



FlexiSAF
FOUNDATION

Highlight

Elevating the Girl Child
through Education —
the Story of Maryam

News Letter

February
Issue
2023



Back to School
Back to Life

Visit to Department of Mass Education



We were honored to be invited to a familiarization meeting by the Director of FCT Department of Mass Education, Mrs. Hajara Titilayo Alayande, to build a relationship with the department and explore areas of possible collaborations. The department has experience collaborating with other NGOs to provide teacher literacy and skills training, farmers training and other innovative interventions aimed at empowering people in marginalized communities and changing their mindsets toward education. Mrs. Titilayo proposed a partnership with the Foundation to ensure that greater impact is achieved in terms of promoting education in Nigeria.



#GirlChildNow Event



We were thrilled to be in attendance at the Girl Child Now event themed “Nurturing Our Women - Nigeria’s Own Wealth”. The event was organized by Ayoade Alakija, the founder of the Emergency Coordination Center.

The Girl Child Now event brought together Ministers, former Prime Ministers, top leaders of the United Nations, and the leaders of other International Non-governmental Organizations & Civil Societies, and people from the grassroots, including the girl child.

The objective of the event was to ensure that the education of the Girl Child is made a political priority for Nigeria’s future government and countries in the region. Social impact donors, policymakers, change-makers, and community representatives were present at the event to devise innovative approaches to supporting women and girls.

It was really exciting for us to have the opportunity to contribute to discussions on creating transformative, impactful approaches to girls' education, which can be scaled and applied in different settings.



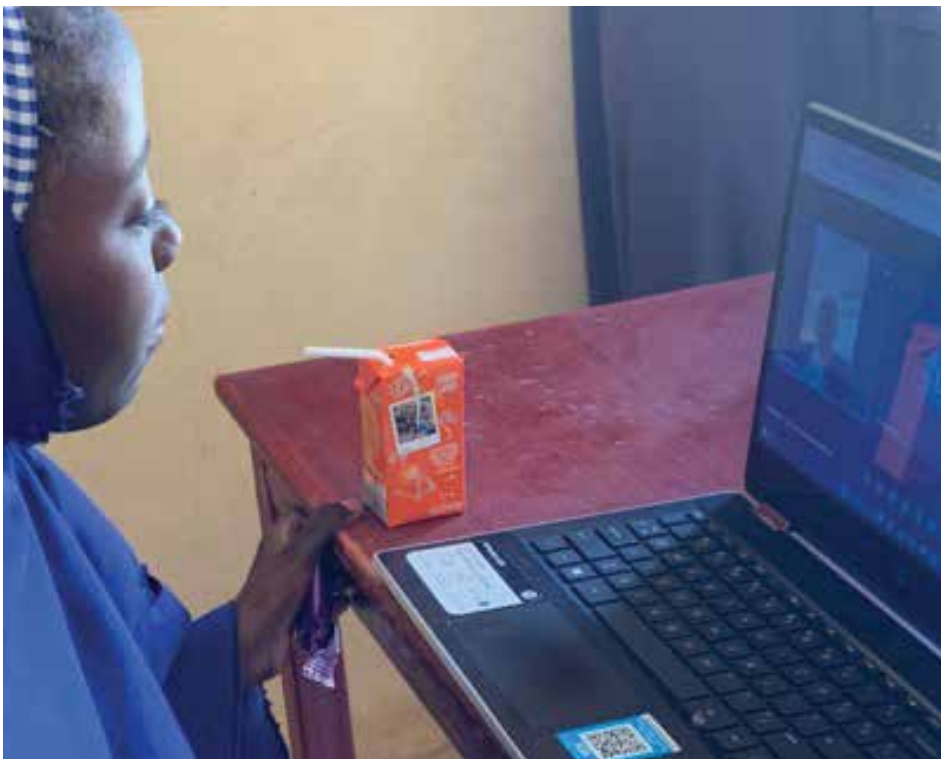
Sponsors' Week



We were thrilled to host the Sponsors' Week where we gave our esteemed sponsors the opportunity to connect with their beneficiaries.

