



UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT

Communication On Engagement (COE)

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement:

September 6, 2021, to September 5, 2023

STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT

September 5, 2023

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that Aspire Coronation Trust (ACT) Foundation 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 welcome any feedback on its contents.

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

Sincerely yours,

Osayi Alile

Chief Executive Officer

Aspire Coronation Trust (ACT) Foundation

ABOUT ASPIRE CORONATION TRUST (ACT) FOUNDATION

Aspire Coronation Trust (ACT) Foundation is a grant-making non-profit organization established in 2016 to support local, national and regional non-profit organizations working to address challenges and associated vulnerabilities across the African Continent. We promote broad-based participation/partnership with other institutions and donor organizations aimed at building sustainable communities and to provide innovative solutions to social, economic, and environmental challenges.

Our Vision: To Leverage Relationships to Create Effective Social Impact Solutions Across Africa

Our Mission: To Build Sustainable Societies by Engaging Initiatives that Unleashes Potential and Empowers Beneficiaries



FOCUS AREAS



HEALTH

Malaria
Maternal and Child Health
Cancer



ENVIRONMENT

Water and Sanitation
Waste Management



LEADERSHIP

Leadership Development



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Vocational Education and Skills Acquisition
Financial Inclusion

OUR CORE VALUES



Accountability



Partnership



Impact-Driven



Excellence

OUR REACH



2.2 million+

provided with
critical
interventions



800+

African
communities
reached



10

African
countries
reached



36

Nigerian
states

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS

The following summaries describe the actions which ACT Foundation has undertaken in support of the United Nations (UN) Global Compact:

a) Supporting the UN Global Compact (UNGC) within our operations, strategies and activities by partnering with and backing social enterprises participating in work that advances the UN Global Compact principles

- ACT Foundation has made progress in support of the principles of the UN Global Compact by adopting them through our key operations, including our grant cycle where the Foundation partners with non-profit organizations across the African continent to implement and support specific projects. Since inception, we have supported over 80 organizations in piloting significant change across four (4) focus areas - Health, Entrepreneurship, Leadership, and Environment.
- Within our internal operations, the Foundation maintains high standards that adopt best practices in maintenance of human and labour rights as well as upholding of good environmental and anti-corruption practices.

b) Propose, develop and implement partnerships on corporate sustainability and engage with other stakeholders.

- ACT Foundation has made significant partnerships that enable us to improve our initiatives and operations, benefit from sector-specific knowledge from different businesses, increase our social impact and reach and advance overall corporate sustainability, key UN Global Compact objectives and actions in support of UN issues and goals.

c) Engage with Global Compact Local Networks.

- Moreover, ACT Foundation has engaged with several organizations in Global Compact-related issues – including human, labour, environment and anti-corruption rights.
- The Foundation has continued to build dialogues and partnerships, as well as provide expertise, with companies and NGOs involved in the UN Global Compact to support the adoption of policies and strategies as well as the implementation of initiatives that advance relevant sustainability efforts.

d) Join and support issue platforms and work streams.

- Within our organization, we have managed to develop and carry out substantive projects and workstreams that provide opportunities for capacity development and collaboration among business, non-governmental, civil society and social sector stakeholders. These efforts connect stakeholders with common interests and comparative advantages, and ultimately ensure the sustainability of NGOs, NPOs and CBOs through organizational development, impact measurement, monitoring and evaluation, board governance and support, financial management, communication and much more.
- ACT Foundation has continuously supported major issue platforms within the UN Sustainable Development Goals through investment in social enterprises that reduce poverty, empower women, address climate change, ensure effective water and waste management and further facilitate partnerships for the goals. ACT Foundation has embedded the SDGs into its strategies and operations, as well as its efforts to support societal challenges and priorities.

