



SI4
DEV

Strategy and Innovation
For Development Initiative

2018 Annual Report

Participant Story – Amanda Obidike

(Partners Training Program - SI4DEV)

The unique thing about SI4DEV is that, the organizers coordinated the program well. Each day had its own activities and the time table worked well for me and most of my colleagues. I also learned well from these arrangements and applied it to my itineraries.

The SI4DEV opened me up to another level of Professionalism, Concepts of Community Development and Pitches for community driven projects. Each assignment and engagement given in the program built my human and psychological capacity. It was a beautiful experience indeed and I was so fortunate to interact furthermore with my colleagues in YALI (Young African Leaders Initiative), who happen to be part of the program also.

SI4DEV has truly being amazing. I am utterly delighted to be an Official partner and Fellow of this initiative.

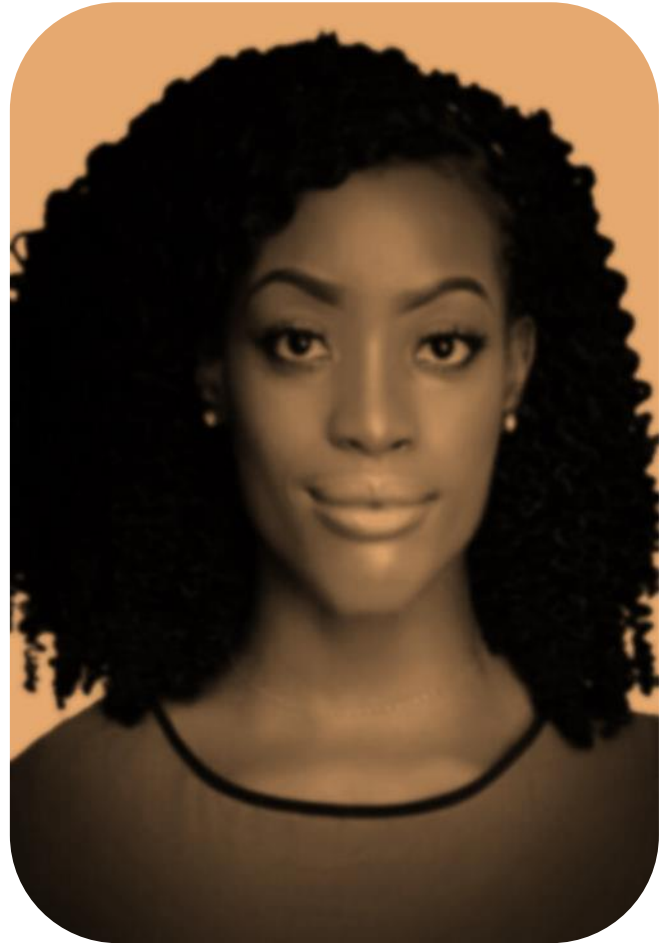
Before I took the opportunity to enrol into SI4DEV, I studied closely the profiles of the Coordinators and the Management. They are well experienced, great advocates in community impact development and Leaders in their spheres of life. So I looked forward to learning from their wealth of experience as well as from fellow colleagues enrolled in the program.

I have benefited greatly from my participation. Every day had its unique message in business, sales, community development; politics and governance...even religion. We were given the opportunity and platform to post articles or relevant materials on the blog. This was great, because it opened us to learning from each other's knowledge anyone was willing to share. I learnt the power of a great grant writing and pitching - this goes to show that we are not given only the theoretical instructions to carry on a project, but we are given the technical knowledge and acceptable way of securing our projects with funds.

I make it a habit of influencing and impacting at least one life a day. That alone is success for me. To share knowledge, help people, give them that business advice, connect them to that network or tools they need is one of the ways and means of a success-driven life. YALI RLC and SI4DEV is an initiative that encourages this. The results have been amazing just inculcating what I have learnt from these two programs I started at the same time.

I would like to wholesomely thank everyone in SI4DEV; from the program coordinator, to the technical department, the M and E, the organizers, the Board of Trustees, etc., for impacting lives.

I am truly blessed to have been selected as a Partner; it is my duty to keep the fire burning. ”



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Who We Are

SI4DEV is an NGO registered in Nigeria as Strategy and Innovation for Development Initiative with the Corporate Affairs Commission in November 2017 (IT-103154).

We empower community leaders working towards a 21st century Nigeria where every citizen has just and fair access to the resources and opportunities needed to achieve their full potential.

SI4DEV is an affiliate organization of The Spring Development Initiative in the United States.

SI4DEV believes that grassroots civic and community leadership is the bedrock for positive social change. We bring together individuals and groups and equip them with practical skills towards achieving strong governance, improved health, quality education and economic development for their communities.

