



# UN Human Rights as Seen by Nigerian Youths



Report of the Review of the Status of UN Human Rights in Nigeria

***Conducted by***

Emerging Nigerian Leaders  
Under the Auspices of  
The Centre for Social Awareness, Advocacy and Ethics, Inc.



**-CSAAE-**

CSAAE Publications  
November 22, 2018

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**Compiled by:**  
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Published by CSAAE Publications

Nigeria: Plot 133 Ikenegbu Layout, Owerri, Imo State  
United States 130 S. Broadway Frostburg, MD 21352

*Printed in Nigeria by C-Media*

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## Foreword

In 2013, we launched CSAAE. Our mission was to start healing from the root Africa's failure of leadership, loss of entrepreneurial spirit and loss of moral and social sense – all of which we believe are the causes of poverty and underdevelopment in Africa.

CSAAE is dedicated to harnessing the potential of young people and providing the kinds of tools and training that endow them with the capacities, competencies, and character necessary to sustain themselves, create opportunities that help others sustain themselves and embrace their roles as critical actors in building a better Africa

A core part of that training is a weekly three-hour guided group study of literature critical to the development and other training necessary for young people to achieve sterling success, help fast-track development and end poverty in Africa.

The UN Human Rights was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on December 10, 1948, as a product of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The declaration sets out fundamental human rights to be universally protected and has been translated into over 500 languages.

According to an official document of the declaration, UDHR is premised on the fact that recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and the peace in the world. Thus, from March 16 to July 20, 2018, Emerging Nigerian Leaders, comprising of select Nigerian youths, ages 16-25, being prepared by CSAAE for leadership positions critical to development and nation building, gathered for three hours every Friday to reflect on the status of the UN Human Rights in Nigeria.

The future leaders reflected on:

- Interpretation of all articles of the UN Human Rights
- Whom each UN Human Rights Article applies to
- The extent to which UN Human Rights is respected/violated in Nigeria
- What can be done to ensure respect for UN Human Rights in Nigeria?

This report is a compilation of key findings and recommendations from the 5-month discussion. It is our strong belief that these recommendations when implemented will help facilitate development, justice, and the peace, and make Nigeria a better place.

**Rev. Fr. Dr. Godswill Agbagwa**

Founder and President,  
CSAAE.



# Table of Contents

CSAAE Publications	ii
Foreword	iii
<b>Chapter One</b>	<b>1</b>
Article 1: Innate Freedom and Equality	1
Article 2: Ban On Discrimination	1
Article 3: Right to Life, Liberty, and Security	2
Article 4: Freedom from Slavery or Servitude	3
Article 5: No to Torture, Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Punishment	3
<b>Chapter Two</b>	<b>5</b>
Article 7: Equity Before the Law	5
Article 8: Right to Effective Judiciary	6
Article 9: No Arbitrary Arrest, Detention or Exile	7
Article 10: Right to Fair and Public Hearing	7
<b>Chapter Three</b>	<b>9</b>
Article 11: Right to Be Presumed Innocent Until Proved Guilty and Serve the Penalty Applicable at The Time of the Offence	9
Article 12: Right to Privacy	9
Article 13: Right to Free Movement in and Out of the Country	10
Article 14: Freedom from Persecution in Foreign Countries	11
Article 15: Right to A Nationality	12
<b>Chapter Four</b>	<b>13</b>
Article 16: Freedom of Marriage	13
Article 18: Freedom of Thought, Conscience, and Religion.	14
Article 19: Freedom of Opinion and Expression	15
Article 20: Freedom of Association	16
<b>Chapter Five</b>	<b>18</b>
Article 21: Right to Democracy	18
Article 22: Right to Social Security	18
Article 23: Freedom of Employment	19
Article 24: Right to Rest and Leisure	20
Article 25: Right to Social Security	21
<b>Chapter Six</b>	<b>22</b>
Article 26: Right to Education	22
Article 27: Rights to Culture and Author	23
Article 28: Right to Social and International Order	23
Article 29: Duties to the Community and Rights Limits	24
Article 30: Indestructibility of Rights	25
<b>Recommendations for Increasing Knowledge of UN Human Rights in Nigeria</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Appendix</b>	<b>27</b>
List of Participants	27
Community Development Projects Inspired and Supported by CSAAE towards Attainment of SDGs in Nigeria	32
<b>Why Should I Support CSAAE?</b>	<b>36</b>

## Chapter One

### Article 1: Innate Freedom and Equality

*All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.*

#### Interpretation:

- No gender should be superior to the other. The concept of equality and equity should be observed.
- No Race or Tribe is superior to the other. We should be judged by the content of our character and not by the race, tribe nor the language we speak.
- In the spirit of togetherness, Nigerians should engage in activities that propel the growth and development of the nation and not otherwise.

#### This Article applies to:

- The Nigerian Government: it tries to define the role of the government on the protection of fundamental human rights, and the enshrinement and promotion of federal character to encourage even distribution of resources.
- Parents and guardians: towards education and sensitization especially on the imposition of gender superiority, and improvement on gender equality promotion.
- Denizens and citizens: to foster the development, protection and promotion of fundamental rights of every resident and citizen.

#### Extent of Respect/Violation

Level of education continues to rise with civilization, but rural areas continue to suffer back-pedaling in respect to understanding and promotion of equality amongst genders, causing a pitiable number of young girls to be out of school. The progress on education is slow, but it is a pace that's not slowing down.

#### What can be done:

- Enactment and enforcement of laws that encourage the girl child to seek education and discourage sexism across different quarters.
- Adequate sanctions should be put in place for anyone who attempts to violate the law.
- Public education on the importance of the rule of law and respect for order should be put in place.

### Article 2: Ban On Discrimination

*Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Everyone is entitled to all rights and privileges spelled out in this declaration regardless of disparities whether sex, race, tribe, color, etc.
- A distinction shouldn't be made on the basis of political, jurisdictional and or other premises.

### **This Article applies to:**

- All Nigerians
- All Nigerian parents especially those who consider one gender to be superior to the other
- People who think the girl child belongs to the kitchen and should not seek education or other endeavors within the confines of the law if she so pleases.

### **Extent of Respect/ Violation:**

This law is mildly implemented but there is more to be done.

### **What can be done:**

- Enactment and adequate enforcement of laws that encourage the girl child to seek education
- Public enlightenment on the importance of education

### **Article 3: Right to Life, Liberty, and Security**

*Everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security of person.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Nobody should be killed for any reason whatsoever, be it that they belong to a different religion, tribe, race, etc.
- The security of life and property should be guaranteed by the Government.
- No one should be imprisoned unjustly by anyone.

### **This Article applies to:**

- Nigerian citizens
- The Nigerian Government: the current Government in power has illegally held some Nigerians in detention in contempt of court

### **Extent of Application/ Violation:**

- Application of this right is very minimal in Nigeria, from the Federal Government, down to individuals. Only a few value their own lives, talk more or less of that of others
- The illegal detention of individuals by the Federal Government
- Death sentence is actively practiced in Nigeria despite increasing calls for its abolition by advocacy groups within and outside the country
- Robbery and kidnapping is becoming increasingly rampant and blood is being shed



almost every day.

### **What can be done:**

- International Communities like the United Nations, African Union etc., should mount pressure on our government to improve on the security of life, property and to release their captives
- Adequate enforcement of laws against robberies, kidnappings, etc.
- A short moratorium should be placed on death penalties with a view to replace it with other forms of punishment like a life sentence, etc.

