



FlexiSAF
FOUNDATION

News Letter

January - March
Issue
2023

Highlight
Spelling Bee
Competition

Back to School
Back to Life



Spelling Bee Competition



To commemorate the World Poetry Day, celebrated annually on the 21st of March, the FlexiSAF Foundation organized a Spelling Bee event for its Accelerated Learning Program beneficiaries.

The event aimed to promote literacy by providing the young learners at the Accelerated Learning Program with a positive goal to work toward, bring out the best in them, and give them a platform to display the results of their hard work.

It was awe-inspiring to see contestants, who were out of school just a few months ago, courageously take turns to spell words of varying levels of difficulty.



The competition was really intense as elimination of contestants happened throughout the different rounds until the top three spellers emerged. It was a delight to witness the hard work of these children come to fruition as they battled to be among the top three contestants who would later go home with fantastic prizes.

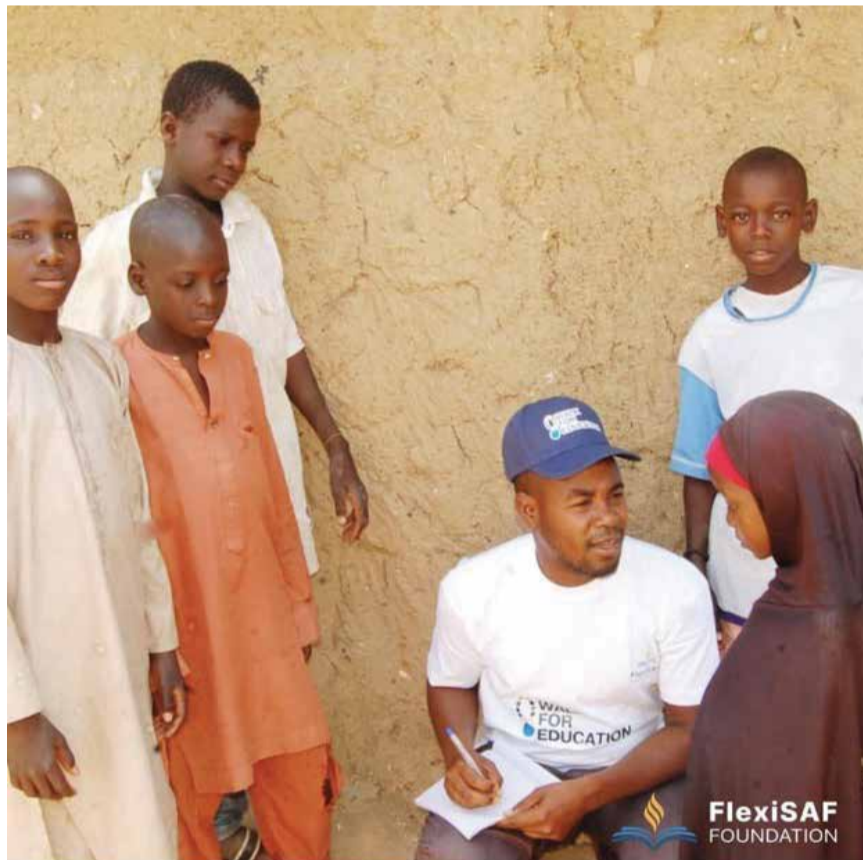
Enrollment of 10 beneficiaries into school in Zamfara State



Thanks to the FlexiSAF Foundation's Back-to-School program, we were able to give 10 children in Kaura Namoda, Zamfara state, a chance to take the first step towards a brighter future.

We identified and enrolled 10 out-of-school children into UD Grammar Schools, Kaura Namoda, Zamfara state. By identifying and enrolling these out-of-school children, we are one step closer to our mission of reducing the number of out-of-school children in Nigeria.

Every child deserves the opportunity to learn and succeed, and with each enrollment, we are building a better future for our nation.



An Audience with the Assistant Administrator, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



Our amazing Executive Director, Mrs. Amina Abubakar, also a Mandela Fellow, was at the United States Embassy Abuja to meet with the USAID Assistant Administrator, Dr. Monde Muyangwa.

The meeting was graced by other beneficiaries of the United States Department of State Exchange Programs, including Mandela Fellows, International Visitor Leadership Program alumni, and YALI Regional Leadership Center fellows.



