



**CHILD AND YOUTH
PROTECTION FOUNDATION**

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



2020 ANNUAL REPORT OUTLINE

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ABOUT CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION FOUNDATION

Child and Youth Protection Foundation (CYPF) is an autonomous not-for-profit, non-governmental, non-political, non-religious organization established in June 2008 by a concerned citizen of Nigeria. The organization strives to build a nation positively affecting the environment and attitude of children and youth.

We work with the government, religious organizations, schools, communities, and individuals to create an enabling environment and opportunity for the proper development of the Nigerian child and youth. We achieve this through advocacy, research, counseling, capacity building, awareness creation, educational support, community impact program, and mentoring/ leadership for children and youth.

Since 2008 when CYPF began operations, our interventions have expanded significantly. Some of our programs include Education Support Scheme (ESS), Personal Education Support Scheme (PESS), Girl Education Support (GES), Rehabilitation and Reintegration Program (RRP), Sensitization, Advocacy and Awareness Creation (SAAC), Development for Productivity and Positive Change (DPPC), Community Impact Programme (CIP), National Birth Certificate Registration (NBCR), Personal Hygiene Advancing Development for Girls (PAD4G), Project ME, Family Engagement and Strengthening Program, ICT for Girls and Boys 4 Change Campaign.

FOCUS AREAS





CORDINATORS NOTE

The year 2020 was a very difficult year for the whole world as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. This situation affected all sectors of the nation and CYPF was not totally immune to the virus impact. We had to close the office for some months and work remotely. This meant that reaching our target audience was not possible and so we could only wish that the children in our target schools were safe.

But we tried all we could to ensure that we run our programs and also came up with some interventions which included online training and also some online counseling for victims and vulnerable persons. In the reporting year, the number of our partners increased and we took part in many capacity-building workshops both remotely and on-site

We moved to our main office having completed the first phase of the building and this has given us hope that there are better years ahead. I want to appreciate the members of the board of Trustees for their support. I am also very grateful for the members of the team, you guys are wonderful.

Finally, we are grateful for all the support we got from our donors (private and institutions), our year could have not have been great without you and we hope that you will be part of us in the coming years. Thanks and God bless you.

KOLAWOLE OLATOSIMI

Senior Program Officer,
Child and Youth Protection Foundation.

OUR ACTIVITIES



Effective teams are the foundation of every successful organization as they help improve productivity and efficiency. It then becomes vital that employees' capacity is strengthened to allow organizations to evaluate staff's abilities and give room for effectiveness in the performance of duties, which invariably leads to the organization's growth and sustainability. That is why this year, we focused on enhancing the capacity of our Team.

In-House Retreat

We began the year with a four-day in-house retreat for team members, at the CYPF Office, from the 6th to 10th January 2020. The training covered topics on the Development of Interpersonal Skills, Employability Skills, Social Media Strategy, SWOT Analysis, Guides to Effective Public Speaking, Project Management and also focused on Financial Policy, Procedures/Reporting Systems in a Non-profit Organization.

Since capacity building is a long-term and ongoing process, team members including volunteers were encouraged to take at least one online course relevant to their work each quarter, which yielded positive results during the course of the year.

Volunteer Orientation

At CYPF, we encourage volunteerism to build youth capacity, improve their work experience, and prepare them for future opportunities.

Hence, we recruited new volunteers to our Team, and on the 8th of October, 2020, we conducted a one-day orientation training. The orientation facilitated by team members focused on topics like the CYPF Staff Policy, Legal Framework for Child Protection, and the Importance of Volunteerism. This welcomed volunteers to the organization and helped familiarise them with team members and the organization's ethical conduct. We are hopeful that their commitment will lead to their personal development and that of the organization in creating an enabling environment for children and youth to become better individuals.

CYPF Social Gathering

On 30th October 2020, we had a social gathering of team members consisting of staff and volunteers. The meeting aimed to address team members' personal challenges and also strengthen relationships between staff. We reflected on past and current events while being appreciative to God for experiences thus far. We also discussed our fears which the Senior Coordinator encouraged us to boldly face and tackle to ensure it doesn't rule our lives.

Conclusion

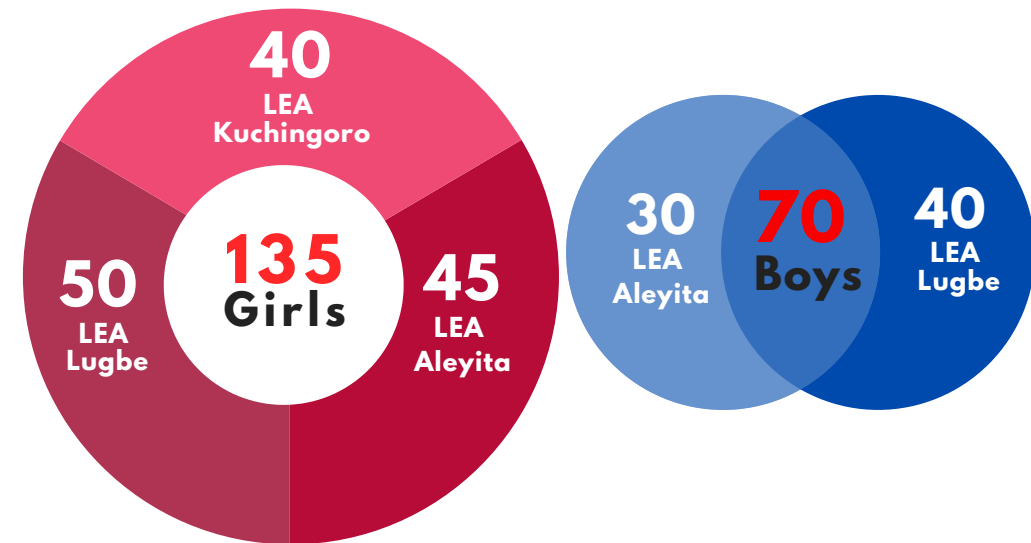
Our training and gatherings helped improve the Team's productivity and the quality of the organizations work. It also helped bring the Team closer to foster a healthy working relationship.

