

Empower, Engage, Educate the Youths in Nigeria

Introduction

Social vices in our society has been attributed to poverty, unemployment and unrestiveness. Today a sizeable number of children and youths are out of school. They lack access to basic education and this has increased unemployment, poverty and unrestiveness. Our country has even plunged into violent extremism like insurgency and banditry. Nigeria needs peace and economic growth when citizens are gainfully employed, not only do they have empowerment but crime and all forms of social vices are greatly reduced. Quantum Leap Foundation is interested in empowering the beneficiaries of the youths with vocational skills to increase their economic status and reduce social vices. We will take this project to the grass root and where the beneficiaries are found. The direct beneficiaries of this project will be 300 youths in the Orile-Iganmu area of Lagos State.

Quantum Leap Foundation aims to provide a Sustainable Livelihood to the Nigerian youths (age Group & 18-35 by Vocational skill training of Computer Education, Beautician, Fashion designing, Handicraft and Hand Bag making, Catering and Bakery products, House and Body Care Products and Photography. The project is an effective initiative in the direction of economic empowerment of the youths and women who make up the majority of our country's population and are also, sadly, the most neglected groups of our society. We are interested in them because we recognise that they are endowed with the largely untapped potential and resources needed to in engendering Nigeria's re-birth.

Under the project, a significant effort will be taken to provide better livelihood to neglected youths and poor women by associating them with vocational skills. At the end of the training, basic equipment and items for startup will be provided based on performance of the participants.

Statement of Problem

Due to unemployment most youth take unethical way for livelihood as prostitution, violence, smuggling, addiction etc. The neglected youths and women stricken by Poverty, unemployment and economic problems are miles away from Basic need. The needs assessment conducted by our survey research and the available data from the surveys show that these families are living a miserable life of Poverty in the Orile Iganmu area of Lagos.

The reasons:

- Conflict/ Fighting.
- Drought.
- Poverty
- Lack of economic Opportunities.

Resulting in:

- Lack of income
- Lack of food
- Lack of skills and
- Lack of education.

Solution to the Problem

To enable 300 poorest and vulnerable families to have an income source for basic needs of life by imparting vocational training skills to at least one member of the family. Why this? , as the “Best solution”.

Skills Development:

- Sustainable solution to their current problems.
- Creates job Opportunity and income source.
- An asset which not only enables them but let them help others.

“Lighting candle with candle”

Overall Objective/Goal

To enable 300 youths from the targeted community to have an honorable income source to earn basic needs of livelihood through vocational training skills.

Specific Objective

- To create economic opportunities for 300 youths through vocational training as such Computer Education, Beautician, fashion designing & Sewing, Handicraft and Hand Bag making, Catering and Bakery products, House and Body Care Products and Photography.
- To provide basic literacy learning opportunity for the trainees in order to manage their daily business.
- To develop skill for improving their social life
- To reduce poverty through handicraft skill
- To provide livelihood promotion and social inclusion services to the poor and low income
- To develop leadership and confidence in the participants.
- To ensure the employment security and income generation in the local community.

Target Beneficiary

Direct Beneficiaries:

- Vocational training for 300-individuals.
- Technical Vocational Trainers, literacy teachers, community health workers
- Input Suppliers.
- Rental Centre Facility Owners.
- Project management staff.

Indirect Beneficiaries:

- Trainers’ family members.
- Suppliers’ family members.
- Project management and support staff family members.
- Families of the centers owners.

Project Logic Frame Work

INPUT	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUT	OUTCOME	IMPACT
Provide Vocational Training skills	Computer Education, Beautician, fashion designing, Handicraft and Hand Bag making, Catering and Bakery, House and Body Care Products and Photography	300 youths learnt a skill.	300 youths from about 300 families have income source	300 families have improved livelihood
Providing Lunch	Snacks and drinks	300 participants received lunch	300 youths lunch is secured through project life.	Lunch problem solved for project life.
Provide basic literacy education.	Basic reading and writing simple words, sentences and math.	300 youths trainees received basic literacy education	300 youths are able to read and write simple sentences and can do simple math.	They can do their business much better
Provide Health/Hygiene education and Incentives.	Washing soap, Tooth brush, tooth paste.	About 300 families received Health & hygiene education.	300 families received Hygiene education and health Incentives through project life.	300 families enjoy better health and reduced number of diseases.

