

BIG DEBT BIG THIRST

2025 | ANNUAL REPORT



**Corporate
Accountability &
Public
Participation
Africa**

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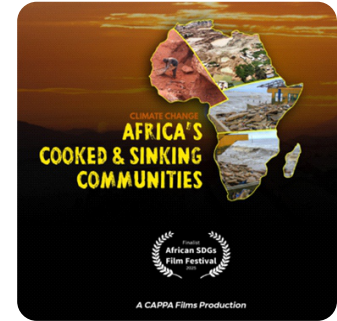


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From the Executive Director

Looking back at 2024, I find myself thinking less about the sheer volume of what we did and more about why we set out to do them in the first place. Every year presents its own storm of challenges, yet each one reaffirms the purpose that drives our work.

At its core, our work at CAPPa is animated by a straightforward truth: a society can only be deemed just when its systems are designed to actively protect and serve the collective good. Whether we are defending essential public services from commercialisation—as we did by exposing the failures of market-driven water reforms in our Big Debt, Big Thirst report—demanding a clean and safe environment, protecting public health from corporate capture, or fighting for the democratic right of people to decide their own future, the underlying struggle remains the same and connected. We are constantly pushing back against a world where might is right, and where too many decisions are made for the benefit of a few at the expense of the many.

This past year made the stakes of this contestation very clear. We operate in an era where systemic pressures remain intense, democratic freedoms face mounting restrictions, and powerful interests are deeply entrenched. Yet, the true measure of our impact was not just in our resistance to these forces, but in our capacity to build credible alternatives, influence local and international thinking, and foster deep community solidarity for sustained action.



We saw what is possible when grassroots pressure and strategic advocacy converge to secure major legislative breakthroughs. These gains confirmed that our efforts to rewrite the rules in favour of public good are yielding results. Among our many wins, the absolute highlight of my year was the vibrant energy of fifty-two young leaders from across Nigeria who gathered at our inaugural Youth Food Justice Boot Camp to organise and co-create a shared vision for an equitable future. Watching them exchange brilliant ideas and map out paths for implementation reminded me that the future we dream about is already manifesting.

As always, none of this vital work would be possible without the resilience and dedication of our staff, the bravery of our communities, and the enduring support of our donors, volunteers, board members, partners, media friends, and allies.

We are deeply thankful to everyone who walks this path with us and continues to believe in our dream of a fairer world. As we forge ahead, we do so with an unshakable belief that when ordinary people unite, they possess an extraordinary capacity to change the world.

Onward Forever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Akinbode Oluwafemi', written over a thin horizontal line.

Akinbode Oluwafemi

Programmatic Pillars

01



Social Justice and Public Services

At the heart of our work is the protection of public goods and the defence of fundamental rights. We champion the human right to water through publicly & democratically governed water systems. We also advance equitable access to quality public education.

02



Public Health Advocacy

Our advocacy drives systemic change in public health by advancing policies that prevent disease, reduce health inequities, and protect people from harmful commercial practices. Our current priorities include tobacco control and nutrition policy, Sugar-Sweetened Beverage (SSB) taxation, sodium reduction, and the elimination of industrially produced trans fats from the food supply.

03



Extractives and Environment

We advance climate and environmental justice by challenging the exploitation of frontline communities and natural ecosystems. Our work promotes community stewardship and democratic governance of nature's resources, ensuring that those most affected by environmental crises shape decisions about their land, water, and environment.

04



Democracy Outreach

Our democracy work is rooted in movement-building that defends the civic space and promotes inclusive and accountable governance.

MEDIA PRESENTATION & LAUNCH BIG DEBT BIG THIRST

We bolted into 2025 with a determination to defend the human right to water and sanitation. Across Nigeria and the wider African continent, public water systems remain in deep crisis. Decades of chronic underinvestment, aggressive privatisation and corporatisation drives, and harsh loan conditionalities imposed by international financial institutions, among other factors, have pushed many of these systems to the brink. This denies millions of people access to safe water while placing commercial interests ahead of a basic human necessity.

In March, we released Big Debt Big Thirst, a major investigative report examining the World Bank-backed National Urban Water Sector Reform Programme III in Ekiti, Bauchi, and Rivers States. The report scrutinised the market-driven reforms promoted under the programme and found little evidence that they were delivering on their promises. While states accumulated substantial debt, many communities continued to face unreliable access to water. Our findings exposed how corporatisation, cost recovery, and growing private sector

involvement have increasingly shaped water governance, often at the expense of universal access. Beneath the language of reform lay a deeper shift in which water was treated less as a public service and more as an economic commodity. The report sparked important conversations about the need for a more democratic and people-centred approach to water provision.



