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Impact Report

2023

Overview

INTRODUCTION

This year, WASTE Africa spearheaded a series of transformative initiatives, each contributing to a comprehensive approach in fostering environmental sustainability, community empowerment, and social justice. This year's impact report carries the collective impact of all we've achieved, showcasing our commitment to building a cleaner, greener, and more equitable future for the communities we serve.

As we present this impact report, we extend our deepest gratitude to our sponsors, partners, collaborators, and the communities we serve. Inspired by the successes of the past year, we look forward to another year of impactful initiatives and positive change. Together, let us continue shaping a sustainable and equitable future for all.



MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

We are reexamining interventions and scaling programs that address issues and provide avenues to overcome problems related to W.A.S.T.E. The indiscriminate disposal of waste not only affects us as humans, but also affects life under water and the future generation to come. The onus is on us to do the right thing and promote circular economy and use waste to solve some of the Earth's biggest issues.



Through the circular economy, we can use waste to address Earth's challenges.

Olufunto Boroffice
Founder WASTE Africa

MESSAGE FROM PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

Thank you for your support in 2023; it made a significant impact. As we enter 2024, we invite you to join us in continuing this journey. Let's explore new collaborations aligned with our shared values for transformative solutions. Cheers to another year of meaningful partnerships and impactful endeavors in 2024!



Your support has not only sustained our initiatives but has also enabled us to amplify our impact.

Juliet Odhikori
Programs Director

ABOUT US

Initiative for the Advancement of Waste Management in Africa is a non-governmental, non-profit, and voluntary organisation committed to advancing waste management in Africa, with a focus on Nigeria.

01

MISSION

Our mission is to raise awareness and take action on waste challenges, targeting women, girls, and at-risk youths. We engage government, commercial, and residential stakeholders to promote sustainable practices in waste management, affordable energy, climate action, sustainable cities, technology/innovation, and economic empowerment.

02

VISION

To be a leading source of innovative solutions and strong advocacy for a sustainable ecosystem of solid waste management engaging government, commercial and residential stakeholders in Nigeria and the African Continent.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2023, WASTE Africa spearheaded impactful initiatives for environmental sustainability, community empowerment, and social justice. Join us in celebrating these milestones, marking a stride towards a sustainable and equitable future. From recovering 148,841.10kg of recyclables to empowering waste leaders, leveraging waste for education, and fostering women's empowerment, our efforts tell a story of transformation.

Key Indicator	Activity / Project	Data / Outcome
Cash for Trash Initiative: Recovered and diverted 148,841.10 kilograms of recyclable waste.	Operation of 15 recycling hubs across 13 communities.	Significant reduction in environmental impact, cleaner streets, and landfills.
Protect 10,000 Initiative: Provided financial literacy, access to credit, and health and safety training.	Engaging leaders of waste aggregators in communities.	Empowered waste aggregators, strengthened community relations, and enhanced material recovery.
Bottles for Books Initiative: Collaboration with organizations for material collection and educational support.	Facilitated payment of tuition for over 100 pupils using recyclable materials.	Improved access to education, transformed waste into a valuable currency, and engaged communities in recycling.

Key Indicator	Activity / Project	Data / Outcome
Women Recyclers Empowerment Initiative (WREI): Conducted business education training and skill acquisition programs.	Provided essential kits, business education, and skill acquisition training to 512 women.	Empowered women with skills for entrepreneurship, increased cleanliness in their environment, and recovered 22,300.00kg of materials.
Waste for Justice Initiative: Partnership with Hope Behind Bars Africa (HBBA) and the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA).	Provided legal representation for indigent pre-trial detainees using recyclable wastes.	Contributed to the alleviation of overcrowding, access to justice, and rehabilitation of beneficiaries.
Collaboration with UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme: Received a \$50,000 grant for the project.	Collaboration to address marine plastic pollution through recycling.	Empowered local recyclers, provided social inclusion for waste pickers, conducted skill acquisition training, and recovered 22,300.00kg of waste.
School Recycling and Environmental Awareness Program: Sponsored by The Coca-Cola Foundation.	Distributed 10 recycling cages to 9 public schools.	Promoted sustainable waste management practices among students, creating eco-conscious leaders.
Ashoka Green Changemakers Challenge and Social Impact Award: Acknowledged as one of the top 5 finalists for the 2023 Innocent C. Chukwuma Award for Social Impact.	Women Recyclers Empowerment Initiative recognized as a semi-finalist.	Global recognition for the impact and innovation embedded in the initiatives.