MEASUREMENT OF OUTCOMES

The following qualitative and quantitative indicators signify the means to measure the outcomes of ACT Foundation's aforementioned activities:

a) Supporting the UN Global Compact within our operations, strategies and activities by partnering with and backing social enterprises participating in work that advances the UN Global Compact principles

- The following breakdown shall highlight indicators of concrete actions and activities within our grantmaking efforts in our four focus areas – Health, Entrepreneurship, Environment and Leadership – that have been taken by the Foundation in support of the Global Compact principles:
 - **Human Rights**
ACT Foundation has supported and implemented over 80 initiatives that respect internationally proclaimed Human Rights and address specific human rights' risks including women and gender equality, children's rights and the rights of Persons with Disabilities.
 - **Labour**
ACT Foundation has partnered with four (4) organizations within our focus area of Entrepreneurship and Health - Stanforte Edge, Dynalimb Technologies,

Vinsighte Nigeria and the IREDE Foundation - that tie in specifically with **Principle 6** of UN Global Compact through their efforts towards the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation within Nigerian society. In 2020, ACT Foundation enabled Stanforte Edge to empower 50 businesses led by persons with disabilities (PWD) and provided disability inclusion workshops for private organizations whilst our support of the IREDE Foundation improved leadership skills among 135 PWDs



across 33 Nigerian states through capacity building trainings and provision of access to internship and mentorship opportunities. In 2023, we continue to uphold our commitment to this Principle by providing support to African Business Radio, to establish Smart HR, a weekly live radio show and podcast series that enables dialogue and knowledge sharing on improved employment practices and conditions as well as diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

- **Anti-Corruption**

Through specific projects focused on the development of thought leadership and national development, ACT Foundation has managed to address key issues and risks related to anti-corruption and bribery. Specifically, the Foundation partners with the Corporate Social Responsibility Advancement and Awareness Initiative (CSR-in-Action), a UN Global Compact member, on the GOOD Citizen radio show. Special topics covered within their programming - aimed at inspiring value system reorientation, driven through citizen participation - developed values such as integrity, honesty, hard work and fairness for five years amongst hundreds of thousands of monthly listeners in alignment with **Principle 10** of the UN Global Compact, and raised awareness on certain anti-corruption issues in order to drive key members of the society, whether it be the individual, private or public sector, to work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

- **Environment**

In a concerted effort to address the interconnected environmental challenges outlined in **Principles 8 and 9** of the United Nations Global Compact, ACT Foundation has taken proactive steps to support twelve (12) organizations - namely African Cleanup Initiative, Angel Support Foundation, FABE International Foundation, Development Initiative of West Africa (DIWA), eTrash2Cash Nigeria, Junior Chamber International (JCI), Centre for

Renewable Energy and Action on Climate (CREACC), Mental and Environmental Development Initiative for Children/Kids Beach Garden (MEDIC), Nature Protection and Environmental Improvement Initiative, Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF), Play Soccer Ghana, and LBS Sustainability Centre of Pan-Atlantic University Foundation



– that have been actively engaged in initiatives aimed at raising awareness about mitigation and adaptation strategies, promoting sustainable waste and water management, and fostering climate action at grassroots, public, and private levels. For instance, our collaboration with NCF Nigeria has led to tangible results, including expanded access to potable water for 10,500 individuals residing in five water-scarce, agrarian communities around Lake Maladumba. This achievement was made possible through the adoption of climate-adaptive practices, training on sustainable farming methods, and sensitization on the responsible utilization of the natural resources of Maladumba lake and forest in the semi-arid region of Bauchi, Nigeria. This endeavor directly addresses the UNGC Principles on Environment by enhancing clean water access, fostering climate-resilient practices, and promoting sustainable resource management.

- ACT Foundation maintains high ethical standards and policies that do not tolerate any improper activities including bribery or fraud. Besides maintaining Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) policies that ensure the health, safety and welfare of its employees, the Foundation also adopted environmental protection policies – which include recycling and energy consumption mandates - to ensure it is mindful of the impact of its activities on the environment and that employees reduce pollution, waste and energy consumption while carrying out



their duties. Furthermore, ACT Foundation has adopted employment practices, within its policies, that provide equal opportunities for all employees, with respect for human rights, and continues to work on strengthening a culture of mutual respect, trust and openness. Workplace gender equality remains vital to our operations and the well-being of our employees, and we work towards enabling an environment where people can access the same rewards, resources and opportunities in the areas of healthcare, compensation, talent development and other work benefits, regardless of gender.

b) Propose, develop and implement partnerships on corporate sustainability and engage with other stakeholders.