OUR GIRL FOCUSED PROJECTS

OUR SCHOOL PROJECTS



ICT FOR GIRLS



EDUCATION SUPPORT SCHEME

10
Girls
in primary and
secondary
school

4 LEA Primary School,
Lugbe

1 Junior Secondary
School, Mpape

2 LEA Primary School,
Aleyita

1 Government Secondary
School, Jabi

1 LEA Primary School,
Mpape

1 Government Secondary
School, Lugbe



Education Support Scheme (ESS)

Today, courtesy of support from funders and partners and hard work from team members, CYPF can cater to girls under the Educational Support Scheme across six schools in Abuja - LEA Lugbe, LEA Aleyita, LEA Mpape, JSS Mpape, GSS Jabi, and GSS Lugbe. This support is given by paying their school fees and continuous assessment fees.

We also carried out a Progress Assessment at the beginning of the Term to ascertain their challenges and performance in the previous term. We achieved this by discussing with the beneficiaries, assessing their report cards & results, and also consulting with their teachers and the headteacher. We discovered that the beneficiaries are doing well and have significantly improved in their studies. We were also able to register one of our beneficiaries for the JAMB Examination.

Major Challenges Faced

Accessing Beneficiaries - Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic and the lockdown that followed, which resulted in the closure of all schools, we had to suspend our projects. Hence, we had no access to the school nor our beneficiaries. However, we communicated with the heads of schools and students to inquire about their well-being and got positive feedbacks.

Inadequate Staff - Because we are understaffed, it was difficult managing ICT Training within the four schools. Still, we are hopeful with the integration of new volunteers, the project efficiency in the schools will greatly be improved.

Low Funds - Insufficient funds posed a considerable challenge to our ESS. Due to the lack of funds, we have been unable to expand and increase our reach to more students who might need it.

Technology has slowly become a necessary commodity in our society, and education is one critical sector that thrives on it for effective learning. As an organization passionate about girl child education to ensure girls can develop and have equal opportunities like their male counterparts, we identified the lack of basic ICT skills as one of the causes for this disparity. This informed the decision to commence ICT for girls in government schools where they are taught basic ICT skills to place them on an equal playing field with peers from other schools.

Thus, this year, we continued our ICT training in LEA Aleyita and LEA Lugbe, while also expanding the training to include boys. We also developed a Child-Friendly Training Manual to aid their learning process and create uniformity in all beneficiary schools.

On a very fulfilling note, we discovered a young student in Primary six in one of our beneficiary schools who made a laptop from cardboard paper to ease her learning process because she did not have access to a computer. Albeit sad, the Team was glad that our work impacted students and inspired them to strive and take steps to ease their learning.



Conclusion

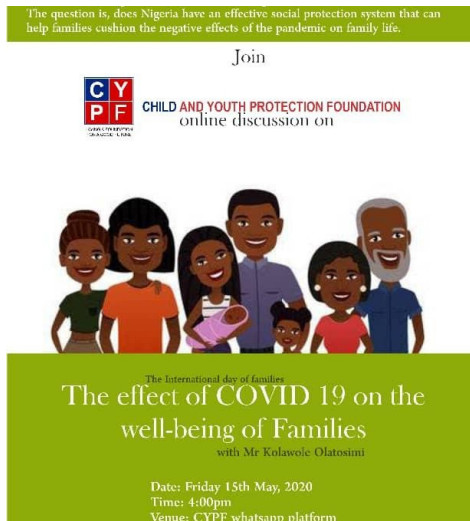
Our ICT programs have had tremendous effects on our beneficiaries, as they were always eager and willing to learn. Our educational support scheme also helped parents send their children to school, and consistent follow-up with the students helped improve their attendance and performance in school.

COMMEMORATING INTERNATIONAL DAYS



International days are avenues to create awareness, educate and sensitize the general public on problems and issues the world faces. Hence, we prioritized these days by having WhatsApp discussions, posting videos, and sharing articles that capture the day's theme.

International Day of Families



CYPF had a WhatsApp discussion/ Interactive session on 15th of May facilitated by the Senior Program Officer on 'Family Stability and National development'. It focused on family stability, family impact principles, the various stakeholders responsible for family stability, and Nigeria's Social welfare system's effectiveness to support families.

Mr. Kolawole, during the discussion, noted that for a nation to develop correctly, it must invest in the development of families because they are the building blocks of any society.

He thus advised Nigeria to rethink and transform its economics and societies' functionality to foster greater equality and recommended government

- Revives the census as an effective identity management system to develop a sound social welfare system. He also noted that data is critical in forming policies that can ensure family stability.

