



ESTHER BANQUET
COMMUNITY INTEREST
COMPANY (CIC)

1-YEAR **REPORT** GLOBAL 2024

The Nation Builders Report •

Transforming marginalised lives,
communities and Nations

Our Focus

**Inclusive government:
gaps, challenges and
best practices.**





ESTHER BANQUET INTERNATIONAL

A NON - GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION
FOR GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NATION BUILDERS INITIATIVE (NBI)

EQUALITY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

Table of Contents

04

Forward

06

Meet Our Team

09

Executive Summary

11

Our mission, Aims and Objectives

14

Areas of work

15

Defining the marginalised

16

Putting Nigeria on the spotlight

17

Sustainable development goals

21

Background to the Report

25

Gender and Inequality in Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire

26

Measuring the SDG in decreasing gender inequality and combating poverty.

28

Our policy and recommendations

29

Gender Inclusive Governance

30

Our development work at United Nations, Geneva

34

Our Parliamentary work

36

United Nations Delegate Participation, March, 2024.

37

Education a Key Tool to National Building in Nigeria

38

SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth

40

Our policy recommendation

44

Advocacy Voice From The Youth

47

Evidence-Based Research and Practices

50

Mentorship Seminar

51

Our Impact on Persons with Disabilities Project

57

DORCAS ADVOCACY PROJECT (DAP) – Capacity building and Advocacy

62

Nigerians in Diaspora Summit, Abuja, November 2024

FORWARD

“I HAVE A DREAM, THAT ONE DAY THE MARGINALISED IN OUR SOCIETY WILL WALK THROUGH THE CORRIDORS OF POWER “.

Our one-year objective for 2024 focused on fostering an inclusive society and government by amplifying marginalized voices through advocacy support. We are delighted to mirror the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and are moving quickly to execute them. Attending forums by invitation from the United Nations, World Trade Organization, World Bank, Chatham House, UK parliamentary meetings at the House of Commons, the Economic Development Forum in Ivory Coast, Nigerians in diaspora investment forums, and other major forums provided us with incredible opportunities in our first year. We strongly believe that policies, institutions, and enlightened leadership are essential from an African policymaking standpoint and that effective governance is not an abstract idea. SDG 16, “Peace, Security, and Strong Institutions,” is critical for the sustainability of Africa’s growth. We are advocating for an inclusive government since the solution to the institutional challenge in Africa requires a deeper understanding of the leadership resilience necessary to deliver Agenda 2063.

I have had the privilege of meeting ministers, heads of state, diplomats, civil servants, members of Parliament, entrepreneurs, public servants, and people from all walks of life. It is an honor to serve as the CEO of Esther Banquet CIC. The tremendous support of the board of directors, trustees, advisory boards, staff, and volunteers has been immense. We anticipate that 2025 will be a year of profound achievement for us. We finish the year 2024 with gratitude to Almighty God for every privileged opportunity in serving humanit

Yours Sincerely,

Anne Fasan
CEO, Esther Banquet International .



Thank you

CRISTINA DUARTE (CABO VERDE)

Under-Secretary-General (USG) and Special Adviser of the United Nations Secretary-General on Africa.

We acknowledge the office of the special adviser and immense contribution to our support training and development.



HONOURABLE ABIKE DABIRI- AREWA

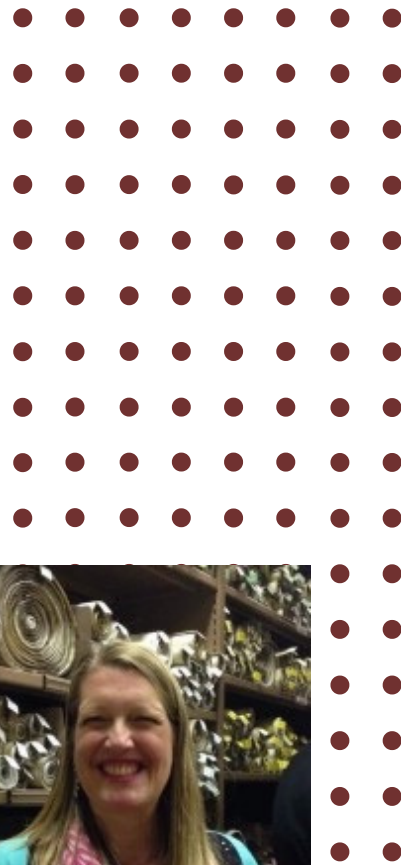
**Chairman/Chief
Executive Officer
Nigerians in
Diaspora
Commission**

We acknowledge the warm reception of (NIDCOM) support in shaping our vision for a future Nigeria.



Meet

Our Team.



Professor Foluke Dada

**Human rights lawyer and advocate
Advisory board of Directors**

A researcher and a senior Lecturer in Law, Ex 2nd vice president of Nigerian Bar Association in charge of the western region branches



Engr. Gbenga Ekundayo

**M.Eng., M.Sc., RCOREN, MNSE,
IAE, HEA, FRHD**

Lecturer-in-charge of
Excel Leadership
Academy



Rachael Dogson

UK parliament teacher for
Excel Leadership
Academy



Ex Law Adeyinka Ade Afolayan



Mr Tokunbo Anthony

Data Analysis manager



MS Monica Ofori

Chief Operations Officer



UNITED KINGDOM TEAM MEMBERS



NIGERIAN YOUTH AND DISABILITY VOLUNTARY WORKERS



NIGERIA ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM MEMBERS

Bolton H

**WE ARE BASED AT THE
BOLTON HUB AT BOLTON
TOWN CENTRE**

We have now been granted Full Membership status with the Bolton's Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector (VCSE) and over the next year work in collaboration with the organisation and align with Bolton 2030 vision .



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



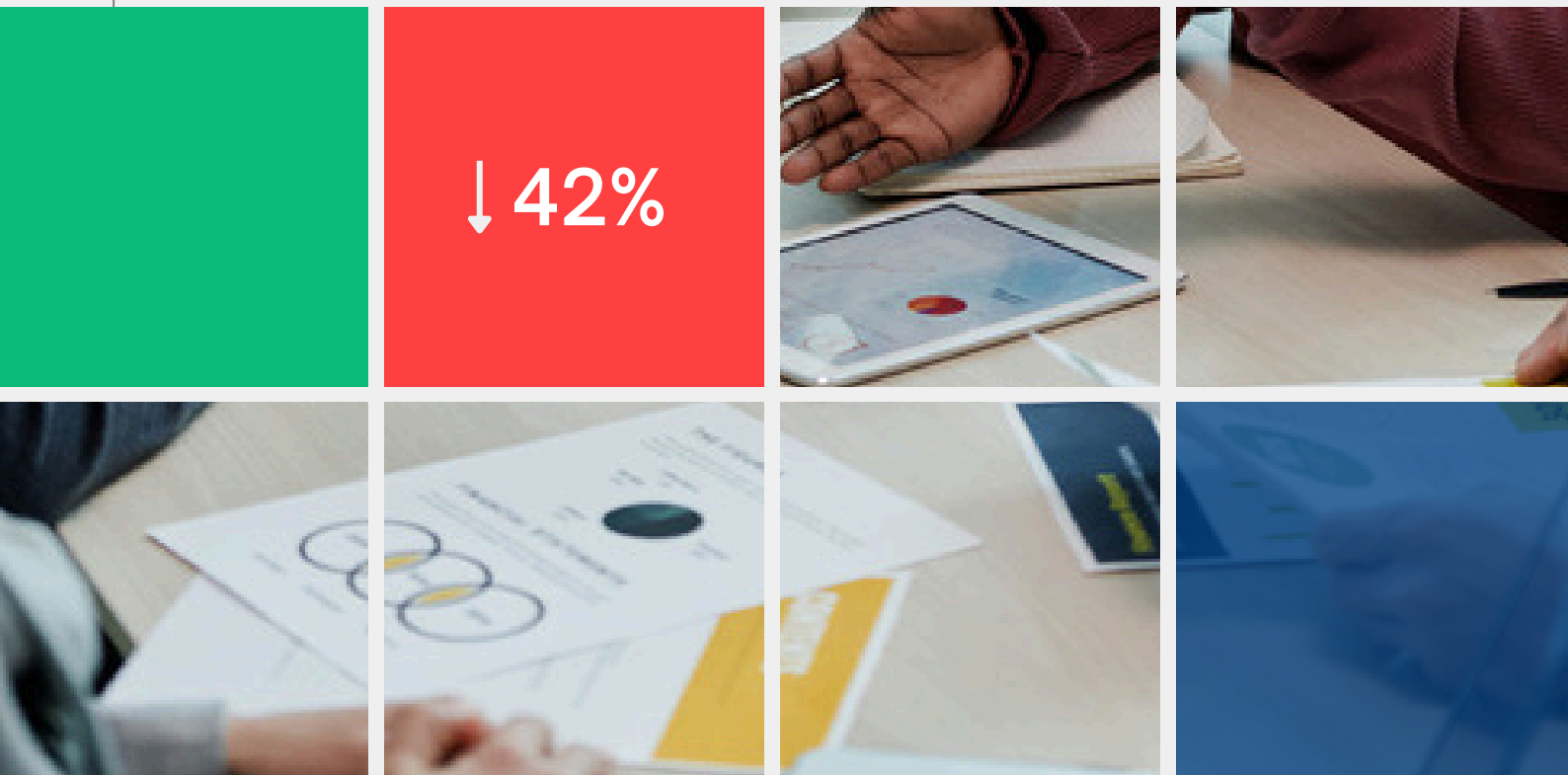
National budgets are becoming increasingly complex due to the escalating cost of living, exacerbated by internal conflicts in underdeveloped and developing nations. The rise in social, economic, and political injustice necessitates global action and reform. Governments, civil societies, developmental agencies, philanthropists, human rights advocates, and other global actors must address the long-term problems of unequal power and resource distribution. Our report examines the root causes of internal conflict and external challenges, identifying gaps that contribute to instability, socioeconomic inequality, and governance issues.

The Nation Builders Report 2024 highlights the need for an inclusive society and a policy framework to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor.



Key highlights

- Marginalised groups face multiple barriers limiting their opportunities and human capital, including political, economic, sociological, technological, environmental, and legal factors.
- Strong institutions are essential for overcoming economic and social challenges.
- Inclusive development is crucial for sustainable development and economic growth.
- Young people's involvement in policy-making is vital for inclusive and democratic
- Corruption and ineffectiveness can lead to political apathy among young people.
- Education as a key tool to solving inclusivity



Our mission, Aims and Objectives

MISSION

Esther Banquet was founded in August 2023 and envision initiative foundation, May 2024 to help the community's marginalised members who have been affected by the post-Covid period catastrophe.

