


SAVE THE CHILDREN NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER ISSUE

Nigeria Country Office



Children speak their minds on leaving no child behind

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Abuja, Nigeria



COUNTRY DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

2015 has been a year of challenges and successes for Save the Children in Nigeria. The outcome of the internal audit cast a dark shadow across the programme and it was clear we had to make some significant changes to how we work if we are to ensure we have the capacity to support our growth and to reach out to ever more children. With the help of additional money made available from SCI central, the SMT embarked on a radical journey of change involving first, the filling of key human resource gaps in our structure and some key new positions created have included the Director of Awards and Compliance and the Head of Advocacy (both new SMT positions); the Deputy Director of Operations, the Programme Development Manager and the Internal Controls Manager. Second we em-

barked on a horizontal restructuring to strengthen our operational capacity and free up our Programme Development and Quality Unit (PDQ) to concentrate on quality. And finally despite frustrating delays caused primarily by the postponed elections which were to upset our plans in all areas for almost two months we delegated considerable additional authority to both Zamfara and Lagos offices. We will roll this out to the other offices between January and March next year and in preparation all finance staff in the field and area offices have been trained and given access to the finance package aggro which allows them to take control of finances at their level. Although, as with all change, there have been concerns amongst staff as to how these plans might have affected them, I have consistently tried to reassure everyone that we were changing to "grow not to shrink". No one's job was to be on the line although it may well be changed with increased responsibilities.

As we changed internally our programmes continued to go from strength to strength. It is impossible in this brief note to cover all achievements but the WINNN, CDGP and ESPINN programmes were awarded "A" scores in the annual donor reviews, the excellent work of the Steer project has been recognised with USAID allocating a further \$ 10million and we are now a major player in the humanitarian response in the North East which at the beginning of the year was in its infancy. In Katsina we are playing a key role in eliminating Polio from that State although sadly we had to rather prematurely withdraw from the nutrition work funded by ECHO. In February 2016 we will be producing our annual report for 2015 and I am convinced this will show we have a strong and innovative programme across all sectors to be proud of.

A number of other innovations were developed through the year. An extended SMT was created and met every quarter. This numbers about 30 people including all Area and Field managers and it brings technical, programme and support service people together to participate in the top management structure of the organisation. We also developed the forum for "Staff Voices" and an initial session with the SMT, where all staff in all offices should have been able to engage directly with the SMT, was held early in December. Sadly the internet connectivity problems continue to plague us in making this a real success. But please continue to use this forum. We will meet again in February or March and the SMT is committed to making this forum for staff feedback a success. In Abuja the staff decided to hold a Walk to Bond exercise and took over some of the streets of Abuja for most of a morning. We undertook some dedicated fraud training with the extended SMT and Steer team and this has been rolled out to almost everyone and we became very strict about staff completing the online training for both security and child safeguarding.

And on top of all this we managed to find time to develop a brand new strategy for 2016 – 2018 and we will be rolling that out to all staff early in January next year.

So quite a Year! What is important for each of us to be aware of is the reason we have had a such a full and successful year, despite all the external challenges against us, is because of the diligence and incredible dedication shown by each of you. Every one of us has a specific and key role to play in our success, that is why I would like to close by thanking you, on behalf of Nigeria's children (I have two of my own), for your personal commitment and for role you played in 2015. Now let's get ready for 2016.

Happy Holidays!

BEN FOOT

Country Director

Save the Children International

Nigeria



Grace Olomiwe, Social Media and Communications assistant tells her story

Can you tell us about your self and when you joined Save the Children?

My name is Olomiwe Grace Anuri, a Social Media and Communications expert, I joined Save the Children on 1st of May, 2010 I prefer to be called Grace as it is a more appropriate definition of my person and the values I hold dear.

How has your experience with Save the Children been so far?

Working as a social media and communications person has indeed been challenging. I have improved my research, public speaking, and organizational skills under tight deadlines and intimidating pressure. Save the Children International has changed my career goals by redirecting my interest to this sector, and my subsequent endeavors have all been related to this field. I recently began learning non-profit related courses so I can help expand Save the Children's work across borders."

How has it been like managing Social Media and Communications for Save the Children?

Managing Social Media and Communications for Save the Children has been exciting, after several years in acquiring on the job experience, am glad for how far I have come; Yes I have opportunities to go to remote and rural communities where there are no roads and no technology just to take powerful photographs and work with the people I am campaigning on their behalf. Back in the office, I write concept notes, documenting case studies, air-brushing photos and using data to inform the recommendations we are campaigning to achieve, graphically designing visibility materials, sieving and posting content on all our social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram).

