



# **IA-FOUNDATION OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDREN 2023 SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE**



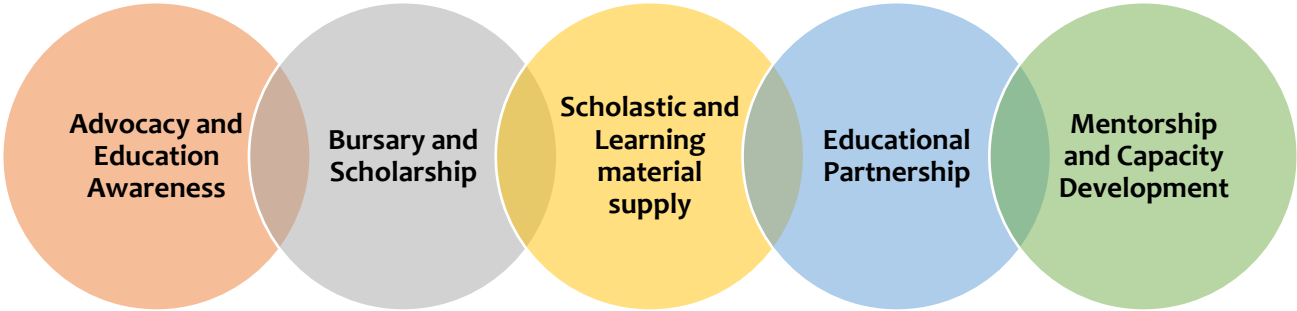
**ABOUT IA-FOUNDATION**

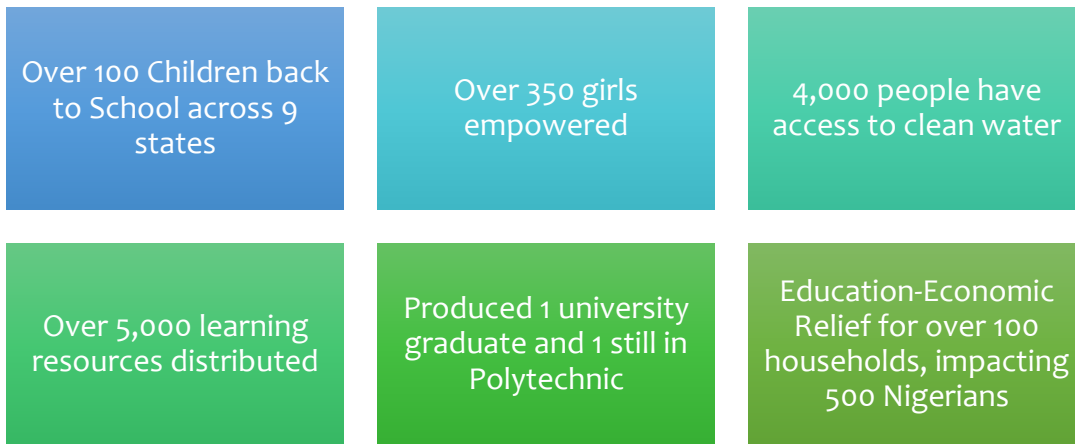
Ibironke Adeagbo Foundation (IA-Foundation) is a Nigerian and UK-registered charity that is working to reduce the number of out-of-school children in Nigeria. In alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 4 which seeks to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all, IA-Foundation has continued to increase access to formal education for children from indigent backgrounds in low-income communities, orphans, physically challenged children and the girl-child across Nigeria.

IA-Foundation is driven by the underlying philosophy that education can be used as a tool to curb various social issues confronting Nigeria and other developing countries. As an organization, we are committed to our mission to remove barriers to accessing quality education including financial and non-financial impediments. Our goal is to enable, empower, equip, and enhance people’s lives through strategic exposure to quality education.

The Foundation was established on January 30th, 2019, by Mrs. Ibironke Adeagbo, a chartered account and passionate education advocate who had insights into the impending threats to the future of Nigeria, and the African continent at large if the number of out-of-school kept increasing, with no urgent and strategic efforts to curb it. The activities and programmes of the Foundation are developed around key thematic areas as shown in the diagram below.

**THEMATIC FOCUS AREAS**





## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 THE SUMMIT



The IA-Foundation Out-of-School Children Summit is a gathering of education stakeholders and private-sector investors who are passionate about finding

solutions to the education crisis of 20.2 million children who are not accessing any form of education. The summit is a response to the increasing need to create national awareness about the menace of out-of-school children and the potential consequences of continuous relegation of universal education in Nigeria. The event aims to achieve multi-sector awareness, involvement, and investment in addressing the embarrassing statistics of 20.2 million out-of-school children in the country. We want stakeholders to be self-aware of the relevance of contributing to efforts to take children from the street to the classroom. Outcomes from this summit will be used to drive advocacy, policy suggestions and insightful collaboration with stakeholders to ensure resolutions are sustainably implemented.

