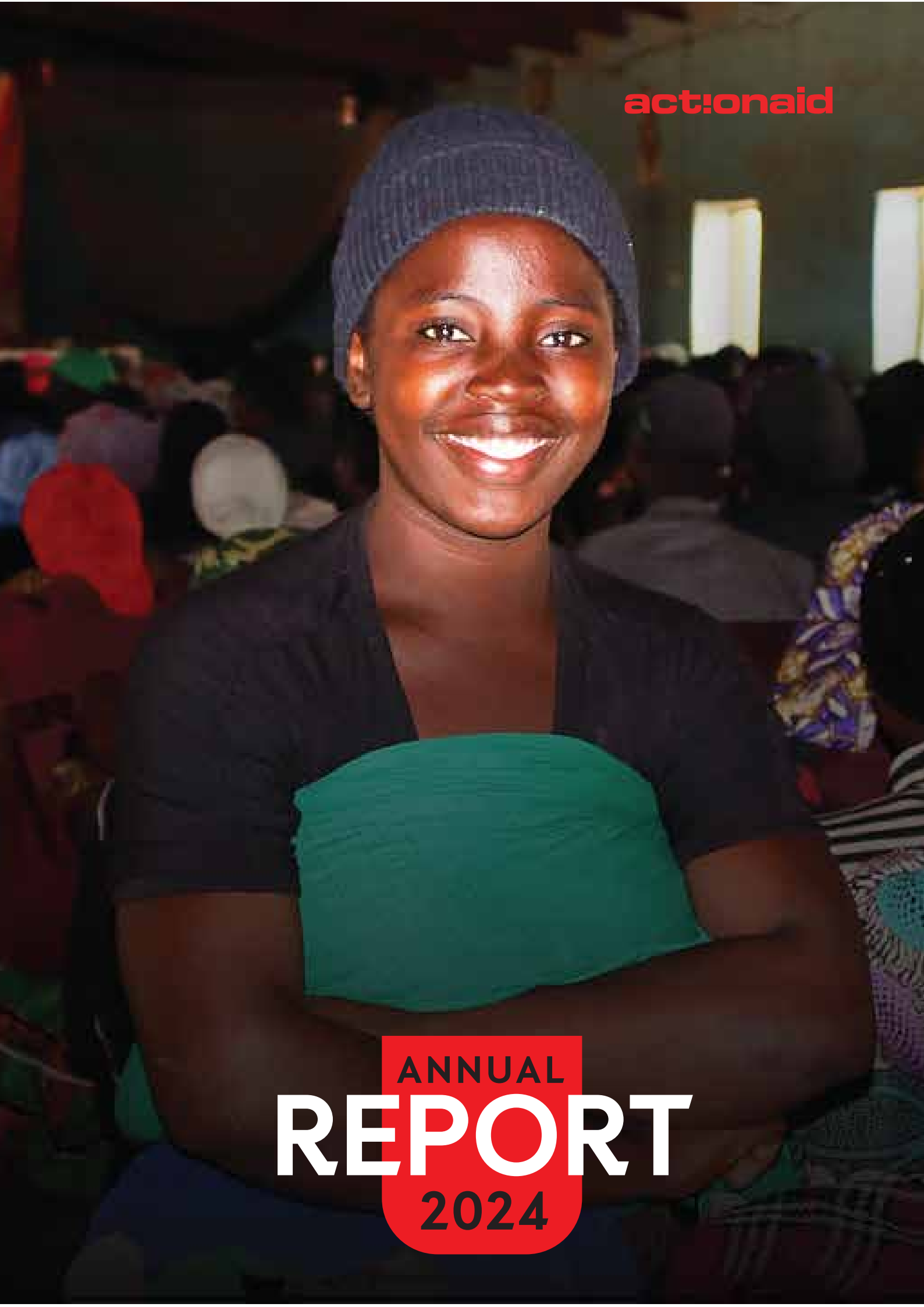




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ANNUAL
REPORT
2024

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Published by:

ActionAid Nigeria

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ISBN:

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LIST OF ACRONYM

AAN	ActionAid Nigeria
BAY	Borno, Adamawa, Yobe
BMZ	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung)
BVN	Bank Verification Number
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme.
CAC	Corporate Affairs Commission
CAEPI	Citizens Action to End Poverty and Injustice
CATAI	Center for Advocacy Transparency and Accountability Initiative
CFM	Community Feedback Mechanisms
CIF	Clement Isong Foundation
CLEAP	Citizens' Led Engagements on Judicial Accountability in Post Election Justice Delivery in Nigeria
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CRSA	Climate Resilience Sustainable Agriculture
CSP	Country Strategy Paper
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FCDO	Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
GBP	Great Britain Pounds
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GRPS	Gender Responsive Public Service
HALI	Hallmark Leadership Initiative
HDP	Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus
HHs	HouseHolds

HOMEF	Health of Mother Earth Foundation
HRBA	Human Rights Based Approaches
IFSP	Inclusive Food Systems Project
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPD	Institutional Partners & Development
IYCF	Infant Young Child Feeding
IYN	Inspired Youth Network
KIRH	Knowledge, Innovation and Resource Hub
LNOB	Leave No one Behind
LGA	Local Government Area
LRP	Local Rights Programme
MOTION	Movements for the Transformation of Nigeria
MUAC	Mid Upper Arm Circumference
NAP	National Action Plan
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
NIN	National Identification Number
NHF	Nigerian Humanitarian Fund
PAVE	Partnership Against Violent Extremism
PCVE	Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism
PWD	Persons with Disability
RAAF	Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food
RECONNECT	Reintegration and Empowerment for Connecting and Nurturing Opportunities of Returning Migrants and other Vulnerable population
R & D	Research and Development
SARVE	Systems and Structure Strengthening Approach Against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism
SPRING	Strengthening Peace and Resilience in Nigeria

SSDO	South Saharan Social Development Organisation
SWOFON	Small Scale Women Farmers Organisation in Nigeria
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
WACHEF	Women and Children Health Empowerment Foundation,
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WEAVE	Women Empowerment for management of Acute Malnutrition and Vital WASH Enhancement.
WFP	World Food Programme
YHA	Youth Hub Africa



Message from Board Chair

Rabi Isma, Chairperson, Board of Directors, ActionAid Nigeria

It is a privilege to share this message in my first year as Chairperson of the ActionAid Nigeria Board of Directors. Although I have served on the Board for some time, stepping into this new leadership role in August 2024 was both an honour and a moment of deep reflection, especially as it coincided with a major milestone for the organisation: the launch of our 10-year Country Strategy Paper, CAEPI – Citizens Action to End Poverty and Injustice (2024–2034).

CAEPI represents a significant evolution in ActionAid Nigeria's strategic thinking. It is the first time we are committing, from the outset to a decade-long vision, a bold and radical commitment of working more with allies especially social movements in jointly identifying pain points and taking collective action for the eradication of poverty and social injustice in Nigeria.

I commend the leadership of my predecessor, Dr. Jummai Umar-Ajijola, whose dedication and steady guidance helped shape the strong governance foundation we build upon today. I also salute the incredible efforts of our staff, partners, the communities we serve, and allies whose commitment continues to drive progress in challenging contexts - from advancing agroecology and women's rights, to deepening civic participation, and responding to humanitarian crises.

Though I assumed the Chairperson role midway through the year, I have been inspired by the energy and intentionality with which the new strategy has been embraced by all ActionAid Nigeria Staff and across the federation. The next decade will require resilience, innovation, and unyielding solidarity. I am confident that ActionAid Nigeria, under the leadership of our Country Director and in partnership with communities and movements, is well-prepared for the journey ahead.

On behalf of the Board, I thank all who are walking this path with us - donors, supporters, partners, and the communities at the heart of everything we do. Together, we can realise a future where dignity, justice, and equity are not the exception, but the norm.



Message from Country Director

Andrew Mamedu, Country Director ActionAid Nigeria

This year, we took a bold step forward with the launch of our new strategy that aims to be radical in its approach and shift power to the people. We believe in the people power in tackling poverty and injustice in Nigeria. At the heart of this strategy is a simple yet powerful truth: people have the power individually, collectively, and through social movements to drive lasting change. Our focus remains clear: we stand with youth, women, and persons living with disabilities (PWDs), ensuring that their voices are not just heard but actively shape policies and decisions that affect their lives.