As part of our support for the UN Global Compact's aims, our Foundation has proposed, developed and implemented partnership projects on corporate sustainability and formalized specific partnerships with mutual aims to advance the UN Global Compact principles.

- **Professional Volunteer Programme (PVP)**

Through the Professional Volunteer Programme, ACT Foundation has actively supported the sustainability and effectiveness of development organizations within our network, aligning with the UNGC's goals. Over the past two years, this program has fostered collaborations between the private and social sectors, facilitating the engagement of 22 skilled professionals who have generously volunteered their expertise and services to our social sector and non-profit partners with specific organizational needs. These dedicated volunteers, hailing from esteemed organizations such as Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale

Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

GmbH, Pfizer, Microsoft Corporation,

British America Tobacco West and Central Africa (BATWCA), Nigeria Breweries PLC, Nigerian Women in PR, Oracle Nigeria, Ikigai Heights,

Verraki, iTech Media, and The Education Partnership (TEP) Centre, have actively participated in advisory clinics held quarterly throughout the year. Within these clinics, our professional volunteer consultants have addressed an array of specific



The Professional Volunteer Programme provides insightful knowledge and should be maintained consistently to provide more needed support for non-profits.

-Grantee Feedback, May 2023

challenges faced by our grantee partners, encompassing critical areas aligned with UNGC actions, including Brand and Public Relations, Project Management, Human Capital Management, Policy Development and Advocacy, Information Technology for NGOs, Fundraising and Donor Management, and Strategic Planning. During each session, the volunteers provided tailored solutions and guidance to an average of 5-10 attending grantee partners, enhancing their organizational practices and capabilities.

- The Foundation remains a member of **Concordia** – an expansive community of institutions and individuals spanning across different industries and geographies - to join greater networks and efforts that address the most complex and challenging global issues and create partnerships with stakeholders that advance our organizational objectives and the UN Global Compact goals.
- To strengthen our commitment towards the acceleration of small and growing business (SGB) growth in Africa, ACT Foundation sponsored **ANDE West Africa's** 2022 annual conference and participated in plenary sessions among experts, practitioners and policy makers to share experiences on effective policies and initiatives that drive enabling environments for SGBs to thrive.
- For the past 3 years, the CEO of ACT Foundation has participated as a Speaker and Delegate at the **Skoll World Forum**, an annual event that actively contributes to the UNGC Goals by promoting collaboration, knowledge sharing, innovation, and advocacy among individuals and organizations dedicated to addressing the world's most pressing social and environmental challenges. The forum enabled ACT Foundation to not only gain insights and inspiration from leading social entrepreneurs, change-makers, and thought leaders in various fields but also connect with a diverse community of professionals, including philanthropists, academics, business leaders, and activists, to share our expertise and foster collaboration.
- In March 2023, ACT Foundation joined **Connective Impact**, a global platform connecting donors to non-profit organizations and has been able to establish valuable partnerships with donor organizations and exploration meetings with relevant organizations that further the impact and sustainability of us and our partners. The partnership has also granted us opportunities to present our grantmaking portfolio to an international audience.
- Between 2022 and 2023, ACT Foundation partnered with the following organizations to providing and technical support to outstanding digital and



**CONNECTIVE
IMPACT**

technological innovations awarded through our annual Changemakers Innovation Challenge:

-IHS Towers

In September 2022, ACT Foundation partnered with IHS Nigeria Ltd. - a telecommunications equipment and service provider and UN Global Compact participant - to provide financial sponsorship for three organizations – Nafarm Foods, Dynalimb Technologies and Health Emergency Initiative – selected amongst the winners and finalists of ACT Foundation's Changemakers Innovation Challenge. By the end of the project lifecycle, Nafarm Foods had empowered 1400 individuals in the tomato value chain across Northern Nigeria through capacity building, technical support, and access to markets, resulting in increased revenue via digital cluster map profiling. Dynalimb enabled 106 persons with disabilities in Lagos and Ogun to access quality, affordable medical devices using 3D additive manufacturing technology combined with traditional lamination. Additionally, Health Emergency Initiative managed to enhance pre-medical emergency response skills among 40 students in Lagos state.