What do you like about the job?

I am one of those lucky few who have the good fortune of being paid to do the things I love doing. I love being a voice for the voiceless by capturing moments and sharing via our social media platforms.

What is the most difficult part of your job?

The most difficult part of my job is the aspect of always being creative and innovative, as a communications person one has to constantly think out-of-the-box and be abreast of latest trends in visuals, design and technology to make sure the organization you represent doesn't appear obsolete or left-behind in what's trending.



There has also been challenges' harnessing the growing influence of social media and its effectiveness as a tool for social good especially by the older generation.

What inspired you to join Save the Children as a volunteer/intern?

The urge to give back to my society made me join Save the Children. Many of us live extremely fortunate lives. We have a roof over our head, family, Friends and rarely go to sleep hungry. The world isn't like that for everyone. In fact, there is unimaginable suffering taking place in almost every country in the world. thing back to the world then we really should. I also wanted to use my skills in communications to the benefit of Save the Children as a non-profit making organization.

What are the strategies in place to ensure people get to know of the activities within the country program?

We create programs to communicate authentic and persuasive messages to people, encouraging them to adopt positive behaviors, and

influence laws to facilitate these behavior changes. We are responsible for designing, programming, researching, developing, producing and distributing traditional, new media and multimedia communication and knowledge products. We also develop the branding strategy to connect between and across SC's interventions, messages and materials.

What are your career goals?

I have learnt that long-term goals are best achieved when I break them into shorter goals. My short-term goal is to find a position that will put me in a forward-moving organization with good performance and future projections. As part of a team, I want to add value and continue to grow Save the Children International. My long-term goal depends on where the organization goes. My plan is to move into a position of responsibility where I can lead a team.

How do you spend your leisure time?

I love to travel, read and meet people



Children speak their minds on leaving no child behind

Next campaign planning process in Nigeria

By James Bigila, Media Coordinator, Abuja

As we reflect on the successes achieved in Nigeria under the EVERY ONE campaign, James Bigila, Media Coordinator, from the Country Office talks to us about how planning for the next priority campaign is going in Nigeria.

Under EVERY ONE the National Health Bill was signed into law and a new budget was allocated to nutrition. James explained that we now have an opportunity in Nigeria to “carry everybody along”, not leaving any child behind, and that they will also “join the global community, shoulder to shoulder in achieving progress on the new global goals”.

The challenge of identifying the excluded

One of the greatest challenges in planning for the next priority campaign is identifying which excluded group of children the campaign should focus on. Nigeria is Africa's most populous nation with a population of roughly 170 million - more than 100 million live on less than \$2 per day and many groups in the country are marginalised or excluded as it develops.



Nigeria has some great ideas about who their campaign, addressing access to quality services, should focus on and hope to reach a decision soon, “we have identified quite a few groups as potential targets of the campaign including, migrants, refugees and IDPs, ethnic and religious groups, disabled children and street children.” Adding to this the country office must consider which groups they can access, as most communities do not have good roads. Linking the campaign to programming is crucial for the next priority campaign to be a success. Another challenge, James pointed out, is securing the budget required to carry out all campaign activities. Since they are still in the planning stage, without specific details of campaign requirements and cost estimates defined, it is difficult to allocate funding or attract funding for specific activities at this stage.



Children's voices lead the way

To help overcome the challenges of identifying what exactly the national campaign plan will seek to achieve, the Nigeria country office invited children to present their ideas and solutions. “The introduction of children in planning the campaign has given the campaign a major boost as the children presented real time solutions to their needs in order to make sure no child is left behind at the end of the campaign”, James told us.

As Nigeria's campaign planning team, along with colleagues from Save the Children UK who provided technical assistance, held a workshop to develop the country's campaign plan, a parallel session was held with children from Junior Government Secondary School Gwagwalada. Before the brainstorming began, the children were taken on a tour around Save the Children's Abuja office to introduce them to staff, including various thematic leads who take our programmes and messaging to our beneficiaries.

In their presentations the young people identified the children who they believe are most at risk, the children who are most fortunate, and those who are exposed to risks and

dangers bad things on the streets in Nigeria. They also presented the three main areas which they believe the needs of Nigerian children centre on and should be addressed. These are: quality education and health care, the provision of portable water and children's right to protection. The children also hosted a participatory session to lend their voices and contribute towards planning the future they want for Nigerian kids with members of staff guiding them. Children also lent their voices by drafting and drawing on paper, the future they want and what they would love Save the Children, along with the government and other decision makers to bring about by 2030, to make their lives better.

