



MURNA NEWS

A beacon of hope for the community

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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, HEALTH, EDUCATION, ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

**GOOD GOVERNANCE &
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

**PEACE BUILDING &
SOCIAL COHESION**



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WHO WE ARE!



Murna Foundation (MF) is a registered civil society organization that started its operation in the year 2005, with CAC registration no 19885. The head office of the organization is located at Dandagoro, Kano Road, Katsina state and has outreach coordinators across the 6 geo-political zones of Nigeria. The governance structure of Murna Foundation consists of five main organs. The five organs include:

- Board of Trustees: The seven members Board of Trustee of Murna Foundation are drawn across the six geo-political zones of Nigeria with various professional qualifications and gender equality.
- Five members Board of Directors, comprising 4 females and 2 males (Including person with disability)
- Two Patrons (man and woman)

•The Secretariat is headed by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who coordinates the day-to-day activities of the organization and supported by 9 other staff.

•Volunteers are a group of people that have bought into our programs from various Professional qualification who decided to support the organization as volunteers, they are a very important part of our success stories over the years till date.

The organisation's focus is on Women, Youth, the Girl-Child, and General Public. Hence, the organization strive to mobilize, engage, train, initiate and support all developmental programs, projects and activities that are geared towards improving the life of Women, Youth, the Girl child, and General Public.

ABOUT FOUNDATION

Our Mission and Vision

The mission of the organization is to support and contribute to the realization of a better Nigeria where women, youths and the girl-child are actively engaged in our Nations march towards sustainable development. Murna Foundation's vision is to empower and engage 50% of women, youth, and the girl-child as active participants towards achieving sustainable development in our country.

To actualize a nation where women, youth, the girl-child, and public, are active participants towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals. Murna Foundation's area of work focuses on Women, Adolescent Girls, Youth, and Vulnerable Children. The organization have a national coverage which allows it to operate across the country. The goal is centred on the following:

- Empowerment Programs targeting Women, Youth and General Public.
- Support for stronger public institutions.
- Maternal, New-born and Child Health.
- Reproductive Health Services.
- Promoting Girl Child Education
- Supporting Good Governance and anti-corruption initiatives.
- Youth engagement and linkages.
- Environmental sustainability.



The Aim of Murna Foundation

- Promote peaceful coexistence
- Engage, support, empower, and link women, adolescent girls, and youth to empowerment opportunities.
- Serve as a platform for civic engagement and awareness.
- Designing programs to support the SDGs
- Forming partnerships and like-minded network
- Providing a platform to support Women, Adolescent Girls, Youth, and Vulnerable Children.

CEO MESSAGE



Murna foundation's purpose is to act as a beacon to communities looking to nourish, educate, and maintain the wellbeing of their members. Our organization is doubling down on this effort and works to ensure resilience at the local level. All of these will not be possible without the support and hard work of our staff, volunteers, board of directors, and other stakeholders. Therefore;

To our Staff and Volunteers: Without your resilience, we couldn't have made the modest progress towards attaining our organizational objectives. To our Board of Directors: We acknowledge your continued support, short of which many of our ambitious programmes wouldn't have seen the light of day.

To our Funders: We thank you for trusting us enough to partner with us on important local and global issues and wish to assure you that your funds will continue to be judiciously, transparently and accountably utilized.

To the General Public: We understand the value of transparency and of maintaining a seamless relationship with all stakeholders. Being accountable to not only our funders, but the general public remain our top priority. Thank you to everyone who contributes to making the life of people a little less difficult than it was. You are our heroes.