-Ishk Tolaram Foundation

In July 2023, we partnered with Ishk Tolaram Foundation for the 2023 Changemakers Innovation Challenge, to introduce the Special Prize for Innovation in Skilling for tech-enabled skilling projects and innovative solutions. This dynamic partnership, which supports our goals on the integration of environmental, social, and governance principles within the adoption of technological innovations, shall enable operational funding for a selected NGO or social enterprise.



-Verraki

In September 2022, ACT Foundation partnered with Verraki to execute a Mentorship and Acceleration programme to offer mentorship support to the finalists of the 2022 Changemakers Innovation Challenge. Four finalists were selected and provided one-on-one mentorship with highly experienced individuals, who provided guidance on achieving their goals and scaling their businesses. The program also provided training to the finalists in their specific areas of need including customer segmentation, market penetration and financial analysis.



c) Engage with Global Compact Local Networks.

- Since 2021, ACT Foundation has acted as a sponsor member of the **Nigerian Network of Non-Governmental Organisations (NNGOs)** - a fellow UN Global

Compact participant - to contribute to and further strengthen their efforts to build accountable and inclusive organizations, and build the capacity of nonprofits to catalyze economic and social development.

- We have publicized our commitment to UN Global Compact amongst our stakeholders, partners and networks to ensure that other organizations can mirror our obligations to the UN Global Compact's principles, and also increase the likelihood of our partners adopting these principles within their organizational strategies, policies and procedures.
- Several other organizations within the Global Compact Local Network, which the Foundation has supported or partnered in the past two years, include **Access Bank Plc, GIZ, Tolaram, Microsoft Corporation, BATWCA, LEAP Africa, Wellbeing Foundation Africa, Corporate Social Responsibility Advancement and Awareness Initiative (CSR-in-Action)** and **Hacey Health Initiative**. Our partnership with Access Bank has been crucial in enabling us to accelerate impact work across a broad spectrum of developmental issues clustered within the focus areas of - Health, Entrepreneurship, Leadership, and Environment, through our annual grant cycle. Since the inception of this partnership, over 2 million individuals have been impacted through projects implemented across Africa. Moreover, ACT Foundation supported CSR-in-Action in enabling a platform for business and individual networking on sustainable social responsibility and development in Nigeria whilst backing Hacey Health initiative in providing sustainable solutions to improving the health and productivity of vulnerable and underserved populations by providing access to clean safe water.

- **Research**

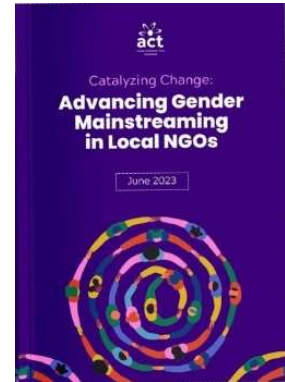
ACT Foundation contributed to the provision of expertise to further the aims of corporate and public sustainability amongst local and regional institutions as well as Global Compact Local Networks in Nigeria and Africa.

- **Impact of COVID-19 on Social Change Organisations in Africa (2020):** This [report](#) assessed the extent and effect of COVID-19 on the services, operations, and people of African social sector organizations and the challenges that threatened service continuity..
- **Landscape study of NGO led cancer interventions in Nigeria (2021):** This [report](#) provides an overview of mission-driven organizations tackling the cancer crisis in Nigeria, marking the first comprehensive assessment of NGOs' contributions and experiences in combating cancer in the country.
- **Reducing Nigeria's Cancer Burden - A Policy Brief (2021):** This [policy brief](#) looks at the opportunities for multistakeholder collaboration in fighting the burden of cancer in Nigeria and provides recommendations on how the government,



private sector, and civil society can close the care gap across the control continuum.