Our advocacy stayed just as sharp in Lagos, where one administration after another has tried to commercialise water through shady public-private partnerships. Throughout the year, we challenged the secretive processes that shut out public participation. We firmly rejected deals that hand public water systems over to private companies, because these arrangements force everyday citizens to carry all the financial risks while private operators walk away with all the profit and control.

But we also praised real progress when it happened. When the state government recommitted to funding and finishing Adiyen Water Works II, responding to calls we have consistently made for greater public investment in water infrastructure, we welcomed it as a major victory. Located in Iju along the Ogun River, the Adiyen I and II are major water treatment and distribution facilities designed to strengthen Lagos' public water supply system. Adiyen I has a supply capacity of 70 million gallons of water per day, while Adiyen II will add a further 11 million gallons daily once completed and fully operational, bringing the total output to 81 million gallons per day. This expansion has the potential to improve access to safe, piped water for millions of residents in a state where most households still rely on boreholes, water vendors, and other costly alternatives.

For us, Adiyen II demonstrates the scale of progress that can be achieved when governments invest in public infrastructure. At the same time, we cautioned against any attempt to concession or transfer the operation of the completed facility to private operators. The goal now is ensuring that the benefits of that investment remain in public hands and serve the people of Lagos rather than private interests.



Fifth Africa Week of Action Against Water Privatisation

One of the defining moments of our water justice work in 2025 was the *5th Africa Week of Action Against Water Privatisation*. What began years ago as a continental campaign has grown into one of Africa's most important platforms for defending water as a public good.



Working alongside the Our Water Our Right Africa Coalition (OWORAC), Make Big Polluters Pay (MBPP), and other allies this year, we brought together more than 100 participants from 10 countries, including Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Cameroon, Togo, and the United States. The campaign also featured Pedro Arrojo-Agudo, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation, alongside other global advocates. Together, they amplified the message that water is a public good and a critical pillar of climate resilience.

The week created space for communities across Africa to tell their own stories and draw connections between struggles that are often presented as isolated problems. In Lagos, residents described the realities of emerging commercial water schemes that rely on prepaid metering and digital payment systems. Many reported irregular supply and rising costs. Some households were spending substantial amounts every month for water that flowed only intermittently. Similar concerns emerged during a water-parliament held in Ogun State. Residents spoke about arbitrary tariff increases and metering systems that were making access to water increasingly difficult for low-income families. Women, as is often the case, carried the heaviest burden whenever supply failed, travelling longer distances in search of alternative sources.

In Zimbabwe, participants raised concerns about deteriorating public water infrastructure and renewed efforts by state officials to privatise essential services despite widespread economic hardship.



Pedro Arrojo-Agudo, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation, delivers a virtual keynote address during the commemoration of the fifth edition of the Week of Action Against Water Privatisation organised by OWORAC.



Representatives of BIBA Kenya, a member of OWORAC, address a press briefing in Kenya calling for the protection of public water services and resisting water privatisation across Africa

Our campaign also centred on workers who keep public water systems running. During the year, CAPP, alongside OWORAC and its allies, mobilised in solidarity with Oumar Ba, General Secretary of the Autonomous Union of Water Workers of Senegal (SATES), after he was targeted by SEN'EAU, the private operator managing water distribution services in Senegal. Oumar's ordeal followed his public opposition to attempts by SEN'EAU to sideline SATES during negotiations over a multi-year labour agreement and his criticism of a disputed union representation process that workers argued lacked transparency.

As private operators assume greater control over public services, workers, unions, and communities that question decisions affecting transparency and public oversight find themselves under growing pressure. Defending public water, therefore, also means defending the democratic rights of people to participate meaningfully in how public services are governed.



Building a Healthier Food Future

One exciting milestone of our year was the launch of Nigeria's first-ever Youth Food Justice Boot Camp. Out of hundreds of eager applicants, 52 exceptional young leaders from all six geopolitical zones of the country were selected to participate in a five-day intensive training programme in Ikogosi, Ekiti State. Over the course of the bootcamp, participants gained knowledge on policy advocacy, media engagement, movement-building, storytelling, campaign planning, digital campaigning, activist self-care practices, and healthy food systems.

Following the workshop, participants have continued to engage policymakers and elected representatives, while visiting schools, religious institutions, and community groups to raise awareness about the need for healthier food policies across the country. Their efforts have become part of a growing movement for food justice in Nigeria, helping to deepen public understanding of the links between unhealthy diets and non-communicable diseases.

The demand for healthier food environments also gained significant traction at the policy level. After years of advocacy, our push for a stronger Sugar-Sweetened Beverage (SSB) tax recorded a major legislative breakthrough. The Customs, Excise, Tariffs (Consolidation) Act Amendment Bill, sponsored by Senator Ipalibo Banigo and aimed at strengthening Nigeria's SSB tax framework, successfully passed its First and Second Readings and progressed to the committee stage for a public hearing. This hearing brought together government officials, public health advocates, researchers, and other stakeholders to examine the proposed reforms and their potential impact on public health.