Project Implementation Plan

Activities	Months (Duration and Time)											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Preparation												
Staffing												
Procurement												
Computer Education												
Beauty/ Body Make-up												
Fashion Designing												
Handicraft and Hand Bag making												
Catering and Bakery Products												
House and Body Care Products												
Photography												
Monitoring												
Project Internal Evaluation												
Project Close -out												

Project Risks and Mitigations

Risks & Assumptions	Mitigations
1) Drop Outs 2) Unavailability of qualified and technical expertise as instructors. 3) Unstable Security in the country may cause delays. 4) Employment Insecurity.	1) Sign agreements with the trainees including their families and the head of the community. 2) Share and consult with vocational training institutions and use references 3) Insecurity is a largest and hardest risk to fight against, so will hope nothing happens. 4) Provide employment in the workshops.

Project Budget

S/N	Description	Amount
		\$
1	Training Materials	4,650.00
2	Equipments	18,500.00
3	Rent and teaching aids	3,600.00
4	Food and Health Incentives	6,750.00
5	Wages for facilitatros/instructors	11,400.00
6	Transportation	850.00
7	Stationeries	1,200.00
8	Administrative support & Logistics	500.00
9	Miscellaneous	1,000.00
	Total	<u>48,450.00</u>

Monitoring & Evaluation

- Daily visits of the centers
- Monthly and Quarterly Progress reports
- Regular tests and assignments during the training period
- Performance evaluation of the trainers
- Alignment of the progress with the implementation plan and revise accordingly
- Impact Evaluation of the project in the community after 6 months and a year.

Long-Term Impact

The Living Standard of 300 youths will get better through Vocational training. The youths will be able to settle self-employment by skill development which will help to empower them economically. The youths will found their own employment with the help of skill development. Poverty will end and the lives of youths in the community will be prosperous.

Photo Speak – Previous Vocational Training





ABOUT US

QUANTUM LEAP (Leadership, Empowerment, Advocacy and Professionalism) FOUNDATION is a non-governmental organization (NGO) registered and headquartered in Nigeria, established to foster and promote the development of Africa and Nigeria in particular. Quantum Leap Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit organization which seeks to empower the people of Africa through initiative that promote:

- Entrepreneurship and Economic Development,
- Good Governance and Political Literacy,
- Professionalism and Innovation
- Children, Youths and Women Development
- Violent Radicalization and Extremism Mitigation

We strongly believe that a New Africa and in particular a transformed Nigeria is emerging, one that is built on the foundations of the labours of our past heroes, hewn out of the debris of the present waste and engineered by the strength of tomorrow's leaders: the Youth. These young people will work towards Personal and National Development, while recognizing their place as Global Citizens. Every great nation is a product of deliberate efforts at National development by all classes of people, no matter their age-group, sex or ideological group. And what interests me more is that young people have always had a major role to play.

At Quantum Leap Foundation we have chosen to play a critical role in the human and societal development of Africa because Africa and in particular Nigeria is blessed with a huge human potential who should have achieved something significant. Nigeria, on the other hand has seen a chaotic scramble by the most aggressive for their unfair share of the country's wealth, leaving the people largely un-benefited and without any major achievements or preparation adequate to the 21st century which will see Nigeria faced with increasing pressure from other countries to sell its mineral assets. Presently, many youths especially the graduates are complaining concerning the high rate of unemployment in the country, but we do not think this is the time to complain because complainers do sometimes get complicated.

Whether we on this continent flourish in the future or are deprived of our birthright and are overcome by outside pressures will be decided by *ideas*. All great human advances have been as the result of great ideas. What are the great ideas Africans will choose to ensure Africa and ultimately Nigeria will survive and prosper to the benefit of all? That is what this Quantum Leap Foundation will explore and seek to determine while it offers some alternative thinking in the effort to inspire a new generation of morally and ethically motivated youth who will use their minds to achieve better things.

VISION

Advocacy for social transformation, good governance, political advancement and economic prosperity of Africa.

MISSION

To empower the people of Africa towards achieving sustainable development through initiatives that promote Entrepreneurship and Economic Development, Good Governance and Political Literacy, Professionalism and innovation, Children, Youth and Women Empowerment, and Violent Radicalization and Extremism Mitigation.

CORE VALUES

To ensure the prosperity and well being of Quantum Leap Foundation’ people and the society, growth is essential. How we achieve this objective is as important as the objective itself. Fundamental to our success are the core values we believe in and practice.

