



5-YEAR IMPACT REPORT



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About Aspire Coronation Trust Foundation



Aspire Coronation Trust (ACT) Foundation is a grant-making organization established in 2016 that has successfully supported local, national, and regional non-profit organizations working to address challenges and related vulnerabilities across Africa.

ACT Foundation has effectively supported sustainable high-impact initiatives that provide innovative solutions to social, economic and environmental challenges in Africa.

OUR VISION

ACT Foundation aims to leverage relationships to create effective social impact solutions across Africa.



OUR MISSION

To build sustainable societies by engaging initiatives that unleash potential and empower beneficiaries.



OUR MANDATE

At ACT Foundation, we seek to promote broad-based participation and partnerships with other institutions or donor organizations aimed at building sustainable communities and providing innovative solutions to social, economic and environmental challenges.

ACT Foundation is guided by the guiding principles of communal support that is practised for generations in Africa.



OUR WORK

Grantmaking

Capacity Building

Partnerships

Research

Thought Leadership





Letter from our CEO

Dear Partners and Friends,

It is with great joy and pride that I present a report on ACT Foundation's five years of impact. It has been an incredible journey, and we are thrilled to have made a significant impact in the lives of so many people across Africa within this time.

Since our inception, our mission has been to support organizations that address critical challenges in the areas of health, entrepreneurship, environment, and leadership. We are proud to have funded many such organizations, and we have seen the difference our support has made in their ability to create positive change in their communities.

Through our grant making efforts, we have contributed to the growth of several health-related programs that provide essential services to vulnerable people across the continent. We have also supported entrepreneurs who are driving economic growth in their communities, and we have helped to conserve the environment by funding programs that promote sustainable practices. Additionally, we have supported programs that facilitate the development of leadership skills, thereby creating a pipeline of young, dynamic leaders across the continent.

As we celebrate our 5th anniversary, we would like to thank all our partners and stakeholders who have made this journey possible. We appreciate the dedication and commitment of our grantees, the selflessness of the volunteers who work tirelessly to make a difference, and the generosity of our funders who continue to support our mission.

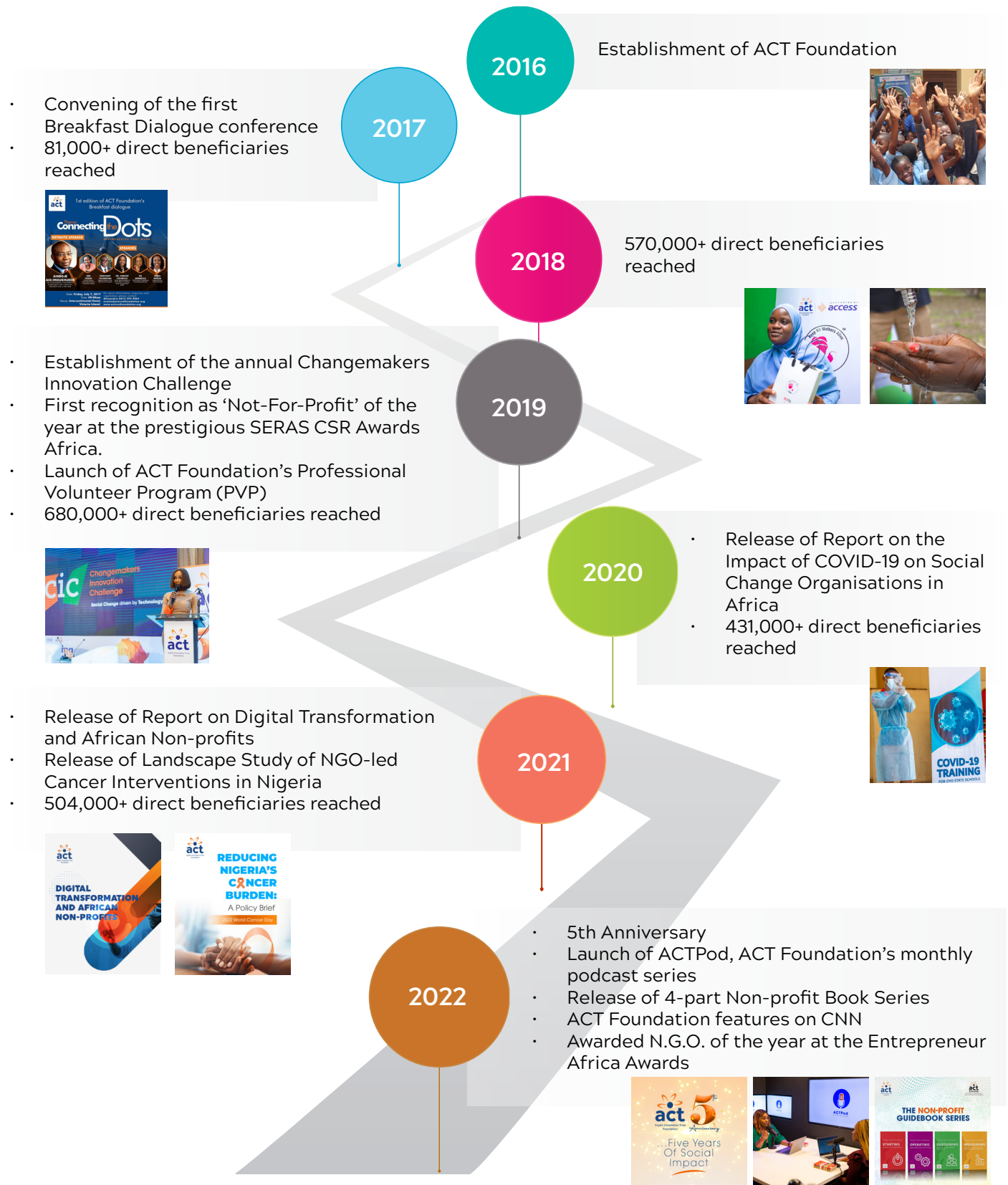
We look forward to the next five years and beyond, and we remain committed to supporting organizations driving sustainable change in Africa. Together, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of millions of people across the continent.

