EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE (EWEI)

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Safiya Ibn Garba (Chap)
EWEI Founder and Programme Director

welcome…….

to 2014 and thank you for being there for us these past five years !

I don't think we will ever get over how far we have come in such a short time and how fulfilling it has been going on this journey with you. 2013 was a year where we were able to focus more on greater participation of our beneficiaries in the design of our activities ensuring that our interventions were more responsive to community needs. We also faced a steep learning curve in order to meet the demand for our services and the growing needs in the communities we work.

We are starting to see the "fruits of our labour" by the major milestone of having two of our Educational Subsidy Programme (ESP) Beneficiaries become Volunteer Interns at EWEI. This means that not only were we able to support these bright young women though three years of secondary school but upon graduation, we have continued to engage them through hands-on -capacity building in development work. They are now able to influence the activities of the project they benefitted from- this especially warms my heart.

Jemilat and Bilkisu have been a delight to work with so far and as they further their education, they are still engaged as interns in order to ensure that they continue to grow and develop as social entrepreneurs. 2013 also came with some challenges including a drastic reshuffling in staffing which threatened to derail all the plans for the year. We were also faced with the challenge of scarce resources to carry out projects but thankfully, we were able to overcome all those challenges stronger and better positioned .

So for 2014! This year's annual report is different and hopefully better fits your information needs about us and what we do. Please be sure to send in your feedback to empwomeninitiative@yahoo.com or just simply send us a hello! Narrative reports on all our 2013 activities are available on request.
Our resident and non-resident staff have been at the forefront of our activities in 2013 and this has been taken to another level in 2014. We have consequently had some internal reshuffling of our staff to better fit their capacities and interests and to boost our overall effectiveness. The added level of responsibility is a test run and will help us fulfill the vision of EWEI for young people and particularly young women by empowering them with more responsibility and giving them a chance to fulfill their dreams and aspirations.
Our theme "Improve effectiveness and efficiency of our programmes by designing sustainable interventions and processes" will drive the strategic planning process which will commence in the third quarter of 2014. In addition, we mark our sixth birthday on 6 June 2014 and will launch a new website prior to that so there are many new and exciting plans on the horizon, stay tuned! To start the year off, it was a real pleasure to meet the ladies of Prince Edward Country Ontario and surviving the polar vortex! Thanks to Judy Kent and all the ladies for their kindness and generosity.

I must end as usual with thanks to so many; our partners: Abantu for Development, Generations For Peace, SAVI, Sebat Global Link Ventures, Signature Global Services, Prince Schools, Narayi , Judy Kent, our Board of Trustees and a new support group of exceptional women from Prince Edward County, Ontario. Also a big thank you goes to our tireless team of staff , advisers and mentors.

We look forward to a year of great achievements in 2014.

EWEI marking International Women's Day on 8 March 2013 with students of Prince Schools, Narayi High Cost, Kaduna Nigeria . Theme: The Gender Agenda Gaining Momentum: A promise is a promise - Time to action to end violence against women and girls."

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative (EWEI)

Mission: Provide multi-sectoral interventions for the development and empowerment of girls and women

Vision : to achieve empowerment through enlightenment.

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative is a Non-Governmental Organisation with a mission to provide multi-sectoral interventions towards the empowerment of girls and women and improving their lives through capacity building and advocacy. We achieve this through Capacity Building, Information Dissemination, Advocacy and Cross Cutting Community Service Projects.

Contact Information

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Website (from May 2014) – www.eweing.org

Wiki: http://www.ewei.wikifoundry.com Email: empwomeninitiative@yahoo.com

Face book: EWEI Empowerment through Enlightenment: facebook.com/ewei.enligthenment

Twitter: @EWEI1 Skype: ewei.enligthenment

EWEI Main Projects and Activities

* Empowerment Partnerships (EEP)* Educational Subsidy Programme(ESP)

* Empowerment Seminars (ES) * EWEI NEWS * EWEI Online

- Civic Education and Participation for Women Project (CEPWOP)* Getting Involved (GI)
- Know and Say No (KSN)

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative is:

▪Providing girls and women training and information on gender-based violence, income generating skills and social entrepreneurship

▪Providing educational subsidies to increase the enrollment, retention and completion rates of girls in public secondary schools

▪Giving women the skills to engage with community leaders on community identified needs and building their capacity for increased civic engagement

▪Working with partners and Government institutions to promote grassroots peace building and conflict transformation

EWEI marks World Health Day with a Getting Involved Seminar on Hypertension: Managing the Health of Women in a Conducive Environment at the Kaduna Prison Women's Association , Kakuri, Kaduna Nigeria on 7 April 2013.

