

FOODBANK DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (FBN)

#Zero Tolerance to Hunger

Foodbank Development Network Strategic Development Initiatives

Foodbank Development Network (FBN) formally adopts the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as established by the UN and adopted as a global blueprint in achieving a more sustainable and better future for all (UN.Org, 2019).

The purpose of FBN adopting the UN Sustainable Development Goals is to ensure our mission aligns with the global expectations for sustainable growth and fight against global epidemic challenges affecting millions of people worldwide. Our foundation has adopted some of the sustainable goals that aligns with our organization strategic development initiatives.

FBN adopts the UN sustainable Development Goals as a shared value and measures in addressing the prevalence issues that is affecting millions of Nigerians daily. FBN Organization Strategic Development Initiatives adopts and addresses the following initiatives:

1. FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY

FBN fight against poverty is to address the prevalence and often overlooked crisis that is millions of Nigerians are facing daily on how to rise above poverty. At almost 200 million citizens and the world 7 most populated country more than 60% of Nigerian citizens live below poverty line. At Foodbank Network (FBN) we believe that poverty is an existential crisis to our nation which directly contribute to the slow economic growth of the country.

In order to fight against poverty in Nigeria, FBN mission is to address the crisis which is access to nutritious food. Limited or no access to nutritious food is the leading cause of hunger. At FBN we strongly believe that access to nutritious food should be the basic provision of giving hope and encouragement to human lives.

At Foodbank Network we strong condemn the ideology that “every man should fetch for themselves” this is not an acceptable culture at Foodbank Network – because the basic needs of human survival is community and to build a strong community, citizens must feel their sense of value, sense of belonging, sense of self-worth, and sense of empowerment. Therefore, at

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Foodbank Network, we want to utilize our team expertise in systems straightening and community building and empowerment through social intervention activities and programs.

Foodbank Network will utilize community empowerment and social development approach in providing assistant to communities to ease the suffering of citizens facing poverty or in danger of falling into poverty.

2. ZERO TOLERANCE TO HUNGER

Foodbank Development Network adoption of Zero Tolerance to Hunger is the driving force behind the emergence of Foodbank Development Network (FBN). We believe hunger is the root cause of poverty, early death and limited or no access to nutritious food is the leading cause of poverty and early death which also directly affects citizen's ability to be productive members of society which in turns erodes their sense of confidence, value and belonging which can result in a poor mental health. Millions of Nigerians are fighting these elements daily with no end in sight or hope for their suffering to end.

Millions of Nigerians walk miles just to access food and most times those food items are not nutritious enough for their health resulting in poor health or prolonged chronic health problems. As these elements are present many Nigerians face a hopeless future. The emergence of Foodbank Development Network is to bridge the gap for citizens to gain access to nutritious food as our team will deploy innovative **Foodbank Network (FBN)** technology platform, **Food Delivery Task Force (FDTF)** and local collection center where citizens in rural and remote villages and communities can easily have access to our food collection center or our community embedded Food Delivery Task Force who will be tasks in visiting these villages and communities twice a week to ensure citizens have access to nutritious food items. At the same time, our **FDTF** they will be conducting wellness checks which will help in promoting citizens sense of self-worth and belonging within their communities.

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The emergence of Foodbank Network (FBN) came as a result of poor food security within the rural communities and vulnerable population. And most of the rural communities are suffering of poor fertile soils which makes it difficult for them to access basic food items. Knowing that millions of citizens are suffering hunger and additional millions more are expected to be facing serious hunger crisis due to environmental factors and crisis forcing many families to abandon their villages and homes. Therefore, by deploying our various strategic measures, Foodbank Development Network mission is to reach and provide 2 million plus Nigerians access to nutritious food by 2025.

Through our strategic initiative – Foodbank Network (FBN) will carry out community outreach in areas of agricultural education on farming and crops based on soil compositions. We believe with our various strategic measures and partnership with various other NGO's FBN will help fighting hunger across Nigeria.

According to UN Sustainable Development Goals (2019) – it is estimated that

- Poor nutrition is the leading cause of deaths among children under five years old at a rate of 45% or 3.1 million children each year while one in four of the world's children suffer from stunted growth in developing countries of which Nigeria falls under these figures. Additionally, about sixty-six million children who are primary school age go to school hungry across many countries in the developing world and staggering twenty-three million children are said to be affected alone in Africa.

These alarming facts alone should call for a national emergency on hunger in Nigeria. These figures are expected to grow that is why Foodbank Development Network has made the commitment to provide millions of Nigerians access to nutritious food in our efforts to help fight hunger and reduce poverty in Nigeria. At Foodbank Development Network we believe that although we can't help the world at our early stage, but we can help eliminate hunger in Nigeria one citizen at a time.

Our mission is to ensure every household have access to safe and nutritious food to eat because a society with Zero Tolerance to Hunger and means

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Nigeria will take a giant step towards sustainable economic growth and development. When citizens are in good health and empowered it helps their sense of achievement because they will be motivated to be productive and maintain their social status within their communities. All these factors although not exhaustive is what we at Foodbank Development Network has adopted as our mission and vision for Nigeria.

