



Oando Foundation

...Transforming lives through education

Newsletter

January 2021

Welcome to 2021,

The COVID-19 pandemic has created the greatest disruption of education systems in history, affecting nearly 1.6 billion learners in 190 countries.

According to UNESCO (2020a), school closures affected about 36,400,000 learners across Nigeria, including those in internally displaced camps. With an education system already burdened with low participation and learning achievements, the closure increases the challenge for children's education and has the potential to set back recent gains in education. Although some schools explored several mediums to keep their students engaged during the lockdown, many children in public schools where we work are disadvantaged, their parents cannot afford the requisite technology tools, and those in rural areas have poor connectivity, increasing exclusion and further widening the gap.

At Oando Foundation, we have learnt to lean in, innovate, strengthen partnerships, and explore more effective ways of supporting basic education access and delivery amid the pandemic. Our contributions have ranged from behavioural change communication in school communities, access to online learning resources for parents and children, psycho-social support to teachers, and school-level implementation of partner-projects under the Adopt-A-School Initiative.

We remain committed to supporting access to quality basic education for all through partnerships and advocacies geared towards improving learning outcomes.

We are pleased to share some of our key activities from 2020 with you!

ADVOCACY AT THE CORE

Through the Nigeria Annual Education Conference (NAEC) and Private Sector Advisory Group (PSAG), we continued to drive the course of Basic Education in Nigeria, ensuring we lend our voice to pertinent issues in the sector. Nigeria's Annual Education Conference themed "Building on effective, resilient and sustainable education system for Nigeria during and post COVID-19 pandemic: The way forward" provided opportunity to share evidence from our work with multilevel education stakeholders whilst participating in the discourse on leapfrogging innovations for the transformation of education delivery in Nigeria.

Similarly, we co-organized a virtual conference hosted by the PSAG to address the private sector education investment towards COVID-19 response and the emerging opportunity for Large-Scale impact. Panelist included the Minister of State for Education, Chukwuemeka Nwajiuba, CEO Chapel Hill Denham, Bolaji Balogun; Chief of Education, UNICEF Nigeria, Euphrates Wose and Head of Oando Foundation, Adekanla Adegoke.

The Webinar, among other things, identified key Education Investment areas and reflected on Government's education delivery, challenges, and opportunities; highlighted private sector contributions to the sector, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic; explored possible evidence-based private sector interventions post-COVID and engaged strategically with education stakeholders for a coordinated mid to long term response.

THE PRIVATE SECTOR ADVISORY GROUP NIGERIA PRESENTS A VIRTUAL SESSION

PANELISTS

- CHUKWUEMEKA NWAJIUBA, Minister of State for Education
- BOLAJI BALOGUN, CEO Chapel Hill Denham
- EUPHRATES WOSE, Chief of Education, UNICEF Nigeria
- ADEKANLA ADEGOKE, Head, Oando Foundation

TOPIC: "PRIVATE SECTOR EDUCATION INVESTMENT: COVID-19 RESPONSE AND EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LARGE-SCALE IMPACT"

MDOUPE ADEFESO-OLATEJU, MD, YEP Centre Moderator

LIVE



PARTNERSHIPS THAT WORK



We also expanded our partnership with Sumitomo Chemicals to promote environmental education and sustainable action against climate change in Lagos State through a joint project tagged 'Clean Our World'. The project aims to create awareness and empower children, teachers in 7 public primary schools and their host communities with the knowledge of plastic recycling and waste management, whilst encouraging the adoption of eco-conscious lifestyles. Benefitting school communities include Dele Ajomale Schools Complex (I-IV) Ilasamaja, Metropolitan Primary School, Orile-Iganmu, Olisa Primary School and Methodist Primary School, Mushin.

Partnerships are at the core of our strategy to scale opportunities for underserved children to access world-class education systems. Oando Foundation partnered with United States (USAID-AENN) and Sumitomo Chemical to improve infrastructure development in Mafoni Primary School, Maiduguri, establishing a fully equipped 15 desktops solar-powered digital learning (ICT) Centre and upgraded 2 ECCD classrooms creating a conducive learning environment with age-appropriate teaching and learning materials. Besides, teachers and care workers were trained to deploy age-appropriate child-centred approaches to stimulate learning and increase children engagement.

Recent reports estimated **OVER 32 million** tons of solid waste annually of which **> 30% is plastic.**

Reckless disposal of MSW has led to blockage of sewers and drainage networks and choking of water bodies causing increased flooding across cities. The effect of climate change is evident in rising temperatures, more intense and frequent weather events, and sea-level rise. Hence, creating awareness on plastic recycling, environmental responsibility and sustainability will help explain, inform, motivate, persuade, and encourage beneficiaries in target schools and communities to embrace behavioural changes necessary for long-term impact.

The first phase of the project was implemented at the Orile community where we have one of our adopted schools – Metropolitan Primary School.



1 Solar-powered Digital Learning (ICT) Centre



2 ECCD CLASSROOMS





UNHINDERED VOLUNTEERING

In celebration of International Volunteer Day, Staff of the Oando Energy Resources, the Foundations core funding partner - contributed to sponsor 25 children with the ancillary cost of education materials such as Teaching and learning materials, school uniforms, textbooks, under the Oando Foundation Scholar Programme. The formal handover ceremony was conducted virtually in adherence to Covid-19 guidelines. The importance of Volunteering was amplified to the virtual audience and a call was made for more volunteers to lend their time and resources towards supporting the education of marginalized children.

OANDO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Promoting Transiting and Completion

The impact of poverty on education globally remains one of the biggest challenges facing the achievement of SDG4 goals on access, equity, and inclusion. In Nigeria, despite compulsory free basic education in Nigeria, about 10.5 million Nigerian children are presently not out of school (UNICEF), the highest in the world. Oando Scholars programme supports transition and retention of intellectually gifted pupils from adopted schools through secondary education. The award covers tuition where applicable, as well as other ancillary costs including transportation, study materials, and uniforms.

Through the scholarship programme, Oando Foundation has directly impacted 1,153 students from poor socio-economic background to date. 56% of them have recorded remarkable strides, performing above 70% average consistently; others have represented their states and local governments at different academic competitions. In 2020, 309 scholars benefitted from the initiative.



1,153

STUDENTS IMPACTED

309

SCHOLARS BENEFITTED



TAP to reach all



Since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been an overwhelming response from both the public and private sector to support the work of multiple bodies providing food relief to the less privileged amongst us.

Supported by Oando Foundation, The Aggregator Platform (TAP) is a unique initiative inspired by the staff of Oando PLC (Humans of Oando) as an aggregator platform for all COVID-19 related intervention efforts that are focused on the sustenance of livelihoods in less privileged communities across Nigeria, starting with Lagos State.



Status 31-12-2020,

A TOTAL OF
N37.5m
RAISED

10 NGOs
SIGNED ONTO TAP

REACHING
5,363 HOUSEHOLDS
ACROSS 21 COMMUNITIES
IN LAGOS WITH FOOD PALLIATIVES

Our goals remain the same – provide underserved children access to world-class education structures. 2021 will be no different, we will deploy ourselves, our resources and leverage our network to amplify the voices of unheard children, working with old partners, while we forge new ones. We are excited about increased opportunities to transform more lives through education in 2021.

Adegoke Adeganla
Head Oando Foundation