CASH FOR TRASH INITIATIVE

In continuation of our commitment to increase material recovery and recycling in our environment, we operated 15 Cash for Trash recycling hubs across 13 communities in both the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and Lagos State. Through the active recycling efforts of residents in these communities, we recovered and diverted 140,352.60 kilograms of recyclable waste from our streets and landfills between January 2023 and November 2023.



This significant achievement not only contributes to the reduction of environmental impact but also exemplifies our dedication to fostering a cleaner, greener future for our communities.

Alongside our goals of promoting environmental sustainability, we are dedicated to creating green jobs and supporting the livelihoods of members of our host communities. To this end, we have supported 28 full-time staff members to manage the seamless operations of the hubs. We appreciate the generous support of our sponsors, The Coca-Cola Foundation (TCCF), the Embassy of Switzerland, and the British High Commission in the establishment of the hubs. We also appreciate our implementation partners, Chanja Datti Recycling Ltd and Wecyclers whose unwavering commitment and collaborative efforts have been crucial to the seamless operations of the hubs.

We are currently in the process of establishing 2 additional hubs in the Lugbe and Gwagwalada area.

Materials	Recovered (kg)
Plastic (PET)	105,139.00
Paper	4,459.00
Carton	14,972.10
Iron	289.50
Pure Water Sachet	7,369.80
Rubber	550.50
Aluminum	1,438.40
Glass	9.00
LDPE	1,334.80
HDPE	3,19.80
Styrofoam	1,83.40
PP	5,52.40
Other	3,734.31
Grand Total	140,352.61



1. Evacuation days in some communities

PROTECT 10,000 INITIATIVE

Recognizing the importance of members of the informal waste sector in the waste management sector in Nigeria, we engaged with some leaders of waste aggregators in Lugbe and Gwagwalada to appreciate their tireless efforts in material recovery and recycling, and to strengthen relations.



We organized a day training in Gwagwalada on the 21st of September 2023, in partnership with Jaiz Bank Plc. and Chanja Datti Ltd. to equip them with financial literacy training, financial inclusion, exposure to access to financial credit for their businesses, health and safety training and work kits. We provided gloves, safety jackets, and sacks to 100 attendees to aid their work activities.

The training was sponsored by the UNDP Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP).



2. WASTE Africa team members pictured with Mallam Ahmed, Chairman of Aggregators in Lugbe Area, at his collection point



3. Excited participants with their work kits



4: Cross-section of the participants at the training



5: Financial literacy training from a staff of Jaiz Bank Plc

BOTTLES FOR BOOKS INITIATIVE



Our commitment to ensuring that beneficiaries of the Bottles for Books Initiative at LEA Kabusa remain in school and continue to receive their basic human right of access to education remains resolute. Recognizing the important role parents play in shaping their children's educational journey, we engage with them to encourage their continued participation and reiterate the importance of education in the development of a child and society.

We visited Dagbana community in Jikwoyi area of the Abuja Municipal Area Council where we identified a high number of out-of-school children. During our visit, we engaged with community leaders and parents, presenting the potential of the initiative and its transformative impact on their community. The enthusiastic response we received highlighted the community's anticipation and eagerness for the successful execution of the project. The project will be executed in the coming year as we receive more funding and donations of materials.

We facilitated the payment of tuition for over 100 pupils at LEA Kabusa by leveraging waste brought in by their parents as a valuable currency. Similarly, 21 pupils at LEA Gwarimpa benefited from this initiative using recyclable materials collected from Transcorp Hilton Abuja, the Development Bank of Nigeria, the US Embassy, and the Embassy of Switzerland. This was achieved in collaboration with Chanja Datti Recycling Ltd.

