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NYSC

and

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Edited by:

Brigadier General

SHUAIBU IBRAHIM Assoc. Prof. DSS MTRCN
Director-General, National Youth Service Corps

Foreword by:

General (Dr) Yakubu Gowon (rtd.) GCFR

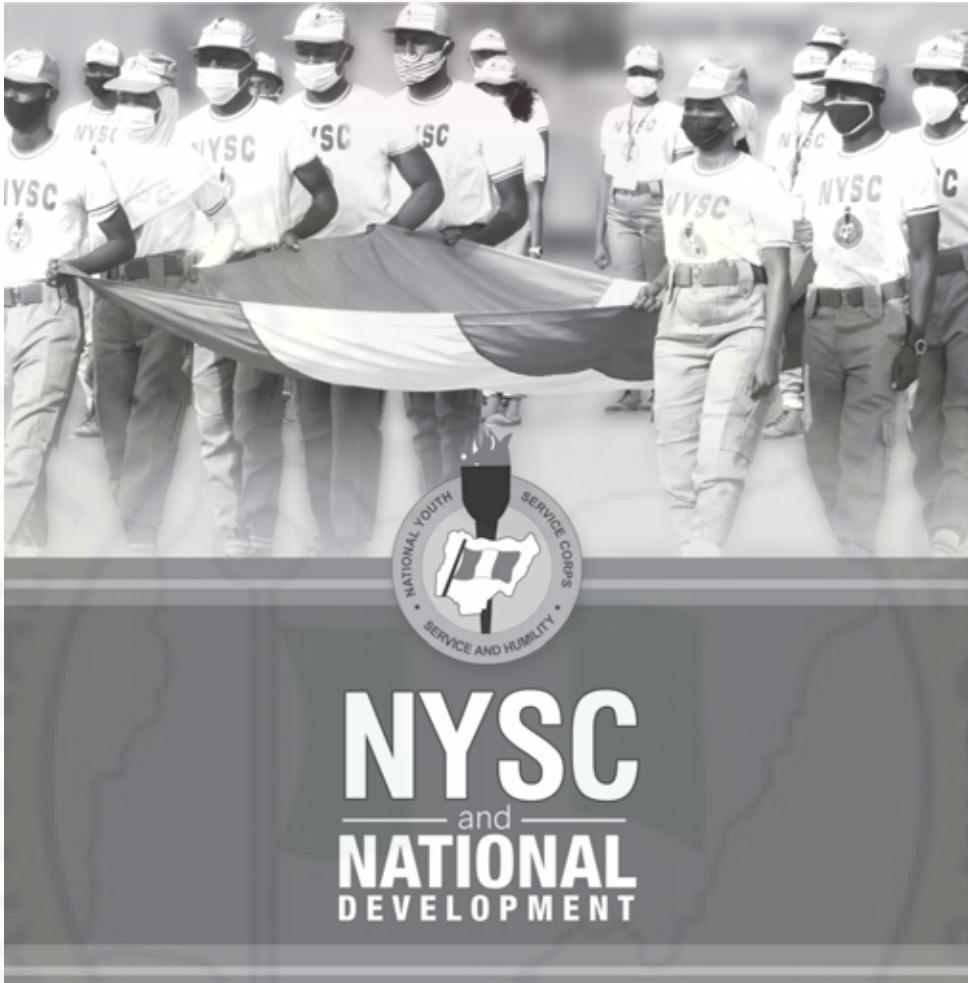
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CONTENTS

NYSC Corporate Statement	v
Foreword	vi
Preface	viii
Acknowledgment	xi
Introduction	xiii
Chapter 1	
The Growth and Development of the Scheme	1
Chapter 2	
National Youth Service Corps Scheme and National Integration	49
Chapter 3	
NYSC and National Development	66
Chapter 4	
NYSC and The Economy	86
Chapter 5	
NYSC and National Programmes	112
Chapter 6	
Part I: National Youth Service Corps and Community Development	125
Part II: Community Development Service Projects and Other Activities	138

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Chapter 7

NYSC and Educational Development in Modern Nigeria: Revisiting its Major Contributions, Prospects and Challenges

265

Chapter 8

National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) AND Health Sector in Nigeria

287

Chapter 9

National Youth Service Corps and Elections in Nigeria

307

Chapter 10

National Youth Service Corps Ventures

325

Chapter 11

Skills Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED): Achievements, Challenges and Prospects

335

Chapter 12

Multi-Sectoral Collaboration

362

Chapter 13

Sports, Arts and Culture: The NYSC Experience

382

Chapter 14

COVID-19 and the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC): Continuity, Changes and Emerging Developments

392

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Chapter 15

NYSC President's Honours Award:
An Appraisal

411

Chapter 16

The Role of NYSC in the Establishment of the
Gambian National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS)

437

Chapter 17

Evaluation of the Performance of the National Youth
Service Corps (NYSC) Scheme

458

Chapter 18

Brigadier General Shuaibu Ibrahim: An Overview of
His Achievements as 18th NYSC Director-General

479

Chapter 19

Opinion Survey: Interviews with Traditional Rulers
and Eminent Personalities

524

Chapter 20

NYSC and Challenges of Nation Building

593

Appendices

NYSC Directorate Headquarters	600
NYSC Supervising Ministers	627
NYSC Governing Board Chairmen	628
NYSC Chief Executives	629
Directors of the Scheme	630
Bibliography	653
Index	669



NYSC CORPORATE STATEMENT

MISSION

To mobilize and groom graduate youths for the promotion of national unity, sustainable development, self-reliance and prepare them for the challenges of leadership.

VISION

To develop a Scheme that is dynamic enough to meet new challenges and become the leading light of youth organisations in Africa.

The Director General's Policy Thrusts

1. Sustain effective utilization of the potentials of Corps Members for optimal benefit.
2. Pursue technologically driven organisation to deepen effective service delivery.
3. Improve on the welfare and security of Corps Members and staff.
4. Strengthen existing collaborations with stakeholders.
5. Reinvigorate the NYSC Ventures and Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED) Programme in line with NYSC Act for greater impact.



FOREWORD

I am honoured to have been asked to pen the foreword to this compendium, which highlights the activities and achievements of the National Youth Service Corps, since its inception in 1973.

The uncomplicated style of the book allows the reader to gain a deeper understanding of the Scheme, which has overcome many challenges and stood the test of time over almost five decades of existence.

NYSC and National Development throws light on all facets of the Scheme and critically examines the historical perspective, philosophy behind its foundation and contribution to nation-building and youth empowerment in order to help with policy formulation and improvement.

I congratulate successive managers of the Scheme for sustaining the vision. I particularly wish to commend the present leadership of the NYSC, which has done remarkably well in guiding its operations, outstanding achievements, contributions and sacrifices NYSC had made over the years and the recent role of Corps Members in the fight against COVID-19, as well as featuring the Scheme on a weekly documentary on NTA International Channel 251, promote the Scheme and deepen its contributions to national development. Well done and congratulations.

I urge you not to rest on your oars. All hands should remain on deck in order to make the Scheme an example for youth organisations, not only in Africa as we envisioned, but also the entire globe.

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This book is a commendable effort and I have no hesitation in recommending it to individuals and institutions that appreciate youth development, as well as to the public.

It is my sincere hope that this collection will be of personal and individual interest, to researchers and academics alike and be found on the shelves of our higher institutions, public libraries and foreign missions.

General (Dr) Yakubu Gowon (rtd.) GCFR

Former Head of State



PREFACE

After Nigeria's independence, the country was enmeshed in interethnic suspicion which culminated in political turbulence, leading to the Nigerian Civil War of 1967 – 1970. At the end of the war, the then Military Government, under the leadership of General Yakubu Gowon, decided to embark on the three (3)Rs, i.e. Reconciliation, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation, in the spirit of "No Victor, No Vanquished".

In an attempt to tackle the problems associated with the 3Rs (Reconciliation, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation), as well as meet the yearnings and aspirations of the people, the government, knowing the importance of the youth as a dominant force for national mobilisation and growth in nation-building, established the National Youth Service Corps by Decree No. 24 of 22nd May, 1973. This Decree was later repealed and replaced by Decree No. 51 of 16th June, 1993, which is now an Act of National Assembly and known as CAP N84 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria (LFN), 2004.

The Scheme, which started with 2,364 participants in 1973, now mobilises up to 350,000 Nigerian graduate youths annually for the noble task of selfless service to the nation. The one-year compulsory service is intended to foster the spirit of national unity, patriotism, tolerance, mutual understanding and co-operation among Nigerian youths and the nation, at large.

During the mandatory one-year service, Corps Members live among and within the host communities, while carrying out their primary assignments. They also engage in Community Development Service programmes, aimed at contributing towards national development. Under this programme, the

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Scheme has been found a worthy partner with government and non-governmental organisations in the implementation of grassroots-oriented development activities. The Scheme has recorded laudable achievements and has been duly recognized by local and international organisations.

While participating in the national service, Corps Members are exposed to various forms of training and entrepreneurial development/skill acquisition initiatives, right from the orientation camp. The service year has, therefore, provided many of them with skills for self-development that will make them self-reliant and also become employers of labour.

It is noteworthy that Corps Members have been engaged in national assignments such as national elections, head-count, census, campaigns against the spread of HIV/AIDS, enlightenment programmes on polio eradication and other related activities as part of their contributions to national development. Though, efforts have been made in the past to document the modest contributions of the Scheme to the nation's growth and development, this book is a summation of the achievements.

The entire analysis covers the complexity of the administration and management of the Scheme. When read as an insider account, it becomes easily appreciated as a variety of viewpoints and an engrossing exploration that brings together the various elements of the Scheme's contributions to national development, through a coherent selection of the appropriate emphases and themes, necessary for projecting the insider perspectives.

This insightful and thought-provoking account is the day-to-day commitment of the NYSC to national development. It is the indispensable minimum of organizing the Corps Members to play relevant roles in nation-building. When illuminated by the lantern of history, the place of the NYSC in youth mobilisation and development is better appreciated in the nation's hierarchy of development objectives.

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It is a relevant addition in the growing body of literature on NYSC's contributions to national development.

It will make good reading for as many as are interested in satisfying their quest for knowledge in youth mobilisation for national development.

Brigadier General

Shuaibu Ibrahim, Assoc. Prof. DSS MTRCN

Director-General, National Youth Service Corps



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The very existence of this book owes its origin and completion to the Director-General, who set up the Committee, read the drafts and offered excellent suggestions, and ended up editing the book.

The book therefore, took shape from the Director-General's prompting and guidance. The Committee members evinced both diligence and prudence in their commitment to excellence. The book owes a great deal to your zeal and self-driven initiatives. I am grateful to all of you who provided essential critique and insights for the overall form and content of the book.

Once again, it is most appropriate to appreciate the Director-General, who edited the book, by providing coherence, succinctness and style to the manuscript.

Multiple thanks to you all who provided some form of assistance in ensuring the completion of this book.

Y. S. Ehoda-Adi
Chairman, Publication Committee.

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INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

Nigeria is a 20th century creation. As a geo-political entity, it came into existence in 1914 through the amalgamation of the Northern and Southern Protectorates by the British colonialists. Sir Fredrick Lord

Lugard was the first Governor-General of the new country. The name, Nigeria was coined by Lugard's fiancée, Flora Shaw whom he later married. Nigeria simply means – an area surrounded by River Niger, the largest river in the country. Suffice it to say that the amalgamation of the two protectorates was essentially for administrative convenience.

Notably, in pre-colonial times, the entity, Nigeria comprised mainly independent Kingdoms and Empires with their own administrative, judicial, and military structures. For instance, in the south were the Benin Empire, Nri (Igbo) Kingdom, Yoruba Kingdom. Up North, we had Kanem Bornu Empire, the Hausa States, and later the Sokoto Caliphate; etc. Before the union of the South and North to form a country in 1914 by the British, the inhabitants were not identified as Nigerians, neither were there any centralised administrative structures governing them.

Therefore, the birthing of the country threw up several challenges, accentuated by ethnic suspicions and unhealthy rivalries. The country is composed of over 300 ethnic nationalities, with divergent cultures, which before the union lived independently, but traded with one another. The various Constitutional developments in the country in 1914, 1922, 1946, 1951, 1954 and the Independent Constitution of 1960 did little or nothing to weld the complex ethnic nationalities, making up the country into a unified whole.

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Nigeria gained independence from Great Britain on 1st October, 1960, but continued to be tied to the apron strings of the British Monarch, who after independence remained the ceremonial Head of Nigeria. For instance, it was the prerogative of the Queen to appoint the Governor General of the country, while the Privy Council located in London remained Nigeria's highest Court of Appeal.

The 1963 Republican Constitution made a provision for a ceremonial president, a prime minister that exercised administrative power, bi-cameral legislature, and a supreme court that replaced the Privy Council, as the highest appellate court in the land, under a parliamentary system of government, but failed to make a conscious effort at uniting the peoples of Nigeria as one people with national identity and culture.

The political upheavals in the country, particularly in the then Western Region threw up military interregnum within five years and three months of Nigeria gaining independence; which culminated in a thirty-month Nigeria/Biafra Civil War (1967 – 1970), that left in its wake millions of casualties on both sides of the conflict. The civil war remains the country's most crucial challenge, since the amalgamation.

It was at the cessation of the war that the then leadership of the country realised that it will take more than just the force of arms to bring together the highly factionalised ethnic nationalities, making up the country into one cohesive and indivisible entity.

General Yakubu Gowon who led the country from 1966 to 1975 as the Head of State declared that there was "No victor, No vanquished" at the end of the Nigeria/Biafra Civil War. General Gowon followed up with the proclamation of the policy of the three (3) Rs – Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, and Rehabilitation, to speed up the healing process of the war-ravaged and highly fractured country.

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To begin the process of raising a new nation from the ashes of the conflict, one founded on mutual understanding and egalitarianism, the searchlight was beamed on graduate Nigerian youths, as vanguards of the envisioned new nation-state.

The then Federal Military Government convinced of the pivotal role of the youths in its quest for a united and hate-free society put in place the necessary legal framework for the creation of the National Youth Service Corps Scheme. Thus, on 22nd May, 1973, Decree 24 was promulgated to give legal force to the Corps. The decree was, however, repealed and replaced on 16th June, 1993 by Decree 51, which is now quoted as NYSC Act CAP N84 Laws of The Federation of Nigeria, 2004.

The objectives of the Scheme include among others;

1. inculcate discipline in Nigerian youths by instilling in them a tradition of industry at work, and, of patriotic and loyal service to Nigeria in any situation they may find themselves;
2. raise the moral tone of the Nigerian youths by giving them the opportunity to learn about higher ideals of national achievement, social and cultural improvement;
3. develop in the Nigerian youths the attitudes of mind acquired through shared experience and suitable training which will make them more amenable to mobilisation in the national interest;
4. enable Nigerian youths to acquire the spirit of self – reliance by encouraging them to develop skills for self – employment;
5. contribute to the accelerated growth of the national economy;
6. develop common ties among the Nigerian youths and promote national unity and integration;
7. remove prejudices, eliminate ignorance and confirm at first hand the many similarities among Nigerians of all ethnic groups; and
8. develop a sense of corporate existence and common destiny of the people of Nigeria.

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In order to achieve the objectives, the Service Corps shall ensure:

1. the equitable distribution of members of the Service Corps and the effective utilisation of their skills in areas of national needs;
2. that as far as possible, Nigerian youths are assigned to work together in states other than their states of origin;
3. that such group of Nigerian youths assigned to work together is representative of Nigeria as far as possible;
4. that the Nigerian youths are exposed to the modes of living of the people in different parts of Nigeria;
5. that the Nigerian youths are encouraged to eschew religious intolerance by accommodating religious differences;
6. that members of the Service Corps are encouraged to seek at the end of their national service, career employment all over Nigeria, thus promoting the free movement of labour, and;
7. that employers are induced partly through the experience with members of the Service Corps to employ more readily and on a permanent basis qualified Nigerians, irrespective of their states of origin.

Under the National Youth Service Corps CAP N84 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 as amended, to be eligible for service:

1. one must be a Nigerian;
2. must not be above 30 years old at the point of graduation;
3. must have graduated from a recognised Nigerian or foreign institution of higher learning and awarded a degree or Higher National Diploma;
4. Has not been conferred with national honours.

The following categories of persons are not eligible to serve:

1. one that has served in any arm of the Armed Forces of the Federation, or the Nigeria Police Force for a period of nine months and above; or a member of staff of the following security organisations;

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2. Nigeria Security Organisation;
3. State Security Service;
4. Defence Intelligence Agency.

Resistance to the Establishment of the Service Corps

The take-off of the Scheme was not without some protests from the Nigerian students, their parents, and guardians, who viewed the initiative with great suspicion, for so many reasons.

Primarily, the students who were to drive the wheel of a renewed Nigeria were unsure of their safety in states considered far-flung, given the fact that the establishment of the Corps was coming on the heels of a bloody civil war that just ended, which further created fears in the minds of the students and their parents.

Hence, their parents were vociferous in their protests against sending their children to "alien" states. That notwithstanding, the students saw the one-year national service as a "waste of time", since they had jobs waiting for them upon graduation.

However, the various voices kicking against the establishment of the Scheme did not deter the Federal Military Government from effecting the take-off of the Scheme which today is arguably the biggest youth – mobilisation programme in Africa.

On 2nd July, 1973, 2364 Nigerian graduates of the then existing Nigerian Universities: University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University), University of Ibadan, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Ahmadu Bello University, and University of Lagos served as pioneer Corps Members in the 1973/74 Service Year.

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The Scheme since 1973 has continued to grow in leaps and bounds. From its modest beginning, the National Youth Service Corps today mobilises over 350,000 Nigerian graduates for service, from local and foreign institutions of higher learning.

NYSC was conceived as a pivot of national unity and youth empowerment, and has continued to live up to its billing. It is an instrument of national development, particularly in the spheres of Education, Agriculture, Health, Infrastructure and Public Administration as will be gleaned from succeeding chapters.

It is quite gratifying to posit that the Scheme has continued to be celebrated by successive administrations in the country, given its centrality to national unity and development.

The President and Commander-in-Chief, Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria Muhammadu Buhari GCFR who has always hosted Corps Members in his country home at Daura during festivities once remarked that the Scheme and indeed the nation's military remain the strongest chord that binds the country together as one.

The absolute essentials of the contributions of the NYSC Scheme to national development are presented, chapter by chapter, in a modest way through an insider's perspectives.

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CHAPTER

1

THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEME

The National Youth Service Corps has progressed appreciably, since its establishment in 1973. Though, the initial reaction of the targeted youths to the government's decision to establish the Scheme was largely negative, as evident in the students' protests in 1973, when the idea was mooted, the positive experiences of the pioneer Corps Members, especially their exposure to different cultures, leadership training and several other factors combined to rapidly change their perception of other people and of the Scheme. The change was such that their attitude quickly became that of warm embrace. From a mere 2,364 Corps Members enrolled in 1973/74 service year, the Scheme now boasts of a population of about 350,000 Corps Members per annum. As at 2018, some million participants had served their fatherland, through the instrumentality of the Scheme. It has, over the years, garnered wide support and acclaim as one of the most potent instruments in the nation's collective strive towards attaining a society built on mutual trust, tolerance and peaceful co-existence. No doubt, the Scheme has grown to become arguably the most enduring and unifying organisation in Nigeria, and

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THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEME

Africa at large. It has also continued to adhere to its core mandate while, at the same time, introducing such necessary innovations and modifications, in tandem with the ever-evolving Nigerian society.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCHEME:

The NYSC came into being through Decree No. 24 of 22nd May, 1973, driven by the immediate circumstances at the time; chiefly among which were the Nigerian Civil War of 1966 – 1970, and the need to address the post-civil war challenges. In response to societal dynamics, the decree was repealed and replaced with Decree No. 51 of 16th June, 1993, which is now known as CAP N84 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria. 2004.

In a nutshell, the NYSC Act stipulates the purpose of the Scheme, its objectives, modus operandi, structure, eligibility for participation, conditions of service, deferment, exemption, deployment, programmes, sources of funding, training, sanctions, reward, etc. The Act serves as a legal framework and provides a clear direction for future growth and development. For example, the reasons behind the Scheme's establishment reflect the pain of our past failures, and our aspirations to forge ahead with the task of nation-building, by addressing the factors that put us on the paths of confrontation and division.

AMENDMENTS TO THE NYSC DECREE:

Since its promulgation in 1973, the decree that established the NYSC underwent several amendments. For example, while the National Youth Service Corps (Amendment) Decree (No. 2) of 1974 prohibits any civil action against the government's implementation of the Scheme, Decree No. 11 of February, 1974 protects the interest of ex-Corps Members concerning their salaries or any other financial remuneration payable to them vis-à-vis

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THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEME

their contemporaries who on account of age, health or other grounds were exempted from participation in the Scheme.

Meanwhile, the NYSC Decree 24 of 22nd May, 1973 made the service mandatory for all Nigerians of 30 years and below who, at the end of the 1972 – 73 academic year or as the case may be, at the end of any subsequent academic year, shall have graduated at any university in Nigeria. Two years later, however, the decree was amended to include Nigerian graduates from any foreign university who, at the end of the 1974 – 75 academic year, or as the case may be at the end of any subsequent academic year, shall have completed his degree course. The following year, the decree was further amended to absorb Nigerian youths who at the end of that academic year, had obtained the Higher National Diploma (HND), or the National Certificate of Education (NCE), or such other professional qualification, as may be prescribed.

The age barrier, which was introduced at the Scheme's inception, was lifted on 1st July, 1977 and between then and 31st July, 1985, it became mandatory for all Nigerian graduates, irrespective of age, to serve. However, with effect from 1st August, 1985, vide Decree 21, the age limit was reinstated. Another provision of the amendment was the exclusion of those who served or are serving personnel of the Armed Forces, the Police, State Security Service (SSS), Nigerian Intelligence Agency (NIA), Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). Exemptions are granted those who have served for at least nine months in such security organisations, or those who have been conferred with national honours.

On 16th June, 1993, the NYSC Decree No. 24 of May, 1973 was repealed and replaced with the NYSC Decree No. 51, with accompanying changes in structure and nomenclature, including the following:

1. Director-General replaced National Director as the Chief Executive of the Scheme.

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THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEME

2. Return of the Scheme to the Presidency.
3. The “National Directorate” replaced Directorate of the Scheme.
4. The “NYSC State Governing Board” replaced “NYSC State Committee”, but had its membership and functions retained.
5. The new decree provides for the establishment of an “NYSC Local Government Committee” in each Local Government area in the country and specifies the composition and functions of the committee.
6. The decree stipulates that the Government of a State/FCT should give a minimum of N500,000.00 annual subvention to the State/FCT Secretariats.
7. Creation of zonal offices in line with the Federal Military Government's objective of grassroots development.

No doubt, the Scheme has weathered several challenges over time, including agitations for its abrogation. Nevertheless, it has stood the test of time and remains relevant and has in recent times become an instrument for carrying out critical national assignments. This development created additional demands on the Scheme, thus, leading to the review of its manning level, administrative and organisational structure, over the years. From the formative years of the Scheme to now, the NYSC has made its impact felt in the socio-economic, educational and cultural development of the nation. During this period, the Scheme has undergone different phases of structural reforms, geared towards improving performance and ensuring its continued relevance in contemporary times.

As the Scheme increases in size, its programmes and activities have also expanded in scope. Apart from the routine primary assignment in which Corps Members engage, the Scheme places a great premium on Corps Members' self-designed and self-motivated projects, which essentially reflect the Scheme's responsiveness to current challenges.



THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEME

ADMINISTRATIVE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT:

There is no doubt that the Scheme has metamorphosed over the years. Its management and structure had undergone various reorganisations at different times to enable it enhance its performance, as well as adequately cope with the ever-increasing demands on it for innovations and, in certain cases, outright changes. Some innovations had been achieved, leading to the expansion in scope and service of the NYSC. From 1973 to 1983, the NYSC was under the Cabinet Office (Presidency). Also, between 1983 and 1993, the Scheme was variously under the Federal Ministry of Social Development, Youth and Sports, and the Federal Ministry of Education. However, following the 1993 restructuring recommended by the Office of Establishments and Management Services, the Scheme returned to the Presidency, where it stayed till 1995 before it came back to the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports. Although, the enabling Act places it under the supervision of the Presidency, it has always operated under a supervisory ministry. Therefore, it is presently under the supervision of the Ministry of Youth and Sports Development.

At inception, the Scheme was headed by a National Director, who was assisted by three Assistant Directors, with direct responsibilities for Operations, Inspectorate and Administration and Finance Departments. The Directorate was established and inaugurated on 4th June, 1973 to design a framework for the operation of the Scheme, within the provisions of the enabling decree. To enable managers of the Scheme to cope with the increasing Corps population, its administrative structure had been expanded severally to effectively plan, monitor, evaluate, and enhance its general operations. Currently, there are offices of the Scheme at the national level known as the National Directorate Headquarters, which is located at Maitama-Abuja; Secretariats at the State level (all the 36 States and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja) and Local Government Offices in each of

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THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEME

the 774 Local Government Areas, which are grouped into zones for administrative convenience.

As part of the transformation of the Scheme, the nomenclature of the Chief Executive, who was referred to as Director at the inception, was changed to National Director and then later to Director-General in 1993. The Office of the Director-General is at the apex of the NYSC Directorate Headquarters' Administrative Structure. According to the NYSC Act, the Director-General is charged with the general responsibilities of handling matters affecting the day-to-day running of the Service Corps. He is assisted by Directors at the Directorate Headquarters, and State Coordinators at the state level.

It is noteworthy that at inception, the Chief Executive of the Scheme, who was then referred to as Director “assisted at the Headquarters by many principal officers who were mainly seconded to the Scheme from other arms of the Federal Public Service and the State Civil Service. The Heads of the State Secretariats were then known as Principal Inspectors, who were also seconded to the Scheme by their respective State Governments.” (Enegwea, et al. 1993).

The nomenclature of the heads of State Secretariats of the Scheme changed as a result of the upgrading of the position from Principal Inspector to Chief Inspector through the amendment of its decree in 1979. “The upgrading was given legal backing by Decree No. 17 of 8th May, 1979 published as a supplement to Official Gazette No. 23, Vol. 66 of 17th May, 1976. The same amendment to the decree declared the NYSC an approved service in relation to the Pensions Act. Hitherto, the Federal Civil Service Commission hired and fired staff for the Scheme. With a scheduled service status, the NYSC became a parastatal with power to hire and fire its staff.” (Enegwea, et al. 1993).

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By 1988, the State Secretariats, hitherto headed by Chief Inspectors had Directors as their heads. This was made possible by the approval of the President-in-Council. "Effective from 1st March, 1988, therefore, the President-in-Council approved that the State Secretariats, hitherto, headed by Chief Inspectors, be manned by Directors." Also, "the 1993 approved structure changed the nomenclature of the head of Secretariat from State Director to State Coordinator ... who is assisted by many other principal officers." (Enegwea, et al; 1993).

From a three-department organisation in 1973, which increased to five (5) departments in 1985, seven in 1993 and eight (8) departments by 1998, there are presently thirteen (13) departments and four (4) autonomous units at the NYSC National Directorate Headquarters. The four autonomous units are under the Office of the Director-General. These are Press and Public Relations, Internal Audit, Legal Unit and Reforms. Suffice it to say that, except for Reforms, all the Units are headed by substantive Directors.

Still, on its administrative growth, the Scheme has also witnessed the establishment, closure, and re-establishment of Area Offices located at various geo-political zones of the country. For effective supervision and coordination of the fieldwork, three Area Inspectorate Offices were created in 1983 and their headquarters were located in Owerri, Ilorin, and Kano for East, West, and North Area Inspectorates, respectively. The Area Inspectorate Offices supervised, as well as coordinated the operations of the State Secretariats in their respective areas. Each of the Area Offices was headed by an Area Coordinator, who was responsible to the Assistant Director (Inspectorate) at the Directorate Headquarters as a result of the administrative restructuring of the Scheme. However, in 1989 the Area Inspectorate Offices were closed down.

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Following the approval of the NYSC National Governing Board, eight (8) Area Offices were again established in April, 2010. The Headquarters of the Area Offices were located in Benin City, Edo State (South-South); Abakaliki, Ebonyi State (South East); Akure, Ondo State (South West I); Osogbo, Osun State (South West II); Bauchi, Bauchi State (North East); Minna, Niger State (North Central); Birnin-Kebbi, Kebbi State (North West) and Ilorin, Kwara State (North Central II). The Area Offices were headed by Deputy Directors, who were assigned to supervise the activities of their assigned states. By 2012, another administrative re-structuring led to the collapse of the eight Area Offices.

It is important to note that the various administrative changes and/or restructuring that had taken place in the Scheme had been in response to the dynamics of the society, as well as to enable it cope with the increasing number of Corps participants.

STRUCTURAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT:

The NYSC Act provides a three-tier structure for the Scheme. That is Federal, State, and Local Governments. It is a sort of participatory concept that binds the three tiers of government in a common task of youth development, empowerment and participation for nation building. It ensures specific roles, including funding for the various tiers of government.

At the federal level, the Scheme has a National Governing Board comprising a Chairman, representative of Committee of Vice Chancellors, representative of Committee of Rectors of Polytechnics, representative of Chief of Army Staff, representative of Inspector General of Police, one representative of the Nigerian Employers Consultative Association (NECA), and three other persons, one of whom shall be a woman from the

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National Council of Women Societies (NCWS) and the NYSC Director-General. The National Governing Board is the highest policy-making body of the Scheme. The Board designs the programmes and makes policies to facilitate the attainment of the Service Corps' objectives.

There is also a State Governing Board for each State of the Federation, as well as the Federal Capital Territory headed by a chairman, who is appointed by the State Governor/FCT Minister. The State Governing Board assists the National Governing Board in the smooth operations of the Scheme. Other members include a representative of the armed forces; a representative of the Nigeria Police Force; five other members, who shall be appointed from among persons concerned with the following sectors, of the Nigerian economy, at least one whom shall represent:

1. Commerce and Industry;
2. Agriculture and Natural Resources;
3. Local Government;
4. Education; and
5. The State Coordinator of the NYSC, who serves as Secretary of the Board.

Meanwhile, all members of the State Governing Board, except the State Coordinator, are appointees of the State Governor.

The Board is further replicated at the grassroots' level through the NYSC Local Government Committees, domiciled in the Office of the Chairman of the Local Council. The Local Government Committee comprises the following members:

1. Chairman of the Local Government as the Chairman;
2. A traditional ruler;
3. One representative of the Nigeria Police Force;

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One representative each of the following departments:

1. Education;
2. Health;
3. Social Welfare and Community Development;
4. The private sector; and
5. The National Youth Service Corps Zonal Inspector.

GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF CORPS PARTICIPANTS:

As earlier stated, the Scheme commenced with the mobilisation of 2,364 Corps Members in 1973. The first noticeable growth in the number of Corps participants was during the 1975/76 service year, with the admission of foreign-trained graduates. That year, the number shot up to 3,513. It increased dramatically to 6,107 during the 1976/77 service year when HND and NCE holders were absorbed. Predictably, a phenomenal increase heralded the lifting of the age limit beginning from the 1977/78 batch with the call-up and deployment of 10,814 Corps participants. The figure rose steadily, reaching an all-time high of 46,685 during the 1984/85 service year. However, the number plummeted to 24,804 the succeeding year – 1985/86 – when the age limit was reinstated and NCE holders were excluded from further participation. Since then, with the establishment of more federal, state and private tertiary institutions and the increasing number of student enrolment, the number of Corps Members has been growing astronomically. From 1985/86 to date, the number of Corps participants has continued to grow each year, with an annual increase of not less than eight (8) per cent.

EVOLUTION OF ORIENTATION PROGRAMMES

At inception, the programme of the Scheme included a four-week Orientation Course for Corps Members. This involved training and

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retraining required for the Corps Members to imbibe the core values of the Scheme, as well as enable them adjust to their new environment. The duration of Orientation Course has been severally adjusted from four weeks at inception, to six weeks, and at present, it runs for three weeks. In a similar vein, the batches of Corps participants per year has been increased from one batch to three annually, namely batches 'A', 'B' and 'C'; with each batch divided into Streams I and II, as determined by the number of mobilised Corps participants in a batch. The implication is that the Scheme runs five to six Orientation exercises annually, depending on the number of graduates mobilised for the national assignment.

It is noteworthy that at its inception, the Orientation “programme consisted of citizenship and leadership training, drills and non-drill activities. The drills were handled by military instructors, while instructors from the Leadership Training Centre took care of the nondrill activities, such as rope climbing, rock climbing, adventure trips, solo survival Scheme, swimming, canoeing and first aid.” (Obasa1995).

The Orientation Course programme contents have continued to witness some changes over the years. For instance, in 1981, military personnel were involved in pre-Orientation workshop to bring about the standardisation of the Orientation programme, as well as uniform adherence to lined-up activities of the Orientation Course.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

One of the ways, the Scheme has carried on, over the years, is through collaboration with communities and partnership with reputable national and international agencies for development activities. It is noteworthy, that several organisations seek to partner with the NYSC to tap from its enormous human resource endowment. The calibre and educational

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THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEME

attainment of participants have made it easy for the Scheme to make available its rich stock of human resources to communities, and organisations, with other resources to carry out projects that meet the felt-needs of communities. This was the basis of most of the early community development projects executed by Corps Members, through the Scheme.

Apart from Community Development Associations and Local Governments, there have been collaborations with organisations such as: Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN), British Council/World Bank Institute, Nigeria Institute of Management (NIM), the National Directorate of Employment (NDE), Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Society for Family Health (SFH), Global Fund, Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs) Office, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), National Board for Technology Incubation (NBTI), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), Bank of Industry (BOI), Bank of Agriculture (BOA), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and Nigeria Employers Consultative Association (NECA), etc.

The importance of such partnerships cannot be over-emphasized. They afford the development and empowerment of the Corps Members, enable resources to be pooled to execute commonly defined projects, or tasks, thereby allowing useful experiences to be gained. For example, the partnership with the Energy Commission of Nigeria is designed to engage the Corps Members in the creation of awareness in the development of an alternative source of energy and energy devices, especially in the rural areas. Apart from undertaking enlightenment campaigns as part of their Community Development Service, Corps Members trained by the Energy



THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEME

Commission are exposed to the technical aspects of alternative energy and its devices.

The partnership with the British Council/World Bank Institute is geared towards raising the awareness of the Corps Members and preparing them as agents of change towards attaining the objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and National Economic and Empowerment Development Strategy (NEEDS). The NIM and NDE, on the other hand, train Corps Members in management and skills acquisition, respectively, to enhance their prospects for either securing jobs, or establishment of ventures for self-employment after the service year.

Similarly, while the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) partners with the Scheme on the engagement of Corps Members as ad- hoc staff during nationwide voters' registration exercise and elections, the National Population Commission (NPC) also employs the services of Corps Members during Head Count and house enumeration in the country.

NYSC VENTURES

As part of its growth and development, the NYSC has gone into commercial ventures. Accordingly, the Scheme has established garment factories in Minna, Niger State and Mgbakwu, Anambra State.

The garment factories are aimed at assisting the Scheme in producing a substantial quantity of the uniform used by Corps Members for the one-year national service. The garment factories, apart from the production of uniforms for Corps Members, also design new patterns and samples for contractors. The factories also train Corps Members in tailoring to make them self-employed.

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Also, to complement government's efforts towards achieving self sufficiency in food production in the country, and to enable the NYSC produce food items for consumption during Orientation exercises, the Scheme established integrated farm settlements in the six (6) geopolitical zones of the country. Apart from food production, Corps Members are equally trained on agricultural activities during their service year at the various farm settlements. The Scheme's ventures include:

1. **NYSC Rice Mill, Ezillo**

The Scheme operates a rice mill at Ezillo, Ebonyi State where paddy rice is processed and de-stoned for consumption at the Orientation camps. The rice is equally sold to the public.

2. **Feed Mill, Ipaja**

One essential ingredient in the operations of the NYSC integrated farms is the production of feeds at the NYSC Feed Mill, Ipaja, Lagos State. The Mill also sells to the public any time they have excess products.

3. **NYSC Band**

Apart from the NYSC Bands operating in all the NYSC State/FCT Secretariats during Orientation Course and other official assignments, the NYSC National Directorate Headquarters, Abuja has also established the NYSC National Band to help publicise activities of the Scheme, and make its presence felt at some government functions. The National Band also performs as the orchestra for interested members of the public at a minimal charge.

4. **NYSC Bakery**

The NYSC Bakery was established in 2015 and located inside the NYSC Orientation Camp, Kubwa, FCT. The bakery produces bread

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for consumption within the NYSC Orientation Camp, FCT, as well as services the public within its location.

5. **NYSC Water Factory**

Also located within the NYSC Orientation Camp, Kubwa, FCT, the NYSC Water Factory produces table-water for sale to members of the camp community, as well as the general public.

6. **NYSC Garri Factory, Afon**

Located in Afon, Kwara State, the NYSC Garri Factory is saddled with the responsibility of producing garri for sale to NYSC formations during the Orientation Course.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

As an organisation operating in the 21st century, the NYSC has computerised its operations, through the full deployment of Information and Communications Technology (ICT). The Scheme has a full-fledged department in-charge of its computerised operations. The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Department, which was formerly a Unit in the Planning Research and Statistics (PRS) Department is saddled with the responsibilities of collating and analysing data, production of Call-up Letters among other functions, in line with the mandate of the NYSC. The department which metamorphosed from the erstwhile Computer/Data Centre in May, 2012 following the approval by the Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation for the expansion of the NYSC administrative structure, serves as an ICT arm of the Scheme, operating the NYSC ICT Integrated System, aimed at ensuring the full deployment of ICT in all its operations. The department ensures that the Scheme keeps abreast of the current trends in Information Communications Technology, to enhance operational efficiency.

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THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEME

The use of ICT has not only strengthened the mobilisation and deployment processes of the Scheme, but also enhanced its operations at various levels. Apart from the reduction in the cost of production, the deployment of technology has equally contributed greatly to effective and efficient service delivery. The online registration of prospective Corps Members has reduced, if not eliminated, the fraud associated with the manual process of the system. The online operations – registration, the printing of Call-up letters, monthly biometric, and weekly CDS clearance for Corps Members – have eliminated sharp practices, fake Corps Members, truancy, and other related vices, hitherto, experienced by the Scheme.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP)

Part of its development is the resort to the idea of a Public-Private Partnership (PPP). To this end, the Scheme entered into several Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with different organisations, to provide training and re-training for Corps Members and staff in order to promote efficiency and effectiveness in its operations.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

The Scheme has engaged in several international affairs for the benefit of the country. Apart from attending conferences, especially those of Global Youth Administration, it has continued to respond to enquiries from other countries on the establishment of National Youth Service. Perhaps the most visible is the Gambia National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS), which the NYSC helped to establish in January, 1996. The Scheme was tailored towards training the youth to appreciate the dignity of labour, and the spirit of self-reliance. Also, in May, 2017, the management of the National Youth Service of Sierra-Leone was in Nigeria on a one-week study tour of the

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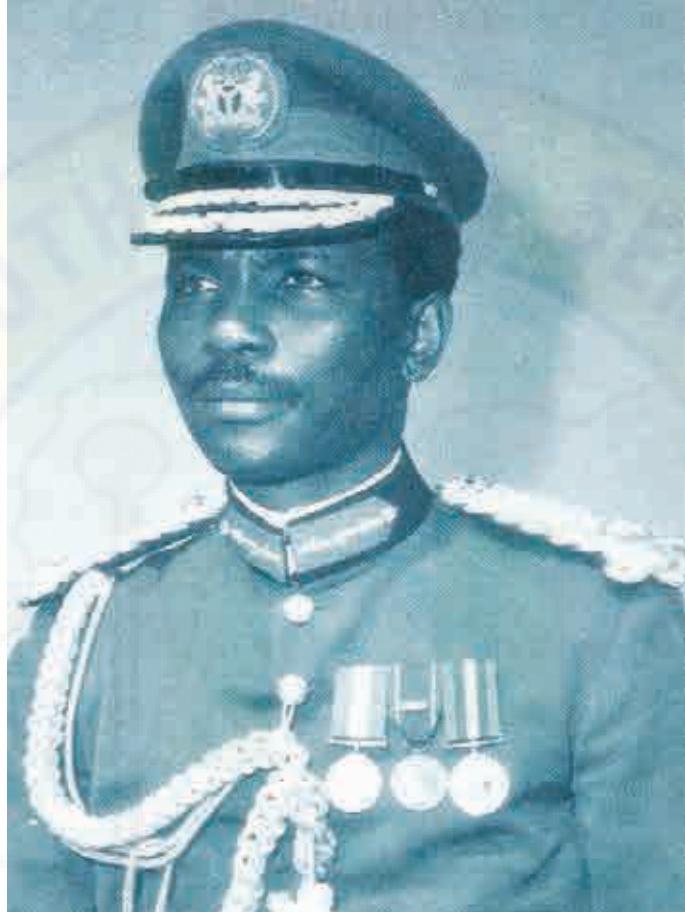
National Youth Service Corps. The study tour was aimed at gathering relevant information on the operations of the NYSC to enable Sierra-Leone establish a similar youth organisation.

CONCLUSION

As exemplified by the objective of the Scheme, the NYSC has a noble mission. Over the years, it has been able to re-dedicate itself to far-reaching and relevant programmes for the youth, towards the attainment of a holistic national development. The appealing factor about the NYSC programme is its national spread, which has positioned it to handle national and international engagements, and endeared it to Nigerians and peoples across the Nigerian borders. The Scheme's accelerated development is predicated on its contributions to the socio-economic and political development of the country. Apart from the expansion of its administrative structure to enable it cope with the geometric rise in the population of Corps Members, its partnership with local and international bodies ensures more and timely service delivery for a sustainable future.

Though, the journey has not been smooth sailing all through, but with determination, commitment and the right leadership, the Scheme has steadily remained on course with brighter prospects for more meaningful contributions to national development.

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***Gen Yakubu Gowon (Rtd.) (Former Head of State and
Founding father of the NYSC Scheme)***

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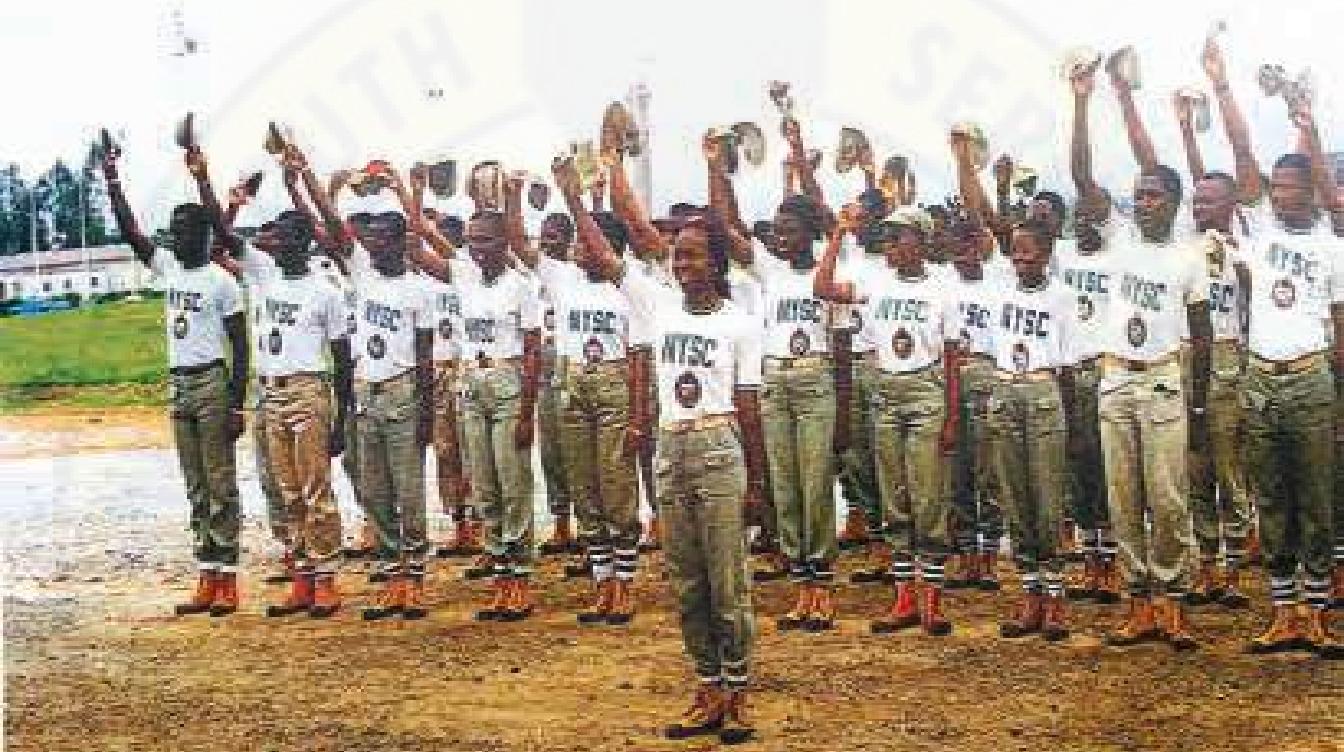
*Gen Yakubu Gowon with Pioneer Members of
NYSC Directorate*

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*First Service Year Award Winners with the then members
of the Supreme Military Council*

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Corps members on parade

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Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo Rtd (Former Head of State) in company of Col. Ahmadu Ali (Rtd.), Pioneer National Director of NYSC, Muhammadu Buhari and other dignitaries during an event



Gen Yakubu Gowon, Muhammadu Buhari, the then Director-General of NYSC, Brig Gen SM Dule (Rtd.) and other top government functionaries during the NYSC Silver Jubilee Celebration



Former Head of State, Muhammadu Buhari, with the then NYSC Director-General, Brig Gen SM Dule while inspecting an exhibition during the NYSC Silver Jubilee Celebration



Former President, Olusegun Obasanjo exchanging pleasantries with some dignitaries while Brig Gen KO Ogunkoya (Rtd.) looks on

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*Maj Gen Tunde Idiagbon (Rtd.) being led by the then NYSC
Director-General, Col EA Akpan*



*Col EA Akpan flagging off the farming initiative
of the Scheme*



Former NYSC Director-General Brig Gen SM Dule presenting an address while the then Military Assistant Capt S Ibrahim and other NYSC officials look on



*Former NYSC Director-General Brig Gen SM Dule in company
of his Military Assistant, Capt S Ibrahim during camp inspection*

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*Brig Gen SM Dule inspecting a Quarter Guard mounted
by Corps members in his honour*



Former Director-General, Brig Gen MI Tsiga presenting a souvenir to Former Head of State, Gen Yakubu Gowon



Brig Gen MI Tsiga poses with some Corps members and their babies



Former Minister of Youth and Sports Development, Mr Akinlabi Olasunkanmi, Brig Gen MI Tsiga and Hajia Amina Muhammed during a function



*Change of baton from Brig Gen MI Tsiga to Brig Gen NT Okore-Affia
during the handing/taking over ceremony at Yakubu Gowon House,
Abuja*

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*Brig Gen NT Okore-Affia with Corps member and
Man 'O War officials*

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Brig Gen NT Okore-Affia admiring a baby while the mother looks on



*Former NYSC Director-General, Brig Gen NT Okore-Affia Rtd
commissioning a project in an Orientation Camp*

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NYSC Band members performing during a function

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Corps members planting crops in NYSC farm

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Col EA Akpan and other NYSC officials during a function



***Gen Yakuku Gowon, Founding Father,
National Youth Service Corps***



Gen Yakubu Gowon signing the visitor's book during the official commissioning of the NYSC Directorate Headquarters Abuja while the then Minister of Youth Development, Sen Akinlabi Olasunkami and Director-General, Yusuf Bomoi look on



*Gen Yakubu Gowon receiving a plaque from NYSC Director-General,
Brig Gen JB Olawumi*



*Maj Gen SZ Kazaure, Management and Corps members felicitate with
Gen Yakubu Gowon on his 83rd birthday*

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President Goodluck Jonathan commissioning Orientation Camp



Brig Gen Shuaibu Ibrahim and other guests at the 85th birthday celebration of Gen Yakubu Gowon



*Gen Yakuku Gowon in a warm handshake with the
NYSC Director-General, Brig Gen S Ibrahim*



The Director-General, Brig Gen S. Ibrahim presenting a plaque to former Head of State, Gen Yakubu Gowon during a visit to the latter in Abuja.



CHAPTER

2

NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS SCHEME AND NATIONAL INTEGRATION

INTRODUCTION

The idea of the establishment of the National Youth Service Corps Scheme stem from the post-civil war integration strategies adopted by the General Yakubu Gowon led military administration; it aims at permanently laying to rest the bitterness that sparked off the war, as well as moving ahead as one united nation. It also serves as an instrument for national reconstruction, reconciliation and rebuilding, after the 30-month Nigerian civil war. The establishment of the NYSC as earlier read in preceding chapters was met with great expectations as national unity and integration was the priority agenda that was pursued.

This study assumed a great role because national integration, particularly in pluralistic societies, is a prerequisite for development as well as democratization and its absence in a democratic state like Nigeria will stall development and also hinder or impede the process of democratization. This could lead to unrest in the nation. This chapter therefore seeks to



discuss the National Youth Service Corps and its efforts at achieving national integration. The chapter is organised or structured into six sections. Following this introductory section, are those on the Concept of National Integration, Ethnicity, Background to the establishment of NYSC, the impact of the National Youth Service Corps on national integration and the challenges of the National Youth Service Corps integration policy, and then conclusion.

CONCEPTUAL CLARIFICATION

An attempt will be made in this section to explain the terms National Integration and Ethnicity. It becomes apt to clarify these terms; this is in order to have a better understanding of the terms.

NATIONAL INTEGRATION

National integration is the process of unifying a multi-ethnic country, not necessarily into a single-ethnic one but a united, indivisible entity where primordial affiliations are exempted or made secondary for the greater good of the united country. It can also be seen as the building of a nation state of different social, economic, religious, ethnic and geographical elements which entails the conversion of diverse and unorganised sentiments on nationalism into a spirit of citizenship through the creation of state institutions that can translate into policies, programmes and aspirations of the citizenry. Fatile and Adejuwon opined that national integration as the process whereby several disparate groups within a given territorial entity are united together or co-operate under conditions which do not appear to permit satisfaction of the system needs in any other way. They concluded by stating that the goal of national integration is an arrangement in a plural society where component parts are reasonably

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contented in the polity vis-a-vis equity and justice in resource allocation and access to equal opportunities. It could also be stated that it is the reduction of cultural and regional tensions and discontinuities in the process of creating a prosperous homogenous political community. Morrison and Stevenson define it as the degree of cohesion that binds members of social systems together, and is generally thought of in terms of the values, institutions and communications which facilitate escalating sequences of social contact, cooperation and consensus.

Ethnicity: Ethnicity is derived from the term 'ethnic' which has been used to categorise human groups have a conviction that they have a common identity and goal because they have common aboriginal and kinship ties, traditions, history, language and culture. The term is defined differently depending on who is using it. Early western anthropologists who worked in Africa, Asia and among the Indians call it tribalism, which is a derogatory word, used to give an image of something that is primitive, backward and retrogressive. In Europe, and North America, ethnicity is called nationalism. Hence one hears of Scottish, Welsh and Irish nationalism in the United Kingdom, French nationalism in Canada, and Igbo or Yoruba tribalism used by European writers. In Nigeria, Ethnicity is mainly promoted and sustained by the educated elites who are also its beneficiaries. Also, it does not allow the development of committed and united bureaucracy in Nigeria which is an important ingredient for nation building and national integration.

IMPACT OF NYSC ON NATIONAL INTEGRATION

The National Youth Service Corps, established under Decree 24 of 1973, and promulgated on 22nd May 1973, with a total of 2,364 youths who first

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS SCHEME AND NATIONAL INTEGRATION

participated in the programme was aimed at fostering unity in the face of ethnic diversity following the unsuccessful attempt of the Eastern Region to secede, which resulted in the 30-month civil war (1967-70). It was urgent upon the Federal Military Government of Nigeria to secure victory over the failed Biafran secession by setting an instrument that will promote a peaceful co-existence among all ethnic groups across the regions. The immediate challenge of the post-war period was how to engage in deliberate social engagements, designing specific programmes and pursuing meaningful national policies aimed at promoting national unity, eliminating discord among constituent groups, and fostering greater inter-ethnic understanding and harmony.

The choice of the youth for the programme was borne out of the consideration that they are change agents who are needed for building a united Nigeria. A way of achieving this is for the youths to cultivate a sense of common ties and national consciousness which would be far reaching and would include political, social, state and ethnic loyalties. The choice of the youth for the programme also stemmed from two of the continent wide challenges namely: youth unemployment and the emigration of young unskilled people from the rural to urban areas. It was also a way for the nation to invest in the youth's future; since youths constitute a dominant force for national mobilisation and growth. Ojo⁷ in his work argued that the NYSC Scheme is of great significance to the concept of national integration. It has the objective of developing common ties among the various youths, and to promote national unity by ensuring that the youths are assigned to jobs in states other than their states of origin, with the intent of removing prejudices and eliminating ignorance among the young graduates.

Though a herculean task to achieve, its attainment has been mostly subtle and the successes of the programme recorded includes, but not limited to

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the making of friends, the displacement of old prejudices and very significantly, inter-cultural marriages during the service year. In a survey carried out on the NYSC as an attempt to foster national unity in the face of ethnic diversity, Iyizoba⁸ attempts to evaluate the success of the youth Corps programme in achieving the goal of reducing interethnic prejudices amongst the various ethnic groups in Nigeria. He discovered that those that have had some exposure to other ethnic groups were significantly less prejudiced than those with no exposure. This result gives the programme a positive score. The policy adopted to post youths to states other than their states of origin has eventually been justified as a right step in the right direction.

Since the establishment of the National Youth Service Corps about forty eight years ago, the deployment policy of the Scheme has remained as stipulated that all Corps Members must be posted to states other than their states of origin. The implication of this is that, a much larger number of Corps Members serve in various parts of the country, and their parents or guardians are also compelled to take interest in events and developments in other parts of the country throughout the service year. Such parents and well-wishers may not have ordinarily given any thought to events in other parts of the country, but the fact that their sons and daughters or relations are on national service somewhere far away from home compels them to think national. By the NYSC deployment policy, a large number of the nation's youth have, over the years, been given the opportunity of living and interacting with fellow Nigerians of other ethno-cultural groups for one year, thereby gaining direct, basic knowledge about other Nigerians. Such interaction enables them to appreciate the basic similarities that exist between their culture at home and those of the host community. The appreciation of the different cultural attributes which Nigerians share help in reducing ethnic bigotry and enables most Corps Members develop an attitude of hospitality and accommodation towards other Nigerians. In

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1983, it was reported that 66 percent of those who participated in the Scheme admitted that it has helped them to develop a more positive attitude towards the people whom they stayed and served with.

As a direct consequence of the above, there was elimination of long-held prejudices. The Scheme was able to some extent; break down the conservative attitude of youths, choosing marriage partners only from their own ethnic groups or lineage. They were transformed by their service year experiences and have come to the realization that tribe ought not to constitute any barrier to marriage. As a result of inter- tribal marriages which once seemed alien to the people, they began to accept it as a norm commonly adopted among the youths. The inter-tribal marriages help in strengthening inter-ethnic ties and solidified bonds of unity among the Nigerian people.

It has also been a standing policy of the Scheme to post a large number of the Corps Members to serve in rural communities. By this arrangement, the Corps Members are to experience the rural life and the challenges of development in those areas. Due to the realization that these young men and women are the ones who will serve as the nation's policy-makers in the future, it was deduced that they should have the basic experience of life in the rural area as it will help them forecast in the nearest future and formulate policies that will benefit millions of rural dwellers. Therefore, it is clear from the above, that over the past four decades, the Scheme has been building bridges between various factions of the Nigerian society. NYSC has been promoting unity among the diverse ethnic groups of Nigeria, reducing prejudices and misconceptions. The Scheme has come to be acknowledged as perhaps the most realistic of all the programmes initiated since independence.

The Scheme gained acceptance and has continued to serve as a point of reference in matters that demand patriotism, morals and values that we



NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS SCHEME AND NATIONAL INTEGRATION



cherish in our society. This is demonstrated in the activities of the members of the Scheme as they have always engaged in the activities other government agencies through collaboration.

CHALLENGES OF NYSC NATIONAL INTEGRATION POLICY

Factors that have impeded NYSC national integration policy include the following:

Insecurity: The continued existence of the Scheme has been called to question in recent years due mainly to insecurity and volatility in some parts of the country which are all extraneous to the Corps. More so, electoral violence in some parts of the country, Boko Haram insurgency in the North; militancy and kidnapping ravaging parts of the country have



NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS SCHEME AND NATIONAL INTEGRATION

posed serious security threat to the Scheme. Drawing from the experiences of some of the respondents, the fear of insecurity was cited as one of the challenges faced during their service year. This also accounted for a number of Corps Members who sought relocation in the course of service.

DISCONTENT BY SOME PARENTS OR GUARDIANS, AND CORPS MEMBERS:

The NYSC Scheme, established after the civil war to promote national integration has, overtime, enjoyed popular support from Nigerians for reducing prejudices, eliminating ignorance and confirming at first hand the many similarities among Nigerians of all ethnic groups. However the ugly state of insecurity in some parts of the country led to a situation where some parents sought for the safety of their children as they did everything to see that they are not posted to turbulent areas. This was followed by a call by some parents and several stakeholders against posting Corps Members to states that were prone to serious security threats. Consequently, the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Directorate in 2012 redeployed prospective Corps Members previously posted to “volatile states” in the North. By the directive, Corps Members who were earlier posted to Bauchi, Gombe, Plateau, Kano and Kaduna States, were directed to report to the NYSC headquarters in Abuja for redeployment. Though this was greeted with mixed reactions, those posted to Yobe and Borno States carried out their Orientation exercise at the NYSC camps in Nasarawa and Benue States respectively.

Inadequate Facilities/Rejection of Corps Members: The exponential increase in Corps population generally in the country has posed a serious challenge to the NYSC. With the persistent rise in the population of the country, the number of graduates per year continues to swell that a single state now has over 2,000 Corps Members to cater for. Considering the

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limited resources within the NYSC and attitude of some State Governments in meeting their statutory obligations to the Scheme, the available facilities have been overstretched. The increase in Corps population has contributed to the rejection and under-utilisation of Corps Members by employers of labour. This situation has also been compounded by the worsening economic climate, which has minimized job vacancies by way of restricting the recruitment of new staff and rationalization of the existing work force.

In some establishments, Corps Members are assigned to task far below their training and qualification. The consequence is that some Corps Members become idle and do not acquire the experience which the service year is supposed to afford them. Cases of rejection of Corps Members were another factor listed by ex-Corps Members as a challenge to the NYSC. Some of them stated that they were rejected because the organisations lack accommodation for Corps Members and are also not willing to provide for their needs. Therefore, the best option to them is to reject the Corps Members.

Inadequate Man-power: Another major challenge facing the NYSC Scheme is inadequate manpower and materials to supervise and monitor members of the Service Corps. The responsibility of monitoring and evaluating Corps Members' performance is vested in the Corps Welfare and Health Services Department at the National Directorate Headquarters, the Area Offices at the six (6) Geo-political Zones of the country and the thirty seven NYSC Secretariats. After posting the Corps participants to their places of Primary Assignments, the NYSC authorities are to ensure that Corps Members actually report at their duty posts to carry out their various tasks and that the tasks are executed to the satisfaction of both their employers and the NYSC authorities. Unfortunately, the rapid growth of the Scheme has not been matched with the commensurate staff strength to

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monitor Corps Members and evaluate their performances in the field, which has become a challenge.

Inadequate Funding: The challenge of inadequate funding is not a new phenomenon in the Scheme. The problem of inadequate funding has impacted adversely on Community Development Service (CDS) projects. Corps Members find it difficult to secure financiers for some projects they have conceived and, in some cases, others that were commenced have to be abandoned when the money to complete them was not forthcoming. This has made it difficult for Corps Members to effectively contribute to the rapid development of the country particularly the rural areas.

Cross Cultural and Religious Differences: Ethnicity and religion are two issues that have played prominent roles in public governance in Nigeria. Religion dominates the roots of the cultural areas of Nigeria and to a greater extent accounts for the multiple crises that has bedevilled the country in both past and present. Little or no distinction has existed between the profane and the sacred dimensions of life. Thus, all activities and instruments of governance and survival were clothed in religious ritual, language and symbolism. Enwerem corroborates this point when he suggests that of the plethora of factors that are considered in the country like that of environment, political organisation and outlook of traditional Nigeria, the religious factor remains the major source of inspiration in the people's activities and world view. Experts have also argued that the political behaviour of some Nigerians is still influenced heavily by the hyperbolic assumption that one's destiny is intrinsically and exclusively linked to one's ethnic, linguistic and religious identities. The ethnic and religious composition of Nigeria and its manipulation by the political elite has posed serious challenges to governance and security in the country.

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This has led to the emergence of ethnic militias in several parts of the country such as the Odua Peoples Congress (OPC) and Bakasi Boys²⁰. Despite the cultural and religious differences, Corps Members in the course of their service have come to appreciate their host communities so much that most of them wished they had married from these communities.

In spite of these challenges, the Scheme has continued to surmount it with innovation such as revenue generation and tapping the potentials of Corps Members through entertainment platforms such as:

- the NYSCWOOD movie/film production.
- National Band.
- NYSC National Cultural Troupe.
- NYSC National Football Team.

The Scheme has also taken bold measures to address these challenges by:

- Continuous engagements with stakeholders.
- Engagements with State Government bordering on their statutory responsibilities to the Scheme
- Robust partnership that could lead to adequate provision of security to Corps Members.
- Reviving and strengthening of NYSC Ventures.

PROSPECTS FOR NATIONAL INTEGRATION

As it stands at present, and as stated in Section 1 (4) (b) of the NYSC Decree, 1993; “that as far as possible, Youths are assigned to jobs in states other than their states of origin,” the policy is self-serving as one ethnic group could be found in more than one state. Therefore, rather than posting participants on the basis of State of Origin, the posting should be based on the Participants’ ethnic base, so that no participant will be able to serve within his or her

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ethnic base. The strict implementation of this will no doubt enhance the performance of the programme towards achieving national integration.

There is also the need for government at all levels to pay more attention to the welfare of Corps Members. This has become necessary; particularly the government should consider regular review of the allowances of the participants as the prevailing economic conditions dictate, so that the allowances will reflect the economic reality per time. On the issue of accommodation at the orientation camps as well the service year, all levels of government should see to it that participants do not face accommodation challenges or are unnecessarily left at the mercy of landlords who charge exorbitant rates. When the general welfare of participants is well addressed, they will be motivated to serve the nation with diligence and in high spirit.

Security comes first among issues that need urgent and drastic attention. But for the uncertainty pervading certain parts of the country, participants are willing and ready to serve the nation in any part of the country. Thus, this issue is a serious drawback for the attainment of national integration. Thus, to stem this tide, the Federal Government should bring the general insecurity that currently engulfs the country to its minimal level and ensure as fast as possible that all is done to restore peace to all parts of the country.

CONCLUSION

The NYSC Scheme has been able to stand the test of time, and it is still very much relevant to the nation. Nigeria has been benefiting from the activities of the Scheme. Through the Scheme, various achievements have been attained. Prejudices built over time have been reduced by the Scheme. There is an appreciable measure of mutual trust among Nigerians of diverse languages and cultures. Today, the NYSC has enhanced and promoted inter-ethnic marriages among the youths of the nation. Most Nigerians

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now move freely and reside permanently in states other than their own, resulting in labour mobility and greater integration. Some states of the country that hitherto lacked certain manpower in the past now enjoy such privileges as a result of NYSC deployment. Nigerian youths that have passed through the Scheme are now better informed than they were before participating in the National Service. This paper discussed the impact of the National Youth Service Corps on national integration, the challenges of the National Youth Service Corps integration policy. The paper found out that despite the challenges of funding, ethical re-orientation and religious tolerance among others, the Scheme has made remarkable progress in achieving its objectives.

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*Inter-ethnic marriage between two Corps members
in Ekiti State*



Ex-Corps member Victor Emaikwu Ojochokwu conferred with a traditional title by the District Head of Komi Community, Gombe State in recognition of his Community Development Service Projects



***Brig Gen JB Olawunmi led Management and Corps members
on a Courtesy Visit to Former President Shehu Shagari in
Sokoto***



NYSC National Troupe entertaining Guests during the Maiden Launch of reinvigorated Community Development Service (CDS) and presentation of Awards in Abuja



CHAPTER **3**

NYSC AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The catalogue and assessment of the contributions of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) to national development can be done through policy advancements in approaches that mainstream youth service in development policy. We can contextualise same, in a way that involves the sustainable future of the country. Arguably, we can assert that the collective performances of the Corps Members, harnessed from diverse sectors of the economy and society, contribute meaningfully to national development. For this cause, an examination of the critical areas of our national life, in which Corps Members' contributions to national development are most dominant is quite apt.

In understanding the place of the NYSC and its contributions to national development, a critical look at the functional importance of how the labour resources, amply available in the Scheme, are deployed and utilised. Based on this, the performance approach through the empowerment showcases the contributions of the NYSC through effective utilisation of the Corps Members. Additionally, the NYSC provides the Corps Members the

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NYSC AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

opportunity to socially construct their identity, and the various roles they play in national development are made manifest through the Youth Service Scheme.

It is equally appropriate to explore the experiences of the Corps Members' transition from the acquisition of education to their participation in the NYSC Scheme. This further allows for critical examination of how they are: absorbed through mobilisation into the NYSC; developed through the activities of the Scheme; deployed and utilized in addressing national development challenges in diverse ways.

The available pool of knowledge, skills and talents in the NYSC is indeed an aggregation of various indices in addressing national development challenges in Health, Education, Agriculture, Infrastructure, Information Technology, Public Administration, Peace & Conflict Management, Supply Chain Management, etc. The educational pathways, made possible by higher education, make Corps Members the most educated segment of the youth population with enhanced capabilities in addressing national needs.

The National Youth Service Corps mobilises, inducts and moulds, each year a critical segment of the youth, from the overall youth category, within the Nigerian society. In utilizing the Corps Members through available opportunities and support structures, their transition to the wider society becomes a much simpler process. In this light, their collective performance, by this means, readily uncovers how the National Youth Service Scheme has positively impacted on national development, over the years.

It is, therefore, important to state that the NYSC is largely representative of the youth being captured in the nation's development policy frameworks.

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These policy frameworks engender discourses of inclusion, participation and empowerment.

Based on the episodic events of youth-led North African uprisings, it is conceivable that the renewed attention on 'youth' and 'youth policies' by governments, policy makers, civil society organisations, and economists show clearly that, youth development leads to youth performance, and hence their contributions to national development.

All concerted efforts at having effective 'youth development policy,' and 'for national development' purposes should be re-intensified. This imperative emphasises the need to realise the enormous potentials in the enhancement of youth contributions to national development. Furthermore, as can be seen in the NYSC, the identity of the youth is constructed in a positive light, through conscious mobilisation and deployment for national development. There are multiple natural benefits in the resultant issues of nation-building process, such as peace, stability, cohesion and integration.

In this light, the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) – a product of General Gowon's administration, established as a post-civil war intervention in 1973, became institutionalised through decree No. 24, to promote national unity and to foster common socio-cultural ties among the youths. Indeed, over four decades after its establishment, the NYSC has patiently become an operational vehicle for harnessing the collective performance of Corps Members for national development, through effective deployment strategy.

As a path forward, how Corps Members contribute to national development should be crucial in defining future youth development agenda. Essentially, NYSC should be viewed from how it provides labour

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mobility and ethno-religious unity, through national service, effective citizenship and patriotism. The key narrative should be about how the NYSC deployment strategy impacts on national development. Therefore, an evaluation of the role of the NYSC and its deployment strategy, is the extent to which the broader national development agenda is developed and sustained, using the Corps Members.

In addressing Corps Members' purposeful engagement, active ways are sought and sustained in using their specific skills and aptitude necessary for measured impact on the national economy. The main objective here is to contain the incidence of youth non-engagement, by providing training and opportunities, correct imbalances in the educational system, consistent with the changing requirements or dynamics of the economy, provide Scheme(s), which are aimed at bridging the gap between education, training, and the world of work.

National Development, especially during the second decade of Nigeria's development was driven by sectoral demands in the construction, agricultural, and health sectors. Given this consideration, youth development becomes synonymous with youth engagement.

Accordingly, a cardinal objective of the NYSC is to facilitate the national development and integration of Nigeria, through the mobilisation and deployment of the targeted youth to places other than their states of origin. Overtime, this has proved effective through active engagements of the Corps Members, nationwide.

The NYSC strategy, with its objective of posting based on youth capability, national unity and national development, has been adequate in addressing obstacles to the achievement of its clearly defined mandate.

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Issues arising from identified restrictive deployment policy in the past were corrected by reverting to the original guidelines, and the ever present need to:

1. Adapt a multi-sectoral posting policy that provides more opportunities for Corps members' capabilities to thrive.
2. Ensure a research-led approach that ascertains the positive/negative impacts that policies have on youth development for national development.

The provisions guiding the deployment of Corps Members as contained in the NYSC enabling Act, show clearly that the Directorate shall register each member of the service Corps, and shall post him for National Service in the following undertakings and projects:

1. hospitals;
2. road construction;
3. farming;
4. water Schemes;
5. surveying and mapping;
6. social and economic services;
7. teaching;
8. food storage and eradication of pests;
9. rehabilitation of destitute and the disabled;
10. development of sports;
11. all government departments and statutory corporations suitable for new graduates;
12. development projects of local councils;
13. the private sector of the Nigerian economy; and
14. such other undertakings and projects as the President may, by order, determine.

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For the purposes of this section, priority shall be given to service in any of the undertakings or projects mentioned herein, within such appropriate urban or rural areas of the Federation as may be selected by the Directorate. Given the expansive nature of the undertakings or projects listed above, any restriction done by proclamation is inferior to the provisions of the NYSC Enabling Act, except where such proclamation is intended purely to open up new opportunities for further posting.

From the preceding analysis, it is the manifest destiny of the NYSC seen as a vehicle through which the Corps Members are effectively utilised for national development. This is the policy context in which the NYSC was established in 1973. The Scheme thus assumed a crucial mandate with the sole objective of youth development, national integration, and national development.

For instance, as a sub-set, the NYSC community service has an expanding network of informed actions and services that impact positively on host communities, all around the country. Corps Members develop an understanding of issues from local communities, act in concert with the local people, and address problems collectively. Consequently, they build lasting relationships, explore cultural differences, and find common ground around a positive change in a process of cultural integration. This has been a long-term strategy, the NYSC uses in building the foundation for the transformation of Nigeria, while repudiating cultural exclusion, or thing that impinge on multiculturalism.

Away from the established traditional areas of Corps Members' posting for Primary Assignments, the following should form new areas of focus:

1. Adolescent and youths
2. Technology for development



3. Agricultural finance
4. Agricultural value chain
5. Supply Chain Management
6. Climate resilience development
7. Disaster risk response
8. Emergency response
9. Energy access
10. Food security
11. Good governance
12. Local partnerships and community mobilisation
13. Market systems development
14. Peace and conflict Management
15. Public health campaign
16. Urban resilience programmeming
17. Women empowerment and gender; etc.

Therefore, the NYSC Scheme, as a major component of the nation's youth development objective, has enormous capabilities that are routinely deployed for national development. The deliberate harnessing of the available potentials, skills, and energy of the Corps Members has formed an arc of history of immense significance in attesting to the seminal contributions of the NYSC to national development. Indeed, the NYSC is shaped by policy mix from the second and third National Development Plans, built on the post-war policy of Reconciliation, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration, which have been recurring elements on nation-building.

The efficacy of the NYSC administrative process, such as the Orientation Programme, the Primary Assignment, Community Development Service, and Winding-up and Passing-out has been time-tested. The NYSC model has carried on for over four decades, maintaining most of the original

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NYSC AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

principles that informed the Scheme's mandate – with room for the various elements of the law that set up the Scheme, acquiring new meaning and significance.

Over time, the NYSC has evolved through various approaches to national service by enhancing its capacity development, youth empowerment, and volunteerism. In operationalizing its framework for action, the Scheme has impacted positively on various communities through its Community Development Service activities.

The NYSC operations and development efforts have largely been impacted by SDGs-driven framework. Initiatives that have emerged from the SDGs framework are embedded as part of its Community Development Service, such as the War Against Poverty (WAP), Family and Community Life Re-orientation Programme (FACOR), and the SDGs Advocacy Creation Programme (SACP). By this means, this collaboration has gone a long way in contributing to national development tremendously.

Also, as election agents, the Corps Members have consistently been effective support staff to the INEC, earning commendations by local and international agencies such as the UNDP. Another laudable strategy by the NYSC has been the initiation of the Skills Acquisition Entrepreneurship Development (SAED) Department, which has inspired partnership for ensuring a youth-driven approach to addressing the challenges of graduate unemployment. Partnerships between the NYSC, for instance, with the Bank of Industry (BOI) have youth business start-ups. These are some of the highlights of the dynamic response of the NYSC to engaging the Corps Members, responsibly.

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NYSC AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Despite the challenges of unemployment, poverty, militancy, armed robbery, kidnappings, and insecurity, the mobilisation, and deployment of Corps Members have had salutary effects on the unity, peace, and stability of the country as originally provided in the NYSC enabling Act, which is robust and imaginatively expansive. The creative elasticity of the policy is in its resilience and strength. So, the intervening restrictive four-sector deployment policy of the NYSC represented an unfortunate distortion of the ennobling vision of the Scheme. Though, it has been corrected, its immediate repudiation was necessary, as it resulted from an administrative errancy.

The inadequacy of preparations and actions of the other tiers of government in pooling and directing the youth population deliberately towards national goals has had far-reaching negative effects. This is a stubborn fact, without minimising the performance of the NYSC Scheme. The vitality of the youth as a national resource cannot be over-stated. It has been argued that Nigeria's greatest asset is not oil but its youth. The importance of the NYSC lies in its administration and performance as a major component of a youth-driven public policy. The need to fully involve the youth in nation-building and/or national development is an appropriate step in recognising their demographic and socio-economic contributions to peace, security, and inclusive growth. The argument has been that, if the Nigerian government fails to recognize and capitalize on the growing youth population, such neglect could lead to some unfortunate consequences.

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NYSC AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

All told, the following activity sectors of the Nigerian economy may have to be minded and re-examined for more gainful posting of Corps Members.

1. Agriculture;
2. Construction, Mining, and Quarrying;
3. Education;
4. Finance;
5. Accommodation and Food services;
6. Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services;
7. IT and Communication;
8. Manufacturing;
9. Health and Social Service;
10. Real Estate; and
11. Public Administration.

The ever-increasing pool of areas of deployment is the only answer to widening opportunities for Corps Members to meaningfully contribute to national development, now and far into the future.



Corps medical personnel attending to a patient in a rural community

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Corps members attending to patients in their host community



*Brig Gen NT Okore-Affia monitoring the conduct of Corps members
during the 2015 General Elections in Kogi State*



NYSC DG, Brig Gen JB Olawumi donating drugs to a community in Badagry, Lagos on behalf of the Scheme

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Corps members attending to patients in their host community



*Brig Gen NT Okore-Affia monitoring the conduct of Corps members
during the 2015 General Elections in Kogi State*

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*EU 2015 Election observer, Hannah Roberts with
NYSC Director- General Brig Gen JB Olawumi*



*EU 2015 Election observers with NYSC Director-General
Brig Gen JB Olawumi*



**NYSC Director General, Brig. Gen. Shuaibu Ibrahim commissioning
a CDS project executed by Corps Doctor, Vincent Chidera
in Dakwa, Bwari Area Council of the FCT**



*Brig Gen S. Ibrahim presenting items donated by Corps member
Vincent Chidera to Dakwa Community FCT, Abuja*



CHAPTER

4

NYSC AND THE ECONOMY

INTRODUCTION

The economy is the live-wire of every nation, with which the lives and livelihoods of the citizens are measured. The classification of nations into developed, developing and underdeveloped is predicated on the strength of the national performance of the economy.

It is generally known that Nigeria is a middle-income country, with a mixed economy and an emerging market. The expanding manufacturing, finance, service, communications and technology, and entertainment sectors have been growing appreciably and comparatively. Its ranking as the 27th largest economy in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the 22nd largest in the world in terms of purchasing power parity is commendable.

The World Bank, IMF and other international Institutions ranked the nation's economy as the No.1 in Africa, with a total of 20% of the continent's GDP and 75% of the West African Economy. Today, the Growth Domestic Product of Nigeria is put at over 375.8 billion USD, GDP growth is 1.9% and expected to rise to 2.4% by

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the year 2020. The Gross National Product is put at over 1.055 trillion USD, while the GNI per capita is 5.680 USD.

Since the 1970s, the nation's economy has been experiencing expansion, as a result of diversification. The economy is mainly made up of three sectors which are Primary, Secondary and Tertiary. The primary sector is made up of agriculture, oil/gas, mining, and forestry, while the secondary is made up of the heavy and light industries. The tertiary component is made up of services. Every agency of Government in Nigeria plays a role in the growth and development of the nation's economy. The National Youth Service Corps is not left out in this regard.

The Decree No. 24 of 22nd May, 1973 now Act of the National Assembly, Cap N84 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 that established the NYSC carved out a great and critical role for the Scheme with the responsibility of crucial inputs into national economic growth, development and general transformation. Under the Objectives of the NYSC Section 1 (3) (d)-(g) and (4) (f)-(g), the Act spelt out the critical role of the NYSC with regards to the nation's economy as follows:

- (3)(d) To enable Nigerian youths acquire the spirit of self reliance by encouraging them to develop skills for self employment.
- (3)(e) To contribute to the accelerated growth of the national economy.
- (4)(f) To encourage members of the Service Corps to seek at the end of their one year National Service, career employment all over the country, thus promoting the free movement of labour.
- (4)(g) To induce employers, partly through their experience with Corps Members, to employ more readily and on a permanent basis, qualified Nigerians irrespective of their states of origin.

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The above provisions of the Act placed the Scheme in a lead position in the nation's economic development through participation, developing entrepreneurial skills among our youths, as well as promoting the mobility of skilled manpower, across the country. Unequivocally, the NYSC has done well in this aspect of the nation's economy. This can be seen from the contributions of the Scheme to the various sectors of the economy, since its establishment in 1973.

Sectoral Contributions of NYSC:

From its inception in 1973, Four Million Six Hundred and Forty-Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Four (4,644,804) graduates of Universities, Polytechnics, Monotechnics, and Colleges of Education have participated in the Scheme. The Corps Members have been providing services to the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors of the nation's economy.

Primary Sector A.

Agriculture:

For over four decades, the Scheme has contributed to the agricultural development of the country, through the establishment of farms for arable crops production and livestock farming. NYSC farms are spread across the country, where crops like maize, rice, guinea corn, cassava, sorghum, millet, soya beans, cowpea, Irish potatoes, e.t.c, are being cultivated on over 9,000 hectares of farmlands. This has made a great impact on food production. Some of the states and crops being cultivated are:

Maize

1. Kwali – FCT
2. Afon – Kwara State
3. Riyom – Plateau State
4. Irrua – Edo State
5. Biu – Borno State
6. Daudu – Benue State

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7. Iseyin – Oyo State
8. Kura – Kano State
9. Oyan Dan – Ogun State
10. Itaogbolu – Ondo State
11. Garatu/Tagwai – Niger State
12. Mayo-Ine – Adamawa State

Rice

Rice is cultivated in some states on both swamp (Fadama) and upland.

The Scheme has rice farms in the following locations:

1. Kwali – FCT
2. Ezeillo – Ebonyi State
3. Ikpe Ikot Nkon – Akwa Ibom State
4. Garatu, Tagwai – Niger State
5. Talata Mafara – Zamfara State
6. Kura – Kano State

Cassava

Cassava is cultivated in Kwara, Imo, Ogun, Benue and Kwali, FCT. The high yields from the cassava have led to the establishment of Garri processing factories in Afon-Kwara State, Emekuku-Emii in Imo State, Oyan Dam in Ogun State, Irrua in Edo State and recently Kwali, in FCT.

Oil Palm

Oil Palm plantations have been established in Iwok, Akwa Ibom State and Orile-Owu in Osun State. The plantations have started yielding good fruits and an oil-mill is already in operation in Akwa-Ibom State, producing high-quality edible oil.

Livestock Production

1. Over the years, Livestock has been given attention through the rearing of birds in Ondo, Benue, Osun, Kaduna, Imo, Kogi, Nasarawa, Plateau, Bauchi, etc
2. Fishery farms have been established in Rivers, Ogun, Osun, Enugu,

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- Gombe, etc producing fish in commercial quantities and promoting fish production in the country.
3. Cattle and goats rearing has gained grounds in the Scheme with animals in farms established in Bauchi, Sokoto, Katsina and Kano. The Scheme embarked on a cattle fattening programme where animals are reared and sold to boost agricultural production and the local economy.
 4. The Scheme also established piggery farms in Plateau, Lagos and Enugu with a large stock made up of sows and boars.

Summary of NYSC Farm Programme, 1992

Farm Crop	State	Acquired Land	Hectares	Cultivated Location
1. Maize				
1.	Abuja	100	60	Leleyi
2.	Abia	100	-	Ullonna
3.	Adamawa	100	40	Mayo-Ine
4.	Delta	50	-	Awan
5.	Edo	100	40	Irrua
6.	Kaduna	100	40	Afaka
7.	Kebbi	100	100	TanaFuge
8.	Ondo	35	35	Itaogbolu
9.	Osun	50	-	Ede
10.	Oyo	200	80	Iseyin
11.	Kogi	50	-	Lokoja
12.	Taraba	100	-	Jalingo
13.	Plateau	100	100	Kassa/Riyom



2. Rice				
1.	Enugu	150	60	Ezeillo
2.	Niger	100	70	Garatu/Tagwai
3.	Akwalbom	3,000	40	Ikpe Ikot Nkon
3. Sorghum:				
1.	Kano	100	60	Maje forest Reserve, Bagauda
2.	Katsina	50	50	Funtua
4. Cassava				
1.	Imo	2000	60	Emekuku
2.	Kwara	250	90	Afon
3.	Akwa Ibom	3000	40	Ikpe Ikot Nkon
4.	Rivers	50	-	Elele
5. Pineapple				
1.	CRS	3	3	Calabar
6. Cow-pea				
1.	Bauchi	100	17	Gombe Rd
2.	Jigawa	-	-	-
Perennial Crops				
Oil Palm				
	Akwa Ibom	100	17	Iwok
	Osun	20	-	Orile-Owu
8. Plantain				
	Rivers	50	-	Elele
	Cross River	100	-	Ikot Okon Abasi



Livestock Production

1.	Poultry	Type	Location
1.	Anambra	Broilers	Akwa
2.	Imo	Broilers	Emekuku
3.	Osun	Broilers	Ede
4.	Kaduna	Broilers	Kaduna
5.	Ondo	Layers	Itaogbolu
6.	Oyo	Broilers	Iseyin
2.	Piggery		
1.	Lagos	Piggery	Ipaja
2.	Plateau	Piggery	Riyom
3.	Delta	Piggery	Awan
3.	Fish Farm		
1.	Osun	Orile-Owu	
2.	Ogun	Oyan Dam	
3.	Akwa Ibom	Ikot Ekpene (proposed)	
4.	Cross River	Calabar (proposed)	
4.	Beef Fattening/Sheep & Goat		
1.	Bauchi	Gombe Road	
2.	Kano	Maje-Forest Reserve, Bagauda	
3.	Sokoto	Talata Mafara	
4.	Osun	Ede	
5.	Yobe	Potiskum	
6.	Borno	Maiduguri	

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1. OIL AND GAS

Oil and gas are the mainstay of the nation's economy. The country's oil and natural gas industry accounts for 70% of government revenue and 80% of total export earnings. Nigeria is said to be among the 10 largest producers of oil in the World and the No.1 in Africa. It is estimated that Nigeria has 176 trillion cubic feet (TCF) of proven natural gas reserves.