### **Article 4: Freedom from Slavery or Servitude**

*No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.*

#### **Interpretation:**

- To be free in every sense of the word

#### **This Article applies to:**

- Housekeepers of bad employers
- To a larger extent, retirees, Pensioners, senior citizens, etc. who are not paid pensions despite their service to the Nigerian government
- Societal realities indicate that more often than not stepchildren in some families are sometimes treated negatively due to the death of one or both of their biological parents.

#### **Extent of Respect/ Violation:**

- There is a remarkable decrease in slavery due to laws antagonizing such acts
- Institutions such as immigration, customs, etc. have played a great role in nipping slavery in the bud
- Illegal migration routes are taken by Nigerian youths in search for greener pastures has led to increased human trafficking into sexual slavery abroad especially in Italy and Libya. Institutions such as immigration, customs, etc. have played a great role in the drive to nip sexual slavery in the bud
- Ignorance has been a factor that has fueled increased human trafficking into sexual slavery

### **What can be done:**

- Poverty has been one of the major causative factors of slavery in Nigeria and as such to effectively tackle slavery, poverty eradication should be prioritized by the Government of the day

### **Article 5: No to Torture, Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Punishment**

*No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.*

**Interpretation:**

- No one should be subjected to an unhealthy form of treatment as though they were a slave
- No one should be harassed and bullied
- No human should be treated as though he or she were an animal.

**This Article applies to:**

- Prisoners: prisoners in Nigeria are subjected to torture, to all forms of cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment or punishment. The conditions of our prisons needs to be greatly improved.
- Detained suspects for criminal offenses are treated as if they are guilty even before the court pronounces them so in blatant breach of fair hearing as provided under section 36 of the Nigerian constitution

**Extent of Respect/ Violation:**

- Advocacy by Civil Societies Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations (for example CSAAE) against such acts have greatly contributed to the respect of this right
- Government declaration of operation "python dance" and subsequent cruel punishment meted out on civilians by the military (government) as a form of collateral damage in flagrant breach of this right.
- The use of law enforcement agencies by the persons in power and holders of public offices to harass members of the opposition.

**What can be done:**

- Illegal detention of a suspect should not go unpunished. The recently passed Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) has made some nice provisions in this regard. It has to be passed into law by states before it can take effect in courts of those states.
- Committee should be set up to actively look into harassment cases by law enforcement agents including military men
- Enhancing the capacities of Non-Governmental Organizations and Civil Society Organizations by supporting them to continually and consistently advocate for the adherence to this right.

## Chapter Two

### Article 6: Right to Recognition

*Everyone has the right to recognition, everywhere as a person before the law.*

#### Interpretation:

- To be given equal opportunity to be recognized or appear before the law. This can be applied by extension to the doctrine of fair hearing as provided for under the Nigerian constitution.

#### This Article applies to:

- Every Nigerians including the poor and the less privileged. The courts and by extension, the law, is deemed to be the last hope of the common man. As such, there is need to recognize all persons irrespective of social stratification and position in the society.

#### Extent of Respect/Violation:

- The cost of litigation has made it hard to seek redress for breach of the rights and oppression of the poor in the society

#### What can be done:

- A reorientation of the populace on the recognition of human person and their rights irrespective of assembly and social stratification. Alternative Dispute Resolution methods should also be highlighted in such orientation.
- Independence of the Judiciary

### Article 7: Equity Before the Law

*All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.*

#### Interpretation:

- All persons shall be equal before the courts and tribunals
- Discriminative use of power by people in authority is absolutely uncalled for
- In the spirit of oneness and brotherhood, Nigerians should engage in activities that propel the growth and development of the nation and not otherwise.

#### This Article applies to:

- All Nigerian citizens for they deserve equal treatment
- Government Officials must realize that regardless of their status, they are subject to the law
- This law applies to the judiciary, also regardless of whether or not Judges are the custodians of the law, they are still citizens and so, they are not above the law
- The law applies to the military because of their discriminative use of power. The military has lost order in the nation. They do not see every other person like themselves

- The law applies to traditional rulers because they have highly esteemed themselves above others. In some regions, traditional rulers are feared as a man would fear God.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- The poor in the society cannot be said to have equal access to justice due to their economic status

### **What can be done:**

- Effective access by women to judicial and legal services, including legal aid
- Support for local, national, and continental initiatives directed at providing women access to legal services including legal aid
- The media should frequently show to the public, instances where the law is being violated and also make the people understand that it is a violation of the law that ought not to be
- The media can amplify the efforts of Non-Governmental Organizations like Legal Aid Clinics in aiding access to justice in Nigeria.

### **Article 8: Right to Effective Judiciary**

*Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Everyone has the right to seek redress in a competent court of law Every individual has the right to have his cause heard. That is, he can appeal to competent national organs against acts of violating his fundamental rights as recognized and guaranteed by conventions, laws, regulations, and customs in force
- Every individual has the right to defense, including the right to be defended by counsel of his choice.

### **This Article applies to:**

- This right applies to an average Nigerian who has no one to plead his cause
- It also applies to students in tertiary institutions because lecturers violate students' rights day in day out and fear has impeded them from seeking redress for breach of their rights
- It also applies to the judiciary because it is their responsibility to maintain and interpret the law.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- This right has been respected largely with regards to the wealthy and elites in the society
- The violation is visible when we look at illegal detention without trial. This is because of the weak nature of our institutions and the non-persistent spirit in the individuals to fight for their rights.

## **What can be done:**

- The media, Civil Society Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations, etc., should take up enlightenment of the masses as to their rights and that upon violation, there are remedies for them under the law.
- Victims whose rights have been violated should be connected to human rights lawyers and activists who can help them out.

## **Article 9: No Arbitrary Arrest, Detention or Exile**

*No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile*

### **Interpretation:**

- Nobody should be arrested without a warrant
- People should not be detained for mere exercise of their civil rights
- No one should be arrested unlawfully, and detained for over the time prescribed by law
- Also, upon arrest, a person should be allowed to notify his/her lawyer

### **This Article applies to:**

- The law applies to all Nigerians because no one has the power to deny any other citizen his or her various rights and freedoms in the name of arrest except in furtherance of the law and such must be done reasonably and in compliance with such enabling law.
- It applies to the security agencies also because it is most common with them to arrest and detain individuals unnecessarily
- The Government: Government in power currently have individuals in custody even when the Court has ordered their release.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- The freedom from being exiled is respected in Nigeria but it has been replaced with unlawful arrest, detention or even killing of the opposition by the superior power
- The Government in power may be said to have breached this right by using law enforcement agents to harass members of the opposition as reported by some media houses.

## **What can be done:**

- Support should be given local, national, and continental initiatives directed at providing women and other vulnerable Nigerians access to free legal services, including legal aid
- Citizens must know and not just know but also have the confidence to the point that they can lose their lives to see justice done
- The Judiciary should use various means possible and lawful measures to compel the Executive arm of Government to obey court orders.

## **Article 10: Right to Fair and Public Hearing**

*Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent impartial tribunal in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Every person is entitled to a fair and impartial hearing in any court
- Every person also has the right to an impartial tribunal when accused or abused.

### **This Article applies to:**

- Every citizen of Nigeria: as a citizen of this great country, we all have the right to seek redress before an impartial tribunal
- All recognized foreigners within the shores of Nigeria: since our government has recognized your presence, you are also entitled to this right.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- This right has been enforced by Nigerian courts, as some Nigerian soldiers that molested citizens were prosecuted and some suspended from the army
- We have also seen instances where citizens approach courts when their rights are being infringed upon to seek redress and won the case. Like the case of Rotimi Amaechi at the supreme court with respect to the gubernatorial election in 2011
- As much as this right is effective in Nigeria, it has also been violated in cases where the government refused to obey court orders. The El zakzaky case is a good example.

