



Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges

2022 Annual Report





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Acronyms

ACE	Advancing Continuous Evolution
AGGE	Accountability for Good Governance in Education
BCAI	Bridge Connect Africa Initiative
CODE	Connected Development
CPB	Child Protection Bill
CSO	Civil Society Organization
FP	Family Planning
GMAAK	Galvanizing Mass Action Against Gender-based Violence in Kano
LGAs	Local Government Areas
MCF	Mastercard Foundation
MDA	Ministries, Departments, and Agencies
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
PACE	Policy Advocacy and Communication Enhanced
PRB	Population Reference Bureau
PWDs	People With Disabilities
SCALE	Strengthening Civic Advocacy and Local Engagement
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
UBEC	Universal Basic Education Commission
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAAP	Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act
YAW	Young Africa Works
YMF	Youth Multimedia Fellowship

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About Us

Ensuring Dignified Lives for Women and Young People.

In Nigeria and other parts of the world, women and young people face a range of compounded education, health, environmental and safety challenges that can have significant impact on their lives and well-being. These challenges are often interlinked and can reinforce each other, leading to a cycle of disadvantage and inequality, impacting the well-being of these groups.

Bridge Connect Africa Initiative (BCAI) as a non-governmental organization aims to address these challenges by empowering and amplifying the rights of women and young people in their communities by developing and implementing innovative solutions that promote equity, justice, and sustainability.

Founded in 2017 and headquartered in Kano, Nigeria, BCAI uses multidimensional approaches including policy advocacy, community engagement, and digital campaigns to address issues related to health, education, sustainability and the protection of women and young people.

BCAI works towards a future where women and young people can reach their full potential and live dignified lives, with a mission to co-creating innovative solutions with communities, women, and young people towards an equitable, just, and sustainable future.

The organization's focus areas include promoting equitable access to quality education and healthcare, protecting children's rights, promoting sustainability, and providing digital platforms for advocacy. Through these efforts, BCAI is empowering communities, women, and young people to create a dignified and sustainable future where their rights are respected.



Education

Health

Environment

Child Protection

Vision

We envision a world where women and young people are empowered to live dignified lives.

Mission

We are committed to co-creating innovative solutions with communities, women and young people towards an equitable, just, and sustainable future.



Sani Muhammad
Executive Director

Executive Message

As we wrap up the year, I am filled with a deep sense of excitement and fulfilment and I know that this feeling is shared by every member of our organisation. This past year has been a truly remarkable one, marked by our significant impact in breaking barriers and building bridges between women, young people, and the life-changing opportunities that enable them to reach their full potential.

One of our key focuses this year has been human capital development, and we have worked tirelessly to achieve this by promoting accountability in education through partnering with key government actors and institutions. Our efforts have yielded impressive results, with government institutions putting systems in place to ensure accountability in basic education and more Nigerian children getting quality education. However, we recognize that there are still gaps that need to be filled and we will continue to partner with all relevant stakeholders to minimise or even close these gaps.

We are proud to have played a significant role in contributing to upskilling 5 million Nigerians to access dignified jobs. Through our mobilisation and upskilling of over 39,000 individuals in northern Nigeria on soft and employability skills, we have reduced the skill gap that often prevents people from accessing job opportunities.

In addition to this, we have enhanced the capacity of community leaders and civil society organizations to address forced marriage cases and prevent child marriage in northern Nigeria.

We have also invested heavily in strengthening the capacity of our staff and enhancing our organisational structures and systems. As we celebrated our fourth anniversary this year, we recognized the need to rebrand our organisation to better align with our growth and target audience. We have already begun developing our first strategy document, and we are confident that our efforts will yield even greater results in 2023.

None of our achievements this year would have been possible without the passion, commitment, and indomitable spirit of our team, as well as the generosity and support of our donors and partners. We are immensely grateful to each and every one of you for making our vision a reality.

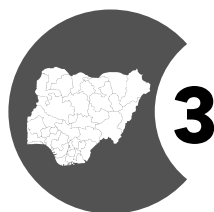
Thank you, and here's to an even more impactful and successful year ahead.