Our approach is deeply informed by the current political landscape, where anti-poor policies continue to be implemented at federal and state levels. While promises of future economic stability are made, the reality is that millions of Nigerians are facing hardships. Yet, amid these sacrifices by citizens, the government has not demonstrated the same level of restraint in public expenditure and appointments. This calls for bold advocacy, collective organizing, and unwavering solidarity, all of which are embedded in our new strategy.

2025 has also been a year of organizational strengthening. We successfully reconstituted our Board and General Assembly, reinforcing our governance structures to ensure that we remain accountable, transparent, and responsive to the needs of the people we serve. Internally, we have worked diligently to improve our systems and processes, enhancing efficiency and impact.

A key highlight of this year has been our commitment to staff welfare. We understand that our people are our greatest asset, and we have taken significant steps to ensure a more supportive and enabling work environment. Additionally, we have expanded our funding base, welcoming new donors who share our vision. This diversification of resources will empower us to scale our impact and sustain our work in the years ahead.

As we look to the future, we do so with a renewed sense of purpose. Our journey is far from over, but we are emboldened by the resilience of our communities, the dedication of our partners, and the passion of every individual who believes in the power of collective action. Together, we will continue to challenge injustice, amplify voices, and build a Nigeria where no one is left behind.



About ActionAid Nigeria

ActionAid Nigeria (AAN) is a social justice organisation working to eradicate poverty through gender equality and the redistribution of wealth and power. We apply a human rights-based approach to development. AAN mobilises active agencies of people to confront unequal power relations that exclude them or others from participating in decision-making and limit their access to and control of resources and opportunities. We also challenge the norms and practices that undermine women's rights and promote patriarchy in formal and informal spheres. These we believe will contribute to the realisation of social justice for all.

We collaborate with state and non-state actors (government, CSOs, movements, networks, allies, and other relevant stakeholders) and this collaboration works towards shifting power to the people, promoting equality, and redistributing wealth and power through a multidimensional, human-rights-based approach to development. We mobilise active agencies of people to confront unequal power relations that exclude them or others from decision-making and limit their access to and control over resources and opportunities.

ActionAid Nigeria was established in 1999 and registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission in 2007. As a national non-governmental, not for profit, non-partisan organisation and an affiliate member of the ActionAid International Federation which is registered as a non-profit in the Netherlands. Federation members maintain a strong relationship of interdependence and mutual accountability, ensuring a strong balance between self-rule and shared rule.



Vision

A just, equitable and sustainable world in which every person enjoys the right to a life of dignity, freedom from poverty and all forms of oppression



Mission

To achieve social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication by working with people living in poverty and exclusion, their communities, people's organisations, activists, social movements and supporters.



Values



Humility



Independence



Integrity



Equity and Justice



Courage of conviction



Mutual Respect

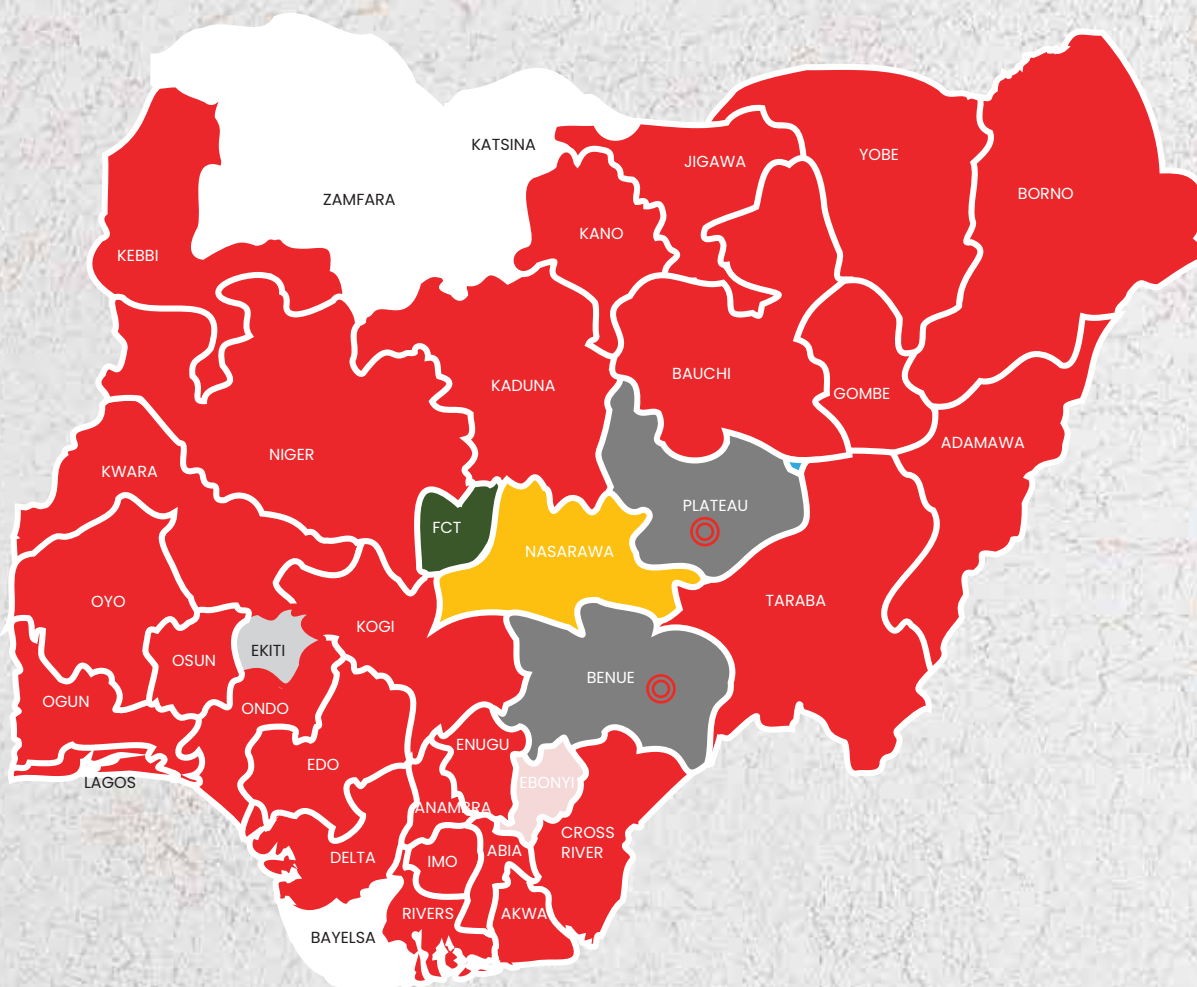


Solidarity with the poor



Climate Consciousness

AAN Foot Print in 2024



NO AAN PRESENCE

AAN PROJECT STATE

STARTFUND RESPONSE

HDP ACADEMY

PHASED OUT LRP

AAN Geographical Footprints

30

States

28

Partners

26

Institutional
Funded
Projects

12

Local
Rights
Programmes



The Nigerian Context 2024

Nigeria is facing a resounding economic downturn, that is fuelling poverty and inequality, amidst increasing public expenditures. As of December 2024 - inflation was at 34.6%, naira devaluation averaged N1,600/\$, and there was a sluggish GDP growth of 2.9%. With a public debt burden exceeding 50b USD[1], constituting more than 40% of the GDP, fiscal sustainability is significantly threatened. Public expenditure is on the increase, but the country's infrastructures are deteriorating rapidly; poverty is on the increase with more than 133 million Nigerians living in multidimensional poverty[2]. Consequently, the future of young people, next generation of the unborn and even the present generation is being mortgaged. Government needs to look inwards for domestic resource mobilisation, through blocking off revenue leakages - this is possible with simple automation of the financial systems, ensuring public institutions remit generated revenues, and mustering the political will to reduce the cost of governance. Contributing to the weakened economy are declining oil production, outright oil theft, removal of subsidy and floating of the Naira. The inability to diversify the economy, rent seeking behaviour, outright capture of the economy by political elites and the imposition of neo-colonial model of economic development to Nigeria has heightened the situation.

MULTI-DIMENSIONAL POVERTY

The NBS 2022 multidimensional poverty index survey revealed that 63% of persons living within Nigeria (133 million people) are multi dimensionally poor. Jobs as pathways to ending poverty continue to be a challenge as Nigeria's unemployment rate was 33.3% in the fourth quarter of 2020, with youth unemployment being particularly high at 42.5%. Recent pronouncement on unemployment rate of circa 4.1% remains controversial as it stems more from a methodology change than a sense of unemployment going down.

