Every week, we see layers of work unfold as projects by the FEF-OSC Civil

FROM THE CONSORTIUM

Society Organisation(CSO) shift into full gear. This edition spotlights five CSOs transforming opportunity into impact: from empowering young women with digital skills, to advancing economic and mental health rights for key populations, and launching women-led agricultural innovation. Since the last edition, we have also had the delight of engaging with CSO

partners in another impactful webinar themed: Communicating for Impact, with over 90 persons in attendance. Likewise, we were pleased to welcome two additional CSOs on board and we

had the pleasure of engaging with representatives from all 21 CSOs in a second in-person workshop which was held from 19-21 August in Abuja. Learning couldn't have been more fun! The knowledge management platform, Capacity Hub is up and running. It's

your go-to platform for curated resources, tools and updates supporting CSO capacity building across Nigeria.

Across all projects that the CSOs have received funding for, one remarkable thing that stands out with the FEF-OSC programme is that change is not abstract. It's an encompassing experience that context-aware actors built

around people and communities and the projects that empower them. **CSO SPOTLIGHTS**

Across Nigeria, the FEF-OSC family of civil society organisations is proving that change is built one project, one community, one person and one breakthrough at a time. In this edition of the CSO Spotlight, we step into the stories of five

communities they're transforming. **HAI – Hopesalive Initiative for Africa SheLevate Tech: Launching a Movement**

On June 30, Hopesalive Initiative for Africa (HAI) set Lagos abuzz with the launch of the SheLevate Tech Bootcamp. This ambitious programme is a flagship women-focused digital empowerment program training 60 young

CSOs and explore their projects, creativity, their challenges, and the

women from underserved communities across six high-demand tech tracks: Digital Marketing, Product Design (UI/UX), WordPress Development, Front-End

Development, Back-End Development (Python/Django), and Data Analytics. The program delivers 16 in-person training sessions weekly across these six tracks, ensuring hands-on learning, discipline-specific depth, and practical project engagement. The launch event, led by Deputy Convener Her Regal Majesty Queen Temitope Enitan-Ogunwusi, brought together community leaders, training partners, and media, positioning SheLevate as to becoming a movement of digital inclusion. **Highlights**

 60 women enrolled in tech training across 6 tracks Strong community buy-in through outreach in 10 underserved communities • 'Pass-It-On' campaign launched, amplifying participant voices as they begin their She-Levate Tech journey.

Quote: "This was more than a launch. It was a dedication. A bold declaration that our

professional steps.

girls will rise—not by chance, but by design." — Her Regal Majesty, Amb. Dr. Temitope Enitan-Ogunwusi Next Up: Career Day (September 11) to prepare graduates for their next

bagada



Using a strategic blend of advocacy, training, and empowerment, the organisation worked to dismantle stigma and open pathways to economic stability.

mental health support (Date TBD)

Highlights

Highlights • 10 high-level advocacy visits to ministries, law enforcement, and health

In July, ORHI advanced rights, dignity, and opportunity for young Female Sex Workers (FSW) and Females Who Use Drugs (FWUD) across Nasarawa State.

• 2-day sensitization training for stakeholders on inclusion and rights 4-day workshop equipping 50 young women with vocational and mental health tools "Before this training, I felt invisible and ashamed of my story. Now, I feel seen, empowered, and ready to start something new with the skills I've learned." — Racheal H., FSW participant, Karu Next Up: Art Therapy Workshop in Karu to provide creative healing spaces for

YAHIC – Youth Adolescent Health Initiative and Counselling **Building Momentum: Empowering Women in Moringa Production** (EWoMoPP)

In Bauchi State, YAHIC is laying the groundwork for women's economic

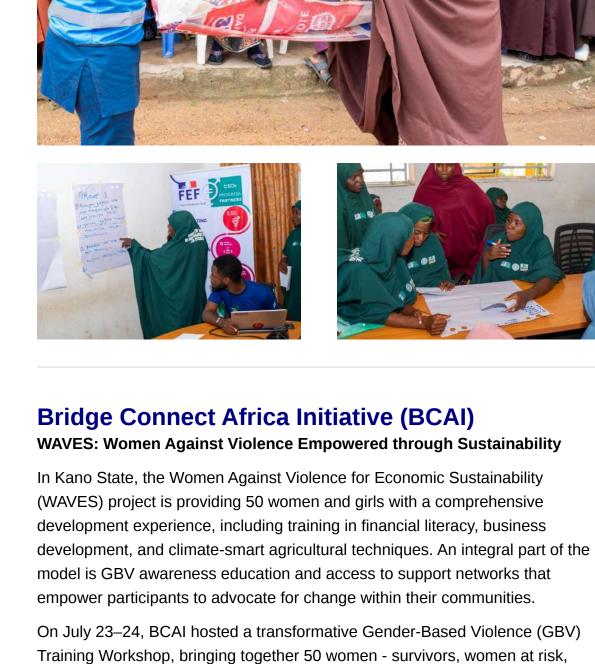
community advocacy to secure buy-in and select beneficiaries.