- Establishes laws and policies to promote proper family formation and stability, which should be gender-responsive and family-friendly.
- Cushions the cost of living for the citizens by ensuring access to essential services
- Focuses on a behavioral change campaign to influence Nigeria's value system.

National Children's Day

On the 27th of May, Mr. Kolawole was on Kapital FM to discuss the impact COVID-19 has on child development and education. During his discussion, he brought out key issues relating to the children's core rights, particularly their right to education.



On the WhatsApp platform, group members also discussed the recent deportation and transportation mode of the Almajiri Children to their states of origin due to the current Pandemic.

Hence, they recognized the need to have penalties and sanctions for parents and caregivers who neglect their responsibilities and while stressing the need for continuous engagement with political, religious, community, and traditional leaders, and also parents and children. They further suggested that northern governors evolve an Almajiri Martial Plan with different components and clearly defined implementation strategies. Finally, they noted that root causes, like poverty and illiteracy, should be addressed.

International Day of Innocence Children, Victim of Aggression

The graphic features the CYPF logo (Child & Youth Protection Foundation) at the top left, with the tagline 'LAYING A FOUNDATION FOR A GOOD FUTURE'. Below it is a green WhatsApp icon with the word 'DISCUSSION' in green. The main title 'STRENGTHENING THE CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM IN NIGERIA' is in white on a dark blue background, followed by the subtitle ': How to Make Positive Change Happen' in white. Below the subtitle is a dark blue box with 'CYPF WHATSAPP PLATFORM' in white. To the left, two dark blue boxes indicate the date '5TH JUNE 2020' and time '2:00 PM PROMPT'. At the bottom left, a small text reads 'Courtesy: Child and Youth Protection Foundation ...laying a foundation for a good future'. On the right, there is a portrait of Barrister Ruth Ataguba, with her name and title 'Guest Barrister Ruth Ataguba' written below it.

On 5th June, Barrister Ruth Atugba facilitated a WhatsApp discussion on the CYPF Crew on 'Strengthening the Child Protection System: How to Make Positive Changes Happen'.

The session aimed to provide support to child protection experts, activists' responses to the current dynamics and protection challenges, especially with the emergency presented by the COVID-19 Pandemic. The discussion revolved around The Actors and Components of a Child Protection System and the ECOWAS Strategic Framework for Strengthening National Child Protection Systems and its implementation guidelines to prevent and respond to Violence, Abuse, and Exploitation.

World Day against Child Labour

On 12th June, CYPF had a Twitter dialogue led by team members that focused on addressing poverty as a root cause of child labour, the resilient nature of the Nigerian Educational framework, and safety nets available for families living below the poverty line post-pandemic

Discussants recommended that

- stakeholders should engage in awareness and continuously raise their voices against child labour.
- CSOs and government should develop strategies to address education barriers and provide support services for working children, e.g. literacy programs.
- Religious bodies and organizations should always show love and concern to families.
- Government should ensure that the social safety nets are fully implemented for vulnerable families and invest in more scholarships for children who cannot afford to go to school.
- States should adopt programs to offer free education and expand existing programs that provide funds to vulnerable children to cover school fees and cost materials.



Day of the African Child

The UN Agenda for children elaborates on the Africa Union's Agenda 2063 and stipulates that Africa's children's rights should be firmly protected with full effect being given to the Agenda's priorities. The UN Agenda sets out ten aspirations to be achieved by 2040 and identifies action steps to be taken by states for the five-phased period 25-year journey.

In light of this, CYPF on its WhatsApp platform identified all ten aspirations to sensitize on its provisions, bring to light the level of implementation in Nigeria, and inquire about the possibility of Nigeria achieving those aspirations by 2040.

On 12th June 2020, CYPF also had a Twitter and WhatsApp engagement that focused on the theme 'Access to a Child-Friendly Justice System in Africa'. The Twitter discussion led by CYPF's Legal Department revolved around Nigeria's children/juvenile criminal justice system, its effectiveness in rehabilitating juvenile offenders, and its ability to provide access to education, health, and recreational facilities for children.

International Population Day

To mark the International Population Day, on the 11th July 2020, the Senior Coordinator on the CYPF Crew WhatsApp platform noted that Nigeria's population has always been of great concern for experts. He thus emphasized the need for the government to have accurate data of the country's population to efficiently harness its potential and plan for its socio-economic development. With the focus of the year's theme on women and girls' reproductive rights, Crew members emphasized the need for women to have the right to decide the number of children they want and when to have children. They also stressed that the government must ensure that budgets are appropriately allocated to sexual and reproductive health at all levels.

International Youth Day: Youth Engagement for Global Action

On the 12th of August, Plan International collaborated with CYPF, ZEGCAWIS, Hallmark International, and Catai Centre to commemorate 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 focused on youth's role in peacebuilding, youths' challenge in accessing developmental opportunities, factors that limit youth participation in development, and the role of youth volunteerism in creating a prosperous and harmonious Nigeria. Stemming from the discussion, panellists recommended among others the need to demand age removal from the contest for political positions, integration of youth policies in development policies as well as the development of rural infrastructures to create opportunities for young people in the rural areas which should be tailored to their needs and accessibility of such services. They further advised youths to explore mentoring and volunteerism and called for the educational system's reform to reflect Nigeria's economy's contemporary nature.



