



# **STATE OF OSUN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURE**

*Testing Ground Area, Opposite Unity School,  
Old Ikirun Road, P.M.B. 4345, Osogbo*

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## **COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)**

**Period Covered by this Communication on Engagement is:  
(from 19 October 2018 to 17 July 2021).**

### **Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Executive Secretary:**

**Date Statement of Continued Support Was Issued: 17 July 2021.**

**To our stakeholders:**

I am pleased to confirm that State of Osun Council for Arts and Culture reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We implement SDGs 1, 5 and 8. We welcome feedback on our COE contents.

In this Communication on Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

**Sincerely yours,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Basirat Ahmed'.

**Mrs. Basirat Adeola Ahmed**

**(Executive Secretary)**



**Governor of the State of Osun, His Excellency, Gboyega Oyetola (Admired)**

From August 27, 2021, Governor of the State of Osun, His Excellency, Gboyega Oyetola has made it compulsory for all public and civil servants to wear the Osun State variant of local Adire “Batik” fabric, known as Adire Eleko to work, as a way to reviving the dying cultural fashion of the people noted for their artistic and cultural tourism endowments; diversifying and prioritizing State of Osun cultural tourism endowments through the mass creation of very lucrative arts related jobs for talented youths, women and girls. **Unequivocally, State of Osun remains the leading light in African culture and tradition.**





**Hon. Dr. Simeon Obawale Adebisi Commissioner for Culture & Tourism,  
State of Osun**



**Mrs. Basirat Adeola Ahmed  
(Current Executive Secretary, State of Osun Council for Arts and Culture)  
Mobile: 08033786308 Email: [ahmedbasirat2012@yahoo.com](mailto:ahmedbasirat2012@yahoo.com)**

## **Part II. Description of Actions:**

### **Activities between October 2018 and December 2019:**

Between October 2018 and December 2019, the Council took the following actions which were aimed towards the implementation of the Global Compact's Ten Principles, as well as, the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 5 and 8 in the State of Osun on or before the year 2030:

- 1. Training of artists.**
- 2. Cultural performances.**
- 3. Art exhibitions.**

Unfortunately, the Council was not able to participate in any Global Compact Local Network activity, or any Global Compact international activity between October 2018 and December 2019 because of paucity of funds and the difficulty of securing willing sponsors for such Global Compact Local Network activities and Global Compact international activities.

**Major Challenge:** The Council could not handle the funding required to sufficiently execute item 1 above for which an overwhelming population of prospective trainees turned out for. However, the Council trained only 547 prospective trainees that the Council's meager budgeted resources could train.

**Please Note:** In year 2020, there were no activities.

### **2021 Activities:**

Despite Covid-19 restrictions, the Council has been involved in the following activities in year 2021:

- 1. International Theatre March 17, 2021.**

- 2. International Museum Day, May 18, 2021.**
- 3. Art Exhibition at the unveiling of the Master Plan.**
- 4. Training at the Skill Acquisition Centre.**
- 5. Programme of All Ethnic Nationalities.**

However, the Council has not been able to participate in any Global Compact Local Network activity or any Global Compact international activity since January 1, 2021 because of Covid-19 restrictions; paucity of funds and the difficulty of securing willing sponsors.

### **Part III. Measurement of Outcomes:**

#### **Measurement of the Outcome of Diversified Arts Training of Girls, Women and Youths at the Skills Acquisition Centre between Sept 2018 & July 2021:**

Since the Council was not involved in any Global Compact Local Network activity or any Global Compact international activity since October 2018, no new UN Global Compact business participants got involved in the Council's arts training and promotional activities since October 2018.

The expertise provided by the Council between October 2018 and July 2021 to further the aims of the Global Local Network in the State of Osun has been through the Council's diversified trainings and empowerment of indigent youths, women and youths, so as to, boosting the implementation of the Global Compact's Ten Principles, as well as, the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 5 and 8 in the State of Osun on or before the year 2030.



### 547 Trained Girls, Women and Youths in the Arts per Year:

Year	Number of Trained Girls, Women and Youths in the Arts/Year
2018	120
2019	257
2020	None (Covid-19 Restrictions)
2021	170 (January-July Figures)

Since the Council was not involved in any Global Compact Local Network activity, or any Global Compact international activity since October 2018, no partnerships was formalized with mutual aims to advance the UN Global Compact principles. However, the Council hopes to be able to mobilize the requisite funding that would enable it to be actively involved in relevant Global Compact Local Network and Global Compact international activities within the next two years.