Our network of collaborators continues to grow, with organizations such as the Shehu Musa Yar'adua Center, the Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority (NSIA), and Broadoaks British School intensifying their recycling efforts to support children with access to education in the coming year.

We were able to recover and recycle 8,488.50kg of materials through the initiative.



6: Engagement with parents of Bottles for Books beneficiaries at LEA Kabusa



7: Visit to Dagbana Community

WOMEN RECYCLERS EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE (WREI)

Another phase of the Women Recyclers Empowerment Initiative was initiated this year, reaching out to nine communities in Lugbe and Gwagwalada areas of the FCT. This phase successfully onboarded 512 women from communities including Pyakasa, Piwoyi, Aleyita, Chika, and Karonmajigi (Lugbe Area); and Dagiri, Gwako, New Kutunku, and Tunga-maje (Gwagwalada Area).



Each participant was provided with essential kits, including gloves, reflective jackets, masks, and sacks, and health and safety training to enhance their work activities. The women will also be issued identification cards to further legitimize and recognize their roles.

In May 2023, a crucial partnership with Chanja Datti, sponsored by Nestlé Plc., enabled the execution of a business education training of 50 beneficiaries on merchandising and effective business management. The training aimed to equip them with the skills needed to not only start but also manage and grow their retail businesses.

Later in November 2023, we organized a two-day skill acquisition training for 100 active women recyclers in partnership with The Skilled Women Initiative (TSWINI), focusing on baking and confectionery. The training sessions were conducted at LEA Tunga-maje on the 3rd and 4th of November for women in Gwagwalada area, and on the 13th and 14th of November at Chika New Palace for women in the Lugbe area. The training was sponsored by the UNDP Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP). The participants displayed great enthusiasm, expressing excitement about starting their small businesses using the acquired skills.

Through the initiative, we recovered 22,300.00kg of materials from their immediate environment. There has been feedback on the noticeable increase in the cleanliness of their environment since the project's initiation.



Communities	Number of Women Registered	Kgs of Waste Collected
Dagiri	46	-
New Kutunku	47	809
Gwako	84	2,032
Tunga-maje	120	2,623
Piwoyi	31	1,582
Karonmajigi	81	8,780
Pyakasa	32	1,319
Aleyita and Chika	71	3,353
Lugbe Environs	8	800
Zuba Environs	3	1,002
TOTAL		22,300



8: Images from Business Education training for the women recyclers



9: WASTE Africa team member with the leaders and some women at Piwoyi community



10: Engagement with the women at Dagiri community



11: Engagement with some women recyclers in Tunga-maje community



12: Images from the skill acquisition training at Tunga-maje



13: Images from the skill acquisition training at Chika

14: Some women recyclers in Pyakasa with their work kits



WASTE FOR JUSTICE INITIATIVE

The Waste for Justice Initiative was developed to provide indigent pre-trial detainees charged with minor misdemeanors with access to legal representation. Our primary goal is to provide these individuals with access to crucial legal representation, contribute to the alleviation of overcrowding in correctional facilities, and ensure quick access to justice for those awaiting trial.



As part of our efforts to amplify the impact of the initiative, we partnered with Hope Behind Bars Africa (HBBA), a social enterprise that provides free legal representations for indigent pre-trial detainees to facilitate a speedy resolution of their matters in court and supports them with rehabilitation and reintegration programmes.

In addition to our partnership with HBBA, we have forged a collaboration with the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) Abuja secretariat to convert recyclable wastes generated from their facilities to support identified beneficiaries of the project.

As we look ahead to the coming year, our focus remains on impacting the lives of potential beneficiaries and their families. Through this initiative, we aspire to create a ripple effect that extends beyond legal representation, contributing to the overall well-being and successful reintegration of beneficiaries into society.

OTHER PROJECTS

COLLABORATION WITH THE UNDP GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF) SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME (SGP)



We are thrilled to announce that we are recipients of the UNDP Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) amounting to \$50,000. The fund is to execute a project on reducing marine plastic pollution through recycling in Lugbe and Gwagwalada areas of the FCT.