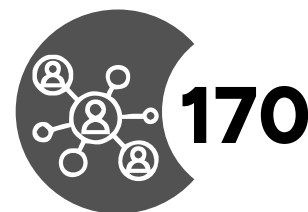
2022 Highlights in Numbers



Advocacy
Visits



Footprint
(States)



Community
Outreaches



Promoting Accountability in the Education Sector

Access to quality education is essential for every child's development and future success. However, several challenges hinder children's access to quality education in many parts of the world. In Nigeria, for instance, inadequate funding, lack of transparency, and accountability are some challenges facing the education sector. These challenges adversely affect the quality of education, resulting in low literacy levels, high dropout rates, and limited access to educational resources.

At BCAI (Bridge Connect Africa Initiative), we believe every child deserves a quality education and are committed to promoting accountability in the education sector.

With support from the Palladium SCALE intervention fund secured by Youth Hub Africa, the AGGE (Accountability for

Good Governance in Education) anchor organisation, BCAI implemented the Accountability For Good Governance In Education project.

The project aimed to address the challenges facing the education sector in Kano state, Nigeria, and promote accountability and transparency. BCAI, as one of the cluster organisations representing Kano State, led strategic advocacy for the Ministry of Education, SUBEB (State Universal Basic Education Board), SBMC (School-Based Management Committee), and Kano State House of Assembly.

The project implemented several activities to achieve its objectives, including:



Monthly Radio Program



Demand and Supply Workshop



Citizen Participation Framework

Monthly Radio Program.

BCAI organised a monthly radio program at Wazobia FM Kano to raise awareness about the project's objectives and promote citizens' participation in holding the government accountable for UBE (Universal Basic Education) funding sector.



Demand and Supply Workshop.

BCAI organised a demand and supply workshop to create a platform for citizens, education stakeholders, and policymakers to discuss the education sector's challenges and explore solutions to promote accountability and transparency.



Citizen Participation Framework

BCAI developed a citizen participation framework to promote transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Universal Basic Education Commission's work plan and funding disbursement in Kano state.



The project aimed to increase the education budget, raise citizens' awareness of UBE funding, and develop a framework to promote citizen participation in decision-making processes. The project has made significant progress in promoting accountability and transparency in the education sector in Kano state.

However, more needs to be done to ensure that every child has access to quality education. BCAI's Accountability For Good Governance in Education project has made significant progress in promoting accountability and transparency in the education sector in Kano state. However, more must be done to ensure every child can access quality education.

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Nazari Mai Zurfi- Raising Community Voices to End Child Marriage in Northern Nigeria.

Child marriage is a harmful practice that deprives girls of their rights and exposes them to various forms of violence and abuse. In Northern Nigeria, child marriage is prevalent, with many girls married off before the age of 18. This practice affects their education, health, and overall development, perpetuating the cycle of poverty in their communities.

With the support of USAID, PACE, and PRB, BCAI launched the Raising Community Voices to End Child Marriage project in Kano, Bauchi, and Jigawa states. The project focused on raising community voices to end child marriage and promote the passage of the Child Protection Bill across the focal states.

The project implemented several activities to achieve its objectives, including:



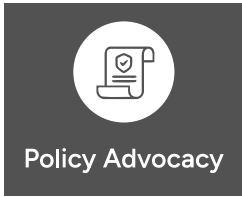
Podcast
Episodes

The project produced ten podcast episodes that discussed the risks and effects of child marriage and raised awareness among the community members. The podcasts were broadcasted across all platforms, reaching over 10 million listeners.

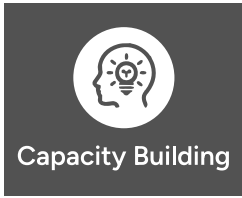


Signed Petitions

The project collected 11,000+ signed petitions from community members, urging policymakers to support the passage of the Child Protection Bill.



The project engaged policymakers in Kano and Bauchi states and advocated for the passage of the Child Protection Bill. The project's efforts increased policymakers' support for the bill's passage in both states and its review in Jigawa state.



The project enhanced the capacity of community leaders and civil society organizations to address forced marriage cases and prevent child marriage. The project conducted community engagement efforts in each state, raising awareness of child marriage prevention and support for survivors.

Through the Naziri Mai Zurifi project, BCAI made significant progress in raising community voices to end early child forced marriage and promote child protection. Through the project's efforts, community knowledge of the risks and effects of child marriage increased, and policymakers' support for the passage of the Child Protection Bill improved. The project also enhanced the capacity of community leaders and civil society organizations to address forced marriage cases and prevent child marriage.