"Today we the women of Prison Staff Association now know that too much salt can increase our blood pressure and we thank Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative for making us to be aware of it"….. **Mrs. Sarah Solomon**

Month	Major Projects and Activities in 2013
January	ESP Empowerment Seminar, ESP Support
February	Getting Involved: World Cancer Day (Bethel Intl School), GWG Reflection Meeting, Education Summit (Ministry of Education)
March	International Women's Day (Prince Schools, GGSS Snr, Jnr, Doka), GWG Strategic Planning.
April	GWG Strategic Planning, Empowerment Seminar: World Health Day (Kaduna Prison Women's Association, Kakuri)
May	ESP Empowerment Seminar, Children's Day (Social Media Campaign)
June	Getting Involved: World Environment Day (Social Media Campaign), EWEI Anniversary, Civil Society Media Good Governance and Accountability Workshop
July	Donor Follow up
August	ESP Fundraising Event
September	ESP Empowerment Seminar
October	International Day of the Girl Child (Government Technical School Malali)
November	Know and Say No: 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence/ International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (Television Community)
December	Reflection and Planning

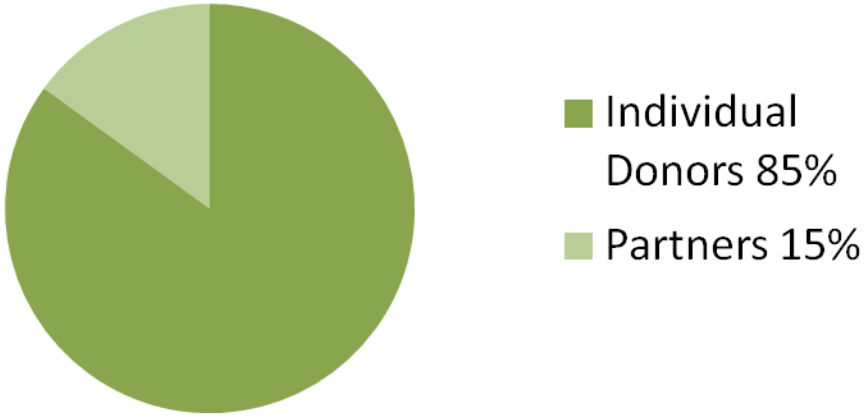
EWEI Project Data 2013

Date	PROJECT										Location
	Donations /Fundraising (No of Beneficiaries)	EWEI NEWS (No. of copies)	EMPOWERMENT SEMINARS (No of Beneficiaries)	EDUCATIONAL SUBSIDY PROGRAMME (ESP) (No of Beneficiaries)	GETTING INVOLVED (No of Beneficiaries)	KNOW AND SAY NO (No of Beneficiaries)	EWEI ONLINE (Wiki, Facebook, Twitter, You Tube)	CEPWOP (No of Beneficiaries)	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)	ORIENTATION /CAPACITY BUILDING /PARTNERSHIPS /MEDIA APPERANCES	
19 January 2013			5 Students 3 EWEI Staff 1 Resource Person	5 Students							EWEI Headquarters Kaduna, Nigeria
4 February 2013					World Cancer Day 15 Students, 2 EWEI staff, 3 Bethel School Staff						Bethel Comprehensive Schools Television Kaduna, Nigeria.
14 February 2013										1 Staff GWG Education Summit	Gen. Hassan Usman Katsina House, Kaduna, Nigeria
8th March 2013					International Women's Day 45 Students, 2 EWEI Staff and 1 Teacher						Prince Schools Giwa Road, Narayi Kaduna, Nigeria, GGSS Senior Independence Way Kaduna, Nigeria GGSS Junior Independence Way Kaduna, Nigeria GGSS Doka Kaduna, Nigeria
14 March 2013										1 Staff Gender and Inclusion Workshop	Bafra Hotel, Kaduna Nigeria
21 - 22 March 2013										1 Staff GWG Strategic Planning Workshop	SAVI offices, Ishaku Road, Kaduna Nigeria

2 April 2013										1 Staff GWG Strategic Planning	SAVI offices, Ishaku Road, Kaduna Nigeria
7 April 2013					World Health Day 19 Women 2 EWEI Staff 1 Resource Person						Kaduna Prison Quarters Ungwan Sunday Kaduna, Nigeria
29 - 30 April 2013										1 Staff GWG Strategic Planning	SAVI offices, Ishaku Road, Kaduna Nigeria
18 May 2013			5 Students 2 Staff 1 Resource Person 1 Teacher/ Chaperon								EWEI Headquarters Kaduna, Nigeria
27 May 2013							Online Campaign to Mark Children's Day				Facebook, Twitter
5 June 2013							Online Campaign to Mark World Environment Day				Facebook, Twitter
6 June 2013	**EWEI's 5 Year Anniversary** **In 5 years, EWEI projects have directly benefitted over 17,601 girls, women and youth in and outside Kaduna, Nigeria.**										Facebook, Twitter
16 -21 June 2013										1 Staff Civil Society Media Good Governance and Accountability workshop	Immaculate Hotel Plot 24 Lobito Close Wuse II Abuja
24 August 2013	5 Donors 4 ESP Beneficiaries 4 EWEI Staff and Executives 1 Volunteer										ABANTU for Development Kaduna, Nigeria