Mrs. Amina used the opportunity to share the impactful and life-changing work we do at the FlexiSAF Foundation to improve the Nigerian education sector. During the meeting, Dr. Muyangwa encouraged the attendees to stay passionate and committed to their causes. In her words, “the future of the world belongs to Africa.”



It was an absolute honor and privilege for the FlexiSAF Foundation to be represented at such a very important meeting.

2023 Mandela Washington Fellowship Alumni Symposium



Our Executive Director, Mrs. Amina Abubakar, recently attended the Mandela Washington Fellowship Alumni Symposium in Johannesburg, South Africa. The symposium was designed to provide a platform for the 2021 Mandela Washington Fellowship Alumni to deepen their networks across the continent and globally, as it was the first time many in this cohort had the opportunity to meet in person since the 2021 Fellowship, which took place virtually.



During the symposium, participants had the chance to hear from prominent U.S. and African figures, engage in discussions on critical topics impacting U.S.-Africa relations, and build relationships through team-building activities and networking. The event was a great success, and we anticipate some impactful collaborations resulting from this exchange.

Strategy Session with Almajiri Child Rights Initiative (ACRI)



We had the pleasure of hosting a strategy session with Almajiri Child Rights Initiative to brainstorm on effective strategies for uplifting the lives of Almajiri children. We are determined to give Almajiri children a chance to live a life of dignity and help them to pursue their dreams through innovative and social impact-driven projects.

The FlexiSAF Foundation and the Almajiri Child Rights Initiative share a deep concern for disadvantaged children like the Almajiri Children, and a genuine passion to change the lives of these children by empowering them with quality and inclusive education.



We were delighted to have had a productive session, full of brimming enthusiasm and life-changing ideas. We are eagerly looking forward to seeing our plans come to life as we set out to change the lives of Almajiri children in Nigeria.



FlexiSAF Foundation End of Quarter Review Meeting



Staying true to our core values, we had an engaging and productive quarterly review meeting where the team reflected on the journey so far towards meeting our strategic goals and objectives for the year. The meeting was a great avenue to assess the performance of all teams, give constructive feedback, and identify areas of improvement in the next quarter.

We are incredibly grateful for an impactful first quarter; thanks to the remarkable show of discipline, excellence, and teamwork by our hardworking and passionate staff. We are also excited for what is to come in the next quarter and the rest of the year.



The fight against illiteracy and the alarming rate of out-of-school children in Nigeria is not an easy one, but our genuine passion and resilience keep us going. We are honored to be part of those changing the narrative of education in the country, one educated child at a time.



Success story - A Ray of Hope: Sulaiman's Journey to Education and a Better Future



Sulaiman's life has been marked by tragedy from a young age. His father was taken from him in a brutal act of violence that shook their community to its core. It has been two long years since that day, but the pain and sorrow still linger for Sulaiman and his family.

His mother, Shafa'atu, has been doing her best, as a local food vendor, to provide for her six children. Despite her tireless efforts, it has been a struggle to make ends meet, and Sulaiman's sisters have had to help out by selling food on the streets.

However, the challenges have been many, and with only little help from society. Hence, Shafa'atu has been unable to enroll all of her children in school. Sulaiman, in particular, has never had the chance to attend school, except for a brief period at an Arabic school.

So you can imagine the joy and excitement that filled Sulaiman's heart when he received the news that he would be enrolled in school by the FlexiSaf Foundation. It was like a ray of hope in an otherwise bleak world.

Sulaiman's dream is to become a land Army officer, and with this opportunity, he feels like he's one step closer to making that dream a reality. He is determined to work hard, to study diligently, and to never let the memory of his father fade away.

For Sulaiman, education is not just a means to an end. It is a way to honor his father, to build a brighter future for his family, and to contribute to his community. His story is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit, and a reminder that no matter how hard life gets, there is always hope for a better tomorrow.

Author: Mamuda Salihu (FlexiSAF Foundation's Volunteer)

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 working 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.