## **FURTHER DETAILS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL SINCE OCTOBER 2018**

### **September 2018-2019 Activities:**

Council activities between September 2018 and 2019 were:

- 1. Training of artists.**
- 2. Cultural performances.**
- 3. Art exhibitions**

### **2020 Activities:**

**In year 2020 there were no activities because of the COVID-19 pandemic.**

The COVID-19 pandemic crippled activities in the Council in year 2020. This global pandemic affected the State of Osun, and Nigeria was on lockdown for months. This was compounded by the #EndSars# protests by the youths across the country. Consequently, training activities at the Council were paralyzed.

### **2021 Activities:**

#### **1. International Theatre Day (ITD) March 17, 2021:**

The ITD was observed to generate awareness about the importance of theatre in our lives. The event aimed at promoting the growth of performing arts through lectures, workshops and seminars. The celebration of ITD in Osun was organized by the Osun Council for Arts and Culture. The event brought together the stakeholders in the industry to exchange ideas, forge a common front and offered the young and upcoming artistes the avenue to learn from the veterans.

**2. International Museum Day, May 18, 2021:** Furthermore, the Council also collaborated with the National Commission for Museums and Monuments

(NCMM) to celebrate the annual event of the 2021 edition of World Museum Day (WMD), held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2021, at the Council for Arts and Culture, Osogbo. It was an event that also witnessed arts exhibition and cultural performances, focusing on the need to imbibe the culture of collecting and keeping our visual heritage for posterity.

**3. Arts Exhibition at the unveiling of the Master Plan:** Training at the Skill Acquisition Centre: The Skill Acquisition Centre of the Council is a veritable platform to empower the teeming youths of the State through vocational training. This newly resuscitated centre is a platform to train the youths under the tutelage of experts in the Council. Notable areas of engaging the youths in such training include: adire/"Batik", wood carving, drum making, choreography, bead works, fashion design and hairdressing.

**4. Carving Workshop:** A carving workshop, being organized by the Council will soon be underway. This is to ingrain the culture of the profession in our youths and also teach those in the profession some modern tricks in wood carving. The Fakeye family from Ila Orangun, Osun State is a six-generation of wood carvers and the Yoruba is generally regarded as the most prolific ethnic group of carvers in sub-Saharan Africa. Lamidi Fakeye, was one of the greatest traditional wood carvers of all time, having been to more than 56 foreign universities for carving workshops and seminars.