- **Digital Transformation and African Non-profits (2022):** This [report](#) offers insight into the current state of technology adoption within African nonprofit organizations, explores the digital investment landscape and investigates the barriers to greater technology adoption.
- **Catalyzing Change-Advancing Gender Mainstreaming in Local NGOs (2023):** Our research team extensively examined the existing evidence on gender mainstreaming to provide local development actors with a [report](#) on best-practice guidance for achieving greater gender equality results in operations, programs, and organizational culture.



- **Thought Leadership**

Finally, our commitment to nurturing sustainable attitudes and practices within the ecosystem through the dissemination of vital expertise and knowledge resulted in the development of a **four-part book series** in 2022, designed as informative guides



tailored for non-profit organizations seeking to enhance their organizational development potential. These interconnected books were carefully crafted to provide comprehensive insights into the crucial stages of growth essential for the success of a non-profit enterprise. The four-part series encompasses topics ranging from setting up a non-profit, efficient daily operations management, the construction of a long-lasting non-profit entity, and effective performance tracking for sustainable growth and success.

d) Join and support issue platforms and work streams.

The Foundation also developed special initiatives and work streams that ensure sector sustainability and support the UN Compact Goals.

- **ACT Foundation Breakfast Dialogue**

Every year, ACT Foundation hosts the Breakfast Dialogue, a multistakeholder conference dedicated to fostering essential dialogue for developing transformative strategies and perspectives to unlock the development potential of social sector organizations. During this conference, distinguished leaders and professionals from the social, private, and public sectors, who have significantly contributed to Africa's social and economic progress, come together to engage in discussions centered around a specific theme. The 6th edition of this conference, held on September 29, 2022, under the



theme "Shifting Paradigms: Transforming our Approach to Addressing Africa's Challenges," sparked practical strategies and enduring solutions to some of Africa's persistent challenges, including issues such as inadequate healthcare systems, climate change, food insecurity, and the underdevelopment of youth entrepreneurship. The event took place in Lagos, Nigeria, with the physical presence of 380 participants. Our forthcoming session, scheduled for October 5, 2023, aims to expand its reach to over 500 participants and will revolve around the theme, "Advancing Sustainable Development in Africa: The Role of Environmental, Social, and Governance Strategies in Creating Impact," with a focus on how ESG principles can be harnessed to promote the sustainable development of organizations across the non-profit, private, and public sectors.

- **Social Sector Knowledge Series**

A cornerstone of our commitment to knowledge sharing and capacity building, features quarterly events called **Open Conversations** and **Sector Insights**. These sessions are designed to foster deep discussions on systemic issues and offer profound insights into innovative approaches to

ACT trainings have been very educative and insightful. It has assisted our organization in developing a strategic plan to engage donors and improve our internal controls.

-Auwal Ahmed Musa

addressing challenges while emphasizing best practices for social sector leaders to enhance their impact. Over the past two years, we have successfully hosted eight (8) of these sessions, each attracting a substantial virtual audience of at least 100 participants per session. These sessions have proven invaluable for participants, providing them with crucial insights into emerging trends, recent developments, and promising opportunities within various realms of the social sector. Topics have ranged from fundraising strategies and navigating regulatory and tax landscapes specific to non-profits to the intricacies of effective impact measurement and beyond.

- **Leadership Unwrapped**

Throughout the year, ACT Foundation conducts a virtual and in-person strategic meeting for CEOs and Founders to discuss challenges faced in the management of non-profits and the opportunities available to foster growth and proffer solutions to these challenges. In the end of 2022, a session themed 'Fostering Adaptive Leadership in Challenging Environments' was facilitated by Chizor Malize Managing Director/CEO of Financial Institutions Training Centre who shared her expertise, experiences and ideas for building networks for sustainable partnerships. This session was followed-up with a virtual executive capacity building workshop for the attending sixteen (16) CEOs to further their knowledge of impactful leadership. In 2023, we hosted another virtual Leadership Unwrapped session focused on maximizing board engagement to foster organizational growth and increased impact with the support of our speaker, Mrs. Zouera Youssoufou, Managing Director/CEO Aliko Dangote Foundation.