Members of the Food Justice Legal Committee after a deliberative session.

If enacted, the bill will greatly reshape Nigeria's response to the health harms associated with excessive sugar consumption. It seeks to replace the outdated fixed excise duty of N10 per litre on sugary drinks, a rate that has long been eroded by inflation, with a percentage-based levy linked to the retail price of targeted products. Equally important, it establishes a clear legal framework for earmarking tax revenue directly for public health and disease prevention programmes, ensuring that the resources generated are reinvested in improving the wellbeing of Nigerians.

At the public hearing, Professor Muhammed Ali Pate, Nigeria's Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, strongly endorsed our position, advocating for a minimum 20 per cent excise tax on SSBs and calling for 40 per cent of the generated revenue to be poured into the health sector.

While these legislative conversations unfolded in the National Assembly, we remained equally focused on strengthening the movement on ground. Through targeted regional training sessions, we expanded the National SSB Tax Coalition to 130 active members representing 68 civil society organisations, community groups, and professional bodies. CAPPA also spearheaded establishment of the Food Justice Legal Team—a strategic platform bringing together legal and policy experts from key Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) and allied institutions to exchange information and coordinate action on emerging food policy issues.



Professor Muhammad Ali Pate, Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, speaks during a public hearing on the proposed amendment to Nigeria's SSB tax framework.



Stakeholders pose for a group photograph following a public hearing on the proposed amendment of Nigeria's SSB tax framework at the National Assembly, Abuja.





● Putting Cardiovascular Health on the National Agenda

Following the development and adoption of Nigeria's National Guideline for Sodium Reduction, we worked closely with the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), and other partners to support implementation. Encouragingly, NAFDAC commenced work on draft regulations aimed at reducing sodium levels in processed and packaged foods, marking an important step towards addressing excessive salt consumption and its contributions to hypertension, stroke, and cardiovascular disease in the country.



Stakeholders at the launch of the National Guideline for Sodium Reduction

Alongside these efforts, we supported the advancement of Front-of-Pack Warning Labels (FOPWL) and the development of a Nutrient Profile Model for Nigeria. By anchoring the National Technical Working Group and facilitating strategic policy discussions, we laid the essential groundwork for reforms that will empower consumers to make informed, healthier food choices. We also invested heavily in strengthening the advocacy ecosystem, equipping journalists, government officials, civil society organisations, and legal experts with the technical capacity needed to effectively champion healthy food policies.

Following the Industry's Playbook

While advocating for stronger policies remained central to our work, we confronted the predatory tactics of profit-driven conglomerates that undermine public health. Our hard-hitting report, *Junk on Our Plates*, exposed how food and beverage companies market ultra-processed foods and products to children and vulnerable communities.

The report documented a range of tactics, including misleading health claims, manipulative pricing strategies, cultural branding, and aggressive advertising designed to normalise unhealthy consumption patterns. These practices are particularly concerning given the rising burden of non-communicable diseases across Nigeria. Predictably, some industry actors challenged our findings in an attempt to protect their interests. We met their efforts to muddy the waters with evidence-based advocacy that kept public health concerns at the centre of the debate.

Our monitoring work extended to the Food and Beverages West Africa Exhibition, where we documented numerous examples of questionable marketing practices. These included products

promoted as “100 per cent natural” despite containing concentrated sugars, high-sodium products marketed as healthier alternatives, and even the co-promotion of tobacco and nicotine products alongside food and beverages. Drawing on evidence gathered through this monitoring, we submitted formal complaints to regulators and engaged directly with NAFDAC and other relevant agencies to bolster regulatory oversight.

Last year, we also pushed back against growing efforts by industry actors to position ultra-processed foods (UPFs) as vehicles for micronutrient fortification. While the fortification of staple foods has long been recognised as a vital public health intervention, extending this logic to UPFs risks giving unhealthy products a “health halo” they do not deserve. The excessive sugar, salt, unhealthy fats, and additives contained in ultra-processed foods cannot be undone by the addition of a few vitamins and minerals. Recognising the implications of this trend, we have continued to engage policymakers, civil society actors, the media, and the public to highlight the dangers of allowing fortification claims to obscure broader nutritional concern

Protecting children remained another critical priority.

Through engagements with key stakeholders, we highlighted how food companies increasingly target children through advertisements, social media campaigns, school activations, and child-friendly packaging—tactics that actively shape dietary habits contributing to rising levels of childhood obesity and non-communicable diseases. Beyond our work in Nigeria, our industry-monitoring expertise gained significant recognition across the continent.