Globalisation, climate change, debt mirage, inflation, and other factors are causing unprecedented economic and social issues in both developing and wealthy countries, as seen by worrying unemployment and poverty levels. This crisis disproportionately impacts marginalised communities, resulting in worldwide economic and social inequities.

We aim to be a leading innovative non-profit organisation that provides long-term solutions to Africa's political, economic, and social crises.

We hope to play an important role in advocating for social justice by enhancing the well-being of marginalised groups and nations that confront a variety of deprivations such as poverty, education, financial, and emotional hurdles to accessing mainstream services. . We aim to deliver outcomes that contribute to good governance administration.





**Our values
are:**



True leadership is
central to servanthood
/transformation leader
putting the Nation at
the heart of decision
making



- ▶▶ **Compassion**
- ▶▶ **Integrity**
- ▶▶ **Excellence**
- ▶▶ **Commitment**
- ▶▶ **Tenacity**
- ▶▶ **Equality**
- ▶▶ **Courage**

OUR AIMS & OBJECTIVES



- We aim to promote good governance that aligns with the overall vision of UN sustainable development goals.
- We aim to play a key role in providing a platform that promotes a catalyst for government reform by influencing national policies and the government's agenda.
- We aim to provide advocacy support that fosters social justice, anti-corruption strategies, democratic participation, peace-building, and identifying marginalized and oppressed individuals in society.
- We aim to raise transformational leaders and provide advocacy through campaigning and lobbying by increasing the representation of the marginalized in their House of Assembly. This support will be extended to Nigerian citizens in the diaspora.
- We aim to be a resource base by conducting research, providing independent advice to policymakers and the government, and building networks to make policies work for the government and the nation.
- We aim to promote an inclusive democratic government and deliver sustainable outcomes, promoting youth and women's leadership and political participation at its highest level from local to global.
- We aim to deliver outcomes that contribute to good governance administration, social and economic development, youth and women's development, economic enterprise, disability advocacy, and international development.

Areas of work



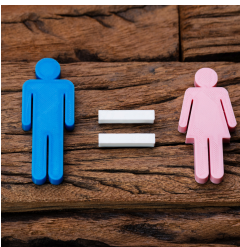
Democracy and good governance ; Economic development ; Gender rights and equality; Youths development, Inclusion and disability , Humanitarian and welfare emergency response, public affairs .



Democracy and good governance



Economic development



Gender rights and equality



Youths development



Inclusion and disability



Humanitarian and welfare emergency response, public affairs .



Defining the marginalised

Our spotlights

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IMPACT ON THE MARGINALISED

The international summit for social development, held in March 1995, developed the concept of social integration to create an inclusive society, with "a society for all" as one of the principles promoting integration. This is related to the process of developing values, relationships, and institutional structures that allow all people to participate in social, economic, cultural, and political life on the basis of equal rights, equity, peace, and dignity. However, due to societal restrictions, the marginalised members of society do not have full access to equal participation. In today's world, the rich-poor divide is widening as policymakers, and other multilateral agencies fail to promote social, economic, and political integration. In our report, our strategy on achieving inclusive government mirrors the United Nations SDG goals which create strengthening of democratic institutions, public administration reform and good governance by enhancing citizen's participation and promoting public ethics.



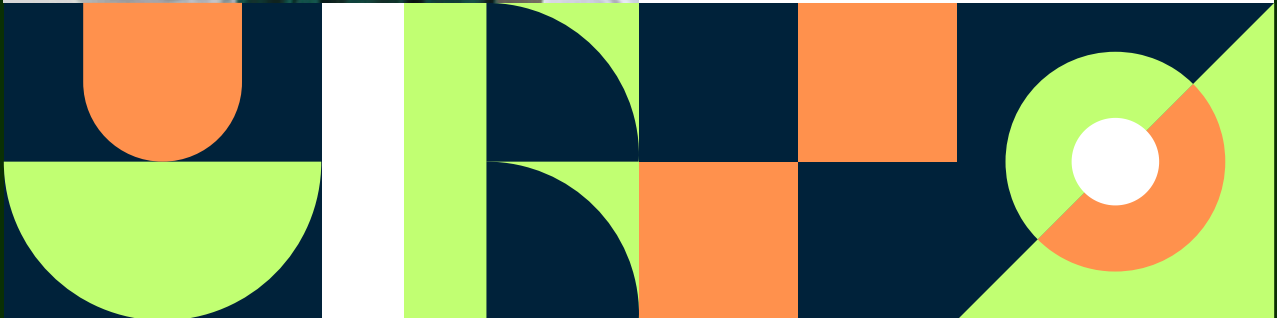
PUTTING NIGERIA ON THE
SPOTLIGHT

Key conditions and challenges



NIGERIA – Achieving
an inclusive and
democratic society.

**OUR 10 YEAR
VISION
AGENDA FOR
PROMOTING
GOOD
GOVERNANCE**





■ Our short-term goals – 2024-2027

1. *To build a good governance structure and mechanism – Youth democratic systems, capacity building, women's advancement*
2. *Advocate for an inclusive democratic government – constitutional amendments*
3. *Advocate for a welfare state*
4. *Build a self-sustainable economy and infrastructure by promoting SMEs*
5. *Poverty reduction*

■ LONG TERM GOALS – 2024 – 2034 (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS)

- *Inclusive education system at all levels*
- *Anti-corruption and crime prevention at all levels*
- *International trade system reform – wealth transfer and economy sustainability goal*
- *Women advancement and human rights policy review .*
- *Strong institutions and collaboration.*
- *State reformation and federation of 36 states in Nigeria – United States of Nigeria*
- *Agriculture international trade sustainability and negotiation – wealth transfer /World international trade*
- *Strong Human Capital Development - negotiation with United Nation*



**NATION BUILDERS GOOD
GOVERNANCE AGENDA
STRATEGIC GOALS
2023 – 2034 (11 YEARS)**

OUR FOCUS

→ **2024**

Inclusive democratic government and coalition reformation.

→ **2025**

Welfare state Advocacy and reformation

→ **2026**

Executive, legislative and judiciary consolidation

→ **2027**

Investment in human capital development interventions.-
INOVATION AND CREATIVITY

→ **2028**

War against corruption and constitution review and reform.

→ **2029**

Strong institution building and Alliance reformation

→ **2030**

Nigeria @ 70 envisioning a 36-state solidarity for a strong Nation and A NEW National identity.

→ **2031**

International human rights advocacy reform

→ **2032**

Economic development, climate change & endowments reformation

→ **2033**

National resilience strategy for good and sustainable government for 3035-beyond(LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION PLANNING

→ **2034**

Nigerian state solidarity reformation of 36/40 states .



KEY FEATUTURES OF EACH REFORMED STATE -2034

- Centralised government system
- Effective democracy monitoring systems
- Centralised welfare state system
- Human capital and investment endowment sufficiency
- Strong institution coalition
- Indigenous/cultural knowledge and trade resource/national endowment negotiations
- National state identity/conflict resolutions and state solidarity
- Holistic sustainability/international negotiations





Grassroot level



National level



International level

KEY FEATURES OF EACH REFORMED STATE

- CENTRALIZED GOVERNMENT SYSTEM
- EFFECTIVE DEMOCRACY MONITORING SYSTEMS
- CENTRALIZED WELFARE STATE SYSTEM
- HUMAN CAPITAL AND INVESTMENT ENDOWMENT SUFFICIENCY
- STRONG INSTITUTION COALITION
- INDIGENOUS/CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE AND TRADE RESOURCE/NATIONAL ENDOWMENT NEGOTIATIONS.
- NATIONAL STATE IDENTITY /CONFLICT RESOLUTIONS AND/ STATE SOLIDARITY
- HOLISTIC SUSTAINABILITY/INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS



Our findings on the marginalized people in Nigeria indicate that marginalized groups are left behind economically due to multifaceted barriers. We identified that significant economic contributions are one of the key determinants that play a crucial role in achieving inclusivity in the country.

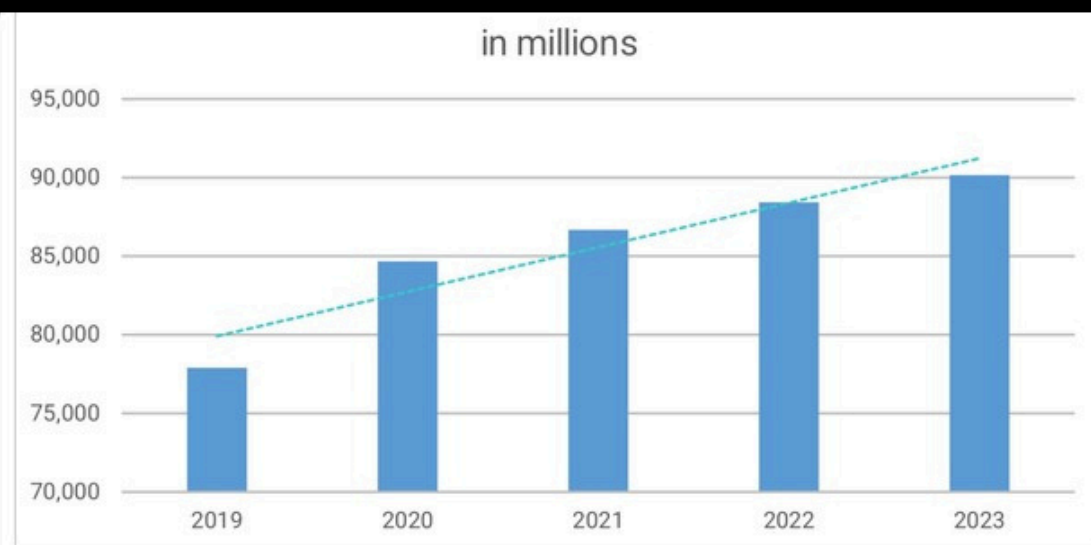
Background to the Report

According to the 2022 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) survey report obtained from the Nigerian Bureau of Statistics (NBS), approximately 63% of Nigeria's population (around 133 million people) experience multidimensional poverty. The National MPI is 0.257, indicating that poor people in Nigeria experience just over one-quarter of all possible deprivations.

