

# THE UNSUNG HEROES OF RECYCLING



# RECYCLED MATERIAL'S ROLE

in building resilience against climate risk  
and achieving sustainable socio-economic  
systems.



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# Global Waste Crisis & Impact on Communities

01



Global Waste Colonization; Each year 13,000 tonnes of Australian Plastic waste is lost to the environs (Rumana et al., 2022)



02

03



Plastic Waste Maximises the Crisis; But hope is in community-driven initiatives, recycling efforts and innovative solutions that empower local action



04



# My Journey With Waste



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Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)



**Heliyon**



journal homepage: [www.cell.com/heliyon](http://www.cell.com/heliyon)

Research article

Preparation of charcoal briquette from palm kernel shells: case study in Ghana



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# INTRODUCTION TO GAYO



50 employees, 7000  
volunteers, 10



Projects; Ghana, Uganda,  
Kenya, Botswana, and  
Mali



Youth, Women,  
vulnerable



# Zero Waste Cities

This model diverts waste from oceans, mangrove ecosystems, and landfills, significantly reducing methane pollution and enhancing city resilience.



**Influencing Policy**  
Zero Waste Strategy; proper waste management guide for municipalities.



**Capacity Building & Job Creation**  
Plastic recycling, urban garden, composting, Mushroom farming etc.

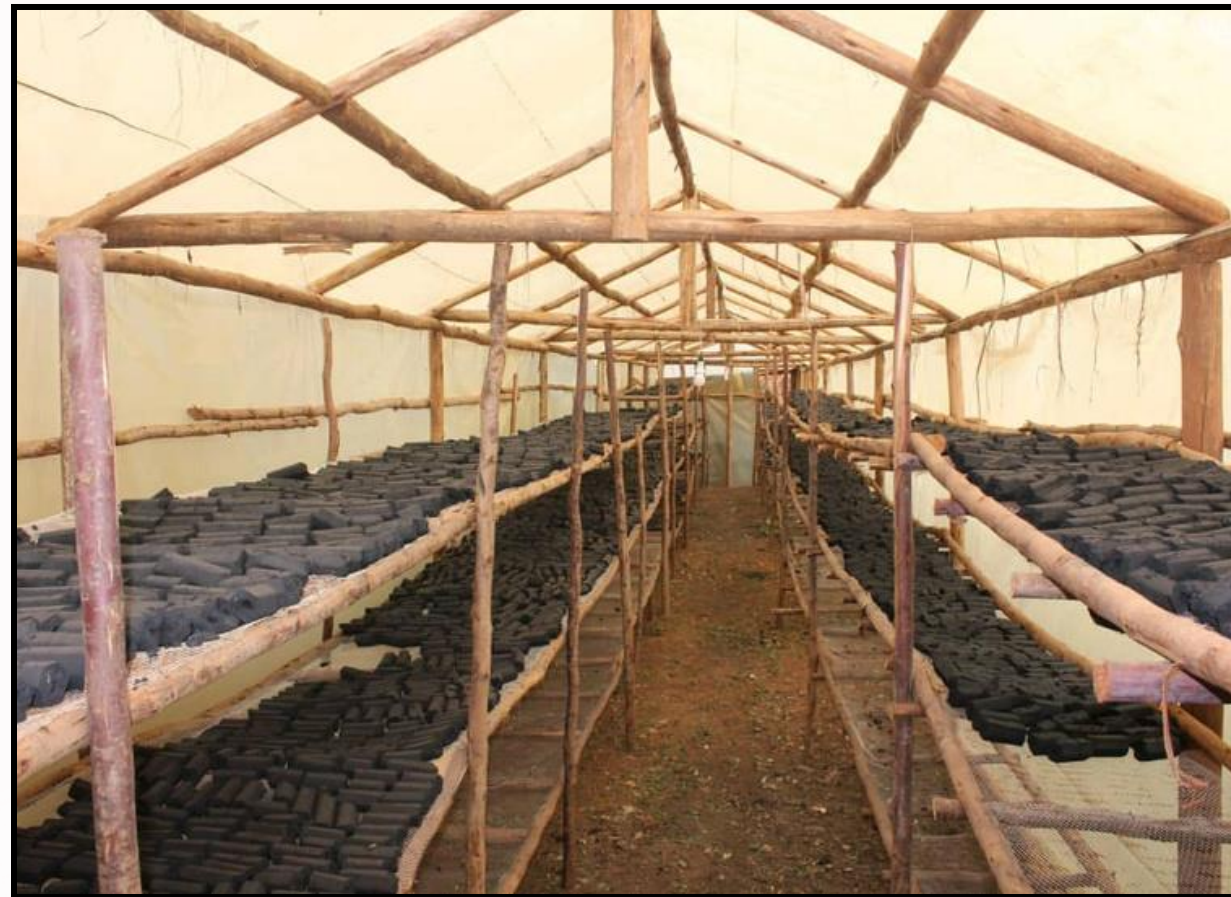


**Infrastructure and Enabling Systems**  
Material recovery facility, buyback centres, coin-based refillable water dispenser stations etc.



**Advocacy**  
Empowerment, Behavioural Change and Education.

# ZERO WASTE COMMUNITY PROJECTS



Charcoal Briquette From  
Agricultural Waste



Organic Compost



Urban Garden



# ZERO WASTE COMMUNITY PROJECTS



Upcycled Plastic Satchet



MRF- Loading to Recycling Centers



Plastics Recovery

# Water 4 Adaptation and Period Poverty

Engineered solar-powered mechanized drilled wells, combat period poverty, and offers green skills development training for women.



Women weaving native caps



Finished caps exhibited; community durbar

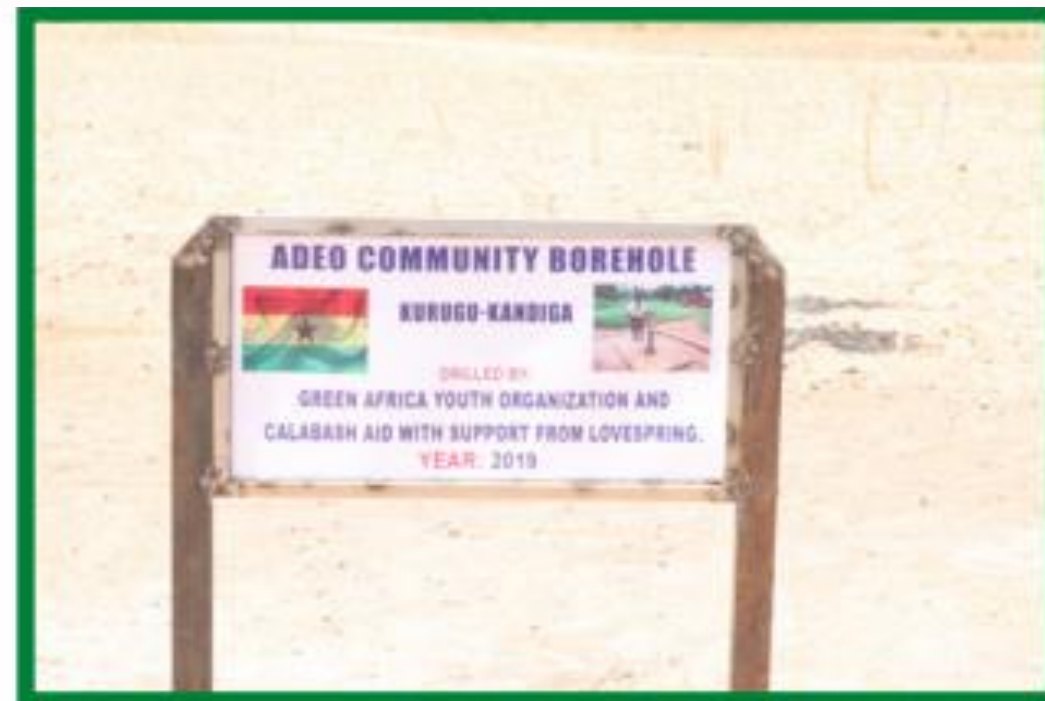
15

Women trained on the production of sanitary pads



4

Boreholes drilled



# Achieving sustainable socio-economic systems

01

Empowerment; More than 3000 waste pickers supported.  
Youth awarded seed funding for innovative projects.