### 1.2 THE PROBLEM OF OUT-SCHOOL CHILDREN CRISIS

The problem of the high rate of out-of-school children is a global menace, but most common in developing nations. In Nigeria, the latest statistics from UNESCO showed that there are 20.2 million out-of-school children in the country. Children between 6 and 18, including males and females, make up this number. Available records show that more than 60% of the out-of-school children in Nigeria are from the Northern part of the country. Experience from our four (4) years of proffering sustainable solutions to this menace indicates that **poverty** and **insecurity** top the list of factors responsible for the high rate of out-of-school children in the country. Other factors include a **perceived lesser need for education** because of the high rate of unemployment, a parental **belief**

**that educating the girl-child is useless**, and the **exclusion of physically challenged children** from mainstream schooling through exclusive infrastructure and architecture among several others. Also important is the poor quality of government-owned schools, which has made many parents opt to send their children to private schools, often struggling to sustain this. We have also seen several cases of children who could not attend school because they were **orphans**. A typical example is an eleven (11) year-old orphan, Victory Akpe, in Delta state who had no one to help him since he lost his parents. The neighbour who took him in could not afford to send him to school. We also have the case of Bimbo, who was dumped at the entrance gate of a school by an unknown woman believed to be her mother. She was taken in by one of the families in the neighbourhood, who named the child and offered her shelter.

### **1.3 THE THEME: STREET TO SCHOOL: A PANACEA TO A MENACE**

The theme of this maiden edition, Street to School: A Panacea to a Menace, is apt and captures the role of education in mitigating or averting the many negative consequences of out-of-school children in Nigeria. It highlights the transformative power of education and how it can be used as a weapon to rebuild a degraded or failed society. The high cases of rape, prostitution, cybercrime, armed robbery and kidnapping, among several others, are some of the earliest consequences of the high rate of out-of-school children in the country. As a sector with socio-economic dynamics, the consequences of having more than 10% of the nation's estimated illiterate youths and adults are unimaginable. The consequences on our already decaying value system and the cultural heritage and values that have managed to keep the nation intact amidst all the problems Nigeria faces are severe. 20.2 million out-of-school children is like a ticking time bomb waiting to explode in such a devastating manner. If we fail to achieve universal basic education for all as a nation, all other Sustainable Development Goals are threatened, and the chances of achieving them are slim.

### **1.4 OBJECTIVE OF THE SUMMIT**

1. Trigger scholarly and multi-sector discussion about the out-of-school crisis in Nigeria.
2. Create national awareness among individuals and corporate sector organisations.
3. Identify the causes of the proliferation of out-of-school children in Nigeria from multi-sector perspectives.
4. Proffer long-lasting, sustainable solutions to the problems of inaccessibility to education.
5. Motivate multi-sector participation in fixing education in Nigeria through funding, partnerships, research, or advocacy.

## SUMMARY OF KEY SESSIONS

### WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE FOUNDER & CEO IBIRONKE ADEAGBO



The CEO and Founder, Ibironke Adeagbo delivered her welcome address and thanked all those who have supported the Foundation in its mission. She re-echoed the Foundation's commitment to eliminating barriers to accessing quality education towards ensuring the embarrassing statistics of over 20.2 million out-of-school children is tackled to its barest minimum. She called for more pragmatic support towards ensuring IA-Foundation's work is scaled