Aisha Ahmed
CEO/Chairperson,
Murna Foundation



MEET THE TEAM



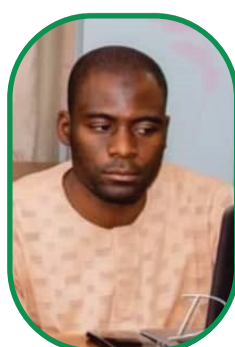
Hajia Aisha ahmed
CEO/ Chairperson



Hajia Gambo Mustapha
Head of Accounts



Bello Ahmed
Program Manager



Umar Ahmed
Head Procurement/ IT Manager



Abdulrasheed Abdullahi Madugu
Project Manager



Maryam Mahuta
Legal Adviser



Ahmad Nasir
Human Resource Manager



Lawal Idris Bagiwa
Monitoring & Evaluation officer



Muhammad Bashir
Media & Communication Officer



Fatima Abdullahi
Gender Desk Officer



Halimatu Dangani
Asst. Gender Desk Officer

Our board of trustees:

Aisha Ahmed (CEO/chairperson), Gambo Mustapha (member), Petel Buba Bajoga (member), Mudssiru Adegboye (Member), Ahmed Umar Musa (member), Justice Sadiq Abdullahi (member), Hassan Mustapha (Secretary).

OUR PROJECTS

A. HEALTH (REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH) (MATERNAL, NEW-BORN AND CHILD HEALTH, HIV/AIDS TUBERCULOSIS, MALARIA)

1. *Sensitization to Uniformed Personnel on HIV/AIDs by Katsina State Agency for the Control of Aids (KATSACA) (2006)*

We provided awareness creation sensitization program to 500 uniformed personnel on prevention of HIV/AIDs in Katsina State.

2. *Community Tuberculosis Case Finding by Health Alive Foundation (2006-2009)*

We undertook the community TB case finding project as sub-recipient of the funds and was tasked with coordinating 25 CBOs across 25 LGAs in Katsina State.

3. *Home Base Care for Vulnerable Children Affected and Infected by HIV/Aids by Institute of Human Virology Nigeria (IHVN) (2009-2014)*

This project focused on home-based care to children that are under 15years affected or infected by HIV/AIDs which covered 1000 children in Batagarawa and Katsina LGAs of Katsina State. We undertook counselling and referral to over 1000 persons and psychological, legal, and economic support were also provided to affected vulnerable children.

4. *Counseling, testing and referrals to Commercial Sex Workers by Songhai Health Trust (2013)*

We undertook counselling, testing and referrals on HIV/Aids To 150 Commercial Sex Workers in Hirji Community (A border village between Nigeria and Niger Republic).

5. *Strengthening and Improving Maternal and Child Health Services at Primary Health Centers in 3 LGAs of Batagarawa, Kankia and Kafur by Health Reform Foundation (2013-2019)*

The project focused on advocating for improved health services at PHCs, this included forming a mothers' forum at community and state level that will ensure collective women voices in pushing for reforms that improve MCH services at PHCs. Also, a state-wide joint advocacy with media and other CSOs was undertaken which was targeting individuals and institutions aimed at domesticating the National Health Act 2014 and implementation of the Primary Health Under One Roof [PHCUOR] which was achieved.

6. *Increasing Demand and Community Participation in Maternal, Neo-Natal and Child Health Service as (MNCH2/PALLADIUM) (2013-2017)*

We undertook quarterly administering of community score card on services at Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and the strengthening of community facility health committees in Kaita, Mani, Bindawa, Kankia and Katsina LGAs of Katsina State.

7. *Strengthening Advocacy and Civic Engagement (SACE) by US-AID/CHEMONICS (2014-2019)*

SACE serve as a platform for community members, local government authorities and service providers to conduct a monthly meeting and

share ideas, discuss challenges, and collectively decide on the best possible solutions on improve services and increase access to Maternal and Child Health at Primary Health Centres across Daura LGA.

Other health related activities include:

8. Drafting of the Blueprint for the Formation of the National Youth Network on HIV/AIDS (UNFPA) (2002)
9. Launching of the National Youth Network on HIV/AIDs (UNFPA) (2003)
10. Partnership With Organisaton of Persons Living With HIV/AIDS in Counselling and Referrals to Health Institutions Across Katsina State (2005)
11. Awareness Creation and Referrals to over 2500 Out of School Youth on HIV/AIDs (National Agency for the Control of AIDs (NACA)) (2006)
12. Awareness Creation and Referrals to Women on VVF At Babbar Ruga Hospital (United Nations Fund on Population (UNFPDA)) (2012)
13. Active TB Case House to House Findings in Communities Across Daura LGA (Health Alive Foundation (HAF)) (2012-2014)
14. Monitoring and Awareness on Open Defecation in 2 LGAs of Maiadua/Kaita Covering 1500 Communities (Partners for Development/UNICEF (2017-2019)

B. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

1. Agro Forestry and Sustainable Development Firewood Conservation System in Northwest

The Foundation's commitment to sustainable development have been fully demonstrated in the European Union funded project executed by the Ibrahim Shehu Shema Center for Renewable Energy titled "Agro Forestry and Sustainable Development Firewood Conservation System in Northwest Nigeria". The project is an initiative that is in line with sustainability development goals. The project is targeted towards minimizing the rate of deforestation and to combat the adverse effects of climate change. Deforestation has numerous adverse effects on the environment such as desertification, loss of ecosystem, loss of biodiversity, land degradation, soil erosion, etc. Deforestation threatens the sustainability of the environment and puts the economy and the citizens of a country at risk. Based on this adverse effect of the loss of trees, the foundation did not hesitate to get involved with the project when consulted. Aside the effect of loss of trees on the environment and the economy, the use of firewood has contributed to health degradation of the people of the Northwest. Experts have advised Nigerian women who expose themselves to harmful smoke while cooking as they tend to inhale heavy smoke from such method of cooking. According to experts, the smoke produced by burning wood exposes women to conditions like lung cancer and TB.



These underprivileged ladies cannot afford medical care or drugs if they become ill. According to a climate change research, toxic smoking is responsible for at least 150,000 deaths annually among men and women in Nigeria. Women make up the majority of this group because they are still exclusively responsible for cooking in Nigeria. These women are forced to cut down trees to feed their families since they have limited resources. Women who have access to kerosene, which also produces carbon monoxide, use it. Hence, the initiative of tree planting which is a component of project to reduce the effect of loss of trees and encourage the use of alternative cooking system in the northwest.

The project involved three major components which include distribution of nursery trees to relevant farmers, distribution of cooking stove and development of processing industries for the Agro Forest products. Murna Foundation at the planning stage of the project trained fifty (50) enumerators on how to use the Global Positioning System Device

(GPS) to capture actual locations on specific farm and the exact number and sizes of trees on each farm. The essence of this capturing exercise was to gain an insight on how to distribute the Agro Forest trees.

With all the necessary equipment, and resources required for the project made available, Murna Foundation strategically organized a systematic distribution of nursery trees to the local farmers. With the use of GPS, the enumerators were able to identify the areas within the Northwest of Nigeria that require the trees and the appropriate number and sizes of the trees required in each location.

The farmers were properly sensitized on the need to plant the trees and they were also educated on the best approach to plant and ensure proper growth and maintenance of the planted trees to ensure that intended objectives were actualized.

As earlier highlighted, in addition to affecting Nigerian women, cooking with firewood puts our planet in peril by accelerating the global climate change that everyone is attempting to stop. Murna Foundation urged the



Nigerian government, corporate executives, and public society to recognize the risks and opportunities related to cooking in Nigeria and join hands to curb the prevalent situation. While raising awareness of the risks associated with using kerosene or firewood for cooking, Nigerian women should also have access to and be able to afford alternate cooking techniques like using cooking gas/stove. If the nation's gas resources could be effectively utilized, it might become affordable for many homes.

Murna foundation in their effort to drastically reduce loss of trees to firewood, incorporated the sensitization of the northwest indigenes on alternative cooking techniques. Hence, the foundation distributed improved

cooking stove to the indigenes and encouraged them to maximize the use and avoid cutting down trees within the area for firewood.

2. ***Advocacy for Gas Flare Accountability in Nigeria (AGFAN)***

Forty (40) Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) (including Murna Foundation) and Media groups constituted themselves into a network called Coalition Against Gas Flare (CAGAF) with Steering Committee Chaired by Initiative for Community Development (ICD). It was then that ICD invited nine CAGAF members including all the Steering Committee members to form the AGFAN cluster and applied to Palladium on July 16, 2021, to undertake advocacy on Gas Flare Discrepancies under the SCALE Project.