Sincerely,

Osayi Alile

CEO, Aspire Coronation Trust (ACT) Foundation

Milestones

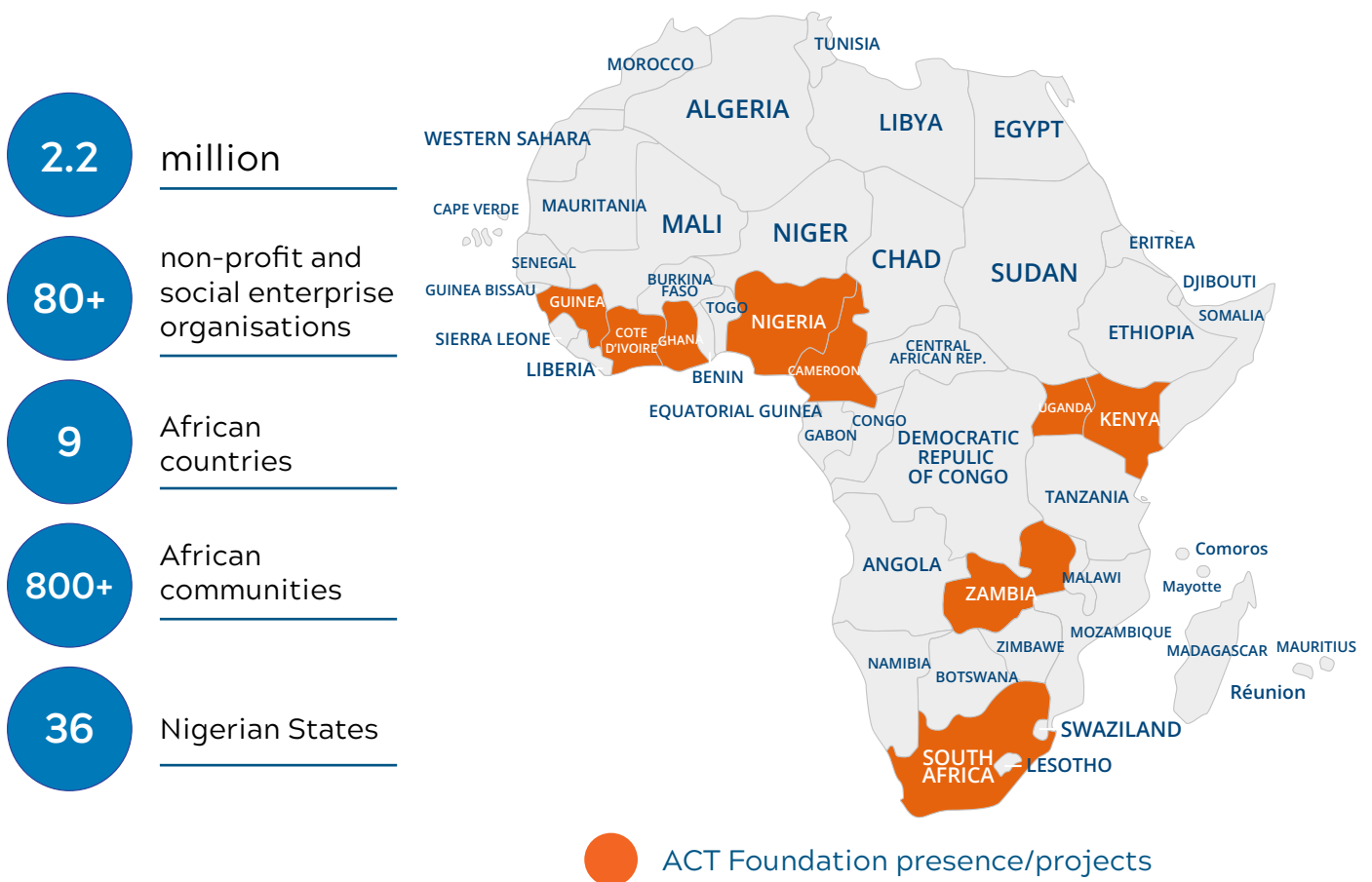


Our Reach

From Nigeria to Africa

In the last five years, ACT Foundation's grantees have successfully implemented various projects throughout the entirety of Nigeria, encompassing all 36 states, including the Federal Capital Territory. This noteworthy expansion is reflected in our progression from funding projects in only 8 states in 2017 to 28 states by the year 2022. In addition, ACT Foundation's grantees have facilitated the execution of 3 regional projects that spanned multiple countries in West Africa, as well as 6 national projects whose impact has been felt across Nigeria. As a result of these achievements, our reach has extended beyond the borders of Nigeria, having made a significant impact in a total of 9 project implementing African countries, namely Ghana, Kenya, Guinea, Zambia, Cameroon, Cote D'Ivoire, Uganda and South Africa.

By the numbers



Our interventions ensure that we provide innovative, long-lasting positive impacts on the lives of underserved people and communities across Africa. We undertake our duty to humanity with passion and dexterity while assuring improvement in the quality of life. ACT Foundation grant-making program has impacted greatly the lives of over 2,000,000.00 people across the continent.

Our Focus Areas:

Grant making by Africans for Africans

Over the past five years, ACT Foundation has supported social impact initiatives that address African challenges within the four focus areas of Health, Entrepreneurship, Environment and Leadership.

In Africa, many health challenges, such as Malaria, Cancer and high maternal mortality rates, continue to be major impediments to sustainable development. There is also a great need to create entrepreneurial and employment opportunities that promote economic growth and reduce poverty. Furthermore, environmental degradation, including deforestation, climate change, and pollution, poses significant threats to the livelihoods and well-being of African communities. Finally, lapses in effective leadership affect the promotion of good governance, accountability and transparency as well as the successful implementation of development within Africa. By investing in these areas, ACT Foundation has worked to promote sustainable development, reduce poverty and improve the well-being and livelihoods of African communities.

ACT Foundation has worked with over 80 different grantee organisations with an average of 25 organisations per year except for during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 when only 19 grantees with operational capacity during the pandemic were funded. Within the 4 focus areas, ACT Foundation has executed almost 150 projects with a majority of the projects being in health, followed by entrepreneurship, environment and then leadership.

