

The Balanced Stewardship Development Association (BALSDA) <u>www.balsda.org</u> is an independent national membership, non-governmental, non-profit, organization developed by a group of stewardship focused Nigerians and registered in Nigeria as an incorporated Trustee. As an active leader in Health advocacy and accountability, the association establishes Partnerships with other Stakeholders in the Health Sector, carries out Health Policy Advocacy, demands accountability in health and supports Evidence-based Policy Analysis and Development.

BALSDA's unique advantage and strength lie in her members. The members include individuals in various levels/positions, and groups from various disciplines in the public and private sectors across the country; including senior health officials/professionals, media persons, civil society, community/opinion and religious leaders, etc.

BALSDA's main purpose is to enlarge women's freedoms and opportunities and improving their well-being, we strive towards providing women with opportunities and create an environment for them, individually and collectively, to develop to their full potential and to have a reasonable chance of leading productive and creative lives that they value. We achieve these through several means like education, empowerment, poverty alleviation programs, Reproductive Health orientation, Child and Adolescent Health Services and ensuring good governance in Nigeria, independent of donors and government, using advocacy as our main approach.

BALSDA was established in 2013 as a development organization using advocacy and Evidence-based Policy Analysis and Development for women improvement within Nigeria.

In carrying out its core functions of advocacy, BALSDA has undertaken a number of activities that add real value to its main objectives. These include:

- Advocacy, Information and Communication
- Capacity building
- Evidence generation and technical assistant for policy development
- Developing a credible national advocacy organization

BALSDA is a facilitator of new initiatives. The organization has become an effective vehicle for advocating change and empowering women in the country. It has played a key role in supporting, influencing and facilitating key policies at the federal and state levels. Following this, work at the State and Local Government levels has started with the complete decentralization of its activities to the six geo-political zones of the country. BALSDA has made good relationships with a number of partners, both national and inter-national in its development work.

BALSDA Key strategy is

•	Partnership	(P)
•	Advocacy	(A)
•	Capacity Building	(C)

Evidence based interventions

Through the above strategy, it hopes that the following will be achieved respectively:

(E)

- Strengthened Partnerships and Networks for women development
- Improved Enabling Environment for wealth creation and services

Strengthened Evidence-based Policy Analysis and Development

The potential beneficiaries/market for BALSDA's products and services include Development Partners (DPs), Multinationals, Communities, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Organized Private Sector (OPS), Professional Bodies, Consumers, Service Providers, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), Managers, Students, Schools/Universities, Libraries, etc.

Within the past few years, BALSDA's efforts and impressive track record have earned it credibility, and significantly contributed to the following success stories in no particular order:

- Development of National Guidelines for Emergency Contraceptive (EC)
- Development of Family Planning Costed Implementation Plan for Gombe State
- Development of Family Planning Costed Implementation plan for Ekiti State
- Facilitation of National Partners project dissemination on Emergency Contraception in Nigeria
- Facilitation/Review of states Task Sharing/ Task Shifting policy for essential health services in Nigeria
- Facilitation/review of states Standard operating procedures for implementation of Task shifting policies across states in Nigeria
- Development of policy on integration of Postpartum family planning into other MNCH services in 6 states (Kaduna, Nasarawa, Gombe, Oyo, Cross River and Enugu)

BALSDA's successes within its young life has been made possible by strong, viable and credible leaderships at the national, zonal and state levels enviably anchored by a Board of trustees (BOT) ,active and supportive members and change agents all over Nigeria and in the Diaspora; benevolence of the Federal Government of Nigeria, Population Action International, Pathfinder, FP2020,UNFPA and other funders/partners; and loyalty/commitment of its staff led by the Executive Director Mr.Wale Adeleye.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- **Annual General Meeting (AGM):** This is the highest decision making organ of BALSDA and responsible for any changes in the organization policy and ratifying any amendments to the constitution of the organization.
- **Board of Trustees (BOT):** These are the founding members of the organization each having one vote. Every two years additional individuals are elected by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to join the Board of Trustees
- **Secretariat / Head Office:** located in the heart of Abuja and coordinates the activities of state chapters and correspondence with all members.
- **State Chapter:** These are the lowest level of BALSDA, they report to HQ on their performance. The state chapters are responsible for coordinating activities of members in each state.
- **Member Organizations:** Members own the organization and they are grassroots individuals and local CSOs focused on RMNCAH

PROJECT PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

Key Activities

- 1. Advocacy visit to the Controller of Prison
- 2. Advocacy visit to State Miistries of women affairs
- 3. Conduct a stakeholders Project orientation workshop
- 4. Establishment of the Return and Reintegration Working Groups (RRWG)
- 5. Advocacy visit to community head
- 6. Meting with prison officials to get the list of beneficiaries
- 7. Conduct Five vocational skill trainings for beneficiaries i.e.food processing (solar drying of fruits and vegetables, cheese making) storage, packaging and marketing, manure collection and processing e.t.c
- 8. Graduation / Empowerment of the ex convicts with necessary tools to commence work
- 9. Conduct a follow up activities to ensure the beneficiaries are doing well
- 10. Advocacy visit to the states houses of assemblies committees on health.