### **What can be done:**

- The jury system should be introduced to give a larger number of people the opportunity to deliberate on issues before judgment is given.



## Chapter Three

### **Article 11: Right to Be Presumed Innocent Until Proved Guilty and Serve the Penalty Applicable at The Time of the Offence**

*Everyone charged with a penal offense has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to the law, in a public trial at which, he has all the guarantees for his defense. No one shall be held guilty of any offense on account of an act or omission, which did not constitute a penal offense under the national or international law, at the time the offense was committed nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the penal offense was committed.*

#### **Interpretation:**

- A suspect is innocent and should be treated as such, until he is proven guilty by a court after fair hearing.
- Also, the punishment due at the time the offense was committed should be the penalty given, nothing more or less.

#### **This Article applies to:**

- A person charged with a penal offence.
- All Nigerians: the security agencies (especially the Nigerian Police) sometimes subject suspects to treatment equal to or even worse than that of those found guilty by a court for a similar offense.

#### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- The article has been domesticated in Nigeria as it is provided in the Nigerian Constitution under Section 36
- Punishments given to some culprits are in line with the provisions of the law for such offense when it was committed
- We have also seen cases where people are awaiting trial in Nigeria prisons because the police cells are congested

#### **What can be done:**

- There is a need to continually maintain the rule of law
- A reform of the Judicial arm of government in order to accommodate many cases and handle them in ample time. The Administration of Criminal Justice act is a right step in this direction.

### **Article 12: Right to Privacy**

*No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.*

#### **Interpretation:**

- No one has a right to come into your home without your permission or legal justification.

- No one has a right to destroy your reputation with lies.

### **This Article applies to:**

All Nigerian citizens: some Nigerians have been harassed and their reputation attacked by various individuals, sometimes even by security agents.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- It seems this is one of the most violated articles, as one instance of where it was adhered to was not stated in our discussion
- Cases of SARS raiding people's houses without search warrants became rampant to the point that advocacy groups rose and protested.
- There was an incidence of seven judges' residential quarters being raided by police officers at midnight by an order from the executive arm of Government
- Unauthorized arrest by police officers
- Intimidation by law enforcement agencies, etc.

### **What can be done:**

- A review of the roles and responsibilities of law enforcement agencies
- A review and enforcement of laws protecting this right and ensuring search warrants are obtained before a search of an individual's house is carried out
- Elected leaders must respect the rule of law and be severely punished when they contravene it especially with regards to abuse of offices
- Encourage citizens to speak out when their rights are violated and seek to know more about their rights as encapsulated in this Declaration and in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

## **Article 13: Right to Free Movement in and Out of the Country**

*Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Every Nigerian can travel to and live anywhere within the country
- Every Nigerian can leave Nigeria at any time and return as long as necessary conditions that do not contravene the law are met.

### **This Article applies to:**

- Everyone who is old enough to travel and live anywhere
- Children/young adults under the guidance or approval of parents.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- This right is widely applied within the country. However, the violation is mostly related to the denial of visas for no just reason
- There is a rampant situation of illegal migration out of Nigeria.

## **What can be done:**

- Creation and enforcement of International regulations by the United Nations, regulating necessary processes with respect to migration between countries.

## **Article 14: Freedom from Persecution in Foreign Countries**

*Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries, asylum from persecution. This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.*

## **Interpretation:**

- Every individual has the right to freely live in any country of his choice without any form of political persecution or its likes from his home country, provided he abides by the laws of the chosen country
- Race, tradition, religion, tribe, and nationality should not be a yardstick to measure an individual's right to enjoy other countries' asylum from political persecutions, wars etc.

## **This Article applies to:**

- All foreigners in Nigeria: that they have a right to enjoy the resources in Nigeria while obeying the laws of Nigeria.
- The government, because they are to protect foreigners from persecution by extending National treatment to expatriates.
- All Nigerians who have been maltreated and persecuted in foreign countries
- The traditional rulers who may be customarily predisposed to seeing foreigners as intruders who will not follow the customs and traditions of the Community.

## **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- The law has been respected because of the fierce nature of several countries and or their embassies to Nigeria. They would not stand their citizens being persecuted
- The law has been really violated for Nigerians in other countries because of the negative reputation we have cultivated over time
- The xenophobic killings of Nigerians in South Africa is a very troubling issue that needs to be addressed

## **What can be done:**

- The borders of Nigeria should be well secured to avoid criminals crossing over to tarnish our image or even harm us
- The government should get villages oriented about foreigners so that when foreigners are given asylum they would not be treated badly
- The government should provide adequate securities for foreigners
- The media should paint a better picture of Nigerians to the world
- The principle of National treatment should be followed across borders

## **Article 15: Right to A Nationality**

*Everyone has the right to a nationality. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Every individual has the right to be a citizen of any nation that he wishes to, provided he meets the requirements of becoming a citizen as given by the country
- No one shall be deprived the right to change his nationality because of racism, religion or as a result of personal differences
- Any individual that has become nationalized in any nation shall enjoy every privilege provided by the country, regardless of his race, tribe, religion, and social status.

### **This Article applies to:**

- Every foreign citizen who chooses to become nationalized in Nigeria: that he will be protected by the laws of this great Nation and should contribute to the growth of the Country
- Nigerians who choose to become nationalized in other countries for whatever reason: that they have a right to
- Sportsmen and women, because they are most often criticized for choosing to nationalize in other countries.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- The law has been provided for in the Nigerian constitution

### **What can be done:**

- The media should paint a better picture of Nigerians to the world
- The media should protect the image of celebrities who choose to nationalize in other countries out of their free will
- Foreigners who have become nationalized in Nigeria should be given equal treatment as every other citizen
- The international community should sanction countries that subject Nigerians to different processes more difficult than those which citizens of other countries pass through.

## Chapter Four

### Article 16: Freedom of Marriage

*Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during the marriage and at its dissolution. Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses. The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of the society and is entitled to protection by the society and the State.*

#### Interpretation:

- Every individual has the right to marry and make a family with their desired partner regardless of their race, nationality or even religion
- No one should be forced into any form of relationship or marriage against his/her will.

#### This Article applies to:

- All Nigerians because every human either male or female has the freedom to get married
- The elderly in some customs, cultures, religions and or tradition who force young children into early marriages or get married to teenagers without their consent
- Parents because they many times, out of selfishness, force their children to marry who they are not willing to marry. In some cases, some parents would force their children to become Catholic Priests
- It applies to the unmarried because it is their right to make their choice when it comes to the issue of choosing a spouse.

#### Extent of Respect/Violation:

- Nigerians are beginning to accept civilization and western education and it's ideas in relation to marriage
- Nevertheless, some parents are still dogmatic about the right because of their selfishness, religion, culture and or tradition
- There was a case of a seating Senator marrying a 13-year-old girl.

#### What can be done:

- The government should put effort to see that civilization gets to every nook and cranny of the nation
- The educational, cultural and religious sectors should work to see that wrong mindsets and ideologies are corrected.

## **Article 17: Right to Ownership of Properties**

*Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Every individual has the right to own any kind of property that is lawful to be owned, regardless of his race, nationality or religion
- No one has the right to forcefully seize someone else's property unlawfully, even in cases where it is according to the law to seize such; the person should be given a warrant.