Ending early child forced marriage is crucial to promoting gender equality, protecting girls' rights, and improving their well-being. The Naziri Mai Zurifi project's success demonstrates the power of community engagement and advocacy in promoting social change. However, sustained efforts are needed to ensure the passage and implementation of the Child Protection Bill and the end of child marriage in Northern Nigeria.

The Naziri Mai Zurifi project is a step in the right direction toward ending early child forced marriage and promoting child protection in Northern Nigeria.



Young Africa Works-

Our contribution to Upskilling
5 million Nigerian Youth to
Access Dignified Jobs.

With support from the Mastercard Foundation under the Young Africa Works Program and partnership with Jobberman Nigeria, Bridge Connect Africa Initiative (BCAI) engaged government stakeholders, community leaders and community-based organizations and mobilized and trained young people, aged 18-35 on employability skills, with 70% focus on women. These skills include personal effectiveness, emotional intelligence, business etiquette, time management, creativity and critical thinking.



Through this project, BCAI created strategies, structures and systems that led to successful community mobilization across different communities in Northern Nigeria, including providing logistical and operational capacity, guidance and assistance to facilitators to effectively discharge their mandate of soft skills training to participants across various locations.

BCAI also created and trained a network of community volunteers and champions across communities in Northern Nigeria who continuously promote and replicate soft skills lessons in their immediate communities.



Key Results



Created strategies and grassroots structure and system for community mobilization for Young Africa works program in Northern Nigeria.

- BCAI identified and developed a working community mobilization strategy for Young Africa Works in Northern Nigeria, including a well-thought-out structure and systems that are now being replicated in other Nigerian states.
- BCAI also developed standard operating procedures for facilitators, community mobilizers, and community volunteers to ensure the smooth and effective implementation of Young Africa Works program activities in various Northern Nigerian communities.



Mobilized and enhance youth knowledge on employability and soft skills.

- BCAI assisted YAW in reaching over 250,000 learners (youths, with a 70% focus on women) in Kaduna and Kano states, mapping a total of 9,433 traditional rulers; 44 community mobilizers; and deploying training equipment in over 150 communities in Kaduna and Kano states, providing technical and operational support for the training.



Youth Leading Change - The Advancing Continuous Evolution (ACE) Project

Between 2019 and 2021, BCAI collaborated with the Population Reference Bureau on the Youth Multimedia Fellowship, a project aimed at equipping young people with multimedia tools and skills to advocate for policies, especially in reproductive health, within their communities. The project engaged young people and organizations from six countries, including Nigeria, Pakistan, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal and South Sudan.

During the project, BCAI organized virtual informational dialogues with key stakeholders to influence the domestication of the child protection bill and meetings with members of the Kano State House of Assembly. Over 400 individuals were trained in evidence-based advocacy to influence the Kano State government to enact the Child Rights Act.

To ensure the sustainability of the Youth Multimedia Fellowship, BCAI implemented The Advancing Continuous Evolution (ACE) project in partnership with the Population Reference Bureau and with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in 2022. As part of the ACE project, BCAI developed a self-paced e-learning platform called youthleadingchange.org, which allows young people to develop their policy advocacy skills through tailored courses, toolkits, and best practices from the Youth Multimedia Fellows and other experts in the field using multimedia tools.

The website also features blogs with regular updates on policy advocacy related to various topics. The project aims to increase the number of youth advocates seeking knowledge on policy advocacy and to generate demand for further learning on policy advocacy related to diverse areas.

Key Results



Created a self-paced e-learning platform for young people to develop their policy advocacy skills using multimedia tools.



Developed multimedia-tailored courses, toolkits, and best practices from experts in the field of policy advocacy, including video lessons, texts, and quiz sessions to test participants' knowledge.



Increased the number of youth advocates seeking knowledge on policy advocacy.



Increased demand for further learning on policy advocacy related to diverse areas such as reproductive health, population, environment, and health.



Overview

Curriculum

Instructor

Reviews

QA

Add To Cart

Course Description

The Basic Building Blocks of Advocacy course will introduce you to the fundamental concepts and key components of Policy Advocacy, the policy-making process, and how you can bring about change in your community as a youth advocate. You will learn how effective policy advocacy builds your capacity to achieve the greatest goal for the greatest number of people and the communities you serve.

This course includes:

-  Duration 30 Min
-  Skill Level Beginner
-  Lectures 5 lessons
-  Enrolled 5 students



Galvanising Mass Action Against Gender-based Violence in Kano State- Phase II- Accelerating our Impact.