The downstream oil industry has four refineries with an approximate capacity of 438,750 bbl/d. The petrochemical industry is structured around the three centres of Port Harcourt, Warri and Kaduna. The Ministry of Petroleum Resources regulates the industry, with the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) controlling the industry, setting wholesale and retail prices.

For over three decades, NYSC contributed immensely to the growth and development of the oil and gas industry through the supply of manpower. Over 20,000 fresh graduates in the fields of petroleum, gas, engineering, geology and mining, law, finance, and administration were posted to the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and its subsidiaries, private oil/gas companies, such as Shell, Chevron, AP, OANDO, CONOIL, oil/gas services companies, for the one-year national service. These oil/gas companies found Corps Members as pupils/trainees, from where they recruited many who are today the captains of the oil/gas industry, across the country.

2. MINING

The country is blessed with many different kinds of solid mineral deposits found in all states of the federation. Tin, coal, columbite, tantalite, gold, limestone, marble, clay and many others are being explored in different

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parts of the country. The solid minerals contribute only 1.0% of the nation's GDP as a result of neglect. But with the current policy of economic diversification, the mining sector is expected to contribute more to boost the nation's GDP. At present, it provides employment opportunities to people in different rural communities in the North Central, North West and South West states.

Since the inception of the NYSC, graduates of Geology and mining, geography and other related disciplines, as well as finance and administration have provided professional services in the tin and columbine mining sites of Jos Plateau State, Edege Mbeki and KufanGwari in Nasarawa state, Ajaokuta Steel Company, Itakpe Iron Ore. Ceramic and cement plants are operating in different parts of the country, with the NYSC providing manpower to the industry.

Secondary Sector

With the various ventures in the field of agriculture and food production, the Scheme established some projects to process some of the products of these farms. NYSC also runs some small and medium scale enterprises, thereby providing employment, producing goods and boosting the nation's economy.

1. Feed mill

This is located in Iyana Ipaja, Lagos. As at 1992, the mill produced a total of 1,920.85 metric tons of assorted livestock feeds such as layer mash, growers mash, broilers finisher mash, chick mash, pig fattener, etc. The products from this mill have been serving both the Scheme and the general public.

2. Garri processing plant

The Garri processing plants in Afon, Kwara state and Kwali in FCT have been meeting the demands for the feeding of Corps Members during

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orientation courses in North Central and South Western states.

3. Rice Mill

The Scheme established two rice mills in Ezillo in Ebonyi State and Talata Mafara in Zamfara State. States purchase their de-stoned rice from the mills, within the geopolitical zones the mills are located. All the South Eastern states of Enugu, Ebonyi, Anambra, Imo and Abia procure their rice from the Rice mill in Ezeillo. The products are also available to members of the public.

4. Garment factories

NYSC established two garment factories in Minna, Niger state, and Mgbakwu, Anambra state. The two factories produce P.E shorts, Khaki, plain vests, caps, belts, and crested vest components of the Corps Members' uniforms. With modern equipment, experienced tailors, and committed staff, the factories can produce these kit items for 100,000 Corps Members per annum.

Selected Corps Members also go to the factories for post-camp training, thereby developing their entrepreneurial skills. The two factories have impacted positively on the growth and development of the nation's economy by providing gainful employment to our youths, as well as making readily available high quality finished products.

5. Bread Bakery and Pure Water Factory

As part of efforts to address the challenge of unemployment and develop entrepreneurial skills in Corps Members, NYSC management established a Bread Bakery and Pure Water factory in Kubwa, FCT. The factories employ Nigerian youths, serve as centres for skills acquisition for youths and sources of income for the government.



NYSC AND THE ECONOMY

In the same vein, Osun state Secretariat has also established a bakery in the camp, where bread is produced to feed Corps Members during orientation courses. Products from these ventures are also available to members of the general public.

6. Entrepreneurial Development

In line with the NYSC cardinal objective in Section 1(3) of the Act, to enable our youths to acquire the spirit of self-reliance, the Scheme has made concerted efforts, over the years, to develop skills in our youth and to also empower them. For many years, the Job Advisory and counselling programme was introduced, where Corps Members were exposed to entrepreneurial skills. Some of them were selected and given interest-free loans, to establish businesses in the areas of agriculture (poultry, fishery), communication services, food, and beverages, etc.

The programme further led to NYSC Cooperative Ventures. Under this Scheme, Corps Members were selected and trained, and grouped according to business interests. Loans were given to them to establish businesses in the area of poultry, fishery, snails, grasscutter rearing, piggery, goats rearing, fashion designing, cosmetology, makeup, food processing and preservation, tie and dye, aluminum product making, etc.

In 2012, the NYSC Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development Department was established. Since its establishment, a total of 1,924,948 Corps Members have been provided both in-camp and post-camp training in twelve skill sets for economic empowerment. The Corps Members have been receiving training in the following areas:

1. Agro-allied;
2. ICT and GSM Repair;
3. Cosmetology;
4. Environmental Beatification;

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5. Culture and Tourism;
6. Food processing;
7. Construction;
8. Power and Energy;
9. Horticulture and Landscaping;
10. Education
11. Automobile; and
12. Film and Photography.

The attention the Scheme has given to the Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development within this short period has created entrepreneurs among our ex-Corps Members. So far, over one thousand of them are running different small and medium enterprises across the country. They have been receiving interest-free loans from the Bank of Industry (BOI), Heritage Bank, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Credit Direct and NYSC Foundation. With data collated to ascertain the number of ex-Corps Members who have established their businesses from 2012, the following figures are available:

2012	-	102
2014	-	435
2016	-	<u>612</u>
TOTAL	-	1,149

Equally, Corps Members who acquire skills during the service year, secure permanent employment, after service in both the public and private sectors of the economy. In 2014, ninety-seven (97) ex-Corps Members were retained, while one hundred and thirty-seven (137) were retained in 2016. There are thousands of employees who have risen to the top echelon of their organisations where they began their careers as Corps Members.

g. Poverty Eradication

In September, 2000, the United Nations committed world leaders to sign a

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NYSC AND THE ECONOMY

pact to combat poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women. The Millennium Development Goal number one (1) to Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger received so much attention in the NYSC through effective mobilisation of Corps Members across the country, to achieve the goal.

NYSC embarked on empowering Corps Members with agro-allied enterprise skills, to generate employment, eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, and create wealth and boosting agricultural productivity for food security, for the citizenry. The Corps entrepreneurs have been engaged in community development programmes, using agro-enterprise platforms, to meet up with the quest for self-reliance, employment generation and wealth creation.

To accelerate the economic development of the country, the NYSC engaged in War Against Poverty (WAP), through which the Scheme successfully occupies an enviable position as a major driver of the efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger. The programme has the following objectives:

1. Sensitise all Corps Members on entrepreneurial skill acquisition for self-reliance, employment generation and wealth creation.
2. Train Corps Members annually in the following areas of specialised skills viz: Snailery, Beekeeping, Fish-farming, Animal Husbandry, Grasscutter farming, Plantain/Banana sucker multiplication, and poultry farming;
3. Carry out the requisite entrepreneurial skill training for the Corps Members,
4. Empower trained Corps Members with various sums ranging from ₦150,000.00 - ₦250,000.00 to establish agro-enterprises, in which they were trained in their host communities;
5. Each empowered Corps entrepreneur is to train and mentor youths from the communities where they are established, and also use the

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NYSC AND THE ECONOMY

- platforms of their agro-enterprise to develop the host communities, and
6. Promote women empowerment by ensuring that not less than 35% of community trainees, at all levels, are women.

Over the years, Corps entrepreneurs in various communities, across the country have been providing agricultural education and extension services, as well as food processing skills to the rural dwellers. They have raised in the process, the GDP of the country.

h. Infrastructural Development

The NYSC has made a great mark in the area of infrastructural development in the country. There are numerous Personal and Group Community Development projects initiated and executed by Corps Members, through sourcing of funds from corporate agencies, philanthropists, and individuals.

Today, one can see hundreds of such projects, across the country, which include as toilets, bathrooms, concrete wells, boreholes, market stalls, bus shades, rural bridges, classroom blocks, culverts, rural libraries, directional signposts, roundabouts, rural clinics. There are an estimated 1200 of such projects, across the country, valued at ₦400,000,000.00. The projects created adhoc employment for the rural populace, continually. This has placed the Scheme among agencies contributing to the growth and development of the nation's economy, by touching the lives of the rural populace, positively.

i. Technological Development

Since the inception of the Scheme in 1973, Corps Members, who are graduates of science and technology, have made great contributions towards the technological advancement of the country. There are a lot of



NYSC AND THE ECONOMY

fabrifications by them using local technology and materials, such as simple machinery for agriculture, food production, food processing, health-care delivery system, educational materials, construction, manufacturing, groundnuts and maize shelling machines, etc.

In 1992, the NYSC staged its first Investors/Technology Forum, which featured many inventions by Corps Members. The products were described as good developments because they addressed the simple scientific and technological needs of the rural populace. If produced in commercial quantity by indigenous industries, Nigeria will undoubtedly attain a technological breakthrough. Already, some agencies of government have received a boost through the technological ingenuity of Corps Members. In 2004, Corps Members fixed two (2) helicopters that were, hitherto, considered unserviceable at the Airforce Base in Kano. In 2017, Corps Members also designed a water treatment plant for the 82 Division of the Nigerian Army, Abakpa Cantonment, Enugu. Army Engineers joined the Corps Members to execute the project, which was completed, thereby mitigating the challenge of water shortage at 82 Division, Enugu, and some parts of the town.

j. Mobility of Labour

Mobility of skilled manpower is one of the cardinal objectives of the Scheme, aimed at achieving the even economic development of the nation. This is to be achieved by ensuring:

1. that as far as possible, Nigerian youths are assigned to jobs in states other than their states of origin;
2. that members of the service Corps are encouraged to seek at the end of their one-year national service career employment all over Nigeria, thus, promoting the free movement of labour, and,
3. that employers are induced partly through their experiences with members of the service Corps to employ more readily and permanently qualified Nigerians, irrespective of their states of

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NYSC AND THE ECONOMY

origin.

There is no doubt that, since its inception in 1973, the Scheme has succeeded in achieving the objective of redistribution of skilled manpower, across the country. It has equally enabled people from the North to move, live, work and find homes in the south, and vice versa. Many graduates were retained by various State Governments and private organisations, while several others run their private businesses, such as hospitals, pharmaceutical shops, agro-allied enterprises, etc.

NYSC has also taken skilled manpower to rural areas. There are rural clinics in Takai and Fagwalawa in Kano state run by Corps Doctors. In 2017, NYSC reopened cottage hospitals and medical centres in Amurri, Nkanu West, Ogwofia Owa, Ezeagu, Orba, Enugu Ezike, Ibagwa Aka, all in Enugu State. These medical centres were hitherto, closed down due to lack of manpower.

Today, the hospitals are functioning with Corps medical personnel such as Doctors, Nurses, Medical Laboratory Scientists, Pharmacists, Physiotherapists, etc. This has also curbed rural-urban migration. Ex-Corps Members have found the rural communities as fertile grounds to establish their private clinics, pharmaceutical shops, etc., thereby giving the rural populace access to specialised services, that were hitherto the exclusive preserve of the township dwellers.

The Sectors of the Economy

The diverse sectors of the nation's economy provide services to consumers and it covers a wide range, such as education, finance, restaurants, information and communication technology, sports, entertainment, etc. NYSC has been providing enormous services to these components of the

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nation's economy, since 1973.

1. Education

The contribution of the Scheme has been impressive, since inception, with the education sector taking the lion share of the services of Corps Members. Of the 4,644,804 Corps Members that have since participated in the Scheme, about 78% of the participants served in schools in both urban and rural areas. Today, about 90% of Corps Members serve in schools in some states of the federation, thereby closing the manpower gap in the educational sector. Many schools depend on the NYSC to survive. To strengthen these services to the schools, the Scheme provides professional teaching orientation to all Corps Members during the three (3) weeks Orientation Course. This is in addition to Handbooks on Teaching Assignment that are produced and distributed to the Corps Members in the Orientation camps.

2. Sports and Drama

The Scheme has put in place Annual Sports, Dance and Drama competitions where Corps Members compete for trophies in football, volleyball, athletics, dance, drama, singing, comedy, etc. These events have provided the nation good avenues for talent hunt. Outstanding Corps Members in sports have been given invitations to join the professional football teams. The entertainment industry has equally recruited many talented ex-Corps Members, who are stars today in the industry.

3. Finance

Before the introduction of the new policy restricting the posting of Corps Members to Health, Education, Agriculture and Infrastructure, graduates of accounting, business administration, banking and finance, marketing, public administration were posted to banks and financial institutions. These graduates excelled in providing services to the financial sector of the

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NYSC AND THE ECONOMY

economy. Financial institutions had also found the NYSC as reservoir for human resources, where employees are recruited. Between 1999 and 2000, UBA alone retained 500 Corps Members who served with the bank. The same applied to other banks and financial institutions.

4. ICT

NYSC plays a key role in the provision of services in Information and Communication Technology (ICT). The Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development programme has empowered Corps Members who work in cyber cafes, run GSM call and render other ancillary services in the business centres, across the country. Today, ICT agencies are producing IEC materials, training, and other services established by ex-Corps Members.

CONCLUSION

The NYSC has contributed immensely to the economic development of the country, through the provision of sustainable livelihood. This is visible in the areas of agriculture, oil/gas, solid minerals exploitation abd exploration, social re-orientation, curbing rural-urban drift, education, health care services, small scale industries, sports, entertainment, etc.

This economic intervention by the NYSC serves as a social safety net for the nation, where young graduates are provided skills, with which they enjoy a smooth transition into the national economy.

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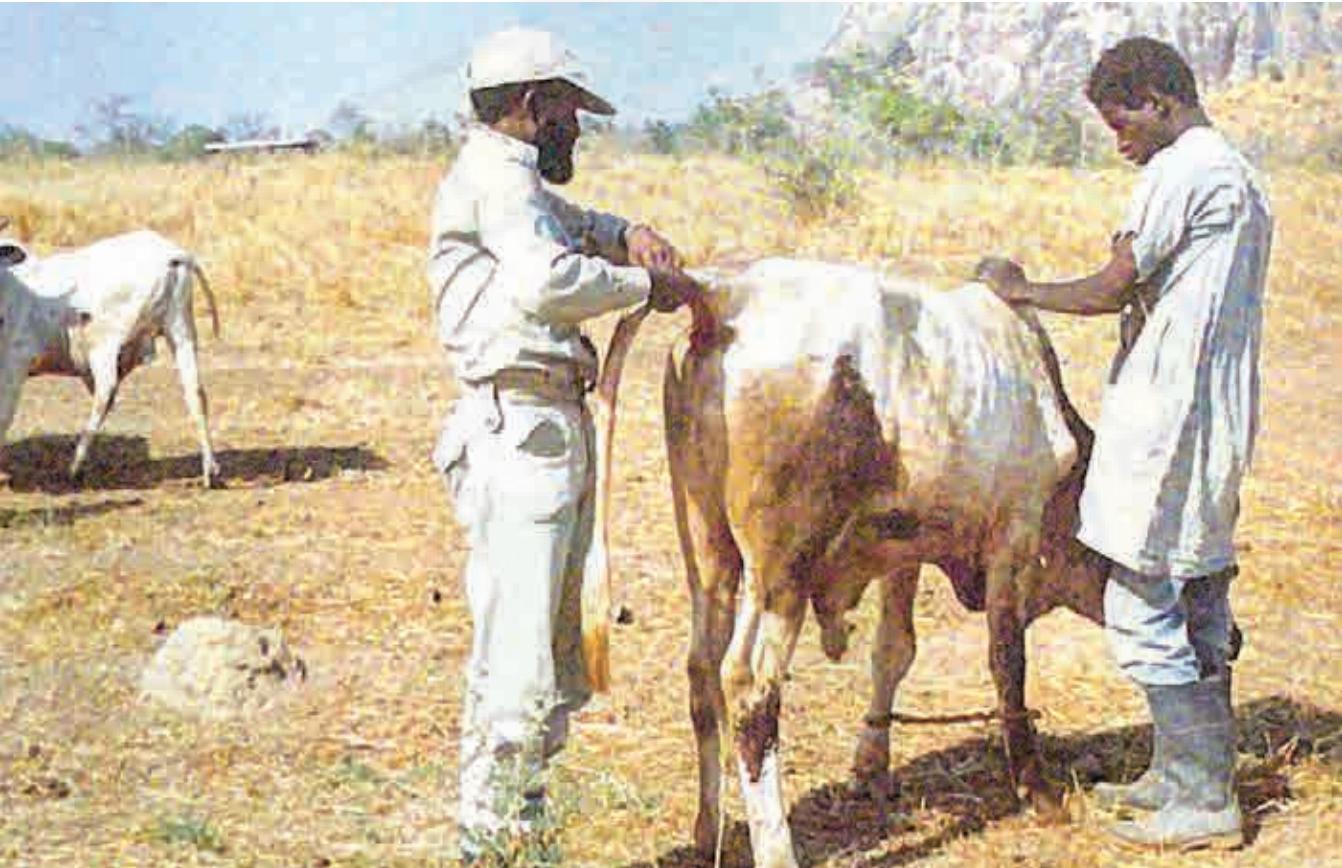


Cassava harvesting by Corps members

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Animal Husbandry in NYSC Farm

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Corps members engage in fishing

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*General Kazaure inspecting NYSC cassava farm in Iseyin,
Oyo State.*

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Maize preservation at NYSC farm iseyin, Oyo State



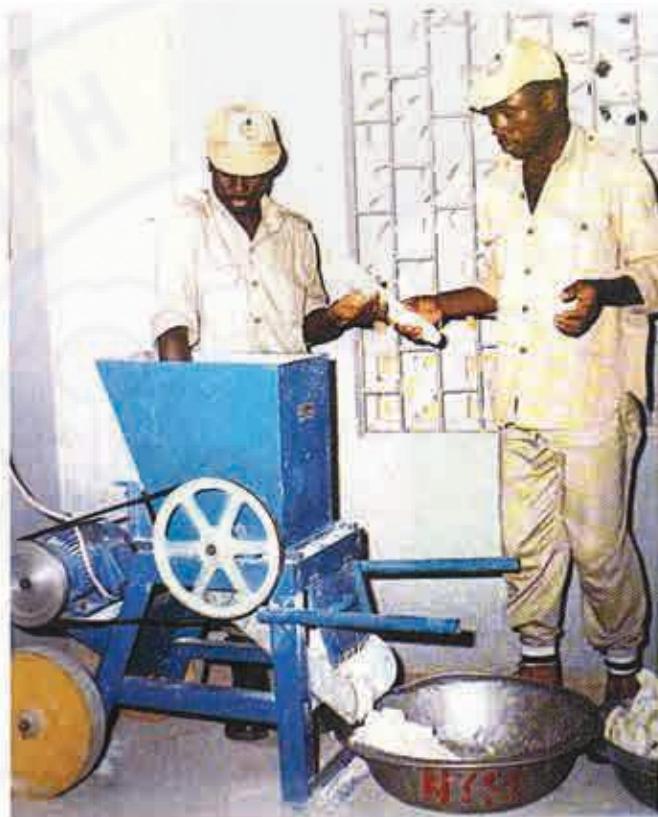
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*Brig Gen S Ibrahim inspecting a tractor procured
for NYSC farm in Kwali, Abuja*



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Corps members processing cassava at the NYSC Garri factory, Afon, Kwara State

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DG inspecting the NYSC water factory in Kubwa.



CHAPTER

5

NYSC AND NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Over the years, the NYSC as an organisation that is committed to the implementation of its broad mandate has been playing complementary roles to other sister organisations, that are saddled with the execution of programmes that are at the heart of national development. The Scheme makes available its rich human resources to the other organisations and communities for developmental purpose. Such programmes in which the Scheme has been rendering critical and indispensable service to the nation include the fight against HIV/AIDS, Educational development, National Census, SDGs/ Awareness in the Development of Alternative Energy, National Programme on Immunization, Election Duties, Agriculture, Afforestation, among others. These national assignments conducted successfully by Corps Members makes the Scheme a prime organ of unity, integration and national development.

Healthcare

The NYSC/HIV AIDS promotes project feeds into the National Health Policy which is aimed at providing a comprehensive health care system with

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NYSC AND NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

strong Primary Healthcare component.

The project has the aim of empowering young Nigerians with sexual and reproductive health knowledge, as a means of mitigating the spread of HIV/AIDS through the Peer Education concept.

Over **1,700,000** Corps Members have so far been reached and provided comprehensive, informed and life skill training. They, in turn, have reached out to millions of Nigerians with basic information on HIV/AIDS. Corps Members trained as Peer Educator Trainers (PETs) are deployed to Secondary Schools as change agents, where they train and mentor 40 Secondary Schools Students, each, as Peer Educators. Over **10,800,000** Students of Secondary School Students, nationwide, have so far been trained as Peer Educators, and equipped with life skills to promote responsible behaviour, amongst their peers.

In addition to the HIV/AIDS campaign, NYSC is also in partnership with the National Programme on Immunization (NPI) in the Polio Eradication Campaign. Furthermore, there are Community Based Health Clinics, scattered all over the country that are manned by Corps medical personnel.

The NYSC Combating Ebola Virus Disease (NYSC – COME VID) is an initiative developed as a strategy to contribute to the national and global response to the fight against Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). The COMEVID concept was to use the wide reach of the Scheme, and was designed to have, within a short time at least 1,000 Corps Volunteers per state with adequate information, to serve as advocates on awareness creation and prevention of EVD. The early eradication of the disease and the declaration of Nigeria as EVD-free benefited from this programme and other intervention strategies by government.

Similarly, the Health Initiative for Rural Dwellers (HIRD) was launched in

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NYSC AND NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

2014 as a platform, to reach out to rural communities, to address their health challenges. Under the programme, a quarterly nationwide medical outreach is carried out, where rural dwellers enjoy free medical services, including the donation of drugs and other medical consumables. The Scheme has also donated hundreds of wheelchairs through the programme.

Other National Programmes the NYSC is involved include: NYSC/NESREA partnership on environmental matters, NYSC/Mercy Corps Nigeria Programme on Girl-Child Education, NYSC/SON on the promotion of standard products in the society among others. Indeed, the NYSC is a reference point in many national assignments. It has attained a strategic recognition, such that it is attracting attention from several organisations for collaboration.

Participation of Corps Members in Elections

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) as the Election Management Body (EMB) in the country is vested with the sole responsibility for the actualization of the provisions of the Electoral Act and other electoral processes in Nigeria.

Over the years, the Commission engaged different individuals as ad-hoc staff, who in some occasions, did not measure up to public expectation. Given this scenario, INEC continued to struggle to win the confidence of the public. Innovations like mainstreaming Corps Members in election management laid the foundation for the conduct of free, fair and credible elections in the country.

Thus, the collaboration between the NYSC and INEC for the use of Corps Members in election duties as ad-hoc officials was mainly aimed at improving the credibility of the process. The formal collaboration started with the use of Corps Members as Polling Clerks in the conduct of Kogi re-



run Governorship election in **2008**. The idea to sustain the deployment of Corps Members is attributed to the level of neutrality they displayed during the Kogi re-run election. Furthermore, the internal disciplinary mechanism of the NYSC serves as a check on the conduct of the Corps Members. This was followed by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by the two organisations in **2010**. The MoU was reviewed in **2013**.

The logic behind the deployment of Corps Members is that as graduates of higher institutions, they are easily trainable. Since, they are posted outside their states and geopolitical zones, there is a likelihood that they would be neutral and nonpartisan. Furthermore, the deployment of members of the Corps Members to all nooks and crannies of the country makes them suitable for election duties. Corps Members mainly constitute the polling team which includes the Presiding Officer (PO) and Assistant Presiding Officer (APO). Elections at the Polling Stations are administered by the NYSC members. As Polling Officials, they are responsible for the collation and announcement of Polling Unit results. They contributed to the credibility of the elections by performing these duties transparently.

The MoU played a significant role in Nigeria's electoral success as Corps Members managed the biometric voter registration exercise well. They are equally engaged in voter education and political mobilisation. They disseminate election information and promote issue-based electoral participation, as well as sensitizing the youths against violence.

The admirable conduct and patriotism exhibited by Corps Members involved in managing elections have raised the integrity of elections in Nigeria. Starting with a mere **5,000** participants, the collaboration is now boasting of more than **200,000** volunteers. In separate reports, domestic and international observers acknowledged that **2011**, **2015** and **2019** General Elections were successful mainly due to the immense



contributions of the Corps Members. INEC also acknowledged that the engagement of NYSC members in election administration has been satisfactory and productive.

Agricultural Development

NYSC embarked on an agricultural programme in **1985**, through the establishment of agricultural farms, nationwide. The programme is aimed at producing relevant skills in agriculture and allied industries for the production, packaging and marketing of major crops, with the resultant value chain. This has helped the Corps Members to explore the abundant natural resources in the nation for wealth creation, entrepreneurship, employment generation, and boosting national food security.

Some of the recent achievements of the Scheme in the area of agriculture include:

1. Cultivation of about **100** hectares of maize in Kwali (FCT), Dangulbi (Bauchi State) and Iseyin (Oyo State);
2. The cultivation of **70** hectares of Cassava in FCT and Oyo State;
3. Cultivation of Cowpea, Groundnut and Soya beans in several States;
4. The raising of poultry birds used to feed Corps Members during Orientation exercise in FCT, Nasarawa, Kogi, Kaduna, Benue, Plateau and Bauchi States;
5. The NYSC Rice Mill in Ezillo, Ebonyi State which produces over 10 metric tons of destoned rice, used in feeding Corps Members during Orientation exercise;
6. **340** bags of Garri produced at the NYSC Garri Factory, Afon, Kwara State and **700** bags of rice produced at the NYSC Rice Mill, Ezillo, Ebonyi state formed the bulk of the relief materials donated by the Scheme to the Internally Displaced Persons in Adamawa State in **2015**.

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NYSC AND NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

The NYSC Scheme in collaboration with the MDGs office empowered Corps Members with agro-enterprise skills and interest-free loans, to create wealth and boost agricultural productivity, for food security in the country. Corps Members are given general entrepreneurial training in addition to specific training in animal husbandry, fish farming, beekeeping, snails, grasscutter rearing, plantain/banana s u c k e r multiplication, mushroom and poultry farming.

Under this programme, close to **4,000** Corps Members have been trained and **2,543** empowered with **millions of Naira**, as revolving loans. It is gratifying to note that most of the beneficiaries are doing well and contributing their quota in the various communities, where they have established their agro-enterprises.

Equally important to note is the fact that this programme seeks to create the next generation of farmers, as the society is currently faced with an ageing farming population, most of whom are pretty old.

NYSC/SDGs Project

The project started as NYSC/MDGs in September, 2006 when the Scheme's proposal, alongside those of 48 other MDAs were accepted and given the nod by the Presidency to commence nationwide advocacy on the Development Goals (now SDGs) and the National Economic Empowerment Development Strategies (NEEDS). The focus was to galvanize and make all Nigerians active participants in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Corps Volunteers were trained as Development Knowledge Facilitators, to mentor youths on care for orphans, charity works and basic skills for sustainable livelihood.

When the MDGs transmuted to SDGs in 2017, the Senior Special Assistant

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NYSC AND NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

to the President on SDGs entered into Partnership with the NYSC to train graduate youths to become SDGs champions in their host communities and areas of national service to create public awareness on policies and programmes of Government, concerning the SDGs.

Education

The major instrument of change in any nation is education, with which the indices of greatness: socially, politically, economically, scientifically and technologically are constructed.

The NYSC Scheme has made significant contributions to the educational development of the nation, as most of the Corps Members are posted to teach in schools, mainly in the rural areas, where their services are most needed.

Over 70% of the service Corps is deployed to teach with resounding results. Indeed, in some parts of the country, the school system would have collapsed without Corps Members. In some cases, Corps Members are used as Principals in some educationally disadvantaged states.

There are equally some states where special arrangements were made for all Corps Members deployed to such states, apart from Doctors, Engineers, Lawyers and Paramedics, to be posted to schools.

It should be noted that Corps Members undergo special induction on teaching methodology, before they are posted out to teach. The NYSC Scheme equally published a book titled: "**Handbook for Corps Members on Teaching Assignment**" to facilitate effective teaching and learning.

Apart from imparting knowledge directly, Corps Members also construct and renovate classrooms, laboratories, libraries, toilets in schools among others.

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NYSC AND NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Corps Members also donate books, provide school uniform and scholarships to indigent students, especially in rural areas. There are equally several instances where Corps Members construct and donate seats and teaching aids to schools.

Legal Aid

The NYSC has made landmark contributions in the area of providing legal representation and services to indigent citizens through collaboration with the Legal Aid Council. Corps Lawyers have been rendering free legal aid to members of the society, particularly in rural communities. They have also been sensitizing people on their rights under the constitution.

Involvement of NYSC in other Programmes

The Scheme has, no doubt, been at the forefront of national response on issues/programmes that have been of immense importance to the well-being of Nigerians. Thus, NYSC has played significant roles in other national programmes like the fight against Polio, Malaria, Guinea Worm, etc. Others include the active participation of Corps Members in afforestation, land reclamation, creation of awareness on government policies, such as patriotism and value reorientation.

As a matter of policy, all NYSC formations in the country support and participate fully in the States/Local Councils organised monthly sanitation exercises. Also, Corps Members have been carrying out routine environmental sanitation exercises in critical areas of their host communities, such as markets, hospitals, schools, parks/garden, government office premises, etc.

As a result of the confidence the nation reposes in the Corps Members, they play critical roles of Payment Monitors, Enumerators and Supervisors during the National Census. Corps Members were first engaged during

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NYSC AND NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Trial Census. After a brilliant performance, they were given critical roles to play during the head count. Corps Members were equally utilised to promote renewable energy for sustainable development. They are equipped with renewable energy technologies that can assist to disseminate same at their places of primary assignment to the benefit of the communities.

The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) engaged Corps Members in the monitoring/supervision of Universal Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME). Through a raft of partnerships, it is clearly evident that a multiplicity of Corps Members' contributions for national development is sustainable on a long-term basis.



NYSC AND NATIONAL PROGRAMMES



NYSC/EFCC Anti-corruption walk

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Launching of SDGs awareness campaign in Keffi



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*Disinfection chamber constructed by Corps members
to aid the fight against Covid-19 Pandemic*

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Inauguration of SDGs Volunteers in Keffi

NYSC AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT || 124

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CHAPTER

6

PART I: **NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

INTRODUCTION

Youths are key agents in the development of societies around the world. They are purposeful, focused, and can be mobilised to be resourceful. Their youthfulness can be maximised and harnessed for vitality, growth and development. Youths are very important and one of the greatest assets that any nation can have. Not only are they legitimately regarded as the future leaders, they are potentially and actually the greatest investment for a country's development.

Africa is a continent that is regarded as backward as it ranks below other continents of the world. Perhaps this is so because of Africa's contact and experience with the outside world. With enormous resources both human as well as natural, the continent has remained under-developed. There is famine, poverty, inadequate infrastructure, illiteracy, draught, desertification, unemployment, lack of shelter and conflicts, among others.

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Nigeria is challenged with problems of underdevelopment, despite the endowment in natural and mineral resources. Past administrations have made concerted efforts towards the introduction of valuable programmes aimed at closing the gaps already created by underdevelopment, and the nation has made progress overtime. The few urban centres created during colonialism had better infrastructure such as roads, hospitals, schools, telecommunications, modern housing, railways, airports and sea ports which helped in improving living standard of the urban centres. The four different development plans that began from 1975-1985 had contributed in creating more urban centres within Nigeria. One key programme created to drive development especially in remote communities is the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC).

The NYSC Scheme was established shortly after the Nigerian Civil war for the purpose of reconciliation, rehabilitation and reconstruction. The Scheme was mainly for Nigerian graduates who were mobilised towards national development. Therefore, this paper examines the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) and Community Development in Nigeria. The NYSC has contributed immensely in every sector of national life in Nigeria particularly in community development across the nation. The NYSC has mobilised its Corps Members to various communities especially the remote areas, to serve Nigeria selflessly with modest impact all over the nation.

Keyword: Community Development, Community Development Service (CDS), National Youths Service Corps (NYSC)

Conceptual Clarification

Community Development

It is very necessary to discuss the conceptualization of the concept by scholars in the field of community development. Christopher L. Atkinson

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

opines that community development involves efforts that are economic and social in nature intended to encourage concepts of retention, growth and expansion in areas outside cities including improving quality of life for community residents through such activities.²⁰ He further states that development is not a straight forward matter. There are open questions about the best approach to be taken to achieve desired ends – whether that is a top-down, intercession-based model, or the hands-on model that includes a variety of viewpoints. This is not an easily addressed question, as the nature of community development now encompasses a range of possibilities.

Enyi Egbe explains that the scope of the concept of community development is very wide. It is a multi-dimensional process involving such areas as health, education, provision of social infrastructures, social life, political and economic issues, commerce and industry, among others, and their integration with the national economy. Since the scope of the concept is wide, it is the pivot on which a sound national development in all its ramifications can effectively be achieved.

According to the United Nations, the concept of community development implies that it is a composite or comprehensive programme for community development in which all relevant sectors such as education and agriculture, housing, health and employment are conceived as interlinking elements in a system having horizontal as well as vertical linkage in operational and spatial terms.²¹

According to Aziz, the concept of community development should be viewed as a holistic concept, which recognizes the complexity and inter-relatedness of the many variables which influence the quality of life in the

²⁰ A. Farazmand (ed.), Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance, DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-31816-5_1014-1

²¹ United Nations (1976), *The significance of Rural Housing in Integrated Rural Development*, UN; New York

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

community. It is a complex process, which involves the interaction of economic, social, political, cultural, technological and other situational factors.²²

In the opinion of Gana, community development is important not only for its impact on people but also for its contribution to the overall development of the nation.²³ Furthermore, according to Mabogunje, community development is concerned with the self-sustaining improvement of the communities and implies a broad based reorganisation and mobilisation of the masses so as to enhance their capacity to cope effectively with the daily task of their lives and with the changes consequent upon this.²⁴

Community Development Service (CDS)

Community Development Service (CDS) is a year-round programme of the NYSC. Through the CDS, members of the Service Corps work with the local communities to promote self-reliance by systematically prospecting and executing development projects and programme which impact positively on the socio-economic development of the host communities.

National Youth Service Corps (NYSC)

The NYSC was established in 1973 as a post-civil-war strategy in Nigeria, with a view to the development of common ties among the youths of Nigeria and the promotion of national unity. The NYSC was established in Nigeria's military regime as a strategy to ensure reconstruction, rehabilitation, and reconciliation of Nigeria's post-war economy. It remains relevant and an apex youth organisation in Nigeria's democratic era that enforces the policies of national development through the

²² S. Aziz, *Rural Development: Learning from China*, London, Macmillan Press.

²³ J. Gana, "A strategy for Integrated Rural Development in Nigeria", being a paper presented at a National Seminar Organized by the Directorate of Foods, roads and Rural Infrastructures, Lagos, 1996.

²⁴ A. J. Mabogunje, *The Development Process; A Spatial Perspective*, London, Hutchinson Publishers.1981



NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

mobilisation, deployment, and development of youth capabilities. As one of the longest standing national youth programmes in sub-Saharan Africa, the relevance of the Scheme cannot be overemphasized as it stands on a critical platform that links educated Nigerian youths to places of employment.²⁵

Underdevelopment Issues in Nigeria

Development involves efforts that are economic and social in nature intended to encourage and drive growth, expansion, improving and enhancing standard of living in areas of deprivation. There is spate of poverty, illiteracy, poor infrastructure and amenities, deprivation and lack, population increase, draught and desertification, poor health care system, migration and human trafficking, crime and criminality, low income and unemployment, low level of technology and skills, among many others, bedevilling the country. Underdeveloped and developing countries are suffering under these problems which cause persistent backwardness especially in communities worse hit.

During the Colonial period, the colonial government began developing some sectors of the society. The society was basically agricultural in nature, so the colonial government established research institutes like: Moor Plantation, Ibadan; Nigeria Institute of Oil Palm Research, Benin; National Root Crops Research, Umudike; National Rice Research Station, Badeji; National Veterinary Research Institute, Vom near Jos;

²⁵ D. O. Arubay, *Youth in Development: Understanding the Contributions of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) to National Development*(PhD Thesis).

University of Manchester) 2015. P23

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

and the Trypanosomes Research in Kaduna. These were meant to improve agriculture which was then the main source of revenue.

Railway was constructed running from Lagos to Ibadan. The line was extended to Oshogbo and to Zungeru and Minna. The line was later extended to Kano. A railway line was also built in Abeokuta. These cities became urban centres. Other facilities like water supply and health services were built, transportation was developed, banks were established, schools and universities including polytechnics were established and many other social amenities were established in these urban centres so that there was a wide gap between the areas that had these infrastructure and those that lacked them. Although the urban centres were not as developed compared to developed societies, they had good infrastructures.

After independence, the leaders of the new nation, Nigeria, embarked on the project of developing the rural communities thereby improving their standard of living. These communities were characterised by abject poverty, subsistent agriculture, unemployment and inadequate health care. They lacked virtually all the good things of life like jobs, food, roads, medical and health facilities, portable water, electricity, education, telecommunication, roads, among many others. It is against this backdrop that the development plan by the Federal Government was birthed to improve living standard in the rural communities as well as in the urban centres.

Efforts in Community Development in Nigeria

Community development encompasses efforts that are economic and social in nature, intended to encourage growth or expansion in areas outside cities. It has a variety of aspects, including economic aspects, infrastructure, service considerations and socio-cultural developments.

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Nigeria gained her independence on 1st October 1960 from the British colonial government. Since then, community development has been declared a priority by the successive Military and Civilian Governments that administered the country. The governments have set up several organisations, institutions and agencies to undertake and monitor the development of the country. The colonial government in their arrangement made efforts to construct roads, railroads, ports, schools, housing estates, hospitals, pipe-borne water and telecommunications network, among others, in a bid to develop the urban areas but neglected the remote communities. This was because their concern was to exploit the resources of the country and these infrastructures were only arteries for the exploitation and transportation of resources to the West. The remote communities were left without social amenities and infrastructures except in places where their interests were domiciled.

The rural communities of the country which was neglected has more than 70% of the population. They are very important for wealth generation given the enormous mineral resources as well as agricultural resources. The government of Nigeria therefore embarked on the various programmes to develop the rural communities. Over the years, the stated objectives and strategies of community development have been explained by policy makers and those concerned with the issue of development.

The Nigerian Government ever since has made some efforts towards developing communities and towns and has adopted some lines of actions which included: the creation of States, Local Government Areas, mobilisation of people for local participation in planning and implementation of community development projects in order to create new centres of development, and thus uplift the status of the community.

²⁶E. J. Egbe *Rural and Community Development in Nigeria: An Assessment*, Arabian Journal of Business and Management Review (Nigerian Chapter) Vol.2, No.2. 2014

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) and Community Development in Nigeria

Youth groups and organisations around the world have been instrumental to driving development in their respective communities. The youths have been socially significant in human history; they have helped in great measure, especially in the development of backward communities. Any community development programme that must succeed in the world must include the youths. Youths are human resources for driving sustainable development. The National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) has played a formidable role in driving development in various communities across Nigeria. Development services and programmes are at the core of the NYSC clarion call to community development in Nigeria.

The NYSC was established by decree No 24 on 22nd May 1973. Onyishi writes, the goals or summary of the objectives of the Scheme include to develop a sound and result-oriented institution that is committed to the realization of national unity and even development.²⁷ Therefore, Nigerian graduates that have been duly mobilised and documented for the Scheme are referred to as Corps Members. Those mobilised are trained for three weeks in the different Orientation camps across the nation. At the end of the training, the Corps Members are posted to mostly remote areas for primary assignment, where they stay and work for the remaining part of the service year.²⁸

The National Youth Service Corps is an organisation that is well motivated and capable of bringing out the best qualities in the teeming youths and imparting in them the right attitude and value for nation building. This serves as a catalyst to national development and a sense of pride and

²⁷ A.O, Onyishi,*Youth and National Development in Nigeria: An Analysis of National Youth Service Scheme: 1999-2009*, International Journal of Modern Political Economy, Vol. 2, No. 1, pp. 87-102. 2011.

²⁸ A. A. Aba, *Nigerian Politics, 1999-2009*: Images from Chinua Achebe's Mirror

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

fulfilment of each participating graduate youth of the country. For many years, the Scheme facilitated regular and effective distribution of skilled manpower, steady breaking of social and cultural barriers as well as the building of friendly bridges across ethno-linguistic boundaries. It promotes the values of national unity and development, rekindles interest in neglected but vital areas of national development like agriculture and promotes leadership qualities in youths. The regular invitation of Corps Members to participate in the conduct of such sensitive national assignments as census, elections and immunization programme constantly aroused the consciousness of the nation to the right course of development.²⁹ The NYSC Scheme has helped in the educational development of the country, especially from junior secondary to tertiary levels.³⁰

The NYSC Scheme has four cardinal programmes which include Orientation, Primary Assignment, Community Development Service and Passing-out activities. After mobilisation and deployment to their states of national service, the Corps Members undergo a 3-week orientation in a paramilitary camp setting where virtues of discipline and resilience are inculcated under a command structure. At the end of the activities in camp, Corps Members are posted to their Places of Primary Assignments (PPA) where their capabilities can be utilised in any institution. Although attempts are made to deploy Corps Members capabilities to sectors relevant to their certified areas of specialization, national development needs very often override this consideration. ³¹ Service in PPA typically lasts for approximately eleven (11) months. PPA is the institutional attachment of Corps Members where they are expected to work like staff.

²⁹ A. O, Onyishi,*Youth and National Development in Nigeria: An Analysis of National Youth Service Scheme: 1999-2009*, International Journal of Modern Political Economy, Vol. 2, No. 1, pp. 87-102. 2011.

³⁰ J. Mangut & T. Wuam (Eds.) *The Press and Literature in the Fourth Republic*, Markurdi: Aboki Publishers, pp. 133-147.

³¹ O. Chukwuemeka & A. K, JohnMaryThe National Youth Service Corps Programme and Growing Security Threat in Nigeria. *Africa's Public Service Delivery & Performance Review*. 2016.

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The NYSC Community Development Service (CDS) is a year round programme. Through the CDS, members of the Service Corps work with the local communities to promote self-reliance by systematically prospecting and executing development projects and programme which impact positively on the socio-economic development of the host communities. Each Corps Member is compulsorily assigned to a particular CDS group as his/her Group CDS, while Personal CDS project/programme is optional for interested Corps Members. Group CDS is to be attended once in a week and the remaining four (4) days for Place of Primary Assignment (PPA). The Passing-out is the programme of the NYSC which is usually the shortest and signifies that the Corps Member has been appraised and found to have adhered to the NYSC bye-laws in the NYSC camp, place of primary assignment, and participated in the CDS activities. At the end of the Passing-out activities, deserving Corps Members are issued with NYSC Certificate of National Service.

Assessing the activities of Corps Members in their various places of assignment around the nation, it is clear that NYSC has contributed immensely to community development in Nigeria. The statutory responsibility of Corps Members which is the Community Development Service has been a vehicle towards development. Through CDS, Corps Members remain as the vanguard of the nation's drive to promote initiatives in rural development as they individually or collectively participate in execution of projects. For instance in 2018, a concrete fish pond was constructed by Corps Members in Plateau State. Again, by 2019, they joined in the fight against the global pandemic which has infected large number of people and with so many deaths as reported by the Nigerian Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).³²

³² Plateau KOPA Magazine. Issued May 2020.

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Projects and programmes initiated, developed or executed by Corps Members have resulted in socio-economic development in various communities through the establishment of schools, building of libraries, construction of water projects, public toilets and local power sources, among others. Sensitisation campaigns and public enlightenments are undertaken in various rural communities on issues like corruption, road safety, health safety, environmental hazards, management techniques, entrepreneurial skills, etc. With the trainings, seminars and workshops they had in and outside camp, the Corps Members have been equipped with the mental and academic capacity to Sensitise, inform, educate and execute projects and programmes for other Nigerians in their community of service. Community Development Service projects like EFCC and ICPC through which Corps Members carry out sensitisation workshops, have helped Nigerians to be better aware of the evils of corruption and the need to fight it to a grand halt.³³ Through this approach, Corps Members contribute to stem corruption and take the fight to the society especially the remote areas. Furthermore, there is the Corps Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS) CDS group which comprises mainly Corps Lawyers. The group provides free legal services to the indigent citizens in their host communities. The group engages in periodic visits to Police Stations and Correctional Centres to offer free legal services to those in custody. They also sensitise members of the public on the importance of knowing their rights, including the need to obey rules and regulations in the society.

Corps Members attached to Road Safety club assist in community help service like public enlightenment at motor parks, traffic control at selected junctions and providing road safety tips to students in schools. Those in the Culture and Tourism CDS group promote tourism and culture.

³³ V. Amos, “Role of the National Youth Service Corps on National Development”.

Accessed from The Ink Newspaper Online:

<http://theinknewspaper.blogspot.co.ke./2015/09/role-of-national-youth-serviceCorps.html?m=1>. 2015

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Environmental CDS group works in collaboration with various State Environmental Protection Agencies on the need to keep the environment clean. They carry out exercises such as picking dirts and keeping drainages clean. They also sensitise people on issues of Global Warming and effect of illegal dumping of refuse.³⁶

Therefore, NYSC Scheme is very relevant to community development in Nigeria. Looking at the various NYSC Reports from the States in Nigeria, there have been numerous contributions by Corps Members towards development, especially in various communities. There is hardly any aspect of the economic, social and cultural life that the NYSC programme has not contributed meaningfully to.

The programme offers many graduates good opportunities having been able to develop skills for self reliance. Many dedicated Corps Members have been offered employment in their Places of Primary Assignment (PPA) in these communities thereby engaging graduates who ordinarily would have been roaming the streets, unemployed and ignorant of the opportunities that exist in other parts of the country.³⁷ In addition, there are several communities that have benefited from the Scheme through services rendered by Corps Members.

CONCLUSION

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has been impacting positively on the socio-economic development of various communities through its Community Development Service (CDS) and other programmes. A lot of projects have been done in these communities where basic amenities are

³⁶ A. Mohammad & A. Chikaji, *Issues in Community Development Service Scheme of Nigeria's National Youth Service Corps and its Relevance to Community Development*, International Journal of Research in Science and Engineering (IJRISE) Vol. 2, Issue. 6, December 2016. pp218-224

³⁷ P. Udende & A. A. Salau, *National Youth Service Corps Scheme and the Quest for National Unity and Development: A Public Relations Perspective*. Research Gate.

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NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

lacking, or not existing. Projects such as construction of classrooms in schools, library facilities, distribution of books and writing materials to under-privileged children, donation of mosquito nets, provision of medical and health services to remote communities, cleaning exercises embarking on sensitisation against drug abuse, prostitution, crime and other vices and many other services that have been carried out by Corps Members have helped in improving the standard of living of the people in the community. These have contributed to national development and integration in Nigeria.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES



PART II

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

ABIA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Reconstructed the roundabout and mounted directional signpost at Isuochi.
2.	Constructed and donated an 8 -room public convenience at Nnamdi Azikiwe Secretariat, Umuahia. Donated toiletries and stationaries to the School for the Blind, Afara.
3.	Donated chalk boards and cartons of chalk to the Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy Compassion Home and Nursery/Primary School, Ahiaeke Ndume, Umuahia.
4.	Constructed science laboratory, water catchment and donated books to St. Michael Primary School, Obulo -Eziam. Organised enlightenment on how to build water catchment reservoir in the same community..
5.	Constructed and donated a classroom block to Lodu Ndume, Ibeku Afara, Community, Umuahia North LGA. Organisation of adult literacy classes at Lodu Ndume, Ibeku, Umuahia North LGA.
6.	Donated computers to NYSC Office in Isiala -Ngwa North LGA and plastic chairs to the Orientation Camp.
7.	Constructed water reservoir, signpost and rehabilitation of toilet system.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

8.	Donated school uniform to in digent students at Ogbodi Nibe/Umuodo Community School in Umuahia South LGA. Repainted Ohiya Health Centre.
9.	Donated packets of braille papers to the school for the blind, Afara.
10.	Renovated Lomara -Leru roundabout junction at Isuochi, Umunneochi LGA. Donated three (3) typewriting machines to three secondary schools in Umuahia. The schools are Govt. College, Umuahia, Girls Secondary Sc. Umuahia and Special School for the Blind, Afara.
11.	Donated Perkins's Braille machine to those in Special need. Donation of tricycles and crutches to the physically challenged in Aba and Umuahia.
12.	Constructed three central refuse dumps and a bus -stop at Umuoba. Production of one hundred and fifty (150) branded packet shirts and caps for Peer Educators and painting of Logos and landscaping NYSC Orientation Camp.
13.	Donated mattresses, pillows, bed sheets, pillow cases, and mosquito nets to General hospital, Amaekpu Ohafia
14.	Donated Nigerian Coat of Arm and office equipment to the SSG's office.
15.	Computer training and renovation of two orphanage homes.
16.	Repainted the signpost and constructed a notice board for the School of Ascension, Junior Seminary, Umueblungwa
17.	Refurbished the Nigerian Correctional Service library, and establishment of a computer training Centre at the Abia State command.
18.	Drilled a borehole at Obohia Community and Dewormed school children in selected Primary and Secondary schools in the same community.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

19.	Constructed a demonstration Poultry Demonstration farm at Ohafia.
20.	Established a Mini Medical Centre for the disabled at School for the Blind, Afara.
22.	Installed Solar street lights at the Community at Akanu Ngwa.
23.	Establishment of a demonstration fish farm at Ugwunagbo LGA.
24.	Established a Science Lab at Achara. Planting of flowers at Absu and provided waste bins at Abia State University, Uturu. Donated textbooks to indigent students of Holy Cross Secondary School, Ufanyi
25.	Established a computer laboratory at Ubibia High School.
26.	Donated 600 exercise books, 200 pens, 60 pencils and 60 erasers, school uniforms to 60 students of Din's Academy. Purchased school sandals and stockings for 100 students and mounted white boards and markers to the classrooms.
27.	Renovated and re -equipped the Community Health Centre, Ameke Abam and constructed a concrete footbridge in Akpukpa. Established an ICT lab at Akpukpa.
28.	Renovated an abandoned NDDC borehole and established an ICT Centre within Bende LGA.
29.	Renovated Dickson Vocational College Library block and donated chairs and textbooks for the library use.
30.	Constructed and equipped a computer lab with 4 Desktop computers, a printer, a photocopier and a printer at Amibo Community Secondary School Ubakala.
31.	Donated wheel chairs and crutches to disabled person at Ukwa East LGA.
33.	Established a public library for the youths and students of Asaga, Ohafia.
34.	Established a biogas plant at Orieamaenyi Secondary School.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

35.	Donated uniform, sandals and books to some indigent pupils at Union Primary School, Afara.
36.	Scholarship award to indigent students.
37.	Set up a library at Nigerian Correctional Service, Aba South.
38.	Donated school sets of uniform to indigent students at Ossah Community Secondary School.
39.	Donated different textbooks for use by students of Umuolla Egbelu Community Secondary School, Aba South.
40.	Sank a borehole, renovated and equipped the laboratory at Umuobasi Primary Health Care Centre.
41.	Renovated the library at Community Primary School, Ohanze. Donated textbooks to pupils at Community Primary School, Obingwa.
42.	Provided free medical services for prison inmates eg. Consultation, medication, counselling, medical outreach to schools and markets.
43.	Trained Umuaku youths on satellite dish installation.
44.	Donated laptops/desktops for the school laboratory at Ozuitem Secondary School, Bende LGA.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

ADAMAWA STATE

SN	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Trained 50 women in Numan Local Government on production, preservation and packaging of Yoghurt, peanuts, burger and ice cream.
2.	Drilled and installed water borehole with hand pump Gujubabu Village, Bore Yolde -Pate Ward II, Yola South.
3.	Installed 500KVA 1110.45 KVA Distribution Transformer Sub -Station in Damare Village for power supply to the NYSC Orientation Camp and Damare Community.
4.	Drilled borehole for safe and potable water at Dandu Ward, Yola South.
5.	Built two Incinerator's in Mayo -Belwa main Market and Mayo -Belwa Community, Anguwan Yandang.
6.	Trained Gurin Community on entrepreneurship skills in detergent, pomade, cosmetics, perfume and soap making. Trained students and teachers on how to operate electronic books and e -library.
7.	Rehabilitated abandoned community borehole and reticulated water supply in Kwanan Waya Village, Yola South.
8.	Established Young Farmers Club and demonstration farm at General Murtala Mohammed College, Yola.
9.	Provided hand pump borehole at Muninga, Fufure.
10.	Initiated Yola City Championship at Jimeta to create awareness on the effect of illicit drugs through Sports.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

11.	Conducted free Medical Outreach in Damare Village and mass deworming as well as administration of vitamin A supplement in four Primary Schools in Yola North.
12.	Automated Adamawa State Polytechnic Library, trained staff and developed Website for the Polytechnic.
13.	Equipped the compounding room at the Pharmacy Department and constructed sign-post for locating various units at the Federal Medical Centre, Yola.
14.	Constructed a Medical Laboratory at Njoboliyo Community, Yola South.
15.	Provided 100 Units of desks to Command Day Secondary School, Army Barracks, Yola.
16.	Initiated Cash4Trash Project for waste management and entrepreneurial skills development in Yola South.
17.	Repaired and constructed broken beds in the NYSC Permanent Orientation Camp and empowered 18 youths of Madumare in fabrication and welding jobs.



AKWA IBOM STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/ PROJECTS
1.	Drilled bore hole with iron overhead tank stand and three (3) way tap at Ikot Ata Ud o Community, Ikot Abasi L.G.A.
2.	Donated nine (9) wheel chairs at Women Development Centre, Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida (IBB) way, Uyo
3.	Donated 100 (one hundred) desks with chairs to St. Theresa's Secondary School, Edem Ekpak, Etinan L.G.A.
4.	Constructed and donat ed laboratory tables and iron gate at Ikot Edegbe Community, Mkpak Enin L.G.A.
5.	Donated locally made phototherapy machine in twelve Health Centres, at Ikot Abasi L.G.A.
6.	Renovated seven (7) classrooms at Urban Secondary Commercial School, Ibiaku, Ntok -Okpo.
7.	Renovated and refurbished Nkeke Health Centre, Ikono, Ukanafun L.G.A.
8.	Procured mattresses to the Special Children Centre, IBB way, Uyo.
9.	Constructed public convenience and renovat ed dilapidated school building at Akwa Ibom State Comprehensive Secondary School, Midim, Abak L.G.A.
10.	Constructed and beautified the roundabout, fixing of zebra crossing and road signs at School road by Akpan Eno junction.
11.	Renovated Ekparakwa bus stop at Oruk Anam L.G.A.
12.	Constructed triangular kerbs Ikot Akpan Ishiet, Onna L.G.A.

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13.	Constructed brick Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Logo at INEC office.
14.	Donated wheel chairs to two (2) physically challenged persons at Uyo L.G.A.
15.	Renovated classrooms at Community Secondary Grammar School, Ikot Essien Village, Ibesikpo Asutan.
16.	Donated library chairs and school uniforms to Community High School, Ikot Essien, Akpan Ntuen, Mkpatt Enin L.G.A.
17.	Donated 20 (twenty) tables and twenty chairs to Comprehensive Secondary School, Midim, Abak L.G.A.
18.	Provided four two -in-one urinary facilities at Comprehensive Secondary School, Midim, Abak L.G.A.
19.	Renovated staff room at Okon Secondary Commercial School, Ikot Oko-Okon, Essien Udim L.G.A.
20.	Constructed 2 (two) room public convenience and reactivation of a borehole at Ukanafun L.G.A.
21.	Erected shelves, provided reading tables and setting up of a Library at WASCO, Mkpatt Enin LGA.
22.	Renovated 2 (two) classroom blocks at Ntiat/Mbak Comprehensive Secondary School, Itu Urban, Itu L.G.A.
23.	Sunk borehole, erected a water stand and provided Geepee tank at Akwa Ibom State Library.
24.	Constructed a standard size badminton court at Community Secondary Commercial School, Ikot Inyang.
25.	Constructed assembly ground podium at Eastern Nsit Secondary School, Odot, Nsit Atai L.G.A.

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26.	Reactivated abandoned public water borehole at Ikot Akpan Nkut Community, Ukanafun L.G.A.
27.	Provided public water (tap) and incinerator at AfahaNsit market, College of Education, Afaha Nsit.
28.	Distributed fifty (50) mosquito treated nets to pregnant women and nursing mothers at Community Health Centre, Obong Ntak, Etim Ekpo L.G.A.
29.	Renovated borehole at Ikpa Esit, Eket L.G.A.
30.	Constructed roundabout with flag at Ubium Community Secondary School, Ikot Okwu, Nsit Ubium L.G.A.
31.	Renovated two (2) public conveniences at Akwa Ibom State Internal Revenue Service.
32.	Provided pipe borne water at Police Barracks, Area Command, Uyo
33.	Constructed a volley ball court at C omunity High School, Afaha Obong.
34.	Renovated classrooms, library, fix ed reading tables and constructed chairs at CDA Secondary School, Ikot Eket L.G.A.
35.	Reconstructed volleyball court at Uyo High School, Oron Road, Uyo
36.	Opened a computer labor atory at Secondary School, Iboho/Ndon, Mkpatt Enin L.G.A and equipp ed it with a: (i) set of desktop computer system; (ii) three -in-one printer, photocopier and scanner; (iii) generator; and (iv) table.

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37.	Renovated conveniences St. Theresa's Secondary School, Edem Ekpak, Etinan L.G.A.
38.	Donated 100 (one hundred) units of uniform, 100 (one hundred) units Exercise books and 50 (fifty) units of wrapper for widows at Uyo Local Government Council.
39.	De-wormed 2000 (two thousand) children under the age of seven (7) years at Ibagwa, Abak L.G.A.
40.	Distributed 50 (fifty) mosquito nets to fifty (50) pregnant women at Eket L.G.A.
41.	Constructed volleyball court at Comprehensive Secondary School, Ediene, Abak.
42.	Built and equipped a Primary Health Centre as well as renovated of a borehole at Nto Ndang, Obot Akara L.G.A.
43.	Built Okobo Modern Community Library at Ekeya, Okobo L.G.A
44.	Built a volleyball court at West Itam Secondary School, Eket Itam, Itu L.G.A.
45.	Provided twenty-five (25) dual purpose boards at Christian Secondary Commercial School, Uyo.
46.	Drilled borehole and construction of over-head tank at Uyo Correctional Centre, Uyo.
47.	Built a basketball court and donated fire extinguisher at NYSC Orientation Camp, Ikot Itie Udung, Nsit Attai L.G.A.
48.	Renovated and upgraded library Community Comprehensive Secondary School, Four Towns, Uyo.
49.	Constructed a volleyball pitch at Federal Science Technical College, Uyo

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50.	Renovated a dilapidated Babies Intensive Care Unit at Methodist General Hospital, Itu Mbang, Uruan L.G.A.
51.	Donated fourteen (14) school uniforms to St. Theresa's Government School, Ikot Abasi.
52.	Constructed a badminton court at Federal Science and Technical College Ukana Offot, Uyo.
53.	Constructed concrete sign board as well as face -lift of fence and school gate at Ediene Community Secondary School, Ediene, Ikono L.G.A.
54.	Constructed Bus Stop at Ukwa Ibiono Community, Ibiono Ibom L.G.A
55.	Renovated borehole at Uquo market, Esit Eket L.G.A.
56.	Donated a complete table tennis equipment for Department of Mental Health, University of Uyo Teaching Hospital, Uyo.
57.	Fabricated traction devices and set up Plaster Room in Orthotic Unit, Immanuel General Hospital, Eket, Eket L.G.A.
58.	Designed community website for Ikot Abasi Community, Ikot Abasi L.G.A.
59.	Built of library and volleyball court at Modern Science College, Afaha Obo, Ukanafun L.G.A.
60.	Opened drainage at Eniong Offot Village, Nwaniba, Uyo L.G.A.
61.	Constructed six (6) taps potable water at Airforce Comprehensive School, Uyo
62.	Drilled borehole at Ekpat Eto village, Onna L.G.A.

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63.	Built permanent concrete School Signpost at Comprehensive Secondary School, Ediene, Abak L.G.A.
64.	Constructed twelve (12) feet soak away at Community Secondary School, Ikot Okobo, Nsit Ubium L.G.A.
65.	Built three (3) water cistern conveniences at Itreto Community School, Ikot Okobo, Nsit Ubium L.G.A.
66.	Constructed and Donated fifty (50) units of three (3) seater five feet desks to Comprehensive Secondary School, Oboetim, Nsit Ibom L.G.A.
67.	Built Municipal park/bus stop at second gate of Idongesit Nkanga Secretariat, IBB Way, Uyo.
68.	Installed street lights (tagged let there be light, Itu Dakada) at Itu road, Word Bride Avenue, Itu L.G.A.
69.	Rehabilitated 4 (four) non-functional boreholes at Okossi Community, Urue -Offong/Oruko L.G.A.
70.	Established a computer laboratory at Mansue Secondary School.
71.	Drilled borehole and installed overhead tank at Champions Brewery, Uyo.
72.	Drilled borehole and installed Geepee tank at Ikot Nsung Ikono Community, Uyo L.G.A.
73.	Provided fifty (50) writing desks for secondary school students at Community Secondary School, Aka Offot, Uyo.
74.	Constructed and Donated of 25 (twenty-five) multiple user lockers to students of Comprehensive Secondary School, Ikot Akpa Etok, Ibrikpo Asutan L.G. A.

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75.	Constructed and Donated twelve (12) sets of writing desks to Christ the King Primary School, Uyo.
76.	Trained and empowered 6 (six) less-privileged people in the society with standing oven, sewing machine and other useful equipment in Uyo LGA.
77.	Provided light at the salute dias of the NYSC Orientation Camp, Ikot Itie Udung, Nsit Atai L.G. A.
78.	Renovated 5 (five) classrooms and corridors at St. Michael's A.C School, Efiat Offot, Uyo.
79.	Constructed and Donated 14 (fourteen) multipurpose desk seaters for use during lectures at Community Hall, University of Uyo.
80.	Constructed and Donated giant dumpster at Akpan Andem Market Uyo.
81.	Donated and installed white 42 (forty-two) marker boards in 42 (forty-two) classrooms at Government technical college (GTC) Ewet, Uyo.
82.	Developed a Software for allocating CDS groups to Corps Members in NYSC Zonal office, Uyo.
83.	Established and equipped a computer laboratory at Nsit People's Grammar School, Afaha Offiong, Nsit Ibom L.G.A.
84	Constructed 8 (eight) concrete seats in the waiting area of Nigeria Correctional Centre, Uyo and Donated gift items to the inmates at the Centre. Sensitization on drug abuse and other socialvices in two (2) churches.
85.	Drilled borehole at Ikot Okubo Community, Uyo LGA.



ANAMBRA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Drilled a borehole and mounted 15-feet overhead Tank at Community Secondary School, Amawbia, Awka South L.G.A.
2	Trained Forty (40) persons in Fashion Designing at the Ministry of Youth Empowerment and Creative Economy, Awka.
3	Installed Four (4) Solar Lights at Hearing Impaired and Primary School at Basedem Memorial Special Education Centre, Isulo, Aguata L.G.A.
4	Re-roofed and renovated Community Primary Health Centre at Ezinifite Okpuno Awka South L.G.A.
5	Constructed Sixteen (16) - room pig pen and stocked them with 14 piglets, constructed 4 new toilet doors and reticulated water and established fish ponds with 400 fingerlings all at St. John of God Secondary, Awka, Awka South L.G.A.
6	Galvanised an Iron Bridge at Echa Village Nzam, Anambra West L.G.A.
7	Conducted free medical test and administration of anti-Hepatitis vaccines at Amikwe Community Secondary School, Omor, Ayamelum L.G.A.
8	Constructed and donated a Five (5) -bedroom Corpses' Lodge to St. John of God Secondary School Awka, Awka South L.G.A.
9	Donated 40 benches with lockers and 8 Waste Baskets to C.S.S. Ideani, Idemili South L.G.A.



BAUCHI STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Constructed recreational park in ATAP, Wunti Dada, Bauchi metropolis.
2	Constructed Volley ball court in ATAP Wunti Dada, Bauchi metropolis.
3	Establishment of a tree plantation, donation of First Aid boxes fully stocked with drugs to (6) primary schools and Constructed news paper stand, all in Toro town.
4	Renovated and equipped GDSS 1 Library in Bununu, Tafawa Balewa LGA
5	Donated two (2) grinding machines in Galawa Akuya and Sarma Villages, Misau LGA.
6	Constructed toilets blocks in Pali Town, Alkaleri LGA.
7	Constructed a laboratory at PHC Bununu, Tafawa Balewa LGA
8	Constructed and donated 100 benches and desks to Armoured Command Children School, Bauchi metropolis.
9	Established an Integrated Waste Disposal Scheme at BA SEPA Bauchi. Renovated skill acquisition centre, in Turum, Bauchi metropolis. Organised a HIV/AIDS -centered Quiz Competition at Immaculate Conception Sec. Sch . Bauchi.
10	Established a barbing saloon at the Bauchi Correctional Service, by Emir's Palace, Bauchi.
11	Built an incinerator at the Central market, Gadau, Itas Gadau LGA.
12	Constructed a modern four compartment toilet facility at the Main Market Darazo, Darazo LGA

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13	Constructed standard Volley ball court GDSS Turum, Tafawa Balewa LGA.
14	Renovated a library building at GDSS Tulu, Toro LGA.
15	Completed a two -classroom block in Gudun Community, Bauchi.
16	Established a barbing saloon in Hammayo Vocational Center and trained inmates at Misau Correctional Service, Misau LGA.
17	Established a modern refuse dump at GDSS Darazo
18	Embarked on Street naming and house numbering, production of sign post, organised Mass literacy class, repainted (5) classroom black boards, in Itas Gadau LGA. and established young farmers' clubs in Gadau Town.
19	Organised Skills Acquisition and Empowerment in GGAC Alkaleri and Central Primary School Gwaram, Alkaleri.
20	Established library in GDSS Dass, Dass LGA.
21	Established a new primary school in Bogoro, Bogoro LGA.
22	Constructed and equipped of a school library at GDSS Sade, Darazo LGA.
23	Constructed ventilated VIP Toilet at Central Primary School Warji.
24	Donated of 250 desks to Magama Primary School and organised debate, essay competition and seminar in Magama, Toro LGA.
25	Established an orchard with economic trees, such as Mango, Guava, Orange, etc. Built twelve (12) black boards at GDSS Giade, Giade LGA.
26	Established Information and Communication Technology centre (ICT) Perfect Memorial Secondary School Bogoro.

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27	Constructed a 2 -classroom block at Early Child Care Development Centre Darazo, Darazo LGA.
28	Organised sensitization programme on afforestation, planted economic trees and constructed blackboards in some schools in Giade town, Giade LGA.
29	Renovated a block of 2 classrooms at Lukshi Primary School Yelwa, Bauchi metropolis.
30	Constructed a block of two classrooms, store and office at GDSS Gabarin Konkiyel, Darazo LGA
31	Renovated 3 classrooms in sabo kaura Constructed two toilets and repair of 25 twin desks Donated school signpost, learning materials and black boards at Sabo Kaura, Bauchi.
32	Organised Inter -School Quiz competition among schools in Dass LGA. Donated books to schools and 60 twin seats to GDSS Dass & GDSS Bayara, Bauchi. Constructed a three-compartment VIP toilet, with users' urinary and hand washing facilities at Dass Central Market
33	Constructed triple cell- box culvert (mini bridge) in Toro
34	Organised Sensitization programme for all staff of public schools in kantang/Warji and Constructed a VIP toilet at Central Market, kantanga Warji LGA
35	Organised computer training programme in Dambam town, Dambam LGA
36	Constructed a four bedrooms Corpses Lodge in Lere town, Tafawa Balewa LGA.
37	Constructed chairs and tables in the nursery section of Central Primary School Ningi, Ningi LGA.

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38	Constructed/installed motorized bore hole with overhead tank and generator-plant in Darazo, Darazo LGA.
39	Renovated NYSC Comprehensive Staff Clinic at Fadama Mada NYSC Secretariat Bauchi.
40	Constructed bridge across Farinkaya stream at Yelwa Mu'Allah Yidi Community, Bauchi metropolis.
41	Established a Computer Centre/Laboratory at GJSS Kashiri, Itas Gadau LGA.
42	Erected a life size sculptural piece of a corper at NYSC Secretariat, Fadama Mata, Bauchi.
43	Planted 200 economic trees in GJSS Zalanga School Farm, Ganjuwa LGA.
44	Built a Science Laboratory at the Govt. Arabic Collage. Jamare, Jamare LGA
45	Constructed a borehole with tap points at GSS, Dambam.
46	Established skill acquisition Centre and Organised Extra Mural Classes For less privilege pupils of Gadau Community, Itas Gadau LGA.
47	Established a Palm tree plantation at Baima, Katanga Warji.
48	Constructed computer laboratory and computer training in Itas Gadau LGA.
49	Planted trees for environmental protection in Gadaday, Bauchi.
50	Refurbished a manual water pump at Teshema Village, Zaki LGA
51	Constructed desks and benches for students of GDSS Dass, Dass LGA.
52	Constructed hand pump bore hole at Kurumin Dorawa and Wuntin dada, Bauchi.
53	Embarked on tree planting campaign at Jibwis Islamic Secondary School, Federal Government Girls College and Abubakar Tatari Ali Polytechnic Bauchi.

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54	Constructed two (2) class rooms and provision of sixty (60) three-sitter desks for Kafin Tafawa Primary School, Bauchi.
55	Constructed library with computer room attached at Trinity School near Muda Lawal and trained 75 Students in Computer appreciation in same school, Bauchi.
56	Constructed six (6) water closet toilets at Abubakar Tatari Ali Polytechnic, Jos Road, Bauchi.
57	Constructed four (4) compartment VIP Toilets at School of Agriculture, Yelwa, Bauchi.
60	Floored a classroom at GJSS B akari Dukku and an examination Hall at ECWA Kauna Secondary School, both in Bauchi metropolis.
61	Rehabilitated five bore holes in Miri Village, Bauchi LGA.
62	Dug a modern well at Suda Village Along Bauchi- Jos Road Toro LGA
63	Launched a radio programme on Pre - marital issues and medical counseling Bauchi Television.
64	Renovated and equipped a library in GCSS Tafawa Balewa Estate Bauchi town.
66	Established a computer laboratory at GJSS Wandi, Dass LGA
67	Renovated and dona ted drugs and standard hospital equipment at Adamu Umar Clinic, Government College, Toro LGA.
68	Constructed One-unit of hand pump borehole at Magaji Yelwan Tudu Community Bauchi
69	Organised a health awareness campaign, free Consultation, diagnosis and treatment, at the Kangere Community In Bauchi and erected sign posts at strategic points on War Against Poverty (WAP) at Abubakar Tatari Ali Polytechnic (ATAP) Bauchi.
70	-Organised skill acquisition workshop and training of 100 women on wi re jewelry making at Ministry of Women Affairs Bauchi.

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71	-Constructed a new bore hole at Central Primary School, Itas, Itas/Gadau
72	-Trained youth in GSM repairs and Computer Engineering Bauchi
73	<p>-Published and distributed two books on English and Mathematics for pupils of Nursery and Primary Schools Giade LGA</p> <p>Organised skill acquisition training for a number of people in Giade Community on POP and Asbestos ceiling designs and installation of DSTV and MYTV.</p> <p>Erected National Flag and donated waste disposal bins around the premises of GSS and JSS Giade.</p> <p>Donated and sew new school badges for students of Giade Secondary School for identification purpose.</p>
74	Designed a school Website at Government Girls College Bauchi. Trained staff and students ICT on how to use the Website.
75	Renovated classrooms and Purchase of white boards. Donated other items to the school such as dustbins, exercise books, whiteboard, markers, tissue papers, parkers, disinfectant, air freshener, kettles at Nowa Nursery and Primary School Shadawanka Barracks, Bauchi State.
76	Built an incinerator at College of Agriculture, Bauchi.
77	Constructed and erected sign post at Jibrin Aminu Model School Bauchi.
78	Donated 20 classroom desks and two (2) white marker boards.
79	Organised Youth empowerment training skills on installation and Constructed Nigerian-made Inverters for youths in Bauchi town.
80	Donated and distributed 450 pairs of rubber sandals to 5 (five) public school, Bauchi.

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81	Trained over 50 inmates on cosmetology, at the Bauchi Correctional Service.
82	Equipped a barbing centre and trained 9 youth in barbing skills.
83	Carried out Hepatitis test/seminar on dangers of Hepatitis to students/teachers of Rainex International College. House to house distribution of mosquito nets to nursing mothers/pregnant women. Construction and donation of ten (10) pieces of 3 sitter desks. All in Bauchi metropolis.
84	Nursed 34,500 seedlings and donated 30,000 seedlings to Bauchi State Government to flag off tree planting campaign in Azare. Planted seedlings in strategic locations in Bauchi metropolis.
85	Donated 80 twins desks and refurbished 37 broken chairs/desks at GGSSS Bauchi.
86	Organised empowerment training in bead making for 150 female students in selected secondary schools in Bauchi metropolis.
87	Donated two hundred (200) pieces of rubber sandals to pupils of Central Primary School Bauchi.
88	Constructed a signpost indicating "Welcome to Ganjuwa," Ganjuwa LGA.
89	Fabricated/Constructed an industrial wood stove/trained youths on technical skill of wood stove construction at Yelwa area Bauchi.
90	Renovated a block of two classrooms Donated 20 chairs/tables to Gwallameji Nursery/Primary School Bauchi.

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91	Upgraded and renovated CDSS Shadawanka Library, Constructed signpost and award of scholarship to three top senior students and thirteen others.
92	Constructed drainage system at FGGC kitchen Bauchi.
93	Organised vocational/entrepreneurial training and counseling to physically challenged, Correctional Service inmates and distribution of mosquito nets. Contributed towards the welfare and improvement of the wing standard orphans, widow, physically challenged, hospital patients and Correctional Service inmates. Renovated a block of three rooms belonging to the physically challenged, all in Bauchi metropolis.
94	Renovated blocks of two (2) classrooms and twin desks at the Federal Polytechnic Staff School Gwalemeji, Bauchi.
95	Constructed additional culvert along Dandango/Sabon Kaura, Bauchi.
96	Health talk, free medical tests as well as free counseling/treatment in 5 districts: Bununu, Bundot, Dot, Bagel and Wand, all in Dass LGA.
97	Donated 57 sets of school uniforms to female pupils in Sabon Kaura Primary School, Bauchi.
98	Renovated (2) two block of classroom and provided 120 desks at Government Primary School Dandango, Bauchi.
99	Installed JAMB test software and Organised JAMB extra-mural classes for students and military from the Nigeria Army Armoured Corps Barracks Bauchi.

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100	Organised skill acquisition programme for students at the Special Education Centre, in bead making, production of air freshener, soap, etc Bauchi.
101	Donated treated mosquito nets and establishment of Young Farmers' Club in GDSS Bakari Dukku, Bauchi.
102	Organised health awareness on Yellow Fever/Malaria at Minjila Babba community Bauchi.
103	Repaired broken pipes, donated water storage tanks and a complete set of First Aid kits to Command Children School Shadawanka Barracks Bauchi.
104	Trained 100 secondary school students on basic lives savings, first AID practices/sensitization on Lassa fever and Zika virus at Bakari Dukku, bauchi. Donated books to two (2) secondary schools (GDSS Bakari Dukku and Bakari Dukku primary school) Bauchi. Constructed fifty (50) seats for students of Bakari Dukku primary school Bauchi. Constructed directional sign post at specialist hospital Bauchi.
105	Organised Medical outreach to Dungal community on personal hygiene and nutrition, Toro LGA
106	Renovated/procured science laboratory equipment at GDSS Zadawa, Misau LGA
107	Renovated Rafin Makaranta Primary School, Bauchi.
108	Renovated two blocks of four classrooms and provided 120 desks to Government Primary School Dandango Yelwa area, Bauchi
109	Established Drug Free Club at Safinat Model School Magama, Toro Local Government

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110	Donated educational materials to 20 (twenty) internally displaced adolescent girls in Turum town Bauchi.
111	Constructed 7 (seven) signboard in Itas town, Itas Gadau LGA.
112	Established a web based school management system and hosting same online, at Abubakar Tatari Ali Polytechnic Bauchi.
113	Sunk and donated a borehole to displaced people in Turum community Bauchi.
114	Built a two -unit water system toilets at the market square Tafawa Balewa LGA.
115	Built two units of water system toilets at Tafawa Balewa market square.
116	Renovated/procured science laboratory equipments at GDSS Zadawa Constructed three units of public toilets (pit) at Misau town.
117	Renovated Rafin Makaranta Primary School. Sensitised pupils on health/hand hygiene Dewormed of pupils at Rafin Makaranta primary school. Published a book to boost reading culture
118	Donated ten (10) four seater desks to sit forty (40) pupils at Wunti Dada Primary School to create conducive learning environment to pupils.
119	Established a community library in Katanga Warji LGA
120	Constructed business centre, car wash and donation of household equipment to the physically challenged in Bauchi state.
121	Trained secondary school students in bead making and issued certificates to participants in Bogoro LGA.

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122	Organised free Oral Health awareness, including checkup and treatment to 167 patients (101 males and 66 female) with the help of Oral Health management experts.
123	Empowered fifty (50) female inmates in Bauchi Correctional Service on skill in making Ankara/Leather hand bags and fashion accessories.
124	Trained 100 youths in poultry, fishery, rabbitry and duck farming in Dass LGA.
125	Constructed 22 three seater desks for GJSS Bigi Gudun Hausawa in Bauchi LGA
126	Donated thirty wheel chairs for physically persons in Bauchi metropolis.
127	Renovated roofing, ceiling and painted two blocks of classroom and provided white maker board in GJSS Lushi Yelwa Bauchi.
128	Drilled two boreholes in Bayera, Bauchi Metropolis.
129	Trained youth in the production of paint, Insecticide, after shave, etc. in Bauchi metropolis.
130	Installed modern white boards in GDSS Tafawa Balewa
131	Drilled and donated a hand pump borehole for Balo Community, Toro LGA
132	Sensitised secondary school students on drug abuse, its negative effects and preventive measures in Bayara community, Bauchi.

