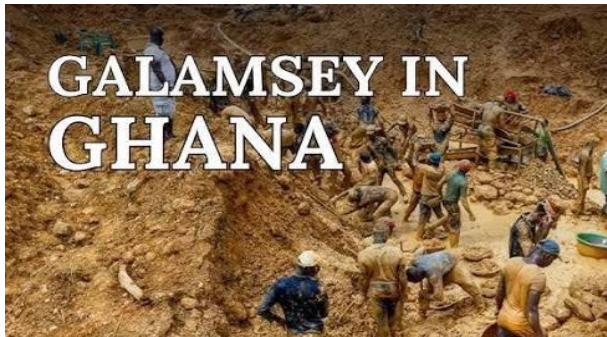


HELP Foundation Africa Report on Galamsey Advocacy for 2025



Executive Summary

Illegal mining, popularly known as *galamsey*, remains one of Ghana's most pressing environmental, socio-economic and governance challenges. Beyond the destruction of forests, rivers and agricultural lands, illegal mining has evolved into a complex national security, public health, food security and governance crisis that threatens the country's sustainable development aspirations. During the 2025 reporting period, HELP Foundation Africa (Human Environment and Livelihood Platform Foundation) intensified its advocacy and policy engagement to promote sustainable natural resource governance and comprehensive reforms aimed at addressing the structural drivers of illegal mining in Ghana.

Recognizing that enforcement actions directed solely at illegal miners cannot sustainably resolve the crisis, HELP Foundation Africa championed a governance-centred approach that sought to address the underlying political, financial and institutional systems enabling illegal mining. Under the leadership of its Executive Director, **Kwadwo Kyei Yamoah**, the Foundation consistently advocated for intelligence-led investigations targeting the financiers, kingpins, equipment suppliers, mercury supply chains and politically connected actors who organize, finance and protect illegal mining operations. Through this advocacy, the Foundation advanced the widely recognized policy message: **"Follow the money, not the shovel."** This approach emphasizes dismantling criminal networks and illicit financial flows rather than focusing exclusively on frontline operators.

Throughout the reporting period, HELP Foundation Africa employed a multifaceted advocacy strategy combining policy dialogue, evidence-based research, media engagement, public education, community advocacy and strategic partnerships. The Foundation actively engaged national stakeholders, including government institutions, civil society organizations, development partners, traditional authorities, academia and the media, to strengthen public understanding of the far-reaching consequences of illegal mining and the urgent need for systemic reforms.

The Foundation's advocacy highlighted that *galamsey* is no longer solely an environmental issue but a multidimensional development challenge with profound implications for water security, agricultural productivity, fisheries, biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, public health, human rights, children's welfare, economic development and national security. By framing illegal mining within broader governance and sustainable development contexts, HELP Foundation Africa contributed to expanding national discourse beyond reactive enforcement operations toward integrated policy solutions.

A major area of advocacy focused on protecting Ghana's food systems and rural livelihoods. HELP Foundation Africa consistently warned that the destruction of fertile agricultural lands, contamination of rivers, degradation of inland fisheries and widespread pollution caused by illegal mining threaten national food security and increase the vulnerability of farming and fishing communities. The Foundation emphasized that

continued degradation of productive landscapes undermines Ghana's long-term capacity to achieve food self-sufficiency, reduce poverty and strengthen climate resilience.

The Foundation also emphasized the disproportionate impacts of illegal mining on children and young people. Through policy dialogue and public awareness initiatives, HELP Foundation Africa demonstrated how polluted water sources, exposure to hazardous chemicals, deteriorating educational environments, weakened household livelihoods and increased child labour risks undermine children's rights and future opportunities. The Foundation consistently advocated for child-sensitive environmental governance and highlighted the importance of integrating child protection considerations into natural resource management policies.

Recognizing the close relationship between environmental degradation and national security, HELP Foundation Africa called for stronger collaboration among the Ministry of National Security, the Ghana Armed Forces, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Forestry Commission, the Minerals Commission, the Water Resources Commission and other relevant institutions to combat organized environmental crime. The Foundation advocated intelligence-led operations, financial investigations, strengthened prosecution of environmental crimes, asset recovery mechanisms and institutional accountability to dismantle the networks sustaining illegal mining.