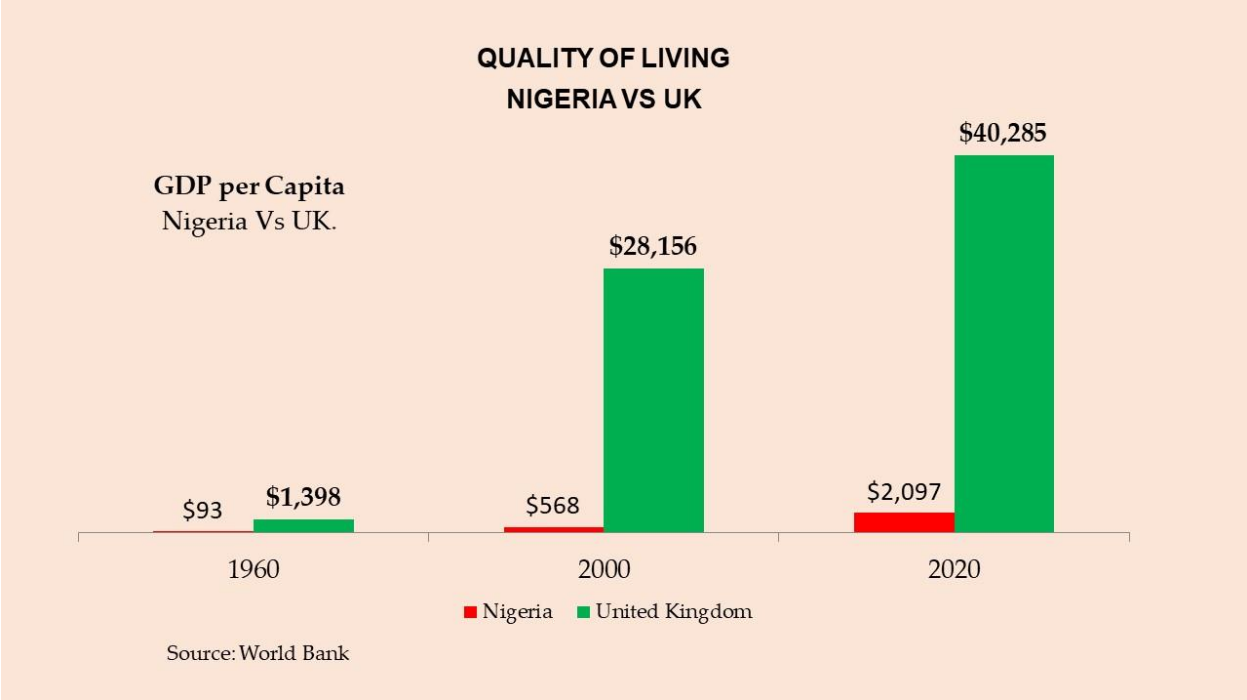
up and able to influence key policies and shape decisions about matters that concern out-of-school children in the country. She also used the opportunity to invite the participants to the 2024 Charity Ball in London.

### GOODWILL MESSAGE – HRH Oba Abolarin Adedokun

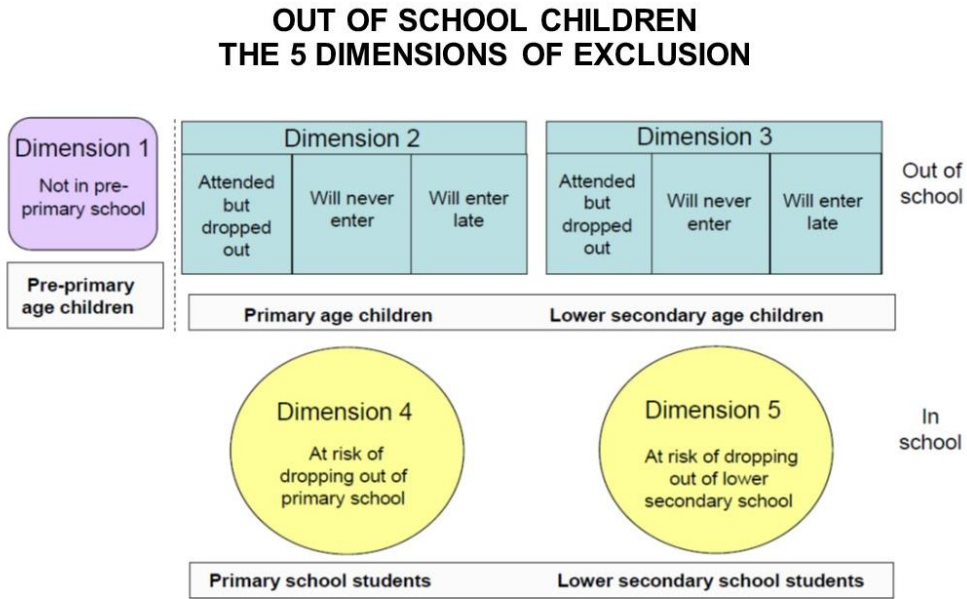
Oba Abolarin Adedokun, the Orangun of Oke-Ila delivered a goodwill address titled The Beauty of History. In his message, he recounted how his father's access to quality education redefined the family's trajectory and appealed to the participants to repay society for what they have benefited from it directly or indirectly. His submission is that everyone needs to think about the future by using the past as a model. His speech essentially focuses on patriotism, restoration of faith and confidence in the future of Nigeria and collective involvement in proffering solutions to the out-of-school children crisis in a practical and participatory approach. He charged the people to embrace social investment and social entrepreneurship and fix things in their little corners to help the poor, specifically out-of-school children. He drew his anchor reference from the Bible. And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in (Isaiah 58:12) and

