

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



DISABILITY NOT A BARRIER INITIATIVE
We promote inclusion, equity and justice for
persons with disabilities

ACRONYMS

DINABI --- Disability Not A Barrier Initiative
CSOs --- Civil Society Organization
DFID --- Department for International Development
PERL --- Partnership to Engage, Reform and Learn
FCDO --- United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
DPOs --- Disabled People Organization
OPDs --- Organization of Persons with Disabilities
INEC --- Independent National Electoral Commission
JONAPWD --- Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities
EKSODA --- Ekiti State Office for Disability Affairs
MDAs --- Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MoWASD --- Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development
PWDs --- Persons with Disabilities
DRF --- Disability Rights Fund
EiE Nigeria --- Enough is Enough Nigeria
SFCG --- Search for Common Ground
OGP --- Open Government Partnership
SFTAS --- State's Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability
DLI --- Disbursement Link Indicator
UNDP --- United Nations Development Programme
NEWSAN --- Network of Society for Water and Sanitation
WASH --- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
PLSI --- Paradigm Leadership Support Initiative
GBV --- Gender Based Violence
IFA --- Inclusive Friends Association
NED --- National Endowment for Democracy
UNCRC --- United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
CAR --- Citizens Accountability Report
PPDC --- Public and Private Development Centre
USAID --- United States Agency for International Development
SCALE --- Strengthening Civic Advocacy and Local Engagement
BMOs --- Business Management Organizations
SFP --- State Focal Persons
FGD --- Focus Group Discussion
ALS --- Annual Learning Summit
CDD --- Centre for Democracy and Development
IFES --- International Foundation for Electoral Systems
Stop VAWIP --- Stop Violence Against Women in Politics
BIGIF --- Balm in Gilead Foundation for Sustainable Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Adding value to the society through developmental interventions and constructive engagements is a task that must be achieved for us at Disability Not A Barrier Initiative (DINABI), hence our resolve in 2022 to succeed in our interventions for the benefits of PWDs across the country.

DINABI Nigeria over the years have developed its infrastructural capacity as a DPO working on issues relating to Disability rights, Advocacy and civic engagement, Research and documentation, Policy development, WASH, Gender Base Issues etc. in the state and also set up community structures to assist in bringing adequate support for project interventions. The organization has set up series of community structures as a sustainability plan that put the programs squarely in the hands of community members themselves and developed their capacity on methods of strategic advocacy.

Throughout 2022, DINABI Nigeria with the support of various partners, donors, volunteers, organizations and state actors organized several interventions such as Advocacy visits, research and surveys, validation meetings, training workshops, Radio and television talk shows and online and social media campaigns. DINABI received funding support from Disability Rights Fund (DRF) to advocate for compliance with the National Disability Act in Nigeria and the Ekiti State Disability Law by realizing the rights of persons with disabilities to access public facilities and services on an equal basis with others. The project had so far carried out activities in 2022 such as 2-Day Organizational Development Training for staff and volunteers of DINABI on Project and Financial Management, Advocacy Visits to Key Stakeholders, Conduct of Accessibility Audit of Public facilities and services in Ekiti state, Productions of copies of the Accessibility Audit Report, Online/Social Media Awareness creation amongst other activities. Support was also received from Enough is Enough Nigeria (EiE Nigeria) to run a weekly Radio talk show on COVID-19 interventions and accountability. So far, we have run 13 weeks on the radio program featuring seasoned analyst from both public and private establishments. In 2022 also, supported by Brain Builders Youth Development Initiative (BBYDI) and Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) on mobilization and awareness creation on Voter education in order to ensure increased voters turn out in Ekiti state. These and many more interventions were carried out in 2022 to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities are guaranteed in line with UNCRPD and the National Disability Act 2018.

As we move into 2023, we look forward to more supports, partnerships and collaborations as we continue to promote inclusion, equity and justice for persons with disabilities in Nigeria and across the globe.

Thank You for being a worthy ally.



Olajide Funso Benjamin
Executive Director, DINABI Nigeria





DINABI ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

Disability Not A Barrier Initiatives (DINABI) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) which aims to promote inclusion, equity and justice for persons with disabilities through training, sensitization, research, policy development, empowerment and advocacy. The organization's scope covers Disability rights including Health, Education, Gender, Environment, Governance, WASH and Rights issues.

The organization was established in 2011 in Ondo state and has since been advocating for persons with disabilities. DINABI officially satisfied all requirements and registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission, Ado-Ekiti office in May 2019 with Certificate No CAC/IT/NO 128725

Goal

To advocate for persons with disabilities' participation and access to a strong economic and stable socio-political environment aimed at inclusion, equity, justice, poverty reduction towards enhancing quality life and service delivery.

Aim

To promote equity and justice for persons with disabilities through training, sensitization, research and advocacy services.

Vision

To see a world where people with disabilities:

- are fully integrated and included into the society economically, politically, academically and socially;
- Enjoy equal rights and opportunities in society free of discrimination and harassment;
- Actively participate in governance and nation-building.

Mission

- To eliminate barriers to full social integration and inclusion for persons with disabilities through research and advocacy campaigns;
- To create innovative programs, trainings, advocacy and awareness campaigns and public education;
- To provide technical support and instill self-confidence and capacity building in the disability community;

STRATEGIES

Advocacy

Training and consultancy

Research and documentation

Policy Development

Awareness Creation

Community Mobilization

Disability Rights

Environment

Inclusive Education

WASH

Good Governance

Gender

Accessible Health

THEMATIC AREAS

4 New Donors

12 New Partners

26 Radio Programs

5 TV Programs

27 Advocacy Visits

5 Students Enrolments

2 PWDs Empowered

7 Focus Group Discussions

6 Workshops Organized

19 Virtual Programs

51 Programs Attended

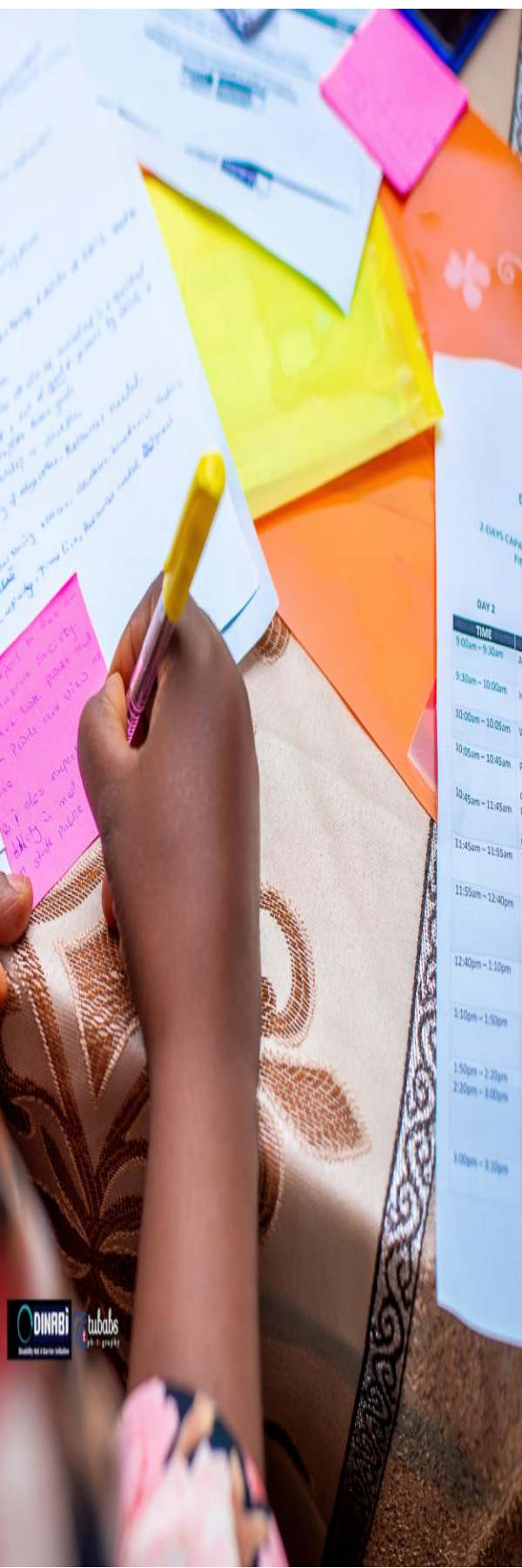
5 Road Walks

100+ Social Media Posts

**OUR YEAR 2022
IN NUMBERS**

DINABI 2022 KEY INTERVENTIONS

DISABILITY RIGHTS FUND SUPPORTED PROJECT



According to a journal from the Department of Quantity Surveying, Kaduna State University on Exploring the Discrimination Faced by Persons with Disability from The Design and Construction of the Nigerian Built Environment (2019), revealed that though construction professionals are aware of disability standards in the design and construction of the built environment, they still do not construct public spaces to accommodate the needs of all users by installing appropriate access facilities and this has been found to be as a result of low awareness on disability rights, lack of proper budgeting and planning and capacity gap on the part of PWDs to advocate for their rights. This neglect/discrimination limits them from fully achieving their daily goals and aspirations.

Part(II) Section 3-8 of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disability (Prohibition) Act 2018 and same part and sections in the Ekiti State Disability Law 2020 clearly made provisions for accessibility for persons with disability but duty bearers still fail to adhere to it. This include unfettered access to physical structures, access to information such as information in braille format for the visually impaired and sign language interpreter in public functions and broadcast media such as television stations.

It has however been observed that every good policy on any issues of importance requires an inclusive and participatory budget to perform optimally and effectively. For every government offices, schools, hospitals etc to be fully inclusive and accessible, it requires an inclusive and participatory budget line to be fully implemented ditto to recruitment of sign language interpreters into television station and other public functions.

In view of this, Disability Not A Barrier Initiative (DINABI) with support from Disability Rights Fund (DRF) intensified efforts to advocate for compliance with the National Disability Act in Nigeria and the Ekiti State Disability Law by realizing the rights of persons with disabilities to access public facilities and services on an equal basis with others.

Project Objectives

- To create awareness on the rights of persons with disabilities through the media to garner public support.
- To engage stakeholders towards improving accessibility of public facilities and services
- To develop an evidence-based advocacy tool that will aid stakeholders' engagement.
- To strengthen the capacity of PWDs, CSOs and Media on disability rights, Budgeting and concept of accessibility.

ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT

2-DAYS ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FOR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS OF DINABI

With the forecast of achieving maximum and effective implementation and outcome on inclusive Budgeting towards accessible public facilities and services for PWDs in Ekiti State, the 2-Day Organizational Development Training was necessitated to equip and strengthen staff and volunteers on effective Financial/Project Management and Safeguarding. The training which had in attendance, 10 participants, 2 sign language interpreters and 2 resource persons aims to provide participants with the required knowledge, skills and strategies in harnessing resources and engaging all stakeholders towards a successful project outcome, and also meeting up with best practices as far as civil society is concerned. The objective of the training was to strengthen the capacity of staff and volunteers on project and financial management in order to deliver on its core objectives as well as fostering team work among members of staff, volunteers and the board.

