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NAIJA TORI

MARCH - MAY EDITION



OXFAM

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Photo credit: Oxfam Community Development planning project

A MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR



**John Makina, Country Director,
Oxfam in Nigeria**

I am thrilled to welcome you back to 'NAIJA TORI', the official newsletter of Oxfam in Nigeria. After a brief interruption, we are excited to share our stories, updates, and impact with you once again.

As we relaunch this newsletter, I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated team, partners, and supporters who have been instrumental in our success. We remain committed to our mission of strengthening and empowering civil society to help shape a Nigeria without inequality or poverty, and look forward to continuing our work together.

In this issue, you'll find updates on our recent projects, success stories, and upcoming events. We hope you'll find inspiration in the impact we're making and join us in our efforts to create positive change.

LAST QUARTER IN RESTROPECT

Lessons Learned, Goals Ahead: The past few months have been a journey of growth, filled with valuable experiences. As we move forward, we're taking those lessons to heart and setting ambitious goals for the future. Stay tuned for what's next!



Global Day of Action, December 18, 2023.

We joined colleagues and partners around the world to call for a #CeasefireNOW to protect civilians amid a humanitarian catastrophe in #Gaza. This [campaign](#) aims to secure an immediate and permanent ceasefire. Calling for the protection of all civilians, including the unconditional release of all hostages. Lastly, it is calling for a path to a lasting and just peace for all Palestinian and Israeli people.

Sign the petition [CeaseFireNow](#)



Photo credit: Maxwell Osarenkhoe/Oxfam



Oxfam Annual Inequality Report, January 16, 2024

In January 2024, Oxfam launched its annual inequality report titled "Rebuilding Trust" at the World Economic Forum exposing Africa's vast wealth gap. The richest 1% hold nearly half the continent's wealth, while the poorest half owns almost nothing. Citing Nigeria's Aliko Dangote, [Oxfam urged action](#) – a tax on Africa's super-rich could fund humanitarian needs at a Press Conference in Abuja.

Read our [press release](#)



Photo credit: Jide Ojadiran/Oxfam

LAST QUARTER IN RESTROPECT

PROSELL Project Closeout, January 16, 2024

Produce and Sell (PROSELL) is a 66-month EU-funded project that tackles rural poverty in Taraba, Nigeria. It empowers 40,000 farmers, fishers, and livestock owners (including women) to increase incomes through improved agriculture, market access, and job creation. The project also helps them adapt to climate change and fosters collaboration.

Notably, PROSELL's focus on women's empowerment and financial inclusion has resulted in over ₦1 billion saved through Village Savings and Loans groups, boosting financial security for these communities.

Download the project [factsheet](#) and [booklet](#).



Photo credit: Jabez Studios, Aiken Vokka/Oxfam



Urban Food Hives, January 26, 2024

With the support from Oxfam America and partnership with SecondMuse, we launched the Urban Food Clubs (UFCs) as a pivotal component of our Urban Food Hive project. These clubs serve as clusters of urban farmers, offering them invaluable assistance with access to improved seeds, forging market linkages, and imparting best agricultural practices.

Through initiatives like these, we're nurturing soil health and fostering resilient and thriving urban food systems in Nigeria and West Africa.

Photo credit: Maxwell Osarenkhoe/Oxfam

LAST QUARTER IN RESTROPECT

Oxfam sworn in as a National Committee Member on Youth Policy, January 29, 2024



The Nigerian government has inaugurated a national committee to review and update its National Youth Policy. This policy aims to improve the lives of young Nigerians in areas like education, employment, health, and civic engagement. The committee will include representatives from young people themselves, alongside experts from government and potentially international organizations like Oxfam, which is known for its work on development and poverty reduction. This suggests a focus on ensuring the policy reflects the needs and aspirations of young Nigerians.