In 2021, the Bridge Connect Africa Initiative partnered with Connected Development (CODE) and the Canadian High Commission to Nigeria (CHCN) for the Galvanizing Mass Action Against Gender-based Violence in Kano (GMAAK) project.

The project trained 30 gender advocates on using social and traditional media to demand the passage of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act and included advocacy visits to key government agencies, ministries, and traditional rulers.

In 2022, under BCAI's supervision, further activities were implemented, including step-down training in three communities, a video documentary, capacity strengthening of 30 gender advocates to develop the Kano State Action Plan for ending GBV, leveraging 20 members of the Community Monitoring Team, and holding Joint Advocacy and Review Meetings with four key stakeholders to collate feedback on the draft State Action Plan.







Capacity Building

BCAI, as a non-governmental organization, is dedicated to promoting the development and building of the capacities of its target audience in a way that benefits society. One of the critical areas of focus for the organization is building the capabilities of women and girls to live dignified lives.



Multimedia as an Advocacy Tool.

Using our multi-sectoral approach towards promoting a policy-enabling environment where every human is free to live a fulfilling life is what we hold dear. Partnered with For the love of poetry to ensure that the young generation of writers uses their voices towards ending Child Marriage in Northern Nigeria, we screened our multimedia advocacy products to remind the young writers of the effect of multimedia as a response mechanism in ending child marriage and other forms of Gender-Based violence(GBV) against young people, women, and girls.

A reflective session was held, highlighting the impeccable dangers associated with the lack of policies that guarantee protection for young people, women, and girls, and concluded by calling on the young generation artists to use their creative work towards amplifying the voices of young people, women, and girls in the society.



Ensuring Protection for Survivors and Victims of GBV.

As part of our partnership with the Kano state Ministry of Education, BCAI sensitized the State Project Implementation Unit (SPIU) and stakeholders in Kano State on Gender-based Violence during the Gender-based Violence Sensitization Program for (SPIU) and stakeholders organized under the Adolescent Girls Initiative for Learning and Empowerment (AGILE) in collaboration with the Kano State Ministry of Education, supported by the World Bank. The sensitization equipped participants with knowledge on identifying potential GBV survivors, protecting the victim, and handling evidence and witnesses for legal action.

#Act4SDGs

Contributing to Global Sustainability

The SDGs Awareness at SAAD College Kano.



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are 17 global goals adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure peace and prosperity for all. Achieving these goals requires the collective effort of individuals, organizations, and governments worldwide.

One way to achieve these goals is by raising awareness of the SDGs and the importance of volunteerism for their attainment. In line with the year's SDG theme #Flipthescript, our team visited SAAD College Kano to educate the students on the SDGs and the essence of volunteering for global goals.

We used a participatory approach, which involved a presentation on the SDGs, followed by a discussion and an activity that allowed the students to select their top three goals based on their knowledge. We believe that through such sessions, we can inspire young people to become agents of change and contribute towards a sustainable future for all.

Twitter Space

BCAI also held a Twitter Space to discuss the role of women in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and how we can #Flipthescript towards ensuring that women are well educated to take action and accelerate the impact of the SDG.



Empowering People Living with Disabilities through Menstrual Hygiene Workshop.



Menstruation is a natural process affecting nearly half the world's population, yet it remains taboo in many communities. For people with disabilities, menstrual hygiene is often overlooked, and they face unique challenges when managing their menstrual cycles.

To commemorate Menstrual Hygiene Day 2022, our team organized a menstrual hygiene workshop for people with disabilities on May 28, 2022, in Kano. The event aligned with the year's theme, "Making Menstruation a Normal Fact of Life by 2030."

We provided a platform to educate the participants on menstrual hygiene practices, debunk menstrual myths, and promote menstrual health for people living with disabilities. By breaking the silence surrounding menstruation, participants were empowered to manage their menstrual cycles with confidence and dignity.

The menstrual hygiene workshop for people with disabilities provided a safe space to educate, empower and promote menstrual health. We hope the event's impact will make menstruation a normal fact of life by 2030. Menstrual hygiene education will become more accessible to people living with disabilities worldwide.



Internal Capacity Strengthening

Enhancing Our Organizational Delivery

A fundamental aspect of our work is connected to building capacities for our staff and sharing knowledge among one another to ensure that all staff are effectively empowered to possess the necessary skills and knowledge to enhance their delivery at all levels of our engagement and programming.



Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Training.