3. *Tree planting campaign (2019)*

In partnership with Women Environmental Program, we undertook a Tree Planting Campaign, whereby about 3000 trees were planted across 3 schools and 5 communities in Katsina State.

C. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

1. *Soft loans to women groups (2010)*

Soft loans were given to 1000 women across Batagarwa, Rimi, Batsari, Mashi and Katsina LGAs of Katsina State



D. EDUCATION PROGRAM (GIRL CHILD EDUCATION)

1. *Spelling Bee Competition (2007)*

Students were selected across 7 schools in Katsina State for a spelling bee competition which was initiated and conducted by us. This was motivated from the fact that since children are required to spell words while on stage, it will develop their self-confidence, communication and public speaking skills, and the ability to thrive under pressure.

2. *Islamiyah Classes and Adult literacy classes (2007-Date)*

E. GOOD GOVERNANCE AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP, ANTI-CORRUPTION CRUSADE, TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY, ELECTIONEERING)

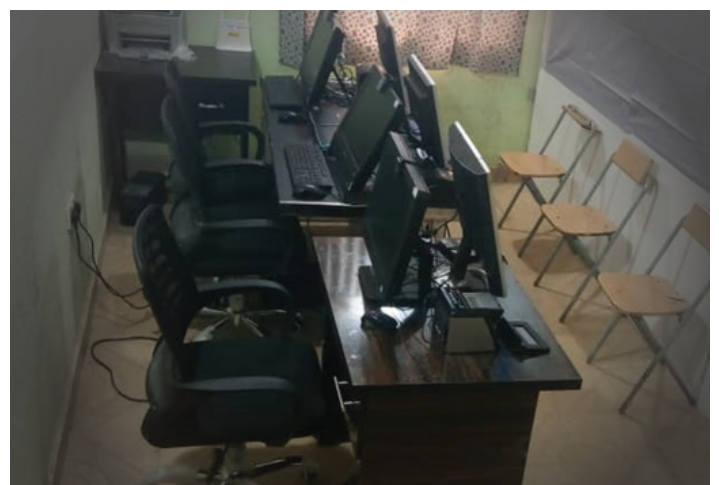
1. *Digital Identity Ecosystem (February 2021-Date)*

In February 2020, the World Bank Board, working with other development partners including the European Union under its Identification for Development (ID4D) program with the goal of providing everyone on the planet with a legal identity by 2030, approved a loan of USD 115 million to enable the National Identity Management Commission to increase the number of persons with a national ID number in Nigeria to 148 million by July 2024. The National Identity Management Commission got additional co-financing of USD 315 million from the European Investment Bank and the French Agency for Development. This brought about the Digital Identity Ecosystem.

The Digital Identity Ecosystem is a framework involving the NIMC work-

ing with public and private service providing partners to create an enabling environment for the effective and efficient mass enrolment of Nigerians and legal residents in Nigeria into a centralized, secure National Identity Database where digital identities are issued to everyone in the form of the National Identification Number (NIN). The initiative aims to improve identity authentication of citizens and make all identity-related transactions safe within and outside the country.

Murna Foundation is a licensed private vendor for the Digital Identity Ecosystem using our own resources (which is remunerated on a pay-per-play basis) to carry out enrolment and NIN issuance services, contribution towards providing identity number, to establish a credible National Data Base and creating a fully digitalized economy. We strongly believe that it will not only curb the present security challenges but also provide sustainable opportunities to wider range of the nation's population. From February 2021-Date, we have had 450,000 enrolments, with 385,000 (182,000 males and 203,000 females) successfully issued NIN.



2. ***Inclusion for All (2022)***

According to the World Bank Identification for Development (ID4D) initiative, an estimated 1 billion people globally do not have an officially recognised means of identification (ID), with the problem most prevalent in low-income countries (LICs).