#### **GUEST LECTURE 1:** Key Facts and Educational Statistics in Nigeria

Babajide Ogunsanwo, the Founder of FactBox & Co delivered a guest lecture on the Key Facts and Educational Statistics in Nigeria. The goal of the lecture was to set the tone for the summit by drawing statistical inferences to generate insights from out-of-school children's crisis to understand the past, evaluate the present and plan for the future. Ogunsanwo asserted that, statistically, Nigeria's constitution does not place premium value on education, as it has fewer mentions (37) than elections (155) and political parties (50+). Looking at statistics from 1960 to 2021, he recounted the negative trend surrounding the evolution of the Nigerian population. Quoting data from UNESCO, he established that Nigeria's population has increased from 45M in 1960 to 210M in 2021, adding over 160m in 63 years as against the United Kingdom, whose population was 52m in 1960 and now at 67 million in 2021. He described this rapid growth as problematic, a liability, opining that Nigeria has the highest out-of-school children because Nigeria is the fertility capital of the world. According to him, this trend has largely negatively impacted resource management, with negative implications for Nigeria's GDP growth (See Fig. 1).



Using data from UNESCO, the guest speaker explained the 5 dimensions of the out-of-school children menace, as shown in Fig. 2 below. He emphasized that this classification is based on age, with Dimensions 2 and 3 being the most significant as they focus on children within basic and secondary education levels (Ages 6-14). In his analysis, Nigeria has 14.6 million out-of-school children in these dimensions. Still, this figure grows to 20.6 million when out-of-school children or those at risk of dropout in dimensions 4 and 5 are included.



Source: UNICEF

He also shared worrisome statistics about the decline in the progression rate of children from primary classes into JSS and Senior Secondary Schools, with 23 million enrolments into a primary school in the last decade, 4.8 million enrollment in junior secondary schools and 3.6 million in senior secondary schools. He also echoed how a high poverty rate negatively impacts IGR and the power of tax money to drive development, as only the limited taxes of the few are used to care for the larger population.

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS – Mr Femi Falana, Human Rights Lawyer



The Keynote address was delivered by Human Rights Lawyer, Mr Femi Falana SAN. Mr. Falana started his address with a commendation for IA-Foundation and urged the participants to join forces with the Foundation to combat the menace of out-of-school children. His keynote address essentially echoes constitutional flaws, poor policy implementation, insensitivity of the Nigerian legislators, lack of prioritisation by the executive arms of government,

and the decline of the brotherhood spirit among Nigerians. In his address, he faulted the use of the phrase “as and when due” in the Section 18, and Section 2 of the Nigerian Constitution with regards to providing free education for Nigerians at all level. According to him, no successive governments have been able to define as an when due. Rather than provide free education, many state governments where the leader’s enjoyed education for free are now asking poor people to pay. Furthermore, he referenced the UBE Act 2004, which states that every child in Nigeria shall be educated for free from primary up to the completion of Junior Secondary School and how his firm advocated that all states in the Federation enacted the Child Right Act. However, he decried the lack of prioritization of education by the Federal and State Governments despite the provision of the law for education. Despite the law as provided by the UBEC Act 2004 that each state government should contribute towards the provision of education, there is no known record of any state government that has been remitting the adequate percentage. The laws are not being enforced because the citizens are unaware of them and called for sensitization of Nigerians about their rights as enshrined in the constitution. He also decried the demonstration of poor knowledge by some state legislators who are recycling laws that had been laws by past governments. He also queried the recent move by the national assembly to increase the fine on parents who failed to send their children to school to 60k despite the land's hardship and poverty due to poor leadership

and government failures. The latest demonstration of insensitivity and recklessness in public affairs in our country is the recent decision of the members of the National House of Assembly to buy, for each of them, a vehicle worth 160 million Naira. Those who said there is no money, who are asking you to tighten your belt are living like Kings and Queens. Stop playing lops services to the education sector of Nigeria.

#### Recommendations:

1. There is a need for radical advocacy and collective participation in holding the government accountable. Everyone must resolve to agree on a day to pick children on the streets and dump them in the ministries of education across the different states in the federation.
2. There is a need to increase societal awareness about people's constitutional rights, especially in the areas of their rights to free and quality education. A pamphlet that educates people and draw their attention to the relevant laws and educational laws in Nigeria needs to be published and circulated.
3. We need to collective work together to enforce UBEC to get the list of all the states to know how much each state is owing from their statutory contributions and remittance to educational development and public the list.
4. Everyone should join the campaign to call for the adjustment of the constitution to allow the Attorney General of the Federation to deduct from the account of state governments what should be spent on education.
5. We must continue demand for our rights to Free Education and ensure all government representatives and agencies deliver the constitutional provision for a free education for all.

**HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYER AND EDUCATION ADVOCATE FEMI FALANA SAN BECOMES IA-FOUNDATION PATRON**

The Board of IA-Foundation has appointed human rights lawyer and Senior Advocate of Nigeria, Mr Femi Falana, as the first patron of the organization.