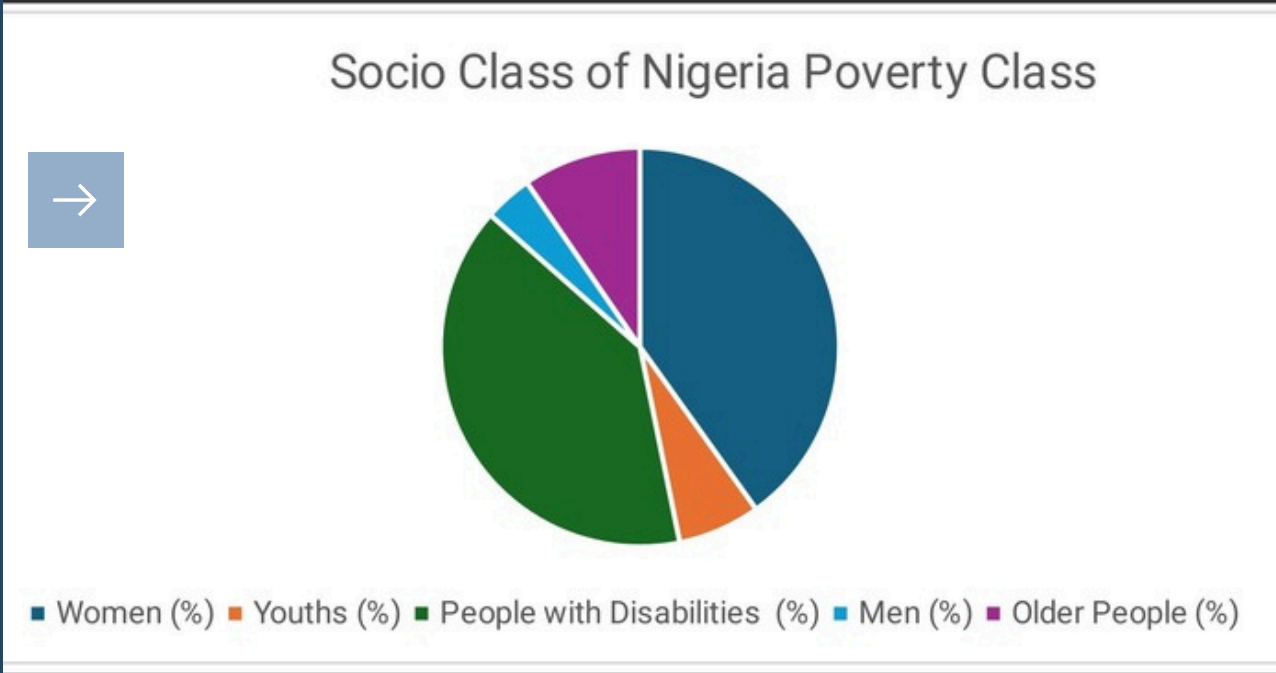
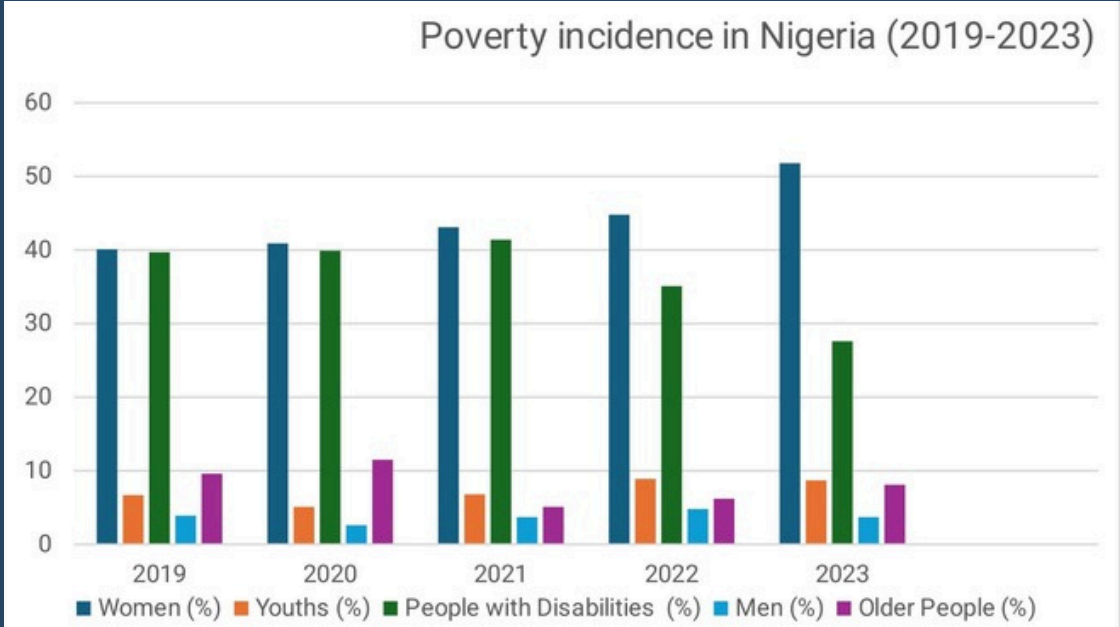
The report reveals significant regional disparities, with approximately 65% of the poor population (around 86 million people) residing in the North, while about 35% (around 47 million) live in the South. Poverty levels across states vary significantly, ranging from 27% in Ondo to 91% in Sokoto.

Nationally, significant deprivations are observed in sanitation, access to healthcare, food insecurity, and housing. According to the report, 40.1% of the population lives below the national monetary poverty line (2018/19), while 63% experience multidimensional poverty (National MPI 2022).

Multidimensional poverty is higher in rural areas, where 72% of people are poor, compared to 42% of people in urban areas.



Source : Calculation based on Nigeria Buaureau of Statistics (NBS) data



Data used and source

1. NO. OF PEOPLE LIVING IN EXTREME POVERTY IN NIGERIA (2019-2023)

Year	in millions
2019	77,900
2020	84,675
2021	86,675
2022	88,425
2023	90,161

2. Poverty Rate Levels in Nigeria (2019-2023)



3. Year	Women (%)	Youths (%)	People with Disabilities (%)	Men (%)	Older People (%)	Total
2019	40.1	6.7	39.7	3.9	9.6	77,900
2020	40.9	5.1	39.9	2.6	11.5	84,675
2021	43.1	6.8	41.4	3.7	5.1	86,675
2022	44.8	8.9	35.1	4.8	6.2	88,425
2023	51.8	8.7	27.6	3.7	8.1	90,161

Source National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of Nigeria

We relied on secondary data as processed by statutory government agency such as NBS and Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and from international bodies; UNDP, AFDB and world bank

DATA ANALYSIS

→ STEP 01

General Poverty Rate:

Approximately 38.9% of the population lived below the national poverty line, equating to about 77.9 million people in 2019

- There was an appreciable poverty rate increase by 2020 to around 42.3%, representing about 84 million of the population. By 2021, the rate was estimated at 43.1%, with the impacts of COVID-19 escalating the economic conditions.
- From 44.2% in 2022, the poverty rate approximately jumped to 45.1% in 2023, according to estimates from various organizations. Driven by inflation and economic instability, and due to the government's faulty economic policies, it is estimated that the rate might continue the upward trend.

→ STEP 02

Impact on Women and on People with Disabilities

Women in Nigeria including single mothers and widows continued to experience higher poverty rates compared to men. In 2021, about 43.1 percent of women’s unemployment and underemployment rates significantly increased to 51.8% by 2023 affecting their economic empowerment.

- The implication being that access to resources, education, and healthcare continues to be a challenge for women, compounding their vulnerability to poverty.
- Similarly, the disabled community in Nigeria faces heightened levels of poverty, often due to discrimination, lack of accessibility, and limited access to education and employment.
- Available data indicates that individuals with disabilities can experience a poverty rate as high as 85%, facing barriers that prevent equal participation in economic activities. This data highlights ongoing challenges, particularly for marginalized groups such as women and people with disabilities.

Implication Development of Vulnerable on National Development

The development of disabled individuals and women has significant implications for overall national development:

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 → | ECONOMIC GROWTH | Empowering disabled individuals and women can enhance workforce participation, leading to increased productivity and economic growth. Diverse perspectives contribute to innovation and problem-solving. |
| 2 → | SOCIAL INCLUSION | Fostering inclusion promotes social cohesion, reduces inequality, and enhances social stability, contributing to a more equitable society. |
| 3 → | HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT | Investing in education and skills training for disabled individuals and women develops human capital, which is critical for sustainable development. |
| 4 → | HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | Improving access to healthcare and support services for these groups can lead to better health outcomes, reducing healthcare costs and improving quality of life. |
| 5 → | POLITICAL PARTICIPATION: | Encouraging the involvement of women and disabled individuals in decision-making processes leads to more representative governance and policies that address the needs of all citizens. |

Overall, inclusive development enhances national development by creating a more equitable, productive, and resilient society.

Gender and Inequality in Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire

Goal 5 calls for ensuring “women's and girls' full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, and public life.” As an organization, we support marginalized women and adhere to the principle of ‘leaving no one behind’ throughout our implementation of the SDGs of the United Nations goals. We have focused on reaching the most vulnerable and marginalized in our communities, both at the local and international levels, and this is an integral part of the SDG agenda.

Our Impact



Aspire to Enterprise initiative
(women and economy)
Ojodu, Ikeja, Lagos.



BENEFICIARIES OF MICRO-FINANCE INITIATIVE.

Measuring the SDG in decreasing gender inequality and combating poverty.



”

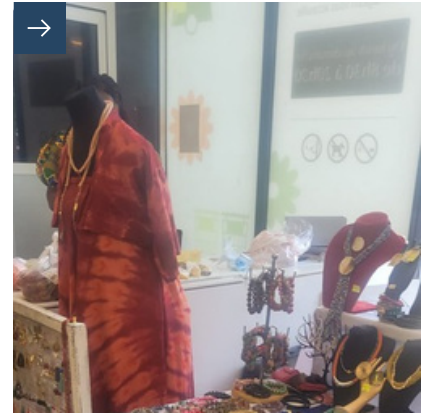
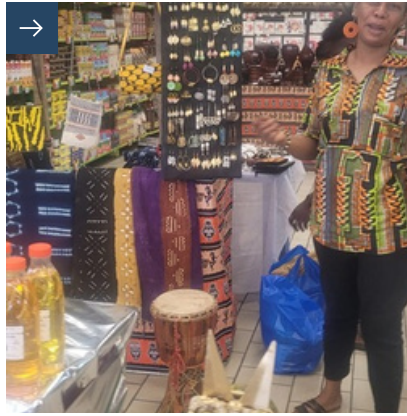
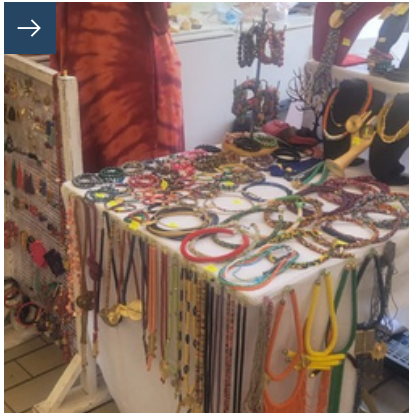
Our micro finance for small medium enterprise (SME)

Focused on over 10 women owners, lending them 100.00 thousand with 5 percent interest returns. This saw a significant positive effect on women's economic empowerment, improving their financial income, capital assets, and positively affecting their family and community contributions.

