

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

4 LEADERSHIP THOUGHTS

- 4 Message from the CEO
- 5 Message from the Chief ESG Officer





02

7 ABOUT ARISE

- 7 Operations
- 11 Geographical Footprint
- 13 Highlights & ESGRankings



17 CSR AT ARISE

17 Our Approach to CSR







05

31 FUTURE GOALS & COMMITMENTS



04

19 CSR VERTICALS

- 21 Climate Resilience
- 23 Health & Education
- 27 Enterprise

 Development



06

33 WAY FORWARD

34 Abbreviations

The ARISE Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) report offers an overview of **ARISE Integrated Industrial Platforms (IIP)** (referred to as "ARISE", "us", "we", or "the Company" in this report) role in advancing sustainable and inclusive industrial infrastructure development and operations in western and central Africa. The report captures our commitments and outlines a leadership overview of the role of our CSR activities.

It provides a synopsis of ARISE's CSR governance system, frameworks, charter, and management systems aimed at achieving our goals and commitments. The report delves into our comprehensive strategy, highlighting our CSR verticals dedicated to skills development, climate resilience and health and education. We explore a summary of initiatives completed in 2023, all aligned with our ESG pillars and demonstrating our commitment to fostering a positive impact on people and planet.

As we reflect on our accomplishments, this report also outlines our steadfast commitments for the coming years, charting a course for continued responsible and impactful engagement with our stakeholders.

Message from the **CEO**

"

Dear Stakeholders,

I am pleased to present our 2023 CSR Report, capturing our journey in fostering sustainable and inclusive industrialization across Africa. Our journey, shaped by a commitment to positive impact, has seen us grow and expand our footprint, and this report encapsulates the strides we have made.

As we grow across the continent, our commitment deepens. We understand the impact we can make, and we embrace the responsibility to drive positive change. Our journey is of continuous evolution, and we are honored to stand alongside you, our valued community, as architects of a sustainable and inclusive future for Africa.

I am proud of what we have accomplished so far and remain committed to leaving a positive impact on society and the environment, benefiting all stakeholders.

In this report, you will find highlights of our CSR achievements on climate resilience, healthcare and education and capacity building.

Your support fuels our journey, and together, we continue to make meaningful strides toward a brighter, more inclusive, and sustainable future.





About ARISE CSR at Arise



Message from Chief ESG Officer

Dear Readers,

It is with great pride and gratitude that I present to you our CSR Report for 2023. As we navigate the complex landscape of industrialization, we remain steadfast in our commitment to making a positive impact on the environment and communities around us. This report delves into our three focal axes: Skills and Enterprise development, Climate Resilience and Health and Education. These pillars not only reflect our values but also guide our efforts towards creating sustainable and inclusive industrialization in each country where we operate.

BHAVIN VYASChief FSG Officer



- Skills and Enterprise Development Empowering communities through social and educational initiatives is at the core of our mission. The positive outcomes of our key projects are a testament to our collective impact. Our social commitment remains unwavering, and we aspire to implement more long-term social impact initiatives.
- Climate Resilience Our dedication to environmental sustainability is evident. As we analyze our performance indicators, we are pleased to report our achievements in the report. Looking ahead, our goal is to remain committed to minimizing our ecological footprint.
- **Health and Education** The health, well-being, and education of our stakeholders, both within and beyond our organization, are paramount. Our initiatives have yielded commendable results. Moving forward, we are determined to enhance the well-being and education of all.

As we reflect on our achievements, it is crucial to acknowledge that our journey is ongoing. We recognize the challenges ahead and embrace them as opportunities for growth and positive change. Our commitments extend beyond this report, and we pledge to continually evolve and contribute to a better, more sustainable future.

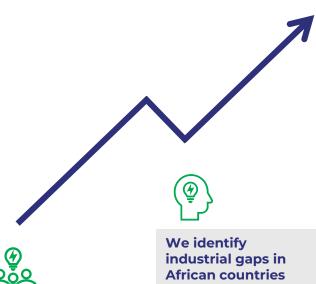
I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all our stakeholders who contributed to these achievements. Together, we can inspire lasting change and create a legacy of impact.

