



FlexiSAF
FOUNDATION

News Letter

November
Issue
2023

Highlight
#ProjectEducateAll
- Partnership with
NCFRMI

Back to School
Back to Life

#ProjectEducateAll - Partnership with NCFRMI



The FlexiSAF Foundation, in collaboration with the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants, and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI), has launched a groundbreaking Bamboo Shelter and Classroom Project for the children at the IDP camp in Durumi, Abuja.

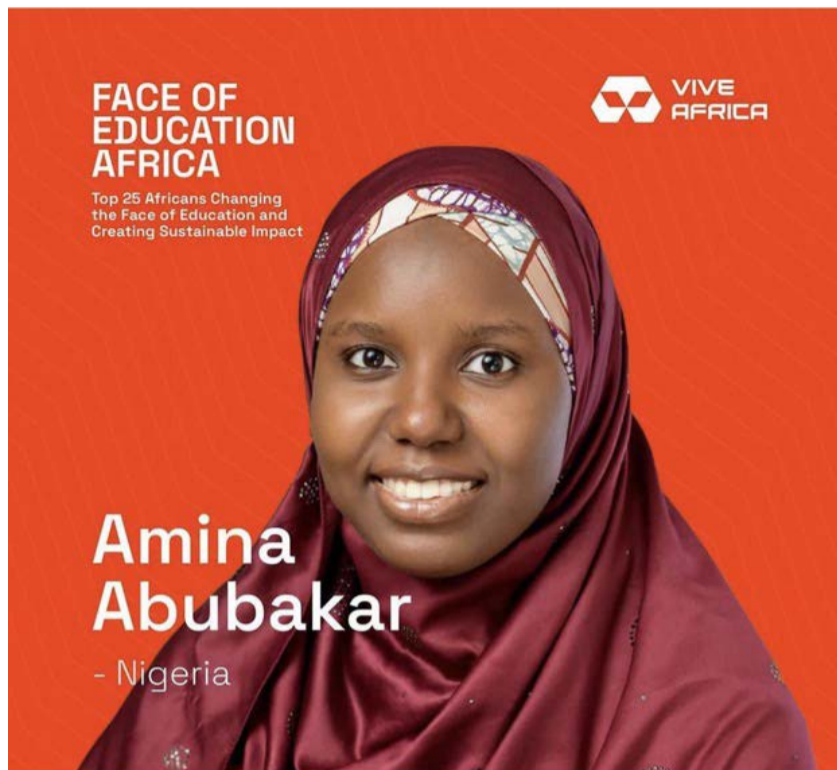
The launch was graced by the Hon. Federal Commissioner NCFRMI, Tijani Aliyu Ahmed, who applauded the project and called for collaborative efforts to protect Persons of Concern (PoCs) from the effects of climate change.

Our Executive Director, Mrs. Amina Abubakar, shared our vision of using the Bamboo building at Durumi IDP camp as a learning space for accelerated and climate education, empowering adolescent PoCs, including 1,200 children in Niger state and the FCT, with literacy, numeracy, and vital climate action knowledge. Providing these children with access to accelerated and informal education is a crucial step towards their social integration or reintegration into the formal education system.

We are truly excited about this partnership and look forward to improving the lives of PoCs. By bringing together the expertise and experience of NCFRMI and FlexiSAF Foundation, we are poised to address the unique needs and challenges faced by this vulnerable group.



Face of Education Africa 2023



Exciting News! Our Executive Director, Mrs. Amina Abubakar, has been recognized among the top 25 Africans reshaping education in the Face of Education Africa 2023 #FoEAfrica2023 list by Vive Africa, a boutique marketing communications agency in Africa dedicated to education and enterprise. Her visionary leadership and unwavering dedication are truly reshaping the future of education. A well-deserved recognition!

Proudly supported by



National Children Leadership Conference



To mark Universal Children's Day 2023, themed 'For every child, every right,' the FlexiSAF Foundation partnered with the Children of Africa Leadership and Values Development Initiative (CALDEV) in the implementation of its biennial National Children Leadership Conference. We are honored to have been part of this significant event, serving as a catalyst for safeguarding children's rights and nurturing future leaders, contributing to a brighter, inclusive world.

2-Day Training on Legislative Advocacy for Safe Schools Declaration by WARDC

We were invited to participate in a 2-Day Training of Trainers on Legislative Advocacy for Safe Schools Declaration for Community Leaders, CSOs, and School Administrators organised by the Women Advocates Research and Documentation Center (WARDC) and funded by the United Nations Democracy Fund. The training brought together diverse stakeholders in education, including the government, INGOs, local NGOs, coalitions, and media houses, among others.

The workshop succeeded in creating a vibrant space for collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and skill-building among stakeholders; serving as a testament to the collective commitment to promoting and implementing the Safe Schools Declaration in the region. We are thrilled to share that our Foundation is now officially part of the Abuja ToT Working Group for Safe Schools Declaration. This training enhanced our team's understanding of Safe School Declaration and policies in Nigeria, equipping us with valuable skills for impactful advocacy at local, regional, and national levels. Excited about the meaningful work ahead!



AccLearn Yola!



