



ANNUAL REPORT
2019
YOUTH EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION



KNOWLEDGE IS **POWER**



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EXECUTIVE *Secretary*



Iwalola Akin-Jimoh

In the year 2019, YEF implemented several projects both in Lagos, Oyo, Ogun and other states of the federation including FCT. Projects implemented were in the areas of life skills, financial literacy, vocational skill acquisitions, building and construction, World Savings Day (WSD), Goal events, Child protection and others. These projects were targeted at improving the lives of the youth, thus enhancing the socioeconomic development of the society.

However, activities such as annual YEF camp, international peace day, international day of the girl child, international literacy day, international youth day, international day for the elimination of violence against women and world cancer day were held across sites. These events featured career talks, personal hygiene and environmental sanitations, gender based violence prevention trainings, etc.

Goal Project: the project reached out to over Twelve thousand (12,163) direct and indirect beneficiaries in the year 2019. This is an increase from 10,253 peers targeted for the year. More so, Goal project has reached out to over 100,000 young girls globally as at December 2018.

Empowered for the Future project (E4F): YEF graduated over 80 youth who benefited in the E4F project for 2018; on vocational skills and experiential job shadowing program. The graduation was conducted in January 2019. E4F was funded by First City Monument Bank. 2018 was the second edition. However, the project for 2019 extended its strides to Abuja and empowered over 50 (Lagos 40, Abuja 21) youth mainly on vocations on both sites

respectively. The E4F focused solely on vocations this year because of change of the school calendar. Thus it was not possible to accommodate the job shadowing students who are usually engaged during the August long vacation.

Build for Life: Coca-Cola West Africa Business Unit and the New World Project partnered with YEF to build 1 block of 5 class rooms and a library, toilets and fencing for Baptist Primary School, Ijaiye, Abeokuta. The project also had extensive landscaping with the installation of a borehole facility. The project as well, has literacy sessions for pupils and free water supply for both the school and the community. The project handover ceremony was done in May this year (2019). The literacy part of the project has already taken off in January 2020

World Financial Literacy Day: YEF trained over 1,750 Senior Secondary students across seven states (Abia, Rivers, Kaduna, Zamfara, Taraba, Kwara and Ondo States) of Nigeria on Financial Literacy and Money Making Skills. The training exposed the in-school youth to money making and financial management skills. This is in an effort to build future responsible citizens and forestall the possibility of indiscriminate spending. Sessions also focused on strategies for demystifying the vicious cycle of poverty in Nigeria

WSD 2019: as a follow-up on the Financial Literacy in March this year, October 30th and 31st was mandated by Central Bank of Nigeria to Banks (Standard Chartered Bank) to conduct a follow-up financial literacy training especially on Savings to the initial 7 states. Consequently, YEF on behalf of Standard Chartered Bank implemented this project across sites.





REPORT OVERVIEW

2019
PROGRAMS

YEF STAFF
RETREAT

EXECUTIVE
SUMMARY

PROJECT
ACTIVITIES

SUCCESS
STORIES AND
CHALLENGES



ABBREVIATIONS

YEF - Youth Empowerment Foundation

E4F - Empowered for the Future

B4L - Build for Life

SCB - Standard Chartered Bank

FCMB - First City Monument Bank

CPN - Child Protection Network

WASH - Water Sanitation and Hygiene

LSACA - Lagos State AIDS Control Agency

CiSHAN - Civil Society on HIV/AIDS in Nigeria

MYSD - Ministry of Youth and Social Development

MWAPA - Ministry of Women Affairs and
Poverty Alleviation

WHO WE ARE

Youth Empowerment foundation (YEF) is a youth focused non-governmental, not-for-profit making organization in Nigeria. Our mission is to empower young people through programming and mobilization in our areas of interventions; education, child protection, health, secure livelihood and sports with strategic partnership.

Founded in 1995 by two sisters, Fiwashade and Iwalola, YEF established its first office in Akure, Ondo state with 3 staff and 4 volunteers. Moved to Lagos at Johnson Street, Surulere Lagos in 1997 and has been predominantly in Surulere Lagos since 1997. Youth Empowerment Foundation (YEF), with over 50 staff, volunteers and adhoc staff, delivers high quality programmes, services and had partnered extensively with local and International developmental organisations is its 24 years of existence.