In Nairobi, Kenya, we contributed to regional strategy sessions on monitoring and countering industry interference in healthy food policies, sharing lessons from our local campaigns while helping to develop practical tools to support food justice advocacy across Africa.

Standing Up to Big Tobacco

Despite overwhelming evidence about the harms of tobacco and nicotine, the industry continues to find new ways to attract consumers and undermine public health. Our release of the Nigeria 2025 Tobacco Industry Interference Index Report shed further light on how industry actors seek access to policymakers, cultivate relationships with public institutions, and present themselves as partners in development, despite the clear conflict between their commercial interests and public health objectives. The report helped strengthen advocacy efforts aimed at ensuring that tobacco control policies remain protected from industry influence and guided by evidence rather than corporate interests.

We also confronted attempts to repackage nicotine addiction as a public health solution. Over the past year, tobacco companies and their allies have aggressively promoted the so-called “Quit Like Sweden” narrative, holding up Sweden as evidence that alternative nicotine products offer a pathway to a smoke-free future. Behind this aggressive marketing, however, lies a much more complicated reality. The campaign is part of a broader industry strategy to hook a new generation on highly addictive emerging products, including e-cigarettes also known as vapes, nicotine pouches, and heated tobacco products. Working alongside national and international partners, we challenged the misleading claims surrounding this narrative and drew urgent attention to the risks of normalising these alternative nicotine products among young people and non-smokers.



Standing alongside advocates from across the world at COP11, a CAPPA representative participates in a public action calling on governments to make Big Tobacco pay for the devastating health, social, economic, and environmental harms caused by its product

Ahead of the Eleventh Session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (COP11), we participated in strategic preparatory engagements as well as in the conference itself. At COP11, we joined over 1,400 delegates and advocates from around the world to advance stronger measures to protect public health. Working closely with the Network for Accountability of Tobacco Transnationals, we co-authored a joint public statement demanding that government delegations completely reject corporate partnerships and stand up for public health.

● Ado-Ekiti Goes Smoke-Free

On World No Tobacco Day 2025, the leadership of the Ado-Ekiti Local Government Area in Ekiti State designated the capital territory a smoke-free city. This historic achievement was the direct result of months of intensive advocacy and technical collaboration with local authorities and community partners, all united around the single goal of shielding residents from the dangers of tobacco and secondhand smoke. To ensure the declaration becomes legally enforceable, we have already moved into the next phase by working with local authorities to develop a supporting by-law. Simultaneously, we have opened strategic lines of communication with the Ekiti State Ministries of Health and Environment to upgrade existing frameworks and tighten tobacco control measures across the entire state.



Government officials, traditional leaders, civil society organisations, health professionals, and community advocates commemorate World No Tobacco Day in Ado-Ekiti, celebrating the city's smoke-free declaration and renewed commitment to advancing tobacco in Ekiti State.

Defending Civic Space, Building Movements

In many ways, 2025 revealed the growing tensions between citizens demanding accountability and institutions increasingly uncomfortable with dissent. Across public life, we observed repeated attempts to silence criticism, discourage peaceful organising, and restrict the exercise of fundamental freedoms. Against this backdrop, safeguarding the civic space remained a core pillar of our work.

The struggle for civic freedoms was particularly visible on university campuses. As the cost of education continues to rise amid economic hardship, students across the country are increasingly mobilising to challenge arbitrary fee increases and demand greater accountability from university authorities. Yet, peaceful protest is often treated as an act of misconduct rather than a legitimate exercise of democratic rights. At Nasarawa State University,

Keffi, our intervention and media advocacy—alongside the efforts of allied organisations—contributed to the reinstatement of students who had been suspended for protesting school fee hikes.

Similarly, at the University of Ibadan, where three student activists (Ayodele Aduwo, Nice Linus, and Mide Gbadegesin) face ongoing victimisation for raising placards against rising fees, we have stepped in to defend their rights and seek redress against their unlawful rustication by a biased disciplinary panel. Working with the affected students, we have instituted legal action seeking their unconditional reinstatement.



Protesters speaking to the press in Ojota, Lagos, during the #EndBadGovernance protests in August 2024

Legal Victory for the EndBadGovernance Movement, Lagos Chapter

A peaceful gathering to remember victims of police brutality ended in arrests, harassment, and detention. Less than a year later, the Federal High Court in Lagos ruled that those actions violated the constitutional rights of the protesters involved, ordering the Inspector-General of Police and the Lagos State Commissioner of Police to pay N10 million in damages.

The case arose in October 2024 when members of the #EndBadGovernanceMovement, Lagos Chapter, gathered at the Lekki Tollgate to commemorate the fourth anniversary of the EndSARS protests. Rather than facilitating a peaceful memorial, security operatives disrupted the gathering, attacked and detained several protesters. Refusing to allow these violations go unanswered, the affected protesters pursued legal action. The judgment, delivered in July 2025, represented more than a legal victory for those directly involved. It reaffirmed a fundamental democratic principle: citizens do not need permission to remember, mourn, organise, or

peacefully demand accountability from those who govern them.