Plans are also being developed for the external launch, which will be crucial for Save the Children Nigeria to get buy-in from a broad range of stakeholders who are critical to the campaign's success. “These stakeholders, some of which are engaging for the first time in the campaign, will help to spread the message of our campaign to almost all sectors of the Nigerian economy.” The launch will involve a series of meetings and events with everyone from development partners to academics, religious leaders, celebrities and corporate representatives.



Aisha Buhari inaugurates the 4th FCT Chidrens Parliament Chapter

By James Bigila, Media Coordinator, Abuja



The 4th FCT children parliament has been inaugurated with the swearing in of the Speaker of the 4th Children Parliament and honourable members of the FCT children parliament.

The Nigerian children parliament came into existence in 2003 and one of its successes is the passage of the Child Right Act. Mr. Salisu Bala, the Secretary for Social development Secretariat briefed participants on the activities of the children parliament and its successes since inception. The inauguration of the 4th children parliament started with the explanation of the Child's rights Act by Mr Archibong Adamson, the coordinator of the Children Parliament. Mr. Archibong Adamson has been coordinating the children parliament for over since its inception. Some of the rights of the Nigerian child were explained by Mr. Archibong. He said, "Every child has a right and every child must know the four pillars of the Child right's act which are: Survival, Development, Protection and participation". Mr. Idris Yahaya, The anchor of the event in his welcome remarks thanked participants and development partners for supporting the children parliament and its activities since inception.

A presentation by children was made on various forms of child abuse and was done by a honourable member of the children parliament. Children also made presentations on what they want the government to do

towards ensuring Nigerian kids are protected and educated. In her presentation, the Head of Child Protection with Save the children Nigeria, Mrs. Anne Kpason explained Save the Children work in Nigeria. On child protection and rights of the Nigerian child, She said: "We will continue to protect children and ensure their rights are not trampled upon".

The wife of the President represented by Mrs Alayeki Sylva in her welcome address expressed her commitment towards ensuring that children survive and are educated. She also appreciated development partners such as Save the Children, Smile and Action aid for the support and progress made so far in protecting children and promoting the right of the Nigerian Child. The speaker of the children Parliament took his oath of Office and was inaugurated by the wife of the President as he was sworn in. The speaker in turn inaugurated other honourable members of the Children Parliament as he read the oath of office to the House. The order paper of the Children parliament was read by the speaker before commencement of the days activities. The event came to a close with a vote of thanks by the Anchor of the event, Mr Idris Yahaya.

NEWS FROM JIGAWA FIELD OFFICE

By Othniel Kighir, Advocacy Officer, Jigawa State

THE JIGAWA STATE COMMISSIONER FOR WOMEN AFFAIRS COMMITS TO WORK FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND CHILD PROTECTION

The field office In Jigawa state has conducted an advocacy visit to the Commissioner for women Affairs to advocate for the implementation of the Gender inclusion policy of Jigawa State Government and also to facilitate the re-passage of the repealed child rights Act. The Commissioner women Affairs has committed to ensure that the implementation framework of Gender inclusion policy recently developed will facilitate the implementation of the policy. On the Child Right Law, the Commissioner opined that, the law was drafted at the time she was the Director Child development but later passed when she had left, but lamented that it is unfortunately that the law was later repealed after passage. She however promised to support any initiative to re-enact the law. She also promised open doors operations with partners' collaboration and welcome suggestions especially from SC team.

JIGAWA STATE TO ADOPT AND OPERATIONALIZE THE NATIONAL HEALTH ACT PROVISIONS

In Jigawa State SC has mobilized and collaborated with other CSO to Advocate for the adoption and implementation of National Health Act in the State. A series of advocacy meetings were conducted with key stakeholders such as the Director PHC, the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Health, the Commissioner for health and the recent past Director General Gunduma Health System Board whom we have been able to influence and is champion on National Health Act. The permanent secretary committed that the Ministry of health will be holding a retreat to review all the health policies during which the National Health act will also be reviewed in line with the law establishing Gunduma Health system board to see the areas of variation and agreement with the aim of adopting the law. During the meeting the Commissioner directed that SC should be involved during the retreat to participate so that our inputs too will be included in the final resolutions of the retreat. SC will follow up to ensure the stakeholders are well enlightened about the Act to ensure immediate operationalization of the Act in the State.



Nigeria launches 2015 endpoint report on MDGs at Social Good Summit

By James Bigila, Media Coordinator, Abuja

The Presidency through the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Millennium Development Goals (OSSAP-MDGs), inaugurated the 2015 MDGs end-point report in Nigeria recently.