The project targets the issue of plastic pollution in water bodies in Abuja which has risen due to challenges posed by fast-paced urbanization and waste management. The Wupa and Usuma Rivers, situated in the Lugbe and Gwagwalada areas are the focal points of our efforts. The project is designed to make a meaningful impact on the communities that surround these water bodies. In the Lugbe area, we will be collaborating with the communities of Pyakasa, Piwoyi, Aleyita, Chika, and Karonmajigi. In the Gwagwalada area, our outreach will extend to Dagiri, Gwako, Giri, New Kutunku, and Tunga-maje.

COLLABORATION WITH THE UNDP GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF) SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME (SGP)

The primary objective of the project is to reduce marine plastic pollution through community participation in source segregation and the recovery of plastic waste and other recyclable materials. We aim to reintegrate these materials into the value chain system, fostering a sustainable approach to waste management. Additionally, our initiative seeks to induce behavioral change and empower community members through the creation of job opportunities and capacity-building programs.

With the \$50,000 grant, we have been able to empower 512 women to become local recyclers and provide 100 waste pickers and aggregators with social inclusion. In addition, 100 active women recyclers have undergone skill acquisition training, increasing their capabilities and creating opportunities for personal and entrepreneurial growth. We have recovered 22,300.00kg of waste from the environment. We are also establishing 2 recycling hubs to service some communities in Lugbe and Gwagwalada.

To ensure transparency and community involvement, we conducted a stakeholders' engagement session. This session provided an opportunity to review the project's progress, connect with beneficiaries, and discuss the way forward. The attendees included community heads and women leaders from host communities, and representatives from partner organizations such as the Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB), Satellite Town Development Department (STDD), and Chanja Datti Recycling Ltd. We were honored to have Mrs. Ibironke Olubamise, the National Coordinator of the Small Grants Programme in Nigeria, present at the event.



15: Participants at the stakeholders' engagement



16: Cross-section of participants at the event



17: Mrs. Ibironke Olubamise addressing the participants



18: Focus group discussions on waste management issues in their local communities and potential solutions



19: Project Booklet

SCHOOL RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS PROGRAM

To promote the adoption of sustainable waste management practices among young people in Nigeria, we distributed 10 recycling cages to 9 public schools in the FCT. The students and schools are to actively engage in recycling activities as a means to promote the cleanliness of their school and encourage behavioral change that extends beyond the school premises, creating a ripple effect within the wider community.

Empowering young people with the knowledge and tools for responsible waste management will contribute to building a more environmentally conscious and sustainable future. The project was sponsored by The Coca-Cola Foundation (TCCF).

The impacted schools are:

1. Government Day Secondary School Dutse Alhaji
2. Government Girls' Secondary School Dutse
3. Government Secondary School Kuduru, Bwari
4. School for the Gifted, Gwagwalada
5. Government Senior Secondary School Tunga-maje
6. Government Secondary School Lugbe
7. Government Secondary School Gwarimpa Estate
8. Government Secondary School Gwarimpa, Life Camp
9. Government Secondary School Garki



20: Recycling cage drop off at Government Day Secondary School Dutse Alhaji



21: WASTE Africa staff with the students of Government Girls' Secondary School Dutse



22: Recycling cage drop off at Government Secondary School Kuduru, Bwari



23: WASTE Africa team pictured with the students and teachers of School for the Gifted, Gwagwalada



24: WASTE Africa team with the staff and students of Government Secondary Senior School Tunga-maje



25: Cage drop off at Government Secondary School Lugbe



26: WASTE Africa team with the students and staff of Government Secondary School Gwarimpa



27: WASTE Africa team with the students and staff of Government Secondary School Gwarimpa, Life Camp



28: Drop off of recycling cages at Government Secondary School Garki

ASHOKA GREEN CHANGEMAKERS CHALLENGE 2023

The Women Recyclers Empowerment Initiative (WREI) emerged as one of the semi-finalists of the challenge Ashoka Green Changemakers Challenge 2023. The Ashoka and HSBC 'Green Changemakers Challenge' is a global innovation challenge open to changemakers with solutions that equip others with the mindset and capabilities to contribute towards building a sustainable and equitable world.