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BAYELSA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Organised Padcas Festivals in Yenagoa
2	Built bus stop shield in Yenagoa
3	Donated a sign-post to Kolo community, Ogbia
4	Donated a sign-post to Amarata community, Yenagoa
5	Donated a HIV/AIDS sensitization billboard to St. Judes church, Amarata, Yenagoa
6	Donated treated mosquito nets to Bakassi Returnees at Azikoro, Yenagoa
7	Donated wears and foordstuffs to the Orphanage Home at Women Affairs, Ovom.
8	Provided Sixty (60) - seater capacity furniture to Corpers' lodge at Ekeki.
9	Organised seminar for women on snail farming at Azikoro and Okaka.
10	Donated Seventeen (17) sign-posts to Ovom, Akenpai, Edepie, Kpansia, Opolo, Etegwe, Amarata, Yenizue-Epie, Ekeki, Igbogene, Okaka
11	Trained students of selected schools in phones repairs, internet use in Yenagoa.
12	Donated (10) ten computers, procured and laid water pipes to Ikibiri, Yenagoa
14	Donated a building to Okutukutu community Yenagoa
15	Organised a quiz competition in Ikibiri community, Yenagoa
16	Organised computer class for selected schools in Yenagoa
17	Donated computers and computer accessories to Kpansia community Yenagoa
18	Donated billboard, a. 2.8 KVA generator, 5 sets of computer, organised skills acquisition training for women and mounted a billboard with HIV/AIDS inscribed warnings to Kpansia community, Yenagoa
19	Donated billboard, organised free extra-mural classes for students and dropouts in Onopa, Yenagoa

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20	Drilled and donated a bore-hole to Amarata community, Yenagoa
21	Engaged in House Numbering in Obunaghia, Yenagoa
22	Donated street directional sign posts to Okolobiri community and trained student on skill acquisition, Okolobiri, Yenagoa
23	Donated stools and tables to CSS Otuoke/Otuaba, Ogbia
24	Built and donated a 3 -room public toilet to CSS Swal, Yenagoa
25	Organised campaign/seminar on consequences of HIV/AIDS infection, Teenage Pregnancy and Drugs Abuse in Swal community, Yenagoa
26	Donated classroom desks to Communit Secondary School Okutukutu/Etegwe, Yenagoa
27	Held seminar on teenage pregnancy and abortion at CSS Okutukutu, Yenagoa
28	Donated chairs and tables to CSS Agbura, Yenagoa
29	Held MDGs training in St. Jude Girls school, Amarata and CSS Okutkutu, Yenagoa
30	Donated signposts with the inscription "Welcome to Gbanran Community". Donated a signpost, waste baskets, organized quiz competition for students and replaced damaged zinc at CSS Gbanran.
31	Constructed school sign-post in CSS Oloibiri, Ogbia
32	Donated waste bins, sign poss and organised computer training for State School, Oloibiri Ogbia
33	Held seminar on Teenage Pregnancy and Abortion in Oloibiri state school, BJSS, St. Jude Amarata, Yenagoa.
34	Donated six iron file cabinets, one to each to school in BJSS Kpansia and BJSS Ovom, Yenagoa
35	A book on Agorogbene in Wilberforce Island in ancient history of a modern people Amassoma
36	Constructed sign post off Akaibiri market
37	Launched a booklet on Nuggets of Success at Government Secondary School Okpoama Brass
38	Donated a National Flag, a sign post and held SDGs session at BJSS Tombia, Yenagoa
39	Constructed window burglar proofs in the office of the principal, Yenagoa

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40	Constructed a volleyball court at CSS Bumoundi Ekpetiama, Yenagoa
41	Organised MDGs lectures and donated sign post, notice board to CSS Bumoundi, Ekpetiama, Yenagoa
42	Mounted an ultra-modern sign post at Sagbama
43	Taught Odi Kolokuma communities how prepare oral rehydration therapy for children.
44	Renovated and painted goal post in Bumoundi, Yenagoa
45	Donated concrete sitting slabs and educational materials to students at Beletiama
46	Donated a generator to the Comprehensive Health Centre, Otuoke, Ogbia
47	Renovated, built a sculpture and trained students in sculptural art in Otuoke/Otuaba Ogbia
48	Donated school desks and carried out MDGs sensitization in Okutukutu and Etegwe Yenagoa
49	Donated sandals, stockings, National Flag and boat to BJSS Keme-Ebiam, Southern Ijaw
50	Donated notebooks and pens to CPS Ogobiri
51	Facilitated MDGs outreaches/ advocacy to St. Jude's Girls Secondary School, Amarata, BJSS Yenagoa and CSS Famgbe, Yenagoa
52	Organised six-day Catfish farming workshop in Yenagoa
53	Organised computer lessons for students of St. Jude's Girls Secondary school, Amarata Yenagoa
54	Trained students on environmental sustainability in BJSS Oporoma, Southern Ijaw
55	Donated two computer systems to the NYSC Secretariat ovom, Yenagoa, Yenagoa
56	Trained students of selected schools in Yenagoa in computer appreciation.
57	Donated VIP rest house to Ogbon North community, Amassoma
58	Raised PETs for HIV/AIDS Prevention project at Throne School, Ekeki
59	Donated cloths to refugees at Azikoro road, Yenagoa

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60	Organised Arc Welding Training for out of school youth in Okaka community, Yenagoa
61	Organised adult literacy classes for the elderly and out of school youth at St. Peter's Church, ovom, Yenagoa
62	Donated fishing gear/nets to a widow in Yenagoa
63	Organised Health talk on the Dangers and Preventionl of malaria among pregnant women and children in Yenagoa
64	Donated educational materials to female students at BJSS Kaiama
65	Donated teaching aids to selected schools in KGS Kaiama
66	Donated textbooks to BJSS Kpansia library, Yenagoa
67	Fabricated a craft, built a monumented sign post and conducted Peer Education Training at BJSS Brass.
68	Trained women and youth in Hair Hressing at Ovom, Yenagoa
69	Donated a mathematics lab to BJJGSS Kaiama
70	Donated treated Mosquito nets, books, desks, a signpost and conducted a mass adult literacy classes for out of school youth in Bakassi camp, Azikoro, Yenagoa
71	Established a Nursery/Primary School in Bakassi camp, Azikoro, Yenagoa
72	Renovated four (4) toilets and bathrooms at Okaka, Yenagoa
73	Trained women in Bead-making, Poultry farming in Yenagoa
74	Established a snacks stand and library in Etegwe, Yenagoa
75	Organised mass adult literacy classes in Opolo, Yenagoa
76	Donated sandals and stocking, organised lectures on MDGs and trained students on skill acquisition to students in Opolo, Yenagoa
77	Organised debate competition for selected schools in Okutukutu,Yenagoa
78	Organised spelling competition for schools in Osiri, Ekeki.
79	Donated fans and tables to Ovom community Secondary School,
80	Donated books to school library in Okaka, Yenagoa
81	Presented food items and toiletries to Motherless Children's Home in Opolo, Yenagoa
82	Empowered students with skills in catering services in Opolo, Yenagoa
83	Organised free medical outreaches to Egweama, Akassa and Okpoama communities.
84	Trained students in agro-allied skills at Kolokuma, Kaiama

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85	Erected road safety signpost to guide motorists in road usage at Ovom, Yenagoa
86	Donated a sign post to Ogbia car park and ten chairs to CSS Ogbia
87	Construction of footbridge in Ekeki corps lodge Yenagoa
88	Donated (144) science textbooks to eight (8) Government Secondary Schools in Ovom, Yenagoa.
89	Donated 18 textbooks to Kpansia, Opolo, Agudama & Okaka schools in Yenagoa
90	Donated sport wears to Special School for the Handicapped in Amarata, Yenagoa
91	Organised extra-moral classes for out of school youths in Otuoke, Ogbia LGA
92	Organised quiz and debate competitions and donated marker board to Community Secondary School, Otuoke, Ogbia LGA
93	Donated 15 metal waste bins to Niger Delta University, Amassoma
94	Donated a modern police traffic stand and repaired a malfunctioned water borehole in Yenagoa.
95	Donated educational materials to Junior Basic Secondary School, Amassoma.
96	Donated waste bins and packers erected a sign post, cleared refuse dumps and drainages in Amassoma communities.
97	Donated first aid box to Biogbolo community school Yenagoa
98	Donated 40 Current Affairs booklets to students and organized workshop for teachers in Amarata, Kpansia, Opolo and Ovom all in Yenagoa
99	Built a waiting house at Tombia.
100	Trained students in Beads Making and donated food items and toiletries to the Children of Glory Land Orphanage Home at Ovom, Yenagoa LGA
101	Donated educational resources materials to Government Schools in Ovom, Yenagoa
102	Organized Quiz Competition for Government Girls' Secondary School at Ovom Yenagoa

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103	Trained 42 volunteers as Peer Educators' Trainers (PETs) and organised extra-mural classes for students in Otuokpoti and Ogbia communities, Ogbia LGA
104	Organised career talks for secondary schools in Ogbia LGA
105	Donated white marker boards to King Bolou Primary School, Odi, Kolokuma
106	Organised quiz competition and seminar at Saint Jude Amarata Yenagoa
107	Built a jetty and a blackboard at CSS Nembe Nembe
108	Trained youths in Satellite Dish installation in Sangama community, Brass.
109	Construction of water system toilet at Otuaba community Ogbia
110	Erected a signpost and donation of five (5) microphones and three (3) microphone logos for NTA at Azikoro and Ekeki community Yenagoa
111	Built an NUJ hall in Ekeki, an assembly podium and concrete chalkboard in Nembe Community
112	Organised a seminar on Bee Keeping at Bayelsa Palm Elebele, Yenagoa

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BENUE STATE

S/N	PROGRAMME/PROJECT
1.	Built a statue of an unknown Corps Member at the NYSC Secretariat, Makurdi.
2.	Made an artwork at the NYSC Secretariat, Makurdi, titled "Transformation", depicting the transformation impact of NYSC on National Development.
3.	Made an art work at the NYSC Secretariat, Makurdi, titled "Lift It Up".
4.	Built a Clinic at the NYSC Secretariat, Makurdi, for the benefit of Corps Members, Staff and the host community.
5.	Built a bus-stop shade opposite Police quarters, Railway Bye-pass Area, Makurdi.
6.	Built a statue of a drummer titled "Melodious Sound", opposite Board of Internal Revenue Service office, Kashim Ibrahim Road, old GRA, Makurdi.
7.	Built a statue of a farmer on duty, titled "Our Heritage", in front of NKST, Central Street, Wadata, Makurdi.
8.	Built conveniences at NKST Secondary School, Ugbema, Buruku LGA.
9.	Drilled a borehole at Rev. Fr. Patrick Folly College, Alu-Abwa Mbagem, Buruku LGA.
10.	Built a statue of 3 (three) unknown Corps Members and 2 (two) Students at Ihugh Roundabout, Ihugh, Vandeikya LGA.

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BORNO STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Renovated 5- room beds ward and donated basic hospital equipment at General Hospital, Damboa Sensitised the public on the importance of regular De-worming at Damboa General Hospital.
2.	Offered scholarship to 14 indigent students at GDSS Lamisula Maiduguri, Maiduguri Metropolitan Council.
3.	Donated computer a photocopier to Government Secondary School Kwaya Kusar, Kwaya Kusar Local Government Area.
4	Organised Information and communication Technology (ICT) training at: Federal Training Centre, Maiduguri; Government Day Secondary School, Bulabulin; Government Girls Secondary School, Maiduguri; Nigeria Police Force, Gwange Division, Maiduguri; The Nigeria Police Force, Bulabulin Division; NYSC MMC Zonal Office, Maiduguri; and Maiduguri Municipal Council
5	Set up an e-library for students and staff of Government Secondary School, Shani, Shani Local Government Area
6	Organised health Talks at Umaru Shehu Specialist Hospital. Organised health awareness campaign at Nganzai, Maiduguri Metropolitan Council and Konduga Local Area. Offered free medical screening and treatment for 310 persons in 3 Local Government Areas Free test/investigations (blood glucose analysis, BMIs, BP checks) emergency interventions/response referrals. Instituted Health Education as part of out-patient care and Hospital Management initiative. Funded a children/pediatrics /emergency revolving fund scheme at the Umaru Shehu Ultramodern Hospital. Donated some pediatric treatment kits to Umaru Shehu Hospital, Maiduguri Borno State. Donated pediatric drugs and medical and surgical items/equipment to Umaru Shehu Hospital.

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	Presented the perfa initiative Handbook.
7	Constructed a Quarter Guard at Nigeria Correctional Service, State Headquarters, Command, Maiduguri.
8	Constructed public toilets at Damboa Central Market
9	Repaired collapsed fence at GSS Mallam Fatori. Donated medical consumable such as unborn baby's kits, insecticide treated mosquito nets, Water Guard and malaria drugs at Umaru Shehu Specialist Hospital, Maiduguri . Distributed fertiliser to farmers in Fatori village Distributed exercise books to Primary School Pupils in fatori.
10.	Renovated one (1) block of 5 classrooms at Modu Gari Primary School, Maiduguri.
11.	-Sank a of borehole and organised health talks as well as medical check-up, deworming exercise at Dusman Community. -Constructed public convenience at Kano Motor Park, Maiduguri.
12.	Organised medical outreach and mass screening for diabetes and hypertension patients, mass de-worming exercise for children and donated clothes to widows and indigent citizens at Dusman Village health Centre.
13.	Organised skill acquisition training for the Internally Displaced Persons at LLC Skill Acquisition Centre. Sensitised students on Millennium Development Goals, Academic Excellence, Career Talk, Personal Hygiene Environment Sanitation, Pre-marital Sex and Drug Abuse at Government Day Secondary School, Maiduguri. (Mafoni Liberty). Donated toiletries and writing materials such as Dettol soap, Methylated Powder, cotton bud, Methylated spirit, exercise books, pencils, erasers, mosquito nets and slippers to Fatima Ali Sheriff's Orphanage Home, Maiduguri. Fumigated and evacuated refuse dumps and donated three (3) waste bins to the Police College, Maiduguri. Donated 2 National Flags and 1,000 pieces of 40 leaves exercise books to students of Government Day Junior Secondary School, Mafoni Liberty. Organised skill acquisition training for 100 women and donated 100 mosquito nets to them in Maiduguri.

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14.	Donated five waste bins and trained widows and orphans in Beads Making in Tudun Wada ward, Maiduguri. Trained the indigent citizens and orphans in Beads -making, Pomade, Home refresher and Soap -making at EYN LCC Church, Maiduguri
15	Sensitised pregnant women on the proper use of Insecticide Treated Nets (ITN) or Long Lasting Insect treated nets. Donated free blood to the needy and organised mass awareness on free donation of blood. Donated free test kits and medical consultations to IDPs at Yerwa Camps.
16.	Created public awareness on good hygiene at MMC. Donated writing materials to selected Primary Schools in Maiduguri. Donated skill acquisition training materials and some relief materials to IDPs in MMC.
17.	Sensitised pregnant women on regular anti-natal attendance, Exclusive Breast Feeding and Girl-child Education at IDPs. Donated educational materials and foodstuffs to IDPs in Maiduguri. Planted trees at Internally Displaced Persons' (IDPs) camp to curb desertification. Rendered free hair cuts to male children at some IDP camps in Maiduguri. Donated free anti-malaria drugs children less than 5 years to reduce child mortality.
18.	Renovated toilets and stocked the library at Mass Literacy School, Maiduguri
19.	Sensitised on proper use of treated mosquito nets, donated textbooks to students, sand filled water-logged areas and dewormed children at the NYSC IDPs camps at the NYSC IDPs camps.
20.	Constructed 6 VIP toilets and sensitised the motorists and commuters on quality hygiene and at Kano Park, Maiduguri.



CROSS RIVER STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	<p>Cultivated Cassava farm for widows in Nkonemba community of Akampka.</p> <p>Donated a GEE-PEE Tank for storage of water in Akamkpa community.</p> <p>Trained students on production of liquid soap in Akamkpa community.</p> <p>Planted trees and flowers at United Christian Academy Akamkpa to control erosion.</p> <p>Paid school fees for ten (10) less privileged students of the Community.</p> <p>Distributed Mosquito Nets to nursing mothers and pregnant women in the Community.</p> <p>Sensitised students on the effects of teenage pregnancy, pre-marital sex and drug abuse at the Community Day Secondary School.</p> <p>Organised Inter-School Cultural Exhibition at CDSS Akamkpa.</p> <p>Organised quiz competition for students of JSS1-JSS3 at Treasure Child comprehensive school Awi, Akampka Local Government.</p> <p>Carried out sensitisation on career counseling/development for students of united Christian Academy Akamkpa.</p> <p>Renovated Incinerator</p> <p>Organised campaign on road safety measures to motorisst and motor cycle riders in Akamkpa Local Government Area.</p> <p>Donated a sign post to Nsan Community Health Center in Akamkpa .</p>

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	<p>Provided First Aid Box/Kits to schools.</p> <p>Hoisted Nigeria and Cross-River State Flags in two(2) schools; United Christian Academy and St. John international Nursery and primary School Akamkpa</p>
2	<p>Donated Six (6) waste baskets to Hillside High School, Cal. Road Ikom.</p> <p>Organised Basic Science Quiz Competition at the Hillside School Ikom.</p> <p>Carried out Medical outreach at Ikom Community, Ikom Local Government Area.</p> <p>Fixed Door and Painted NYSC Zonal at Ikom.</p> <p>Donated educational materials to students of Hillside High School, Calabar Road Ikom.</p>
3	<p>Donated 110 school sandals and 110 school socks to indigent pupils at St. Augustine primary School Ukpah, Bekwarra.</p> <p>Organised seminar on morals and delivered motivational tips for over 150 youths across Bekwarra and Ogoja communities.</p> <p>Organised sensitization on career development, purposeful living, entrepreneurship and personal hygiene at St. Catherine Institute for Women Education in Abakpa, Ogoja.</p> <p>Provided free school meal (FSM) for primary School children at Master Donuni Primary School Abakpa , Ogoja.</p> <p>Organised sensitization on personal hygiene and distributed 30 packs of sanitary pad to 30 female students at Unity Secondary School, Bekwarra.</p>

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	<p>Organised Essay Competition and paid school fees for the three best performing students at Government Technical College Nyanya, BeKwarra.</p> <p>Organised an excursion for students of Hotel management / Catering, St. Catherine Institute for Women Education.</p> <p>Donated sanitary towels and sensitized students on personal hygiene at Unique Secondary School Bekwarra.</p>
4	<p>Organized Computer Appreciation training for Senior Secondary School three (SSS3) students of Government Girls Secondary School Igoli-Ogoja.</p> <p>Developed a web-based Hospital Management System for Catholic Maternity Hospital, Moniaya, Ogoja.</p> <p>Donated writing materials to children of divine Providence Orphanage Home, Moniaya, Ogoja.</p> <p>Donated and mounted NYSC and National flags at Ogoja Local Government Secretariat.</p>
5	<p>Constructed Ten (10) classroom desks and presentation of same to Government Science Secondary School, Bishiri North, Obunliku Local Government Area.</p> <p>Constructed a 32 compartment bookshelf and presentation of same to Government Science Secondary School, Bishiri North, Obanliku Local Government Area.</p> <p>Renovated damaged floors of some classrooms in GSSS, Bishiri North, Obunliku Local Government Area.</p> <p>Organised sensitization on healthy Living for pupils of Government Primary School Bishiri.</p> <p>Established Drug Free and Safety Club in GSSS, Bishiri.</p>

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6	<p>Renovated a hospital building at the Catholic Maternity Hospital, Moniaya Ogoja, Ogoja LGA.</p> <p>Organised sensitisation campaign on the 2019 Elections at the Muslim Community Ogoja.</p> <p>Organised a one-day seminar on Career Development and Integrity mentorship for students of Government Secondary School Ogoli, Ogoja, Government Girls Secondary School Igoli, ogoja, Agiba Secondary Commercial School and Government Secondary School, Ishibori Ogoja.</p> <p>Donated Rapid Test kits for Malaria, Hepatitis B & C, Clinical thermometers, Methylated Spirit, disinfectant (JIK) and Cotton wool to the Primary Health Center H/P, Adagom Urban Ogoja.</p> <p>Organised sensitisation on Cervical Cancer and Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) for housewives and market women in Ogoja.</p>
7	<p>Developed and launched a website /job portal that connects employer of labors to job seekers within Ikom LGA-www.ikeomjobs.com</p> <p>Developed and launched a website /news portal for the dissemination of timely information to residents of Ikom on a variety of topics. www.ikomblog.com.ng</p> <p>Organised a two-day workshop and training on ICT and Financial Intelligence for students of Kevin Nsor Memorial College and St. Patrick's Commercial College Ikom.</p>
8	<p>Painted a classroom block at St. Mary's Primary School, Igirima village, Ndok community, ogoja.</p> <p>Renovated a damaged classroom floor at St. Mary's Primary School.</p>

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	Organised skill acquisition and entrepreneurship for youths and women in NdokCommunity on Cake Making, Tailoring, ICT, Poultry/ Fish Farming. Organised a seminar on "Attitude to Life" for staff of Gormara Farms Limited. Paid ICT training fee for an indigent youth of Ndok Community.
9	Constructed a three-room modern toilet. Renovated a broken bridge head at Utugbor Organised skills acquisition programme for selected youth of Utugbor on electrical and solar installation. Organised skills acquisition programme on fish farming using miniature bowls to grow fingerlings in Utugbor, Bekwarra.
10	Designed and installed internet network infrastructure using CISCO routers switches, Cat 6 Cable, Wireless Microwave radio at Institute of Technology Management Ugep. Design and configuration of an email server for institute of Technology. Creation and interconnection of Local Area Network Messenger of the institute. Installed and Networked CCTV Surveillance System . Organised seminar on Electronic circuit, design and troubleshooting , all at the Institute of Technology Ugep.
11	Donated a manual sphygmomanometer (blood pressure testing machine) to Ejia Joint Memorial Hospital Itigidi Abi LGA.
12	Donated X- ray examination stool, X- ray examination pillow, hand sanitizer for X- ray department,Asi Ukpo Diagnostic and Medical Centre Igoli ogoa.

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	Organised public enlightenment programme on the 2019 election. Organised sensitisation programme for senior secondary schools on hygiene, free genotype and blood group screening. Donated motivational and inspirational books to Divine Providence Home Library Ogoja.
13	Designed and painted a zebra crossing and Constructed and mounted and road traffic warning signs Ndok Junction Ogoja Organised extra mural classes in English language, mathematics and basic science at Rivulet Academy and St Catherine's College Igoli Ogoja.
14	Organised three months skill acquisition programme in fashion and design to women in Ogoja.
15	Renovated a Laboratory and donation of an electricity generator to General Hospital Ugep Yakur LGA
16	Renovated a classroom, Donated brooms and educational materials at Dr Okoi Ariko Memorial Secondary School Ugep Yakurr LGA.
17	Drilled three (3) boreholes and Organised two weeks skill acquisition programme at Comprehensive High School Akept, Biase LGA .
18	Organised vocational training, extra- mural Classes and health Sensitization at All Saint Presbyterian Academy Ugep, Yakurr LGA.
19	Established a Dental Laboratory Clinic and Constructed a Car/Motor-cycle Park at General Hospital Ugep.
20	Organised Skill Acquisition programme and computer training at Kalime Community School Ikom LGA.

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21	Constructed classroom desks and constructed a drainage at Velo Secondary Commercial School Ikom LGA .
22	Renovated toilet and an obsolete borehole at Oko Secondary School Boki West LGA.
23	Organised skill acquisition training and spelling competition for students of Dr. Eyaba Memorial College Obubra LGA .
24	Donated benches, directional sign post and drugs for treatment of Malaria to the 245 Recce Battalion, Afi Barracks Ikom LGA.
25	Donated uniform and educational materials to Comprehensive Secondary School Ofutop, Ikom LGA.
26	Organised vocational training and contructed a Volleyball court at Egara Community Secondary School Iyamitel, Obubra LGA.
27	Distributed mosquito nets to students of Community Secondary School Osokum, Boki West LGA Malaria drugs.
28	Constructed three (3) toilets at Community Secondary School Osokum, Boki West LGA.
29	Renovated a Community clinic at Ikom and organized a sensitization on healthy living at Oath Camp High School Biakan Ikom LGA.
30	Organised skill acquisition, Fine Art and Interior Decoration training at Comprehensive High School Akamkpa LGA.
31	Donated 100 plastic chairs, 60 plastic tables and mattresses to Headquarters 13 Brigade Nigeria Army Calabar.

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32	Repaired one Unit Inverter and built a Library at GSS State Housing Estate Atekong-Drive, Calabar Municipal.
33	Built a fence, donated a chair and table, white Marker board and organized skill acquisition training at Precious International School Odukpani LGA.
34	Donated 1000 printed exercise books to students of GSS Ikot Absa, Calabar Municipal.
35	Organised Health Care sensitization in different Communities. Donated medical equipment to General Hospital Sankwala, Obanliku LGA.
36	Renovated a toilet, construction of a basket Ball court and organized tree planting at the Cross River State University of Technology, Ogoja L.G.A.
37	Renovated toilets, donation of 3 sign posts, planting of ornamental trees and organised sensitisation on general health at Ogoja L.G.A.
38	Organised tree planting, sensitisation on Lassa Fever and renovated a health centre at Jonathan Bye-Pass Calabar Municipal.
39	Donated bed sheets and chairs and organised skill acquisition training at The General Hospital Akamkpa L.G.A.
40	Constructed three (3) water cistern toilets and donated 3 plastic buckets and waste baskets at the Central Primary School Agbaragba, Ikom L.G.A.
41	Donated table and chairs to St. Joseph School Atimaka, Ikom L.G.A.
42	Constructed three (3) Concrete Garden Seats at Ikom Community Ikom L.G.A.

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43	Donated drawback knap sack, waste bins and Welded Waste Bin Stands at Ikom L.G.A.
44	Constructed three (3) Toilets at Ikom L.G.A.



DELTA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Fabricated and donated 1000 KVA Box for uninterrupted power supply at Ika North East Local Government Area.
2.	Renovated and beautified Otor-Owhe Village Square Roundabout, fabricated the metal barricade which was earlier destroyed in a communal clash and reconstructed the destroyed concrete base.
3.	Re-numbered at least 176 houses in Delta Steel Company Town, Aladja, Udu LGA.
4.	Planted maize on tractor-cultivated land of at least 2 (two) hectares for Irrogbo Grammar School Irrogbo, Irri, Isoko South LGA; planted 300 cashew seedlings and organised enlightenment of Irrogbo Community on the importance of cashew trees; and taught Irri Community on how to use cassava peels as fertilizers and animal feeds.
5.	Provided free medical care services for Achalla Community, Oshimili North LGA and organised deworming exercise in (27) twenty seven public schools.
6.	Provided school uniforms for the less-privileged in five primary schools in Oshimili North LGA, namely: Ugbolu School I; Ugbolu School II; Umejei Primary School, Ibusa; Omu Boys Primary School, Ibusa; and Ayallobum Primary School.
7.	Conducted house-to-house campaign on personal hygiene and health related matters, formed Road Safety Club for Corps Members in Ibusa and visited 6 (six) health centres in Oshimili North LGA to render free health care services.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
8.	Donated costumes; 1 dozen of necklaces, 27 yards of Nigeria prints, white lace and polo materials, to Uloko Cultural Troupe, an arm of the Delta State Council for Arts and Culture.
8.	Donated costumes to NYSC Drama Troupe to augment the ones used at the 2006 cultural festival in Abuja.
9.	Sensitised inmates at the Nigeria Correctional Centre, Agbo on "Prisoners Hope", donated sewing machine and carpentry tools to the inmates and teaching them the art of tie and dye.
10.	Donated food items to motherless babies homes in Agbor town and organised skill acquisition training for secondary schools in Asaba.
11.	Mounted a sculptural monument titled "Youths Obey the Clarion Call" to replace the fallen statue at the Federal Secretariat Complex Asaba. The statue depicted a Corps Member raising the map of Nigeria with the Coat of Arm above his head.
12.	Canvassed for a private legislative bill to the Delta State House of Assembly on the rights and welfare of the Disabled and introduction of a programme aired on Delta Broadcasting Service (DBS) Asaba tagged "Bridging Divides" as a campaign against social prejudices suffered by the Disabled.
13.	Constructed 96 meters steel pedestrian bridge at Afomata/Awhakpor Ekpan, Uvwie Local Government Area.
14.	Constructed and equipped an ultra-modern Library block at Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
15.	Renovated classrooms, donated waste baskets, organised spelling competition and evacuated refuse dump in schools as well as organised skill acquisition for youths on cream and perfume production at Ibusa.
16.	Established a Corporate Police Management and Knowledge-Based System (tracking down criminals) at the Nigeria Police, Agbor Division; trained Police men on the use of the gargets and software; and donated a finger print scanner and an optical adjustable web camera to the Division.
17.	Taught Adaka Grammar School students skills for making of liquid soap and bead.
18.	Conducted skill acquisition and entrepreneurship training on cake baking, germicide production, liquid soap, etc. at Assemblies of God Church Otefe-Oghara.
19.	Constructed public conveniences, drilled borehole to support the conveniences, re-activated broken down 30 KVA generating set and donated laboratory equipment at General Hospital, Oghara.
20.	Organised three free medical out-reaches at three major towns in Udu LGA (Otor-Udu, Ujewwu and Ovwian) with health talks on HIV/AIDs, hypertension, diabetes, malaria and worn infestation.
21.	Constructed classroom blocks, public conveniences and organised free extra-mural classes for pupils at Okuodiete Primary School.
22.	Taught students of Zappa Basic Secondary School, Asaba on how to produce paints of different kinds and colours.
23.	Set up a physiotherapy unit and donated infra-red lamp, stimulating machine and ice pack machine to Government House Clinic, Asaba. Organised seminar on back care and ergonomic as well as donated bags of cement.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
24.	Drilled a bore-hole at Umiagbwa Community, provided 300-litre over-head tank, reticulated water to a block of six public conveniences and donated a 6.5 KVA generating set to power the bore-hole. Erected a metallic traffic control stand at Police station junction, Abraka.
25.	Drilled a borehole, provision of accessories for the borehole and renovated dilapidated school main gate at Umeghe Primary School, Oria, Abraka.
26.	Empowered farmers by donating trailer load of yam seedling and okoro seeds, cleared bushy Oko-Amakon Primary School, donated writing materials, assisted indigent droped-out school children and graded the road connecting five villages in Oko Community.
27.	Designed, constructed and installed automated rechargeable power source fed by a 24 Amps Battery (heavy duty) at Bomadi Local Government Area.
28.	Constructed speed breakers, printing of zebra crossing sign, beautified the major roundabout in Abraka town and erected directional sign post at the junction of Abraka campus of Delta State University.
29.	Topographic representation of Nigeria Navy Ship (NNS), Warri, Warri South LGA and produced a wooden bill board showing a chronicle of past and present Master-At-Arms at the NNS.
30.	Face-lift of the community dental clinic and provided beddings and mosquito nets in some selected wards at Central Hospital, Ughelli. Oral health campaign and organised awareness exercise in some selected secondary and primary schools within Ughelli community, Ugheli North LGA.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
31.	Established a computer laboratory and ICT library at Mixed Secondary School, Akoku-Ebedei, Ukwani LGA, remodeled and equipped a dilapidated building for laboratory and library use for a school with a population of about 1000 students.
32.	Constructed block of science laboratories for Physics, Chemistry and Biology practicals in Eziokpor Mixed Secondary, Eziokpor, Ukwani LGA. Constructed a staff room and a block of four-room convenience in the School.
33.	Designed a plant for the refining of crude oil into different segments such as naphtha, kerosine, diesel, atmospheric gas oil and atmospheric residue products using ASPEN HYSYS software at Federal University of Petroleum Resources Effurun (FUPRE), Uvwie LGA. and organised free medical screening and treatment for diabetes and blood pressures in the community.
34.	Conducted skill acquisition training for youths in Achalla-Ibusa Community and students of Afadia College, Oshimili South LGA, on production of sweater/cardigan; constructed and installed a billboard with the inscription of Afadia College; and donated cardigans to selected orphan students of Afadia College.
35.	Converted an abandoned class room at Ugbodu Secondary School, Aniocha LGA into a well equipped library.



EBONYI STATE

SN	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Donated a modern 2-room toilet at Technical Sec School. Oso-Edda- Afikpo South LGA
2.	Built a 4-room bungalow housing a Family Planning Center at Onuenyi in Agaja Izzi LGA
3.	Built a 4-room Public toilet at Kpakpaji High School, Ebonyi LGA
4.	Constructed a 2-room water closet (toilet) at C.S.S. Amuzu, Ezza South LGA.
5.	Donated a 4-room Water System Closet (toilet) to Our Lady of Lourds Sec. School. Azuebonyi-Idembia, Ezza South LGA
6.	Built a Twenty (20) -person capacity Library at Enugu Community Primary School in Onicha LGA.
7.	Built and donated a six-room toilet and bathroom to Medical Social Work Dept, Fed. Teaching Hospital Abakaliki.
8.	Constructed a 4-room ultra modern toilet with septic tank and wash hand sink at Tetmi High School, Akazeze-IVO LGA
9.	Constructed and donated a (6X4) Foot Laboratory Storage Shelf to C.S.S. Omege-Echara, Ikwo LGA.
10.	Donated a Motor Cycle to the Motherless Babies' Home of the Sudan United Mission Hospital Iziogu in Izzi LGA
11.	Constructed Speed Breakers on Abakaliki-Afikpo Highway Onueke, Ezza South LGA.
12.	Drilled a borehole and donated it to Obegu-Orichi community, Ebonyi LGA

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
13.	Sank a borehole in Ndifu-Amuzu community, Ezza South LGA
14.	Constructed and set up a Student' Library at Anglican Sec School-Amika, in Ikwo LGA
15.	Constructed the bridge linking Okworeke and Agubata villages, Ebonyi LGA
16.	Constructed 2 boreholes at Agharoza and Ndiorogbe villages, Izzi LGA
17.	Constructed 2 borehole at Ndiechi Community Market, Ikwo LGA
18.	Sank a borehole at Ikwo Local Government Secretariat, Ikwo.
19.	Built a VIP toilet at C.S.S. Mgbalize-Isu, Onicha LGA.
20.	Installed a mono pump at Amabo-Umunuka, Okposi, in Ohaozara LGA



EDO STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Provided 20 tables and 20 chairs for the pupils of Idinegbon Primary School, Eidenu-Irrua
2	Renovated the labour and male wards as well as donated modern delivery bed and infant cot to the Comprehensive Health Centre, Ivhubone -Fugar, Etsako Central LGA
3	Built four (4) rooms toilet facility at Ujobga Market Square, Ujogba community, Esan West LGA.
4	Built two (2) rooms toilet facility at Ujobga Community Secondary School, Ujogba, Esan West LGA
5	Constructed a volley ball court at the Community Secondary School, Ujogba, Esan West LGA
6	Painted school building at Royal Exalt Group of Schools, Egor, Benin City
7	Carried out vocational training on the production of interlocking paving stone for unemployed youths in Uselu community, Egor LGA
8	Donated 50 notebooks to pupils of Ogida Primary School, Benin city.

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9	Carried out free medical/health outreach for Corps members and staff of NYSC Egor Zonal Office, Benin City
10	Donated 10 sets of uniform to pupils of Ogida Primary School, Ogida, Benin City



EKITI STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Renovated the Library of Saint Augustine Comp. High Sch., Oye Ekiti
2.	Equipped the Library of Commercial Grammar School, Aramoko-Ekiti with relevant text books and the shelves
3.	Established and equipped Library at Ifelodun Comprehensive High School, Igogo-Ekiti
4.	Installed 2 reservoir surface storage water tank at Wining Children Orphanage Home, Usi-Ekiti
5.	Constructed shelter for motor cyclists at Ise-Orun
6.	Carried out health sensitisation/outreach on Health for Ido-Osi at Iso-OSI
7.	Built modern toilet at Ado Grammar School, Ado-Ekiti
8.	Carried out medical outreach and gave out free drugs at the Elekole Palace, Ikole-Ekiti
9.	Published a fiction work on prosodic analytical poems in Arabic literature and erected a signboard at College of Education, Ikere-Ekiti
10.	Renovated and digitised public library, Ado-Ekiti
11.	Provided writing material to over 500 students of Goodnews Group of School, Orin-Odo, Ikole
12.	Established Red Cross Club and donated First Aid Box to Nuel Academy, Ado-Ekiti

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
13.	Carried out health talk at Oke-Illa, Ado LGA
14.	Carried out special medical outreach at Moba, Ido-Osi, Ipoti Ekiti
15.	Constructed 40 chairs and lockers at igogo Commercial High School, 2019
16.	Produced and donated 100 bottles of hand sanitiser and 100 pieces of liquid soap at Ado Ekiti
17.	Constructed four rooms public toilet at Central Market, Otun-Ekiti

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ENUGU STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Constructed notice board, National flag, formed farmers club and junior engineering technical and scientific clubs in the school, organised extra mural classes and instituted award for best student in Maths and Physics in Isi-Uzor College, Ikem, Nsukka
2	Renovated and improved two schools' structures to create ICT centres and school library in Ururu Sec School, Uzo-Uwani
3	Donated ten benches, ten mosquito nets to Amagunze Health Centre, Nkanu East
4	Produced sculpture images, organised workshops on skill acquisition, health sensitisation, personal hygiene, produced and erected Nigerian flag, equipped school library, renovated school toilets and provided school uniforms in C.S.S. Adaobu, Awgu.
5	Provided four marker boards at Comprehensive Technical College, Achi, Oki River
6	Provided blood sugar glucometre device and blood pressure apparatus in Obinagu Uwani Amigo Health Centre
7	Produced and distributed branded exercise books, formed NDLEA Drug free club at Igbo-Eze South
8	Provided library apparatus and renovated a roundabout at Airforce Comprehensive Secondary School Nkanu West
9	Organised training on skill acquisition, marketing of products, career choices and public health at Community Sec School, Nkalagu, Obukpa Igbo-Eze South

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10	Constructed ICT laboratory in Community Sec Sch, Isi- Oroto Ikem.
11	Designed flag banner with mission and vision at Dept of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
12	Organised Enugu fitness festival in Enugu North
13	Conducted enlightenment campaign on Lassa Fever in Iheakpa Awka/Uhunowere Igbo-Eze South
14	Built library in Central Primary School, Ndagboh, conducted extra mural classes as well as charity programme in Agbo Echara High School, Ndagboh, Aninri
15	Conducted health talks in schools in Enugu North
16	Donated two mattresses to Unadu/About Community Health Centre, Igbo-Eze South
17	Donated exercise books to pupils of Ibagwa-Aka Community Primary school, Igbo-Eze South
18	Established a mini library and painting of the school classroom blocks in Igbo-Eze South.
19	Organised de-worming awareness in Enugu
20	Renovated and upgraded library block and provided National flag to St. Cyprian's Girls Sec School Nsukka
21	Conducted debate competition in CSS Ohebe Dim, Igbo-Etiti
22	Erected new classroom in Community School. Emene
23	Provided games facilities like footballs, volleyball court and distributed writing materials in Ezeagu LGA
24	Produced lighting fittings for a 38m by 14m reading room in St Theresa's College. Abor
25	Named bus stops in Emene town
26	Enlightened and sensitised adolescents on psychological, mental, reproductive (sexual) and socio-economic issues in Enugu East

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27	Revamped delapidated machines, renewed the students enthusiasm in being involved in technology and organised a sensitisation lecture on human rights and policies in ten schools located at Enugu North.
28	Restructure delapidated facilities and skill acquisition training in Enugu North
29	Organised training on cinematography and computer editing in Igbo-Etiti
30	Established an information and Communication training Centre in Ezere Awgu
31	Establishment of some construction works in Asata, Enugu
32	Provided National flag, school flag school uniform, constructed a library and organised a skill acquisition training on CSS Uhueze News, Aninri LGA
33	Established a 14ft width and depth water reservoir, roofed a six classroom block at Orba Health Centre, Udenu
34	Constructed modern toilet at CSS Uhuonowere, Igbo-Eze South
35	Renovated roofs of two classroom blocks and constructed desks for all classrooms in Central Primary School Ette, Igbo-Eze North
36	Organised inter school quiz competition for junior and senior secondary schools, free skill acquisition training for Urban Girls Secondary school, Enugu North
37	Established Technical drawing laboratory with basic facilities in Community secondary school in Igbo-Eze South
38	Constructed a standard badminton court at GTC Enugu
39	Organised free eye check up and other medical services and free glasses for about one hundred patients in Enugu South

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FCT

S/N	PROGRAMME/PROJECT
1	Donated 30 tables and chairs; tables and chairs for teachers; laptop and projector for teachers as well as developed and printed 36 pictures of past leaders and several historical artifacts at Federal Government College, Bwari
2	Sponsored girls with full tuition fees in School Teaching of Engine Models Awardees of Engine Model, Gwarinpa
3	Donated 3,000 face masks and 15 cartons of sanitisers to FCTA
4	Conducted comprehensive eye health outreach and screening; dispensed free reading glasses and carried out blood pressure and blood sugar tests at IDP Camp, Kuchingoro.
5	Donated food stuff, clothing, shoes, mattresses, baby cabinet and stationeries to the needy in Garki community
6	Carried out free genotype test for 1,000 women and children as well as built four-unit toilet facility for Almajiris at Dakwa



GOMBE STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Donated sted plates to 50 pupils, de-wormed 250, first aid box, writing materials for 100 pupils at Shango Hamma Primary School, Gombe
2.	Offset medical bills of 13 kidney disease patients with N12, 9000 each at the Federal Teaching Hospital, Gombe
3.	Empowered forty-six (46) students and staff of GDSS Pupimo with skills.
4.	Constructed and donated two (2) VIP toilets to staff of the Area veterinary Clinic, Gombe. Organised in-house seminar on Feed Formulation for cattle fattening at Kasuwan Shanu, Gombe.
5.	Constructed and donated a Legislative Mace to the Gombe State House of Assembly, Gombe. Donated thirty (30) twin desks to students at Gov't Vocational Training College, Gombe.
6.	Donated writing materials to 335 pupils at Jalo Waziri Primary School, Gombe.
7.	Donated sanity pads to 250 students and also sensitised them on personal hygiene at GDSS, Gombe.
8.	Distributed over fifty (50) treated mosquito nets at Jantare Orphanage Home, Gombe
9.	Skills Acquisition and Empowerment programme for the disadvantaged.
10.	Conducted free eye screening, treatment and donation of medical equipment and eye glasses in Kaltungo town, Kaltungo LGA .
11.	Organised free Medical Outreach in rural communities in Shongom LGA

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12.	Training of local communities on entrepreneurship development at Yabaldú/Deba Local Government Council Secretariat
13.	Training of women on soap making and cosmetics at Kashere.
14.	Safety Awareness Campaign for motorists and cyclists at motor parks at Gombe Central Motor Park.



IMO STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Organised diagnostic awareness and Health outreach to selected secondary schools, Special Education for the Mentally Retarded in Orlu community.
2	Constructed two (2) toilets at community Sec. Sch Emekuku, Owerri North LGA
3	Carried out MDG's sensitization, Computer Appreciation, prevention of malaria disease in selected schools in Owerri.
4	Donated books, novels to Urban Development Secondary School, World bank Estate, New Owerri.
5.	Constructed four room ultramodern public toilets in Owerri North LGA
6	Donated drugs to Ideato North Health Centre and mounted eleven signposts at different locations
7	Constructed 54 public toilets in different locations .in Owerri, Oweeri north LGA
8	Built a Corps Members' lodge at Njaba, Njaba LGA
9	Refurbished and installed desktop computer for free training at Okigwe
10	Conducted Cancer Screening exercise at St. John's Laboratory, Owerri, Owerri North LGA
11	Equipped a ward with medical facilities at Oru East General Hospital for Tuberculosis at Awoomanmaoru East, Orlu Zone
12	Built a 4-room toilet at World Bank Market community, Owerri
13	Established an ICT centre and HIV Testing & Counselling Unit at Ngorokpala

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14	Offered treatment to pregnant women on malaria and donated treated mosquito nets/drugs to the indigent populace at Abbolibeku, Mbaise LGA
15	Constructed an incinerator, assisted with the treatment of sick boy and organised health awareness sensitisation at FGGC Okigwe.
16	Donated a set of printers and a generator to Amiri secondary school, Orlu East LGA
17	Renovated and stocked the library at Mgbohe, Orlu west LGA.
18	Donated 12 black boards and SERVICOM spin boxes to BSK, Owerri
19	Empowered women with skills on Knitting, Decoration, Baking and Catering at Umuokpara Bethsisa Methodist church.
20.	Installed 10 Traffic Caution signposts construction and donated Metallic Restoration items at NYSC Secretariat and FRSC State Sector Command, Egbu, Owerri.
21.	Rehabilitated the school water system, hosted a football tournament for 8 selected Secondary Schools in Owerrii
22.	Organised Public health awareness on personal in (5) five secondary schools in Owerri.
23.	Reroofed and renovated dilapidated school library at Bishop Shanahan College, Orlu.
24.	Constructed a notice board and donated food items to widows at Command Secondary School, Mbieri, Mbaitoli LGA.
25.	Donated copies of motivational booklets at Shalom Model Primary school, Oru East LGA Oru east

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
26.	Constructed a roundabout erected a directional signpost and donated 2 white board /markers at St. Paul's Sec. Sch., Ibeasoegbe, Oru West LGA
27.	Upgraded Imo State Zoological Garden to international standard at Nekede, Owerri West LGA.
28.	Organised Skill and Entrepreneurship training on; Fashion Design, Bead Making, Bridal Works, Leather Works, Catering, Barbing, Fruit Juice production, Event Planning, Laundry and Dry Cleaning, Soap Making, Perfume and detergent production at the Obibiazena Vocational Centre, Owerri North LGA.
29.	Embarked on Health Outreach for Rural People at Amaeze Obibiazena, Owerri North LGA.
30.	Established an ICT lab with internet facilities at Okigwe.
31.	Constructed a toilet, organised an academic summit and 2 days free medical outreach at Ohaji, Egbema.
32.	Donated Sporting facilities and granted scholarship to 35 students at Mgbidi, Oru LGA.
33.	Renovated library at Ihiagwa, Owerri West LGA



JIGAWA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Constructed a two-room toilet at Model Quranic Islamiyya School Auyo, Hadeija.
2.	Renovated 2 classrooms, donated chairs and desks and planting of flowers at Model Boarding Primary School Balangu, Kafin Hausa.
3.	Refurbished a broken down borehole at GDJSS Turabu, Kirikasawa LGA.
4.	Renovated Female and Emergency wards at the Model Primary Healthcare Centre Auyo, Auyo LGA.
5.	Renovated Paediatric Ward, donated bedcovers, 7 pillows, 28 Mosquito nets, Iron Stands, 6 containers and bed sheets at the Model Primary Healthcare Centre Auyo.
6.	Constructed a Library and a sign post at the GDJSS Danmasara.
7.	Constructed 20 dual sitter school desks at Yalwawa Primary School.
8.	Renovated 2 classrooms and donated 30 dual sitter school desks at Dutse International School.
9.	Renovated A State Divisional Library at Babura LGA.
10.	Refurbished 80 three sitter desks and chairs at GJSS Arewa Kazaure.
11.	Connected school to the National Grid and donation of electric poles and wires at GJSS Gagarawa LGA.
12.	Renovated a dilapidated building and converted a School Library and donated reading tables and chairs for the library at GDJSS Gagarawa LGA.
13.	Constructed bus stops at Dadin Sarki Village, Women Centre, Primary Healthcare Centre and Yandamo Village, all in Kafin Dadi LGA.
14.	Constructed a roundabout, signpost and bus stop at Kafin Hausa LGA.



KADUNA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Constructed a block of 4 classrooms at LEA Primary School Kurmin Biri, Kachia LGA.
2.	Constructed VIP Toilets at Marmara Village Igabi LGA.
3.	Sunk a well and built five blocks of VIP toilets at Mallam Mande Primary School, Jaba LGA.
4.	Constructed 4 fish ponds at the Ministry of Agriculture Kaduna. Built a block of toilets with water closets at LEA Primary School Nasarawa Trikania, Kaduna South LGA
5.	Built 2 classrooms with an office and a Toilet at the UBE Primary School Gora, Jaba LGA
6.	Built and equipped a skill development center for rural women at Agric. Department, ABU Zaria, Zaria LGA
7.	Constructed Skill centre, establishment of a Nursery School and renovated toilets at Kayarda, Lere LGA.
8.	Built a block of Laboratory, Library and 2 offices at Gbonkok Arak, Sanga LGA.
9.	Donated 3 wooden Shelves, Reading Tables, Chairs, Set of Computers, Printer and photocopying machine to GSS Nasa, Kachia LGA.
10.	Established a school library and equipped it with 50 textbooks and other supplementary readers at GSS Rigachikun, Igabi LGA

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11.	Constructed a borehole (double space) with water slab, 10 tap heads and 500 litres of GEEPEE tank at the Nigeria Defence Academy, Igabi LGA.
12.	Renovated a block of classrooms and donated 50 chairs and desks at GSS Dandaura, Kaura LGA.
13.	Built a laboratory waiting room (Shade), rendered free health services to the community and organised sensitization on HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis at the Zaria Local government Secretariat.
14.	Dug a well and donated two bags of fertilizer to a rehabilitation farm, at Zangon Kataf LGA.
15.	Constructed a 4 bedroom Corpsers' Lodge and sinking of one borehole at Kagarko LGA.
16.	Constructed a 4 bedroom Corpsers' Lodge at Kurmin Biri, Kachia LGA.
17.	Sunk a borehole and refurbishment of a spoilt borehole at Jere, kagarko LGA.
18.	Constructed Primary Health Centre at Karadu Community, Chikun LGA. Constructed drainage system at Command Secondary School Sabo, Chikun LGA.
19.	Constructed 33 seats for Army Children School NDA Kaduna, Igabi LGA.
20.	Constructed ten (10) open market stores at Samaru Bajju, Zangon Kataf LGA.
21.	Established a skill acquisition centre and trained women in Tailoring, Knitting and Bag making at Gayya Chikun LGA.
22.	Sunk 1 borehole each at Kaduna North And South LGAs.

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23.	Constructed a Computer laboratory at GSS Farman Zangon Kataf LGA.
24.	Constructed four pit toilets and sunk a borehole with hand pump at GSS Sarki, Kaduna North LGA.
25.	Completed an abandoned school library and donated books for the library at GSS Kenyi, Kagarko LGA.
26.	Constructed a Standard Accident and Emergency Unit at the General Hospital Kachia, Kachia LGA.
27.	Built and equipped a Science Laboratory at GSS Kachia, Kachia LGA.
28.	Constructed 2 classrooms for NYSC Nursery and Primary School at Saminaka, Lere LGA.
29.	Constructed 5 toilets at Anchau, Kubau LGA.
30.	Constructed a borehole at Kafanchan, Jema'a LGA.
31.	Constructed a skill acquisition centre at Kujama, Chikun LGA
32.	Constructed a three bedroom self contained Corpers' Lodge at Zonkwa Zangon Kataf LGA.

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KANO STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Constructed a bus stop stand in Takai L.G.A
2	Conducted spelling bee competition among 23 schools in Kano State (held at Rumfa Collage, Kano)
3	Trained 30 traditional birth attendants and distributed birth kits to the women trained at Ungogo
4	Visited and donated food items to accident victims at Takai
5	Donated uniforms to Umawa Primary School, Ungogo
6	Provided 100 pairs of school uniforms to IDP Mariri and installed fire alarm at NYSC secretariat at Kano
7	Donated 40 foot wears, three desks and two refuse bins to Rijiyar Zaki, Ungongo
8	Provided 40 desks at LGA Primary School and G.S.S., Kumbotso
9	Conducted sensitisation, debate and quiz competition in 25 schools in Kano
10	Donated food items to Green Pasture Orphanage Home, Sabon Gari, Kano
11	Constructed zebra crossing at IBBI Way, Kwari Market, Kano and built a bus stop at Kano line park, Takai
12	Prison visitation and 3 persons were giving bail by the legal aid team, Kano
13	Carried out sanitation at Sabo Market, Kwari Market, Kano
14	Carried out health outreach in various LGAs and IDP Camp, Mariri, Karaye
15	Carried out sensitisation on financial literacy in Kano state

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
16	Drilled borehole at Yamma Primary school, Tsohon Garin Tudun Wada
17	Trained students and staff of G.S.S, Sumaila, on cosmetology, soap making, balm and spirit production, Sumaila
18	Constructed water source (Tap outlet) in Dambare community, Takai
19	Carried out electrical/electronic skill acquisition and computer training at Rano LGA
20	Created awareness on malaria and distributed free mosquito nets to pregnant women at Nasarawa
21	Carried out skill acquisition and computer training for students of G.G.S.S, Kaura
22	Established young farmers club and trained members on improved cowpea production at Garko
23	Established an ICT club in Nassarawa LGA
24	Rehabilitated a library and constructed a signpost at G.S.S Kullawa, Bunkure LGA
25	Carried out youth empowerment/vocational skills programme at Bebeji LGA
26	Carried out free medical treatment (Health initiative) and constructed a borehole at Wudil LGA.
27	Renovated a Library and set up a computer lab oratory at G.S.S, Gwamma, Bunkure

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KATSINA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Constructed a recreational playground for children at Girka Primary School in Kaita Local Government.
2.	Repaired 3 seater chairs and desks (150 pieces each) at GSS Rawayau in Kurfi LGA. Installed school Sign post at GSS Rawayau in Kurfi LGA Donated laminated copies of National Anthem and Pledge for students of GSS Rawayau in Kurfi LGA. Repaired twenty (20) pieces of laboratory chairs at GSS Rawayau in Kurfi LGA. Donated JAMB Past Question papers and answers to SS III Students of GSS Rawayau in Kurfi LGA. Repaired broken doors and windows at GSS Rawayau in Kurfi LGA.
3.	Constructed a borehole equipped with one Geepee tank and an electricity generator at Ambassador's Village in Katsina LGA. Donated ten (10) mattresses, toiletries and food items to an orphanage in Katsina LGA.
4.	Constructed one (1) block of class rooms at ECWA Standard School Katsina in Katsina LGA.
5.	Erected a sign post at the entrance to Katsina town in Batagarawa LGA. Constructed two (2) toilets at Katsina Club in Katsina LGA.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
6.	Renovated Barde Health Centre Bakori LGA.
7.	Established a school garden at GGSS Rogogo in Zango LGA.
8.	Trained a team of ten (10) community members in five (5) communities on agricultural waste in Funtua.
	Donated start-up equipment to each team of trainees in the host communities. Donated fabricated stoves to 30 households in each of the selected communities.
9.	Donated bed sheets and pillow cases and waste bins to the Primary Health Centre Ajiwa in Batagarawa LGA.
10.	Donated one hundred (100) three seater chairs for both junior and senior classes at GSSS Bindawa.
11.	Marked Zebra Crossing at the junction to GGSS Jibia in Jibia LGA.
12.	Donated twenty (20) class room desks to GGSS Ajiwa in Batagarawa LGA.
13.	Constructed speed breakers along Maman Kanki way, Dutsinma Road, Kankia, Kankia LGA.

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KEBBI STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Donated two hundred (200) chairs and desks, twenty-five (25) double bunk beds and fifteen (15) mattresses to Nagari Science College, Birnin Kebbi.
2.	Constructed and donated 50 chairs and tables to GSTC Bunza Drilled a bore-hole and donated it Tili community, Bunza
3.	Renovated the city gate along Jega and Sokoto Ward School, Kardi roads
4.	Donated 60 desks to Arabic/Islamic School, Kangiwa, Argungu LGA
5.	Built 6-room VIP toilet at Central Market Kangiwa, Argungu LGA
6.	Renovated 31 black boards at Government Girls' Arabic and Islamic Secondary School, Kangiwa, Argungu LGA
7.	Donated uniform to 450 pupils at Saminaka Model Primary School, Shanga LGA Built a modern Police out-post at Saminaka, Shanga LGA
8.	Renovated the classrooms and Headmaster's office at NYSC Nursery and Primary School, Gwanda, Argungu LGA
9.	Empowered 200 women with entrepreneurial skills in Birnin Kebbi Drilled a borehole for the Divisional Police Headquarters, Birnin Kebbi.
10.	Repaired and replaced the vandalised parts of transformers at Koko Besse
11.	Donated 30 3-seater chairs, and tables Kanta Utility College, Argungu

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12	Refurbished 2 Hand pump boreholes for Matankari community, Suru
13.	De-wormed and administered vitamin A on 3,500 children in Gwandu Emirate
14.	Connected electricity to motorised borehole and refurbished its 10,000 litre over head tank at Fawa ward, Gwandu emirate.
15.	Set up a GPIS at the Waziri Usmanu Polytechnic, Birnin Kebbi Constructed a block of toilets at Dr. Amina Government College and Correctional home, Birnin Kebbi.
16.	Rebuilt a collapsed building at Gesse Primary School, Bayero community and donated iron benches, 100 set of uniform, a signpost, mosquito nets as well as repainted the school and repaired the damaged hand pump at Nomadic Primary School, Abacha Bye-pass , Birnin Kebbi
17.	Built a food store and kitchen and donated uniforms, and school bags to students at GDSS Kayngakwai, Dandi, Bunza LGA.
18.	Built toilets, renovated the staff room and erected a signpost at GDSS Sambawa, Maiyama LGA
19.	Donated 4 VIP toilets and renovated the water septic tank at the Federal Ministry of Solid Minerals, Birnin Kebbi.
20	Donated Chemistry practical apparatus, 30 lab stools, 3 lab tables and renovated 4 toilets, at GDSS Nadaniya, Badariya area, Birnin Kebbi
21	Established a Nursery School at GGSS, Dugu Shanga, Yauri LGA
22	Donated hospital equipment and health awareness campaign at the University clinic (KSUST), Aliero, Jega. Inter School Debate among secondary schools in Jega LGA
23.	Renovated portions of the Dental Clinic and offered free oral health awareness and treatment at Sir Yahaya Hospital, Birnin Kebbi.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
24.	Constructed and donated 41 seating desks to GGASS Kangiwa, Arewa LGA
25.	Donated 4-room toilet, 6-metal waste bins, 100 treated mosquito nets, 50 pieces of School uniform, 50 School bags, 50 pairs of sandals, 40 dozens of exercise books as well as repaired the solar powered water pumping system at GDSS Kambaza, Gwandu
26.	De-wormed 1,000 pupils at Aisha Buhari general Hospital, Birnin Kebbi
27.	De-wormed 1, 000 pupils and established a nutrition centre at Aisha Buhari General Hospital, Birnin Kebbi
28.	Renovated a block of classrooms at Kola, Birnin kebbi.
29.	Installed a 50 KVA transformer in Siniya Community , Kola, B/Kebbi
30.	Organised free Adult Literacy programme for women and donated three bags of cement to Filing Jirgin community, Ambursa LGA
31.	Reconstructed the central round -about in Augie town .
32.	Donated benches to Army Day Secondary School, B/Kebbi.
33.	Drilled a bore-hole at Dolekaira Market Square, Dandi LGA
34.	Donated 150 pieces of school uniform to less privileged students of GSS Augie.
35.	Donated sandals and socks for 80 pupils at Bayan Tasha Primary School, Birnin Kebbi
36.	Constructed a T-junction at Gwandu, Gwandu LGA
37.	Donated 10 hand-propelled tricycle wheel chairs, 18 pieces of six -spring mattresses, 4 crutches, 2 hearing aids, 2 virtually inspired guide sticks, as well as repaired 8 double bunk beds at the School for Special Needs

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38.	Organised a three-day skills acquisition training in Tailoring , Welding and Bricklaying for students of GDSS Dolekaina, Dandi LGA.
39.	Renovated the NYSC Nursery and Primary School, KALGO.
40.	Donated 100 sanitary pads to women at Maiyama General Hospital.
41.	Renovated dilapidated classrooms .and constructed cement black boards at Arabic and Islamic Secondary School.
42.	Organised Spelling Bee contest for Junior Secondary Schools and Debate Competition for Senior Secondary Schools at the NYSC Nursery and Primary School, Dakin-Gari. Donated 20 pieces of uniform, 20 pairs of sandals, 20 pieces of socks, 50 copies of NYSC branded exercises books as well as designed Zebra Crossing signs on the high way at Dakin-Gari.
43.	Donated 50 dual classroom desks to Army Girls' Secondary School, Birnin Kebbi.
44.	Renovated the twin dilapidated toilets, constructed portable twin - eight channels on each side and donated bed sheets to the Rural Health Centre, Dakin -Gari.
45.	Renovated the School Clinic and donated beddings, and other medical accessories.
46	Donated reading materials to NYSC Nursery and Primary School library in Kalgo LGA.

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KOGI STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/ PROJECTS
1	Constructed a Bus-stop at Ajaokuta Local Government Area.
2	Dug a well at Odenyin Bassa Local Government Area.
3	Constructed a pit toilet at Oguma, Bassa LGA.
4	Constructed public ventilated toilets at Ife-Olukotun Yagba-East LGA.
5	Designed and Mounted of NYSC Logo at NYSC state Secretariat Lokoja.
6	Erected a big Sign-Post of "Welcome to Ankpa", Ankpa LGA.
7	Constructed a Bamboo food Centre at G.S.S Abejukolo. Omala LGA.
8	Constructed a Pit toilet at the Council for Arts and Culture premises, Lokoja.
9	Organised tree planting at St. Banabas Secondary School Kabba, Kabba-Bunu LGA.
10	Constructed a Bus-stop at Lokogoma Phase 1 Lokoja, Lokoja LGA.
11	Constructed 2 room pit toilets at the Ministry of Women Affairs, Lokoja.
12	Constructed 9 pit toilets at kabba Bunu Local Government Area, Kabba.
13	Constructed a bus stop at Ogori-Magongo Local Government Area.
14	Constructed a student recreational park at Kogi State Polytechnic, Lokoja.

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15	Planted trees at Aiyegunle Abede, Yagba East LGA.
16	Organised tree planting at NYSC Permanent Orientation Camp Asaya. Kabba.
17	Constructed a Mini-Stadium Pavilion at Ajaokuta Steel Company School Ajaokuta LGA.
18	Carried out beautification of Oba's palace with Ornamental Flowers and Economic trees at Iyah-Gbede, Kabba-Bunnu LGA.
19	Constructed an incinerator at the Market Square in Iyamoye community, Ijumu LGA.
20	Constructed and equipped the Community Health Centre in collaboration with LG council, Ogori-Magongo.
21	Constructed a round about with a corps member's statue in the centre, at Okpo, Olamaboro LGA.
22	Constructed a school Library at G.S.S Bagana, Omala LGA.
23	Erected a Farewell/ Welcome signpost at Bagana town, Omala LGA.
24	Constructed a car park at Kogi Savings and Loan LTD. Lokoja.
25	Established a Computer Training and Skill Acquisition Centre, Iyana in Ijumu Local Government Area.
26	Constructed toilet and bathroom at Community Secondary School Odenyi, Bassa LGA.
27	Constructed an open store with six market shops at Ikuehi-Ihima Market Okehi LGA.



KWARA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Established primary school floored with concrete cement and a pavilion classroom and donated Twenty-five (25) benches, desks and chalkboards at Bara Community, Edu LGA
2	Constructed stall at Lemona market. Provided 30 long laboratory stools. Supplied manual microscope at Ikotun High School, Lemona/Ikotun, Oyun LGA
3	Established a barbing saloon for prison inmates at Okekura Prison, Ilorin
4	Constructed water system toilet and first aid box at Ilofa Grammar School, Oke Ero LGA
5	Donated computer and printer as well as HIV/AIDS awareness signpost at Memorial College, Ilorin
6	Established Vocational training centre at Lafiagi, Edu LGA
7	Established a barbing saloon for prison inmates and carried out campaigns against drug abuse and cultism at NIG Prisons Lafiagi, Edu LGA
8	Carried out Hard Embroidery design training for youth and women at Ile Offe, Oke- Ero LGA
9	Donated a Tricycle and cash to a disabled at St. Peters Primary School, Mugaji, Ilorin.
10	Donated 5 sets of computer and printers to Hope Orphanage Home, Ilorin South LGA

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
11	Constructed a Principal's office at UBE J.S.S, Bindofu, Lafiagi Edu LGA.
12	Constructed volleyball courtyard at Government Day Secondary School, Kaiama LGA
13	Provided 5 sewing machines, 5 shoe making machines and 15 Electric marker board at Baboko Community Secondary School, Ilorin.
14	Established a Junior Secondary School at Share Junction, Ifelodun LGA
15	Provided a wheelchair for physically challenged J.S.S 3 Student at JSS Kemanu, Kaiama LGA
16	Established NYSC NIP School, renovated existing school structure and provided school uniforms to first set/beginners at Yashikira community, Baruten LGA
17	Constructed a school library at GSS Alegungo Ifelodun LGA
18	Constructed a bus stop at UIITH, Ilorin East
19	Established Junior Secondary School, Kuburutu, Baruten LGA JSS
20	Established a functional Anti-natal centre, Yashikra community Baruten LGA
21	Constructed 3 blocks of classrooms, 2 offices and 2 stores at JSS Late Patigi LGA
22	Constructed modern public toilet at Egusi Ile Illofa, Oke-Ero LGA
23	Constructed a block of two classrooms/offices at Bokungi community, Edu LGA
24	Built a bus stop at Gwara Community Kaiama LGA

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
25	Constructed a block of 2 rooms for Corps members' Lodge at Motokun Village, Patigi LGA
26	Built a maternity home Ndanaku Community, Patigi LGA
27	Established ICT Centre at Ogbendoroko Community Secondary School, Asa LGA
28	Constructed a Cassava processing factory as well as Donated food and clothing materials to widows and orphans at Shao, Moro LGA
29	Constructed and donated 60 chairs and tables to Muslim Community College, Ayedun, Oke-Ero LGA
30	Donated 50 chairs and tables as well as equipped school library with books at Idofin High School, Idofin Igbara, Oke-Ero
31	Paid WAEC and NECO registration fees for four students at Government Secondary School, Gwaria, Kaiama LGA
32	Constructed 20 benches, tables and wooden blackboard as well as table tennis board at LGEA Primary School Maruta, Edu LGA
33	Installed 46 streetlights and repaired 91 existing ones at Oro Ago, Ifelodun LGA
34	Established community orphanage home at Iloffia, Oke-Ero LGA
35	Drilled a borehole and installed storage tank at Afun Community, Asa Local Government Area.
36	Constructed 3 compartment of toilets at Muslim Grammar School, Ojukiu, Oyun LGA
37	Established a school library stocked with books at Government High School Borinya, Baruten LGA

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LAGOS STATE

S/NO	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	<p>Embarked on skill acquisition programme (Beads and Hat making) for women and young people in Ifelodun Local Government Area.</p> <p>Carried out repairs on the printer and computer used by the HIV/AIDS C DS group.</p> <p>Organised a rally on World AIDS day Ansar-ud-Deen Senior Secondary School.</p> <p>Trained 40 (Forty) students in the Air force Secondary School, Ikeja.</p>
2.	<p>Donated a set of computer to St. George Boys; School, Ikoyi.</p> <p>Donated sets of uniform and books for pupils of less privileged homes.</p>
3.	<p>Adopted Modupe Cole School for the Physically Challenged Modupe Cole, Yaba as Peer Educator Trainer centre.</p> <p>Trained students of Junior Boys School Sabo, Yaba in Card-Making, Interior Decoration and Barbing.</p>
4.	<p>Rehabilitated a block of six (6) classrooms and donation of white board at Olusosoun Nursery and Primary School, Oregun Ikeja.</p> <p>Donated food items to Oregun Orphanage Home, Badagry.</p> <p>Zebra crossing and road traffic at Badagry</p>

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
5.	<p>Constructed six (6) classroom block, a library and two toilets at Agodo Alara Ikorodu</p> <p>Established Nigeria Police College Pharmacy at Ikeja</p> <p>Reconstructed and beautificatied the school gate at Kankon Senior Secondary School, Badagry.</p>
6.	<p>Donated 3 set of (Three) desktop computers to Okota Senior Grammar School, Isolo.</p>
	<p>Offered scholarship to five (5) brilliant indigent pupils of New Estate Primary School, Oshodi.</p>
7.	<p>Donated a flat screen computer to Ireti Primary School, Ikoyi</p> <p>Donated two (2) canopies to NYSC, Eti Osa II Office, Ikoyi.</p> <p>Donated fifteen (15) double bunks wooden beds, Thirty (30) mattresses, (3 by 6 inches), Thirty pillows, Thirty bed sheets and blankets and two (2) Deep Freezers to SOS Children's Village Okota, Lagos.</p> <p>Donated three (3) desktop computers and three (3) set of desks with chairs to Ipakoko Junior Secondary School Ipakodo, Ikorodu.</p> <p>Donated two (2) sewing machines, and trained sixty (60) youths in Beads, Soap, Disinfectant makings, Make-up Artistry and Catering services to students of Vocational Training of the Deaf, Apapa Local Government, Apapa.</p> <p>Renovated a block of four (4) classrooms at Egan Senior Grammar School, Alimosho Eti -osa 2 Ikoyi .</p> <p>Donated a sewing machine to inmates of ikoyi Correctional Service.</p>

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
8.	<p>Enrolled 118 street children into 'The Slum to School' programme and gave each of them with a set of uniform, pair of school sandals and school bags in Maroko, Mainland LGA</p> <p>Drilling of boreholes at 13, Garuba Musa Street, idi Araba Mushin.</p> <p>Renovated library at Ansar-ud-Deen Comprehensive Junior high School, Okota.</p> <p>Procured 131 dual desk and chairs and donated them to State Senior Grammar School, Surulere.</p> <p>Donated furniture for refurbishment of school library at Epeledo High School Sura, Lagos island.</p> <p>Makoko Community</p> <p>Equipped School clinic with drugs at Gbagada Senior Grammar School, Somolu</p> <p>Free medical outreach for residents of King's College Yaba.</p> <p>Organised tutorial coaching at Olori Community Ikorodu.</p> <p>Established visitor's waiting room.</p> <p>Drilling of boreholes.</p> <p>Renovated class room provided borehole and chairs and table Oyewole Nursery and Primary School Maza Maza, Ojo Local Government.</p> <p>Skill acquisition training on soap making in Alausa Community Ikeja.</p> <p>Donated white boards at Saints George Primary School Falomo, Eti-osa 2.</p>

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
9.	<p>Installed water treatment plant for the production of potable water in some selected public schools in Oshodi - isolo.</p> <p>Provided exercise books and classroom furniture to four schools Ajeromi -ifelodun.</p>
	<p>Donated essential drugs to all Primary Health Centres in Mushin and NYSC staff clinic.</p> <p>Donated 15 computers and provision of internet facility.</p> <p>Constructed bore-hole at RCM Primary School, Oregun in Ibeju-Lekki.</p>
10.	<p>Constructed public toilet in Orimedu Community, Ibeju lekki.</p> <p>Established a snail farm at Lagos State Model College Badore, Ajah. Drilled a bore-hole at Majindun</p> <p>Renovated toilet and beautification of Ejigbo LCDA Secretariat.</p>
11.	<p>Constructed modern basketball court at Ibeju-Lekki.</p> <p>Donated fifty (50) pairs of school uniform at Ibeju-Lekki..</p> <p>Donated six (6) white boards.</p> <p>Established ICT centre and donated five (5) computer systems, a generator, tables and chairs at Araromi Primary and Gbadaga Secondary and Gbagada.</p> <p>Constructed four (4) units VIP toilets and security post Primary School of Kosofe Local Government Area respectfully.</p> <p>Procured jjamb forms to ten (10) students of Ikeja Senior High School at Ikeja Senior High School.</p>

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
12.	<p>Donated three (3) sewing machines and materials to the Lagos-State Motherless Baby Home.</p> <p>Donated ten (10) desks and chairs, first aid boxes fully equipped to Dr. Teslim Elias Model Primary School, Lagos Island.</p>
13.	<p>Equipped a computer room with six (6) computer tables and 2 computers at Olomu Nursery and Primary School.</p> <p>Renovated classrooms at Vetland Senior Grammar School, Agege.</p>
14.	<p>Donated ten (10) dual seater chairs to Ewutuntun senior Grammar School Oshodi Ireti Primary School, Ikeja.</p> <p>Built a snailery farm Ireti School Ikoyi</p> <p>Renovated a classroom at La Primary School Agbara nine (9) white boards, magnetic dusters, hundred (100) pen markers, nine (9) notice boards, a wall clock, rehabilitated three (3) pit latrines and construction of one (1) septic tank with soak away toilet units in the school.</p>
15.	<p>Donated twenty (20) desk and chairs to Ayangburen Junior Secondary School, Ikorodu.</p> <p>Embarked on a project titled "Back to school happily" Holy Cross Catholic School Lagos Island.</p>
16.	<p>Donated twenty (20) desks and chairs to Bogije Primary School, Ibeju Lekki.</p> <p>Donated twenty (20) desks and chairs to Lakowe Primary School, Ibeju Lekki.</p> <p>Donated thirteen (13) white board, makers and duster.</p> <p>Returned to school an orphaned blind girl at Awoyaya Primary School, Awoyaya.</p>

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
17.	<p>Rehabilitated borehole and water articulator at Hussy Military school.</p> <p>Organised skill acquisition training on Soap Making for Oju Agemu Community</p> <p>Carried out medical outreach at Ilaje Community and Yaba Tech, Yaba</p> <p>Provided two (2) sign post on indecent dressing at Air force Secondary Health Centre.</p> <p>Sponsored the training of a deaf and dumb girl in sewing and acquired a starter pack to her.</p> <p>Sent back to school twelve (12) children to school Olomu Secondary School, Ajah.</p>
	<p>Visual screening of two hundred and fifty (250) students and referrals at. Divine Heritage Orphanage, Ijede Ikorodu.</p> <p>Roofed ante natal clinic and waiting area.</p> <p>Donated two (2) clutches.</p> <p>Donated five (5) Hp brand new computer systems.</p> <p>Painted computer room Radio B/stop Alausa, Ikeja.</p> <p>Constructed sculptural piece at Radio B/stop, Alausa, Ikeja.</p> <p>Upscaled the hygienic level of pig carcass dressing and processing slab at Oke -Aro pig slab.</p> <p>Organised skills acquision training for sixty four (64) children.</p>

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
18.	<p>Donated a sick bay and equipped the library at Girl's Junior Grammar School, Obalende..</p> <p>Donated twenty (20) chairs and tables to Kuje Junior Grammar School.</p> <p>Renovated the guard post at Bonny Cantonment, Victoria Island..</p> <p>Sent fifteen (15) out of school children to school. Saints Augustine Catholic School Ikorodu.</p> <p>Donated fifty (50) pairs of uniform to students in four (4) schools.</p> <p>Dstv, solar panel inverter installation and training.</p> <p>Presented road safety signs (digital banner).</p> <p>Donated three hundred (300) books, (3) packs of biros, (3) packs of pencil to Ibeju Lekki Primary School, Ibeju Lekki Community sensitization /health Outreaches on childhood diarrhea in Makoko Yaba.</p> <p>Introduced guidance and counseling unit and Health Literacy clubs at Nigerian Army secondary School, Ojo.</p>
	<p>Donated three (3) computers to Anifowoshe Primary School Ikeja.</p> <p>Sent fifteen (15) children back to school Apostolic faith Secondary, Anthony village.</p>
19.	<p>Established a vegetable garden, snail pen, poultry farm, repaired broken lockers and donated fifty (50) pillows cases to Ogombo Junior Secondary School and Badore College, Ajah.</p>

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
	<p>Established a community based centre for mothers/care givers and their children in Ifako-Ijaye.</p> <p>Renovated toilets, donated fifty (50) set of chairs and tables.and a sewing machine to Gbaja Girl's Junior School Surulere..</p> <p>Conducted free eye screening for Fifty Eight (58) students of New Era Junior Secondary, Somolu.</p> <p>Renovated and beautified Ipaja Ayobo Baruwa Gate/Ipaja.</p>
20.	<p>Provided Public Address System.at Isolo community.</p> <p>Donated fifty (50) single chairs., free eye screening and trained students of Comprehensive Junior High School, Oshodi in Beads and Soap makings</p> <p>Repainted perimeter fence of Ansarudeen Nursery and Primary School, Isolo.</p> <p>Donated Twenty (20) pieces of uniform and trained pupils of two (2) orphanage homes in fabric craft, paper design, tye and dye.</p> <p>Donated Twenty (25) chairs and tables to First Baptist Church, Itire..</p> <p>Trained pupils of Opebi Primary School, Ikeja in Beads - Making, Art work and Shoe-making.</p> <p>Carried out sensitisation on malaria infection at Compassionate and Bethlehem Orphanage.</p>
21.	

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	<p>Provided free malaria screening test at Custom B/stop, Abaranje Road Ikorodu.</p> <p>Distributed mosquito nets to Maya Community Senior Grammar School.</p> <p>Administered free malaria treatment at Mountain of Fire Car Park, Olushifeso Street, Onike- Iwaja Yaba.</p> <p>Created awareness on child sexual abuse at Kusoru Primary School, Ilasa.</p>
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NASARAWA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Constructed and donated 40 sets of Chairs & Desks to Pilot Central School Kadarko, Giza Dev. Area.
2	Donated 20 Desks & seats to GSS Agaza Keana LGA
3	Constructed two Books Shelves, Two reading Desks tables & a chairs and donated them to GSS Awe
4	Constructed a well at the Corporers' lodge, Keana LGA
5	Constructed three (3) -Room pit Toilets at LGEA Primary School Nasarawa Eggon
6	Built a science Laboratory at GSS Mama Farin Ruwa Dev't. Area
7	Constructed a block of two- room Toilets at GSS Army Barracks, Keffi
8	Constructed a block of two class rooms at Annur Islamic Secondary School Wamba, Wamba LGA.
9	Donated Sixty (60) Desks to LGEA Primary School Maramara, Gunki & Shamage communities
10	Constructed a Block of Two classrooms and an office. At GJSS Odu, Udege Deve. Area
11	Electrified Govt. Science School Andaha, Akwanga LGA
12	Established a skill Acquisition centre at Government Resettlement Secondary School Ukyia. Toto LGA
13	Donated a power generating set, Desktop Computer, coloured photocopier, scanning machine & a colour printing machine to GSS Toto, Toto LGA
14	Constructed and donated four (4) Toilet, 3 Block of classrooms and National flag at GSS Tudu Kauri
15	Built a Computer laboratory at GSS Keana
16	Constructed a multipurpose Hall at Annur Islamic Community School Wamba
17	Donated Medical Laboratory equipment to Giza health Centre, Genkwe Development Area

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
18	Constructed a Library at GSS Wamba
19	Constructed Two (2) Toilets at GSS Sabon Gida, Bakin Kogi, Assakio Development Area
20	Completed a school Library at GSS Nakere, Wamba LGA
21	Built a Corpers' Lodge at GSS Kokona
22	Constructed Thirty (30)-classrooms Desks GJSS Akwanga North Dev't Area.
23	Constructed science laboratory at GSS Gidan Mai Akuya, Assakio, Lafia North
27	Built a female Toilet And Bathroom at GSS Awe,Awe LGA
28	Completed and equipped Science Library at Govt. Sec. Sch. Tudun Kauri, Lafia. Donated two safety boxes to the NYSC camp Clinic at Keffi.
29	Organised seminar for mothers on exclusive breastfeeding and antenatal care at Tudun Kauri, Primary Health Care Centre, Bukan Sidi Lafia and primary Health Care Centre, Mararaba Akunza, Lafia.
30	Established a Red Cross club and trained volunteered students on First Aid Care at Govt. Sec Sch. Tudun Kauri, Lafia
31	Donated Thirty (30) packets of bathing soap and sensitised pupils of Lafia East Primary School on personal hygiene with emphasis on (Hand washing).
32	Carried out health talk on environmental Sanitation at Lafia Modern Market.
33	Donated sanitation materials to Lafia Modern Market office.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
34	Established Red cross club and trained volunteers at Govt. Junior sec. Sch. Bukan Sidi, Lafia
35	Carried out medical screening of NYSC officials, corps members, dignitaries and employers during the Annual NYSC Corps Employers' Workshop held in Lafia, Nasarawa State.
36	Modeled sculpture of a Gbagyi woman carrying load of wood on her shoulder to showcase the culture and tradition of the Gbagyi people of Nasarawa State
37	Modeled sculpture of Eggon traditional dancer to showcase the culture and tradition of the Eggon people of Nasarawa State.
38	Trained unemployed graduates and drop-outs in Art works
39	Designed Art works to depict the culture of the three major ethnic groups of Nigeria viz: Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba.
40	Donated Twenty-Five (25) tables and chairs to Lafia East Primary School.

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NIGER STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Constructed a block of eight (8) rooms toilet at Tunga Magajiya Market Square, Rijau LGA
2	Drilled a borehole in Abu community, Mokwa
3	Constructed three (3) bedroom Corpsers' Lodge at Zanchita, Gbako LGA
4.	Built a paint technology and cosmetology skills acquisition centre at Tunga-goro community, Bosso LGA
5.	Drilled automated borehole with a 3000 litre capacity overhead tank at Kadna community, Bosso LGA
6	Established a school library equipped with books in Central Primary School, Izom
7	Constructed a mini-market at Semazhike community, Gbako LGA
8	Provided motorised borehole at Oluchi Convenience Equipment Institute, Minna
9	Constructed a wheel-powered sprayer at Scientific Equipment Institute, Minna
10	Constructed a block of three (3) rooms toilet at GDSS, Batagi
11	Constructed patient waiting area at the General Hospital, Suleja
12	Constructed two (2) classrooms and staff room for GDSS, Tuna, Gurara
13	Constructed four (4) rooms water closet toilet at Army Day Secondary School, Bida
14	Constructed 45 desks/chairs for students of Army Day Secondary School, Minna
15	Constructed 40 desks/chairs for students of Government Girls Secondary School, Old Airport Road, Minna
16	Constructed two VIP toilets as well as provided 50 laboratory metal stools in Comprehensive Secondary School, Ibeto
17	Constructed four-room public toilet at Kutigi

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
18	Constructed a borehole at Guest House, Lemu, Gbako LGA
19	Constructed a borehole at Batati community, Edati LGA
20	Established an ICT Centre at Women Day, Kutigi
21	Constructed an incinerator and signpost at General Hospital, Kutigi
22	Built a four-room Corpses' Lodge at Shabafu community, Kutigi
23	Constructed a computer room equipped with computers at Army Day Secondary School, Katcha, Bida LGA
24	Drilled a hand-pump borehole at Jankasa community, Shiroro LGA
25	Constructed and donated 90 stools to Science Laboratory, GDSS, Kontagora
26	Constructed an automobile borehole with two overhead tanks as well as built a generator at Shabafu, Lavum, Kutigi
27	Drilled and installed two boreholes for water supply at New Bussa, Borgu LGA
28	Constructed and equipped a mathematical laboratory at Police Secondary School, Minna
29	Constructed a solar powered borehole with steel stanchion and steel tank of 20,000 litres capacity at Fadikpe, Minna
30	Donated 20 desks/chairs to Day Secondary School, Damsite
31	Constructed four water system public toilet at General Hospital, Minna

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OGUN STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Built a block of Toilets and a block of Computer Centre; fully equipped and donated to community High School,Atapele,Imeko Afon LGA
2	Provision of School Uniform to Students of Akesan Community Grammar School, Ikenne LGA
3	Built Principal's Office at United Christian College,Imeko Afon LGA
4	Drilled a borehole at new market, Ijebu-ode LGA
5	Rehabilitated Primary Health Care Clinic at Yewa South LGA
6	Renovated Library Of St. John High School,Kuto, Abeokuta
7	Drilled Borehole for the the Community of Olorunsogo oke, Abeokuta
8	Completed the uncompleted Igboye Health Centre, Yewa North LGA

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ONDO STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Building of Cafeteria for the School at St Andrews Grammar School Ondo, Ondo West LGA.
2.	6. Established an Adult Literacy Center in conjunction with the N T I Extension programme in Eruzu Akoko Community Akoko North West
3.	Skill Acquisition training in hat making for 10 Inmates at St. Joseph Rehabilitation Centre, Ondo.
4.	Construction of fish pond at Adesiyakan Royal high school, Ileoluji,
5.	Workshop for the Training of traditional birth of Attendant on Essentials obstetric care for the entire people in Akoko N/West LGA Community.
6.	Donation of food and other materials to motherless babies home at Obaile and Grace Orphanages home in Ilesha Road, Akure.
7.	Donated free exercise books, text books and writing materials to Orphanage home at Obaile, Grace Orphanage Ilesha Road & some selected Secondary Schools in Akure.
8.	Empowered Youth through training/seminars in fish Farming, poultry, Bee keeping and snailery in Idoani community, Ose LGA
9.	Donated a 2.7 KVA Electricity Generator to St Stephen Nursery School and stationeries to Alagbaka Estate Nursery & Primary school, Akure ,Akure South LGA.
10.	Drilled a borehole at Koseru Community Clinic in Odigbo L GA
11.	Organized a debate for selected secondary schools in Akure South LGA And presented prizes to winners.
12.	Dug a well and mounted an overhead tank at Okeigbo Grammar school.
13.	Donated a wheel chair for physically challenged pupil at Ikare Primary School and organised public awareness on improved Dental Health & and Gum diseases in the same community.
14.	Conducted Sensitisation on some MDG Goals' such as Family Community Development, menstruation and donated textbooks to Ansarudeen secondary school Library Organised skill training on Soap making for inmates at Akure Correctional Service Centre.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
15.	Donated beddings, mosquito nets, disinfectant and toiletries to Community Hospital Akure and the Rehabilitation Centre in the same Clinic.
16.	Donated textbooks to the Junior secondary students at sacred heart minor seminary Akure 88. Donation of exercise book to the Junior secondary students at sacred heart minor seminar Akure.
17.	Organised talk-shows on Paint production, Snacks making for youth and women in Akoko IkaraLocal Government Area.
18.	Donated Water Pump Machine and Double Bunk Machines; set up the JET club and organised free extra mural classes at Vision College.
19.	Renovated the school's Library and (3) three classrooms at Lipanu/Iyere in Aban Comprehensive High School Ile-oluji.
20.	Empowered over 300 women and youth in Oba Akoko
21.	Constructed students bus stop at Iyere Owo, Owo community
22.	Planted 50 palm trees at Celestial Grammar School, Akure
23.	Planted 50 economy trees at Itaoniyen community, Akure south LGA
24.	Carried out skills acquisition training in baking confectionary for 40 students of CAC Grammar School, Akure
25.	Upgraded a well to a borehole at Oke-Igbo
26.	Carried out enlightenment on water treatment at Edemo community, Oke-Ijebu
27.	Established a Nursery and Primary School and donated water pump to Muslim community in Akure
28.	De-wormed children in Isua Oyara, Ipe Epinmi and Akoko communities
29.	Completed a computer laboratory/ICT Centre at Comprehensive High School, Ode Irele
30.	Carried out skills acquisition training in confectionary for women at Ode-Irele
31.	Treated over 200 wells in Iju community
32.	Rehabilitated pipe borne water at Owenna junction, Ayetoro, Idanre LGA

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
33.	Erected a pavilion at the Sports Arena of Police Secondary School, Ita-Ogbolu
34.	Drilled a borehole with overhead tank at Sasere community
35.	Renovated two classrooms at St. Mary's Catholic College, Owo
36.	Built a toilet and sank a well at Oba Akoko, Akure South LGA
37.	Constructed two classrooms block and donated chairs, desks and white chalk board to Community Grammar School at Iye-Akoko
38.	Organised free weekend computer training for women in Alagbaka, Akure
39.	Renovated an uncompleted building into a gallery in Irele
40.	Dug a well at Oga-Abo, Akure

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OSUN STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Constructed statue of a Hunter at Olode Senior School, Olode, Ife South LGA.
2.	Built NYSC Logo at the NYSC Permanent Orientation Camp, Ede.
3.	Donated and installed solar streetlights at the NYSC Permanent Orientation Camp, Ede.
4.	Constructed NYSC bus stop at Okukun town, Odo Otin LGA.
5.	Constructed statue of the first Ooni of Ifewara, Oba Adeniragun, at Ifewara, Atakumosa West.
6.	Constructed a Well at Obokun Grammar School, Obokun.
7.	Built public conveniences at Ayedire Grammar School, Ibokun.
8.	Built Academic Statues at Osun State University, Osogbo Campus.
9.	Drilled a borehole at Ayedire LGA.
10.	Constructed a Laboratory and Pharmaceutical building at NYSC Permanent Orientation Camp, Ede.
11.	Donated tables and chairs to Community Middle School, Modakeke.
12.	Constructed a Park at Children Rehabilitation Centre, Osogbo, Olorunda LGA.
13.	Donated tables and chairs to Isedo Government Middle School, Ila, Ila LGA.
14.	Constructed a standard Volley-Ball court at Anglican High School, Otan Ayegbaju, Boluwaduro LGA.
15.	Rehabilitated damaged borehole at Baptist Elementary Government Primary School, Awo, egbedore LGA.
16.	Remodeled the Out Patient Department of the Medical Centre, Army Engineering Construction Command, Ede.

