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2017

ANNUAL REPORT

ACTIONAID NIGERIA

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Message From The Board Chair

The Nigerian economy exited the economic recession and grew in real terms in 2017. The growth was largely driven by the continued recovery of oil production, sustained growth in agriculture, and the positive impact on investment and other private sector activities from improved availability of foreign exchange to support imports.

Despite the economic growth, the inequality gap in income and opportunities grew rapidly and adversely affected poverty eradication efforts with over 20 states in the federation owing workers' salary for as long as a year due to their lack of ingenuity in resource generation.

The country recorded some progress in the area of security with the release of 82 Chibok school girls by the insurgents, however, more than 100 Chibok school girls remain in captivity, including an estimated number of men, women and children who were previously abducted following reports by the media. This affected the efforts of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) like ActionAid working to increase enrolment and retention of girls in schools, especially in the northeast where activities in schools have been crippled by fear of insurgents. Moreover, the conflicts between herders and farmers increased in different parts of the country leading to loss of lives and properties, with the poor and vulnerable in Nigeria mostly affected.

The year also witnessed increased youth participation in politics with coalition of youth groups in the country emerging strongly to campaign for reduction in age limit for contesting elections. Although the Nigerian senate voted to lower the age limit for governors and president from 35 to 30 and 40 to 35 respectively, their vote still requires endorsement by 24 of Nigeria's 35 State Assemblies as well as the president's assent.

The 2017 corruption perception index by Transparency International ranked Nigeria 148th out of 180 countries rated. This showed that prevalence of corruption worsened when compared to the ranking of 136th out of 176 countries rated in 2016, and beams a search light on results from the anti-corruption war of the current administration.

These narratives shaped the context of our operations and activities in the year 2017 and informed ActionAid Nigeria's (AAN) decision to establish an operational base in the northeast to strengthen humanitarian response, and further AAN's objective to take sustainable actions to end poverty.

Against this backdrop, AAN launched the Strengthening Citizens Resistance Against Prevalence of Corruption (SCRAP-C) Project. The project looks at the fight against corruption through the social norm lenses and complements the law and enforcement approach that has been in existence in Nigeria. We also continued to increase the engagement, empowerment and solidarity actions of Nigeria's citizens through

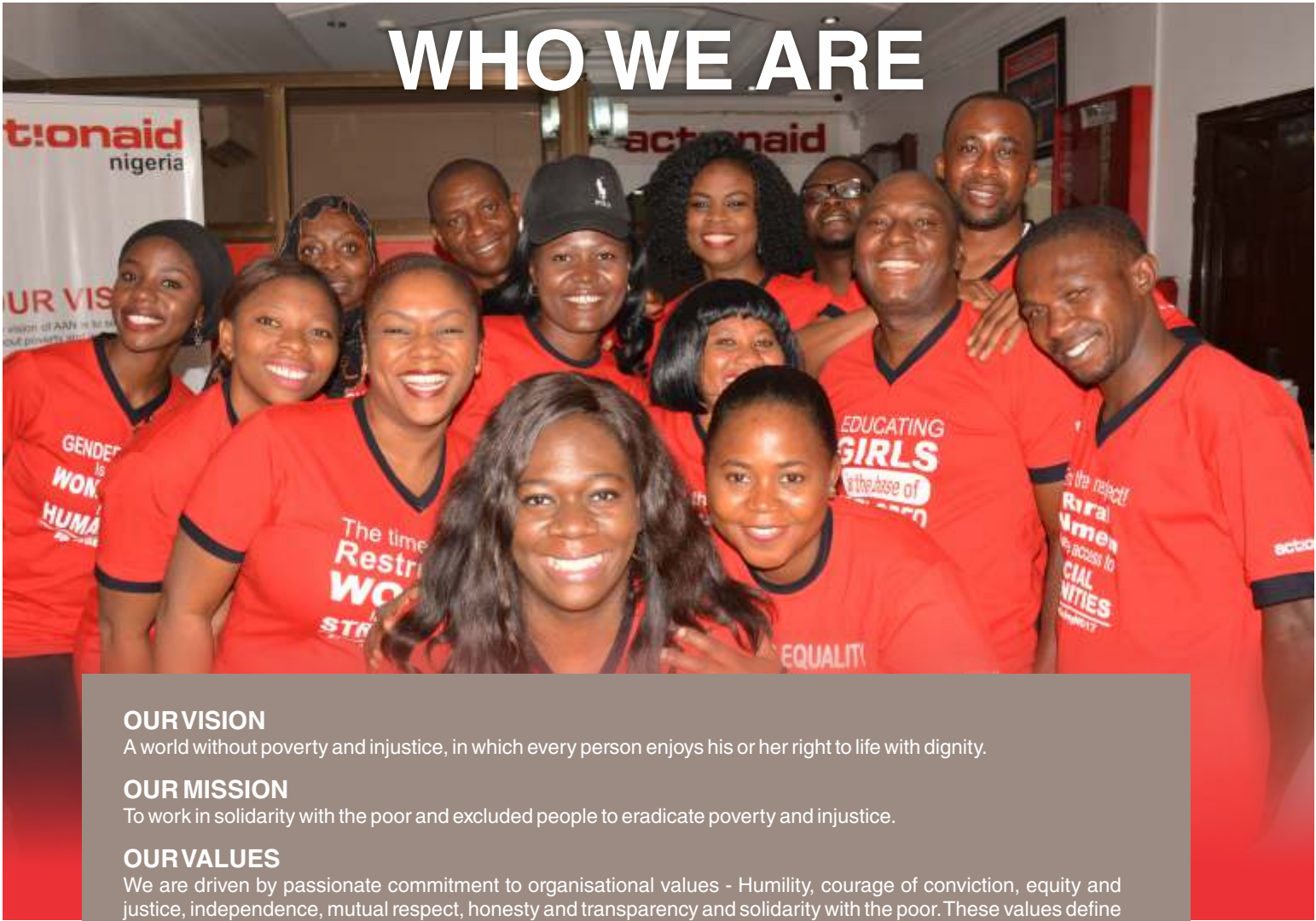
Strengthening Citizens Engagement in the Electoral Process (SCEEP) project.