Many community volunteers are very passionate and innovative in their efforts to lift their communities out of poverty, but there is an observed gap in their performance. What some lack is project planning, execution and reporting skills which limits their impact in trying to create sustainable development and long-term social change.

Communities in Nigeria are under-served and neglected mostly due to bad leaders, however, inadequate access to knowledge and resources also negatively affect the reach of potential and aspiring community leaders.

SI4DEV offers the capacity building, collaborative forums, funding support and research products that community leaders need to implement strong governance systems and to improve the education, economic and health attainment of their communities.

Our programs focus on training and supporting community leaders to develop, implement and scale innovative products, services, and action plans for key policies and target populations.

Our pathway to equity is through supporting strong governance systems; to achieve health, education, and economic development of local communities. We therefore empower our partners by providing the tools, resources and inspiration they need while taking action to change their communities for the better.

We equip them with training and experiential skills in core areas like needs assessment, action planning, project management, evaluation, and sustainability.

VISION

A just and fair society with more community participation in governance, accountable leadership, sustainable businesses and access to high-quality healthcare and education for all.

MISSION

Train and upskill community volunteers on how to successfully implement community driven projects, how to effectively access resources to be able to deliver a better quality of life for local communities and how to contribute to sustainable national growth and development.



Letter from the Founders



Dear Friends,

We want to thank you for your passionate engagement and generous support to our cause! From our very first appeal to join our network, you have always been there to stand with us.

When we drafted our plans to upskill and reskill potential community builders, we had no idea how much response and engagement we would get - this was especially because volunteering at the community level calls for a special kind of person to step forward, someone who is able to support their development work with their own time and money. But having seen what has happened since we started, we are glad to say that this first year of our journey to empower community builders has ultimately been rewarding and impactful, both to the participants and partners who have responded to the call, and the communities that these men and women have made a difference in.

We were able help to train hundreds in leadership, planning and communication skills this year. Using resource materials developed through the efforts of this same group of trainees not only helped them grasp the teachings more efficiently; the feedback they have provided has also helped us refine the training material so that it will be even more useful to other community builders who we work with in the future.

We did not only provide training materials, though. We also worked to connect these community builders with mentors who would further guide them in developing plans that could be acted on to change their communities in a sustainable and trackable way.

Our efforts resulted in a total of 102 community builders empowered with the skills they need, they were also inspired to go out into their communities to make a positive impact through personal or sponsored micro-projects. You will read some of their stories in this report and get a glimpse of some of the fully- or partly funded causes and projects they are working on.

We cannot finish this address without acknowledging the efforts of the trustees, without who a lot of this would not have been accomplished. We also want to acknowledge the many donors who have taken a leap of faith and financially supported our non-profit in 2018. Our achievements this first year give us the confidence that in the coming years, we can continue to build up leaders who seek to make a positive difference where they live.

Thank you all once again!

Nkem and Akin Akinsoto

Highlights of 2018

Global Youth Service Day (April 2018)

From April 20 – 22, 2018, young people around the world marked the 30th anniversary of Global Youth Service Day (GYSD). Children, young adults and their champions in more than 100 countries led and participated in volunteer projects and events promoting the diverse and wonderful charitable activities by youth in their communities.

SI4DEV, an NGO registered last November in Nigeria, leveraged GYSD to promote our impact areas, recruit new volunteers and provide an opportunity for 2018 partners to practice their learning. SI4DEV supported youth leaders to demonstrate hand washing skills and lead other life-transforming talks, and SI4DEV youth leaders provided food and donations to less privileged children in orphanages and rehabilitation centers. Young adults campaigned online, in the streets, and in churches, promoting youth voter registration and elections participation.

Details and pictures of GYSD activities by SI4DEV can be found on our website www.si4dev.org and highlights include:

1. Over 1000 school children in Yenagoa, Bayelsa state, participated in a youth-led hand washing campaign to encourage cleanliness.
2. In Ipe-Akoko, Ondo State, 30 youths in the community led in clearing the grass and removing trash from an abandoned gully created by an uncompleted culvert in the village.

2000 Children and 100 Youth Leaders Celebrate Global Youth Service Day.



GYSD Continued

3. Youths in Ibadan, Oyo state impacted 70 beneficiaries through donations to a disabled kids' home and an orphanage and promote goal planning, election and civic engagement at a skills acquisition center. They also assisted in maintaining a green and clean environment.

4. Youth volunteers in Uyo, Akwa Ibom state, reached 54 street children with food, and a hand of friendship through listening sessions and talking about their dreams and future plans and goals.

5. 110 Almajirai children in Nassarawa LGA, Kano state received food, handwashing and health outreach. There is also ongoing discussion with the Islamic school leaders to assist and partner with them in integrating the children into the conventional education curriculum.

