

Hello !!!

WELCOME TO OUR THIRD QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Take some time and read over our activities for the past few months.

Commemorating International Days

International days are avenues to create awareness, educate and sensitize the general public on problems and issues the world is facing, and we make it a priority to do mark these days by having WhatsApp discussions on the CYPF Crew Platform and sharing articles that capture the day's theme.

International Youth Day

Active Youth Participation in Peacebuilding and Development

Plan International, in collaboration with CYPF, ZEGCAWIS, Hallmark International and Catai Centre, commemorated the day by hosting a Zoom webinar. The Webinar focused on 'Active Youth Participation in Peacebuilding and Development' under the global theme Youth Engagement for Global Action. The discussion revolved around the role of youth in peacebuilding, youth mobilization for violent acts, the challenge of youths in accessing developmental opportunities, factors that limit youth participation in development, and the role of youth volunteerism in creating a prosperous and harmonious Nigeria. Panellists thereafter recommended the need to demand the removal of age from the contest for political positions, integration of youth policies in development policies, and development of rural infrastructures for young people in rural areas. They further advised youths to explore mentoring and volunteerism to build their capacity and experience and called out youth-led organizations to also create mentorship opportunities.

Engaging Youth for National Development

The CYPF Team had a discussion on the CYPF Crew on 'Youth Engagement: A panacea for National Development'. The discussion focused on four primary areas Education, Agriculture, Technology and Leadership. After that, the discussants recommended investment in facilities in agricultural universities and colleges and advised the government and stakeholders invest in resources that will build children's capacities and recognize their skills. They also celebrated the efforts of Nigerian youths to advance science and technology in the country, emphasized the need for youth capacity building, and recommended that families and schools promote healthy youth development.

International Population Day

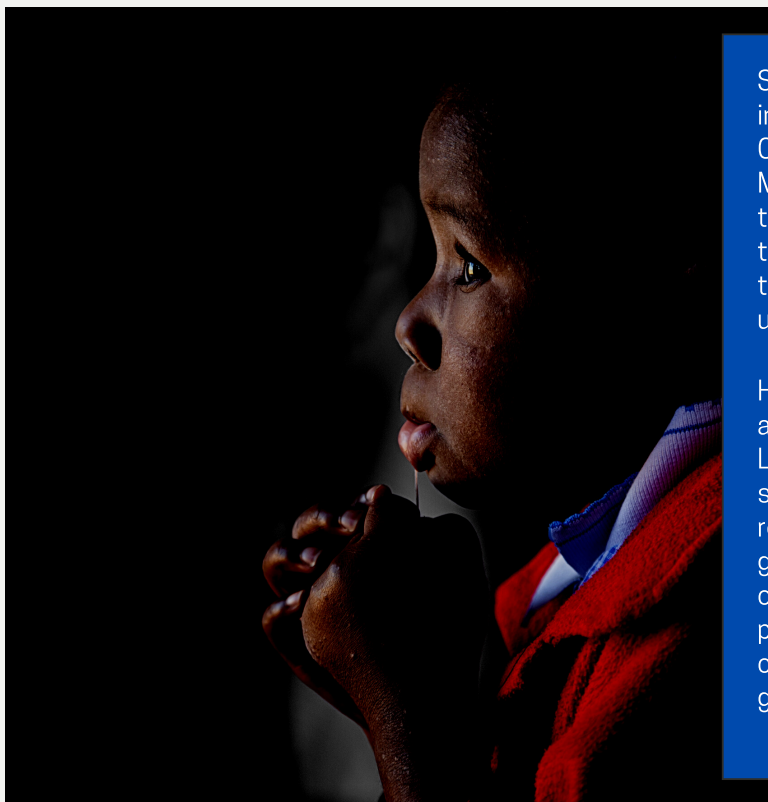
With the focus of the year's theme on reproductive rights of women and girls, CYPF Crew members emphasized the need for women to have the right to decide the number of children they want and when to have children. It was, however, noted that with child marriage still prevalent in some parts of Nigeria, it would be difficult for girls to exercise this right. Hence, they stressed the need to respect women and girls' access to sexual and reproductive health services while adding that the government must ensure that budgets are appropriately allocated to sexual and reproductive health at all levels.