Many of these children come from humble backgrounds and have faced numerous challenges just to be in school. Some of them were once on the verge of dropping out due to financial constraints.

However, through the FlexiSAF Foundation's Sponsorship Program, these children were blessed to get some Good Samaritans to sponsor their education - by paying their tuition fees and providing them with the tools & resources they need to excel in school and create a better future for themselves.



Our Sponsors' Week experience was a humbling reminder that, with a little help, anyone can pursue their dreams and make a difference in the world! Be part of the change by visiting our website to sign up to sponsor a child's education with just a payment of 5,000 naira monthly or 60,000 yearly.

Kindly click below to sign up now!

[Donate](#)



**Sponsor a child to school today with just
N5,000 monthly or
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Monitoring and Evaluation Tools Session at the National Senior Secondary Education Commission (NSSEC)



We were at the Federal Ministry of Education for a workshop to review and amend the monitoring tool using the National School-based Management Policy. The workshop had the Executive Secretary of the NSSEC, the Director of Basic Education, FlexiSAF Foundation staff as resource persons, and Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors from the Federal Ministry of Education in attendance. Participants discussed the importance of School-Based Management Committees (SBMCs) and the need to review the tool.

The review session was led by our Executive Director, Mrs. Amina Abubakar, who highlighted the objectives and core values of the SBMC and how it is important for the tool to capture and address them. The FlexiSAF Foundation team went on to lead the group to integrate the use of the SBMC tool on a monitoring software, allowing a proactive response, data security and efficient data gathering. The effective monitoring of the SBMC will help identify gaps and facilitate a seamless supervision, thereby impacting more than 30 million children enrolled in basic and senior secondary schools across the country.



The School Based Management Committee (SBMC) is a structure developed to improve the quality of outcomes from public school through community ownership and involvement in important issues. The SBMC system is expected to assist in developing plans and monitoring of school activities through active supervision of school activities and developing partnerships.

Success Story

Elevating the Girl Child through Education — the Story of Maryam



Maryam is one of the FlexiSAF Foundation's beneficiaries who was enrolled in Primary One in Wisdom International School (now Sonesis International School) during the 2019 session. Prior to the Foundation's intervention, she was categorized as an out-of-school child, as her father, who was a driver at the time, could not afford to do so. At the beginning, Maryam was not particularly successful at the beginning because of her poor educational background. She found it very difficult to adjust as she could barely communicate in English. Thanks to the Foundation's rigorous mentoring policy where we interface with both teachers and students alike, a special attention was given to Maryam to help her catch up with the rest of the students.

Fast forward to when Maryam was in Primary 4 (2021/2022 session), her quest for excellence knew no bounds as she was found to be very inquisitive and attentive in class. By the end of the first term, she came 10th in a class of 40 students. Astonishingly, for Maryam, the battle has just started. At the end of the second term, she improved with a commendable 4th position in a class of 40 students.

It was at this junction that the foundation took a keen interest in young Maryam. A visit was scheduled to commend her parents on their unflinching support towards Maryam's education. The journey of Maryam's success story was finally cemented when she finally excelled at the third term examination with an excellent result – she came 3rd in a class of 33 students. This heroic and outstanding performance of Maryam warranted her teacher to nominate her for the Final School Common Entrance Exam in 2022. To everyone's amazement, Maryam was among the six successful candidates who passed the exam.

She was successfully enrolled in Sonesis Secondary School last September for the 2022/2023 session. During her first year, she was greeted with a different challenge of acclimatizing with her new environment as different sets of students from various schools are now her classmates. However, with Maryam, it is not yet the climax as she excelled with a remarkable result. She came 2nd in a class of 22 students. It is no doubt that little Maryam means business and her recent exploits have left no one in doubt that it is only a matter of time until she tops her class. The story of Maryam is surely an indicator that a lot of young girls, when given the opportunity, have a lot to offer. At FlexiSAF Foundation, we thrive to ensure that children like Maryam are given a chance to learn and reach their full potential.

Author: Abban Bello, Program Officer, Kano



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