and postnatal check-ups. The women were informed about the available support services at different stages of their pregnancy and postnatal journey.



THE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES REACHED FROM THIS PROJECT HAS HAD A 52.83% DECREASE SINCE 2021!

THIS IS BECAUSE WE STARTED FOCUSING ON THE MOST MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES WHICH TEND TO HAVE MUCH SMALLER HOSPITALS AND MATERNITY WARDS.



The background of the slide features a large stack of books, each wrapped in clear plastic and secured with a bright orange ribbon. The books are arranged in several layers, with some spines visible. One spine at the top is blue and has the text 'Histoire - Géographie' and 'Mathématiques' visible. Another spine below it is white with 'TIRO' printed on it. The overall scene suggests a large-scale distribution or donation of educational materials.

Implementation Mediums

- Loughborough Student Union (LSU) - Action Section
- University of Ghana Life Beacon Club (UGLBI)

IMPLEMENTATION MEDIUMS

We successfully implement our projects with the help of dedicated LBI volunteers worldwide. We establish various structures to ensure the sustainability of projects and the availability of volunteers in the geographical locations we aim to impact.

LSU Action

In the UK, we initiated a philanthropic society within the Loughborough University Student Union. This student-led club, known as LBI LSU Action, recruits students annually to support LBI in implementing key projects such as "Getting ready for University" and the "Entrepreneurial Mindset." The club operates with its own leadership committee, adhering to student union requirements, and appoints a new board every year. LSU Action has served as an effective medium for project implementation for the past three years.



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA LBI CLUB

The University of Ghana Life Beacon International Club was launched on June 10, 2023, with a similar purpose as the LSU Action in the UK. This student-led club was created in accordance with the University of Ghana Club regulations, and in 2023, it became the primary medium through which LBI thrives in supporting, educating, and empowering young individuals in the key areas of education, well-being, and faith. The club currently boasts over eighty members, six executives, and four committees with dedicated committee heads. Throughout the year, the club implemented various projects and events, including the Master the Art of CV Crafting Event and Building Strategic Relationship Event, as mentioned earlier.



Finance



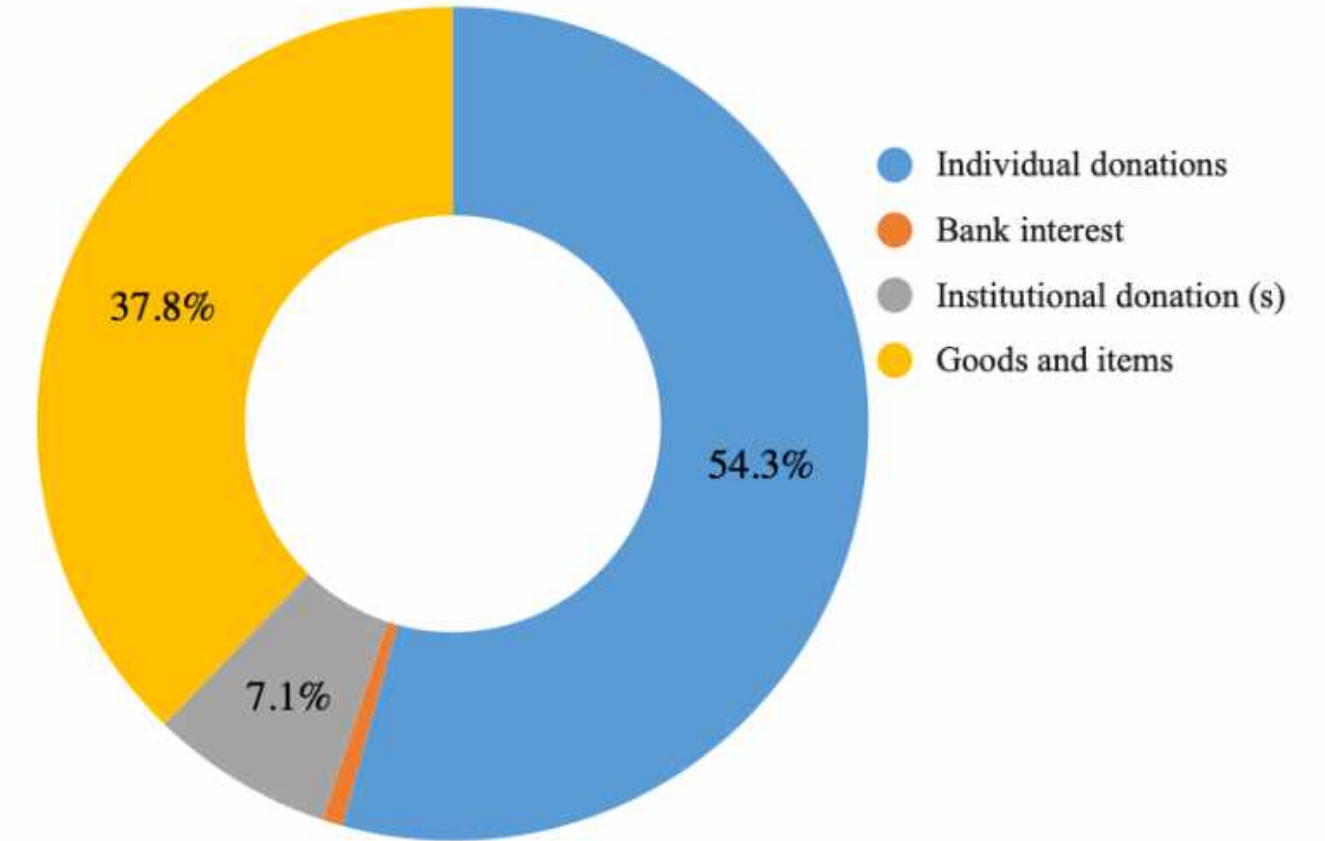
- Finances at a Glance
- Crowdfunding & Donations

