



**RAISING
WOMEN**
INITIATIVE

Raising Girls Summit' 2020

Report

Profile: Raising Women Initiatives (RWI)

Raising Women Initiative is a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) which first started in the United Kingdom in 2014 and now in Nigeria with the aim to transform the lives of girls and women in Africa through advocacy, research, education and support. We currently have a membership strength of over 3,000 including women from all works of life. We are currently in partnership with several girl-child organisation driving confidence and supporting those going through domestic violence especially during this time of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Our Vision: To create a world where women and girls are free and empowered

Our Mission: To create a platform where women and girls are heard, empowered and impactful

Current Projects

Gender-based Violence Referral Programme

Register Elect Vote Project

Raising Girls Summit

Human Trafficking

Girl-Child Education Support Programme

Research: The Experiences of Internally Displaced Women and Girls in Nigeria, Ethiopia and CAR.

2020 Project & Support

This is a yearly conference aimed at deliberating on issues that affect girls in Africa. With yearly theme's carefully crafted based on current happenings in Africa, the Summit aims to influence social change and policies to ensure the better life and future prospect of girls in Africa. Our Raising Girls Summit targeted over 1,000 participants directly with targeted audience including key stakeholders from international institutions, public/private sectors, NGOs, government, media, students, educationist, parents and the general public.

Our 2020 summit was supported by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Lagos State Government, Aspire Education United Kingdom, Mentor Matcher United Kingdom, Girl Hub Africa, L'Avyanna Beauty Limited, The Worklife, Alliance Française and Louismarie Stage School. These support came in cash and kind. With the help of our sponsors, we were able to achieve more than we requested for.

Due to the cover pandemic, we limited our interactions with beneficiaries to virtual participation with only a limited few who we allowed to make physical appearances. With the support of our sponsors, we carried out the following projects;

- The Raising Girls Summit held on the 20th of November 2020 in Lagos
- Register, Elect and Vote: Increasing the participation of women and girls in decision making
- Girl-child education support programme

Raising Girls Summit 2020 - Recap

The RAISING GIRLS Summit took place on the 20th of November 2020 at Alliance Francaise, Mike Adenuga center Ikoyi, Lagos featuring panel discussions and keynote speeches from key personalities in Nigeria and the United Kingdom. Over 1,500 interested participants registered for the event physically and virtually maintaining COVID-19 rules of social distancing through wearing protective masks. We only allowed 200 participants to attend physically.

The summit which is a trademarked event of the Raising Women Initiative was hosted by Adetoun Banjo, featuring keynote speeches from Polly Alakija who spoke about raising solid women and the benefits of arts and technology in doing so. She talked about the 4Cs which are Critical thinking, Collaboration, Creativity and communication. Ferdinand Adimefe spoke about getting boys and men more involved in addressing issues that affect girls especially their confidence and their need to speak up. Patricia Lamour MBE, a speaker from London spoke on the importance of educating girls and how young people in the diaspora can get involved in building a better Africa. All the speakers touched on the effect of the pandemic COVID-19 and how that has forced us to think, adjust and prepare for the future.

The summit also featured a dance presentation by Olayinka Owate, Monologue by Riona Sherring of The Louise Marie stage school and experience sharing by Memme Uponi, a STEM Champion and Yale scholar. Over five hundred thousand Naira (N500,000) were disseminated to 5 lucky girls and young women to support their education and businesses. One of the winners, was 12 years old Oluremi Boluwatife who wowed the audience with her boldness on stage competing for the grant. She intends to use the money for her education.

Dr May Ikeora, the founder of Raising Women Initiative and convener of the Raising Girls Summit stated that the objective of the summit was to amplify the voices of girls and boys for change especially in the era of a pandemic. She asserted that, beyond the summit, Raising Women Initiative will reach out to hidden communities to support girls and young people. She also mentioned what RWI is doing through her Register, Educate and Vote (REV) Project which aims to increase the participation of women and girls in politics and decision making.