The Vice Chairman of the Foundation, Mr. Diran Famakinwa announced this during IA-Foundation Out-of-

School Children Summit 2023 in Lagos after a thought-provoking keynote address by the Education Advocate.

According to him, the decision of the Board to honour Mr. Femi Falana is in recognition of all his tireless advocacy and efforts to ensure the rights of indigent children to free Education, as provided by the Nigerian constitution, is respected.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Femi Falana said he accepts the honour unconditionally.

Earlier in his Keynote address at the Out-of-school Children Summit, Mr. Falana had pledged support to work with IA-Foundation to ensure state chapters of the Foundation is opened across the Federation and work collaboratively to ensure people are properly educated about their rights to education in Nigeria.

## PANEL SESSION I: Trends of Out-of-School Phenomenon in Nigeria: Causes and Implications

Moderator: Bukola Coker

Panelists:

1. Mr Babajide Kolade-Otitoju (Absent)
2. Pastor Ituah Ighodalo FCA
3. Mr Abayomi Abolaji (Absent)
4. Mrs Mojisola Hunponu-wusu
5. Prof. Tanko Ishaya (Virtual Panelist)
6. Seye (Co-opted)

As established in the guest lecture delivered by Babajide Ogunsanwo and as evidence in multiple reports from UNESCO and World, Nigeria has witnessed an increasing trend of out-of-school children in different parts of Nigeria. Over the years, data has also shown that the Northern Part of the Federal Republic of Nigeria often takes the highest percentages. With Nigeria being the nation with the highest number of out-of-school children in the world, basic on population and concentration metrics, it is imperative to examine the factors responsible for this. Babajide Ogunsanwo has identified Nigeria as the fertility capital of the world and has pegged this to be a major factor. Are there other factors? In this five-man panel, the discussants will be sharing there thoughts from their experiences and knowledge about out-of-school children in the Country.

Pastor Ituah Ighodalo, the Founder of the Trinity Church and Partner of SAIO, described submitted that education is crisis state and should be declared as a national emergency. There should be an immediate national conference on education to draw a roadmap for the nation's educational system. Poor leadership, lack of government focus on the ideas of education, a faulty educational system inherited from the colonial masters that limits educational growth and the ability of learners to think; low financial investment and resource allocation to education, weaponization of poverty and illiteracy, lack of nationalist spirit evident by the absence of the Nigerian dream, indifferent attitude of parents towards education and its value; years of neglect, frustration, and unfettered leadership among several others were identified as key causes of the high rate of out-of-school children.

In her opinion, and from years of work at Woodhall Capital and Woodhool Capital Foudation as the Chief Executive and Founder, Mrs. Mojisola Hunponu-Wusu stressed the cultural and societal factors that impede access and enrolment to schools. Lack of proper family planning leading to many children in low-income homes and the cultural status of measuring manhood by the number of children. Entitlement mentality among poor people that the rich have to take care of them, lack of national ethos and morality, reluctance by parents to send their children to school (with several instances where parents and community leaders had to be paid to allow their children go to school), sexualization and commercialization of the girl child, weak community support, parasitic leadership etc. are some key barriers.

Furthermore, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Jos, Prof. Tanko Ishaya who joined the panel discussion via Zoom spoke extensively on the education crisis, but focused on the Northern region of the nation. Insecurity, insurgency, poverty, attack on schools and abduction of learners, anti-education cultural beliefs, irresponsible demand for free education (as education can never be free and somebody must pay for it; either the government, private companies or individuals. Demanding for education without wanting to do anything by parents is wrong); epileptic state of most public schools, absence of education strategies, high cost of education etc were some of the causes identified.

From the VIP section, Oluseye, the President of DAWN Commission was indirectly co-opted into the panel discussion as he blamed the state of education on the discouraging education investment in education even at a sub-national level. The reluctance of parents to contribute to their ward's education was re-echoed in addition to failure to hold government and relevant education bodies accountable for education funds that has been released. Low teacher motivation, lack of necessary skills from education, etc.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

1. Education should be declared as a state of emergency and a national conference on education should be held to reevaluate the nation's priorities on education and develop strategic document that provide a robust roadmap and blueprint for education in the country.
2. Investment in education security needs to be tightened.
3. We need to build a Nigerian dream that is relatable to all.
4. There is a need for a proper re-orientation of parents, religious leaders, community leaders and gate-keepers on the essence of education.
5. Reconstruction of the decaying value system, ethics and morality in Nigeria.
6. Increased investment in education.

7. Decommodification of the girl-child as assets or investments that will bring dividends as cashflow.
8. Partnership and collaboration with multi-stakeholders including the government, religious houses, businesses, and individuals.