The inauguration of the 2015 MDGs endpoint report was done at the Social Good Summit 2015 with the theme: **“New Goal, New Power, New Technology #2030Now”**.

Save the Children’s Head of Campaign and Advocacy, Dr. David Olayemi while addressing panelists at a debate on the Social Good Summit 2015, has stressed the importance of **children engagement towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

Dr Olayemi said: ““We must make sure that the government engages and involves children in the implementation of the SDGs. We must also make sure that in the implementation of the SDGs, women are carried along. It should be gender inclusive”.

“A situation where the government leaves development partners to lead in the implementation of development agenda should be discouraged. The government should be leading in implementing the SDGs,” he expressed.

Dr. David Olayemi expressed optimism that with the involvement of children and women, the problems revolving around children and needs of children will be better addressed and solved if children and women are engaged and involved in the implementation process.

Mr Ochapa Ogenyi, Secretary of Programme, OSSAP-MDGs while addressing participants during the launch of the report at the 2015 Social Good Summit in Abuja, said Nigeria had also presented



Ogenyi said MDGs established measurable and universally-agreed objectives for eradicating extreme poverty and hunger. He said the measures were also to prevent deadly but treatable diseases and expand educational opportunities to all children, among other development imperatives.

Nigeria had recorded success on implementing the goals, especially on poverty and hunger reduction as well preventing deadly diseases.

Milenium Development Goals projects impacted on the lives of almost every Nigerian with projects sited in every state of the federation.

Mr. Ogenyi told the stakeholders that Nigeria was the first country to submit its end-point report on MDGs at the UN General Assembly, adding that the county received an award on the report.

He said that Nigeria was ready to implement the SDGs, which focused on economic, social and environment issues. Ogenyi said that Nigeria was six years late in the implementation of MDGs and that the country would not

be left behind this time around in implementing SDGs.

Also speaking at the summit, UNDP’s Acting Resident Representative, Mr Opia Kumah, advised the Federal Government to merge political will with human resources to achieve the implementation of the SDGs. Kumah said that there were a lot of lessons that Nigeria could learn from the challenges of implementing the MDGs which would end in December.

“A lot of lessons were learnt during the MDGs era, we must not ignore them. “The challenges the country faced in the last decade and half should be turned into opportunities in coming 15 years. We can learn from our failures and build on our successes.

Mrs Nkoyo Toyo, Special Adviser to the Cross River Government on SDGs, commended the Federal Government for merging Budget Office with National Planning Commission. Nkoyo said that the development would enhance the implementation of the SDGs, saying that “budget will support planning for government at all levels to achieve the goals”.

She advised the Federal Government on effective monitoring of the goals to achieve economic development. The summit was organised by OSSAP-MDGs and Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning in collaboration with the UNDP.



THE IMPACT WE MADE IN 2015



This year, we helped secure the adoption of the global Every Newborn Action plan in 194 countries, setting targets to end preventable newborn deaths



In 2015 The Action 2015Nigeria coalition organized a campaign event to employ the voices of children, celebrities, and members of the civil society to call on government for increased public financial resources towards climate change, the health sector, girl and women rights, child welfare, increased finances for development, and also demanding for greater transparency and accountability in the management of public budgets in Nigeria. It was a historic event to lend voices to help create the Nigeria we want by asking our government to Finance our Future



In 2015, we held an Action 2015 coalition concert in partnership with ONE Campaign and Future Awards. Action 2015 is a campaign and advocacy initiative backed by millions of people and organizations from around the world geared at holding world leaders to account for promises made towards the achievement of the MDGs, while ensuring that the voices of the people contribute to the development of better and more effective SDGs



In 2015, we advocated and ensured that Child survival was given high priority in National strategies/plans in 2015 & beyond



After years of campaigning in Nigeria, 2015 saw a national health bill secured that could save the lives of 3 million mothers and children over five years



In 2015, we supported social transfers to protect the most vulnerable children from missing out on education healthcare.



In 2015 received an Award from the Lagos State Government's Support Our Schools initiative in recognition of our contributions to the renovation of water and sanitation facilities in 10 schools



SDGS: 10 Lagos Schools compete on Goal 4, “The kind of School I will like to see in 2030”

By Dr. Abimbola Jide-Aremo, Field Manager, Lagos



Recently, Save the Children in Partnership with Lagos State Universal Basic Education Board Lagos Island Local Government Education Authority, including representatives of pupils, Teachers, from Ten (10) public project schools as well as Community members and Local Government representatives in Lagos Island., organized an event to enable the Children Speak Out, and making their voices to be heard in achieving the **SDG Goal 4; (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all)**. The event took place at Church Cathedral Primary School, Lagos Island

The theme of the competition was; “**The Kind of School I will like to see in 2030**”. Prior to this grand finale event, there was a pre-screening exercise in the 10 selected Schools, a total of 20 students, 2 from each school were selected after which it was shortlisted to the best 4 students on the different areas of the Competition being **(Drawing Art work and Essay writing)** to participate in the final competition.