In 2017, AAN was better poised to respond to humanitarian crisis in Benue State and the northeast through funds raised locally from Nigerians via the community sponsorship initiative and other donor funded projects. These landmark achievements would not have been possible without the resilience of our staff, support from our esteemed donors and the commitment of AAN Board and General Assembly.



Prof. Patricia Donli
Board Chair

WHO WE ARE



OUR VISION

A world without poverty and injustice, in which every person enjoys his or her right to life with dignity.

OUR MISSION

To work in solidarity with the poor and excluded people to eradicate poverty and injustice.

OUR VALUES

We are driven by passionate commitment to organisational values - Humility, courage of conviction, equity and justice, independence, mutual respect, honesty and transparency and solidarity with the poor. These values define our work and relationship with our communities, partners and other stakeholders.

Donors



Funding Affiliates

United Kingdom | Italy | Sweden | Brazil.

Our Country Strategy Paper at a Glance

2017 was the final year of the implementation of our Country Strategic Paper (CSP) 2014 – 2018, Take Action, End Poverty. It is a guide for how we work, who we work with, and our commitment to our theory of change.

The CSP has four strategic objectives as follows:

1



Strengthen people's action to hold governments and corporates accountable and enhance people's access to quality services.

2



Advance the rights of women and girls, promote their safety and participation in public and private spaces.

3



Advance the rights of children and support young people in building a just, democratic and inclusive society.

4



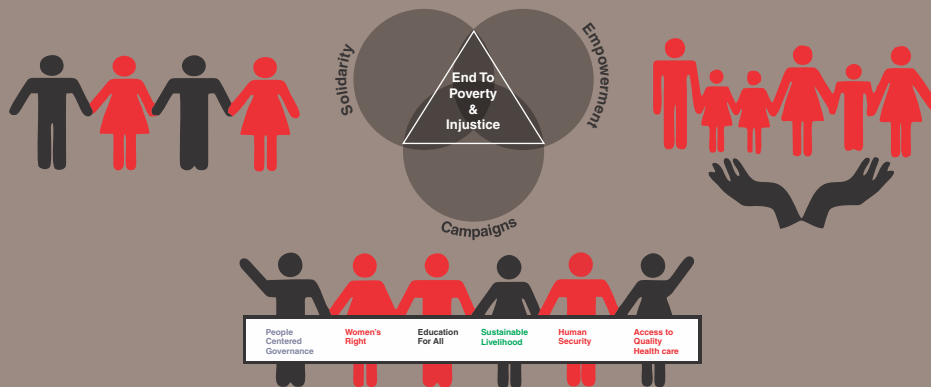
Enhance human security and livelihood for the poor and excluded.

To ensure effective implementation and delivery of our strategy, the following priorities were identified:



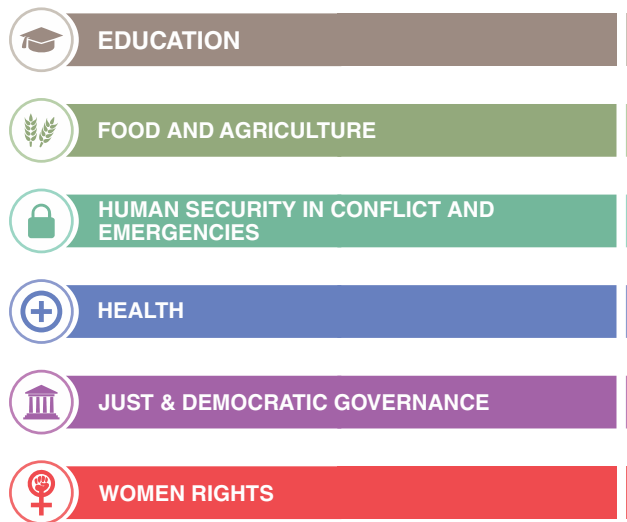
Our Theory of Change

We believe that poverty is a function of human rights violations and unequal power relations. Promoting just and accountable governance principles with democratic and transparent processes are thus necessary conditions that must be ensured for poverty eradication and development in Nigeria to take place.



“We believe that an end to poverty and injustice can be achieved through purposeful individual and collective action, led by the active agency of people living in poverty and supported by solidarity, credible rights-based alternatives and campaigns that address the structural causes and consequences of poverty.”

Our Programmes



Linking all these is our geographically based integrated Local Rights Programme which is being implemented in 11 States of the Federation. Our works are spread across the 36 States in Nigeria and over 250 communities.

The People we work with

Our primary target remains the poor and excluded, especially women, girls and children who are most affected by poverty. We work with these targets at both their collective and individual levels in promoting the right consciousness and actions to end poverty.

We engage multiple agents at different times and situations as enablers, advocates, facilitators and catalysts for the change we want to see. In doing this, we create spaces and interest for the voices of people living in poverty and their respective agencies to be embedded in Government policies and actions.

ActionAid Nigeria not only maintains a strong solidarity with the poor, but equally takes sides with them even against adversity. These elements require us to be a credible, non-domineering and continuously learning and evolving knowledge based self-reliant organisation.