## **PANEL SESSION II Practical and Sustainable Solutions to Out-of-school Children Crisis: The Place of Multi-Sector Participation**

Moderator: Veronica Dan-Ikpoyi

Panelists:

1. Mr Tunde Onakoya
2. Mr. Kayode Egbetokun
3. Prof. Adegbemi Onakoya FCA
4. Sheikh Fadilat Abuduraheem Olabode FCA
5. Mr Chike Ogeah

The problem of out-of-school children is a wicked problem in Management terms. The problems are as complex as the solutions. Despite the hundreds of NGOs across the country, government agencies and corporate sector investments focusing on this subject matter, the problem remains unmoved. No independent entity, from the government, private sectors or even civil society organizations can take on the out-of-school children menace independently. It requires strategic collaboration, investment and involvement across sectors and industries. What are the roles of these dynamic agencies or sectors and how can their independent solutions contribute to the national and global efforts to achieve universal basic education for all, where no child is left behind? This panel session shall dissect this and provide diverse perspectives that give directions as we advance to achieve the UN SDG4.

Staring the conversation, Sheikh Fadilat Abdulraheem Olabode FCA, the Founder of Assalatu ..... emphasized that religion is a critical component in the education value chain. From an Islamic perspective, education is incomplete with western education which is the enabler. All religions must realign their beliefs with the current realities in the world with compromising. Furthermore, resources expended on education should be seen as investments with meaningful and verifiable

impacts as returns. Regularly funding of education without results is not the best use of resources. Only public schools have the facilities to accommodate more children and should be developed to be best standards. He submitted thus “Religion is about life, there is no way you are practicing any religion and you are not adding value to life. That is not true religion.

From his perspectives, the national chess champion and Founder of Chess in Slums Africa, Tunde Onakoye re-echoes the severity of challenges broken homes pose to the efforts to reduce street children who are not in school. Education should be beyond Math and English, it should be beyond the walls of the classroom to build capacity for thoughts. Education needs to be reimagined and designed to accommodate those who do not fit into conventional educational systems. Community engagement is key as this contributes significantly to project success. Easy-to-use technologies should be deployed to combat the challenges of illiteracy in the country. There is a need for a proper curriculum revamp to ensure it captures subjects that promote critical thinking and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills to thrive in a challenging.

Professor Adegbemi Onakoya who is a professor of development economics at the Babcock University, believes that the introduction of birth control measures by the National Population Commission is the way to go to curb norms and cultural beliefs that promote uncontrollable childbirth rate. Advocacy, transparency and accountability are other key areas that should be addressed.

From another perspective, the Managing Director of MacFolly Limited asserts that the instrumentality of the law is the only thing that make a difference. Nigerian educational laws should be adjusted such that it is more relevant in today’s world. There is also the need to deploy highly trained squads to move around on the streets to pick children who are not in school during school hours. The Nigerian Police and other security agencies need to boost security in the nation, while the government must also properly compensate them to reduce the temptation to be manipulated by money. There is also the need to redefine our understanding of development. The fundamental of development is education and improvement in the quality of lives of the people and not roads and bridges etc, The knowledge economy is a massive one and Nigeria needs to invest in building its knowledge economy.

Earlier, the Acting Inspector General of Police, Mr. Kayode Egebtokun, who was represented by Dr Mrs Oluwatoyim Adejoke, the Deputy Director, Force Education Unit, had reassured Nigerians of the efforts of the Nigerian Police Force to boost safety in schools through the introduction of several initiatives. The Federal Government under this leadership has now developed a safe school plan that runs from 2023-2026. Although the public have lost in the security agencies, the Police is on a mission to rebuild the trust and relationship with the public to enhance seamless partnership to identify and combat security threats and education terrorism.

Recommendations par sector.