For CAPP, the ruling also underscored the importance of movement-building as a tool for defending civic space, demonstrating how organised citizens can successfully challenge abuses of power and secure accountability. Born out of widespread public frustration with worsening economic conditions and democratic decline, the #EndBadGovernanceMovement took shape during the wave of citizen-led protests that spread across the country in 2024. Over time, it has coalesced into a dynamic network of activists, community groups, and civil society organisations united by a shared commitment to demand for good governance and public oversight. In Lagos, CAPP plays a leading role as a coordinating member of the movement, helping to strengthen collective organising and respond to threats against democratic rights.

Protesters detained inside a police task force vehicle on 20 October 2024 after security personnel dispersed a peaceful gathering commemorating the fourth anniversary of the #EndSARS protests.



Media for Social Change



CAPPA's media advocacy reached new heights in 2025. Across our work on public health, water justice, climate justice, education, and democracy, we secured unprecedented media coverage and enhanced the quality of reporting on critical issues.

Between January and December 2025, CAPPA generated no fewer than 1,786 media mentions across television, radio, newspapers, magazines, and digital platforms, surpassing the 1,520 mentions recorded in 2024. This translates to an average of nearly 149 media mentions every month. The coverage included news reports, interviews, feature stories, editorials, opinion articles, investigative reports, and other forms of media engagement linked to our advocacy priorities. Even these figures tell only part of the story; they exclude coverage generated through joint advocacy initiatives and coalition activities, meaning the actual reach of our messaging was considerably wider.

A major factor behind this reach is the continuous expansion of CAPPA's network of journalists and media professionals. During the year, we grew our database from 140 media contacts to more than 400 active journalists, editors, broadcasters, producers, and media managers across different parts of the country, opening up new opportunities for engagement, particularly in regions where public-interest issues often receive limited media attention. The value of these relationships became increasingly evident in the quality of reporting generated around our campaigns. Journalists who once engaged primarily through basic event coverage increasingly undertook deeper investigations into issues affecting public health, public services, and corporate accountability.

Under our campaign for stronger taxation of sugary drinks, CAPPA commissioned four investigative reports by award-winning journalists. Their reporting examined the health and economic consequences of excessive sugary drink consumption.

Our engagement with the media also contributed to journalism that received national recognition. In December 2025, award-winning journalist Medinat Kanabe of Voice of Naija secured second place at the Nigeria Media Merit Award for her investigation into access to potable water in Lagos. The report explored the struggle for clean and affordable water and amplified concerns surrounding water privatisation, bringing greater visibility to issues that communities and advocates have raised for years.

Perhaps the most revealing measure of progress came in the response to efforts by corporate actors to shape public narratives. Following the publication of the Junk on Our Plates report, which exposed how manufacturers of ultra-processed foods and sugar-sweetened beverages market unhealthy products to consumers, Coca-Cola organised a media engagement in Lagos aimed at countering the report's findings. More than thirty journalists attended the event, yet only one media outlet published a report from the engagement. This limited uptake suggests a growing willingness among journalists to interrogate corporate claims, distinguish evidence from public relations, and approach industry narratives with greater scrutiny.

Years of targeted engagement with journalists helped create the conditions for this outcome. Through media fellowships, workshops, and stakeholder sessions, CAPPA has worked to strengthen issue-based reporting. By supporting journalists with independent evidence and technical expertise, we contributed to more rigorous reporting and a media environment better equipped to scrutinise powerful interests. As our campaigns continue to evolve, we remain committed to supporting independent, evidence-driven journalism. Our goal is to ensure that public debates remain informed by facts and responsive to the needs of the communities most affected by policy decisions.

https://thenationonline.ng/silent-killers-how-sugar-sweetened-beverages-lead-adolescents-to-early-grave/amp/

News

March 8, 2025 by Innocent Duru

Silent Killers: How sugar-sweetened beverages lead adolescents to early grave



Diabetes Kills.
Sugary drinks tax now!
#ChooseHealth #heala

Vanguard

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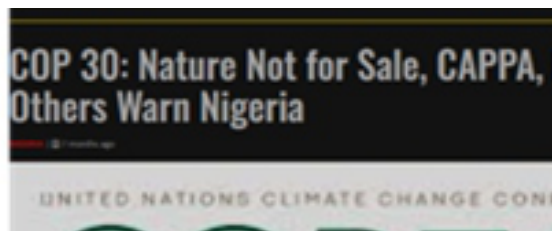
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CAPPA: Excess salt, poor diets fueling health crisis in Nigeria