The training held at NUJ Mini Hall, Ado-Ekiti on the 16th-17th September, 2022 was facilitated by Mrs. Florence Austin Chima, Account Officer, Center for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) and Mr. Nelson Akerele - Senior Program Officer, Balm in Gilead Foundation for Sustainable Development (BIGIF). Florence Chima facilitated her sessions under the following outline:

- Statutory Regulation Compliance, internal control and Basic Accounting System.
- Procurement Process, Filing & Documentation and Backup System.
- Budget Preparation and Grant/Financial Management.
- Financial Reporting, Supporting Documents and Value for Money.
- Communication and Time Management.
- Safeguarding

Mr. Nelson Akerele, Senior Program Officer, Balm in Gilead Foundation for Sustainable Development (BIGIF) anchored his session on the following outline:

- Program Planning and Work Plan Development
- Project Implementation and Advocacy
- Monitoring & Evaluation and Report Writing
- Risk Management and Resource Management

The training featured both pretest and post-test session where participants were assessed on a number of concepts/subject-matters as regards financial and project management.



ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANT AND CONDUCT OF ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT

In order to conduct an accessibility audit of public facility and services in Ekiti state, a call for consultant to develop research instruments and guide the process to conduct accessibility audit was published and publicized on the organizations' social media pages, other social media pages and website.

Having received various applications and interests for consultant, Mr. Kola Ogunbiyi – former Senior Programs Officer, CCD was contracted for the survey on the level of accessibility of key public and private facilities and services within Ekiti State. The engagement was aimed at carrying out an accessibility audit of public facilities and services in Ekiti with a view to producing a report that identifies gaps and recommend solutions towards achieving access for persons with disabilities and serve as evidence-based advocacy material and to also assess the level of accessibility of public facilities and services in Ekiti state.



TRAINING OF RESEARCH ASSISTANTS & DINABI TEAM AND SURVEY ACTIVITIES

A one-day training was conducted for the Research Assistants and staff of DINABI to further strengthen their capacity on disability issues, the level of awareness on human rights issues in Ekiti State and specifically on the concept of accessibility. The research instrument was also jointly reviewed with necessary corrections and adjustments made to ensure it corresponds with globally accepted standards.

Due to the size of the available resources, the research was carried out at the three senatorial levels with special focus on Ado-Ekiti being the state capital and the seat of most of the government Ministry, Department and Agency. The study was based on the pragmatic research paradigm and mixed-methods used for data collection. Data collection was cross-sectional in nature using the following qualitative and quantitative methods; Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), In-depth Interviews (IDIs), Focus Group Discussion (FGDs) and observation method. In-depth interviews was used to elicit data from representatives of ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs), persons without disabilities and persons with disabilities (PWDs). Observational checklist was used to conduct 'on the spot assessment' of infrastructure facilities across the three senatorial districts focusing on public facilities within them. Having conducted the interviews, focus group discussions and on the spot assessment, a draft report was developed on the accessibility audit of public facilities and services in Ekiti state.

ONE-DAY VALIDATION MEETING ON THE DRAFT ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT REPORT ON PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES IN EKITI STATE.

In order for the draft report to meet the acceptable standards, it was considered necessary to bring in various stakeholders involved in the accessibility audit of the Public facilities and services in Ekiti state and other necessary stakeholders with requisite knowledge on the subject matter to review the report and validate same for onward processing. On Friday 21st of October, 2022, a One-day validation meeting on Accessibility Audit Report of Public Facilities and Services in Ekiti State was held at Koltotel Hotel & Suites, GRA, Onigari Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State having twenty-five (25) participants in attendance which includes four (4) representatives from some of the key MDAs visited during the research, two (2) CSOs, two (2) Sign Language Interpreters, fifteen (15) members of the Joint Association of Persons with Disabilities (JONAPWD) Ekiti State, as well as the Chairman, JONAPWD Ekiti State were invited to the meeting. Due to the projects' objectives which focus on awareness of human rights issues particularly on the rights of PWDs and their access to Public facilities and services in Ekiti State, two (2) media organizations were invited to further publicize the outcome of the accessibility audit report. The MDAs represented at the event includes Ministry of Health, Ekiti State Office for Disability Affairs, State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB), General Administration Department (GAD) and Ministry of Education.

Objective

- To present the draft report, scrutinize and ascertain the result of the findings and recommendation of the survey conducted in order to meet the set goals of the project.
- To validate the draft report with all stakeholders jointly agreeing on the findings and recommendations.

The validation meeting ended with the formulation of a group of six (6) member Advocacy Team headed by the JONAPWD Chairman to lead advocacies henceforth and also ensure sustainability.

ADVOCACY VISIT TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND MINISTRIES, DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.

Towards attainment of an accessible Public Facilities and Services for PWDs in Ekiti State, the buy in of various stakeholders and especially duty bearers are of greater importance. It is against this backdrop that Disability Not A Barrier Initiative (DINABI) with funding support from Disability Rights Fund (DRF) and in collaboration with JONAPWD conducted an advocacy visit to key stakeholders and duty bearers in MDAs for an Inclusive budgeting towards accessible facilities and services for PWDs in the State in line with following plea;

- Creation and increased disability-specific budget lines towards accessibility
- Construction of ramps, handrails, and other accessibility aids in offices of government, schools, hospitals etc
- Employment/deployment of sign language interpreter in at least three key hospitals in Ekiti State, Ekiti State University Teaching Hospital (EKSUTH), Ekiti State Television (EKTV) for news and public functions
- Design of public documents e.g Budget, Laws and Policies in braille format.

Between the 28th September -5th October, 2022, an Advocacy Team which comprises of three staff of DINABI and five other members drawn from the four disability clusters of the Joint Association of Persons with Disabilities (JONAPWD), Ekiti State paid an advocacy visit to the Permanent Secretaries of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Public Utilities, Ministry of Budget and Planning, State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) Ekiti State, Ministry of Housing & Urban Development, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Works & Transportation as well as the General Manager, Broadcasting Service of Ekiti State and Executive Secretary of Ekiti State Office for Disability Affairs. The objective of the visits was to advocate for increased budgetary allocation in the 2023 budget towards improving accessibility of infrastructure in Ekiti State

ONLINE/SOCIAL MEDIA AWARENESS CREATION

Towards achieving the general objectives of the project, it became necessary to make efforts to increase the level of public awareness towards disability rights. It is in view of this that DINABI has been putting up posts through her social media handles via Twitter, Facebook, WhatsApp etc to advocate for accessibility and the rights of PWDs in the state. DINABI also collaborated with some online media and conventional media to give the project the needed publicity in order to garner public support towards an accessible facilities and services in Ekiti state. The website of the organization also got regularly updated to reflect efforts of DINABI with support from Disability Rights Fund being projected as expected.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF COPIES OF ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT REPORT

To achieve a successful advocacy strategically targeted at stakeholders at ensuring unhindered access to facilities and services in Ekiti state, there is the need to be armed with facts and figures to defend our advocacy, hence the production of hard copies of the Accessibility Audit Report currently being distributed to all the MDAs and stakeholders involved.

It is worthy of note that an aesthetically designed soft copy of the report was also produced in PDF format with special consideration for the visually impaired to easily navigate through and benefit. The soft copy had since been shared via various online/social media platforms especially being downloadable freely on DINABI's website.

DRF GRANTEE CONVENING IN NIGERIA

On the 18th -19th October, 2022 at Dennis Hotel and Suite, Wuse II, Abuja, the Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities (JONAPWD) with support from Disability Rights Fund (DRF) organized Grantee Convening 2022 in Nigeria.

The overall objective of the grantee convening 2022 is to further understand the funding landscape of the Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs), the challenges they are facing and ways they can enhance understanding of DRF grant making process. Specifically, objectives of the grantee convening are:

- To enhance the understanding of DRF/DRAF grantees and other DPOs of the DRF/DRAF grant making process and ideology.
- To discuss developments and challenges arising from project implementation by grantees as well as identify effective advocacy strategies for implementation of the CRPD and SDGs.
- To identify strategies to increase the diversity of the disability movement in Nigeria and ensure that the voices of marginalized groups are amplified in the movement.
- To discuss the enacted Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act and how grantees and other DPOs can be involved in monitoring implementation at all levels.
- To identify possible areas of collaboration among grantees to build a cohesive movement and avoid duplication.
- To discuss the development of a country strategy for Nigeria by identifying priority areas in the implementation of the CRPD and SDGs.
- To develop a list of practical actions and resources available to participants in all area discussed during the Grantee Convening.

The event is to facilitate information sharing, panel discussion, grantee led group work and exercise and technical sessions with presentations by subject matter experts.

The grantee convening had in attendance two representatives each from each grantee organization as well as representatives from the International office of DRF.

USAID SCALE/PALLADIUM SUPPORTED PROJECT

Food security in Southwestern Nigeria is majorly sustained through food production and processing by smallholder women farmers and their clusters. Awkwardly, budgetary allocation to agriculture is relatively minimal across the six Southwestern States in Nigeria. Statistically, in Oyo State, 1.6%, 4.33% and 2.73% was allocated to agriculture in years 2019, 2020 and 2021 respectively. In Osun State, agriculture allocation was 2.4%, 2.45% and 3.5% of the total budget in years 2019, 2020 and 2021 respectively. In Ogun State, the allocation to agriculture was 4.36%, 2.44% and 2.79% in 2019, 2020 and 2021 respectively. In Lagos State, 0.31%, 1.53% and 1.68% was allocated to agriculture in the State budget in 2019, 2020 and 2021 respectively. Finally, in Ekiti State, with the highest allocation to agriculture in Southwestern States, only 6.29%, 5.59% and 7.29% was allocated to agriculture in 2019, 2020 and 2021 respectively. The low and undulating figures is an indication of a meagre attention to agricultural funding and relevance in Southwestern Nigeria.

Smallholder women farmers as a cluster are also being left behind in government. The Ministry of Agriculture only provides inclusive governance system by paper, which in most cases, is not backed by law and appropriated.

Presently, the financial empowerment of smallholder women farmers in Southwest will enhance exertions of CSOs and BMOs towards implementation of key democratic reforms at sub-national and national levels. This will be reflected positively on the most vulnerable and marginalized populations.

In view of the above, LAPDO as an anchor and DINABI Nigeria as one of the cluster members, is implementing the SCALE project in the six Southwest States of Nigeria and working with relevant stakeholders in the five southwest states of Ekiti, Ogun, Oyo, Osun, Lagos and in 18 LGAs of Ondo State. The project cluster under the USAID-SCALE project is called INCLUSIVE AGRICULTURE CLUSTER.

5-DAY CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR CLUSTER

DINABI Nigeria participated in the 5-Day Capacity Building workshop for Cluster members on the USAID-SCALE Projects organized by the Palladium held between 14th-18th February, 2022 at Citiheight Hotel, Lagos. The workshop centered on Legislative engagement, Budget Engagement, Advocacy Strategies and Techniques.

CLUSTER PLANNING MEETING

DINABI Nigeria on March 31st joined the Anchor organization, LAPDO and other cluster members on the USAID-SCALE project on Inclusive Agricultural Sector in the Southwest Nigeria at a Cluster Planning Meeting held at Sunview Hotel, Akure, Ondo state. The meeting was aimed at planning effectively towards implementation of the project while also providing necessary information, roles and responsibilities on the project. The project shall seek to ensure the inclusion of Agro-women budget lines in the budgets of all states in the southwest.