YEF 2019 program activities cut several states of the federation including Lagos, Oyo, Ogun, Abia, Rivers, Kaduna, Kano, Kwara, Ondo, Taraba, Zamfara and Abuja FCT. Projects implemented were in the areas of Life skills, Financial literacy, Vocational skill acquisitions, Building and Construction, World Savings Day (WSD), Goal events, Child protection issues and others. These projects were targeted at improving the lives of the youth, thus enhancing the socioeconomic development of the society.

The 2019 report present a synopsis of YEF projects and programmatic activities in Nigeria.





CORE VALUES

We strive to foster a culture of responsibility and challenge the status quo inherent in our young population with the following values as a guide:

- **Culture of collaboration:** Working with strategic partnership for a better tomorrow
- **Dedication to diversity and integrity:** We are an inclusive entity working with ethics and fairness
- **Passion:** This is the core of our organization knowing that there is no end to learning so we strive to improve and innovate
- **Service:** Quality service delivery with a commitment to guaranteed confidentiality

VISION

- Is to see a proactive youth population with skills for positive change

MISSION

Empower young people through programming and mobilization in our areas of intervention with strategic partnership



YEF 2019

SOCIAL MEDIA REACH

The YEF E'Communications Department in 2019 advanced the programs, activities and events of the foundation through daily engagements in our respective social media handles. More so, social media engagement improved in terms of accessibility, visibility and acceptability. This is evident in the number of followers, inquiries and feedbacks which grew exponentially in 2019.



Instagram (YEFNigeria) reached out to over 1000 persons and organizations through post and publications. YEF Instagram account was established in 2019.



(<https://www.facebook.com/yefnigeria/>) attracted over 1000 new followers and reached out to over 1 million persons in 2019.



(www.yefnigeria.org)
We used our website to reach out to our partners and the general public through publications of activity and project reports. However, we received feedbacks and questions from people about YEF programs and activities across Nigeria and beyond.



(<https://twitter.com/YEFNigeria>) reached out to over 300,000 persons with over 500,000 impressions from tweets and feedbacks.



WhatsApp (08091111485):
YEF created different platforms to reach out to project beneficiaries and the general public. Through our WhatsApp platforms, we recorded huge feedbacks from people about projects and programs across Nigeria.