Our Context



Insecurity and Poverty

- Insecurity in the country took a new turn in 2017. While some of the towns and communities captured by the insurgents have been reclaimed by the military, attempts to resettle displaced persons have proven abortive due to unrelenting attacks by the insurgents.
- Issues of conflict between herdsmen and farmers have remained perennial crises. Communities are still under attack with high records of casualties, leaving citizens helpless with little or no source of income to survive, especially women headed households who depend on agriculture to sustain their families.
- During the year, the country had stood at the edge following tension created by actions of the secessionist group, Indigenous Peoples of Biafra (IPOB). While the threat from other sources such as the Niger Delta Avengers (NDA) had paled, the IPOB-triggered tension had reverberated in all parts of the country and created palpable fears in some parts. The fear of ethnic clashes and attacks fueled the decisions of citizens to flee their domiciled place of business and residence to return to their indigenous communities.



State of the Economic and Poverty

- Nigeria's economy overcame recession in the second quarter of 2017 and grew in real terms with the GDP figures rising by 1.4 per cent (year-on-year). Despite this growth, the evidence of growth is not visible in the lives of the poor as prices of consumer good remained high.
- The state of inequality in the country increased in 2017 with unemployment rate rising from 16% to 18%. This is further heightened by increased youth restiveness and increased spate of armed robbery attacks, kidnapping and various heinous crimes which stems from the impoverishment of vulnerable citizens, especially young people who are desperate to survive off the limited resources in their communities.
- 2017 manifested a new phenomenon as impact of inequality and poverty level resulted to increased suicide rates in the country. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), Nigeria was said to have a 15.1 suicide per 100,000 population per year rate, which ranked the country at 30th most suicide-prone out of 183 nations in the world.²



Shrinking Political Space

The sponsorship of the CSO regulatory bill by Deputy Majority Leader of the House, Umar Jibril and pursuant to its passage, followed in the track of an earlier effort to regulate the use of social media and criminalise rights of expression through same medium. Although, it was established that there already exists laws, policies and institutions that address some of the issues the bill claimed to correct, the sponsors of the bill have continued to push for its passage.



Women's Right: Nigeria's Sad Outlook

The World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index ranked Nigeria 118 out of 144 countries. This ranking showed Nigeria trailing some poorer African countries and other nations with long history of women rights abuse. Evidently in 2017, the economic and security situation in the country directly influenced the infringement of human rights of citizens to life, security, education, freedom of worship and association; this is more peculiar to women, who are most vulnerable in the face of violence and emergency.

Summary

**Total of People
Reached in 2017**

97,655

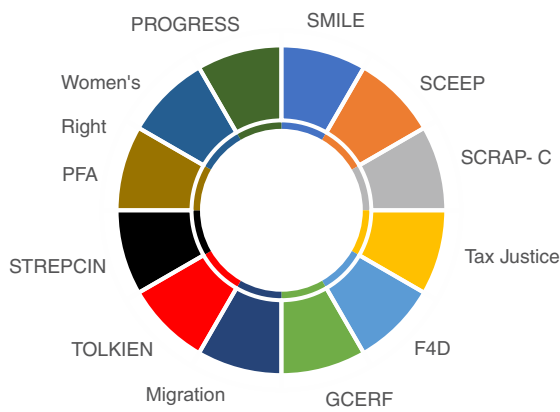


23,791
(Male)

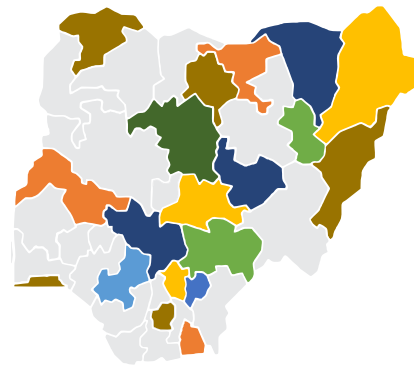


73,864
(Female)

PROJECTS IN 2017



Implementation States



Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Benue, Borno, Ebonyi, Edo, Enugu, Gombe, Imo, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Kogi, Kwara, Lagos, Nassarawa, Plateau, Sokoto, Yobe

Achievements by Strategic Objectives

In 2017, AAN implemented projects around governance, corruption, women's rights, security in emergency and conflict situations, children and youth, and health guided judiciously by its strategic objectives. The following sections summarily describe projects implemented in 2017 including activities and achievements.

<p>Strategic Objective 1:</p>  <p>Strengthen people's action to hold governments and corporates accountable and enhance people's access to quality services.</p>	<p>Strategic Objective 2:</p>  <p>Advance the rights of women and girls, promote their safety and participation in public and private spaces.</p>	<p>Strategic Objective 3:</p>  <p>Advance the rights of children and support young people in building a just, democratic and inclusive society.</p>	<p>Strategic Objective 4:</p>  <p>Enhance human security and livelihood for the poor and excluded.</p>
<p>SCRAP -C SMILE SCEEPC Tax Justice F4D</p>	<p>Women's Rights</p>	<p>PROGRESS</p>	<p>STREPCIN GCERF Migration TOLKIEN PFA</p>

SMILE PROJECT

Sustainable Mechanism for Improving Livelihoods and Household Empowerment

The SMILE project was designed to scale-up care and support services for orphans and vulnerable children

ACTIONS



The project strengthens the Nigerian Vulnerable Children (VC)



A total of 15,930 people (6,679 females and 9,233 males) were impacted by capacity building activities



Out of the 15,930 reached, 3,754 had their capacities strengthened on the Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVC) national standards preventing child abuse

RESULTS



it gave the project international recognition for its efforts on the global campaign to End Violence against children



Prompt and quick response to child protection issues within the child justice system



Resulted in improved functionality of the family courts and development of a shelter for children



The project's improved child protection framework led to domestication of the child protection policy by eight orphanages and child homes



increase in budget allocation for interventions targeting VC in the 2018 appropriation of Ministry of Women Affairs & Social Development



The project's approach to capacity strengthening improved the systems and structures of government, community groups and network



Quality improvement became a platform for advocacy and engagement with government for measures that were considered critical to support their efforts.