leadership in agriculture through the EWoMoPP project. July saw foundational activities: courtesy visits to government ministries, baseline assessments, and

Courtesy visits and advocacy with MDAs and community leaders in the

State A learning meeting/Stakeholder Advocacy to align project goals Baseline assessment for informed planning Community advocacy sessions, and beneficiary identification for moringa production and processing training

Next Up: Official launch and planting across Bauchi and Dass LGAs Training workshop on moringa cultivation and production



women living with disabilities, small-scale entrepreneurs, and community

The training grounded participants in GBV prevention, survivor-centred

response, legal frameworks, and advocacy strategies, all anchored in the WAVES Code of Conduct and Safeguarding Principles. Participants were linked to the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) WARAKA, creating a direct referral pathway for justice and survivor support.

champions - from eight Local Government Areas.

Highlights • 50 women trained, including survivors and women with disabilities, in eight LGAs Local partnerships formed with CSOs, gatekeepers, and service providers "This training opened my eyes. I now know how to protect myself and support other women without fear. For the first time, I feel confident to speak up against GBV in my community." — Aisha Aminu, WAVES Participant, Kano State Next Up: Climate-Smart Agribusiness Training on Aug 5 & 27, equipping women with sustainable farming techniques and building cooperative networks.



• 20 adult VSLAs and 10 adolescent VSLAs formed

Rashidat ran a small sewing business and selling materials. Though

seeing growth. I didn't even know how much I was making," she said.

hardworking, she lacked business structure, spent most of her income daily, and often had nothing left toreinvest. "Every day I was working, but I wasn't

When Rashidat was selected to participate in HUFFPED's Microenterprise Fundamentals (MEF) training, she was hesitant, thinking it would be "just another lecture." Instead, it became a turning point. The training exposed her to key business skills such as basic bookkeeping, customer relation and retention, profit calculation, inventory management, and setting savings targets. She learned how to separate personal and business finances, plan for restocking, and assess daily profits. she also learnt how to reinvest profit back into the business unlike before. By applying what she learned: She introduced a sales notebook to track income and expenses. She began buying materials in bulk to reduce costs.

Within a week's, Rashidat notices an increase in sales, profit margins and she plans to use her first loan from Marvelous VSLA to buy a display table and a

registering her business name. "This training helped me understand that my

• Leadership training for women in Isale Gangan and Anikantamo

• She started saving 10% of daily earnings for expansion.

hustle is a real business," she proudly shared.

Next Up:

In the News ...

HAI – Hopesalive Initiative for Africa

Girls in Tech Take the Spotlight

a model for girl-led innovation.

FEF-OSC Webinar #2

changed because of what you did?"

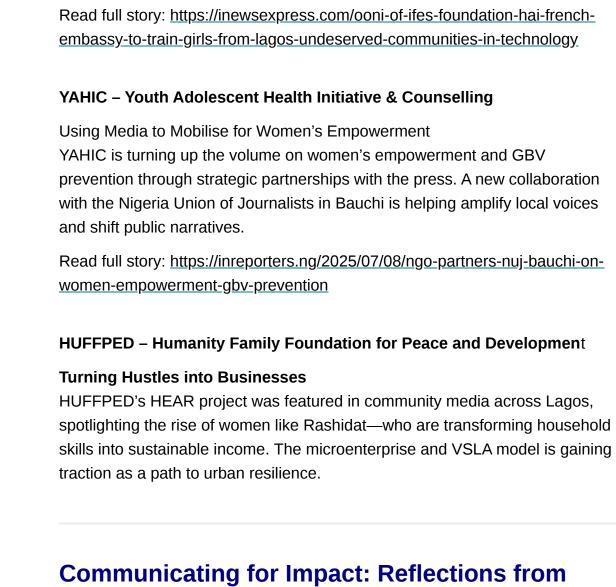
more clearly, creatively and credibly.

you did?

outcomes to make the stories both heard and felt.

show glass. Today, she is making consistent profits and is considering

• Support trained women in establishing small businesses



"Are you telling the story of what you did? Or are you telling the story of what

Communicating for Impact which was designed to help CSOs tell their stories

communication stays technical, donor-focused, reactive, or worse, non-existent.