Our development work at Coite devoir :

Promoting ingenious trade : women and enterprise in Coite devoir

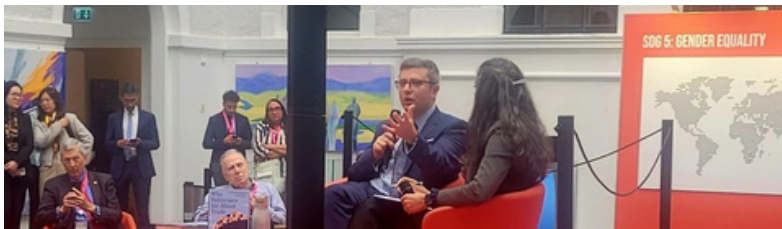
Sustainable development is at the centre of economic priorities ; trade has a key role in economic development and providing economic opportunities. In the rural places in Cote d'Ivoire, there are high levels of unemployment among young female with low levels of literacy who face education barriers due to poverty. Most young unmarried women we interrogated would like to run their own business and source for micro finance prospects.



Cote -devoir indigenous trade visit at Abidjan market

Indigenous women at Geneva , world trade organisation event forum, October , 2024

This project observed at WTO SUPPORTS ORGANIC COTTON PRODUCTION AND TRAINS Beneficiaries at Burkina Faso in cotton transformation as a way to empower communities and to create new opportunities for growth by allowing them to gain access to alternative sources of income.



Faso Dan Fani Weaving (Burkina Faso)

Our policy and recommendations

We aim to formulate policies that lift women out of poverty, as most trade policies are gender-blind. We focus on gender mainstreaming in trade agreements. We recommend a bottom-up approach that alters national laws, procedures, institutions, culture, and social norms. We advocate for amplifying the voices of indigenous peoples to ensure trade discussions are more inclusive. We aim to strengthen domestic laws and facilitate women's equal active participation in local, national, and international trade.

Increasing women's participation in the labor market to match men's levels could uplift the gross domestic product of most African countries, closing the gender gap. We are calling on women's agencies and governments to consistently include women's economic empowerment in their new economic diversification strategies due to the key role they play.

We advocate for capacity-building programs that consistently promote sustainable development goals and promote technology in small intensive facilities. We are calling for the need to increase women's representation in trade negotiations. We also promote women's access to digital learning, infrastructure, and trade liberalization reform.

What impacts negatively on women's productivity needs to be eliminated, such as liberalization, labor market institutions, property rights, poverty, and family issues.



GENDER INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE

Her excellence Netumbo Ndemupelila Nandi-Ndaitwah, elected as Namibia's first female president, November, 2024.

We heartily congratulate Madame Netumbo Ndemupelila Nandi-Ndaitwah as Namibia's President-elect. We congratulate Namibia and on its historic milestone by electing its first female president. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, her victory represents a remarkable advancement for gender representation in Namibia and Africa as a whole. Nandi-Ndaitwah became known as an advocate for women's rights. In one of her key achievements, she pushed the Combating of Domestic Violence Act through the National Assembly in 2002.





Our development work at United Nations , Geneva



workshop contribution focused on women leadership and decision making .

During the CSW/NGO Forum in October 2024, Esther Banquet discussed the hindrances to women's political equal participation in Nigeria due to cultural structures and norms. It is becoming glaring that the fight for gender equality is far-reaching. Gender inequality is still rife in the political arena in the Nigerian context. A culture dominated by men in politics leads to male dominance, which has far-reaching consequences. Women find themselves disadvantaged in the power dynamics as a result of social, economic, physical, political, and financial limitations.

Social norms and cultural structures are still strongly a concern. Women's leadership and representation in decision-making roles are critical for advancing gender-inclusive governance. This indicates that their active participation in politics, business, and civil society, as well as their ability to flourish in traditionally male-dominated professions, can ensure that gender issues are resolved, their voices amplified, and that girls' and gender rights are protected globally.

01

The shadows of patriarchy in Nigeria still loom large .

02

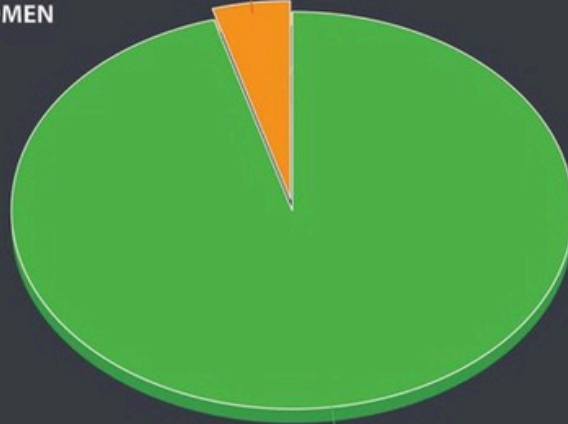
Nigeria ranked 130th out of 146 countries in the global gender gap

03

report . Women only occupy 3% of seats in the senate and 4% in the house of representatives.

**THERE ARE ONLY
21 WOMEN
OUT OF THE
469 MEMBERS
in the 9th National Assembly**

4.5%
WOMEN



95.5%
MEN

 invictus.ng

 Invictus Africa

 @InvictusAfrica

 @invictus.africa

invictus
AFRICA

Source: International Parliamentary Union
Women in Politics Report WD 2023

Men cut authoritative since 1959 till present

TIMELINE: Nigeria's Heads of State



Abubakar
Tafawa Balewa
1959-1966



Johnson
Aguiyi-Ironsi
January 1966
- July 1966



Yakubu
Gowon
1966-1975



Murtala
Mohammed
July 1975 -
February
1976



Olusegu
Obasanjo
1976 - 1979



Shehu
Shagari
1979-1983



Muhammadu
Buhari
1983-1985



Ibrahim
Babangida
1985-1993



Ernest
Shonekan
Aug 1993-Nov
1993



Sani
Abacha
1993-1998



Abdulsalami
Abubakar
1998-1999



Olusegun
Obasanjo
1999-2007



Umaru
Musa Yar'Adua
2007-2010



Goodluck
Jonathan
2010-2015



Muhammadu
Buhari
2015-2023



Bola
Ahmed Tinubu
From May 29, 2023



”

Nigerian women are lagging behind their female counterparts in other African countries due to strong patriarch dominance .



Esther Banquet international representative at Presidential Vila, Abuja

Our Parliamentary work

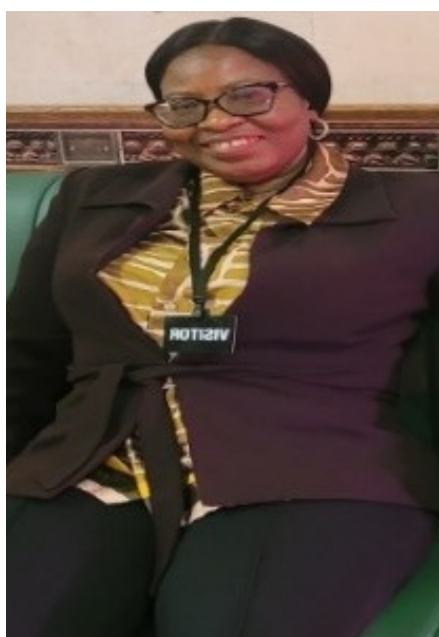
Parliamentary Policy meeting at the house of commons, 2024 .

Central to our mission is supporting marginalized communities and influencing national policies in the UK. We frequently receive invitations from Parliament to engage in policy discussions with MPs.

Previous contributions include:

- Vulnerable women in human trafficking and sex trafficking
- Youths in knife crime
- Assisted Dying Bill

Members of Parliament and local councillors are in positions of influence and authority to make the best representation of the communities they serve. Consequently, we continue to build and train our staff and volunteers in advocacy and lobbying to effectively engage with these stakeholders and drive positive change.





Our engagement with Rt Kemi Badenoch the new leader of Conservative party

Our future parliamentary work aims to focus on gender-based violence, youth crime, and vulnerable families with disabilities. At the Leadership Academy in Nigeria, our youth participated in virtual workshops in May 2024, learning about the parliamentary system in the UK to inform reflections on Nigeria's democratic system of government. Mentoring programs can serve as a model for youth leadership development, raising global leaders.



Policy meeting discussion at the house of common April , 2024



UNITED NATION DELEGATE PARTICIPATION, March, 2024.

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

We hereby present this certificate to

Anne Fasan

who successfully participated in the 68th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women as a volunteer participant with UN Women UK.

We thank you for your contribution towards advancing gender equality in the UK and beyond.

Tabitha Morton

Executive Director

Atono Semira

Head of Community



In 2024, as a civil society organization, we contributed to the CSW/NGO 68 Forum, which brings together global civil society, non-governmental organizations, and feminists. The priority theme for 2024 was "Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective."

We submitted a written report and facilitated conversation circles on intersecting crises of systemic inequalities in the country we represented. Women living in poverty are disproportionately affected. It is, therefore, with great urgency that experts convene to discuss how to confront complex crises and counter their effects on women living in poverty, sexual abuse, and lack of political representation.

2024 marked a pivotal moment for us to network, engage, and learn about key gender equality issues within the United Nations organization. We made a significant difference within our sphere of influence.

Our policy recommendation emphasizes education as a crucial tool for national development in Nigeria. Having a woman break the glass ceiling in Nigerian politics may require a paradigm shift. Mentorship for emerging leaders may be transitional, but our recommendation requires effective institutional building mechanism strategies.

Key Recommendations:

EDUCATION AS A KEY TOOL TO NATIONAL BUILDING IN NIGERIA

Collaboration and Institutional Reform

We recommend collaboration among institutions and advocacy for reforming constitutional laws, legal structures, and policies that hinder the effectiveness of marginalized groups.

Social Change and Constitution Reform

Women men must work together as agents of social change to advocate for constitutional reforms.

Good Governance and Cultural Shifts

Governments and models must demonstrate good governance systems and mechanisms to tackle cultural biases.

Women's Leadership Capacity Building

Mentorship for emerging leaders:

Activities can include funding programmes which equip feminist leaders with skills to mobilize communities towards shifting social norms through advocacy and coalition building.