6. The Kaduna team donated exercise books, pencils, text books, novels and hygiene products to 30 children in an orphanage, with workshops on hand washing, leadership, and career choices.

7. In Ika LGA Akwa Ibom state, we distributed about 50 Long lasting insecticide treated nets to pregnant women and new mothers and fathers. This was accompanied with malaria prevention intervention health talks to eliminate the incidence of malaria in this population.

8. Over 100 children across orphanages in Port Harcourt, Lagos and Abuja received dry food stuff and toiletries, and cleaning supplies.

9. 100 young adults at the Ekiti State University, Ado-ekiti, benefited from a youth-led awareness campaign for active participation of youth in elections - online campaign hashtag (#IWillVote).

10. In Makurdi, Benue state, over 450 children received cooked eggs for protein, clothes and water, as well as pencils. Handwashing and election awareness campaigns also took place in the children and youth classes respectively in nearby churches.



2018 Partners Training Program Outcomes

1. Two participants received SI4DEV scholarships and graduated from a Nonprofit Accelerator program after 6 weeks of courses and practicum.
2. 20 participants received SI4DEV recommendations for applications to further career development (scholarships and international conferences).
3. Participants successfully held a World Health Day 2018 social media campaign, amplifying 30 partner voices using hashtags #healthforall #UniversalHealthCoverage
4. For Malaria day 2018, a partner donated 30 insecticide treated mosquito nets and de-wormed 98 children in Gombe. Partners in Akwa Ibom also distributed 50 bednets to pregnant women and new mothers.
5. SI4DEV partners reached over 2000 beneficiaries for Global Youth Service Day with hand washing skills and personal development activities, food and other donations. We campaigned for youth voter registration.
6. The Partner monthly magazine showcases grassroots projects, community-specific action plans, and presentations at various occasions by partners as well as articles to make their voices heard at all levels.
7. Partners completed 8 Ambassadors Small Grants proposals submitted to the United States Embassy to support small community projects for key populations.
8. 10 physical surveys, stakeholder engagement and community needs assessment using diverse tools to collate responses on current gaps and proposed solutions.
9. Benue state students used art to advocate for peace in the conflict-ridden state through the Bezos Foundation Facing Difference Challenge.
10. 12 training sessions, plus grant writing and mentoring modules.
11. 3 Policy papers, an open letter to the governor of Oyo state, and a national workshop summit.
12. Graduated 30 Partners, 50 Fellows, 22 Ambassadors and 116 volunteers in 32 locations across over 25 states in Nigeria.



Background to the Uyo Farm Produce Processing Facility – Grace Jimbo



I volunteered as a partner of SI4DEV in February, 2018. Just a month after, my contract job with an NGO ended and it was a major blow to me. At first, I was discouraged as I wanted to integrate my work with SI4DEV activities to drive a positive change. However, my strong-willed spirit kept me motivated to look inward and identify a local problem that needs solution.

I discovered a pressing lack in the community where I reside; farmers were trekking long distances to process their crops, elderly women sat for hours manually wrestling palm fruits from the bunch and using stones to break the kernels. Children missed school to help out or raise their fees. I asked myself, “How do I contribute in alleviating the poor income situation of this community?”

The announcement of the American Embassy Ambassador's Small Grant to support local community project was the first opportunity. Working with the Uyo team and the SI4DEV Program Manager, we wrote a proposal for crop processing machines. Sadly, the proposal was not approved by ASG even though the village head had already donated land to the facility.

However, on 26th May, 2018, SI4DEV announced that the board members have earmarked funding for the Uyo Crop Processing Machine towards the Global Giving Accelerator. Wow! A Miracle...finally the villagers were going to see a change in their community!

The project received overwhelming support from SI4DEV partners and SI4DEV supporters. Over 70 individual donors contributed to exceed the target and SI4DEV graduated from the Accelerator with a Bonus and secured a permanent place as a partner of GlobalGiving. Indeed where there is a will, there is surely a way.

I am grateful to SI4DEV for the opportunity of volunteering as a partner and connection with SI4DEV. This is more than an organization; this is a springboard for success.



Affiliate Relationship with The Spring Development Initiative

SI4DEV is an affiliate of The Spring Development Initiative and the US Charity supports our work through local partners and their projects in Nigeria. From providing scholarships and books to school children, grants and loans to leaders to execute and expand their business ideas, information and knowledge for voter engagement, and drug abuse awareness to young people, our impact has been felt in diverse communities. SI4DEV leverages TSDI mentors to transform our volunteers and help them design and execute sustainable pilots.

With thorough planning, monitoring and evaluation, a significant percentage of these community projects will possibly grow into entities and institutions beyond this grant. Such institutions will have the added benefit of being run using the best practices learned by the volunteers through our program, such as using innovative and evidence-based strategies for decision making. Below are some opportunities arising from this collaboration.