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OYO STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Sunk a borehole with over head tank at Isabiyi community, Akinleye LGA. Renovated sick bay/clinic and donated bed sheets and waterproof mattresses the community clinic Akinyode, Akinyele LGA. Donated some essential learning tools at a vocational training centre in Temidire community, Akinyele LGA.
2.	Erected a sculptured NYSC logo at the NYSC Permanent Orientation Camp, Iseyin.
3.	Constructed a modern public toilet Atisbo, Ofiki community.
4.	Donated ten (10) computers, five Universal Operation Systems, two (2) 1000kv stabilizers, Rehabilitation of E-library, and organized IT training for youths, students and staff of Federal College of Forestry, Ibadan. Donated relief materials to an orphanage home at Ibadan North West LGA.
5.	Renovated and equipped a science laboratory at Ilua Community Grammar School, Oyo.
6.	Constructed 50 classroom desk, renovated a classroom and constructed a Volleyball court at Isapa Community High School Arowomo, Ogbomosho North LGA.
7.	Constructed a Public toilet at Okeho in Kajola Local Government Area
8.	Constructed 6 toilets at the Community Grammar School at Irawo-owode Atisbo LGA.
9	Constructed two wells in Ago-Are community near Ito quarters, Temple Area, Ago-Are Atisbo LGA.
10	Rehabilitated street lights at Idere and Igboo and installed CCTV at Ibarapa Central LGA.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
11	Constructed Bus-Stop shade along Akinmorin Federal College of Education (Special) Road, Oyo.
12	-Constructed a well and two (2) toilets at Christ African Grammar school. -Donated furniture to Christ Anglican Secondary School staff room at Akinfewa, Ibadan South East LGA.
13	Repaired dilapidated and non-functional borehole between Ile-Oloro and Ile Oloko at Iganmu, Iwajowa LGA.
14	Constructed and equipped a Library with e-learning facilities at Onjo High school, Okeho, Kajola LGA.
15	Constructed ten rooms Corpsers' Lodge for corps members serving in Ikoyi-Ile Community with two kitchens and toilets and a well.
16	Constructed a roundabout at Iseyin junction in Iseyin LGA.
17	Built an ICT Centre at the NYSC State Secretariat at Ibadan. Built a Play ground in the Juvenile Remand Home, Ijokodo. Donated 100 mattresses to the Oyo State NYSC Permanent Orientation Camp, Iseyin. Built a block of class rooms in Bishop Philips Academy Senior School II. Renovated classrooms in Eleyele High School II Organised empowerment/skill acquisition training for women in the 33 Local Government Areas o Oyo State. Constructed a Football pitch at the Juvenile Remand Home Ijokodo and donated Chairs to disabled orphans in Oluyole Cheshire Home.
18	Renovated a block of 3 classrooms and office and erected a HIV/AIDS signboard Atisbo LGA.
19	Established a Library/Computer room in Ilora Baptist Junior Grammar II Constructed a directional sign post at Ilora (Idi-Igba Junction. Organised environmental sanitation and donated Waste bins and sign post at Ilora (Oja-Oke) market.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
	Renovated the Ilora General Hospital Toilet and Food Vendor's Stand. Organised skill acquisition training in soap making/computer appreciation in Ilora Grammar School.
20	Constructed a 3-Air ventilated Water Closet toilet at Baptist Heritage High School, Kisi.
21	Renovated a block of three unit toilet at Awe High School. Organised Sensitization on the gains of aforestation and effects of deforestation of on the Nigerian economy in Afijio LGA.
22	Established a computer laboratory at Molete Senior High School behind New Garage, Ibadan.
23	Organised MDGs vocational training for two hundred (200) women in Ibadan North LGA on liquid soap, solid soap, wire works and baking of cake, snacks and small chops, training of older orphans both male and female, on how to make tie and dye, kampala and adire and organized same training for Polytechnic students that belong to Vocational Training Department on how to make liquid soap, solid soap and powder soap, Izal, wire works and bead making, adire, and dye.
24	Rehabilitated a borehole at Ajawa Market Square
25	Constructed four modern toilets at Okere Junior Secondary School.
26	Constructed a borehole at the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso.
27	Built and equipped an ICT Centre in Ibarapa LGA
28	Dug a well in Ladigbolu Grammar School, Oyo West LGA.
29	Organised free Cervical Cancer screening for people of Araromi Community. Organised capacity building training for Local Government Health Workers on Cervical Cancer Screening using visual inspection methods. Established a Cryotherapy Unit at the Kosobo Local Government Secretariat.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
30	Constructed toilet for staff and students of Muslim Community Grammar School, Ofiki.
31	Rehabilitated a borehole at Oganla, Ekotedo, Ibadan North West LGA. Organised Basketball training for 10 less privileged teenagers and adults in Ibadan North West local government. Organised Food and Clothes Drive for the Motherless Babys' Home, Ibadan North West LGA. Renovated and fumigated 2 detention rooms at Agodi Correctional Service, Secretariat, Ibadan.
32	Constructed a 2-room public toilet.
33	Renovated two blocks of toilets for use by corps members in Ibadan North LGA.
34	Organised Free Eye Care Outreach Programme and Blood Sugar/Pressure tests at National Union of Teachers (NUT) building in Ibadan South LGA.
35	Built a Library in St. David's High School, Kudeti , Molete, Ibadan.
36	Renovated a borehole at Our Lady of Apostle Grammar School Odo-onna. (ii) Constructed a donation box to support the treatment of people living with Sickle Cell disease. (iii) Donated school uniforms to under privileged students in some selected school.
37	Constructing of a Sign Board Sensitizing the public against vote selling in Oluyele.
38	Dug a standard well with electric pumping machine and water tank at Community High School, Alalubosa. (ii) Organised Health and Environmental Sensitization and donated nose masks to motorcyclists at Airport Junction.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
	(iii) Donated Mosquito nets, disinfectants and toiletries to pregnant women and nursing mothers in Alakia-Olode Ward Model Primary Health Centre (NPHCDA)
39	Established a sick bay for the students and staff of Bashorun High School Ibadan East LGA
40	Renovated a Toilet at Urban- Day Secondary School.
41	Organised an English and Current Affairs- based school quiz competition for ten (10) schools in Ogbomoso.
42	Constructed bore hole in Ikolaba community
43	Donated copies of relevant textbooks and study desks to Urban-Day Grammar School Students Egbeda LGA.
44	Donated 50 classroom chairs to Community High School, Alarere area in Egbeda LGA.
45	Constructed a drainage System and a bridge at Odo-oni.
46	Revamped Borehole at Oore-Ofe Oluwa
47	Constructed Borehole at Olodo Agon Market Community.
48	Constructed and donated Conventional Phototherapy Unit at Saki.
49	Constructed VIP toilets at Iseyin General Hospital.
50	Constructed a round about at Irepo.
51	Constructed NYSC Bus-Stop at Orita Eruwa
52	Renovated a toilet and dilapidated classroom at Oluyoro Girls Grammar School.
53	Constructed a roundabout at Oju-Oja, in Ago-Amolu.
54	Constructed public toilet at roundabout axis, Oje-Owode.



PLATEAU STATE

S/NO.	PROJECT
1.	Constructed 4 public toilets in Ganawuri market, Riyom LGA.
2.	Carried out enlightenment campaign on family planning using the natural and artificial methods in Garkawa, Kanam LGA.
3.	Constructed protective fence around the electric transformer at G.S.S Riyom.
4.	Presented Wheel Chairs, food items and three (3) refurbished tricycles to some physically challenged persons in Jos North LGA.
5.	Carried out HIV/AIDS awareness campaign in Pankshin. Renovated a local library and donated shelves, reading tables and chairs for the library in Kanam.
6.	Constructed a bus stop building at the gate of ECWA Secondary School Miango.
7.	Conducted HIV/AIDS voluntary test (VCCT) and counseling for 100 persons in each of the 10 wards of Langtang North LGA.
8.	Donated a Computer and organized computer training for students and staff of B.C.S.S. Bwonpe, Mangu LGA.
9.	Constructed incinerator in K/Vom Community, Jos South LGA.
10.	Dug a well and donated a School Notice Board at G.S.S. Gasish, Barkin Ladi LGA.
11.	Trained forty (40) Peer Educators at G.J.S.S. Goepa'al, organised sensitisation campaign and rally within Shendam on the "Scourge of HIV/AIDS" and published a booklet titled "Abstinence and Self control" in Shendam.
12.	Erected a Sign Post at Police Station, Miango
13.	Trained forty (40) students as Peer Educator Trainers on HIV/AIDS in G.S.S. Nyango Gyel, -Organised sensitization on HIV/AIDS in selected churches and mosques in Sabon Barki Community. Constructed three HIV/AIDS awareness bill boards in Sabon Barki community. Built four pit toilets at G.S.S. Nyango Gyel, all in Jos South LGA.
14.	Dug a well each in G.S.S. Bassa and APLD 3 Div. Rukuba Barracks, Jos .

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S/NO.	PROJECT
15.	Organised Football and Quiz Competitions among Secondary Schools in Mangu, Mangu LGA.
16.	Dug a well in Guru Village Angware, Jos East LGA.
17.	Donated 4 Sewing Machines to widows in Jos.
18.	Constructed two classroom blocks at LEA Primary School Dakyen, Kuru.
19.	Constructed a Pit toilet and donated a sign post a G.S.S. Heipang.
20.	Renovated 4 classroom blocks at G.S.S. Pankshin.
21.	Renovated a kitchen and constructed two blocks of toilet and bathroom at the General Hospital Shendam.
22.	Constructed 3 blocks of pit toilet at G.S.S. Jebbu-Bassa.
23.	Dug a well with pumping machine in Gindiri, Mangu LGA.
24.	Donated 50 school chairs and 50 desks to G.S.S. Binchi Village, Bassa LGA.
25.	Donated Computer and accessories, electrified and donated tables and chairs for the Computer Laboratory and organized Computer training for teachers and students of G.S.S. Lamingo.
26.	Renovated a four-classroom block at Mangu Secondary School, Mangu.
27.	Constructed a kitchen at the COCIN Rehabilitation Centre.
28.	Renovated a Health Centre in Kantoma, Mangu LGA.
29.	Organised skills and entrepreneurship training for widows and some unemployed persons on soap and pomade making, tie and dye and bakery in Bokkos.
30.	Renovated a damaged bridge at Gar, Kanam LGA.
31.	Constructed a library and a signpost at G.S.S. Dawaki.
32.	Constructed 3 pit toilets and tree planting at G.S.S Kudedu Jos East LGA.
33.	Constructed a four-room toilet at Katmuna Market Kabwir.
34.	Donated 30 Classroom desks to G.S.S. Kabwir, Kanke LGA.
35.	Constructed a 4- bedroom Corpses' lodge at G.S.S. kanadap.

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36.	Constructed a 2-room Principal's Office at G.S.S. Dokan Kasuwa.
37.	Constructed toilets, donation of water tank, renovation of school Staff Room and construction of a Volleyball pitch at Hauwa Memorial Secondary School Mangu.
38.	Construction of 2 toilets and a signpost at the School for the Handicapped, Sabon Layi, Angwan Sarki, Mangu.
39.	Designing of a customized school software at Dashorong Butura, Bokkos.
40.	Construction of four Water Cistern toilets at Mangu Secondary School Mangu.
41.	Constructed a Fish Pond and organized a seminar on Fish Feed formulation at G.S.S. Shere, Jos East LGA.
42.	Construction of a four (4) room Water Cistern toilet at the Islamic Secondary School Mangu.
43.	Construction and equipping of a Library at G.S.S. Tinjim, Pankshin LGA.
44.	Construction of a block of two toilets and one bathroom facility at the Primary Health Centre Lalil, Mikang LGA.
45.	Free legal services to 10 inmates, visit and interaction with 40 inmates and donation of medical equipment and beddings all at the Jos Main Correctional Service Centre.



RIVERS STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Conducted Health campaign on public health diseases at Ogbakiri, Tombia, Buguma and Ihuowo communities in Emohua, Degema, Asari-Toru and Ahoadha East LGAs
2	Designed Road safety signs, zebra crossings at Omoku community in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni LGAs
3	Conducted Mass literacy campaigns at CSS Kono Boue, General Hospital,Bori, Khana, Nchia,Khana LGA
4	Organised Charity appeal campaigns at Afribank, Nchia, Alode Secondary School, Alba Nigeria Limited, Onne and Fidelity depot at Eleme LGA
5	Organised Seminar on home management to married women at Rainbow Town and Nkpogu, Obioakpor and Phalga LGAs
6	Produced Trans-dubbing lectures handout on tapes and donated to Blind female students at Rivers College of Education, Obiakpor LGA
7	Organised Youths enlightenment campaign on drug free and other social vices at Ojims College, Diobu Airforce Secondary School, Rumumasi, Obiakpor LGA
8	Organised extra-mural lessons for students of Skywa Vocational School, Anozie street, mile one, Phalga LGA
9	Organised Essay competition among 16 Junior and Senior Secondary School students and awarded prizes to best students in Obiakpor and Phalga LGA
10	Authored a Book on the socio-political history of Omuma people, 1800-present in honour of Omuma Community, Omuma LGA

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
11	Organised Lectures negative consequences of examination malpractices at Army Day Secondary School, Obiakpor, Obiakpor LGA
12	Donated sanitary materials and food items to disabled at Compassionate Home
13	Provided Free medical consultation to patients at Ekpoku community, Etche LGA
14	Organised Seminars on causes and prevention of HIV/ AIDS and causes of infertility in women in some communities at Ahoada East LGA
15	Organised a campaign against drug abuse and infertility in some communities at Ahoada East LGA
16	Organised a lecture HIV/AIDS and its manifestations with a focus on some communities at Ahoada East LGA
17	Cultural performance /drama competition among secondary schools in Ahoada east LGA
18	Organised a sensitization/Public lecture on adult education with a focus on some target population at Ahoada LGA
19	Sensitised target population in Ahoada community on Drug abuse and its effects.
20	Launched a campaign against Environmental pollution in Ahoada Community, Ahoada LGA
21	Conducted free Blood Pressure (BP) checks and clinical examinations at the Phalga City Council Hall, Phalga LGA
22	Organised Health talks on diabetes and immunization campaign at Obio Health Centre, Obio/Akpor LGA
23	Organised Health talks on industrial hazards to Staff of Eleme Petrochemical Company, Eleme LGA
24	Organised health talk and awareness sensitisation campaign on pulmonary tuberculosis at Rumokuta Market,Obia/Akpor LGA

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
25	Organised Lectures on self discipline at Distribution Line, Phalga LGA
26	Organised Awareness campaign on family planning to members of Redeemed Christian Church of God, Isaac Boro Park, Mile 2 Phalga, Phalga LGA
27	Organised Career talk, lectures on usage of soya beans, teachings on moral principles/discipline and sensitization against examination malpractices for students of FGC Rumokoro, CSS Okuronuodo, CSS Nkpulu and market women at Rumokoro, Obia/Akpor LGA
28	Organised a free deworming exercise and health enlightenment campaign on public health diseases to selected communities at Ihuowo, Ahuoda East LGA
29	Launched a drug abuse awareness campaign at GSS Eleme, Eleme LGA
30	Organised Guidance and Counselling for students of CSS Okodiri, Okrika LGA
31	Organised a lecture on stress management for staff at FCT, Omoku, Onne LGA
32	Donated cash and other relevant materials to selected Orphanages in Port Harcourt



SOKOTO STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Planted 1000 tree seedlings at Junior Secondary School, Tsamaye.
2.	Constructed a reservoir, installed overhead tank and renovated hostel convenience at Orpganage Home, Gawon Nama.
3.	Dug a Well and Constructed a sign post at Binji town.
4.	Constructed a Bus Stop at Achida town.
5.	Constructed a reservoir and installation of overhead tank at Government Day Secondary School, Arkilla.
6.	Rehabilitated five (5) Ex-Convicts at Sokot Central Correctional centre.
7.	Rehabilitated a road from Lambata to Tureta town at Tureta.
8.	Constructed road bumps and sign posts at Silame.
9.	Established a Nursery and Primary School at Sanyimwa.
10.	Built three (3) public conveniences and book shelves at Danchadi and Bodinga Zonal office.
11.	Constructed and donated a refuse dump at General Hospital, Sokoto.
12.	Renovated the NYSC Zonal Office, Wurno, Constructed a sign board and erection of National Flag at the office.
13.	Planted 120 economic tree seedlings at Government Secondary School, Kurawa.
14.	Built a Dispensary at Kuda in Koronyo LGA.
15.	Built public conveniences at Jabo market.
16.	Constructed and donated Volley-Ball and Badminton courts at School of Health and Technology, Gwadabawa.
17.	Constructed four (4) VIP conveniences at Government Day Secondary School, Tureta.
18.	Constructed a concrete Bunker Waste at Angwa Rogo, Sokoto South.
19.	Constructed a refuse incinerator at Shiyar Magaji.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
20.	Planted 150 tree seedlings and Constructed a sign board at Yabo.
21.	Donated chairs and desks to Government Secondary School, Kware.
22.	Constructed a refuse dump and electronic sign board at Government Day Secondary School, Runji Sambo.
23.	Constructed reservoir and overhead tank at Rehabilitation Centre, Kalambaina.
24.	Built a bus stop and Constructed a concrete sign board at Binji town.
25.	Renovated Administrative block and Constructed a sign board at Government Technical College (GTC), Farfaru.
26.	Planted 150 economic tree seedlings and Constructed sign board at Ministry of Agriculture and Giginya College, Sokoto
27.	Constructed and donated of an incinerator for dumping of waste at Maryma Abacha Hospital.
28.	Renovated a School Library at GTC, Farfaru.
29.	Planted 250 economic tree seedlings and refurbishing of rusted overhead tank at Sani Dingyadi Unity Secondary School, Farfaru.
30.	Constructed bus stop, sign board, convenience and soak away at LGA Secretariat, Tureta.
31.	Dug a concrete well at Kaura Yabo.
32.	Dug a well at Almajiri Model School, Shuni.
33.	Constructed a bus stop at Isa junction to Shinkafari.
34.	Constructed VIP convenience, sign board and incinerator at Shuni Motor Park.
35.	Constructed a Volley-Ball court, CDSS Yabo II
36.	Constructed an incinerator and erected a National Flag at Katami Market and GDSS Katami.
37.	Constructed a new school gate at GGDSS Sabo Birin.
38.	Constructed an incinerator, sign post and erected a National Flag at GDSS Bodinga.

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39.	Constructed an incinerator, Renovated a Well and Established Emergency Unit at General Hospital, Yabo.
40.	Constructed speed limit signs at Shehu Shagari road, Yabo LGA.
41.	Planted 600 tree seedlings at GDSS Silame.
42.	Constructed a potable water tank at GSS Goronyo.
43.	Built a security gate at Sultan Attahiru Secondary School.
44.	Constructed an incinerator at Specialist Hospital, Sokoto.
45.	Built a Jumat Mosque and a Primary School at Tungan Village, Wamakko LGA.
46.	Built a Primary School
46.	Drilled a borehole at Mallam Garba Village, Arkilla.

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TARABA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Built School Hall and Assembly Podium for GDSS, Serti, Gashaka LGA
2	Built Shelter House for Serti Community, Gashaka LGA
3	Renovated School Library and resuscitated Library Services at GSS (Snr) Serti, Gashaka LGA
4	Established NYSC Holistic Learning Centre, Serti,Gashaka LGA
5	Built science laboratory for GDSS Mararraba,Donga LGA
6	Constructed a Multipurpose Hall at GDSS Didan, Kurmi LGA.
7	Renovated a classroom and established a Library with furniture for GDSS Lau, Lau LGA
8	Rehabilitated Kpambo Maternity Centre Equipment, provided drip and free medical services at Kpambo, Ussa LGA
9	Constructed Servicom Reception Centre (now SAED office) at the NYSC Secretariat, Jalingo. Jalingo LGA
10	Constructed three (3) rooms for NYSC Zonal Office Jalingo. Jalingo LGA
11	Built sculpture of a drummer in front of Taraba State Council for Arts and Culture Jalingo and a Corps Member at NYSC Secetariat, Jalingo. Jalingo LGA
12	Purchased and donated science laboratory apparatus and equipment to Nati Sec. Sch. Takum and organised quiz competition among Sec Schools as well as skill acquisition training on cosmetics to selected women and youths in Takum, Takum LGA
13	Developed a database mgt. system software for GSSS Zing, Zing LGA

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
14	Constructed a concrete well And fabricated a rain harvester for Jika Community, Yorro LGA.
17	Established an ultra modern library at GDSS Ndaforo, Kurmi LGA
18	Organised health talk for women at IDP camp, Bali and provided treated mosquito nets to the IDPs in the camp.
19	Built a four (4) room Corpers' lodge at Sabon-Gida Akwanwe, Kurmi LGA
20	Organised vocational training (skills acquisition)for the empowerment of unemployed youths in Mabang Community, Yorro LGA
21	Constructed eight(8) units male and female water system toilet at the NYSC Permanent Orientation Camp, Sibre, organised campaign on girl child education and distributed free mosquito nets to selected less privileged households at Sibre, Ardo Kola LGA
22	Organised extra mural lessons on Mathematics for students at GASSOL community, sensitised the community on Lassa Fever, distributed mosquito nets to Garin Shuaibu community and donated Glucometre machine to Yerima village Primary Health Care, Gassol, Gassol LGA
24	Constructed tables with racks, tiles, sink taps, equipped Chemistry, Physics and Biology laboratory and donated books at GDSS Rufu, Ussa LGA
25	Produced a sculpture of female Corp Member saluting in front of Ussa LG Sect, Lissam as well as a food basket design at Kpambo round-about.
26	Construction of two(2) units of Photography machines and radiant warmer using locally available materials

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
27	Established a Science Laboratory at Christy Senior Academy Organised sensitisation on HIV/AIDS, free medical test and counselling at Kpanten Nyita; gave prizes to the overall best students from each class (writing materials and complete and accurate sets of Mathematical instrument) at Christy Senior Academy; and conducted a sensitization on the effect of drug abuse at secondary schools in Nyita and Kpanten communities Donga LGA
28	Built rabbitry house at Annoited College Peva Chanchanji, and educate farmers on rabbitry production; and trained students on rabbitry production and other methods of animal rearing in Chanchanji, Takum LGA
29	Moulded and erected a Corp Members' statue at the entrance of Gashaka LG Sect.
30	Rehabilitated community borehole; built a library for GDSS Shagarda; and renovated GDSS Shagarda Corpers' lodge in Gassol LGA.
31	Reactivated MTN mast and provided internet services at GDSS Bachama, in Karim Lamido LGA.
32	Organised skill acquisition training for UMCN Orphanage Home on catering services, ankara accessories design, donated books to the orphans and visit to a blind and deaf farmer at Garkin Sarki village, Lau LGA
33	Constructed two(2) modern block of three(3) rooms toilet at GDSS Sabongida Tukura
34	Organised two weeks free entrepreneurship and skills acquisition training for the students of GDSS Bitako Yali; and free medical services for the students of GDSS Bitako Yali, Zing LGA

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
35	Organised a seminar on Proper infant feeding with practical demonstration of food preparation, fortification, hand-washing, to combat the menace, proper use of mosquito net, self breast examination of the barracks women, management of post traumatic stress disorder for soldiers who recently returned from north east and renovation of the pediatric ward of the referral hospital, Serti.
36	Renovated a dilapidated building converting into library with fully equipped tables, chairs, shelves and books as well as renovated of the school examination hall at GDSS Tor Damisa.
37	Constructed two(2) classrooms block at Martin Bright Academy, Takum; organized extra mural lesson for students and host community; and donated textbooks to some selected students.
38	Constructed shade at Kona Main Market, Kona Garu Community Jalingo; renovated Correctional holding facility; decongested and rendered <i>pro bono</i> (free) legal service for Jalingo Correctional centre inmates.
39	Constructed a V.I.P toilet and provided a borehole at Gembu Abattoir and sponsored of a programme at T.S.B.S Gembu tagged “solution point”
40	Organised a quiz competition and payment of school fees for some students, reconstructed GDSS Sunkani signboard as well as organized a seminar for senior secondary school students in Sunkani.
42	Constructed twenty (20) school desks for GDSS Salihu Dogo and paid third(3 rd) term school fees for six (6) students(orphans)at GDSS Salihu Dogo

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
43	Provided thirty (30) school desks and writing materials to F.S.T.C Jalingo donated relief materials to I.D.Ps at Shawuya Primary School Jauro Gbadi, Jalingo and planted two hundred (200) trees at NYSC camp.
44	Constructed two (2) rooms block of modern toilets and repaired borehole for GDSS Salihu Dogo
45	Produced a sculpture of Corp Member holding out the National Flag inside Takum Central Park, Takum.
46	Erected NYSC Crest in front of Federal University main gate; Erected Federal University logo in front of Vice Chancellor's office Federal University Wukari and produced a sculpture of a male Corp Member in front of Federal University.



YOBE STATE

SN	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1	Constructed a public convenience at Nguru
2	Drilled a borehole at Kwata Primary School, Potiskum LGA
3	Drilled a borehole and installed overhead tank Kusulwa Village, Potiskum LGA
4	Drilled a borehole and installed overhead tank Garu Village, Fika LGA
5	Organised free medical outreach at Maisandari Village, Damaturu LGA
6	Constructed public convenience Sumsumma Village, Damaturu LGA
7	Constructed two public conveniences at Damaturu Emirate Council, Damaturu LGA
8	Constructed a bus stop FCE Gate, Potiskum LGA
9	Constructed a Macchalis UAV Drone for aerial surveillance, Damaturu
10	Cleared over 7 kilometre blocked water channels and constructed three culverts in Damaturu
11	Constructed two water system toilets and renovated/converted four defunct pit toilets to VIP in Damaturu
12	Established Botanical Garden at Afforestation Unit, Damatutu
13	Constructed automated sensor controlled hand-washing machine in Damaturu, Damaturu
14	Drilled hand-pump borehole at Pawari, Damatutu



ZAMFARA STATE

S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
1.	Organised sanitation and removed waste dumped in culverts of selected wards in Gusau town.
2.	Organised extra mural and ICT lessons for selected secondary schools at Sambo Secondary School, Gusau.
3.	Donated 50 chairs and tables to Sambo Secondary School, Gusau
4.	Sensitised female students on genital mutilation and menstrual hygiene at GSSS Gusau.
5.	Donated 125 sanitary pads to students of GGSS Samaru, Gusau. Trained out of school youth in Paint making and Tailoring at Hidayah skill acquisition centre, Gusau
6.	Donated 10vthree-seater desks to Nizamiya Primary School, Abarma, Gusau.
7.	Sank a well at Unguwar Gwaza, Abbatoir, donated 20 3-seater benches and renovated and repainted a clinic at Orphanage Home, GRA, Gusau.
8.	Renovated 6-classroom block at GDSS Unwandaji, Tsafe
9.	Donated 50 school bags to indigent pupils at Tudun Wada Model Primary School, Gusau.
10.	Renovated the Corpsers' lodge at Talata Mafara
11.	Conducted eye test, treatment, sensitisation on menstrual cycle (female) and donated sanitary pads and white chalk board at Sarkin Kudu GSS, Gusau.
12.	Organised adult literacy classes for out women and mounted directional signpost at Anka LG Secretariat

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
13.	Carried out free malaria test and donated anti-malaria drugs and 10 malaria treated mosquito nets at GDSS Sarki Kudu, Gusau.
14.	Planted 1,000 trees at Federal University, Gusau and 200 at GDSS Dambा.
15.	Trained 20 women in soap and pomade making and donated dozens of exercise books to pupils at Mada Primary School.
16.	Donated dozens of bathroom slippers to hundreds of Almajiris at Marafa and resuscitated the JET Club at GDSS, Agwaragi, Maradun LGA.
17.	Donated a reception shade and plastic water reservoir and hoisted the National Flag at GDSS Falale.
18.	Established a saloon and trained students in barbing at GTC, Gusau.
19.	Donated beddings, wears and foodstuffs to Phanase Opharnage Home, Gusau
20	Sank a well and donated sanitary pads at GGSS, Gidan Biyu, Gusau.
21.	Stocked the library with books and donated tables, chairs and Suggestion Boxes at GGDSS, Sarkin Kudu, Gusau
22.	Established a sick bay and donated drugs, beddings at Daraja Mailafiya Clinic, Zawiyya Street, Gusau.
23.	Enrolled 20 indigent pupils in school and provided uniforms and books for them and Trained 10 girls/women in sewing in Gusau town
24.	Sensitised six Secondary Schools in Gusau on the importance of girl-child education to society.

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S/N	PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS
25.	Donated science laboratory equipment and books to GDSS, Tsafe and GDSS B/Magaji.
26.	Donated medical equipment GDSS Health Clinic, and empowered the students with skills.
27.	Constructed a block of three classrooms and planted trees at Hayin Tara Mada
28.	Constructed a room toilet at GDDS and organised public enlightenment in Danda community.
29.	Established a 5-seat e-library at GSS Galadi, Shinkafi
30.	Donated vaccines at Veterinary Clinic, Gusau and renovated the Veterinary Clinic at Tsafe.
31.	Organised public health awareness campaign on malaria and distributed mosquito treated nets to indigent households.
32.	Drilled a borehole and donated building materials at GDSS, Birnin Magaji
33.	Organised a six-month skill empowerment for cripples, beggars, hawkers and women on Tie and Dye, Soap Making, Necklace and Beads at Tsafe. Landscaped and planted flowers at School of health Technology, Tsafe. Trained stakeholders on biogas at Tsafe.
34.	Donated fifteen (15) three-seater desks to Nahuche Primary School.
35.	Dug a well and donated signpost at GDSS Nasarawa/Godel.
36.	Constructed a Solar Drier and Heater at Anka.
37.	Donated dustbins, shovels and cutlass and first aid boxes to UDSS, Bungudu.



Commissioning of a bridge constructed by Corps members

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NYSC cultural troupe in display



*Brig Gen S Ibrahim presenting trophy to the winner of
the 2019 NYSC Cultural Dance competition*

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NYSC Band performing at an event



CHAPTER

7

NYSC AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA: REVISITING ITS MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS, PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES

Introduction

Education has been regarded as one of the most important pillars of national development in Nigeria and many other nations of the world. These nations are of the view that Illiteracy is a major challenge to development thus only a literate nation can make greater strides towards development. The Federal Government of Nigeria has taken great steps to improve the level of literacy in the nation through the educational institutions. A national policy for education was introduced to regulate the institutions and system of learning. The National Policy on Education as first published in 1977 centred its objectives on: inculcation of national consciousness and national unity; training of mind in the understanding of the world and as well acquisition of appropriate skills and the development of mental, physical and social abilities that equipped individual to live and contribute to the development of the society.⁷³ These policies had provided

⁷³Akinwamide T.K, Harnessing the Language Diversity through the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Programme in Multilingual Nigeria: Synergising our Separation, *International Journal of Humanities Social Sciences and Education (IJHSSE)* Volume 6, Issue 1, 2019, P-75

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opportunities for other government and non-governmental agencies to take part in promoting the education sector. The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Scheme is one of the outstanding collaborators that have been complementing the Federal and State Governments effort of bringing education to the communities of the 36 states of the federation, and the Federal Capital Territory.

The National Youths Service Corps Scheme was established by the Federal Military Government of Nigeria in 1973 under the leadership of General Yakubu Gowon. The law establishing the Scheme provides that graduates not above the age of thirty (30) who are holders of Higher National Diploma (HND) and Bachelor's degrees are deployed to states other than their states of origin to undertake one year compulsory national service. The certificate obtainable after the service qualifies the graduate to seek employment in the public or private sector.⁷⁴ The main goal of establishing the Scheme is to create a better understanding and appreciation of religious and ethnic differences among the youths, and to unify the country after a devastating civil war that lasted from 1967 to 1970. This is to be achieved through developing common ties and friendship, cultivating the spirit of team work and engaging in one on one dialogue. By so doing, the Corps Members are exposed to modes of living of the people in different parts of the country, thereby eliminating prejudices, intolerance and ignorance, and also confirming at first hand the similarities among Nigerians of all ethnic groups and religions.

⁷⁴ Amaka, John Ifeanyichukwu and Nor, Apine, The Problems and Negative Effects of the Use of National Youths Service Corp (NYSC) Members as Ad-hoc Teaching Staff in Nigeria: A Case Study of Kalgo Local Government Area of Kebbi State,
IOSR Journal of Research & Method in Education, Volume 4, Issue 6 Ver. I 2014,
P-2

⁷⁵ Amaka, John Ifeanyichukwu and Nor, Apine, The Problems and Negative Effects of the Use of National Youths Service Corp...

⁷⁵ Akinwamide T.K, Harnessing the Language Diversity through the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Programme in Multilingual Nigeria...P.78

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As a matter of fact, immediately it was established, the NYSC became an operational vehicle for harnessing and showcasing the collective capabilities of Nigerian youths for Nigeria's national development drive through its youth deployment strategy into key sectors of the economy. The key fields to which Corps Members were to be deployed as mentioned in the enabling decree included hospitals, farms, water schemes, road construction, surveying and mapping, social and economic services, schools, food storage and pest eradication, rehabilitation centres, sports development, government departments and statutory corporations, development projects of local councils and the private sector of the economy. However the Federal Government later approved the focus in NYSC deployment strategy on four key sectors of the economy (agriculture, education, health and rural infrastructure development) with education being given the utmost priority. It was against this background that most of the Corps Members are posted to institutions of learning more significantly Primary and Secondary Schools with a lesser consideration to higher institution as their places of primary assignment hence the educational institutions are some of the major establishments in the country that have utilised the services of Corps Members over the years. This is supported by the fact that a lot of community development activities have been carried out in schools. The Corps Members also play a vital role in schools as teachers, administrators, guidance and counsellors, heads of clubs and societies to mention but a few.

The contribution of NYSC to education can never be overemphasized, there are quite a number of challenges that emerged in the course of rendering services to schools, these challenges rises from and affect both NYSC Scheme and educational institutions. Some of the challenges faced by the NYSC are insecurity, lack of accommodation for Corps Members at their host community, poor teaching facilities, cases of maltreatment and sexual assault by criminal staff, students and members of the host community.⁷⁷ There is another challenge that comes from Teachers

⁷⁷Malam Kabir Sa'idu, 41, Teacher (Head of Administration GDSSMakera), Government Day Secondary School Makera, 15th February, 2021

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Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) which opposes the posting of non-professional teachers to schools. Details of these challenges are discussed in subsequent section of the paper. Despite all the challenges, NYSC and the government regulatory bodies in the education sector have been working on a number of policies that will regulate their partnership and bring further development to Nigeria's educational sector. Some of the policies that were established have shown sign of prospect which shall also be discussed in the paper.

The Role of NYSC in Nigeria's Educational Development

National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Scheme was launched in 1973 to serve as a veritable tool for the promotion of national unity. Since the establishment of the Scheme it has since been repositioned and strengthened so that it can achieve greater results in its implementation policy. Corps Members are deployed to various parts of Nigeria for their national service year.⁷⁸ One of the key areas targeted by the NYSC Scheme is Education. The Corps Members who are vibrant young men and women from every field of endeavour are posted to various Secondary Schools as a way of motivating these young ones, under the scrutiny of a qualified teacher who inspects and corrects when necessary and who is conversant with their students and their levels of development, academically and otherwise. Nigeria like other developing countries in Africa has from the past two decades been experiencing rapid response to the search and pursuit of knowledge by its citizens. This development led to massive growth in student's population nationwide and further creates a wider range of insufficient teaching staff in the education sector. Because of the shortage of teachers in the country, restricting teaching activities to only qualified, full-time teachers would result in little opportunity for schooling and learning for a large number of children.³⁶ According to School Census

⁷⁸Odufowokan Benard Adesina, The Effect of National Youth Service Corps Teachers' Input on Students' Academic Performance in Secondary Schools in Ogun State, *Singapore E-leader 2013*, P-2

³⁶Odufowokan Benard Adesina, The Effect of National Youth Service Corps Teachers' Input on Students'...P3



2008, only 9 of 36 states and FCT have pupil-teacher ratio that is below 40. Eleven (11) of the remaining states have pupil teacher ratio of over 50 pupils to one teacher (UNICEF, 2012). In the short-term, this was why Ministry of Education felt it is a due necessity to arm Corps Members to teach with the necessary teaching skills required to impart knowledge, hence the larger part of the Corps Members are posted to schools as teachers.³⁷ In Sokoto State, Northwest Nigeria, 90% of over 1800 Corps Members posted to the state in Batch A of 2016 were deployed to schools. Nationally, about eighty percent (80%) of Corps Members are posted to public and private schools. This has been the case over the years and remained same today. The NYSC Scheme is now considered as an important source of teaching staff to the extent that many schools across the Nation largely depend on the Corps Members in running the affairs of the schools.³⁸

The Corps Member as ad-hoc Teaching Staff

The Corps Members are posted to schools largely to serve as classroom teachers offering lesson on different subjects handed to them by the host school. Their performance in teaching is highly respected by the schools to such an extent that they handle a number of subjects without attachment. Being young and fresh graduates, the Corps Member's skills and efficiency in teaching guide them in applying a number of methodologies that serve as a source of encouragement to the pupils and enhance their chances of understanding. According to Kabir,

“The presence of Corps Members is indeed a blessing to our school and the nation's education at large. They are young and vibrant set of people who teach with confidence and passion of imparting knowledge to the students whom they treat as their siblings. They work with us like all other teaching staff and their performance in class is amazing.

³⁷ M. A. Oyebamiji and Inemesit Essiet Umofia, Influence of the Activities of the National Youth Service Corps Scheme on the Knowledge of Social Issues in Host Communities in Rivers and Akwa Ibom States, *International Journal of Education and Evaluation*, Vol. 2 No.1 2016, P29-30

³⁸ Chioma Rita Udeozor, National Youth Service Corps Members as Teachers: Addressing the Appalling Quality of Teaching, LinkedIn.com, 27th May, 2018,

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There are a number of innovative measures they introduce that boost our students brain capacity and encourage them to study. These Corps Members initiated academic competitions, using their own money to buy gifts for those students that performed well in the competition they organised. With this and other sets of competitions, our students began to focus more on their studies in order to win those gifts and be mentioned among the best. It was also these Corps Member that introduced extra lesson to prepare our SS3 students for Senior School Certificate Examination. They also organise career choice guidance classes to inspire the students to go beyond secondary school and educate them on how to excel in the tertiary institution . This lesson has yielded great impact on the student performance in WAEC, NECO and JAMB. In fact, this was the sole reason why our school has the highest number of students at the Senior Secondary level and this is attributed to the influence of the Corps activities in our school. To this end, there are a number of Subjects that we do not have permanent teaching staff offering them, and for the past 5 years, we rely on the NYSC in getting professionals to teach those subjects. Sometimes we have to make local arrangement with the Corps Members who pass-out to stay with us for some time until others are posted to replace them. Therefore I can categorically say, without NYSC our school could not have reached this far”³⁹

retrieved 17th February, 2021, <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/national-youthservice-Corps-members-teachers-quality-udeozor>

³⁹Malam Kabir Sa'idu, 41, Teacher (Head of Administration GDSS Makera), Government Day Secondary School Makera, 15th February, 2021

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It is therefore pertinent to acknowledge that the posting of Corps Member as teachers in Primary and Secondary schools has raised the standard of education across the nation. This is due to the fact that their presence has helped revolutionized teachers' attitude and approach in imparting knowledge. Prior to this development, teachers in schools were saddled with heavy task that weaken their efforts and dedication to service. The Corps Members being a set of young teachers who just graduated from the University and possess fresh mind and zeal to apply their knowledge where necessary have helped in easing the burden of assigning multiple classes and subjects to a single teacher. Their readiness to serve their nation, feelings of being a graduate coupled with thorough supervision, control and monitoring by their permanent teachers in the school have greatly aided them to give their best which in turn enhance better teaching and learning process and also facilitate better academic performance.⁴⁰ The fact that academic performance of students is greatly enhanced when teachers put in their best and meet up with the requirements in teaching and learning process make the Corps Members to earn much respect from schools they worked with. Their work habit, general ability, resourcefulness, personal qualities, mental stability and friendly relationship with the students have been a motivating factor that fosters positive correlation between the Corps Members and Students' academic performance. In a similar context, the relevance of NYSC to education has come to a stage that many schools in Nigeria today cannot effectively operate without the service of Corps Members. Evidence of this could be seen especially in primary and secondary schools based in the rural areas. According to Musa: "A survey conducted by the NYSC in 2017 has shown that Corps Members constitute a larger proportion of teaching staff in majority of public schools especially those schools in the rural areas. The Corps Members formed 40% of the teachers in many schools and in some

⁴⁰ Odufowokan Benard Adesina, The Effect of National Youth Service Corps Teachers' Input on Students'...P3

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schools their ratio rises up to 70%. This is as a result of the fact that schools in the village areas are always prone to understaffing. Therefore principals sent to such schools have no option than to associate with NYSC to help with the posting of many Corps Members to assist in teaching and other academic duties. For instance, in 2013 while I was L.G.I in Funtua, the Principal of one secondary school in Masko Village came to me for a help as his school of about 300 students had only 6 teachers including himself and that among all the teachers none of them was teaching the basic subjects required. Therefore the students knew nothing. After making necessary arrangements that will ensure the safety of our Corps Members, the school received 14 Corps Members and this continued for years. This kind of scenarios are found everywhere across the nation".⁴¹

It is important to also note that the relevance of the Corps Member to teaching is not restricted to only Primary and Secondary Schools. Many of them are posted to serve in higher institutions of learning including Polytechnics, Collages of Education and universities. Some of the Corps Members serve as Graduate Assistants, taking the position of lecturing under the supervision of an experienced and professional lecturer whom they partner with lecture. They also serve as laboratory technicians guiding the students on how to carry out their practical works in the lab.⁴²

Corps Members in Schools Administration and Extra-Curricular Activities

Corps Members posted to Schools also work as non-teaching staff taking position in the school administrative duties while some combine the two as the case may be. Some of the positions taken by Corps Members include the role of class coordinator which shouldering the responsibility of ensuring discipline, neatness, school attendance, guidance and counselling of the students on the Corps Members. They are also assigned to take positions as

⁴¹Musa Ibrahim Abdu, 47, NYSC Official (Zonal Coordinator, Katsina), NYSC Zonal Office Funtua, 18th February, 2021

⁴²Musa Ibrahim Abdu, 47...18th February, 2021

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heads of clubs and societies and as well leading the team for school inspection. They also participate actively in staff meetings and in a number of times bring about innovative ideas that promote the school academic activities. Their leadership role in these key positions has brought a lot of positive developments that have in turn raised the standard of many schools. According to Musa:

“The Corps Members since their first coming, have been taking administrative positions and rendering very diligent service especially in sporting activities, clubs and societies, guidance and counselling as well as discipline of the students. In fact most of the clubs and societies that we have in the schools today are initiated by them. Sometimes they engage in competitions that make the schools to become very lively to students, they assist the school by making its guidance and counselling unit to become more effective. They try to identify problems affecting the students' understanding and providing possible solutions to it. Therefore, to us, their presence is a blessing to both the school and our students.”⁴³

In the higher institutions of learning, the Corps Members also play a vital role and take administrative positions where they are posted to administer or better still to partner with the senior staff in discharging administrative duties. Some of the areas they participate include examination unit under which they work as invigilators in exam hall, help in result compilation and other necessary duties. They also work in other key areas such as the library, ICT, registry, laboratory, Students' Affairs Unit and as Personal Assistants to Professors and Heads of Departments. Similarly, Corps Members that study medical and health courses are also posted to Clinics in higher institutions to serve as medical doctors, nurses, Laboratory technicians and pharmacists.⁴⁴

⁴³Malam Musa Bala, 52, Teacher (Head of Academics GDSSMakera), Government Day Secondary School Makera, 15th February, 2021

⁴⁴Musa Ibrahim Abdu, 47...18th February, 2021

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Corps Members posted to schools also contributed to knowledge development by bringing about innovation to boost students understanding and also introduce them to new technologies and skills in learning. Most of the public schools across the country lack knowledge of computer appreciation despite offering Computer as a subject. The Corps Members do a lot to expose both staff and students of their host schools to the knowledge of computer operations. They introduce skills acquisition and entrepreneurship training that enable the students to learn many skills and subsequently start up businesses that will lead them to self-reliance. The Corps Members also negotiate with their Community Development Service Groups to organise and conduct programmes that enlighten the students on education and other important aspects of life.

The Contribution of NYSC CDS Programme to Educational Development in Nigeria

The Community Development Service (CDS) programme is one of the cardinal programmes of the NYSC Scheme. It is through the CDS programme that the Corps Members undertake developmental activities during their one year of national service to improve their host communities in one way or the other. It is one of the requirements of the Nigerian youths to participate in Community Development Service as part of their contribution to developing the country.⁸⁸ United Nations defines Community Development as:

“an educational method by which the efforts of the people themselves are united with those of governmental authorities to improve the economic, social and cultural conditions of communities, to integrate these communities into the life of the nation, to enable them to contribute fully to national progress.”⁸⁹

⁸⁸NYSC, ABC of Community Development Service, (Nigeria: NYSC, 2014), P-1

⁸⁹United Nations, *Education Sector Reform in Nigeria: A Change Management Challenge*, (Nigeria: UNESCO Abuja Publication, 2006), P-31

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The objectives of the NYSC Community Development Service programme are:

- Impacting positively on the improvement of rural community life.
- Developing the spirit of entrepreneurship in the Corps Members, to utilize the challenges which rural development poses and inculcate in the Nigerian Youth the ideals and capacities for leadership, endurance, selflessness, community service, national service, patriotism and creativity.
- Providing the forum for Corps Members to experiment with ideas and translate them into concrete achievements thereby relying less on foreign technology and encouraging the use of local raw materials in the execution of projects.
- Harnessing the enormous talents and skills of Corps Members into an effective machinery of change in our rural communities.
- Providing complementary service in our National development activities, by ensuring that our under-privileged population learn basic techniques for self-help through the appropriate technology concept being promoted by NYSC.
- To instill in Corps Members the tradition of the dignity of labour and productivity and to complement the activities of government at all levels in the stride towards national development.⁴⁵

The Community Development Service programme of the NYSC Scheme is classified in to Individual, Collaborative as well as Group CDS. The Group CDS has also been categorized in to numerous groups based on social aspect of human life such as Corps Legal Aid Scheme Group, Education Development Group (Mass Literacy, Adult Education, Extra Murals ICT),

⁴⁵NYSC, ABC of Community Development Service...P.₂

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Environmental Protection and Sanitation Group, Road Safety Group, Reproductive Health & HIV/AIDS Group, Anti-Corruption Group, MDGs, Medical and Health Services Group, Drug-Free and Quality Control Group, Agro-Allied Group, Charity Services and Gender Group, Disaster Management Group to mention but a few. The Scheme partners with Government and Non-Governmental organisations and other establishments to implement development programmes. The Scheme signs MOU with the partners, clearly stating each partner's roles/responsibilities. Corps Members are usually involved as Volunteers on these programmes.⁴⁶

The CDS also requires that Corps Members use their acquired skills to provide services like education, healthcare delivery, rural infrastructural and community development, agriculture, science and technology, and enlightenment campaign for the benefit of their host community. As such, in ensuring the success of the CDS, NYSC trains the Corps Members to imbibe the spirit of dedication and enthusiasm irrespective of the challenges they might face so far as they are not life threatening. Through these types of CDS programmes, Corps Members are directly involved in community development of one form or the other.⁴⁷

Over the years, Corps Members have carried out projects like sensitisation on adolescent reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention, adult literacy campaign, extra-mural classes for students and road safety campaigns among many others. In recent times, the NYSC in collaboration with the Office of the Senior Special Assistant on Millennium Development Goals (OSSAP-MDGs) of the Presidency and other international partners (World Bank and the British Council) embarked on training of young Corps volunteers as Development Knowledge Facilitators (DKFs). The role of the DKFs is to act

⁴⁶<https://fatherprada.com/blog/guide/all-about-nysc-cds-community-developmentservice/>

⁴⁷Dereck Osadere Arubayi, *Youth in Development: Understanding the Contributions of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) to Nigeria's National Development, School of Environment, Education and Development (SEED)*.

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through their CDS programmes as advocates of the MDGs and National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy. It is important to note that the Community Development Service programmes and projects are largely centred on the education sector being the hub area of social integration and knowledge transfer.⁴⁸ The introduction of such programmes/projects has no doubt contributed immensely to the development of education across the nation. As opined by Musa:

“Through the CDS programme, NYSC and the Corps Members have succeeded in making a great impact to education in Nigeria. These are due to the fact that most of the programmes and projects are carried out in schools. Over the years, Corps Members have executed projects in schools such as building of toilets, incinerators, bridges, classrooms, games facilities, social/educational projects such as the establishment of ICT Laboratory, school libraries, extra-mural classes, campaigns, charity work, vocational training for empowerment and instilling the spirit of entrepreneurship and self-reliance in the students. In 2018 for instance, one of our Corps Members serving with Government Pilot Secondary School, in Bakori Local Government Area constructed an Audio Visual Classroom as part of his individual CDS to enhance the students' level of understanding. Also in the same year, a female Corps Member serving with Federal Government Girls College also in Bakori, organised a vocational training class under which she trained one hundred (100) students on Bakery and Cosmetology. These two projects have impressed the

Institute of Development Policy and Management, Manchester, 2015, p90

⁴⁸ Adebola H.E and Agusiobo P.A, The Role of NYSC in the Delivery of Adult Education in Nigeria, *orient journal of education*, vol.7, No.1 (Anambra: faculty of education, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka, 2013), pp75-79

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leadership of NYSC and their efforts were appreciated with awards as the best serving Corps Members of that very year in Katsina State.”⁴⁹

These projects/programmes executed by individual Corps Members and CDS groups in their host communities are mostly based on Community felt-needs. Records from Schools across the country have shown that on annual basis, the Corps Members carry out programmes that keep contributing to knowledge and also serve as a source of encouragement to students. According to Kabir:

“Corps Members have been contributing to the development of our schools. Based on the training they received from their CDS groups, they initiated the establishment of clubs in the schools. Through the clubs they use to organise competition and dramatic display that enlighten our students on various aspect of education and social life. Sometimes, they use to negotiate with their CDS groups, Private, Government and Non-Governmental organisations to conduct a sensitisation programme and distributes materials to students. In recent years, they have carried out awareness programmes such effect of illicit drug usage, dangers of election violence, importance of sanitation, dangers of HIV/AIDS, importance of unity and tolerance. In the course of these programmes, they usually distribute flyers and educative materials to students. As part of their contribution to the security of our school, they also built a security office for the school in 2013.”⁵⁰

A report by Stephanie shows that Aisha Hussaini, a Corps Member of Batch A 2018 who served in Oyo state, left a long-lasting legacy in the community

⁴⁹ Musa Ibrahim Abdu, 47, NYSC Official...18th February, 2021

⁵⁰ MalamKabirSa'idu, 41, Teacher...15th February, 2021

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and among its people. With the aid of Stakeholders from the community, Aisha organised a Spelling B competition for all secondary schools in Oyo state. According to her, the programme was meant to encourage students in public schools to develop more passion and zeal to study. The competition which had eight Secondary Schools within Ibadan participating was held at Lead City International School, Jericho, Ibadan. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners of the competition received a laptop and cash prize of N50,000, N25,000 and N10,000 respectively. Other participants were given medals and certificate of participation.

Another report by Vanguard newspapers shows that Miss Aderonke Adeoye, a Member of the NYSC who served in Kogi, donated six hundred and eighty-eight sandals to less-privileged primary and secondary schools pupils in Lokoja. According to her, the gesture was to make children happy and encourage them to always go to school as well as to enable them realise the importance of education in life.⁵¹ It is worthwhile mentioning that since its inception in 1973, the National Youth Service Corps has been making enormous contributions in the educational transformation of the nation. In recent times, the Scheme has been in the vanguard of the nation's drive to correct the imbalance in our rural/urban development through the various community development programmes executed by Corps Members most of which are through the education sector or better still the education sector is the highest beneficiary of the programmes.⁹⁷

The contributions of the NYSC was also recently recognised when the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria included the Scheme in the Steering Committee on Alternate School Programme (ASP), co-chaired by the Honorable Minister of Education and the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development and Disaster Management. Also, the

⁵¹<https://stephanieodilibooks.medium.com/the-nysc-corp-member-who-turned-acds-project-into-a-statewide-academic-competition-b88ff5490550>

⁹⁷Adebola H.E and AgusioboP.A, The Role of NYSC in the Delivery...p77

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Special Assistant to the President on Social Protection Policy solicited the support of the NYSC on social protection rights of children including those out of schools.

NYSC and Major Challenges in Education

The National Youth Service Corps as stated earlier has for years been the major, if not the only, alternative way of solving the problem of shortage of teaching staff in Nigerian public schools. This is due to the fact that Government lacks the manpower to meet up with required number of teachers needed across the country, hence the resort to adopt the use of Corps Members to fill the gap. Similarly, the Corps Members ease financial burden on state governments especially with the challenges of payment of salaries to teachers. The allowance payable by the Federal Government of Nigeria to every Corps Member is N33,000 per month at present. State Governments and private organisations where the Corps Members are posted to are required under the law to provide suitable accommodation, transportation and other welfare packages for Corps Members or paying money in lieu.⁵² Despite contributing immensely to educational development, there are some challenges faced by the Scheme. One of the challenges has to do with the fact that about eighty percent (80%) of Corps Members are posted to public and private schools.⁵³ They constitute a bulk of the teaching staff of these schools. However, most of these Corps Members did not study education courses in the tertiary institution. It was against this that the regulatory body for the teaching profession in Nigeria, the Teachers' Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN), made repeated calls on the National Youths Service Corps to, as a matter of urgency, stop posting Corps Members who did not study education to schools. In the Scheme's response to provide solution to this challenge, it has put in place adequate training of Corps Members to be posted to schools. The state ministry of education and recently with the understanding of the TRCN, Corps Members are trained on teaching methodology among others.⁵⁴

⁵²Amaka, John Ifeanyichukwu and Nor, Apine, The Problems and Negative Effects...p3

⁵³Chioma Rita Udeozor... <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/national-youth-serviceCorps-members-teachers-quality-udeozor>

⁵⁴Amaka, John Ifeanyichukwu and Nor, Apine, The Problems and Negative Effects...p2



The Prospect of NYSC's Participation in Nigeria's Educational Development

The participation of National Youth Service Corps in the development of education in Nigeria has over the years been plagued by series of challenges that undermine its contribution to the sector. However, recent developments and efforts put in place by NYSC has shown signs of a better future for education in Nigeria. The current Director General of NYSC, Brig. Gen S Ibrahim met with the leadership of Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) and agreed on the modality of posting Corps Members to serve as ad-hoc or auxiliary teachers in schools. It was resolved that the TRCN will be involved in the training of Corps Members in teaching.⁵⁵ Therefore if this is achieved, the challenges of having unqualified teachers will be solved and Nigeria will succeed in achieving its aim of imparting quality knowledge with high academic standard.

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has in recent years developed a new system of using thumbprint to register the presence of Corps Members in their Places of Primary Assignment (PPA) which is sided by unannounced visit to their PPA for supervision. With this development, cases of skipping, proxy attendance or avoiding of PPA by the Corps Members has reduced to minimal level. To address the issue of sexual molestation meted out on Corps Members, NYSC has provided security awareness tips which are contained in published book of security awareness shared to Corps Members while in the Orientation Camps. Corps Members are also warned to desist from dressings that might attract the attention of criminals and rapist towards them. With this and other measures taken by school authorities where the Corps Members serve, the development of moral discipline in schools and education in general has been enhanced.

⁵⁵<https://www.sunnewsonline.com/trcn-nysc-agree-on-modality-for-posting-Corpsmembers-to-schools/>

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CONCLUSION

Education in Nigeria has been measured as an important instrument for promoting and effecting national development. Like other countries of the world, Nigeria has interest in creating a school system that would run under standards of discipline for both moral rectitude in daily behaviour and high standards of academic performance. However, the unending increase in the number of students in recent years coupled with government inability to employ more teaching staff to meet up with the students population pose a threat to the quality of education across the country, especially among students of public schools. Responding to the problem, Federal Government resorted to using NYSC by encouraging the posting of more Corps Members to serve as ad-hoc teachers in schools. With this development, the National Youth Service Corps becomes a major partner that contributes immensely to the development of education sector in Nigeria. This was seen in the unending role and new ideas they usually brought in raising the standard of education through individual and group community development service projects. The Corps Members at several instances were seen executing programmes and projects in schools that are still benefiting the students and schools at large. Through the CDS programme, they have been establishing developmental projects such as classroom, reading room, ICT training centre, toilets, audio visual room to mention but a few. They have also in collaboration with private, Government and Non-Governmental Organisations, in conducting programmes such as debates and quiz competition, awareness against sexual violence, personal hygiene, dangers of HIV/AIDS and pre-mature sex, drug abuse, Girl-child education, road safety, security tips among many other programmes. As a step towards encouraging the students on the importance of knowledge, they have over the years been supporting students with study materials, sponsorship, school uniforms, menstrual pads for the girl-child and extra mural classes which also include skills acquisition and entrepreneurship training. It is noteworthy that NYSC has made its unending contributions to knowledge. More so, efforts put in place by NYSC and relevant stakeholders from the education sector in recent times have shown the sign of a better future of the Scheme's efforts in promoting educational development in Nigeria.



Brig Gen MI Tisga commissioning set of classroom chairs and desks made by a Corps member in Akwa Ibom State



Winners of quiz competition organized by Corps members displaying their prizes

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Corps member teaching students



Corps members advocating against Child Abuse



CHAPTER

8

NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS (NYSC) AND HEALTH SECTOR IN NIGERIA

Introduction

The health sector functions to provide medical care to all members of the society. This sector is a major contributor to sustaining human capital development because humans are the engine that drives growth and development in every society. Therefore, the quality of health care in a society determines the quality of socioeconomic development of that society. Quality health care is the fundamental right of every citizen. Good health enhances development because it promotes productivity in education, business and other social aspects of life. The saying that 'health is wealth' or 'healthy people are a wealthy people' forms the core of health care around the world.

A society that improves health care and wellbeing of its population will continue to have sustainable development. Good health strengthens development because it increases productivity, fortifies peoples' capabilities, increases savings and investments, and promotes positive behaviour.⁵⁶ Therefore, every government at all levels has the responsibility

⁵⁶B.U. Anaemene, "Health Sector Reforms and Sustainable Development in Nigeria: A Historical Perspective" *Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa* Vol18, No4, 2016. Pp50

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to improve its health sector and health care services towards a better society. The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) is a stakeholder in national development in Nigeria. As part of its clarion call to selfless service to humanity, the NYSC has been making efforts at improving the health sector. The Scheme engages Corps Members who are medical personnel to be involved in health services so as to contribute to the growth of the health sector in Nigeria. This chapter therefore examines the contributions of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) to the enhancement of the health sector and health care delivery in Nigeria. Specifically, the study examines the evolution of modern Health Care delivery system in Nigeria. It also finds out the various programmes and assesses the performance of the Health Initiative for Rural Dwellers (HIRD) programme initiated in 2014 by the Scheme.

Health

Health is a level of functional and/or metabolic efficiency of an organism, often implicitly human.⁵⁷ In his own view, Awofeso defines health as “a dynamic state of well-being characterised by a physical and mental potential, which satisfies the demands of life commensurate with age, culture and personal responsibility,” while Saracchi notes that health is “a condition of well-being free of disease or infirmity, and a basic universal human right.”⁵⁸ This work therefore adopts this conceptualisation of health. Health issues deal with human beings in every ramification.

Community Development Service (CDS)

The Community Development Service (CDS) is a cardinal programme of the Scheme and a year-round affair. Through the CDS, Corps Members work with the local communities to promote self-reliance by systematically prospecting and executing development projects and programme which

⁵⁷ M. J, Kasilo. & J. M, Trapsida. *Health Monitor, a special issue*A serial publication of the World Health Organisation Regional Office for Africa. ISSN 20776136, August, 2010. P33

⁵⁸E. A, Chike& M. I, Ugotha, “The Contributions of African Traditional Medicine to Nigeria's Health Care System” *IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science* (*IOSR-JHSS*) Volume 22, Issue 5, Ver. 4 (May 2017) PP 32-43.

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impact positively on the socio-economic development of the host communities.⁵⁹ Each Corps Member is assigned to a particular CDS group as his/her Group CDS; this is compulsory, while Personal CDS project/programme is optional for interested Corps Members. Group CDS is to be attended once in a week and Corps Members are not expected to attend duties in their Places of Primary Assignment on such days.

The second type is Personal CDS. This CDS activity is where individual Corps Members can execute project/programme in their host communities based on the needs they intend to meet within a community. Corps Members are encouraged, in addition to the group CDS, to look out for areas where they could make individual impact in the community. It could be construction projects like building of toilets, bridges, classrooms, or other project such as establishment of libraries, extra-mural classes, charity work, vocational training for empowerment of unemployed youths, and many more. Where a project/programme requires financial support, Corps Members are encouraged to source fund from members of their host communities and other organisations after getting approval from the Management of NYSC. The third is the Collaborative CDS. The Scheme partners with National and Non-Governmental organisations and other establishments to implement development programmes. The Scheme signs MOU with the partners, clearly stating each partner's roles/responsibilities.⁶⁰

Corps Members are usually involved as Volunteers on this programme.

Collaborators in this type of CDS include:

- Road Safety Group (Federal Road Safety Corps),
- Reproductive Health & HIV/AIDS Group,

⁵⁹National Youth Service Corps. *Objectives of the Scheme*. Retrieved from NYSC: <http://www.nysc.gov.ng/objectives.php>

⁶⁰A. Abdullahi& L. Cheri, “Analysis of the Implementation of Community Development Service Projects of National Youth Service Corps: Channels and Hindrances”. *Ilorin Journal of Administration and Development*, Vol. 2 (2) December, 2016



- Anti-Corruption (Economic and Financial Crimes Commission & Independent Corrupt Practices and others related offences Commission) Group,
- Service Delivery Group (Attitudinal Change, Re-Branding),
- Sustainable Development Goals,
- Medical and Health Services Group (Red Cross, Breast Without Spot, Polio Plus.),
- Drug Free and Quality Control Group (National Drug Law Enforcement Agency and National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control).
- Corps Legal Aid Scheme Group (Legal Aid Council of Nigeria and Ministries of Justice)

Background to Health Care System in Nigeria

The contemporary health care system in Nigeria dated back to the period of the coming of the Europeans to Africa. The traditional medicine was the dominant system of health care delivery before the coming of the Europeans. Traditional medical care was administered by herbalists, divine healers, soothsayers, midwives, spiritualists, bonesetters, mental health therapists and surgeons among many others.

Traditional health care developed differently from community to community as environment played a major role in the spread of diseases. Each community perceived diseases and its causes and treatments differently. Beliefs in diseases, causation and treatment were believed to be by witchcraft, breach of taboo, natural causes and spiritual, among others. Diagnosis was based on one or more of several procedures, including: observation of the patient's attitude, gestures and ability to perform basic tasks as a test of logical reasoning; divination and possession, which may lead beyond diagnosis to prognosis; and prescribed treatment.⁶¹

⁶¹E. D. O, Gideon (et al), Persepctive on Primary Health Care in Nigeria: Past, Present and Future. CPED Monograph Series No.1, 2014.

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The beginning of modern health care in Nigeria was during the period of the various European contacts in the early nineteenth century. Europeans were vulnerable to diseases, especially malaria. The introduction of the quinine for the treatment of malaria might have brought about the modern medical care in Nigeria. From then henceforth, Doctors, nurses and other medical workers were brought into Nigeria to cater for the health needs of the Europeans as trade and Christianity spread in the area. During the early period, health services were not available to the indigenous people; it was the Christian missionaries that first established health care services for the people. The first health care facility began as dispensaries. Modern Hospitals were built by the Church Missionary Society, Roman Catholic Mission and others followed. The Christian missionaries used the hospitals as tools for winning converts and expanding their religion.

Christian health care were of high quality in terms of the services provided. They existed side by side the traditional healthcare but despite the rapid expansion of modern medicine and increase in its human resources, a majority of the indigenous people still utilised traditional health care. The coming of Colonial government also increased the presence of modern health services. The combined activities of the Christian missions and the British colonial government in Nigeria led to a rapid rise in the number of hospitals in Nigeria.

At independence, Nigerian government took over the control of the health sector and made policies towards providing services to citizens. The 1945-1948 development plans reflected policies for medical and health sectors in Nigeria. The plans were aimed at providing and improving healthcare services for all irrespective of location. The policy document was extensive and detailed in its description of the services envisaged. This was therefore, the major health policy statement in Nigeria before and during Independence. After independence in 1960, the same basic health care policy was pursued.⁶²

⁶²A. Scot-Emuakpor, *The evolution of health care systems in Nigeria: Which way forward in the twenty-first century?* Nigerian Medical Journal Vol.51, 53-65, 2010.



After six decades of independence, indicators of Nigeria's health outcomes and coverage of basic health services show underperformance, both in absolute terms and relative to other countries at similar levels of economic development.⁶³ The available healthcare delivery by government, private, foreign and faith-based organisations in the country are grossly inadequate to take care of the health needs of the populace. These facilities exist in name but are not there, especially in the rural areas. There is need therefore, for combine efforts to complement the various efforts at improving the health sector in Nigeria, and the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) is making efforts in contributing to the development of the health sector as will be discussed.

The Contributions of National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Health Care Delivery in Nigeria

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) was established in 1973 with the mandate to raise a class of patriotic, morally and physically disciplined Nigerian Youths who graduated from Universities and Polytechnics to undertake the national service. During the mandatory one year service, Corps Members live within the host communities, facilitating unity and integration as well as championing community development by executing projects jointly with the people of their host communities. A major impact of these development programmes is in health care delivery.

The Health Initiative for Rural Dwellers (HIRD) is a programme designed to provide timely health intervention to the large population of Nigerians in the rural areas. The Director-General of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) initiated this programme so as to reach-out to core rural areas to enhance the accessibility of health care services by rural dwellers. This programme will engage Corps medical personnel in the sensitisation of the core rural dwellers on disease prevention, provision of first aid services, monitoring of cases and provision of appropriate referral when necessary.

⁶³O. Adeyi, *Health System in Nigeria: From Underperformance to Measured Optimism*. Health System & Reforms. 2(4): 285-289. 2016.

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In line with the Health Initiative for Rural Dwellers, and the vision of improving health care delivery to core rural areas, many communities across the country have benefitted from this initiative. In Plateau state, Corps medical personnel offered free consultation and dispensed drugs to residents of Miango in Bassa Local Government Area. The event held at the Chinye LEA Primary School, Miango. Mrs. Olufunmilayo Akin-Moses, NYSC Plateau State Coordinator, stated that the gesture was the NYSC way of trying to ensure that healthcare and health education reached the grassroots. The Coordinator emphasised that the NYSC Health Initiative Programme for Rural Dwellers which ensured that NYSC reached out to the host communities was a contribution to national development. It was the 4th edition and would be an ongoing exercise. It was aimed at taking healthcare delivery to the doorstep of the people in rural communities. They were sensitised on disease prevention, First Aid Services were provided with monitoring of cases and provision of appropriate referrals where necessary. At the end of the programme, the Secretary of Bassa Local Government Area, John Tanko, District Head of Miango, Chief Daniel Chega and Miango Youths' Chairman, Gaius Ogoh expressed delight for the gesture, pointing out that many were sick in the community but could not access healthcare as a result of ignorance and lack.⁶⁴

In Enugu state, the HIRD medical outreach was inaugurated by the NYSC State Coordinator, Alhaji Ahmed Wada Ikaka, in 2017. The project was embraced by the rural people who turned out en-masse to avail themselves the opportunity provided by the medical outreach. The community leaders agreed that the Scheme was a welcome development. Old men, women and the poor who could not afford hospital bills benefited from the free treatments carried out. During the inauguration of the outreach, one of the Corps Members, a doctor named Nakpodia Jovi, said they were aware it was a rural community outreach and that one of the things that usually affected rural dwellers apart from mosquito infested malaria was hypertension and

⁶⁴Vanguard Newspaper, October 02, 2017

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diabetes. Hence, drugs would be administered to patients who had hypertension, diabetes, cough, and worms, while tests would be carried out to ascertain other illnesses so that treatments or referrals could be made.

The philosophy behind the programme was to get health care to the rural communities. National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has successfully mobilised human capital like Doctors, pharmacists, laboratory scientists, nurses and others who engage in humanitarian services to contribute to national development through health care delivery. The HIRD programme is spread across the nation. In Anambra state, 398 people benefited from the HIRD free medical outreach which was held at Umuobi-Anam community of Anambra East Local Government Area, with the theme “Health Initiative for Rural Dwellers. The NYSC Coordinator in Anambra State, Mr. Kehinde Aremu, said it was in response of the maternal related deaths among the poor and rural people most of which were avoidable.”⁶⁵

Niger state NYSC offered free medical care to 1000 residents of Maikusidi community and its environs of Wushishi Local Government Area. The exercise was in collaboration with Alhaji Muhammad Maikusidi Global Foundation. Here, part of the programme includes treatment and administration of medication, especially to those who did not have access to qualitative health service.⁶⁶ Flagging the HIRD programme in Abakaliki and other areas in Ebonyi State, numbering around 15 communities, the free health care services were done in a week. The programme carried out diagnosis, treatment and referrals when the need arose and proper preventive measures were communicated to the people.

Eight thousand (8000) people in various rural communities benefited in Kano. There were 15 doctors, 10 pharmacists, 5 nurses, 8 Laboratory scientists, 2 optometrists and 15 other para-medical personnel who were mobilised for the programme in Kano in the first quarter of 2018. In Taraba,

⁶⁵Vanguard News Paper February 22, 2020.

⁶⁶Vanguard News Paper February 21, 2020.

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the HIRD in the state reached out to 300 different communities. The team had reached remote and hard to reach areas so as to ameliorate the plight of the people.⁶⁷

Another initiative by NYSC in the provision of healthcare to Corps Members is in the area of psychological health needs. There is an increase in number of youths who engage in risky behaviour; like drug abuse, risky behaviours that lead to contracting HIV/AIDS and other health hazards. Among the social vices plaguing today's youth are, AIDS, teenage pregnancy, family problems as well as alternative lifestyle. Corps Members who are Doctors, nurses and health practitioners provide counselling to those challenged by such risky behaviours that endanger their health. The Scheme needs to pay attention to this aspect of service delivery to improve health care in Nigeria.

The impact of Corps Members is felt in health institutions across the country where professionals are inadequate. Through the Places of Primary Assignment (PPA), Corps Members are posted to organisations, hospitals, and Primary Health Care centres among many others to reach out to communities that have inadequate or no health facilities or workers. Someone once said "Can you imagine no more than one competent health personnel in this big PHC?"⁶⁸ Some organisations make special requests for medical personnel to be deployed to them because of insufficient manpower. Free medical attention is given to those in need of basic health care. The Corps Members in most cases source for medication such as malaria drugs, mosquito nets, medical consumables and first aid kits for community health centres as well as provide medical treatment for the sick. The role of National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) cannot be overemphasised in terms of health care delivery in Nigeria.

⁶⁷Vanguard News Paper October 2, 2017

⁶⁸Christian Aid, *Assessment of Primary Health Centres in selected States of Nigeria: Summary report of findings from Christian Aid Supported Communities in Anambra, Benue, Kaduna, Plateau States and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT)*.

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In recent times, the NYSC continues to play its role of confronting the health care issues within Nigeria. The current challenge of the Corona Virus (Covid-19) around the world including Nigeria has ravaged the nation. The NYSC through its Management responds positively to the challenges posed by the pandemic. The Scheme whose kernel of operation is mobilisation and grooming of graduate youths had embarked on aggressive sensitisation of its members and the public on the mode of transmission and prevention of the infection which the World Health Organisation (WHO) described as a global pandemic.⁶⁹

At the outbreak of the Corona Virus also known as Covid-19, the NYSC suspended its activities around the country due to the rapid spread of the infectious disease. The suspension of the activities of the NYSC was to curtail the community spread of the disease. Working hard to ensure the safe resumption of activities by the NYSC was commendable because stringent measures were put in place to be adhered to. In collaboration with the Federal Government, the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) and the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19, the Scheme reopened and continued its Orientation Programme while observing all the protocols on COVID-19. Measures taken include the compulsory tests on all prospective Corps Members, officials, and service providers at the various orientation camps, the constant use of alcohol base sanitizers, regular hand washing, and the use of face mask to be worn correctly at all times by all. Also, at the entrance of the orientation camp, tests are carried out using an antigen-based rapid diagnostic test kits approved by World Health Organisation (WHO) and every other preventive measure as directed in the COVID-19 protocol.

National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has partnered with United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF) in mobilisation of U-Reporters across Nigeria. The NYSC is successful in mobilising Corps Members for

July 2015. P18

⁶⁹OgunKopa A Publication of NYSC Ogun State. May 2020. P 10.

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U-Report. The U-Report is a programme that facilitates access to various data and skills needed to interpret massive data on health and other related issues which are challenges across the world and in Nigeria. U-Report is available via numerous messaging, social media and SMS channels, and even works on a basic mobile phone. It is free, anonymous and easy to use. Through this, health workers and partners work across sectors to effectively use and apply health data to save and improve lives. U-Report works by gathering opinions and information from young people on topics they care about.⁷⁰ The U-Reporters respond to polls and report issues. The data and insights are then shared to policy makers who make decisions that affect people.⁷¹ Through this programme, NYSC is contributing towards the development of the health sector.

National Youth Service Corps has also partnered UNICEF and other organisations in awareness and sensitisation on the issue of HIV/AIDS. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) causes the symptom-complex acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). Despite decades of painstaking global efforts, there is still no cure for HIV/AIDS, and it remains a worldwide concern.⁷² NYSC partners to reduce the alarming rate of HIV/AIDS spread in Nigeria. This programme is carried out through the Reproductive and Family Health Group of the NYSC. Corps Members are trained to become trainers so as to educate their peers on the issues of HIV/AIDS. In recognition of the role of Corps Members in the health sector, the Federal Government recently directed NYSC doctors and medical personnel to take over the country's hospital nationwide, when doctors embarked on strike. The Scheme had also written to the government for provision of mobile clinic for Corps Members to carry out medical outreaches in the rural areas. Reports from such exercises will strengthen healthcare delivery in the country.

⁷⁰UNICEF: U-Report. www.unicef.org/innovation/u-Report. February 2020.

⁷¹ A. A. Ayanniyi (et al) Awareness and Knowledge of HIV and its effect on ocular health among the Nigerian Graduate Youth Corps. Advances in Pediatric Research. Vol. 2 No. 2. 2015



Challenges of NYSC in Health Sector Reforms in Nigeria

There is no aspect of life that the NYSC has not contributed meaningfully to. A lot of communities; urban, rural or remote areas have all benefitted from the services rendered by NYSC. Despite this tremendous impact on communities, the Scheme is still facing challenges confronting its activities, especially in the health sector in Nigeria.

The major challenge is the issue of funding. The financing of community projects is very expensive; therefore it is a constraint to community development.⁷³ Corps Members serve as source of cheap labour, especially to State Governments and private organisations who do not want to employ permanent staff because of the cost of their salaries.

The trend in the level of insecurity has threatened the existence of Nigeria since political independence. Hostile culture, the destructive wind of insecurity, the various waves of political violence in the country, including Boko Haram terrorism, kidnapping, farmer-herder conflict, and other forms of threats have turned into a collection of overwhelming menace of violence that hampered effective health care in most affected and volatile areas. All these have serious negative effects on the country.

Conclusion

The NYSC programme guarantees a regular supply of newly trained doctors, pharmacists and university trained nurses as well as other medical-related personnel who are deployed to work in rural and remote areas of Nigeria for 11 months. The Scheme executes its various policies on health matters that help to achieve national development in Nigeria. The contribution of NYSC to national development in the aspect of health care delivery has been commendable. The Health Initiative for Rural Dwellers and Community Development Service have been milestones in the development of the Health sector in Nigeria.

⁷³K. O, Lamidi. (et al) Challenges of NYSC Community Development Service: Empirical Evidence from Southwest Nigeria. Journal of Sustainable Development, Vol.11, No 1, 2018

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A Corps Doctor attending to a patient during HIRD programme



***Brig Gen S Ibrahim at FMC Jalingo, Taraba State to see
Corps members that were involved in a road traffic accident***

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Corps medical personnel attending to patients

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A medical outreach by Corps medical personnel

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A HIRD outreach programme

NYSC AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT | 303

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Commissioning of an NYSC Mobile clinic

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A Corps Doctor attending to a patient

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An HIRD outreach



CHAPTER

9

NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS AND ELECTIONS IN NIGERIA

INTRODUCTION

Nigeria became independent from British Colonial rule on October 1, 1960 and a civilian administration took over from the colonial masters to establish a democratically elected government. The elections of 1959 brought in indigenous government. By 1966, the Nigerian military interrupted democracy by taking over power to usher in military rule until 1979 when another election ushered in democratically elected government, but was short-lived because the military again took over the leadership of Nigeria and established dictatorship in administration. After series of agitations for democracy, the military relinquished power in 1999 to restore democracy to Nigeria. From 1999, Nigeria has been ruled by democratically elected government and this has continued to thrive despite the plethora of challenges bedeviling the electoral system.



Democracy is a complex political system which ensures regular constitutional opportunities for changing the governing officials and social mechanism which permits the largest possible part of the society to influence major decisions by choosing among contenders for political office.⁷⁴ In democracy, efficient electoral system gives the opportunity to be in office or out of office. Election is therefore, key to choosing leadership in democracy. The electoral system of a country is the bedrock of its politics, development and progress. The conduct of elections is a regular issue in democracy so that leaders are chosen from time to time. Management of elections is very important, as the quality of elections in a country determines the sustainability of its democracy.

In Nigeria, the conduct and management of elections is the responsibility of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). INEC does not work alone in the conduct of elections in Nigeria but in collaboration with other stakeholders to ensure that elections are credible, deepened and promote good governance. One of such stakeholders in collaboration with INEC in the conduct of elections is the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC).

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) was established in 1973 as a programme by the Nigerian government to involve Nigerian graduates in nation building and development as well as in fostering unity and national integration in the country. NYSC constitutes a major stakeholder in the electoral process of Nigeria; its involvement in elections has been no doubt rewarding and has contributed immensely to the development of democracy in Nigeria. The NYSC officers and Corps Members have been engaged as ad-hoc staff in the conduct of elections in Nigeria. Through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) reached in the year 2010, the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) and Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) have been collaborating to improve the electoral

⁷⁴B. Kia, (et al), The Political Ecology of Elections in Nigeria and the Fragility of Democratic Sustainability. Global Journal of Political Science and Administration, Vol.4, No.3, pp9-19. July 2016.



process in the country.

This paper therefore examines the NYSC and INEC in the conduct of elections. The kernel of the study is the relationship between NYSC and INEC, collaboration between NYSC and INEC, the role of NYSC in the conduct of credible elections and the challenges of NYSC during elections. The study submits that the role of NYSC in the conduct of elections in Nigeria cannot be overemphasised.

Overview of National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) and Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Collaboration on Elections

The history of elections in Nigeria dated back to the colonial period when election principles were introduced in 1922 and the Richard's Constitution was made in 1946. This laid the foundation for democracy in Nigeria. The first election management body to preside over elections in Nigeria was the Electoral Commission of Nigeria (ECN) created to conduct elections and was responsible for conducting the 1959 elections that brought in the first republic in the advent of independence in 1960. The ECN was the creation of and under the colonial government which was preparing to hand over power to Nigerians at Independence. The election conducted by the commission in 1959 was adjudged successful, credible, free and fair without any violence or conflict. The political parties that contested in the national elections included the Northern People's Party (NPC), National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons (NCNC), Action Group (AG) and Northern Elements Progressive Union (NEPU). The result of the elections was in favour of the Northern People's Congress (NPC) which won the majority seats in the House of Representatives over the other parties. The Northern People's Congress (NPC) together with the National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons (NCNC) produced the Prime Minister and government of the day.

After independence in 1960, another election was held; the first election conducted by independent Nigeria. The government of Sir Abubakar

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Tafawa Balewa set up the Federal Electoral Commission (FEC) to conduct the elections; the elections were conducted in 1964 and 1965.⁷⁵ The beginning of controversial elections ensued in Nigeria during the 1965 elections. In 1966, the Military overthrew the democratically elected government partly because of the political crisis of 1964 in the South West, resulting to breakdown of law and order in the run up to the 1965 Regional Assembly elections⁷⁶ and the poor performance of the administration.

The Military ruled from 1966 until 1979 when the Head of State, General Olusegun Obasanjo's regime prepared the way for the Second Republic by establishing the Federal Electoral Commission (FEDECO) to conduct and manage the 1979 elections. The elections took place but there were so many controversies and crisis associated with it. The election was considered a rigged election. After the 1983 elections, there were also lots of complaints about the elections. The Federal Electoral Commission (FEDECO) was also seen as an instrument to favour the ruling party so the elections were adjudged not credible.

The Military took over again by 1983 and ruled Nigeria for another 16 years when the regime of General Abdul Salami Abubakar handed over to a civilian government. The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) was created to conduct the 1999 election and conducted elections from 1999 until 2019. INEC had series of challenges in conducting the elections and they were seen to be fraudulent, violent and undemocratic, especially the 2007 election which was considered by both foreign and domestic observers as the worst elections in the country.

In response to the 2007 elections, the acclaimed winner President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua instituted a reform of the electoral process in Nigeria. He admitted that the elections that brought him to power were fraudulent;

⁷⁵P. O, Momah, *Electoral Commission and the Elections in Nigeria: The Role of INEC*. Online Document Retrieved on 12/03/2021

⁷⁶Shehu Musa YarAdua Foundation “Shehu Musa Yar’Adua A Life of Service” Shehu Musa Yar’Adua Foundation. 2004.

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therefore he made efforts to reform the electoral process in Nigeria. President Yar'Adua began by constituting an Election Reform Committee headed by a retired Supreme Court Justice, Muhammadu Lawal Uwais. The committee made series of consultations and received memoranda from stakeholders as well as Civil Societies, Nongovernmental organisations among many others. The committee, after diligent work, came up with recommendations that have advanced the electoral process in Nigeria. The recommendations of the committee that were adopted and put to use brought about complete overhaul of the electoral system in Nigeria. Among the reforms were the introduction of biometric voters' registration, improved security for election materials, robust stakeholder engagement in issues of elections, restructuring of the election management body (INEC) and the effective engagement of citizens in election.

On the part of INEC, conducting elections was not an easy task. The administration of election to a very large voting population and large geographical terrain and size of Nigeria needed large personnel to manage the election adequately, but INEC had few staff. Therefore, INEC resolved to recruit the NYSC Members to serve as ad-hoc staff for the elections. The first election the NYSC was involved in was the rerun elections in 2008 across the nation. The NYSC proved to be very effective unlike the previous ad-hoc staff drawn from the public who couldn't be held responsible due to many factors.

From then onwards, INEC began recruiting the NYSC in managing elections in Nigeria. In 2010, NYSC and INEC officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) thereby formalising partnership to deploy Corps Members as ad-hoc staff for elections and electoral activities.⁷⁷ As clearly seen in the 2008 rerun elections, the NYSC conduct in the elections were adjudged satisfactory. In an interview with H.E. Gordon H. Bristol, Ambassador of Nigeria to France, *led by Margaret Egbula*, 26

⁷⁷S. Itodo, "The Case of Nigeria" ACE Encyclopaedia. Online Document Retrieved on 12/03/2021



April 2011, he concluded that "the elections were adjudged to be free and fair, and the votes of Nigerians were counted. The elections have dispelled quite a number of long-held myths about Nigeria in terms of their outcome. For instance members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) were deployed to help monitor the various polling booths and they have gone to great lengths."⁷⁸

National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) and the Conduct of Elections in Nigeria

To break the vicious circle of fraudulent elections in Nigeria, the election management body (INEC) had to adopt changes and to account for their conduct in managing elections. The various incompetence, malpractice, fraud and inadequate preparations that characterised elections had to be overcome. Nigeria has a large youthful population with great potentials yet to be harnessed. Youths in any society remain the asset of that society for development. The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) is a pool of resources for the nation's development. It constitutes the educated youths of Nigeria prepared for national development. The NYSC is a programme set up by Nigerian government whereby graduate youths from higher institutions (Universities, Polytechnics, among others) are deployed to every nook and cranny of the nation to serve their nation towards national development.