### **This Article applies to:**

- All Nigerians provided they have what it takes to own an asset
- People with power: they should not misuse their powers by snatching the properties of vulnerable individuals
- The security agencies because they are meant to protect the lives and properties of the citizens from robbers, etc

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- To a very large extent, the law is being respected in urban areas because people know the law and they can sue anyone who dares to violate their right at any time
- We still have cases of people with power, for example, traditional rulers, government officials, etc., forcefully collecting land and other properties from individuals.

### **What can be done:**

- The judiciary should be stricter with cases of theft and obtaining properties by false pretence
- Security of lives and properties should be more highly regarded by the Government and its agencies (security)
- More people should venture into human rights protection as an area of specialization in the legal practice.

## **Article 18: Freedom of Thought, Conscience, and Religion.**

*Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship, and observance.*



### **Interpretation:**

- Everyone has the right to believe whatever he wants to regardless of whether it is correct or not
- Everyone has the right to publicly profess and manifest his religion
- Everyone has the right to freely change his religion as he deems it fit.

### **This Article applies to:**

- All Nigerians because everyone has a conscience and ability to reason
- Parents because Nigerian parents sometimes disown children who seek to change from the family's religion
- Religious leaders because they influence parents to take radical decisions against their children who intend to change from their religious beliefs

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- The disrespect of this right is not very common due to the growth in knowledge of individuals
- We are currently confronted with the situation of Leah Sharibu who was among the girls kidnapped from Dapchi. Boko Haram has refused to release her despite releasing others because she refused to convert to Islam.

### **What can be done:**

- A stricter measure should be carried out for anyone who violates the law
- More individuals should venture into human rights protection as a specialty in legal practices
- The media should be able to link victims up with human rights protection agencies who can fight their cause
- Individuals who intend to change their religion should be more diplomatic in order to avoid disappointing family members
- The Government should do everything possible to free Leah Sharibu.

### **Article 19: Freedom of Opinion and Expression**

*Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.*

### **Interpretation:**

- A more extensive definition describes it as the freedom of all individuals and corporations to hold opinions and be able to share such thoughts through any medium

on any issue without any interference

- This Article is simply described as the freedom of every individual, whether natural or artificial to inform others and tell stories as they are happening.

### **This Article applies to:**

- All Nigerians; we all have a right to comment on happenings in our society.
- The judiciary arm of government; it is her duty to uphold this right while dispensing justice.
- Activists; that they have the right to speak up and give their opinion on any matter in the society especially in favour of the weak.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- Nigeria is gradually improving in the enforcement of this law. The Nigerian Communications Commission had recently issued a statement that it would no longer regulate or control the use of social media.
- This right, however, has been greatly violated because security agencies are trying to protect the profile of some top government officials. A typical example is the case of Jones Abiri who was arrested by the Department of State Security Service.

### **What can be done:**

- Media houses should checkmate themselves as their right to disseminate relevant information has been curtailed by the government, accusing them of disseminating fake news. The media should cultivate the habit of professionalism and ethical journalism in the production of genuine news.
- The media houses should be in the vanguard of protecting this right by speaking out against arrests of individuals based on the opinions they hold and share as is still common in Nigeria and the African continent.

## **Article 20: Freedom of Association**

*Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association. No one may be compelled to belong to an association.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Everyone has a right to belong to any organization that does not infringe on the rights of others
- Everyone has a right to convene an assembly or meeting
- No one should be forced to join an organization against his or her will.

### **This Article applies to:**

- All Nigerians: we are free to associate with any person or group of persons as long as it does not infringe on anybody's right.

**Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- This right is respected in Nigeria in most situations
- This right is violated in situations where the group speaks against the government in power for example, the Government proscribed the Independent People Of Biafra (IPOB) and there has not been any record of IPOB infringing on the rights of any Nigerian. The Government has also refused to Proscribe the Armed Fulani Herdsmen despite their destruction of lives and properties
- We have also witnessed events where the Government disbands groups and arrests members of such groups because they spoke against the Government in power.

**What can be done:**

- The Government should stop attacking individuals and groups that speak against them but instead, focus on correcting the errors pointed out so as to provide the citizens with better governance.

## Chapter Five

### Article 21: Right to Democracy

*Everyone has the right to take part in the Government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives. Everyone has the right to equal access to public service in his country. The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.*

#### Interpretation:

- Everyone has a right to vote for a person to represent his or her community in Government or be voted for to represent the community
- Everyone has equal access to government-owned properties.

#### This Article applies to:

- All Nigerians; we have a right to participate in governance and decide who is to govern us in various positions of the Government
- The Nigerian Government; they should do their best in governance to guarantee them legitimacy among the people.

#### Extent of Respect/Violation:

- This right is somewhat respected in Nigeria because elections are held but electoral malpractice has become a constant in our elections. A recent review of the election (2018) in Osun State showed various forms of malpractice from vote buying to security agencies preventing people from voting political parties of their choice.
- Some government properties are far beyond the reach of an average Nigerian.

#### What can be done:

- Creation of new electoral laws to strengthen the process
- Better implementation of these laws
- A complete independence of INEC (Independent National Electoral Commission) in every regard (Finance, Appointments, Decisions, etc.) from the Government will contribute to a better process
- Providing a free access to government-owned properties for every Nigerian and most importantly, quality service.

### Article 22: Right to Social Security

*Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.*

#### Interpretation:

- Everyone including those who cannot work due to sickness, disability, employment injury, unemployment, old age, etc., deserve social security
- Everyone should be covered by the state's social security system; particularly the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups, without discrimination on any prohibited grounds

- Social security should be provided with respect to the resources of the Nation although the issue of equality in distribution of resources has been largely mooted to be unachievable but we can strive to be at least close to it.

### **This Article applies to:**

- Every Nigerian, and if citizens of Nigeria then they should not be deprived of social security
- The law also applies to the vulnerable Nigerians (the disabled, unemployed, aged citizens, etc.) because they are the most marginalized groups due to their circumstances.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- The violation of the law is clearly seen when you walk through the streets of major cities in Nigeria and you see the population of the physically challenged begging for survival.
- Economic situation of the country has made it difficult to adhere strictly to this law. The economy itself needs to be improved first.

### **What can be done:**

- The government should provide social insurance programs which provide earned benefits for workers and their families by employment contributions
- The government should also provide social assistance programs which provide non-contributory benefits designed to provide minimum levels of social security to persons unable to access social insurance.

## **Article 23: Freedom of Employment**

*Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work. Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration, ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection. Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Nobody should be deprived of the privilege to work and to be gainfully employed without any form of bribery
- Every individual deserves a favourable working condition
- There should be no bias in paying for services rendered
- Everyone who renders any form of service has the right to be paid justly
- Every individual has the freedom to join an existing trade union which protects his interest or even form one himself.

### **This Article applies to:**

- All Nigerians because everyone needs a means of survival
- The government because they are meant to provide means of employment for her citizens
- The law applies to private organizations because workers' salaries most times are

not commensurate to the work they do.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- The law has been observed with regards to a small part of the society consisting of individuals who are very valuable to their organizations such that they cannot do without them
- The law has been very much violated because a large percentage of Nigerians are still unemployed
- There have been situations where companies mismanage and take advantage of their workers.

### **What can be done:**

- The government should provide more employment opportunities to accommodate the growing working population
- Nigerians should seek to become valuable by imbibing the spirit of excellence in every one of their doings
- Citizens should be bold enough to advocate for their right to be paid justly by the respective organizations they work with.