18 September 2013			5 ESP beneficiaries 2 Staff 1 Resource Person 1 Volunteer								EWEI Headquarters Kaduna, Nigeria and Bags, Wears and Fittings, Kaduna
11 October 2013					International Day of the Girl Child 40 Students 2 EWEI Staff 2 EWEI volunteer interns 3 Teaching Staff						Government Technical School Malali Kaduna
25 November 2013						15 Women 2 Resource persons 4 EWEI Staff					Television Kaduna Nigeria
9 December 2013										1 Staff Roundtable on Transparent and Accountable Processes in Kaduna State	ASAA Pyramid Hotel Kaduna Nigeria.
TOTAL	-	-	5 girls & 5 adults	5	129 girls and adults	53	Unlimited	-		1	
GRAND TOTAL	In 2013, EWEI activities benefited 193 girls and women directly and at least 300 indirect beneficiaries										

2013 Funding and Support



Active Projects in 2013

- Empowerment Seminars
- ESP
- EWEI Online
- Getting Involved
- Know and Say No

EWEI is run by support mostly from individual donors and a few partners. In 2013, no donor or governmental funds were accessed by EWEI and so posed a huge challenge to carrying out planned activities.

In 2013, for the first time, EWEI held a fund raising event to raise support for the Educational Subsidy Programme. The fund raising did not reach its target but provided useful lessons for EWEI in terms of driving a more cost-efficient model that would also result in more sustainable projects. This will form a major component of EWEI's strategic plan moving forward.

You can support EWEI by:

✓Donating money to support projects
✓Shipping us/Donating stationery (Notepads, pens, pencils, scientific calculators etc),
✓Shipping us/Donating, new or used Laptops, Printers, Cameras, Sewing Machines, Bead making machines, Generators
✓Shipping us books, and material resources in simple English and visual aids on Health, Education and Income Generation (e,g. ,savings, managing your business, report and proposal writing, project management
✓Providing editing support for EWEI online entries
✓Link us to a donor or tell us about funding/support opportunities on any scale.
✓Writing an article and submit a photo for our blog or newsletter
✓Like, Retweet, Engage online through Facebook, Twitter; etc Spread word about us!

Meet the team….

Joy Anthony- Programme Officer
Administration and Logistics

Essien Etuk -
Programme Officer
Finance and Supplies

Samson Ohis -
Assistant
Programme Officer
Media and Publicity

Jemilat Abdulkareem
Volunteer Intern

Bilkisu Gwabin
Volunteer Intern

In 2014, EWEI will focus on:

- Improving effectiveness and efficiency of our programmes by designing sustainable interventions and processes.

- Delivering all our mentioned projects in order to implement our multi-sectoral model of intervention.

- Reach more beneficiaries by involving more adolescents and young women in our Empowerment Seminars. This will be preceded by an evaluation of the past ESP Empowerment Seminars.

- Expanding our partner outreach and base.

- Partner more with the communities we work with in order to deliver cost effective and sustainable community based projects.

Diana Agabi, Technical
Adviser Programming

Michael Jones, Technical
Adviser Finance

EWEI PD at EWEI Fundraising at Prince Edward County, Ontario, January 2014

SPECIAL FEATURE: EWEI's Educational Subsidy Programme 2010 – 2013

After examining the current challenges facing girl child education in northern Nigeria, Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative (EWEI) launched the Educational Subsidy Programme (ESP) in order to encourage girl child education at all levels. The ESP aims to subsidize the cost of books, uniforms and exam fees for girls. The ESP also provides opportunities for beneficiaries to receive training like soft skills in leadership and social entrepreneurship to augment their education; providing capacity building in information technology, health, business and related fields. These seminars are called Empowerment Seminars and are held quarterly. The girls also receive mentoring from EWEI staff and Mentors.

Process:

Prospective beneficiaries are selected after a survey at selected public schools to ascertain girls who are excelling academically. Such girls are then interviewed and asked to write essays and tested. The potential beneficiaries' homes are also visited in the process to get a better sense of their backgrounds and their parent(s)/guardian(s) consent. The rigorous process is then finalized by the choosing of beneficiaries of the ESP by the Management of EWEI. Students must show consistent academic excellence over a period of 6 terms/semesters prior to their consideration for the ESP. Upon completion of their secondary schools while they await admission into tertiary institutions, ESP beneficiaries also get an opportunity to serve as volunteer interns with EWEI, providing further capacity building and experience in the non-profit development sector. In 2010, 7 students from 4 public schools were signed unto the ESP and as at 2013, 5 of those girls are still benefitting from the ESP.