In Nigeria, Africa's largest and most populous economy, despite a significant acceleration in enrolment over the last 12 months, and a strong strategy and plan to achieve ID inclusion for every Nigerian, there remains significant work to do. The Nigerian Identity Management Commission (NIMC) had enrolled more than 63 million Nigerians with National Identity Numbers (NIN) by August 31st 2021, up from 42 million in October 2020 and clear evidence of progress, but a significant proportion of Nigerians still remain without a form of formal ID and the majority of them live below the World Bank's definition of the poverty line.

Africa Practice's Inclusion for All programme is focused on understanding and removing the barriers that prevent the poorest and most vulnerable populations from participating in the formal economy and accessing financial services. Identity ownership is a critical requirement for participation. It enables access to government services, access to the financial system and free movement.



To build a deeper understanding of the linkages between poverty, identity ownership and financial inclusion, Africa Practice is conducting a series of pieces of research to deepen the knowledge and evidence base available to policy makers and implementers. Murna Foundation took part in the research as consultants for undertaking the survey in 3 LGAs (Batagarawa, Funtua, Daura) of Katsina State.

3. ***Democratic Processes***

a) EiE NIGERIA project in partnership with Progress and Development Initiative (PDi)

We conducted radio talk show programs on vision FM Katsina tagged the peoples parliament from 2018-2019 and organised a town hall meeting on citizen engagement and participation in the electoral process in 2019.

b) National Democratic Institute (NDI)

We deployed over 100 local observers reporting real time election activities and events across the 3 senatorial zones of Katsina State in 2019.

c) Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)

Deployment of over 71 INEC local observers to monitor elections across Katsina state in 2015



d) Murna Foundation

Organised a town hall conversation about importance of peaceful elections in Batagawa LGA of Katsina State in 2015.

e) International Foundation for Electoral Systems/ Election Violence Education and Resolution (IFES/EVER PROJECT)

We undertook awareness creation and sensitization on electoral violence education and resolution in 2007. Also took part in political party finance monitoring in 2006.

f) International democratic institute of South Africa (IDASA)
Election observer and voter education project in 2006-2007.

F. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

1. Monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of goals 1 through 8 under the Office of Senior Special Adviser on MDGs (OSSAP-MDGs) in Katsina State (2006-2009).

2. Monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of goals 1 through 8 under the Office of Senior Special Adviser on MDGs (OSSAP-MDGs) in Jigawa and Kebbi State (2006-2007).

G. PEACE BUILDING AND SOCIAL COHESION

1. *Strengthening Advocacy Against Violent Extremism (SAVE) (January 2022-Date)*

Armed banditry and lately kidnapping appear to have overrun Katsina state even as the state government struggles to overcome the challenge. Katsina State has witnessed frequent bandits' attacks. Of the three senatorial districts in the state, Katsina Central and Katsina South are the two greatly impacted by the influx of violent extremist who had before now operated in the Northeast of Nigeria. The activities of Violent Extremist groups have daily become more brazen and bolder. To bring succour to communities experiencing violence, Murna Foundation in partnership with Women Environmental Programme (WEP) with funding from the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) are currently working on SAVE project in Katsina on Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE). This project is focused in 4 LGA's. That is; Dutsin-ma LG, Musawa LG, Jibia LG and Funtua LG. The bulk of our intervention focuses on community members at the local level. Our contribution to PVE at that level is through extensive engagements with community leaders, local administrators, local security personnel and community members where support to the development of their knowledge, skills, and capacities on PVE, Peace Building, community policing and neighbourhood watching is provided. We consistently bring them together for dialogue and engagements that will enable them to discuss their problems related to violent extremism, security, peace, and other related issues and how they can come up with solutions to address them. The interventions we provide include, quarterly LG advocacies, pro



vision of mentorship by SMEDAN to beneficiaries of vocational skills, establishment of women safe space, training of religious leaders on PVE and peace building, training of traditional and community leaders on alternative dispute resolution (ADR), LG interfaith dialogues on PVE- security and peace, capacity development workshop on community policing and human rights. So far these interventions have reached 2725 beneficiaries (1363 females and 1362 males).



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SOURCES OF FUND:

Members Dues/Annual Subscription Income Generation Activities, philanthropist, donors, government trainings

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