The Project Also Attained The Following Results:



renovation of community borehole in Ohanmi community



Renovation of 8 children homes in the FCT



Provision of skill acquisition opportunities

Strategic Objective 1:

The project was aimed at strengthening the electoral engagement of women, youth and persons with disability

ACTIONS

26



campuses across implementation states to expand dialogue and improve the involvement of young people in governance and electoral processes.



The demonstrations were organised to engender legislative support and presidential assent for the #NTYTR bill



The public presentation of the PWD Charter created an opportunity for PWD to advocate for their inclusion in governance and electoral processes

RESULTS



331 persons (50 females and 281 males) received capacity strengthening to facilitate the utilisation of the Community Development Charter



Kaduna State Government adopted the CDC as the tool for aggregating community needs into the state budget

1,228

people participated in SCEEP supported media outputs (townhall meetings).

680

persons were engaged in budget accountability platforms and conversations on the CDC as a tool for budgeting and planning in the SCEEP States.

45

security agents and 39 electoral officers in Akwa Ibom and Plateau states were trained on inclusive electoral management

196

community-based election observers were trained for use in LGA elections in Akwa Ibom, Kano and Plateau states.

45

staff (15 females and 25 males) were trained on strategies, tactics and tools to mobilise citizens for participation in the electoral process

75

Master Trainers (MTs) were trained on using the 'Women in Politics and Voter Education' manual in SCEEP states

SCRAP-C

Strengthening Citizens' Resistance against Prevalence of Corruption

This project is an anti-corruption project funded by DFID and implemented by ActionAid Nigeria.

ACTIONS



The launch of the project was planned to coincide with the commemoration of world anti-corruption day by the distinguished Senator **Chukwuemeka Utazi**



Recognising the important role the Media plays in the fight against corruption



WhatsApp groups were created across the groups in each state to enhance information sharing and reporting on corruption



In furtherance of citizens' participation on the project, stakeholder mapping was conducted among identified social groups and networks in Enugu, Lagos, Kaduna and Borno states.

RESULT



SCRAP-C has thus, not only sustained the work of past anti-corruption projects but has performed satisfactorily in sustaining the tempo for the campaign

Tax Justice

Tax Incentives and Implications for Resource Mobilisation for Development in Nigeria

Aims to expand advocacy that combats Illicit Financial Flow (IFF) by supporting trade union campaigns in at least three countries and broaden awareness-raising efforts to target youth and women. **The project is to run for one year.**

ACTION



AAN organised a stakeholder meeting with CSOs, labour organisations, women groups, youth platforms, tax platforms and the Media to expand the conversation on tax

RESULTS



AAN supported the training of PSI affiliates in the West African sub-region and the African region



Friedrich Ebert Stiftung utilised AAN staff as resource persons for its trainings and conferences on social investment and tax justice.

AAN is partnering with Oxfam to change fiscal and financial systems to increase finance for development and empower citizens to monitor how resources are spent.

ACTION



In the period under review, the project conducted a study to establish the difference between policy and practice in private sector taxation

RESULTS



The Nigeria Governors Forum (NGF) committed to further collaborate with AAN and Oxfam to engage state governors for state specific interventions for increasing states' Internally Generated Revenue (IGR)



The Presidency issued an executive order – Voluntary Assets and Income Declaration Scheme (VAIDS), for improved tax revenue

Women's Rights

The work of the Women's Rights unit in 2017 resulted in some power shift for women. The thrust of strategic objective 2 is to shift power for women in key areas such as control over resources, participation in decision-making, and greater control over their bodies.

Strategic Objective 2:

ACTIONS



The Women's Rights unit and the Local Rights Programme (LRP) executed actions that resulted in improved skills and capabilities of women



The Women's Rights Unit and the Local Rights Programme conducted a review of the women peer education programme.



The women peer education resource kit was revised to reflect women's current realities.



Built capacity of women in the different LRP communities to organise and challenge cultural practices



over 5,000 women across the LRP states were trained on alternative sources of income generation.

RESULTS



4,000 women were reached by the project, with 118 trained as facilitators across the 11 LRPs on utilising the revised resource kit for women organisation



40 women in Ebonyi state were involved in street protests to demand for access to cooking energy (kerosene) that was scarce and costly.



The peer education programme also resulted in two women being included into the community's security in Okeso community in Kwara state



The actions of community paralegals resulted in the abolition of female genital mutilation in Ebonyi state.



cases of rights violation against women, including cases on wife battery and denial of inheritance, were resolved by community paralegals.

(PROGRESS)

Promoting Girls Enrolment and Retention in Secondary Schools

The Progress project was implemented in 24 schools across 14 LGAs in Sokoto state to contribute to the state's goal of achieving quality secondary school education for girls.

Strategic Objective 3:

ACTIONS



The Progress project contribute to the state's goal of achieving quality secondary school education for girls.



master trainers was drawn from relevant government ministries and agencies across all levels were trained on the use of tools to monitor activities of the SBMC.



The project supported relevant stakeholders in the state to review the state's SBMC policy and align it with the approved State Right to Education bill



A total of 34 officials gained knowledge on the content of the policy and how to ensure its effectiveness.



The project successfully organised 'Ensuring the safety of girls in schools

RESULTS



schools were supported to execute projects to enhance learning environment for girls. These projects ranged from renovation of toilets to digging of boreholes and purchase of furniture



As a result of this training, the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education collaborated with AAN to conduct the training across the state



The support for the review of Sokoto's state SBMC policy led to the institutionalisation of SBMC in the state.

The project schools recorded improved enrolment of girls from



For instance, schools like GSS Badua had only 4 girls enrolled prior to the project, but by the end of over 3 years of project implementation a total of



27 girls had been enrolled.

The project supports communities to build resilience against violent extremism through enhanced capacity and structures to utilise available resources in preventing radicalisation, respond to, withstand, and overcome impact of adverse violent extremism.