The CYPF Team also had a 2-day WhatsApp discussion on the topic 'Youth Engagement: A Panacea for National Development.' The discussion focused on four primary areas Education, Agriculture, Technology, and Leadership. Panelists recommended investment in agricultural universities and colleges' facilities to build student capacities in building the latest agricultural equipment. They also encouraged youth to build their capacity by exploring training opportunities, volunteerism, and mentorship. They advised the government and stakeholders to invest in facilities to improve children's abilities and recognize their skills while providing accessible and flexible loan facilities.

International Literacy Day

To mark Literacy day, the legal officer shared a video, in which she recognized the role of literacy in reducing children's vulnerabilities to abuse. She noted that parents should encourage conversations with their children, listen and take turns in speaking with their children, involve them in decision-making, and encourage them to journal their thoughts and daily activities. She noted that when children can speak, write and communicate, they can share their concerns. She hence urged parents to encourage children to speak, read and write. The Senior Coordinator also advised Nigerians to ask themselves the impact of the crisis on youth and adult literacy educators, effectively positioning youth and adult literacy learning in national responses and strategies for the recovery and resilience-building phase post-COVID.

International Day of Peace

The M & E Officer on the CYPF Crew shared a video where he expressed having suicidal thoughts as a child. He hence noted that many children had committed suicide for one reason or the other. He pointed out that children may not be very expressive and urged parents and guardians to be observant and help children have good mental health.

We also stressed the role community/religious leaders can play in fostering peace as they operate at the grassroots and are therefore in strategic positions to advocate for social-cultural change. Hence, we emphasized the need for different stakeholders to partner with these leaders to foster peace/unity in communities and religions.

We also emphasized the role youths play in promoting interreligious peace. He suggested youths 'say no to crises', engage in extracurricular activities and open dialogues with youth from different religious backgrounds, understand and respect religious diversity, and see themselves as agents of peace, not war.

Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, which is a time to collaborate to raise awareness and empower people across the nation to ensure that every child has a right to a safe childhood free of violence. Thus, the month is an opportunity and a necessary time to learn about child abuse signs and how to prevent them.



Given this, CYPF generated discussions and conducted WhatsApp interactions on issues that pertain to child abuse. CYPF team members facilitated the interactive session, which began on the 6th and ended on 29th April.

Discussions through the course of the month included topics on the different types of abuse, identification of violence in children, steps to take to prevent or report abuse as well as the role of various stakeholders (the community, religious institutions, child protection experts, children, Education sector) in child abuse prevention among many others.

CYPF is currently developing an e-book that comprises all the presentations made by team members and recommendations shared by members on the CYPF crew platform, which would be available for all.

We also wish to use this medium to appreciate all CYPF Crew members who contributed to the presentations in one way or the other by asking questions, sharing their inputs, commending team members or simply just being a part of the Crew. We appreciate you.

16 Days of Activism Against Violence

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence under the theme 'Orange the World' started on November 25, – December 10, 2020. CYPF as part of our contribution to support the fight against GBV took part in programs like the FCT Summit on Access to Justice for Survivors of Sexual and Gender-based violence in the FCT held by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

We made use of our social media platforms (WhatsApp, Twitter, and Instagram) and had discussions facilitated by team members on different topics that affect women and girls in our society. Topics discussed included

Nigerian Legal Framework for the Protection of Women and Girls against violence.
Dangers of Early and Forced marriage on young Girls.
The Impact of Cyber Violence on Women and Girls.
Harmful Widowhood Practice in Nigeria.
The Role of Religious and Community Leaders in Addressing VAWG in the society.
Violence against Women and Girls: Forms, Consequences and Possible Solutions.
Addressing Barriers that Limit Access to Justice for Survivors/Victims of Violence.
Social Media: A Tool to end Violence against Women.
The Role of Family and Personal Commitment to ending Violence against Women and Girls.
Addressing social and cultural norms as a tool to ending VAWG.

Conclusion

Our planned activities were enlightening, engaging, and interactive and generated positive feedback from members, and helped strengthen our teams' capacity.

This year, we prioritized forming strong partnerships and collaborations with different organizations whose missions and visions promote children and youth's wellbeing. We achieved this by building organizations' capacity and supporting organizations in project implementation to strengthen efficiency and impact. As a non-profit organization, CYPF understands the importance of working together in this field. In this regard, we pride ourselves in providing consultations to various organizations with the skills, training, and knowledge we possess.

Technical Support to the Tostan Team

The organization represented by the Senior program officer gave technical support to the Tostan team when they visited Nigeria as they had consultative meetings with networks and religious groups in Abuja and Lagos in furtherance of their forthcoming training supported by Ford Foundation. During the sessions, they shared their model for ending violence against women and girls and promoting wellbeing in Africa with 10 NGOs and religious groups. CYPF sat through the meetings to give an overview of the organizations and helped the Tostan team better understand the civic space dynamics in the Nigerian context.

Needs Assessment in JSS Piwoyi

The CYPF Team visited Junior Secondary School, Piwoyi, Abuja, and carried out an assessment to ensure any planned interventions are tailored to challenges being faced by the school. After discussing with relevant stakeholders and carrying out a physical examination of the school, our findings revealed that the school lacks classrooms - resulting in students' poor enrollment- a gate, fence, electric supply, and toilet facilities. The library also lacks chairs, reading tables, burglaries for the windows, and sufficient textbooks.

We will endeavor to partner with other organizations to ensure any planned interventions are tailored to the challenges faced by the school.