The outcome of the various failed elections in Nigeria and the resolve to improve and reform the electoral process in the country led to the engagement of the NYSC in the conduct of elections. It began by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). In the MoU, INEC declared that the Commission (INEC) is charged with the responsibility of conducting elections in Nigeria and, in the exercise of this function, it requires the deployment of huge human resources which is beyond its capacity. In the past, the Commission relied on numerous categories of ad-hoc staff for

⁷⁸Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), View Points on Elections in Nigeria.26 April 2011



voter registration exercise and conduct of elections nationwide. However, after engaging members of the NYSC (Corps Members) in the conduct of the bye-elections, re-run elections and supplementary elections after 2007 General Elections, and the conduct of the Corps Members so engaged was adjudged satisfactory, the Commission (INEC) resolved forthwith to engage the services of members of the NYSC for electoral duties. The electoral duties include voter registration, conduct of elections and referendum.⁷⁹

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has since then participated in the conduct of election duties in Nigeria, especially the 2011, 2015 and 2019 elections. Nigeria's 2011 elections marked a watershed in the country's democracy. Before then elections conducted had been marred by controversy, with monitors and observers who assessed the quality of elections consistently questioning their integrity. The 2011 elections, however, received resounding approval as an improvement on the previous elections since the return of civilian government in 1999. The elections have been adjudged to be the most credible elections in Nigeria partly as a result of the engagement of NYSC which cannot be overemphasised.

National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) and Contributions to Credible Elections in Nigeria

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has been well-positioned to contribute to the conduct of elections in Nigeria and the contributions have been commended. Using serving members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) in all 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory (Abuja), INEC was able to register 73.5 million eligible voters.⁸⁰ These included an open and transparent review of voter register. The strategic partnership with the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has been rewarding in the Continuous Voter Registration (CVR).

⁷⁹Memorandum of Understanding between Independent National Electoral Commission and National Youth Service Corps, Appendix B 24 September 2013.

⁸⁰O. S. Adesina, Monitoring and Observing Nigeria's 2011 Elections.

ResearchGate : <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/311623926> · June 2012

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The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has contributed in no small way to the provision of a large number of ad-hoc staff for election duty across the nation; the Independent National Electoral Commission has shortage of man power to administer elections in Nigeria with a population close to 73 million voters. The Corps Members who are already located in every part of the country are strategically available for every kind of national service including election duty. This has contributed in providing man power which is necessary for conducting a successful election. National Youth Service Corps Members have contributed in conducting the actual polling; and counting and tabulating the votes. With their education, they are able to count the votes and tabulate it for onward delivery to the collation centres while INEC officials take over from there. The Corps Members have been trained by INEC to carry out such election duty.

The Corps Members have helped in making the electoral process easier for INEC because the youths are more into technology than their older counterparts. While INEC is increasingly resorting to technologies both in their daily work and in their management of election operations such as voter registration and results management;⁸¹ NYSC is closing the gap in terms of technology know-how. There has been commendation for the professional conduct and leadership exhibited by the young men and women of the National Youth Services Corps (NYSC) as ad-hoc INEC staff during elections. The roles of the NYSC Members were very important in ensuring that the electoral process and procedures were adhered to and maintained while, most of the times, working under challenging conditions to ensure strict compliance to the electoral laws guiding the conduct of elections.

The NYSC has raised the moral tone of electoral process in Nigeria thereby giving the electoral process credibility despite the fraud, rigging, violence and irregularities that characterised elections before 2011. Although the

⁸¹IDEA “Youth participation in electoral processes: new roles for African electoral management bodies” *International IDEA Policy Brief*, November 2015



elections are not yet perfect, appreciable progress has been achieved by INEC partly because of the role of NYSC in contributing a large number of qualified, educated and available manpower across every polling unit in Nigeria which is commendable.

Challenges of National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) during Elections

The conduct of Election remains a challenge not only in Nigeria but also all over the world. The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) as a partner with the election management body (INEC) is weighed with the same challenges of conducting elections. Despite the invaluable gains reaped from the Scheme during the electoral process, Corps Members face trying moments due to factors which include, but not limited to, threats and rejection, attack by hoodlums and thugs, nullification and falsification of results by interested representatives of candidates or political parties, lack of accommodation and cultural intolerance among others.

In the case of 2011 Presidential election, although the election was commended by Election Observer Mission (EOM) as one of the most successful in Nigeria's political history, cases of stuffing ballot boxes by political thugs, under-age voting and outright falsification of election results by interested representatives of political parties were reported in some states.⁸²

During the 2019 elections, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) engaged Corps Members again as ad-hoc staff during the February 23 and March 9 general elections. After the elections, some of the Corps Members, however, staged a protest at the INEC Headquarters in Awka, Anambra state alleging non-payment or incomplete payment of their allowances to them for the election duties. However, the issues were later resolved after several discussions and reconciliations between NYSC and INEC.

⁸²Leadership Newspaper, Wednesday, April 20, 2011

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The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has been consistent in keeping to the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the two government agencies. Despite the threat, violence, dangers, disappointments and many other challenges faced by electioneering in Nigeria, the Scheme has been nationalistic and forward looking towards achieving national development in Nigeria. NYSC did not only engage Corps Members but also their staff who help supervise the conducts of Corps Members on election duty to achieve success.

Another major challenge is the practice among political parties to induce support through 'vote-buying' and bribing election officials at the polling units; this has become a concern in successive elections. Vulnerable youths could be exploited to undermine the efforts of NYSC and INEC in the conduct of elections. The 2010 Electoral Act makes financial inducement an offence; that means to offer or receive financial inducements is an electoral offence for all, whether ad-hoc staff or voters alike.

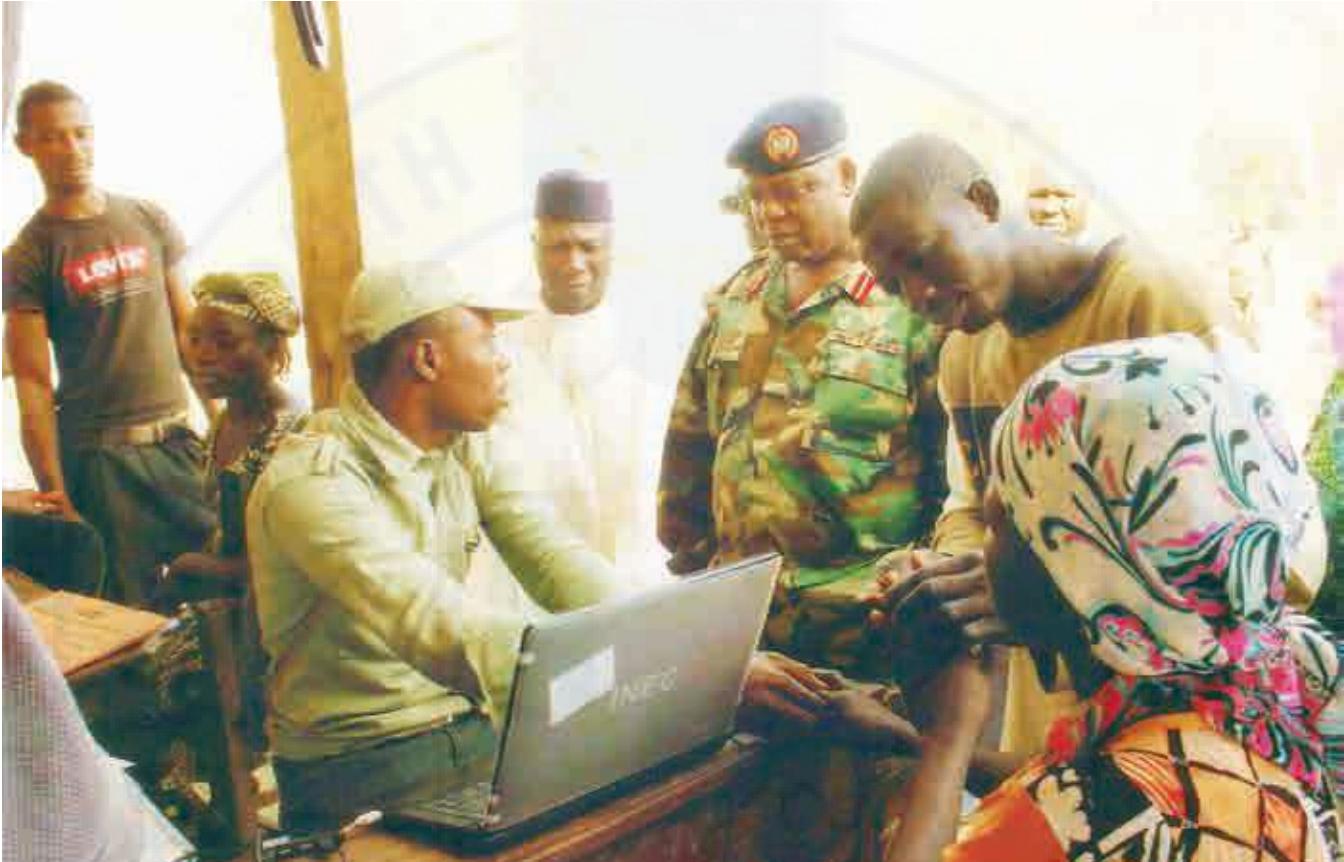
CONCLUSION

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has been saddled with the responsibility of managing the electoral process in Nigeria so as to sustain democracy; hence the commission is at the receiving end for its actions or inactions and that of other stakeholders who collaborate alongside INEC to achieve success in elections. Even though they were faced with the above challenges, the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) continually engage Corps Members to participate in elections so as to bridge the gap occasioned by the deficit in man power, considering the large number of Corps Members available to the NYSC. Therefore, INEC having signed a Memorandum of Understanding with NYSC to collaborate in the election process, decided to constantly engage NYSC officials as well as Corps Members to serve as ad-hoc staff during elections in Nigeria and this has yielded remarkable results overtime. The result of the collaboration between NYSC and INEC has become a watershed in the history of electioneering in Nigeria, thereby restoring the image of Nigeria which was initially battered due to rigging, violence, fraudulent acts and irregularities in elections.



***NYSC DG donating a plaque to former INEC boss
after a stakeholder's meeting on elections***

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Brig Gen MI Tsiga monitoring Corps members on election duty



*Gen Tsiga welcoming INEC Chairman Prof Attahiru Jega
to NYSC Headquarters*



NYSC DG and INEC Chairman, Prof Mahmud Yakubu with an ex-Corps member given employment by INEC as a result of his performance on election duty



Dignitaries EU Commission Delegation presentation of laptops to outstanding Corps members in recognition of their performance during 2019 general elections



Corps member receiving from NYSC DG, a laptop donated by the EU Commission



Corps members on election duty

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Corps members attending to voters



CHAPTER

10

NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS VENTURES

The history of NYSC ventures is traceable to the Scheme's embrace of agriculture in order to contribute to the accelerated growth of the national economy, as enunciated in the instrument that birthed the Scheme. The service Corps ventured into farming in 1984 and by 1992 the Scheme was cultivating a minimum of 100 hectares of land in each of the existing states of the federation. The farms produced a variety of crops including maize, rice, guinea corn, millet, sorghum, cowpea, plantain, cassava, pineapple, and palm fruits. There were also livestock farms in addition to the arable farms. These included fish farms located in Rivers, Ogun and Osun States, Poultry farms in Ondo, Benue, Osun and Imo States; Beef fattening farms in Kano, Bauchi, Sokoto, and Katsina States. Lagos, Enugu and Plateau states had Piggery farms.

The success recorded in the farms spurred the NYSC into establishing some agro-based projects to process farm produce. They include Feed Mill located at Ipaja-Lagos, Garri processing factories at Afon, Kwara State and

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Makurdi, Benue State; Rice mills in Ezeillo and Talata Mafara in present Ebonyi and Zamfara States, respectively. There are also Garment factories in Minna, Niger State and Mgbakwu, Anambra State; a Shoe factory in Benin, Edo State. Others include Printing Press, Mechanic Workshop, Fuel Dump and Bottle water factory, all located in the FCT.

The farms and agro-based enterprises have evolved over the years helping particularly to feed Corps Members during the Orientation course and contributing towards achieving food sufficiency in the country. They were under a division in the Community Development Service Department but presently in the newly created NYSC Ventures Management Department.

NYSC Ventures Management Department:

The Ventures Management Department was established in 2012 to train and empower the youths for self-reliance, job creation, wealth creation and contribute to the attainment of national food security. To achieve these, the Department aims to rehabilitate abandoned farms and agro-allied projects and establish new integrated farm settlements, agro-allied processing factories and other business venture.

Integrated Farm Settlements

The Scheme has established integrated pilot farm settlements in the six geopolitical zones of the country. They are sited in Ezillo, Ebonyi State in the South East; Iseyin, Oyo State in the South West; Obubra, Cross River State in the South-South; Dangulbi, Bauchi State in the North East; Saminaka, Kebbi State in the North West and Leleyi, Kwali in the Federal Capital Territory (North Central).

The capacity of each farm settlement is not less than 100 hectares. It is expected that the lessons learnt in the pilot States will ensure guided incremental projects growth that will cover the whole nation. Four of the integrated farms in Bauchi, Kebbi, Oyo States, and the FCT have commenced full operations with significant progress as indicated below:



(a) NYSC Integrated Farm, Dangulbi, Bauchi State

The NYSC integrated farm in Bauchi successfully cultivated 15 hectares of Soya beans, intercropped with Sorghum during the 2018 farming season, with appreciable yield. The farm is expecting a bumper harvest from the Sorghum and soya beans planted for the 2019 farming season.

(b) NYSC Integrated Farm, Kwali, Abuja

The farm in 2017 was stocked with 720 processed Broiler birds and 1,100 pullets, growing into laying birds. The pullets laid eggs to their peak and were sold, along with the broilers. The farm is being restocked with new sets of Pullets and Broilers. The produce from the 15 hectares of maize intercropped with cassava and five hectares of Soya beans for the 2019 farming season was substantial. The Cassava cultivated in the 2017/2018 farming season had been sold as processed Cassava chips and tubers.

(c) NYSC Integrated Farm, Saminaka, Kebbi State

The yield from the 40 hectares of rice cultivated for the 2018 farming season had been sold, just as the product from the 40 hectares, each, of the rice and groundnut planted for the 2019 farming season.

(d) NYSC Integrated Farm, Iseyin, Oyo State

The farm successfully cultivated nineteen and a half hectares of cassava during the 2017 farming season, which was sold as tuber or processed cassava chips. The management of the Scheme recently procured a new tractor and implements for the farm. Also, more hectares of land have been acquired to expand the farm.

Farm Produce Value Chain

Each project line in the various farm centres is designed to develop a value

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chain, to create acceptable products and generate jobs and create wealth. For instance, the poultry production line is already developing with egg production lines, meat processing and cold room storage facilities and marketing line, parent stock breeding birds, hatchery line for day-old birds, as well as waste utilisation line (as poultry manure will go into soil conservation and improvement, mortality and waste generated at processing will go into catfish production).

Also, the cassava production value chain is being developed. These include IITA improved variety seedlings development for sales to new sites, out-growers and host community members for a buyback of cassava tubers for processing to cassava derivate, such cassava tubers production from NYSC integrated farm settlements for sales to NYSC cassava derivate factory, NYSC cassava derivate processing factory buying up cassava tubers out-growers from host community and NYSC farms for processing into standard cassava derivates products, such as cassava flour, cassava chips, and cassava pellets, etc.; for sale to national and multinational companies for export. Furthermore, waste from cassava processing is dried and converted to an inclusive component for feed for ruminants such as cattle, goats, piggery, grasscutter, etc.

Other farm products like, rice, maize, groundnut, etc., will have their value line, developing products that are nationally, regionally and internationally acceptable, while training youths and carrying out extension services, through collaborations.

The Scheme has also been rejuvenating and recapitalising its agro-allied enterprises, which include:

Livestock Feed Mill, Lagos

Located at Ipaja, Lagos State, the feed-mill was established in 1989 and produces chick mash, grower mash, layer mash, broiler starter, boiler finisher, Fish feeds/pellets and pig fattener.

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Garry Processing Factory, Afon, Kwara

The garri processing factory located at Afon in Kwara State which was established in 1990 can produce tons of garri, annually.

Rice Mill, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State

Two rice mills located at Ezillo, Ebonyi State and Talata Mafara, Zamfara State were both commissioned in 1992. The Ebonyi rice mill at present produces and processes over 10 metric tons of de-stoned rice which is sold and also used in feeding Corps Members, during NYSC Orientation exercise.

Garment Factory, Minna, Niger State

The garment factory in Minna, Niger State was established in 1990. The factory produces NYSC kit items, such as P. T. shorts, caps, belts and khaki suits. It has an installed capacity to produce 60,000 to 100,000 units of each item. It also provides skills and entrepreneurial training in fashion design to Corps Members.

Garment Factory, Mgbakwu, Anambra State

The NYSC garment factory at Mgbakwu, Anambra State was established in 2001, and also produces Corps Members' kit items. It has been producing and supplying kit items and also trains Corps Members.

NYSC National Band

The National Band is one of the recent ventures established by the Scheme to harness the abundant talents at the disposal of the Scheme. The band, made up of Corps Members with skills in different musical instruments, services NYSC functions and is equally patronised by individuals and organisations. This has been replicated in all NYSC Secretariats nationwide and has saved the Scheme the huge costs expended in hiring bands functions.

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Other ventures

In addition to the above, the Scheme is poised to revitalise its moribund Mechanical Workshop. Bottle water and Bakery have been resuscitated, while plans are on to establish Printing Presses in all the six geo-political zones of the country. NYSC Management is also determined to recapitalise the agro-based industries, to make them commercially viable.

Apart from contributing to the national economy and generating revenue for the Scheme, the ventures will also serve as centres for skills acquisition and entrepreneurship training for both Corps Members, and youths of the community where they are located.

CONCLUSION

The ventures were established with the larger objectives of the NYSC in the area of training and empowerment of the youth for self-reliance and to meet high percentage of the Scheme's requirements for Corps members' kit items, orientation camp feeding and improvement in the revenue base of the Scheme.

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NYSC Bakery in Kubwa

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NYSC Water Factory

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NYSC Poultry

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NYSC Garment Factory



CHAPTER

11

SKILLS ACQUISITION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT (SAED): ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS

Introduction

The importance of youths to national development cannot be overemphasised. The world over, youths are seen as an engine for achieving national development goals. This is because of the huge potentials they possess. Countries often plan extensive programmes of youth development that cut across sectors of development such as education, energy, information and communication technology (ICT), health and other critical industries. The integration of youths into these plans is the recognition of their capacity as the main labour force of nations.

However, youth unemployment has remained a major cause for concern of many national economies. Annually, during the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, the major concern of countries include the global glut in oil, the capital market and youth unemployment. For instance, Stefano Scarpetta warned that the global vicious circles of unemployment are feeding into depressed investment and lower prospects for growth and job creation.⁸³ The worse group affected by this situation was identified as

⁸³WEF_GAC_Employment_TacklingUnemploymentCrisis_Report_2014.pdf (weforum.org)



the youth. The data indicates that young people are more likely to be unemployed compared to other demographics. They are also challenged with reduced potential as a result of under-utilisation and reduced earning. The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has since recognised the challenge of youth unemployment as a major challenge of national development. Since its establishment in 1973, NYSC has entered into skill development partnership with other government agencies previously such as National Directorate of Employment (NDE).⁸⁴ Overtime, the NYSC leadership recognised the need for practical skills as a panacea for youth development and fighting unemployment. Hence in 2012, the Skills Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED) was launched. This is in line with the global practice of focusing on skill development and entrepreneurship that makes youth self-sufficient and creators of jobs rather than just depending on their certificates for employment.

There is a need to examine the SAED Scheme and how it has contributed to youth development in terms of skill development, skill acquisition, financing and sustainability. Globally, there is a focus on skill development as an avenue to ensuring youth employment. This has implications for theory and practice. Hence, this chapter examines issues such as factors that necessitated the development of the SAED policy, implementation strategies, partnership for project financing and overall success, challenges and prospect of the SAED scheme.

Literature review

The literature on youth development, unemployment and skill acquisition has grown overtime. This is not surprising as the importance of youth development to economic sustainability cannot be overemphasised. Ayhuan observes that youth unemployment is not a challenge for only

NYSC News "At 47, NYSC still a Pivot of National Unity and Development" ⁸⁴
Journal of NYSC Directorate Headquarters (2020): pp: 3-4



developing countries; rather it is a real global challenge.⁸⁵ There are micro- and macroeconomic reasons for youth unemployment, especially connected with production level of a country. The lack of high level production in an economy leads to lack of sustainable growth. It has equally been identified that young persons are most at risk of unemployment because of their inadequate experience, lack of skill and redundancy.

W. Baah Boateng observes that the concept of unemployment as defined by International Labour Organisation (ILO) is too narrow, especially within the context of many African countries. Boateng's contention is that disconnect between unemployment and informality in Africa makes the ILO's definition to significantly ignore the huge number of people employed in the informal sector of Africa.⁸⁶ This issue is critical because the design and implementation of national policies for employment generation and poverty reduction needs to have a holistic understanding of both the formal and informal sectors of the economy. For instance, the SAED Scheme focuses not just on the formal sector, but especially the informal sector as an avenue for youth entrepreneurship development.

According to the International Labour Organisation "World Employment and Social Outlook – Trends 2019", unemployment and gender inequality are universal, their specific character and degree of priority differ depending on the region and a country's level of development. In low-income countries, employment relationships all too often do not even enable people to escape poverty. Whereas working poverty generally decreases with economic development, other labour market achievements such as formality, access to social security systems, job security, collective bargaining and compliance with labour standards and rights at work are still elusive, to varying degrees, for many countries. Securing these gains is

⁸⁵F. Ayhuan "Youth Unemployment as a Global Threat" *Actual Problems of Economics* 7(181), (2016): pp. 262-279

⁸⁶W. Baah-Boateng "Unemployment in Africa: how appropriate is the global definition and measurement for policy purpose" *International Journal of Manpower*, (2015): pp. 1-20.



therefore a major challenge that policy-makers must face up to. Furthermore, some new business models often made possible through innovative technologies threaten to undermine existing achievements in this area. Unemployment rates have fallen considerably in high-income countries in the past few years, but they have risen, or are in the process of rising, in a number of upper-middle-income countries in the wake of an economic slowdown, putting a large share of the labour force at heightened risk of poverty.⁸⁷

An estimated 172 million people worldwide were unemployed in 2018, which corresponds to an unemployment rate of 5.0 per cent.⁸⁸ It is remarkable that, whereas it took only one year for the global unemployment rate to jump from 5.0 per cent in 2008 to 5.6 per cent in 2009, the recovery to the levels that prevailed before the global financial crisis has taken a full nine years. The current outlook is uncertain.⁸⁹ Assuming stable economic conditions, the unemployment rate in many countries is projected to decline further. However, macroeconomic risks have increased and are already having a negative impact on the labour market in a number of countries. On balance, the global unemployment rate should remain at roughly the same level during 2019 and 2020. The number of people unemployed was projected to increase by 1 million per year to reach 174 million by 2020 as a result of the expanding labour force.⁹⁰

The Challenge of Youth unemployment in Nigeria

Unemployment among youths is a major challenge in Nigeria. Many young people attend higher institutions and turn out to be unemployed after many years of their academic pursuit. There are several factors that have been identified as being the reasons for the issue of unemployment as explained

⁸⁷ILO: Work for a brighter future – Global Commission on the Future of Work (Geneva, 2019).

⁸⁸ILO: Work for a brighter future – Global Commission on the Future of Work (Geneva, 2019).

⁸⁹ILO: Work for a brighter future – Global Commission on the Future of Work (Geneva, 2019).

⁹⁰ILO: Work for a brighter future – Global Commission on the Future of Work (Geneva, 2019).

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below:

Theoretical nature of education in Nigeria: The problem of education in Nigeria has compounded the employability of graduates. Many higher institutions lack the requisite facilities to qualitatively empower their graduates. Therefore, in areas where practical knowledge are needed, it will be discovered that students learn theoretical and by rote. This means that when youths graduate, they lack self-reliance, thereby depending on employment. Yet in a saturated labour market, practical skills are crucial requirement to secure an edge. Therefore, graduates find themselves in a limbo, having graduated with good grades, they lack practical knowledge to apply it in solving real world problems. According to a Guardian editorial:

Nigeria is blessed with one of the best age-distribution demographics in the world, with the youth standing at 53% of the population. Indeed, this is an army of human resource waiting to be harnessed and unleashed into the world to stimulate growth... the culture of waiting for employment after university or polytechnic training has remained ingrained in our youths. Although this point had been repeatedly made and some governments had taken some steps, there has been no consistency. Poor planning and policy somersaults have made it impossible for the nation to deploy these youths into productive channels.⁹¹

Furthermore, many courses offered in Nigerian schools are not practical-oriented. There are more social sciences, humanities and management sciences graduate than there are scientists. This pressures labour market as most of these graduates are not practically equipped to create jobs but rather depend on being employed. This is the case of the average graduate in Nigeria. Even science and technology-oriented graduates lack ideas of how

⁹¹Guardian Editorial “Technical Education Priority for Development”
<https://guardian.ng/opinion/technical-education-priority-for-development/>

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to employ their trainings for entrepreneurial purposes. There is a notion that real difficulties exist in obtaining underemployment data in African countries. This challenge remains a cardinal problem of various policies and Schemes aimed at reducing poverty and youth underemployment.

Failure of vocational education: Countries have often identified socioeconomic problems and intentionally channel efforts towards resolving them. During the cold war, Stalin identified Russia as being centuries behind Europe in terms of science and technology. The practical solution evolved was to focus on science and technology. Indeed, in less than two decades Russia had made such technological advancement as to participate in the space wars in the 1960s.¹³⁸ It was this same spirit of channelling energy towards solving the technological and unemployment situation in Nigeria that led to adopting technical and vocational education. A look at the policy on technical and vocational education reveals the importance of Technical and Vocational Education (TVE). The goals of TVE in Nigeria were stated in the NPE and were believed to have the capacity to advance the economy of the nation if properly implemented and monitored.⁹² An objective that education must achieve in order to make it more relevant to the country's development is the promotion of the culture of productivity by enabling every individual to discover the creative genius within. The individual must apply this creative genius within him/her to improve existing skills and techniques for performing specific tasks, thereby increasing the efficiency of personal societal efforts:

- a. provide trained manpower in the applied sciences, technology and business, particularly in craft, and advanced craft at technical levels;

¹³⁸ Stalin was quoted as saying "We are fifty or a hundred years behind the advanced countries. We must make up this gap in ten years. Either we do it or they will crush us."
<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/leaders-andcontroversies/g4/cs1/>

⁹²A. Abimbade, "Technical and vocational education for sustainable national development." In M. Boucouvalas & R. Aderinoye (Eds.), *Education for millennium development: Essays in Honour of Professor Michael Omolewa*, (Volume II,), Ibadan: Spectrum Books Limited, 2008): pp. 278- 292

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- b. provide the technical knowledge and vocational skills necessary for agricultural, commercial and economic development;
- c. give training and impart the necessary skills to individuals who shall be economically self-reliant.⁹³

Underinvestment, lack of facilities, unqualified instructors, lack of infrastructure, low remuneration of technologists, lack of continuity, unsustainable practices, wastage and lack of policy implementation combined as factors that hindered the route of vocational and technical education to solve the issue of unemployment. In the polytechnics, few laboratories are available for the advancement of technical education.

The tendency is to focus on management sciences that require low laboratory work. More so, the feeling of being treated as lower equals compared to graduates of university tends to reduce the morale of the polytechnic graduates. This has implication for employability.

The problem of industrialisation: Industrialisation remains at an infancy in Nigeria. The lack of industries has affected the economy negatively. Indeed, manufacturing sector has suffered tremendously. Some manufacturers have either closed down or relocated their factories to neighbouring countries. Challenge of power and infrastructure, unstable fiscal and financial policies, competition from cheap imports, lack of implementation of existing policies, multiple taxation, among others are the bane of industrialisation in Nigeria. The impact is that manufacturing does not absorb a huge population of the teeming unemployed graduates.

A.A. Adenike “The Challenges and Prospects of the Manufacturing Sector of Nigerian Economy” *International Journal of Innovations in Management Science* 2(4) (2012): pp 131-141; E. Oyati “The Relevance, Prospects and the Challenges of the Manufacturing Sector in Nigeria <https://www.globalacademicgroup.com/journals/the%20intuition/The%20Relevance,%20Prospects%20and%20the%20Challenges%20of%20the%20Manufacturing.pdf>

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Overview of NYSC Skills Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED)

As a response to the myriad of challenges facing youths after graduation and their youth service, the NYSC aims at empowering youths with lifelong skills that can equip them for the challenges of post-service. Although, many youth graduates always hope to secure paid jobs, such unsustainable approach has often led to frustration and desperation. Therefore a major strategy NYSC has adopted is to equip youths with practical capacity to create and sustain jobs.

The SAED programme was established in 2012 and is geared towards contributing to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The programme is designed for implementation through the incamp and post-camp training components. SAED is administered as a Department within the NYSC structure and it is headed by a Director.

The following are some of the key activities implemented under the SAED programme with a view to ensuring that its objectives are achieved.

1. Sustaining and mobilising Corps Members for enrolment into the Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development programme.
2. Entrepreneurship and hands-on training in and out of camp.
3. Identification of organisations at the state level to provide training and mentoring in specific skills set.
4. Attachment of the Corps Members to the various organisations and for skill acquisition and entrepreneurship development.
5. Business plan/feasibility report development and collation.
6. Monitoring and supervision of trainee Corps Members; and
7. Facilitation of access to available funding opportunities.

From the inception of the programme to date, over 1,132,409 Corps Members have been sensitised and reached with empowerment messages, while over 764,677 have completed post-camp training. In addition, one of



the partners of the Scheme, the Bank of Industry (BOI) has trained no fewer than 3,927 Corps Members under the BOI-NYSC Graduate Empowerment Fund. 1,077 of them have applied for loans in the sum of about N4 billion. So far, a total of N540.2 million has been disbursed to 325 Corps Members and they have all established their own businesses in different parts of the country. SAED in turn employ an average of four persons to run their business.

In terms of financing, the SAED programme has been able to secure partnership with public and private bodies that offer different types of funding assistance to Corps Members. Some of these financing bodies include:

- a. Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN)
- b. Bank of Industry
- c. Bank of Agriculture
- d. Credit Direct Ltd

For instance, private institutions such as Credit Direct Ltd, through its Quick Fix Loan System, disbursed N629.016 million to 13,344 Corps Members. Seven (7) Corps Members have also received 15 million as business loan disbursed under the Youth Entrepreneurship Development Programme of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN).

Broad-Based Partnership and Collaboration

The Scheme partners other key players in the public and private sectors such as the National Directorate of Employment (NDE), National Board for Technology Incubation (NBTI), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), Bank of Agriculture (BOA), and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), Access Bank, National Agricultural Land Development Authority, among others.

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Advocacy and Policy Influencing

The objective of this strategy is the creation of enabling environment for initiation and implementation of programmes geared towards youth empowerment through skills acquisition and entrepreneurship development in Nigeria. NYSC, using evidence generated from implementation of this programme, galvanise the effort of other key stakeholders to advocate for government policies and legislations that promote accelerated efforts aimed at empowering Nigerian youths for self reliance and wealth creation. It is expected that as a result of lessons learnt from the implementation of SAED, NYSC would be able to showcase home-grown, cost effective and replicable youth empowerment models for self-reliance and wealth creation in Nigeria.

According to Brig Gen Shuaibu Ibrahim, Director-General of NYSC, the SAED programme has made tremendous achievements since its inception. He particularly gave a long list of achievements of the Scheme which include the following:

1. 1,132,409 Corps Members sensitised and reached with SAED message.
2. 764,677 completed post camp training at the end of the service year.
3. Over 400 NYSC staff have been trained as entrepreneurs.
4. NYSC partnership with Bank of Industry produced graduate entrepreneurship fund. The bank is currently evaluating 355 Corps Members proposals for funding.
5. Review of skill acquisition and entrepreneurship programme of the Scheme, gaps and challenges were identified and useful recommendation made to Management.
6. Capacity building for staff and Corps Members within and outside the country.
7. Three staff and Corps Members were sponsored by the Chinese Embassy to Beijing, China.

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8. Production and distribution of publications (workbook, SAED manuals, strategic framework, certificates, attendance cards, fliers) during every orientation camp.
9. Training of over 100,000 Corps Members in entrepreneurship development programme.
10. About 6,000 Corps Members have established their businesses within the last six years, and became serious employers of labour.
11. Establishment of skill centres in Ekiti State, South-West and Gombe State, North East Zone.
12. Acquisition of about five hectares of land in Ezi, Delta State, South-South zone for skill center and successful conduct of the ground breaking ceremony of the NYSC skill Acquisition Center in the state on 29th July, 2009.
13. BOI has trained 3,927 Corps Members in the Graduate Entrepreneurship Fund (GEF) programme out of which 1077 candidates applied for loans of about of N4billion.
14. A total sum of N540.2 million has been disbursed to 325 Corps Members who have all started their businesses in different parts of the country.
15. Average employment generation is about 4 persons per each business that is from BOI/GEF alone; 1300 jobs have been created.
16. Credit direct has disbursed 629,016 million Naira to 13,344 CMs.
17. Seven Corps Members received N15million as loans for their businesses on the YEDP programme of the CBN.
18. Developing an institutional pool of resource persons to maintain standard and qualitative training. There is a pool of 40 NYSC internationally certified business plan development experts to support CMs business and start up processes.
19. Increased number of staff participating in skills hands-on training.

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20. Provision and distribution of additional training equipment such as public address systems (PAS), projectors, screen, computers, gas cookers/cylinders, Barbing Clippers, Photocopiers, Printer. Aluminum cutting Machines, Embroidery and weaving machines to the states.
21. Sustaining the collaboration with CBN and BOI led to the following
 - i. 3rd edition of the NYSC/BOIGEF training of 3,000 Corps Members out of which, 896 had already been trained and over 1,680 are scheduled for the training.
 - ii. Presentation of Direct loans for the Youth Entrepreneurship Development Programme (YEDP) to over 2,890 Corps entrepreneurs for CBN
22. Corps Members utilised their skills in carrying out renovations of camp facilities such as (Hostels, painting, roofing, benches, interlocking tiles) as well as installation of solar panels and CCTV by Corps Members in camps.¹⁴¹

Apart from meeting the objectives of its founders, the NYSC has been able to discern and identify with the aspirations of the Nigerian society. In response to graduate unemployment, the Scheme in collaboration with National Directorate of Employment, re-invigorated the Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDP) usually administered during orientation course and designed to enhance selfemployment opportunities for Corps Members.⁹⁴

⁹⁴G. Enegwea& G. Umoden *NYSC: Twenty Years of National Service*(Lagos: National Youth Service Corps Directorate Headquarters, 1993) p. 149

Leadwatch Publications *Media Assessment: Shuaibu Ibrahim's Silent Revolution in NYSC*(Abuja: Leadwatch Publications, 2020) p.72¹⁴¹ entrepreneurship is now taught as a general studies in most schools, the impression is that students tend to see it as another theoretical course that needs to be passed to avoid carryover.



SAED has focused on the development of tech/digital skills. The use of basic ICT tools for day to day work, development of soft and hard skills, vocational and professional development as well as certifications. By bringing various government funding agencies such as Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Bank of Industry (BOI), Bank of Agriculture (BOA); Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and other organisations that offer training, SAED helps equip Corps Members with practical, lifelong entrepreneurship skills that leads to wealth generation, and sustainable youth development.

Again, there are indications that tremendous achievements have been made. The NYSC skills acquisition programme has heralded a new dimension to youth development. The NYSC Director-General recently revealed the far reaching efforts of the Scheme. In his assessment, he revealed the following contribution of SAED to youth empowerment. Aside official narratives, some of the achievements of the NYSC SAED programme can be highlighted as follows:

Sensitisation of Corps Members on the importance of Entrepreneurship Development

It is crucial to impress upon graduates the importance of entrepreneurial development. Though

Yet, SAED presents the students a different dimension by practically revealing the importance of entrepreneurship. Considering that there is no pressure on Corp Members in terms of evaluation or grading, they tend to be more attentive and open to ideas.

To this effect, the Scheme has been able to successfully sensitise over 1,132 million Corps Members since the programme began.⁹⁵ The implication is that during the orientation course, Corps Members are able to identify

⁹⁵Leadwatch Publications *Media Assessment: Shuaibu Ibrahim's Silent Revolution in NYSC*(Abuja: Leadwatch Publications, 2020) p.72

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potential areas that interest them and which they can pursue during and beyond the service year.

Vocational Training Centres

As earlier noted, vocational training has remained a challenge in Nigeria. In recognition of this, any youth empowerment programme must take into consideration that crucial aspect. This is because hands-on or practical approach to entrepreneurship ensures sustainability and creativity of participants.

In this regard, the NYSC SAED programme appeared to have taken into consideration the crucial element of vocational training. Therefore, a number of vocational centers have been incorporated into the programme. The decentralised nature of this approach appears very sustainable. Although the NYSC understands the challenge of opening and sustaining a vocational centre, it has rather adopted partnership with established professional institutions and private individuals to inculcate skill and vocational training in Corps Members. This has been very successful. During the orientation, Corps Members are introduced to photographers, caterers, cosmetologists, fashion designers and automotive specialists, among others, as well as array of vocations from which they identify the vocation that is most appealing to them. After the three weeks orientation, Corps Members continue to be attached to these centre to carry on their training till the end of their service year.

This sustainable approach to vocational development is commendable. Aside from giving practical knowledge, it provides Corps Members and youths generally the capacity to practice lifelong skills that lead to entrepreneurial development. Therefore, the trainings received from orientation camps become avenues for gaining the interest of Corps Members. Beyond this, it provides avenue for the expansion of the various industries that collaborate with the NYSC SAED programme. For instance,



photography was previously undervalued and reserved for individuals who are unable to secure jobs. However, application of technology, social media and advancements in tools for photography has led to an expansion of the profession. Indeed, Corps Members now learn photography with zeal, and this has been economically beneficial. In an expanding industry like photography, the NYSC has bridged the gap of the industry by providing trained individuals to take advantage of the vocation.

Through partnership, the NYSC SAED programme has established vocational training centres such as the ACCESS Bank 1000 fully furnished capacity mega skills training centre in Gombe State. This mega vocational centre is aimed at training youths in a multi and cross sectoral aspect of entrepreneurship training such as Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Power and Energy sector, cosmetology, among others.⁹⁶

Training the trainers approach

The NYSC SAED programme is particularly peculiar because officers of the Scheme are trained as trainers. This has ensured that the various officers of NYSC are equipped with requisite knowledge and capacity to impart skill acquisition and empowerment capacity to Corps Members. This has been achieved through the vigorous approach of securing partnership and collaboration. According to Brig Gen Ibrahim Shuaibu, the Director General of NYSC, the members of staff of NYSC have been trained by local and international bodies, he specifically noted that: ... the American multi-national, General Electric in conjunction with the international Labour Organisation (ILO) under the Cognity Advisory Partnership has trained 40 NYSC staff who are now ILO certified “Business Entrepreneurship trainers”...

In addition to this, a significant number of NYSC staff have also benefitted from international capacity building training in China, America and Europe which has

⁹⁶Leadwatch “Media Assessment” p. 72

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tremendously boosted the training and mentoring of Corps entrepreneurs.⁹⁷

This indicates the level of emphasis placed on training of staff and trainers, thereby creating a pool of valuable and skilled members of staff whose knowledge can be tapped. Indeed, the qualities of these staff are reflected in the policies and practice of entrepreneurship development that have been of immense value to the NYSC.

Prospects of Skills Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED)

Increased participation

SAED Scheme is a huge avenue for entrepreneurship development in Nigeria because of the nature of NYSC which provides steady supply of fresh and vibrant graduates. The Scheme taps into the creative, innovative and appreciative nature of several individuals that graduate from across the world. Considerable and stable pool of beneficiaries is available to tap from the opportunity of the NYSC SAED programme. This ensures that as more young people graduate, they are immediately connected to the entrepreneurial development opportunities provided by NYSC.

Strategic partnership with funding bodies

The NYSC seeks to establish partnerships and collaborations with credible and competent organisations at various levels for the different components. Through series of formal and informal engagements with identified stakeholders, NYSC seeks to deepen different stakeholders' understanding of the programme, solicit their buy-in and clarify roles and responsibilities.

Multi-sectoral nature of SAED

The multi-sectoral nature of the SAED programme is a strong point that

⁹⁷ Leadwatch "Media Assessment" p. 72



indicates its sustainable nature. Considering that the Scheme cuts across health, agriculture, fashion, management, construction and even the entertainment industry, the Scheme is truly multi-sectoral. This value ensures that multiple areas are available to be explored and thereby creating endless opportunities for empowerment.

Multiplier effect of youth empowerment

The more youths that benefit from the SAED programme, the more the level of unemployment reduces. This is because the skills acquired are transferable, thereby empowering others and creating a chain of empowered and entrepreneurship youth. Some beneficiaries are already transferring the skills acquired to others. Such continuity has multiplier effect for youth empowerment, skills acquisition, wealth creation and transfer. More so, many beneficiaries are becoming job creators, employers of labour and trainers. Thereby ensuring that the programme has full impact.

Focused Leadership

The NYSC has been able to sustain the vision on entrepreneurship development because of the focused leadership that is based on continuity. For instance, on assumption of office by Brig Gen Shuaibu Ibrahim, he focused his leadership on five policy thrust, namely:

- a. Sustain effective utilisation of potentials of Corps Members for optimal benefit;
- b. Pursue a technologically driven organisation to deepen effective service delivery;
- c. Improve on the welfare and security of Corps Members and staff;
- d. Strengthen existing collaboration with stakeholders;
- e. Reinvigorate the NYSC Ventures and Skills Acquisition and



Entrepreneurship Development (SAED) programme in line with the NYSC Act for greater impact.⁹⁸

In actualisation of the policy thrust (d) and (e) above, the Director-General has been able to collaborate with different local and foreign agencies to train and empower the staff and Corps Members of NYSC. The SAED programmes have been repositioned to train and equip youths with lifelong entrepreneurial and profitable skills. Such visionary leadership is a major factor in the success of any project.

Private sector driven

An impressive aspect of the SAED programme is its interface with the private sector. The private sector is the focal point for sourcing entrepreneurship training and the skills acquired are also translated into provision of services in the sector, thereby ensuring continuity of the programme. Although there are issues of funding by establishing individuals to be self-dependent and product providers, it is obvious that their ability to explore these opportunities is a major sustainable aspect of the programme. This means that the NYSC becomes the pivot and launch pad for skill acquisition, entrepreneurship development and wealth creation.

Overall, the importance of promoting entrepreneurship is also reflected in the increasing role that self-employment plays in job creation across the world. In Developing Countries, especially in Lower Developing Countries, self-employment is emerging as an important source of employment, livelihoods and economic dynamism. For more industrially advanced developing countries, there has been increasing flexibility and informality in production and employment relationships (casualisation)

⁹⁸NYSC News “At 47, NYSC still a Pivot of National Unity and Development”⁴

Journal of NYSC Directorate Headquarters (2020): pp: 3-4



which involve sub-contracting production to small enterprises. This is largely in response to increasing global competition and information technology.

The Scheme has been monitoring beneficiaries of BOI, CBN, NYSC Foundation Loan to see the successes and challenges faced by the beneficiaries. With these steps, the Scheme has been able to get the data of ex-Corps Members who benefitted from the Scheme.

CONCLUSION

This paper assessed the NYSC Skills Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED) through interview of actual beneficiaries; indications are that the programme is one of the foremost skills and entrepreneurship empowerment programmes in Nigeria, considering the wide reach of its beneficiaries. The multi-sectoral nature of the programme which includes construction industry, service provision and skill acquisition is an avenue that has greatly sustained the programme. The SAED programme which is driven by private sector is a sustainable model that has impacted youths in terms of wealth creation, reduction of unemployment and capacity building. The fact that the programme connects skills acquisition with start-ups and capital formation through different funding bodies has greatly ensured that there is a huge passion for the programme. Although there are challenges and problems like insufficient funds and materials, the prevalent opinion among beneficiaries is that the programme has great impact with huge potential to transform youth development, as they are trained to be self-reliant and creators of values in the society.

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Corps members acquiring shoe-making skills

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Corps members showcasing their tie and dye textile products

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Corps members in SAED training

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SAED Exhibition by Corps members

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Corps members making beads under the SAED programme

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*Brig Gen JB Olawumi inspecting products during a
SAED exhibition*

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Brig Gen SZ Kazaure at a SAED exhibition

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Corps member showcasing their products at a SAED exhibition



CHAPTER

12

MULTI-SECTORAL COLLABORATIONS

The Act that established the NYSC, in addition to the core mandate of deepening national unity and cohesion, also bequeathed to the Service Corps the responsibility of developing in Nigerian youths, attitudes of mind acquired through shared experiences and suitable training, which will make them more amenable to mobilisation in the national interest. In deference, the Scheme over the years has carved a niche in galvanising government programmes, acquitting itself creditably, each time, it has been called upon to perform strategic national assignments in the country's quest for development. Governments, at all levels, have employed the Scheme in advocacy and enlightenment on social, economic and political campaigns. The NYSC, indeed, has proved to be a catalyst for positive change, having played several roles in the successful implementation of many development programmes. The efforts by successive Managements, to reposition the Scheme and make it more responsive to prevailing national needs, gave birth to various collaborations which include:

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NYSC/UNICEF HIV/AIDS PROJECT

The collaboration between the United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF) and the NYSC covers the Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support project, using Corps Members as Peer Educators. It is a project also funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) of the Canadian Embassy. Also, Global HIV/AIDS Initiative Nigeria, supported by USAID provides support for the programme through counselling, testing and Anti-Retroviral Drugs. Other partners in the project include National Agency for the Control of Aids (NACA), Association for Reproductive and Family Health (ARFH), Society for Family Health (SFH), etc. The project has the broad aim of empowering young Nigerians with Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) knowledge and skills, as a means of reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS, through the peer education concept of training young people to reach their peers. This is achieved through the provision of comprehensive information and life skills training to Corps Members, referred to as Peer Educator Trainers (PETs). The PETs are deployed to Secondary Schools as change agents, where they train and mentor 40 secondary school students each, as Peer Educators (PEs) for one year. The PEs are expected to step down learning and information and also influence their peers either in and /or out of school with HIV prevention information, life skills or referrals. While Corps Members are the service providers and engine of the project, the primary targets of the project are secondary school students. Over the years, the project has recorded significant progress in providing the right knowledge on HIV/AIDS during seminars to Corps Members in the camp in a six-day training of PETs, to be deployed to secondary schools. Over 300,000

Corps Members have been trained as PETSs, and they, in turn, have reached out to over 7.5million Nigerians, mostly in schools and rural areas. Also, over 1,000 NYSC Schedule Officers and Zonal Inspectors have been trained in project management and supervision, to effectively manage the

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implementation of the programme. The programme has been a huge success as it remains one of the major factors that reduced the spread of the virus in the country. A national survey on ex-PETs to develop a database (by documenting findings on their locations, post-NYSC) was conducted in 2012, which revealed that many of them have made a career out of the programme as development workers.

NYSC/INEC Collaboration

The NYSC has contributed to the deepening of democracy in the country through her partnership with the Independent National Electoral Commission, INEC, to execute its mandate. The collaboration began with the engagement of Corps Members in the conduct of the Kogi State re-run Governorship election, which took place on 29th March, 2008. The impressive performance of Corps Members in this experiment and the subsequent ones held in four other states culminated to the permanent arrangement of assigning Corps Members to administer some aspects of all INEC-organised elections.

Almost a decade after the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding to this effect, the collaboration has become a huge success, as it has attracted a high degree of confidence in elections conducted by the INEC. The level of credibility achieved by the country's electoral umpire (INEC) at present is attributable, in part to the participation of NYSC members in the elections. The INEC, individuals and organisations, including the European Union election monitors have attested to this, through verbal and written commendations to the NYSC. The Scheme takes great pride at the level of patriotism, commitment and neutrality exhibited by the Corps Members in the course of discharging these election duties.

NYSC/NPC Collaboration

Corps Members were pivotal to the conduct and success of the 2006 National Census conducted by the National Population Commission

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(NPC) as they formed the bulk of the ad hoc staff engaged in the exercise. Also, through the NYSC partnership with the United Nations Millennium Campaign (UNMC), Corps Members were engaged as Enumerators in the 744 LGAs of the country in the second phase of "My World Survey". The remarkable performance of Corps Members led to Nigeria emerging one of the leading countries in the world Survey centred on development issues. Furthermore, NYSC collaborates with UNDP in areas of governance and poverty reduction, particularly with Corps Members, who represented the UNDP as Census payment monitors, nationwide.

NYSC/NPI Partnership

One of the notable impacts of NYSC in the health sector is through its extension work and support services. Many government primary healthcare programmes depend on and owe their success largely to the contributions of Corps Members. Worthy of mention is the Scheme's input in the Extended Programme on Immunization (EPI) and other primary healthcare and health education programmes. The contribution of the Scheme in the health extension subsector entails the direct participation of the Corps health personnel as well as those who are, nonetheless, mobilised to provide necessary support services as administrators, extension workers, counsellors, psychologists and graphic illustrators in the collective effort to address the problem of illiteracy, and the inadequacy of health education and administration. Also, at the individual level, Corps doctors have embarked on immunization and vaccination programmes in their host communities, as part of their community development efforts.

NYSC/SDGs Project

The Sustainable Development Goals Programme and its progenitor, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) programme is a universal call to action to end poverty, hunger, gender inequality, promotion of healthy living and economic growth. The NYSC/SDGs Project is aimed at creating public awareness on policies and programmes of government, concerning

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the SDGs, using trained Corps Volunteers as Development Knowledge Facilitators. The main objective here is to make Nigerians become informed participants in the process of attaining sustainable national development. NYSC was an active participant in the awareness creation programme for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and also participated actively in the conduct of the World Survey, which outcome inspired the idea of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The NYSC/SDGs Advocacy project started in 2006, resulting in an outreach to over one million Nigerians on the policies and programmes of government, especially as they relate to the attainment of the SDGs. The key aspect of the SDGs is the War against Poverty (WAP), introduced by NYSC in 2009 to drive it. The WAP component was aimed at empowering Corps Members with skills and start-up capital for agro-allied businesses. Over 5,000 Corps Members have been empowered. Two of them, Haruna Fatawa Ndahi and Philips Adeniyi were among the 40 young Africans that won the 2015 Mandela Fellowship, for their outstanding contributions to social change, in their communities using the platform of their agro enterprises.

NYSC/EFCC & ICPC Anti-Corruption Campaign

Through the partnership with the EFCC and ICPC, the campaign against corruption has been invigorated, and taken to the grassroots by the Scheme, to educate the populace on the evil effects of the menace, and the need for concerted effort to stamp it out.

NYSC/NDLEA Partnership

The NYSC/NDLEA partnership on campaign against drug abuse, particularly among youths, has led to the training of Corps Members and the establishment of Drug-Free Clubs in secondary schools, across the country, for sensitisation on the dangers of drug abuse.

Partnership with Mercy Corps

The NYSC is in partnership with Mercy Corps, an international

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humanitarian organisation, in a programme tagged: "Engaging Nigerian Girls in New Enterprise (ENGINE)". The programme provides afterschool tutorials and Skills empowerment to girls in secondary schools. Following its successful piloting in Kaduna, Kano and FCT, the programme has since been extended to Lagos, Plateau, Nasarawa, Benue, Kebbi, Sokoto, Adamawa, Borno, and Gombe States.

NYSC/Voluntary Services Overseas Collaboration on the Nigerian Graduate Volunteer Programme (NGVP)

The Scheme has been collaborating with the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) on the Nigerian Graduate Volunteer programme (NGVP) since 2009. Initially designed to provide manpower for the teaching of English and Mathematics in the rural schools in Nasarawa, Kwara and Kano States, the programme has since been expanded in scope as volunteers now also serve as Community Agricultural Extension Volunteers (CAEV), providing technical support to farmers in rural areas.

NYSC/Cognity Advisory Partnership

In furtherance of the effort to pursue effective implementation of the NYSC SAED programme, the Scheme is partnering with Cognity Advisory which is coordinating a group of telecommunications, banking and other multi-national giants to enhance the SAED entrepreneurship training, mentorship and funding options. They include Sterling Bank, Fidelity Bank, First Bank, Samsung, Globacom,

Airtel, Kwese/Netflix Nigeria. They are also to undertake capacity building training, career guidance, job search, basic entrepreneurship and employability training, geared towards a reduction in youth unemployment.

ECN/NYSC Partnership on Clean Energy/Renewable Energy

The NYSC partners with the Energy Commission of Nigeria in the area of Renewable Rural Energy Project, which assists in the training of a select

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group of Corps Members in the construction of renewable energy devices, such as biogas digesters, photovoltaic energy devices, less wood stove, etc.

NYSC-COMEVID

NYSC Combating Ebola Virus Disease (NYSC-COMEVID) was born out of the threat posed by the outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in Nigeria in 2014 and its prevalence in some West African countries. It is an initiative developed as a strategy to contribute to the national and global response to the fight against EVD. The concept is premised on the wide reach of the Scheme and designed to have within a short time trained and armed 1,000 Corps volunteers per state, with adequate skills to serve as advocates on awareness creation and prevention of EVD. The early eradication of the disease and the declaration of Nigeria as EVD, free can be attributed to the programme and other intervention strategies adopted by the government.

NYSC/FRSC Partnership:

The contribution of NYSC Road Safety Community Development Service group on the safety of road users cannot be overemphasized. Through the collaboration with the Federal Road Safety Commission, which dates back to 1994, Corps Members have continued to play vital roles in traffic control, construction of road signs, public enlightenment and sensitisation on safety practice and usage of roads, and establishment of road safety groups in secondary schools, to further the campaign on road safety.

NYSC/NEMA

On disaster mitigation, the Scheme has achieved a lot in this area. The NYSC/National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Community Development Service group gives active support to emergencies by assisting in areas engulfed in disaster. They also engage in grassroots sensitisation on the activities of NEMA. This collaboration makes the CDS group one of the most effective.

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Legal Aid Council

NYSC has made a tremendous contribution in the Area of legal aid, through the establishment of the Legal Aid CDS Groups. Corps lawyers have been rendering free legal services to the underprivileged members of the society. They have also been educating people on their rights as provided in the constitution.

WOTCLEE

Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF) is in partnership with the NYSC in the campaign against women trafficking, child labour and HIV/AIDS. It is a project supported by DFID and USAID. WOTCLEF works in tandem with the National Agency for Protection Against Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP).

IITA

The Scheme is also collaborating with the Institute of International Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the government in promoting the Back-to-Land as well as other agricultural programmes aimed at diversifying the nation's economy.

NYSC partnered with IITA in Ibadan in 2013 for the multiplication and distribution of improved cassava stem variety, which has been of immense benefit to farmers.

IFAN

International Federation of Ageing-Nigeria (IFAN) is partnering with NYSC to deliver medical and social services to the elderly in Nigeria.

ECOSOCC

The African Union Economic Social and Cultural Council is a Technical partnership on incorporation and management of NYSC Holding Company and its subsidiaries that will empower Corps Members through job creation.

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JAMB

Pin Max Security and Guards Limited are in bilateral cooperation with NYSC for engagement of Corps Members in monitoring and electronic reporting of the conduct of Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) examination.

Guinness Nigeria Plc

The Guinness Nigeria, Plc is collaborating with the Scheme in grassroots sensitisation by Corps Members on the dangers of excessive alcohol consumption.

Other Collaborations

1. UNDP is in collaboration the with NYSC in training Corps doctors for corrective surgery in the endemic states with Vulva Vaginal Fistula condition, as well as the training of staff on transformational leadership skills and HIV/AIDS-related issues. The relentless and sustained awareness campaign on VVF by Corps Members brought attention to the condition and secured concerted action by government and non-governmental agencies that helped considerably in addressing, preventing and rolling back the ailment.
2. UNESCO collaborates with the Scheme in improving the reading culture of Nigerians, particularly in the rural areas, through the establishment of rural libraries, using Corps Members.
3. British Council/World Bank Institute (BC/WBI) is in collaboration with NYSC in the area of creating awareness on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the National Empowerment of Economic Development Strategy (NEEDS) for application in the



Community Development Service (CDS) projects of Corps Members.

4. The United States Embassy is using Corps Members in creating awareness in environmental regeneration and in checking pollution, habitat, conservation, waste management and litter collection in partnership with some select State Governments and the Ecological Fund.
 1. The Scheme is collaborating with the government in its Reforestation programmes. The Scheme has played a commendable role in government's anti-desertification campaign programmes. The Roll-Back-the-Desert campaign was piloted by the NYSC. The NYSC/Federal Ministry of Environment partnership on the planting of one million trees, every year, across selected states with desertification problems resulted in the planting of thousands of trees, particularly in the northern region, threatened by desert encroachment. Also, Corps Members engage in environmental protection activities in their host communities to fight desertification and erosion menace.
 2. The NYSC is also in collaboration with government and NGOs in boosting Mass Literacy programmes. Corps Members spearheaded the implementation of the Adult and Mass Literacy programme of the government. There are existing Community Service groups in NYSC formations, nationwide, involved in driving this campaign. They engage in



extramural classes in this regard as part of their Community Development activities and appreciable gains have been made.

3. Over the past 46 years, the NYSC has succeeded in bringing environmental health concepts to the domain of many Nigerians. Its activities in environmental sanitation, waste management and clean-up campaign programmes started long before the monthly environmental sanitation exercise of government became fashionable. These activities made a fundamental impact on general health awareness among rural, sub-urban and urban dwellers, with whom Corps Members performed their primary assignments. Also, the provision of basic health infrastructures, particularly in the rural areas remained the most enduring legacy of successive batches of Corps Members. Such activities, which fall within the ambit of the CDS programme of the Scheme, manifest in the erection of VIP toilets, dispensaries, rural health clinics/centres and the provision of incinerators. Also, projects like construction of culverts and decongestion of drainage channels bear on the Scheme's concern for, and provision of public health services and infrastructure. As a matter of policy, NYSC directed all its formations, to support and participate fully in the state/local council's organised monthly sanitation exercise. Also, Corps Members have been carrying out routine environmental sanitation exercises in critical areas of their host communities, such as markets, hospitals, schools, parks/gardens, government office premises.

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In addition to the aforementioned, the Scheme also collaborates with several other organisations to execute specific programmes, geared towards the development of the country and to empower Corps Members. These agencies include:

- a. National Directorate of Employment (NDE)
- b. Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN)
- c. Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM)
- d. National Agency for Foods and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC)
- e. Pan African Institute for Global Affairs and Strategy (PAIGAS).

The array of collaborations, the Scheme is involved in, is as a result of the success recorded in the implementation of many government and nongovernmental programmes.



NYSC DG, INEC Chairman and IGP in an Election sensitisation in Kogi State

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Brig Gen S Ibrahim on a courtesy visit to FRSC Headquarters

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NYSC DG and NAFDAC boss at NYSC NDHQ

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DG NYSC with a delegation from Sierra Leone



*NYSC Director-General with Former EFCC boss,
Ibrahim Magu*



*Registrar/CEO of Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria,
Prof JO Ajiboye on a courtesy to NYSC DG*



*JAMB Registrar, Prof Ishaq Oloyede receiving a plaque
at NYSC Pre-Mobilisation Workshop*

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*INEC Chairman Prof Attahiru Jega with NYSC DG,
Brig Gen JB Olawumi*



CHAPTER

13

SPORTS, ARTS AND CULTURE: THE NYSC EXPERIENCE

The introduction of Sports and Cultural Festivals is Management's deliberate efforts at galvanising the noble objectives of the Scheme of fostering unity and integration. The festivals date back to 1985 when it started with football for males, as well as dance and drama for both males and females. Volleyball for females only, was introduced in 1990, while athletics for both males and females was introduced in 2009. When Management noticed that comedy had taken the centre-stage as an empowerment tool, it was introduced in 2010 as one of the events to be competed for. The focus of the programme is to create a platform for further interaction, followership and friendship among Corps participants. It is also meant to energize and enhance the spirit of healthy competition among Corps Members and make the service year much more engaging of their youthful zest and latent capacities.

The sports and cultural festival equally showcases the compelling creativity

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and talents that abound in the Youth Service Corps. For instance, most of the costumes used during the cultural festival are designed by Corps Members. The festival affords sports coaches and patrons of the arts opportunities to hunt for talents to enhance the fortunes of the country in the field of sports. For example, a Corps Member was discovered during the football competition held in 2013 and was subsequently invited to the National Football team, the Super Eagles Camp.

States like Bauchi, Edo, Lagos, Rivers, etc. discovered female Corps Members during the volleyball competition who later represented them at national and international tournaments.

One of the rules of the dance competition is that Corps Members must present a dance peculiar to the community where they are serving. It, therefore, promotes interaction and exchange of ideas and cultural values between Corps Members and their host communities. Corps Members, through the festivals, imbibe the spirit of teamwork, collective participation and exposure not only for their benefit but for the advancement of society at large.

The theatre groups have been used as a promotional input into the developmental programmes and projects of government, such as SDGs, campaign against HIV/AIDS, Child Trafficking, Drug Abuse, Illegal Migration, Poverty Eradication, among others. With the current global trend of calls on youths to be self-reliant, the programme opens up windows of opportunities for Corps Members to make careers in the sports and entertainment industries.

Football Competition

Football is strictly for male Corps Members. The competition starts with Zonal preliminaries where states in a geopolitical zone are made to present teams. The competition is done on either knock-out or league basis where the best team emerges as the winner and proceeds to represent the zone at

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the finals. The hosting state in the zone is however pulled to another zone to avoid giving any team undue advantage. Umpires are sourced from State Football Associations. For athletes to participate in the competition, they must be serving Corps Members and must present their valid NYSC identity cards in addition to the presentation of their personal NYSC files by officials accompanying them to the competition.

Volleyball Competition

Female Corps Members compete for trophies in volleyball. Volleyball was introduced into the sports festival in 1990. The Zonal preliminaries for both football and volleyball are done simultaneously. The rules are the same. All athletes must be female Corps Members. The winner proceeds to Abuja to represent the zone.

Athletics

Management, in its efforts towards diversifying youth development in Nigeria with reference to talents inherent in the youths, introduced athletics competition to the NYSC Sports festival. The events competed for include 100m, 200m, 4 X 100m for both male and female Corps Members. The Zonal preliminaries and finals are done the same way with the football and volleyball events.

Cultural Festival

One of the objectives of the NYSC Scheme is to develop common ties among Nigerian youths and promote national consciousness of cultural similarities or assimilation. The festival was instituted to further entrench and deepen the objective of promoting national unity. It all started as a presentation of dance and drama in camps to entertain Corps Members and the camp community. Just like the Sports Festival, the Cultural Festival starts with Zonal preliminaries, where zonal champions are picked for the finals. The zonal preliminaries for the 2009 and 2010 edition of the festival were increased to eight from six, to reduce the distance participating troupes cover during the preliminaries. Another very important thing to



note is that dances presented by Corps Members must originate from the host communities where they are serving and not from their states of origin. Emphasis on the drama competition is to reflect the culture of the host states, new government policies, as well as burning national issues.

Stand-Up Comedy

The 2010 edition of the festival witnessed the introduction of stand-up comedy as one of the events competed for. As obtained in the Sports aspect of the festival, participants must be Corps Members. Experts from higher institutions as well as Ministries of Arts and Culture are invited to be judges.

NYSC Football Club

The establishment of a football club for the NYSC started in Lagos State in 1985. The team is purely made up of Corps Members sourced from the various orientation camps and at the Sports Festivals. When players are identified by scouts at the orientation camps, they are relocated to Abuja to form the team. The inter-platoon football competition is used to identify promising players for recruitment into the NYSC Football Club.

The NYSC Football Club won the 2016 FCT Football League and represented the FCT at National League Division IV. The club also won the play-off and earned a promotion to National League Division III in 2017. In 2018, the club won the Division III National League and was elevated to Division II. The club participated in the National League competition, scheduled for August 2019.

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*NYSC National Football team with NYSC DG,
Gen HB Momoh*

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Drama by NYSC Theatre Troupe

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Cultural dance by Corps members

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A football match during NYSC Annual Sports and Cultural Festival



*Football star, Daniel Amokachi and other dignitaries with
Team Enugu, winners of the football event of the 2019
NYSC Sports Festival*

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NYSC DG presenting trophy to FCT team, winner of the volleyball event



CHAPTER

14

COVID-19 AND THE NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS (NYSC): CONTINUITY, CHANGES AND EMERGING DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

The Corona Virus (COVID-19) just like any other pandemic is a lifethreatening disease that has affected the human race in recent times. It attacks the respiratory track and seemingly mimics common cold and fever. Its ravaging effect and wide spread rate is a function of its mode of transmission via the interaction of body fluids. The sudden outbreak of COVID-19 in the year 2019/2020 first from China and then to the nations of the world raised crucial issues on how the world was ill-prepared to deal with this novel circumstance/virus of the twenty first century.

The danger presented by this virus is potent and lethal than any of its predecessors seeing that there is yet no medical curing agent for it, although clinical vaccines have been produced to help curb the transmission and spread. The new strand of COVID-19 appears to be more deadly. Consequently, various measures known as COVID-19 protocols were put in place by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to curtail the spread of

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the virus as its mechanism of transmission is humans. Covering of the mouth and nose with face shield/nose masks, washing of hands regularly with antiseptic hand wash, use of sanitisers, maintaining 2-metre social distancing, self-isolation and quarantine are some of the measures that the world has taken to attend to this pandemic. In an unprecedented manner that the world has never experienced before, the pandemic brought nations, not exempting even the giant economies, to a complete standstill and not without increase number of casualty and unprecedent impact on all aspects of the society.

The Nigerian scenario was not different as its first COVID-19 case was recorded on February 27th and the second case on 9th of March, 2020. In response to the reported cases, some of the steps taken included the banning of flights from countries with increased rate of transmission and also nationwide lockdown was announced on the 30th of March 2020. The lockdown brought the nation to a halt as both federal and State Government agencies and private institutions were shut down for months including the National Youth Service Corp (NYSC). Prior to the announcement of the lockdown, the NYSC suspended its on-going orientation camping exercise of the 2020 batch A Stream 1 on 18th March, 2020 barely one week into the programme.

The Scheme was not exempted from the impact of the pandemic, although it remained very visible as it harnessed the talents of Corps Members for various interventions. The NYSC by November 2020 mobilised 66,000 prospective Corps Members to camps in different parts of the state amidst rising fears of the spread of the virus, but the Director General assured Nigerians that the Scheme has put in place essential measures endorsed by the Nigerian Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) in all orientation Camps in line with the protocols for the safety of Corps Members.

This study therefore examines the NYSC and its evolving strategies for survival by analyzing the challenges and solutions of the pre-COVID-19 era, the COVID-19 era and lastly the future of the NYSC post COVID-19 in consonance with required changes for continuity.

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The NYSC

Nigeria gained her independence from British colonial rule in 1960 and became a Republic by October 1963.⁹⁹ No sooner had it gained its freedom that the newly independent nation became characterised with several contradictions, as a result of which many events unfolded and eventually pulled the nation into a civil war which began in the early hours of 6th July, 1967. By 1970 when the war finally came to an end, the situation of the country was precarious and its vulnerabilities visible as it suffered from socio-economic and sociopolitical impacts as well as stunted growth and development. Conspicuous was the fact that General Yakubu Gowon, the then Head of State became saddled with the challenges and responsibility of reconciliation and nation building with his announcement of the *no victor, no vanquish* policy. The NYSC was therefore, created as a means of achieving post-war nation building and to bridge ethnic and religious division and foster the spirit of nationalism. The objectives of the Scheme are pursued through four cardinal programmes, namely: Orientation course, primary assignment, community development service and winding-up/passing-out programmes. Through the implementation of the cardinal programmes, NYSC has been making profound impact on the socio-economic development of the country, especially in the areas of Education, Healthcare, Agriculture and Infrastructural Development, amongst others.¹⁰⁰

Right from its inception, the NYSC has contributed immensely in its own way to growth and development through meeting the needs at the grassroots, state and national levels. It has served as a source of manpower for the various sectors of the nation such as educational and health sectors. It has provided seasonal jobs for entrepreneurs and has also harnessed the

Adewunmi J Falode, and Bolarinwa J. Olusegun, A Reconstructor and Nation-Builder: General Yakubu Gowon and Socio-Political Development in Nigeria, 1966-1975, Nigeria Forum, Vol. 40, Nos. 3-4, March/April, 2019:97-114, <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3436353>

¹⁰⁰ Brig Gen S Ibrahim, Selected Speeches and Strides, viii.

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skills of its Corps Members in rural communities where their presence has been evident in terms of community projects thereby complementing government efforts and activities in sustaining development.

The present-day NYSC has further continued to play its role as a potent force in confronting the myriads of challenges facing the nation in its transitional strides towards modernity and socio-economic advancement. The Scheme has remained a rallying point in the analysis of the impacts of youth-based organisations in the development of a nation both as a vibrant labour force and a centripetal force in the promotion of national unity.¹⁰¹ However, in recent times, the Scheme is faced with the challenges posed by the sudden outbreak of the novel COVID-19 pandemic.

The NYSC Scheme and Its Continuous Evolving Strategy for Survival Pre-COVID-19

The activities of the NYSC have spanned every field of human endeavours and it has grown to become a permanent feature in the nation's landscape. While the relevance and achievements of the NYSC have become more visible, its future and continuity is consistently confronted with plethora of challenges. The NYSC has continued to evolve even in the midst of these challenges. Some of the earliest challenges it was threatened with include, inadequate manpower, inadequate funding, environmental challenges, hostile cultures and societies, language barrier, accommodation and discontent by some parents and Corps Members.¹⁰² Some of the aforementioned trials and teething challenges are believed to have been caused by political developments wholly extraneous to the Scheme; while some are the inevitable result of the economic recession and the consequent review of budgetary priorities.¹⁰³ Unfortunately, while still grappling with these issues, the nation was plunged into several devastating terrorist

¹⁰¹OGUN KOPA: 2019 Batch B End of Service Year Magazine, A Publication of NYSC Ogun State, May 2020

¹⁰²Gregory Enegewa and Gabriel Umoden, "NYSC: Twenty Years of National Service", (Lagos: Gabumo Publishing Company Limited, 1993) 182. 151 Gregory Enegewa and Gabriel Umoden, "NYSC: Twenty Years of National Service".

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attacks by the Boko Haram terrorist, kidnapping and hostage taking, political and ethno-religious violence and threats to lives within some given geographical entity.¹⁰³

In an effort to strengthen the operations of the Scheme against the challenges, several programmes were set in motion such as the establishment of distress call centre, martial art and the introduction of the Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED) programme in March, 2012.¹⁰⁴ The aim of this strategy was to tackle the issue of unemployment in the country by incorporating skills required to be self-employed in the face of unfavorable economic conditions. The destruction of orientation camps by suspected Boko Haram members in places like Yobe and Borno States led to the moving of the camp exercise to Keffi in Nassarawa, Benue and Gombe States from 2011. The prevalent insecurity in some states in the country led to the redeployment of Corps Members from those states.¹⁰⁵

Furthermore, population increase in the country over the years led to an increase in academic institutions as well as increase in the number of graduates that are mobilised for National Service on a yearly basis. The Scheme adopted the strategy of subdivision of batches into streams in 2014, starting with the Batch B.¹⁰⁶ This was a response to the increasing number of graduates being produced every year by tertiary institutions and the lack of adequate space to accommodate them all at once.

¹⁰³ Aremu Fatai Ayinde, “National Youth Service Corps Programme and the Quest for National Integration: Issues for Policy Consideration”, Journal of Management and Social Sciences, 2018, 279-296.

¹⁰⁴ Caleb Ayansina, NYSC, a new DG and the challenges of 2014, See also, www.nysc.gov.ng/saedconnect.html

¹⁰⁵ Samson Kukogho, “7 Boko Haram Infested States Lose out as NYSC Redeploys Corps Members”, www.pulse.ng/communities/student/escaping-boko-haram-7boko-haram-infested-states-lose-out-as-nysc-redeploysCorps/6pg3c28.amp Accessed February 18 2021.

¹⁰⁶ Dayo Adesulu, “NYSC introduces two streams for Corps Members”, www.vanguardngr.com/2014/08/nysc-introduces- two-streams-for-Corpsmembers/amp/ See also www.nysc.gov.ng.

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The COVID-19 Pandemic and the NYSC Scheme

The COVID-19 virulent disease that has ravaged the world is a rapidly evolving situation and new information about the virus is still emerging. The disease is caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The most common symptoms include flulike symptoms such as fever, dry cough, and shortness of breath or difficulty in breathing. Symptoms can also include chills and repeated shaking, muscle pain, headache, sore throat and loss of sense of taste or smell. Symptoms typically appear within 2 days to 14 days after exposure.¹⁰⁷

The disease overwhelmed the health system of the world, prompting the World Health Organisation (WHO) to declare the virus a public health emergency on January 30, 2020. Prior to that date, the first outbreak of the virus was recorded to have started in Wuhan China on December 8 of 2019 and by January 2020, several European countries and America had already started reporting cases of the spread of the pandemic.¹⁰⁸

Back in Nigeria, in line with the declaration by WHO and its categorization of Nigeria as one of the 13th high-risk African countries with respect to the spread of the virus, the Corona virus Preparedness Group was constituted in January. The first case of COVID-19 brought in by an Italian citizen was reported on February 27 and on 9 March 2020 a second case was reported in Ogun of a citizen who was in contact with the Italian citizen.¹⁰⁹ Thus began the journey of the spread of COVID-19 in the country with the situation developing with more cases of infection. Death was on a gradual rise with Lagos being the epicentre of the pandemic in Nigeria. The already high number of COVID-19 cases in China, the epicentre of the virus at that time and the growing rate of infections in Europe and America, in addition to the

¹⁰⁷ www.ncdc.gov.ng See also, Nigeria General Health Risks: Coronavirus Covid19, <https://www.iamat.org/country/nigeria/risk/coronaviruses> Accessed 20th February, 2021.

¹⁰⁸ www.Covid19.who.int/region/wpro/country/cn Accessed February 20th, 2021.

¹⁰⁹ First Case of Corona Virus Disease Confirmed in Nigeria, ncdc.gov.ng/news/227/first-case-of-corona-virus-disease-confirmed-in-nigeria Accessed February 19th, 2021.

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continued operations of some international flights within the period before the ban made Nigeria particularly susceptible.¹¹⁰

Following the steps of other nations and the WHO, a ban was placed on flights from countries with increased rate of transmission and later, a compulsory lock down was enforced by the Federal Government on March 30, 2020 in three states of the federation; Lagos, Ogun and Abuja while other states gradually followed suit as the months progressed. Borders were shut, interstate travel was banned, offices, schools, markets, hotels and services classified as non-essentials were closed.¹¹¹ Applaudable was the fact that the NYSC had earlier shut down their orientation camps on the 18th of March, thereby disrupting the Orientation programme of the 2020 Batch A Stream-1 across the federation, a week into the exercise and posted them to their various places of primary assignment.

As part of the necessary steps in curtailing the spread of the virus, isolation centres were opened in various parts of the country. Commendable was the swift compliance of the NYSC Scheme with the Presidential directive to release its orientation camp facilities nationwide to serve as isolation centres and its immediate arrangement for the provision of relevant facilities to enhance effective usage of the camps.¹⁶¹ Furthermore, the Scheme in consonance with its Corps Members joined in the fight against COVID-19 as Corps medical teams of doctors, nurses and laboratory scientists across the federation worked with their counterparts and other health professionals in the frontline to provide services in various health facilities and also worked with some NGO's to test patients.¹⁶² Other Corps

¹¹⁰ www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/14/nigeria-protect-most-vulnerable-Covid-19-responses. See also: The First 90 Days: How has Nigeria responded to the COVID19 Outbreak?, <https://nigeriahealthwatch.medium.com/>

¹¹¹ The First 90 Days: How has Nigeria responded to the COVID-19 Outbreak?, <https://nigeriahealthwatch.medium.com/>

¹⁶¹ COVID-19:NYSC Corps Members Sustain Campaigns against the Pandemic, <https://prnigeria.com/2020/04/07/Covid-nysc-Corps-sustain-campaigns>

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Members made impact through the SAED programme by the mass production and donation of face masks, antiseptic liquid soaps and hand sanitisers. They equally fabricated and donated automatic and foot-operated water, liquid soaps and hand sanitisers dispensers as well as disinfection chambers in several states for their fellow Corps Members, State Government and their host communities.¹⁶³

Another important role of the Scheme was visible through Corps Members who engaged in sensitisation campaigns through radio, television and other social media outlets. They became vanguards of the lockdown and adherence to the COVID-19 rules and protocols. Besides, most of the central activities for serving Corps Members such as the monthly signing of clearance, weekly and monthly Community Development Service (CDS) were suspended; and also Passing-out Parade (POP) reduced to clearance as a result of the pandemic and lockdown. The suspension of the NYSC Orientation Exercise also assisted to prevent the risk of transmission of the disease through interstate travels.¹¹²

With the resumption of camp activities in late 2020 after the lock down was eased, there were visible effects of COVID-19 on the Scheme and its programmes. The gradual easing of the lockdown and the resumption of socio-economic, educational and political activities led the NYSC to reopen their orientation camps for its Corps Members and the NYSC community. Working in conjunction with the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), the NYSC put in place certain measures to prevent infections and early identification of outbreaks in the various orientation camps across the federation. Such measures included the fumigation of orientation camps nation-wide to ensure environmental hygiene, the use of

¹⁶²Oral interview with Pharmacist James Gana, Ex-Corp member in Akwa Ibom State, February 17, 2021 See also, COVID-19:NYSC Corps Members Sustain Campaigns against the Pandemic,
<https://prnigeria.com/2020/04/07/Covid-nyscCorps-sustain-campaigns> Accessed February 18, 2021.

¹⁶³Oral interview with Pharmacist James Gana, Ex-Corp member in Akwa Ibom State, February 17, 2021. See also, COVID-19:NYSC Corps Members Sustain Campaigns against the Pandemic,
<https://prnigeria.com/2020/04/07/Covid-nyscCorps-sustain-campaigns> Accessed February 18, 2021

¹¹²Oral interview with Agoro Omotayo Ebunoluwa, Ex-corp member in AkwaIbom State, February 17, 2021.

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rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) approved by WHO to screen its members, development of a National Guideline detailing the camp activities to keep prospective Corps Members informed on vital measures to help in reducing the risk of infection, amongst many others.¹¹³

With the above measures put in place, the NYSC with approval from the Federal Government went further in November to mobilise 66,000 prospective Corps Members to camps in different states of the country amidst rising fears of the spread of the virus. However, the Director General assured Nigerians that the Scheme had put in place essential measures endorsed by the Nigerian Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) in all orientation camps in line with the protocols for the safety of Corps Members.¹¹⁴ Sources confirmed that the NYSC, as an organisation and a vast community responsible for hosting large number of persons yearly, took measures to ensure its activities are carried out successfully in the face of COVID-19 by ensuring medical scrutiny of its Corps Members and staff at its orientation camps, isolating and reporting of all suspected cases and general adherence to the COVID-19 protocols within and outside camps.¹¹⁵ Evidently, the proactive steps adopted by the Scheme in response to the contemporary global health challenge posed by COVID-19 will remain a worthwhile and lasting agenda as it has secured its place in the annals of the nation's development.

The NYSC Scheme, Continuity and Changes: The Way Forward

The effect of COVID-19 is indisputably visible on all sectors of the nation and its economy, plunging it into recession. The impacts were felt on the

¹¹³Covid-19: Safe Re-opening of NYSC Orientation Camp in Nigeria,
<https://ncdc.gov.ng/reports/282/2020-october-week-43> Accessed 24 February 2021.

¹¹⁴Luminous Jannamike, “NYSC Deploys 66,000 Corps Members for Orientation Exercise Tuesday”,
www.google.com/amp/s/www.vanguardngr.com/2020/11/nysc-deploys-66,000-Corps-members-for-orientation-exercise-tuesday/amp/ Accessed February 18, 2021.

¹¹⁵Oral Interview with Arnold Christopher Bello, Serving 2020 Batch B Corp Member in Adamawa State, February 20, 2021

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side of the NYSC administrators as well as the Corps Members; both prospective and serving. According to sources, a large percentage of serving Corps Members found in schools, private and government institutions did nothing and were part of the sit at home lockdown, although some engaged in personal activities.¹¹⁶ The pandemic became a huge impediment to achieving the corporate goals of the Scheme as well as disrupting the laid out plans of individual Corps Members. The calendar of the Scheme was altered and prospective Corps Members suffered different measures of delays because of the compulsory suspension of their mobilisation and Orientation Course Exercise. As a result of this delay, majority could not pursue their careers, gain employment and further their education as at when due since Certificate of National Service would be required for such endeavours.¹¹⁷

In compliance with the COVID-19 protocols, there were measures put in place during the Orientation Course Exercise. Those measures included; reduction in the number of mobilised graduates, commendable room spacing, reduction in camp activities, restriction of movements, enforcing social distancing, wearing of nose masks and the use of rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) approved by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Lastly, there were isolation centres within the camp in the event of infected persons.¹¹⁸ Strict adherence to all the protocols and sensitisation has increased the consciousness of COVID-19, thereby, enhancing the safety of the Corps Members and the camp community. However, there is the need for increased sensitisation and motivation by the Scheme for serving and prospective Corps Members to sustain their understanding of the difficult times occasioned by COVID-19 and keep the spirit of the NYSC, with or without the disease.

¹¹⁶Oral Interview with Joy Mba, Ex-Corp Member, served in Taraba State, Februay 20, 2021.

¹¹⁷Oral Interview with Simon Bello, serving Corp Member in Adamawa State, February 20, 2021.

¹¹⁸Covid-19: Safe Re-opening of NYSC Orientation Camp in Nigeria,
<https://ncdc.gov.ng/reports/282/2020-october-week-43>Accessed 24 February 2021.

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Furthermore, a critical examination of the sectors where the impact of the Scheme has been visible indicates that the education and health sectors stand out. The Scheme has also met the needs of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for ad-hoc staff in conducting elections at all levels. The Scheme therefore needs to double its efforts in the sectors where it has visible influence so as to continue to achieve more in these areas.¹¹⁹ There is also the need for the reassessment of the posting strategy in order to harness the knowledge, strength and skill competency by engaging in more specific trainings for Corps Members and posting them to where they would be greatly effective and efficient. Again, the Scheme needs to consider and expand the focus of posting to include areas that will be beneficial to Corps Members during and after their service year.

Corps Members are seen as agents of positive change by the citizenry and are popularly known and seen as “*government pikin*”. The government needs to fully incorporate and harness the large work force/manpower/youthful resources of the Scheme in the fight against COVID-19 by making them part of the research team for indigenous solutions and also to reach the rural areas with effective sensitisation programmes while continuing to encourage other necessary community development projects.¹²⁰

The NYSC Scheme has taken giant steps in collaborating with various national and international organisations at different levels to train and equip Corps Members with necessary experience and competence needed for their post-service years. One of such collaborations gave birth to SAED. The aim of this strategy is to tackle the issue of unemployment in the country by incorporating skills required to be self-employed in the face of

¹¹⁹ Oral interview with Mr Josiah Sunday, NYSC Secretariat Staff in Kebbi State, February 24, 2021.