FINANCES AT A GLANCE

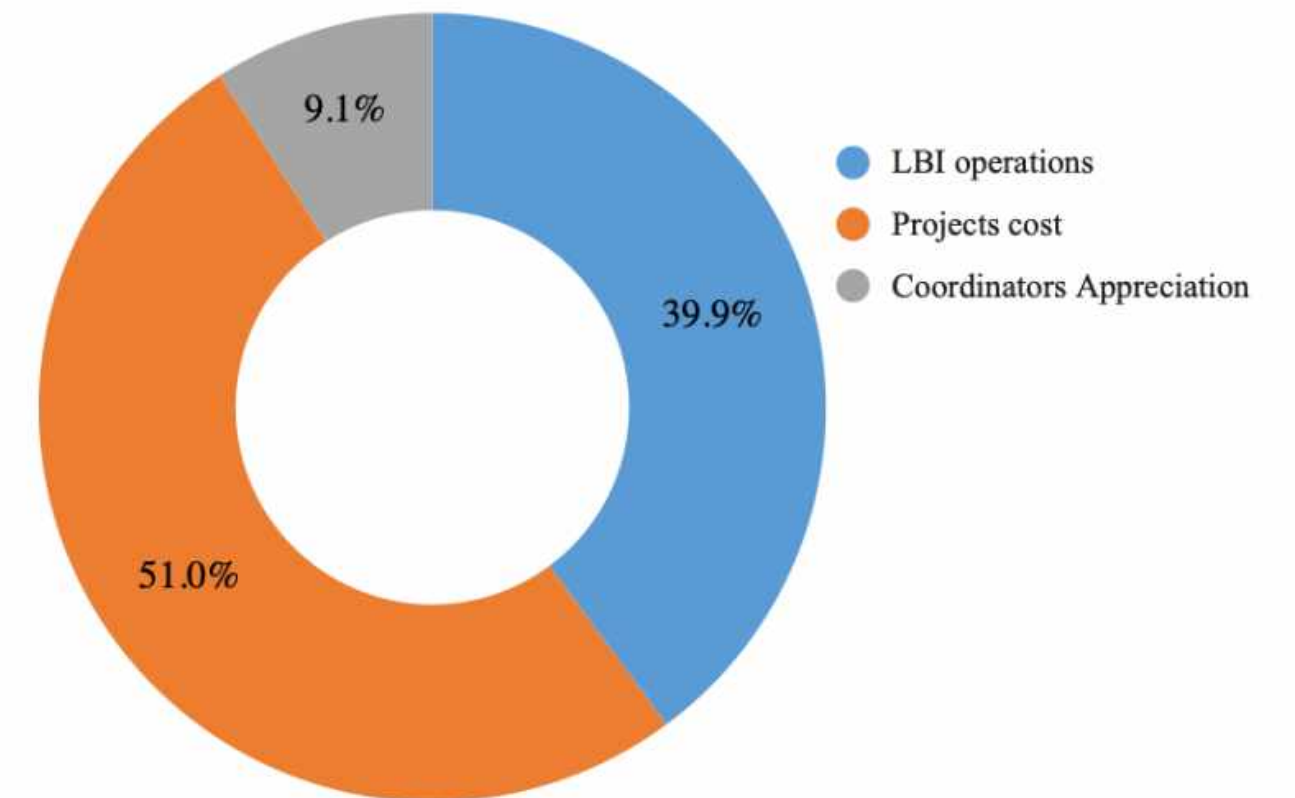
3 -YEAR FINANCES

	2021 £	2022 £	2023 £
Fundraising	560.65	3,889.35	0
Individual Donations	2,722.55	2,002.91	3,803.23
Institutional donations	1,010.86	5,210.71	500
Grants	4,320	-	-
Bank interest	0.01	7.91	55.4
Refund/compensation	-	218.50	-
Donated goods and items	2100	2500	2650
Total income	10,714.07	13,829.38	7,008.63
Life Beacon International Operations	1,301.42	1,707.59	2,594.49
Projects cost	6,320.34	10,669.38	3,321.61
Marketing	112.24	38.90	-
Team Bonding	203	-	-
Coordinator's Appreciation	-	541.72	591.64
Total expenditure	7,937	12,957.59	6,507.74

Income



Expenses



CROWDFUNDING & DONATIONS

In July 2023, our organisation enthusiastically launched the Back to School Crowdfunding campaign, a dynamic initiative aimed at mobilising financial support for our upcoming back-to-school project. Leveraging the power of our various social media platforms, we embarked on a strategic and engaging fundraising effort to ensure the success of this important initiative. This campaign serves as a testament to our commitment to providing educational resources and opportunities to those in need, and we extend our sincere gratitude to our community for their unwavering support in making this endeavor a reality.

Utilising a variety of methods, Life Beacon International actively engages with the public and cultivates strategic relationships with stakeholders to support our projects. Through effective communication, community outreach, and innovative partnerships, we aim to build a strong network that amplifies our impact and ensures ongoing support for all initiatives. Our commitment to transparent interaction fosters trust, making us a catalyst for positive change in the communities we serve.

We received donations from Loughborough Business School in preparation for our project. The items included fifty-six exercise books, fifty water bottles, one hundred and seventy-eight pens, and sixty-one American thermal mugs.

Additionally, on December 21st, we received items from the Loughborough Students Union. All these donations greatly contribute to our efforts and are instrumental in the success of our projects.



Join Us

As we reflect on the milestones achieved and the impact made throughout the year, we invite you to join us on our journey of positive change. Your support is the catalyst for transforming dreams into reality and creating lasting impact in the lives of those we serve.

Thanks to our Donors, Volunteers, Followers on social media and Beneficiaries for making 2023 impacts a reality.

VOLUNTEER WITH US:

Life Beacon Volunteers help spread the word about Life beacon at events and occasions around the UK.

To find out more about becoming a volunteer, www.lifebeacon.org/join-us

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit us at lifebeacon.org or

Scan the QR Code



Life Beacon is a Registered Charity in the United Kingdom (1192953).

A large crowd of young Black women is shown from a high angle, many holding up various items like cards, markers, and small objects. The image is semi-transparent. In the center, the text "Life Beacon" is written in a bold, orange, serif font. Behind the text is a sunburst graphic consisting of many thin, radiating lines in shades of orange and red.

Life Beacon