Sensitization Program for Girls and Women on the 19 Human Right Principles

CYPF partnered with the Women Wing of the Christian Association of Nigeria (WOWICAN) as they commenced an awareness and sensitization program in Aleyita Community for girls and women on the 19 Human Rights principles.



Before carrying out the program, we paid a courtesy visit to the community's Chief who agreed to provide the needed support to ensure the project's effectiveness. Although the program had to be suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are hopeful that this project would enlighten women and children about their various rights invariably leading to the community's development.



Child Protection Trainings/ Sensitizations

We carried out child protection training in two schools, *Tithemi International School and Chrisland School*. The training focused on Child protection bordering on the tell-tale signs of child abuse in parents and their wards, mediums for reporting child abuse, legal protection for children, and the importance of making schools safe spaces.



We also conducted child protection training for teen coordinators of *Foursquare Gospel Church* at their Wuse District Headquarters Church. The training focused on identifying signs of abuse, handling reported cases of abuse, and necessary steps to ensure the church is a safe space for children to live, grow and develop.

The Senior Program Officer was one of the key facilitators for the *Disability Rights Advocacy Centre*. They convened a three-day workshop to train trainers from various primary and secondary schools, particularly those within the FCT that cater to children with disabilities on child protection and safeguarding mechanisms in the FCT. The training goal was specifically to increase the awareness of participants on the child protection and safeguarding mechanisms, enhance participants' skills in identifying and responding to risk situations and strengthen available child protection mechanisms in the FCT.

In March, we were also represented by the Senior Program Officer on a radio program called *Radio Link* to discuss Child Upbringing and ICT which is because of the growth of ICT and the dangers it might pose for children. The senior program officer was also present at the Induction of Child Protection Officers by NARCAN and Child's Rights Brigade to give a paper on Psychological support for children.

Partnering with Daughters of Abraham Foundation

On 29th May, 2020, Child and Youth Protection Foundation represented facilitated a training at Daughters of Abraham Foundation on the topic 'Effective Team Building and Case Management'.



The training covered areas such as developing effective teams, principles of case management, and minimum core competencies of a case manager. Afterwhich, we conducted a follow-up training on Child Protection and Provisions of the Child's Rights Act. We also supported the Foundation in the development and review of its Child Protection Policy.

Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation Online Global Summit

The Online Global Summit creates a setting where people across sexual abuse and exploitation sectors and different professional, political, and personal backgrounds coalesce to be informed and equipped on specific issues relating to sexual exploitation.

Mr. Kolawole was one of the speakers at the Online Sexual summit. 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 and noted that the Nigerian criminal justice system plays a huge role in limiting access to justice. He addressed Nigeria's cultural and religious setting as a barrier to accessing justice. He noted that traditional and religious leaders' difficulty in differentiating between criminal and civil matters, fear of ostracization and stigmatization, myths of virginity and virtues, fear of violence, and strict burden of proof are factors that limit access to justice.

Hence, he called for grass root sensitization of law enforcement agencies, religious and community leaders, and the general public. He advised children are told their rights and taught sexuality/sexual education, while reporting systems should be victim-centered. Lastly, he suggested providing medical and psychosocial support for victims of sexual exploitation to help with rehabilitation.

Asset Building Training for Girls

To ensure programs are victim-centred, the CYPF team had an Asset Building Training to strengthen Open fees on Girl Effective Programming. The training aimed to help Open Fees develop programs specifically for girls by understanding girls' needs in the community and evaluating their current programming capacity.

Workshop for the Institute of Human Virology Nigeria

The Team conducted a five-day workshop for the Institute of Human Virology Nigeria staff at Lagos. The workshop served as a capacity building for staff on child protection and covered areas including a Legal Mechanism for Child Protection in Nigeria, the Importance of a Child Protection Policy, an Overview of Child Sexual Abuse and steps to take when abuse is reported, the importance of child protection in this social media age while discussing issues like cyberbullying, sexting, child pornography among others.



The training also focused on building safe spaces for girls and thus included an Asset building exercise to help understand girls' needs in the community. Other topics discussed included the importance of self-care to effectively provide protection for children, an overview of human trafficking and child labor, rescue techniques, and rehabilitation strategies for child abuse victims. The training also covered the Tostan training model to facilitate community interventions.

Training on Gender Responsive Budgeting

On the 10th of September, the Senior Coordinator was a resource person for The International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) to train Senior Government Officials and Civil Society Organizations on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB). During his presentation, he noted that GRB ensures gender-equitable distribution of resources and contributes to equal opportunities for all. He suggested increased sensitization on these issues that would inform GRB and emphasized the need for participants to become GRB educators. He noted GRB would increase inclusiveness, effectiveness in expenditure, as well as accountability of the government. He further stressed the need to include GRB in planning to prevent marginalization and promote equity and inclusiveness in national development.

Visit to the Nigerian Security Civil Defence Corps



On the 11th of November, we visited the FCT NSCDC Office, which aimed to introduce the Foundation, build a relationship and compliment the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps' efforts.

The Senior Coordinator informed them of our efforts and noted that an e-book will be published soon, focusing on child protection laws. We also presented CYPF posters and flyers on child protection to the DCC and picked a date to hold child protection training for the NSCDC staff. They appreciated the Team on behalf of NSCDC for the purposeful meeting and the team choice of concern for child protection movement.