I hope that you enjoy reading through our list of achievements in 2023. We look forward to another successful year in 2024.





WHO WE ARE



ARISE IIP conceives, finances, builds, and operates integrated and tailor-made industrial zones with high added value.

industrial gaps in African countries and design tailormade solutions to enable the sustainable and local transformation of raw materials, boost exports, and promote trade.



To stimulate the emergence of industrial ecosystems, we create logistical hubs in tune with local public policies and align with the partner country's development strategy. By unlocking the continent's industrial potential and leveraging its carbon endowment, we seek to shift Africa from a global commodity supplier to a global manufacturing powerhouse.



ontre icer





CANA

2023 Marathon du Gabon organised by Gabon Special Economic Zone

7 Overview











Goals & Commitments

OUR APPROACH



OUR **APPROACH**



THE RAW MATERIAL SERVICES (RMS) serves as the cornerstone of our commitment to sustainability and responsible sourcing and supply chain. In this segment, we specialize in providing diverse commodities from agricultural value chain, timber, livestock, and metals while ensuring a transparent and legally verifiable supply chain. Our emphasis lies in the enhancement of upstream supply chain, where we prioritize the improvement of traceability and maintain a single-entry point for streamlined processes. Through this, we aim to not only meet but exceed industry standards, fostering a supply network that is both ethical and environmentally conscious.

LOGISTIC SERVICES is pivotal to the seamless operation of our industrial ecosystems. This segment specializes in the operation of logistics infrastructure and services tailored to create marketplaces on a case-by-case basis. Our comprehensive suite of services includes Inland Container Depot (ICD) facilities, offering efficient cargo handling and storage solutions. Additionally, we provide state-of-the-art rail and truck parking services, ensuring the smooth transit of goods within our logistic network. Through this segment, we are committed to delivering customized and reliable logistics solutions, contributing to the efficiency and success of diverse marketplaces.

The development and management of **INDUSTRIAL ZONES SERVICES** within our SEZs is crucial. It focuses on the meticulous preparation and development of land plots for commercialization through leasing arrangements. Our commitment extends to providing a foundation for businesses to thrive within our zones by constructing essential common infrastructures. From the strategic development of land plots to the creation of robust shared facilities, this segment is integral to fostering a dynamic and supportive environment and ecosystem for businesses within the zones. Through these efforts, we aim to contribute to the growth and success of our tenants that choose to operate within our integrated platforms.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) services are critical aspects, ensuring the functioning of utilities and overall estate management. This segment is responsible for the day-to-day operation of essential utilities, including electricity, water, and gas services. Simultaneously, it oversees the maintenance operations, guaranteeing the longevity and efficiency of these crucial systems. Additionally, the segment takes charge of estate management, including security services, to create a secure and well-maintained environment. Through meticulous attention to these operational and maintenance aspects, we prioritize reliability, sustainability, and the overall well-being of our facilities, enabling us to provide a conducive and secure space for all stakeholder involved.

PROCESSING, BRANDING AND DISTRIBUTION (PB&D) is a strategic segment engaged in co-investments in sustainable industrial unites, particularly focusing on agri-processing, including cashew, oil, and feeds, as well as textile and protein industries. One of our key endeavors is the creation of Africa-centric brands, contributing to the region's economic and cultural identity. Beyond processing, our operations extend to the meticulous distribution of final product both within Africa and overseas. As a central hub for distribution, we play a pivotal role in connecting quality products to diverse markets. Through these integrated efforts, our segment strives to promote Africa-centric brands on a global scale.







