



# The Initiative Weekly

## Our Big Story

**When :** January 30- February 4, 2017

**Where :** Bauchi & Sokoto

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## Highlights of the Week

- Trained contracted Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) on use of social media for effective communication and community mobilization to support education efforts in Bauchi and Sokoto states.
- Organized planning meeting with State Ministry of Education (SMoE) and Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning to develop the 2017 Medium Term Sector Strategy for Bauchi state.
- Reviewed project performance on implementation of safety standards and benchmarks in schools and Non-Formal Learning Centers (NFLCs) in Bauchi and Sokoto states.
- Gave feedback on results of performance assessment to CSOs implementing sub-grants managing 800 NFLCs in Bauchi and Sokoto states.
- Organized two-day retreat for Reading component with all team members from Bauchi and Sokoto states in Abuja to discuss implementation of early grade reading in schools and plan for the upcoming quarter.
- Organized quarterly Monitoring and Evaluation meeting with all team members in Sokoto state to review implementation of the performance monitoring plan on the project.
- Organized planning meetings with relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and implementing partners in the education sector on providing technical support for the 2017 Annual School Census (ASC) in Bauchi and Sokoto states.
- Trained state and local government partners on effective distribution of teaching and learning materials to schools in Sokoto state.

## Quote

**“This research has done a good job of reflecting the opinions of parents on education in Bauchi state and if used well by all stakeholders it will change the way we engage with them and how they see the benefits of education.”**

**Lydia Shehu, Ministry of Women Affairs, Bauchi state**

# Upcoming Activities

20 2 17

## Reading Policy Dialogue

To implement and strengthen education policies for an effective Early Grade Reading program in schools.

Bauchi

22 2 17

## Training of Sokoto CSOs

To train CSOs on Early Grade Reading, Report Writing etc.

Abuja

23 2 17

## Reading Policy Dialogue

To implement and strengthen education policies for an effective Early Grade Reading program in schools.

Sokoto



**Murtala Idris is the Learning Facilitator for a Youth Learning Center in Bauchi state.**

### **What made you volunteer as a learning facilitator?**

I volunteered as a learning facilitator because I wanted to assist younger boys in the community who are not going to school.

### **How has the Northern Education Initiative Plus equipped you to teach in the center?**

We were trained for five days to use classroom methods that will allow students understand what they are being taught easily. We were trained using Hausa and we

## Voices

training the children using the same language which makes it easy. We were also taught how to facilitate life skills and how to relate with other people around the community so we do not discourage them from enrolling their wards in the center.

### **What particular subjects were you trained on?**

We were trained on literacy, numeracy and life skills.

### **How do you use your facilitator's guide to prepare for lessons?**

It is easy because the guide provides all the necessary guidance for each particular lesson instead of looking for information from different sources. The guide streamlines lessons and it is easy to use.

### **How did you adjust from receiving training to actually teaching in the center?**

Coming into classroom I found all the trainings very useful because I realized you do not have to scold or beat a child to listen to you or make him understand what you are saying. My classroom management skills are better.

### **Are you supported by the community?**

Parents always come to check on their children to be sure they are attending classes and the community leader always comes to ask if I am facing any challenge. The children always come on time too. There is so much demand now for education in this community that even the elder ones of the boys in this Youth Learning Center who are not educated wished they also had their own center to learn.

## Success Stories from Sokoto

• Ruggar Ruwa Non-Formal Learning Center (NFLC) in Tangaza local government center managed by Save the Children Initiative has inspired its community members to open three additional centers. Community members were very impressed by how children were learning at the center and this prompted their collaboration to open new centers to give more children the opportunity to learn.

• Community efforts are ongoing to ensure children learn in safe environments. A toilet is being constructed in a NFLC called **Makaranta Mal. Umar M. Umar Dandin Mahe** in Shagari local government area of Sokoto state.

## Celebrations

January 27 is International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

## Fun facts

You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.

## Contact us

Send your comments and contributions to us via

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