- **ACTPod**

In 2022 ACT Foundation launched ACTPod, a podcast aimed at providing a learning platform for development enthusiasts and telling the story and impact of the social sector in Africa. Over the past two years, we have released a total of 15 episodes, featuring highlights such as our Changemakers series where we engaged leaders from community-based organizations like Enactus Nigeria, FABI Foundation, Girlsaid Nigeria, Chess in Slums Africa and Junior Achievement Nigeria, who shared insights on driving community change, overcoming challenges, and maintaining resilience during disruptive periods. Additionally, we had memorable conversations, including one with Mr. Conor Brosnan, CEO of Small Foundation, discussing the catalysts for systemic change in



Africa, and another with Mr. Gbenga Sesan, Executive Director of the Paradigm Initiative, focusing on connecting African youth with digital opportunities and safeguarding digital rights. In July of this year, we launched the second season of ACTPod, delving into the complexities of sustainability in Africa with Ini Abimbola, CEO of Thistle Praxis Consulting Limited, and featuring discussions with Dr. Omolola Salako of Sebeccly Cancer Care and Gloria Okwu of Project Pink Blue, who shared their missions and innovative strategies to enhance access to cancer care.

- **Commemorative Panel Discussions**

Periodically, ACT Foundation organizes panels to honor and reflect upon significant milestones, achievements, or individuals, featuring expert speakers discussing relevant topics to commemorate and celebrate specific contributions. In March 2022, we collaborated with PLAN International Nigeria to host a webinar, which offered practical insights from accomplished women on effectively navigating gender bias and discrimination while also fostering awareness among men as catalysts for change in the journey towards building a gender-transformative society.



In commemoration of 2023 World Cancer Day, we hosted a knowledge sharing session with representatives of cancer care organizations who shared great insights on the realities of cancer care inequities in Africa and provided nuggets on how society can contribute to closing the care gap. For the past two years, we have facilitated a session at #AfricaNXT, an annual gathering of innovators from across Africa and the diaspora in Lagos, Nigeria. In 2022, we gathered experts from the private and social sector to share their successes in storytelling from a personal and organizational perspective as well as practical steps to use stories to increase sustainable funding for entrepreneurship interventions. At AfricaNXT 2023, ACT Foundation hosted an extensive panel discussion on the significance of technology and innovation for social impact interventions. Furthermore, we facilitated an insightful conversation themed “DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality” on Twitter spaces to champion the advancement of transformative technology and digital education amongst women and girls and mark the 2023 celebration of International Women’s Day in March.

- **Changemakers Innovation Challenge**



Over the years, ACT Foundation has been driven by the profound impact of rapidly advancing technology on the social sector. This drive led us to conceive the Changemakers Innovation Challenge - a pioneering initiative focused on empowering businesses, social enterprises, and nonprofits that harness technology to catalyze social change and offer innovative solutions in underserved African communities. Since 2019, ACT Foundation has significantly



bolstered the capabilities of fourteen African organizations. We've accomplished this through the provision of grant funding and essential technical support, enabling these organizations to scale their tech-based solutions effectively. Our support has extended to organizations like Vinsighte, where artificial intelligence aids the visually impaired, Afrilearn, facilitating digital

learning for West African students, Digital Agro Connect Solutions, enabling digital financial inclusion for Northern Nigerian farmers, and Fourthline Limited, which developed an eco-friendly beehive system benefitting rural farmers in Zambia. Additionally, we've backed initiatives such as Dare to Innovate, empowering over 800 Guinean entrepreneurs through digital financial services, and Infuss Health, which utilizes technology to distribute blood to underserved rural communities in Cameroon.