¹²⁰ Oral Interview with Pharm Sarah Amadoh, serving Corp Member in Nassarawa State, February 24, 2021.



unfavorable economic conditions. In adherence to the COVID-19 protocols, there has been drastic reduction in the duration of camp exercise and that indirectly shortens the time required for effective SAED training.¹²¹ For the Scheme to truly achieve the objective of creating SAED and strengthen it, training sessions should be extended to after camp to make up for the shortage of time and training sessions during camping to enhance entrepreneurship and employment. Also, there is need for the Scheme to upgrade and make robust its entrepreneurship training to what is needed for the 21st century such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Radio Machine learning and other contemporary technological skills. This will keep the youths at par with their contemporaries around the world. In considering one of the many objectives of the Scheme which is national integration, it will be necessary that efforts are made to sustain the continuity of the Scheme through factual checks before approving Corps Member's relocation requests.

Conclusion

Notwithstanding its numerous challenges in contemporary times, the NYSC Scheme has succeeded to an obvious degree in achieving its foremost objectives of developing common ties among the Nigerian youths and promoting national unity and integration. Consequently, in reflection of the ever changing dynamics of the nation and the world, the Scheme needs to be solution ready each time it is faced with issues and challenges threatening its corporate and continuous existence. The COVID-19 threatens the society at large, hence all institutions, including the NYSC, were faced with the threat of being shut down. Likewise if this pandemic escalates further, it possesses the tendencies to cripple financial, social and educational institutions that are stakeholders to the continuity of the Scheme.

¹²¹Oral Interview with Pharm Sarah Amadoh, serving Corp Member in Nassarawa State, February 24, 2021.

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Policy review, introducing more impactful programmes, continuously empowering all Corps Members for COVID-19 and other health related issues, sensitisation, improving economic empowerment in the face of the economic recession facing the country and lastly ensuring the security of Corps Members are all areas that can enhance continuity of the Scheme. From the foregoing, it is pertinent to state that situations other than the civil war have made the NYSC Scheme continuously relevant.



TY Danjuma Foundation donating COVID-19 Testkits to NYSC



*Presentation of COVID-19 preventive materials produced
by Corps members to the Federal Government*



The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development receiving the COVID-19 preventive materials produced by Corps members



FCT Corps members presenting COVID-19 Non-Pharmaceutical materials to the Director-General

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Corps members showcasing facemasks produced by them



*COVID-19 non-pharmaceutical materials produced by
Corps members*



CHAPTER

15

NYSC PRESIDENT'S HONOURS AWARD: AN APPRAISAL

INTRODUCTION

The British colonial rule in Nigeria from the nineteenth and twentieth century merely amalgamated the heterogeneous groups in Nigeria together to form the country. One of the strongest negative legacies of the British colonial rule in Nigeria is not only that it failed to build a united nation-state, but it actually erected strong pillars of divisions and bitterness amongst the diverse ethno-religious and cultural groups that made up the country. This was carried out through different colonial policies of divide and rule, imposition of some groups against the others, withholding education from the core Muslim north, regional autonomy without cohesive approach to governance among others. Even when the finger print of such religious, ethnic and regional divisions were obviously manifesting towards the end of the colonial rule in the 1950s with huge agitation from the minority groups, the colonial authorities abandoned the country on a gunpowder of imminent crisis and handed over political independence to the Nigerian elites.

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Shortly after independence, the bloody military coups and the Nigerian Civil War were the fruits of the colonial legacy. It further aggravated the discord and mistrust among the major ethnic groups in the country. It was in a bid to build a strong and united country out of people of diverse background that the NYSC was established by General Yakubu Gowon by Decree Number 24 of 22nd May, 1973. Indeed, the NYSC Scheme was initially opposed by some Nigerians thus:

When news filtered into town that the graduating 1972/73 academic session in Nigerian tertiary institutions were to pioneer a unity engendering Scheme by spending a year after graduation outside their geographic zone of the country, radical students organised and marched towards Wusasa, the old missionary quarters, off Zaria-Kaduna road where the initiator of the Scheme, General Yakubu Gowon, had grown up to ostensibly exhume the remains of his dead father, Pa Yohanna Gowon, to start the service first. Such was the depth of skepticism that met the idea.¹²²

Today the Scheme had become a great vehicle for youths' contribution to national development in areas of education, rural infrastructure, health, technology, agriculture, election management, population census, entrepreneurship and skill acquisitions and other assignments.¹²³ The mission of the Scheme is "to mobilise Nigerian youths for the promotion of National unity, sustainable development, self-reliance and prepare them for the challenges of leadership."¹²⁴ The focus of this chapter is to appraise the President's Honours Awards since its inception in 1973. It will isolate the goals for the award and the impact it has created on the socio-economic development of Nigeria so far.

¹²²P.O. Agogo and S.Ogabidu, *Reflections on the Man: OgiriAjene*. Ibadan, Optimism Press, 2013. 84

¹²³S. Amuwa "NYSC, Catalyst for National Development-Gowon " *Media Assessment*

Vol.1Shuiabu's Silent Revolution in NYSC. 55.

¹²⁴A Monograph on NYSC Act: Call to Service. i

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The President's Honours Awards

The President's Honours award used to be known as the Head of State or the Chairman Awards severally in the past depending on the leader at the time. The philosophy of this award was drawn from some of the most important objectives of the Scheme in Section 1 (3) of the enabling decree:

- a. inculcate discipline in Nigerian youth by instilling in them a tradition of industry at work and of patriotic and loyal service to Nigeria in any situation they may find themselves;
- b. raise the moral tone of the Nigerian youths by giving them the opportunity to learn about higher ideals of national achievements, social and cultural improvement¹²⁵

The award was not just created out of sheer political flamboyance and ceremonies. These cardinal objectives of the Scheme among others encourage the necessity to motivate and spur the Nigerian youths for performance and excellent delivery of quality services to their fatherland. These goals are geared towards optimum performance and delivery of laudable projects and services to the Nigerian people which in turn would enhance socio-economic development of our country.

Criteria and Processes of the NYSC Honours Awards

Nigeria is highly endowed with distinguished human capital in all facets of life. For this reason, to arrive at the selected awardees is actually a rigorous assignment that takes long time to achieve. The annual President's Honors Awards is very competitive in nature and its structure is in three levels according to the tiers of government in the country (Local, State and Federal). This implies that it is out of the Local Government winners that state awardees emerged and out of which the president's list are nominated

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for selections. The basic principles for selection of awardees are analysed below.

The Scheme has four cardinal areas that every Corps Member participated within the one-year exercise. They include the mandatory 21-day Orientation Course Exercise, Primary Assignment, Community Development Service (CDS) both group and individual, and Passing out Ceremony.

At the Orientation camp, Corps Members are taught the basic rules of leadership and service as well as their requisite character throughout the service year. They are inspired through rigorous training exercises such as drills, match past, endurance trek, obstacle crossing, Man O' War drills etc. for hard work, leadership skills and to contribute positively to the development of the country. It is important to stress here that the Corps Members are assessed generally by filling the form 2A at the Orientation camp which measures their character, integrity, skill, and drills among other quantifiable traits. Secondly, those who flout the rules and regulations of the camp are recorded for punishment after fair hearing in the camp court.¹²⁶ The implication of the camp on the award is in the place of awareness that good behaviours have a reward at the end of the service, an assessment commences therein and accurate records are kept for future use. Indeed, a Corps Member who scaled the fence or stole property in the camp cannot be a winner no matter the number of projects carried by him/her.¹²⁷ More so, several Corps Members served various degrees of punishment from the Orientation camp such as de-kitting and decamping for unacceptable dressing, after the pronouncement of the camp court verdict.¹²⁸

¹²⁶The Camp court is set up by the NYSC authorizes made up of staff and Corps Members with legal backgrounds

¹²⁷National Youth Service Corps Yearbook 41-42

¹²⁸O. Ogbonna "De-kitting of 2 Corps Members" *Media Assessment vol 1. 53*

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At the place of Primary Assignment, their performance are assessed and graded monthly by their employers and submitted to the Local Government offices. This explains why absconding from the place of Primary of Assignment, truancy, failure to deliver assigned tasks and other vices are noted for punishment through the Corps Disciplinary Committees (CDC) at various levels. In the same vein, good work is also noted and recorded for reward. For instance, in Ekiti State in 2019 service year, the State Coordinator, Mrs. Emmanuella Okpongete, hinted that "Out of 2,282 Corps Members, 15 absconded and will have their service year repeated, 26 got an extension for various offences and three outstanding ones that have done very well are recommended for state awards"¹²⁹

The third is the Community Development Service (CDS) which has two components: the traditional group and individual. The group CDS is a mandatory collective assignment carried out weekly within the immediate environment of the Corps Members' place of assignment like Road Safety, Drug law, Health and Sanitation etc.

The second component is very important for the consideration of the awards. It is where a Corps Member's vision, ideas and innovations, leadership traits, determination, emotional ability and intelligence are displayed by embarking on a project that would impact positively on the immediate community. He/she goes extra miles and stretches his/her time and intellect to touch the lives of other people in an outstanding manner. These projects are not carried out in isolation but with regular communication and consultation with the appropriate quarters of the NYSC offices for documentation and assessment.

In cases of nomination, apart from meeting up the required criteria in the four main areas of assessment discussed above the nominee is expected to

¹²⁹ Media Assessment vol 1. 146

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have outstanding personal qualities such as sense of duty, passion, determination, initiative, resourcefulness, leadership qualities, teamwork and discipline to excel in the final selection.¹³⁰ These qualities and traits are very crucial in selecting the awardees because only monumental projects without good behaviours are not an example of good leadership.

The Passing-out Ceremony also has assessment and its activities winds off the service year. This ceremony is a platform for announcement and pronouncement of offences and rewards to the Corps Members publicly. This is done purposely to correct the wrong behaviours to serve as deterrent and reward exemplary ones as models to the Nigerian society. In summary, the requirement for selection is arduous in nature affecting all four aspects of the service programme for the year and it carries high degree of continuous objective assessment of their projects in the communities of assignments.

Sample of NYSC State Award winners/ nominees for President's Honours Award and their Projects.

S/N o.	Service no	Name of nominee/ awardees	Projects	Service year	State of service
1	AB/18B/ 0006	Dr. Stanley O Okerulu	Free Medical outreach/ missions	2018	Abia
2	AB/17A/ 3988	Esther D. Joshua	Invention of Biogas	2017	Abia
3	OS/19B/ 4020	Anaya Patience	---	2019	Osun

¹³⁰National Youth Service Corps Yearbook. 45th Anniversary, Commemorative Edition2018. 43

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4	OS/19B/ 3258	Ukadike Ebuka I.	---	2019	Osun
5	FC/19B/ 5861	Ayotola D. Ilori	10 footoperated hand washing devices	2019	FCT
6	FC/19B/ 6140	Ilozumba P. Chigozie	A portrait of 2 Ministers	2019	FCT
7	AB/10A/ 1413	Obot Otobong A.	----	2010	Abia
8	AB/10B/ 516	Owai G. Udop	----	2010	Abia
9	AB/10A/ 0073	Alhaji Abdulahi M.	----	2010	Abia
10	BA/11B/ 0069	Azubike M. Chibuzor	constructio n of bore hole	2011	Bauchi
11	BA/11B/ 0028	Moses Anene	Block of Classrooms	2011	Bauchi
12	BN/11A/ 0156	Nnamdi B Chichebe	Motorized bore hole & overhead tank	2011	Benue
13	BN/11C/ 0091	Onyejike D. Nnamdi	-----	2011	Benue

Source: Compiled by Author **National Selection Committee (NSC)**

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After these four levels of assessment by the Local/State offices of NYSC are arrived at, two best winners at the state level are sent to the National Directorate Headquarters of the Scheme for consideration and selection on the President's list. This implies that a total of 74 names with their profiles and records of assessment from the 36 states and the Federal Capital territory are collated at the headquarters for scrutiny, analysis, rating and selection by the National Selection Committee (NSC). More so, the headquarters of the Scheme would set up an independent verification team that would embark on separate inquiry and assessment of each nominee's projects at the various communities where they are sited. The members of this verification team are men and women of good standing at status/rank of Assistant Director and above. This is done without the notice of the LG/State offices of the Scheme to avoid their influence. The records and evidence assembled together with the original ones from the State Offices are handed over to the NSC to ascertain their validity and objectivity. This is coordinated by the Office of the Director, Corps Welfare and Health Services at the National Directorate Headquarters of the Scheme.

The NSC is constituted as an independent body comprising men/women of impeccable character and proven integrity in the country with representatives from different government/private bodies and agencies. They include: the Presidency, Committee of Vice Chancellors, Committee of Heads of Polytechnics and Colleges of Technology, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Nigerian Employers Consultative Association (NECA), 2 Retired NYSC Directors, the Nigerian Police, the Nigerian Army, All Conference of Principals of Secondary Schools (ANCOPSS), Citizenship and Leadership Training Centre, National Council of Women Society, Ministry of Youth and Sports Development, and the serving Director in the NYSC Corps Welfare and Health Services Department as the Secretary to the committee. It is usually in their first meeting that a chairperson is appointed amongst themselves to

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prevent imposition and subsequent influence on their decisions. The tenure of the NSC is set for three years after which new members are constituted, just to preclude unwarranted influence on the system of awards and to guarantee impartial and objective selections.¹³¹

The NSC sets the following tasks in the course of their duties.

- Put up or create the standard format for screening of the reports.
- Place a cut up mark or a benchmark for rating the nominees.
- Put up criteria for disqualifications of nominees.
- Ranking system in order to have national spread of winners.

The award categories include:

1. The five best nominees' award.
 2. The best two according to state of origin.
 3. The overall best female nominee to receive award.
- sponsored by the National Council for Women Society (NCWS). This award was instituted in the 1992/93 Service Year.

The prizes and their values include the following:

The prizes and values that accompanied the awards depended on the will of the Chief Executive at the State and Federal levels per time.

- ❖ The Cash Awards of one hundred thousand naira (#100,000) at National level.
- ❖ Automatic employment into the State civil service.
- ❖ Automatic employment into the Federal civil service.
- ❖ Certificate of National Honours.
- ❖ Honors Award Medal.
- ❖ The best female awardee is given a trophy and cash prize

¹³¹ Oral interview with Mr. Abdul-Rasheed Sanusi, Ag. Director Corps Welfare and Health Services on 19th Feb.2021 at NYSC Headquarters, Abuja

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during the President's Honors Award ceremony.

- ❖ President's hand shake (the emergence of the COVID-19 has affected this seriously).¹³²
- ❖ In 2015, President Goodluck Jonathan introduced a scholarship Scheme for Postgraduate studies up to Ph.D. level into the Award. Due to some challenges encountered in securing the release of visas, unstable exchange rates, the deadly COVID-19 and other challenging issues, the current regime of President Buhari had revised this award and limited the scope and programmes of studies to Nigerian Universities only.

The award generally is an annual programme and the processes take longer times to arrive at given the demanding nature of their tasks. Also in some years, the Corps service period overlapped into subsequent year with two or three batches within a year (see the table). It is in this regards that the award always takes place after the Corps Member had passed out. Indeed, the last awards held recently in 2021 were for the 2018 and 2019 service years combined.

The NSC also set up criteria for disqualifying nominees. This is meant to checkmate fraudulent ways and to discourage those aspiring to cut corners to win the award illegally. These factors are briefly outlined as follows;

1. Corps Members whose postings were personally influenced to the state.
2. Corps Members whose postings were to their state of origin for whatever reasons.
3. Corps Members who relocated in the course of the service year.
4. Corps Members whose projects were sponsored by self, parents, friends etc.

¹³² in the 2018 and 2019 presidents Honours Award that took place recently in Abuja, it was rather a wave of hand instead of handshake.

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This is because such sponsorship outrightly contravenes the principle of collective communal/community development service which the NYSC Scheme represents. It also misrepresents and defeats the essence of the awards because it would encourage laziness, dishonesty and cutting of corner rather than hard work. Indeed if allowed, this would have limited the award to the children of the rich aristocrats, the upper class and money bags only while the original philosophies and values behind the awards would be lost.

5. Negative report of independent verification exercise in form of fault and irregularities.
6. Corps Members with disciplinary cases are automatically disqualified.

The President's Honours Award is an event that is well publicised and loaded with several activities. They include:

- a) The eve of the award ceremony is Command Performance by NYSC troupe to entertain nominees, guests and others chaired by the Honourable Minister for Youth and Sports Development.
- b) The Exhibition of Corps Members' inventions which show the contributions of the Scheme to urban and rural development are displayed for patronage of the invited guests and the public.
- c) The President's Honours' Award Ceremony proper.
- d) There is a grand reception for all awardees and guests after the main ceremony.

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- e) Gift items in form of portraits and souvenirs are given to the president and other dignitaries in appreciation of their support

S/No.	Service year	Number of Awardees
1.	1973/74	10
2.	1974/75	12
3.	1975/76	10
4.	1976/77	22
5	1977/78	22
6	1978/ 79	22
7	1979/80	22
8	1980/81	22
9	1981/82	22
10	1982/83	22
11	1984/85	23
12	1985/86	23
13	1986/87	23
14	1987/88	25
15	1988/89	25
16	1989/90	25
17	1990/91	24
18	1991/92	20
19	1992/93	26
20	1993/94	25
21	1994/95	26
22	1995/96	24
23	1996/97	35
24	1996/97 2 nd tier	31
25	1998	33
26	1999	34

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27	2001	21
28	2003	29
29	2004	28
30	2006	34
31	2007	35
32	2008	33
33	2009	32
34	2010	51
35	2011	52
36	2012	55
37	2013	52
38	2014	57
39	2015	60
40	2016	52
41	2017	56
42	2018/2019	110

From the inception of the Service Corps till 1991, the practice was for each state to have award winner at the President's Honours' Award for the sake of equity and federal character of the country. Then three outstanding nominees would be selected and each state best including the FCT would emerge to receive the Awards on the same day. In 1992, the selection turned more to merit than the previous years as President Ibrahim Babangida directed the Scheme to place more emphasis on merit, not minding the numbers of winners who finally emerged from a particular state of deployment. Therefore, in that year, 20 winners emerged from only 15 states out of 90 nominees collated across the country, implying that other

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states had no winner at all.¹³³ It was this same year that exhibition of the Scheme's innovation was included in the Award.

Impacts of the President's Honours Award on Nigerian Society

The founding fathers of the NYSC Scheme saw the necessity for the Awards from inception in 1973/74 and inaugurated it early. It was never a mistake to identify the award as the hallmark of the successful service year because it crowns the programme annually at the end. To fully comprehend the impacts of the awards, there is a necessity to isolate the two main dimensions in assessing this. The first is the ephemeral individual gains of the recipients and the significance or fundamental value of the awards to the Nigerian society in general.

On the transient gains of the awardees, the four components of the prized package is viewed and analysed in detail. There is a cash award given to the winners by the Governors and Presidents. The cash ranges from fifty thousand to one hundred thousand naira or more, which in no small means add value to the life of the recipients, because many of them start their real work life and family responsibility immediately after the national service. Second, the automatic employment both at the Federal and State civil service is a laudable form of reward for hard work and excellent contributions to the development of the country. It is a good reward because employment is increasingly scarce and hard-hitting in the contemporary times than in the 1970s when the Scheme started. Second, before the private sector could employ the awardees of the President's Honours Awards, the government that produces the best Corps Members should also be the first to enjoy and benefit from their services. However, there could be exceptional cases where award winners would prefer employment in some private companies due to some conditions of service and other factors like geographical proximity to spouse and families. This could be more prevalent in the cases of automatic employment in the states

¹³³ Enegewa and Unoden, *NYSC: Twenty years*. 192-193

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far from states of origin particularly with some form of recent discriminatory policies in promotions, down-sizes and top appointments in states.¹³⁴

The president's hand shake with the individual awardees is the honour aspect of the Award. This honour cannot be over-emphasised and will never be equated with money. The honour of having a handshake with the president and taking photograph is a permanent mark of achievement that speaks volume to the society. More so this would have a lasting impact on the future generation yet unborn. The children and the grand children of the awardees will be challenged to do more.

The introduction of scholarship up to Ph.D. level into the President's Honours Award is very commendable because it raised the bar of the prizes higher for the intending awardees to be more determined and focused than before. This has increased the zeal and enthusiasm of those who had no plan or thought of further education to embark on it. Indeed, it has helped to increase the highly needed top manpower of our tertiary institutions and other vital sectors in Nigeria.

The general significance of the President's Honours Award are analysed below:

The award ceremony annually marks the unique platform for showcasing the Corps Members' invaluable contributions to the Nigerian development and humanity in general. It is actually a kind of reciprocation by the government to the entire body of the Nigerian youth, represented by the few selected best Corps Members. The symbolic message and implication is like saying "A Big Thank You" to the youth for their great service to the fatherland.

Psychologists have shown that when people particularly the youths are motivated with a reward, it tends to stimulate and elicit positive responses from them continuously thereby raising the bar annually. It has positive

¹³⁴Some states in recent times consciously retrenched non-indigenes, refused to promote them at the top from the rank of directors merely

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effects on the youths and the younger generations.¹³⁵

The excitement and atmosphere which accompanied the honours award, especially with the presence of the Head of State or the President, has made the ceremony the single most celebrated and outstanding event within the service year. This programme also provides a good forum for the NYSC Scheme to publicise itself, its programmes and achievements to the guests and dignitaries, because it is always attended massively by people from all walks of life and across states in the country.

The Scheme's Awards had contributed immensely to the growth and development of the Nigerian rural sector since its inception. The goals of the honours award specifically emphasised that most of the projects are rural based with direct supervision from the Local Government Areas. It is in this respect that the Scheme introduced the independent verification Committee that would visit the rural communities to inspect and monitor Corps Members' achievements and projects across the entire country. They also ascertain the authenticity of their projects and Corps Members' relationship with their host communities.

The President's Honours Awards is an important forum for passing advice and counsels to the Nigerian youths. It is a special ceremony that is accompanied with important speeches from the President and dignitaries to the youth, inspiring them to be good leaders and render selfless service to the nation and humanity. For instance, the former President, General Ibrahim Babangida said:

Honours awards and ceremonies of this nature have become part of our national development process. This administration recognizes the role of incentives as they serve rewards for selfless and patriotic service. But beyond that, awards and ceremonies of this nature should be seen as carving role models and to expose committed people for other citizens to emulate.¹³⁶

¹³⁵Psychology of education books

¹³⁶Cited in G. Enegwa and G Umoden *NYSC: Twenty Years of National*

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Award recipients have symbolically attained the status of models to the younger ones in the society particularly the period when real leaders and models are very scarce. In our contemporary Nigerian society, real, authentic and committed leaders are grossly in short supply than in the past. From the pre-colonial period through the nationalist struggle for independence up to 1980s, there were bests of selfless leaders and models in all realms of the society. There were men and women who abandoned their personal pursuit for the collective welfare of the community and society. For instance, in the educational realm the founder and the pioneer principal of the first private Secondary School in Nigeria, Messrs Euba and Roberts of Eko Boys High School, sacrificed their meager earnings and income, time and intellect and indeed their entire lives to establish the school not for profit sake but create values of philanthropy and generosity to humanity.^{137,138} More so, the urge for quick wealth had rather produced fake leaders and models in the society. Nigeria now is in need of models to right the wrongs in all spheres of life and this motivation given to the youth population is in a right direction. One of the awardees/nominees, Miss Esther D. Joshua said:

...the main driving force for carrying out the projects was to leave a legacy. So my advice to Corps Members is to learn to leave legacies. Do not do what everyone is doing. Stand out for doing good, for going beyond the norm.¹³⁹

It has impacted on the Award recipients the burden of responsibility and aspiration. 'Eagles can never descend or step too low to eat with vultures'. This is an African proverb meaning 'leaders must keep and maintain their dignity and never compromise.'

¹³⁷SB Abolade and AF Oyelade "Historical Development of Private Secondary

¹³⁸.. accessed <http://nau.edu/COE/ejournal/>

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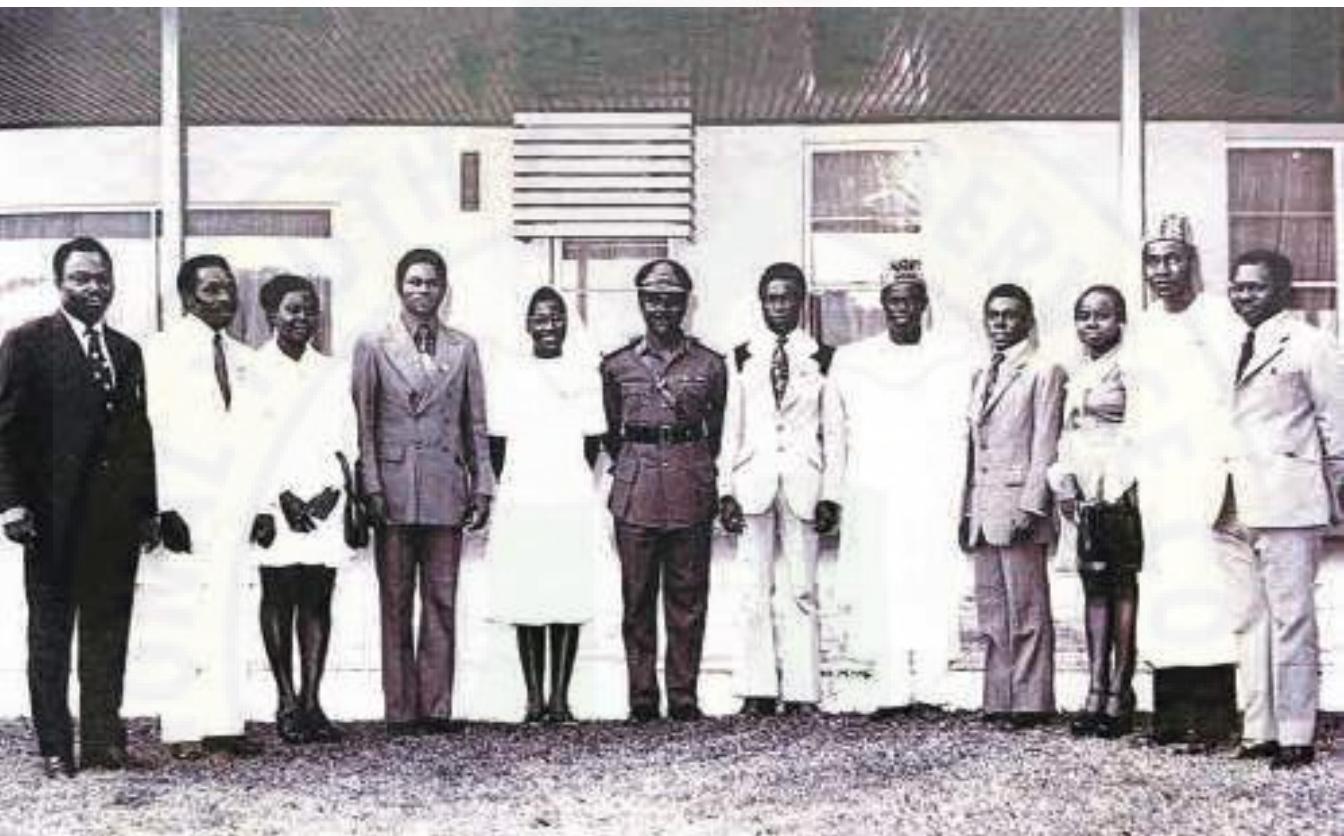
CONCLUSION

From the foregoing, this chapter examined the nature and visions of the NYSC President's Honours Awards to bring out its significance to the Nigerian society. The procedure and processes of the awards are so rigorous and distinctively seemed to be above manipulation and unwarranted influences. The members of the National Selection Committee are men and women of proven characters, carefully chosen from top public and private agencies and institutions. The chapter discussed the gains and qualities of the prizes given to the recipients as laudable and worth celebrating annually. Finally, President's Honours Awards has impacted enormously on the development of the country particularly the rural areas where most of the projects of the awardees are sited. It is discovered that this award is the hallmark of the service year to both the Corps Members and the entire society.

This study recommends that the NYSC authority and the National Assembly should work collaboratively to enact a legal framework to prevent the State Governments from maltreating the past award winners. They had contributed immensely to the development of those states and got automatic employment into civil service through this platform of President's Honours Awards. This recommendation should be taken seriously because it is actually painful and frustrating for the people they are celebrating currently to be rejected and thrown out of service when their strength is exhausted in future. This is because it is posing a threat to the total release of energy and resources towards the pursuit of winning the President's Honours Awards.

because they were not indigenes of those states but put up quality services to those states from years. The NYSC and Federal Government should put up rules and laws to discourage states from doing this act of disunity to other Nigerians particularly those from the NYSC Award lists.

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*Gen Yakubu Gowon with Pioneer set of President's
NYSC Honours Award winners in 1974*

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*President Shehu Shagari with 1981/1982 set of
President's NYSC Honours Award
winners*

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*Former Head of State, Gen Muhammadu Buhari with
1983/84 set of President's NYSC Honours Award winners*

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*Gen Ibrahim Babangida with
NYSC National Honours Award winners*



Gen Babangida presenting a medal to NYSC National Award Winner

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President Goodluck Jonathan with NYSC National Honours Award winners



*Vice President Yemi Osinbajo presenting medal to
President's NYSC Honours awardee*

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*Minister of Youth and Sports Developments, Mr Sunday
Dare, dignataries and award winners*



CHAPTER

16

THE ROLE OF NYSC IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GAMBIAN NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE SCHEME (NYSS)

INTRODUCTION

The Establishment of The Gambia National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS) was borne out of desire of the government of Gambia to develop and evolve a system that would put the youths of The Gambia to result yielding exercise to contribute to nation building and human development. From available statistical data, it was revealed that 47% of The Gambian people are made up of the 18-25 years age bracket who are prone to social vices as indiscipline, drug abuse, alcohol, anxiety, prostitution, indiscriminate sexual activities, among others. Realizing the great potential of the youth, the Gambian Government began to identify with the youths and took into consideration the urgent need for an effective mobilisation which they believed has had become inevitable. They also came to the realization that if Gambia would attain self-reliance in development and advancement, the youth would require a certain degree of

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orientation, preparation and training to enable them perform their future role in the development of the country effectively and creditably.¹⁴⁰

As a consequence of the above, the establishment of The Gambia National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS) became paramount in the government agenda. Following a resolution that was passed at the second edition of the Global Youth Conference held in Abuja-Nigeria in 1994, urging countries without Youth Service Scheme to establish a youth service Scheme, The Gambia, through the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs requested Nigeria to assist her in the establishment of a Youth Service Scheme similar to what is obtained in Nigeria. Following the Nigerian Government's approval, it was agreed that every two years, a team of Technical Assistants (TA's) drawn from the NYSC would be sent to assist in running the NYSS, with the aim of providing Technical Advice, mobilisation/training of Corps Members as well as human capacity development.³⁹

The first team of NYSC officials was posted to The Gambia in 1996. It was a six man team led by Mr. Greg Kas Enegwea who was a Director. Other members of the team included: Mr. Enweonwu, Mr E.E. Akinola, Mr. S.O. Ochim, Mr. Nuhu Kwaghe and Mrs Victoria Ango. The team drew up structure on the mode of operations for the emerging Scheme and, on Friday 26th Jan 1996, the Scheme was formally launched by the then President of The Gambia, Captain Yahya A. J. J. Jammeh.

As a follow-up and in keeping with the terms of the memorandum of understanding (M.O.U) signed by the two countries, the second batch of Nigerian Technical team, headed by Mr. Gabriel O. Alonge, accompanied by: Mr Habib Kurawa and Mrs. Dorothy Ikpeme, arrived The Gambia in

N. Lahire, R. Johanson and R.T. Wilcox, "Youth Employment and Skills Development in The Gambia", WORLD BANK Working Paper NO. 217 Africa Human Development Series. 2011.DOI:

10.1596/9780-8213-8811-2³⁹ A. Asobie, Nigeria's "Economic Diplomacy and National Interest:

An Analysis of Politics of Nigeria's External Economic Relations", *Nigerian Journal of International Affairs*, 2005, 17(6), 15-16.

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April, 1998 after the expiration of two-year tenure of the first batch. The third batch, led by Miss Funke E. Ambekemo alongside Chief Greg F. Anyia and Mr Emmanuel Adamu, arrived The Gambia on the 30th of April, 2000, while the fourth and last batch which comprised of only two members - Mr Aloysius Idoga (leader) and Ms Tete Ukpong arrived the Gambia in 2003 and the assistance programme by Nigeria was rounded off in 2005.¹⁴¹

This paper is organised into six sections. After the Introduction, others are on the conceptualization of terms, background to the establishment of the Gambian National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS), the activities, structure and organisation of the NYSS, the role of Nigerian technical team in the development of the Gambian National Youth Service Scheme, the comparative analysis between the NYSS and NYSC and conclusion.

Conceptual Clarification

An attempt will be made in this section to explain some major terms like the Youth Service, Scheme, Corps and technical assistance. It becomes apt to clarify these terms; this is in order to have a better understanding of the terms. Hence, the conceptualization of the terms becomes imperative in carrying out this study.

Youth Service: Youth service refers to non-military, intensive engagement of young people in an organised activity that contributes significantly to the local, national, or world community. Youth service is widely recognised and valued by the society, with minimal, or in some cases, no compensation to the server. Youth service gives opportunity for youth development, youth voice and introspection. This may take the form of a youth programme where young people are recruited, offered leadership opportunities,

¹⁴¹K.O. Lamidi, "Origin and Trajectory of National Youth Service Programme in Africa: An Exploratory Review", *Journal of African History and Culture*, 2019, 4(1), 12-22.

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participate in activities that improve the community, and are trained and mentored. The most common age group defined as 'youth' is 15-30 years of age, and in other parlance, 15-40 years of age. The United Nations defines youth as 15-24 years of age. The duration of most youths in service for either their community or their nation depends on the settings they find themselves. Some communities regard long-range youth service as being from six months to two years of service; however, this time range can vary with each country's national youth service policy.¹⁴²

Training Scheme: A Scheme is a systematic plan for the implementation of a certain idea. A Scheme could also be defined as a plan that is developed by a government or large organisation in order to provide a particular service for people. Training Scheme is a form of Scheme for teaching people skills in a particular field or profession especially the youths.

Corps: A term used for several different kinds of organisation. A military innovation first invented by Napoleon in 1805. Within the military terminology, a Corps may be termed as an operational formation, sometimes known as field Corps, which consists of two or more divisions. Also, in military administrative terms, it is a specialised branch of the military service such as an artillery Corps, a medical Corps, or a force of military Corps and, in some cases, a distinct service within a national military such as the United States Marine Corps. Corps is a generic term for non-military organisations such as the U.S. Peace Corps, the Youth Service Corps among others.¹⁴³

Technical Assistance: This is a form of aid given to less-developed countries by international organisations such as the United Nations and its agencies, individual governments, foundations, and philanthropic

¹⁴² "Youth Service" National Youth Commission. Retrieved 4/26/09.

¹⁴³ K. Marvin and H. Morton, History of Military Mobilisation, Washington DC: Department of the Army. Pp.144-145. Retrieved 30 July 2014.



institutions. The main purpose of providing technical aid is to assist these less-developed countries with expertise needed to promote development. Most technical-assistance programmes began after World War II when much of Europe and Southeast Asia lay in ruins and the countries of Africa, Central and South America were attempting to improve their standard of living.¹⁴⁴ Technical assistance may also involve sending experts into the field to teach skills and to help solve problems in their areas of specialization, such as irrigation, agriculture, fisheries, education, public health or even forestry.

Background to the Establishment of the Gambian National Youth Service

The Gambia as an emerging third-world country in Africa, achieved its independence on the 18th of February 1965. Decades after her independence, an organisation of youth service programme became imminent in a bid to support developmental drive across key sectors of its economy. Unlike other African countries where the issue of national youth service came to the frontline during the period of colonial independence, especially 1960s and 1970s, the issue of National Youth Service came to the fore in the country in the 1990s. Till present, numerous programmes have been introduced with positive changes, as it is currently in Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The main theme of the Gambian National Youth Service Scheme just like in most African national youth service Schemes centred on the mobilisation of youth for national development. This is with a view to providing youth with opportunities to be active and economically viable through investing their skills, energy and time. The programme in Gambia was also aimed at providing young people with opportunities to become actively involved in the process of nation building.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ “Technical Assistance” Encyclopedia Britannica, accessed 28/02/2021.

¹⁴⁵ K.O. Lamidi, “Origin and Trajectory...

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The Nigeria's NYSC Scheme was founded in 1973 consequent upon the end of the historic Biafra War to mobilise Nigerian youths for the purpose of national unity and national integration. In the later part of 1990, it assumed a regional and global significance which was demonstrated strongly in her historic role of the hosting of Global Youth Summit in 1995 which eventually led to the formation of the Gambian National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS) in 1996 by NYSC technical experts.¹⁴⁶

The Gambian National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS) started in The Gambia in the year 1996 to provide youth with skills for employment. It emphasises on self-reliance and aims to integrate the people of the nation. The Scheme at its commencement, enrolled about 200 youths aged 17 to 30 years annually, based on quotas for each of the six regions. The youths are first provided with orientation to imbue them with leadership abilities. They are also exposed to various types of skilled work to choose which one they would like to train for. The GNYSS then places them in existing training institutions for 22 months, where they receive a living allowance. The Scheme operates some of the training, namely farming, tailoring, fashion design among others at its own training centres. The GNYSS monitors the performance of the trainees and makes continuous support conditional on performance. The Scheme also introduced an apprenticeship programme in 2002, taking in youth with low levels of prior education for 46 months.¹⁴⁷

In the year 2016, more assistance were given to The Gambia on the NYSS programme when the then Gambian Minister of Youths and Sports, Alieu Jammeh, visited Abuja to seek assistance or aid from the Nigerian Government in establishing a youth programme similar to the NYSC in Nigeria, which would capture the activities of university graduates this

¹⁴⁶U. Agu, NYSC and Nigeria Unity: A Critical Appraisal. (Enugu: Agene Publishers, 1995) Pp 102-104.

¹⁴⁷A.V. Adams, "The Role of Youth Skills Development in the Transition to Work: A Global Review." World Bank, Human Development Network Children and Youth Department, Series 5. 2017.



time. He expressed the desire of The Gambia to establish the programme as it had become a symbol of national unity and solidarity, and because of its unique role. He said: "the NYSC had introduced and initiated programmes over the years which had ensured the sustenance and growth of the Scheme".¹⁴⁸ Suleiman Kazaure, the then Director-General of the NYSC assured the minister of the Nigerian government's support saying: "it is not wrong to say that the NYSS has thrived because of the support of the NYSC and we will do all we can to assist"¹⁴⁹

Activities, Structure and Organisation of the Gambian National Youth Service Scheme

Since 1996 when it was first launched, the NYSS has trained about 1,550 youth in 22 occupational fields. Male enrolments are by far the majority (1,227 male, compared with 338 of their female counterparts, or 22 percent of the intake). The fields with the highest enrolment were electricity (241 candidates), car mechanics (204), tailoring (182), carpentry (131), and electronics (114). Some agricultural occupations were included: rice production (76), livestock (96), and forestry (36). The Scheme had about 500 graduates in 2002, and it was found that 57 percent were unemployed, 32 percent were in paid employment, and 11 percent were self-employed. Of the employed graduates, only 43 percent were in occupations related to the skills they acquired. Of the 41 self-employed graduates, 22 percent were in plumbing, 22 percent in electrical installation, 12 percent in sewing and tailoring and 12 percent were in masonry. Almost all graduates found the skills training useful.¹⁵⁰

¹⁴⁸A.V. Adams, "The Role of Youth Skills..."

¹⁴⁹N. Lahire, R. Johanson and R.T. Wilcox, "Youth Employment and Skills Development in The Gambia", WORLD BANK Working Paper NO. 217 Africa Human Development Series. 2011.DOI: 10.1596 / 978-0-8213-8811-2

¹⁵⁰N. Lahire, R. Johanson and R.T. Wilcox, "Youth Employment and Skills..." "Youth Service" National Youth Commission. Retrieved 4/26/09.

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During this period, some of the weaknesses noted in the programme were the following:

- (i) the orientation offered did not provide students with an indication of the market demand for each skill area;
- (ii) the level of training provided seemed “very inadequate;”
- (iii) graduates were not skilled enough to be self-employed; and
- (iv) trainees often do not return to their places of origin because of limited employment opportunities. Hence, the Scheme has not helped to minimize the rural-urban drift.⁵⁰

In the year 2016, the Gambian National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS) was re-modified to capture university graduates just like the National Youth Service Corps obtained in Nigeria, with a structure and organisation which are not too different from those of the Nigeria National Youth Service Corps. This is because they bear the trademark of the Nigerian pattern; hence, the similarities with what is obtained in Nigeria. The Administrative structure comprise of:

- a. The National Governing Board:
- b. The National secretariat
- c. Divisional Committees.

The Gambian Government is responsible for the funding of the Scheme through a Governing Board. The National Secretariat oversees all the administrative functions as well as the day-to-day running of the Scheme. The Secretariat is headed by an Executive Director. There are Divisional Field offices in all the Divisions of the country namely; Central, Western and Northern Divisions.¹⁵¹ In 2016, the NYSS was reorganised to accommodate university graduates like the Nigerian NYSC. But unlike the Nigerian NYSC which has four (4) Cardinal programmes, the Gambian National Youth Service Scheme has five (5).

¹⁵¹ “Youth Service” National Youth Commission. Retrieved 4/26/09.

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Namely:

- a. Mobilisation
- b. Orientation exercise
- c. Primary Assignment and Skills Acquisition
- d. Community Development
- e. Passing-out and Certification¹⁵²

The NYSS programme starts with the orientation course which lasts for a period of six weeks. During this programme, members are exposed to Para-military drills, physical training, Leadership skills, and lectures on various subjects relevant to their training. At the end of the orientation, members are posted to viable and reputable skills centres (negotiated and secured by the GNYSS), where they are expected to stay for a period of twenty two (22) months to learn and acquire skills that will enable them become self employed rather than job seekers. Some of the skill areas are: Carpentry, Computer Engineering, Auto-mechanics, Plumbing, Electrical/Electronics, Masonry, Tailoring, Accounting, Welding and fabrications, Secretarial studies and Agriculture.¹⁵³ During the period of attachment (Primary Assignment), Corps Members are paid minimal stipends to enable them cater for their transportation and essential personal needs. Upon completion of the 22 months attachment at their respective skills centres, the Corps Members are assembled, awarded certificates of participation and passed out in a colorful parade often presided over by the President or the Vice President.¹⁵⁴ Interested graduates of the Scheme are encouraged and assisted to secure loans with their Certificate of National Service as well as academic certificates as collateral. Eighty percent (80%) of such loan is in kind i.e, through purchase and supply of all required equipment in the skill area, while the balance of

¹⁵²W. Adebanwi, "Globally Oriented Citizenship And International Voluntary Service Interrogating Nigeria's Technical Aid Corps Scheme" The Nordic Africa Institute, Discussion paper 71.

¹⁵³W. Adebanwi, "Globally Oriented Citizenship..."

¹⁵⁴U. Agu, NYSC and Nigeria Unity: A Critical Appraisal. (Enugu: Agene Publishers, 1995), Pp 102-104.

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twenty percent (20%) is granted in cash to enable the graduate rent a workshop and buy some consumables to commence the learnt skilled work.¹⁵⁵

The Role of Nigerian Technical Assistants In The Development Of The Gambia National Youth Service Scheme

Right from its inception in 1996, the Nigerian National Youth Service Corps played significant roles in nurturing the Gambian National Youth Service Scheme to its growth and sustenance. It has also continued to play important roles especially in the area of the structural design of the Scheme which is in tandem with the Nigerian version, ranging from programme-content, kitting, orientation course content to Paramilitary drills and training during orientation course. Basically, the respective Nigerian Technical Teams were responsible for recruitment and training of the local staff in every aspect of the Scheme's operations. Additionally, the Nigerian teams carved out a niche for themselves, through the following contributions:

- Successful recruitment and training of indigenous staff; including the Executive Director;
- Creation of an administrative organogram for the NYSS;
- Periodic mobilisation/deployment of Corps Members;
- Acquisition of office accommodation;
- Establishment of NYSS training workshop for Corps Members;
- Re-structuring of the accounting system of the Scheme for operational efficiency;
- Ensured increase in the number of Corps Members;
- Facilitated improved conditions of service;
- Provided a document on The Gambia Youth Enterprises Revolving Fund for Ex-Corps Members;

¹⁵⁵U. Agu, NYSC and Nigeria Unity...

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- Introduction of Community Development Service (CDS);
- Establishment of various farms such as (rice, mango, orange, lime, as well as sheep rearing, e.t.c);
- Searched and negotiated with Training Centres for placement of Corps Members for their Primary Assignment.

The institutions include: i. The Gambian Technical Training Institute (GTTI)-Kanifing & Annex Banjul ii. Integrated Rice Development Project (IRDP)- Sapu iii. NYSS farms - Nyaniberi iv. Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy Skills Centre- Fajara v. Gambia Computer and Professional Institute (GCPI)- New Jeshwang vi. Gambia College Brikama vii. Maintenance Service Agency, (MSA)- Kotu viii. The President Award Scheme (PAS) -Bakau ix. The NYSS Tailoring Centre – Bakau.

In addition to skills acquisition, the Nigerian Technical Assistants helped in the establishment of venture centres for practical training of Corps Members. These ventures/projects wholly owned by the Scheme are aimed at instilling the ethics of dignity in labour and strengthening the spirit of entrepreneurship development in the Corps Members, thereby assisting in national crusade for poverty alleviation and reduction of dependency on the government. Some of the Ventures are:

- * Tailoring Centre.
- * Catering services.
- * Farm projects (through creation of cottage farm plantations, and Animal husbandry).
- * Exploration of market for export sales of seedless lime and mangoes to the UK.
- * Cosmetics Production and marketing.
- * Management of Gambian International Stadium including all National and International football matches and Games.¹⁵⁶

¹⁵⁶ G.KEnegwea. “NYSC: An Enduring Legacy” in Nigeria: A People United, A Future Assured, A Compendium. V.I.H.IAjaegbu (eds), Nigeria, Federal Ministry of Information, 2000, Pp 340-348.

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Further to the expansion of avenues for self reliance, the Nigerian technical teams evolved the creation of empowerment structures as;

- a) National Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund (NYERF): To enable products of the Scheme to access government loans under the guarantee of the NYSS.
- b) Youth Apprenticeship Scheme: This Scheme is aimed at providing avenue to expand the Scheme's intake horizon to accommodate school children below grade 9 and equip them with skills training.
- c) Creation of a Credit and Business Management Scheme within the NYSS: This initiative stemmed from the fact that conditions under which every ex-Corps Member was to meet before accessing the Social Development Fund loans were quite bureaucratic and stringent, thereby causing much delays.
- d) Establishment of the NYSS Road Safety: The Nigerian Technical Assistants established the NYSS Road Safety Corps which collaborates with the Mobile Traffic Division of the Gambian Police to assist in road traffic control, as its contribution to ease flow of traffic.
- e) NYSS Impact/Tracer Study: This project enabled an independent body to carry out a research on the impact of the Scheme on the Corps Members since its inception. The UNDP awarded a contract for the study to SAHEL Investment which carried out the exercise.¹⁵⁷

Comparative Analysis between the NYSC and the GNYSS The NYSC

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) which was established in 1973 by the government of General Yakubu Gowon, was born through Decree

¹⁵⁷G.KEnegwea. "NYSC: An Enduring Legacy"...

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Nº 24 of 22nd May 1973. It states that the NYSC is being established with a view to the proper encouragement and development of communities through the youths of Nigeria and the promotion of national unity.¹⁵⁸ zThe 1973 Decree which was repealed and replaced by Decree No 51 of 16th June, 1993 outlined the objectives of the Scheme thus:

- to inculcate discipline in Nigerian youths by instilling in them a tradition of industry at work and of patriotic and loyal service to Nigeria in any situation they may find themselves.
- to raise their moral tone by giving them the opportunity to learn about higher ideals of national achievements, social and cultural improvement.
- to develop in them attitudes of mind, acquired through shared experience and suitable training, which will make them more amenable to mobilisation in the national interest.
- to develop common ties among them and promote national unity and integration.
- to induce employers, partly through their experience with members of the service Corps, to employ more readily qualified Nigerians irrespective of their states of origin, and
- to enable Nigerian youths to acquire the spirit of self-reliance.

Onyishi⁵⁹writes that:

the goal or summary of the objectives of the Scheme include to develop a sound and result-oriented institution that is committed to the realization of national unity and even development. It is an organisation that is well motivated and capable of bringing out the best qualities in

¹⁵⁸National Youth Service Corps, 1996, NYSC Handbook, Abuja.

⁵⁹A.O. Onyishi, "Youth and National Development in Nigeria: An Analysis of National Youth Service Scheme: 1999-2009", *International Journal of Modern Political Economy*, Vol. 2, No. 1, pp. 19.

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our youth and imparting in them the right attitude and value for nation building that serves as a catalyst to national development and a sense of pride and fulfilment of its participating graduate youths.

Consequently, a university graduate that has been mobilised and documented for the programme is generally known as a Corps Member, while a group of them are called “Corps Members.” A graduate is often deployed to any NYSC Orientation Camp (which is often one in each of the thirty-six states of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory) in any part of the country, in most cases outside his state of origin and his state of residence. At its inception, it was all inclusive of University graduates, HND and NCE holders but later only degree and HND graduates are required to take part in the compulsory National Youth Service Scheme.^{159, 160}

Those mobilised are trained for three weeks in the separate orientation camps. At the end of the training, they are posted to the areas of primary assignment, where they would stay and work for the remaining part of the service year. The service year is ended with a Passing out Parade (POP). The laudable Scheme helped most Nigerians to have a patriotic understanding of their fellow Nigerians by appreciating the uniqueness of different nationalities through living and mingling together.¹⁶¹

The NYSC programme has for many years encouraged and promoted regular and effective distribution of skilled manpower, continuous breaking of social and cultural barriers as well as the building of friendly ties across ethnic groups. It promoted values of national unity and development, renewed interest in neglected but vital areas of national development like agriculture and promoted leadership capacities in youths. Also, the regular invitation of Corps Members to participate in the conduct

¹⁵⁹ M. Ohagenyi, Boko Haram and Threat to NYSC Programme, https://www.google.com.ng/?gfe_rd=cr&ei=ighlU-160HIMTR8gePIHABg#q=pdf+security+threats+to+NYSC Retrieved on 1st May, 2014.

¹⁶¹ C. Amuta, NYSC: Then, Now and Henceforth. <http://www.eftngr.com/opal/analysis/46-comment/1363-nysc-then-nowandhenceforth>. Retrieved on 1st May, 2014.

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of such sensitive national assignments as census, elections, immunization programme aroused the consciousness of the nation to the right course of development.¹⁶² The NYSC programme helped in the educational sector of the country, especially from junior secondary to tertiary levels.¹⁶³ The reasons given in 1973 by the Yakubu Gowon administration for the establishment of the NYSC Scheme are still very important in this country's search for a long-lasting national unity.¹⁶⁴ Amongst the Corps Members themselves, the friendships and attractive marriages the programme has promoted will remain a hallmark in the history of the Nigerian nation.¹⁶⁴

The Traditional Community Development programme which was introduced in the 1976/1977 service year... helped a lot in the promotion of learning, tourism, healthcare and agricultural development. At the end of the 2012 Batch "B" orientation course, 45,000 Corps Members had been trained in various skill areas. A further breakdown shows that 5,404 were trained in agro-allied skills, 5,509 in food processing and preservation, 8,035 in culture and tourism-related skills and 5,062 in cosmetology. Information and communication technology had 8,119 power and energy 2,885 and environment 2,672. Another set of 2,837 members acquired skills in beautification, 2,057 in construction and 2,425 in education.¹⁶⁵

All these portray the nature and relevance of the programme in promoting national integration and socio-economic development.

¹⁶² A.O. Onyishi, "Youth and National Development in Nigeria: An Analysis of National Youth Service Scheme: 1999-2009", *International Journal of Modern Political Economy*, Vol. 2, No. 1, pp. 88.

¹⁶³ Press and Literature in the Fourth Republic, (Markurdji: Aboki Publishers), pp. 133-147 ¹⁶⁴ The Nation, Kudos to Corps Members. Friday April 22, 2011. p. 19.

¹⁶⁴ D. Utomwen, Tackling NYSC's Security Challenge, <http://www.pmnewsnigeria.com/2012/12/10/tackling-nyscs-security-challenge/>. Retrieved on 1st May, 2014

¹⁶⁵ D. Utomwen, Tackling NYSC's Security Challenge...

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The NYSS

The Gambian National Youth Policy is designed to engage the Gambian Youth in a serious manner in national development. The overall objective of this policy is to mobilise youth and get them involved in all aspects of national development. The policy also seeks to empower youth through participation and mentoring. Despite the fact that the youth make up more than half of the population they have limited opportunities for viable employment, education and training, skills development, and access to health and social services. There is also a high incidence of drug use among Gambian youth as well as high criminal activity when compared to the rest of society.¹⁶⁶

Consequent upon the above, The Gambian National Youth Service Scheme was established in 1996 to address youth indiscipline, drug abuse, addiction and unemployment. Participants of the Scheme are trained in skills to promote their employment. Participants also gain skills for youth leadership and are deployed to take action in various sectors that will benefit their country. The programme focuses on young people between the ages of 13-30, and participants engage in activities such as running an Internet Cafe and Counseling Centre and participating in agricultural projects around the country.¹⁶⁷ Opportunities for vocational and skills training for girls and young women who dropped out of school also exist in the country on the platform of the National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS) which is to fill the gap created by the educational system, especially the academically based educational curriculum. Adolescent school-leavers who are denied the opportunity for self-development are special beneficiaries of the Scheme. It also serves to strengthen the civic-consciousness of young Gambians and to inculcate the virtues of hard

¹⁶⁶ “National Youth Policy 2009-2018,” United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Accessed 1/3 2021, http://planipolis.iiep.unesco.org/upload/Youth/Gambia/Gambia_National_%20.pdf

¹⁶⁷ A. Brett *Youth Engaged in Service: A Strategy for Promoting Democracy, Innovations in Civic Participation*, July 2005, Print.

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work, self-reliance, patriotism and moral up-rightness. In addition to the NYSS, the President's Award Scheme created in the late 1980s to develop the values of self-reliance and discipline in young people currently caters for the needs of young people aged 12 to 21 years, with no formal education, and primary junior and secondary school dropouts.¹⁶⁸

The Administrative structure of the Gambian National Youth Service Scheme comprise of : The National Governing Board, The National secretariat and the Divisional Committees. The Gambian Government is responsible for the funding of the Scheme through a Governing Board. The National Secretariat oversees all the administrative functions as well as the day to day running of the Scheme while the secretariat is headed by an Executive Director.⁷⁰

The Gambian National Youth Service Scheme has five cardinal programmes Namely: Mobilisation, Orientation exercise, Primary Assignment and Skills Acquisition, Community Development Services and Passing-out and Certification. The NYSS programme starts with the orientation course which lasts for a period of six weeks. During this programme, members are exposed to Para-military drills, physical training, Leadership skills, and lectures on various subjects relevant to their training. At the end of the orientation, members are posted to viable and reputable skills centres (negotiated and secured by the GNYSS), where they are expected stay for a period of twenty two (22) months to learn and acquire skills that will enable them become self employed, rather than job seekers. Some of the skill areas are: Carpentry, Computer Engineering, Auto-mechanics, Plumbing, Electrical /Electronics, Masonry, Tailoring,

¹⁶⁸“Republic of the Gambia End-Decade Assessment Report on Follow-Up to the World Summit for Children”, December 2000, Accessed March 2021, http://www.unicef.org/specialsession/how_country/edr_gambia_en.PDF

⁷⁰N. Lahire, R. Johanson and R.T. Wilcox, “Youth Employment and Skills Development in The Gambia”, WORLD BANK Working Paper NO. 217 Africa Human Development Series.

2011.DOI: 10.1596 / 978-0-8213-8811-2



Accounting, Welding and fabrications, Secretarial studies and Agriculture.¹⁶⁹

During the period of attachment (Primary Assignment), Corps Members are paid minimal stipends to enable them cater for their transportation and essential personal needs. Upon completion of the 22 months attachment at their respective skills centres, the Corps Members are assembled, awarded certificates of participation and passed out in a colorful parade often presided over by The President or the Vice President. Interested graduates of the Scheme are encouraged and assisted to secure a loan with their Certificates of National Service as well as academic certificates as collateral. Eighty percent (80%) of such loan is in kind i.e, through purchase and supply of all required equipment in the skill area, while the balance of twenty percent (20%) is granted in cash to enable the graduate rent a workshop and buy some consumables to commence their learnt skilled work.⁷²

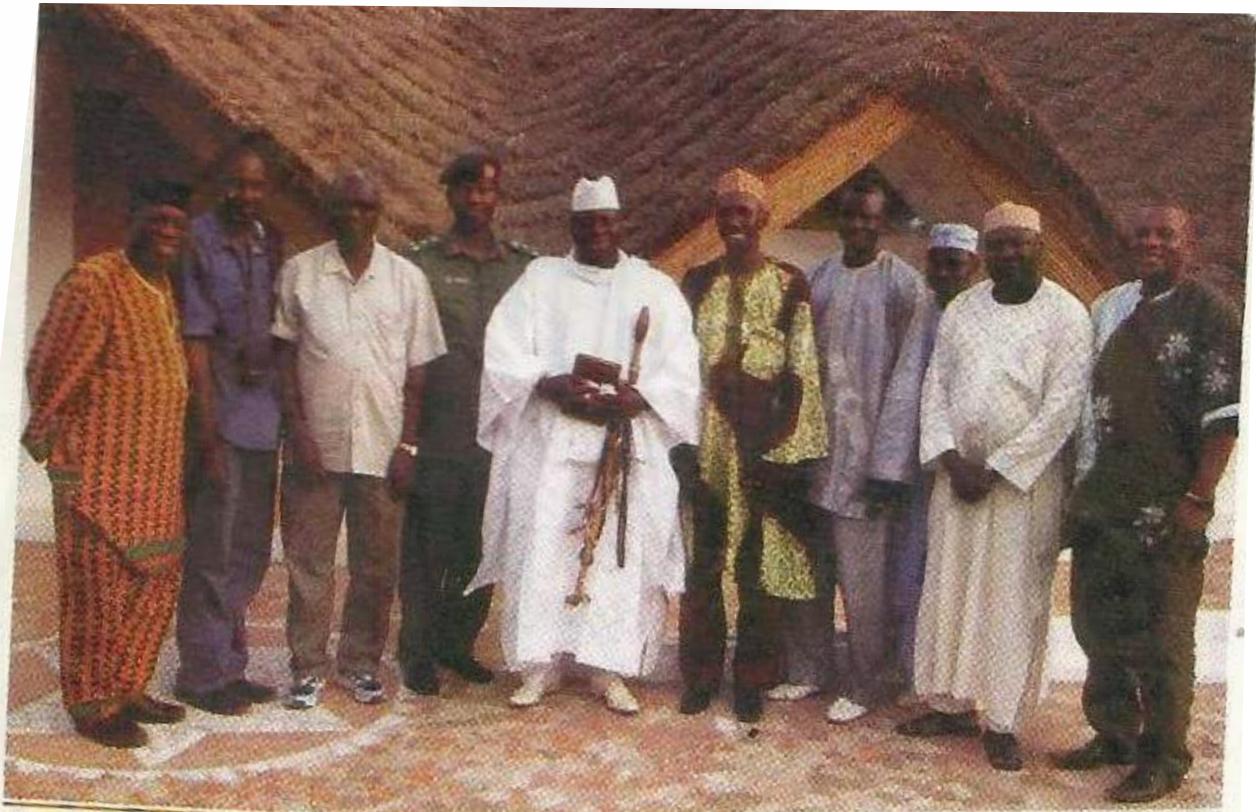
CONCLUSION

From the above, it can be deduced that there is no much difference between the nature and mode of youth service delivery in the NYSC and the NYSS. This feat can be attributed to the technical assistance rendered by the NYSC teams to the NYSS that made the NYSS to be structured in tandem with the NYSC, the Nigerian version. It is worthy of note that, the Technical Aid Corps that were sent to Gambia in batches from 1996 and the NYSC teams that were sent in 2016 all contributed immensely to the structuring of the GNYSS, and this brought about meaningful productivity in the Gambian youths, unlike what used to be the order of the day among the youths, that is, the prevalent crime and drug abuse that had hitherto affected the responsiveness of the Gambian youths.

¹⁶⁹N. Lahire, R. Johanson and R.T. Wilcox, "Youth Employment... ⁷²W. Adebawo, "Globally Oriented Citizenship And International Voluntary Service Interrogating Nigeria's Technical Aid Corps Scheme" The Nordic Africa Institute, Discussion paper 71.

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The Gambian President Yaya Jammeh (Centre) in a group photograph with the NYSC Director General, Brig General Yusuf Bomoi (4th Left) and his entourage during his visit to Gambia



Mr. Alloysius O. Idoga, a member of the NYSC 4th and final batch deployed to the Gambian National Youth Service Scheme (GNYSC) being introduced to President A.J.J. Jammeh by the Executive Director, Mr. Sebastian Njie



Chief Greg F. Anyia of NYSC being received by the President of the Republic of Gambia - Alh. Dr. A. J. J. Jammeh.



CHAPTER

17

EVALUATION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE (NYSC) SCHEME

INTRODUCTION:

Nigeria's socio-economic cum political development has not been without challenges. Challenges of nation-building are prevalent in erstwhile colonized states like ours, where the bond between the different ethnic, religious and political groups that make up the country are not inherently organic. The amalgamation of what the colonial government called Northern and Southern protectorates in 1914 gave birth to the Nigeria state in 1960. The internal contradictions of a multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-linguistic state like Nigeria led to the unfortunate civil war of 1967 – 1970. This historical episode was occasioned by mutual suspicion and distrust amongst the political leaders that were saddled with the leadership of the country after independence in 1960.

According to Abel Joseph (2013) in his paper: "*Public perspectives on the role of the NYSC Scheme as a tool for national integration and development*", the civil war further entrenched in a significant way, the

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divisions hitherto present in pre-independence Nigeria and severely disrupted both political and economic developments. That was why the administration of General Gowon, who executed the civil war, had to contend with the question:

“How can Nigeria survive as an independent, indivisible, strong, United and powerful member of the Democratic Nations?”

General Gowon admitted that the need for the establishment of a confidence building mechanism targeted at consolidating the nation and its potentials could only be achieved by leaders of tomorrow. He said inter-alia that:

“The idea of service Corps for youths is quite unexceptionable (...) certainly no right-thinking and patriotic persons will query the need for Nigeria to inculcate, as a matter of deliberate public policy to bequeath the basic qualities of leadership to her most educated and enlightened youths, from among whose rank leaders in all walks of life are recruited”.

Consequently, Gowon had to admit that “with the war behind us, the challenges of reconciliation, rehabilitation and reconstruction are daunting.” Building a strategy for post-war conflict resolution and confidence-building was therefore indispensable. He further opined that his administration's response had to be guided, calculated, targeted and eminently well focused to capture the minds, body and souls of those upon whom the inevitable future and prospects of the nation would depend:

“In pursuit of the above objective, the idea of a youth service organisation was nurtured and then established in 1973 through Decree 24 of 22 May 1973, which was repealed and replaced by Decree 51 of 16th June 1993, now referenced as NYSC Act CAP N84 Laws of the

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Federation of Nigeria. Its establishment was predicated on the vision of creating an interventionist institution that would promote national unity through the mobilisation of Nigerian youths for a one-year national service. Their call to service was irrespective of their tribe, creed or faith but they must be first Nigerians who graduated from tertiary institutions and be of thirty years or below at graduation”.

In essence, the objective of the Scheme sought to mobilise Nigerian graduate youths into a designed programme that will allow them to produce long-lasting friendship, eliminate prejudices, build bridges of unity and to provide them with an opportunity to contribute their quota to national development. Arguably, the Scheme was seen as an interventionist vehicle that will bring Nigerians together for collective socio-political cum economic growth. Down the road, how has the Scheme fared in meeting up with its set objectives, which are:

- a. To inculcate discipline in Nigerian youths by instilling in them a tradition of industry at work and of patriotic and loyal service to Nigeria in any situation they may find themselves;
- b. To raise the moral tone of Nigerian youths by allowing them to learn about higher ideals of national achievement, social and cultural improvement;
- c. To develop in the Nigerian youths the attitude of mind, acquired through shared experience and suitable training, which will make them more amenable to mobilisation in the national interest;
- d. To enable Nigerian youths acquire the spirit of self reliance by encouraging them to develop skills for self employment;
- e. To contribute to the accelerated growth of the national economy;

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- f. To develop common ties among Nigerian youths and promote national unity and integration;
- g. To remove prejudices, eliminate ignorance and confirm at first hand the many similarities among Nigerians of all ethnic groups; and
- h. To develop a sense of corporate existence and common destiny of the people of Nigeria

The focus of this chapter, therefore, is to evaluate the performance of the NYSC Scheme vis-à-vis the above set objectives, which are pursued through four cardinal programmes of the Orientation Course, Primary Assignment, Community Development Service (CDS) and the WindingUp/Passing-Out ceremony.

There are diverse opinions or perspectives in evaluating the institutional performance of the NYSC Scheme. Given the history of its 48 years of existence, there must be various perspectives. One can safely say that in evaluating the performance of the NYSC, most observers focus their attention to the founding father's vision of establishing a national youth service Scheme that would: "Develop common ties among the Nigerian youths and promote national unity and integration:"

However, there are other aspects of the Scheme that ought to attract evaluation. The four cardinal programmes of the NYSC Scheme, which are the vehicle for the achievement of the objectives of the Scheme, would also have to be evaluated, in order to arrive at a holistic performance of the Scheme.

Mobilisation:

"To remove prejudices, eliminate ignorance and confirm at first hand the many similarities among Nigerians of all ethnic groups"

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This aspect will highlight the various achievements recorded in actualizing its mandate, which is to mobilise Nigerian graduate youths (not above thirty years of age) for a one-year service, allow them make lasting friendships and confirm at first-hand the many similarities among Nigerians of all ethnic groups.

The mobilisation process, which started in 1973, was manually done for over three decades. There were fraudulent practices with its attendant security implications, of the likely hood of mobilising non-graduates, and other challenges. However, with the ever-increasing Corps population occasioned by the growth in number of graduates and the registration of private tertiary institutions in the country, the NYSC Scheme had to evolve systems to overcome these challenges and to fulfil its set objectives. Each service year had two tiers of orientation courses. After some years, the tier system had to be replaced by the batch system. Originally, there were two batches a year. Most recently, the batches were not only increased to three in a year, they were subdivided into "Streams I and II. All these to a large extent are to accommodate the phenomenal increase Corps population, put at about 350,000 in a year.

Another remarkable achievement recorded in the mobilisation process was in the application of technology (ICT) in the mobilisation and deployment process. The use of technology has strengthened the Scheme's mobilisation process. The online registration of prospective Corps Members has reduced or at best eliminated fraud, hitherto, associated with the manual process. It also shortens the period of mobilisation and deployment regardless of the increase in the number of prospective Corps Members, as earlier stated. The printing of call-up letters on-line has effectively eliminated the issue of fake graduates participating in the national service. It is also worth mentioning here, that the use of biometrics for Corps Members' monthly clearance, and most recently for CDS attendance, has eliminated sharp practices and truancy.



National Integration and Development

“To develop common ties among the Nigerian Youths and promote national unity and integration”

There is hardly any aspect of the performance of the NYSC Scheme that attracts multiple interpretations like the question of its role in national integration and development. Suffice it to say that the NYSC Scheme was established for that purpose. Abel Joseph (2013) in his submission on the question of National Integration stated that:

“National Integration, in essence, is that which is based on the sentiment of sharing a common bond in a nation irrespective of differences in religion, language and social custom”

For national integration to abide, personal interest have to be subordinated to the unity and development of the country. Ali Mazuri argued that there are five interrelated aspects of national integration:

1. The fusion of norms and cultures (including the sharing of values, mode of expression, lifestyles and a common language);
2. The promotion of economic interdependence;
3. The narrowing of the gap between elites and the masses, the urban and rural areas, rich and poor etc (social integration);
4. The resolution of conflicts;
5. The sharing of mutual experiences so that people can discover that they have undergone some important experiences together.⁷

Mazrui's submission hints at the major indices through which disparate groups, cultures, languages and social groups can function as an entity in the course of national identification. Thus, it is this collective bonding that paves way for development”. In this respect, the NYSC Scheme through its four cardinal programmes of the Orientation Course, Primary Assignment, Community Development Services and the Winding-Up and

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Passing-out has addressed the fundamentals of a state policy put in place to infuse the virtue of national integration and development in the body polity as outlined. According to Pogoson A.I., the NYSC is an ideal example of a programme of deliberate social engineering, put in place to promote healthy behaviour and integration across ethnic divides and thereby mobilising Nigerians towards socio-cultural consolidation.

Therefore, we can, through the four cardinal programmes of the NYSC, illustrate the vision of the founding fathers which, inter-alia, are:

1. Promoting inter-ethnic understanding, integration and national unity,
2. Maximizing the utilisation of Nigeria's human resources to accelerate the past civil-war imperatives of reconciliation, reconstruction and rehabilitation.

The mobilisation process starts when Nigerian graduate youths of age not above thirty years are deployed to states, other than their own, for an Orientation Course. At the Orientation camps, they are subsequently:

1. Divided into platoons, where numbers rather than school, age or creed is the basis of membership of these platoons;
2. Each platoon is assigned duties on camp as a group and is required to perform daily duties as members of an administrative committee on camp in the kitchen, sanitation, etc.; and
3. As a platoon, they participate in healthy competitions in sports, socials, cultural carnival, parade drills and Inter-platoon SAED competitions, among others.

At this level, comradeship is built, friendships are nurtured and ignorance of each other's culture is eliminated. Their collective participation in these activities enable them to break down the spirit of individualism, create opportunities for those with leadership traits to sharpen them; inculcate

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in those youths some level of discipline; instill in them the spirit of national consciousness, endurance, leadership skill development and promote esprit de Corps. This bond of friendship is extended to their places of primary assignments, where Corps Members are assigned to jobs in states other than their own. In these places of primary assignments, the Corps Members are:

“Exposed to the modes of living of the people of different parts of the country where they serve.”

In the course of such exposure, prejudices are removed, ignorance is eliminated and many similarities between cultures are appreciated. It is little wonder that inter-ethnic marriages are consummated, business partnership among youths of diverse culture are established, during or shortly after their service year.

The appreciation of similarities in culture and economic challenges has motivated some Corps Members to intervene by contributing to the socio-cultural and economic development of their host community through the third cardinal programme of NYSC – the Community Development Service (CDS). The interventions of these youths are projected as the “felt needs of the host community” and therefore it is not difficult to solicit the buy-in of the host community, which readily contributes finances and, in most cases, labour for the actualization of the projects. The summation of the achievements of the Corps Members' intervention in these communities includes:

1. Development of basic rural infrastructures;
2. Improvement of literacy programmes;
3. Provision of health services;
4. Promotion of cultural and sporting activities;
5. Contributions to food production and development of small scale industries; and
6. Invention and fabrication of simple machinery.

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In recent years, we have witnessed interventions in the area of ICT penetration through Corps Members' participation in Computer-Based Testing (CBT) coaching of prospective JAMB candidates, mostly in the rural areas with little or no internet penetration.

The Passing-out and Winding-up programme allows the Corps Members to seek employment in areas and states they served or are retained by their employers. The Nigerian story is awash with the story of these youth who came, saw and settled, while some even married; others established clinics, hospitals, schools, and businesses in States other than their own, because of the one-year national service.

For the antagonists, the Scheme has not brought Nigerians any closer together than the years before the civil war of 1967. They are quick to point to the numerous inter-ethnic clashes and the recent rise in the activities of bandits, Boko Haram, kidnappers, farmers and herder clashes, and the agitations of militants in the Niger Delta and Biafra in the Eastern part of this country, as pointers to substantiate their claims. These claims or counter-claims are infinitesimal. A raft of conflicts of this nature and their resolution in a country's developmental stride represents work in progress.

Education

"To inculcate in them a tradition of industry at work and loyal service to Nigeria in any situation they may find themselves"

There is no sphere of activity that the NYSC has performed tremendously like the education sector. The prime place of education as a vehicle to actualizing one of the cardinal objectives of establishing the NYSC as outlined above is in the area of education; that is why it is first in the place of posting of Corps Members for primary assignment. While evaluating the impact the NYSC has made on the country in the area of education in the

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over forty-five (45) years of existence, Enegw and Umoden observed that “out of the over 400,000 youth that have served the Scheme (in the last three decades), about 70% served in educational institutions where they performed creditably as instructors, counsellors, and motivators of younger Nigerians under their care and training. It is even more remarkable that, in the over three decades of the above assessment, almost three times the number of Corps Members that had been mobilised were posted to teach in schools. According to the 45th Anniversary commemorative NYSC Year Book, “the NYSC mobilises annually over 300,000 youths of 30 years and below, vibrant, talented and creative; and willing to give their best of efforts in service of their fatherland. The Year Book also maintains that over 70% of the service Corps Members are deployed to teach with resounding results.” It went ahead to remark that, in some parts of the country, the school system would have collapsed without the services of Corps Members who in some cases serve as Principals, Head teachers, Games masters etc.

The above-stated facts are evidence of the impact of NYSC on the educational system which, according to Ibrahim and Mohammed illustrate the Corps Members' ability to transfer respect for the dignity of labour, shared responsibility, inculcation of the right type of values, national consciousness and national unity, which are all important attributes for national cohesion and development.

The active participation of some Corps Members as volunteers in NGOs such as the Volunteer Service Overseas (VSO), and as extramural and adult education teachers, JAMB monitors are also pointers to the fact that Scheme has achieved much in and inculcating the spirit of volunteerism among Nigerian youths.

Community Development Services:

“To contribute to the accelerated growth of the national economy”.

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According to Dan Fulani, S.A. (2008) “Community Development projects provide another confirmation that with the best intentions and with relatively almost little finance capital, any development project can be undertaken – with hard direct labour, self-discipline and the necessary motivation to the advantage of the collective whole.” The NYSC Scheme epitomizes this.

Over the years, Corps Members of all creed, faith and ethnic nationalities toil together, under the rain or in the sun to collectively engage in the development of their fatherland through Community Development Service (CDS). Needless to emphasise that CDS epitomizes the essence of the service year, there is no Local Government Area in Nigeria that does not have evidence of CDS intervention by Corps Members; be it in the area of Bridge/culvert construction, Directional signpost, Bus stop stand, Inventions of Agro implements, teachers instructional material, construction of monuments, Legal Aid, Markets, Toilets, services etc. Other interventions are in the areas of donations to less privileged, IDPS, construction of road signs and Zebra crossing, public enlightenment and sensitisation on different subjects such as Drug abuse, Road Safety, disaster mitigation, HIV/AIDS, Polio, SDGs/MDGs Vanguards, anticorruption, anti-trafficking of persons, and most recently, the NYSC collaboration with National Film and Video Sensors Board on censorship of films that abuse the morals and values of the Nigerian people.

Indeed, the credible role played by Corps Members in the area of national development and fulfilment of objective “c” and “I” – “to develop in the Nigerian Youth, the attitude of mind, acquired through shared experience and suitable training, which will make them more amenable to mobilisation in the national interest” has been achieved through group or personal community service interventions spread all over the country.

Prof Danfulani Ahmed further underpins the importance of what the Scheme has been able to achieve through CDS when he wrote:



“Need it here be reiterated that, but for the Scheme, and the community projects affording the Corps Members, and local communities opportunity for contacts, there could never have been such lifetime opportunity to feel, to share, to contribute and to build together for a collective common destiny, a specific project of local interest where an Ijaw, Edo, a Kanuri, a Tiv, an Angas, an Ibo, a Yoruba, a Fulani, Efik and others etc., would find themselves in the same locality, serving none, but their fatherland and its people, engaged in a mutual contract of strategic partnership to build a nation”

Health Campaigns

Ibrahim and Muhammad (2008) also aver that before the second decade of assertive strategic utility of the NYSC, our tertiary health institutions were suffering from a shortage of manpower. But to the credit of the NYSC, the Scheme has made quantum contributions in the field of medicine and health as Corps Members are deployed in the areas of surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, nursing, radiography, and physiotherapy. They noted that in the FCT, for instance, the number of Corps Members have increased due to the high demand of Corps Members needing to serve in medical facilities in Abuja. But the Corps health and medical activities are not restricted to Abuja as Federal Teaching Hospitals, Federal Specialist Hospitals, Federal Orthopedic Hospitals, Federal Psychiatric Hospitals, Federal Medical Centres as well as other health institutions run by the States and Local Government Councils are all beneficiaries of the NYSC medics.

The NYSC 45th Anniversary Year Book records a lot of “role transformation” over the years. Presently NYSC is in collaborative activities with local and international agencies like UNICEF, National Action Committee on AIDS (NACA), SDGs/MDGs and the Federal Ministry of Health in the campaign against HIV/AIDS and that, so far, over 350,000 Corps Members have been

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trained as Peer Educators (PETS) who, in turn, have made outreaches to over 7.5 million Nigerians, mostly in schools and rural areas. It regards this contribution of the NYSC as unparalleled. Besides the HIV campaign, it has a partnership with the National Programme on Immunization where the NYSC assists with the Polio immunization campaign as well as in the fight against the Ebola virus. So also is the case with fighting the spread of malaria. From 2003 – 2008, volunteer Corps Members have been trained in VCR (Volunteer Counseling and Referral), while 4,000 schedule officers and zonal inspectors have been trained in project management and supervision to be able to effectively manage its implementation at the State level. All these have enabled NYSC to attract technical and financial support from development partners, as well as NGOs, for which a video documentary on the project supported by UNICEF was produced in 2008. A Handbook and a Workbook for Student Peer Educators in secondary schools have been produced and distributed, and it was deemed necessary to conduct a national survey on ex-PETs to develop a database and document/findings on their locations, post-NYSC endeavours, and which showed that many a Corps Member trained as PET during their service years have made in-roads out of the programme as development workers; working in NGOs, UN, AU, EU, etc.

In furtherance of their laudable health interventions, Corps Members had embarked on the mobilisation of drugs, equipment and personnel for medical outreaches in rural areas under the **HEALTH INITIATIVE FOR RURAL DWELLERS (HIRD)**. The tremendous support recorded in this intervention has made it a compulsory quarterly event by the medical and Health services CDS group in all the thirty-six state formations and Abuja.

Industry and ICT

Another area the Scheme has performed creditably well is in the area of the application of ICT in its operations. The ever-increasing Corps population and the need to streamline the mobilisation process for effective service

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delivery promoted the online registration by prospective Corps Members in 2013. Printing of call-up letters replaced physical collection thereby eliminating cases of fraud, delay and in some cases, death; (as a result of road accidents of prospective Corps Members travelling for their Call-up letters). Other innovations in the deployment of ICT are the use of Biometrics for Corps Members monthly clearance. This process not only speeds up payment of Corps Members' monthly allowance but it also eliminates sharp practices and truancy. The same ICT touch was extended to the printing out of the NYSC Discharge Certificate – the online printing of Exemption Certificates, and the embossment of Corps Members pictures on Discharge Certificates.

These efforts of NYSC management yielded encomiums, earning it the endorsement of relevant bodies, and was conferred with 2016 NITDA award for the best MDA in the innovative application of ICT solutions to government business.

Social Services

One strategic social service the NYSC renders to the country is the participation of Corps Members in the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) examinations as monitors and supervisors. Another is the collaboration between the NYSC and Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for the use of Corps Members as electoral officers. This collaboration, which began in 2008 when Corps Members were used as polling clerks in the gubernatorial re-run elections of Kogi State became a full-blown inter-agency affair, leading to the signing of an MOU between NYSC and INEC in November 2010, and was reviewed in 2013. The participation of Corps Members in the electoral process has mainly improved the credibility of the electoral process from 2008 till date, and has continued to receive national and international commendations. In the most recent general elections (2019 elections) not less than seventy (70) Corps Members were recognised by EU (European Union) election Monitoring team for their commendable performance.

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Sports and Cultural Achievements

“To develop common ties among Nigerian Youths and Promote National Unity and Integration”

Comradeship, team spirit cultivated from being members of the same platoon at the Orientation camps are further strengthened as these youths from all over Nigeria compete in the Director General's Sports and Cultural Festival. It is envisaged that the festival and its proceeding state competitions, provide an avenue for inter-cultural marriages, exchange of ideas, networking and career opportunities for those who excel. The festival also serves as a platform for fostering national unity and integration through the promotion of common ties and friendship, among the different ethnic nationalities represented by the Corps Members. The NYSC Scheme has always focused on those things that bind us together and the NYSC Director-General's sports and cultural activity is no exception.

Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development Programme

“To enable Nigerian Youths to acquire the spirit of self reliance by encouraging them to develop Skills for self – employment”

The Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED) Programme which was inaugurated in 2012 has become the flag-ship of the Schemes programmes attracting accolades and commendations from all stakeholders in the Nigeria project, SAED seeks to equip Nigerian youths with the requisite skill for self – employment after service. Indeed, through a well-designed in-camp and post-camp training, Corps Members are trained in over sixteen different skill areas that cover agro-allied, cosmetology, ICT, environment, photography, etc; and thereby contributing to the development of the Nigerian economy.

Suffice it to state that the NYSC Scheme had recorded some level of success in other self-reliance initiatives, which preceded SAED, such as “War against poverty”. NDE training, NYSC- CBN Entrepreneurial ventures competition, JAC week etc., but the achievement of SAED is indicative of



greater prospects for the Nigerian youth and the country's economy. Recently, SAED has successfully Sensitised and engaged close to a million Corps Members,¹⁵ out of which half completed their post-camp training leading to the establishment of their businesses while seven thousand of them are on record.¹⁶ The Central Bank of Nigeria has also presented cheques to Corps beneficiaries in the NYSC/CBN/Heritage Bank YEDP (Youth Empowerment Development Programme); as it has signed an MOU with VMLEARN on the establishment of SAED – CONNECT. This is an online platform to enhance the training of Corps Members¹⁷. The Bank of Industry, Corporate Affairs Commission, Standard Organisation of Nigeria, National Agency for Food, Drug Administration and Control as well as NYSC foundation are also valuable partners in the SAED projects.

The completion of an ultra-modern Skill Acquisition centre in Gombe, in partnership with Access Bank, and the plan to have one in each geopolitical zone of Nigeria will not only improve post-camp training but will accelerate the emergence of more small and medium scale business, owned by Nigerian youths, a veritable tool for national economic development. The self-development generated by these SAED training cannot be quantified but must be noted that it has been tremendous.

Redistribution of Labour

Giant stride has been accomplished in the realization of the set objectives of the NYSC Scheme in the redistribution of labour and industry. Every year, the Scheme run three batches of mobilisation of Nigerian graduate youths, numbered approximately over 350,000 per year. These graduate youths are deployed to the States on basis of need and absorptive capacity. Even States in the North-Eastern part of the country, threatened by Boko-Haram insurgency are not left out of the deployment policy of the Scheme. This is in furtherance of the provisions of NYSC Act on mobilisation and deployment policy. The posting policy, on the other hand, further provides for the posting of these Corps Members to four critical areas of the national economy, namely: Education, Health, Agriculture and Rural

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infrastructure. Such a policy facilitates the redistribution of skilled labour to areas where they are most needed. This posting policy thrust is still maintained and sustained as it has removed the focus of posting Corps Members to the private sector which is outside these four (4) areas (this policy came into being in 2002). Other Corps Members are engaged in public service duties, Local Government administration and health care delivery services. From this, it is expected that Corps Members are deployed to States other than their own and subsequently posted according to four focal areas that are a priority to the actualization of Federal Government policies. While in their places of primary assignment, Corps Members are serving in different capacity mainly in educational and health facilities as Chief Executives, mostly rural school and college hospital; enhancing high-level manpower to these rural communities.