During the reporting period, HELP Foundation Africa significantly expanded its public engagement through strategic use of national and digital media platforms. The Foundation's policy positions, technical analyses and public statements received coverage through respected media outlets, including the Ghana News Agency (GNA), News Ghana, Asaase Radio, The High Street Journal, Adom FM, NSEMKAFO TV and its official social media platforms. These engagements enabled the Foundation to communicate complex natural resource governance issues in accessible ways while strengthening public understanding of the need for comprehensive environmental reforms.

In addition to media advocacy, HELP Foundation Africa produced policy commentaries, opinion articles, technical analyses and public statements addressing critical issues related to illegal mining, environmental governance, food security, sustainable livelihoods, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national development. The Foundation consistently promoted evidence-based decision-making and encouraged stronger collaboration between government, civil society, local communities and development partners in addressing Ghana's environmental governance challenges.

The Foundation further reinforced the importance of aligning anti-galamsey interventions with Ghana's commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals. Its advocacy demonstrated that illegal mining undermines progress towards multiple SDGs, particularly those relating to poverty reduction, zero hunger, good health and well-being, clean water and sanitation, decent work and economic growth, climate action, life on land, and peace, justice and strong institutions. By connecting environmental governance with national development priorities, HELP Foundation Africa strengthened the case for

integrated policy responses that balance environmental protection with sustainable livelihoods.

Collectively, these interventions contributed to raising public awareness, enriching policy discussions and promoting a more comprehensive understanding of illegal mining as a governance challenge requiring coordinated, multi-sectoral action. The Foundation's sustained advocacy strengthened its reputation as an emerging national voice on environmental governance, natural resource management and sustainable development, while reinforcing the role of civil society in promoting transparency, accountability and responsible stewardship of Ghana's natural resources.

Although the illegal mining crisis continues to pose significant challenges, the reporting period demonstrated that sustained evidence-based advocacy can shape public discourse, influence policy conversations and strengthen collaboration among key stakeholders. HELP Foundation Africa's experience further underscores the importance of addressing corruption, illicit financing, institutional weaknesses and governance failures as essential components of long-term solutions to illegal mining.

Looking ahead, HELP Foundation Africa remains committed to advancing policy reforms that promote transparency, accountability, environmental justice and sustainable natural resource governance. The Foundation will continue working with government institutions, local communities, development partners, traditional authorities, academia and civil society organizations to strengthen environmental governance, protect Ghana's ecosystems, secure sustainable livelihoods and contribute to the achievement of national development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals.

This report documents the Foundation's advocacy initiatives, policy engagements, publications, media interventions, partnerships, achievements and lessons learned during 2025 reporting period. It provides an evidence-informed account of HELP Foundation Africa's contribution to national efforts to combat illegal mining and promote sustainable governance of Ghana's natural resources while offering strategic recommendations to strengthen future interventions.

Institutional Profile

HELP Foundation Africa (Human Environment and Livelihood Platform Foundation) is a Ghanaian civil society organization dedicated to environmental governance, sustainable livelihoods, human rights and accountable management of natural resources. Its work spans forestry, fisheries, mining, climate resilience and community development, emphasizing transparency, participation and policy reform.

Ghana's Illegal Mining Context

Illegal mining, popularly known as *galamsey*, has emerged as one of the most critical environmental governance and sustainable development challenges confronting Ghana. Although artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) has long provided livelihoods and contributed to local economic development, the rapid expansion of illegal and unregulated mining activities over the past two decades has resulted in unprecedented environmental degradation, social disruption, economic losses, and governance failures. Today, *galamsey* extends beyond an environmental issue and has evolved into a national crisis affecting water security, food production, biodiversity, public health, community livelihoods, national security, and economic development.

Ghana is endowed with abundant mineral resources, including gold, bauxite, manganese, diamonds and lithium. While the mining sector remains an important contributor to national revenue, employment and foreign exchange earnings, weak regulatory enforcement, inadequate monitoring, corruption, political interference, and high unemployment have contributed to the proliferation of illegal mining activities across many regions of the country. Forest reserves, river bodies, agricultural lands and protected ecosystems have increasingly become targets of illegal mining operations, often carried out with sophisticated equipment, heavy machinery and extensive financial backing.

The environmental consequences of *galamsey* are severe and far-reaching. Thousands of hectares of forests have been degraded, major rivers have become heavily polluted with sediments and toxic chemicals, and fertile farmlands have been destroyed, threatening Ghana's ecological integrity and natural resource base. The widespread use of mercury and other hazardous substances has contaminated water bodies and soils, posing significant risks to biodiversity, aquatic ecosystems, wildlife and human health. Rivers that provide drinking water to millions of Ghanaians have experienced increasing levels of pollution, leading to rising water treatment costs and growing concerns over long-term water security.