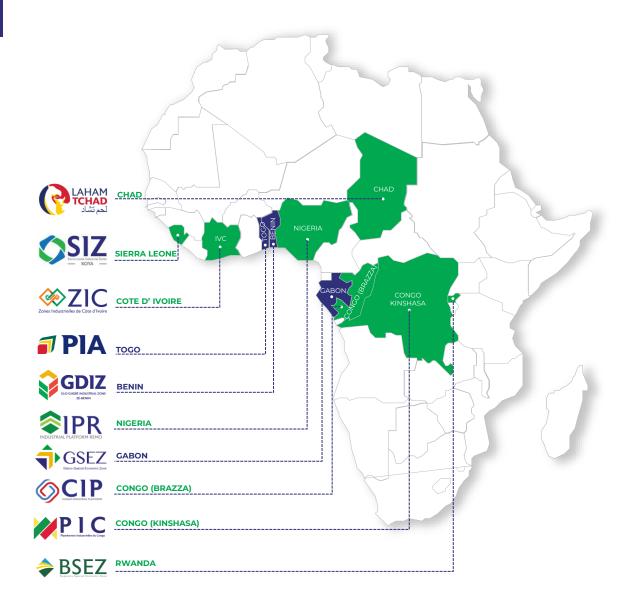






Goals & Commitments

GEOGRAPHICAL FOOTPRINT



OPERATIONAL ZONES

UNDER DEVELOPMENT ZONES







ARISE IIP wins big at impact awards with dual recognition for environmental sustainability efforts.



ARISE IIP goes public with its **ESG** performance rating in 2023 - 18.3 (low risk)



Disclosure of ARISE IIP macro-economic impact model



LSE FIROZ LALJI INSTITUTE FOR AFRICA releases white paper on sustainable industrialization in **Africa**



ARISE IIP wins **Reuters 2023** Sustainability Pioneer Award and is selected as Finalist for the **Circular Transition Award**

















Goals & Commitments

ESG **KEY SERVICES**



OUR SUSTAINABILITY CHARTER



Contributing towards positive outcomes for the following stakeholders is the **guiding post of our** sustainable business model.





Employees - Our employees are our most important assets who contribute towards our growth, and we are committed to providing them with a safe and healthy working environment, a workplace committed to diversity and inclusivity, and where employees are provided opportunity to learn, grow and thrive in their careers.



Environment - The environment in which we build and operate, we believe, must be protected from harmful impacts, and we are committed to minimizing any negative impacts from our operations and supply chains. We strive to make positive contributions by adopting and integrating sustainable environment-friendly measures into every aspect of our business.



Communities – We believe that we owe to the communities in which we operate and that communities must benefit from the projects that we implement. We are committed to engaging and working with them to ensure that our projects bring necessary positive benefits to the communities.



Government – In developing industrial ecosystems, we partner with governments and aspire to be their partners in fulfilling development and economic prosperity goals. Also, we are committed to ensuring that the governments earn a fair share of revenues through economic development projects.



Shareholders – By continuously evolving our business strategies and implementing innovative value-generating projects, we are committed to increasing the returns for our shareholders.

ESG is a key pillar to our success and the growth of our business strategy. Our aim is to foster a sustainable industrialization in Africa, working together with local communities, supporting a local workforce, and promoting sustainable innovation.

Gagan Gupta – CEO of ARISE



OUR APPROACH TO CSR

CSR Strategy and Goals

At ARISE, we are committed to making Africa thrive. Apart from our core business services which include raw material sourcing, logistics, industrial zone services, operation & maintenance and processing, branding & distribution, we also partake in mandatory and voluntary social and community development initiatives.

Our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategy is undertaken after engagement with our stakeholders like the Government and most importantly, the local communities with whom we operate. We synergise to understand their needs while designing and implementing impact projects. We tailor our CSR strategy and key initiatives to each country we operate in by aligning our efforts with that of national priorities. This is also done to respect and integrate cultural nuances into our CSR initiatives to ensure acceptance and effectiveness within the local communities.

Our CSR approach also makes room for continuous improvement by incorporating feedback mechanisms which involve regularly gathering feedback from stakeholders to refine and enhance CSR strategies and ensuring their relevance and effectiveness. Additionally, the strategy also holds space for a communication mechanism, which includes engaging stakeholders through various channels to share success stories, challenges and lessons learned.

















