

SOKOTO STATE YOUTH AGENDA

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Drafted by Sokoto State Youth Stakeholders and Youths Civil Society Organisation at a 2-DAY Round Table Discussion on 29th & 30th June, 2019, at American Corner, City Campus, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto.

Organized by THE PRODUCTIVE YOUTHS DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE(PYDi) in collaboration with SAVE THE CHILD INITIATIVE(STCI) & NYCN SOKOTO STATE CHAPTER

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1. INTRODUCTION

Youths and young people are an important group of the society. They are an integral and productive part of all societies. To all communities they are an important investment when properly brought up and utilised. They have the energy to accelerate the development of their communities

For any society to develop, it must produce and the youths are the production machines. They are a valued possession and their capacity today will determine the future of their societies tomorrow.

The youth constitute a larger percentage of the population of Sokoto State. With an estimated population of over **6 million** (*NBS, 2017*) in 2019. The youth with a percentage of over 70% will therefore constitute more than 4.2million.

Globally, policies are being streamlined to cater for the needs and aspirations of the youths and their inclusion in governance and Sokoto cannot afford to be an exception.

The recognition of the above lead to coming together of youth stakeholders and youth organisations in Sokoto State to develop this youth agenda. The idea is conceived to let youths understand that they have roles in good governance. They are to see themselves as stakeholders and not spectators.

It is also to present a comprehensive and practicable document that if implemented can serve as a guide to transparency and implementation of aspects that will bring development not only to youths but to the whole Sokoto State.

This document outlines problems that are bedevilling youths in Sokoto State and offers some suggestions to tackling the problems (The Youth Agenda). We are not oblivious of the enormity and multifaceted nature of the issues. We therefore appreciate and understand that all the issues cannot be tackled at once. What we are proposing, is commencement and strategic implementation of the solutions.

This document also seeks to encourage youth engagement and inclusion in good governance. The youths have the energy and vigour and can assist the government and all stakeholders in that regard.

Youths in Sokoto are faced with challenges of unemployment lack quality education and poor orientation and general outlook to life.

It is our believe that when these issues are looked into, they will create jobs, make our youths healthy and ultimately make Sokoto State secured.

2. AGENDA GOAL

The overall agenda goal is to provide an appropriate framework that will promote the enjoyment of fundamental human rights and protect the health, social, economic and political wellbeing of all youths and young people in Sokoto State in order to enhance their participation in the overall development process and improve their quality of life.

3. AGENDA OBJECTIVES

1. Establish a general policy framework which will provide guidelines on all matters relating to youth development;
2. Approach youth problems from a holistic (comprehensive) perspective so as to ensure the coverage of the most critical elements;
3. Promote youth participation in the democratic process, as well as in community and civic decision making process;
4. Ensure that all youth programmes are youth-driven and youth centred;
5. Reduce youth unemployment through the promotion of self-employment enterprises;
6. Mobilize resources for youth programmes and projects at all levels;
7. Provide psycho-social support and other services to youth in conflict situations, difficult circumstances and to the disadvantaged groups;
8. Promote collaboration between government and civil society organisations, non-governmental organisations, community based organisations, religious organisations on youth development programmes;
9. Improve institutional performance capacity and ensure State-wide coverage in the execution of youth programmes;
10. Ensure the mainstreaming of youth issues in the respective agenda of all government agencies, non-governmental organisations and developmental institutions;
11. Address the specific social, economic and health problems that confront the youth in their effort to develop their capabilities;
12. Promote the moral development and value orientation in the Youth.

4. AGENDA DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The whole process started with announcements on all social media platforms. The announcement invited all youth organisations and all youth stakeholders in the State to a 2-day round table, on 29th and 30th June, 2019. The discussion took place at American Corner Hall of School of Matriculation Studies, City Campus, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto.

The discussion entailed very serious brainstorming and discussions.

5. YOUTH ISSUES

The participants raised the following issues as those pressing and in need of urgent attention. They were subsequently merged and refined to produce the Youth Agenda.