Illegal mining also poses serious threats to agriculture and food security. Productive farmlands are frequently excavated and rendered unsuitable for cultivation, while contamination of rivers affects irrigation, fishing and livestock production. These impacts directly undermine the livelihoods of farming and fishing communities, increase rural poverty and weaken national food systems. As climate change intensifies pressure on

natural resources, continued environmental degradation caused by illegal mining further reduces the resilience of vulnerable communities and compromises Ghana's ability to achieve sustainable agricultural development.

Beyond its environmental and economic consequences, galamsey has become a significant governance and national security concern. Evidence increasingly suggests that many illegal mining operations are supported by well-organized networks involving financiers, equipment suppliers, land brokers, politically connected individuals and transnational actors who provide financial resources, logistics and protection. These networks often exploit institutional weaknesses, regulatory gaps and corruption to evade accountability, making conventional enforcement operations insufficient to address the problem. Violent confrontations between illegal miners and state security agencies, attacks on public officials and conflicts within mining communities have further heightened security concerns in several parts of the country.

The social impacts of illegal mining are equally profound. Communities affected by galamsey experience declining access to safe drinking water, increased exposure to environmental pollutants, deteriorating public health conditions and the loss of traditional livelihood opportunities. Women and children are disproportionately affected through increased household vulnerability, reduced educational opportunities, exposure to hazardous environments and heightened risks of child labour. These impacts undermine social cohesion, increase inequality and weaken community resilience.

Illegal mining also presents a significant obstacle to Ghana's achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those related to poverty reduction, food security, health, clean water and sanitation, decent work, climate action, biodiversity conservation and strong institutions. The persistence of galamsey demonstrates the urgent need for integrated governance approaches that address not only environmental restoration but also institutional accountability, economic inclusion, transparency, community participation and sustainable livelihood development.

Recognizing these complex challenges, HELP Foundation Africa has consistently advocated for a shift from reactive enforcement towards comprehensive governance reforms that address the structural drivers of illegal mining. The Foundation maintains that lasting solutions require strengthening environmental governance, promoting intelligence-led investigations, dismantling illicit financial and political networks, improving institutional coordination, protecting vulnerable communities and ensuring greater transparency and accountability in the management of Ghana's natural resources. Such a holistic approach is essential to safeguarding the country's forests, rivers, agricultural lands and biodiversity while promoting inclusive economic development and environmental sustainability for present and future generations.

Advocacy Strategy

HELP Foundation Africa (Human Environment and Livelihood Platform Foundation) adopted a comprehensive, evidence-based and systems-oriented advocacy strategy to address the growing challenge of illegal mining (galamsey) in Ghana in 2025 reporting period. Recognizing that the galamsey crisis is rooted not only in illegal mining activities but also in governance failures, corruption, weak institutional coordination, illicit financial flows and socio-economic vulnerabilities, the Foundation pursued an integrated advocacy approach aimed at influencing policy, strengthening environmental governance, promoting public accountability and encouraging sustainable natural resource management.

Unlike conventional advocacy that focuses primarily on the activities of illegal miners at the community level, HELP Foundation Africa deliberately emphasized structural reforms targeting the political, economic and institutional systems that enable illegal mining to flourish. The Foundation consistently maintained that effective and sustainable solutions require dismantling the networks that finance, facilitate and protect illegal mining operations while strengthening governance institutions responsible for regulating the extractive sector.

Strategic Advocacy Goal

The overarching goal of the Foundation's advocacy strategy was to contribute to the elimination of illegal mining through improved governance, stronger public accountability, enhanced environmental protection and evidence-based policy reforms that safeguard Ghana's natural resources and promote sustainable livelihoods.

Strategic Objectives

The Foundation's advocacy was guided by the following strategic objectives:

- Promote comprehensive policy and institutional reforms to strengthen natural resource governance.
- Influence national decision-making through evidence-based policy recommendations.
- Increase public awareness of the environmental, economic and social consequences of illegal mining.
- Advocate intelligence-led enforcement that targets financiers, kingpins and organized criminal networks behind galamsey.
- Promote transparency, accountability and integrity in the governance of Ghana's mineral resources.
- Strengthen collaboration among government institutions, civil society, traditional authorities, local communities and development partners.
- Encourage sustainable livelihood alternatives that reduce dependence on illegal mining.