Staff started the year 2022 having their capacity enhanced on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E). The training, delivered by Cloneshouse Nigeria, focused on developing the M & E framework, indicators, planning, and data processes, as well as impact report writing.

Group work sessions were conducted at the end of each session to reinforce the concepts learned. The training was highly engaging and productive, and the team is now better equipped with knowledge and skills to drive organizational success through improved monitoring and evaluation practices.



Finance and Accounting System Training.

Staff members were trained by MatmaPlus Consult on the Finance and Accounting system, with a focus on developing an accountable system and team members. The training included practical sessions on accounting software and developing budgets, equipping the team with the knowledge and skills required to improve financial accountability and enhance project delivery.



Building Organizational Culture.

BCAI partnered with Synergy HR Solutions Limited to train its staff members on organizational culture and its role in driving organizational success to bring staff members up to speed on the organization's policies and their role in creating a positive and productive working environment. The training helped to enhance the organization's overall performance by fostering a culture of positivity, collaboration, and productivity.



Leadership Seminar.

BCAI organized a successful three-day leadership seminar for its staff to provide insights into past leadership styles, human behavior, and the importance of liberty and equality. Through book study sessions, reviews, discussions, and experience sharing, the seminar equipped the staff with knowledge and skills to become better leaders. The seminar led to improved leadership behaviors, stronger team dynamics, and increased organizational delivery and efficiency, ensuring the team is better equipped to make informed choices.

Responding to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Cases.

#Justice4Hanifa, #Justice4Yasmin, Others



#Justice4Hanifa

In December 2022, Hanifa Abubakar, a six-year-old student, was kidnapped and murdered by the proprietor of her school, Abdulmalik Tanko, resulting in national attention. Tanko demanded a ransom but poisoned Hanifa with rat poison after realizing she recognized him. The Nigerian Police Force and Department of State Security apprehended Tanko and his accomplice, Hashim Isyaku, and Hanifa's body was exhumed and examined. The case led to the revocation of all private school licenses in Kano State and sparked the #Justice4Hanifa social media campaign.

BCAI issued a statement calling for justice for Hanifa, urging investigation, apprehension, and public prosecution of the perpetrators, as well as the passage of the Child Protection Bill to safeguard children in schools and communities. BCAI also launched a social media advocacy campaign, highlighting the importance of high-quality education in a safe environment. Thanks to the efforts of BCAI and other civil society organizations, Tanko and Isyaku were sentenced to death. At the same time, Fatima Jibril received a two-year prison sentence for criminal conspiracy, kidnapping, concealing/keeping in confinement a kidnapped person, and culpable homicide.

#Justice4Yasmin



Yasmin's case was another devastating incident of sexual abuse witnessed in 2022 in Kano state, Nigeria. A 3-year-old girl, Khadija Adamu, also known as Yasmin, was a victim of sexual assault by a 49-year-old married man, Baba Idi. Sadly, Yasmin died from the injuries she sustained during the heinous crime.

Prior to her death, Yasmin had disclosed to her mother that Baba Idi had been sexually abusing her and had threatened her with death and fed her to a cat if she dared to tell her father. On the day the crime was discovered, Baba Idi invited Yasmin to a single room attached to the victim's residence and carried out the sexual assault. A medical examination confirmed Yasmin's penetration, and she was later taken to the Police headquarters to identify the suspect. According to a report by Sahelian Times, Yasmin was visibly frightened and intimidated when she saw Baba Idi and broke down in tears, stating that the suspect "was going to kill me."

Responding to this, BCAI organized a social media campaign to advocate for justice for Yasmin. The campaign involved the mobilization of 30 social media advocates who used the hashtag #Justice4Yasmin on Twitter to call on the Kano State Government (KSG) and other concerned stakeholders and authorities to ensure that justice is served in this case. Additionally, the campaign urged the Kano State House of Assembly (KSHA) to pass the Child Protection Bill to protect children and girls and ensure that offenders are punished accordingly.

Sadiya Usman Committed as a result of Forced Marriage 28



On August 5th, 2022, a 16-year-old girl named Sadiya Usman committed suicide in her room in Garin Dauru village, Warawa Local Government Area of Kano State, Nigeria. According to the village head, she was forced into marriage and was driven to this desperate act. The case was reported to the Kano State Police Command, and Sadiya was taken to Wudil General Hospital but sadly passed away despite medical efforts. This incident highlights the devastating impact of forced marriage on young girls in society. In response, Bridge Connect Africa Initiative (BCAI) held a media conference calling for the immediate passage and implementation of the Child Protection Bill (CPB) in Kano State to protect vulnerable children like Sadiya from child marriage, sexual exploitation, and violence. The bill provides legal mechanisms to convict and prosecute perpetrators of violence against children and provides shelter, community homes, and a child justice administration.