The Africanewsdesk (Africa) July 25, 2025 8:21 AM



LEADERSHIP Sunday

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BAUCHI GOVT DID NOT CANCEL SALLAH DUBBAR — EMIRATE COUNCIL

23.3.25

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Judicial Manipulation Threatening Nigeria's Future — Jonathan

Pope Francis To Be Discharged From Hospital Today

BRIEFING: Trending Visa Inc. to establish data centre in Nigeria — Numbers: TAC shares N1.67B in revenue for February — History Today

Sugary Drinks Consumption: Nigerians Spend N1.9trn Yearly To Treat Diabetes, Others

Nation ranks 4th with daily sales of 38.6m litres ■ Experts canvass higher tax rate to curb intake ■ It will put us out of business — Manufacturers ■ FG to appeal court suspension of N10 per litre levy on sugar-sweetened beverages

Governors, Chairmen In Blame Game Over Direct Disbursement Of LG Funds

Emergency Rule

Govs Explain Silence, Ozekhome, Adegboruwa, Awa Kalu, Others Kick

Trump Revokes Security Clearance For Harris, Clinton, Others

Pension Fund Assets Deplete 100% In Dollar Terms

blueprint

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CAPPA Urges FG To Deliver On Democracy Dividends

The Politics of Climate and Food

Our climate justice mandate in 2025 focused on three strategic pillars: expanding grassroots climate organising across Africa, advancing agroecology as a viable alternative to industrial agriculture and conventional food systems, and ensuring that the lived experiences of frontline communities directly informed climate policy at the national, regional, and international levels.

Through our role on the coordinating committee of the Demand for Climate Justice (DCJ) Network and our leadership within the Make Big Polluters Pay (MBPP) coalition, CAPPa worked alongside partners across the continent and beyond to advance fossil fuel phase-out, equitable climate finance, and community-led climate governance. A notable development during the year was the strategic expansion of the MBPP coalition. Targeted engagements with organisations in Namibia, Uganda, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal widened the coalition's geographic reach, bringing vital new voices into collective campaigns to confront extractive industries.

CAPPa's climate portfolio also expanded with the introduction of a new body of work dedicated to agroecology. The initiative promotes farming systems rooted in biodiversity, Indigenous knowledge, ecological balance, and reduced dependence on synthetic inputs as a response to the growing challenges of climate change, soil degradation, and food insecurity. A central focus of the project was building institutional support for a national agroecology policy.

CAPPa engaged researchers, farmer networks, civil society organisations, and government actors to elevate agroecology within national discussions on agriculture and climate adaptation. Strategic engagements with the Organic and Agroecology Initiative of Nigeria (ORAIN), the Network of Organic Agriculture Researchers in Africa (NOARA), and relevant government ministries contributed to the development of policy and implementation frameworks.



Shaping National and Local Climate Change Frameworks

CAPPa made technical recommendations to Nigeria's Third Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0) through consultative processes convened by the National Council on Climate Change (NCCC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Our submissions emphasised citizen participation, transparent climate governance, nature-based solutions, green jobs, and clean cooking initiatives, ensuring that state implementation plans genuinely reflect community priorities.

At the sub-national level, CAPPa contributed to the drafting of the Ekiti State Climate Change Action Plan and actively participated in climate-agriculture initiatives led by the Lagos State Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, and Food Security. These interventions provided strategic entry points to mainstream organic agriculture and agroecology into emerging state-level climate policies.

Throughout these policy engagements, we remained closely connected to communities experiencing the immediate consequences of environmental disruption. In Ayetoro, where persistent sea incursions threaten homes and infrastructure, and in Nasarawa Town, where communities face mounting environmental pressures from resource exploitation, CAPPA used documentation, advocacy, and media engagement to ensure these frontline realities informed debates on environmental governance and corporate accountability.

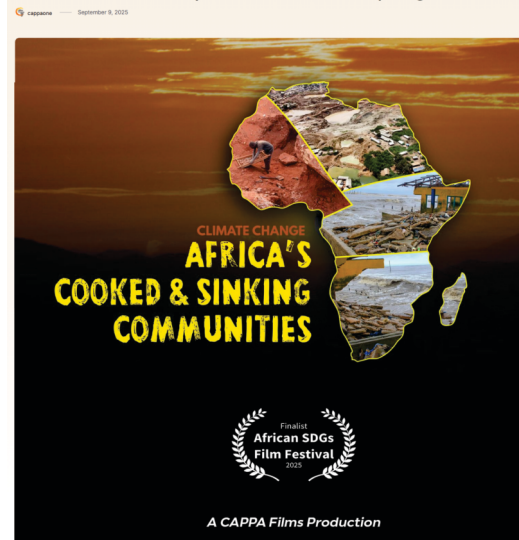


Film as an Instrument of Climate Advocacy

CAPPA's documentary, *Climate Change: Africa's Cooked and Sinking Communities*, received more international recognition in 2025 after being selected as a finalist for the inaugural African SDGs Film Festival in Abuja.