- Support restoration and long-term protection of forests, river systems and degraded ecosystems.

Guiding Principles

HELP Foundation Africa's advocacy strategy was founded on internationally recognized principles of good governance and sustainable development, including:

- Evidence-based decision-making.
- Transparency and accountability.
- Environmental justice.
- Human rights-based programming.
- Community participation and local ownership.
- Gender equality and social inclusion.
- Intergenerational equity.
- Peaceful dialogue and constructive engagement.
- Sustainable management of natural resources.

These principles ensured that advocacy interventions remained credible, non-partisan and focused on long-term national interests.

Systems-Based Approach to Combating Galamsey

A defining feature of the Foundation's advocacy was its systems-thinking approach. HELP Foundation Africa consistently argued that illegal mining is sustained by interconnected political, financial and institutional systems rather than by individual miners alone.

Central to this approach was the policy message:

"Follow the money, not the shovel."

Popularized through the Foundation's advocacy and public engagements, this message called for shifting enforcement efforts toward those who organize, finance and profit from illegal mining operations. The Foundation urged government institutions to prioritize intelligence-led investigations into financiers, politically exposed persons, equipment suppliers, mercury trafficking networks, land brokers and other actors who facilitate illegal mining. By emphasizing accountability across the entire value chain, HELP Foundation Africa sought to address the root causes of environmental crime rather than its visible symptoms.

Evidence-Based Policy Advocacy

Research and evidence formed the cornerstone of the Foundation's advocacy. HELP Foundation Africa produced policy analyses, opinion articles, technical commentaries and public statements that translated scientific findings and governance challenges into

practical policy recommendations. These outputs examined the links between illegal mining and water pollution, deforestation, food insecurity, biodiversity loss, climate vulnerability, public health and institutional weaknesses.

The Foundation also promoted data-driven discussions by drawing attention to the cumulative impacts of galamsey on national development, encouraging policymakers to adopt preventive and long-term solutions rather than relying solely on reactive enforcement measures.

Strategic Media Engagement

Recognizing the influential role of the media in shaping public opinion and policy discourse, HELP Foundation Africa made strategic communication a central component of its advocacy. Through interviews, opinion pieces, press statements and expert commentary, the Foundation engaged national media outlets to communicate evidence-based perspectives on illegal mining and environmental governance.

Media engagements focused on raising awareness of the structural causes of galamsey, promoting accountability, encouraging public participation and highlighting the urgent need for policy reform. These engagements also strengthened the Foundation's role as a trusted civil society voice on natural resource governance.

Policy Dialogue and Stakeholder Engagement

The Foundation actively promoted dialogue among key stakeholders to encourage collaborative solutions to illegal mining. It advocated stronger coordination among institutions such as the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Ministry of National Security, Environmental Protection Agency, Forestry Commission, Minerals Commission, Water Resources Commission, Ghana Armed Forces, Parliament, district assemblies, traditional authorities, civil society organizations and development partners.

By facilitating constructive dialogue, the Foundation sought to bridge gaps between policy formulation and implementation while encouraging shared responsibility for environmental stewardship.

Community-Centred Advocacy

HELP Foundation Africa recognized that sustainable solutions must be grounded in community participation. The Foundation therefore promoted awareness among local communities regarding the environmental, health and economic consequences of illegal mining while encouraging citizens to become active participants in environmental protection.

Community advocacy also emphasized the importance of protecting alternative livelihoods, preserving agricultural land, restoring degraded ecosystems and strengthening local ownership of natural resource governance initiatives.

Advocacy for Child Rights, Food Security and Sustainable Development

The Foundation deliberately broadened national conversations by demonstrating that illegal mining extends beyond environmental degradation to affect child protection, food systems, public health and national development. Its advocacy consistently highlighted the effects of polluted rivers on drinking water, the destruction of fertile agricultural land, declining fisheries productivity and increased vulnerability of children and rural households.

HELP Foundation Africa also linked illegal mining to Ghana's commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), emphasizing that effective environmental governance is fundamental to achieving inclusive and sustainable development.

Building Strategic Partnerships

Recognizing that no single institution can address the complexity of illegal mining alone, HELP Foundation Africa pursued partnerships with government agencies, civil society organizations, academic institutions, professional associations, community-based organizations, traditional authorities and development partners. These partnerships enhanced knowledge sharing, strengthened advocacy messages and promoted coordinated responses to environmental governance challenges.