### **Article 24: Right to Rest and Leisure**

*Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.*

### **Interpretation:**

- No one should be denied the right to rest and leisure regardless of the nature of his duty
- No man is a donkey that works all day. No matter the status of the individual, he should have some leisure time to at least relax the brain

### **This Article applies to:**

- Civil servants and all workers because some of them have been denied the privilege to go on annual leave because the government or company does not have substitutes for them while they will be away
- So many housekeepers have been maltreated and denied the right to leisure because of the selfishness of their employers

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- All over the cities in Nigeria, in so many homes, there is at least one housemaid and a large percentage of those housemaids are being maltreated because these young maids do not have anyone to fight their cause and they cannot afford to run away because they need their pay.
- People are also willing to work tirelessly because they need to settle bills.
- The law has been respected for people with a high profile in government parastatals and some private companies because they have mastered the art of delegating duties to low-level staff and the power they control.

### **What can be done:**

- The media should feature programs that will talk about the significance of every individual to the society so that every employer will value his or her employee and treat



them fairly. Emerging trends in workplace policies like flexible worktime, paternity leaves for men whose wives just gave birth and how it encourages productivity at the workplace.

- Checks should be carried out on government officials who will not work but would deny others the right to leisure
- The media should feature programs that will educate parents about the human brain so that they will see the need to give their children some break
- Sanctions should be imposed on companies that maltreat their workers in any form.

## **Article 25: Right to Social Security**

*Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.*

### **Interpretation:**

- That every Nigerian youth (and by extension, Nigerians) are entitled to a right to be gainfully employed
- An effective implementation of this Article would mean that Nigerian Youths, women, children and other vulnerable section of the Nigerian population (especially the unemployed) would be entitled to welfare services, etc.
- That children born out of wedlock would be free from all forms of discrimination.

### **This Article applies to:**

- The large population of unemployed Nigerians living in severe poverty
- The vulnerable Nigerian groups around us (children, women, elderly, disabled people, widows, etc.).

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

The article is somewhat respected in Nigeria but more needs to be done considering the ever-increasing population of Nigeria and lack of effective implementation of wonderful government policies. This is done in the following ways:

- National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) to ensure the health management of Nigerians. How does it work? Individuals will have to register for NHIS and after that, he/she pays 10% of the amount to be ordinarily paid for a period of one month
- School feeding Programme aimed at stimulating children to attend a school which leads to a massive reduction of out of school children
- The aforementioned programmes, though great ideas in their own right but like similar programmes in Nigeria are not adequately implemented and as such produce very little impact on the society. Some Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are assisting to provide welfare in the society as much as they can.

### **What can be done:**

- There is a need to have more Civil Society Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations like the Centre for Social Awareness, Advocacy, and Ethics, Incorporated (CSAAE) who strive to implement this right in our society
- Also, the Civil Society Organizations should keep a close tab on or keep the Government on their toes in ensuring respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and social welfare for all.

## Chapter Six

### Article 26: Right to Education

*Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance, and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.*

#### Interpretation:

- Guaranteed right to education; in terms of availability, accessibility, affordability and qualitative education
- Quality education shall be free and compulsory in the elementary and fundamental stages
- Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit
- The right of parents to determine the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

#### This Article applies to:

- The Nigerian Government; they have a duty to provide the citizens with free and good education
- To all parents; that they should ensure that their children get educated
- To all citizens; we should demand to be provided with education from the Government.

#### Extent of Respect/Violation:

- Creation of free government-owned schools: this was done but the quality of education is very poor and it is sometimes not entirely free
- This provision is not strictly respected in Nigeria because this Declaration does not have a force of law but it is seen as a kind of blueprint for Governments of the world and as such, Nigerian governments (at all levels) do not follow this right to the letter. This is in relation to low quality Primary and Secondary schools owned by Governments, particularly schools owned by State Governments. The schools might be available and accessible but lack of quality materials, teachers and facilities among others
- The above-enumerated point offends paragraph (b) of this article. This article is not achievable because low-quality education cannot be directed to the full development of human personality which contributes unemployment or sometimes employability of some Nigerians.

#### What can be done:

- There is need to have more Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental

Organizations (NGOs) like Centre for Social Awareness, Advocacy and Ethics Incorporated (CSAAE) working as advocacy groups working to ensure adherence to this provision.

- Also, the CSOs should keep a close tab on the Governments, thereby keeping them on their toes in ensuring respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

## **Article 27: Rights to Culture and Author**

*Everyone has the right to freely participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits. Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Guaranteed right to belief and manifest cultural beliefs, arts and propagation of the scientific advancement embedded in the cultural beliefs
- Guaranteed intellectual property rights for every Nigerian citizen involved in creative and inventive activity.

### **This Article applies to:**

- All Nigerians; we have the right to participate in, and protect our cultural heritage and also reap the moral and economic benefits from our creative activity.
- Innovators (Poets, Researchers, Scientists, Writers, etc.): they are free to produce things for the benefit of their societies and get paid for them.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- There is a legal framework for intellectual property rights protection in Nigeria with acts like copyright act, trademarks act and patents act in place to ensure that authors and owners are rewarded for inventive activity hereby spurring productivity in the society.

### **What can be done:**

- All-inclusive implementation of the laws on intellectual property rights
- The proper definition of content and context on infringement of intellectual property rights.

## **Article 28: Right to Social and International Order**

*Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.*

### **Interpretation:**

- Right to the social order that articulates the rights herein
- Peace and unity are necessary for the true realization of this right

### **This Article applies to:**

- The Nigerian Government whose duty it is to maintain peace and order in the country and protect the lives and properties of the citizenry
- All Nigerians, especially the youths, who owe the nation the obligation of contributing to and maintaining social order.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- The Nigerian government has created a social order but performed poorly in creating and enforcing laws to sustain this order

### **What can be done:**

- The Government should create/ enforce laws ensuring this right and all found to have broken the law should be brought to book without ethnic or tribal sentiments. The rule of law should reign supreme!
- The judicial arm of government should be neutral and impartial in discharging its duties
- Tribalism must be discouraged
- The youths should be cared for and tangible provisions made available for them.

### **Article 29: Duties to the Community and Rights Limits**

*"Everyone has duties to the community in which the free and full development of his personality is possible."*

*"In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements for morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society."*

*"These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations."*

### **Interpretation:**

- That an individual has not just Rights but also Duties to the Community. The idea of law is that where there is a right, there is a corresponding duty.
- That there are also limitations and derogations on rights that are recognized by law
- The corollary of rights is duties. They must be fulfilled before full enjoyment of the rights and freedoms listed herein
- If human rights are not limited, no social balance and harmony would be possible in society.

### **This Article applies to:**

- All Nigerians, reminding us that we owe our community certain duties and obligations

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- This right is highly violated, owing to the fact that majority of Nigerians do not fulfill their duties and obligations to the community as contained under the constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria
- Paying the tax, respect of the Constitution and institutions empowered by the Constitution is one of the duties that are violated by many, especially our leaders

- Arbitrary arrest and continuous detention by some security agencies in Nigeria is a blatant disregard for both this Article and the 1999 Constitution, as amended.

### **What can be done:**

- In the light of this Article, Culture, Religion and Social Principles of people cannot be separated from them as these existed long before the United Nations (UN) or any of the Rights in the Declaration. Therefore, a kind of harmonization should be made, especially in situations where cultural, religious and social principles of a people differ from the provisions of the UN principles

### **Article 30: Indestructibility of Rights**

*"Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any state, group or person, any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein."*

### **Interpretation:**

- No rights or freedoms can be used in a way that goes against the values that the United Nations laid herein.
- No one can take away our human rights.
- We can only claim our rights as certified members/citizens of Nigeria.