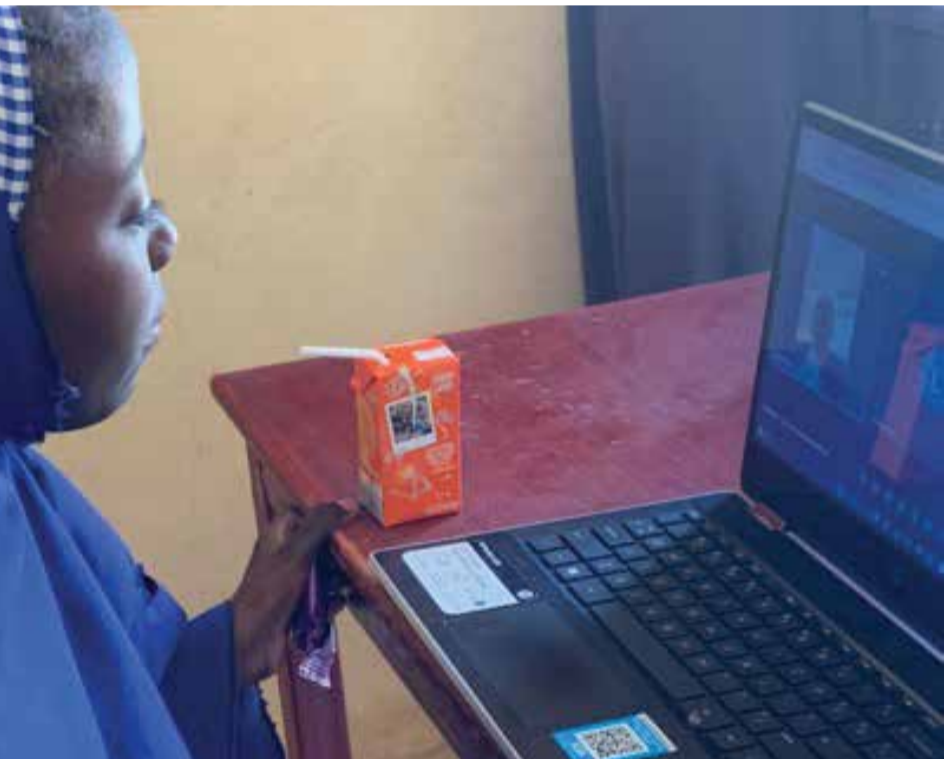
Sponsors' Week



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 signing up to sponsor a child's education today. Kindly start here.



Monitoring and Evaluation Tools Session at the National Senior Secondary Education Commission (NSSEC)



We were at the National Senior Secondary Education Commission (NSSEC) 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. 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.

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 SBM 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

Meeting with the Director of Education Resource Center



We were invited by the Director of the Education Resource Center (ERC), Hajiya Neemat D. Abdulrahim, for a meeting to discuss the success of the Walk for Education 2.0. campaign held last year. We also looked at possible areas of collaboration related to helping more out-of-school children, including Almajiri children, to get unhindered access to quality education. We are looking forward to what the next steps will look like for what appears to be an exciting partnership.



International Day of Education: partnership with Sahel Consulting to enroll 20 out-of-school children back to school



We celebrated the International Day of Education with an enrollment event to send 20 out-of-school children back to school.

The event, which was organized in partnership with Sahel Consulting Agriculture and Nutrition Limited, is under the Foundation's Sustainable Education Program (SEP).

SEP promotes the concept of sustainability and empowers parents through climate-friendly initiatives, including climate-friendly agriculture, recycling, up-cycling, and other sustainable projects. At the end of the event, 20 out-of-school children were identified and 12 of them were successfully enrolled into LEA Kado Bimko Primary School, Abuja.



Visit to Kwali



Staying true to its mission to improve access to quality education for indigent children in Nigeria through innovative projects, the FlexiS-AF Foundation visited 4 rural communities in Kwali, a local government aread under Gwagwalada Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory.

These communities, namely Kilankwa 1, Kilankwa 2, Petti, and Old Chukuku, are known for having a high number of vulnerable households and Out-of-School Children (OOSC).



The Foundation team identified lack of funds, lack of sensitization, and lack of proximity to schools, as the main reasons for the alarming rate of OOSC in these communities.

The FlexiSAF Foundation plans to extend its reach to these communities and give the children of these communities the opportunity to reach their full potential through quality education.