PROGRAMS FOR 2019



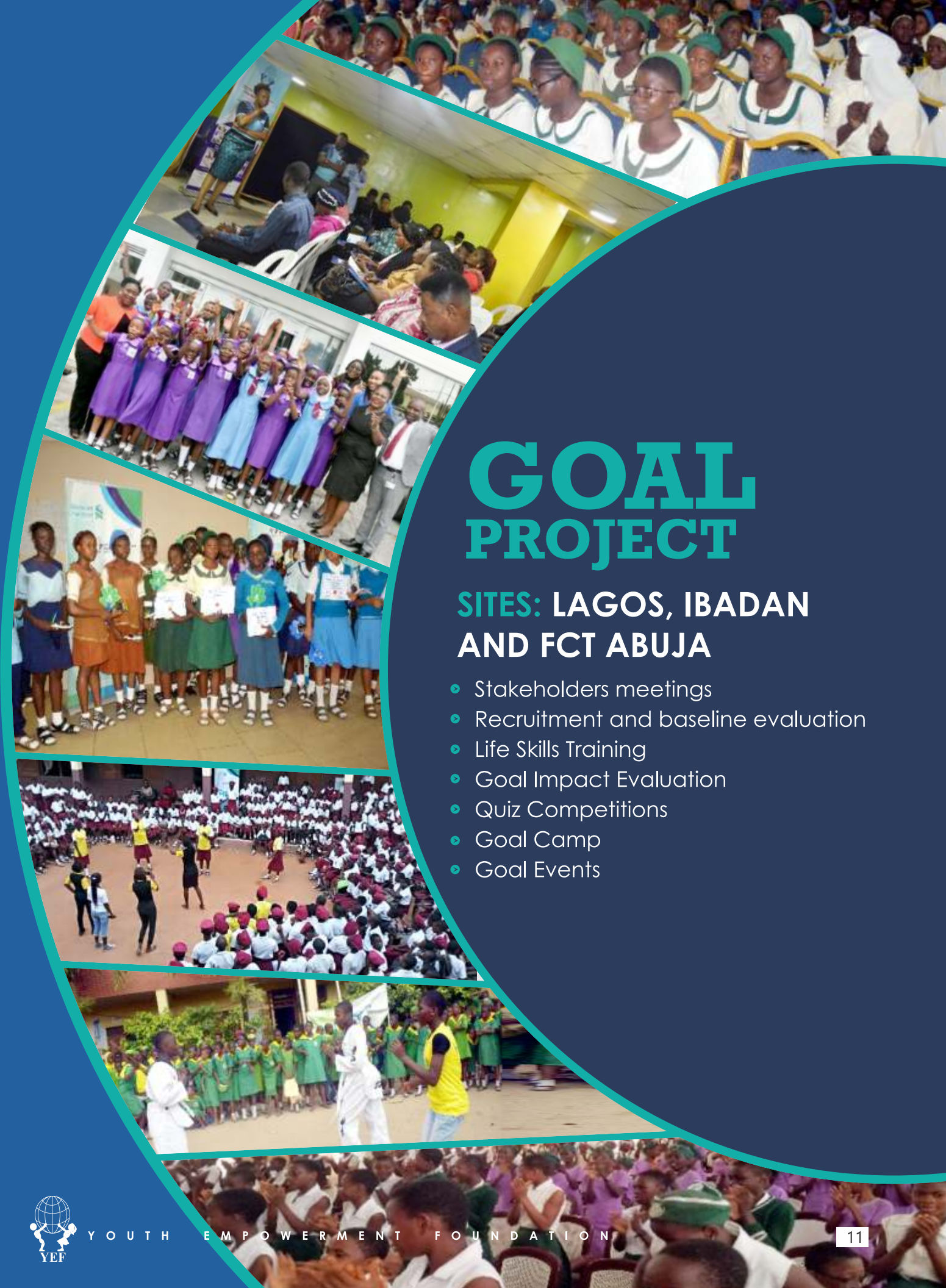
GOAL PROJECT ►



2019 stakeholders meeting in Ibadan, Oyo State

Goal: 3 stakeholders meetings were held in Ibadan, Lagos and Abuja. Over 80 stakeholders attended the meeting across sites. Issues deliberated on were; lessons from 2018, number of schools involved in Goal project, beneficiaries reached, achievements, how to improve Goal, challenges and way forward.

Goal: 2019 was implemented in 3 sites, (Lagos, Ibadan and Abuja), with a total number of 34 schools (Lagos-15, Ibadan-9 and Abuja-FCT 10). The recruitment was carried out by the school Goal contact persons and YEF field officers. Selected girls were given parents consent letters which they promptly submitted back having been acknowledged by their respective parents or guardians. 971 students in Junior Secondary class 1 were recruited during the process across sites. They however reached out to 12163 peers, well above the 10,253 peers targeted for the year 2019.



GOAL PROJECT

**SITES: LAGOS, IBADAN
AND FCT ABUJA**

- Stakeholders meetings
- Recruitment and baseline evaluation
- Life Skills Training
- Goal Impact Evaluation
- Quiz Competitions
- Goal Camp
- Goal Events

BUILD FOR LIFE PROJECT



Build For Life (B4L) ABEOKUTA: This infrastructural development project was completed ahead of schedule (less than a year) and handed over to the Ogun State Universal Basic Board (UBEB) in May 2019. B4L is an infrastructural and literacy project which provided 1 block of 5 classrooms, library, 10 toilet facilities, electricity, borehole and an integrated WASH initiative. Apart from the aforementioned, the project has trained senior students of the School on personal hygiene, environmental sanitation and waste to wealth initiative (the use of used tyres and plastic water bottles for beautification).





YEF STAFF RETREAT 2019

YEF staff started the new year with a retreat and worked on plans for 2019 program. The retreat afforded participants the opportunity to improve on their fund raising and other vital skills necessary for NGO work. This, no doubt will advertently advance their careers and improve their KPI's in the discharge of their professional duties at YEF. The two day retreat was also a huge avenue for staff across sites to mingle and brainstorm on key departmental issues.

The retreat contributed immensely to team work.



GOAL PROJECT IMPACT ASSESSMENT WITH WOMEN WIN INTERNATIONAL

YEF and Women_Win International carried out impact assessment evaluation with some Goal project schools in Lagos and Abuja. Both direct and indirect beneficiaries of the project were assessed as well as some teachers and YEF field officers. Women_Win International further conducted capacity training sessions with YEF Lagos staff.



YEF FOOTBALL ACADEMY IBADAN EMERGED VICTORIOUS IN OYO STATE AITEO FOOTBALL COMPETITION

YEF football team won the 2019 Oyo State AITEO football at Lekan Salami Liberty Stadium, Adamasingba Ibadan. The girls displayed a high level of football skills and determination to pull off a remarkable result and won their trophy against a dogged opponent.