This may also include the use of innovative technologies to engage with young activists and encourage young women's political engagement and participation. Youth-led organisations are highly encouraged to apply as the lead organisation and/or be included as associate member involved in implementation

Education and Social Norms

Education is a powerful tool for leveraging convening powers to shift social norms. Strategic partners can work together to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls.

Education as a powerful tool in leverage convening powers for social norms

strategic partners in eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and girls, by understanding and addressing unequal power relations, gender stereotypes and practices that perpetuate discrimination, combating gendered disinformation and supporting the design and implementation of policies and programmes that address the roles and responsibilities of men and boys in transforming negative social norms and attitudes.

Education by institutional building that reinforce feminist movement :

Through lead organizations should ensure they are engaging in direct sub-partnering with additional civil society partners to best deliver the intended results.

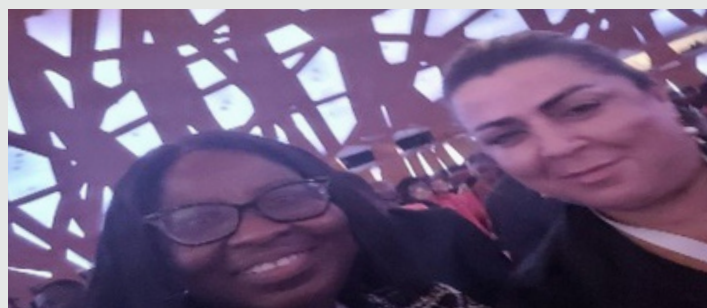
Increasing women's political leadership

Organizations should consider implementation strategies which aim to increase the opportunities for women leaders to engage in consultations around new policies and legislations. Activities may therefore include advocacy to include women in decision making bodies through taking a structural change approach. This can also include creating knowledge and evidence around women's political leadership.



Youth advocacy in policy and decision-making involves monitoring policy implementation, holding policymakers accountable, and advocating for necessary adjustments to ensure effective youth inclusion .

Esther Banquet on special invitation to provide expertise on promoting sustainable development and economic prosperity for Africa's young population at the summit was a great contribution. The economic development assembly brought together heads of states , business leaders and civil society, philanthropist to discuss opportunities by advocating for investment strategies to strengthen Africa's future sustainability



Our research issues regarding youth employment take a centre stage in African countries , but there had been very low support on making investment and economy attractive to young entrepreneurs – as many lack access to mainstreams of finance, home ownership , access to land and economic infrastructures, high levels of debt and unemployment ravage among most rural communities in Côte d'Ivoire. It is essential that future generations are equipped with skills necessary to engineer their economic growth.

It should be a high priority for Côte d'Ivoire government, Nigeria and other African countries the need to consider how policies could be reformed in ways that address young people's economic on how to boost skills , employment and ambition .

OUR POLICY RECOMMENDATION

Government to consider innovative developments that do not restrict Untapped human potentials due to poor human capital development

- Creation of incentives that increases capital accumulation and stimulates savings , stimulate research and development , lowest saving rates, tax incentives,
- Open free market , promote entrepreneurship , cooperative responsibilities
- More investment on Technology advancement- Government should remove restrictive regulations that deters slow economic
- The promotion of youth wage subsidy leads to sustainable economic development.
- Market driven skills that stipulates market growth



OUR WORK ON YOUTHS IN DEVELOPMENT IN LAGOS, NIGERIA -YOUTHS IN DECISION MAKING.

EXCEL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



Our pioneer project in Lagos focused on months mentoring programme for young people entering into governance and public life. To enable talent acquisition

Youth advocacy in policy and decision-making involves monitoring policy implementation, holding policymakers accountable, and advocating for necessary adjustments to ensure effective youth inclusion. Esther Banquet's contribution to the economic development assembly, where she shared expertise on promoting sustainable development and economic prosperity for Africa's young population, was invaluable.

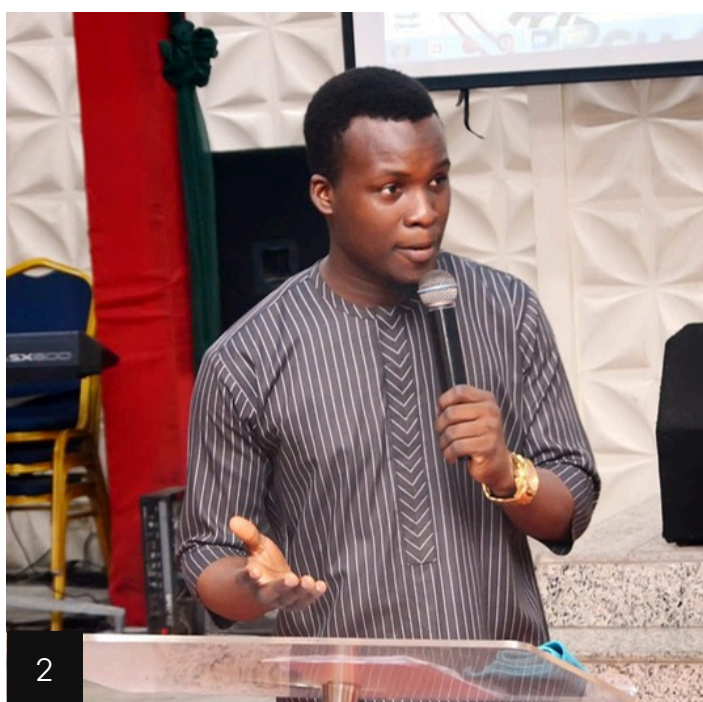
The assembly brought together heads of states, business leaders, civil society, and philanthropists to discuss opportunities for advocating investment strategies to strengthen Africa's future sustainability. Our research highlights the pressing issue of youth employment in African countries, where low support for making investments and the economy attractive to young entrepreneurs persists. Many lack access to mainstream finance, home ownership, land, economic infrastructure, and face high levels of debt and unemployment, particularly in rural communities like those in Côte d'Ivoire.

Equipping future generations with necessary skills to engineer economic growth is crucial. The governments of Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, and other African countries must prioritize policy reforms that address young people's economic challenges, boost skills, employment, and ambition.

OUR POLICY RECOMMENDATION



1. Innovative developments that unlock human potential, rather than restricting it due to poor human capital development
2. Incentives that increase capital accumulation, stimulate savings, research, and development
3. Open markets, entrepreneurship promotion, and cooperative responsibilities
4. Increased investment in technology advancement
5. Removal of restrictive regulations that hinder economic growth
6. Promotion of youth wage subsidies for sustainable economic development
7. Market-driven skills development to stimulate growth



Our work focuses on empowering youths in decision-making. The Excel Leadership Academy's pioneer project in Lagos offers a 12-month mentoring program for youths entering governance and public life, enabling talent acquisition and leadership development.



Challenges Encountered in Participation:

Our report, which focused on working with youths to promote decision-making, observed the following scenarios:

- 1 Young people's ability to actively participate in policy dialogues can be hindered by obstacles such as limited access to essential information and resources.
- 2 Age, financial, and educational criteria may hinder young individuals from entering policy-making institutions or running for office.
- 3 Authorities or other actors may use repression, intimidation, or assault to prevent young activists from advocating for policy change, leading to fear and preventing political participation.
- 4 Youth movements and organizations may fragment due to diverse opinions and interests, making it challenging to coordinate policy advocacy and action.
- 5 Cultural and Social Norms: Cultural and social norms may deter young people, especially girls and young women, from politics and public affairs. Gender stereotypes and discrimination can limit their leadership and involvement.
- 6 Low-income and rural youth may face additional barriers to engagement due to limited resources, opportunities, and support networks.
- 7 Effective youth advocacy in policy and decision-making involves monitoring policy implementation, holding policymakers accountable, and advocating for necessary adjustments to ensure policies remain responsive to young individuals' needs and rights.

ADVOCACY VOICE FROM THE YOUTH.

THE NATION BUILDERS INITIATIVE- EXCEL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

A Short Article to the Minister of Youth in Nigeria Advocating For Youth Inclusive Government

Dear Honourable Minister,

I write this article to advocate for the inclusion of youths in the Nigerian Government. The nation of Nigeria is a place today where the age demographic speaks to the advantage of the youths; hence, I believe the youths should be seriously considered for governmental positions. This means that a new generation is set to take part in the affairs of politics and every other leadership space. I believe that including youths in the Nigerian government will open up space for an easy baton exchange between two generations, creating many advantageous opportunities such as mentoring and guidance for the youths on how things can run in a nation.

The youths also possess advantages like their minds being more creative and innovative, which can birth new ideas that can help take our nation forward. They also possess the physical strength to carry out activities like electoral participation, as we saw in the last election in our country. Including youths in the government will make it easier for the government to reach the citizens because the people of the nation will respond to them, seeing that they are individuals within their age bracket. Additionally, the youths in government can develop new and better strategies for how the nation can relate better with the citizenry, especially since there are more youths today among other age brackets.

Above all, including the youths will ensure a continuation and improvement of good governmental policies in our nation because the youths will gain experiences that can serve as tools to help our nation grow better and bigger in policies and all forms. I hope that with the few points mentioned above, the youths will be highly considered for governmental positions so that we can have a Nigeria that is ever improving and progressing in all good aspects as a nation.

Thank you.