Read more from the [Honourable Minister of Youth Development, Dr. Jamila Bio-ibrahim](#)



New Project Launch, February 15, 2024

We launched an 18-month project 'Promoting the Rights of Women and Improving Gender Equality Through Conflict Sensitive Approaches' (WoRGE), focused on promoting women's rights and improving gender equality through conflict-sensitive approaches in Michika and Guyuk local government areas of Adamawa State. Together with partners like GIZ, CRUDAN, and CEPAD, and with the support of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), we're empowering women, adolescent girls, and Persons with Disabilities to thrive!

Photo credit: Maxwell Osarenkhoe/Oxfam

LAST QUARTER IN RESTROPECT

FAIR4ALL Africa Event, February 15, 2024

Our Nigerian team was in Ghana for the FAIR for ALL Africa event! We joined forces with teams across Africa, Brazil, and the OPT to celebrate our successes, deepen our understanding of FAIR for ALL initiatives, strategize collaboration, and enhance our capacities.



Photo credit: FAIR4ALL Team



Photo credit: Maxwell Osarenkhoe/Oxfam



ECOWAS Engagement Workshop, February 26, 2024

Hosted by Oxfam in Nigeria and funded by Oxfam Intermón (Spain), this strategic gathering brought together diverse stakeholders from Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, and Ghana who are passionate about driving positive change in West Africa through effective collaboration with the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS).

Read more about the [strategy workshop](#)

LAST QUARTER IN RESTROPECT

AACJ Year 4 planning meeting, February 29, 2024



Photo credit: Maxwell Osarenkhoe/Oxfam



A successful 4-day workshop in Lagos concluded with a strategic action plan for the African Activists' consortium focused on Climate Justice. The intensive session facilitated a thorough review of Year 3 achievements and identified areas for improvement. Collaborative efforts resulted in concrete strategies to bridge these gaps, paving the way for a more impactful Year 4. The consortium led by Oxfam, remains steadfast in its mission: empowering vulnerable communities and ensuring Africa's voice is heard in the global dialogue on climate justice.

More about the [African Activists for Climate Justice AACJ project](#). Watch our [Just Energy Transition](#) video

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Cost of Living Crisis



Photo credit: Maxwell Osarenkhoe/Oxfam

Addressing the pressing issue of the cost of living crisis, our Acting Head of Programs, William Mafwalal, provided a triad of recommendations for short, mid, and long-term solutions to the federal government.

Read our [policy brief](#).

On July 14, 2023, the federal government declared a state of emergency on Food Security in Nigeria. With over 133 million people in multidimensional poverty, hunger is now likely to be among the leading causes of death in the country.

Watch how we tackle the [Food Security](#) crisis in Nigeria.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Fair Finance International Global Meeting



Fair Finance Nigeria (#FFNG) led by Oxfam is a consortium of five NGOs and CSOs actively advocating for financial accountability in investments by banks, recently participated in the Fair Finance International (FFI) General Assembly in the Hague, Netherlands.



Photo credit: Fair Finance International



Oxfam Launches Grant Competition

Empowering Communities for Social Cohesion! We are thrilled to announce the successful conclusion of the first phase of our grant competition in Michika, Adamawa State. This marked the beginning of transformative grassroots initiatives aimed at fostering social cohesion in the region.

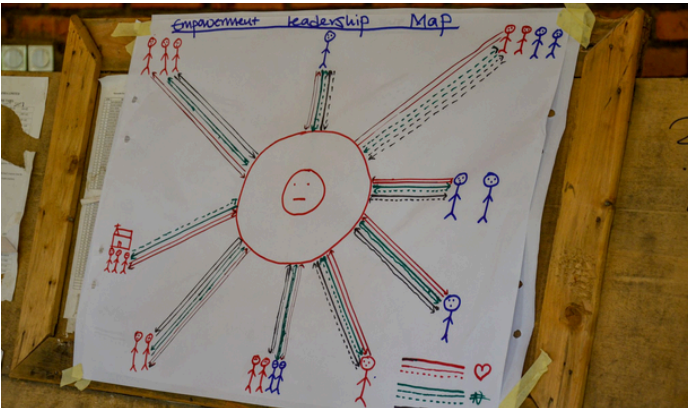
Read more about the [Improving Social Cohesion](#) project