Strategic Objective 4:

ACTIONS



The project created awareness on the importance of peaceful coexistence and happy family in communities in the state through the 'Peace Walk'

Utilising the power of the mass Media,



slots of jingles were aired through the project's efforts to promote peace and curb violent extremism in the state.



the project-built women's capacities and established five cooperatives for economic empowerment.



The project built the capacity of 621 youths from different youth networks on advocacy

A total of **474** members

65 females 409 males

of National Youth Council of Nigeria

114 members

36 females 78 males

of Voice of Youth Initiative

& 33 members

12 females 18 males

of the Nigerian Youth Parliament benefited



(CARTs) were established and inaugurated to carry out projects aimed at strengthening communities' coexistence and reducing their vulnerability.

Under the community participation initiative, the project supported the establishment of peace clubs in schools with

50 members

21 girls 29 boys

&

3 teachers/mentors

2 females 1 male

RESULTS



The project provided block making and cassava processing equipment through its Youth Action Plans & Livelihood programme component



Through the capacity building, a youth network was birthed. The network in collaboration with the Nigerian Youth Parliament and National Youth Council of Nigeria



CART was used to resolve the lingering herdsmen/farmers crises by facilitating a peace pact between farmers and herdsmen in the community.



Osara community was working on providing water to reduce the risk women face fetching water from the bush, Aku/Osaragada community was building town halls to provide



The project's collaboration with the state government and security agencies led to the governor approving the stationing of a police patrol van

Migration

Creation of alternative to migration through socio-economic development, sensitisation and conflict prevention in two Nigerian States

The project's objective is to contribute to the creation of socio-economic conditions to make migration decisions of Nigerians informed and voluntary rather than motivated by economical and security reasons

ACTIONS



meetings with relevant stakeholders in the two locations and identification and registration of 3,500 people; 1,500 in Borno state and 2,000 in Edo state



The project conducted the training of trainers' workshop on farming techniques and other productive activities.



Sensitisation campaigns on the dangers of irregular migration was carried out through the Mass Media.



Trainings on early warning signals, reintegration of Boko Haram and conflict mitigation in Borno state was conducted



The project also developed training manuals for all the identified skills in the three broad areas selected of Agriculture

RESULTS



49 persons in the two intervention states had their capacities strengthened and acquired livelihood and agricultural skills in Borno and Edo states



150,000 persons were reached with sensitisation messages on migration/irregular migration through the Radio jingles and talk shows.



2,000 persons were reached through the sensitisation workshop for border communities on migration issues.

TOLKIEN

Short-Term Humanitarian Relief Material Distributions

AAN receives fund from Trusts and Foundations to support short-term interventions. In 2017, AAN received funds from two such notable Institutions; Tolkien Trust and Moriah Fund. The funds were channelled into her humanitarian response in northeast Nigeria with specific interventions in Borno state.

ACTION



AAN conducted a need assessment of IDPs and projected reaching 375 displaced families (2,250 people) for short term emergency intervention

RESULTS



food and non-food items were distributed to three communities and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in camps in Borno state.



Distributed a pack of four weather-compliance clothing to 1,000 children in IDP camps. This was done to minimise exposure in extreme weather conditions

STREPCIN

The Strengthening Sexual and Reproductive Health Service Provision in Conflict-affected Communities in Northeast States in Nigeria

A key output of the project is to increase national capacity to provide sexual and reproductive health services in humanitarian settings. The project was implemented in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states

ACTIONS



training of Interpersonal Communication (IPC) conductors to provide sensitisation on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) and HIV and AIDS issues



Facilitated and supported referrals for survivors of SGBV that may require clinical psychosocial support



Conducted mapping, development, design, orientation and validation of context specific referral pathways



Conducted 2 sets of Minimum Initial Service Packaging training for 30 participants each for healthcare facilities.



Established and conducted the quarterly state level and Sub-regional steering committee review meeting on the implementation of the Project



implemented sustainable skills building and livelihood support programme for 61 women in Dikwa LGA Borno state



Created community-based protection networks through which vulnerable groups at risk of GBV the support that they need.

RESULTS



110 community volunteers across project intervention states were trained as Interpersonal Communication (IPC) conductors and psychosocial counsellors



women in Dikwa LGA were supported with start-up kits, materials and equipment in their chosen livelihood business areas



people in liberated communities were provided with medicare and received psychosocial support.



were treated at specialist hospitals



through the project's mobile mental and medical outreach service.



Developed referral pathways in 8 LGAs in Bauchi and 4 LGAs in Borno for responding to and linking survivors of SGBV to needed services



for clinical management of rape cases



received necessary medical treatment devoid of stigma.



46 facilities were enlisted across the 3 states

Public Financing of Agriculture

It is designed to strengthen and deepen PFA projects and address the challenges of low voice and participation of smallholder women farmers in agricultural policy making processes at local, state and national levels

ACTIONS



AAN enhanced the capacity of the Small-Scale Women Farmers Organisation in Nigeria (SWOFON) in the regions on the basics of networking and coalition building



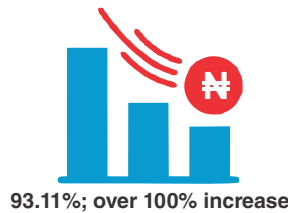
AAN supported smallholder women farmers and CSO partners to carry out the 2016 proposed agriculture budget analysis

Through AAN's engagement efforts, a budget increase from



for agriculture was proposed in the approved 2017 budget

value chain development budget domiciled in the ministry's headquarters was reduced to



in allocation to agricultural inputs was recorded

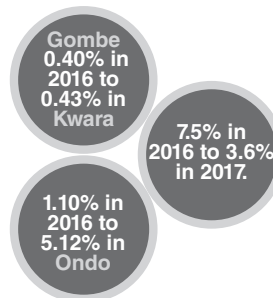
AAN supported PFA budget committee meetings in Gombe, Ondo, and Kwara states to carry out their 2017 agriculture budget analysis.



analysis revealed that in 2017 total states budget was

N90,558,611,573.05
an 18.31% increase from 2016.