SOCIAL PROTECTION SERVICES

There is a stark contrast in economic success and wealth accumulation between the few rich and the large majority who bear the huge burden of poverty with Gini coefficient increasing from the already high 31% in 2018 to 35% as at end of 2022. Through the National Social Investment Programme (NSIP), the previous administration implemented

the Social Protection Programme as an effort towards resource redistribution, as pathway to ending poverty. Despite the prioritisation of this programme, the framework of implementation was not wholesomely articulated to deliver the desired broader objectives. The programme experienced both institutional and implementation gaps, ranging from poor planning, corruption, mismanagement of resources. ActionAid Nigeria's evaluation of the programme reveals that the 8 years social protection programme at best did not move the needle for people living in poverty.

FOOD INSECURITY

By end of 2023, about 18.6 million people in Nigeria were food insecure while 26.5 million people, across the country were projected to face acute hunger between June and August 2024, a major reason for declaration of state of emergency on food security by the government of Nigeria. The worst affected are the poor, women, children (35 million children projected to suffer from acute malnutrition) and young people living in poor communities. ActionAid Nigeria's Research on high cost of food, fuel and energy revealed that poor people especially women are opting for negative coping strategies and are being pushed further into poverty and marginalisation.



Source: NBS



Economic Crisis

34.6%
Inflation (Dec 2024)

N1,600 = \$1
Exchange Rate (Average)

>\$50 billion
Public debt



Poverty & Inequality

133 million
Nigerians (63%) are multidimensionally poor

Gini Coefficient:
2018: 31%
2022: 35%
(increase = more inequality)

42.5%
Youth Unemployment (Q4 2020)

33.3%
General Unemployment (Q4 2020)

4.1%
Recent Unemployment Figure (Contested)

WOMENS RIGHTS, YOUNG PEOPLE AND PWD

Status of Women, Young People and PWD. Nigeria ranks 123rd out of 146 in the 2022 Global Gender Gap Report, a decline from 111th six years ago. This is largely due to entrenched patriarchy, which limits women's political participation, leadership, and overall agency. Women face poorer health outcomes, including high maternal mortality and teenage pregnancy rates. Poverty further deepens gender inequality, especially in agriculture where women form the majority but own less than 7% of land. Despite ratifying human rights instruments, weak enforcement of laws continues to expose women and girls to exclusion and violence.

This systemic exclusion is not limited to adult women, it also significantly affects young people, especially young women. Young people under 25 make up 60% of Nigeria's population, yet 44% are unemployed. They are largely excluded from governance and decision-making, making them vulnerable to radicalisation. Young women face even greater challenges, including low literacy, maternal mortality, violence, economic exclusion, and limited access to resources mirroring the structural inequalities experienced by adult women.



Womens Rights, Young People and PWD

According to the 2022
Global Gender Gap Report



ranks

123 out of 146

Young people under

25

make up

60%



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW



OUR PRIORITIES

Priority 1

Secure, Resilient and Thriving Communities:

Secure and resilient communities are communities that provide protection and public safety, emergency response and preparedness, reinforce social support systems, and ensure economic stability. Recognising that the right to security involve not just defending against threats but empowering communities to thrive in the face of adversity.

Priority 2

Improved Living Standard:

Thriving Communities: Improved living standard, thriving communities are communities with appropriate social amenities, employment and income, and secured assets.

Priority 3

Good Governance: Equitable Access and Thriving Communities:

Equitable access and thriving communities are dividends of democracy and good governance characterising transformed communities where everyone irrespective of status has access to inclusive and gender responsive public service.

Priority 4

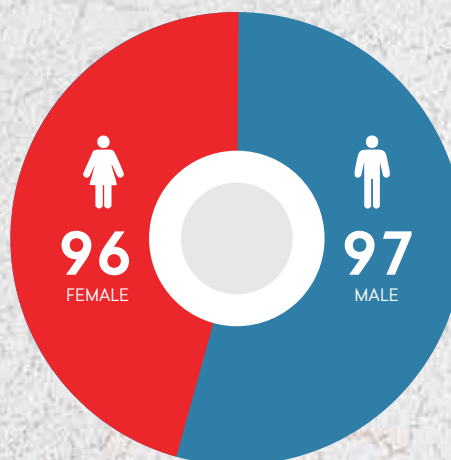
Agile, Effective and Thriving Organisation:

Agile and effective organisation is AAN operating environment, which is nimble to respond to needs, positioned for growth, adaptability and sustainability.

OUR ORGANISATION

Staff composition:


NUMBER OF STAFF:
192



AAN 2024 Reach:

 Total Direct Reach
312,612

Category	Count
WOMEN	161,416
MEN	62,480
YOUTH	14,825
CHILDREN	73,480

 Total PWDs
411

Category	Count
WOMEN	319
MEN	96

 Total Indirect Reach
1,221,473 

 Total Reach
1,534,085



Research and Knowledge Products

01

Austerity Measures,
Poverty and Gender
inequality In Nigeria

02

Analysis of 2024
Appropriation bill

03

ActionAid's CLEAP
Justice Knowledge
Products

04

Agroecology Guide for
Farmers, Gardeners and
Agricultural Extension
Agents

05

The Gendered Face of
Climate Chaos

06

Impact of the
Removal of Fuel
Subsidies and Nairas
Floatation Policies on
Nigerian Women and
Girls

07

Alternative Cases to
Dirty Polluting
Agribusiness and
Energy Projects and
Their Ecosystem In
Nigeria

08

Report For Nation-Wide
Survey on the
Engagement Of Private
Sector for Establishment
of Peace Endowment
Fund to Support CSOs in
Peace Building in
Nigeria

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Handbook

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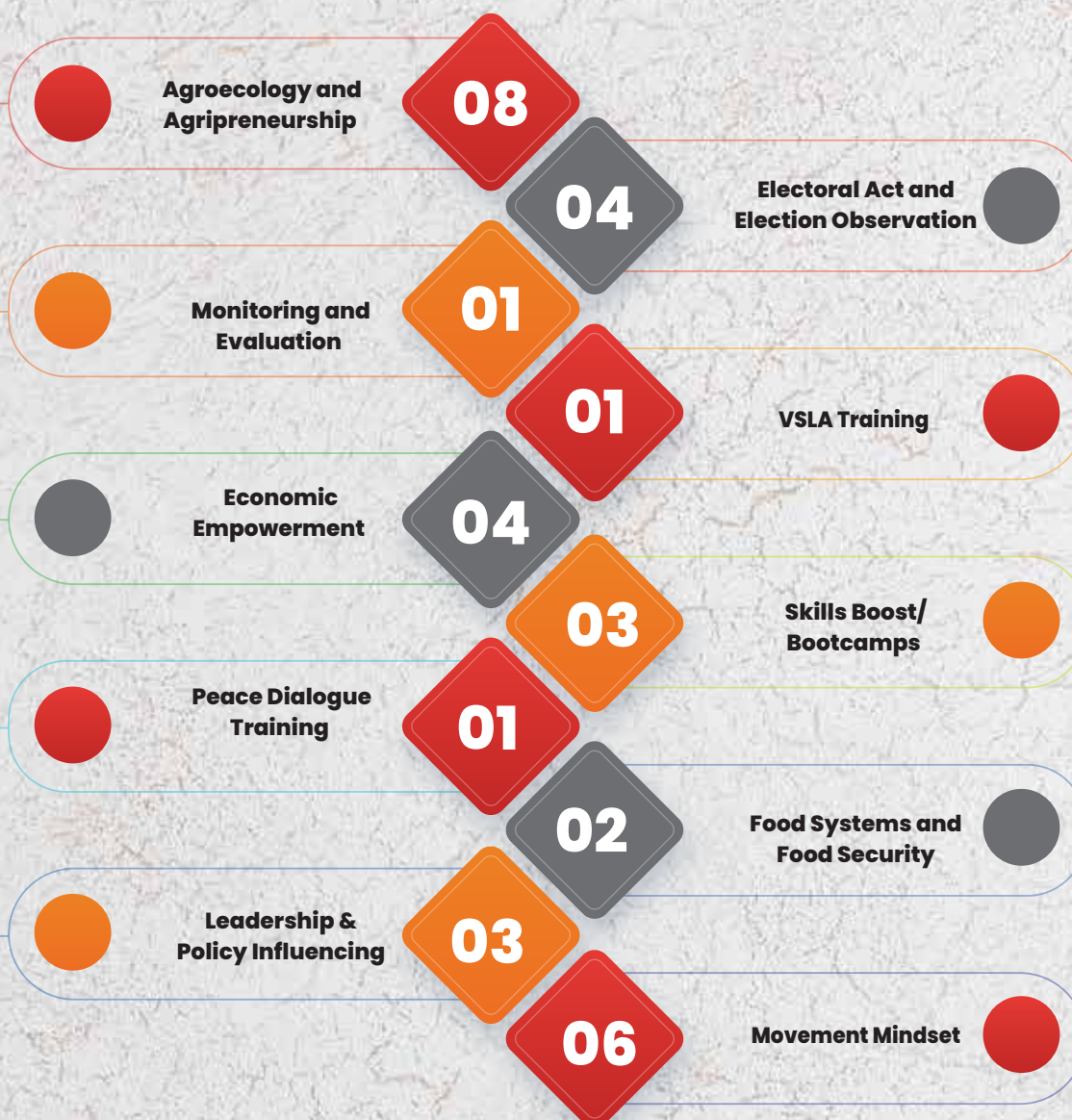
20