Photo credit: Maxwell Osarenkhoe/Oxfam

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Empowering Communities through Ethical Gender-Centric Approaches



In line with our ongoing commitment to gender justice, our Promoting Women's Rights (WoRGE) project held a training in Michika, Adamawa State. The training provided community members and partners with the skills to address unequal gender relations through Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) and Rapid Care Analysis (RCA) approaches. Funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), this initiative empowers communities and lays the foundation for broader, systemic change across Adamawa state, fostering economic opportunities for women.

Read more about our view on [Unpaid Care Work](#)



Photo credit: Maxwell Osarenkhoe/Oxfam

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Earth Day: Climate Justice Youth Ambassadors in Action



In celebration of Earth Day (April 22nd), the African Activists for Climate Justice project empowered youth climate activists through the Climate Justice Youth Ambassadors (CJYA) network. These young leaders engaged their communities through webinars, climate hangouts, public lectures, and clean-up drives, removing X tons of waste. They also planted trees and trained residents on plastic recycling, reaching over 400 people directly in Ogun, Akwa Ibom, Ekiti, Oyo, Kogi, Niger, Lagos, FCT and over 5,000 digitally. This impactful initiative aligns perfectly with this year's theme, "Planet vs. Plastics."

Mark your calendars! The CJYA network will be formally inaugurated by the Honourable Minister of Environment, Balarabe Abbas Lawal, on World Environment Day, June 5th, 2024.



Photo credit: Climate Justice Youth Ambassadors



READ MORE >>

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Strengthening Our Impact in Nigeria; Country Learning Review Meeting



Photo credit: Maxwell Osarenkhoe/Oxfam

The week-long event served as a valuable platform for staff and partners from across Nigeria, alongside colleagues from Oxfam in Africa, to reflect on key achievements and identify areas for improvement in our core program areas: Just Economies, Accountable Governance, Gender Justice, and Humanitarian Response.

Through collaborative knowledge sharing, we are paving the way for a more unified and impactful implementation strategy across its programs, strengthening its commitment to tackling critical issues and empowering communities for a just and equitable future.

SUCCESS STORIES

Inspiring, Insightful, and a Dream Realized: These past months have been filled with exciting milestones and stories, thanks to the invaluable work of our partners.

VOICE Project

Project Run To Win - YIAGA Africa

The Run to Win project made a significant impact on the representation of young people and women in government, helping them to get elected to office and increasing voter turnout among their populations.

In the last FCT Area Council elections, 18 young people who participated in the Run to Win town hall meetings won seats as councillors. In Enugu State, two young candidates who participated in the town hall meetings won seats in the Federal House of Representatives and State House of Assembly elections.



Photo credit: YIAGA

The voter education outreach has also had a positive impact. Statistics show that a higher number of young people participated in the continuous voter registration for the 2023 elections than in previous elections and made up the majority of new registrants. This suggests that the voter education outreach program was successful in increasing youth awareness of the importance of registering to vote.

The Run to Win project has also had a positive impact on the public perception of young politicians. In the past, young politicians were often seen as inexperienced and unqualified. However, the Run to Win project has helped to showcase the talent and potential of young Nigerian leaders.

SUCCESS STORIES

Improving Social Cohesion Project

Open Government Partnership and Women's Leadership - CRUDAN & CEPAD



The "Improving Social Cohesion Through Community Development Planning" project in Michika LGA, Adamawa, Northeast Nigeria, was a unique eight-month initiative that empowered communities to heal and rebuild after a period of insurgency.

In this short period, the project achieved remarkable successes in several areas: promoting participatory governance, supporting community self-help projects, validating a Community Development Plan, and fostering women's leadership through skills acquisition and research initiatives.