- ✦ **Value Adding Deliverables:** We believe in using new and valuable ideas and approaches to achieve success and make our society better.
- ✦ **Collaboration:** We encourage and value effective partnerships strategic alliances. We believe in working with individuals and organizations to achieve common goals and objectives.
- ✦ **Respect:** We treat each other with respect. We believe in involving our communities in our work through donation, volunteerism and partnership, and promoting concern and respect for others.
- ✦ **Highest Standard of Professional Ethics:** As an organization, we believe in setting high standards and engaging both internal and external communities to achieve our mission.
- ✦ **Commitment:** commitment is one of the pillars on which we stand. We are committed to changing lives and making a difference in our generation and beyond, through focus and dedication in our work.
- ✦ **Team Work:** We Promote Team Work. We adhere strictly to our ethics and remain true to our mission. We are committed to delivering excellence and value in all we do through team work.
- ✦ **Personal Initiative and Growth:** We encourage Personal Initiative and Growth. To ensure we deliver excellent services to the society, we constantly improve ourselves by broadening our knowledge, learning new skills and encouraging exchange of ideas.

FOCUS AREAS

It’s all about creating a Sustainable Social Development

Identified challenges and opportunities, and attendant interventions in the foregoing vein, are grouped into five areas.

Our Five Key Intervention Areas are:

- Entrepreneurship and Economic Development,
- Good Governance and Political Literacy,
- Professionalism and Innovation
- Children, Youth and Women Empowerment
- Violent Radicalization and Extremism Mitigation

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Supporting entrepreneurs in instituting systems, processes and structures that are crucial for economic development

At Quantum Leap Foundation we seek to leverage on the ‘power’ inherent in entrepreneurship and economic development by properly preparing disadvantaged young people for the labour market through bespoke platforms, workshops and sessions. It is our belief that the interventions in this cluster can enable



young people to respond effectively to the economic, political and social inequalities, dislocations and disaffections in the continent.

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND POLITICAL LITERACY

Providing government institutions with key professional aids that will promote effective democratic governance, transparency, peace and security and policy reforms.

At Quantum Leap Foundation we carry out an appraisal of the state of youth political participation in the Africa continent, drawing appropriate lessons from other climes and enabling young people to assume their proper role as informed, passionate and thoughtful leadership role in governance. In addition, we grapple with issues which underpin governance through a robust conceptualization and operationalization of citizenship, modes of participation available to youth from voting and making informed decisions at the ballot box, holding elected officials accountable after they are elected to formal participation in the electoral process by running for office at the local, state or national level. At the very heart of this unit is empowerment, agency, flexibility and the creation of a safe space wherein the extant state of affairs can be challenged in whatever manner young people deem fit, and the contours and nature of their involvement either as an integral part of the system or a participant on the seeming periphery of the political process can occur on their own terms.

PROFESSIONALISM AND INNOVATION

Creating an environment and opportunity with technology enabled tools for developing innovative, dynamic and ethical leaders

We aim to develop dynamic, Innovative and Principled Leaders in Africa. To achieve this, we inspire, empower and equip a new cadre of leaders by providing the skills and tools for personal, organizational and national transformation.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Changing the mindset of children, youths and women, equipping them to lead ethically and motivating them to deliver positive change in their spheres of influence

We investigate, interrogate and tackle the economic, political and socio-cultural effects of inequality to which young people of African descent are exposed in a thoroughgoing and an intentional manner. In so doing, Quantum Leap Foundation dissects the issues, policies and systems which affect youth either positively or deleteriously, and proposes nuanced, discrete and mutually-reinforcing solutions.

We recognize that creating real opportunities for children and youth in homes, school and communities is the core of successful prevention and intervention efforts. Greater investment at the front end (i.e., prevention of unhealthy and risky youth behaviors) will yield big dividends, contributing to healthy, competent, and productive young men and women.

VIOLENT RADICALIZATION AND EXTREMISM MITIGATION

Equipping young people with practical and deescalating tools which they can employ when confronted with situations which frequently engender deadly conflict

At Quantum Leap Foundation, we learn how to confront and redress the vestiges of seemingly-resolved ethnic, religious, regional and other forms of conflict. Overall, our intention is to be pre-emptive, pro-active and transparent vis-à-vis instances and effects of discrimination and marginalization.