Ventures

In realization of the need to create an alternate source of revenue away from oil for the country, the need for the diversification of the national economy had been on the front burner. Agriculture has been identified as not only a wealth creator but one with enormous potential for employment generation. It also has the potential of not only transforming rural areas but increasing commodity productive capabilities of Nigeria. It was in recognition of this that NYSC in 1985 ventured into the Agro sector, through the establishment of farms nationwide. The vision is to use them to create an enabling platform for Corps Members to explore the abundant opportunities for wealth creation, entrepreneurship, employment generation and food security.

Some of the recent achievements of the Scheme in the area of agriculture are adequately documented in the NYSC yearbook 2018 as follows:

1. The cultivation of about 100 hectares of maize in Kwali (FCT), Dungulbi: (Bauchi State), Iseyin (Oyo State).
2. The cultivation of 50 hectares of cassava in FCT and Oyo



3. Cultivation of cowpea, groundnut and soya beans.
4. The raising of poultry birds which are used to feed Corps Members during Orientation programmes in the FCT, Nasarawa, Kogi, Kaduna, Benue, Plateau and Bauchi States.
5. NYSC rice mill in Ezillo, Ebonyi State, which produced over 10 metric tons of de-stoned rice, used in feeding Corps Members and camp officials during the Orientation programme.
6. 340 bags of garri produced at NYSC garri factory Afon, Kwara State and 70 bags of de-stoned rice produced at NYSC Rice Mill, Ezillo, Ebonyi State, formed the bulk of the relief items donated by the Scheme to the internally displaced persons' (IDP camp in Adamawa State in 2015).
7. NYSC collaborated with the Institute of International Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan in 2013 for the multiplication and distribution of improved cassava stem variety, which has been of immense benefit to farmers¹⁹.

These facilities were also used as a platform for the training of Corps Members who subsequently established their farms; others took finance options under the 'War Against Poverty' Scheme to setting-up personal farms. The Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development Programme also provides skill training for Corps Members on Agro-Allied business and this has set the platform for agricultural revolution in the country, while encouraging behavioural change among Nigerian youths towards farming. Federal Government Policy and support for the Agro-Sector is creating young Agro – millionaires through grants and micro-credit facilities provided by Bank of Industry, CBN, NYSC Foundation among the different financial options available to Corps Members.

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NYSC Collaboration

These remarkable achievements of the NYSC Scheme are not relegated only to national development but also the international sphere. Currently, the NYSC is in effective partnership with such agencies as United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – NYSC collaboration on HIV/AIDS, WHO – eradication of polio programme, where the performance of the Corps Members has received international recognition and commendation. The gains of these collaborations have been immense, according to Brig Yusuf Bomoi (the former Director General of NYSC) more so, when put into context with other local collaborations with government agencies, such as INEC on the conduct of elections in Nigeria, National Population Census (NPC), National Programme on Immunization (NPI) on Polio eradication; Federal Ministry of Health, National Action Committee on AIDS (NACA), Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), Energy Commission of Nigeria, Nigerian Institute of Management, Google Nigeria through Mind-The-Gap, on a project – known as Google Digital Skills Africa, amongst others. The gains of such collaboration have been immense, adding skill acquisition and quality service delivery to the Nigerian economy.

CONCLUSION

The history of the NYSC Scheme is not without identified hiccups in accomplishing its set-out objectives. The question of the NYSC Scheme as a vehicle for fostering national unity and integration has always been in the forefront, when the issue of an evaluation of the Scheme's performance comes up. The NYSC Scheme remains strategic in national development. It is re-assuring to receive commendations from International Organisations, such as the United Nations, the European Union and other Electoral Monitors on the role of Corps Members who served as ad-hoc electoral officials. Their participation has given credibility to the electoral process. The role of Corps Members in the polio eradication programme, HIV/AIDS sensitisation, anti-drug abuse campaigns and so many

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community development interventions have made the Scheme a pivot in national development. It is significant to sum-up this write-up by quoting an editorial the Guardian of Tuesday, May 3, 2011, on NYSC, where it asserts that:

“This foremost institution of integration founded in the wake of a fratricidal civil war was at once a stroke of a genius that has succeeded where politicians often have failed. As a change agent, the NYSC cannot on its own resolve the problems of a skewed federation but it has at least softened the animosities that could have been unleashed in a segmented Nigeria where the youth would have become hide-bound in tribal, ethnic and religious rivalries”.

However, the Scheme needs improvement in the following areas:

1. Improvement and expansion of existing camp facilities to accommodate the ever-increasing Corps population by State Governments, where there are no permanent Orientation Camps, such States should be mandated to build one, through advocacy to the Nigeria Governor's forum;
2. Camp facilities and development;
3. Capacity building for staff.
4. Corps welfare e.g., establishment of Corps lodges by Local Governments to cope with an increasing number of Corps Members, security, the inclusion of Corps Members in the Health Insurance Scheme; etc.
5. Expanded and robust posting policy to include all facets of the Nigerian economy thereby reducing the rejection syndrome, that has plagued the Scheme in

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recent time and also enables the Scheme to contribute more to the nation's GDP.

6. Expanded collaborations with the private sector for the development of the Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED) Programme.
7. The NYSC ventures should be strengthened to provide Corps Members with on-the-spot training, most especially in Agro-Allied businesses, and funds to the Scheme for other value-added services provided by it.



CHAPTER

18

BRIGADIER GENERAL SHUAIBU IBRAHIM: AN OVERVIEW OF HIS ACHIEVEMENTS AS 18TH NYSC DIRECTOR-GENERAL

INTRODUCTION

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) has attained tremendous height since the assumption of office by Brigadier General Shuaibu Ibrahim as the Director General (DG) of the Scheme. This is not surprising, given the fact that General Ibrahim is a thoroughbred military administrator, who combines scholarship, emotional intelligence and finesse in his administrative duties. His experiences cut across administration in the military and civil establishments, which combination have accelerated the pace of the modest service rendered to the NYSC.

Key issues that confronted the Scheme upon his assumption of office include the need to sustain the relevance of the NYSC in a fast-changing world; second, inadequate motivation and welfare for Corps Members and

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staff of the Scheme. The third was the challenge of unemployment among the youths after the mandatory one year national service.

General Ibrahim's track record as a visionary leader readily came to play in tackling these challenges. He initiated a five-point policy thrust to address them. These five-point policy thrust include the following:

- Sustain effective utilisation of the potentials of Corps Members for optimal benefit;
- Strengthen existing collaborations with critical stakeholders;
- Improve on the welfare and security of Corps Members and staff;
- Pursue a technologically driven organisation to deepen effective service delivery;
- Reinvigorate the NYSC Ventures and SAED in line with the NYSC Act for greater impact.

It is against this backdrop that this chapter examines the achievements of General Ibrahim as Director General of the NYSC, using a descriptive approach and evidence -- based study. The paper argues that Gen Ibrahim has not only transformed the NYSC, but has also repositioned it to benefit the Corps Members, members of staff and indeed, the nation at large.

The assumption here is that leadership is a process of galvanising resources to attain group goals. General Ibrahim's leadership style has led to the transformation of the NYSC, by strengthening the institution, in terms of



welfare, security, innovations and technological advancement.

Despite these laudable achievements, there have equally been challenges. The Corona Virus (COVID-19) pandemic threatened to derail the activities of the Scheme. As an astute administrator, he rose to the occasion through a robust coordinated response to manage the pandemic that has become a reference point and template for other establishments in the country.

Towards a Biography of General Ibrahim: Trends in his Military, Administrative and Academic Career

Brigadier General Shuaibu Ibrahim (Associate Professor), was born on the 13th July, 1967 and hails from Nasarawa Local Government Area of Nasarawa State. He attended the famous University of Jos where he obtained Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in History (1989 and 1992 respectively), before proceeding to bag a Post-Graduate Diploma in Education from Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijebu Ode, Ogun State. Driven by his tenacity to acquire knowledge, he went on to obtain a Ph.D in History from the University of Abuja in 2007.

Since his commissioning into the Nigerian Army, he has served in various capacities in military formations across the country. His appointments and postings include: The Institute of Army Education (Research Officer). Researched and produced Nigerian Army Journals and Briefs for the Nigerian Army in particular, and the Military in general; NYSC (Military Assistant to the Director General) 1997-1999; Nigerian Defence Academy (Taught 100 and 200 Levels 2000-2004; National Defence College (Staff Officer I Military History 2004-2009; Headquarters Nigerian Army School of Education (Senior Instructor) 2009-2011; Commandant Command Secondary School, Suleja 2012-2014; Nigerian Defence Academy (Head of

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Department, History and War Studies), 2015-2018; and Registrar, Nigerian Army University, Biu, Borno State(2018-2019).

Brigadier General S Ibrahim is a scholar of high repute, who authored, co-authored, edited, co-edited and contributed articles/chapters to numerous books and academic Journals.

Despite his tight schedule, he still devotes time to academic work, including the supervision of students' thesis and dissertations, serving as Internal and External Examiner of Master's Students at the Ahmadu Bello University Zaria and the Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna.

Brigadier General Shuaibu Ibrahim was appointed 18th Director-General of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), and assumed the leadership of the Corps on 10th May, 2019. This ushered in a transformation era for the Scheme which has not only been a source of immense benefit to the Service Corps, but the entire country in general.

The General also had a cluster of completed courses in the military, and excelled in these courses. He is an Associate Professor in the Department of History and War Studies, Nigeria Defence Academy, Kaduna. These feats in both military and academic trainings, as well as experience in service are what marked him out as a visionary, seasoned and ingenious administrator.

Since assumption of duty as the Director General of the NYSC, the media has been awash with burgeoning records of his strides. His vision for the Scheme informed his decision to roll out a five-point policy thrust, geared towards utilising the potentials of the Corps Members maximally. Since assumption of duty at the NYSC, his pragmatic leadership skill has set the Scheme on the path of rejuvenation and continuous relevance. Like his

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predecessors, he came up with robust and ambitious programmes, aimed at repositioning the Scheme as a self-sufficient and revenue -- generating government organisation.

This chapter will attempt an appraisal of the delivery of these specific goals by the administration of General S Ibrahim within a short period of two years, in spite of the huge challenges facing the Scheme.

Sustain Effective Utilisation Of The Potentials of Corps Members For Optimal Benefit

The successful conduct of the 2019 NYSC Sports and Cultural Festivals is a remarkable achievement of the Director-General in harnessing the huge potentials of the Corps Members for national development. The NYSC Sports and Cultural Festivals serve as one of the veritable avenues through which the Scheme promotes national unity, cultural integration, as well as showcasing the abundant talents of Corps Members in the areas of sports and culture for gainful employment in the sports and film industries. The Festivals were revived by the Director-General. The grand finale was held in Abuja. Not only that, measures were put in place to ensure that the event holds annually.

Another success of the NYSC Director-General is the production of an NYSC movie titled "A Call to Service" currently undergoing post production work. Apart from its entertainment value, the movie is being packaged to create public awareness on the roles of stakeholders to the Scheme. These stakeholders include the three tiers of government, Corps employers, as well as serving and prospective Corps Members. Ultimately, the film will promote better understanding of the Scheme to the public, in

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addition to sensitising them on their expected roles to the Scheme.

Another noteworthy achievement of the Director-General is the establishment of NYSC National Cultural Troupe. This initiative is to provide a veritable platform for Corps Members to develop their talents in drama and cultural dance, while also eliciting public support towards harnessing such talents through private and corporate patronage. Remarkably, the NYSC Cultural Troupe will also shore up the revenue base of the Scheme through its activities which will be commercialised.

In the same vein, the NYSC Director-General caused the Scheme to be part of National Anti-Corruption Walk. This is in furtherance of the NYSC's contributions to the fight against corruption through the activities of the Corps Anti-Corruption and Integrity CDS Group. The programme involved the participation of thousands of Corps Members in the first ever nationwide rally/road walk organised by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), in conjunction with the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development on 14th February, 2020. The Director-General personally joined the Corps Members and officials in Kano State for the rally, which was tagged "Nigerian Youths March Against Corruption."

This action further boosted the commitment of the NYSC in eradicating corruption and promotion of good moral and ethical values in the country.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic nearly crippled the global socio-economic activities and did not spare the Scheme. The 2020 Batch "A" Orientation Course was suspended barely eight days into the programme. However, the ever resourceful and proactive Director-General challenged

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the creative ingenuity of Corps Members who responded appropriately to the challenge by producing non-pharmaceutical intervention materials such as face-mask, liquid soap, alcohol - based hand sanitiser and donated same to the indigent populace across the length and breadth of the country. Under the leadership of General Ibrahim, the NYSC has also carried out public awareness campaigns on containment measures for the dreaded virus. The initiative of the Director-General was later adopted by some public institutions.

Another innovative contribution of the NYSC in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic is the fabrication of foot-operated water, liquid soap and hand sanitiser dispenser by individual Corps Members in several States.

For instance, Babatunde Dolapo Dayo and Sebe Godspower - Abia State; Abdullahi Sani - Kano; Abdulsalam Abubakar and Obiefuna Ebuka - Kwara; Adeyanju Adeyemi, Afolabi Victor, Ogunmoye Victor - Oyo and Onyekwere Chiwotaoke – Zamfara and Ilori Deborah - FCT were among the Corps Members that fabricated and donated the devices.

In addition, Corps Members, acting on the platform of Charity CDS/SDGs Group, have been contributing towards mitigating the effects of COVID-19 at the grassroots, through the donation of food and other relief items to State and Local Governments, as well as indigent members of the society. These strategies by the Director-General paved the way for the Scheme to obtain approval from the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) to resume full operations, especially the Orientation Course.

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Relatedly, several Corps Members on teaching assignment also contributed towards sustaining the educational progress of their students by adopting virtual teaching approach while schools remained closed as a result of the pandemic.

As per the pursuit of a technologically-driven organisation to deepen effective service delivery, the Director-General recently conducted the first ever video conference with the 2021 Batch 'A' Stream 1 Corps Members in all the 37 Orientation Camps. It was an avenue to interface with thousands of Corps Members simultaneously, in line with COVID-19 safety protocols. He has sustained this initiative by periodically holding virtual meetings with serving Corps Members, as well as NYSC State Coordinators across the country.

It is gratifying to disclose that the Director-General's interface with National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) has ensured the equipping of the NYSC Rivers Secretariat with computers by the agency. That singular gesture has in no small measure deepened the proficiency of Corps Members and staff members in the area of Information technology.

The Chief Executive introduced the inscription of date of birth on the Certificate of National Service and Exclusion Letter, beginning with the 2019 Batch "A" Corps Members and 2019 Batch "C" respectively. This is in a bid to check the manipulation of date of birth by ineligible persons seeking mobilisation for National Service, and it has had a positive effect in checkmating the falsification of records for employment, visa, political appointments, among others.

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Brigadier General Shuaibu Ibrahim conceptualised and designed a state-of-the-art ICT Office for the Scheme. The design had already been forwarded to the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) and Federal Ministry of Works and Housing for approval. The cost of construction was appropriated in the 2021 Budget, and the Scheme is awaiting the release of fund for its commencement.

Other laudable efforts by General Ibrahim to deepen effective service delivery include, the development of a Five-Year Strategic Development Plan for the Scheme, review of the NYSC Composite Policy Document and documentation of the activities of the Scheme, all aimed at positioning the Scheme as a research hub for academics and the general public.

Under his watch, the Federal Government drafted the NYSC into the Presidential Steering Committee on Alternate School Programme. The inclusion of the Corps in the Committee is in recognition of the invaluable contributions of the Scheme to national development, particularly in the sphere of Education.

NYSC is a repository of talents, parading the most enlightened class of Nigerian youths, who in forty - eight years of the Scheme's existence have continued to make varying degrees of multi-sectoral contributions to the growth and well-being of the nation.

Therefore, the inclusion of the Scheme, whose visibility has been topnotch in the last two years as member of the Mambila Hydro Power Project speaks volumes on the high premium the Federal Government places on the Corps.

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Undoubtedly, membership of these august bodies have clearly underscored the high pedestal the Director-General has taken the Scheme in his two years of his eventful and remarkable administration.

In respect of improving the welfare and security of Corps Members and staff, in a rare demonstration of empathy and commitment to the welfare of Corps Members, the Director-General personally visited and encouraged Corps Member Saidu Mohammed Adamu, who was admitted at the Federal Teaching Hospital, Ado-Ekiti, as a result of gunshot injuries that he sustained while on election duties during the recent bye-election held in Ekiti East Local Government Area of Ekiti State in March 2021.

Similar visits were also paid to several members of the Service Corps on admission in hospitals in Sokoto, Katsina, Edo, Plateau, Taraba and Kwara States, among others, following their involvement in road traffic accidents.

The Director-General has also paid condolence and reassuring visits to the families of deceased and missing Corps Members in Plateau, Kaduna and Edo States. Such gestures have increased the confidence of Corps Members and their families in the Scheme, and have also engendered more zeal for patriotic service by members of the Corps.

The Director-General further demonstrated his commitment to Corps welfare by procuring prosthetic limbs for a Corps Member in furtherance of his welfare policy. The sum of Thirty-two Million Naira (N32,000,000.00) was expended to procure the limbs for Corps Member, Nuraddeen Tahir from Kano State, who, along with other Corps Members, was involved in a road traffic accident, while on his way to report for Primary Assignment after the 2019 Batch 'B' Stream 1 Orientation Course

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in Taraba State. The Corps Member, who had earlier lost an arm at a younger age, had the other one amputated as a result of the accident. The artificial limbs have already been supplied, while Nuraddeen was trained on the effective use of the limbs before he was re-united with his family. With this development, he can now effectively perform normal tasks such as writing with the limbs.

The Director-General relentlessly pursued the issue of increment of Corps Members' allowance in the wake of approval of the new National Minimum Wage. His effort paid-off and the allowance of Corps Members was increased from Nineteen thousand, Eight hundred Naira (N19800.00) to Thirty-three Thousand Naira (N33,000.00). Following the commencement of the payment of the new rate with effect from January 2020, the Director-General along with the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports Development and some representatives of Corps Members paid a "Thank-you" visit to His Excellency, the President and Commander-in-Chief, Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari GCFR on 6th February, 2020 at the Presidential Villa, Abuja.

Following improvement in the security situation in the country, the Director-General sought for, and got approval from the Federal Government for a return to the earlier suspended ceremonial passing-out of Corps Members. Accordingly, the Passing-Out Ceremony of the 2019 Batch 'A' Corps Members was marked with colorful parades nationwide, thereby increasing the visibility of the NYSC.

The successful conduct of Orientation courses is also another achievement of the Director-General as he oversaw the successful conduct of the 2019 Batch 'B' Streams I and II, as well as 2019 Batch 'C' Streams I and II

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Orientation Courses.

As a proactive measure, NYSC Management suspended the 2020 Batch 'A' Stream 1 Orientation Course just a week into the exercise as a deliberate effort to avert the spread of COVID-19 in the Orientation Camps. The commendable action equally brought to the fore his concern for the health and general well-being of Corps Members and staff.

In recognition of his efforts at curtailing the spread of COVID-19, Victims Support Funds (VSF), an organisation chaired by Lt Gen TY Danjuma donated 60,000 RDT test kits to the Scheme. The kits are used for the screening of prospective Corps Members and camp officials for COVID-19 in NYSC Orientation camps nationwide.

In his quest to expand the administrative structure of the Scheme, the Director-General ensured the smooth take - off of the NYSC Area Offices, whose approval had earlier been secured by the immediate past administration of General Kazaure, one in each of the six geo-political zones of the country, headed by a Director on salary grade level 17. This feat has opened up more vacancies, allowing for posting of other cadre of staff alongside the Directors to man the Offices. The Area Offices are located in Kaduna (North West), Niger (North Central), Bauchi (North East), Enugu (South East), Osun (South West) and Delta (South South) have since taken off and have in no mean way boosted staff morale and operations of the Scheme.

In line with one of the cardinal points of his policy thrust, the Director-General has been pursuing policies that are geared not only towards motivating staff, but also promoting industrial harmony in the Scheme.

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This has been aptly demonstrated through prompt payment of entitlements, capacity building programmes, as well as timely and transparent conduct of promotion examinations. During the 2020 Promotion Exercise for instance, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighteen (1,718) out of the Two Thousand One Hundred Fifty-One (2,151) officers that participated in the event were elevated to the next grade level after meeting the requirements stipulated in the Public Service Rules and NYSC Conditions of Service. Additionally, the 2021 Senior Staff Promotion Examination recorded a huge success. The impact of these promotion exercises has reinforced the commitment of staff to work for an enhanced performance.

Meanwhile, as Management strives to enhance the motivation of staff, much premium is laid on the need to have a highly disciplined workforce. In this regard, officers who commit infractions are reprimanded in line with the provisions of the Public Service Rules (PSR).

On strengthening the existing collaboration with critical stakeholders, on assumption of office, the Director General saw the dire need to sustain and strengthen the existing collaboration with critical stakeholders to garner more support and involve them in the management of the Scheme. He therefore embarked on advocacy visits to the stakeholders such as the former Head of State, General Yakubu Gowon, whose administration founded the Scheme. The Director-General has had interface with the 36 State Governors, the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, heads of Security and Anti-Corruption Agencies, Federal Road Safety Corps, among other stakeholders. The impact of this initiative is the improvement already being achieved in stakeholders' support to the Scheme which is of great essence.

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The Director-General also addressed a meeting of the Nigeria Governors' Forum – the first of such engagement by any Chief Executive of the Scheme. He used the occasion of the meeting to appreciate the State Governors for their support to the Scheme, through various intervention projects in their respective States. He drew their attention to other areas that needed to be addressed, being part of the obligations of the State Governments to the Corps, as spelt out in the NYSC Act.

Consequently the hosting of the meeting of NYSC top Management with the representatives of State Governments and the Federal Capital Territory Administration, a fallout of the meeting with the Governor's Forum is aimed at strengthening the collaboration with the Scheme, with a particular focus on the discharge of the statutory obligations of the States and FCT to the NYSC, as spelt out in its enabling Act.

The impact of the meeting is profound, as several State Governments have made remarkable gestures in support of the Scheme. Prominent among them is the donation of two NYSC permanent Orientation camps by Edo and Anambra States, plans by the Lagos State Government to build a 14,000 -- capacity Orientation camp and the ongoing upgrading and rehabilitation of camp facilities in twenty five States, while the expansion of camp facilities has commenced in nine States to meet the 5,000 -- Corps Member and 500 -- course official -- capacity camp.

Other notable gains derived from the meeting include, constitution of functional NYSC State Governing Boards in seventeen States, with eighteen States enhancing the regular payment of state allowance to Corps Members, provision and upgrading of transit camps for Corps Members in thirty -- one states, provision of watertight security for Corps Members in

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all the States and the FCT, issuance of circulars by State Governments against the rejection of Corps Members, increased partnership with the Association of Local Governments of Nigeria (ALGON), provision of decent accommodation or payment of allowance in lieu of that to Corps Members and provision of office and residential accommodation by the States hosting the Headquarters of the Area Offices.

In Promoting NYSC/Media relations, the Director-General has since assumption of duty, strived to strengthen the cordial relations the Scheme enjoys with the Media. This, he kick-started with his maiden chat with Editors, Bureau Chiefs and Youth Correspondents of various Media Organisations in the country on 15th August, 2019. Brigadier General S Ibrahim also paid courtesy visits to Media offices in Abuja, including the Headquarters of the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA), News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), Media Trust Limited and Leadership Group Limited. Similar visits with Director-General's directive were also made to Lagos Head Offices of The Punch, Daily Sun, The Nation newspapers, among others. He has consistently maintained his Media-friendly posture, thereby attracting wider publicity for the Scheme's activities.

To deepen and sustain the wide publicity that the Scheme has enjoyed, he has resuscitated the production and airing of the NYSC Half Hour programme on NTA International Channel 251 and Armed Forces Radio FM. So far, plans have reached an advanced stage to establish the first ever NYSC FM Radio that will be useful to adequately drive the publicity efforts of the Scheme and showcase its activities to Nigerians and the entire world.

The Director-General in furtherance of his transparent, inspirational and all-inclusive style of administration paid visits to some former Chief

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Executives of the Scheme. The gesture was aimed at appreciating their respective contributions to the development of Scheme when they were in the saddle of leadership, and also tap into their vast wealth of experience. The former Chief Executives appreciated the initiative as it was the first ever visit paid simultaneously to them.

The maiden meeting with the Registrars of some Foreign Corps Producing Institutions was also held, having, uncovered the fraudulent activities of some tertiary institutions in Africa, especially in the West Africa sub region which have the penchant to issue questionable academic certificates to unqualified persons, who in turn present same to get mobilised for national service. The Director-General has commenced an aggressive fight against this menace which has earned him the commendation of the President, His Excellency Muhammadu Buhari GCFR, during his address at the 2018/2019 President's NYSC Honours Award Ceremony. Similar commendations were given to him by a broad spectrum of vice chancellors of some indigenous and foreign institutions, including the Honourable Minister of Education.

In addition to hosting the meeting with the Registrars, internal mechanisms have been put in place for easier detection of unqualified persons attempting to present themselves for mobilisation for service. As a result of the stance of Management, some of the foreign institutions are now volunteering to alert NYSC of suspected fraudulent practices by their students. Interestingly, out of over twenty thousand (20,000) persons who registered online as foreign-trained prospective Corps Members of the 2019 Batch 'C' Service Year, only three thousand, four hundred and twenty (3,420) turned up for the pre-mobilisation physical screening of their credentials.

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To serve as a deterrent to others, sixty-five (65) unqualified persons arrested during the 2019 Batch 'B' Stream II Orientation Course in camps across the country are being prosecuted with some convictions already secured. These steps taken by Management have helped to create national awareness, especially on the need for parents and guardians to check the accreditation status of the institutions attended by their wards, and also monitor their academic progress.

The bold move by the Director General in sanitising the mobilisation process will also ensure that only well trained and competent persons occupy critical positions that will fast-track the development of the country.

The Director-General has equally hosted a national sensitisation programme on the NYSC Act on 24th July, 2019 in Abuja. Prior to this, it was clear that many Nigerians were not aware of the provisions of the Act – a situation that has led to avoidable infractions. With the sensitisation, which is still on-going, organisations and individuals are now having better understanding of their obligations to the Scheme. In particular, cases of evasion and abscondment from Service, especially by the foreign-trained Nigerian graduates, are expected to reduce drastically.

Broadly looking at the reinvigoration of the NYSC ventures and skill acquisition and entrepreneurship development programme in line with NYSC Act for greater impact, the Director General has been speaking passionately about his desire to make the Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED) Programme and NYSC Ventures Management Departments more functional.

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To match words with actions, he has taken several steps towards reinvigorating the SAED programme, including, but not limited to the following:

- Renewal of commitment by the NYSC and Bank of Industry towards the resuscitation of empowerment of Corps entrepreneurs with business loans under the BOI-NYSC Graduate Empowerment Fund.
- Intensive monitoring of GEF beneficiaries.
- New collaboration with NIRSAL Microfinance Bank on empowerment of Corps entrepreneurs.
- New partnership with Unity Bank Plc on a programme named 'Allawee' aimed at empowering Corps members.
- Collaboration with British-American Tobacco Foundation on empowerment of Corps Members with agricultural skills and business trainings, farm internship, mentoring and farm input supplies.
- Hosting of the 2020 NYSC SAED Stakeholders meeting aimed at reviewing the programme implementation strategies, as well as strengthening of existing partnerships and exploring new ones for further technical and material support.
- Pursuing the completion of the North West Skill Acquisition Centre in Kazaure, Jigawa State, this is now at advanced stage.
- Commencement of work on the North Central Skill Acquisition Centre

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in Keffi, Nasarawa State.

- Research-based collaboration with OAU-NACETEM sponsored by a Canadian Agency, International Development Research Centre on evaluation of the impact of SAED and reinvigorating it for greater impact.
- Resuscitation of NYSC Water Factory and Bakery at NYSC Orientation Camp Kubwa. The NYSC Water Factory and Bakery were revived and revitalised by the Director-General immediately he assumed office, and these two ventures are now producing at full capacity. The water and bread produced in these ventures are being supplied to the FCT, Nasarawa, Kogi, Kaduna and Niger State Orientation camps and the general public. These ventures now generate revenue to the Scheme and help Corps Members acquire skills too.
- Purchase of modern farm equipment for the four NYSC functional farms namely, NYSC Farm Kwali in FCT, Saminaka, Kebbi State, Dungulbi, Bauchi State and Iseyin Oyo State. Each of these farms now has tractors and other basic farm equipment.
- The consistent support in terms of funding and staffing has increased the hectares under cultivation from 60 hectares to 160 hectares during the 2020 farming season.
- Reclaiming of NYSC farmland at Ezillo which hitherto was collected by the Ebonyi State Government. Immediately after the reclaiming, tractor was purchased for farming operations at the Ezillo Farm.

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- The structure of Ventures Management Department was expanded which gave room for the promotion of staff, and has in no mean way motivated the staff members.
- Registration of the two NYSC Garment Factories, Water Factory and Bakery with the Corporate Affairs Commission. Arising from the last Meeting of the NYSC Top Management with Representatives of State Governments, the Governors of Edo and Ekiti States announced the donation of land for the siting of two garment factories which will boost the production of Corps Members' kit items.
- Developing partnership with relevant institutions such as International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), National Agricultural Land Development Agency (NALDA), NCRI, NCAM, ARMTI, NCAC etc. to enhance the productivity of NYSC Farms/Ventures among others.
- Resuscitation of moribund NYSC Feedmill, Lagos. The mill is now ready to start production of animal feeds.
- Construction of new poultry pen at NYSC farm Kwali, FCT.
- The Director-General has met with the State Governors and other stakeholders with a view to securing land in all the States for agricultural production.
- In addition to the above, twelve States have opened up their skills centres for the post camp training of Corps Members to further strengthen the skills and entrepreneurship training acquired in camp.

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- The tremendous support given by the Director-General has repositioned all the NYSC Ventures for greater revenue generation for the Scheme.
- Interestingly, the Scheme paid into the national coffers over Two Hundred and Eighty Million Naira (N280, 000,000.00) as internally generated revenue which is unprecedented in the annals of the Scheme.
- The Director-General who has introduced the use of name tags by every member of staff for easy identification, equally in an unprecedented move sought the help of the Federal Government in tackling the ecological challenges confronting some of the NYSC Orientation camps. Government granted the request through the deployment of Ecological Fund to tackle the menace. Eight camps have been approved as beneficiaries in the first phase of the intervention. Already, work is on going in Cross River, Taraba, FCT and Nasarawa Orientation camps.

In recognition of his service to the Nation, Brigadier General Shuaibu Ibrahim who has institutionalised Farewell Parade for outgoing NYSC Chief Executive -- a novelty, has received numerous commendations and awards which include:

- Chief of Army Staff Award as the Overall Best Participant for 2013 NAEC Executive Management Course.
- Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) Special Recognition Award 2014.

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- Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Public Service/Fellowship (FCAI) by Institute of Corporate Administration.
- Professional National Award (Historical Society of Nigeria HSN) and
- Chief of Army Staff Commendation Letter 2018.

Conclusion

The above discourse has given an insight on the achievements of General Shuaibu Ibrahim since becoming the Director General of the National Youth Service Corps. Within the last two years, the Scheme has made some giant strides owing to the pursuit of strict implementation of the Director-General's five-point policy thrust. Therefore, the contributions of Brigadier General Ibrahim to the NYSC since his ascension into office cannot be overemphasised. These contributions are indeed remarkable, and will undoubtedly stand the test of time, having set the Scheme on growth trajectory and continuous relevance.

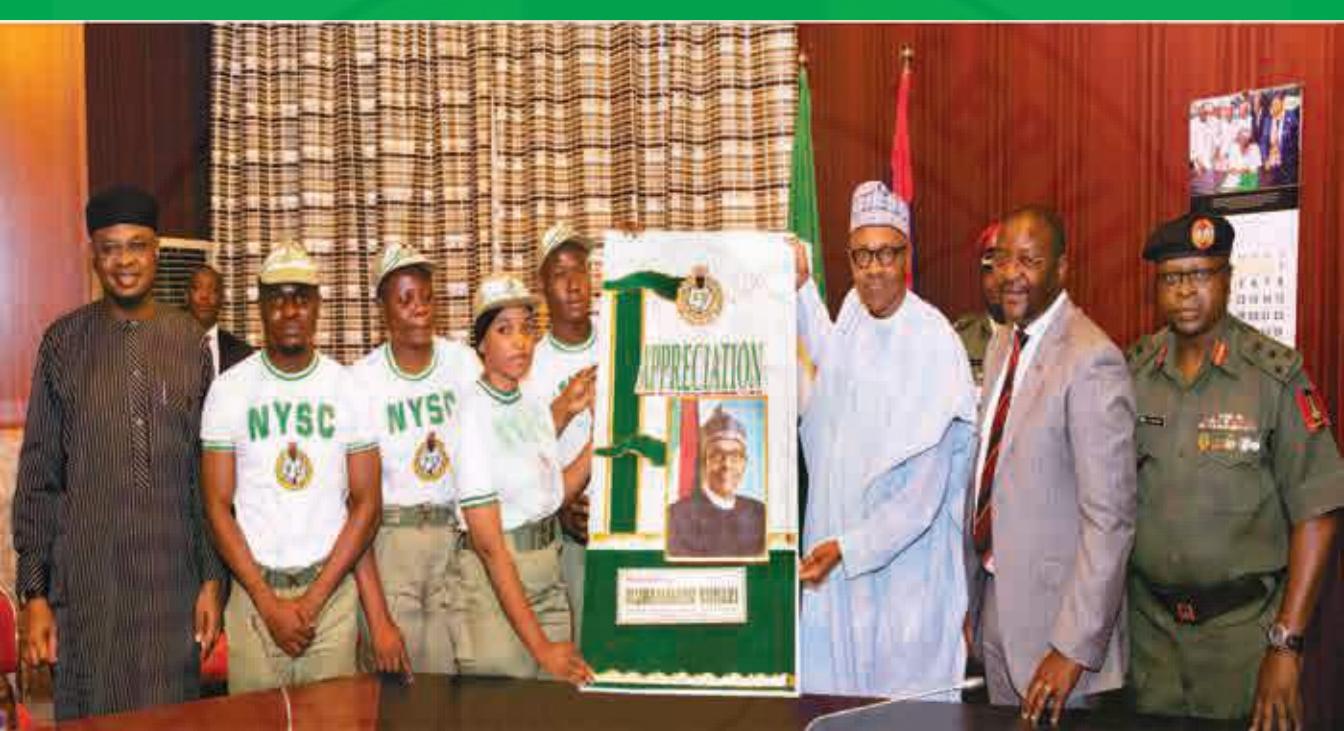


*Brig Gen S Ibrahim (left) taking over from Maj Gen SZ Kazaure
as the 18th NYSC Director-General*

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*President Muhammadu Buhari receiving DG NYSC,
Brig Gen S Ibrahim at the presidential villa*



*Corps members on a thank you visit to President
Muhammadu Buhari*

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*Gen Yakubu Gowon receiving NYSC DG,
Brig Gen S Ibrahim*

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Sensitisation of Corps members on election duties



Senate President, Ahmad Lawan presenting certificate to one of the NALDA-trained Soil Doctors in Maiduguri

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*DG NYSC presenting a souvenir to Senate President
Ahmad Lawan*



*Wife of the President Aisha Buhari with Corps members
during the luncheon organised to mark Nigeria's 60th
Independence Anniversary at the Presidential Villa*



*Minister of Youth and Sports Developments, Mr Sunday Dare,
Director-General NYSC, Brig Gen S Ibrahim and other dignitaries
during the re-launch of CDS programme and presentation of awards*

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*Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports Developments, dignataries
and award winners*



Awardees with Director-General during the launch of CDS programme and presentation of awards



State Coordinator, NYSC Adamawa, Mallam Ibrahim Tukur receiving award for Best CDS Group from the Director-General

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*DG NYSC on a courtesy visit to DG National Council for
Arts and Cultures (NCAC) Otunba Olusegun Runsewe*

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*Director-General presenting souvenir to the pioneer
National Director of the NYSC, Col (Dr) Ahmadu Ali*



*DG presenting a souvenir to the Director-General, National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA),
Dr Faisal Shuaib*



*DG NYSC with the Corps Marshall, Federal Road Safety
Corps Boboye Oyeyemi*

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NYSC Director-General Brig Gen S Ibrahim with ex-Corps members recruited as pioneer cadets of the Federal Road Safety Corps



Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Youth and Sports Development, Mr Gabriel Aduda been introduced to players during the football final of the NYSC Sports Festival

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DG in NYSC Farm in Kwali



Corps member Nurudeen Tahir who lost his arm in a road traffic accident on his way to his place of primary assignment in Taraba State



From L-R: DG NYSC, Brig Gen S Ibrahim, Ex-Corps Member Nurudeen Tahir and Dr. Rufus Arumugan at the DG's Office to present the Corps Member after his successful rehabilitation with prosthetic arms sponsored by NYSC

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*DG addressing Corps members during an Election Sensitisation
in Bayelsa State*

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*Director-General, Brig Gen S Ibrahim with Top Management
of the Scheme during a retreat in Suleja*

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CHAPTER

19

OPINION SURVEY: INTERVIEW WITH TRADITIONAL RULERS AND EMINENT PERSONALITIES



Interview with PRINCE WOLE OYEBAMIJI THE SECRETARY TO OSUN STATE GOVERNMENT

What is your assessment of NYSC?

Generally, NYSC is a worthy Scheme. When it started over 40 years ago, some of us then were skeptical but as years went by, we saw and got accustomed to its importance for national cohesion and national unity.

Now through NYSC, many people come to the State from different parts of the Federation and a good percentage of them may not have been to Osun in their lives. This has presented an opportunity for them to come to a State outside their own. So it is a rewarding programme.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to National development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

The NYSC Scheme has contributed immensely to national unity and cohesion in terms of advocacies. It has given opportunities to people from other states to come, work, serve and also impart knowledge to the

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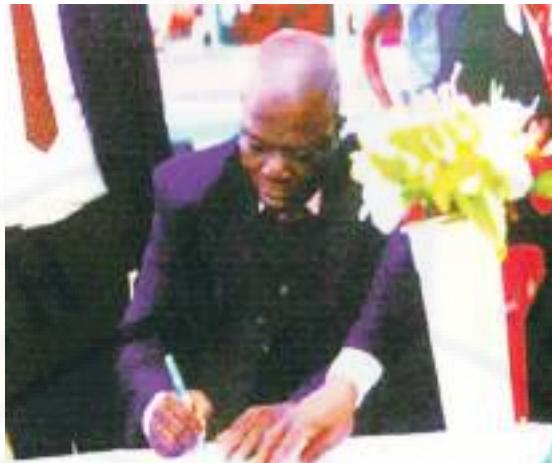


upcoming generation, which is highly rewarding. Concerning integration, the three weeks Orientation exercise and Community Development Service the Corps Members engage in together foster unity, peace and love. They also learn how to live with people from other cultures within the same country.

On infrastructural development, a good percentage of people occupying high positions have served in the National Youth Service Corps at one time or the other and have acquired skills and knowledge which has led to the growth and development of the country.

Where and when did you serve and how was your service year experience?

I served over 40 years ago. That was in 1978/79 and I served in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. My place of primary assignment was Radio Rivers and I did enjoy my service year. We were initially skeptical about the Scheme but by the time we got to Port Harcourt, we knew that there was the need to change the environment.



Interview with HON. JUSTICE JACOB OLUROTIMI OGUNLEYE

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

The NYSC Scheme keeps improving by the year. The great thing is that there is always room for improvement.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to National development, in terms of advocacies, unity and integration, as well as infrastructural development?

The Scheme assembles people from all parts of the country regardless of their ethnic and religious background. This has brought about unity and integration in the country. The past and present members have contributed to infrastructural development regardless of their various fields and jurisdiction.

Where and when did you serve?

I served in Sokoto in 1982. I had a very interesting, enjoyable and peaceful service year. Sokoto is my second home due to the kind of reception I received.



Interview with OBA ADEDOKUN OMONIYI ABOLARIN (AROYINKEYE 1), THE ORANGUN OF OKE-ILA

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

NYSC is a great Scheme. It is a major government agency that is so enduring and I think the Scheme should be strengthened because it is a major institution that should not be discarded. Also, I must commend the Elder Statesman, the then Head of State, General Yakubu Gowon, who initiated and introduced the NYSC.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to National development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration, as well as infrastructural development?

The NYSC Scheme has contributed a great deal to national development. I started a school in Oke-Ila about 4-5years ago and the mainstay of the school is the Corps Members. So, I would say the Scheme is very relevant to all aspects of human development and this is commendable.

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Regarding unity and integration, the Scheme fosters love and togetherness. There have been instances where Corps Members meet and build relationships that led to marriage which of course, promotes national integration. There is also the example of a former Student Union President of OAU in Ile-Ife, who served in Aba in 1974 and lived there until his demise about 2-3 weeks ago. He was a Yoruba indigene but spent most of his lifetime in Aba. That of course is National integration.

Concerning infrastructural development, the Scheme has proven to be useful and relevant.

Where and when did you serve and how was your service year experience?

I served at the Nigerian Police Staff College, Jos, in Plateau state 39 years ago. The Camp Commandant then was Captain Oyakhilome and the Deputy Commandant then, later became Inspector General of Police, IG Attah. Many of the top police officers, now retired were also in Jos.

I did enjoy my service year a lot. It was a year of fun for me. I was young, about 21 or 22 years of age and I was leaving home for the first time, I was deployed to Jos from Ibadan.

Jos was fun and Plateau State was peaceful. I can't forget Jos and I also can't forget Ben Okonedo and Tunde Fagbemi of blessed memory, two friends of mine whom I met there. They both graduated from the University of Lagos, while I graduated from Obafemi Awolowo University. We were best of friends.



Interview with HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, EMMANUEL NYIEDAM,JP, AMBASSADOR OF PEACE, PARAMOUNT RULER, TAI RIVERS STATE

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

NYSC is a very worthwhile programme of the Federal Government, which has helped bind Nigerians together. The Scheme should be supported by all Nigerians.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to National Development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

Greatly, very greatly. In terms of advocacies, the Scheme has performed immensely well. Same for unity and integration. Corps Members from Sokoto, Kano, Borno, Osun, Edo and indeed all the states in Nigeria may not have come to this end of the country if not for NYSC. Marriages across the cultural and religious divides have been made possible through the NYSC. Life-touching projects such as classroom blocks, health centres,

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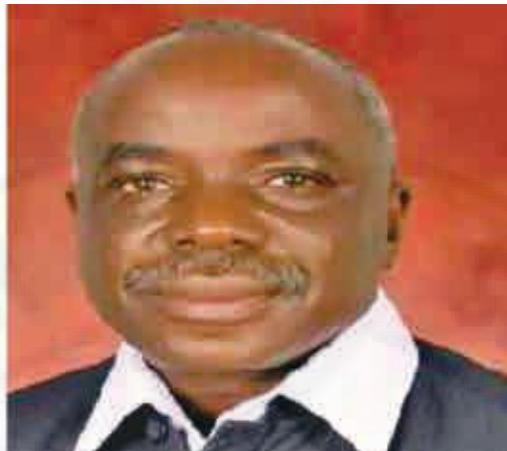
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market, water and electricity projects have been executed in host communities by Corps Members. These legacies are quite outstanding and therefore stand the Scheme out among other Federal Government programmes.

Where and when did you serve and your service year experience?

Unfortunately, I did not serve as I was above the required age at graduation. I had an exemption. However, coming in contact with Corps Members year in year out, in our community here as the host of the NYSC Permanent Orientation camp, has given me a reason to appreciate the Scheme and Corps Members. This reason explains why all Corps Members in our community are well catered for and their security is well-guaranteed.



Interview with THE HEAD OF SERVICE, TARABA STATE, ELDER SIMON ANGYU

What is your assessment of the National Youth Service Corps?

We want to appreciate God that made the then Head of State, Gen. Yakubu Gowon to come with the idea of the establishment of this Scheme. It is what has kept the country together till now. The challenges the country has gone through from 1972 till now are a lot. The major challenge is insecurity. Because of the Scheme, if someone from the South wants to do something and he remembers that his child is in the North, he will have a rethink and vice versa. So really, God has used it to stabilise the peace of this country. The security challenge is minimized. When you remember that your children are somewhere in another part of the country, you will be conscious of what you do. So, God has used it to give us peace in this country.

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Sir, to what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

One cannot begin to quantify what the Scheme has contributed to the development of this country. For instance, the NYSC bridges the manpower gap in many States, especially in the education sector. Corps Members are posted to interior villages where most of the indigenes don't want to go. Community schools, private schools, you find out that Corps Members are there. A Corps Member will be posted there and will accept to go in the spirit of service to his nation. It has bridged the gap in the education system, in health care delivery. The number of doctors is limited and so you discover that in some Clinics in Taraba, Corps Members are serving there providing basic health services. So really the Scheme has provided enough manpower. That is why I so much appreciate the NYSC.

A little about the national integration

Like I said the Scheme has achieved national integration. The NYSC provides the platform for people to interact with the culture of others. Like where I served, in 1982, Okubie, present Bayelsa state, I was discussing with someone, he said that now no one can go to the place. That time from Yenagoa to the place on flying boat usually takes me three hours before I reach the creek where I stayed. I had the passion to develop this country and NYSC has surely helped.

Thank you, sir, can you tell us where and when you served and the experience.

I graduated in 1982 and I served in the then Rivers state and it was in Okubie, presently in Bayelsa State. I will leave Port Harcourt to Yenagoa where I will get a flying boat. I served in Government Science School Okubie. I met a Ghanaian in the school. You know that time there was a programme between Nigeria and Ghana. So, meeting the Ghanaian in that place, a foreigner and I a Nigerian, made me zero my mind to serve there instead of seeking for redeployment or reposting. You cannot travel at will

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because the flying boat is the only means of transport. If you don't leave on time to go to the point, you might miss it and that is the end. That time it was once a month I come to Port Harcourt and I thank God for the experience then because it has taught me a lot about life. The family setting and the cultural background of those people really helped me in life. When I came out of service, it was with a positive part of me. So the Scheme has really helped me.



Interview with ALH. TUKUR ABBA TUKUR THE GALADIMA OF MURI EMIRATE

Your Highness, what is your assessment of the operations of the NYSC?

To be candid, my assessment of the NYSC so far is that it has served the purpose it was established by bringing Nigerians together. Not just the Corps Members, but also parents. When you understand that your child is serving in a particular place in a state you may not be opportuned to go, you will learn to tolerate others. It is the best programme that ever happened to Nigeria.

Thank you for that response. To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development in terms of advocacy, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

First and foremost, Nigeria is an amalgamation of regions that came to form the country. There were different ethnic and religious groups. The NYSC has now brought unity to Nigeria. Because you find out that a student will

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school in Lagos from primary to the university level and so all his knowledge is about Lagos. Through the NYSC Scheme, he will travel as far as Maiduguri, Adamawa state or Mambila in Taraba state. He will understand that Nigeria is a country, that Nigeria belongs to him. In terms of unity the Scheme has gone far to bring Nigerians together and if you look at the development aspect of the Scheme, you will find out that a lot of interchangeable ideas have now taken place. Here in some parts of Taraba, some people may only know through books of Yoruba as a tribe, Igbo as a tribe though Igbos have permeated many places you can't think of. But when a Corps Member is posted to that community, he will now have feelings of being a part of that community. So, it has now brought in development and unity as I had said. You also find out that the cross fertilisation of ideas will now bring a positive change and where there is positive change, there is development. The integration aspect of the programme makes our people here to know much about the country because you'll serve in a community that you don't belong to. It is a programme that brings in infrastructural development too. For instance, in my village it now makes people to even build NYSC lodges. So economically, NYSC has brought in development into Nigeria. So, in terms of whatever measure, whatever yardstick one uses to assess the programme, the positive side is overwhelming. So, NYSC generally is a Scheme that if one did not participate, he will regret throughout his life.

Thank you, sir, the last but not the least sir, where and when did you serve?

In my last statement I said if you did not participate in this programme, you will regret and this is the one thing that I am regretting in my life. Yes, I have not participated in the NYSC. But I have experience because my children have participated and presently my wife is in camp doing her NYSC. So, it is an experience and a programme that I feel every youth should participate. So, if there is any place that is enjoying the privilege of oneness in Nigeria, I think it is as a result of the NYSC contributions.



Interview with ENGR. GALTIMA MAI ALI
PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF YOUTH, SPORTS,
SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, AND CHAIRMAN
NYSC GOVERNING BOARD, YOBE STATE

Sir by virtue of your position it suggests that you are very conversant with the operations of the National Youth Service Corps Scheme. How can you assess the NYSC Scheme in general?

You know the NYSC Scheme was established for certain purposes by our leaders much earlier, one of which is to promote national unity. And for any nation to develop and remain peaceful, the citizens must be integrated; the citizens must think they are part of the country. Anywhere they go they must think that they are citizens of the country and by the nature of the NYSC we see that people are moving from one geo political region to serve in another region. This means we are going to have a very good integration of our people particularly the youths who are the leaders of tomorrow. So, I think it is a very good Scheme.

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Thank you very much. You have described NYSC as a very good Scheme, to what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

As far as national development is concerned, the NYSC Scheme is contributing a lot. If we look at the nature of people particularly people that come from Southern Nigeria to serve in Northern Nigeria, one can attest to what I am saying now that after the service year many of them stay behind conducting their own personal businesses. So, this is a very good development for national integration.

And as I have said earlier a lot of educated youths are moved from one state to another to see the culture, people, business activities and the whole value of the people. And in terms of infrastructural development most serving Corps Members do carry out some projects, either individually or collectively in their host communities and a lot of them have done projects that benefit many communities. There are some Corps Members that constructed boreholes in some communities. So, it is a very good development and they have contributed a lot.

Question: Sir may we know where you served, time and the state you served and could you please share your experience with us?

Unfortunately, I obtained my degree much late. It was after my diploma that I joined the services of former Borno State and I worked for a while before I went for my degree programme and before I could finish my degree programme I was over 30 years. So, I was issued a Certificate of Exemption, but for sure I know that the programme is very important and we need to keep it going. We need to cherish it because it is one of the things that keep this country one. Thank you so much.



Interview with HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, ALHAJI (DR) MUHAMMAD IBN ABALI MUHAMMADU IDRISSA, EMIR OF FIKA AND CHAIRMAN, YODE STATE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS

What is your assessment of NYSC?

My assessment of this noble Scheme is that, it is the best thing that has ever happened to this country. This is a programme that brings together Nigerian youths across ethnic and religious divides providing essential services to the populace. The NYSC has greatly played a vital role in keeping this country together. This is because it provided so many citizens with the firsthand knowledge of other communities far away from their own communities thereby removing all forms of prejudices and apathy hitherto nursed against one another. It is indeed a laudable initiative.

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To what extent has the Scheme contributed to National Development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural Development?

Well, the NYSC Scheme has over the years contributed greatly towards peaceful coexistence and cohesion among Nigerian citizens. The Corps Members, through their Community Development Service, render a kind of corporate social responsibility to the various communities where they serve. Corps participants provide services, execute useful and meaningful projects to their host communities. In this community, we have benefited from such services. Just recently, a Corps Member constructed directional sign posts for some major streets in Potiskum town. Some Corps Members, built boreholes, bridges and class rooms in our rural communities. Corps Members' participation as ad hoc staff during general elections is also another area the NYSC Scheme contributes towards national development.

Where and when did you serve as a Corps Member?

When I returned to Nigeria between 1980 and 1981 and was mobilised to serve under the mandatory National Youth Service Corps Scheme, I served in the Inspectorate Department of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Kaduna Office.



Interview with CHIEF DR. SUNDAY OSAYANDE IDADA THE NOBORE OF UTESE IN BENIN KINGDOM

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

The NYSC has been nothing short of great. The Scheme has done so much in improving the lot of Nigerian youths, even uneducated people can testify to the importance of having Corps Members in their communities, who have made impact in their lives.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development, in terms of advocacies, unity and integration, as well as infrastructural development?

In my opinion, the NYSC has contributed immensely to the development of infrastructure and cultural integration in Nigeria. In almost every community, one can visibly see the works of Corps Members contributing

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to the development of indigenes even when they are not from that community. They also inspire our young ones to strive better in school to be like them in future. Speaking of Corps Members' contributions, in my community, a Corps Member constructed a public toilet which has proved to be very beneficial. To me, the NYSC is indeed a noble Scheme.

Unfortunately, I didn't have the opportunity to serve because as at the time I graduated from school in Ghana, I was already over-aged to serve in the Scheme.



Interview with HRM (DR.) ADETUNJI AJAYI THE ARINJALE OF ISE-EKITI, ISE ORUN LGA EKITI STATE

Sir, what is your assessment of the NYSC, Sir?

The NYSC is trying to live-up to the expectations of the founding fathers. Going by the aim and objectives, the Scheme so far is on course and in the right direction.

To What extent has the Scheme contributed to National Development in terms of advocacies, integration, as well as Infrastructural Development?

The Scheme has contributed immensely to the unity of Nigeria. Like you can see here, every state is adequately represented and that gives them opportunity to interact. It depicts Nigeria as one, and that we have to live together as one. And by virtue of all of them being here representing each state, you will discover that they interact with themselves and they advocate that Nigeria is one and must continue to be one.

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The skills acquisition and entrepreneurial programme helps Corps Members to develop their mental skill, to learn what they did not learn in school and prepare them for self-employment.

Sir, when and where did you serve? What was your Service Year experience?

I did my NYSC 28 years ago. I was one of the first set of Corps Members at the NYSC Orientation Camp Iyana-Ipaja, Lagos State in 1991. I did my primary assignment at the Department of Petroleum Resources; then at 44, Eric Moore Road, off Bode Thomas. My service year experience was so interesting, impactful and great.



Interview with PROFESSOR UCHENNA ORTUANYA SECRETARY TO ENUGU STATE GOVERNMENT

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

Well, the NYSC Scheme is a beautiful Scheme that was conceptualised by our founding fathers as a tool for national integration, the promotion of unity of our people and to train our youths for leadership; because they say that our children are the leaders of tomorrow so the fundamental concept was to see if our young men can be trained to take up leadership in the future. Today I am very happy and impressed with what has happened with NYSC, the achievement they have recorded. I think it has enhanced national integration.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development, in terms of advocacies, unity and integration, as well as infrastructural development?

The main fact that anybody from any part of this country can go to any part because of the National Youth Service Corps Scheme demonstrates that we

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have imbibed national integration. Again, we have seen young men and women coming out of this system, going through the process of NYSC and become entrepreneurs because they got involved in smallscale activities, you know, set-up small industries and from there they grow. I think these are part of national development; it is part of the national growth that NYSC has brought about.

When and where did you serve and how was your service year experience?

I served in Lagos state in 1988. The experience was exciting. We got involved in all these activities. We did the Man 'O' War, tug of war, tree climbing and all manner of things. And then they were waking us up by 4am to do our morning activities and training so I think it was exciting.



***Interview with PROF. ONYEMA OCHEOHA, (Second Right)
PROFESSOR AND DEAN, FACULTY OF
MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL SCIENCES AT
GODFREY OKOYE UNIVERSITY, ENUGU.***

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

I am really impressed particularly with NYSC Enugu State. I have told them to avoid antagonizing the local community. We want to bring love, peace, unity and progress and the Corps Members are the leaders of tomorrow. We want to handover to them. I'm impressed and people should learn to treat them well so that they can feel at home. Nigeria belongs to all of us. I have told them to feel at home, they should be able to blend with the people, obey their laws, the norms, cultures and traditions and respect the elders, respect the titled men, respect the religious leaders. So, by the time you do that you will see that what exists in your place exists in other places. There is no part of Nigeria that I know that stone elders or titled men except they do something bad. So, they should learn that this going round will destroy some of the negative impressions and mythologies that people are having about other parts of Nigeria. Gregariousness, collaboration and

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camaraderie – that is what I wish NYSC youngsters who are moving into the new world.

On a general note, what is your perception of the Scheme itself?

The Scheme was meant to solve the problem of manpower shortage initially, now some of the states have got a lot of manpower but that socializing aspect is very important. They must learn something new. The youths must come together and work as the leaders of tomorrow by learning from the lessons taught them by their fathers, their grandfathers and their elders. That comradeship and the determination to move Nigeria forward in the positive direction will help end these ethnic clashes. These clashes between herdsmen and farmers shouldn't be, kidnapping shouldn't be, it is the result of youth unemployment. If the youths are well employed, and that is a task for the government, to create more industries, all these kidnapping will stop.

To what extent can you say NYSC has contributed to national development in terms of advocacy, unity, national integration and infrastructural development?

Yes, read your anthem, you are saying – youths, come together, let us build a new nation. Many of the people in the legislature are products of NYSC. Any Minister who has been through a University, whether abroad or at home must come and do one year service. It brings integration, it brings unity, and it brings the desire to move forward. I'm a member of the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies and the motto says "towards a better society". So there's no end to development, we want to keep on improving and Nigeria will be a better society for all.

When and where did you serve and how was your NYSC experience?

I am well over 70 years of age; at the time I graduated, there was no JAMB. You apply direct. I had admission to three Universities, I chose one. I finished high school and then I got a scholarship to Ibadan, so there was no JAMB, there was no NYSC when I graduated in 1967. NYSC came after the

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civil war, so I didn't serve anywhere but I have produced students who went to serve right from the first batch when I was doing my PhD in the University of Lagos. So, I'm impressed that they're doing very well and many of them are leaders today. I have trained people who have PhD degrees and they are in the Senate, some of them are in the House of Representatives and so on; they still respect me as somebody who helped to build them up and that is what we mean by gregariousness amongst our youths and elders.

Sir, I'm sure some of your children served and shared some of their experiences during their service years. How do you feel about this?

All of them, one is a Medical Doctor, she served in Port Harcourt, one is an Engineer, she served in one of the Middle Belt states, one is a Lawyer, she served in Abuja and the very last of them read Computer Science and served in the FCT. They like it, they took photographs. They enjoyed it, for the fun of it and they looked forward to it.



Interview with HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS DR. IBRAHIM YARO (JP) ESU, BWARI, FCT-ABUJA.

What is your assessment of NYSC?

The Scheme is so wonderful and it has been a blessing having such in Nigeria and in our own very Bwari here. It has been helping us and making us united, mingling and living peacefully with other people from different tribes. Talking about the camping also, it is a wonderful and great thing.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development in terms of advocacies, unity, integration and infrastructural development?

Of a truth, NYSC has helped me in this my chiefdom. Members of NYSC times without number have come to my palace sensitizing people on drug abuse and its effects. This has liberated many youths from illicit and illegal consumption of drug. Many other advocacies have been carried out here by the NYSC members.

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Bringing together youths from various States and ethnic backgrounds has culminated in inter-tribal marriages, partnerships in business and helping them to embrace other peoples' beliefs and ideology, etc.

In terms of infrastructural development, it has been wonderful. Corps Members have built for us here schools, block of class rooms, donated materials to schools, orphanages, the less privileged within the community. We have such buildings as clinics and hospitals today as a point of reference. Many Corps Members have stayed behind after the completion of their service year contributing to the development of this our country as entrepreneurs. Some of them I have met and they are all doing great in their various enterprises. For all these I give kudos to NYSC.

Where and when did you serve? What is your service year experience?

To that question, I will be sincere to you, my own service was an exemption because I was already over aged, but I would have loved to serve



Interview with HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS ENGINEER SALEH MUHAMMAD UMAR, MAI KALTUNGO

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

I commend General Gowon for establishing this beautiful Scheme. It has given our sons and daughters the opportunity to know their country better by identifying with the culture, traditions and norms of other people outside their own environment. Nigeria is a big country with diverse cultures and traditions. The NYSC has helped to unify the country by bringing peace and unity. It has also helped to keep the country together.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to National development, in terms of advocacies, unity and integration, as well as infrastructural development?

The NYSC has done a lot, especially in the area of Community Development Service. A certain young man served here in Kaltungo, many years ago, he is from the Southern part of the Country. After his service year he started a nursery and primary school in this community and today, the

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school has nursery, primary and secondary classes. I will not be surprised if someday it becomes a University. He has helped immensely in the development of Kaltungo and employed a lot of our Youths. That is definitely what this country wants; for our youths to be creative, innovative and self-reliant. Without mincing words, I would say the NYSC has brought something new in this country. It has done a lot in unifying the country, it has also left lasting legacies in communities through the efforts of Corps Members. Without this beautiful Scheme, the country would have been disintegrated a long time ago. People would have all been in their own enclaves without knowing what other parts of the country are doing. You see, most people from the south think everyone in the Northeast is Hausa or Fulani and they are all Muslims but when you come to see for yourself, you will find people of different dialects and religion. In Kaltungo, we have Muslims, Christians and traditional worshippers. Gombe is a cosmopolitan society.

Where and when did you serve?

Unfortunately, I did not serve. I had my tertiary education in Europe; British Air University, Scotland. After graduation, I didn't come back home. I went further to study Aircraft Electrical Engineering. Thereafter I came back to Nigeria. When job was not forthcoming, I went back abroad. I worked with different airlines for 25 years before I finally retired. Though I did not serve, I had a lot of experiences with Corps Members as the Mai Kaltungo. The National Youth Service Corps is commended for sustaining the Scheme for 46 years. I know it will achieve a lot in years to come.



Interview with MUHAMMED IBRAHIM DAURA, THE COORDINATOR OF KATSINA STATE SKILL ACQUISITION TRAINING CENTRE

Good afternoon sir, can we meet you sir?

My name is Muhammed Ibrahim Daura. I am the coordinator of this centre. I served Kaduna State Government for 35 years, and when I retired from the service, I was given a contract appointment to come and head this training institution. I possess B.A. Tech and M.A. Educational Administration and Planning.

We will like to know your assessment of the NYSC Scheme sir.

NYSC Scheme was introduced after the civil war and it was established to be a native factor of Nigerians. NYSC Scheme actually has achieved tremendously with regard to unity and integration. There are people coming from South to the North and from the North to the south. Many even established businesses here and some were employed by government based on their performance. Thus, NYSC Scheme has attained a lot.

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Thank you very much sir, where and when did you serve?

I served in 1982 in a Local Government in Imo State but then the Local Government is now located in Abia State. After our service year, the state was split into two; Abia and Imo.

Sir, in your service year then, what was your experience?

We had a very good experience. We were very friendly with fellow Corps Members and the community at large. The community accepted us as their sons and daughters and also, the staff at our places of primary assignment. They took us as their children. It was very fantastic. One of the reasons that made me to stay is that the owner of the house gave us the house free while we ought to pay for accommodation and when it is market day we wore our uniform to the market, they gave us food free. Sincerely, our time is different from this time. This time you'll find out that majority of Corps Members are looking for redeployment, they don't want to taste the true situation of the place because when they are coming, a lot of stories have been told to them.

What is the contribution of your Centre to the Corps Members?

When the SAED Programme commenced we started collaboration with NYSC. Corps Members come here and we take them as our students, we let them understand that anybody that is ready to learn is welcome. I personally go around making sure that nobody is ill-treated. Believe me, we have achieved a lot because there are Corps Members who left here after copious training and have established themselves in the Local Government that they were posted. Though NYSC wants us to introduce them to the courses but we don't want to just introduce the courses to them, rather we want them to learn the skills. Let me give you an instance, there is a lady

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from Lagos who came here and said she wanted to learn pottery and after she travelled back to Lagos and got businesses, she came back to take two of our students for assistance and they are doing well. We believe we are imparting so much in Corps Members.

We will like to know your advice to this present Corps Members sir.

My advice to Corps Members is that they shouldn't think that Nigeria of thirty years ago is still Nigeria of today so they should try as much as possible to learn skills.



***Interview with MRS. BASIRAT IYABODE AKINSANYA,
DIRECTOR, ADMIN. & HUMAN RESOURCE, MINISTRY
OF SPECIAL DUTIES AND INTER-GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS***

We appreciate you Ma, may I know your assessment of the NYSC Scheme?

The NYSC Scheme, speaking generally, has been worthy of its founding objectives. It is for national integration. It is for the youths to develop themselves very well; for them to interact to bring about National Unity and Harmony. The youths being the leaders of tomorrow.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to National Development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration, as well as infrastructural development?

Through this Scheme, we have been able to identify intellectual capacity of the youths. We have been able to identify the capabilities of every Corps Member. We have skill acquisition programmes for them. Through that, they would be self-reliant, well equipped with skills. As such, the youths will

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contribute meaningfully towards the development of the national economy.

I am aware you served the nation as a Corps Member.

Yes, of course.

Where did you serve?

I served as far back as 1993 in Ilorin, Kwara State. I served specifically in Kelele Secondary School.

So, what was your experience like then?

In Ilorin, they were very nice, friendly, and accommodating. I am from Lagos State and I went to Ilorin for service. In fact, after my service year, if not for my parents, I would have stayed back. There in Ilorin, there were lots of activities and opportunities that we were exposed to in the course of the service year. Ilorin, was very peaceful. I never regretted serving there.



Interview with
**BRIGADIER GENERAL UN BABANGIDA
OF 81 DIVISION NIGERIAN ARMY**

What is your assessment of the NYSC Scheme?

The NYSC is doing a great job. They are doing their best especially with the introduction of the Skills Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development programme.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to National Development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration, as well as infrastructural development?

The Scheme has contributed immensely in the area of National unity and cultural Integration among Nigerians. The introduction of NYSC and the policy that Corps Members should serve outside their state of origin has exposed them to other parts of the country. This has brought about Cultural Integration. There is the transfer of culture, there is exchange of ideas among the Corps Members. The Orientation camp itself is a mini-Nigeria because people from different tribes, culture, tradition,

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Universities/Polytechnics are brought together for three weeks, and they do things together. This definitely contributes and translates in no small measure towards enhancing national unity.

The SAED training will definitely help these future young leaders, some may not need to wait for government job and they may even end up becoming employers of labour. By so doing, they are also contributing to national development.

Where and when did you serve and what was your service year experience like?

I did my NYSC in New-Bussa in Niger State in the year 1991. The experience was great. It was that experience that influenced my choice of joining the army. I served with the Nigerian Army and the army gave us accommodation. I was attached to some Army officers and I would say my relationship with them actually affected my decision to join the Nigerian Army.



Mr Kolawole responding to questions

Interview with MR KOLAWOLE FAGBOHUN PETER, PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS, OGUN STATE

Can we meet you, Sir?

My name is Mr. Kolawole Fagbohun Peter. I am the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ogun State.

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

We will now look at how NYSC came into being. NYSC was conceived to foster National unity, to break down the barriers of misunderstanding, and so far, the NYSC has been doing that because the Corps Members from different states come together and form a mini-Nigeria. Through their interaction, it has been fostering unity.

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To what extent has the NYSC contributed to national development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

As I said earlier, NYSC has been very instrumental in forging understanding. It has helped the nation to heal from the wounds of the civil war. The people coming from the university are highly skilled manpower. Where we have staff shortages, Corps Members have been helping to fill the gap. It has helped in promoting national integration, harmony and peaceful accord. Also, there is a strong gap between the university life and adulthood. The transition is really sharp. It has helped them to adjust. Being employed as NYSC members, has helped them to prepare for work life, become permanent staff because some of them are being retained after service. Corps Members have been very helpful. For instance, one of them who served here as a geologist, helped us to map the boundaries and mineral resources in the state, ensuring that we get it right in terms of administration and development.

Sir, where and when did you serve and what was your service experience?

I served in the old Ondo state in 1988. I was the pioneer Monitoring and Evaluation Officer for Directorate of Food Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DIFRRI). By that special opportunity, I know the nooks and crannies of the present Ondo and Ekiti States.

Please, what is your advice to the youth?

They should be focused and participate actively in the NYSC programme packaged to prepare them for role of leadership and entrepreneurship. During my time as a Corps Member, we were few. We were more or less special Federal Agents. I had a one-on-one experience with the former Military Head of State, General Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida by virtue of

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where I was posted. I was also opportunized to meet with the Governor of Ondo State then, Olabode George. So, it all depends on our youth, if they see the service as a period to while away their time, rather than add value to themselves, then they will be making a big mistake. It is a time to prepare for their tomorrow, that is the sermon we are preaching at the Ministry of Youth and Sports.



Interview with ALHAJI BELLO BASHIRU, PRINCIPAL LECTURER, ALAYANDE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

What is your assessment of NYSC?

We thank God for the lives of our youths and the initiators of the programme in the early seventies. You see, NYSC is a Scheme that has come to bring the youths together, foster unity among Nigerians. Nigeria is heterogeneous and has multi-faceted tribes. However, the introduction of the NYSC Scheme has helped to bind the different tribes together to foster unity and progress in the country. NYSC is a Scheme that has helped to foster unity and development of the country.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

The Scheme like I said earlier has helped in fostering unity and integration of the Nigerian nation. The fact remains that the various ethnic groups in Nigeria have different traditions but with NYSC

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Scheme, these traditions have been blended and various tribal groups in Nigeria have come together to work as one and to look for programmes, actions and developments that will enhance the progress of the country. The NYSC has to a great extent helped in the even development of the country. Corps Members are being posted to different nooks and crannies of the country and they help to promote development based on their different specializations. So, the NYSC Scheme has helped greatly in the development of the country and even in the provision of infrastructural facilities. For instance, this camp wouldn't have been like this if there is no existence of NYSC Scheme in the State. Now, that we have this type of camp in Iseyin and 36 states of the federation, it means a sort of infrastructural development through NYSC Scheme.

Where and when did you serve? Your service year experience

I did not serve directly. The reason being that I attended a college of education. You know graduates of colleges of education used to go for National Service but the year I graduated, they stopped it and by the time I went to university, I was above the age of service so I was given Exemption Certificate.

I hope that didn't make you feel bad?

It did not matter. At least, in one way or the other, I'm making my own contribution towards the development of the country and that having my own part of the duty here makes me feel on top of the world.



Interview with HIGH CHIEF SYLVANUS E.E EYAMBA, ODUKPANI QUA CLAN, ODUKPANI L.G.A.

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

In my own humble opinion, NYSC Scheme has made a very good impression and is laudable. NYSC has imparted in our youths values such as discipline, integrity, hard work and selfless service. The Scheme has policies that are implemented and carried out by Corps Members which has contributed to the development of the nation. NYSC Scheme has a good representation to be reckoned with.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development, in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

They have been able to advocate, both privately and publicly putting some amount of pressure on the government to help create jobs, payment of

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salaries, implementation of laws that will enhance the growth and the development of the society especially for those who cannot speak out or advocate for themselves.

They have also advocated against violence such as robbery, cultism etc., in the society. They have advocated also for “FREE AND FAIR” election in Nigeria. The Scheme has also carried out advocacy campaigns on mass literacy and adult education, legal Aid among others.

NYSC Scheme's policy of posting Corp Members to serve in different a state other their own has led to Corps Members learning and adapting to the tradition and customs of the places they are posted. It has also promoted self-reliance through its skill acquisition and entrepreneurship programme



Interview with MRS MARYJANE EBRI, PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT/ CHAIRMAN, NYSC CROSS RIVER STATE GOVERNING BOARD

May I meet you?

My name is Maryjane Ebri

What is your assessment on the NYSC Scheme?

It is a laudable programme. Over the years, Corps Members have been deployed to different States. They come into the system and are deployed into different areas for their primary assignment where they bridge some employment gaps that exist in these areas.

The programme also helps Corps Members make positive contributions to economic growth in rural areas. Some Corps Members at the end of the service year get award and others get retained in their place of primary assignment. Even in my office where I work as the Permanent Secretary, we have a few of them there and they are doing well.



How has the NYSC Scheme contributed to national development in terms of advocacies, unity and even infrastructural development?

The Scheme has done well in situations where you have a person from the core north, for example, posted to the East, such person has to adapt to the way of life of those living in such areas. More so, we tend to have the wrong notion about people from different parts of the country. Through the NYSC Scheme, such notion is corrected. And the fact that people from different backgrounds have to stay together in the same place and work together too, brings about national development.

Ma, if you don't mind, when and where did you serve the nation?

I served between 1985 and 1986, that was many years ago, maybe before you were born. We enjoyed it a lot. Many of us got married; we met our spouses during our service year. We were very few during that time and many Corps Members were retained and some still live in these areas where they were retained.

Ma, what are the challenges you faced during your service year that the NYSC Scheme has been able to solve?

I would rather say it is the other way round because during my time like I said, we were few and we didn't have challenges except the allowance which was nothing compared to what Corps Members are paid now. That was the major challenge.



INTERVIEW WITH EX-CORPS MEMBERS ON SKILL ACQUISITION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT



Interview with WISDOM AKPAN ANAEFFIONG

Can you introduce yourself?

I am Wisdom Michael Anaeffiong, from Akwa Ibom State. I am a serving Corps Member, 2018 Batch 'C' Stream II. My number is OS/18C/2319

What is your assessment so far of the NYSC?

I wish to correct the impression of some of my colleagues that NYSC is a scam. I was reluctant to come for NYSC because of my skepticism about the programme but now I am a testimony and NYSC has also been a testimony to my own life as it has opened my eyes to the world.

How in your view has NYSC contributed to National development?

The SAED is an important programme of the NYSC. The SAED specifically helped me. It gave me a reason to stay. I wanted to redeploy when I knew I

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was posted to Osun State. But the SAED made me stay and now I am a skilled fashion designer. Now, I am earning income in addition to my allowance.

How has the Scheme contributed to unity among Corps Members?

It has done a lot. Apart from the Orientation Camp, the CDS has further brought us together and helped to integrate us into our host communities. I now have connections with Corps Members in different walks of life, different upbringing and different states.

How has NYSC contributed to infrastructural development in the country?

Every CDS group has some projects to carry out and these projects target needs in the community.

How did you get to know about the SAED Programme?

I always tell new Corps Members that if they don't participate in SAED that they are doing themselves more harm than good. SAED has been a plus to every participant. As a Corps Member you have many things at your fingertips and at cheap rate. After camp training is very cheap for Corps Members.



Interview with AGWU HENRY CHIDOZIE

Can you please introduce yourself?

My name is Agwu Henry Chidozie. I am the CEO of Henry Chuks Global Innovations. We are into leather works and Ankara training, which includes bags and shoes. I am an ex-Corps Member and I served in this very State of Osun.

How did you get involved with the NYSC SAED programme, what would you say are the benefits of the SAED programme?

I was introduced to SAED during my service year, at the orientation camp to be precise. At first, I didn't take the programme very seriously. I actually studied Electrical Engineering in school, so I opted for solar energy, during the SAED in-camp training. After my Orientation programme, I decided I was going to be serious, so I registered for the post-camp training and started learning leather works after considering some factors.

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I started in 2013/14 but I became my own boss in 2015. I started with my allowance and was producing in my room before I got a workshop. Right now, I have people working under me.

I would say there are lots of benefits that come with embracing SAED, one of which is self-dependence. SAED has made me self-dependent and also an employer of labour.

What is your assessment of the NYSC Scheme generally?

I would rate the NYSC very high and I must commend the Scheme. Right now, I am a SAED trainer; I wouldn't have gotten to this level if not for the Scheme, so I applaud the NYSC.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

The Scheme has contributed a great deal to National development. For example, the SAED programme has helped in reducing the rate of unemployment in the society and this has aided National development.

Concerning unity and integration, the NYSC affords a lot of persons from different geographical locations, the opportunity to come together in service to the fatherland. These persons learn to tolerate each other, they learn from each other and this encourages unity. The Scheme has also helped in infrastructural development.

Where and when did you serve and how was your service year experience?

I served here in Osun in 2013. My place of primary assignment was a school in Osogbo and I enjoyed my service year.



Interview with RASHIDAT IGANYI

Ex-Corps Member Rashidat Iganyi, a beneficiary of NYSC SAED programme is now CEO of House of Dizah Enterprise, which deals with interior decoration, fashion design, craft works, bag making and babyset production.

What is your assessment of the NYSC Scheme?

I believe the NYSC as a programme brings Nigerians from different ethnic groups together to promote national unity. I believe it is a great opportunity for those who are willing and ready to grab it.

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To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

The Scheme gives Corps Members opportunity to experience and learn other cultures different from their own. NYSC has also contributed immensely to the infrastructural development of the country.

Specifically, here in Osun State, NYSC has a clinic which caters for Corps Members, officials and people of the community. It has also provided many other services which have been helping the State to grow.

Where and when did you serve, and what was your experience?

I served in the year 2017/18 Batch 'B', Stream 1 and I was posted to Olorunda Local Government, to a Surveying firm, Remi Automated Surveyor Consultant. It was challenging but I had a positive and rewarding experience.



Interview with APOLLOS REUBEN TERKUMA

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

I will rate the Scheme high. This is because it has remained very influential in the lives of the graduate Nigerian youths who have benefitted immensely from its objectives, programmes and policies.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to National Development in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

The Scheme has contributed so much to National development especially with the Skill Acquisition and Entrepreneurship development (SAED) programme established to help Corps Members become self-reliant, build and grow their businesses and become wealth creators. This has greatly impacted on the nation's gross domestic product (GDP) which has continued to grow since the SAED programme came on

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board. The Scheme has also done well in terms of infrastructural development as Corps Members' life touching projects are scattered everywhere in the country.

Where and when did you serve?

I served in 2016 Batch 'A' at Community Secondary School Krakamar, Asari-Toru Local Government Area, here in Rivers State though I am from Benue. I am happy serving here, the people are warm to Corps Members, loving, peaceful and accommodating. The experience was amazing and the good feeling is still with me till today.



Interview with ONAH CHINEDU HYGINUS

Where and when did you serve? What was your service year experience like?

My name is Onah Chinedu Hyginus, with state code TR/14C/2388. I served in Taraba State, Batch 'C' 2014. My service year experience was awesome. I served with the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA), Jalingo. During my service year, I proved to the management of NTA Jalingo what a thorough ambassador of NYSC is. They were pleased to have me and also wished I stayed with them. I was equally treated like their own son, during my service year. I utilised every opportunity that I came across. I bought myself a camera and was operating as a photographer. I made a lot of money too.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development, in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

The contribution of NYSC to national development is immeasurable. NYSC builds the youths of today and leaders of tomorrow. Many graduates

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do not know what to do as undergraduate but during their Orientation Course or service year they are encouraged to learn one skill or the other through the SAED programme. Many Corps Members gained their financial freedom and are being liberated from unemployment. Using myself as an example, I am a product of SAED and also a beneficiary of the NYSC Foundation. I passed out from NYSC in 2015 and became a SAED trainer same year till date. I established my business and I registered my company, BIG TIME STUDIOZ LTD, in 2016 and since my establishment in 2016, trained over 100 Corps Members in post camp training on FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY. I am also a Corps employer and have passed out three Corps Members from my company.

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

NYSC has contributed greatly to the development of our youths. I understand NYSC as a platform full of opportunity, a platform where everyone proves that they are actually graduates. For those who reaped every opportunity as a Corps Member like myself kudos to them, but it is quite unfortunate that many don't see these opportunities while in service.



Interview with DOMINIC ORUWUA

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

The NYSC Scheme to me is a phase of critical decision making, where every graduate is faced with an opportunity to decide where they want to be and how they plan to get there. With the various programmes such as CDS, SAED, etc., Corps Members are given the opportunity to learn various skills that can afford them what they need in the labour market. So, I think the NYSC is a strategic Scheme that helps foster improved life after school.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development, in terms of advocacies, unity and integration as well as infrastructural development?

Without doubt the NYSC Scheme has impacted greatly in national development, considering that Corps Members who haven't met before in their lives, or are not from the same location are placed in the same platoon,

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or even in the same service groups and still relate well with each other. This goes a long way to limit ethnic differences, religious barriers and much more. In terms of infrastructural development, I believe the growth of every nation is in the hands of the youths. The more useful the youths of a nation are the more prosperous such a nation will be. What organisation harness better the capabilities of youths than the NYSC Scheme which provides Corps Members with skills and loans for business minded Corps Members etc. This empowers them to do great things which in turn improves the nation.

Where and when did you serve? Your service year experience?

I served in Taraba state, from 2017 to 2018. My experience was somewhat very similar to that of my peers. During my service year, I invested more in skills acquisition and personal development. So, all my activities were geared towards these. I had the opportunity to learn various computer related skills from the ICT SAED programme on which I run my company today. I would say that my interactions with the NYSC officials who seemed to be the only family I had at the time gave me more insights as to how to become better and do more. The CDS activities were very inspiring. I didn't have a good standing on media but with the Editorial and publicity CDS group, I got to learn a thing or two that I use today to improve my business standing. In general, my service year helped me build confidence, relevant skills, that have enabled me to survive afterwards, which is why today I am a SAED trainer for NYSC Taraba, in order to help other Corps Members get to where I am and ever beyond.



Interview with BENJAMIN OGORI

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

The NYSC is a very good Scheme that has impacted on the youths and I am a beneficiary, as well as other youths.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development, in terms of advocacies, unity and integration, in addition to infrastructural development?

From my experience right from the Orientation Camp, I believe NYSC has contributed immensely in the area of integration and national unity. In the Camp, one can see youths from different backgrounds coming together to achieve a goal as a team. This has also made us to appreciate people from different backgrounds. In the same process, youths are given practical training for life in future. So, we come out believing in ourselves and in our ability to earn a living. So NYSC helps the Nigerian youths to cushion the shock of fending for themselves. The SAED programme has equipped us with

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marketable skills. Imagine if all youths or Nigerian citizens are being encouraged to learn skills for personal development, I am sure that Nigeria would be better for it.

When and where did you serve?

I served in Edo state in the Ministry of Works in the year 2014.

What was your service year experience like?

My service year was fun but there was also the harsh part which I think was a good thing because life is not a bed of roses. So, the challenges I met, I conquered. I also had the opportunity of meeting older and experienced Engineers who equally taught me some life skills as well although I do not earn a living as an Engineer. It is the skill I learnt in the SAED programme on material printing and design that I am using to make ends meet. I print t-shirts for my church activities, football teams and other individuals and I hope to expand. All thanks to NYSC.



Interview with SOLEYE ABIMBOLA

Can we meet you?

My name is Soleye Abimbola, an indigene of Ogun State and a graduate of Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye, Ogun State where I studied Biochemistry. Today, I am the CEO of BEAMEX Beauty World and am into hairdressing, wig making, bridal hair, etc.

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

NYSC Scheme is a platform that promotes unity in the country. The Scheme also enables the Corps Members to acquire the spirit of self-reliance, promote national unity and integration; and of course, inculcate discipline in the youths.

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To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development in terms of advocacies, integration as well as infrastructural development?

The Scheme has contributed a lot through advocacies as Corps Members are used in various campaigns to bring about development and change of attitudes and perspectives in the Nigerian society. In the area of integration, it has promoted unity by bringing together people from different regions across the country to live as brothers and sisters, irrespective of religion, tribe or culture. While in the aspect of infrastructural development, Corps Members have proven to be agents of change through provision of essential facilities across the country using the CDS platform. Some of these facilities include construction of bridges, drilling of boreholes, building of toilets, donation of books to libraries, provision of furniture to schools, among others

Where and when did you serve? Your service year experience?

I served in Ado-Ekiti at Ekiti State University Teaching Hospital in the 2015 Batch 'B' Service Year.

My service year was so interesting and educating because I worked in the hospital laboratory and there I participated in a whole lot and learnt new things from others as well. During my service I ventured into skill of hair making and the beauty world in general. I made lots of money from making hair, especially for my colleagues and I barely spent my allowance during my service year. After my service year, I decided to remain in Ekiti. To be sincere, I thank God because it was a fulfilling experience.



Interview with EZEKIEL DORCAS

Can you please tell us about yourself and what motivated you to participate in SAED training during your Orientation Course and afterwards?