ADVOCACY VISITS TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN EKITI STATE

Between April 28-29, 2022, DINABI Nigeria and the anchor organization, LAPDO with with other women farmers in Ekiti state paid a two-day advocacy visits to Program Manager of Agricultural Development Program, Permanent Secretaries of Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Budget & Planning all in Ekiti State. During the visits, the cluster asked for the following:

1. The review and update of existing policy to come out with an inclusive and gender sensitive/friendly agricultural sector policy in southwest states.
2. The creation of a dedicated budget line for smallholder women farmers in the Ekiti State Ministry of Agriculture budget of 2023.
3. The integration of smallholder women farmers into the organized private sector as Business Members Organization in the six southwest states.

MEDIA TRAINING WORKSHOP

DINABI Nigeria participated in a 4-Day Media Training of SCALE-supported Advocacy Clusters on behalf of the SCALE project held at Rosmohr Gold Hotels, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State between 5th and 8th July, 2022. The Media Training was designed to strengthen capacities of cluster members in 5 key areas identified during a Media Needs Assessment carried out.

The 5 key areas identified are Limited understanding of media dynamics and contexts, Underutilization of media partnerships and opportunities, Poor Audience Profiling, Weak capacity to effectively utilize media tools, and Effective use of social media tools. In addition to addressing these gaps, the training developed a smart cluster-specific Media Strategy that had up-to-date tools to improve our overall media engagement and advocacy. The training also helped cluster members to better leverage the media for the public awareness component of their project and to also develop their media/public awareness strategy and plan.

SCALE PAUSE, REFLECT AND LEARN MEETING

On the 19th July, 2022, DINABI Nigeria participated at SCALE Pause, Reflect and Learn event held at the Rockview Hotel Royal, Abuja organized by Palladium with funding support from USAID. The event provided a platform for shared learnings and progress evaluation of the project's achievements so far. The meeting was also an avenue to explore collaborative approaches towards improved implementation through efficient communication, learning and adaptation. Various clusters across the country also assessed what worked, what didn't work and what can be done better and thereafter learn from all partners and clusters present.

2-DAY WORKSHOP ON EKITI STATE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The Inclusive Agriculture Cluster organized a 2-Day Workshop on Ekiti State Agricultural Sector Policy Development between 2nd and 3rd of August, 2022 held at Eleventh House hotel, Ado-Ekiti. The activity-packed two days had in attendance important stakeholders such as the Honourable Commissioner for Agriculture in Ekiti state, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, former Vice Chancellor, Ekiti State University (EKSU), Prof. Aina, the Chairman Coalition of Ekiti Civil Society Organization (COECSO), Prof. Christopher Oluwadare, CSOs, Smallholder Women Farmers, Consultant, Public Servant etc.

At the end of the two-day workshop, the team was able to come up with a robust, gender responsive and disability friendly draft Ekiti State Agricultural Sector Policy document waiting for validation and approval.

The Honourable Commissioner expressed his delight at the prospect of having such an inclusive agricultural policy during their own administration. He, on behalf of the state government committed to ensuring speedy implementation of the various recommendations in the document when ready.

ONE DAY VALIDATION MEETING OF THE EKITI STATE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR POLICY DOCUMENT

On 1st September, 2022, the Inclusive Agriculture Cluster of the USAID SCALE project in collaboration with the Ekiti State Government organized a one-day meeting to validate the draft Ekiti State Agricultural Sector Policy document in order to fast track the emergence of diverse, inclusive and gender sensitive sector policy.

The event held at Eleventh House Hotel, Ado-Ekiti had both State and Non-State Actors in attendance. The participants at the event were formed into groups to review, critique and provide necessary corrections and recommendations to the document with presentations from all the various groups while the consultant led the cluster team to apply the necessary adjustments.

At the end of the meeting, the Draft Ekiti State Agricultural Sector Policy document was validated by all stakeholders' present.

ANNUAL LEARNING SUMMIT 2022

The Annual Learning Summit of Clusters on the SCALE project held at Sheraton Hotel, Abuja on 20th - 21st September, 2022 brought all SCALE project clusters across the nation together for cross-learning and networking. It was a forum where clusters converge to share their experiences, learn from each other, and strengthen their linkages and collaboration for effective engagement and sustainability.

The ALS was a key evaluative process that brings together all SCALE clusters to measure project progress for the current fiscal year (October 2021 – September 2022) and apply learnings to the coming fiscal year (October 2022 – September 2023). It was an invaluable opportunity for the over 100 civil society project partners to share their views on what worked, challenges and constraints encountered and how to work better, moving forward. The ALS was also an annual space for partners to learn, build and measure progress using a range of project tools that promote 'Collective Impact'.



2-DAY TRAINING WORKSHOP ON BUDGET TRACKING, INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

The Inclusive Agriculture Cluster organized a 2-Day Training Workshop on Budget Tracking, Interpretation and Analysis for small holder women farmers in Ekiti State on 21st and 22nd December, 2022 held at Eleventh House Hotel Ado-Ekiti. The workshop built the capacities of smallholder women farmers in Ekiti state on the concept of Gender Responsive Budgeting, its goals, requirements, enabling environments, budget processes and various stakeholders involved.

The workshop also took participants through all the processes, technicalities, requirements and expected challenges in budget tracking. The participants which includes small holder women farmers, women with disabilities who are farmers expressed their readiness to engage in the budget process to ensure accountability and service delivery in the agricultural sector especially as it concerns smallholder women farmers.



ONE DAY CIVIC TECH ELECTION OBSERVATION WORKSHOP

DINABI in collaboration with Brain Builders Youth Development Initiatives with funding from Global Youth Mobilization organized a one-day workshop tagged Civic Tech Election Observation Workshop with the theme: “Mobilizing the Youths, Women and PWD for Increase Voters Turnout” with an objective to build the capacity of youth’s women and PWD to mobilizing others and increase voter’s turnout for election in Ekiti state and Nigeria held at Shore Building on the 30th of May, 2022. A total of 45 participants from different Local Government Area in Ekiti state.

The purpose of this workshop was training youths, woman and PWD on how to engage others through social media, new media and one-one engagement, so as to increase voter’s participation in the state, collaborate with youths, women and PWD on voter’s education, advocacy and sensitization, training the participant from the different LGAs in Ekiti state on how to mobilize people to come out and exercise their franchise.

The workshop methodology was interactive as the resource persons, Mr Nelson Akerele, Moyinoluwa Ogundowole and Mr. Ayomide Agbaje ensured that knowledge was not only disseminated but accurately perceived and understood by the participants. And in order to ensure this, resources persons’ engaged participants in discussions and kept the forum open for feedback, queries and suggestions. These sessions were supported through training materials such as writing materials, PowerPoint presentations and sensitization materials were distributed to the participants.

The objectives of the one-day workshop were given as follows:

- To mobilize people to go and vote.
- To collaborate with youths, women, and PWD on voter’s education.
- To seek the support of the youths, women and PWD in the state toward increase in voter’s turnout.
- To increase voters participation by 5 to 10 percent through this project.

The workshop participants included representative from Brain Builders Youth Development Initiative, YvoteNaija State Team, DINABI staff and representative of all the LGAs in Ekiti state. Total number of participants was 40 from different LGAs in Ekiti state.

ELECTORAL FACT CHECK SURVEY IN EKITI STATE

The diverse effects that can be experienced by a nation or a society as a result of false or fake news cannot be overemphasized in this era. Nigeria, for instance, is presently faced with diverse insecurity, ethnicity and religious challenges which have actually placed everyone on their toes to be conscious of the information they disseminate to the public. Hence, it is never out of words to conclude that we are in the dispensation where it is important to fact check all information spreading all around us. Over time, we have witnessed a lot of news which is not true due to the inability of people, organizations, etc to fact check the information they are spreading. Consequent upon this and in order to have access to the right information through comprehensive research Brain Builder Youth Development Initiative (BBYDI) in collaboration with Disability Not A Barrier Initiative (DINABI) conducted a fact check survey.

Globally, one of the civic pride of a nation is in its ability to conduct a free and fair election where voter turnout is maximum. The maximum voter turnout does not only picture such a nation as a template for leadership but also as a nation that prioritizes democracy. Recently, there has been constant and consistent research on the cause of voter apathy in Nigeria. However, as the general election is approaching, it is also important that there is a fact check on the concluded election in Ekiti State. This was to receive not only the right but also the appropriate experience and feedback from the participants of the election. The respondents of the survey included voters, political party agents and agents, observing civilians, and officials and Ad-hoc staff of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

In summary, the focus of the report was to give a clear view of how the election went in Ekiti State and also help to prepare for the future elections in the country.

Interestingly, 381 respondents from 16 different local government areas in Ekiti State participated in the study. The respondents were disaggregated by; age, gender, disability, LGA and academic level. Below is a summary of the research report:

SUMMARY

- 51% of the respondents are female while 49% are male
- Only 10% of the respondents have disability
- 53% voted during the election while 47% didn't vote
- 55.1% of the respondents believe in the outcome of the election while 44.9% do not.
- 88% reported that there was no incident of electoral violence in their area while 12% reported that there was an electoral violence incidence in their area.
- 75% of the respondent are active in politics
- 85% of the respondents are registered voters.
- 54.6% of the respondents reported that there was vote buying during the election while 45.4% said there wasn't vote buying.



INEC SUPPORTED PROJECT

VOTER EDUCATION SENSITIZATION AND GRASSROOT MOBILIZATION PROJECT

In the Ekiti state gubernatorial election of 2018, only 45% of registered voters turn out to cast their votes with 55% showing apathy to the electoral process. This acts of so many had left a lot to be desired thereby reducing the credibility and competitiveness of our electoral process. It has indeed impacted negatively good governance in Nigeria. The Election Management body have put many machineries in place coupled with fantastic policies and frameworks to ensure trust in the process were built and to ensure proper and adequate dissemination of information to the electorates.

Also, in 2018 Ekiti state gubernatorial election, 18,857 votes were rejected/voided and this was partly due to inadequate information on the electoral process and voting procedures. This led to the inability of voters to know the dos and don'ts of the voting process and subsequently resulting in void votes or rejected votes.

In the light of the above, Disability Not A Barrier Initiative (DINABI) with support from Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) embarked on a 14 days grassroots mobilization and voters education/sensitization in Irepodun/Ifelodun LGA in June 2022. The grassroots mobilization was aimed at sensitizing, enlightening the electorate in Irepodun/Ifelodun LG on voter education with the aim of increasing voter turnout and reducing void/rejected votes as well as voter apathy.

During the course of the project, DINABI as a community-based organization deployed several strategies to carry out the mobilization and sensitization of the residents towards the 2022 Ekiti state gubernatorial election which includes advocacy visits, Market outreach, street walk, Door to door outreach, practical demonstration, Video Skit and Meetings. The objectives of the exercise were as follows:

- To sensitize citizens on the 5 Ws and H of election (Why, Where, When, What, Who and How)
- To increase voters' turnout
- To reduce void/rejected votes
- To discourage electoral violence
- To discourage vote trading
- To strengthen the credibility of the electoral process.