Expected Outcomes

Through its advocacy strategy, HELP Foundation Africa sought to achieve several long-term outcomes, including improved environmental governance, stronger institutional accountability, increased public awareness, enhanced policy coherence, greater transparency in the extractive sector, strengthened community participation and more effective protection of Ghana's forests, rivers and agricultural landscapes.

Ultimately, the Foundation's advocacy aimed to contribute to a national governance framework in which natural resources are managed transparently, environmental laws are enforced fairly, communities participate meaningfully in decision-making and future generations inherit a healthier, more resilient and sustainably managed environment.

Impact, Results and Achievements of HELP Foundation Africa's Advocacy on Illegal Mining (Galamsey) for 2025

Introduction

In 2025, HELP Foundation Africa (Human Environment and Livelihood Platform Foundation), under the leadership of its Executive Director, **Kwadwo Kyei Yamoah**, strengthened its position as a prominent civil society voice advocating for sustainable natural resource governance and comprehensive reforms to combat illegal mining (galamsey) in Ghana. Through evidence-based advocacy, strategic media engagement, policy dialogue, public education and multi-stakeholder collaboration, the Foundation

contributed to shaping national discourse on illegal mining by emphasizing governance reforms rather than isolated enforcement operations.

Although eliminating galamsey remains a long-term national challenge requiring coordinated government action, HELP Foundation Africa's interventions significantly elevated public awareness and promoted policy discussions around structural reforms necessary to address the root causes of illegal mining.

National Policy Influence

One of HELP Foundation Africa's most significant contributions was shifting public and policy discourse from concentrating primarily on illegal miners operating at community level to examining the political economy of illegal mining.

The Foundation consistently advocated that Ghana's anti-galamsey strategy should focus on dismantling the networks that finance, facilitate and protect illegal mining operations. Through numerous policy statements and media engagements, Kwadwo Kyei Yamoah advanced the now widely recognized principle:

"Follow the money, not the shovel."

This advocacy emphasized intelligence-led investigations into:

- financiers;
- equipment suppliers;
- mercury importers;
- politically exposed persons;
- land brokers;
- organized criminal networks; and
- influential individuals who profit from illegal mining.

This policy perspective contributed to expanding national conversations beyond arresting individual miners towards addressing the governance failures that sustain illegal mining.

Increased National Visibility of Natural Resource Governance Issues

HELP Foundation Africa successfully positioned natural resource governance as a broader national development issue rather than solely an environmental concern.

Through sustained advocacy, the Foundation highlighted how galamsey affects:

- agriculture;
- fisheries;
- forests;
- biodiversity;
- climate resilience;

- drinking water;
- public health;
- children's welfare;
- local economies; and
- national security.

This integrated governance approach strengthened understanding that illegal mining is a cross-sectoral development challenge requiring whole-of-government responses.

Strengthened Public Awareness

The Foundation substantially increased public awareness of the environmental and socio-economic consequences of illegal mining through:

- radio interviews;
- television discussions;
- newspaper publications;
- online media articles;
- opinion editorials;
- community sensitization;
- public presentations; and
- social media advocacy.

These engagements translated complex environmental governance issues into accessible public messages, enabling citizens to better understand the long-term costs of environmental degradation.

Influence on National Debate

HELP Foundation Africa became one of the consistent civil society voices shaping national dialogue on galamsey. Its policy positions received coverage through major media platforms including:

- Ghana News Agency (GNA)
- JoyNews
- Asaase Radio
- News Ghana
- High Street Journal
- Adom FM
- NSEMKAFO TV
- Digital media platforms
- Social media channels

These engagements broadened stakeholder discussions regarding accountability, transparency and sustainable natural resource governance.

Advocacy for Intelligence-Led Enforcement

Rather than advocating solely for military operations, HELP Foundation Africa consistently recommended intelligence-driven enforcement. Key recommendations included:

- financial investigations;
- asset tracing;
- anti-money laundering investigations;
- prosecution of financiers;
- prosecution of politically connected sponsors;
- cross-agency intelligence sharing;
- stronger environmental crime investigations; and
- prosecution of organized criminal networks.

These recommendations aligned with international best practices in environmental crime prevention.

Contribution to Environmental Governance Reform

HELP Foundation Africa promoted stronger environmental governance through advocacy for:

- institutional accountability;
- transparent licensing;
- community participation;
- integrated land-use planning;
- stronger environmental regulation;
- forest protection;
- watershed protection;
- restoration of degraded landscapes; and
- responsible mineral governance.