Non reflected states





AAN developed infographics of community score card on access to agriculture credit and used it to inform one national level dissemination and seven state level meetings



Attention of the Delta state government and the public was drawn on declining budgetary allocation to agriculture in the state



AAN played a significant role in developing the roadmap towards formulation of a new National Agriculture Investment Plan

A SWOFON representative was a panellist at the event to advocate for issues of smallholder women farmers.



AAN supported the participation of smallholder women farmers and staff in the Kilimanjaro Mass Assembly to campaign for women's land rights



AAN submitted a proposal to Bank of Agriculture (BOA) for a programme to help SWOFON benefit from the Bank's credit schemes

RESULTS



Inclusion of growth enhancement support scheme, government's fertiliser and seed subsidy for smallholder farmers



Shortlisting of 105 SWOFON members for loans through the state Ministry of Agriculture Commercial Agriculture unit.



Allocation of oil palm, cassava and Acha processing equipment to SWOFON by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture



Allocation subsidised fertilisers to SWOFON members in Plateau state.



Allocation of 301 hectares of land to 365 SWOFON members in Kogi, Delta and Bauchi states



AAN demands and advocacy engagements with the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development resulted in the development of a zero-draft results framework



170 hectares was allocated to SWOFON members across 6 LGAs. FADAMA also provided inputs comprising of rice seedlings, fertilizer and chemicals.



The Kogi state's State Ministry of Agriculture gave out loans to farmers under the commercial Agriculture unit.



Stories Of Change

Strategic Objective 1

Stronger Together

Strategic Objective 3

How Water Can Change Everything.

Strategic Objective 2

The Resilience of Pesepa

Strategic Objective 4

How Zara got Her Groove Back.



Stronger Together



any society that is serious about implementing any law must first build a base that supports the law, Nigeria is struggling to implement the child right law because our society still lacks the fundamentals for enforcing the law without the breaking peoples' jaw kind of approach.

Olatosimi

There was no experience to share. The required structures and system required to fire up the Act was not built until ActionAid SMILE helped to strengthen the links between community based organizations, civil society and government agencies in various area council of the FCT.

Child and Youth Protection Foundation was one of the NGOs in the FCT in ardent pursuit of the implementation of the child right Act, Kolawole Olatosimi, the founder and chief operating officer has evolved a clear path to easy implementation of the Act.

That is why Kolawole with a group of NGOs, CBOs and government agencies in the FCT are focused in providing those fundamental social structures that will enable the child right Act easily implemented in the FCT. His organisation has designed extensive parenting programs so that motherhood can be prepared for intellectually. "The big challenge we have is that parents do not know how to be parents, parenting is a skill that can be taught" Shifting the conversation to teaching parenting is one method to make parenting look deliberate than accidental.

"this is how to achieve implementation Kolawole says, first you must address existing culture, there can't be full implementation without changing our social and moral architecture, progress will be challenging" And that is a task in Nigeria.

ActionAid has helped build the capacity of network of child protection organisations and individuals in the FCT have a sure footing. They have built the base required to spin a nation-wide social revival in the child protection field. It is believed that whatever is made possible in the FCT can easily be replicated in other states and local government. Kolade with the team of child protection NGOs in the FCT are pushing for approval of special learning skills for expectant parents. "If this proposal pulls through, it will be easy to influence other states to adopt the system?"

“We were always doing things our own way, we were little champions but ActionAid made us combine our strength together, that is why we are achieving much’ he says of the existing cooperation between several child protection networks in the FCT. “ActionAid made us realise that there is power in collaboration”

“ActionAid has given me the advantage to strengthen my work as a child right activist, I was involved in drafting the FCT Child Protection policy, we have developed a service directory, I have built my capacity to the point of building the capacity of others” he said.



Pesepe women making the local Maggie/Photo, ActionAid

The Resilience of Pesepe.

Like some lonely ants in an Island, no one hears their voice; they have lived under the shadow, unable to be seen or recognised by anyone. For many years this has been the situation for the people of Pesepe.

Pohopa as it was formerly known is a community in Bwari Area Council of FCT. In fact, when talking about excluded communities in Nigeria, Pesepe paints the perfect picture, largely because the path to the village is crooked, lonely and raided by creeping bent grass and thorns, almost at the centre of nowhere. Pesepe had been largely anonymous until ActionAid came through for them, exposing them to the rudiments of advocacy as a strong tool for social change.

“Before now, our roads were terrible; bushes all over the place that one would hardly believe there is any community in this area, but ActionAid taught us how to talk to government and constantly remind them of their promise to ensure they respond” Says the community leader, Hon. Alhaji Muhammed.

For the Women of Pesepe, who have been mostly affected by this daunting challenge, they seem to be happier that things are better off now.

As farmers this was a major problem because it was difficult for them to get their farming products to the market for sale. “So far, the roads have been graded which makes it motorable. Now we can easily transport our fire woods and other farm products to the market where we are highly patronised. We use the money we make from this to feed our families and send our children to school” Alhaji attested.

In addition to the graded road which stands a risk of deteriorating soon, Pesepa lacks well equipped health centre. A dilapidated block of two rooms with a partially open roof is what passes as hospital for these wonderful people. This “health centre” which happens to be the only one in the entire village, with an agonizingly low level of maintenance, has very low supply of medicines and is in desperate need of qualified health workers.

Also, farming inputs (such as fertilizers, herbicides etc.) are provided irregularly by the government. They usually arrive after farming season, when they are barely needed. This poses a great threat to the financial state of the hardworking people of Pesepa, especially because their major source of income is farming.

