

# EDUCATION MATTERS

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Nigeria Education Development Partners Group



The Minister of State Education, Honorable Chukwuemeka Nwajiuba, showcasing the **Igbo and Yoruba** books during the launch

## Good News & Moves

**USAID Launches New Early Grade Learning Books in Local Languages for Southern Nigeria:** On January 28, USAID and the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council launched new Igbo and Yoruba early grade reading materials that expand the availability of quality local language teaching and learning materials for grades 1 to 3 in Nigeria. Developed by USAID's flagship Northern Education Initiative (NEI) Plus activity and the NERDC, the new curricula join the Hausa and English materials available in soft copy free to any interested Nigerian state to adopt, print, and distribute with their own resources. The comprehensive curriculum package includes learner textbooks and workbooks, teachers' guides, and engaging storybooks for practice in school or at home.

**The German Development Agency (GIZ) Creates Career Paths for Nigerian Youth:** The GIZ-funded Skills Development for Youth Employment (SKYE) project supports the development of new occupational standards in technical education, to address a mismatch of skills with Nigerian labour market demands. SKYE facilitated several workshops with over 250 companies in Abuja, Lagos and Kano states to develop occupational profiles and national standards in the areas of Office Administration, Technical Facility Maintenance, Industrial Electronics, Industrial Mechanics, Electrical and Solar Photovoltaic, while working closely with the National Board for Technical Education, the Abuja and Lagos Chambers of Commerce and Industries, and other public-private stakeholders.

*"Education is not the learning of facts but the training of the mind to think."*

- Albert Einstein

### Upcoming Events

#### EDPG Meetings

March 3, 2021

April 7, 2021

May 5, 2021

#### National Education Group

First Tuesday of every month

#### Northeast Partners Meeting

Second Tuesday of the month

**European Union (EU) Supports Response, Recovery, and Resilience in Borno State:** UNICEF and a consortia led by Plan International, with Street Child, the Norwegian Refugee Council, Save the Children, and GePADC, have handed 174 newly constructed/rehabilitated physical disability inclusive classrooms, 264 gender segregated latrines, 10 newly constructed solar powered bore holes, and a number of semi-temporary learning spaces upgraded with WASH facilities over to Borno State. Borno has also benefitted from supplies of teaching and learning resources reaching over 52,900 persons in 11 LGAs.

**Global Partnership for Education (GPE) in Nigeria:** The GPE finalized the completion of a US\$100 million grant, the Nigeria Partnership for Education (NIPEP), implemented by the Government of Nigeria with support from the World Bank in five north-western states. In late 2020, Nigeria also received two GPE emergency grants overseen by UNICEF: the US\$15 million COVID-19 response grant, and the US\$20 million Accelerated Funding grant supporting Education in Emergencies in

## Good News & Moves (Continued)

the North East. In January 2021, Nigeria applied for the new US\$125 million grant proposed to support Oyo, Adamawa and Katsina states and provide additional financing to the World Bank's BESDA programme. The Nigeria Education Group, co-chaired by the FCDO and the Federal Ministry of Education, facilitated each process with active contributions from development partners. For more GPE information, see <https://www.globalpartnership.org/where-we-work/nigeria>

### Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) Leaves Legacy of Strengthening Girls' Education in Nigeria:

The FCDO-funded Girls' Education Challenge concluded its 12-year partnership with the Nigerian government, spanning two projects and creating improved learning opportunities for over 222,280 marginalized Nigerian girls. Implemented by Mercy Corps, the ENGINE project increased access to childcare and offered additional literacy and numeracy support for girls who were in school. Girls who had dropped out of school were given the opportunity to further their education through flexible learning with tailored modules in government training centres or ENGINE learning spaces. Similarly, the FITILA project, implemented by Impact(Ed) International, supported marginalized girls to improve their literacy, numeracy and life skills and raise their aspirations.



**USAID Partners with Borno and Yobe States to Develop Education Data Hubs:** To help the Borno and Yobe states' Ministries of Education better address the lack of evidence-based decision making in education planning and management, USAID's Addressing Education in Northern Nigeria activity developed a datahub dashboard system that has increased their use of data for decision making and reduces the risks and costs associated with the physical movement of staffers for data collection. With the dashboard, education agencies can now process information from the field in real time. A \$3 million contribution from the United Kingdom's FCDO has facilitated expansion of USAID's technical approach using datahubs from eight to 35 local government education authorities across the two states.

**USAID Expands the Availability of Digital Hausa Supplementary Reading Materials:** USAID's Strengthening Education in Northeast Nigeria States (SENSE) activity has partnered with the USAID-funded Global Book Alliance to digitize 50 supplementary reading titles in Hausa for access to all teachers, learners and interested stakeholders with internet connectivity. The Global Digital Library is a free and open web platform where high quality books can be accessed, printed, translated, and used in and out of classrooms worldwide. The content and illustrations of the books are free for use by anyone, anywhere on any device, and can be printed for home or commercial use.



**Do you have questions? Desire additional information?**  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION, please send inquiries or comments to [monyeche@usaid.gov](mailto:monyeche@usaid.gov)**