Dr. Seun Asala's session was a masterclass in storytelling with purpose. He reminded us about the beauty of data and how it informs however introducing

the perspective of stories is where the transformation truly happens. Facts without feeling are forgettable, but when you pair numbers with names, like Halima, a mother of four who can now feed her family thanks to a home

garden, you make data relatable and thus memorable, bringing impact to life.

Seun introduced a simple, **practical** storytelling formula: Problem → Solution

This question anchored the second FEF-OSC capacity building webinar,

Many organisations are doing bold, people-centred work. But too often,

This webinar challenged participants to move beyond outputs and into

The SheLevate Tech Bootcamp launch drew national attention with its bold commitment to digital inclusion for underserved girls in Lagos. Backed by the French Embassy and the Ooni of Ife's Foundation, the project is being hailed as

→ Impact → Call to Action and also challenged **participants** to adopt asset framing: an approach to telling stories that centre people's strengths and not just their struggles. It's sort of like saying "Communities are not problems to be fixed, they are heroes and we as CSOs, are just the supporting cast." So, next time you write a report or post a photo, ask yourself: Are you telling the story of what you did? Or what changed because of what

Strengthening Systems for Effective Implementation and Strategic Impact: FEF-OSC Workshop #2 at a glance. How do you turn "we've done this before" into "together, we can all do this better"? It turns out that one of the most powerful "capacity-building tools" for civil society isn't a big grant or a new learning platform. It's the organization next door. When CSOs act as consultants to one another, using a structured peer-

Make collaboration operational: Don't wait for a consultant. Convene a small, closed peer set around a specific challenge; document insights and decide who will test what. This mirrors established practice from Peer Assists and Action Learning Sets, which show strong evidence for problem-solving, capability growth, and behavior change. Turn tacit know-how into reusable assets: In Documentation Essentials we emphasized converting tacit know-how into reusable organisational assets like templates, briefs, checklists, after-action notes etc. These become knowledge

insights from their experiences. They showed their diverse strengths across

Program quality, Monitoring and Evaluation, Finances and Advocacy.

Here are four takeaways that any CSO can run with right away:

centered responses) and improves financial/technical reporting quality - these are areas we worked through via scenarios and templates. **Session resources are available at the** <u>Capacity Hub.</u>

In July alone, the site recorded 1739 total unique site visits, exploring webinar/workshops, resources and event calendars. Here's what's trending: • New Resource Uploads: We've added new resources under the webinar/workshop section where CSOs can explore the various topics

covered and refresh their memories. • Webinar Replays: Missed the last session on Communicating for Impact? CSO can now rewatch the full session and download the available resources.

Responses are automatically collated and sessions booked based on number of requests. However, modalities for this would be updated and shared from time to time • Coaching Calendar: Look out for updates on Coaching Calendar this

August featuring upcoming support sessions by topic. CSOs can easily view and block the dates on their calendars in preparation. August CB Workshop #2: Updates on the FEF-OSC Capacity Building Workshop which was held in-person from 19th – 21st August in Abuja have been uploaded. Visit for the resources and reports!

Visit the Hub → www.capacityhub.org | Explore. Learn. Share. Repeat.

As we round off this edition, we look forward to more stories, stats, and

snapshots that speak for themselves and of course, we'll share them with you

as they roll in! As always, we thank you for reading, sharing, and most of all, for doing the work. Let's keep amplifying the impact, refining the message, and building a future that works for all. See you in September!

consultancy approach, room is created for capability to scale faster, cheaper, and more sustainably. This is because both the problems and solutions become relatable and context driven. Think of 'peer-consultancy' as facilitated, peer-to-peer problem-solving. A team brings a real dilemma; peers ask clarifying questions, share experience, and help shape actionable next steps. Proven models like the Consultancy Protocol and Peer Assist are two widely used models that make the process disciplined, time-boxed, and outcome-oriented. And oh, what a time the CSOs had at the 2nd in-person workshop which was held from 19-21 August, 2025 in Abuja! We saw 'lived know-how' experiences unlocked from within the group as CSOs contributed to the learning with

management backbones and protect against staff turnover. Use fit-for-purpose tech to amplify learning: Centralise document storage, "lessons learned" logs, and linking emails/tasks to projects (e.g., using tools like Salesforce). This helps reduce reinvention and speeds up onboarding. Whatever the case, start small, but practise linking conversations to records. Embed a learning culture across risk and ethics.: Peer exchange also sharpens safeguarding practice (prevention, reporting channels, survivor-

CAPACITY HUB HIGHLIGHTS The FEF-OSC Capacity Hub is up! It's your go-to platform for curated resources, tools and updates supporting CSO capacity building across Nigeria.

• Request Support: CSOs can also request for support regarding the cocreated coaching topics to further their grasp and utility of the subjects.

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