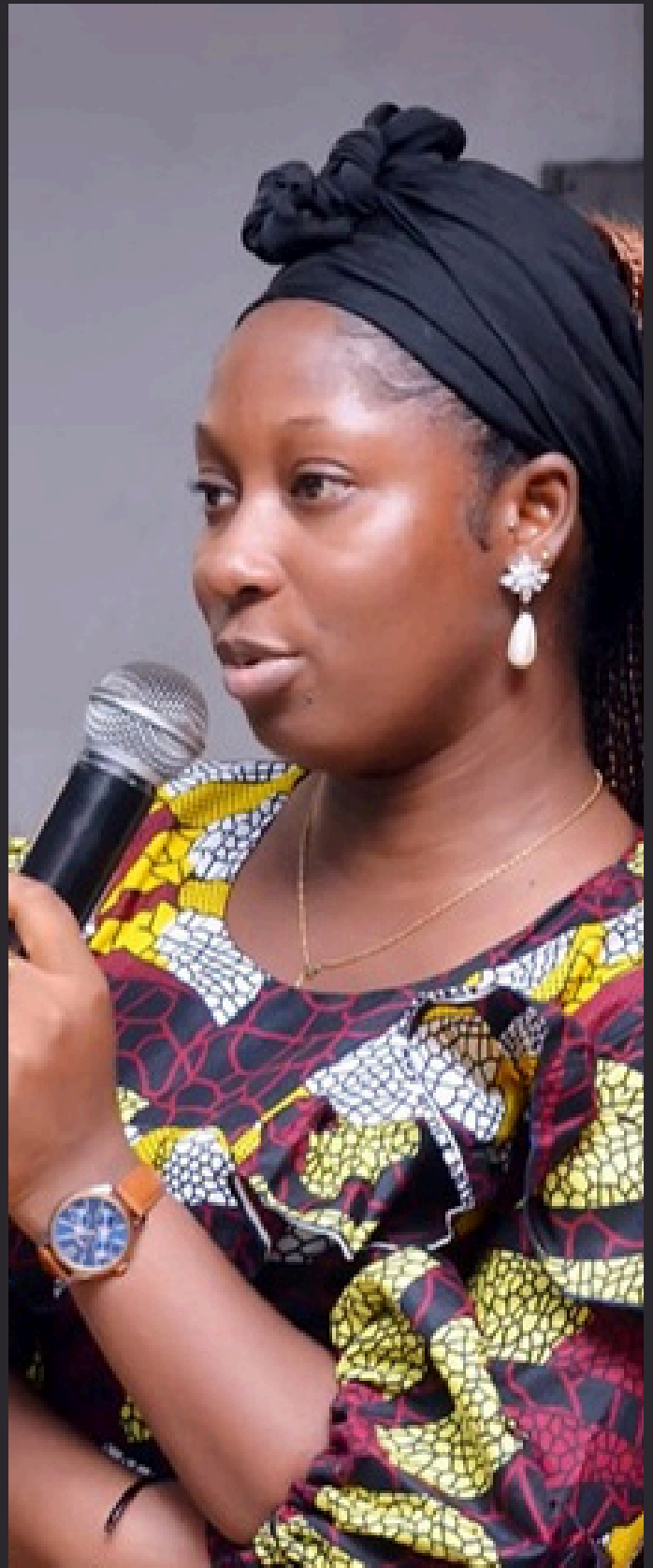


ORUKOTAN OLUGBENGA EMMANUEL APRIL 2024

Writing and reflection from our youth shadow humanitarian affairs minister at Excel leadership Academy .

MY ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE NATION AS A HUMANITARIAN MINISTER

I believe that a leader cannot be in full understanding of his position without a passion and love for the office or role he or she is to guide. Excellent leadership is stirred from the basis of compassion for the people.





If I am to serve my nation as the humanitarian minister, my first point of action is to review the policies that govern the administration of this office. It is no doubt that despite the size of incentives and the work that is put in place to enhance the livelihood of the less privileged citizens, there is still a large number of citizens who are barely surviving. It will be of utmost priority to me to see that a restructuring in our humanitarian policies is done to fit in and realistically meet the needs of the common Nigerian man.

I understand that the most basic human needs are food, clothing, and shelter. These form a basis for human security. Our past leaders have tried in various capacities to fill in these gaps, but I think there is still work to be done. The minimum wage has recently been increased to the sum of Thirty Thousand Naira, which can do so little with the current inflation. My plight is to step up the activities of humanitarian services through a more structured platform where basic amenities and infrastructure are provided to the people in rural communities. I propose the need to solve the problem of shelter for a lot of homeless Nigerians. In so doing, we minimize the loss of lives and also bring mental and emotional stability to many homes. Humanitarian service is really all about making a long-lasting life impact on the less privileged. It is our responsibility as opportune leaders to enhance the means of livelihood of our people.

Of major importance, I frankly see the need to collaborate and seek international partnerships and sponsorship. The essence of this is to not expose our nation as highly less privileged but to show that the state of our people requires exquisite attention, as relying on the Nigerian government won't sort it all. Partnerships with international NGOs can be of immense benefit to our nation. These partnerships would empower our people. Empowerment can be in the form of providing aid for special skill acquisition to local farmers, traders, market women, and local artisans. This would add great value to our people and enhance their way of life. These partnerships can go as far as setting up educational institutions for children and ensuring that no child is left out of the right to basic educational knowledge.

One of our challenges as a nation is implementation. It is sad to say that our implementation strategies are almost ineffective. Without the right implementation of policies and strategies, it would be difficult to drive sustainable change. Being a minister would afford me the ability to bring my creative ideas to fruition for the solid implementation of our structured policies. It is necessary that I don't work alone. Some of my implementation strategies will involve bringing on board creative young minds like me to effectively monitor and ensure the full implementation of initiatives to make a significant impact. Implementation will require effective monitoring without an iota of selfish interest. It is of high importance to me to ensure projects are executed to the letter with proper accountability.

Still on the implementation strategies, I will propose a more feasible solution to reaching citizens who really need a better standard of living by deploying representatives to local governments of various states. These representatives will serve the office of the ministry to monitor and oversee the creation of a database and ensure implementation on-site. Our representatives will not only render a one-off service; rather, they will be gainfully employed solely for the monitoring, inspection, and follow-up on ongoing and executed projects from the Ministry of Humanitarian Services.

In conclusion, I vouch to not only be a leader with innovative strategies but to lead with transparency and accountability. In our leadership systems today, transparency is almost beginning to fade out. I will uphold this virtue as a means of gaining the trust of the masses, leaving them in faith that the office to which I was appointed is properly managed and well respected. I also believe in the adage that says a good name is better than riches. I am here to serve my nation out of love and compassion; it is safe to say I will serve with honor, humility, and respect.

THANK YOU.

EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH AND PRACTICES

Some of our youths at Excel Leadership Academy attended leadership placements to enrich their leadership skills in the special needs sector, pastoral care, and human resources.



Overview of Internship Experience

During my internship experience with Little Einstein, I had the opportunity to develop and refine my skills in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy, human resources management, and working with children with special needs. I particularly found the hands-on experience of designing and implementing personalized therapy plans to be invaluable in improving my critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

The experience of working one-on-one with children with autism, Down syndrome, and cerebral palsy taught me the importance of patience, empathy, and creativity in building trust and fostering meaningful relationships. Although I found managing challenging behaviors and adapting to unexpected situations to be demanding at times, I found it to be invaluable in developing my crisis management and conflict resolution skills.

Overall, my internship experience with Little Einstein was a transformative and enriching experience that not only deepened my understanding of ABA principles and practices but also instilled in me a passion for working with children with special needs and their families.



Final year student at Excel Leadership Academy, Michael Sunday.



ONGOING CONSIDERATION

*AS I REFLECT ON MY INTERNSHIP
EXPERIENCE AT LITTLE EINSTEIN, I AM
GRATEFUL FOR THE NUMEROUS
OPPORTUNITIES I HAD TO DEVELOP MY
SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE IN APPLIED
BEHAVIOUR ANALYSIS (ABA)*

And human resources management. However, I am also aware of areas where I require further growth and development.

One aspect I would like to continue working on is building my confidence levels in leading group therapy sessions. While I had the opportunity to co-lead several sessions, I feel that I would benefit from more experience in this area. I would have enjoyed more time practicing and refining my skills in group therapy, as I believe this would have helped me to become more confident and proficient in my ability to lead and manage group dynamics.

Additionally, I would have appreciated more opportunities to work with children with more severe behavioral challenges. While I gained valuable experience working with children with autism, Down syndrome, and cerebral palsy, I recognize that each child's needs and behaviors are unique, and I would like to continue developing my skills in addressing more complex behavioral challenges.

Overall, my experience at Little Einstein has been invaluable, and I am grateful for the opportunities I had to learn and grow. I am committed to ongoing learning and professional development, and I look forward to continuing to build my skills and confidence in my future endeavors.

There are lot of opportunities for youths' participation in policy and decision-making

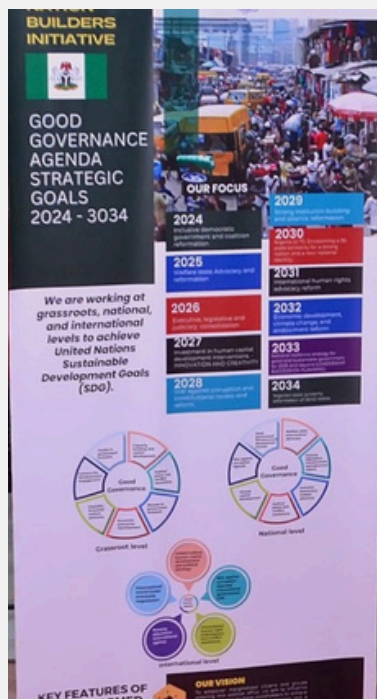
- □ Forming youth advisory boards can offer advice on youth-related matters to governmental bodies, non-profits, and businesses.
- □ One way to ensure youth representation in decision-making is to appoint or elect young people to sit on city councils, school boards, or advisory committees.
- □ Utilizing online platforms and social media channels is an effective way to engage young people in policy discussions, seek feedback, and gather ideas for solutions. This approach enables broader participation and reaches those youths who may not be able to participate in traditional forums.
- □ Organizing conferences, workshops, and summits for young leaders to discuss specific policy issues and enhance their capacity-building, networking, and dialogue. Youth parliaments should allow young people to debate and propose policies on local, regional, or national levels, providing them with a direct voice in the legislative process.
- □ Supporting youth-led initiatives and projects that address community issues or advocate for policy changes by providing funding, resources, or mentorship to young activists and organizations.
- □ Internship and Fellowship Programs offer young people opportunities to gain firsthand experience in policymaking by participating in programs offered by government agencies, NGOs, or international organizations.
- □ Collaborating with youth-led organizations to amplify their voices, leverage resources, and implement joint advocacy campaigns for policy change.
- □ We advocate for an inclusive government in Nigeria and other African countries for reasons related to youth participation in policy and decision-making in governance. Representative Governance: Youth make up a large share of many countries' populations, but their voices are typically underrepresented in government. Advocacy activities aim to incorporate young people's viewpoints, needs, and aspirations into policy and decision-making.
- □ Future Impact: Today's policies and decisions affect the future, and youth advocacy guarantees that younger generations' concerns are considered. Education, employment, sustainability, and social justice are included.
- □ Inclusivity and Diversity: Youth advocacy brings many viewpoints, experiences, and identities to governance. This improves policymaking and results in more fairness.
- □ Youth participation in policymaking gives them accountability and ownership to shape society.
- □ Innovative and Creative: Youth provide new ideas, innovation, and creativity. Governments can use this resource to solve complicated problems and innovate by incorporating them into decisions.
- □ Engaging youth in government processes instills democratic principles like participation, responsibility, and transparency early on. This promotes engaged citizenry and democratic health.
- □ Social Justice and Equity: Policy solutions must address systemic hurdles and injustices for many young people. Youth advocacy promotes policies that advance social justice, equity, and equitable opportunities for all youth, regardless of background.