1. Unemployment of youths in Sokoto State
2. Drug Abuse
3. Sanitation in Sokoto State
4. Civic Education
5. Deficiency of Education in most Communities.
6. Poverty Eradication
7. Student welfare
8. Insecurities
9. Provision of enabling environment of businesses in Sokoto State
10. Effects of Using youths as political thugs.
11. Problems of God fatherism
12. Countering Violence extremism
13. Problems of high interest rates on loans.
14. Lack of accessible education with people living with disabilities
15. Lack of youths in political appointments
16. Inadequate Islamic and western education in Sokoto State
17. Improvement of Nomadic education
18. Employment of Unqualified teachers in Sokoto State.
19. Youths employment
20. Inadequate Girls education especially in rural areas in Sokoto State
21. Female rights discrimination

22. More Awareness of HIV and AIDs amongst youths.
23. Encouraging parents and Children on the importance of Education to prevent drop-out of students/ youths from schools.
24. Provision of Networking for opportunities.
25. Lack of youth empowerment in Sokoto State
26. Illiteracy problems most especially in Rural areas in Sokoto State
27. Non-involvement of youths in Budget planning.
28. Employment opportunities for reformed political thugs.
29. Inadequate rehabilitation centres for drug abusers
30. Provision of technology inhabitation centres and entrepreneurship programmes in Sokoto State.
31. Lack of youth enlightments programme
32. Lack of Youth empowerment in Agriculture
33. Poor Nutrition
34. Street begging and Child abuse.
35. Lack of Girl Child education
36. Eradication of “Area boys” in Sokoto State.
37. Youth empowerment
38. Girl child right to education/higher education in Sokoto State
39. Lack of guidance and counsellors in Sokoto
40. Lack of acceptance of cultural, religious diversities and rendering of Humanitarian love towards one another in Sokoto State-Rashin Kishin Al-Umma
41. Lack of recreation and entertainment centres for youths in Sokoto State.
42. Victimization of civil servants involved in political activities.
43. Lack of affordable housing for youths
44. Youths participation in Examination malpractices
45. Some Areas in Sokoto State serving as breeding sites for various vices e.g. drug abuse.

6. YOUTH AGENDA

All issues raised above were refined and harmonized to form the Youth Agenda.

SOKOTO STATE YOUTH AGENDA

Agenda 1:

Adequate Youth inclusion, participation and engagement in governance

Agenda 2:

Development of practicable measures including provision of enabling environment for businesses to reduce unemployment and poverty.

Agenda 3:

Provision of youth empowerment programs in Agriculture, ICT etc. with adequate budgetary allocation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Agenda 4:

Eradication of drug abuse and encouraging good health practices among youth

Agenda 5:

Provision of adequate facilities in educational institutions and encouraging student retention and completion

Agenda 6:

Provision of youth enlightenment programs to facilitate reorientation and understanding of civic duties and responsibilities

Agenda 7:

Provision of adequate security through Community Participation with the view of eradicating area boyism, kidnappings, banditry etc.

Agenda 8:

Reactivation, provision and proper utilization of youth centers/safe spaces across the State

Agenda 9:

Eradication of all forms of discrimination on the basis of gender or physical challenges

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Sokoto State government should constitute a committee that will work with youth to study and develop activities/project to address issues recommended by youth.
- b. All Stakeholders should come together and support us in designing the implementation plan as we will soon divide the youth stakeholders and organisations into working groups for each of the agenda
- c. All donor agencies, civil society organizations, Community based organization and youth clubs should come up with program that will address the concern of the youth in the Sokoto state.
- d. Sokoto State Government, Development partners and Youth organisations should consider this document as reference document for all youth related intervention in the state.
- e. This document should serve as reference document for planning and implementation of youth activities in the state.
- f. Sokoto State government should encourage all the 23 local government to consult this document in implementing all youth related and developmental project in their various LGAs

8. CONCLUSION

Sokoto Youths are capable of contributing to good governance. They know the challenges facing them and their inclusion in finding lasting solutions to those issues is very important and cannot be overemphasised. The Agenda as presented above is a practicable guide that if properly implemented can have significant positive impact not only to the youths but to all Sokoto State people.