ADVOCACY VISIT TO INEC OFFICE IGEDE-EKITI

On the 1st of May, 2022, as part of the 14 days grassroots mobilization and voters education/sensitization in Irepodun/Ifelodun LG, the team paid an advocacy visit to the INEC office of Irepodun/Ifelodun Local government at Igede Ekiti where we met with the Electoral Officer (EO), Mr Adedipe and other staff in the company of Mr Buka from the INEC Headquarters, Abuja.

The visit was to intimate him of the sensitization activities we were about to start in the local government while we also solicited for his support to ensure success.

MONITORING OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED VOTERS TRAINING

To ensure the full inclusion of voters with visual impairment, INEC organized a one day voter education on how to use the braille ballot guide. As part of the 14 days activities, we monitored the training for the visually impaired. The training held at the INEC office, Igede Ekiti had in attendance the leadership of the National Association of the Blind (NAB) in Ekiti state led by its state chairman, Mr. Olajide Olatubosun.

The Executive Director of DINABI used the opportunity to sensitize the visually impaired voters on the need to come out enmass and exercise their franchise. He highlighted the benefits of voting and explained the preparedness of INEC towards ensuring PWDs cast their ballot independently. He went further to support the trainers in explaining how to handle the braille ballot guide and use it to vote correctly and independently.

ADVOCACY VISIT TO ONIGEDE OF IGEDE EKITI

On the 3rd of May, 2022, we paid an advocacy visit to the Onigede of Igede Ekiti, Oba James Adelusi Aladesuru in his palace together with many of his chiefs in attendance. DINABI team led by our Executive Director, Mr Olajide Funso explained the purpose, mission and vision of our visit to the revered king and his chiefs while also soliciting for his supporting and that of his subjects to ensure that the message gets to every nooks and crannies of the community

The royal father who was excited to receive the team appreciated us for coming and also corroborated the need to have citizens participate fully in the electoral process. He further strengthened our position of vote trading and electoral violence. He therefore promised to ensure every citizen of the community gets the message. Kabiyesi prayed wholeheartedly for us (though he declined photograph in the palace).

VISIT TO THE OKADA RIDERS ASSOCIATION IGEDE EKITI

As part of the key stakeholders in the political and electoral process in Ekiti state, DINABI team paid a sensitization visit to the Okada Riders Association in Igede Ekiti. Almost 75% of Okada Riders Association members are youth and are often regarded as easy tool in the hands of the politicians for electoral violence.

The team used the opportunity to discuss with them the dangers and disadvantages in electoral violence and vote trading. They were also encouraged to come out enmass to cast their votes for their preferred candidates. The voting process was also explained to them step by step in other to ensure increased voters turnout.

The leader of the okada riders who doesn't want his name to be mentioned rejected the notion that his members are being used for electoral violence. He said they have always encouraged their members to shun violence and avoid vote trading. The association promised to pass the message to other members and even to their families.

VISIT TO IGEDE MARKET

Our team with support from the Iyalaja of Igede Ekiti sensitized and educated the market women and traders at the Igede market. Our team educated and sensitized them about the 2022 Ekiti state gubernatorial election, and we admonished them to come out and vote. We also emphasized the importance of a violence free election, devoid of vote buying and selling to the members, their husbands, wives, children and relatives while also enlightening them on the new introduction to the electoral process such as the Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) and INEC Result verification (IREV) portal, put in place to protect the vote of the citizen and to make their vote count.

COURTESY VISIT TO THE OLUYIN OF IYIN EKITI

DINABI team was at the palace of the Oluyin of Iyin Ekiti, HRM Oba Adeola Adeniyi Ajakaye with the aim of letting the royal father know about our collaboration with INEC on grassroot mobilization and voters' sensitization.

The royal father who was youthfully in high spirit when he saw us appreciated our efforts in ensuring people are aware of what is expected of them in the electoral process. Kabiyesi gladly schooled us on good governance, Leadership, Community Development, Political and electoral process etc.

He then promised all our discussions and messages are passed down to all his subjects and that electoral violence will not be heard in his community.

SENSITIZATION VISIT TO OKADA RIDERS AWO-EKITI

DINABI team paid a sensitization visit to the Okada Riders Association in Awo Ekiti. Okada riders are usually and easily termed as political thugs because of few bad eggs within them hence the need for the visit to them.

The team used the opportunity to discuss with them the dangers and disadvantages in electoral violence and vote trading. They were also encouraged to come out enmass to cast their votes for their preferred candidates. The voting process was also explained to them step by step in other to ensure increased voters turnout.

SENSITIZATION VISIT TO COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE AWO EKITI

Our team visited the Health centre in the community where we educated them about the preparedness of INEC and what is expected of them as they exercise their civic right on the day of the election. We also sensitized against vote buying/selling and not to engage in electoral violence and the importance of getting their PVC.

They raised concern about the difficulties encountered in the collection of PVCs where some couldn't find their PVCs. They called on INEC to ensure that their votes count as they promised their readiness to exercise their franchise.

DOOR TO DOOR CAMPAIGN AT AWO EKITI

DINABI team took to the street of Awo Ekiti to sensitize the citizens on the electoral process. Campaign focuses on households, petty traders, youths, women, artisans and passers-by.

It was an engaging activity but surely rewarding as it affords us the opportunity to reach a lot of electorates in the community. The residents asked many questions and comments and our team responded to all of their questions and comments. The residents promised to shun violence out rightly but some still insisted that they will trade their vote if opportunity arises despite all our pleas and sensitization.

A VISIT TO THE ALARE OF ARE-EKITI

Our team moved to Are Ekiti, a community under Irepodun/Ifelodun Local Government where we paid a courtesy/advocacy visit to the palace of Alare of Are-Ekiti, HRM Oba Boluwade Adebisi (JP), where the king was not around to attend to us at the time of visit, but we met with the Olori (the wife of the king) and other palace officials.

DINABI's team explained the purpose of the visit to the queen stating the need for members of the community to go out and vote on the day of election. The team also delivered a powerful message on the need to shun violence, vote trading and voter apathy. The team also called on all registered voters to go collect their PVCs if they are yet to do so.

The Queen welcomed the team and appreciated the visit of DINABI team while stating that it was timely and appropriate considering the increased rise in tension and the plan of some voters to sell their votes. She promised to deliver the message to the royal father and to the community members when he returns. She stressed further that the good people of Are-Ekiti are law abiding citizens and that there was no plan whatsoever for their subjects to sell their votes nor participates in electoral violence.

SENSITIZATION TO VARIOUS GROUPS IN ARE-EKITI

From the palace of the Alare of Are-Ekiti, we proceeded to the community to commence our grassroots mobilization, education and sensitization in the community. We met with various individuals, groups, and association in the community, especially the okada riders association in Are-Ekiti. It was such a productive visit, as the people in the community were happy about the information they got about the forth coming election in Ekiti state.

The elders whom we met expressed their disappointment at the current spate of malpractices in our electoral system and some of them narrated what was obtainable some decades back. They expressed their fear at going out to vote due to the current spate of kidnappings and violence in the society.

Some younger ones whom we interacted with vowed to sell their votes if the "right buyer" comes. They said it doesn't make a difference whether they sell their votes or not as the politicians always have their ways.

DINABI team took time to sensitize, orientate and inform the residents on the giant strides of INEC to ensure an inclusive, free, fair and credible elections. The members of the community were taken through the 5 Ws and H of the electoral process. Discussions also centered on the need to shun vote trading as this will reduce our ability to demand for good governance from our elected leaders.

VISIT TO ALAWOROKO OF IWOROKO-EKITI PALACE

Our sensitization train also moved to Iworoko community where we paid an advocacy visit to the Regent of Iworoko-Ekiti, Princess Bola, the eldest daughter of the late Alawaroko, Oba Michael O. Aladejana. She was not around as at the time we got there, we were received by one of the highest-ranking chiefs of the land, who on getting to know our mission in the community, helped to mobilized some of the residents of the community to listen to what we had to say. We educated the youths, men and women in the community and sensitized them about the 2022 Ekiti state gubernatorial election, we told them what is expected of them on the day of the election and modalities INEC has put in place to make the election a free and fair election. We explained what Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) and INEC Result verification (IREV) portal is, and the importance of these new introduction to the electoral process.

ENGAGEMENT WITH NURTW IWOROKO BRANCH

The engagement we had with the National Union of Road Transport Worker (NURTW) at Iworoko-Ekiti, especially with the Iworoko branch chairman and other transporters at the park was a fruitful and engaging one. We explained to them that the general opinion of the populace is that whenever there is electoral violence, drivers are usually the primary driver of such violence. We enjoined them to speak with their members to shun violence since the electoral process is not complete without their input especially with the distribution of election materials and movement of the material and Ad-hoc staff.

They were convinced and assured us of their participation in the election and promise to conduct themselves in manners that will bring about peaceful election in the community and Ekiti state at large.

MARKET OUTREACH AT IWOROKO EKITI

DINABI team sensitized and educated market women and traders at the Iworoko market. Our team educated and sensitized them about the 2022 Ekiti state gubernatorial election, and we admonished them to come out and vote. We also emphasized the importance of a violence free election, devoid of vote buying and selling to the members, their husbands, wives, children and relatives while also enlightening them on the new introduction to the electoral process

such as the Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) and INEC Result verification (IREV) portal, put in place to protect the vote of the citizen and to make their vote count.

The traders and artisans who were visited individually expresses their readiness to go out enmass to vote for the candidate of their choice. Some of the market women shared their experiences and some complained that their children cannot get their PVC after registration.

VISIT TO ALAFAO OF AFAO-EKITI

On June 15th, 2022 we paid an advocacy visit to the Alafao of Afao-Ekiti, HRH Oba Joseph Ademilua Ajibare in his palace alongside his Olori. We shared with the royal father the message to shun voter apathy and the need for the residents of the community to participate in the electoral process. Among salient issues discussed with Kabiyesi was the need for citizens who have attained voting age and with PVC to come out to vote, collection of Permanent voters' card, the preparedness of INEC for the Ekiti 2022 Gubernatorial election, efforts of security agencies and other stakeholders to ensure peaceful election, the newly amended Electoral Act 2022, the need for citizens to shun violence and ensure peaceful elections and the need to discourage vote trading.

Oba Joseph Ademilua said participating in the electoral process is not only important but a civic responsibility that is expected of a true Nigerian. He said to have a meaningful development requires concerted efforts from the citizens who are expected to vote in any candidate of their choice in an election. He promised to join in sensitizing all his subjects towards ensuring peaceful, free, fair and credible elections. He said further that violence of any kind shall not be tolerated under his territory. He commended DINABI and INEC for all their efforts in ensuring a free, fair and credible elections.

SENSITIZATION OF VARIOUS GROUPS IN AFAO-EKITI

DINABI team moved from house to house, shops to shops and junction to junction in the community to carry out our grassroots mobilization, education and sensitization in the community. We met with various individuals, groups and association in the community. It was such a productive visit, as the people in the community were happy about the information they got about the forth coming election in Ekiti state.

Most of the residents we met asked questions on PVC collections and assurances that their votes would count. They surprisingly vowed to shun vote buying and election violence. Some of the youths said unless the party candidates can bring out their own children in their campaigns, else they won't risk their lives for anyone.