They also noted that Nigeria's population has always been of great concern for experts, with the number being exploited rather than being taken advantage of. Thus, they stated the need for the government to have accurate data of the country's population to efficiently harness the country's potential and plan for its socio-economic development.





Addressing the Increase in Violence, Abuse and Exploitation of Children and Women



Since the pandemic, we have seen a significant increase in gender-based violence. As a result, members of the CYPF Crew had a series of discussions on this matter. Members stressed the importance of safe spaces and their accessibility for women and children, emphasizing the need for women and children to know places around them to seek help. They also recognized the need to understand families' social factors and context.

However, they expressed concern that despite advocating for the full implementation of the Child Right Law and establishing a shelter for survivors, states are still battling to address these issues. They recommended that the police be sensitive to sexual and gender-based violence victims, the government takes ownership of interventions and works transparently with partners and CSOs, and stakeholders effectively collaborate to ensure victims and survivors of violence get all the support and treatment needed to heal.

Expository of the Abused, the Abuser and Access to Justice

The Senior Program Officer was one of the speakers at the Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation Online Global Summit, where he discussed the topic 'Child Sexual Exploitation in Nigeria: An Expository of the Abused, the Abuser and Access to Justice'. During his presentation, he pointed out factors that encourage the culture of silence, addressed the role of Nigeria's cultural and religious setting as a barrier to accessing justice and called for grass root sensitization of law enforcement agencies, religious and community leaders and the general public. He after that advised that children are told their rights and taught sexuality, sexual education, reporting systems be victim-centred, and victims of sexual exploitation be provided with appropriate medical and psychosocial support.





Strengthening Capacities of Stakeholders

Child Protection and Safeguarding Mechanisms

The senior Program officer was one of the key facilitators at the Disability Rights Advocacy Centre for a three-day workshop with the goal of training trainers from various primary and secondary schools that cater to children living with disabilities on child protection and safeguarding mechanisms in the FCT. The training also aimed to enhance participants' skills in identifying and responding to risk situations and strengthen available child protection mechanisms in the FCT. The Senior Program Officer's presentation focused on child protection and its importance, linkages between child protection and education and systems that should be in place in school environments to enhance child protection. He ended his discussions by focusing on rape referral pathways in schools and critical factors in developing reporting mechanisms.



Building the Capacity of CSOs and Senior Government officials on Gender Responsive Budgeting

The Senior Program Officer was also a resource person at a training organized by FIDA. The meeting was aimed at training senior government officials and civil society organizations on Gender Responsive Budgeting. He, during his presentation, noted the importance of Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) and suggested increased sensitization on issues that would inform GRB and emphasized the need for participants to become educators of GRB. He stressed the need to include GRB in planning to prevent marginalization and promote equity and inclusiveness in national development.



Empowering Children to Choose Fulfilling Careers

In collaboration with CYPF, Grant Thornton paid a visit to Piwoyi Junior Secondary School to enlighten students on "Choosing Fulfilling Careers Paths". They noted it was essential that careers are influenced by strengths and weaknesses without family and societal expectations. They also proceeded to give a brief of their job descriptions and the skills and educational qualifications needed to be efficient in their respective careers.

Afterwards, they visited the CYPF office, where the CYPF team gave them a tour and introduced the staff and the organization's goal. The Grant Thornton team appreciated CYPF's hard work and donated a projector, whiteboard, and a water dispenser. The CYPF Team showed profound appreciation and assured them that their donations would go a long way in supporting them as they fight for the protection of children.



To learn more



Contact Us at

info@cypfnigeria.com
cypfoffice@gmail.com
234 (0) 906 918 1765