We visited the AccLearn space in Yola, a project in partnership with Madina Institute in Adamawa state and were delighted by the remarkable progress made so far. We are highly confident that these children from a nomadic community, who have never experienced formal schooling, will soon integrate seamlessly into mainstream education. We take pride in the significant impact this program is achieving, and we eagerly anticipate witnessing the continued growth and success of these young learners. Learn more about the program on our website at: <https://flexisaf.org/accelerated-learning/>



Courtesy Visit from Borno Plastic Industries Ltd.



We had the pleasure of hosting Engr. Abatcha Jarawa MNSE, General Manager of Borno Plastic Industries Ltd. and Adviser to the MD of Green Tokole Ltd. For a courtesy visit. Our discussions were highly productive, setting the stage for possible future endeavors!

Sponsors' Week



our generous sponsors got a chance to connect with their beneficiaries. Sponsors connected virtually and in person, getting first hand updates on their beneficiaries' progress, sharing advice, and motivating them in their educational journey. A genuine exchange of support and progress. The experience left sponsors fulfilled and reinvigorated in their commitment to providing more children with access to quality education.



Beneficiary Feature: Ummu-Salma's Journey of Hope Through Education with FlexiSAF Foundation



My name is Ummu-Salma. I am ten years old. I have lived with my grandmother for sometime now. As far as I can remember, my mother has been ill. She looks so frail and way older than her age. My sister, Asma'u, and I are being raised by my grandmother. Last year, I was taken out of school and made to hawk because my father had run away and no one knew his whereabouts, my destitute grandmother on the other hand only sells masa to make ends meet. We barely had three meals a day.

The other evening my head mistress called my grandmother asking her to come with me to my former school. My heart skipped a bit, "do we still owe them fees despite my withdrawal?" I thought in dismay. The concern on my grandmother's face did not make me feel any better. The next morning we went to the school. "Stop sulking now you two" the headmistress said to my grandmother reassuringly "I've got some good news". For the first time in days, my grandmother's face lit up. "There's an NGO called FlexiSAF Foundation that supports out of school children to go back to school" she said gayly "Ummu-Salma has got a slot with them."

"Allahu Akbar" my grandmother exclaimed. And so my journey back to school started. I felt so privileged to have such an opportunity and everyday I was thankful for it. I would notice my friends' envious looks as I strode to school in my new school uniform. Yesterday I and the other beneficiaries of FlexiSAF Foundation were summoned. "Your sponsors are coming to pay a visit tomorrow" said the headteacher. "Therefore you should come to school on time and bring all your books" she looked at me "Also, make sure you look neat and tidy" she added.

I could not contain my excitement. The next morning we were called to the board room to meet our sponsors. They were three, two gentlemen and a lady. I felt so shy and tensed I almost shook, the lady hugged me warmly, seemingly noticing my dilemma. "Feel free Ummu-Salma" she said. I relaxed a bit. Our sponsors were very nice people, they encouraged us to keep doing well and reassured us of their support. And so it went, until I was done with primary school. I was the best graduating student that year.

A few weeks ago, my grandmother told me that the headteacher had called, asking after me. Since the pandemic and school closures, I hadn't gone back to school. I would get up early and go to the motor park to sell food with my sister. We were summoned to my former school with my grandmother, I went there looking all haggard. The headteacher was not looking friendly this time. "Why is Ummu-Salma hawking and not in school?" she said to my grandmother. "Well she didn't get any admission into secondary school" my grandmother responded. "How do you know?" Said the headteacher tenaciously, "Did you go there to find out?" Grandma shook her head, red with embarrassment. Your sponsors are coming to visit on Thursday, meet me at the secondary school. True enough, the lady from the sponsors' team came to visit on Thursday. She was as warm as ever.

"You're very brilliant Ummu-Salma, please don't destroy your future by choosing to hawk over going to school." She quipped. "If you get a good education, you'd get a good job or business, and then you'd be able to afford anything. It's just a matter of a few years". She continued "Don't you want to look after your grandmother?" I nodded, sobbing.

Since that day I had a new found motivation to study even harder, each tired look on my grandmother's face made me even more determined. Now, I look forward to my future, I am excited about all the opportunities out there for me once I complete my studies. I cannot express my gratitude to FlexiSAF Foundation enough. They've literally changed my life" – Ummu-Salma.

There are several reasons why we do the kind of work we do. When you work in the development space, you'd realise that many people just need a slight push to achieve great things. They often just need someone to believe in them. Above is the story of Ummu-Salma when we first found her.

Fast forward to the present – Ummu-Salma, once a ten-year-old with dreams deferred, now stands tall having completed junior secondary school. With unwavering determination, she strides into SS1, choosing the science class as a gateway to her aspiration of studying medicine. The echoes of her success resonate, a testament to the transformative power of education.

In the wake of societal challenges, Ummu-Salma's story stands as a beacon of inspiration. As she embarks on the next chapter of her educational journey, we celebrate not only her accomplishments but the profound impact that FlexiSAF Foundation continues to have on young lives. Ummu-Salma's trajectory from hawking to aspiring doctor mirrors the foundation's commitment to providing opportunities and kindling the flame of knowledge.

In conclusion, Ummu-Salma's narrative is not just a story; it's a testament to the enduring impact of educational interventions. FlexiSAF Foundation's commitment to empowering individuals like Ummu-Salma reverberates, illustrating that with support and belief, dreams can indeed become realities.

Thank you for being part of this transformative journey. Stay tuned for more success stories as FlexiSAF Foundation continues to pave the way for a brighter future through education.

Author: Amina Abubakar



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