It was also listed among notable climate change films to watch on the eighth anniversary of Hurricane Maria, further placing African experiences within the global conversation on climate and corporate accountability.

CAPPA's Documentary Earns Film Festival Spotlight



The documentary follows communities in Kenya, Cameroon, and Nigeria as they face drought, mining-related environmental damage, sea incursion, and the wider consequences of reckless extractivism. Its recognition affirmed the power of community-centred storytelling to drive climate justice.

Justicia and Cultura

Your Watch List for the 8th Anniversary of Hurricane María

by Lola Rosario • September 17, 2025



In 2023, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) reported that between 1970 and 2021, climate-related catastrophes resulted in over 2 million deaths and economic losses of \$4.3 trillion. Behind those staggering numbers is everything from agriculture to transportation, greenhouse gases to fossil fuels, all eroding coastlines, causing natural disasters, and rising sea levels. We feel it every day here in Puerto Rico, even as we're still dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane María, which hit eight years ago on September 20.

And though the future seems bleak, I scoured the internet to find folks working to address the challenges of climate change as we approach this anniversary of Hurricane María. Check out my short list of films and one show addressing the climate crisis with creative solutions. Because future generations depend on us, and we only have one Madre Tierra.

Content Warning: Triggering subject matter, please prioritize your emotional and psychological well-being.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lola – La Revolution – Rosario Aponte is a Nuyorican spoken word poet, freelance journalist, language facilitator, and cultural guardian. After trekking to 35 countries, she took a spiritually transformational three-week trip to Tanzania in 2021, which returned her to her ancestral motherland of Borinquen. Lola lives in the hermosa puebla of Loísa. Find her on YouTube @LolaLaRevolution.

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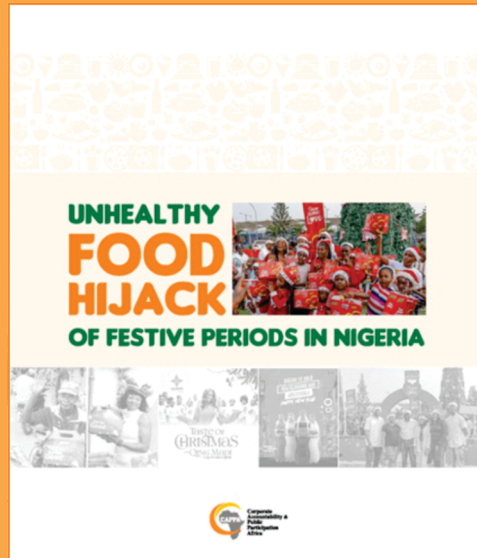
SUBMIT



CAPPA at COP 30

The year concluded with CAPPA's active participation at COP30 in Belém, Brazil, where we leveraged media engagements and high-level side events to challenge false climate solutions and amplify demands for liability from major polluters. Collaborating with the International People's Assembly (IPA), we joined grassroots movements, climate justice organisations, and community leaders from across the globe to advance demands for an equitable transition away from fossil fuels. While the summit delivered limited systemic progress—marred by inadequate adaptation finance, shortfalls in the Loss and Damage Fund, and the pervasive presence of 1,602 fossil fuel lobbyists—the conference did establish a Just Transition Mechanism and launched the Global Implementation Accelerator. However, questions persist regarding financing and accountability. In the years ahead, CAPPA will continue to utilise its growing research, media, and coalition capacity to push for equitable climate finance, robust corporate accountability mechanisms, and decision-making processes that place affected communities at the absolute center of global climate governance.

Publications



Financials



Statement of Functional Income and Expenses for the Year Ended 31st December, 2025