Through collaborative efforts with the local government council and traditional leaders, we achieved the first Open Budget Participation in the LGA. This, alongside the implementation of over 100 community-led projects, fostered sustainable development and communal harmony & tolerance.

Click the image above to watch the Stories of Change



Photo credit: Lucon House/Oxfam

Fiscal Accountability and Inequality Reduction for All (FAIR4ALL) Project

Women Inclusion in Traditional Councils & Community Negotiators Committees in the Niger Delta - KEBETKACHE Women

The Fiscal Accountability and Inequality Reduction for All (FAIR4ALL) Project has contributed to increased awareness on the Petroleum Industry Act and the need for gender and social inclusion in the Host Community Development Trust (HCdT).

In Itigidi community (Cross River State), the Council of Chiefs now boasts eight female members. Women also chair the Common Wealth Management Committee. Two women were appointed to the Host Community Development Trusts in Eleme and Tai LGAs in Rivers State, and another woman joined the Community Development Committee (CDC) in Eleme LGA.

Recognizing the previous lack of awareness, Kebetkache Women Development in partnership with Oxfam in Nigeria, established orientation programs to educate indigenes from the rights holding communities on the involvement of women in governance and decision-making.

About 30 women's groups are now established in the Niger Delta and nine in Akwa Ibom State.



Photo credit: KEBETKACHE WOMEN

SUCCESS STORIES

VOICE Project

Project Accessible Aviation – Centre for Ability Rehabilitation & Empowerment (CARE)



For many Nigerians with disability, air travel was once filled with obstacles. Booking flights lacked clear options for requesting assistance, wheelchair users faced difficulties due to seating limitations, and navigating airport terminals presented challenges. However, the “Project Accessible Aviation” has ushered in a new era of inclusion for Persons with Disability in the Nigerian aviation sector.

Airlines have implemented dedicated sections during the booking process, allowing Persons with Disability to conveniently communicate their specific needs. Importantly, wheelchair users are no longer required to purchase an extra seat solely to accommodate their wheelchairs. Furthermore, airports nationwide are now equipped with modern assistive devices, such as wheelchair climbers, significantly improving accessibility within terminals.

These advancements are undoubtedly significant, but the project's greatest accomplishment lies in its long-term vision. Project Accessible Aviation, along with a designated disability complaint desk within the National Airport, was officially transferred to the National Assembly House Committee on Disability Matters and the National Disability Commission.

This crucial handover signifies the Nigerian government's commitment to ensuring the sustainability of the project's achievements and its ongoing responsibility for fostering an inclusive aviation environment for Persons with Disability.



Photo credit: CARE

Fiscal Accountability and Inequality Reduction for All (FAIR4ALL) Project

Civic-Integrity Club; Power of Voices – Connected Development CODE

The project achieved two key successes: establishing 18 civic-integrity clubs in secondary schools across our 6 focus states – Delta, Akwa Ibom, Rivers, Cross River, Lagos, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) – with 3 clubs in each state. Additionally, we developed and distributed a student-focused civic manual covering essential aspects of nation-building, including: concept of integrity & community integrity building, transparency & accountability, conflict management & peace building, citizens' responsibility & patriotism, and technology for social good.



Photo credit: CODE

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

National Savings Group Conference The Pivotal Role of Savings Groups in Nigeria



The overarching goal of the National Savings Group conference is to comprehensively assess the current state of savings groups (VSLA) in Nigeria. By identifying challenges and opportunities, it seeks to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of the groups, ensuring financial and economic inclusion for all.

Did you know? As of April 2024, Oxfam in Nigeria's Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) had 257,454 members, with 67.4% women and 32.6% men across 10,408 groups across.