SI4DEV/TSDI Fundraising - Partners, Causes and Projects

As part of SI4DEV's goals, SI4DEV participants have benefited from opportunities to get donations through Global Giving for several projects.

1. A hand-washing and hygiene awareness campaign in Kaduna state titled the "**HAPPY LEARNERS PROJECT**" will use Visual aids, Poems and Rhymes to teach and create handwashing awareness in 2000 children (5 to 12 years) in 25 schools and 5 local government areas in Kaduna State. A 6-month sustainability plan will give these children and their teachers the time to embed these new habits and secure a healthy future where they become change makers in the community.
2. An awareness and access to eye care intervention to conduct educative seminars and eye examinations for about 1000 school children, and train teachers to use visual acuity charts in 10 schools in Warri, Delta state, for 6 months. In Nigeria, seeking vision care for children is not the norm because of limited knowledge about prevention and treatment for vision problems.
3. A project to create economic opportunities for 120 impoverished villagers whereby each would be trained on confectionery skill acquisition and how to design the needed plan to start up a business from the acquired skill.

More projects can be found on our GlobalGiving Page at

<https://www.globalgiving.org/donate/51193/>

SI4DEV Training Program 2018: Learning for Community-Led Development

SI4DEV harnesses two related development frameworks:

community-led development and community-driven development.

Community-led development (CLD) involves a community working together on a shared vision to govern and learn from local action to achieve social change objectives. This development framework promotes the use of internal evidence and external data.



It boosts the skills of community leaders in planning, designing, and delivering projects, and involves as much of the community as possible to choose and implement projects.

Community-driven development (CDD) is a grassroots approach to development in which the locus of power is shifted to community groups to make decisions around how development resources are allocated. Below are some of the principles we learned that helped in achieving our objectives:

1. Increasing local leadership

Community-led development has local people in the driving seat. Our SI4DEV Partners Training Program was designed with a sustainable pathway that trains local people to lead projects with the goal of positive social change. SI4DEV made itself accountable to the community-set vision and priorities. The plan was for community leaders to rally other volunteer community members and stakeholders in order to identify local needs and assets, set goals, and devise solutions and strategies for projects.

We wanted the trainees in this program to be owners of their ideas and plans and hold lead roles in projects design and implementation. Our first CDD project—a cassava and palm-fruit processing facility—has a Sustainability Team made up of representatives from the six villages in the local government area in rural Uyo that will use, work, and benefit from the project.

2. Addressing the root causes of issues

This will be a tougher nut to crack. CLD is focused on addressing the root causes of problems rather than meeting the immediate needs of the community. SI4DEV wanted to get to the bottom of the problem identified rather than swipe at the symptoms and so we promote the use of learning and needs assessments (like surveys, focus groups, stakeholder consultations) during project design, or before considering changes or adaptations. While these present a steeper learning curve for participants, the benefits are worth it. Working in this way, development organizations can champion adaptable, evidence-based decision making based on feedback from the community. SI4DEV benefited immensely from activating and mobilizing our participants to collaborate and share knowledge with the community members to achieve systemic and sustainable social change.

Community-Led Development Principles Contd.

3. Emphasizing people instead of programs

CLD focuses on empowering people instead of expanding programs. Allow me to be completely honest here: When it comes to fundraising, it may be slightly more difficult to convey your goals and capture the hearts of your audience. It appears more impactful to some boards and donors to say how many staff you added or how many supplies, cash, or food you donated. However, more donors are beginning to get it. SI4DEV provides training services, fundraising and administrative support to those trying to achieve similar goals.

4. Harnessing local funds and in-kind assets for implementation

CLD calls for development aid or public resources to be handed to the community. But going forward I believe communities are actually willing to look inwards. SI4DEV projects are sponsored through crowdfunding by the community and local volunteers with fundraising support—sometimes matching funds from SI4DEV and international affiliates. We prefer and encourage income-generating projects—for enhanced livelihoods, community resilience and sustainability. In-kind assets include volunteers as more and more grassroots youth are learning and imbibing the culture of social volunteering, and donation of land or labor for construction.

5. Listening to local voices and feedback

Working with a skeleton curriculum developed by our affiliate in the United States this first year, SI4DEV was able to train hundreds of people in leadership, planning, and communication using resource materials developed through the efforts of this same group of trainees. Doing this not only helped them grasp the teachings more efficiently, the feedback they have provided has also helped us refine the training material so that it will be even more useful to other community builders who we work with in the future. Our efforts resulted in a total of 103 community builders being empowered with the skills that they need to go out into their communities to make a positive impact.