### **This Article applies to:**

- The government whose duty is to protect the rights of her citizens.
- All Nigerians especially the youths who should know their rights and help to safeguard them.

### **Extent of Respect/Violation:**

- Abuses by Boko Haram, Fulani Herdsmen, and other terrorist groups
- Killings and incarceration by Government and her forces
- Lack of social equality, an attempt by the Government to restrict freedom of speech and other rights.

### **What can be done:**

- Nigerians should be aware of their rights and freedoms and report serious human rights violations to the responsible agencies or even to the United Nations body.
- Again, there is a need to ensure that intervention, where there is violation of any of the rights listed herein, is legitimate and motivated by genuine concerns by the government or agency
- As a suggestion, the purposes of intervention must be apolitical. Only then can peace and harmony reign supreme.

## **Recommendations for Increasing Knowledge of UN Human Rights in Nigeria**

A major finding from this study is that many Nigerian youths have limited knowledge of the UN Human Rights. For instance, only a handful of our Emerging Political Leaders had basic knowledge of 30 Articles that make up the UN Human Rights prior to the study.

To this end, CSAAE is recommending the following to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Nigeria, Federal Ministry of Justice and other International and indigenous stakeholders on how to increase awareness and knowledge of UN Human Rights among Nigerians especially the youth. This will go a long way in facilitating development, justice, and peace, and make Nigeria a better place.

- Graphic and video representation of each article of the UN Human Rights in a simplified language and promoted across various social media platforms targeting Nigerians that are active on social media
- Translation of basic information on each article of the UN Human Rights into three major languages in Nigeria and pidgin targeting those with little or no knowledge of English language
- Campus-based sensitization, talk-shows, focus group discussion, awareness walks and street campaign on the UN Human Rights. Some of our Emerging Nigerian Leaders have adopted this approach by implementing Community Development Projects promoting the UN Human Rights
- Animated video, cartoons and comic books on UN Human Rights targeting nursery, primary and secondary school students
- Production of short dramas and songs related to UN Human Rights which will be promoted and viewed at worship centers (churches and mosques), marketplaces and community town halls
- A Nationwide quiz competition on UN Human Rights that can further be organized at the Local government, State, Regional and National levels
- Partnership with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Nigeria, Federal Ministry of Justice and other International and indigenous stakeholders to increase the coverage of our ongoing community projects promoting the UN Human Rights.



## Appendix List of Participants

S/N	NAME	SCHOOL	COURSE OF STUDY	STATE OF ORIGIN
1.	Onyeulor Paul	University of Jos, Jos (UNIJOS).	Mathematics	Imo
2.	Moses Omo	College of Nursing and Midwifery, vom.	Nursing	Edo
3.	Irene Chiamaka	Ahmadu bello University Zaria	Physics Education	Abia
4.	Edenamiuki Beverlyn	University of Benin, Benin (UNIBEN).	Animal Science	Edo
5.	Peterson Abuche	Federal University Technology, Minna. (FUT Minna)	Chemical Engineering	Kogi
6.	Chukwuebuka Kizito	Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO)	Materials and Metallurgical Engineering (MME)	Imo
7.	Ategwu Samson`	University of Calabar, Calabar (UNICAL).	Radiography and Radiological Sciences	Cross River
8.	Pyendang Dandy	College of nursing and midwifery, Vom	Nursing	Plateau
9.	Ayo Bright	National Open University. (NOUN)	International and Diplomatic studies	Lagos
10.	Nwoko Queeneth	Federals College of Education Obudu (FCE Obudu).	Chemistry/ Biology	Imo
11.	Egbuokporo Charles	Imo State University (IMSU).	Optometry	Imo
12.	Yawe Peter	University of Jos, Jos	Medicine and Surgery	Benue
13.	Thomas Ashu	Federal College of Education in Affiliation with the University of Calabar, Calabar.	Education/English Language.	Cross River
14.	Agagbe Kelvin	Federal university of agriculture Makurdi. Benue State.	Agricultural Education	Benue
15.	Umar Maryam	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria	Biochemistry	Niger
16.	Ebiale Martha	Cross River University Of Technology	Medical Biochemistry	Cross River
17.	Abaziem Victor	Federal University Of Technology Owerri	Civil Engineering	Imo

18.	Ogwumah Christopher	Federal University of Technology, Owerri	Transport Management Technology	Abia
19.	Tagbo Ijeoma	Federal University of Technology, Owerri	Information Management Technology	Anambra
20.	Abdallah Sa'id	Northwest University	Economics	Kano
21.	Muhammad Sani	Ahmadu Bello University Zaria	Agricultural and Bio-resources Engineering	Kaduna
22.	Ayenson Oyiza	Plateau State College of Nursing and Midwifery Vom	Nursing	Kogi
23.	Emmanuel Egbala	Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Abia State	Computer Engineering	Cross River
24.	Ebri Mary-Jayne	University of Calabar, Calabar.	Radiography and Radiological Science	Cross River
25.	Onwukwe Oluchi	University of Calabar, Calabar (UNICAL).	Medical Laboratory Science	Abia
26.	Abiji Emmanuel	Cross River University of Technology	Business Administration	Cross River
27.	Ikeanyi Ozioma	Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka	History and International Relations	Anambra
28.	Caleb Asuquo	Cross River University of Technology	Human Anatomy and Forensic Anthropology	Cross River
29.	Anuchirim Okwukwe	Imo State University Owerri	English Language and Literature	Imo
30.	Oladipo Theophilus	University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Kwara state.	Law	Kwara
31.	Akindele Olalekan	University of Ilorin	Law	Kwara
32.	Olatunji Peter	University of Ilorin	Telecomm. Science	Osun
33.	Gegele Taiye	University of Ilorin	Anatomy	Kwara
34.	Abdulsalam Ibrahim	University Of Ilorin	Law	Osun
35.	Nwagha Chinonso	Imo State University Owerri	Accounting	Imo
36.	Nwaonu Davidson	University of Benin	Agric Economics & Ext Services	Imo

37.	Ekwonu Francisca	University of Jos	Medical Laboratory Science	Anambra
38.	Chibuike Charles	Michael Okpara University of Agriculture	Banking & Finance	Abia
39.	Chukwurah Benedicta	Anambra State University Uli	Psychology	Anambra
40.	Mathew Ikelionwu	Federal Polytechnic Oko	Microbiology	Anambra
41.	Okoro Madgalene	Federal Polytechnic Nekede	Purchasing & supply	Ebonyi
42.	Tanko Fwangshak	Federal University of Technology Minna	Computer Engineering	Plateau
43.	Uwaleme Pantaleon	Federal University of Technology Owerri	Quantity Surveying	Imo
44.	Momoh Valentine	University of Benin	Animal Science	Edo
45.	Ekezie Chisom	Federal University of Technology Owerri	Information Management Technology	Imo
46.	Mathew Mighty	Federal University of Technology Owerri	Biochemistry	Adamawa state
47.	Igwe Chibuzor	Ebonyi State University	History and International Studies	Ebonyi
48.	Emmanuel Suyum	Ahmadu Bello University Zaria	Mechanical Engineering	Bauchi
49.	John Joel	Ahmadu Bello University Zaria	Biochemistry	Gombe
50.	Oraeki Francis	Nnamdi Azikiwe University	Anambra	Anambra
51.	Federal University of Technology Owerri	Electrical Engineering	Electrical Engineering	Edo
52.	Ujah Joy	Federal University of Technology Owerri	Agric Engineering	Enugu
53.	Okolinta Samson	Imo State University Owerri	Economics	Imo
54.	Ige Godstime	University of Benin	Dentistry	Edo