OUR APPROACH TO CSR



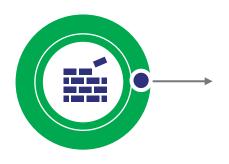
CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Implement eco-friendly practices, promote renewable energy adoption, and support conservation efforts.



HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Invest in projects that improve access to education and address critical health issues in communities



ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Invest in programs that transfer skills, knowledge, and technology to local communities, fostering self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Ensure fair labor practices, provide skill-building opportunities, and prioritize workplace safety and well-being.

CLIMATE **RESILIENCE**

HEALTH AND **EDUCATION**

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

KEY TOPICS

- Agricultural Support
- Food Welfare
- Waste Reduction

Awareness

- Local Environmental Governance

KEY TOPICS

- Well-being
- Health Support
- Education

KEY TOPICS

- Clean Water & Sanitation
- Community Infrastructure
- Provision of Social Services
- Stormwater Management
- Gender Equality
- Cultural Preservation



COUNTRIES

- Gabon

COUNTRIES

- Benin
- Togo
- Gabon

COUNTRIES

Benir Gabon

Chad



INVESTMENTS

+ 1800 000 XOF

INVESTMENTS

+ 120 000 000 XOF

INVESTMENTS

+ 50 000 000 XOF



BENEFICIARIES

+5 villages targeted

BENEFICIARIES

+23 villages targeted

BENEFICIARIES

+22 villages targeted





ARISE



CSR at Arise







CLIMATE RESILIENCE



Food welfare program at SFIK and JBG concessions



World Environment Day with GDIZ and Agbodjèdo communities



Awareness program at SFIK, GAW and BORDAMUR concessions

AGRI SUPPORT & FOOD WELFARE



Agricultural support and food welfare programs

GSEZ implemented the Agricultural Support and Food Welfare Program with a total investment of **XAF 1, 250,700**. This initiative was carried out within the SFIK **Concession and JBG Concession**, focusing on the thematic area of zero hunger across four villages in the region.

CLIMATE ACTION



Environmental day in GDIZ

GDIZ commemorated Environmental Day in Agbodjèdo, with a total investment of XAF 600,000. The celebration sought to raise awareness among all participants, encompassing not only GDIZ users but also individuals from the surrounding communities.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



Community environmental management and conservation

GSEZ executed a

community environmental management and conservation program within the SFIK, GAW, and **BORDAMUR** concessions. This initiative aimed to raise awareness and promote environmental sensitivity, reaching out to 319 individuals under the thematic area of Life on Land.







About







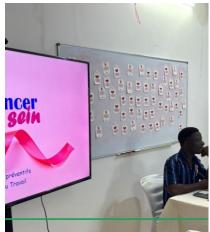




HEALTH AND EDUCATION







GDIZ hosts breast cancer awareness sessions



GDIZ hosts breast cancer awareness sessions

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING





GDIZ organized a blood donation camp in **Tangbo** to support communities via **Foundation Claudine** Talon and Agence Nationale pour la **Transfusion** Sanguine (ANTS).



Raising awareness of HIV/AIDS and unwanted pregnancies

In a collaborative effort between GDIZ and Centre **Amis des Adolescents** d'Allada (CAAD), we successfully executed an essential initiative, investing **XAF 1,000,000** to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS and unwanted pregnancies. This impactful program unfolded in the village of Anavié at CEG Tangbo, aiming to educate and empower 1400 students, underscoring our commitment to community health and wellbeing.



Pink October

In a dedicated effort to promote health awareness, GDIZ implemented an awareness session at a cost of XAF 350,000, focusing on raising awareness about breast cancer among GDIZ users. This campaign reflects our commitment to proactive health initiatives and underscores the importance of informed internal stakeholders in the fight against breast cancer.