PICTURES OF THE ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION





APPENDIX I

(List of Technical Committee Members)

- 1. Dr. Auwal Ahmed Musa**
- 2. Rabi’u Bello Gandi**
- 3. Zainab J. Idris**
- 4. Hon. Sanusui Sarki**
- 5. Comrade Umar Bawan Allah**
- 6. Nana Aishatu Ibrahim**
- 7. Aminu Bashir Jawad**
- 8. Abdulwahab Suleiman**
- 9. Abubakar Mailato YDO**

APPENDIX 2

(Names of Youths and Youth Stakeholders Who Participated in the Drafting of the Youth Agenda)

ATTENDANCE

S/N	NAME	ORGANIZATION
1.	Comrade Bala Bello	NYCN
2.	Hon. Sanusi Sarki	NYCN
3.	Rabi'u Bello Gandi	Save the child initiative
4.	Dr. Auwal Ahmed Musa	The Productive Youths Development Initiative
5.	Nana Aishatu Ibrahim	Development Worker
6.	Zainab J. Idris	Development Worker
7.	Abubakar Lauwali Kaddi	Gada East Student Association
8.	Abubakar Dangaskiya	I.R.I Sokoto
9.	Aminu Dan-Kaduna	Vision FM Sokoto
10.	Aminu Bashir Jawad	Student
11.	Amb. Abdullahi S. Abubakar	G'GOBA
12.	Huzaifa Sanusi Danmalam	International University of Languages
13.	Naziru Alhaji Sani	International University of Languages
14.	Murtala Sani	Golden Star Initiative
15.	Ibrahim Abubakar Riskuwa	G15 Cooperative Sokoto
16.	Abdulaziz Hamza Abdullahi	Youth Activist
17.	Jibrin Shehu	Youth Activist
18.	Musa usman	Insurance Company
19.	Bilyaminu Umar Namadina	Girl Child Education activist
20.	Bashar Bello Galadima	GTBank
21.	Mustapha Abubakar Achida	HAEM UDUTH Sokoto
22.	Jabiru Abdullahi	Tabir Medical Center
23.	Sanusi Garba Mabera	Alliance for General Youth
24.	Usman Gidado Attahiru	CPHRD
25.	Ibrahim Abubakar Yelwa	SPYFO Sokoto
26.	Musa Yahaya Muhammad	CPHRD

27.	Abdulaziz Hussaini	Media
28.	Alyassa'a Mijinyawa	Yabo Y.Y.F
29.	Abdulrahman Muhammad Yabo	Yabo Youth Forum
30.	Yusuf Garba Salisu	PYDI
31.	Abdulkarim Abdul	Human Right Activist (IOM)
32.	Shameen Bashir	FOSSOSA
33.	Faruku Yahaya	Zumunta Multipurpose
34.	Yusuf Sani	NPOWER Beneficiary Forum Sokoto
35.	Abubakar M. Jibo	We are One big Family
36.	Muhammad Modi Yabo	We are One Big Family
37.	Musa Umar Yabo	We are One Big Family
38.	Buhari Usman	PPFN Sokoto
39.	Sanusi M. Shehu	We are One Big Family
40.	Aliyu Yahaya Ibrahim	American Corner Coordinator
41.	Umar Bawan Allah	Stakeholder
42.	Nuhu Muhammad	Student
43.	Comrade Nafi'u Umar Muhammad	SUG President SASHTG
44.	Mukhtar L. Mustapha	SUG PRO SASHTG
45.	Aminu Umar Hamma'ali	KWALSA Kware
46.	Sarkin Fulani Abubakar	Caliphate Youth Initiative
47.	Maryam Yahaya	ABECOH
48.	Hauwa'u Muhammad	ABECOH
49.	Abubakar Mailato YDO	Youth Activist
50.	Amb Yakubu Abubakar	NOT TOO YOUNG TO RUN
51.	Comrade Bilyaminu Idris Sokoto	Stakeholder
52.	Nafisat Sulaiman Imam	PYDi
53.	Comrade Bala Bello (Kigan)	Stakeholder
54.	Idris Ibrahim Gada	Stakeholder
55.	Suleiman Sadiya	Stakeholder
56.	Buhari Maiakwai	Stakeholder
57.	Auwal Altine	HAFYDOF
58.	Comrade Lawal Mu'azu	BILYPID

59.	Suleiman AbdulWahab	Stakeholder
60.	Ibraheem Abubakar Yalwa	Stakeholder
61.	Usman Sani Umar	Stakeholder
62.	Yusuf Muhammad Ladan	Garkuwa FM
63.	Mustapha Hussaini	Stakeholder
64.	Mallam Sanusi Yakubu	Stakeholder
65.	Sa'adatu M Dalhatu	Stakeholder
66.	Nasiru Murtala Magori	YALI NETWORK SOKOTO
67.	Bashar Muhammad Assada	Stakeholder
68.	AbdulRasheed A Wadata	IOUL