S/N	Sectors	Suggestions
1	The Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase budgetary allocation to education.</li> <li>• Improve the quality in public schools</li> <li>• Introduce policies that guarantees the development of educational system in Nigeria.</li> <li>• Enforce constitutional provisions for free education for all.</li> <li>• Review and revamp archaic laws to reflect the realities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.</li> <li>• Carry out national re-orientation on the value of education.</li> <li>• Review and improve the Nigerian educational curriculum to be fit for purpose.</li> <li>• Organize a national conference on education.</li> <li>• Provision of alternative education for individuals who do not fit into the conventional educational system</li> <li>• Introduce measures to to curb high number of children per family (National Population Commission)</li> </ul>
2.	Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritize corporate social investment in education.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sponsor researches and development of Education in Nigeria.</li> <li>• Invest in youth development through set up of vocational skill centres etc.</li> <li>• Provide funding for social innovative projects</li> <li>• Partnership with the government and relevant stakeholders</li> <li>• Provide low-interest education loans to parents or schools.</li> </ul>
3	Security Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rebuild the trust of the public through obvious reformation of wrong practices.</li> <li>• Boost safety and security in schools.</li> <li>• Ensure compliance with safety standards and compliance services.</li> <li>• Provide pro-bono services or discounted rates to secure schools (for private schools).</li> </ul>
4	Parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get involved in financing and educating their children and not depend 100% on government or the benevolence of someone.</li> <li>• Embrace family planning and control number of children.</li> <li>• Avoid discrimination against the girl child as all children are equal. No girl should be sexualized or commercialized.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
5	Information Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop off-line tools that addresses illiteracy</li> <li>• Empower over aged out-of-school children with technical skills through vocational training</li> <li>• Develop innovative solutions to capture database of out-of-school children in the country.</li> </ul>
	Civil Society Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocacy</li> <li>• Hold the government accountable</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensitization and awareness creation</li> <li>• Research and development</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>• Programme design and implementation</li> </ul>
	International Development Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide funding</li> <li>• Host national conferences</li> <li>• Partnership with the local development organizations</li> <li>• Capacity building and training</li> </ul>
	Religious Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disabuse the minds of the people about religious and cultural beliefs that are anti-western education.</li> <li>• Sensitize their members about the power of education.</li> <li>• Support children from low-income families to get quality education.</li> </ul>
	Individuals and Philantropists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Socially invest in education</li> <li>• Be your brothers keepers</li> <li>• Adopt out-of-school children and sponsor their education</li> </ul>
	Community Leaders and Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and cooperate with the government and other development Organization promoting the uptake of education in the community.</li> <li>• Participate in local projects to set up learning centres (formal and informal) in the community.</li> <li>• Protect Education investment in the community by ensuring proper maintenance, safeguarding and compliance of members of the community.</li> </ul>

## PRESENTATION BY IA-FOUNDATION BENEFICIARIES



Another important highlight of the Summit is a talkshow presentation by 5 beneficiary students of IA-Foundation. The theme of the show echoes the transforming power of education in the lives economically disadvantaged out-of-school children. These children who were once on the streets or at home as a result of the inability of their parents/guardians to continue sponsoring their education. Each of the beneficiaries acted prominent roles such as Minister of Education, Minister of Information, PRO of IA-Foundation to dissect the theme of the submit. The presentation climaxed with a testimonial by Faridah Yunus, a basic 5 pupil of Kelriga Courage Foundation School, Badagry. She shared the testimony of how well she has regained her confidence and increased her overall average performance to over 80%. Faridah's mother also came up stage to share testimony of how IA-Foundation is bringing her dream to educate her child a reality. It was such an emotional moment and even the Founder and CEO, Mrs Ibironke could not hold back her tears.

## OVERALL RECOMMENDATION

1. There is a need for radical advocacy and collective participation in holding the government accountable. Everyone must resolve to agree on a day to pick children on the streets and dump them in the ministries of education across the different states in the federation.
2. There is a need to increase societal awareness about people's constitutional rights, especially in the areas of their rights to free and quality education. A pamphlet that educates people and draw their attention to the relevant laws and educational laws in Nigeria needs to be published and circulated.
3. We need to collective work together to enforce UBEC to get the list of all the states to know how much each state is owing from their statutory contributions and remittance to educational development and public the list.
4. Everyone should join the campaign to call for the adjustment of the constitution to allow the Attorney General of the Federation to deduct from the account of state governments what should be spent on education.
5. We must continue demand for our rights to Free Education and ensure all government representatives and agencies deliver the constitutional provision for a free education for all.
6. Education should be declared as a state of emergency and a national conference on education should be held to reevaluate the nation's priorities on education and develop strategic document that provide a robust roadmap and blueprint for education in the country.
7. Investment in education security needs to be tightened.
8. We need to build a Nigerian dream that is relatable to all.
9. There is a need for a proper re-orientation of parents, religious leaders, community leaders and gate-keepers on the essence of education.

10. Reconstruction of the decaying value system, ethics and morality in Nigeria.
11. Increased investment in education.
12. Decommodification of the girl-child as assets or investments that will bring dividends as cashflow.
13. Partnership and collaboration with multi-stakeholders including the government, religious houses, businesses, and individuals.

## ACTION PLAN

1. Partner with Barr. Femi Falana and other law firms to publish a pamphlet containing provisions of the Nigerian constitution for Education in Nigeria and circulate across all the states in the Federation.
2. Carry out a nation-wide mobilization of out-of-school children to build a robust database.
3. Remodel the IA-Foundation Sponsor -a -Child programme to allow for individual Participation.
4. Write to a proposal to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to advocate for a national conference on Education to develop an Education Strategy Document for the Country.
5. Work with UBEC and other stakeholders to ensure every state government remit their contributions towards the development of education.
6. Carryout a nation-wide community sensitization in rural and sub-urban areas about the value of education.