Photo credit: CARE Nigeria



Lauritta Boniface represented Oxfam in Nigeria at the 5th Africa Climate Talk side event at UNECA, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In #ClimateAction discussions, youth and women are key to building a climate-resilient continent. There is an urgent need to consolidate the voices of women and youth at all levels.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Empowering Gender Equality Champions in Michika, NorthEast Nigeria

The Centre for Public Education and Mobilization for Development in Nigeria (CEPAD - Nigeria), in partnership with Oxfam in Nigeria, held a six-day training workshop in Mubi, Adamawa state, NorthEast Nigeria. The workshop aimed to equip participants with skills to use gender equality strategies in their work, focusing on gender concepts and caregiving analysis.



Photo credit: CEPAD - Nigeria



Voice Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Community of Practice's 2-Day stakeholders forum

Photo credit: WeAreCognito



The "Unlocking the Potentials: Mainstreaming Disability Inclusion" forum tackled diverse areas of disability inclusion, from understanding different disabilities to promoting accessibility in politics, education, employment, healthcare, and media.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Close Out and Dessimination Workshop of the Support to Improving Social Cohesion Project in Michika, Adamawa State, NorthEast Nigeria.

The project funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by Oxfam in Nigeria, in partnership with CRUDAN and CEPAD-Nigeria, demonstrated the positive impact of the CEPP approach adopted by the Adamawa State Government. This approach fostered community development and social cohesion.

The project empowered residents of Michika LGA to actively participate in shaping their future. This was achieved through the development of a comprehensive 5-year community development plan and by spearheading over a hundred self-help projects across the 16 wards of the local government area.



6th Voice Linking and Learning event

In celebration of eight years of the [Voice Project in Nigeria](#), WeAreCognito, the linking and learning facilitator, hosted a picnic for our 27 grantee partners. The day fostered fellowship and reflection on shared progress, symbolizing the collaborative spirit and strong community at the core of the Voice Project. It also highlighted the project's sustainable successes.



Photo credit: WeAreCognito

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

VOICE in Nigeria Close Out Ceremony

Voice, an innovative grant program funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, aims to enhance participation, access to justice, and well-being for marginalized groups in Nigeria.

Implemented by Oxfam in Nigeria, Voice has supported over 50 projects and strengthened the capacity of grantee partners over the past eight years. These partners work to improve the lives of rightsholders in Nigeria, including people with disabilities (PWDs), indigenous groups and ethnic minorities, women facing exploitation, violence, or abuse, and age-discriminated groups such as youth and elderly. Learn more about the [VOICE project success](#).



Photo credit: WeAreCognito

Christian Rural and Urban Development Association of Nigeria (CRUDAN) partners Welthungerhilfe (WHH) and Oxfam in Nigeria to implement Early Action Protocols (EAP)



Photo credit: WHH/NIMET



The WAHAFA project focuses on identifying and analyzing disaster risks, developing anticipatory action mechanisms for droughts and floods, and securing funding to implement these mechanisms in Nigeria. The project will be implemented in Bauchi LGA, Katsina State, Northwest Nigeria, and Numan LGA, Adamawa State, Northeast Nigeria, with funding from the [German Federal Foreign Office \(GFFO\)](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Launch of the Climate Justice Youth Ambassadors and the Maiden Edition of the National Environment Quiz Competition by the Honourable Minister of Environment Balarabe Abbas Lawal.
- World Environment Day: Football Competition and Tree Planting Exercise in Partnership with Taraba State Government.
- Female Food Hero 'Ogbonge Woman' Award Ceremony.
- Ceremonial Launch of the WAHAFA Project in Katsina and Adamawa states.
- Oxfam Green Challenge 2024 International Youth Day Edition Edition.
- Fair Finance Advocacy Round Table

GET INVOLVED

We partner with civil society, women's rights, youth, faith & community groups, state, private sector, foundations & NGOs. We also work in allyship with like-minded organizations.

Committed to accountability, we seek it from partners and those they serve.

Relationships are built on mutual respect, shared vision, and clear roles.

We value partner autonomy, joint learning, and continuous improvement.

To explore an opportunity for partnership, send a mail to ngapartnership@oxfam.org

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Oxfam in Nigeria