The final match of the competition had in attendance representatives of the Nigerian Football Federation (NFF), Oyo State Ministry of Youths and Sports development, University of Ibadan, Media personalities and general public.

The Oyo state government thanked YEF for grooming young vibrant female Football team who have made the entire

Football family in Oyo state proud with their dazzling skills, determination and focus. They further maintained their commitment in partnering with YEF for future engagements.



Sports as one of its program intervention areas, YEF recognizes that it builds self-confidence and ensures a high sense of competition which is paramount in the socioeconomic lives of women.

GOAL ANNUAL CAMP

The major objective of the summer camp was to create a safe space for fun and learning outside the usual home and school setting. The camp activities engendered the spirit of tolerance, healthy competition, team spirit and self-reliance which are very important in the development of a young child. The participants were mentored on life skills, career choices, drug abuse, gender based violence, mental health, child abuse and vocational skills acquisition.



GOAL QUIZ COMPETITION

YEF had her annual quiz competition across the 3 Goal project sites (Lagos, Ibadan and Abuja-FCT). The quiz competition culminates the end of the project year. The event also paved way for media briefing and graduation of the new set of Goal champions.

In Lagos, Community Junior Secondary took 1st position, While Yejide Girls College maintained their 1st position having made such feat last year. Kubwa 2 Junior Secondary School on the other hand emerged the overall best for Goal Abuja quiz competition.

Stakeholders thanked YEF for a job well done and for exposing the female child to important issues necessary for their development.



GOAL EVENT

Our Goal project events across sites reached out to over 1500 young girls. The event is part of Goal project strategy for 2019. It is a service learning programme (SLP) aimed at reinforcing life skills, gender based violence (GBV) prevention and taekwondo lessons. Girls use the events to take ownership and address problems at their various communities.

2019 Goal events were carried out in Lagos and Ibadan specifically



EXPERIENCE



I joined Goal in JSS1. During the Goal class, I always sat at the back seat because I was very small and shy back then. There was a day the facilitator pointed me out to answer a question which I did correctly. From that day, I became very confident and started to ask/answer questions in each session. In the sporting aspect, I joined the Taekwondo class which helped me to be mentally/physically fit and alert all times. I fully utilized the academic excellence ideals of Goal life skills training scoring 272 marks in JAMB at first attempt and 307 marks in post UTME at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. Before I gained University admission, I participated in the Goal camping program in different parts of the country; learning different vocations, sports and making new friends. Immediately I graduated from Secondary School, I started working at YEF Lagos office as an intern. At YEF, I learnt about office etiquettes, facilitation, computer basics, data entry and was mentored on the process of securing university admission. It was really a worthwhile experience indeed; I go to school to facilitate Goal classes, write activity reports, minutes of staff meeting, data entry and improve my computer basic skill. These skills have been invaluable in my course work in school as a student of English. Finally, I want to say a very big 'THANK YOU' to Youth Empowerment Foundation and to Standard Chartered Bank. God bless you all.

CHIOMA ATUEYI; Goal Champion at Itolo Girls Secondary School, Surulere, An undergraduate of University of Nigeria, Nsukka

EMPOWERED FOR THE FUTURE



YEF graduated over 80 youths who benefited in the E4F project for 2018; on vocational skills and experiential job shadowing program. This graduation was conducted in January 2019. The project was funded by First City Monument Bank. E4F 2018 was the second edition.

However, the project for 2019 extended its strides to Abuja and empowered over 50 (Lagos 40, Abuja 21) youths mainly on vocations on both sites respectively. Across sites, the project reached out to 37 females (Lagos 27, Abuja 10) and 24 males (Lagos 13, Abuja 11) respectively. This year's E4F focused solely on vocations.