- **Youth Entrepreneurship Skills Grant initiative**

In October 2021, ACT Foundation entered into a strategic partnership with **Sony Entertainment** and **Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) America**. The aim was to shape the future by unleashing the economic potential of unemployed youth, individuals with limited skills, and artisans from low-income and marginalized Nigerian communities. This Youth Entrepreneurship Skills Grant initiative was particularly geared towards addressing one of Nigeria's most pressing challenges—unemployment, which had been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program focused on entrepreneurship and digital or technological skills as reliable pathways to empower disadvantaged Nigerians and enhance their economic independence. Our partnership mapped out specific programmatic areas, including science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) training for

young girls, as well as vocational and digital skills training for individuals under the age of 35. Three selected grantees played a pivotal role in providing entrepreneurship skills in technology, data science, fashion, and other vocational fields. As part of this special grant, ACT Foundation collaborated with a previous grantee, Dr. Stella Ameyo Adadevoh (DRASA) Health Trust, to conduct COVID-19 Safety and Prevention training for ACT Foundation grantees and other non-profit organizations across Africa. Notable achievements from these efforts include the empowerment of 200 young women from low-income families in Abuja, Ogun, Niger, and Kaduna with digital skills and tech training, as well as the establishment of a business and creative skills boot camp to provide technical training and hands-on support for artisans in Lagos and Kano, bridging the gap between their skills and future demands.



- **Alignment With United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs)**

Over the past two years, ACT Foundation has significantly expanded its impact across Africa by supporting sustainable programs executed by nonprofit and social enterprise organizations across the continent. Our collective impact over the past five years has reached over 2 million people across ten African countries, through the support of initiatives led by over 80 organizations. These funded programs are a tangible demonstration of our unwavering commitment to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically **SDGs 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, and 17** outlined in the global initiative known as Agenda 2030.

HEALTH: In the realm of health, we've supported **sixty-four (64) African initiatives**, aligning with **SDG Goal 3**, to ensure good health and well-being for targeted beneficiaries. These initiatives have improved healthcare services for vulnerable and marginalized groups in challenging areas such as Malaria, Cancer (Breast, Cervical & Prostate), and Maternal & Child Health. For example, we've partnered with organizations like



Sebecly Cancer Care to reach over 30,000 women and girls with screening and patient navigation services. Collaboration with VisionSpring, Eleta Eye Institute, and Eyecare Aid Foundation has facilitated the distribution of over 46,000 prescription and reading glasses to low-income individuals in need.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

In the sphere of entrepreneurship, we've funded **fifty-eight (58) initiatives**, focusing on SDG **Goals 8, 9, and 12**. These initiatives have promoted entrepreneurial endeavors that enhance the livelihoods of vulnerable and disadvantaged populations. For instance, through the Engineering for Industry (E4I) program, which addresses gaps in Nigerian engineering education, ACT Foundation has supported Clintonel Innovation Centre in providing training to over 400 marginalized university students on Computer Aided Design, Computer Aided Manufacturing, and Renewable Energy. Additionally, over 1,000 students from 60 secondary schools have received STEM education.



LEADERSHIP

Within the area of leadership, we've funded **twenty-seven (27) initiatives** that have developed leadership skills across governance, economic, organizational, and professional development. These initiatives align with SDG **Goals 11, 16, and 17**. For example, our long-standing support for Enactus Nigeria's Leadership Challenge has nurtured entrepreneurship, innovation, and problem-solving skills among young adults in Nigerian universities. This integrated community-based outreach program has adapted to address contemporary national challenges, resulting in scalable interventions led by over 2,000 students across 25 states in Nigeria.



ENVIRONMENT

In the environmental domain, we've demonstrated our commitment to **SDG Goals 6 and 15** by funding **twenty-six (26) initiatives**. These programs have made remarkable strides in ensuring environmental sustainability for future generations.



ACT Foundation's support of FABE Foundation, for instance, has educated over 10,000 students about the environment and sustainable waste management. This initiative has led to the establishment of Eco-Gardens in over 40 schools in Lagos and Ogun, the planting of over 400 trees, and the diversion of over 50 tons of plastic for recycling. Importantly, within the Foundation's organizational strategy. Importantly, our focus areas in health, entrepreneurship, leadership, and the environment ultimately contribute to achieving UN

Sustainable Development **Goals 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 13, and 14**.