Foodbank Development Network will also engage in advocacy and give voice to voiceless members of the society by liaising with government to enact economic policies that will not only favors the privilege but will trickle down to the lower class and the citizens living under the poverty line.

3. ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION

One of the fundamental human rights any citizen should be entitled to is access to quality education. At Foodbank Development Network, we believe that there is a strong connection between access to quality education and strong community economic growth and development. Access to quality education has direct link to enhance life and children are often the victim of inferior education practice.

At Foodbank Development Network we will work with our policy makers to ensure that education sector in Nigeria received adequate funding as well as quality teacher who are well trained to pass down knowledge to children within our various communities. Foodbank Development Network will ensure that we equally act as an advocate to these communities when it comes to education because access to basic literacy is critical to our community development and economic growth. It is important to work with our leaders and policy makers by providing data and information on areas government can step in to provide assistant to ensure achievement of basic literacy and quality education standards.

At Foodbank Development Network we will adopt the “No Child Left Policy” which brings policy makers, communities and education sector together to develop standards for basic quality education system and access.

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4. CLEAN WATER – CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Foodbank Development Network has generally adopted the basic tendency that citizens need access to clean water and clean environment which is critical to good health. Access to clean water may seem like a commonsense ideology although it is one of the aspects that is most often overlooked in many communities and rural villages due to poor infrastructure and poor economic policies at the State levels. At Foodbank Network (FBN) we believe access to clean water – clean environment is critical to eradication of hunger, poverty and poor health.

Access to clean water has direct impact on the livelihood of millions of Nigerians and in some drought ravish areas of Nigeria tends to be more affected by the little to no access to clean water which also contributes to the deteriorating hunger crisis and malnourishment in Nigeria.

According to UN Sustainable Development Goals (2019), it is estimated that there are three out of ten citizens who do not have access to safely drinking water while six out of ten citizens do not have access to a clean hygiene facility.

Presently, Nigeria is struggling with open defecation which directly impacts access clean water – clean environment. An increasing number of citizens practice open defecation which washes into the rivers and lakes and then consumed by members of those communities or the next. This preventable act has direct impact on citizen's health and malnourishment as those waste wasters are then used in cooking, washing and drinking.

Foodbank Development Network will engage communities through partnership with other NGO's to educate citizens on healthy hygiene practice. Foodbank Network will also work with community leaders to find reasonable solution to end open defecation in communities. FBN will engage policy makers and other NGO's on appropriate measures to ensure citizens have access to clean drinking water and clean environment through provision

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of cost-effective facilities that can be used as a toilet within a well-managed sanitation system.

5. INNOVATION ADVOCACY

It is important to note that Foodbank Development Network accepts and adopts the basic principle of infrastructure development and innovation in Nigeria. However, it is important to state that infrastructure development is out of our basic organizational vision and mission. Nevertheless, as an organization that cares about our communities and society. We believe that it is important for us to play advocacy role by speaking up about the state of infrastructure in our society and communities which are often forgotten by elected leaders.

We at Foodbank Development Network will play a critical role through advocacy and partnership with other NGOs to speak up about the depleting infrastructure in our communities and the needed attention. We will also help in holding forums with our leaders to advocate for adequate investment in infrastructure by making them understand the direct link between infrastructure development and sustainable economic growth and development in Nigeria.

Other areas of innovation such as technology Foodbank Development Network will engage locals and communities on educational training on technological advancement and innovation which we believe will have direct impact on economic growth of those communities- because when members of the communities are productive and engaged they are likely to be an active and contributing members of the society.

6. ADVOCACY FOR SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

Climate change is one of the environmental crises to ever exist with its global threat on environment. Many nations have adopted the Paris Climate Change Acord to combat climate change. The global impact of climate change is virtually becoming a crisis that is affecting developing countries such as Nigeria.

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As Nigeria is known for poor infrastructure development climate change has alter the environment of most communities in Nigeria and such impact directly affects the welfare and economic activities of those communities. A change in environment is a change in soil fertility and types of crops farmers can now grow. As climate change increases the rate of flood means most farmers are at risk of harvesting quality or on time as when due as a result of flood.

Foodbank Development Network will partner with other NGO's with expertise on climate change to provide education to rural communities and farmers of areas they can best protect their crops as well as methods of practicing clean environment and using alternative energy to burning kerosene, fuel and diesel. Foodbank Network (FBN) will work with locals to in educating them on environmentally sustainable behaviors.

At Foodbank Network (FBN), we believe that the future is brighter as we join hands with other organizations in the fight against hunger and poverty in Nigeria.

Over time FBN will adopt and publish additional United Nations Sustainable Development Goals which we believe is a practical framework for NGOs like ours to use as a guideline in executing our Strategic Organizational Initiatives.

Declaration – Foodbank Network (FBN) board overwhelmingly commit to the execution and implementation of our Strategic Organizational Framework which as have adopted as our guiding principles for our foundation's initiatives and mission.

Reference

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals retrieved from <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/> on July 1, 2019.