Advocacy and Policy Influencing

For us at BCAI, we believe that the biggest impact can be made when laws and policies protect the rights of the most vulnerable. This ensures that their rights are clearly spelt, and protected, and their abusers or perpetrator are appropriately punished when they are being violated. The year 2022 came with a lot of work on Policy advocacy and influencing for us at BCAI.



In Bauchi State.

In its efforts to promote an enabling policy environment to enhance legal frameworks such as the Child Protection Bill (CPB) that protect and promote the rights and safety of children and women from abuse and violence in Bauchi State, BCAI carried out advocacy visits to the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Education, Bauchi State Emirate Council, Bauchi State Network of Civil Society Organizations and the Bauchi State Gender-based Violence Action Committee for advocacy, all of who gave their commitment to support the passage of the Child Protection Bill.



In Kano State

Advocacy visits to the Kano State Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, State Universal Basic Education Board, and the Kano State House of Assembly towards increasing education funding and promoting good governance in the educational system in Kano state.

BCAI met with the Stakeholders Coordination Committee on the Child Protection Bill, the Child Parliament, and the Kano State House of Assembly to discuss strategies and secure support and commitments for the speedy passage of the child protection bill in Kano state.



In Jigawa State

BCAI's Executive Director, Sani Muhammad, led the team on advocacy visits to the Late Emir of Dutse, Nuhu Muhammad-Sanusi, Jigawa State Ministry of Justice, Jigawa State Ministry of Health, Jigawa State Ministry of Women Affairs, Jigawa State Islamic Education Bureau and the Jigawa State Civil Society Forum, as part of our advocacy efforts to strengthen the legal framework that protects and promotes the rights of children in Jigawa State through the Child Protection Law.

Driving Impact through Partnerships.

We recognize the importance of collaboration for sustainable development. During the year, we partnered and collaborated with governments, donor partners, local communities and various NGOs.





Building Collaborations for Change: BCAI and RTI in Abuja to Explore Areas of Collaboration



Celebrating Girls' Education: BCAI Partners with Kano State Ministry of Education on International Day of the Girl Child.



Strengthening Advocacy: BCAI Participates in Annual Learning Summit with CSOs in Abuja.



BCAI met with the USAID Team in Nigeria to harvest learnings and experience from the Strengthening Civic Advocacy and Local Engagement (SCALE) project by Palladium. As a cluster member of Accountability for Good Governance in Education (AGGE), we were represented by our Executive Director, Sani Muhammad, our Senior Programs Manager, Fatima Musa Aliyu, and our Programs Manager & State focal person of AGGE, Abbas Adamu Abbas.

Marking Milestones.

We recognize that working in isolation cannot bring about sustainable development; thus, collaboration is essential for success. Below are the organization's collaborative efforts with various partners, including government agencies, local communities, and other NGOs.





Celebrating Women's Achievements in Kano State International Women's Day 2022

The International Women's Day is set aside to recognize women's significant contributions to society and promote gender equality. The 2022 year's theme, "Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow," emphasizes the need to create a more equitable society that can sustainably meet the needs of all people.

In commemoration of International Women's Day 2022, (BCAI) celebrated and recognized five influential women in Kano State who have made significant economic, social, cultural, and political strides. Zainab Naseer Ahmad, Prof. Rabia Salihu Sa'id, Aisha Tofa, Prof. Hajara Umar Sanda, and Fauziyya D. Sulaiman were all honored for breaking new grounds and paving the way for women and girls to thrive in their communities and society. Despite life's challenges, these women continue to overcome and triumph in their endeavors. The BCAI team recognized these women's significant role in advancing gender equality in Kano State, and we celebrate their achievements.

In addition to the year's celebration, the BCAI team also conducted an outreach program at Aminu Kano Community Commercial College in Kano. The outreach program aimed to educate students, both males, and females, on the basics of gender-based violence and the goal of International Women's Day by raising awareness of the bias women face in society and keeping the students informed of the roles they can play in creating a more sustainable tomorrow.