Youth in Crisis

21

Shifting the power:
Advancing Girl Led
Research

Numbers of Capacity Building Conducted



Partners



28
partners



Institutions Partnered with

- University of Maiduguri
- Nasarawa State University
- American University of Nigeria



Movements and Networks

- Activista
- Education Rights Campaign
- Nigerian Earth Warriors
- What About Us
- Ibeno Advocacy Network
- Take it Back Movement

Donors:

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS & DEVELOPMENT (IPD) SPECIFIC 1

Activities	AAN Thematic Focus/Responsible	Status
BMZ Resilience and social cohesion (peace) project in Bade LGA of Yobe state.	Humanitarian	NGN439,489,619
World Food Programme Monitoring and Accountability Project	Humanitarian	NGN450,490,170
Start Fund Alert 811 Nigeria (Displacement due to conflict)	Humanitarian	GBP 167,763.74
Citizens' Led Engagements on Judicial Accountability in Post Election Justice Delivery in Nigeria	Governance	\$100,000 (Additional resources)
Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) II	Governance	GBP 590,907.36
Public service Wage Bill Research	Governance	GBP 4,264.64
GRPS Survey	Governance	GBP 4,264.64
Total Raised/Cash at hand	NGN803,907,118.92	GBP 477,865.30

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS & DEVELOPMENT (IPD) – SPECIFIC 2

Projects Full Name	Sector	Funder	Amount	Duration
System Strengthening Approach Against Radicalization and Violent Extremism	Humanitarian	GCERF	2,500,000 USD	4 Years
International Humanitarian and Resilience Team	Humanitarian	--	--	--
Global Platform-CLIMATE CHANGE	Governance	--	3000 USD	--
STARTFUND	Humanitarian	STARTFUND	100,775 GBP	N/A
Women Voices and Leadership	Women's Right	Global Affairs Canada	--	--
Strategic Partnership Agreement II	Governance	AA Denmark via DANIDA	--	--
Leave No one behind	Governance	AA Denmark via DANIDA	50,000 EUR	--
Strategic Partnerships Agreement	Governance	AA Denmark via DANIDA	--	--
Global Social Movement	Social Mobilisation	--	--	--
LRP GRPS Research	Governance	AAI	5000 USD	--
Scalling up Public investment in Agriculture	Food and Agric	BMGF	--	--

Projects Full Name	Sector	Funder	Amount	Duration
World Food Programme –(BMZ)	Humanitarian	WFP	N373,723,000	1 Year
Strategic Partnership and Agro Ecology and Climate Justice	Food and Agric	ActionAid International through the Transformative Impact Fund	--	--
Girl Led Research	IASL	TCC Foundation – AA UK	--	--
Citizen Lead Electoral Accountability Project (CLEAP)	Governance	Ford Foundation	--	--
Multistakeholder Action for the Prevention of Gender Based Violence	Womens Right	Ford Foundation	--	--
United Nation Organisation Coordinating Humanitaria Affairs	Humanitarian	Nigerian Humanitarian Fund (NHF)	500,000 USD	--
Women Empowerment for Management of Acute Malnutrition and vital wash enhancement.	Humanitarian	UNOCHA	--	--
World Food Programme – Monitoring And Accountability	Humanitarian	--	--	--
Innovative Action for School Feeding Program	Food and Agric	ECOWAS RAAF (Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food)	312,500 USD	3 years



Project:



Thematic area



Donor

Multi-stakeholders Action
For The Prevention of
Gender Based Violence
(MAP GBV)

Women's right

Ford
Foundation

Strategic Partnership
Agreement II (SPA II)

Governance

DANIDA

Leave No One
Behind(LNOB)

Governance

ICSC through
DANIDA

Strategic Partnerships
for Agroecology and
Climate Justice in
West Africa
(SPAC-West Africa)

Food and Agric

AA
International

Inclusive Food
Systems Project (IFSP)

Food and Agric

GIZ

Innovative Action for
School Feeding
Programme

Food and Agric

ECOWAS

SUPIA 2 (Scaling Up of
Public Investments In
Agriculture)

Food and Agric

Bill and Mellinda
Gates Foundation

Local Rights Programs

LRP

AA UK and AA
Italy

Reintegration and
Empowerment for Connecting
and Nurturing Opportunities of
Returning Migrants and other
Vulnerable population
(RECONNECT)

Humanitarian

GIZ



Project:



Thematic area



Donor

Advancing girl-led research

Women's right

TCC
Foundation –
AA UK

WEAVE PROJECT

Humanitarian

UNOCHA

Monitoring and
Accountability Project

Humanitarian

WFP

Social Cohesion,
Accountability and
Peace Building Project

Humanitarian

BMZ



Social Movement as a Vehicle for Driving Change

As we launched our CSP in 2024, we delved into dynamic approaches to explore the transformative impact of social movements, igniting actions from grassroots communities to the subnational and national.



EMERGENCE OF GRASSROOT MOVEMENT

In Akwa Ibom 'Ambeghe (It is my concern) Movement has emerged, which is dedicated to driving accountability and community development. In Ibeano, the Youth Advocacy Network mobilised a campaign demanding accountability for oil spillage in their communities. Similarly, in Lagos the #LightUpNaija campaign and the #WeAreHungry campaigns have fuelled advocacy for better governance and improved living conditions. These initiatives have further strengthened collaboration among social movements nationwide, leading to mass actions such as #EndBadGovernance and #EndHungerAndHardship.



FORMATION OF MOTION - MOVEMENTS OF MOVEMENTS MOTION

AAN reaffirmed its purpose in using movements as a vehicle for change with the formation of MOTION (Movements for the Transformation of Nigeria), its flagship, nationally led movement. MOTION, comprising 66 organisations across the country and representing a population of over 30 million Nigerians, including women, youth, and experienced activists will act as a powerful force for accountability and resistance against systemic inequalities in Nigeria.



#EndBadGovernanceInNigeria

We supported social movements during critical struggles, including taking leadership roles and providing mentorship during the #EndBadGovernanceInNigeria campaign.





ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL PEOPLE POWER FORUM

Our efforts in building a movement mindset extend beyond national borders to the regional level. We hosted the inaugural Regional GOLD (Global Organising on Leadership and Development) Training for West Africa, bringing together participants from Sierra Leone and other countries. This milestone led to the establishment of the Regional People Power Forum, a dynamic platform uniting activists from Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Mali to foster stronger regional collaboration and collective action.