- **Women's Empowerment**

ACT Foundation has been a steadfast supporter of women's empowerment, aiding **seventeen (17) African organizations** dedicated to advancing gender equality and women's rights in Nigerian society. These initiatives employ a multifaceted approach, encompassing the development of female entrepreneurship skills, capacity-building programs in economic, agricultural, and educational domains, as well as the establishment of essential safeguards and standards aimed at preventing violence against women and girls.

Moreover, these endeavors share a common goal: to ensure that all women have equal access to justice, safety, and security. In the sphere of maternal health, ACT Foundation has partnered with organizations such as Girlsaide Initiative, Help Mum Foundation and Post-Partum Support Network. These partnerships have made a substantial impact in reducing maternal mortality rates across vulnerable



regions. These initiatives have made a substantial impact in reducing maternal mortality rates across vulnerable

Nigerian communities. For instance, recent efforts of Help Mum Foundation extended to four Primary Health Centers in Oyo state, where they educated nursing mothers about vital vaccinations and trained nurses in the use of their digital service, the HelpMum Vaccination Tracker. These initiatives have reached an impressive number of families, facilitating the installation of trackers on mobile devices to help parents maintain accurate records of their children's vaccination schedules and ensure they receive necessary vaccines.

Economic empowerment of women stands as a pivotal aspect of ACT Foundation's mission. Therefore, have provided crucial backing to women-focused entrepreneurship and financial empowerment initiatives led by



organizations such as Nuru Nigeria, African Women Entrepreneurship Program (AWEP) Nigeria, Women in Successful Careers (WISCAR), Adara Foundation, Women in Management, Business & Public Service (WIMBIZ), Aspilos Foundation, Nuru Nigeria, Working to Advance STEM Education for African Women (WAAW) Foundation, Women's Technology Empowerment

Centre (W.TEC), Mamamoni, Amen Health Care and Empowerment Foundation and the END Fund, Soulace Africa Initiative and Ashake Foundation. Nuru Nigeria, for instance, has placed a strong emphasis on gender inclusion, ensuring that female smallholder farmers in Northern Nigeria acquire practical knowledge on pre-planting, planting, crop management, harvest, and post-harvest operations. Their approach also emphasizes sustainable methods to enhance household food security. In parallel, we have supported organizations like Women at Risk International Foundation (WARIF), Visiola Foundation, Stand to End Rape Initiative, and Cece Yara Foundation with initiatives dedicated to establishing essential protections and standards aimed at preventing violence against women and girls. They have been equally committed to ensuring that women have equal access to justice, safety, and security.



Notably, ACT Foundation's support of WARIF's Gatekeepers Project, which addresses the high prevalence of gender-based violence cases in rural communities, enabled the training of traditional birth attendants to recognize signs of abuse and provide appropriate management. Later, it expanded to reach over 1600 gatekeepers in the areas of health, religion and law enforcement, significantly impacting a wider reach of people. Additionally, ACT Foundation has actively engaged with relevant stakeholders and organizations in the field of female empowerment by becoming a member of the NGO unit of the Lagos State Ministry of Women Affairs And Poverty Alleviation (WAPA). This strategic membership allows us to better support and collaborate with like-minded entities, furthering our commitment to advancing women's empowerment in the Nigerian society.

CONCLUSION

Over the past two years, ACT Foundation has evolved into a 'Social Impact Hub,' extending our influence across Africa, serving as a central point for individuals and organizations dedicated to addressing critical social issues.

Our commitment to the United Nations Global Compact principles remains unwavering as recent challenges, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change, have heightened existing inequalities. Therefore, we pledge to strengthen our collaboration with stakeholders to achieve the Global Goals by 2030.

In conclusion, ACT Foundation's transformation positions us as a catalyst for positive change, fostering innovation, collaboration, and sustainable development in Africa, while steadfastly upholding global principles and goals. Together with our partners, stakeholders, and the global community, we will continue to strive for a future where prosperity is shared, inequalities are diminished, and sustainability is the guiding principle.