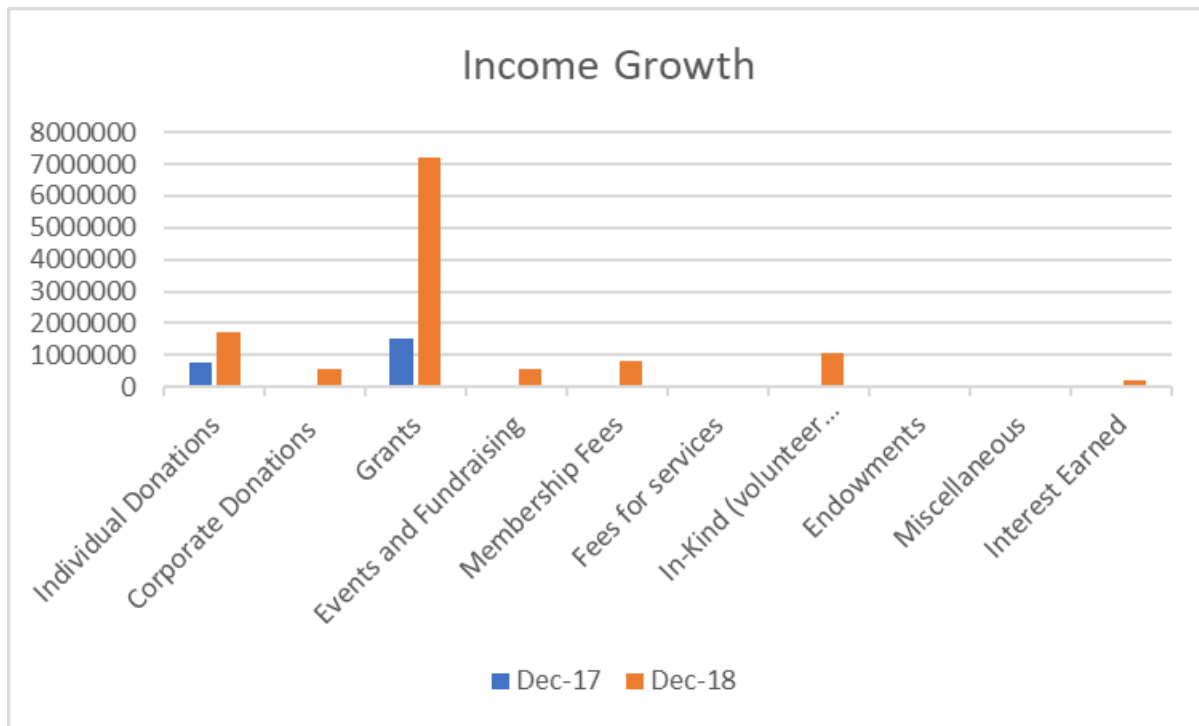
Community-led development is the way to go! Ethically, it is one guaranteed way to bring marginalized and underserved people to the head of the development table. SI4DEV is going to continue to champion and learn more of these five CLD features as they gain traction in development work throughout 2019 and beyond.



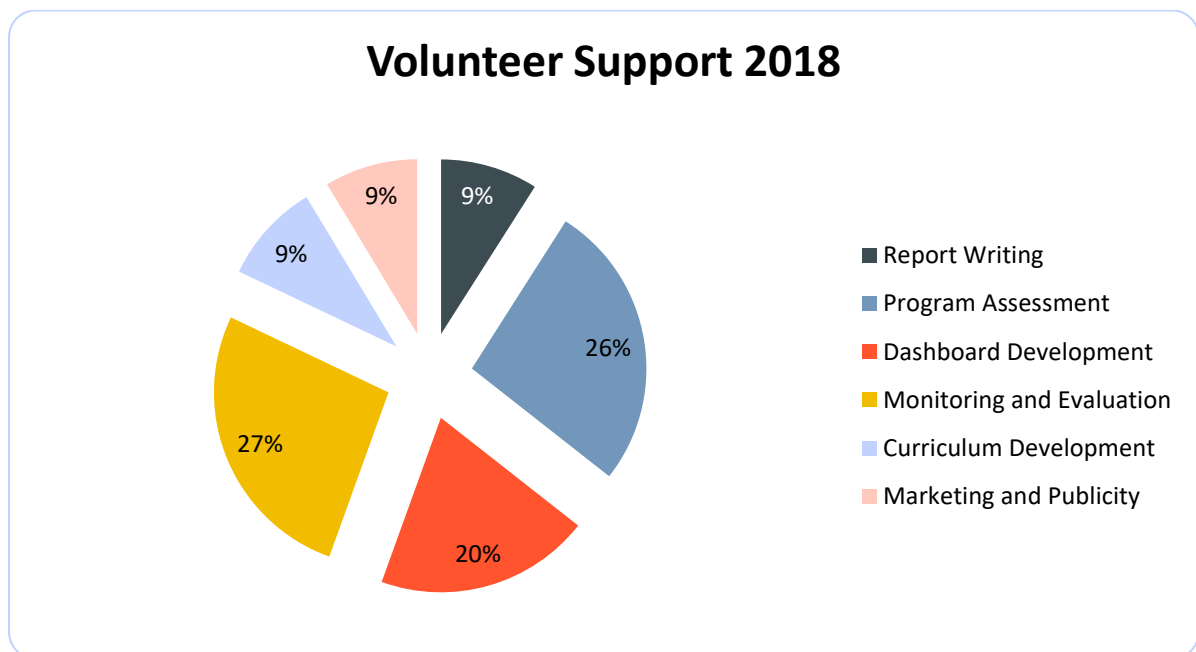
Financial Overview (Naira)