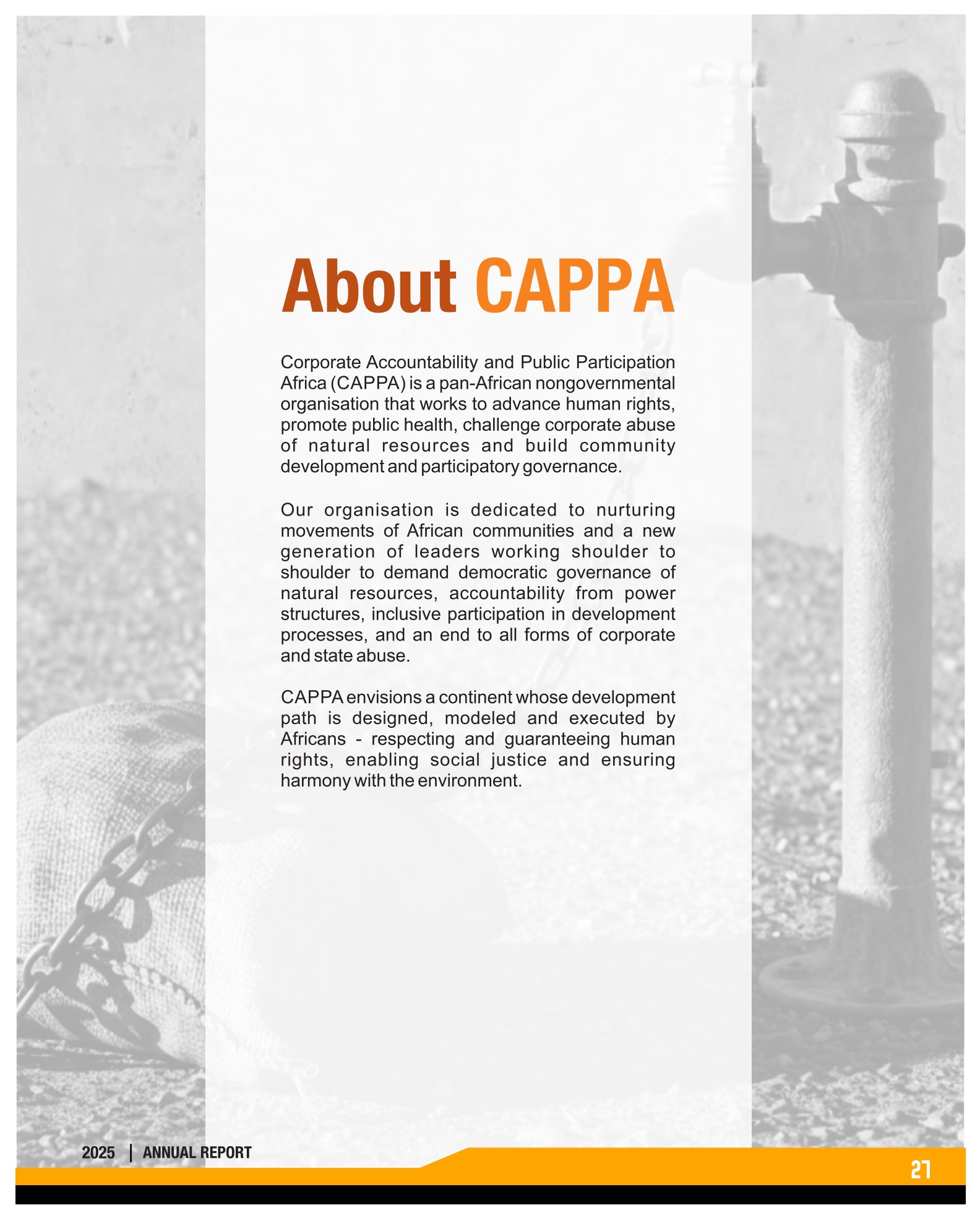
	Naira (N)	USD \$
Grants, Contribution & Foundations	1,708,861,035.00	1,143,050.86
Other Income	838,842.90	561.10
Total Support & Revenue	1,709,699,877.90	1,143,611.96

Expenses		
PROGRAM		
Grassroot Organizing	624,086,425.71	417,449.11
International Organizing	267,465,611.02	178,906.76
Program Communication	320,958,733.22	214,688.12
Membership Development	150,991,664.07	100,997.77
Media Organizing	272,935,095.22	182,565.28
Research, Development & Training	146,666,544.22	98,104.71
Subtotal Program expenses	1,783,104,073.47	1,192,711.75

SUPPORTING SERVICES		
Management & general operations	305,670,570.09	204,461.92
Indirect expenses	7,181,083.98	4,803.40
Subtotal supporting services	312,851,654.07	209,265.32

Total Expenses	2,095,955,727.54	3,493,259.55
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Net Assets		
Changes In Net Assets	490,133,149.00	816,888.58
Restricted Cash/ Cash Equivalents	242,744,545.47	404,574.24
Unrestricted Cash/ Cash Equivalents	0.00	0.00
End of the year	732,877,694.47	1,221,462.82



About CAPPA

Corporate Accountability and Public Participation Africa (CAPPA) is a pan-African nongovernmental organisation that works to advance human rights, promote public health, challenge corporate abuse of natural resources and build community development and participatory governance.

Our organisation is dedicated to nurturing movements of African communities and a new generation of leaders working shoulder to shoulder to demand democratic governance of natural resources, accountability from power structures, inclusive participation in development processes, and an end to all forms of corporate and state abuse.

CAPPA envisions a continent whose development path is designed, modeled and executed by Africans - respecting and guaranteeing human rights, enabling social justice and ensuring harmony with the environment.



Community - Solidarity - Impact.

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