EMPOWERED FOR THE FUTURE (E4F) PROJECT

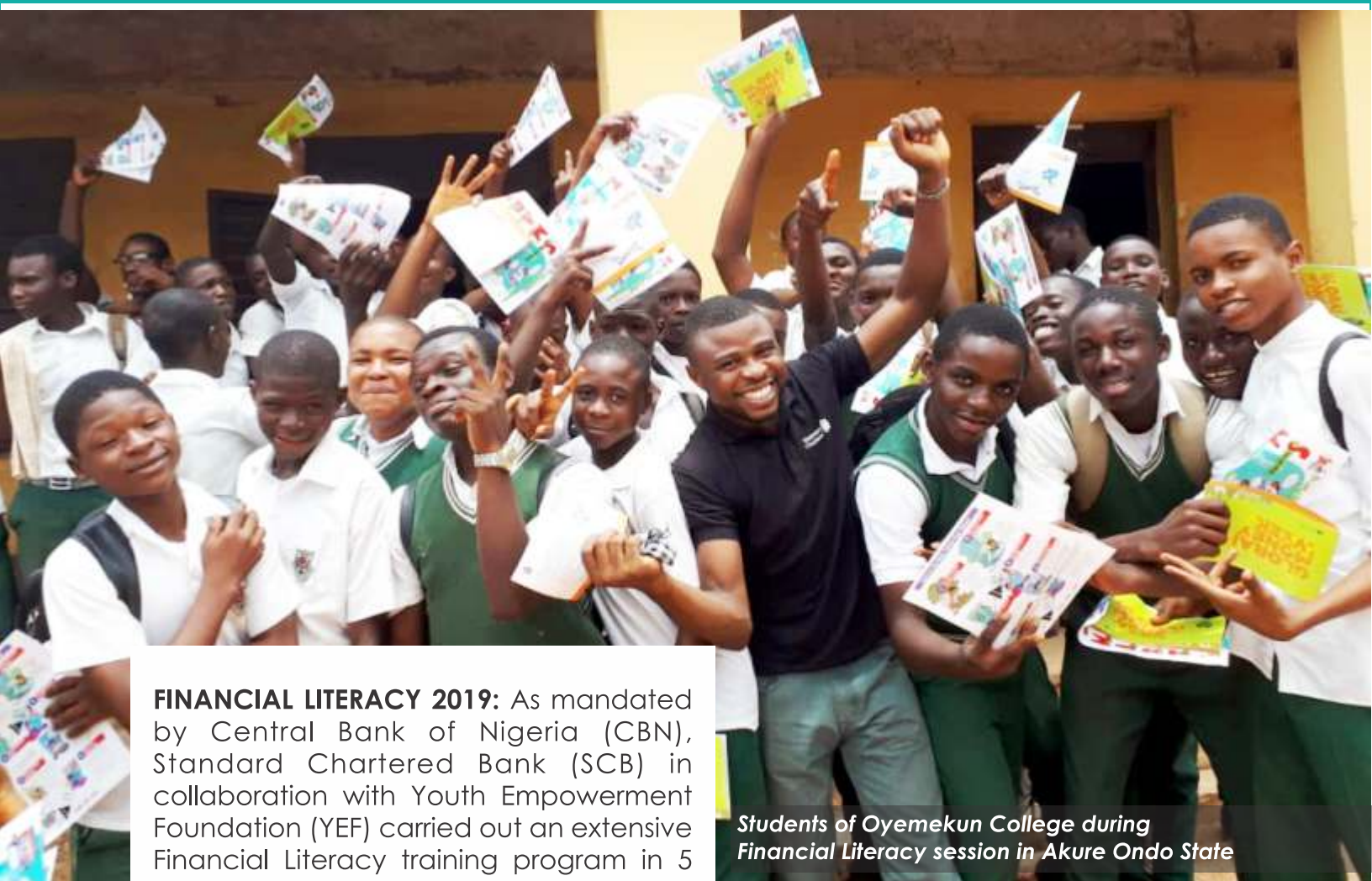
EMPOWERED FOR THE FUTURE (E4F 3) PROJECT

SITES: LAGOS & ABUJA

- Graduation of E4F beneficiaries (Lagos 2018)
- Recruitments (Lagos & Abuja)
- Life Skills training
- Placements
- Monitoring visits



FINANCIAL LITERACY PROJECT



Students of Oyemekun College during Financial Literacy session in Akure Ondo State

FINANCIAL LITERACY 2019: As mandated by Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) in collaboration with Youth Empowerment Foundation (YEF) carried out an extensive Financial Literacy training program in 5 selected schools in 7 sites; Rivers, Abia, Ondo, Kwara, Kaduna, Taraba and Zamfara states respectively. This was in celebration of the 2019 Global Money Week and Financial Literacy Day, with the theme: **“Money Matters”** The campaign was aimed at building a strong financial foundation for adolescents and teach them the importance of managing finances from young age. Over 1750 students were trained during the event across all sites.



World Savings Day event at Doka Girls College, Kaduna



PROGRAMS FOR 2019 CONTINUED.....