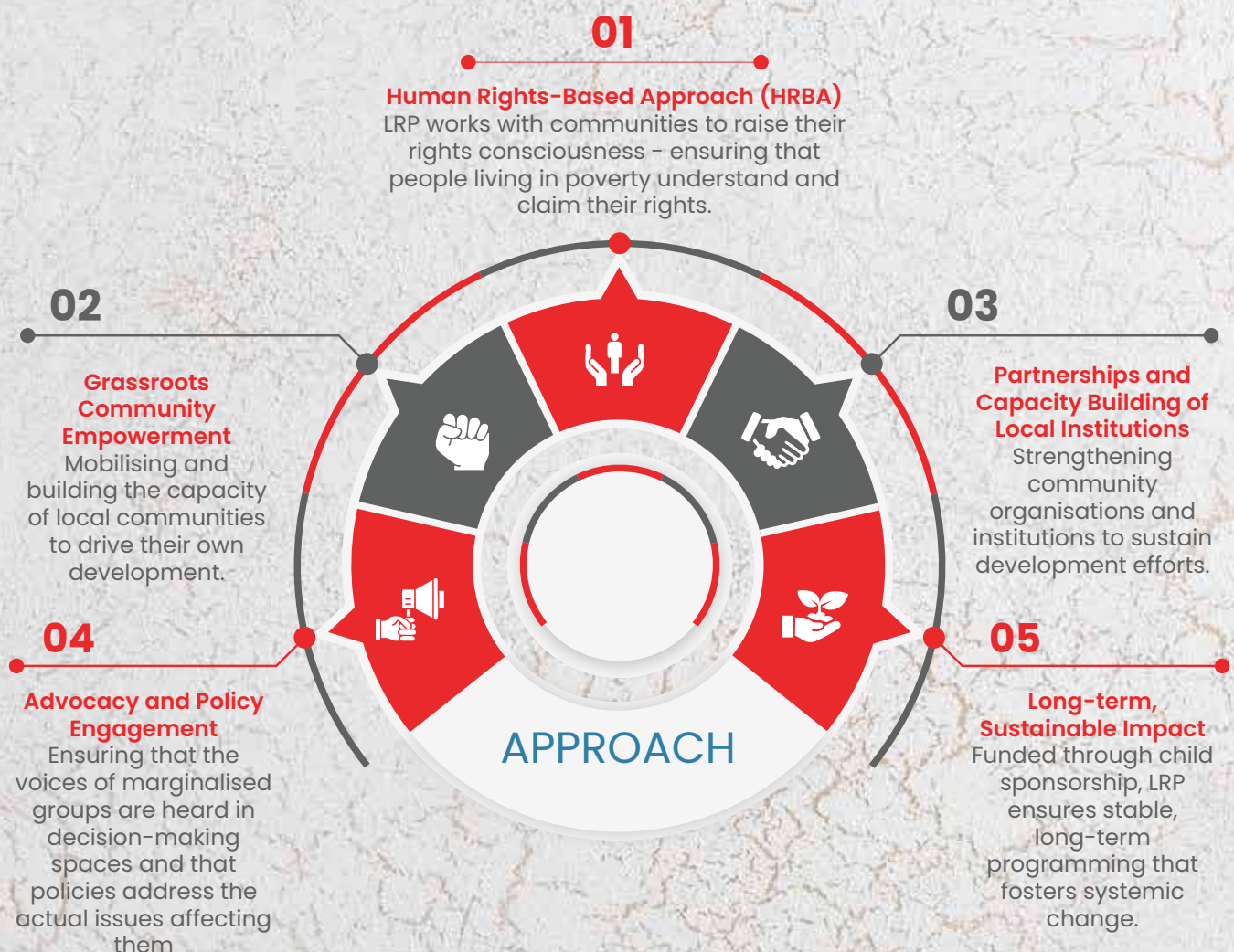
As with every movement approach, there are risks of clampdown and arrest. AAN continue to monitor these incidences provided legal support as part of ensuring citizen's rights to freedom were upheld.

The GOLD TOT in Enugu inspired the formation of the Igwebuike Movement ("Strength in Numbers"), mobilizing young people to hold government accountable in the region while the participants from Bayelsa state have accessed the Bayelsa State Development Plan.

Our Programmes

Local Rights Programme (LRPs)

The Local Rights Programme is ActionAid's integrated development and community-driven programme, which recognises that the pursuit of justice and the eradication of poverty can only be achieved through unique partnerships among all stakeholders. LRP represents a significant commitment to social justice and community-driven development. The programme strives to improve the socio-economic status of poor women, men, young people, children, and persons with disabilities by mobilising communities and building their capacities to implement people-centred development programmes.



Key achievements of LRPs in 2024



43,585

Benefitting From Gender Responsive Physical Infrastructure Project

- Improved access to education services through the construction of 2 blocks of classrooms each in 7 communities across Yobe, Ekiti, Jigawa, Cross River, and Niger States.
- Increased access to safe drinking water with the construction of 10 boreholes across 5 states: Yobe, Taraba, Cross River, Niger, and Kaduna.
- Improved digital access through the establishment of 3 ICT centres in 3 communities in the FCT and Niger State.
- Strengthened economic empowerment with the provision of 5 income-generating equipment in 2 communities in Ekiti and Niger States.
- Enhanced community safety and mobility with the installation of 29 solar streetlights in Badagry, Lagos State.





In August 2024, ActionAid Nigeria marked a defining moment in its 25-year journey towards lasting social justice with the official launch of its 10-year Country Strategy Paper (CSP) titled *"Citizens' Action to End Poverty and Injustice (2024–2034)."*

The new CSP represents a bold commitment to eradicating poverty and dismantling systemic inequality by centering the power of citizens and social movements. It builds on ActionAid Nigeria's legacy of grassroots mobilisation and policy advocacy, while setting a clear direction for the next decade around four strategic priorities:

Priority 1: Secure, Resilient and Thriving Communities.

Priority 2: Improved living standard: Thriving Communities.

Priority 3: Good governance: Equitable access and Thriving Communities.

Priority 4: Agile, Effective and Thriving Organisation.

This CSP aims to confront the deepening poverty and social injustice faced by citizens in Nigeria. As poverty and inequality deepens, discrimination against women, girls, young people and persons with disabilities persists due to lack of equitable access to services and information, and educational disparities which hinders their fundamental rights and limits better outcomes in their lives.

The key to igniting change lies in mobilising and organising citizens at all levels to demand accountability and challenge the existing inequalities and injustice. By empowering citizens to challenge inequalities for safe, resilient, and thriving communities with equitable access to services and sustainable living standards, we aim to shift power dynamics and address the root causes of poverty and inequality.

In this new CSP, we will premise our work on mobilising citizens to demand for secure, resilient communities with a focus on equitable access to services, dignified employment, and improved living standard. This would target the systemic drivers of poverty, including social injustice and inequality, ultimately leading to reduced poverty and inequality in Nigeria.

Thus, we will focus on four key areas– **ORGANISE, ACT, SHIFT, THRIVE.**

Our success will be measured through clear indicators that will be established to track progress and evaluate the effectiveness of our interventions. We will also adopt context-specific approaches that acknowledge the unique challenges and opportunities we encounter. Incorporating an intersectional lens, we have prioritised the inclusion and empowerment of marginalised and vulnerable groups within our target, ensuring that our efforts address the diverse needs and realities of those most affected by poverty and social injustice.

Priority 1: Secure, Resilient and Thriving Communities

Close out of WVL Project

SMILEY CHARITY FILM AWARDS

ActionAid won the Smiley Charity Film Awards in the International Impact category. With its film on Human Costs of the Food Crisis, shedding light on the stories of five incredible women – Liza, Meem, Fauziya, Shazida, and Rina – who play vital roles in local food systems and communities in Nigeria and Bangladesh.

Human Costs of the Food Crisis | Smiley Charity Film Awards



GIRLS LEADING CHANGE THROUGH ADVANCING THE GIRL LED RESEARCH PROJECT

AAN is advancing and empowering girls to lead on research and advocacy for policy changes. 17 girls in Nigeria joined their counterpart in Sierra Leone to create a global network of researchers as they lead evidence based discussions regarding issues affecting girls globally.

FINANCIAL INCLUSION OF WOMEN THROUGH VSLAS

Women continued to expand their visibility in development by deliberately making more financial contributions to community development and claiming their spaces. This is evidenced by the successes recorded in women's peer education and VSLA. In 2024, the WVL project recorded overall success in the VSLA projects.

Overall Summary

Total Local Government Areas (LGAs) Covered Across State	67
Total Communities Covered with VSLA Scheme Activity	203
Total Groups Established	547
Total Women in VSLA Groups	14,066
Total Amount Women Saved	N198,323,464
Total Amount Cash Share-out	N218,155,810.4

Overall Summary

State	LGAs Covered	Communities Covered	VSLA Groups	Women Involved	Amount Women Saved	Amount Cash Share-out
Bauchi State	18	89	181	3,920	297,408,254	295,176,501
Kebbi State	29	71	108	2,524	65,895,800	72,485,380
Kwara State	16	32	40	960	35,756,000	39,331,600
Bauchi State	3	10	10	137	9,567,155	10,523,871.5
Enugu State	2	4	8	145	175,443	0

- **14,106** women VSLAs raised **229,155,810.4 NGN** (Jigawa, Enugu, Cross River, FCT, Taraba, Bauchi, Kebbi, Kwara, Lagos)

- **519** women from Sabara in Jigawa, provided with financial assistance ranging from **N30,000** to **N80,000** – **51** women from, Jigawa successfully opened bank accounts linked to their BVN and NIN.