Following the visit, on the 10th December 2020, we had Child Protection Training for the NSCDC staff. The training focused on building their capacity on child protection and covered areas such as an Overview of Child Protection, Laws Guiding Children, Ways to ensure Child Protection, Case Management, Recognizing Child Abuse Cases, and Developing a Case Plan.

Conclusion

This year was very productive as we supported various organizations by building their capacity and partnering with them to strengthen efforts in the protection of children and youths in Nigeria.



CHOOSING FULFILLING CAREER PATHS

In collaboration with CYPF, Grant Thornton paid a visit to students of Piwoyi Junior Secondary School on 18th September 2020 to carry out its Corporate Social Responsibility. They attended the visit with personnel comprising a lawyer, human resource officer, accountant, and others and discussed the topic 'Choosing Fulfilling Career Paths' with the students.

They noted it was essential to self-reflect to know one's strengths and weaknesses before selecting careers. They also advised the children to pick careers they are passionate about without being influenced by expectations from friends and society. The Grant Thornton Team also gave brief descriptions of their jobs, and the skills and educational qualifications needed to be efficient in their jobs. During the presentation, they appreciated all teachers for their consistent hard work and passion for teaching children.



Afterwards, they paid a visit to our office where we took them on a tour. The Grant Thornton team appreciated us for our hard work and donated a whiteboard, projector and a water dispenser. We also gave books and stickers to the Grant Thornton team. Mr Kolawale and the CYPF Team showed profound appreciation and assured them their donations would go a long way in supporting team members as they fight to protect children.



Meetings and workshops in the Non-Government Organization sector is a perfect avenue to develop new relationships, share ideas, network, form collaborations and gain more knowledge. This year, team members attended several meetings and workshops.

Child Protection Network (CPN)

The CPN First General Meeting at the Woman Trafficking and Child Labour Education Foundation Office was held to discuss the previous year's highlights and review the year's draft work plan. At the meeting, Excos were also selected during which CYPF was nominated and elected to provide legal support to the Network.

On 24th August, we also attended a one-day training on child protection Case Management and Information Management System to strengthen the implementation of Child Protection Case Management Including Documentation and Reporting. Also, as part of the Network's Executives, we paid a courtesy visit to the FCT-NSCDC Commandant where we discussed areas for collaboration for better and adequate protection of children within the FCT.



West Africa Network of Peace Building (WANEP) Board Meeting

The West Africa Network of Peace Building (WANEP) Board meeting held in Lagos and parties deliberated on issues concerning the Network's growth, and CYPF Coordinator was appointed as the chairman of the 20th Anniversary Planning Committee by the board. We also attended the Zonal Consultative Meeting by WANEP to assess the outcome of a study on women and countering violent extremism in the North East, the implementation of Nigeria's National Action Plan in the region and to strategize on collaborative efforts to enhance women's participation in peace processes in the North East.

Stakeholders Consultative Workshop

We took part in the workshop by the Expertise France, to discuss the organization's new project themed "Support the Fight against Human Trafficking in the states of the Gulf of Guinea (Guinea, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria)".

Policy and Budgetary Resources Available for the Campaign against SGBV, VAWG, HP and SRHR

We attended a workshop by Centre for social justice on the study on policy and budgetary resources available for the campaign against sexual and gender-based violence, violence against women and girls, harmful practices and the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls in FCT Abuja between the years 2016 to 2019. At the workshop, we got an insight on Various laws on SGBV, VAWG, HP and SRHR and also the budget allocated for sexual and gender-based violence in Abuja Vis a Vis those at the state level.

1st Annual Security Sector Forum on Women in the Security Sector

As part of the first component of the project “Enhancing Gender-Responsive Security Operations and Community-Security Relations”, UNWomen, in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Women’s Affairs and the Defence Headquarters convened the first annual forum on women in the security sector.



The activity is aligned with the recently established security sector reference group on gender, formed under the project, co-chaired by the Federal Ministry of Women’s Affairs and the Defence Headquarters. The forum aimed to identify gaps/issues and strategic opportunities to increase women’s meaningful participation and leadership in the security sector; to exchange experience, challenges, and good practice of designing and implementing gender balance policies, and to serve as a platform for advocacy on advancing gender balance and enhancing conditions of service and professional advancement for women in the security sector.

At the meeting, discussions focused on gender mainstreaming in the face of the global pandemics, sexual molestation and gender-based violence and policy framework guiding gender involvement in the security sector.

Stakeholders Round Table on Inclusive Education

DRAC convened a 2-day workshop on the 17th and 18th of November 2020 which focused on the challenges of children living with disabilities in Nigerian schools, segregation, principles, benefits and characteristics of inclusive education, and requirements to make inclusive education happen. Participants also reviewed the National Policy on inclusive education drafted in 2016 but not yet passed into law. Groups of four stakeholders were divided to elicit action plans, strategies, potential challenges, timelines, outcomes, and recommendations.

The Vijona Experience

Flowing from our partnership with Vijona Africa, on the 25th and 26th November 2020, we were at Daughters of Abraham Foundation to attend a training organized by VIJONA, on ‘The Ignite Experience’. The activity aimed to enable the Foundation to have beneficial and impactful programs and contextualize the Vijona experience into what the Foundation's beneficiaries can easily relate to, to ensure better productivity.

The training focused on lessons and activities on self-discovery, describing who you are, discovering innate talents, exploring prospective careers and vocations and the RIASEC Interest profiler (which details the different interest types that may inform career/vocations). The workshop also had tips for parents/guardians to discover children's talent like observing, giving choices, and validating interests.