Financial Literacy 2019 (Abia, Rivers, Kaduna, Zamfara, Taraba, Kwara and Ondo States)

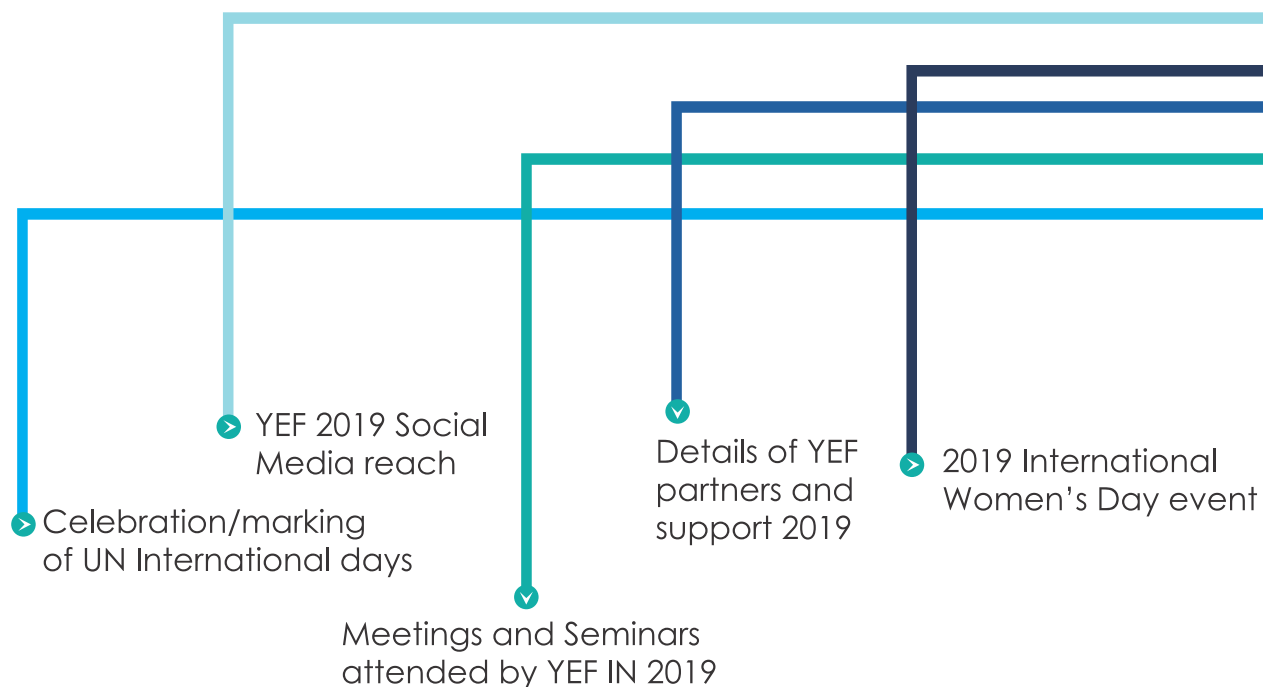
Build for Life (B4L) (Ogun State)
Handover Ceremony

Child Protection (Lagos State)
Rescue missions
Shelter provision
Court sessions

World Savings Day 2019 (Abia, Rivers, Kaduna, Zamfara, Taraba, Kwara and Ondo States)



OTHER ITEMS CAPTURED



WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL DAY 2019

YEF have a culture of celebrating the United Nations special days. We believe and support the calls of UN for safe and conducive environment for all.

World environment day is also known as peoples day; recognition of efforts by people to take care and preserve the earth. As 2019 theme is Air Pollution, it further underscored the incredible damage suffered by our environment especially in the cities which has a resultant effects in the lives of people in a catastrophic tendencies.

YEF marked the 2019 world environmental day at St. Theresa's College, Oke-Ado, Ibadan Oyo state. Over 70 young girls were educated by renowned environmentalists on abuses and challenges faced by the our environment which is usually perpetrated by individuals in the society, mostly cities. The girls were also exposed to dangers and hazardous effects associated with the abuse of the environment.

Finally the girls were implored to be environmental ambassadors towards making our world safe and accommodating for everyone. Young women were further mentored on simple ways of promoting quality air in our society .

YEF has organized several outreaches and programs centered on improving and encouraging healthy environment across schools in Lagos, Ibadan and Abuja FCT.

WORLD WATER DAY WITH SUNTORY GROUP

Obele Primary School Itire road, Surulere Lagos and First Baptist Primary School Ijaiye Abeokuta, Ogun State were respectively tutored on proper hand washing practices by Suntory group in partnership with YEF.