Emerging as a semi-finalist in this globally recognized challenge is a testament to the impact and innovation of the Women Recyclers Empowerment Initiative. It acknowledges our commitment to equipping individuals with the knowledge and tools needed to actively participate in environmental sustainability while ensuring they have access to sustained income streams and capacity-building opportunities.

SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD NOMINATION

We are thrilled to announce that our organization emerged as one of the top 5 finalists for the prestigious 2023 Innocent C. Chukwuma Award for Social Impact. This esteemed award is dedicated to honoring the exceptional efforts of social enterprises, non-profit organizations, and civil society groups that have demonstrated outstanding success in the areas of social justice, community organizing, and sustainable development.

As part of this recognition, we had the unique privilege to attend the 6th Annual Convening on Impact Investing organized by the Impact Investors Foundation. This invaluable opportunity provided a platform for us to learn from industry experts and fellow changemakers in the field of social impact.

Being named among the top finalists has ignited a renewed sense of purpose and determination within our team. It has inspired us to amplify our initiatives and expand their reach to even wider communities. The acknowledgment from the Innocent C. Chukwuma Award and participation in the Impact Investing Convening have enriched our perspective and strengthened our resolve to make a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve.



29: The finalists for the 2023 Innocent C. Chukwuma Social Impact Award



30: WASTE Africa team members at the award ceremony

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

01

Environmental Impact:

Waste Africa's Cash for Trash Initiative successfully recovered and diverted 1148,841.10 kilograms of recyclable waste from streets and landfills.

02

Social Impact:

The Cash for Trash Initiative created 28 full-time jobs, supported livelihoods, and WREI empowered 512 women with essential kits and training. Through the Bottles for Books Initiative, Waste Africa facilitated tuition payment for 100+ pupils, ensuring access to education and fostering community well-being.

03

Community Engagement and Partnership:

Waste Africa collaborated with various organizations, including Chanja Datti Recycling Ltd, Wecyclers, Nestlé Plc., and The Skilled Women Initiative. These partnerships are crucial for the success and seamless operations of our initiatives.

04

Recognition and Awards:

Waste Africa received global recognition in the Ashoka Green Changemakers Challenge 2023 and was named a top 5 finalist for the 2023 Innocent C. Chukwuma Award for Social Impact.

Our Partners



**Satellite Towns
Development Department**



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra



British
High Commission
Abuja



CHANJA DATTI™
TRANSFORMING WASTE INTO VALUE



**THE SKILLED
WOMEN INITIATIVE**



**PARTNERS WEST AFRICA
NIGERIA**



MEET THE TEAM



Olufunto Boroffice
Founder



Juliet Odhikori
Programs Director



Victor Eyo Andrew
Head of Communications



Yusuf Ubale
Community liaison Personnel

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to The Coca-Cola Foundation (TCCF), the Embassy of Switzerland, and the British High Commission for their generous sponsorship, which played a pivotal role in establishing our Cash for Trash recycling hubs across 13 communities in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and Lagos State.

Special thanks go to our implementation partners, Chanja Datti Recycling Ltd and Wecyclers, whose unwavering commitment and collaborative efforts have been instrumental in the seamless operations of our recycling initiatives.

We appreciate the support of Jaiz Bank Plc. in facilitating the financial literacy training, financial inclusion, and access to credit for waste aggregators in Lugbe and Gwagwalada as part of our Protect 10,000 Initiative.

Our gratitude extends to Nestlé Plc., and to The Skilled Women Initiative (TSWINI) for their continuous partnership. A sincere thank you to the UNDP Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) for their support across multiple initiatives, including the funding of our marine plastic pollution reduction project and skill acquisition trainings.

Lastly, we express our gratitude to all the communities, individuals, and partners who have actively participated and contributed to the success of our initiatives, shaping a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future for us all.

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