The Foundation consistently argued that good governance remains Ghana's strongest long-term defence against illegal mining.

Promotion of Food Security

One of HELP Foundation Africa's most influential contributions was linking illegal mining with Ghana's food security. Its advocacy demonstrated how galamsey contributes to:

- destruction of cocoa farms;
- loss of fertile agricultural land;
- contamination of irrigation water;
- declining fisheries productivity;
- destruction of inland fisheries;

- reduced food production;
- increased rural poverty; and
- threats to national food systems.

This broadened public understanding beyond environmental impacts to include national economic resilience.

Promotion of Child Rights

HELP Foundation Africa consistently emphasized that illegal mining disproportionately affects children through:

- contaminated drinking water;
- exposure to toxic chemicals;
- reduced educational opportunities;
- destruction of community livelihoods;
- increased child labour risks;
- health impacts; and
- weakened future economic opportunities.

This advocacy helped connect environmental governance with child protection and sustainable development.

Advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Foundation strengthened national understanding of the relationship between illegal mining and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Its advocacy demonstrated that galamsey undermines progress toward:

- SDG 1 – No Poverty
- SDG 2 – Zero Hunger
- SDG 3 – Good Health
- SDG 6 – Clean Water
- SDG 8 – Decent Work
- SDG 13 – Climate Action
- SDG 15 – Life on Land
- SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

This systems-based framing encouraged policymakers to view illegal mining as a major obstacle to Ghana's sustainable development agenda.

Promotion of Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration

HELP Foundation Africa advocated stronger collaboration among:

- Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources;
- Ministry of National Security;

- Ghana Armed Forces;
- Environmental Protection Agency;
- Forestry Commission;
- Minerals Commission;
- Water Resources Commission;
- Civil Society Organizations;
- Traditional Authorities;
- Community-Based Organizations;
- Academic Institutions;
- Development Partners; and
- Local Communities.

The Foundation promoted coordinated governance rather than fragmented institutional responses.

Strengthening Civil Society Leadership

Through sustained advocacy, HELP Foundation Africa enhanced the role of civil society in natural resource governance by:

- producing evidence-informed policy commentary;
- contributing to national policy discussions;
- engaging journalists and media;
- facilitating public dialogue;
- encouraging citizen participation; and
- advocating transparency and accountability in environmental governance.

Institutional Recognition

During the reporting period, HELP Foundation Africa increasingly became recognized as a credible civil society organization on issues relating to:

- illegal mining;
- environmental governance;
- sustainable livelihoods;
- fisheries governance;
- forest governance;
- climate resilience;
- community development; and
- natural resource policy.

The growing number of media invitations, interviews, public statements and policy engagements reflected increasing recognition of the Foundation's expertise.

Key Achievements (2025)

The Foundation's notable achievements include:

- Elevated national discourse from enforcement-focused responses to governance and systemic reforms.
- Popularized the policy message "**Follow the money, not the shovel**", highlighting the need to target financiers, political actors and organized criminal networks behind illegal mining.
- Increased public awareness of the environmental, social and economic consequences of galamsey through sustained media engagement.
- Strengthened policy advocacy linking illegal mining to food security, public health, child protection and national security.
- Promoted intelligence-led enforcement, financial investigations and institutional accountability as core elements of anti-galamsey strategies.
- Positioned illegal mining as a barrier to achieving multiple Sustainable Development Goals.
- Expanded HELP Foundation Africa's visibility and credibility as a leading civil society voice on natural resource governance.
- Fostered stronger dialogue among government agencies, civil society, development partners and local communities on integrated environmental governance.
- Contributed evidence-based perspectives to national discussions on sustainable management of Ghana's forests, rivers, agricultural lands and mineral resources.
- Reinforced the importance of transparent, accountable and community-centred governance in addressing the root causes of illegal mining.

Overall Assessment

While illegal mining remains, a significant national challenge requiring sustained political commitment and coordinated enforcement, HELP Foundation Africa's work in 2025 made an important contribution to shaping public discourse and policy thinking.

By consistently advocating structural reforms, accountability for financiers and political enablers, protection of vulnerable communities, and integrated natural resource governance, the Foundation helped elevate the national conversation from reactive enforcement to longer-term governance solutions.

Its work laid a stronger foundation for evidence-based policymaking and collaborative action toward safeguarding Ghana's natural resources for present and future generations.

Picture Gallery