Income	2017	2018	TOTAL
Previous Year Balance	0	92,000	
Individual Donations	750,000	1,720,000	2,470,000
Corporate Donations	0	540,000	540,000
Grants	1,500,000	7,200,000	8,700,000
Events and Fundraising	0	540,000	540,000
Membership Fees	0	800,000	800,000
Fees for services	0	0	0
In-Kind (volunteer hours, etc.)	72,000	1,080,000	1,152,000
Endowments	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	0
Interest Earned	0	200,000	200,000
Total Income	2,322,000	12,172,000	14,402,000
Expenses	2017	2018	TOTAL
Programmatic Activities	410,000	1,920,000	2,330,000
<i>GYSD National Activity</i>	0	150,000	150,000
<i>Facing Difference Challenge</i>	0	5,000	5,000
<i>Humanitarian Donations</i>	120,000	50,000	170,000
<i>Borehole Provisions</i>	120,000	720,000	840,000
<i>Scholarships</i>	0	235,000	235,000
<i>Igbo Translation of Constitution</i>	120,000	110,000	230,000
<i>IDP Camp Outreach</i>	50,000	20,000	70,000
<i>Stakeholder consultations</i>	0	54,000	54,000
<i>Local community needs assessment</i>	0	36,000	36,000

<i>SI4DEV Partner Rewards</i>	0	540,000	540,000
Partner Proposals Funding	200,000	5,716,000	5,916,000
<i>Partner Proposal - Uyo Crop Processor</i>	0	3,205,000	3,205,000
<i>Partner Proposal - Happy Learners Kaduna</i>	0	300,000	300,000
<i>Partner Proposal - Warri Vision Screening</i>	0	211,000	211,000
<i>Other Partner Proposals</i>	200,000	2,000,000	2,200,000
Overhead	200,000	2,024,000	2,224,000
<i>Volunteer training</i>	36,000	1,240,000	1,276,000
<i>Staff salaries and wages</i>	0	0	0
<i>Staff fringe benefits</i>	0	0	0
<i>Occupancy and utilities</i>	36,000	54,000	90,000
<i>Equipment</i>	0	50,000	50,000
<i>Printing and copying</i>	18,000	50,000	68,000
<i>Monitoring and Evaluation</i>	0	250,000	250,000
<i>Contract services</i>	0	0	0
<i>Supplies and materials</i>	0	180,000	180,000
<i>Company Registration</i>	80,000	0	80,000
<i>Telecommunications</i>	30,000	150,000	180,000
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	0	50,000	50,000
Other	1,420,000	1,890,000	3,310,000
Travel and meetings	0	50,000	50,000
Investments	1,400,000	540,000	1,940,000
National workshop summit	0	1,200,000	1,200,000
Report writing	20,000	100,000	120,000
Total Expenses	2,230,000	11,550,000	13,780,000



Over the past year, SI4DEV has seen a significant increase in our income growth, both through *Corporate and Individual Donations*, and especially grants as presented in the chart above. Some resource increase also came from Events, Membership dues and *In-Kind*, such as volunteer hours. The pie chart (below) represents the total distribution of the Volunteer Support in 2018, with the highest contributions in *Program Dashboard development, Monitoring and Evaluation and Program Assessment*.



Meet our Team



AKIN AKINSOTO

Currently at Microsoft USA, Akin Akinsoto has had an expansive career in software engineering both in the UK and the US; and his experience in the IT industry has led him to appreciate the value of information in guiding choices leading to better developmental outcomes. Akin was in the technical team which founded CR Services, Nigeria's Pioneer Credit Bureau Operator, and a strategic partner of CreditRegistry Corporation USA.

He has a Master's degree in Computer Science, which he obtained from University College, London, as well as a Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Architecture, obtained from Obafemi Awolowo University. His passion has led him to develop Naija Stories and Filtered Thoughts, by offering feedback and encouragement to aspiring writers and thinkers in Nigeria.