My name is Ezekiel Dorcas and I am serving at Cottage Hospital, Nenwe in Aninri Local Government Area of Enugu State. When I arrived the camp, they told us about SAED and I developed interest in cosmetology and after the Orientation Course, I continued the training and since then, I have been practicing it. Just like you have seen today, I came with my products to showcase to Corps Members in the Orientation camp.

I actually used part of my NYSC monthly allowance to start up. I travel all the way from Nenwe to Enugu to get the raw materials and come back and do my production and then go out to the streets and local markets to sell my products. I have been doing well in the aspect of sales to some extent, God has been helping me, I have been making much profit from it.

What significant impact has SAED made in your life?

SAED has created in me the consciousness of believing in myself, making me stable that even after NYSC I can be financially independent.



Interview with IBEH CHRISTABEL

Can you please tell us about yourself and what motivated you to participate in SAED training during your Orientation Course and after?

My name is Ibeh Christabel, I am serving with Enugu Health Management Board. It all started in Awgu Camp during the 2018 Batch 'C' Orientation Course when we were introduced to SAED, I decided to go into knitting and since then, everything has been going fine. I thank God that I actually took it further.

What significant impact has SAED made in your life?

This programme has made me financially stable and independent. Since I started my NYSC, I have not called home for any financial assistance and I have even been opportune to send money to my siblings. It has changed my mode of thinking because I was the type that thought after NYSC, I will get a job. You don't have to sit idle; you just have to get something doing. That was the first thing that inspired me.



Interview with ISAAC PROSPER

Can you please tell us about yourself and what motivated you to participate in SAED training during your Orientation Course and after?

My name is Isaac Prosper Kelechi and I am serving in Surbran Primary School Amuri in Nkanu West LGA Enugu State. When I was in camp, I engaged in SAED. I joined the food processing group and it has helped me a lot because right now, I am into baking. I produce bread which I distribute to shops and it has made me have confidence in the future and in myself that I can do more and create job for people

What significant impact has SAED made in your life?

Before now, I depended on my parents but right now, I am independent. I finance everything by myself and I assist my siblings and even my fellow Corps Members.



Interview with OLUBOBA AYODEJI EBENEZER

What is your assessment of NYSC?

The NYSC has been an educating and impacting Scheme. So far, it has put in place systems and programmes to build Nigeria youths inside and outside, not just to be a benefit to the country alone, but also unto themselves. So far so good it has been a wonderful Scheme, although it can be better.

To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development, in terms of advocacies, unity and integration, as well as infrastructural development?

To a large extent, the growth of a country is dependent on its labour force. NYSC has contributed by sending its Corps Members to various organisations, institutions and parastatals on a one-year mandatory service and this has contributed considerably to the country's development.

In terms of advocacy, a lot of programmes have been put in place for Nigerian

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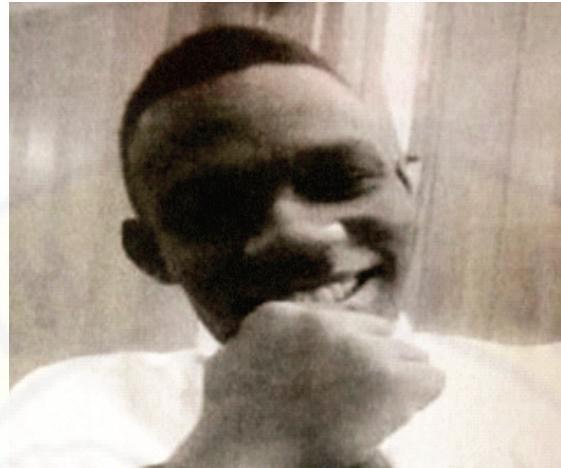
youths to learn and exercise their skills through the SAED programme. That has been a wonderful one on the part of the NYSC Scheme.

On unity and integration, the twenty-one days Orientation Course of the Scheme is a programme that fosters unity amongst Nigerian youths.

Talking about infrastructural development, NYSC has achieved much through the platform of the Community Development Services (CDS) where groups of Corps Members or individuals have executed various projects such as building, constructing and maintaining public infrastructures.

Where and when did you serve and how was your service year experience?

I am presently serving in Bwari Area Council Secretariat being my place of Primary Assignment, a Batch 'A' 2019 Corps Member. Since I am still serving, the experience is still ongoing. Through the NYSC SAED programme, I have been able to set up my own business within a short time in the service and it is a professional website designing company. God bless Nigeria, God bless FCT, God bless NYSC.



Interview with UMOH UMOH ETOP

What is your assessment of the NYSC?

The National Youth Service Corps which was established in 1973 is a good Scheme as it has been able to realise its aim of reconciliation, reconstruction and rehabilitation in nation building.

The Scheme has also reshaped the thinking of most Nigerian Youths with respect to misconception about other tribes or ethnic groups.

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To what extent has the Scheme contributed to national development, in terms of advocacies, unity and integration, as well as infrastructural development?

The Scheme has helped in promoting national unity and integration as Corps Members from different states and tribes camp together for 21 days, get to blend along, tolerate each other and integrate with each other.

Corps Members engage in personal community development where they assist their local communities with some facilities.

Where and when did you serve including your service year experience?

I served in the Ministry of Works in Gombe from 2018 to 2019.

My service year was fun as I also engaged in post SAED Programme where I learnt fisheries. At the moment, I have a fish pond at Dadinkowa in Yemaltu Deba Local Government Area in Gombe State.



CHAPTER

20

NYSC AND CHALLENGES OF NATION BUILDING

Just like every other organisation, the National Youth Service Corps has had to grapple with existential challenges, most of which are extraneous factors, but unfortunately, in some instances make the Scheme a hapless head that receives undeserved knocks, thus, suffering vicariously for the failings of others.

The NYSC operates in a socio-political and economic environment, which from time to time throws up myriad of challenges. As it were, the National Youth Service Corps is neither immune, nor insulated from the vagaries of the environment.

Some of the key problems that beset the Scheme include: Insecurity, with its attendant social disorder; Presentation of unqualified persons for mobilisation; Poor infrastructure and inadequate funding, among others.

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INSECURITY

It is pertinent to state that peaceful and stable environment remains germane to economic and socio-political growth, as no meaningful development can take place in the absence of peace.

As a responsible and responsive institution, the Scheme has always taken appropriate actions to safeguard the lives of Corps Members through the delivery of security awareness lectures and distribution of pamphlets on security tips to all Corps Members free of charge, as well as being in constant touch with the security agencies for the protection of Corps Members.

The welfare of Corps Members is paramount to the Federal Government and the NYSC, likewise traditional rulers and host communities. Gratifyingly, the Scheme under the leadership of Brigadier General Shuaibu Ibrahim has continued to lay great emphasis on the safety of Corps Members.

INCLUSION OF UNQUALIFIED PERSONS FOR MOBILISATION

While it is not the statutory responsibility of the National Youth Service Corps to regulate tertiary education in Nigeria, or grant recognition to foreign institutions of higher learning, the Director-General made it very clear that the Scheme will not mobilise unqualified persons for service, upon the discovery that some institutions, particularly those in the West Africa sub-region have the penchant to include names of unqualified people for mobilisation for service.

To nip this fraudulent practice in the bud, NYSC Management convened a meeting of Registrars of African Universities, especially of West Africa sub-

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region in Abuja to draw their attention to the fraud. The danger inherent in mobilising unqualified people for service cannot be overemphasised. The NYSC Certificate of National Service confers legitimacy to one's academic certificate. Therefore, having untrained and incompetent persons that parade questionable certificates manning critical sectors of the economy can spell doom for the country.

Be that as it may, as discussed in the previous chapter, the meeting was quite fruitful. The institutions now cooperate with the Scheme in order to ensure that unqualified persons are not included in the senate - approved list used for mobilisation.

POOR INFRASTRUCTURE

This ranges from Inadequacy of facilities at the NYSC Permanent Orientation Camps, to non availability, or poorly maintained Corps Members' Lodges. Having Corps Members' Lodge in each Local Government Area of the country, including the state capitals is of necessity. Having this in place will to a reasonable extent mitigate the accommodation problem faced by Corps Members which is a big challenge. Undeniably, provision of accommodation to Corps Members is an incentive that assists them in settling down quickly in their respective States of service, making them be in the right frame of mind to contribute to nation building.

Still dwelling on infrastructure, inadequate office accommodation is another source of worry to the Corps. Sadly, some Secretariats operate from rented houses. In some instances, the house is so small that the number of staff in the Secretariat outstrips available office spaces, hence making work environment uncongenial.

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PAUCITY OF FUND

Some of the challenges enumerated above all hinge on insufficiency of fund. Nonetheless, the Federal Government deserves some commendation for shouldering the responsibility of funding the Scheme for forty-eight years now, in spite of other competing national needs. NYSC is a strategic national asset, and arguably the biggest youth -- mobilisation agency the world over, making impactful and holistic contributions to national development.

That notwithstanding, it has had a fair share of funding challenge, arising from inclement economic weather, exacerbated by COVID -19 pandemic, an insidious enemy that has caused a global socio-economic disorder.

Nonetheless, there appears a silver lining. The Director - General during a visit to former Head of State and founder of the Scheme, General (Dr.) Yakubu Gowon advocated the establishment of National Youth Service Corps Trust Fund (NYSCTF) to cater for the needs of the Scheme. The fund, when fully operational shall to a reasonable extent, relieve Government of the burden of funding the Corps.

It is expected that the trust fund shall be modelled after TETFUND, that is, Tertiary Education Trust Fund, in which two percent of assessable profits of companies registered in Nigeria are paid as Education Tax, collected by Federal Inland Revenue Service on behalf of the Fund. It is imperative to state that the services provided by Corps Members are enjoyed by both public and private sectors, accordingly, the responsibility of funding the Corps should be a collective one.

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Doubtlessly, the NYSCTF will have a positive impact on the infrastructural development of the Scheme, in areas such as: construction of skill centres, maintenance of Orientation camps, in addition to maintenance of other NYSC formations.

Part of the trust fund shall be earmarked as credit facility/grant to willing Corps Members who have acquired skills to fund their business initiatives. It will give a big boost to the entrepreneurial development of Corps Members, with a positive impact on the nation's economy.

It goes without saying that when the proposed fund is established, a greater percentage of the problems confronting the Scheme would have been addressed.

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APPENDICES

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NYSC DIRECTORATE HEADQUARTERS

The Director General's Office

The Office of the Director-General comprises the Director-General and his personal staff, i.e Director of Special Duties in DG's Office, Special Assistant to the Director-General, Military Assistant to the DirectorGeneral, Protocol Officer to the Director-General, Personal /secretary to the Director-General and other administrative officers as well as the staff in the Director-General's Registry.

As the Chief Executive/Accounting Officer, the Director-General is charged with the general responsibility for matters affecting the dayto-day running of the service Corps. He is assisted by the Directors at the National Directorate Headquarters, Directors at the Area offices in the six geo-political zones and State Co-ordinators at the State level.

FUNCTIONS OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

1. Chief Executive and Accounting Officer responsible for the day to-day running of the Scheme;



2. Implementation of action plan and programmes of the Scheme to achieve set objectives;
3. Implementation of policy decisions and provisions of the NYSC Act especially as they relate to call-up, placement and issuance of National Service and Exemption Certificates;
4. Preparation and submission of Annual Report to appropriate quarters;
5. Maintenance of good public image for the Scheme;
6. Liaison with relevant collaborating agencies, especially Corps Producing Institutions and training organisations;
7. Convening regular meeting of Management, constitution of Committees and Boards essential for the smooth operation of the Scheme; and
8. Responsible to the National Governing Board and/or the designated Federal Government Supervisory body/Ministry.

DEPARTMENTS/UNITS

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

Functions of the Department:

1. Corporate plan (rolling, medium and perspective) that is, Coordinating the plans and programmes of all the Departments of the Scheme;
2. Organises and Coordinates Annual Management Conferences;
3. Organises and Coordinates Pre-Orientation Workshops;
4. Organises and Coordinates Orientation Course activities;
5. Plans and Executes winding-up/passing-out activities;
6. Manages the Scheme's Record, Library and Archival Resources e.g Library and Archives;

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7. Provides library services to staff, researchers and members of the public;
8. Monitors and Evaluates projects, orientation courses, Winding-up/Passing-out activities;
9. Undertakes Pre-orientation Inspection of camp facilities;
10. Liaises with collaborating agencies, NGOs (both domestic and international) to facilitate Technical Assistance;
11. Undertakes Evaluative studies/researches on Impact Assessment of the Scheme and her activities;
12. Production of plan manual and action plan for each year;
13. Monitoring and evaluating plans, programmes and projects implementation for the Scheme;
14. Collecting, analyzing and evaluating reports on the Scheme for management's use;
15. Responsible for the overall annual report of the Scheme;
16. Researches into all aspects of the Scheme's activities and policies;
17. Researches into all organisational, operational and management modalities of the Scheme;
18. Sorting and monitoring performance and efficiency targets for the various sub-divisions (Departments, State Secretariats) and staff of the Scheme;
19. Constant collation and processing of data and statistics relating to the Scheme, e.g., personnel, finance, physical resources, operations and outputs, etc;
20. Liaison with relevant bodies outside the Scheme;
21. Programme implementation and monitoring of NYSC activities; 22. Coordination of feedback on work programme effectiveness;
23. Assigning of orientation duties to staff.

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Prospects

1. It is envisaged that success would be recorded in all the Department's programmes and projects.
2. It is expected that more State Governments would be committed to the Scheme and provide permanent orientation camps (where there is none) with adequate facilities. It is also expected that there will be facility upgrade in many of our permanent orientation camps.
3. Speedy response is expected from Secretariats in respect of the supply of Archival materials to the NDHQ archive.
4. Holding of PRS Schedule officers' workshop on annual basis to train them on their role expectations and equip them with skills on contemporary approach to research and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in monitoring and evaluation of the Scheme's programmes.
5. Conduct of Impact assessment of online registration/selfdeployment of prospective Corps Members.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE AND SPECIAL PROJECTS DEPARTMENT

The Department performs the following functions:

1. Formulating and implementing nationwide policies on CDS;
2. Coordinating activities on Traditional Community Development Services and Integrated Rural Development;
3. Organising the annual Sports and cultural festivals;
4. Coordinating activities on Corps inventions, fabrications and art works;
5. Supervising, evaluating and monitoring of Corps projects;
6. Organising Workshops and Training for CDS officers;

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7. Developing organisational blueprint for Integrated Rural Development;
8. Partnering and collaborating with Stakeholders on sustainable development issues;
9. Developing community based proposals and for multilateral cooperation;
10. Supervising the activities of the MDGs Advocacy programmes,
11. Liaising with the Office of the Senior Special Adviser to the President on MDGs;
12. Overseeing the activities of the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) under the National Graduates Volunteer's Project;
13. Coordinating and supervising the activites of the NYSC Secretariats on CDS;
14. Coordinating NYSC special, local and national projects; and
15. Collaborating with UNICEF and other Agencies in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Prospects

1. It is expected that CDS activities at the NDHQ and in the states would be accorded equal status with other cardinal programme of the Scheme.
2. Further avenue for collaboration/partnership with stakeholders to be explored for improved CDS activities.
3. The NYSC group Community Development Service is to be revitalised and directed towards alleviating the observable deficiencies in our rural communities.
4. CDS activities making positive impact in host communities are to be well documented and celebrated.
5. The reinvigoration of Community Development Service activities,

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especially community youth empowerment and improvement in the health of rural dwellers (under the HIRD programme) will not only restore the past glory of the Scheme but also make the NYSC to be celebrated as a result of its contributions to National development.

6. Proper documentation of CDS activities will enable the Scheme and the larger society to track the contributions of the NYSC to the general good of the country.
7. Corps Members' interest in CDS activities to be aroused through well-packaged strategic information delivery on CDS programmes, using innovative approaches like CDS Nuggets, CDS Platoon Lectures and the regular CDS Lecture in the camps, as well as the continuous distribution of 'ABC of CDS'.
8. Concerted efforts are being made to revive and get funding for the HIV/AIDS, adolescence reproductive health, prevention and care project.
9. Concretisation of upcoming collaborations in the Community health activities.
10. Proper implementation of extant rules on CDS activities to ensure that Corps Members conform to them.
11. State Coordinators are to liaise effectively with the state and Local Governments to ensure that they support CDS initiatives/programmes, as they do for the orientation and primary assignments.
12. State Coordinators are to do proper planning of CDS programmes and activities on quarterly basis. Stepping up of advocacy programmes to give the Scheme more public visibility.
13. Quarterly CDS returns to NDHQ are to be given priority with a view to getting a clear picture of CDS activities in the State.

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PRESS, PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT

Functions of the Unit

i. Publications:

1. The unit undertakes the Publication of In-house journals such as NYSC News Magazine, Security Tips, etc, It also ensures distribution of same to States and stakeholders of the Scheme.
2. Monitoring the production of journals from the states in conformity with set standards (in terms of content and quality).
3. Periodic Publications of features in some Nigerian National dailies.
4. Maintains a library of Publications from the NYSC State Secretariats, and other organisations.
5. Offers editorial advice on all NYSC Publications, documents and other news items of the Scheme.

ii. Publicity:

1. This division handles the advertising aspect of the Scheme's programmes, activities not covered by the media relations.
2. Collates, Processes and disseminates information that project the activities of the Scheme to the Public.
3. Takes charge of corporate image management for the Scheme through a mix of public Relations strategies.
4. Ensures a cordial working relationship with the mass media for effective coverage of all events of the Scheme.
5. Organises Press briefing/Conferences for the DirectorGeneral as at when the need arises.

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6. New Media:

1. Projecting the image of the Scheme through various social media such as: facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Whatsapp, etc to engage its stakeholders.
2. It ensures on-demand engagement, anytime and anywhere, thereby ensuring interactive user feedback.
3. It allows user participation in real time communication.

Prospects:

1. The Unit looks towards bringing to the barest minimum the case of blatant public misinformation and disarticulations of NYSC events, programmes and development. With Management's approval, it would attract Private Sector collaboration to develop structures and capacities to deal with the ugly development.
2. We continue to enhance cordial relationship with the media.

GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT:

1. Maintenance Division
2. General Services Division

Functions of the Department

1. Transport Administration.
2. Utility Services.
3. Store Management.
4. Office Allocation.
5. Security.

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Transport Management:

There are a total of 230 vehicles being managed nationwide. The distribution is as follows:

Location	No of Vehicle
NDHQ fleet	36
State/FCT Secretariats	164
Unserviceable (State)	30

a. The following major activities were recorded during the year:

1. Registration of all NYSC vehicles in line with Government regulations.
2. Production of FRSC number plates for newly acquired vehicles.
3. Comprehensive insurance cover for all vehicles in the fleet.
4. Receipt of 2 additional Hilux vehicles and 2 ambulances.
5. Rehabilitation of official vehicles hitherto grounded due to disrepair.

b. Stores Management

1. Computerisation of operations at the Central Stores, thereby simplifying information flow and stock tracking, for a more efficient service delivery.
2. Successful distribution of kit items for 2015 Batches 'A' and 'B' and 2016 Batches 'A' and 'B'.

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c. Office Allocation:

1. The ICT Department was successfully relocated from the NDHQ Maitama complex to the computer Centre in Area 11.
2. Reallocation of offices at the NDHQ to accommodate the offices of the newly established Departments.

d. Maintenance:

1. Reactivation of Elevators at the NDHQ, along with the inbuilt Air Conditioners and standby inverter to ensure safety during sudden power outage.
2. Ensuring uninterrupted power supply to the NDHQ and Area Eleven Offices through regular maintenance of Generators and up-to-date payment of electricity bills.
3. Fumigation of the office complex (including Central Store and ICT Department in Area 11) against rodents/reptiles.

Prospects:

1. With the success and attendant benefits of the computerization of the operations of the Central Stores, the process may be replicated at the State Secretariats.
2. In order to improve productivity and efficiency in service delivery in transport services, proposal is being made towards a more realistic redistribution.
3. The Department is making proposals towards creating a work friendly environment that would ensure comfort and safety at the work place.
4. Management is till considering the decentralization of the Central Stores for security and administrative convenience.

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HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Introduction:

Human Resource Management Department has the responsibility of harnessing all the human resource potentials in the Scheme and managing them to maximize productivity, as well as ensuring a motivated and disciplined workforce. Therefore, the Department handles all issues relating to staff of the Scheme.

As at April, 2021 the total staff disposition of the NYSC stood at five thousand, four hundred and seventy-one (5,471).

Divisions/Branches:

The Department is made up of four (4) Divisions and twelve (12) Branches.

Major Functions:

1. Appointment, Promotion and Discipline.
2. Manpower and Succession Planning.
3. Establishment matters.
4. Staff Training and Capacity Development.
5. Career and Performance Management.
6. Industrial Relations and Labour matters.
7. Staff Medical and Health services.
8. Pension and Posts service matters.
9. Staff Sports and Games.
10. Secretariat of Senior and Junior Staff Committees.



CORPS WELFARE AND HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Introduction:

The Corps Welfare and Health Services Department is charged with the responsibility of monitoring the activities of Corps Members and ensuring their welfare and safety during the service year. It is made up of five (5) Divisions, namely: Corps Welfare, Corps Insurance, Corps Health Services, Corps Inspection as well as Corps Merit and Discipline.

Staff Strength:

The Department has total staff strength of forty-three (43) Officers. Thirty-eight (38) senior staff and five (5) junior staff.

Functions f the Department:

The functions of the department include:

1. Monitoring of Corps welfare throughout the year;
2. Health service delivery to Corps Members by way of reimbursement of certified medical bills;
3. Maintenance of Corps Insurance Policy and processing payment of death benefit to next-of-kin of deceased Corps Members;
4. Ensuring befitting burial for deceased Corps Members;
5. Coordinating Merit Award for Corps Members at the National level;
6. Implementing sanctions through disciplinary procedures as a deterrent to aberrant behaviours;
7. Collaborating with INEC on use of Corps Members as ad-hoc staff in line with the MoU between NYSC and INEC;
8. Organising NYSC/Stakeholders forum as a strategy for broadbased consultation to widen the scope of intervention and elicit cooperation from critical collaborators;
9. Hosting of NYSC Management/Corps Member's Forum at the National level;
10. Organising training workshops for Inspectors Development Programme (IDP), Citation Writers, Schedule officers of Corps

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Welfare (CW), Corps Inspection and Monitoring (CIM) and Corps Reward and Discipline (CRD).

Prospects:

With the support given to the department at all times by the Management, most of the goals of the department will be achieved. Attention will be directed to:

1. Effective monitoring of Corps Members at their places of primary assignment.
2. Enhancement of the welfare and security of Corps Members.
3. We are hopeful that NYSC President's Honours Award would be held this year.

CORPS CERTIFICATION DEPARTMENT

Functions

The Corps Certification Department's statutory functions are production and issuance of all NYSC instruments namely: Certificate of National Service, Certificate of Exemption and Letter of Exclusion to deserving Corps Members and other eligible Nigerian graduates of higher learning.

Also the authenticity or otherwise of these instruments are verified by the department in response to agencies (based on their request).

Divisions/Branches

The Department consists of three (3) divisions and five (5) branches:

S/N	DIVISION	BRANCHES
i.	Certification	1. Production 2. Certification
ii.	Exemption	3. Exemption 4. Exclusion
iii.	Verification	5. Verification



PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT

Functions of the Department

1. **Procurement Scheduling:** Specification of time-line for acquisition and delivery of goods and services during the FISCAL Year or the planned period.
2. **Procurement Planning:** Preparation of Annual Procurement Plan for Capital and Recurrent expenditures.
3. **Competitive Tendering:** Operates a vibrant Tenders Board Secretariat with the responsibilities of compliance with the provisions of the Public Procurement Act, 2007.
4. **Price Intelligence:** Conduct periodic market survey to gather well informed prices of goods and services to guide the award of contracts.
5. **Monitoring And Compliance:** Ensuring that the quality and quantity of goods, works and services provided or supplied to the Scheme are of specific and acceptable standard.
6. **Database Management:** Recording and maintaining electronic database on contractors and suppliers for the Scheme

Prospects

1. The Department is poised to ensure best practices in its operations in line with the provisions of the 2007 Public Procurement Act.
2. The Department will adhere strictly to its calendar of activities and budgetary allocation as approved by the Director-General.
3. Efforts are at advanced stage to procure high quality Corps Members' uniforms for better image projection.



CORPS MOBILISATION DEPARTMENT

Functions of the Department

1. Mobilises all eligible Nigerian graduates (both locally and foreign-trained) for national service.
2. Deploys those who qualify for service to the States/FCT in line with NYSC Policy on deployment.
3. Exempts all Nigerian graduates who are not qualified to serve, in line with the provisions of the NYSC Act.
4. Excludes all Nigerian graduates who went through PartTime/Sandwich/Distant Learning programmes from service, in line with the NYSC Policy.
5. Relocates Corps Members from one location to the other, when necessary, during and after orientation exercises.
6. Collaborates with Corps Producing Institutions (CPIs) and regulatory/examination bodies, e.g NUC, NBTE, JAMB and Federal Ministry of Education to ensure seamless mobilisation exercises.
7. Revalidates mobilised graduates who failed to turn up for national services.
8. Remobilises Corps Members who absconded in the course of national service.

Prospects

1. Seamless mobilisation and deployment of qualified Nigerian graduates through the use of ICT.
2. Adherence to approved carrying capacity for mobilisation of graduates from Corps producing institutions with effect from 2017 Batch 'A' Service Year.
3. Verification of the status of foreign-trained graduates from their institutions online.



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Functions:

The Department is saddled with the following responsibilities, amongst other things:

1. Enforces standard and procedure pertaining to the administration and management of software system in the Scheme.
2. To champion the use of ICT in the Scheme, with a view to providing better services to the Staff, through effective egovernance initiative, including the development of the required software in a coordinated manner.
3. Sets direction and plans for the ICT infrastructure of the Scheme.
4. Focuses on the development, implementation and maintenance of software application that respond to common needs of different Departments of the Scheme.

Prospects:

1. Development of module for Zonal Inspectors and AD (CI&M) to monitor Corps attendance for e-clearance.
2. Development of staff biometric attendance at the NDHQ.
3. Upgrade of NYSC Mobile App.
4. Development of CDS module to upload and update award winning projects.
5. Upgrade of Distress Call Centre.
6. Stepping down LGA monthly biometric clearance System to all LGAs in the remaining four (4) geo-political zones.
7. Developing of a module for online request by PCMs for correction of Date of Birth.
8. Link the NYSC portal to the portals of CPIs through liaison with Nation University Commission (NUC) to improve data integrity.
9. Getting all Departments on-board the NYSC Integrated online



platform.

10. Use of ICT to monitor Corps Members and CDS attendance for the purpose of payment of monthly allowance in all States.
11. Provision of additional ICT infrastructure/equipment to the NYSC NDHQ and State Secretariats, particularly internet services in the States.
12. Intensive training of ICT staff to man the NYSC Integrated System for eventual ownership and take over.
13. Provision of Subsidiary System to enhance the operations of various Departments e.g HRM.
14. Development of a module to interface with diverse Institutions' portal for PCMs to request for correction of wrongly uploaded courses.

LEGAL UNIT

Functions:

The functions of the Legal Unit include the following:

1. **Legal advice** – rendering of qualitative legal advice to NYSC Management on legal and administrative issues;
2. **Litigation** – representing the Scheme in Courts and Arbitral Panels in the prosecution and defence of cases involving NYSC;
3. **Contract agreements** - Formalising contract agreements for supply of various items and drafting/vetting customized agreements, Memoranda of Understanding and other legal instruments between NYSC and other persons;
4. **Administrative duties** – Carrying out normal administrative duties assigned to the Legal Officers in the Unit, such as membership of various committees, amongst many others;



5. **Corps Legal Aid Scheme** – Coordinating the activities of the Corps Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS) that renders free and quality legal services to indigent in-mates and members of the society; and
6. **NYSC National Governing Board Secretariat** – Hosting the Secretariat of the NYSC National Governing Board.

Prospects

The Legal Unit hopes to continue to work harder with a view to giving more qualitative advice and reducing the number of cases in the Courts. It also intends to continue the co-ordination of Corps Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS) with a view to strengthening the project.

SKILLS ACQUISITION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Functions:

1. Formulation and implantation of policies in Corps Entrepreneurship development Programmes;
2. Develop and build partnerships with stakeholders on Entrepreneurship issues;
3. Development of proposals and programmes for collaboration on skill acquisitions;
4. Establishing and operating skill acquisition training programmes and certification of the trainees,
5. Supervision, monitoring and evaluation of NYSC entrepreneurship programmes;
6. Formation of linkages with relevant employment agencies;
7. Job advisory and counseling service to Corps Members;
8. Monitoring the entrepreneurship training, development and

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empowerment.

9. Linking Corps entrepreneurs with funding agencies for startup capitals.

Prospects

1. Provision of skills acquisition centres will ease the difficulties presently confronting Corps Members in settling down to learn and become entrepreneurs.
2. Continuous collaboration and partnership will galvanise resources to mitigate the challenges of start-up capital and other technical requirements of the programme.
3. Presence of additional staff in the Department (especially SGL 08-10) would go a long way in enhancing performance of functions.
4. Allocation of funds to states in the A.I.E for implementation of SAED activities would go a long way in improving the effectiveness of programme implementation.
5. Establishment of more skills centres would give Corps Members more access to standard and quality training.
6. Effective sensitisation of staff to further raise the awareness of the SAED programme would be of benefit for their self-development.

VENTURES MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Functions

The Department has the following responsibilities:

1. Formulation and implementation of Policies on NYSC Ventures.
2. Coordination, Supervision and Monitoring of NYSC Farms and Agric Programmes and services.
3. Organisation of workshops and Training Programmes for Corps Members, Farms, Mills and NYSC Factories Officers.

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4. Coordination, Supervision and Monitoring of NYSC Factories and Mills.
5. Development and building of partnership with Stakeholders for NYSC Ventures.
6. Coordination of farm settlements involving NYSC; and
7. Commercialising of inventions by Corps Members.

Prospects

1. If the proposed re-structuring of the Department is approved, it will enhance its performance.
2. With the supply of the necessary equipment in some of our farm centres and adequate provision of funds for operational activities, high productivity is expected.

AUDIT UNIT

Functions

The Unit's duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Ensuring compliance with Extant Rules and Regulations and the existence of internal checks.
2. Ensuring that the system for control of the collection of Revenue is adequate.
3. Ensuring that the system for the control of Expenditure is adequate and that all payments made are duly authorised.
4. Checking that there are adequate means for the Verification of all Stores and Assets held.
5. Ensuring that Accounting Records and Books kept are accurate.
6. Checking total operations of the Scheme for economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

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Prospects

With the level of support, which the Director-General has given to the Internal Audit Unit, it is more than ever before equipped to ensure the maintenance of proper system of accounts in all NYSC formations nationwide, as provided by the Financial Regulations, the Public Procurement Act, Fiscal Responsibility Act and other Extant Treasury Circulars.

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT

Major Duties of the Finance & Accounts Department

1. Advising the Director-General (the accounting officer) and other Departmental Heads on financial matters.
2. Establishing the accounting system with appropriate in-built controls.
3. Managing all funds and public money due and receivable in the organisation.

Major Functions of Divisions/Units

1. **Account Division:** Advise the Director, Finance and Accounts on effective allocation of financial resources to various Departments.
2. **Budget Division:** Preparation, submission and defense of the budget of the Scheme.
3. **DHQ/State Fund Division:** Processing of mandate and payment of all vouchers and mandates processed through GIFMISS/REMITA.
4. **Ventures/Special Projects Division:** Processing payments through mandates to Resource persons for SDGs Training/Wap Training and Wap Loans to SDGs ex-Corps entrepreneurs.



5. **Other Charges Unit:** Raising payment vouchers for all approvals, keeping records of Departmental cash allocations and expenditures. Maintenance, updating and balancing of Vote Books.
6. **Salaries Unit:** Preparation and processing of payment of Staff Salaries through IPPIS.
7. **Checking Unit:** Ensuring compliance for all payments as stipulated by existing rules and financial regulations.
8. **Final Accounts Unit:** Preparation and submission of transcripts to the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation (OAGF). Maintains and updates fixed asset register.
9. **Cash office unit:** Receiving/Processing of all Income vouchers and mandate, payment of all vouchers and mandates processed through GIFMIS/REMITA.
10. **Advances Unit:** Processing of approved coordinated tour allowances, processing of DTA mandates. Maintenance and updating of individual loan ledger.
11. **State Accounts Unit:** Preparation of AIEs for funds remitted to State Secretariats and FCT, processing of Orientation/Passing-out expenses, treating relocation and interstate adjustments of Corps Members' monthly allowance.

Prospects

Finance and Accounts Department, in synergy with other Departments, is determined to ensure that the objective of establishing the NYSC Scheme as envisaged by the founding fathers is not defeated.

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REFORMS UNIT

Functions of the Unit

The Unit serves as the ombudsman of the Scheme. It bridges the communication gaps noticed in our dealing with our numerous clients and acts promptly to address any form of service failure.

This is achieved through the following activities of the branches:

1. Service Delivery Branch

1. Ensures that services are delivered timely and effectively at all service windows.
2. Receives and directs visitors at the NDHQ to various points within the complex.
3. Resolves complaints from various service windows and clients through our grievance redress mechanism as encapsulated in our charter via the official telephone lines, customer comment cars, SERVICOM Customer Relation Activities register (SCRAR) and suggestion boxes.
4. Ensures that staff, Corps Members and other clients are enlightened on service delivery.
5. Prepares a comprehensive Service Charter for the Scheme.
6. Monitoring service delivery and compliance of the reform initiative.
7. Enlightens staff of the Scheme through seminar and workshops on any method appropriate to actualise the Reform Initiative.
8. Trains and monitors SERVICOM Corps Vanguards, nationwide.

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2. Gender Branch

1. Sensitisation of NYSC staff and Corps Members on gender issues.
2. Handling/looking into cases of violence against Corps Members, especially female Corps Members.
3. Counseling Corps Members and staff that are victims of gender-based violence.
4. Liaising with Development Partners and Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies to carry out activities on reproductive health, girl child education, violence against women, breast/cervical cancer and other gender issues.
5. Train and monitor Gender Corps Vanguards nationwide.

3. Distress Call Centre

1. Receives distress call from Corps Members, staff and other stakeholders of the Scheme.

Prospects

The Reforms Unit in its quest to deliver customer-centric services to our numerous clients proposes the following programmes:

1. **Updated charter:** To give our clients detailed information about the NYSC, keep them abreast of the services rendered and the appropriate channels of communication.
2. Networking/SERVICOM committee meetings: To enable us:
 1. Identify our clients' problems through the reports from state Focal Officers and proffer solutions to them.
 2. Review the system of giving effective services to our clients.
3. **Resource Centre Interaction:** To enable us interact with other

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MDAs, cross fertilise ideas and learn best practices on effective service delivery.

4. Training workshop for Gender Schedule Officers
5. Receives and processes complaints through Distress Call Centre.
6. Tracking, Implementation and monitoring of Reforms projects.
7. Training of Staff on character and attitudinal change towards more effective service delivery.
8. Sensitisation nationwide on Federal Government Gender and Service Delivery initiatives.
9. Capacity building.
10. Mystery shopping of all service windows in the Scheme.
11. Service Auditing of Departments and Units to determine level of performance and identify gaps militating against efficient service delivery.



AREA OFFICES

Area Office	Location	States	
North - Central	Mina, Niger State	Benue Kogi Nassarawa Plateau	FCT Kwara Niger
North - East	Bauchi, Bauchi State	Adamawa Borno Taraba,	Bauchi Gombe Yobe
North - West	Kaduna, Kaduna State	Jigawa, Kano, Kebbi Zamfara	Kaduna Katsina Sokoto
South - East	Enugu, Enugu State	Abia Ebonyi Imo	Anambra Enugu
South - South	Asaba, State	Akwa Ibom Cross River Edo	Bayelsa Delta Rivers
South - West	Osogbo, Osun State	Ekiti Osun Ogun	Lagos Ondo Oyo

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Functions of Area Offices

- Monitoring, supervising and coordination of the administration and management of the NYSC State Secretariats in all the States that make up the zone.
- Carry out regular inspection tours of the states to ensure close supervision of staff and Corps Members.
- Monitoring the operations of the NYSC State Secretariats, Zonal and Local Government Offices within the Zone.
- Ensuring effective implementation of programmes/activities and compliance with Directorate Headquarters' policy guidelines.
- Director, Area Office is the Chairman NYSC-INEC Steering Committee within the zone.
- Assessing the performance of the State Secretariats within the zone.
- Liaising with employers of labour in all the states to ensure effective utilisation in job placement of Corps Members.
- Liaising with Corps producing institutions for effective policy implementation in Corps mobilisation.
- Ensure implementation of Community Development Service (CDS) and Skills Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development (SAED) activities, and supervise for optimum utilisation of investment on the projects.
- Collaboration with Federal Government for implementation and monitoring of special projects/programmes such as election monitoring and supervision organised by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), population census monitoring organised by the National Population Commission (NPC), immunization programme by Federal Ministry of Health etc.



SUPERVISING MINISTERS

1.	Maj Gen Y. Y. Kure	1992
2.	Hajiya Aisha Ismail	1999 – 2003
3.	Obong (Mrs.) Rita Akpan	2003 – 2004
4.	Mr. Frank Aweke (Jnr)	2004 – 2005
5.	Col. Musa Mohammed (rtd)	2005 – 2006
6.	Dr (Mrs.) Grace Oguche	2006 – 2007
7.	Chief Dr (Mrs.) Salome Jankada	Jan. – May, 2007
8.	Sen. Akinlabi Olasunkanmi	2007 – 2011
9.	Mallam Bolaji Abdullahi	2011 – 2012
10.	Inuwa Abdul-Kadir, Esq	2012 – 2014
11.	Mr. Boni Haruna	2014 – 2015
12.	Barr. Solomon Selcap Dalung	2015 – 2019
13.	Mr. Sunday Dare	2019 – date



NATIONAL GOVERNING BOARD CHAIRMEN

1.	Prof. Adebayo Adedeji	1973 – 1976
2.	Maj Gen Olufemi Olutoye	1976 – 1979
3.	Chief Dandeson Graham Isokrari	1979
4.	Mr. S. O. Williams	1979
5.	Alhaji Shehu Wunti	1979 – 1980
6.	Maj Gen Henry Adefowope (rtd)	1980 – 1982
7.	Brig Gen Philip Onyekweli	2001 – 2003
8.	Prof Mohd Attahiru Jega	2003 – 2004
9.	Sen. (Engr.) Yisa Braimoh	2005 – 2007
10.	Chief Linus E. Okom	2009 – 2011
11.	Chief Gordon Bozimo	2013 – 2015
12.	Amb. Fatima Balla Abubakar	2018 – date



NYSC CHIEF EXECUTIVES

i.	Lt Col (Dr) A Ali	1973 – 1975
ii.	Col SK Omojokun	1975 – 1979
iii.	Col PK Obasa	1979 – 1984
iv.	Col EA Akpan	1984 – 1987
v.	Col A Braimoh	1988 – 1990
vi.	Brig Gen HB Momoh	1990 – 1994
vii.	Brig Gen SA Sofoluwe	1994 – 1996
viii.	Brig Gen SM Dule	1996 – 1998
ix.	Brig Gen KO Ogunkoya	1998 – 2000, 2000 – 2002
x.	Compol SI Emokaro	March – May, 2000
xi.	Rev PO Okunromade	Jan – March, 2002
xii.	Brig Gen W Oki	2002 – 2004
xiii.	Brig Gen Y Bomoi	2004 – 2009
xiv.	Brig Gen MI Tsiga	2009 – 2011
xv.	Brig Gen NT Okore-Affia	2011 – 2014
xvi.	Brig Gen JB Olawumi	2014 – 2016
xvii.	Maj Gen SZ Kazaure	2016 – 2019
xviii.	Brig Gen S Ibrahim	2019 – Date



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

AUDIT

i.	Mr. B.A. Buraimoh	1973
ii.	Alhaji Ibrahim A. Mohammed	1991 – 1995
iii.	Mr. C.O. Omotola	1995
iv.	Alhaji Ibrahim A. Mohammed	1995 – 2001
v.	Capt. EK Bada (Rtd)	2001 – 2003
vi.	Mr. M.I. Echeanyanwu	2003 – 2006
vii.	Mr. Odewale T.O. (Ag. Head)	2006 – 2007
viii.	Mr. Ejiogu, L.O. (Ag. Head)	2007
ix.	Mr. Oluajo O. E.	2007 – 2009
x.	Elder Falase K.O.	2009 – 2010
xi.	Mr. E.O. Aiyedogbon	April – July, 2010
xii.	Mr. Oluajo, O.E	2010 – 2011
xiii.	Mr. Leke Abiodun	2011 – 2013
xiv.	Mr. Ladipo Laniyan	April, 2013 – June, 2013
xv.	Mr. Oluajo O.E.	2013 – 2016
xvi.	Mr. Leke Abiodun	2016 – date



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

i.	Alhaji M. Sallah.	1999—2001
ii.	Mr. O.A. Akinnigbagbe	2001—2003
iii.	Mr. M.C. Ejoh	2003—2004
iv.	Mrs. S.I. E. Omokri	2004—2007
v.	Mr. Abba Tanko	2007—2009
vi.	Mrs. E. E. Adimorah	2009—2010
vii.	Mrs. M.S. Midala	2010—2011
viii.	Alhaji A.O. Obomeile	2011—2013
ix.	Alhaji Y.S. Yakasai	2013—2014
x.	Mrs. V.B. Okakwu	2014—2016
xi.	Mrs. A.C. Makinde	2016—2016
xii.	Mrs. R.K. Kwaki	2016—2017
xiii.	Mr. Y. S. Ehoda-Adi	2017—2020
xiv.	Alh. A. A. Salawu	2020 – date

CORPS CERTIFICATION

i.	Mrs C.A. Babatunde	March – July, 2012
ii.	Rev. Canon A.T. Ajayi	2012 – 2014
iii.	Alhaji A.H. Taura	2014 – 2017
iv.	Lady C.C. Anekwe	2017 – 2018
v.	Mrs. Linda Amugo (Ag. Director)	2018 – 2019
vi.	Mrs. K. N. Okonofua	2019 – date



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

CORPS MOBILISATION

1.	Mr. E. C. Unachukwu	(Head)	1973 – 1975
2.	Dr. Maduka M. Nwakwesi	(Head)	1975 – 1977
3.	Deacon S. S. Ayanda	(Head)	1977 – 1986
4.	Mrs. R. O. Esan	(Head)	1986 – 1988
5.	Mrs. V. C. M. Mwaizu	(Head)	1988 – 1989
6.	Mr. U. O. Ibisankale	(Head)	1989 – 1990

DIRECTORS

7.	Alhaji Muhammad Sallah	1990 – 1991
8.	Chief G. K. Enegwea	1991 – 1994
9.	Chief D. O. Anuforo	1994 – 1995
10.	Mr. Adebajo Akinnigbabge	1995 – 1999
11.	Chief G. K. Enegwea	1999 – 2001
12.	Alhaji Bala Salihu	2002
13.	Alhaji Sani Wara	2003
14.	Major O. M. Adedeji (Rtd.)	2003 - 2004
15.	Mr. M. C. Ejor	2004 - 2005
10.	Mrs. F. A. Lasaki	2005 - 2007
11.	Pastor (Mrs.) S. I. E. Omokri	2007 - 2008
12.	Mrs. M. S. Midala	2008 - 2010



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

13.	Alhaji A. O. Obomeile	2010 - 2011
14.	Mrs. E. E. Adimorah	2011 - 2012
15.	Mrs. Mercy Foluso Kolajo	2012 - 2014
16.	Chief Anthony Ani	2014 - 2015
17.	Mrs. Victoria B. Okakwu	2015 - 2015
18.	Chief Frank Okey Ekpunobi	2015 - 2017
19.	Mrs. Christy Uba (Overseer)	2017 - 2018
20.	Mrs. Nnenna I. A. Ukonu	2018 - 2019
21.	Mrs. V. Ango	2019 - date

CORPS WELFARE AND HEALTH SERVICES

i.	Dr. J.I. Abhuere	2005 – 2009
ii.	Elder K.O. Falashe	2009 - 2010
iii.	Mrs. E.E. Adimorah	2010 – 2011
iv.	Mrs. M.F. Kolajo	2011 – 2012
v.	Mr. E.A. Obi	2012 – 2013
vi.	Mr. M. Ochim	2013 – 2014
vii.	Mr. M. Ahile	2014 – 2016
viii.	Mrs. R.K. Kwaki	March, 2016 – July, 2016
ix.	Mrs. V.B. Okakwu	2016 – 2017
x.	Mrs. J.O. Okuonghae	2017 – 2018
xi.	Mr. A.R. Sanusi (Ag. Director)	2018 – 2021
xii.	Mr. A. F. Omotade	April, 2021 – date



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

1.	Chief D. O. Anuforo	1991 – 1993
2.	Chief O. Moghalu	1993 – 1999
3.	Alhaji G. Haliru	1999 – 2002
4.	Chief F. A. Awani (Acting)	2002 – 2002
5.	Kwajafa A. J.	2002 – 2003
5.	Alhaji Sani Wara	2003 – 2007
6.	Mrs. O. A. Aina	2007 – 2008
7.	Chief M. C. Ejoh	2008 – 2010
8.	Chief (Mrs.) O. A. Erokwu	2010 – 2014
9.	Mr. A. I. B. Adeleke	2014 – 2016
10.	Mr. Dauda Daniel D.	2016 – 2020
11.	Mr. M. Adokor	2020 – date

GENERAL SERVICES

i.	Chief Frank Okey Ekpunobi	2015 – 2016
ii.	Alh. Yakasai Bashir Salisu	2016 – 2017
iii.	Alh. Salawu Abdulrazak .A.	2017 – 2018
iv.	Alh. Habibu Kurawa	2018 – 2019
v.	Mr. T. M. Igusse (Acting)	2018 – 2020
vi.	Mrs. B. Loto	2020 – 2021
vii.	Mr. E. D. Attah	2021 – date



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

i.	Alh. Mahmoud Bulama	1996 – 1999
ii.	Mr. O.A Akinnigbagbe	1999 – 2000
iii.	Alh. Mohammed Sallah	2000 – 2002
iv.	Mr. E.A Obi (Acting)	2002 – 2003
v.	Mrs. O.A Aina	2003 – 2007
vi.	Alh. Sani Umar Wara	2007 – 2008
vii.	Alh. Abba Ahmed Tanko	2009 – 2012
viii.	Mrs. EE Adimorah	2012 – 2013
ix.	Mrs. Kolajo Mercy	2013 – 2014
x.	Mrs. Rhoda Kwaki	2014 – 2016
xi.	Mr. Anthony Ani	Mar – Jul 2016
xii.	Mrs. A.C Makinde	2016 – 2018
xiii.	Alh. Salawu Abdulrazak A.	2018 – 2020
ivx.	Hajia H. M. Bappah	2020 – date

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

i.	Mr. Anthony Ani	2012 – 2013
ii.	Mr. Joseph Abu (Ag. Director)	2013 – 2014
iii.	Mr. K. C. Mgbemena (Ag. Director)	2014 – 2015
iv.	Mrs. Christy I. Uba	2015 – date



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

LEGAL UNIT

1. Okpe Rosemary (Mrs.)	1984 – 1991
2. Barr. Ahmed Tijani Ibrahim	1991 – date

PRESS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT

i. Chief Onigboji	1981 – 1984
ii. Chief Mrs. Esan	1984 – 1986
iii. Mr. Adebayo	1986 – 1990
iv. Mr. A. O. Akinnigbagbe	1993 – 1998
v. Chief Gregory Kas Enegwea	1998 – 2000
vi. Alhaji Mohammed Sallah	2000 – 2002
vii. Mr. A. D. Okafor	2002
viii. Barr. Ekpeyong Nkpung	2002 – 2003
ix. Mrs. F. A. Lasaki	2003
x. Alhaji Abdulwahab Obomeile	2003 – 2004
xi. Alhaji Abba Ahmed Tanko	2004 – 2007
xii. Mrs. C. F. Ojukwu	2007
xiii. Alhaji Abdulwahab Obomeile	2007 – 2009
xiv. Mr. Ezekiel Aiye dogbon	2009 – 2010
xv. Mrs. Mercy F. Kolajo	2010 – 2011
xvi. Mrs. Clara C. Babatunde	2011 – 2012
xvii. Mrs Abosede O. Aderibigbe	2012 – 2017
xviii. Mrs. Adenike Adeyemi	2017 – date



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

PROCUREMENT

i.	MRSS.I.E. OMOKRI (Overseer)	2008 – 2009
ii.	DR. JOHN ABHUERE	2010 – 2011
iii.	MR. M.C. EJOH (Overseer)	April, 2011
iv.	MRS M. MIDALA	2011 – 2012
v.	MR. G.O. ALONGE	2012 – 2013
vi.	MR. A. AROKOYO	2013 – 2014
vii.	ALHAJI BASHIR S. YAKASAI	2014 – 2016
viii.	MR. YAKUBU JOK	2016 – 2019
ix.	MRS. RUTH BAKKA	2019 – 2020
x.	MR. T. M. IGYUSE	2021 – date

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

1. Alh. M. Bulama	1993 – 1995
2. Alh. M. Sallah	1995 – 1999
3. Dr. (Mrs.) M. O. Okeke	1999 – 2000
4. Mr. Ayodele Ojo	2000 – 2002
5. Mrs. I. C. Haliday	2002 – 2003
6. Dr. J. I. Abhuere	2003 – 2005
7. Mr. M. C. Ejoh	2005 – 2008
8. Mrs. E. Adimorah	2008



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

9. Chief S. A. Onuoha	2009 – 2010
10. Alh. A. O. Obomeile	2010 – 2011
11. Chief M. C. Ejoh	2011 – 2012
12. Mrs. M. S. Midala	2012 – 2013
13. Mrs. G. O. Obioha	2013 – 2014
14. Rev. A. T. Ajayi	2014 – 2016
15. Mr. A. C. Ani	2016 – 2017
16. Mrs. V. B. Okakwu	2017 – 2019
17. H.M Bappah (Mrs)	2019 – 2020
18. Mr. Y. S. Ehoda-Adi	Jan. 2019 – July, 2020
19. Mrs. Ramatu Sanda (Head)	2020 – 2021
20. Mr. A. W. Ikaka	2021 – date

REFORMS UNIT

I.	Mr. K.C. Mgbemena	2006 – 2010 <i>(DD Service Delivery)</i>
ii.	Mrs. E.N. Nweke	2010 – 2014
iii.	Barr. A.K. Somefun	2014 – 2017
iv.	Mrs. A.S. Idowu	2017 – 2019
v.	Mrs. N. N. Chukwuka	2019
vi.	Mr. T. M. Igyuse	2019 – 2021
vii.	MR. Y. B. Abdullahi	2021 – date



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

SKILLS ACQUISITION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT (SAED)

1. Mrs. Dan-Abia Mary E.	2012 – 2016
2. Barr. Mrs Anosike Theresa I.	2016 – 2017
3. Barr. A.K Somefun	March – May, 2017
4. Mrs. Mobolaji A. Eboagwu	2017 – 2018
5. Mr. Nuhu S. Kwaghe	2018 – 2019
6. Mr. H. Nasamu	2019 – date

SPECIAL DUTIES

i. Mr. Yakubu Jok	2015 – 2016
ii. Revd Canon A. T. Ajayi	July – August, 2016
iii. Mr. Hilary A. Nasamu	2016 – 2019
iv. Mr. A. J. Afolayan	2019 – date

VENTURES MANAGEMENT

1. Mrs. R. K. Kwaki	2012 – 2014
2. Mr. O. F. Adeniran	(Acting) 2014 – 2015
3. Mrs. A. C. Makinde	(Acting) 2015 – 2016
4. Mr. S. A. Alabi	(Acting) 2016 – 2017



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

5.	Mr. N. S. Kwaghe (Head)	2017 – 2018
6.	Mrs. M. A. Eboagwu (Acting)	May – August, 2018
7.	Mr. Leke Abiodun Director/Overseer	2018 – 2021
8.	Prince M. Momoh	2021 – date

NYSC AREA OFFICES

SOUTH SOUTH AREA OFFICE

i.	Mr. A. F. Omotade	2019 – 2021
ii.	Mr. A. R. Sanusi (Acting)	April, 2021 – date

SOUTH WEST AREA OFFICE

i.	Mr. E. D. Attah	2019 – 2021
ii.	Mrs. O. Akin-Moses	April, 2021 – date

SOUTH EAST AREA OFFICE

i.	Mr. A. W. Ikaka	2019 – 2021
ii.	Mrs. N. D. Nwatarali	April, 2021 – date

NORTH EAST AREA OFFICE

i.	Mr. O. E. J. Abada	2019 – 2021
ii.	Mr. Ladan Baba	April, 2021 – date



DIRECTORS OF THE SCHEME

NORTH WEST AREA OFFICE

- | | | |
|-----|------------------|-------------|
| i. | Mrs. Ruth Bakka | 2019 – 2020 |
| ii. | Mrs. Zainab Isah | 2020 – date |

NORTH CENTRAL AREA OFFICE

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|----------|--------------------|
| i. | Mr. Y. B. Abdullahi | (Acting) | 2019 – 2021 |
| ii. | Mrs. Bolade Loto | | April, 2021 – date |



CHALLENGES FACING THE SCHEME FROM MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

1. Federal Government:

1. Inadequate funding
2. Inadequate logistic vehicle in all the states.
3. Inadequate funding for the provision of Corps Members' kits items.
4. Inadequate funding of feeding allowance during orientation programme.

2. State Governments:

1. Non-provision of Permanent orientation camps in some states.
2. Poor maintenance of camp facilities.
3. Statutory welfare provision for Corps Members and the state offices are not met by most of the State Governments e.g state subvention, Corps Lodges, Burial/Medical allowance for Corps Members etc.
4. Corps rejection by most public institutions.

3. Local Government councils:

1. Non-existence of NYSC Local Government Welfare Committees in most of the LGAs.
2. Poor utilisation of Corps Members.
3. Lack of Corps lodges in most of the LGAs.
4. Most LGAs no longer encourage support for Community Development Projects by Corps Members.

4. Corps Employers:

1. Corps rejection.
2. Under-utilisation Corps Members.
3. Truancy/ Abscondment of Corps Members.
4. Non-provision of welfare packages for Corps members by most Corps employers, such as Accommodation, Transportation, and Medicals etc.

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5. Parents and Guardians:

1. Pressure from parents/ Guardians for concessional posting.
2. Hoarding of information on the health status of their wards.
3. Prejudices on the side of the parents.

6. Corps Producing Institutions:

1. Submission of data on graduates different from approved courses by various regulatory bodies.
2. Inclusion of part-time graduates on the NYSC mobilisation list.

EXPECTATIONS

1. Federal Government:

1. Upward review of the cost of provision of Corps Members' kits.
2. Upward review of feeding allowance of Corps Members in the camp.
3. In the face of present economic realities, Corps monthly allowance should be reviewed.
4. Computation of Corps transport allowance to orientation camp in mileage should be preferred.

2. States:

1. Functional NYSC State/FCT governing boards should be constituted.
2. States/FCT governments should endeavor to meet up with their statutory obligations to the Scheme.

3. Local Government:

1. Provision of welfare package to Corps Members posted to the Local Government area.
2. Provision of adequate security of lives and property of Corps Members in their domain.
3. Arrange for the collection Corps Members at the end of the

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orientation course and returning them for the purpose of winding-up exercise.

4. Encouraging Corps Members to participate in development projects and programmes in the host community.

4. Corps employers:

1. Full utilisation of Corps Members.
2. Provision of adequate accommodation for Corps Members.
3. Provision of adequate welfare package for Corps Members.
4. Avail Corps Members on medical facilities like the other staff.

5. Corps Producing Institutions:

1. Ensure that the lists forwarded to the Scheme comply with the mobilisation guidelines.

6. Parents and Guardians:

1. Parents should understand that concessional posting request is not allowed.
2. Encourage their wards to disclose their true health status in the camps.



**Text of a Broadcast by GENERAL YAKUBU GOWON, Head of the
Federal Military Government and Commander-In-Chief of the
Armed Forces, On July 2, 1973, Inaugurating the
National Youth Service Corps**

Today, Monday, July 2, 1973, marks a new epoch in our task of nation building. As all of you, young men and women, commence today your one year of national service, you will be fulfilling in a special way, the hopes and aspirations of a nation that puts a great premium on the moral and physical development of its youths for a better and greater tomorrow. I consider it necessary therefore that I should, on this occasion, let you know the great importance, which all the Governments in the Federation attach to this Scheme.

I have had occasions in the past to drum it into the ears of the youths of this country that our resources, energy and talent should be unreservedly directed and dedicated to those things, which make for the realisation and retention of the ideals which enable a nation to rise above its history and attain heights that would have normally been deemed unattainable.

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I have always believed that youths constitute a dominant force for national mobilisation and growth and as such have a crucial role to play in all important task of nation building. However, under our present peculiar circumstance, when Nigeria is being increasingly looked upon to play a major role in matters relating to the destiny of Africa, the responsibility of our youths in this direction becomes even greater.

It is our belief that the National Youth Service Corps provides for the Nigerian youth a much needed platform for self-realisation and for contributing their essential quota in the realisation of our national objectives of building a strong, united and self-reliant nation.

Furthermore, we believe that the Scheme provides for the youths of this country the opportunity to develop those highly valuable qualities of discipline, industry at work, patriotism, loyalty and dedication to the national cause. It also provides the youths with the chance to demonstrate that they can utilise their God-given talents and acquired skills in the services of their fellow men without asking for undue reward in return.

The task that lies ahead of you is not an easy one and I understand your anxieties and apprehensions. However, you as pioneers in this venture, which holds so much promise for the future of our country and indeed that of the African continent as a whole. You should consider yourselves very fortunate as it is to you that the honour and privilege of starting the Scheme and setting the peace for the future generations of Corps Members fall. I have no doubt whatsoever that if you approach the task with a determination to make a good job of it, your efforts are bound to be crowned with huge success.

The Federal Military Government, as well as the State Governments in the Federation regards you not only as pioneers, but also as builders of a new Nigeria and is, therefore, anxiously waiting to give every assistance and co-operation in the task before you.

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I wish to remind you, however, that as you go to the respective areas to which you have been deployed, you should regard yourselves as good emissaries of your states of origin and your particular universities. Above all, you must be the brand of new Nigerian that Nigeria is looking for.

You will be required to break the cordon of state barriers and state idiosyncrasies, thus fulfilling one cardinal objective of the National Youth Service Corps - fostering the unity of this great nation. You should also seize the opportunity to learn about the areas in which you will be working and the people in those areas.

I believe the experience, which you will amass from this year of national service, will be of great benefit to you in particular and the country in general in the years that lie ahead. You should feel free to make observations as to how to solve them to the appropriate authorities. Evaluation of the Scheme as a whole will be based on the contributions of individual members of the Corps. It is the ordinary people you serve that will write your report. It is therefore, essential that each and every one of you should strive to make a great impact and leave behind a good image wherever you may be serving. I sincerely hope that each and every one of you fully realise that success or failure of the Scheme depends to a very large degree on you as an individual.

I wish to seize this opportunity to reassure you that my confidence in you, in spite of all that had happened and in the Nigerian youths generally, remains unshaken. I have never doubted the ability of our youths to make Nigeria a great, united and prosperous nation. It is my hope that the challenge posed by this Scheme will be taken up by you with the characteristic determination and courage of our youths. You cannot afford to fail the nation in this task.

I wish you all good luck, a useful and successful year of national service.
God bless you all.



**An Address by His Excellency, GENERAL YAKUBU GOWON, Head
of the Federal Military Government, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed
Forces Of The Federal, Republic of Nigeria to the Graduating
National Youth Service Corps Members On Sunday June 30, 1974**

Members of the National Youth Service Corps,

Today, June 30, 1974 marks the end of one year of your continuous period of service as pioneers of the National Youth Service Corps. On behalf of the entire nation, I offer you my warmest congratulations for your service to your fatherland.

As pioneers, you embarked on the Scheme against a background of anxiety and doubt as to what it was all about. The beginning was not easy. You faced the initial problems of finding accommodation in your new stations; there were language difficulties and the customs of the people. In most of the cases, you tackled the problems with determination and readily overcame them. In fact, I know that many of you now understand a bit of the local dialects of the people you served. This is one of the measures of the success of the Scheme. I therefore unreservedly express my pride in each and every one of you, both male and female. You have proved worthy sons of Nigeria by bringing a new revolution in the service of young people to this great Nation.

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Reports from all the states, and from the ordinary people of this country, show that they have enjoyed meeting you in their respective communities and local authorities. In fact, you have made your mark not only in providing the much-needed high level manpower, but also by your active participation in community development work in the various states. The markets constructed and bridges built by you will stand as a lasting monument of your dedication and selfless service. I sincerely hope that you have benefited from the Scheme, not only materially, but more so, by utilising the opportunity offered you of knowing your country better and also to the success of the Four-Year Development Plan.

On behalf of the nation and people of this country, I say to the pioneers of this Scheme, well done, God bless and I hope you will be my good disciples in this and subsequent Schemes to improve and develop our nation.

The Federal Military Government attaches very great importance to the national service and since its inception has taken steps to remove some of the constraints on its operation and also to widen the scope of the programme. As you are no doubt aware, the National Youth Service Corps Decree has been amended to provide for the extension of the scope of the Scheme to graduates who have exceeded the prescribed age of 30 years. Such graduates can volunteer to join the national service. I am informed that many have in fact volunteered to do so.

One problem, which has agitated the minds of Corps men and women, is the quest of their seniority vis-à-vis their counterparts who joined the services because they were exempted from participation on account of age. With the co-operation of all employers, the National Youth Service Corps Decree has been amended, obliging every employer to take account of the period of service in the youth Corps in fixing salary or other remuneration payable to a graduate who has successfully undertaken his national service. The Decree also stipulates that such salary or remuneration shall not be less than that normally payable to a graduate in comparable employment and who has been

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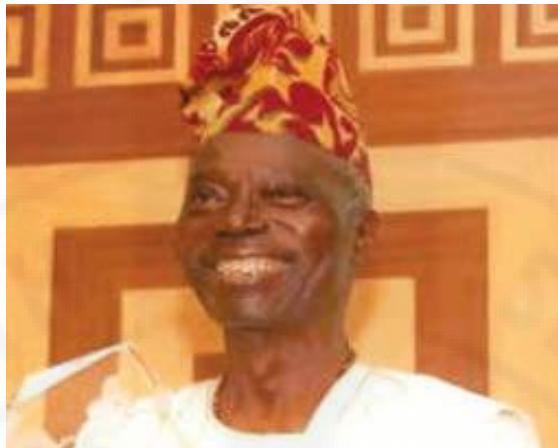
in employment for the same period as the duration of the youth Corps service period.

The Federal Military Government has also decided to aid private students overseas who have completed their university education and who volunteer to serve in the National Youth Service Corps in paying their passage home. Where a male volunteer is married and has children, the Government will pay in addition the passage of his wife and children up to a maximum of three. By the decision, my Government has demonstrated the great importance it attaches to the Youth Service Scheme. The next batch of Corps Members will start on 1st August 1974. I can foresee great opportunities and challenges. One that comes readily to mind is the proposed Universal Primary Education Scheme. There is no doubt that many of our new breed of National Corps Members will find themselves called upon to help in this very important Scheme. I hope like you, all the good pioneers, they will not be found wanting and that they will offer their services selflessly and dedicate themselves to the progress of this nation as a whole.

You have all done well during the past one year of this vital Scheme and the Directorate of the Scheme has recommended to me some of you who have been considered outstanding in each state. Therefore, as a mark of their outstanding performance during the service year, those of you so recommended will be awarded the Chairman's Honours Certificate. It is my hope to see the recipients of these awards before long. I do hope that the future participants will strive hard to gain this meritorious award.

Friends, as you settle down in your various employments to face the challenges of life, I do hope that you will always remember the great lessons you have learnt during this one year of national service and endeavour to contribute your quota to enable this country to do much better than it has done so far, so that she can achieve its rightful place in the world.

Again, well done. May God bless you all.



**1st Passing Out Parade Address by PROFESSOR ADEBAYO ADEDEJI,
Pioneer Chairman, National Youth Service Corps on June 30,
1974**

This week, the first batch of the National Youth Service Corps Members are rounding off their call-up to national duty by holding seminars to review the NYSC programme. This is a useful exercise for the future of the programme, which began under the cloud of suspicion and resentment by students and apprehension by the recipient states.

Student resentment arose largely as a result of the lack of communication of the Federal Military Government's objectives and conditions of service. At the last, the terms were liberal. Furthermore, the youth discovered that after all they had a role to play in the development of the country. Most of them teaching in schools for example, found out their services were required by the community.

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The programme made a contribution toward alleviating the manpower problems of some states. This is in spite of the criticism by many functionaries that the NYSC members were not properly motivated. The youths often refuted this allegation by accusing states officials of giving them frivolous and sometimes irrelevant schedule of duty.

Both points are worth considering in the preparation being made for the assignment of the new Corps Members whose call-up comes on August 1. It is to be hoped that their training programme will be better organised. That the NYSC Directorate has already prepared a new syllabus for the Orientation course suggests that last year's short coming would be corrected.

The Directorate should be commended for refusing to yield to pressure by some professional organizations which wanted exemptions for their members. If Doctors had been exempted, there would have been no justification in rejecting the request of Architects, Accountants and their professional likes. The Director's own rapport with the NYSC members helped at critical stages when tempers ran high during the formative year.



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INDEX

- Abakaliki, 8, 187, 294, 329
Abia State, 138, 140, 485
Action Group, 309
Adamawa State, 89, 116, 142
 143, 475, 536
Adebayo Adedeji, 651
Ad-hoc Teaching Staff, 269
Administrative Growth and
 Development, 5
Advisory & Counselling (JAC),
 96
Advocacy, 73, 117, 165, 344,
 362, 366, 477, 491, 535, 548,
 589
Agricultural Development, 88,
 116, 451
Agriculture, 9, 103, 112, 116,
 127, 130, 133, 156, 157, 194,
 203, 250, 267, 276, 325, 243,
 347, 351, 369, 394, 412, 441,
 445, 450, 454, 473, 474, 475
Agwu Henry Chidozie, 572
AhiekeNdume, 138
Akwa Ibom, 89, 91, 92, 144,
 145, 146, 399, 570
All Conference of Principals of
 Secondary Schools
 (ANCOPSS), 418
Amendment, 2
Anambra State, 13, 95, 294, 315,
 326, 329, 492
Appolos Reuben Terkuma, 576
Area Offices, 7, 8, 57, 490, 493
Armed Forces, 3, 9, 489, 493
Arts, 183, 252, 382, 383, 384
Assessment of the NYSC, 527,
 528,
Association for Reproductive
 and Family Health, 327, 528,
 531, 534, 541, 543, 545, 547,
 552, 557, 559, 561, 566, 573,
 574, 576, 579, 580, 582, 584,
 591
Athletics, 102, 382, 384
Audit, 7
Award Winners, 416, 424, 428
Badamasi Babangida, 562
Bakori, 209, 277

NYSC Publication

Not for sale or reprint



- Bank of Industry, 12, 73, 97, 343, 344, 347, 473, 475, 496
- Bayelsa, 163, 533
- Beef Fattening, 92, 325
- Bello Bashiru, 564
- Benjamin Ogori, 582
- Benue State, 56, 88, 169, 326
- Boko Haram, 55, 298, 386, 466
- Borno State, 56, 88, 170, 396, 482, 538
- Bread Bakery, 95
- British Council, 12, 13, 276, 276, 370
- Canadian International Development Agency, 363
- Capacity Building, 240, 344, 349, 353, 367, 477, 491
- Cassava, 89, 91, 116, 173, 182, 218, 325, 327, 328, 369, 474, 475
- Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), 12, 97, 343, 345, 346, 347, 472, 473, 475
- CDS, 16, 58, 126, 128, 134, 135, 136, 150, 173, 272, 274, 276, 277, 278, 288, 289, 368, 369, 371, 372, 399, 441, 415, 447, 461, 462, 465, 468, 470, 484, 485, 571, 580, 581, 585, 590
- Certification, 612
- Challenges in Education, 280
- Challenges of NYSC, 55, 298, 309
- Civil War, 2, 49, 52, 56, 126, 266, 394, 404, 412, 458, 459, 466, 477, 547, 554
- Clean Energy, 367
- Cognitive Advisory, 349, 367
- Collaboration, 11, 12, 55, 73, 114, 115, 117, 119, 136, 215, 276, 282, 294, 296, 308, 309, 316, 328, 343, 346, 349, 350, 351, 362, 363, 364, 367, 368, 370, 371, 373, 480, 468, 471, 476, 478, 491, 492, 496, 497, 547, 555
- Collaborative CDS, 289
- Colonial Rule, 307, 394, 411
- CONVID, 113, 368
- Commerce, 9, 127
- Community Development, 10, 12, 58, 72, 73, 98, 99, 126, 127, 128, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 234, 267,

NYSC Publication

Not for sale or reprint



- 274, 275, 276, 277, 279, 282, 288, 292, 298, 326, 365, 368, 371, 372, 394, 399, 402, 414, 415, 421, 445, 447, 451, 453, 461, 463, 465, 467, 468, 477, 526, 537, 540, 552, 590, 592
Corona Virus, 296, 481, 392, 396, 397
Corps members, 1, 2, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 58, 59 60, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 87, 88, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 126, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 150, 169, 182, 183, 200, 215, 218, 230, 239, 241, 252, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 288, 289, 292, 293, 295, 296, 306, 311, 313, 314, 315, 316, 329, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 351, 352, 353, 363, 364, 365, 366, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 382, 383, 384, 385, 390, 393, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 414, 415, 416, 420, 421, 425, 426, 427, 428, 438, 445, 446, 447, 448, 450, 451, 454, 462, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 488, 489, 490, 492, 493, 494, 496, 497, 498, 526, 528, 529, 530, 531, 533, 535, 536, 538, 540, 541, 542, 544, 547, 551, 553, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 561, 562, 565, 566, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 574, 575, 576, 577, 579, 580, 581, 584, 585, 586, 588, 589, 590, 592, 594, 595, 596
COVID, 292, 293, 295, 296, 297, 298, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 420, 481, 484, 485, 486, 490, 596
Creation, 4, 12, 50, 73, 98, 113, 116, 119, 131, 177, 208, 214, 309, 326, 335, 344, 351, 352, 353, 366, 368, 369, 446, 448, 474, 596

NYSC Publication

Not for sale or reprint



- Credit Direct, 97, 343, 345
Cross River, 91, 180, 326, 499
Cultural Festival, 183, 382, 383, 384, 472, 483
Decree, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 51, 59, 68, 87, 132, 267, 412, 413, 448, 449, 459
Defence Intelligent Agency, 3
Delta State, 182, 183, 185, 345
Democracy, 307, 308, 309, 313, 316, 364
Directorate Headquarters, 5, 6, 7, 14, 57, 418
Director-General, 281, 349, 393, 400, 418, 472, 476, 479, 480, 481, 482, 491, 495, 500
Ebola, 113, 368, 470
Ebonyi State, 8, 14, 89, 95, 116, 187, 294, 326, 329, 475, 497
ECN/NYSC Partnership, 367
Edo State, 8, 88, 89, 189, 326, 486, 583
Educational Development, 112, 118, 138, 265, 268, 274, 280, 281, 282
Ekiti State, 191, 345, 415, 488, 498, 543, 562, 585
Electoral Commission of Nigeria, 309
Emmanuel Nyedam, 530
Empowerment, 8, 12, 13, 66, 68, 72, 73, 96, 99, 117, 151, 153, 157, 158, 197, 207, 239, 253, 260, 277, 289, 330, 342, 343, 344, 347, 348, 351, 353, 367, 370, 382, 404, 448, 473, 496
Entrepreneurial Development, 96, 347, 348, 350, 597
Enugu State, 101, 193, 293, 545, 584, 588
Establishment, of NYSC 50, 484
Establishment of Skills Centre, 2
Ethnicity, 50, 51, 58
Extra Curricular Activities, 272
Ezekiel Dorcas, 586
Ezillo, 14, 95, 116, 326, 329, 475, 497
Farm, 14, 70, 88, 89, 90, 92, 94, 98, 116, 117, 140, 142, 153, 155, 160, 162, 163, 165, 166, 169, 171, 173, 177, 185, 189, 198, 204, 207, 222, 223, 225,

NYSC Publication

Not for sale or reprint



- 254, 267, 325, 326, 327, 328, 367, 369, 442, 447, 466, 474, 475, 495, 497, 498, 548
FCT, 4, 9, 14, 15, 88, 89, 94, 95, 116, 196, 248, 269, 326, 367, 385, 417, 423, 469, 474, 475, 485, 492, 493, 497, 498, 499, 509, 590
Federal Electoral Commission, 310
FEDECO, 310
Federal Government, 60, 130, 196, 265, 267, 277, 280, 282, 296, 297, 398, 400, 474, 475, 487, 489, 499, 530, 531, 594, 596
Federal Military Government, 4, 52, 266
Feed Mill, 14, 94, 325, 328
Finance, 5, 72, 75, 86, 93, 94, 101, 102, 465, 468, 475, 496, 588
Fish Farm, 92, 117, 140, 165, 177, 234, 325
Galtima Mai Ali, 537
Gambia National Youth Service, 16, 437, 438, 446
Garment Factory, 13, 95, 326, 329, 498
General Yakubu Gowon, 49, 266, 394, 412, 448, 491, 528
GNYSS, 442, 445, 448, 453, 454
Gombe State, 197, 345, 349, 367, 396, 593
Guinness Nigeria, 370
Health Campaign, 72, 185, 346, 469
Health Care, 113, 202, 275, 291, 295, 297, 365, 394, 451
High Chief Sylvanus E. E. Iyamba, 566
Historical table, 422
HIV/AIDS Campaigns, 113
Ibeh Christabel, 587
ICT, 10, 15, 16, 503, 581
Imo, 89, 199, 201, 325, 555
Implementation Strategies, 336, 496
Inadequate Funding, 58, 395, 593
Information Technology, 15, 67, 353, 486
Infrastructural Development, 99, 526, 527, 528, 529, 533,

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- 536, 538, 539, 543, 545, 548, 550, 551, 552, 557, 559, 562, 566, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 582, 585, 589, 590, 592, 594, 597
Initiative for Rural Dwellers, 113, 288, 292, 293, 294, 298, 470
Insecurity, 55, 56, 60, 74, 267, 396, 398, 532, 593, 594
International Engagement, 16, 17
Ipaja, 14, 92, 94, 226, 325, 328, 544
Isaac Prosper, 588
Iseyin, 89, 90, 92, 116, 238, 239, 242, 326, 327, 474, 497, 565
Jacob Olurotimi Ogunleye, 527
JAMB, 120, 159, 208, 222, 270, 370, 466, 467, 471, 548
Jigawa, 202, 496
Kaduna State, 56, 203, 554
Kano State, 89, 101, 206, 367, 484, 488
Katsina State, 208, 278, 325, 554
Kebbi State, 8, 210, 326, 327, 497
Kogi, 214, 364, 471
Labour, 12, 16, 57, 61, 66, 68, 87, 100, 275, 298, 335, 337, 338, 339, 343, 349, 351, 369, 395, 402, 428, 438, 447, 465, 468, 469, 471, 473, 474, 476, 478, 555, 560, 573, 580, 585, 589
Lagos, 14, 219, 222, 328, 385, 492, 504, 546, 558
Leadership, 1, 11, 17, 133, 266, 273, 275, 278, 281, 307, 308, 314, 336, 351, 352, 370, 412, 414, 415, 416, 418, 439, 442, 445, 450, 452, 453, 458, 459, 464, 465, 480, 482, 485, 493, 494, 545, 462, 594
Legal Aid, 119, 135, 206, 275, 290, 368, 369, 567
Livestock, 88, 89, 92, 94, 325, 328, 443
Local Government, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 131, 142, 147, 160, 170, 173, 174, 175, 182, 183, 185, 188, 198, 204, 208, 214, 215, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 235, 238, 239, 240, 241, 277, 293,

NYSC Publication

Not for sale or reprint



- 294, 392, 413, 415, 426, 468, 469, 474, 477, 481, 485, 488, 493, 555, 575, 577, 586, 595
Maize, 88, 90, 100, 116, 182, 325, 327, 327, 328
Man-power, 57
Maryjane Ebiri, 568
Mercy Corps, 114, 366
Mgbakweu, 13, 95, 326, 329
Military, 4, 412, 440, 445, 446, 453, 479, 481, 482
Mining, 75, 87, 93, 94
Ministry of Youth and Sports, 5, 418, 484, 561, 563
Minna, 8, 13, 95, 130, 231, 232, 326, 329
Mobilisation, 10, 16, 52, 67, 68, 69, 72, 74, 98, 115, 128, 129, 131, 133, 296, 362, 401, 437, 438, 441, 445, 449, 446, 453, 460, 461, 461, 464, 468, 470, 473, 486, 494, 495, 593, 594, 596
Mobility, 61, 69, 88, 100
Monitoring, 57, 120, 271, 292, 293, 353, 370, 342, 471, 496, 562
Muhammad Ibn Abali, 539
Muhammad Idrisa, 539
Nasarawa State, 94, 228, 230, 481, 497
National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA), 361
National Board for Technology Incubation, 12, 343
National Selection Committee, 417, 418, 428
Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, 399
NCDC, 134, 393, 396, 399, 400, 485
Nigerian Civil War, 2, 49, 126, 412
NYSC/CBN Partnership, 473
NYSC/Mercy Corps, 114
NYSC/NDLEA Partnership, 366
NYSC/NEMA, 368
NYSC/NPC Collaboration, 364
NYSC/NPI Partnership, 365
NYSC/EFCC/ICPC Partnership, 366

NYSC Publication

Not for sale or reprint



- Nigerian Institute of Management, 12, 373, 476
- Nigerian Employers Consultative Association, 8, 418
- Nigerian Graduate Volunteer Programme, 367
- Nigerian Intelligence Agency, 3
- NYSC/FRSC Partnership, 368
- NYSC/INEC Collaboration, 364
- NYSC Garri Factory, 15, 116, 475
- NYSC Honours Awards, 413, 494
- Oba Adedokun Omoniyi Abolarin, 528
- Ogun State, 89, 561, 584
- Oil and Gas, 93
- Oluboba Ayodeji Ebenezer, 389
- Onah Chinedu Hygenus, 578
- Ondo State, 8, 89, 562, 563
- Onyema Ocheoha, 547
- Osun State, 8, 571
- Oyo State, 89, 279, 326, 327, 474
- Participants, 1, 366, 381, 385, 452
- Place of primary assignment, 134, 415, 526, 568, 573
- Passing-out parade, 399
- Problems, 71, 129, 273, 295, 339, 340, 353, 371, 397, 441, 447, 593
- Poverty eradication, 97, 383
- Rashidat Eganyi, 574
- Redistribution, 101, 473, 474
- Religious, 50, 396, 411, 458, 477, 527, 530, 535, 539, 547
- Rivers State, 89, 530, 533
- SAED, 73, 571, 572, 573, 574, 576, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 586, 587, 588, 590
- Saleh Mohammad Umar, 552
- Saminaka, 205, 210, 326, 327, 497
- Skills Acquisition, 13, 213, 231, 235, 253, 254, 274, 282, 330, 335, 336, 342, 344, 347, 350, 351, 353, 445, 447, 453, 544, 559
- Social services, 369, 452, 471
- Society, 383, 393, 403, 416, 418,

NYSC Publication

Not for sale or reprint



- 419, 424, 425, 427, 428, 439, 452, 485, 500, 548, 553, 567, 593
Sokoto State, 249, 269
Soleyi Abimbola, 584
State Government, 6, 57, 103, 266, 280, 298, 371, 428, 477, 492, 493
Strategic partnership, 313, 350, 469
Students, 1, 274, 276, 277, 278, 279, 282, 339, 347, 363, 412, 444, 482, 486, 494, 549, 555
Sunday Osayande Idada, 501
Talata Mafara, 89, 95, 258, 326
Taraba State, 252, 489, 532, 536, 578, 581
Technical Assistance, 439, 440, 441, 454
Technological development, 99
Tukur Abba Tukur, 535
Uchenna Otunanya, 545
Umoh Etop, 591
UN Babangida, 559
Under-investment, 341
UNESCO, 12, 370
United Nations, 12, 97, 127, 274, 296, 343, 363, 365, 440, 476
United States Embassy, 371
Vocational Education, 340
Vocational Training Centre, 348, 349
Welfare and Health Services, 57, 418
Wisdom Akpan Anaefiong, 570
Wole Oyebamiji, 525
World Bank, 12, 13, 86, 199, 276, 369
World Health Organisation (WHO), 296, 392, 397, 401
WOTCLEF, 369
Yobe State, 257, 537, 539
Youth Service Corps, 1, 2, 10, 17, 50, 51, 53, 56, 61, 66, 67, 68, 87, 125, 126, 127, 132, 136, 137, 266, 268, 279, 280, 281, 282, 287, 288, 292, 294, 296, 297, 307, 308, 309, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 325, 336, 383, 392, 440, 444, 446, 448, 479, 484, 500, 505, 526, 532, 537, 540, 553, 591, 593, 594, 596
Zamfara State, 89, 95, 326, 329, 358



(From left to right) His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Nasarawa State, Engr. Abdullahi A. Sule, NYSC Director-General, Brig Gen S Ibrahim, the Deputy Governor of Nasarawa State, Dr Emmanuel A. Akabe and the Former Governor of Nasarawa State, Tanko Al-Makura during a congratulatory visit to the DG who hails from Nasarawa State on 25th of June, 2019



The Director-General and the Emir of Lafia, Justice Sidi Bage Muhammad during the congratulatory visit to the DG

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The DG with the high-powered delegation from Nasarawa State to the NYSC NDHQ, led by His Excellency, the Governor of the State, Engr. Abdullahi A. Sule



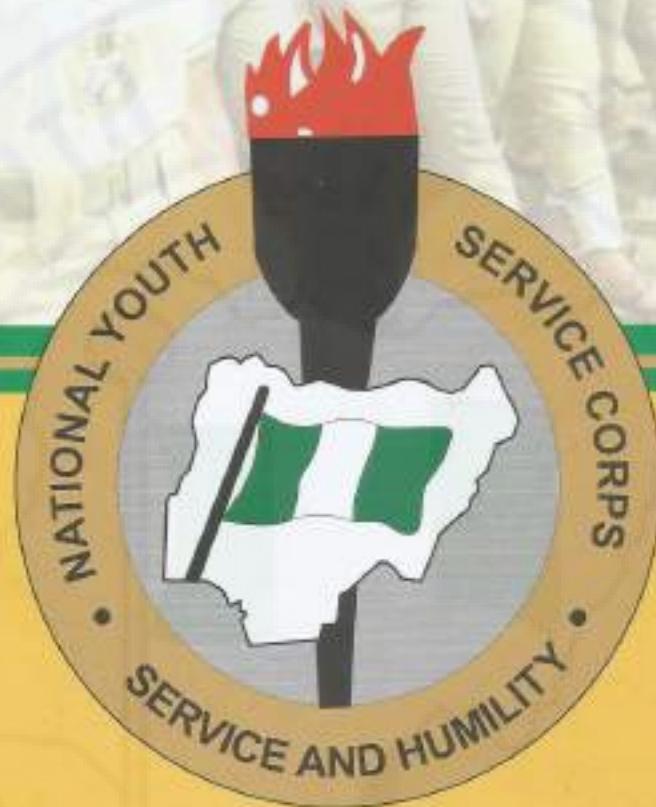
***The DG with the Traditional Rulers from Nasarawa State:
The Emirs of Lafia, Keffi, Nasarawa, Andoma of Doma,
among others***

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