HEALTH AND EDUCATION





Enhancing healthcare with our forest team in GAW



Marathon du Gabon participants in full stride



PIA Trophy winners strike a pose

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Health Support Programmes at GAW, SFIK and JBG concessions

Our GSEZ forest teaminitiated health support
programs in **GAW, SFIK and JBG concessions** to improve
well-being and health
conditions of residents in the
area. To this extent, a
donation of **XAF 26,971,601**was made to support
residents reach their full
potential by providing access
to essential health services.



Marathon Du Gabon

The 9th edition of the Marathon du Gabon was hosted by Gabon Special Economic Zone (GSEZ), with a participation of no less than 18,000 participants. GSEZ encouraged not only its employees to participate by providing training sessions with a certified coach but also supported registration for employees' family members. The different categories that were organized were Junior 1.5KM for girls and boys, Junior 3 KM for girls and boys, La Gabonaise (5KM), 10 KM for women and men, semi marathon and the marathon.



PIA Trophy

Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA) contributed to a fooball gala, called the PIA trophy for the residents of Adetikopé by sponsoring the gala's 2nd edition. The amount of XAF 860,000 was donated to this extent. The event showcased not only PIA's commitment to growing with society but also its keen interest in developing the health, fitness, and well-being of the community it operates with.















HEALTH AND EDUCATION



Gender mainstreaming Program at **GAW** concession



GDIZ participates in the AYIZOXWE cultural festival



Gender mainstreaming Program at GAW concession

GENDER EQUALITY



Gender Mainstreaming Programs

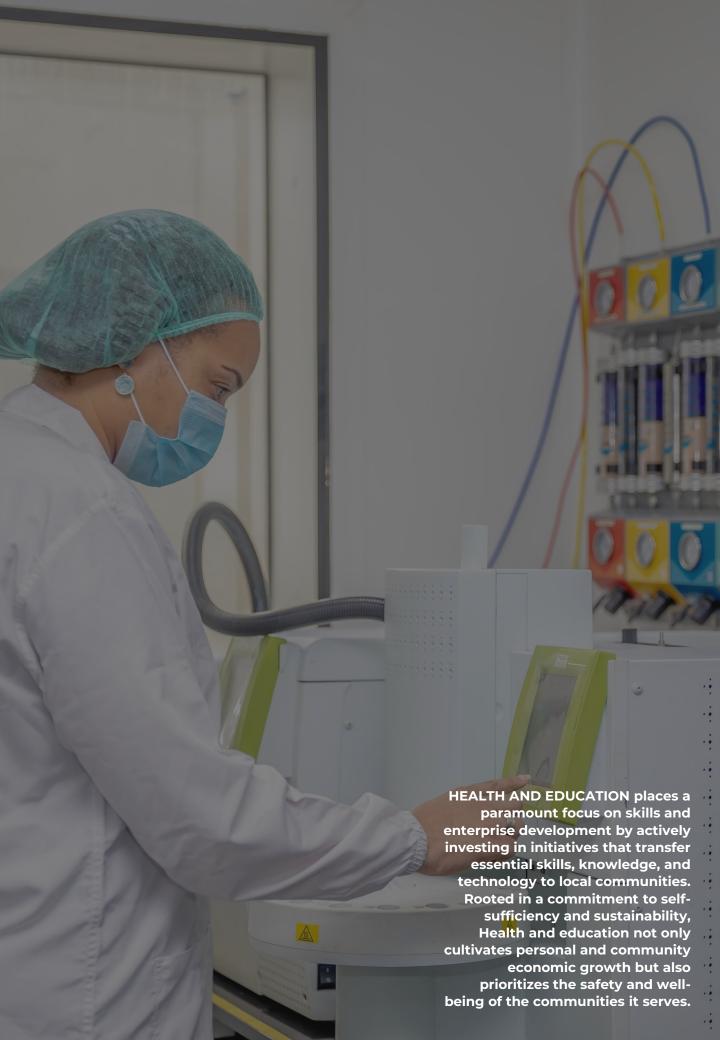
In our commitment to fostering gender equality, with a total investment of XAF 300,00, GSEZ focused on gender mainstreaming programs within the **GAW concession**. This impactful endeavor reached across 14 villages, reflecting our dedication to inclusivity and empowering communities through strategic initiatives promoting gender equality.