Pupils were taught on the importance of consistent and correct hand washing practice using the Center for Disease Control (CDC) prevention prescribed 5 steps: Wet your hands with clean water — warm, if available — and apply soap, lather by rubbing hands together; be sure to cover all surfaces, continue rubbing hands together for 15 to 20 seconds — sing “happy birthday” twice in your head, thoroughly rinse hands under running water to ensure removal of residual germs, use paper towels or an air dryer to dry hands and then, if possible, use a paper towel to turn off the faucet.

Pupils asked salient question about personal hygiene, refuse disposal and water management. They also had fun and receive lots of gifts.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY (IWD) 2019

International Women's Day event were held across Lagos and Abuja respectively. Young girls (Goal Champions) visited some Standard Chartered Bank branches in both sites (Lagos and Abuja). They were mentored on leadership skills, career choices and etiquette in the banking profession. The girls also asked some important questions pertaining to women in politics and leadership position both at the home front and political levels.

However, leadership is a key component of YEF programs and one of the important objectives of our Goal project. Young girls are empowered to train their peers on life skills and gender based violence prevention strategy. This, inadvertently build their self-confidence, self-esteem and markedly improve their public speaking skills. The training also reinforces the essence of taking up leadership position especially from school level; to create positive influence in the life of the leader and the led.



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS PROGRAM

On 2nd of September, YEF in partnership with the Guardians and Counselling department of University of Ibadan mentored youths on depression and mental health issues.

YEF is aware of the alarming rate of mental health issues and depression which has led to several suicide cases among youths in Nigeria. The outreach was welcomed by the school authority and students who tramped out in their numbers for the lecture.

During the outreach program; perception, awareness and knowledge of participants on mental health issues especially on depression, anxiety, drug abuse and suicide were examined. More so, causes of mental health problems, how to recognise early signs, risks of mental health and likely solutions were discussed.

YEF major focus is the youth. Thus, we visualize a proactive youth population with skills for positive change. Mental health issue is one of the major problems experienced by youth which negatively affect their goals and dreams in life.

Over 600 students were present during the lecture.



EXPERIENCE



I gained so much from YEF and SCB courtesy of Goal project. I am a trained peer facilitator, learnt data collection & entry on sales force software and also improved my computer appreciation skills. Now an undergraduate student of Sociology at Federal University, Otuoke, Bayelsa state. I really lack words to express my gratitude to YEF and SCB. I never knew I could be where I am today despite my poor family background and other challenges that almost ruined my ambition of furthering my education. I lived with my uncle who did not have enough money to sponsor my education. However, I found hope, strength, renewed spirit and future in Goal and in YEF. YEF and Goal have significantly improved my life and has contributed immensely in my Education so far. I am in third year now in University. In future, I will like to touch other girls lives positively just as I have being blessed. I am so proud and I appreciate God for bringing YEF and Goal project into my life.

Blessing Patrick - Goal Champion at Eric Moore Secondary School, Surulere Lagos, an undergraduate student of Federal University, Otuoke, Bayelsa State



GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) COMMUNITY OUTREACH

On 4th of September 2019, YEF in partnership with Child Protection Network Ibadan, Oyo state organised a sensitization forum on Gender Based Violence (GBV) for some men and women at Bodija market Ibadan.



YEF recognizes the enormous role of women in nation building and has extensively empowered over 500,000 women and young girls in Nigeria particularly in the areas of leadership capacity building, sexual & reproductive health knowledge, financial literacy, vocational skills acquisition, loans and other health issues.

The alarming rate of GBV constitute a major factor threatening the existence and socioeconomic lives of the victims; who are mostly women.

The GBV outreach program afforded the participants the opportunity to share their personal experiences, asked questions and have the rightful contacts to report any case of GBV within their respective communities.

The Market leaders expressed their gratitude and asked YEF and CPN for more of such outreaches.

Similarly, GBV outreach was conducted in Sasa Coummnity, Ibadan, Oyo state on 6th of November 2019 with over 40 Community members in attendance in Ibadan.

CHILD PROTECTION

In partnership with the Child Protection Network/Education District 4 and Ministry of Youth and Sports, YEF was able to:

Rescued a teenage girl (Desola) hawking in the street of Lagos during School hours and in the rain. YEF linked Desola up to her parents who stays in the village and ensured she started school.

Teenage pregnancy/abortion; YEF rescued and treated a teenage girl who had serious health issues as a result of abortion that was not properly performed.