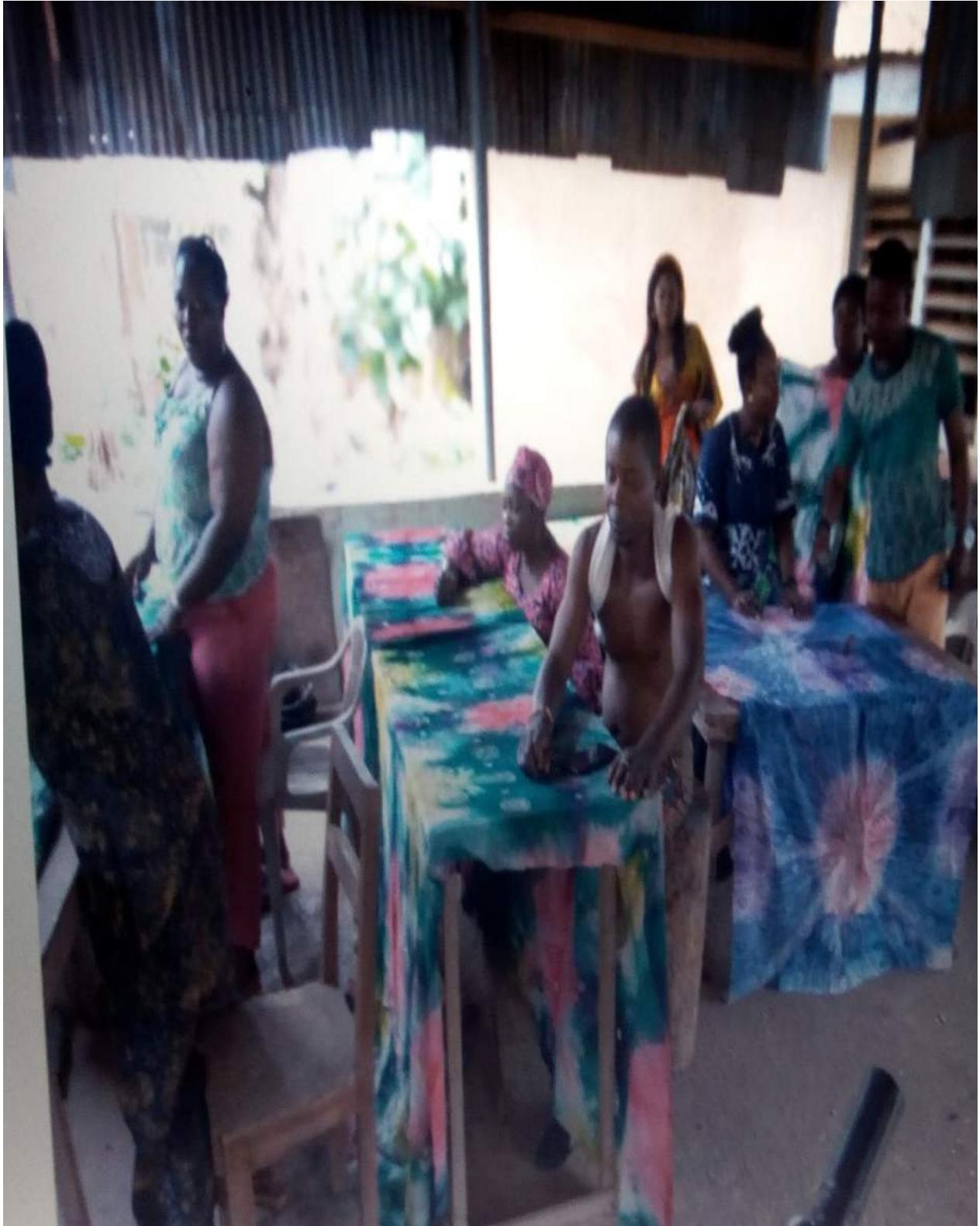
**5. Programme of All Ethnic Nationalities:** The Council also participated in the International Cultural Festival and National Dialogue organized by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The programme was meant to promote peaceful co-existence amongst all the ethnic nationalities in Osun. The Council featured in cultural performances and arts exhibition.

**6. Indigenous Music Festival:** Indigenous Music Festival is also a programme of the Council scheduled to hold every August, aimed at reviving the dying culture of music in the State. Over 20 genres of music are targeted for resuscitation in an annual three-day fiesta.

**COUNCIL ARTS TRAININGS BETWEEN OCTOBER 2018  
AND JULY 2021 IN PICTURES:**

































## **CONCLUSION:**

**Out of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the Council was able to actively promote the achievements of Goals 1, 5 and 8 between October 2018 and July 2021. The Councils achievements in **Goals 1, 5 and 8** are described thus:**

### **Goal 1:**

**The Council was able to successfully end extreme poverty in all its forms, amongst a reasonable population of hitherto indigent 547 youths, women and girls that were trained and empowered in the arts in the State of Osun.**

### **Goal 5:**

**The Council was able to successfully achieve gender equality by empowering 280 indigent women and girls with special skills in the arts.**

### **Goal 8:**

**The Council was able to successfully promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, empowerment and decent work for 547 hitherto indigent youths, women and girls in the State of Osun.**

## **PROJECTED COUNCIL PLANS FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS:**

**In the next two years, the Council shall effectively promote the achievement of **Sustainable Development Goal 17 – Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development** through the active involvement of the Council in very relevant UN Global Compact Local Network and UN Global Compact international activity and event that would promote the arts and encourage sustainable development partnerships, such as exhibitions and the live**

performance of the State of Osun Cultural Troupe at all UN Global Compact local and international events.



**NORDIANA kelvin (Director, Visual Arts Department)**

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**ALL ERRORS AND OMISSIONS IN THIS COE ARE ACCEPTED BY ME**

A handwritten signature in black ink on a white background, which reads "Kelvin Nordiana".

**NORDIANA kelvin (Director, Visual Arts Department)**

**Date: July 17, 2021 (C)2021**