Beneficiaries Spotlight Features

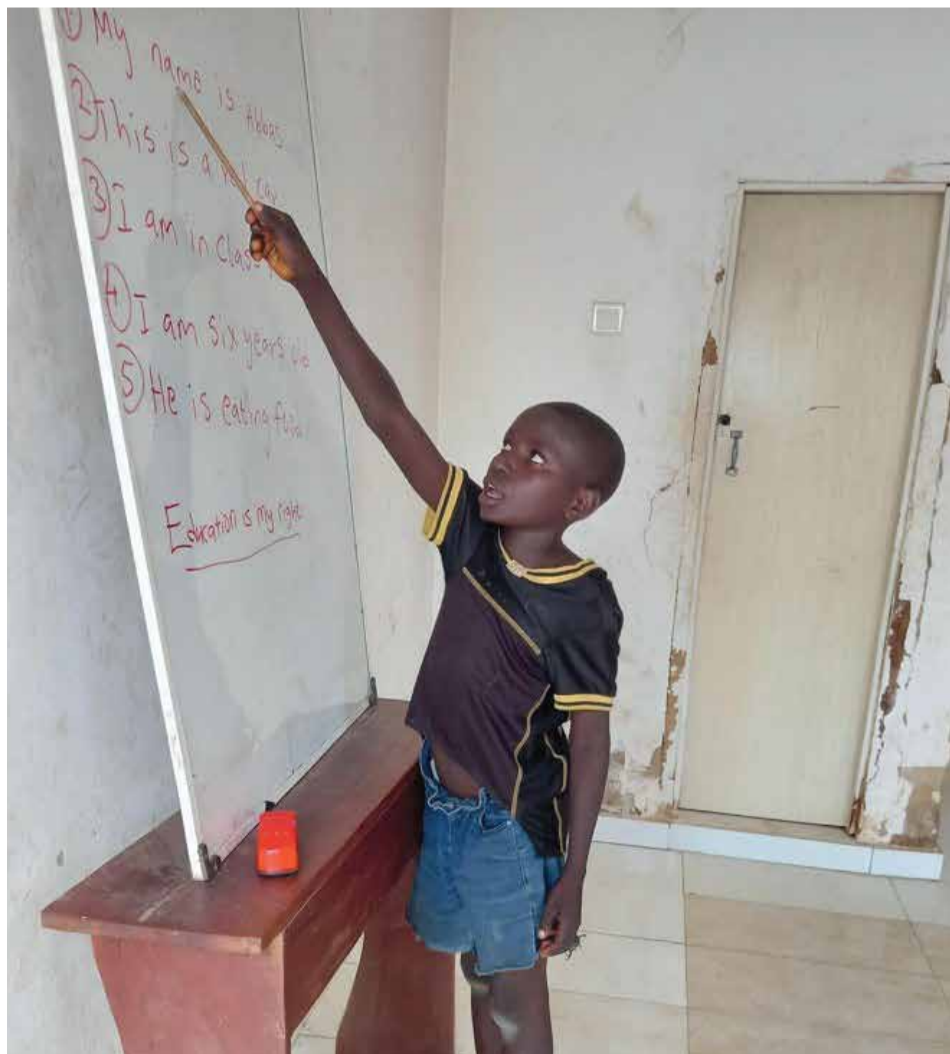
Left-handed by Circumstance - The Story of Abbas.



Abbas is 11 years old. His father is late and his mother is blind. Abbas lost a few fingers on his right hand when he was younger. He then resorted to learning how to write with his left hand.

Abbas wants to be a Scientist when he grows up and he is already showing exceptional analytical skills.

Our AccLearn seasoned instructors identified Abbas' strongest intelligence to be "Mathematical/Logical Intelligence" based on the theory of Multiple Intelligence. He likes precision and enjoys abstract and structured thinking. He usually quantifies things at every slight opportunity.



2023 Annual Foundation Retreat

We had a blast at our 2023 Foundation retreat held on the 28th of January at our main office in Abuja!



It was great to have all our staff together in one room, including some of the Foundation's Trustees. The retreat served as a great opportunity for the FlexiSAF Foundation team to get to know each other better, reflect on the preceding year, and proffer suggestions on areas we can improve this year. Aside from reviewing the Foundation's performance, the team also engaged in fun exercises and energizers.

The FlexiSAF Foundation team remains committed to providing indigent children with access to quality education as a means to solve the scourge of illiteracy and alarming rate of out-of-school children in the country.





Sponsor a child to school today with just

N5,000 Monthly donation or

N60,000 Yearly donation

You can visit flexisaf.org/donate to donate, or pay to:

FlexiSAF Foundation
0422637061
GTBank

Contact Us

Head Office

No. 25 Ibadan Street,
Area 3, Garki,
Abuja.

+234 808 407 7424

Info@flexisaf.org

www.flexisaf.org

flexisaf_foundation

FlexiSAF Foundation

@flexisaf_fdn