55.	Ubazoro Russel	Federal University of Technology Owerri	Maritime Management Technology	Abia
56.	Bilipmak Nandi	Federal University of Technology Minna		
57.	Chukwu Amarachi	Alvan Ikoku College of Education Owerri	Education Economics	Imo
58.	Ishola Kayode	University of Ilorin	Microbiology	Kwara
59.	Obetta Emmanuella	University of Nigeria Nsukka	Accounting	Enugu
60.	Opara Austin	Imo State University Owerri	Animal Science	Imo
61.	Uzor Nancy	Federal College of Education Obudu	Education English	Imo
62.	Akushie Tochi	University of Ilorin	Public Relations	Imo
63.	Akinyemi Muhammed	Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike	Law	Oyo
64.	Chukwuemeka Jude	Catholic Institute of West Africa (CIWA)	Computer Science	Imo State
65.	Umezurike Iroaganachi	University of Ilorin	Communication Studies	Abia
66.	Azeez Adisa	Nigerian Law School	Religious	Kwara
67.	Jesutooni Ajiboye	University of Benin	Law	Kwara
68.	Edeh Damian	Industrial Chemistry	University Of Benin	Enugu
69.	Samuel Cole	Federal University of Technology, Owerri. (FUTO)	Information Management Technology	Ogun State
70.	Afahaene Richard	Federal University of Technology, Minna	Petroleum Engineering	Akwa Ibom
71.	Akpa Thankgod	Federal University of Technology Owerri	Information and Media Technology	Kogi
72.	Raphael Amadi	University of Benin	Agriculture and Bio-resources Engineering	Imo

73.	Osahon Ezekiel	Benue state university Makurdi, Nigeria	Pharmacy	Edo
74.	Opaluwa Richard	Benue state university Makurdi, Nigeria	Library and Information Science	Kogi
75.	Opaluwa Richard	Benue state university Makurdi, Nigeria	Library and Information Science	Kogi

## Community Development Projects Inspired and Supported by CSAAE towards Attainment of SDGs in Nigeria

S/N	Location	Initiator	Project Title	Objectives	Impact	SDG
<b>Health</b>						
1.	Cross River State	Samson Ategwu I.	Volunteers for African Health Initiative	To promote quality and affordable healthcare delivery in Calabar metropolis by reducing healthcare delivery cost through structured healthcare workers volunteer program	200 people provided with free healthcare services by volunteer healthcare workers	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)
2.	Plateau State	Moses Nora Omo	Healthy Nutrition for Infants and Children (HENIC)	To produce and teach nursing mothers innovative ways to produce healthy infant food using affordable local food items.	1,420 nursing mothers trained.	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)
3.	Kwara State	Gegele Taiye Abdullahi	Action Against Drug Abuse, Cultism, and Other Social Vices	To educate young people on the psychosocial impact of drug abuse.	2,500 youth sensitized	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)
4.	Kaduna State	Umar Omowunmi Maryam	Combating Malnutrition in Children(CMC)	To promote healthy living for infants and mothers through exclusive breastfeeding and access to healthy nutrition in Hayin Dogo, Samaru community.	1,000 nursing mothers trained.	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)
5.	Plateau State	Praymore Dandy	Reverberating Youths and Advocacy Against Drug Abuse	To discourage use and abuse of drugs among teenagers	2,500 youths sensitized on dangers of drug abuse	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)
6.	Cross River State	Ebiale Martha Emmanuel	Menstrual Hygiene Management for Girls	To foster proper knowledge of menstrual hygiene and train adolescents in Cross River State on to make hygienic menstrual pads locally.	1,500 girls sensitized	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)
7.	Plateau State	Yawe Peter Mkurtar	Healthy Liver Initiative (HLI)	To increase knowledge of hepatitis status, promote lifestyles that ensure a healthy liver and provide easy access to treatment through e-medical directory app.	1128 people tested for hepatitis and over 25,000 sensitized weekly through one liver radio program.	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)
8.	Imo State	Christopher Emeka Ogwumah	Project Pro Cleanse Pump(PCP)	To give Imolites access to clean and renewable water through the production of innovative and affordable water purification device	Production of a prototype of the PCP device at the final stage	SDG-6 (Clean Water and Sanitation)
9.	Cross River State	Mary-Jayne Alfred Ebri	We-Care Initiative	To provide basic life support (food and clothing) to orphans and vulnerable children living on the streets of Cross River State.	600 orphans and vulnerable children reached	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being) SDG-2 (Zero Hunger)
<b>EDUCATION</b>						

10.	Cross River State	Abiji Emmanuel Abiji	Smart Brian Initiative (SBI)	To improve the academic performances of students in selected secondary and tertiary schools in Abakpa, Ogoja LGA.	1560 youths trained	SDG-4 (Quality Education)
11.	Platea State	Uzoma Paul Onyeulor	The community of Readers (COR)	To reignite reading culture and build community libraries across Nigeria.	Raised 730 active readers.	SDG-4 (Quality Education)
12.	Kaduna state	Muhammad Sani Kassim	Back to School Campaign	To re-enroll 700 out of school children to school.	2000 adults parents sensitized and 100 dropouts re-enrolled back to school.	SDG-4 (Quality Education) SDG-5 (Gender Equality)
13.	Kano State	Abdallah Said Buhari	African Child E-learning Initiative	To promote access to e-learning tools in secondary schools	40 students trained on the use of e-learning tools.	SDG-4 (Quality Education)
14.	Ebonyi State	Igwe Chibuzor Priscilia and Godstime David	No Child Dropout Initiative	To reinstate dropouts to school and enlighten communities on the importance of education.	5,000 children prevented from dropping out of school and 70 dropouts enrolled back to school	SDG-4 (Quality Education) SDG-5 (Gender Equality)
15.	Benin	Valentine Momoh	Send a child to school	To provide educational support to vulnerable children from poor homes	Over 500 students provided with educational material	SDG-4 (Quality Education) SDG-5 (Gender Equality)
16.	Benin	Godstime Osahonige	Career Path Initiative	To enlighten secondary school students on Career choice and admission process	Over 1000 students sensitized	SDG-4 (Quality Education), SDG-8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
17.	Anambra	Oraeki Chukeujekwu Francis	Career Path For Secondary School Students	To provide career counseling and guidance to secondary school students	10,000 students sensitized	SDG-4 (Quality Education) SDG-8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
18.	Kaduna State	John Joel Bauna	Career Guide For Students (CGS)	To provide career counseling and guidance to secondary school students	5, 000 students reached through Career Seminars	SDG-4 (Quality Education) SDG-8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
Governance						
19.	Benue State	Agagbe Kelvin Terlumun.	Good Governance campaign (GoGo Campaign)	To train school prefects and student union leaders on the basics of good governance and ethical leadership.	32 senior prefects trained	SDG-16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institution)
20.	Imo State	Tagbo Ijeoma	Emerging Female Leaders Initiative (EFLI)	To increase female participation in leadership politics	500 adolescent girls trained in leadership	SDG-5 (Gender Equality)
Food/Agriculture						