MENTORSHIP SEMINAR

organised by
**Esther Banquet
international ,
Ikeja, Lagos
state.**

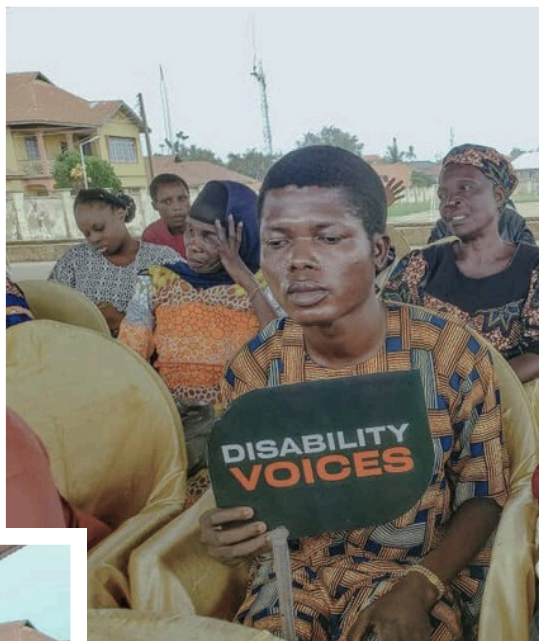


The involvement of young people in policy-making and decision-making processes is crucial for the establishment of inclusive and democratic societies.



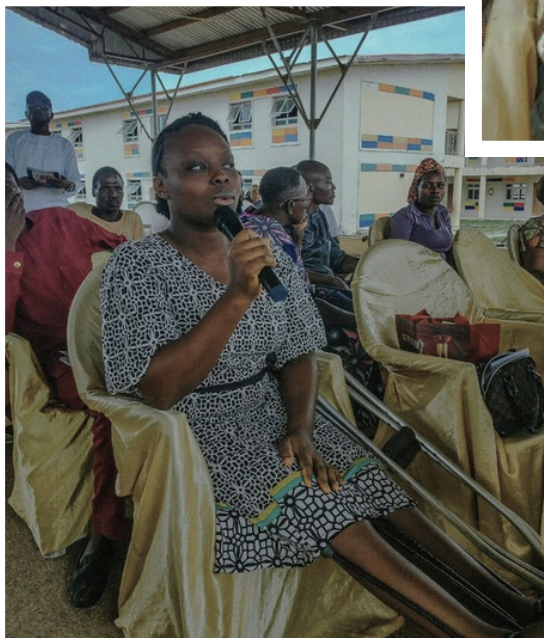


**OUR
IMPACT ON**



**PERSONS
WITH**

Disabilities PROJECT



**SDG 4, 8 - SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND
DISABILITY**

Our press coverage on voice of
disability project

Our press coverage on voice of disability project

DESPITE LAWS, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES SUFFERING NON-INCLUSION, RIGHTS' ABUSE — STAKEHOLDERS

WALE AKINSELURE | MAY 8, 2024



Some stakeholders have decried that, in spite of the requisite laws, persons with disabilities (PWDs) continue to suffer discrimination, lack of inclusion, and abuse of their rights. The stakeholders, which include community leaders, legal practitioners, educators, and health practitioners, expressed this reservation at a seminar for PWDs organised by a non-governmental organisation, Esther Banquet International, in Ondo, Ondo State.

Setting the tone for the event, the Chief Executive Officer of Esther Banquet International, Mrs Anne-Wonder Fasan, said evidence showed that there was little advancement in the inclusion of PWDs in the affairs of the nation, not minding the existence of relevant policies.



Represented by the project manager, Mr. Adebola Adebamowo, she bemoaned that the gap was becoming wider as PWDs and special needs families faced obstacles in accessing government funding and support. She said efforts must be particularly geared towards empowering marginalized groups in Nigeria and ensuring their active involvement in all levels of decision-making. A community leader in Ondo Kingdom, Chief Ayo Akingbule, said only a few PWDs are considered for political offices, questioning why PWDs cannot have a ministerial or commissionership position in government. Keynote speaker, Dr. Bridget Awosika, stressed that, no matter the circumstance, persons living with disabilities must learn skills and be self-employed. Another keynote speaker, Barrister Moruf Bada, pointed to the 2018 Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act as one that advocates for the inclusion of PWDs in the planning, organizing, forecasting, and scheduling of buildings. He charged the government, individuals, and organizations to ensure that PWDs live a life of dignity, respect, and full participation in our society, as it is in several other countries that respect the rights of people with disabilities. In his own remarks, a senior medical officer at the University of Medical Science Teaching Hospital (UNIMED) Ondo, Dr. Udi Samuel, advised people with disabilities not to joke with their health or their well-being. He emphasized the need for them to engage in regular physical exercise to put their bones and muscles to use, saying that unused bones become weak and can lead to untimely death. Furthermore, Udi enjoined PWDs to regularly check their health status and maintain a balanced diet.

OUR DISABILITY PROJECT IN ONDO STATE

voice of people with disabilities



*Event organized by Esther Banquet International for People
Living with Disability PWDs in Ondo State.*

Our disability programme organised for people with disability empowered 70 individuals and trained over 30 volunteers in providing support to the people with disability. It focused on disability and healthy living , disability rights , how people with disabilities can contribute to their communities, entrepreneurship prospect

Policy and recommendations – promoting a welfare society

Reinforcing the importance and implementation of the social model which see's the persons with disability as an individual is crucial .

Reinforcing person centred values and approaches in supporting them .

Policy makers, stakeholders, NGO'S government should consider providing the disability community that inform them of their rights .

We advocate for inclusive polices and legislative practices that enhances the development of disability and welfare society .

Re- affirmation of human rights and the development of capacity building programmes .





Our adopted model of transformational leadership.



Intellectual Stimulation

- Innovation
- Creativity
- Goals
- Challenge

Individualized Consideration

- Mentorship
- Empathy
- Purpose
- Strength & Skills

Transformational Leadership

Idealized Influence

- Role Model
- Walk the Walk
- Enthusiasm
- Embody Value

Inspirational Motivation

- Clear Vision
- Optimism
- Inclusion
- Productivity



DORCAS ADVOCACY PROJECT (DAP) – Capacity building and Advocacy

Provision of housing accommodation : House of Esther

This is our prime support program by which QEB extends its proven and effective model of supporting vulnerable women fleeing domestic violence and widows that we house.

Although the lack of accommodation among women is rising, that of the vulnerable Black and minority women in the UK is alarming. The opportunity for women-specific services in both areas has created considerable added value for our clients.



GAPS , IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES AND BEST PRACTICES



Our advocacy on Widow's challenges at United Nations, Geneva October

Esther Banquet International had the privilege of attending a seminar, where it presented the immense challenges faced by widows in Nigeria. These challenges include violence against widows, harmful traditional practices and beliefs, religious limitations, lack of access to property rights and finance, and inheritance issues.

As an organization, we learned about and explored best practices and legal frameworks, such as CEDAW and UN SCR 1325, and other shared practices. By understanding government initiatives and challenges, we can advocate for more effective support systems for widows.

Our policy recommendations for improving the landscape in supporting widows and promoting a welfare society are as follows:

- Government Programs and Policies: Provide financial assistance to widows, including pension and insurance benefits.
- Widow's Pension Scheme: Monthly stipend for widows below the poverty line.
- National Widow's Pension Scheme (NWPS): Financial assistance to widows aged 40-64.
- Support and training for Health Insurance: Access to affordable healthcare for widows.
- Education and Training: Vocational training, literacy programs, and educational assistance.
- Economic Empowerment: Microfinance, entrepreneurship support, and skill development.
- Legal Aid: Free or subsidized legal services for widows.
- Shelter and Housing: Affordable housing, rental assistance, and housing subsidies.



- Promote international initiatives recognizing, celebrating, and promoting International Widows Day yearly.
 - Strengthen funding support and capacity-building initiatives for civil societies/NGOs.
 - Collaborate with regional and local/grassroots initiatives, including:
 1. Community-based organizations
 2. Faith-based organizations
 3. Local government initiatives
 4. Self-help groups
- By understanding government initiatives and challenges, we can advocate for more effective support systems for widows.

Nigerians in Diaspora Summit, Abuja, November 2024



We participated in advocacy work at the 7th Conference, where Esther Banquet CIC was invited alongside other Nigerian entrepreneurs abroad to attend the 7th Nigeria's Diaspora Investment Summit. The theme was "Adapting Stability through Diaspora Investment: Navigating the Paths through Prosperity."

We humbly received the invitation of Honourable Abike Dabiri to this platform at the Abuja Villa Conference, where we pitched and presented our social impact and solicited for investors contributions and commitment. It was reported during the summit that in 2023, Nigeria received 19.5 billion in diaspora remittances, a 3 % decrease from 2022. One of the major goals of the NDIS 7th conference was to demonstrate the effectiveness and sustainability of strategically making inward investment into emerging economy diversification of Nigerian economy..

However, controlling economic and financial flows is critical to achieving sustainable financing. Current research shows that Nigeria's economy has underperformed against its potential, exacerbated by high levels of unemployment and poverty ^{1 2}. Unless the economy attracts investors and prioritizes human capital development, Nigeria may experience a continuous economic downturn.



Privileged to meet Ms . Deniece Laurent – Mantey – foreign affairs officer at the U.S department of state

We honoured the invitation of honourable Abike Dabiri Erewa the pioneer executive chairman / CEO Nigerians in diaspora minister .

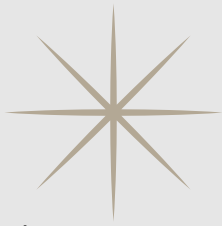


Black history day presentation of gifts to children authors – people and places and book



PEOPLE AND PLACES AND BOOKS





COLLABORATION SDG GOAL 17

This year as part of a civil society has collaboration working at the core of the Sustainable Development Goals. Goal 17, 'Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development', The UN says: A successful sustainable development agenda requires partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society.

These inclusive partnerships built upon principles and values, a shared vision, and shared goals that place people and the planet at the centre, are needed at the global, regional, national and local level.

Strengthening partnership with government ministries in Nigeria.

We are delighted with the warm reception received by the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, with the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and the People with Disability Department in Abuja, the country capital.

As a non-profit organization, partnerships are essential with governments and civil society groups, businesses and foundations, and committed individuals. We hope to bring our expertise and resources together so that we become a powerful force for progress in building our nation.



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

.....Special Duties.....Department

Correspondence to be addressed to the
Honourable Minister

Email:.....

Telephone:.....