- **16** girls completed secondary education in Jigawa. They represent the first female graduates in their community 10 teachers recruited across communities in LRPs

- **2000** people provided with access to water using motorised borehole in Dagbasode.

- Boreholes also provided in Pakulung and Bolimika communities, Taraba with a population of approx 4000 residents

- Increased enrollment from 5 to 300 students in Tundun Wada School, Yobe.

- **9,990** children supported with educational materials in 2024: Jigawa) FCT, Ekiti, Yobe, Cross River, Enugu, Niger, Jigawa, Taraba)



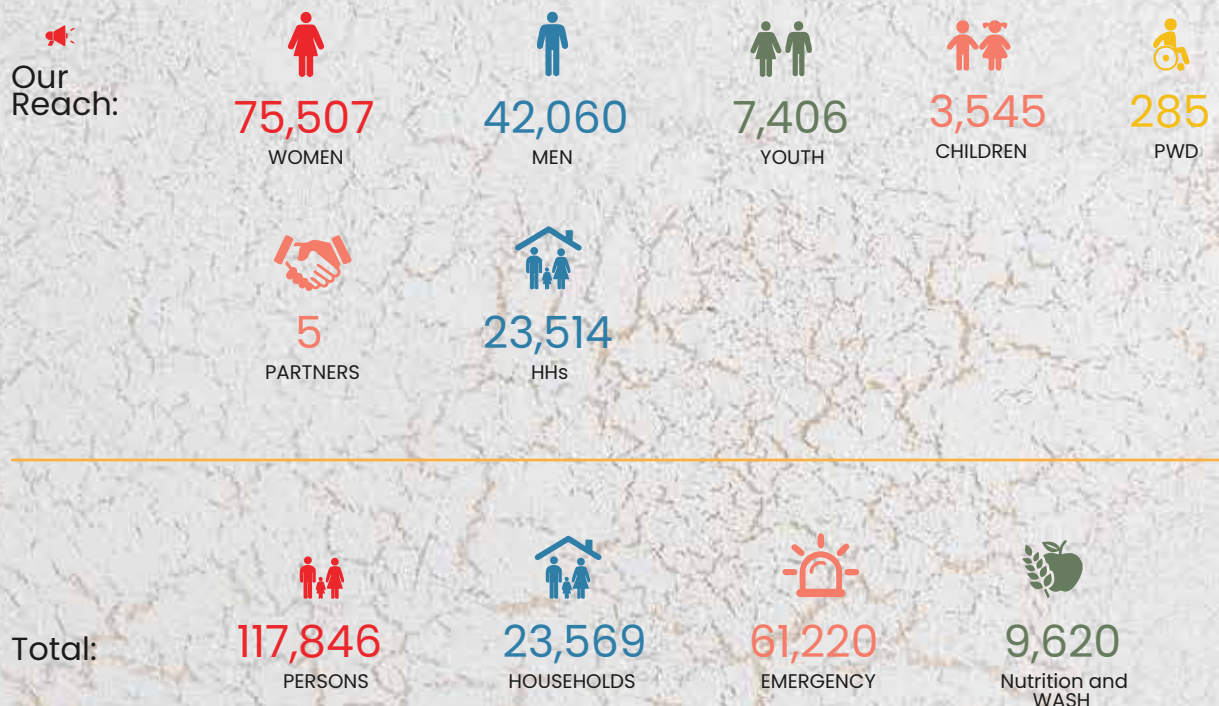
Humanitarian Programme

ActionAid Nigeria believes in the effectiveness of partnerships to deliver humanitarian assistance. In 2024, we responded to ongoing emergencies across Nigeria, including insurgency-affected areas in the Northeast, conflict-hit regions in the Middle Belt, and unforeseen crisis such as nationwide flooding. Our six humanitarian projects were implemented in partnership, as highlighted in the table below:

Projects Full Name	Sector
Start fund	Start Network
System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism (SARVE III)	GCERF (Donor) DAG,
Monitoring and Accountability Project	WFP
BMZ	WFP
WEAVE	NHF
Strategic Partnerships Agreement (SPA II)	DANIDA

- In 2024, our humanitarian office in Shani, Borno State, was closed due to unfavourable government policies. However, all staff were successfully redeployed to the Yobe State BMZ project, which expanded its reach from 5 to 10 council wards in Bade LGA. This was made possible through the strengthening of Community Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs), and continued training and support to structures such as Community Action and Response Teams (CARTs) and Peace Clubs.
- The BMZ project gained growing recognition and acceptance among stakeholders. The Deputy Governor of Yobe State participated in key community-level activities, including the formalisation of Community Youth Advocacy structures, a state-level budget town hall, a cultural festival, and the review of the Peace Club manual.
- We expanded our WFP portfolio with the Monitoring and Accountability (M&A) project, implemented in 11 LGAs of Yobe State. The project focused on scaling accountability and protection mechanisms, and supporting WFP's response planning through targeted assessments.

- The SARVE III project entered its third year, significantly scaling up Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE) efforts. Key achievements included supporting PAVE in establishing the Knowledge, Innovation, and Resource Hub (KIRH) to improve coordination and learning; producing knowledge products that strengthened Nigeria's PCVE architecture; and hosting a national-level Community of Practice to drive collaboration among stakeholders.
- Additionally, SARVE III supported the National Counter-Terrorism Centre to begin reviewing the National Action Plan on PCVE, while advocating for the adoption of a "whole-of-society" approach at state and local levels to ensure inclusive, community-driven strategies.
- In Nasarawa, advocacy efforts initiated under SARVE II advanced the Youth Commission Bill. Across all SARVE interventions in 2024, we reached a total of 33,651 individuals.
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START FUND

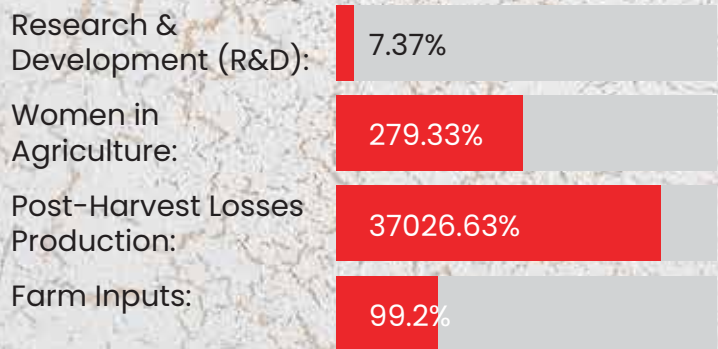
- We responded to three major emergencies in Plateau, Benue, and Kaduna States through the Start Fund intervention, reaching 61,220 individuals with support in the form of cash assistance, non-food items, dignity kits, water provision, construction of critical WASH structures (such as toilets and boreholes), as well as hygiene sensitisation.
- 9,620 persons were reached with services covering both nutrition and WASH through the WEAVE Project, in partnership with the Jami Al Hakeem Foundation and our four NHF-funded projects supporting nutrition in communities in Yobe State.
- Three academic campuses are fully operational in Yola, Maiduguri, and Keffi through the HDP Practitioners Course. Through these campuses, 356 practitioners have been trained under the HDP Academy.
- Five youth-led organisations were engaged as emergency response partners in our communities, strengthening our commitment to enhancing youth-driven emergency response at the community level.

Priority 2: Improved Living Standard: Thriving Communities.

Advocacy Wins:
Increased Agricultural Budgets in AAN–SWOFON Partner States Boost Key Areas for Smallholder Women and Youth in the 2024 Budget



Kwara State





Gombe State

Agriculture Budget
(% of total):

73.91%

Labor-Saving
Technology (N):

566.67%

Fertilizer
Subsidy (N):

25.00%

Agricultural
Inputs (N):

20.00%



Delta State

Overall Agriculture
Budget:

100%

Climate Resilience
and Sustainable
Agriculture/
Agroecology

667%

Women in
Agriculture
(MORWSA)

400%

Input Allocation

25%

Kogi State's budget line for Women and Youth in Agriculture was restored and increased from N200 million allocated in 2023 to N700 million.

Trained 40 SWOFON members on agroecological best practices.