Despite the dilemma they face, these women still work extremely hard to sustain their lives and the community. Some of them solely provide for their families with little or no assistance from their husbands. They toil under the sun and the rain to fetch firewood and make local Maggie/ spices, walk 6-hour kilometre every day (even when pregnant) to the market to sell their products and still come home to fend for the family. They have become inured to hardship, full of hope and perseverance, strong-willed and determined to survive. They are grateful to ActionAid Local Rights Programme team for their work so far but, obviously there is more to be done.

“

We once lost a pregnant woman in labour because of the bad road and the distance to a well-equipped hospital. She died half way to the hospital **but now that the road is better and such event hardly ever occur.**

Hajiya

Girls fetching water from the new borehole.

How Water Can Change Everything

About a year ago, the students of the Government Day Secondary school, Sokoto had to survive without any source of water near the school. Aside from buying sachet water, the closest promise lay in a lake that took twenty five minutes by foot. On getting there, it is apparent this construction is less of a lake, and more of a pool of water, the likes of which can be found all over Sokoto, amongst the fields that dot the landscape. The water is unpurified and possibly full of harmful bacteria. Yet, for years the students of the secondary school have made do with the lake as their source of water; for drinking, for performing ablutions, and for cleaning hands and feet. The water is murky and unlike the clear water that is taught in schools, this one is almost brown.

The path to fetch the water is its own other special challenge. Walking under the hot sun, three girls are seen carrying buckets to fetch water. When they got to the area, they had to tread carefully through small rocks that make up the pavement. One wrong fall, and anyone could be seriously hurt. Particularly when factoring the increased danger of walking the path back with water laden buckets. Yet the students for many years have endured this until the intervention of ActionAid Nigeria through the MacArthur funded Promoting Girls' Retention and Enrolment in Secondary School (PROGRESS) project. The project which has achieved its main objective of institutionalising SBMCs in the

state which also prioritised removing barriers hindering girls enrolment and retention in school; in this case, Water.

After the building of a new borehole, the students now remark on the ease of life. They have more time to stay in school and study. They also have access to cleaner water, many of whom are glad to have a close place to go after relieving themselves that doubles as a drinking fountain. Even the animals are excited at the development. A group of peacocks stay drinking the dripping water droplets from the tap for a long time. Now the students have more time to attend classes and more time to concentrate on their future ambitions and class lessons. " Before, we trek a long distance and the water makes me sick because it is dirty, now, with this clean water close by, I am able to concentrate on my studies" Hauwawu Mohammed, Head Girl, Government Day Secondary School, Dundaye, Sokoto State.



Zara (second left) and her cohort receive seed grants to start their business.

How Zara Got Her Groove Back

On December 20, 2017 the premises of Borno State Agency for Mass Literacy was agog as 250 internally displaced women received seed grants to start their business after undergoing a 3 month skill acquisition training in specialised trade of their choice. The women beamed with smile as they received their certificates and took photographs with their equipment at the end of their graduation; for most of the grandaunts, the word on their lips – dreams do come true.

Zara is one of the 9 women trained on groundnut oil production and provided with a grinding machine, frying pan, local stove and a bag of groundnut amongst other things. Amidst sobs, she recounts how she got to Maiduguri after her community was invaded by insurgents "the attack on my household happened so fast and I felt every bit of the pain my 2 eldest sons experienced while they were being killed. My 25 and 23 year-old sons were brutally murdered for no cause. My husband was taken away and never returned.

While I ran with my 4 other children, my 2-year old son cried so much and not knowing why he was crying I just held him close till he slept off again. I woke up to realise I was clung on to a dead child. He had blood gushing from his nostrils and ears, I was confused but I was determined to give him a befitting burial while also curious on the cause of death. Strapped to my back again, we continued on the long walk towards Maiduguri; we stopped over to seek for food and shelter in a very small community and I sought to see the local herbalist who confirmed my son had died of snake bite. There I buried my son according to the Islamic rites."

Zara arrived Maiduguri and like many others, were hosted by a family; she calls them her 'good Samaritan'.

Some of her neighbours from Dikwa community were also lodged with host families around Maiduguri while others went to the IDP camp for succour. One of her friends from the camp came visiting to commiserate with her on the passing of her sons; it was during their discussion she heard about ActionAid proposed training for displaced women from Dikwa community.

Although that night in late 2014 will forever remain indelible Zara's heart, she is hopeful for the future "this is a life changing moment for me. ActionAid is helping me smile again. I look forward to the start of a new life. Thank you ActionAid"

Fundraising

Resource Mobilisation And Innovation (RMIU)

The Resource Mobilisation and Innovation Unit (RMIU) is responsible for the fundraising component of ActionAid Nigeria's work. AAN fundraises through three streams: Institutional Partnership Development (IPD), High Value Funding and individual giving.

RMIU Strategic Objectives

1 Million

supporters by 2023

£60 Million

raised by 2023

£9,390,000 was raised across all three funding streams. While over £4.5 million of the IPD funds was spent to execute existing contracts in 2017, 6 new contracts were obtained from donors, such as Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Ford Foundation, McArthur Foundation and Oxfam among others under the IPD stream. These achievements occurred despite funding and policy restrictions and other challenges.

Despite supporters' concern about their safety from cybercrime, difficulty getting free networking platforms for fundraising activities, low individual support for charities in Nigeria and tight fundraising budget, N3,378,760 was raised from community sponsorship with 30 successfully executed fundraising events, and 529 new supporters (35% females, 65% males and 3% vendors) recruited in the period.

N9,031,166 was raised from supporters through the supporter care and child sponsorship funding stream. Along with this, 14 inactive supporters were reactivated while existing inconsistent supporters were converted to become consistent, a target of 95% and above CMC, photo update and Appload for UK, Italy and Sweden were achieved, moved from 10th position in 2016 to 6th position in 2017 on the organisation's child sponsorship dashboard, and additional 375 profile allocation from Italy and UK, which will be delivered in 1st and 2nd quarters of 2018 were secured among other recorded achievements. Challenges to this fundraising avenue included CRM inept functionality, high number of one-off donations and inadequate feedback.