NKEM AKINSOTO

Nkem Akinsoto co-founded The Spring Development Initiative with Akin Akinsoto. Nkem brings over 15 years of experience in development support, networking, health promotion and project management to the SI4DEV team. Also known as [Myne Whitman](#), Nkem is a bestselling author and has been recognized as one of 100 Most Influential Nigerian Writers under 40 by the Nigerian Writers Awards for the year 2016 and 2017.

She received a Master's degree in Public Health Research from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland and currently works as a Program manager with UW Medicine, one of the premier Academic Medical Centers in the United States.



IFEOMA MALO

Ify Malo has indepth understanding of how governments work, including partnering with government agencies to support market growth. She held Senior Policy Adviser positions at the Ministry of Power in Nigeria, where she led several initiatives for the previous administration and engaged the national media and donor groups in policy promotion.

Ify's focus area lies with Global Policy; Project Design and Strategy and Stakeholder partnership initiatives. Ify is a qualified attorney with graduate advanced degrees in Law, Business and Public Policy. She is a African Leadership Initiative PIA Fellow (2012); A Desmond Tutu Fellow (2013); a Crans Montana New Leaders for Tomorrow Fellow (2014); A Dwight Eisenhower Fellow (2015); Global Leadership Academy Fellow (2017).

was also responsible for building, cultivating and driving public private partnerships for project delivery and implementation in the power sector. She held similar senior advisory portfolios with the Chairman/CEO of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC).

Our Supporters

Members will become integral constituents of our organization and contribute suggestions to the leaders of the organization. Paid-up Members will receive branded referrals and introduction letters and a member price for events, including for annual conferences, summits, retreats, etc.

Members will work with other volunteers to develop or expand new and existing projects. Through this fee-based program, SI4DEV builds a pool of mentors and funding for our international partners. Members, including SI4DEV trustees, pay membership fees and are entitled to attend the annual general meeting and vote or contest for executive officers (qualifying levels determined by board).

Below are membership levels/dues:

a. Waddi level - N5,000,000 each year

b. Idanre level - N2,000,000 each year.

c. Obudu level - N1,000,000 each year.

d. Olumo level - N500,000 each year.

e. Zuma level - N250,000 each year.

f. Aso level - N100,000 each year.

g. Shere level - N50,000 each year

h. Gongola level - N20,000 each year

i. Plateau level - N10,000 each year

Names of SI4DEV Donors 2018

Individual Donors

1. Rorat Jojo
2. Rhonda Sinkfield
3. Olakunle Akinsoto
4. Jameelah Ayedun
5. Nkeiru Aboaja
6. Julius Adewopo
7. Elizabeth Serlemitsos
8. Sola Soyombo
9. Mercy Uduma
10. Ejogha Brown
11. Grace Jimbo
12. Asukwo Etuk
13. Timothy Meller
14. Erica Strait
15. Toyosi Adedokun
16. Anietie Umoren
17. Dele & Dapo Grillo
18. Joey Menard
19. Arome David
20. Veronica Agana

21. Sulyman Luqman
22. Paul, Ajaero
23. Amanda Obidike
24. Samuel Alhaji Jibion
25. Akin Akinsoto
26. Nwamaka Osu
27. Samuel Ifeanyi
28. Nkemakonam Akinsoto
29. Ada Egwuenu
30. Fumnanya Ejiofor
31. Francis Eghehan
32. Winifred Choji
33. Amos Oladunni
34. Funmi Jide Akinsoto
35. Bem Timothy
36. Hezekiah Ibrahim
37. Robert Felicia David
38. Ayo Victoria Ifeoluwa
39. John Eperetun
40. Rev. Ofonime Jimbo
41. Deacon Akebong Johnson
42. Utibe Emah
43. Helen Ansa
44. Aniekan Ukpabio
45. Grace Jimbo

46. Ako Oku
47. Tade Fatinikun
48. Emmanuella Ikomon
49. Sadiyu Salisu
50. Tomisin Adefare
51. Taiwo Ayedun
52. Aiyekusehin Monny
53. Idah Idoko
54. Ruke Ejegreh
55. Joy Iseki
56. Babatunde Ibikunle
57. Augustine Otuji
58. Nina Mbah
59. Yosi Danjuma
60. Samuel, Elias
61. Patricia Okolo
62. Chuks Clement
63. Musa Abubakar
64. Ukaigweh Roberts
65. Sam Yumar
66. Taoheed Alimi
67. Nonye Soyombo
68. Folashade Shomade
69. Valentine Wanga
70. Adimabua Okotcha

Meet Some of Our Training Program Participants



"I took up the opportunity to volunteer for SI4DEV so that I will help other by making a difference and giving back to their community, also make new friends, impact more communities, learn more skills and see how I can advance my career from the SI4DEV perspective. In SI4DEV, the inspirational motto is "your capacity is your limitation" as the opportunities here are endless.