The opening remarks was given by, Abimbola Jide-Aremo the Acting Field Manager, SCI, Lagos Office. In her speech she gave a brief summary of the **objectives** of this event which are as follows; **First of all**, to mark world literacy international day **secondly**, to

enable children participate in the implementation of the Goal 4 in SDG and **thirdly** to know from the perspective of children what equity and quality education means. **Mr. Maiyegun Moshood**, Education Secretary of the Social Mobilization Unit of the Lagos Island Local Government Education Authority gave a remark, in his remarks he said the purpose of this event is to prepare the government on its role in ensuring the SGD Goal 4 is achieved by 2030. He thanked SCI on its continuous efforts to ensure Education is improved through various programs done in the past in the 10 projects schools.

After the remarks from the different speakers, the results of the competition were announced. For the Essay writing, St Mary's Convent School came first Followed by St Peters Faji Primary School came Second Edward Blyden Memorial Primary School came Third. The Pupils were made to read their Essay while the audience applauded their efforts. For the Arts competition, St Marys Convent came First, Ansa-U-Deen Primary School came second and St Pauls Anglican Primary school came third. Gifts were presented to participants, by the Guests of Honour.

THE GLOBAL GOALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

25 September 2015 – The 193-Member United Nations General Assembly today formally adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, along with a set of bold new Global Goals, which Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon hailed as a universal, integrated and transformative vision for a better world.

“The new agenda is a promise by leaders to all people everywhere. It is an agenda for people, to end poverty in all its forms – an agenda for the planet, our common home,” declared Mr. Ban as he opened the UN Sustainable Development Summit which kicked off today and wraps up Sunday.

The UN chief's address came ahead of the Assembly's formal adoption of the new framework, Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is composed of 17 goals and 169 targets to wipe out poverty, fight inequality and tackle climate change over the next 15 years.

The Goals aim to build on the work of the historic Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which in September 2000, rallied the world around a common 15-year agenda to tackle the indignity of poverty.

The Summit opened with a full programme of events, including a screening of the film *The Earth From Space*, performances by UN Goodwill Ambassadors Shakira and Angelique Kidjo, as well as call to action by female education advocate and the youngest-ever Nobel Laureate, Malala Yousafzai along with youth representatives as torch bearers to a sustainable future.

The more people who know about the Global Goals for sustainable development, the more successful they'll be. If we all fight for them, our leaders will make them happen. So they need to be famous.

We're working to get the Global Goals onto every website and billboard, broadcast on every TV station and radio station, in every cinema and classroom, pinned to every community noticeboard and sent to every mobile phone.

But that won't be enough. We need your help to share the Goals. **Tell Everyone.**

Download the app and **tell everyone**
Take your Global Goals Selfie and **tell everyone**

Do your dizzy goal and **tell everyone**

Record and star in a global video - We The People and **tell everyone**

Choose a social share from below and **tell everyone**
Be creative and share the goals in your own way then **tell everyone**



Fatsuma goes back to school in Libya community, Save the Children provides Child Friendly Spaces

By Susan Akila, Information & Communications Coordinator, Abuja

Libya is one of the 10 communities in Gombe where Save the Children is implementing Child Protection, WASH and Nutrition as part of its humanitarian response to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in North-east Nigeria. The community is one of the over 20 settlements that came to limelight as a result of influx of IDPs in Gombe and the closure of the only existing IDP camp in late 2014. Libya has a population of approximately 1500 people, over 1000 of which are IDPs from Borno and Yobe state. The community has no good access road, no school, health facility and no improved source of water, making the people travel to the neighbouring community (Wuro Shie) which is about 15kilometres to get water. This is a task done by women and children.

As a result of the rocky environment, Save the Children WASH intervention is not able to sink a borehole to the community (as part of its plan) as all the geophysics survey proved abortive. So Save the Children has consulted with the Gombe state Ministry of Water Resources and the Water Board and is now piping water from the state capital to Libya community.