DINABI team took time to sensitize, orientate and inform the residents on the giant strides of INEC to ensure an inclusive, free, fair and credible elections. The members of the community were taken through the 5 Ws and H of the electoral process. Discussions also centered on the need to shun vote trading as this will reduce our ability to demand for good governance from our elected leaders.

CAMPAIGN VIDEO SKIT

DINABI with the support received from Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) made a campaign video skit aimed at encouraging residents to shun vote trading. The video had key messages that informed the residents that no politician can pay for the value of their vote. It went further to inform them of the dangers inherent in vote trading which will eventually hinders them from asking for their rights from the elected officials.

The video which was shared on our facebook handle (www.facebook.com/DinabiNig) and twitter handle (www.twitter.com/DinabiNig) and other social media spaces quickly went viral with many viewers and many shares, retweets, comments and messages that follows.

As part of our inclusive policy, the video was specially subtitled to enable hearing impaired viewers to understand the content thereof.

VISIT TO SOME SELECTED SCHOOLS

DINABI team visited some schools in Iyin Ekiti and Igede Ekiti where the teachers and non-teaching staff of the school

were taking through the electoral and voting process. While fielding questions from the staff, Mr Olajide Funso explained the use of BVAS and its possibility of being the game-changer in our electoral process. On the issue of the credibility of the election on whether votes will count or not, the staff were assured that votes counts in Nigeria contrary to what politicians and citizens usually opined. They were also informed that if votes did not count, why would politicians try to buy vote? It was because our votes counts, that's why they want to buy our votes at all cost.

Complaints were also raised on the difficulty in collection of permanent voter card (PVC) and with some people finding it difficult to get their own PVC. DINABI also took time to explain to them reasons why some people couldn't find their own PVC which may be due to double registration, fresh registration instead of transfer or replacement.

The leadership of the schools appreciated the team from DINABI and promised to go all out and exercise their franchise.



ACCOUNTABILITY LAB SUPPORTED PROJECT

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION ON OGP/NAP

As part of efforts to further make the NAP process, implementation and evaluation to be more inclusive, DINABI in collaboration with Accountability Lab conducted a focus group discussion on the National Action Plan. The initiative seeks to encourage governments and civil societies to take concrete participation of youth, women and PWDs to be fully involved.

The purpose of the focus group discussion is to provide additional information on the implementation of Nigeria and Ekiti 3rd National Action Plan of the Open Government Partnership and make recommendations to improve the impact of the 2nd National Action Plan and to use their response to shape the draft report.

Participants in the Focus Group discussions held in Ekiti state were individuals affiliated to various organizations cutting across segments that works on disability rights, women's rights, gender equality and or governance and were selected based on a snowball sampling procedure from referrals and already existing contacts.

KEY OUTPUT

- The respondents shed a lot of light on how youth, PWDs and gender-responsive OGP/NAP structures and processes are (and have been in the past) and hindrances that make it difficult for them to be youth, PWDs and gender responsive.
- It was unanimously established from focus group discussion that during the process of co-creating the National Action Plans (NAP I and II), there was no deliberate effort to engage and or include adequate number of youths, PWDs and women throughout NAP processes, implementation and evaluation of the action plans.
- Public Participation has to be inclusive through available channels: website, mobile, radio, TV and public hearings.
- Public participation by the national government should be more open and inclusive and progressive. Sector hearings, advocacy and sensitization should be more open to a larger number of stakeholders and be held in local communities as well.
- To make the NAP truly open is to acknowledge that different groups of people have different peculiarities, to deliberately identify barriers that hinder women, youth and PWDs from participating and removing them to create a safe space for them to participate in the process, implementation and evaluation of NAP. The continued assumption of openness without a deliberate decision to engage youth, women and minority groups makes NAP only accessible to a certain group and excludes others

CHALLENGES OF NAP PROCESS AND IMPLEMENTATION

From the focus group discussion, the following challenges that is affecting effective NAP processes and implementation was stated by the respondent, and are stated below:

1. Insecurity
2. Lack of fund and resources.
3. Corruption
4. Lack of political will
5. Lack of continuity in program implementation and governance.
6. Lack of adequate awareness.
7. Inadequate inclusiveness and representation
8. Capacity gap on the part of the citizens to engage the process
9. Lack of proper monitoring and evaluation of NAP

RECOMMENDATIONS

Having identified what ideally would make the NAP more inclusive and beneficial to youth, women, PWDs and minority groups through the focus group discussion, we explore in this section potential entry points that could be undertaken to make NAP processes, implementation and evaluation to be more responsive.

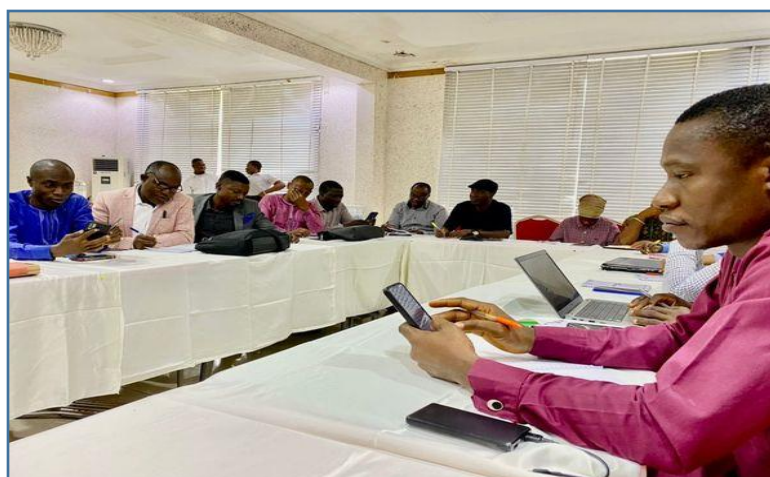
- Increase activities tailored towards citizens taking ownership of the NAP process at every level.
- Deploy more awareness channels such as Social and Traditional media
- Be more deliberate and strategic in the inclusion of PWDs, women and youth
- Develop an effective feedback mechanism
- Decentralization of OGP and NAP implementation to rural/local levels.
- Capacity building for key stakeholders to engage the process.
- Regular assessment, monitoring of implementation and evaluation.
- Production of information on OGP and NAP in accessible format such as simplified/abridged and braille format.
- Enforcement of the Ekiti State Transition Law to ensure continuity.
- Intensify efforts on curbing the menace of insecurity.

CONCLUSION

Over the course of Ekiti state membership in the OGP, the state has made several commitments to openness that seem inclusive and aimed at impacting youth, PWDs, women and minority groups. These commitments, and more generally the OGP structures in the state are considered to be deliberate in their approach towards ensuring inclusivity and quality participation of youth, women and minority groups in Open Government, however, awareness on their activities have been relatively low.

Youth, women and PWDs have not been sufficiently targeted specifically as beneficiaries of OGP NAP commitments. This should be seen in the steering committee’s extending more invitation to youth, women and PWDs to participate in the co-creation of NAP III. The inclusion of a commitment in NAP III that sets targets within commitments on open contracting to ensure that 30 percent of public procurement opportunities set aside for youths, women and persons with disabilities (PWDs), thereby benefits these categories of “disadvantaged groups”.

The NAP can be conceptualized in a manner that achieves specific gains for youth, women and PWDs, even as it benefits the general citizenry, as a first step for Ekiti state to take towards making the whole process from co-creation, implementation, evaluation and even the actual commitments and targets gender responsive.



BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECT

OLAWUMI EMPOWERED ACADEMICALLY

Some months back, a senior student of the Ekiti State Special School for the Blind, Ikere Ekiti called us at DINABI about the predicament of 14-year old Olawumi, a primary 4 student of the school whom we had earlier influenced her enrollment as part of our BACK TO SCHOOL project. He told us of some of her needs out of which a Typewriter was said to be the most important.

We discussed with our Board of Trustee and Management concerning her ordeals and the entire team graciously approved the purchase of a Typewriter for the promising girl. On the 6th of August, 2022, we presented the typewriter to the young Olawumi in the presence of the school Principal, Mrs. Amogbonjaye Bolanle, the Ekiti State JONAPWD Chairman, Mr Owolabi Kayode and the team from DINABI Nigeria.

In continuation of our continuous support to ensure no child with disability is left behind in education, on 23rd September, 2022, we presented a cash gift to Olawumi again to cater for her other academic needs through a donation from a philanthropist, Mrs Benny Goodnews.

DINABI SENDS MARY TO SCHOOL

Mary was asked to stop schooling due to the perceived inability to cope with studying and lack of finances by the foster mother despite getting an offer of admission into the Government Technical College in Ekiti State. We were contacted at Disability Not A Barrier Initiative by our good friend, Ayeni Racheal Babalola on Mary's case and subsequently connected to the foster mother. We were moved by the story we heard about Mary, not only being an orphan but also a girl with disability and with genuine interest in going to school.

We therefore took the decision on November 8th 2022 by paying all her tuition fees, purchasing all other needed materials and also making the pledge to constantly follow up on her welfare for the next three years. At the presentation of the cheque to Mary and her foster mother, Mary busted into tears for joy and we indeed realized the world awaits another champion in the making.



ENOUGH IS ENOUGH (EiE) NIGERIA SUPPORTED PROJECT

OFFICE OF THE CITIZEN RADIO PROGRAM

The COVID-19 pandemic emerged in China in December 2019 before spreading across the world. The pandemic caught the world unaware and governments seem unprepared. Our reality changed, and we are left to embrace the 'new normal'.

In response, Nigerian governments mobilized donations from corporate entities, private individuals and donor agencies to support the government's efforts for cash transfers and other interventions. As part of the responses, private companies formed the Coalition Against COVID-19 (CACOVID). This is a private-sector task force in partnership with the Federal Government, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) with the sole aim of combating COVID-19 in Nigeria. The task force is tasked with pulling resources across industries to provide technical & operational support and funding to address salient issues related to COVID-19. As of June 2020, the CACOVID Fund with the Central Bank of Nigeria was N30 billion. Nigeria also requested \$3.4 billion from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which was approved in April 2020

Asides from these, wealthy individuals and others like religious institutions provided financial support to the government. It is however important to track how these funds are spent and put government officials on their toes to ensure accountability. This will block financial leakages and ensure citizens are the main beneficiaries of these funds. More than a year after WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic, researchers have developed several vaccines to help fight against the deadly virus. The federal government of Nigeria has purchased over 29,850,000 doses; however, the arrival of the vaccines has been met by several conspiracy theories.

According to the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), as of August 22, 2022, 41.2 million Nigerians have received the 1st dose of COVID-19 and 29.1 million Nigerians have received the second dose of COVID-19 vaccines despite having a population of over 200 million.

DINABI Nigeria in collaboration with Enough is Enough (EiE) Nigeria, BudgiT and Innovation for Change-Africa ran a 13-week radio program on NewCruse 92.7 FM, Ikere-Ekiti where we brought in two guests each week to speak on COVID-19, COVID-19 Vaccines and Electoral process especially focusing on the 2023 general elections. DINABI leveraged on the good relationship with the Ekiti State Ministry of Health and Human Services to have government officials on the radio program on a weekly basis. Among other participants on the radio program were members of Civil Society Organizations, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Student Union body, National Youth Council of Nigeria, Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities (JONAPWD), Religious bodies, and duty bearers all in Ekiti state.