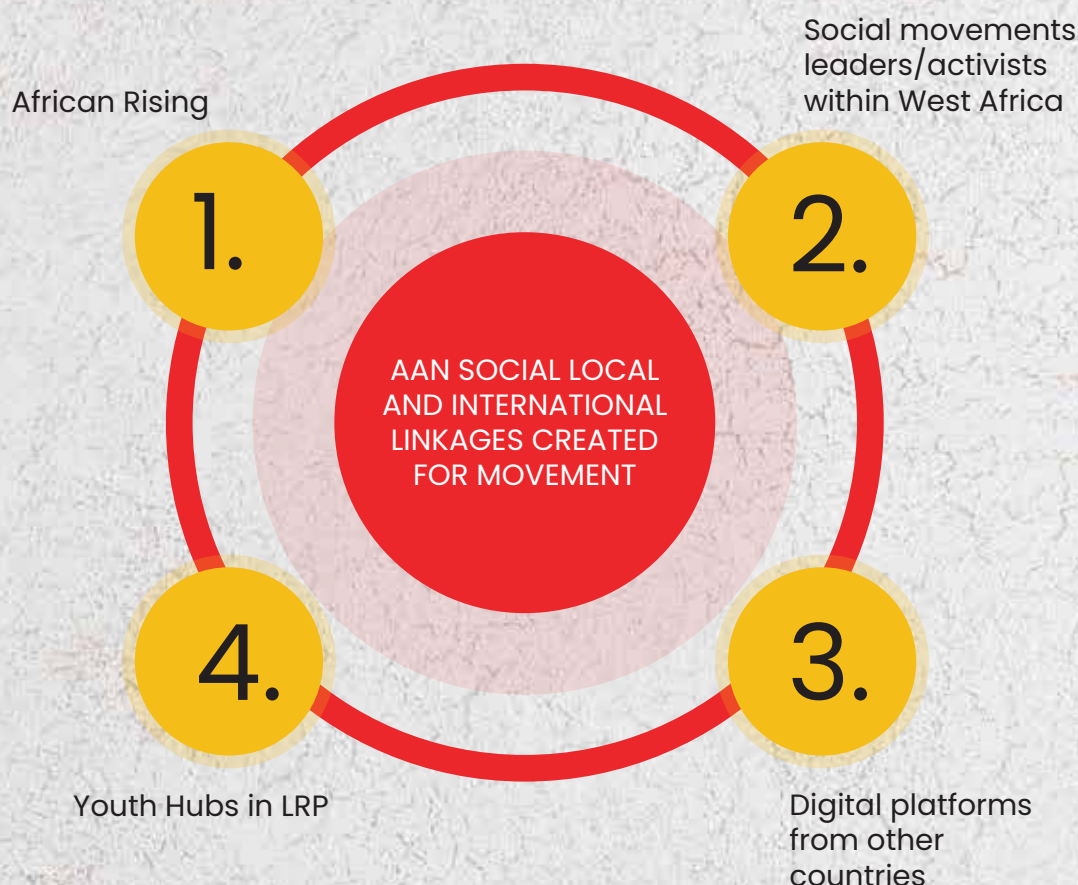
Linkage of Kano State SWOFON to TICNO SEED, a private sector company in Kano State let to SWOFON's access to inputs.

One hundred (100) smallholder women farmers (SHWFs) received 250 bags of fertiliser for the rainy season farming, along with 1,500 bags of maize and soybean seedlings at subsidised rates from a private sector company known as TICNO SEEDS.

10-year CAADP strategy for the post-Malabo agenda was influenced by smallholder women farmers, young farmers, and CSOs.

AAN's advocacy contributed to the federal agriculture budget increase from 2% to 3.46% in 2024.

Priority 3: Good Governance: Equitable Access, Thriving Communities



Our collective action in the communities

We are advancing the shift of power to the people, enabling them to take collective action for lasting change. In Duwigi, Jigawa, 16 girls have successfully completed secondary education, the first female graduates in their community. This milestone was achieved alongside the SBMC and the Ministry of Education, demonstrating the power of collective advocacy.

In Gwiwa LGA, Jigawa, sustained community advocacy has enabled continuity in government engagement across administrations. The current Chairperson has built on the foundation laid by the predecessor by supporting the Local Rights Programme (LRP) and donating two dry-season wells.



Launching the Young Urban Women

Under the SPA II project, ActionAid Nigeria launched the Young Urban Women Movement (YUWM) Academy. This initiative empowers young women in urban areas to become active agents of change. It addresses key challenges such as limited economic opportunities, gender-based violence, and low participation in decision-making. Through grassroots organising, leadership training, and advocacy, the YUWM Academy equips young women to challenge systemic barriers and claim their rights. It also fosters solidarity, enabling them to mobilise and build a collective voice for social, economic, and political inclusion.



2024 Tax Conference

ActionAid Nigeria facilitated citizen engagement on proposed tax bills—including the Nigeria Tax Administration Bill, the Nigeria Revenue Service Establishment Bill, and the Joint Revenue Board Establishment Bill—during the 2024 Tax Conference. The Chairman of the Presidential Committee on Fiscal Policy and Tax Reforms participated in an open dialogue between citizens and government representatives.



SPA II – Peace Accord and Election Observation

The SPA II project facilitated the first-ever election peace accord signing by all stakeholders in Enugu State, promoting peaceful and democratic processes. ActionAid Nigeria was also the only organisation to observe the 2024 Local Government elections in both Enugu and Akwa Ibom States.



Leave No One Behind (LNOB)

In partnership with ActionAid Denmark, the LNOB project conducted capacity-building sessions on Climate Action and the SDGs. These efforts inspired the formation of “Make Kachia Green,” a youth-led group in Kachia LGA, Kaduna State. The group has sensitised 5,488 residents on the causes and effects of climate change and the importance of collective action, fostering a more climate-conscious and resilient community.



CLEAP Justice Project

The CLEAP Justice project established a strategic partnership with the Nigerian Guild of Editors (NGE). During the NGE national conference in Bayelsa State, ActionAid presented recommendations from its Technical Working Group on promoting judicial accountability in post-election justice delivery. The NGE adopted these recommendations and committed to further engagements with the project.

The project also advocated for social movements to prioritise elections and accountability. As a result, the AAN MOTIONS (Movement of Movements) has resolved to centre its upcoming activities around governance, accountability, and electoral justice.

Others:

20 trained farmers mostly young people have adopted sustainable farming practices across the SPA II communities, starting small-scale organic farms and selling organic pesticides.

14 trained volunteers are tracking government promises in Akwa Ibom State through a system developed by AAN in collaboration with Reforma. This tracking system ensures accountability by substantiating government commitments and monitoring progress effectively

2 Policies influenced by youth groups. The Lagos Youth Policy - Facilitated the review and signing of the policy into law by the executive governor of the state. The Enugu Youth Policy Technical Working Group (TWG) for the Enugu State Youth Development Policy was led by SPA II.

4 Youth Summit on Agroecology and Food System - AAN and partners held four summits in the FCT and

2 Campaigns ran successfully - End Austerity Campaign and Water4Okoritak



IMPACT STORIES

Aisha's Leap: From Struggle to Stability in Dagona, Borno

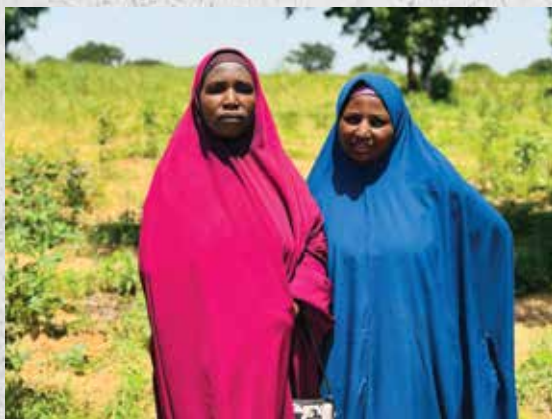
In Dagona community, Borno State, Aisha, a mother of six once struggled to feed her family through small-scale farming. Yields were low, and poverty loomed large.

Then came a lifeline: monthly cash assistance through the BMZ/WFP Livelihood Project implemented by ActionAid Nigeria. Starting with N24,000 and later rising to N59,000, the support allowed Aisha to invest in goats, poultry, and better farm inputs. Her livestock began multiplying. Her crops flourished. And her family no longer went to bed hungry.



Aisha is now an entrepreneur.
"I'm proud to say I've become a successful businesswoman"

Widowed, Rooted, and Rising: Hadiza and Fatima's Agroecology Journey in Jigawa



In Kiyawa, Jigawa State, sisters Hadiza and Fatima Suleiman were widowed but refused to give up their shared dream of farming. On the land they inherited from their late husbands, they cultivated millet, groundnut, sorghum, watermelon, and hibiscus. But rising costs, especially for chemical fertiliser, kept their yields low and income uncertain.