Fatsuma in her school uniform

FATSUMA, A FACE OF HOPE:

Fatsuma, a 9 year old girl from Dambua in Borno state who found herself in Libya community in Gombe state with her uncle, after she watched her father brutally killed by the insurgents who attacked their community sometime in 2014 which also led to her mother's death as she could not stand the shock. The little girl went into trauma and shock as she was unable to talk but could only cry when they settled in their new environment for some time because of her horrific experience. In January 2015 when Save the Children started Psychological First Aid which is part of its Child Protection strategy to reduce the psychological distress of children and improve their coping mechanism, Fatsuma was identified.

Fatsuma was reached out to through her uncle who was fostering her. After series of visits and counselling, she was referred to the Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in Libya community where she started participating in the activities. With further follow ups,

Fatsuma started talking again and she is gradually recovering.

In April 2015, during a follow-up visit, Fatsuma's uncle reported that she is back to school and is picking up quite well. According to him, her transformation was quite impressive and almost unbelievable. He expressed his appreciation to Save the Children for their relentless efforts in ensuring that his niece is back to being the happy child that she was before the incident with her parents.

“After series of visits and counselling, she was referred to the Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in Libya community where she started participating in the activities.

With further follow ups, Fatsuma started talking again and she is gradually recovering.”

Child Friendly Spaces, one of Save the Children's emergency interventions, provide children with protected environments in which they participate in organized activities to play, socialize, learn, and express themselves as they rebuild their lives.



Nutrition: Zamfara State sets aside budget line for Nutrition in Northern Nigeria

By James Bigila, Media Coordinator, Abuja



The Permanent secretary for Budget and economic planning, Zamfara State, Mr Kabiru M. Gayari has reiterated the commitment of Zamfara state Government towards tackling Malnutrition in the state.

He disclosed this in a press conference to brief journalists on Nutrition activities in Zamfara State Zamfara state Nigeria. He said the State government has released the sum of N3million for tackling malnutrition in zamfara State.

He disclosed that prior to the intervention of Working to Improve Nutrition in Northern Nigeria (WINNN) programme, there was no state Nutrition Committee in Zamfara state. But with the work of Save the Children, there has been improved knowledge on nutrition issues and dissemination.

He said: "The main focus of our program is to ensure people and political masters understand the concept of Nutrition better and with the advocacy done so far, we thank God that Nutrition is a house hold name in the larger part of Zamfara state".

In order the complement the support given by development partners, Zamfara state government has dedicated some funds from its budget towards Nutrition in order to sustain the WINNN project beyond the end of the WINNN programme.

He said "The sum of 3 million naira has been appropriated and released by the state government despite the cash crunch in country and also a basket fund has been established per local government to tackle malnutrition in the state". So far, Save the Children has been working in Zamfara state to reduce the child mortality rate of children under 5 years caused by malnutrition.

Working to Improve Nutrition in Northern Nigeria (WINNN), a programme funded by DFID, UKAID and implemented by Save the Children in Zamfara state has reach out to 150,000 children in zamfara state Nigeria.

TOP TEN HEALTHY FOODS

Medical News Today information article provides details on the **top ten foods considered to be the most healthy**, according to surveys and sources across North America and Western Europe.

1. APPLES:

Some animal studies have found that an antioxidant found in apples (polyphenols) might extend lifespans. Researchers at The Florida State University said that apples are a "miracle fruit". In their study, the investigators found that older women who starting a regime of eating apples daily experienced a 23 percent drop in levels of bad cholesterol (LDL) and a 4% increase in good cholesterol (HDL) after just six months.



2. ALMONDS

Second on our list of top 10 healthy foods is **almonds**. Almonds are rich in nutrients, including



magnesium, vitamin E, iron, calcium, fiber, and riboflavin. A scientific review published in *Nutrition Reviews*³ found that almonds as a food may help maintain healthy cholesterol levels.

Almonds have more fiber than any other tree nut. The fatty acid profile of almonds, which is made up of 91-94% unsaturated fatty acids, may partly explain why it helps maintain healthy cholesterol levels. Eating a handful of nuts a day could help you live longer and lower a your risk of death from heart disease and cancer, according to a study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

3. BROCCOLI

Broccoli is rich in fiber, calcium, potassium, folate and phytonutrients. Phytonutrients are compounds which reduce the risk of developing heart disease, diabetes and some cancers. Broccoli also contains vitamin C, as well as



beta-carotene, an antioxidant. Another ingredient, sulforaphane, which exists in broccoli, is also said to have anti-cancer as well as anti-inflammatory qualities. However, overcooking can destroy most of the benefits.