Objectives

1. To increase awareness around COVID-19 and efforts by governments and private organizations.
2. To increase community engagement/response and bridge the gap between citizens, the government, MDAs and relevant stakeholders on COVID-19 vaccination.
3. To facilitate a transparent and accountable allocation, disbursement, and management of COVID-19 funds and palliatives.
4. To leverage the radio program to create awareness for PVC collection ahead of 2023 general elections

BIGIF-UNICEF SUPPORTED PROJECT

According to UNICEF, one in three females of most West African countries has experienced one form of mutilation or the other. Female genital mutilation is any procedure which involves the partial or total removal of the external genitalia and or injury exerted to the female genital organ for non-medical reasons (UNICEF). It is a violence against life and an injustice against women and female. It has been observed that female genital mutilation is the very first ever existed Gender base violence any female child in Africa could experience. In west-Africa, Nigeria holds the second position in the practice of FGM, while Ekiti State takes the first position in southwest Nigeria.

As part of efforts towards eradicating the evil act in southwestern Nigeria, UNICEF sponsored a project tagged EndFGM, the project which was aimed at eradicating FGM to its barest minimum in southwestern states in Nigeria, especially in Ekiti State, with the target of meeting up with over 500,000 pledges at the end of the project. In Ekiti state, UNICEF implemented the project through Balm in Gilead Foundation for Sustainable Development (BIGIF) and Gender Mobile Initiative (GMI). BIGIF covered both Ado-Ekiti and Ikere-Ekiti. Considering our outstanding records, DINABI was selected as implementing partner with BIGIF at Uro community, Ikere-Ekiti, Ekiti State.



The project which began from September, 2022 till December, 2022 featured various sensitization activities which is aimed at sensitizing members of the public on the harmful social and health effects of FGM some of which includes; bleeding, exposure to infections, tear in the vagina resulting to painful child birth, maternal effects, loss of sexual pleasure, infertility and promptness of urine, the sensitization also aim at obtaining pledges from community members never to be involved in the practice anymore. Some of these activities includes;

- Sensitization of twenty-five (25) groups including artisans, women groups, market women, council of chiefs and traditional rulers, school pupils and teachers, health givers and nursing mothers, and religious groups;
- House-to-House Sensitization where various households were visited and were acquainted with information on the harmful effects in the practice of FGM;
- Adolescent kit Training and Sensitization on FGM where selected adolescent girls were trained on how to curb the practice of FGM and also become champions of the movement in training others girls;
- Reflective dialogue; these feature interactive session with selected community members.

Through the sensitization, DINABI was able to reach out to over 1,000 community members including households. The project on the 6th of December, 2022 ended with a state level orientation meeting and review meeting with stakeholder; the meeting was aimed at reviewing stakeholders' action plans towards EndFGM, secure stakeholder partnership on enrolment to the movement for good and to facilitate stakeholders' action for community response towards eradicating FGM in Ekiti State.

ADVOCACY FOR INCLUSION PROJECT

On 7th March, 2022, our team paid an advocacy visit to the Ekiti State Civil Service Commission where the Chairman of the commission, Sir Olubunmi Famosaya (MNI) led other commissioners to made commitments to implementing the 5% Employment quota as contained in the law.

The visit was part of the ongoing project called Advocacy for Inclusion being implemented by DINABI Nigeria aimed at strengthening the understanding of duty bearers on the concept of inclusion. It also aimed at encouraging duty bearers to allow for the full participation and inclusion of PWDs in all societal issues while also increasing awareness on disability rights and issues across board. It also seeks to influence policies of government in a manner that factors in inclusion and active participation of PWDs in its development and implementation.

The Chairman pledged on behalf of the State Government to ensure the implementation of the necessary provisions of the law and service rule to favour persons with disabilities.



ELECTION RELATED ACTIVITIES

EKITI CSO ADVOCACY VISIT TO INEC REC

On February 23rd 2022, DINABI Nigeria joined other members of the Coalition of Ekiti Civil Society Organizations on an advocacy visit to the Resident Electoral Commissioner of INEC Ekiti State, Dr. Tella Rahmon Adeniran alongside other management team of the commission. Among other things, the CSO team led by Prof. Oluwadare Christopher called for a good working relationship with the commission to ensure free, fair and credible elections in Ekiti. Calls were also made specifically by our Executive Director, Mr Olajide Funso on the inclusion of PWDs and women in all electoral and political processes.

IFA'S PLANNING MEETING WITH SFP ON ACCESS NIGERIA PROJECT

Our ED, Mr Olajide Funso participated in planning meeting with State Focal Persons in Ekiti state on the Access Nigeria Project organized by Inclusive Friends Association with support from USAID/Nigeria / UK in Nigeria with Technical support from National Democratic Institute held on January 24, 2022 at the Eleventh House Hotels and Suites, Ado-Ekiti towards the 2022 Ekiti state Gubernatorial election.

3-DAY WORKSHOP FOR CSOS ON CONFLICT SENSITIVITY & HATE SPEECH

DINABI participated in a 3-Day training workshop for CSOs on Conflict Sensitivity, Do No Harm Principles as well as Hate Speech Awareness and Mitigation from 5th–7th April, 2022 at Delight Hotel, Ado Ekiti Ekiti State organized by Search for Common Ground Nigeria.

The event aimed at ensuring CSOs are adequately incorporating conflict-sensitivity and Do-No-Harm (DNH) principles within their respective and collective election-related programs as well as leveraging their platforms and engagement to mitigate hate speech, promote peace, and encourage inclusive, credible, and participatory election processes.

SEARCH FOR COMMON GROUND PODCAST

Our Executive Director, Olajide Funso Benjamin Bishop was a guest on Search for Common Ground Nigeria podcast program on 11th April, 2022 where he spoke on the Ekiti 2022 Gubernatorial election and Inclusion of PWDs in the electoral process.

YIAGA'S ONE DAY TRAINING WORKSHOP ON WATCHING THE VOTE

Assistant Program Officer, Mr Ojo Adesoye participated in a one day Training tagged Watching The Vote organized by [Yiaga Africa](#) held at Delight Hotel, Ado Ekiti on 26th April, 2022.

The training provided all representatives with an overview of the Parallel Vote Tabulation (PVT), Methodology, Theoretical and Practical insights on how sample is drawn and also discussed Watching The Vote methodology for observing the June 18 Gubernatorial Election in Ekiti State. Watching The Vote aims to ensure that Citizens understand what happens in the electoral process and how to engage the process with timely and accurate information about the election process to Voters and the Stakeholders. It also ensures that Citizens votes counts by detecting and deterring fraud and manipulation during the conduct of the election and collation of results. It provides information on the election process before, during and after the election.

3-DAY FACTCHECKING TRAINING ON COUNTERING MIS/DISINFORMATION IN NIGERIAN ELECTION

DINABI Nigeria participated in a 3-Day FactChecking Training on Countering Mis/Disinformation in Nigerian Election organized by Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) with support from [National Democratic Institute](#) held at Midas Hotel, Ado Ekiti on 27-29 April, 2022.

ONE-DAY CONSULTATIVE DIALOGUE MEETING OF STAKEHOLDERS TOWARDS THE 2022 EKITI GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION

On June 2nd 2022, DINABI Nigeria participated in a One-day Consultative Dialogue meeting of Stakeholders ahead of the 2022 Ekiti State Gubernatorial Election organized by [Women Situation Room Nigeria - WSRN](#) at KSSD Hotel, Ado-Ekiti. The event seeks to increase the understanding of the impact of an inclusive electoral process with substantive participation of women, youth and PWDs; to build alliance and increase visibility of the network in the state and to strengthen the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders in the promotion of justice, peace and security.

METHODOLOGY WORKSHOP ON ELECTION VIOLENCE MITIGATION & FIELD RESEARCH

On the 10th May, 2022, DINABI Nigeria participated at the Methodology Workshop on Election Violence Mitigation & Advocacy Tool (EVMAT) For Field Researchers towards Ekiti State 2022 Governorship Election held at Koltotel Hotel, Ado Ekiti organized by The Electoral Institute.

EVMAT was developed to help identify electoral risk factors and possible flashpoints. It was also expected to generate data for developing a security threat assessment of the 2022 Ekiti Gubernatorial election.

DINABI subsequently conducted a three-day field research at Irepodun/Ifelodun of Ekiti State in order to help identify electoral risk factors and possible flashpoints.

THE ELECTORAL INSTITUTE POLICY DIALOGUE

On 12th May, 2022 DINABI Nigeria was also at the TEI Policy Dialogue on Ekiti State Governorship Election tagged A Litmus Test For Election Administration In Nigeria Under The New Electoral Act, 2022 organized by The Electoral Institute at Hassanat Event Centre, Ado-Ekiti.

ONE-DAY TRAINING OF DOMESTIC ELECTION OBSERVERS FOR THE EKITI GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION 2022

On 14th May, 2022, we participated in a One-day training of domestic election observers for the Ekiti State Governorship Election 2022 organized by Nigerian Civil Society Situation Room with support from [Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office](#) held at the Eleventh House Hotel, Ado Ekiti.

As part of the key focus areas for observation are accessibility of polling areas, availability of voting aides for PWDs etc.

ONE-DAY WORKSHOP WITH YOUTH GROUPS IN EKITI

On May 18th, 2022, DINABI was at an Engagement With Identified Youth Groups in Ekiti State tagged Roles of Youth ahead of the June 18th 2022 Governorship Election organized by [INEC Nigeria](#) at Hasanat Event Centre Ado Ekiti. Amongst other things, the engagement looked into the INEC state of preparedness ahead June 18th 2022 Governorship Election, Why Youth must participate in the Election, Electoral offenses and penalties, the BVAS and the new technology in Election.

2-DAY TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR CSOS, FBOS AND PWDS ON INCLUSIVE ELECTION

On May 19th 2022, DINABI Nigeria was at the 2-Day training workshop for CSOs, FBOs and PWDS on inclusive Governorship Election in Ekiti organized by INEC at Delight Hotel, Ado-Ekiti. The workshop focused on INEC preparedness towards the Ekiti 2022 Gubernatorial Election and the inclusion of PWDS in the process.

CSO ROUNDTABLE MEETING WITH THE DELEGATION FROM BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION

On May 22nd, 2022, our Executive Director joined other Civil Society actors at a roundtable meeting with the British High Commission delegation at Delight Hotel, Ado-Ekiti towards the 2022 Gubernatorial Election in Ekiti State. It gave us the opportunity to brief the delegation on issues around participation of PWDS in the electoral process, insecurity and the overall well-being of PWDS.

RADIO TOWN HALL MEETING FOR PWDS ON THE EKITI 2022 GOVERNORSHIP ELECTIONS

On 28th May, 2022, our Executive Director, Olajide Funso was one of the four Discussant consisting of Mr Femi Akinbiyi, Samuel Bassey of INEC and Owolabi Kayode of Ekiti State JONAPWD at the Radio Town Hall Meeting for PWDS on the Ekiti Governorship Elections organized by [INEC Nigeria](#) with support from [IFES](#) at Delight Hotel, Ado-Ekiti where he spoke on Importance of PWDS Political Participation as Candidates and Voters.