CULTURE



Participation in the AYIZOXWE Cultural **Festival**

In a celebration of cultural diversity and community engagement, GDIZ actively participated in the AYIZOXWE cultural festival during the 2023 edition, with a total investment of XAF 500,000. This vibrant initiative, situated in the Atlantic Department, was a collaborative effort between GDIZ and the Association for the promotion of the cultural heritage of the AYIZOR, aiming to promote and safeguard the rich heritage of the Aïzo cultural area. This endeavor exemplifies our dedication to nurturing and preserving the essence of local culture











CSR







ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT







Clean Water Supply Program across SFIK, GAW and BORDAMUR



'Clean Drinking Water' program makes a difference in Logone.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE.



Clean Water Supply Program

Under the theme of Clean Water and Sanitation, GSEZ successfully implemented the Clean Water Supply Program, with a total cost of XAF 25.208.551 across SFIK. GAW. **BORDAMUR concessions**. This impactful endeavor aimed at addressing the critical need for clean water in the region. Three villages were identified as beneficiaries, marking a substantial step towards improving the overall well-being of these communities. By providing access to clean water, we actively contribute to the advancement of public health in Gabon, aligning with our broader CSR goals.



Access to drinking water for villages near CIAL

Executed under the thematic focus on drinking water, this vital initiative incurred a total cost of XAF 20,789,000 and was implemented in multiple locations such as the province of Logone Oriental, Cantons Baikoro and Boro, Villages: Ngara, Makéné, Koutoukouma, Bélégué and Faya. Aiming to address the fundamental need for clean and accessible water sources, this initiative directly impacted **6,075 beneficiaries** across five villages. The implementation agency, ETs ART/PC and MBAIDADJE HYDRAULIQUE Service, played a key role in orchestrating the successful execution of this program. This initiative has created sustainable impact on the lives of the communities near the Complexe Industriel des Abattoirs du Logone (CIAL), emphasizing our dedication to enhancing access to clean drinking water in Chad.

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT





Education support initiative at GAW and SFIK



National Education Awareness Campaign with Laham Tchad



Beneficiaries of the Back-to-School programme at Tangbo, Benin

SKILL DEVELOPMENT



Education Support Programmes at GAW and SFIK

Our GSEZ forest team-initiated education support programs in GAW and SFIK concessions to improve quality education in the area. To this extent, a donation of XAF 26,276,223 was made to support residents reach their full potential by providing access to quality education.



Donation of school infrastructure in Gabon

Gabon Special

Economic Zone donated an amount of **XAF 11,250,000** to Essasa villages school to support the schools to have adequate benches and tables for 200 students.



National Education Awareness Campaign 2023

Laham Chad partook in the national education awareness campaign by coordinating civil registration for residents for Logone Occidental, Logone Oriental, Mandoul, Moyen Chari, Salamat, Kanem, Lac. Borkou and Ouaddai. The management also contributed **XAF 2,0000,000** to the project.



Back to School at GDIZ

GDIZ took part in back-to-school initiatives in the secondary school at Tangbo, primary school of Anavié, Houézè, Agbodjèdo and Diitin-aga and contributed a total sum of XAF 12.000.000. This initiative

contributed directly to children's access to quality education.











CSR at Arise















Construction by GSEZ in forest community



Education support initiative at GAW and SFIK

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE.



Community Enterprise Projects and Asset Procurement in GSEZ

The community enterprise projects including the beekeeping initiative was executed by **GSEZ** and invested XAF 11,300,000. This transformative initiative implemented within the SFIK concession strategically addressed the thematic area of eradicating poverty, leaving a lasting impact on two villages in the region.