Rescued and placed to a shelter (Echoes of Mercy) a teenage girl that was sexually abused by her father.

YEF has several Child custody cases still ongoing with Lagos Office of the Public Defender (OPD).

Queen Ofor's case (a teenage girl that was sexually abused by an adult) still ongoing.

YEF also placed a visually impaired female youth at Bethesda Home for the blind.



MEETINGS AND SEMINARS ATTENDED BY YEF IN 2019

YEF attended monthly Lagos AIDS Control Agency (LSACA) meeting in 2019. As our usual practices, we gave out branded year planners, table calendars and other publications to CSO's through LSACA meetings every year. This free donation of publication help CSO's to plan their activities and events annually.

YEF is one of the active members of Civil Society on HIV/AIDS in Nigeria (CiSHAN) and attended the monthly meetings across Lagos and Ibadan respectively in the year 2019.

YEF is also a member of Child Protection Network (CPN) in Nigeria. We have extensively partnered with CPN Lagos and Ibadan to render support for vulnerable children, girls and women across states in Nigeria.

YEF was selected by Human Development Initiative (HDI) as one of her ad-hoc Monitoring & Evaluation Team saddled to monitor the implementation of Lagos school based infrastructural project across some selected areas in the state.

YEF is an active member of NNNGO and attended the annual (2019) conference held Lagos. YEF maintained her strong working relationship with Lagos state government and attended several meetings and forums organised by Lagos Ministry of Education, Ministry of Youth and Social Development (MYSD), Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA) and other state agencies.

2019 SUCCESS STORIES

- Successfully carried out our 2019 staff retreat
- Completed and handed over B4L infrastructural project to Ogun State Universal Basic Education Board (UBEB) Abeokuta
- Started evaluation of Omukwu Primary School, Mbaise infrastructure for possible renovation by the directive of Coca-Cola Africa Foundation
- Implemented and extended Empowered for Future project to Lagos and Abuja
- Got a scholarship grant from MRS oil for few indigent students in Lagos
- Reached out to over fifteen thousand (15000) young persons through Goal project, Empowered for the Future (E4F) Financial literacy and WASH events across some states in Nigeria
- And lots more



CHALLENGES

- Lack of schools with enough population and spacious Football pitch for Goal project reach out strategies and Sports activities
- Government bureaucracies; especially getting approval letters to work in some areas of the state
- Insufficient allocation of time for in-school project activities
- Paucity of fund to absolve more beneficiaries into our free livelihood projects; vocational skills acquisition and entrepreneurial development projects.





DETAILS OF YEF PARTNERS AND SUPPORT 2019

In 2019 YEF partnered extensively with key stakeholders, corporate organisations and philanthropists to advance her humanitarian and developmental work across states in Nigeria.

Standard Chartered Bank (Goal project). YEF received a grant from SCB to continue the implementation of Goal project in Lagos, Ibadan and Abuja FCT. SCB also engaged YEF to support its annual Financial literacy training and World Savings Day events across some states in Nigeria.

Coca-Cola African Foundation (Build for Life project): YEF completed the Build for Life project in partnership with Coca-Cola Africa Foundation at Abeokuta. Build for Life is an integrated infrastructural, WASH and literacy enhancement project at First Baptist Primary School, Oja Ale, Ijaiye, Abeokuta Ogun State.

FCMB (Empowered for the Future, E4F): YEF was supported by First City Monument Bank to empower some selected youths in Lagos and Abuja on vocational skills acquisition.

Suntory Group: Partnered with YEF to engage primary school pupils on WASH and sanitation sensitization in Lagos, Ibadan, Abeokuta and Abuja FCT: YEF partnered consistently with the 3 sites for her Goal project implementation, as well as stakeholder meetings and other engagements.

EXPERIENCE



With gladness and a heart filled with appreciation, I say- thank You YEF and #FCMB for making my life more interesting and most importantly adding value to it. Looking back... I can only smile with joy in my heart, knowing the decision I took to join the empowerment training program to master my chosen vocation (tailoring) was not in vain. Now, I am confident that I have learned so well to stand out amongst millions out there. May God continue to bless #FCMB and YEF once again. And to all the beneficiaries, may we not forget the hands that made us what we have become. As we have started receiving the rewards of their investment in us, please let's remember them also. Who knows! We might be laying a foundation for future beneficiaries

Idiah Jaksuill

PARTNERSHIP AND MEETING PICTURES



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION

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