Everything changed when they joined the SPAC Agroecology training, organised by ActionAid Nigeria. There, they learned to make and apply organic compost using locally available materials. Eager to test what they had learned, they applied it to their millet farm and the results were striking. Their harvest more than doubled, rising from 27 to 63 bunches.



With better yields and improved income, Hadiza and Fatima are now reinvesting in their land. They plan to extend organic

practices to other crops, like groundnut and hibiscus, to increase both productivity and sustainability.

"We now believe in our strength as farmers," says Hadiza. "This knowledge is helping us take control of our future."



Zainab's Turnaround: From Hunger to Leadership in Jigawa

Just a year ago, Zainab Abdullahi and her family in Jigawa often went to bed hungry. With little harvest and no stable income, survival was a daily struggle. But everything changed when she joined the Training of Trainers (ToT) programme under ActionAid's SPAC Agroecology project at the FUD site.

Through the training, Zainab learned how to improve crop yields using sustainable agroecology methods. She began producing organic compost and quickly turned knowledge into opportunities, selling her first batch for N15,000, which she used to rent farmland for N10,000 and buy seeds. She planted rice, soya beans, okra, beans, guinea corn, and groundnuts—nurturing her fields with compost instead of costly chemical fertilisers.

The results were transformative. With proceeds from her groundnut harvest, she paid N150,000 in school fees for her son. From her 12-bag rice harvest, she reinvested in her business by purchasing a N130,000 grinding machine, providing milling services for other farmers and creating a new income stream.

But Zainab didn't stop at her own success. Inspired by her journey, she began training others in her community, teaching them how to make compost, use natural pesticides, and farm more sustainably. She recently acquired a rice milling machine, which now supports both her household and neighbours, many of whom bring their grains to her for processing.

Today, Zainab is no longer just a farmer, she's a mentor, a businesswoman, and a leader in her community. Her story is proof that with the right support and determination, women can transform hunger into hope, and poverty into purpose.



Eunice's Rise: From Dependent Wife to Community Leader

Eunice, a mother of four in Ikorodu, used to depend entirely on her husband. That changed after SPA II's agroecology and VSLA training.

She transformed her backyard into a productive garden and became a community trainer. Today, as leader of her VSLA group, Eunice supports other women to start businesses.

"Now I contribute to my family and help other women find their voice," she says.

Breaking the Glass Ceiling: UNICAL Elects First Female SUG President

For the first time in its 49-year history, the University of Calabar elected a female Student Union President—Blessing Alims. Behind this landmark achievement was sustained leadership training by Gender and Development Action (GADA), under the Women's Voice and Leadership project.

Blessing's win is inspiring a new generation of young women to lead with confidence.



From Begging to Business: Aisha's Story of Dignity Restored in Yobe



In Sarkin Hausawa Ward, Bade LGA of Yobe State, Aisha (not her real name) was once invisible to society. A divorced mother of four, she was abandoned by her husband because of her disability, and left to survive on her own. With no source of income and the daily burden of feeding four children, Aisha turned to the streets of Gashua to beg, hoping for scraps to keep her family alive.

Every day brought a fresh wave of uncertainty. The shame of begging, combined with the harsh judgment of being both a disabled woman and a single mother, crushed her sense of dignity. But her story was about to change.

In 2024, a glimmer of hope arrived when ActionAid Nigeria, in partnership with CCDRN, identified Aisha through their livelihood support intervention for vulnerable women. She was provided with seed capital, farming inputs, and basic training to start a small-scale business from her home.

Aisha seized the opportunity. She began petty trading, selling household items and foodstuffs; she transformed a small patch of land behind her home into a productive garden. With seeds and tools from the intervention, she grew tomatoes and lettuce, selling her produce at the local market and reinvesting every naira she earned. Her home began to look less like a place of struggle and more like a place of purpose.

Gradually, her efforts paid off. For the first time in years, Aisha could afford to enrol all four of her children in school. The pride she felt watching them wear uniforms and carry schoolbags gave her a new sense of purpose.

Determined to keep growing, she diversified her business, adding egg sales to her offerings. She purchased hens and began selling eggs to neighbours and traders. The profits provided stability, and her customer base grew.

Today, Aisha no longer walks the streets of Gashua with an outstretched hand. She is now a self-reliant entrepreneur—earning income from vegetables, eggs, and petty trading. Her children are back in school, and her home is filled with the sounds of learning and laughter.

"This changed everything," she says quietly. "I used to feel like I had no future. Now, I wake up with a reason to keep going."

Aisha's story is more than just one of survival—it's a testament to the power of dignity, resilience, and community-led support. With the right help at the right time, even the most vulnerable among us can rise, rebuild, and reclaim their future.



The Birth of Gwarinpa General Hospital's Centre for Hope and Healing

ActionAid Nigeria has completed the construction of the Gwarinpa General Hospital's Centre for Hope and Healing as part of its series of activities aimed at ending child marriage. The project, funded by ActionAid Italy, is a one-year initiative with the ultimate mission of combating the scourge of Vesicovaginal Fistula (VVF) and early marriage in Nigeria's Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

With the alarming rise in VVF cases across Nigeria, access to comprehensive VVF services remains severely limited. With only 18 government-approved VVF centers nationwide and none within the FCT, VVF patients face discrimination, long waits for treatment, and significant barriers to care. ActionAid is now partnering with the Federal Ministry of Health to transform this facility into a state-of-the-art hospital, providing comprehensive medical treatment and surgeries for VVF survivors, and addressing the critical shortage of VVF centers in Nigeria.

We are committed to changing hearts and minds to prevent early marriage and reduce stigma surrounding VVF through education and engagement, while advocating for the support and rights of survivors.

If you would like to support the center by donating equipment, providing financial assistance, or offering non-financial support to survivors, please call 07007070700.



A Story of Resilience: ActionAid Nigeria's Intervention in Plateau State

In June 2024, ActionAid Nigeria, supported by the Start Network Fund, embarked on a rapid emergency response mission in Plateau State. It was my first field assignment with the organisation, and my task was clear, document the intervention through stories and images. Armed with a camera and notebook, I set out, eager to capture the unfolding moments. But as Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie aptly notes, sometimes stories shape themselves, and this one led me deep into the heart of Tilengpat Pushit, a community devastated by violence.

Gunmen had attacked the village, killing 12 people and displacing thousands. This tragedy followed earlier assaults that left over 3,000 households reeling in the Mangu and Bokkos Local Government Areas. Families faced immense loss, loved ones, homes, livelihoods and urgent humanitarian aid was crucial. Responding swiftly, ActionAid Nigeria, in collaboration with Plan International and other partners, stepped in. Over a 45-day intervention, they provided food supplies, dignity kits, hygiene awareness, psychosocial support, and cash relief to alleviate suffering and help survivors rebuild.

One encounter remains etched in my mind, a woman from Mangu community, her smile masking deep pain. She had lost her husband and eldest son in the attacks. Now, she lived with her brother-in-law, raising her only surviving child. Despite her grief, she expressed gratitude for the intervention, which brought her and others a glimmer of hope amidst despair. Stories like hers were repeated across the villages, where survivors welcomed the ActionAid team with warmth and appreciation.

From the first gathering in a church hall to the final goodbyes, the intervention left an indelible mark. Families expressed their relief and gratitude, not just for the material aid but for the empathy and solidarity shown. This mission underscored ActionAid Nigeria's commitment to standing with communities in their darkest moments, transforming stories of loss into narratives of hope and resilience.

All Campaigns in 2024

End Austerity Campaign



Borno Flood Digital Fundraising Campaign.





Back2School Digital Campaign



Water4Okoritik



Fix the Finance



Fund our Future





About Community Sponsorship

The ActionAid Community Sponsorship Initiative is a standardised form of regular voluntary (individual or organization) giving towards community development in Nigeria. This gives individuals and organizations a platform to impact real lives and give back to society, to support and empower the most vulnerable and excluded people in impoverished communities across Nigeria, with little or no access to government infrastructure and services.

Community Sponsorship focuses on impoverished and vulnerable communities, including out-of-school children, women who need basic maternal health care, poor women farmers, and the most vulnerable in emergency and conflict situations, amongst others.

DONATE NOW! EMPOWER COMMUNITIES TODAY

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