## CONCLUSION

The past and present state of education in Nigeria paints a gloomy picture of the future of the nation and a worrisome implications if it remains neglected. There is therefore the need for collective resource mobilization and investment in the educational system. Existing education policies need to be rethought and reviewed to ensure our Educational system is fit for purpose. Advocacy, collective Participation, intentional leadership at all levels, and reconstruction of our value system, and national ethos on morality as well as an emphasis on national reorientation on the essence of education at all levels has become pertinent. It's 7 years away from the 2030 United Nations SDG 4 target on University Education and these

seven years can be the game changer and put Nigeria back on the pedestal of greatness **IF WE ALL STOP TALKING AND START ACTING NOW!**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (SPONSORS)



## APPENDIX

1. LECTURE PRESENTATION BY BABAJIDE OGUNSANWO:  
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1krkvABYjaNbJFhp0jZISDTo3KJ1Ci7jm/edit?usp=drivesdk&oid=113610698599965279517&rtpof=true&sd=true>
2. SUMMIT RECORDING :  
<https://youtu.be/TvUWzCQFZIA?feature=shared>

3. HIGHLIGHTS OF SUMMIT:

<https://youtu.be/WgNKHqNExik?feature=shared>

4. IA-FOUNDATION IMPACT REPORT :

<https://ia-foundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/IMPACT-REPORT-2023.pdf>

5. IA-FOUNDATION IMPACT DOCUMENTARY:

<https://youtu.be/s3HggIk4J-o>

6. SUMMIT IMAGES :

7. SUMMIT AGENDA



## SUMMIT PROGRAMME

S/N	Time	Activity	Resource Person
1	7:00 – 9:50	Arrival, Red-Carpet, Networking and Registration	All
	9:50-10:00	Opening Prayer -	Barrister Abayomi Tijani
2	10:00 – 10:10	National Anthem	DJ/ MC Sesan Okunade FCA
3	10:10 – 10:20	Welcome, Introductions, about the Summit and Protocol	MC Sesan Okunade FCA
4	10:20 – 10:25	Welcome Address	Ibironke Adeagbo FCA, CEO & Founder, IA-Foundation
5	10:25 – 10:35	Goodwill Message I	HRH, Oba Adedokun Abolarin, Orangun of Oke-Ila-Orangun
6	10:40– 11:00	Key Facts and Educational Statistics in Nigeria-	Mr Babajide Ogunsanwo
7	11:00-11:10	Introduction of Panellists for Next Session	MC Sesan Okunade FCA
8	11:10 – 12:00	<b>PANEL SESSION I:</b> Trends of Out-of-School Phenomenon in Nigeria: Causes and Implications	<b>Moderator - Bukola Coker</b> 1.Mr Babajide Kolade-Otitoju 2. Pastor Ituah Ighodalo FCA 3. Mr Abayomi Abolaji 4. Mrs Mojisola Hunponu-wusu 5. Prof. Tanko Ishaya
9	12:00 – 12:20	Question and Answer	Moderator
10	12:20 – 12:35	Presentation of Gifts and Photograph	IA-Foundation Team
11	12:35 - 12:45	Presentation by IA-Foundation beneficiaries	Mrs. Tennyson Loveth
12	12:45- 12:50	<b>Poetic Performance on Education</b>	Tariq Lawal, Ambassador, World Literacy Foundation
13	12:50 – 1:15	<b>Break – Tea Break</b>	
	1:15- 1:25	Coordination and Settling: Introduction of Keynote Speaker	MC Sesan Okunade FCA
17	1:25: 1:50	Keynote Address	Barr. Femi Falana, SAN
18	1:50: – 1: 55	Introduction of Panellists for the Next Session	MC Sesan Okunade FCA

19	1:55 - 2:40	<b>PANEL SESSION II:</b> Practical and Sustainable Solutions to Out-of-school Children Crisis: The Place of Multi-Sector Participation	<b>Moderator: Veronica Dan-Ikpoyi</b> 1. Mr Tunde Onakoya 2. Mr. Kayode Egbetokun 3. Prof. Adegbemi Onakoya FCA 4. Sheikh Fadilat Abuduraheem Olabode FCA 5. Mr Chike Ogeah
20	2:40 – 2:55	Question and Answer	Moderator,
21	2:55 – 3:05	Presentation of Gift and Photography	The Media Crew
22	3:05 – 3:15	Announcements	MC Sesan Okunade FCA
23	3:15 – 3:25	Synopsis of Summit Resolution	Mr John Klutse, Programmes and Partnerships Manager, IA-Foundation
24	3:25 – 3:30	Vote of Thanks	Mr Diran Famakinwa FCA, Vice Chairman, IA-Foundation Board of Trustees
25	3:35 -	Networking and Photos	