Overall, through digital marketing activities regular online giving income increased by 625% from FY2016.

Key Priorities for 2018

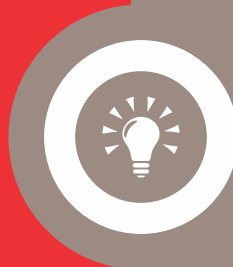
In 2018 the RMIU is looking to sign contracts worth £10 million from new & existing donor partnership funds for its IPD funding stream and target 5,000 community sponsorships.

It will also be deploying live chat on its website to enhance real-time supporter engagement and partnering with SME's, AAN service providers, for freebies to encourage supporters to sign up at events, among others

Challenges & Lessons

Challenges

- ◆ Political tension and in expediency of public officials.
- ◆ Absence of local governance structures undermines citizens' engagement.
- ◆ Poor, untimely or no remuneration of government staff. Bureaucracy delays passage of bills at state and national levels.
- ◆ Change in government and office holders compromises the success of projects.



Lessons

- ◆ Early engagement enhances budget influencing.
- ◆ Evidence based advocacy and theatre are powerful tools for obtaining quick actions from political leaders.
- ◆ Strengthening and establishing community structures facilitates sustainability.
- ◆ Collaboration expands access to resources and skills.

Abbreviations & Acronyms

AAN	ActionAid Nigeria
APP	Agriculture Agriculture Promotion Policy Promotion Policy
AU-LPI	African Union Land Policy Initiative
BOA	Bank of Agriculture
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CARTs	Community Action and Response Teams
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CDC	Community Development Charter
CMR	Clinical Management of Rape
CRS	Christian Relief Society
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DFID	UK Department for International Development
EVAC	Ending Violence Against Children
F4D	Finance for Development in Nigeria
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
FNSH	Federal Neuropsychiatric Specialist Hospital
GCERF	Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund
IFF	Illicit Financial Flow
IGR	internally generated revenue
IPC	Interpersonal Communication

Abbreviations & Acronyms

ITUC-Africa	International Trade Union Congress, African region
KSA	knowledge, skills and attitudes
LGA	Local Government Area
LRP	Local Rights Programme
M4D	Mobilising for Development (M4D)
MBNP	Ministry of Budget and National Planning
MPAYE	State Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Youth Empowerment
MT	Master Trainers
MWASD	Ministry of Women Affairs & Social Development
NCS	Nigerian Conference of Speakers
NGF	Nigeria Governor's Forum
NLC	Nigeria Labour Congress
NOA	National Orientation Agency
NTYTR	NotTooYoungToRun
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PIBCID	Participation Initiative for Behavioural Change in Development
PFA	Public Financing of Agriculture
PSI	Public Service International
PSS	Psychosocial Support
PWD	Persons with Disability
SBMC	School Based Management Committee

Abbreviations & Acronyms

SCEEP	Strengthening Citizens Engagement in the Electoral Process
SCRAP-C	Strengthening Citizens' Resistance against Prevalence of Corruption
SDS	Social Development Secretariat
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SMEDAN	Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency
SMILE	Sustainable Mechanism for Improving Livelihoods and Household Empowerment
SRH	Sexual Reproductive Health
STREPCIN	The Strengthening Sexual and Reproductive Health Service Provision in Conflict -affected Communities in Northeast States in Nigeria
SWOFON	Small Scale Women Farmers Organisation in Nigeria
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNFPA	United Nations for Population Fund
V2P	Voice to the People
VAIDS	Voluntary Assets and Income Declaration Scheme
VC	Vulnerable Children

ACTIONAID NIGERIA**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	NOTES	2017 N	2016 N
Grants	5	1,985,145,989	1,290,495,707
Other Income	6	387,255,555	93,156,975
Total income		2,372,401,544	1,383,652,682
Direct charitable expenditure	7	1,272,997,419	826,746,155
Management and administrative costs	8	551,890,000	539,446,733
Total expenses		1,824,887,419	1,366,192,888
Surplus before tax		547,514,125	17,459,794
Income tax expense	9	-	-
Surplus after tax		547,514,125	17,459,794
Other comprehensive income			
Re-measurement (loss)/gain on defined benefit plan	14.2	(2,048,467)	36,111,390
Reclassification adjustments for gain included in the income statement		-	-
Other comprehensive income for the year		(2,048,467)	36,111,390
Total Comprehensive surplus for the year		545,465,658	53,571,184

See notes to the financial statements

ACTIONAID NIGERIA**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

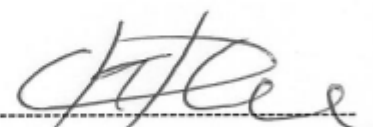
AS AT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

ASSETS		2017 N	2016 N
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	10	-	-
Current assets			
Receivables	11	833,810,504	358,780,894
Prepayments		22,405,057	23,903,149
Cash and cash equivalent	12	697,680,875	356,491,332
		<u>1,553,896,436</u>	<u>739,175,375</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		1,553,896,436	739,175,375
Reserves			
Accumulated fund	13	963,030,704	417,565,046
Non-current liabilities			
Employee defined liabilities	14.3	170,240,143	176,941,600
Current liabilities			
Payables	15	325,266,878	73,848,020
Other liabilities	16	95,358,711	70,820,709
		<u>420,625,589</u>	<u>144,668,729</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		590,865,732	321,610,329
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		1,553,896,436	739,175,375

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 9 June 2018 and signed on its behalf by:



Ene Obi
Country Director
FRC\2018\NIM\00000018567



Oluwole Elegbede
Director of Finance & Operations
FRC/ 2014/ICAN/00000009875

See notes to the financial statements.

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