4. BLUEBERRIES

Blueberries are rich in fiber, antioxidants and phytonutrients. Phytonutrients are natural chemicals found in plants. Unlike minerals and vitamins that are also found in plant foods, phytonutrients are not essential for keeping us alive. However, they may help prevent disease and keep the body working properly. (TO BE CONTINUED)



STEER CSOs Partner with Government to achieve global HIV/AIDS goals

By Olusola Adeyemo, Abuja

In 2014, the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) announced an ambitious new global treatment target to help end the AIDS epidemic. It states that, “by 2020, 90% of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status; by 2020, 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy; and by 2020, 90% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression. This goal is also in line with the United States President’s Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief’s (PEPFAR’s) new HIV prevention and treatment targets to achieve an AIDS-free generation. By the end of 2017, PEPFAR will support 12.9 million people on life-saving anti-retroviral treatment, and reduce HIV incidence by 40% among adolescent girls and young women within the highest burdened areas of 10 sub-Saharan African countries.

In line with these global goals, the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) focused project of Save the Children - Systems Transformed for Empowered Actions and Enabling Responses (STEER)- has been working with its partners to ensure that beneficiaries on the project know their HIV status. In a recent field visit to Plateau State, it was discovered that availability of HIV test kits had been a challenge for CSO partners, and though referrals were being made to facilities for testing, unavailability of test kits for testing in communities had limited the number of beneficiaries that could be tested..

In November 2015 however, representatives of the eight STEER CSO partners in Plateau State, along with Mrs. Halima Dikko (STEER’s Technical Director), paid an advocacy visit to the Director of Plateau AIDS Control Agency (PLACA) – Dr Francis Magaji, and expressed the need for more test kits to enable testing of beneficiaries on the project. Dr. Francis expressed his agency’s desire to be of help and promised to make some kits available for the project as soon as possible.

The visit paid great dividends when STEER CSOs were later notified of availability of



STEER CSO Partners with Dr. Francis Magaji (Director, PLACA) in the middle.

test kits and were issued 4,000 test kits each by PLACA. This amounts to a total of 32,000 test kits available to test STEER beneficiaries in Plateau State, and will result in more than an additional 60% of beneficiaries being able to know their HIV status in the State. In her response, Mrs. Hadiza Miner -the Executive Director of Manna Resource Development Centre (MRDC) – One of STEER CSOs, appreciated PLACA for the test kits and said, “Now we have all we need to test our beneficiaries. This shows a lot more could be achieved for children and vulnerable households when we all work together towards a common goal.”

STEER project is a 5-year USAID-funded OVC project being carried out in Kaduna, Kano, Sokoto, Plateau and Bauchi States. The project aims to provide community based care and support for 30% HIV positive beneficiaries out of its target 525,000 beneficiaries. This will be achieved through identification of beneficiaries from health facilities and treatment centers, testing beneficiaries already enrolled on the project to identify those who are positive and requiring treatment. Positive beneficiaries are identified, referred for treatment and also followed up

to ensure they adhere to their treatments. The project in addition provides support to beneficiaries in the areas of Household Economic Strengthening and Nutrition, while supporting access to other comprehensive services including Health, Education, Legal Protection, Psychosocial support, Shelter & Care for OVC and households.

“The visit paid great dividends when STEER CSOs were later notified of availability of test kits and were issued 4,000 test kits each by PLACA. This amounts to a total of 32,000 test kits available to test STEER beneficiaries in Plateau State”



IMAGES FROM ACTIVITIES IN 2015



Nigerian kids cut the cake to mark the global day of action at the Nigerian Stock Exchange head office in Lagos



Genevieve Nnaji at the Global Day of action event



Nigeria's Music Icon, M.I at Action 2015 event in Abuja



Audience at the action 2015 campaign in Lagos add their voice to the global goals recently launched



Country Director at the 2015 End of Year party



Dr. Liman Mohammed at the end of the training on Nutrition reporting in Katsina State



Campaign planning meeting with SCUUK held at Rock-View Hotel, Abuja



SCI Nigeria team and the media visit the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Health, Katsina State



Students from GSS Gwagwalada join in the Campaign planning process for Next year campaigns



Global Day of Action 2015 event in Lagos



Children playing at the 2015 End of year Party



Dr. David Olayemi during Panel discussions on implementation of the SDGs

**Focus of Next year Campaign:
"Reaching Children left Behind"**





Save the Children Staff “Walk to Bond”

The Walking to Bond and Burn initiative is an avenue for all staff of Save the Children to come together for the purpose of exercising our bodies, burning calories, relieving ourselves of stress as well as bonding to get to know one another better.

This exercise served as a team bonding session for all staff in Abuja. The team came together in October 2015 for a walk and exercise session for staff and members of their families.