4TH EDITION OF STOP VAWIP LIVE RADIO TOWN HALL MEETING

On Tuesday 14th June, 2022, our Executive Director, Olajide Funso Benjamin was the lead Discussant alongside Dowole Gold Moyinoluwa of [Goldheart Foundation](#) at the 4th Edition of [Stop VAWIP](#) Live Radio (Progress 100.5 FM) Townhall meeting on the Stop Violence Against Women in Politics Campaign moderated by the popular OAP, AY Nigeria and Danni Riches, held at All Saints Conference Hall, Petim Estate, Ado-Ekiti organized by [Balm in Gilead Foundation for Sustainable Development - BIGIF](#) with technical support from [National Democratic Institute](#) with funding support from [USAID/Nigeria](#).

The second session had Aigbe Austin of [CDD West Africa](#) and Cynthia Mbamalu of [Yiaga Africa](#) as Discussants. Discussions focused on forms of violence women experience in politics especially women with disabilities, and how to report such occurrences in their community, efforts at preventing violence before, during and after the polls are in place, the current political situation in the state and other salient issues.

KDI RADIO TOWN HALL MEETING

On June 15, 2022, DINABI participated at the Radio Town Hall Meeting organized by [Kimpact Development Initiative - KDI](#) with support from [National Endowment for Democracy](#) on Increasing Youth Turnout in Election at the Live Studio of Newcruse 92.7FM Ikere Ekiti, Ekiti State. DINABI representative spoke on the importance of inclusion/participation of PWDS in the electoral process and the need for PWDS to go out enmass to exercise their franchise. Other Discussants at the program are Fr. Attah Bakindo of [National Peace Committee](#) , PRO of NSCDC and NANS President in Ekiti state.

ONE-DAY STAKEHOLDERS POST-ELECTION REFLECTION MEETING

On Monday, August 01, 2022 we were at a one-day stakeholders post-election reflection meeting tagged [Yiaga Africa](#) Watching The Vote (WTV) Post-Election Meeting with Civil Society (CSO) Leaders in Ekiti held at Delight Hotel Ado-Ekiti. The meeting provided an important opportunity to appraise the project and for participants to share experiences and lessons learnt from the concluded election. Furthermore, the meeting also assesses impressions from the elections in relation to citizens' participation and perception on electoral integrity and satisfaction with the outcome, elections security and conduct of INEC. The meeting also provided stakeholders with a platform to reflect on their partnership in the election and identify opportunities for sustainable electoral reforms.

ONE-DAY CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR VOTER EDUCATION PROVIDERS IN SOUTHWEST

As one of the prominent voter education providers in Nigeria, DINABI Nigeria was at a One-Day Capacity Building Workshop for Voter Education Providers in Southwest, Nigeria ahead of the 2023 General Election, organized by [INEC Nigeria](#) with support from [United Nations Development Programme - UNDP](#) held at Kakanfo Inn & Conference Center Ibadan on October 26th 2022.

ONE-DAY STATE LEVEL STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON ADVANCING WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

On 17th November, 2022, DINABI was at a one-day State Level Stakeholders Consultative Meeting on Advancing Women's Political Participation in Nigeria organized by [UN Women Nigeria](#) held at KSSD Hotel, Ado-Ekiti.

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION ON ASSESSING THE LEVEL WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

On November 18, 2022, we participated a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) organized by [Nigerian Women Trust Fund](#) in collaboration with GRIP with support from [Ford Foundation](#) with a view to assessing the level women's political participation and inclusion in Ekiti State held at the

TOWN HALL MEETING ON WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

On 18th November 2022, our Executive Director was a Panelist at the Town hall Meeting on Women's Political Participation organized by [Kimpact Development Initiative - KDI](#) with support from [UN Women Nigeria](#) and [Government of Canada](#) held at Eleventh House Hotel, Ado-Ekiti where he spoke on Ekiti State Eco-System and its Impact on Women Political Participation in Ekiti State.



BUDGET, PROCUREMENT, OGP & OPEN CONTRACTING ACTIVITIES

4-DAY CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP ON CITIZENS BUDGET

DINABI participated in a capacity building training on "Citizens Budget" organized by [Open Government Partnership National secretariat](#) at the Conference Hall, Governor's office, Ado Ekiti from 21st to 24th February, 2022. The workshop focused on the role of CSOs in the Citizens Budget Preparation, approval, implementation and Oversight/Auditing cannot be overemphasized, hence the need for adequate capacity building for critical stakeholders.

OPEN CONTRACTING WORKSHOP FOR CSOS IN EKITI STATE

On 27th July, 2022, we were at the Open Contracting Workshop for CSOs in Ekiti State organized by Public and Private Development Centre (PPDC) with support from [MacArthur Foundation](#) for CSOs in Ekiti state held at Delight Hotel, Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State. The workshop aimed to help CSOs understand the concept of Open Contracting, Contract and project monitoring, Tools used to demand accountability e.g. Public Procurement Law (PPI), FOI Act, Step by step guide on how to an FOI request, set up a cohort that will be responsible for 2022 Ekiti state FOI Ranking.

ONE-DAY ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOS) ON SFTAS PROGRAMME SUSTAINABILITY

On the 26th August, 2022, DINABI participated in the Engagement meeting with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) on SFTAS Programme Sustainability organized by SFTAS Programme Coordination Unit, [Federal Ministry of Finance](#) at Ibis Hotel, Lagos. As part of its strategies to ensure the sustainability of fiscal reforms, the SFTAS P4R engaged stakeholders on the demand side who can ensure that fiscal transparency and accountability are sustained in state PFM activities.

2-DAYS TRAINING AND OFFICIAL LAUNCHING OF THE INCLUSIVE FORUM FOR ACCOUNTABLE SOCIETY IFAS

On 31st, August and 1st of September, 2022, DINABI was at the 2-day Training and official Launching of the Inclusive Forum for Accountable Society [#IFAS](#) Ekiti State, which aims at achieving an all-inclusive service delivery in governance in the State. The program was organized by [ActionAid Nigeria](#) in collaboration with [EDFHO Nigeria](#) held at Fabian Hotel, Ado Ekiti with Stakeholders from Government MDAs, Community Reps. and CSOs in attendance.

ONE-DAY DIALOGUE SESSION ON PUBLIC AUDIT AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN NIGERIA

On Friday, 23rd September, 2022 as a member of Civil Society Coalition on Audit in Nigeria (CSCAN) we attended a one-day dialogue session to review the state of Public Audit and Accountability in Nigeria particularly at the federal level held at Reiz Hotel, Abuja with support from [Partnership to Engage, Reform and Learn - PERL Nigeria](#) and [Paradigm Leadership Support Initiative \(PLSI\)](#) led by our own National coordinator, Olusegun Elemo. The objective of the dialogue was to assess stakeholders' actions in relation to the proposed Federal Audit Bill, discuss matters bothering on the recruitment of a new Auditor-General for the Federation, develop joint communique on these and other issues and address the media on key Coalition demands.

FOUR-DAY ANTI-CORRUPTION HACKATHON WORKSHOP

On 1st - 4th of November, 2022, DINABI was at the Four-Day Anti-corruption Hackathon Workshop, organized by [Accountability Lab Nigeria](#) in partnership with [United Nations Development Programme - UNDP](#) and [Open Government Partnership](#) held at Delight Hotel, Ado-Ekiti with the objectives of Improving government procurement data including public access.

The workshop aimed to:

- Improve government procurement data including public access: Develop tech ideas for public procurement processes to improve paper-based systems, improper contracting procedures, unclear regulations, and poor efficiency in tracking public contracts
- Catalyzing the use of procurement data for advocacy, monitoring, and feedback mechanisms: Implementing open contracting under the watchful eye of citizen and CSO engagement, presents Nigerian states with the opportunity to address loopholes within procurement processes, improve service delivery, and attain greater levels of transparency around spending, e.g. develop story sprints

DINABI Nigeria provided logistics support to Accountability Lab Nigeria on the workshop.

2-DAY CAPACITY BUILDING OF CSO AND MEDIA ON INCLUSION OF WOMEN IN OPEN CONTRACTING

On 21st – 22nd December, 2022, DINABI Nigeria participated in the 2-Day Capacity Building of CSO and Media on inclusion of women in open contracting towards a gender responsive procurement process organized by Ekiti State Bureau of Public Procurement held at All Saints Anglican Hall, Ado-Ekiti.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

2022 KIDS AND TEENS RESOURCE CENTRE STAFF RETREAT

On January 11 2022, DINABI Nigeria provided technical support to Kids and Teens Resource Centre (KT&RC) during their 2022 Staff Retreat held at Matter Dei Development Center, Bypass, Akure, Ondo state where Our Executive Director, Olajide Funso was the Resource Person discussing Graphics Application to NGO Work: Disability Perspective and Website Audit and Management in NGO.

3RD ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL DISABILITY ACT

DINABI participated at a week-long 3rd Anniversary commemorating the passage and signing of the National Disability Act 2018 organized by [Centre for Citizens with Disabilities \(CCD\)](#) with support from [Ford Foundation](#) held on 18th-20th Jan, 2022 at National Human Rights Commission Conference Hall, Abuja where our Executive Director was a panelist in one of the panel sessions.

The goal of the event was to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, and to stock on efforts of stakeholders towards ensuring the full implementation of the Disability Rights Act, as well as to evaluate the extent of the performance of the national commission for persons with disabilities in the discharge of its responsibilities for the education, healthcare and the protection of PWDs Social, Economic, Civil Rights and other related matters.

DWAN SOUTHWEST LEADERSHIP TRAINING

On Saturday 26th February 2022, our Executive Director was a guest speaker at the Leadership Training organized by the Southwest Deaf Women Association of Nigeria (DWAN) titled Equipping Deaf Women for Sustainable Development Post COVID-19 held at the Multipurpose Hall of the Ekiti State Ministry of Works & Transport, Ado-Ekiti. Our Executive Director spoke on Essential Leadership Skills Towards Sustainable Development

CITIZENS ENGAGEMENT ON EKITI STATE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2021-2050

On Monday 28th February 2022, we participated and made salient and critical points on inclusion of PWDs towards the development Ekiti State Development Plan 2021-2050 during a one-day workshop organized by the Ekiti State Government in collaboration with [United Nations Development Programme - UNDP](#) held at Lady Jibowu Hall, Governor's office, Ado-Ekiti.

WORLD WATER DAY 2022

On March 21st, 2022, it was a double event for us as we joined the rest of the world to mark the World Water Day 2022 with the theme: Groundwater, Making the Invisible, Visible.

First, Our Executive Director, Mr Olajide Funso represented the Network of Society for Water and Sanitation (NEWSAN) joined Dr Talabi of [Ekiti State University](#) and Dr. Adedapo of [The Federal Polytechnic Ado Ekiti](#) on a TV program called Day Break Nigeria on EKTU to discuss of the year 2022 theme. Also, DINABI's team of Oni Femi, Omotola Omotunla and Ogunniran Lara participated in a road walk organized by Network of Society for Water and Sanitation.

MEDIA PARLEY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTONOMY

On 31st March, 2022, we lend our voice to support Local Government Autonomy at a Media Parley with NULGE, Chaos, Community Leaders & Groups organized by Social Action Nigeria with support from [United Nations Democracy Fund](#) (UNDEF) and technical support from Life and Peace Development Organization (LAPDO) held at NULGE Hall, Ado Ekiti.

