

NZEMA EAST MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY

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NZEMA EAST MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY (NEMA) JOINS BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES YOUTH ACTION FUND TO ACTIVATE YOUNG PEOPLE IN DRIVING CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

The Municipality (Axim) is one of 300 cities competitively selected across the globe to receive funding and technical assistance to spur a groundswell of youth-driven climate action.

Axim, Western Region, Ghana – May 26, 2026. The Municipal Chief Executive of Nzema East Municipality, Hon. Herbert Kuah Dickson, announced today that Nzema East Municipal Assembly (NEMA) has been selected to join Bloomberg Philanthropies' Youth Climate Action Fund, which provides capital and capacity to support municipalities in mobilizing [young residents ages 15–24](#) to design and implement climate-related solutions aligned with citywide priorities. NEMA joins the Youth Climate Action Fund alongside 300 new city authorities. The scale-up—tripling the program's reach since its launch in 2024, builds on results across 34 countries, where 98 municipalities have delivered tangible benefits for residents and improved trust in city authorities, helping a new generation believe in government again.

As part of this program, NEMA will open innovation competitions, inviting ideas from young people, select the strongest proposals, fund them with \$40,000, and provide technical assistance from Bloomberg Philanthropies. NEMA will also assign staff to support implementation from start to finish, helping young residents to implement their plans for creating public space, strengthening infrastructure, mitigating disasters, and building resilience. Municipalities that move quickly to deploy their initial funding will receive an additional \$50,000 to support more youth-driven projects and expand participation.

“For us, this \$50,000 is more than a grant. It is an opportunity to position young people at the centre of local climate leadership, innovation, and community resilience. Through this partnership, we have the opportunity to support youth-led initiatives that are locally relevant and capable of delivering measurable community impact in our municipality,” said **Hon. Herbert Kuah Dickson, Nzema East Municipal Chief Executive.**

“The Youth Climate Action Fund is helping city halls around the world work alongside hundreds of thousands of young people to take action on city climate challenges and improve their communities,” said **Patricia E. Harris, CEO of Bloomberg Philanthropies.** “They are showing how local government can be a partner on issues youth and residents care deeply about – and they are building trust along the way. We look forward to expanding on these efforts and inspiring a new generation of civic leaders.”

At a time when [participation](#) in public life has [thinned](#), the results from the first wave of Youth Climate Action Fund cities point to a new approach. Survey research of the program's youth participants showed that their trust in local government leadership rose from 61% to 83%—a 22 percentage point increase—while confidence in

their own ability to address environmental challenges increased from 65% to 90%. Nearly three in four youth said their city hall values their input on climate policy—one of the [issues](#) they care most about.

Participating local governments also changed how they work. More than half established new, formal structures—such as youth councils, advisory boards, and participatory budgeting processes—to sustain young people’s engagement. 43% embedded youth input into long-term strategies and policies, while roughly 40% established dedicated staff roles. Nearly all report plans to expand the effort.

As part of the Youth Climate Action Fund, the NEMA will launch an [open call](#) [<https://nema.gov.gh/youth-in-climate-action-fund-ycaf-nzema-east/>] in late June 2026 for new and ambitious climate efforts led by young people.

Young residents ages 15 - 24 years are encouraged to visit the [webpage here](https://nema.gov.gh/youth-in-climate-action-fund-ycaf-nzema-east/) [<https://nema.gov.gh/youth-in-climate-action-fund-ycaf-nzema-east/>] in late June 2026 to learn more about the Youth Climate Action Fund, supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies, and how to submit ideas for the opportunity to receive funding.

To date, more than 300,000 young people across five continents have taken part in the Bloomberg Philanthropies Youth Climate Action Fund—working with their city authorities to create over 1,600 green spaces, plant over 1.8 million plants and 235,000 trees, develop nearly 5,000 gardens, launch 268 composting stations, and collect more than 405,000 pounds of trash and recyclables—producing visible improvements in their communities and bettering quality of life for residents worldwide. As part of Bloomberg Philanthropies’ longstanding work to strengthen local state capacity through its [Government Innovation program](#), the Fund also provides municipalities and their mayors with a model that extends beyond climate, galvanizing partnerships with stakeholders citywide to advance progress on pressing problems and opportunities for the people they serve.

About Bloomberg Philanthropies:

Bloomberg Philanthropies invests in 700 cities and 150 countries around the world to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organization focuses on creating lasting change in five key areas: the Arts, Education, Environment, Government Innovation, and Public Health. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg’s giving, including his foundation, corporate, and personal philanthropy as well as Bloomberg Associates, a philanthropic consultancy that advises cities around the world. In 2025, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed \$4.3 billion. For more information, please visit bloomberg.org, sign up for our [newsletter](#), or follow us on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#), [Threads](#), [Facebook](#), and [X](#).

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