Through my partnership with SI4DEV I was offered a job as a program manager in an NGO by a CEO Officer of a HR firm in Lagos."

Bem Timothy

"After active participation in the group work, I developed interest in model designs for social solutions." Ako Eyo Oku

"Strategy and Innovation for Development Initiative provided a wonderful platform for me to learn and discover more of my potentials. The program has been a wonderful experience with very rich modules which were facilitated by experienced tutors who are experts in their endeavors and various opportunities to serve the community. I learnt how to recruit volunteers and manage them. Through the outreaches, my public speaking skills were enhanced."

Emmanuella Ikomon



"In June 2018 I took part in the 6 days online grant writing training facilitated by Joy Iseki a seasoned grant writer. At the end of the training I gained invaluable knowledge and insights on Grant writing aimed at securing funds from international organization for the execution of community development projects and social works. This experience further sharpened my writing skills, which I sought to apply while developing my pilot intervention proposal. Early in August 2018, I developed a pilot intervention proposal for my community on the enrolment of 100 girls who are currently out of school; this was done due to my passion for girl child education."

John Temitope Eperetun



"I came to learn that it is not the big things done that matters but the little things with good outcome also counts in life." Austin Otuji



"My biggest success and learning takeaway from SI4DEV is networking with other partners of different backgrounds in making a one-voice decision, exploring different places in Kaduna, where I never thought of going before, and the joy and happiness I derived whenever I see the people we have touched positively smiling. "

Musa Abubakar

My Experience at the SI4DEV National Summit – Amos Oladunni

It has been a remarkable experience at the first summit of the Strategy and Innovation for Development Initiative themed “**Achieving Community-Led development through community-Driven development projects**”.

My expectations before the program were to learn and connect with influencers and to further develop skills and knowledge required for the appraisal of community-led development project. These expectations have so far been consistent with reality. Indeed there is no limit to what you can achieve when you dream big and commit yourself to hard work. I am glad I finally had the privilege to meet with the program manager and several other great personalities.

The eye-opening breakout sessions focused on Sustainable development goals, project development and implementation, governance and accountability, grant proposal writing and crowdfunding. I had the opportunity to learn from **Samirah Bello** during the breakout session online and offline strategies to engage the community for resourcing in which I gained a new view on crowdfunding strategies. The panel session with Approaches to keeping budget small and relevant with **Okechukwu Ofili** will never be forgotten.

I have been exposed to truly innovative and cutting edge strategies required for the development and appraisal of community led development projects.

I could say it is amazing how far SI4DEV have gone and achieved in just a year. The organization is contributing significantly to moving motions and improving policies in areas of education equity, good governance, and entrepreneurship, and quality health care.

I am indeed privileged to be a full partner.



From the Managing Trustee - Outlook for the future

The past year has been incredibly challenging and rewarding and we have been fortunate to develop a network of supporters and volunteers who all have contributed to our success. With that in mind, we are excited to look into the future and plan another year of training and mentorship programs, new partnerships and exciting community projects.

At SI4DEV we strongly believe in the power of collaboration and partnership towards the sustainable development goals. We would love to share resources and experiences with anyone passionate about grassroots leadership development and sustainable economic growth.

We will continue to review and refine our curriculum and instructional framework in order to ensure it caters to the different capacity levels and learning styles of participants. We want to ensure participants gain experience and skills in core areas like team work, needs assessment, action planning, project management, evaluation, and sustainability.

A key part of this process is sponsoring micro-projects to prepare beneficiaries to implement and scale innovative products and services. Supported pilots in this past year included advocacy campaigns, vocational skills training, voter education, hand-washing promotions, setting up school-based clubs, and capacity building for civil society groups.

In addition to that, mobilizing and up-skilling volunteers as community builders remains an important priority to us. We provided mentors and resources to promote critical thinking, problem solving, ethics, professionalism and other soft skills necessary for the work place and for community development projects. We encouraged top-performing trainees through grants in their pursuit of personal leadership development.

In the upcoming years we plan to increase our capacity for scholarships and other funding to ensure that our program participants in developing communities gain access to resources and learning experiences necessary for their success. With further support from our partners and donors we plan to maintain and grow these programs further.

Finally, we are continuously expanding our search for volunteers and members. Talented individuals willing to dedicate their time and skills as mentors, or towards specific projects like producing case studies or analysing our data are highly welcome. We are also seeking financial contributions to boost our capacity and bring in the necessary resources to grow and expand the mission.

On behalf of everyone at SI4DEV we would like to thank you for the amazing year and we look forward to new opportunities!

Happy Holidays and see you in 2019!

Nkem Akinsoto