Validation of the Evaluation Report of the 2012 -2017 National Action Plan (NAP) on the Elimination of Child Labour and The Drafting of Phase 2 Of theNAP.

We attended a five-day session to evaluate the National Action Plan of 2013 – 2017. The meeting aimed to look at gaps in implementation and reporting. At the meeting, participants were informed that the reporting template was designed in 2018 when the Action Plan's implementation had expired. They also stressed that the data available on child labour is submerged into child protection; hence there is need to disintegrate it.

We evaluated activities that took place between 2018 to 2020, and capture activities not captured in the data. We also reviewed the old NationalAction Plan and came up with a new vision, mission and goal.

Participants also gave multiple suggestions on how the NSCCL can implement the NAP on the elimination of child labour. Lastly, they evaluated/validated the old NAP and assessed the new NAP's first draft.

Child Labour and Sustainable Gender Mainstreaming for Child Labour Focal Officers of The Federal Ministry of Mines and Steel Development

The training workshop's main objective was to improve understanding of child protection and child Labour, gender budgeting, and gender mainstreaming. The following core concepts were covered in the training program, overview of child Labour and child protection, Government attempts/policies for the elimination of child Labour, Children living and working in the Mining sector, Child Labour monitoring roles, Child rights and participation, 360 intelligence, envisioning for community intervention and Introducing ACCEL Africa Project.



The training program was conducted successfully, and all the participants took an active part in all the three days of the training. We suggest, however, that the department monitor the participants for any improvements in the field. It will be appropriate to do a follow-up workshop for the child Labour focal officers to properly equip them to carry out their functions.



National Validation Meeting on the National Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) Strategy for the Elimination of Child Labour in Nigeria.

The meeting which held on the 13th November 2020, was held to improve the SBCC document and work on the social and behavioural strategy on child labour. Experts such as lawyers looked at the laws' gaps, and those from various ministries assessed the document's strengths and challenges. The meeting's primary objective was to improve the practice, and combat child labour at the household and community levels whilst the secondary objectives were to eliminate child labour in Nigerian while working with community volunteers and structures to monitor and support critical behaviours.

Media Practitioners on Child Labour Reporting and Presentation of The National Strategy on The Elimination of Child Labour

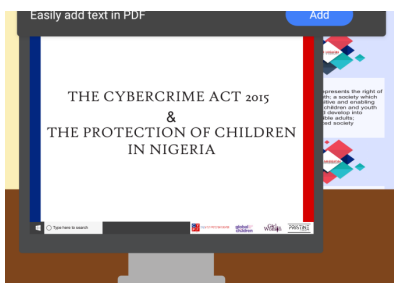
The ILO convened a five-day workshop from the 16th to the 20th November, where we discussed child labour extensively, including its causes and consequences and Government attempts/policies for the elimination of child labour. The workshop also enlightened on the role of media practitioners in reporting child labour cases and the dangers of instant gratification as a danger of child labour.

During the session participants recognized the role of media experts in eliminating child labour which included community sensitization, proffering solutions to the government, challenging the government to act, publishing weekly editorials on child labour, and effective reporting. We were also trained on investigative journalism, skills needed by journalists, data gathering methods, and solution journalism. The workshop also focused on investigating and writing human interest stories to eliminate child labour and solutions journalism.

Conclusion

These platforms had positive impacts on our Team's efficiency. It helped build the Team's awareness and expertise and created an avenue to meet with other organizations and share ideas, opinions, and knowledge.

The Cybercrimes Act 2015 and the Protection of Children in Nigeria'



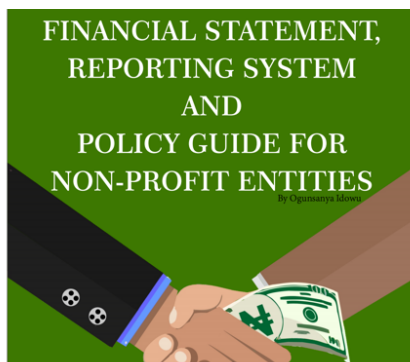
We got the ball rolling earlier this year with the release of our e-book titled 'The Cybercrimes Act 2015 and the Protection of Children in Nigeria'. The e-book highlighted the various provisions in the Act that protect children from Cyber related crimes, offences and punishments.

Child Protection in the Context of the Coronavirus

The COVID 19 spreading gradually to all countries worldwide, including Nigeria spells damaging consequences for children. In this light, we released a PowerPoint presentation on Child Protection in the Context of the Coronavirus. It focused on the epidemic's effect on children's lives, the disease's socio-ecological impact, and provided related control measures.

Non-Profit Financial Statements

On 29th June, 2020, CYPF released an e-book titled 'Non-Profit Financial Statements' written by Mr Ogunsanya Idowu (Account/Administrative Officer, Child and Youth Protection Foundation). The e-book focuses on suitable accounting methods for organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations, and financial statements preparation.



The e-book focuses on suitable accounting methods for organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations, and financial statements preparation.

Recommendations on the Guiding Note Developed by African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare on the Child (ACERWC)

The ACERWC recognized that children are exposed to threats to their safety due to the Pandemic and lockdown and published Guidelines for member states to integrate into their COVID 19 responses. Consequently, on 14th April, CYPF convened members of its WhatsApp group and invited personnel from the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs, the Child Rights Implementation Committee and the International Labor Organization for an active engagement to discuss the Guiding Note and come up with recommendations for the government. The meeting which was facilitated by the Senior Coordinator saw contributions and suggestion on ways to establish child-friendly information and communication procedure, establish child-friendly quarantine procedure, ensure children's right to education, ensure provisions of services which are crucial to survival and development of the child and ensure responses are tailored to special and vulnerable children.