Pictures below



Save the Children Abuja staff preparing for one of the games



Save the Children Abuja staff preparing for ball race games



SC Abuja Colleagues pose for a shot



Colleagues participate in some race games



Colleagues pose for a shot



Tunde poses for a shot before the games



Colleagues receive instructions for fitness instructor



Senior HR manager poses with some colleagues



Director of Operations poses for a shot before the games



Cross section of colleagues during a health talk



Head of Awards poses for a shot before the games



Head of Nutrition poses for a shot before the games



STAFF BIRTHDAYS FOR FINAL QUARTER, 2015

OCTOBER: 2nd: Kerina Zvogbo, Muhammed Yahaya; 3rd: Altine Lewi; 5th: Akolo Titus Julius, Solomon Ibrahim; 6th: Fatimat Adesina; 8th: Sadiya Lawal; 9th: Rwang Dung; 10th: Bimpe Akano, Yahaya Jarabu; 11th: Olayinka Chinyere Chukwu; 12th: Charles Okoth Menya; 14th: Adani Abdallah, Ibrahim Abdullahi; 15th: Peyo Lillian Sunny; 16th: Angela Samba; 18th: Emmanuel Bimba; 19th: Matthew Moses; 22nd: Adaeze Ogwuche; 23rd: Sheriff Abdullahi, Timothy Anko; 24th: Anastasia Eke; 26th: Abdullahi Muhammad Hassan, Alice Odeh, Lami Balami; 28th: Yahaya Yakubu; 31st: Taiwo Olasumbo Suleiman

NOVEMBER: 1st: Gbolagade Falade; 2nd: Abdulrashid Abdulwahab, Olanrewaju Ismail Kaffo; 5th: Abubakar Ahmad; 7th: Chibuzor Nwankwo; 8th: Chukwuebuka Chukwu; 10th: Toyin Albert; 11th: Abel Yusuf, James Adegbe; 12th: Adeola Efuntoye, Gloria Timothy; 15th: Hope Obichi Oduma, Wemimo Elizabeth Onikan; 16th: Muhammad Mudathir; 17th: Amarachi Ogbonna; 21st: Abdulhafiz Ishowo; 23rd: David Atamewalen, Titilayo Oyefi; 25th: Princewill Richard, Abimbola Williams, Idowu Oladiran Ibietan, Ogechukwu Chukwudozie; 30th: Edward Esechie, James Bigila

DECEMBER: 1st: Comfort Ojochide Ocheje, Jamiu Ali-addeen; 2nd: Babatunde Amore, Beatrice Eluaka; 5th: Abubakar Osegeho Osedoma, Alhassan Muhammed, Alhassan Saleh, Ibrahim Aruwa; 8th: Babatunde Folorunsho, Doyinsola Aramide; 11th: Elizabeth Micah; 12th: Iliyasu Yakubu Umar; 17th: Ramatu Budah-Aliyu; 18th: Joseph David, Obianuju Igbokwe; 19th: Aliyu Danjuma Wayi; 20th: Sabiu Zaharadden Tanimu Sabo; 28th: Maureen Nzeribe; 29th: Hauwa'u Sulaiman; 31st: Abdulrasheed Mohammed

WEDDINGS FOR FINAL QUARTER, 2015



Mustapha Tanko (Food Security and Livelihood Coordinator) & Hadiza Suleiman.

Date: Saturday 19th December 2015

Venue: Number 8 Elaho Oladhere Street, Iba New Site Lagos

Plan to attend if you can. You can also send in your congratulatory messages to mustapha.tanko@savethechildren.org or call him on 08034367587



Saratu Iliyasu, our M&E Coordinator in Kaduna, and Sammie.

Date: Saturday, 19th December, 2015

Venue: Yar'Adua Sports Hall, Mural Square, Kaduna.

Plan to attend if you can. You can also send in your congratulatory messages to Saratu.Iliyasu@savethechildren.org or call her on 07031071039



Odeh Friday and Suzie Orefi got married on the **10th of October, 2015**

send your congratulatory messages to Odeh by sending an email to nigeria.crmIntern@savethechildren.org or calling him directly on 08034696666



26-12-2015

Oluyemi Yetunde our (Lagos Office Assistant) and Matthew Olabode taking place on the 26th of December, 2015 as at the Heritage Hall, Heritage Bus Stop, Iju- Ishaga, Lagos State. . Time is 12:00am.

You can call and congratulate Oluyemi Yetunde - 08113648440

Personal email - yetundeoluyemi@gmail.com

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Maiduguri, Nigeria

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