Construction of community social amenities and infrastructure upgrade

In a significant stride towards fostering sustainable cities and communities, GSEZ spearheaded an initiative focusing on community social amenities and infrastructure upgrades, with a total investment of XAF 40,990,000. This project implemented across six villages in SFIK, GAW, BORDAMUR, JBG concessions, reflects our commitment to advancing localities, enhancing their infrastructures, and contributing to the overarching goal of building resilient and sustainable

communities.



Road Drainage

GSEZ proudly executed a vital CSR initiative by building road drainage near SYSGB at a total cost of **XAF 5,579,100**.

This project, undertaken to control water flow during rains and enhance community resilience, was strategically by GSEZ, benefiting the nearby villages and underscoring our commitment to sustainable development and community well-being.





FUTURE GOALS & COMMITTMENTS

The vision of ARISE is centered on establishing globally competitive industrial and logistics ecosystems in Africa, guided by the mission to facilitate economic transformation and job creation through sustainable and value-generating industrial ecosystems. The organization places a strong emphasis on its four core values: **entrepreneurship**, **sustainability**, **integrity**, **and partnership**, which serve as the foundation for the organization's activities.

Entrepreneurship is embraced as a commitment to visionary thinking, meticulous design, and agile execution. Sustainability entails making enduring commitments, recognizing that sustained success is intertwined with long-term impact. ARISE is dedicated to shared prosperity and fostering empowering partnerships to unlock the potential of every stakeholder. Through collaborative endeavors, the organization aims to uplift communities, drive economic progress, and create a positive societal impact.

Looking ahead, ARISE is unwavering in its commitment to translating these values into actionable goals and robust commitments. The Corporate Social Responsibility report reflects ARISE's dedication to fostering positive change, promoting sustainability, and cultivating impactful partnerships that contribute to the well-being of African communities.

In the pursuit of these objectives, ARISE remains steadfast in its commitment to entrepreneurship, sustainability, integrity, and partnership, ensuring a future where the organization continues to serve as a catalyst for positive economic transformation in Africa.





ARISE IIP CSR report for 2023 reflects our unwavering commitment to fostering sustainable and inclusive industrialization across Africa. Guided by our core values of entrepreneurship, sustainability, integrity, and partnership, our journey has been marked by significant achievements in climate resilience, healthcare, education, and community development.

As architects of a sustainable and inclusive future, we celebrate our accomplishments, yet acknowledge that our journey is ongoing.

We remain dedicated to continuous improvement, positive impact, and collaboration with stakeholders, working towards a brighter, inclusive, and sustainable future for Africa.

Meet Edoh: Partnering with our AVC team for soybean farming training

ABBREVIATIONS

ANTS Agence Nationale pour la Transfusion Sanguine

APL ARISE Ports & Logistics

ARISE IIP ARISE Integrated Industrial Platforms

AVC Agri-Value Chain

CAAD Centre Amis des Adolescents d'Allada CEG Collège d'Enseignement Général

CEO Chief Executive Officer

CIAL Complexe Industriel des Abattoirs du Logone

CMIA Cotton made in Africa

CSR Corporate Social Responsibility
EHS Environment, Health, and Safety
ERP Emergency Response Plan
E&S Environmental & Social

ESG Environmental. Social and Governance

ESGF Environmental, Social and Governance Framework
ESMS Environmental and Social Management System

FSC Forest Stewardship Council
GDP Gross Domestic Product
GDIZ Glo-Djigbé Industrial Zone

GHG Greenhouse Gas

GIIP Good International Industry Practice
GOTS Global Organic Textile Standard
GSEZ Gabon Special Economic Zone

HIV / AIDS Human Immunodeficiency Virus / Acquired Immunodeficiency

Syndrome

ICD Inland Container Depot

IFC PS International Finance Corporation Performance Standard

ILO International Labour Organization

LEED Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

LSE London School of Economics

O&M Operations and Maintenance

PIA Plateforme Industrielle d'Adetikope

OMS Ouality Management System

RMS Raw Material Services
SEZ Special Economic Zone

SDGs Sustainable Development Goal(s)
SMEs Small and Medium-sized Enterprises

VSDD Vendors Due Diligence

