**Bio of Mary Sima Nkatiah, PhD (Candidate)
*Ghana National Chair, International Association of Special Education (IASE)
Part-Time Lecturer, Department of Special Education, University of Education, Winneba, Ghana***

Mary Sima Nkatiah is an emerging scholar in the field of special education and currently serves as the Ghana National Chair of the International Association of Special Education (IASE). She is a part-time lecturer at the Department of Special Education, University of Education, Winneba (UEW) in Ghana, where she teaches in the areas of instructional strategies for learners with intellectual and developmental disabilities and literacy interventions for struggling readers.

With a growing portfolio of research, teaching, and advocacy, Mary is steadily establishing herself as a committed voice in inclusive education. Her academic journey is anchored in a strong dedication to literacy development and equitable learning opportunities for learners with disabilities.

She holds an MPhil in Special Education and is pursuing a PhD at UEW, where her research focuses on the role of support systems in promoting the emotional and behavioral engagement of learners with disabilities. She has presented her work at leading conferences, including the IASE Biennial Conference in the Czech Republic (June 2024). As part of her scholarly work, she is engaged in a collaborative research initiative with the University of Potsdam, focused on introducing theater-based approaches as a strategy to improve literacy in Ghanaian classrooms.

In addition to her academic roles, she is a founding member of the Disability Rights, Education, Advocacy and Mentoring (DREAM) Club and a volunteer reading instructor in Winneba. She is also a member of the Membership Committee of IASE. Mary brings energy, insight, and a community-centered approach to her work, making her a rising scholar and advocate for inclusive education in Ghana and beyond.