At the media parley, it was unanimously agreed that PWDs could have fared better under an autonomous LG because over 90% of PWDs resides in the rural areas directly under LGAs.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE MEETING

On April 13, 2022, our Executive Director, Olajide Funso was one of the Guest Speakers at the Inclusive Education and Early Childhood Community of Practice Meeting organized by Global Campaign for Education, United States of America (GCE-US). Our ED spoke alongside other global activists such as Talin Avades of Global Action on Disability (GLAD), Leah Maxson and Rebecca Pagel of USAID; Funso Benjamin Olajide; Sakil Malik, Global Center for Innovation and Learning

LAUNCHING OF THE DOWN SYNDROME PROJECT

On 20th May, 2022, our Executive Director was a guest speaker at the launching of the Down Syndrome Project organized by [The Basileia Vulnerable Persons Rights Initiative \(BVPRI\)](#) in Kaduna speaking on The Disability Act: Where we are and Challenges to Full Implementation.

ONE-DAY CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR STAKEHOLDERS ON FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION (FGM)

On 8th April 2022, we participated in a one-day capacity building workshop for stakeholders on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Ekiti State organized by [HACEY's Health Initiative](#) in collaboration with [Ekiti State Ministry of Health and Human Services](#) held at Koltotel Hotel, Ado Ekiti.

IFA RADIO TALK SHOW

On 17th April, 2022, we were on Voice 89.9 FM on a Radio Talk show sponsored by Inclusive Friends Association with support from National Endowment for Democracy where our ED joined Hon. Familusi Tokunbo and Barr. Michael Olaniyan to x-ray the level of implementation of the Ekiti State Disability Law.

STUDENT RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY VISIT TO OUR OFFICE

On 14th April, 2022, we received in audience some final year students of the Department of History & International Studies of [Ekiti State University \(EKSU\), Ado-Ekiti](#) who were writing their final year project at our office.

Their visit was to acquire more knowledge on disability rights, legal frameworks available, Disability models, plights of persons with Disabilities, various barriers being faced by PWDs, level of implementation of the legal frameworks and policies on disability in Ekiti State and Nigeria.

ONE-DAY DIALOGUE SESSION ON LEADERSHIP EFFECTIVENESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY DIALOGUE (LEAD)

On 6th June, 2022, we attended a Dialogue Session on Leadership Effectiveness and Accountability Dialogue (LEAD) as one of the few CSOs from Southwest Region organized by Savannah Centre for Diplomacy, Democracy and Development with support from MacArthur Foundation and Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre - PLAC held at Ibeto Hotel, Abuja.

The project was aimed at promoting constructive engagement and national dialogue on, restructuring vis-a-viz strengthening national cohesion, good and accountable governance as well as inclusivity, justice and fairness in the Nigeria polity thereby creating a platform for more inclusive, democratic and objective interactions on project Nigeria, where justice and fairness are core imperatives.

A ONE DAY CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP ON EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

On 6th October, 2022, DINABI Nigeria participated in a one day capacity building workshop on effective service delivery towards advocating, campaigning and engaging relevant stakeholders to on the one hand grant Autonomy to local government councils in Nigeria to indeed function as a third tier of government, while on the other hand demand for accountability and effective service delivery to far to reach areas of Nigeria organized by Social Action with support from the United Nations Democracy funds (UNDEF) at Shores Building Hall, Peace House, Ado Ekiti.

The workshop was aimed at better positioning local government officials to rise up to the challenges of service delivery to communities, using the budget cycle and Needs Assessment tools.

ONE-DAY DIALOGUE SESSION ON CIVIC SPACE THREATS AND SPECIAL LEGAL FRAMEWORKS FOR NGOS

On 26th June, 2022, DINABI was at the Dialogue Session on Civic Space Threats and Special Legal Frameworks for NGOs, themed "Fostering an Enabling Environment for CSOs", organized by Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) with support from Nigeria Strengthening Civic Advocacy and Local Engagement - Nigeria SCALE and USAID/Nigeria held at Ibeto Hotel, Abuja.

The level of insecurity in the country with citizens living in constant fear of their lives. Despite the constitutional responsibility conferred on the government to protect the lives and the welfare of citizens, the reported death tolls from armed bandits, terrorist attacks, pastoralist-farmers conflicts, kidnapping and secessionist agitations among others reveal a weak security infrastructure with attendant consequences on citizens' lives, properties and the economy.

The session therefore provided a platform for CSOs to discuss how insecurity affects civic spaces and review the legal framework used to clamp down on civic spaces under the guise of insecurity.

ADVOCACY VISIT FROM VSI

On 21st July, 2022, we received in our office the duo of Anita Graha and Dunmoye Halimah Ayomide from Vision Spring Initiatives during an advocacy visit to DINABI Nigeria office as one of the organizations they intend to partner with on their [#WeLead](#) project funded by [Hivos](#).

We both expressed our delight at the benefits that awaits young women and girls with disabilities on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights during and after the completion of the long-awaited project.

ONE-DAY STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE CIVIL SOCIETY ON THE CONTROL OF THE PROLIFERATION OF ILLICIT SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

On July 14, 2022, we were at a One-day Strategic Engagement with the Civil Society on the control of the proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons organized by the National Centre for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons under the Office of the National Security Adviser (The Presidency) held at the Nigerian Army Resource Center, Abuja. Mainstreaming disability rights into the activities of the centre was one of the highlights of the workshop. Obviously, the control of illicit small arms is an opportunity to stay alive.

ONE-DAY DIALOGUE SESSION ON INSECURITY AS A THREAT TO CIVIC SPACE

On 26th April, 2022, DINABI joined other Civil Society actors from other regions at a one-day Dialogue Session on Insecurity as a Threat to Civic Space organized by Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) with support USAID-SCALE at Ibetu Hotel, Abuja.

The session provided a platform for CSOs to discuss how insecurity affects civic spaces and also reviewed the legal frameworks used to clamp down on civic spaces under the guise of insecurity such as Terrorism Prevention Act 2013(amended), Cybercrime Act, CAMA, SCUML etc. with Dr. Sina Fagbenro-Byron and Brenda Nonso Nwosa of PLAC taking us through some sessions.

IFES DRAGONS DEN LIVE PITCH PRESENTATION

On 28th September, 2022, DINABI Nigeria was among the 20 organizations across Nigeria that participated in the Dragons Den Live Pitch Presentation organized by [IFES](#) at Chelsea Hotel, Abuja. We had the opportunity of pitching our innovation with order great minds towards a better 2023 general election.

ONE-DAY ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON PROMOTING CHILDREN/ YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES

We were at a One-Day Roundtable Meeting on Promoting Children/ Youth Participation in Democratic Processes organized by [Save the Children, Nigeria](#) in collaboration with [Accountability Lab Nigeria](#) on Thursday 20th October, 2022 at Hotel 2020, Wuye, Abuja.

MR ADEBAYO STARTS A NEW LIFE.

In early August, 2022, a friend spoke to us about Mr Adebayo who had been at home for a while due to lack of finances to get a wheelchair to aid his mobility. We called him on phone and he narrated his ordeals to us and we made him a promise to purchase a new wheelchair for him.

On October 29, 2022, we at [Disability Not A Barrier Initiative](#) were proud to give a new wheelchair to Mr Adebayo to ease the burden of mobility and to remove the "dis" from his "disability".

We are still poised to support Mr Adebayo, a father of two lovely kids to go into Poultry Business and Snailery as well as Groundnut and Popcorn business as he wished.

NISD ADVOCACY VISIT

On November 4, 2022, DINABI and other CSOs in Ekiti State joined [New Initiative for Social Development \(NISD\)](#) on their USAID-SCALE project on an advocacy visit to Ekiti State Health Insurance Scheme (EKHIS) on "The full Implementation of National Health Insurance Act".

NISD as one of the cluster being led by anchor, Centre for Social Justice, Nigeria is coordinating the project in Ekiti State.

TWO-DAY CAPACITY BUILDING ON STRENGTHENING COORDINATION MECHANISM TO ADVOCATE FOR SGBV

On 17th November, 2022, we were at a two-day Capacity Building on Strengthening Coordination Mechanism to advocate for Sexual and Gender based Violence organized by [Women Advocates Research and Documentation Centre \(WARDC\)](#) with the support of [African Women's Development Fund](#) held at Bon Hotel, Ado-Ekiti.

EDTECH MONDAY LIVE SHOW

On 28th November, 2022, our Executive Director, Olajide Funso was a panelist at EdTech Monday Live show organized by MasterCard Foundation in partnership with Co-creation Hub Nigeria (CCHUB) where he spoke on Education Technology as an Enabler of Education for Learners with Disabilities speaking alongside Amaka of DRAC, Oluwatomisin Daniels and Akeem of Ekiti State Bureau of Information Communication Technology with Joyce Daniel moderating.

2022 INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY DAY CELEBRATION

On 1st – 2nd December, 2022, DINABI provided financial support to the Ekiti State Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities (JONAPWD) to carry out advocacy visits to selected key stakeholders such as SUBEB, EKSODA etc towards the full implementation of the Ekiti State Disability Law. Also, on 5th December, 2022, Our Executive Director was on the set of Ekiti State Television with the chairman of JONAPWD, Ekiti State Chapter, Mr Kayode Owolabi discussing 2022 International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

ONAOPEMIPO ANNUAL PROGRAM 2022

On Saturday 17th December, 2022, we were honoured to make a keynote speech at the Annual Program of [Onaopemipo Center for Children and Youth with Special Needs \(OCCYSN\)](#), Ado-Ekiti.



Ekiti Disability Law:
Beyond The Disability Law;
Assessing implementation & Compliance

Blessing Edeh
Presenter

Familusi Tokunbo
Board Member, Ekiti State Agency for Persons with Disabilities

Olajide Funso Benjamin
Executive Director of Disability Unit & Senior Initiative and Control Secretary of JONAPWD, Ekiti State Chapter

Michael Olaniyan
Legal practitioner

18th April, 2022

10am-11am TODAY Inclusive Friends NED

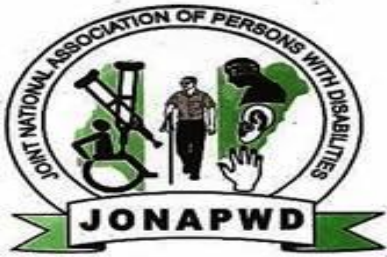
Info@inclusivefriends.org +234 816 064 6394 @inclusivefriends inclusivefriends.org



OUR DONORS



PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS



New Initiative for Social Development



DISABILITY NOT A BARRIER INITIATIVE

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 2022

Income	₦	₦
Grants		7,846,500
Donations		231,000
Honourarium		1,650,000
Others		<u>885,000</u>
		10,612,500
Less: Administrative & Other Expenses		
Program Cost	7,334,292	
Salaries & Wages	1,860,000	
Electricity	60,000	
Printing & Stationery	72,000	
Transport & Travelling Expenses	96,000	
Office Expenses	64,350	
Fuel, Oil & Lubricant	48,000	
Empowerment	215,000	
Telephone	35,000	
Office Rent	250,000	
TOTAL EXPENSES		10,034,642
CLOSING BALANCE		577,858



DINABI Nigeria

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