JEMILAT ABDULKAREEM

Jemilat was born to the family of Mohammed Abdulkereem and was a student of Government Girls Secondary School, Doka Constitution Road, Kaduna. Jemilat's strong subjects are Intergrated Science, Business Studies, Mathematics and English Language. While in school she was a member of the HIV/AIDS club. In 2011, Jemilat's father passed away but that was an inspiration for her to work harder in school as she always remembers how much her father supported and encouraged her education. Her principal was very willing to recommend her for the ESP.

Jemilat's outstanding performance in school resulted in her selection as an ESP Beneficiary on 12th May 2010 at the age of 14 and since then had been an excellent student representing the school in various competitions, essay writing and debates. Jemilat is well known for her good attitude in school; shy, but dedicated to her studies. Jemilat currently volunteers with EWEI and her duties include monitoring ESP activities and giving feedback on its impact, participating in monthly staff meetings and assisting the staff in the office. She aspires to be a medical doctor in future and be of help to the less privileged in the society. Jemilat's says of her time at EWEI Offices, "*I am learning a lot and now know how to a lot of things I didn't know before.*"

Thank you For your mentoring and support for the ESP
ABANTU For Development, Mavis Orjime, Christiana Arams, Joy Anthony, Judy Kent, Diana Agabi, Safiya Ibn Garba

BILKISU GWABIN

18 year old Bilkisu was adopted by the family of Missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Ali Gwabin during their visit to her village. She attended Government Girls Secondary School Ungwar Rimi Kaduna before she joined Government Girls Secondary School Independence Way Kaduna where she underwent her Senior Secondary Class and wrote her SSCE. Bilkisu was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Students (FCS) and Economic and Financial Crimes (EFCC) Clubs.

Her strong subjects include Integrated Science, English Language, Mathematics, Physical Education and Christian Religious Studies. Bilkisu was selected as the Head Girl of her school was known as an excellent student by all her teachers and students in addition to her dedication and respect for others. Both of her foster parents are also deceased but her Aunty, Tina Gwabin; has been a dedicated guardian.

In her words:" *I am a good girl who is hardworking in school, honest and gentle. I am a respectful student who has the determination to become somebody in future. I am a person who works hard and who always uses opportunity when it comes my way.*"

Her good reputation and perfect results in her academics made her a beneficiary of the ESP on 26th April 2010. Bilkisu is also known for her care for other students and aspires to be a pharmacist in the future. Bilkisu started her internship at EWEI in August 2013.

ZUBAIDA JA'AFAR

Zubaida is 17 years old and was born to the family of Alhaji and Hajia Bawale Ja'afar and attended Government Girls Secondary School Ungwar Rimi Kaduna before she gained admission into Kaduna Capital School. She is a hardworking student and always dedicated to her studies. She is known as one of the best students in her class. Zubaida has been a member of the Muslim Students Society (MSS) and Economic and Financial Crimes (EFCC) Clubs. Her strong subjects include English Language, Mathematics and Science. She enjoys playing handball.

In 2010 she performed excellently in the ESP consideration Test where she made an outstanding result and led to her selection as an ESP beneficiary. Zubaida is a quiet, cheerful student and always inquisitive She wants to be a medical doctor in the future as part of her contribution to the society. A recommendation from an official of the Ministry of Education in Kaduna states that :" *She is capable of studies, hardworking, respectful and an obedient student. You will not regret giving her this award.*"

BILIKISU SULEIMAN:

Bilkisu was born to the family of Alhaji Suleiman Abubakar and is 16 years old. She attended Government Girls Secondary School Doka Kaduna. She is currently a student of GGSS Doka and in SS2. Bilkisu is a member of the Muslim Students Society and Debating society. She has maintained consistent academic record and her principal was very willing to recommend her for the ESP.

Bilkisu is of a good character and a happy girl actively participating in various EWEI projects in her school. She was selected as an ESP Beneficiary on 15th May, 2010.

KHADIJAT ADO

Khadijat is 16 years old and was born to the family of Ado Garba Muhammad. She attended Government Girls Secondary School Doka Kaduna and was in JSS2 when the programme began. She is currently a student of Federal Government College Kaduna and in SS2. Khadijat is of good character and hardworking in school, always give most of her time studying her books. Khadijat has been a member of the Press and Drama Clubs and has maintained a consistent record of academic excellence. A recommendation from her principal states that :" *She is a brilliant student, therefore she is recommended to you for consideration for any assistance as may required.*" Due to her excellent result in the ESP consideration Test she was selected as a beneficiary of the ESP on 17th April, 2010.