21.	Nationwide	Duru, Kizito Chukwuebuka	Innovative Snail Farms	To train Nigerian youths on how to run sustainable and profitable agro-business.	5 snail farms set-up across Nigeria and over 3500 snails sold	SDG-1(No Poverty)  SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)  SDG-8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
22.	Niger State	Akodi Peterson Abuche	Innovative Bee Keeping Technology [IBK-TECH]	To ensure all year round production and sales of unadulterated honey.	A functional bee farm established at the Federal University of Technology Minna.	SDG-1(No Poverty)  SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)  SDG-8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
23.	Cross River State	Nwoko Queeneth Ugochi and Ashu Thomas Amu	Palm Plantation, Processing and Marketing Initiative	To ensure all year round production and sales of unadulterated palm oil.	Two palm fruit nursery established in Obudu, Cross River states.	SDG-1(No Poverty)  SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)  SDG-8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
24.	Imo State	Russell Ubazoro	Healthy Mushroom Farm	To ensure all-year-round availability of fresh oyster mushroom to customers at a fair and affordable price.	Mushroom farm with a production capacity of 5500 Kg established in Federal University of Technology Owerri (FUTO).	SDG-1(No Poverty)  SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)  SDG-8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
<b>Environment</b>						
25.	Edo State	Ogbeide-Ihama Edenamiuki	Project Clean and Green	To promote a clean and green environment in the University of Benin	1500 students sensitized	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)  SDG-11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)
26.	Abia State	Okoro Magdalene Nnenna	Keep Aba Clean	To foster good sanitation and hygienic practices in schools and communities	To foster good sanitation and hygienic practices in schools and communities	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)  SDG-11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)

27.	Niger State	Nlwaat fwangshak-Tanko	Wealth to Waste	To recycle waste to furniture and decorative for household use	1000 youths trained	SDG-11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)  SDG-12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)
28.	Imo State	Anuchirim Okwukwe Shedrack	Sanitation of the Environment Through Cleanliness (SET-C)	To foster accurate knowledge of proper refuse disposal and personal hygiene among youths.	Over 8000 youths sensitized and 10 waste bins distributed.	SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-Being)  SDG-11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)
<b>Rule of Law, Ethics, and Anti-corruption</b>						
29.	Kwara State	Theophilus Oladipo	Know Your Rights Campaign (KYRC)	To foster accurate knowledge of human rights among youth and awareness on how to enforce it.	Over 2,000 youth sensitized.	SDG-16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institution)
30.	Anambra State	Ikeanyi Ozioma Ukamaka	Know Your Right	To increase awareness on the Nigerian Constitution, UN Universal Human Right and the Child Act of 2003 among primary and Secondary school students.	Over 1000 school students sensitized	SDG-16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institution)
31	Plateau State	Olayinka Ayo Bright	Youth for Goals (Y4G)	To increase awareness of Sustainable Development Goal 4 among youth in Vom Plateau State.	Over 1200 youths sensitized on SDG-4	SDG-4 (Quality Education)
<b>Economy</b>						
32.	Nationwide	Okolinta Samson Ifeanyi	Pragmatic Economic Forum	To proffer solutions to Nigeria's economic problems through policy formation and expert recommendations.	Produced corruption index for Nigeria, biweekly Smart leave Journal and Basic Accounting Tools for Rural Women	SDG-8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
33.	Kaduna	Uche Irene Mark	Mitigating Poverty among Northern Nigeria Women	To promote financial literacy and savings among women for an improved standard of living	100 market women sensitized	SDG-9 (Industry, Innovation, and Industry)
34.	Ondo State	Akusie Tochi	Pro-Skills Initiative	To increase access to information on entrepreneurial and skill acquisition training opportunities in Oba -Ile Community, Ondo State.	3 unemployed youths enrolled into skill acquisition training	SDG-1 (No Poverty)  SDG-8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)

## WHY SHOULD I SUPPORT CSAAE?

In Nigeria alone, over 118 million people are under the age of 25. To put this number into perspective, consider this: If these young people formed a country, that country would be the 12th largest in the world; smaller than Japan, but larger than Mexico or the Philippines. As these young people come of age, how well they transition to adulthood and how well they integrate economically, politically and socially will influence whether Nigeria thrives or collapses from greed and factionalism. The future rests with them and in the face of their growing numbers, those who can help guide their efforts, have a responsibility to steer them.

The young people coming of age in Nigeria and Africa have the power to shape more positive futures for themselves and others. However, the continent's long-standing problems: ineffective leadership, endemic corruption, and challenges common to many sub-Saharan African countries: inadequacies in public health systems and income inequalities, undercut the potential of Africa and its young people.

Programs like CSAAE invest in and support the potential of young people by providing the kinds of tools and trainings that endow them with the capacities, competencies and character necessary to sustain themselves, create opportunities that help others sustain themselves and embrace their roles as critical actors in building a better Africa. If Africa cannot accommodate the needs and aspirations of its surging population of young people, they could generate waves of migration for decades out of frustration or simply a lack of opportunity. CSAAE is registered as a non-profit organization in Nigeria and a 501(c)(3) in the United States. All donations are tax-deductible.



## About CSAAE

Years of ineffective leadership, corruption, poor entrepreneurial spirit and lack of commitment to common good have led to underdevelopment and massive poverty in Africa. In order for Africa to make progress and ensure that its people can enjoy a better quality of life, the continent needs a new generation of leaders who can fast-track development and end poverty in Africa. With youth under the age of 25 comprising 60 percent of the population, much of the hope for Africa's future lies in its young people. They are the agents of change and stakeholders in a better Africa



Launched in 2013, CSAAE is dedicated to harnessing the potential of young people and providing the kinds of tools and trainings that endow them with the capacities, competencies and character necessary to sustain themselves, create opportunities that help others sustain themselves and embrace their roles as critical actors in building a better Africa. CSAAE is registered as a non-profit organization in Nigeria and a 501(c)(3) in the United States.

The Founder, Reverend Father Godswill Agbagwa grew up in Nigeria. While studying abroad as a college student, he was struck by the contrasts he saw between the levels of poverty and under-development in Nigeria compared to Western countries he visited. That experience became the genesis for CSAAE, its programs, and the core values at the foundation of his work, which include:

- Accountability. Accepting responsibility for one's activities and in a transparent manner.
- Solidarity. A commitment to the common good.
- Integrity. Being honest and fair.
- Creativity. Thinking and actualizing new ideas.
- Punctuality. Being prompt and following through on commitments.

CSAAE focuses, in an integrated way, on four programmatic areas designed to channel young people into activities that develop leaders of character; cultivate a spirit of entrepreneurship; promote good governance, transparency, and accountability in government; and encourage mentorship among youth. Though distinct in their areas of focus, they share the common goal of creating positive social, economic and political change one youth at a time.

The Center's longest standing program is the Emerging African Leaders Program (ELP) launched in 2013 to prepare youth for positions in public service that are critical to development including political, media, religious, business and judicial leaders. Graduates of ELP form a Network of Effective African Leaders (NEAL) with one goal of taking over the leadership of Africa for good. Under the guidance of the Centre, Effective Leaders run for offices, serve in government, shape public policies and launch enterprises that enhance the greater good for Africa. They bear on each other on good governance, mentor emerging leaders and champion social impact projects in Africa.

Its Career Building and Entrepreneurship Program (CBEP) began in 2014 and engages youth in discussions about career direction while helping them navigate three paths from college to career: entering the workforce, pursuing a graduate degree, or starting a business. These youths in turn commit to using their careers to enhance the greater good for Africa.

The Youth Ethics and Anticorruption Program (YEAP) launched in 2016 seeks to raise the consciousness of youth to the importance of transparency, human rights and accountability in the work world while teaching them how to identify, resist and fight corruption hindering development in Africa.