FMHADMSD/HAD/RA/2310
19th November, 2024

The Director/CEO
Esther Banquet International
7, Olufunmilola Okikiolu adatreet,
Off Toyin Street, Ikeja. Lagos
Nigerian

OUR INVITATION TO CHATHAM HOUSE ON THE DEMOCRATIC OF THE CONGO'S FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITIES , OCTOBER,2024



HE Thérèse Kayikwamba Wagner, MINISTER OF Foreign Affairs.

Policy Priorities, October 2024

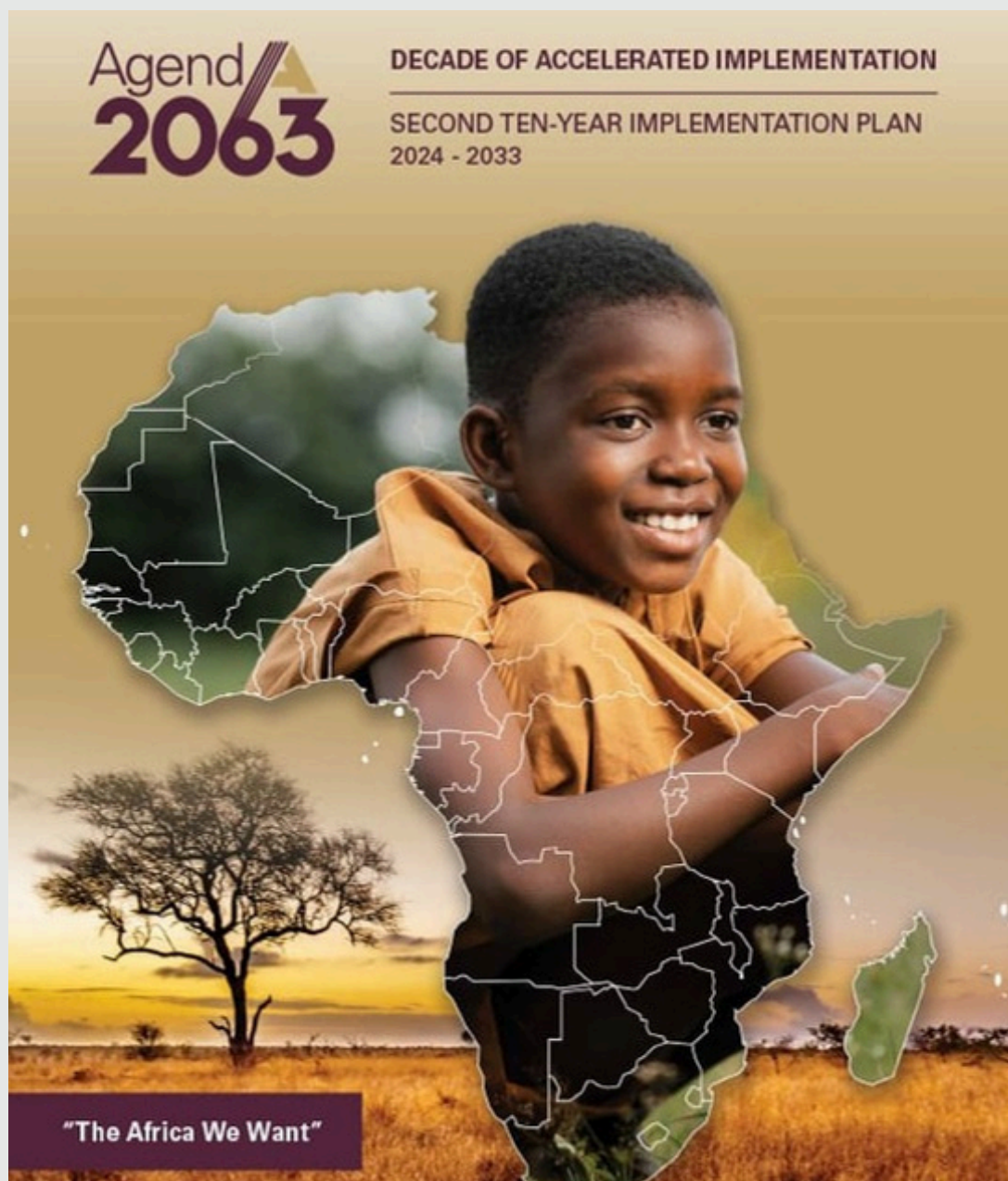
We were honoured to attend an Africa Programme event at Chatham House, where H.E. Thérèse Kayikwamba Wagner, the Democratic Republic of the Congo's (DRC) Minister of Foreign Affairs, outlined her country's strategy in regional diplomacy and its role in global critical mineral supply chains.

As part of a session at the Chatham House London Conference, we engaged in discussions with Mr. Richie Lontulungu, the new Deputy National Human Rights Commission of the DRC, on the issue of widows in Congo. We initiated a project to extend our links next year in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where the fight for widows' rights remains a significant challenge.

My privilege meeting first prime minister of Togo at the economic developmeny submit in Coite deviour

"It was my privilege to meet the first prime minister of Togo at the Economic Development Summit in Côte d'Ivoire. We aim to build partnerships in 2025 and support Togo's government's first priority vision, which aligns with our mission, aims, and objectives. Togo's first priority towards its Vision 2030 agenda is to build a just, peaceful, resilient, and inclusive nation by overcoming economic, social, and political injustices. It also strongly aims to build a strong economy by investing in human capital development."

WHAT NEXT?



The Office of the O SSA has identified the significance of sustainable development in tackling economic and social inequities that cause grievances, such as marginalization, poverty, and lack of access to resources. We have endeavored to recommend policies that address inclusivity. O SSA also recommends providing inclusive opportunities and strengthening institutions to reduce factors leading to instability and violence.

Beyond 2024, we aim to align with the strategic global vision of Agenda 2063: "The Africa We Want," the master plan for African nations, to deliver inclusive and sustainable development goals. As noted in the Peace-Development Nexus 2023, the absence of development creates a fertile ground for conflict in most African countries, as people seek alternative means to address their grievances. Therefore, development remains a crucial foundation for peace and conflict resolution. Until systemic issues preventing development are addressed, peace will remain elusive and fragile."

The Office of the O SSA has identified the significance of sustainable development in tackling economic and social inequities that cause grievances, such as marginalization, poverty, and lack of access to resources. We have endeavoured to recommend policies that address inclusivity. O SSA also recommends providing inclusive opportunities and strengthening institutions to reduce factors leading to instability and violence.

Beyond 2024, we aim to align with the strategic global vision of Agenda 2063: "The Africa We Want," the master plan for African nations, to deliver inclusive and sustainable development goals. As noted in the Peace-Development Nexus 2023, the absence of development creates a fertile ground for conflict in most African countries, as people seek alternative means to address their grievances. Therefore, development remains a crucial foundation for peace and conflict resolution. Until systemic issues preventing development are addressed, peace will remain elusive and fragile."

SOCIAL IMPACT VALUES

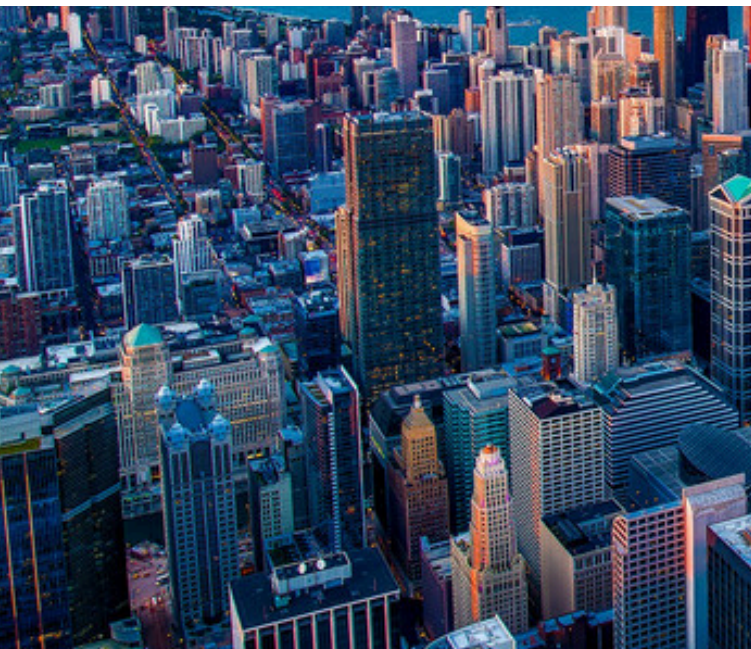
We aim to be one of the leading dynamic and innovative enterprise organizations in Nigeria taking the lead on both economic and social changes to promote an inclusive government. We are committed to delivering services that are targeted to the needs of the community we represent.

- **Together we can build a sustainable community and a strong institution**

We aim to tackle social and economic inequalities and inclusion, addressing social and economic imbalances, health disparities by engaging stakeholders, creating a strategic and cooperative vision, and fostering effective partnership working with local agencies and councils, government, public and private sector organizations, schools and community groups.

- **Together we can build strong people and Nation**

As a community investment company, we reinvest our surplus into the business and use a new approach to create value, impacting volunteering to mobilize volunteers to increase and enhance the outcomes achieved by public service. This is a recognition that people want to give something back and create improved social capital, improved aspirations that most public services haven't designed in ways that mobilize diverse groups and talent.



■ **Partner with us**

- **Donation**
- **Volunteer
(Ambassadors)**
- **Partner**



Excel LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Righteousness Exalts a Nation



Mentoring
world's
future
Leaders

Now Enrolling for September 2025 intake

ETHICAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Duration 18 months mentoring programme for young people entering into governance and public life

- Moral conduct and integrity.
- Learn effective public speaking
- Strategic leadership direction and development
- Mentoring
- Advocacy
- Internship /placement / community engagement
- Learn effective Administration and Governance and policy analysis
- Political and government ethics
- Graduation ceremony and presentation of certificates upon successful completion
- Upon completion of the program participants will have gained a deeper understanding of how transformational leadership advances their ability to enact change. They will be motivated to take further action, driven by innovation . Most significantly, Leaders will continue to gain a broader vision of their leadership goals.
- Programmes are Subsidised by partners and stake holders .
- Scholarships are provided to outstanding participants

Admission Requirements

- ✓ 2 Satisfactory letter of recommendation
- ✓ Voluntary activities and experiences
- ✓ Educated to secondary/degree level
- ✓ Personal statement
- ✓ Individual and group
- ✓ Assessment followed by successful interview

Dr Laide Komolafe

Principal Excel Leadership Academy

Mrs Anne -Wonder Fasan

Director Excel Leadership Academy

CONTACT US

www.estherbanquet.org.uk



Thank You!



Our Contact:



+441616919412
+447546817239
0904 450 6711



www.estherbanquet.org.uk



Nigeria & UK



info@www.estherbanquet.org.uk