02

Upscale of Small Medium Scale Enterprise; Ghana; 10 tons Organic Waste Monthly  
Plastics; 9 tons monthly  
Uganda; 8 tons Agricultural Waste

03

Cost Cutting; Municipal Assemblies, partners, and institutions, Market women

04

Reduction in flooding occurrences; chocked gutters, less littering



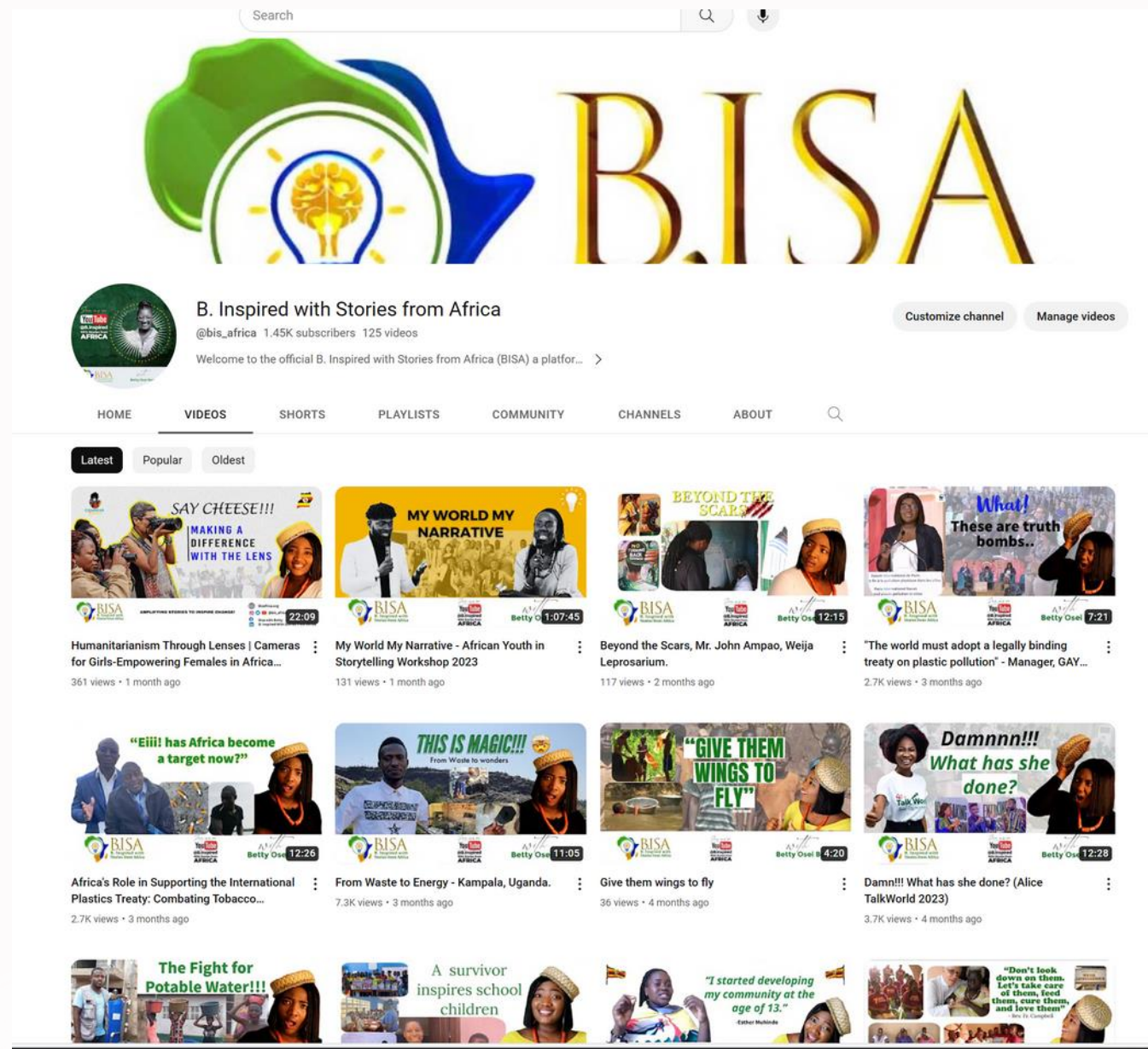
1st Runner up for the ACAIC Project at the Africa Climate Week in Nairobi.



Ongoing capacity building for informal waste speakers at the MRF.

# Stepping Stone

B.INSPIRED WITH STORIES FROM AFRICA



Organize events to foster social and environmental

100 stories,  
5000 subscribers,  
15 African countries,  
10 young journalist

# LESSONS TO LEARN/ CONCLUSION

*I am capable*

Youth capabilities



No place is a dumping ground



Accountability and responsibility



Sustainability practices/  
environment /social economic disparities



Legacy mindset/  
Product next life





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# THANK YOU

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