Following this, CYPF developed and designed detailed recommendations for the government on the five major areas that interventions need to be carried out.

Conclusion

We are currently working on three e-books, the 19 Human Right Principles, Presentations from the Child Abuse Prevention Month and the Compendium of Laws Protect Children in Nigeria which will be published in the first quarter of 2021.

All these ebooks and more are freely available for interested persons or organization upon request to our official mail cypfoffice@gmail.com.



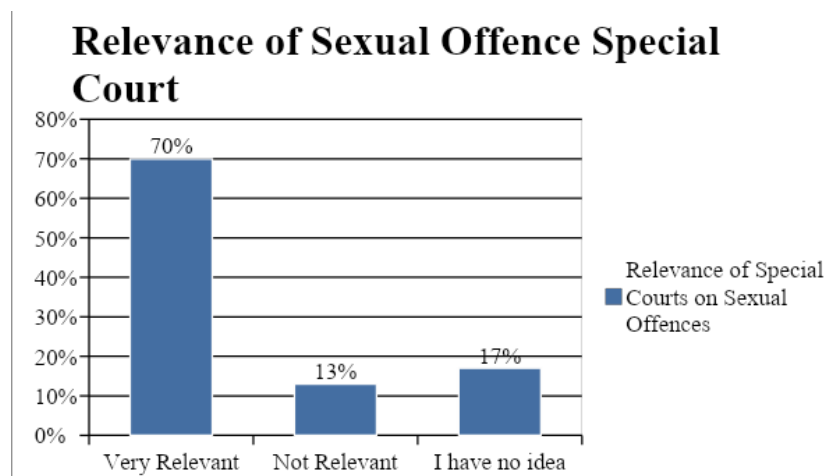
SUPPORTING THE STAND AGAINST RAPE

With the Lockdown restrictions, there has been an increase in sexual violence of children and women with many reported cases of rape, incest, defilement of minors, and sodomy among many others. Following this, there has been a surge of social media campaigns, and online discussions on this issue, and CYPF contributed in its way.

The CYPF team, led by the M&E Officer created a picture collage with all team members with a particular message to raise our voices against Rape. The message developed read **'No means No! Stop Raping our Girls and Boys! #CYPF Cares'** and was shared on all of CYPF's social media platforms. This was also featured in the Monthly Moment for Women e-magazines.

Also on 4th June, the Senior Coordinator was on Vision FM (92.1) to discuss the topic 'Rape and the way Forward', he noted that the increase in the number of rape cases during the lockdown should be a course for concern for not just the government but the society as a whole. He further stated that the burden to prove a case must be removed from the victims as this is the case presently in Nigeria. Later in the month of June, he was also on Vision FM to discuss stiffer punishment for sex offenders. He said that the full implementation and enforcement of the CRA and VAPP Act is the best way to ensure access to justice for victims of sexual violence.

We also conducted an online poll on Twitter to determine special courts' relevance on sexual offences in Nigeria.



The poll results revealed that of 47 people who participated in the survey, 70% agreed it was very relevant, 13% agreed it was not relevant, and 17 % had no idea on the matter. Hence a majority of the population who voted believe strongly that a Sexual Offence Special Court is necessary to properly handle sexual offence cases in Nigeria.



CHALLENGES WE FACED DURING THE YEAR

COVID-19 Lockdown: The lockdown which followed the COVID 19 pandemic had a significant impact on our interventions as this led to school closures and affected access to our beneficiaries.

Resorting to Online Measures: Most of our activities were conducted virtually throughout the year as physical activities were reduced to a minimum. The surge of online webinars and training, coupled with the poor network service and the high cost of data, took a toll on team members.

Financial Challenges: This year, we planned to expand our reach to more schools, communities and children, especially girls. We aimed to enrol more girls in school, ensure our students are equipped with technical skills, and empower them, including young school leavers, with life skills training. However, due to financial constraint, we have not been able to implement many of these programs.

WE MOVED TO OUR NEW OFFICE

This year, we officially moved to our new office. The constructions had been underway since the previous year, and on 5th October, 2020, we celebrated the event with an official opening where we invited all partners and friends of the Foundation.

The opening ceremony was a joyous affair as team members, and the senior coordinator appreciated Almighty God for making it possible. Guests also appreciated the Foundation and offered words of encouragement to team members.



Despite the challenges faced, we succeeded and persevered. So, we will like to thank everyone for their continued support, prayers, and words of encouragement. We are hopeful that this will strengthen all our efforts to protect children and youths in Nigeria.



CONCLUSION

The COVID-19 Pandemic led to a nationwide lockdown resulting in the closure of schools and workplaces. This led to the suspension of all our projects and interventions which meant that we had to resort to online measures for our activities. So, we focused on building the capacity of organizations and team members because we realize that the impact of the COVID-19 will be most damaging for children especially with regards to their safety, wellbeing, health, and education. At CYPF, we will always strive to ensure that children and youths are properly protected and their rights adequately safeguarded.

Here is to a promising and productive 2021. Cheers!!!



Our Partners