The International Women's Day is a reminder that the fight for gender equality is far from over. We must continue to celebrate and recognize the achievements of women while also working towards creating a more equitable society. Doing so can create a sustainable future where women and men have equal opportunities to thrive.





BCAI Celebrate 4 Years of Empowering Communities: Reflecting on Our Journey and Looking Ahead

It was a day of joy, reflection, and appreciation as Bridge Connect Africa Initiative (BCAI) celebrated its 4th anniversary. The celebration, which took place on the 29th of August 2022, was a time for staff and volunteers to come together to share their experiences and celebrate the milestone achievements of the organization.

Looking back on the past 4 years, it's been a fantastic journey for BCAI. From our humble beginnings, we have grown and made significant strides in our mission to empower communities and improve the lives of the people we serve. We have implemented several successful programs in education, health, child protection, and economic empowerment and have impacted the lives of thousands of people in Kano State and beyond.

At the heart of our success are our dedicated staff and volunteers, who have worked tirelessly to make a difference in the lives of others. Their unwavering commitment to our mission and the communities we serve is truly remarkable, and we can't thank them enough for their hard work and dedication.

As we celebrate our 4th anniversary, we are filled with gratitude for how far we have come, and we are super pumped to do more. We remain committed to building a world where women and young people are empowered to live dignified lives. We are excited about the future and opportunities ahead and look forward to continuing our work in Kano State and beyond.





BCAI Received an Honorary Award from PR Nigeria.

In 2022, BCAI was recognized and awarded by PR Nigeria for its contribution and impact in ensuring that women and young people in Northern Nigeria live dignified lives during the maiden edition of their 30 under 30 Awards, which is curated to recognize the efforts of young people in advancing development in the region.

BCAI was recognized as one of the non-governmental and youth-led organizations creating groundbreaking impacts in the lives of women and young people in Northern Nigeria through its fights in ending Child marriage and promoting Child Protection. BCAI was one among the few CSOs nominated and honoured at the PR Nigeria Arewa 30 under 30 Award ceremony.

The event which took place in the ancient city of Kano was attended by members of BCAI including our Executive Director, Sani Muhammad, who received the award on behalf of the organization.



The Journey Ahead • 2023

Create our 10 year strategic Plan



Identify key areas for growth and development, set clear objectives and targets, and develop actionable plans to ensure we stay on track.

Improve our organizational structure, develop robust processes and procedures, and enhance our capacity to manage resources and personnel effectively.



Strengthen our organizational systems and operational delivery

Rebranding



Refreshing the organization's brand identity to reflect its values and mission, positioning itself as a modern entity committed to positive change in a rapidly changing world.

Bringing in new board members to reinforce the organization's commitment to good governance and effective leadership, supporting its mission and vision.