We had the presence of the press who broadcasted the summit on TV stations like NTA, Silverbird and Wazobia tv. Paper and online press like the Guardian Vanguard, Bellanaija, instablog9ja,

Raising Girls Summit Gallery



REV Project

As an organization, we believe in the potential for young people to shape the socio-political landscape of the community and country at large hence, the REV PROJECT. Register, Elect and Vote describes activities young people, and indeed all Nigerians, need to complete to positively impact governance in Nigeria. Grassroot sensitization is our tool of choice even as it's more expensive we believe it has the potential to positively influence Nigeria's largest voting demographic – those between 18 and 35 years old. In 2020, we focused on Ebute Metta community where we sensitized on the importance of being equipped and deliberately increasing the participant women and girls



Sorb color down

Other support projects

- In other projects, we worked with some poorly equipped schools to find funding and teachers to continue to provide basic education for children especially girls. We supported girls in their education through providing school fees and back to school resources.
- Domestic Violence: we supported victims of domestic violence through referring their cases to relevant organisations. During the pandemic, the level of domestic violence cases reported increased.
- We also organised a Christmas party for less-privileged children in rural areas to lift their spirits during the pandemic.





REGISTER EDUCATE VOTE **PROJECT**

THEME:
CITIZENS **LEADERSHIP**

6th November, 2020 | Time: 10am

Venue: 141 Tapa street by okobaba, Ebute meta lagos

For more details call: **0817 137 5356**

PARTNERS:



RAISING GIRLS *Summit* 2020 LAGOS X LONDON



POLLY ALAKIJA
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MAY IKEORA
WOMEN DEVELOPMENT EXPERT



LEKAN FATODU
SSA ON SDG LAGOS STATE



Theme:
**AMPLIFYING THE VOICES OF
BOYS & GIRLS
FOR CHANGE**

20th November, 2020 | Virtual Attendance: bit.ly/Raisinggirlsummit

ALLIANCE FRANCAISE (MIKE ADENUGA CENTRE) LAGOS



MENTOR MATCHER

Other support projects



Guardian Woman

At Raising Women Summit, Ikeora, Alakija, others make case for Girl Child

By Tobi Awodipe
05 December 2020 | 3:18 am

[f](#) [t](#) [w](#) [e](#)



At Raising Women Summit

NPO Focuses on Nurturing the Girl-child for Nation Building

Success Stories

The Raising Women Initiative (RWI) is a non-profit organization that focuses on nurturing the girl-child for nation building. The organization was founded in 2015 and has since then been working to empower girls and women through various programs and initiatives. One of the key areas of focus is education, where the organization provides scholarships and support for girls to attend school. Another key area is entrepreneurship, where the organization provides training and support for girls to start their own businesses. The organization also focuses on health and well-being, providing access to reproductive health services and promoting healthy lifestyles. Through its various programs, the Raising Women Initiative has been able to reach thousands of girls and women, helping them to realize their dreams and contribute to the development of their country.



Top News

This year's edition of the annual girl's summit organised by Raising women's initiative held at Alliance Francaise in Lagos recently sought to amplify the voices of girls and included boys as well.

RAISING WOMEN INITIATIVE

Her Xmas Party 2020

DEC.19TH, 2020 | 12 PM
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION FOR GIRLS
LAGOS - NIGERIA

Conclusion

- We cannot thank the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and our other supporters for making some of these projects possible and the lives that it positively affected. We can only hope that such support continues.
- Whilst we are thrilled by what we could achieve in such a difficult year due to the pandemic, there demand for our services increased especially where it relates to supporting victims of domestic violence, rape and girl-child education.
- We continue to seek support to expand on our programmes and increase the amount of beneficiaries that we engage with everyday to fill these gaps.





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**TO SUPPORT OR PARTICIPATE
CONTACT US!**

Email: raisingwomeni@gmail.com