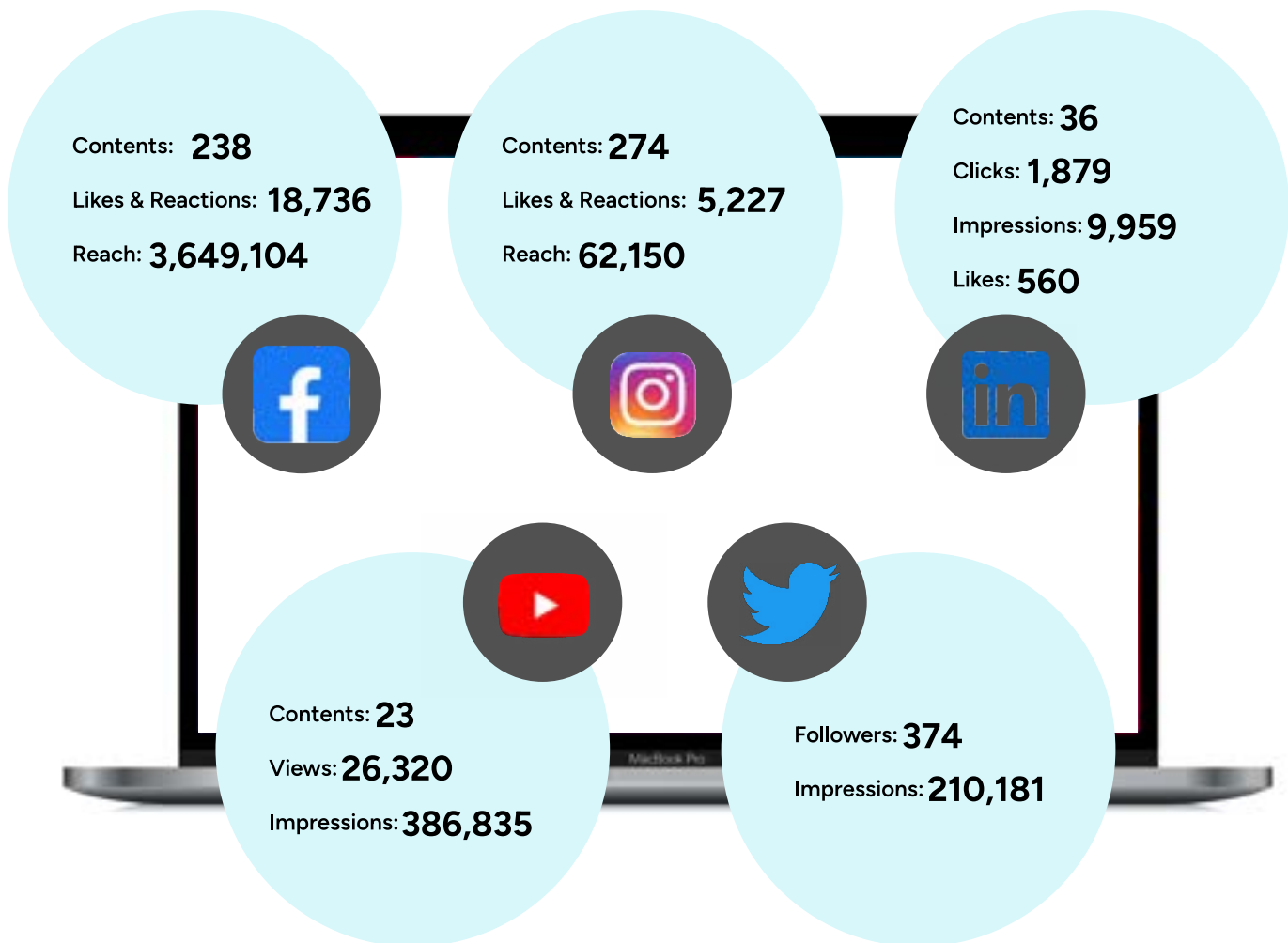
Onboarding New Board Members

Design new solutions



Identify gaps in our current offerings, understand the needs of our target audience better, and utilize technology and innovation to provide high-quality products and services that effectively address those needs.

Social Media Report



Reach

Compare your reach from this period to the previous one.

[See more about your content performance](#)

Facebook Page reach ⓘ

721,330 ↑ 2.6K%

Instagram reach ⓘ

34,877 ↑ 1.5K%

Daily Cumulative



The Team:

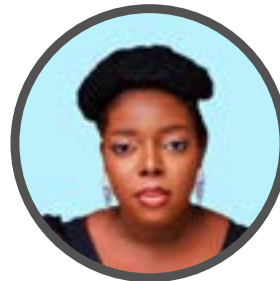
We are the Bridgers



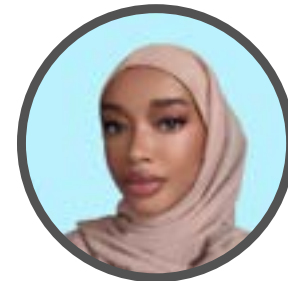
Sani Muhammad
Executive Director



Fatima Musa Aliyu
Senior Programs Manager



Nkiruka Deborah Obi
Human Resource Manager



Makkiyyah Sulaiman
MEL Manager



Elizabeth Chuckuma
Finance Manager



Abbas Adamu
Programs Manager



Mubarak Daha Isa
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Maureen Aggie Alor
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Favour Christiana Ogbuagu
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Abdulazeez Musa
Programs Associate



Sadiq Abubakar Shehu
Programs Intern



Aisha Umar Aliyu
Community Engagement Officer



Juliet Nwobodo
Communications Associate



Ahmad Tijjani Abdulkadir
Communications Intern



Musa Usman
Communications Associate

Acknowledging Our Partners

The support and commitment of our funding partners have played a crucial role in achieving our goals and hitting our milestones. Their efforts and valuable contributions have helped create a positive impact on the lives of many individuals and the communities we work with. We thank them for their unwavering support and commitment as we look forward to continuing our partnership with them.



Storytelling in Pictures







www.bridgeconnectafrica.org



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BridgeConnectNG



BridgeConnectNG



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