 HEALTH	 ENTREPRENEURSHIP	 ENVIRONMENT	 LEADERSHIP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55 interventions • 224,000+ beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 49 projects • 30,090+ beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 initiatives • 55,400+ beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 programs • 1.9 million + beneficiaries
SUB-FOCUS AREAS:	SUB-FOCUS AREAS:	SUB-FOCUS AREAS:	SUB-FOCUS AREAS:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancer • Malaria • Maternal & Child Health • Gender-based violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocational Education & Skills Acquisition • Financial Literacy & Inclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Management • Water and Sanitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership Development • Thought Leadership

Health

In our focus area of Health, ACT Foundation seeks to facilitate better health care services for vulnerable and marginalized groups in society and has supported initiatives that focused on but were not limited to Malaria, Cancer (Breast, Cervical and Prostate) and Maternal & Child Health and led to improved health outcomes.

Our Impact

CANCER



1.1M+ Women and men were educated and sensitized on prostate, breast and cervical cancers



728 people provided post-cancer care support and tools for survivorship



30,300+ screened for Prostate, Breast and Cervical Cancer



460+ oncology nurses, pharmacists and professionals equipped with greater capacity to provided cancer care

MALARIA



101,470+ sensitized on the effect, prevention and treatment of Malaria



3370 provided diagnostic services and materials (e.g. testing, anti-malaria drugs and vitamins) for treatment



5100+ Long-lasting insecticide treated nets provided to beneficiaries

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH



8400+ pregnant women and nursing mothers educated on maternal health



122 Nurses trained on post-Partum depression



22,350+ Traditional and skilled birth attendants trained on managing maternal health



2000 Expectant mothers screened and educated on postpartum depression



7100+ sensitized on safe WASH practices



1614 pints of blood delivered



1400+ Low-income people saved by access to blood, oxygen and medical services

EYECARE



46,180+
Prescription and
reading glasses

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



1700+ police officers, religious leaders and health workers trained on recognizing and managing signs and cases of gender-based violence/abuse

NEGLECTED TROPICAL AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES



4200+ Women and boys identified and treated for **Hydrocele** and **Elephantiasis**



330 schools trained on COVID-19 compliance and transmission prevention



775 pregnant women sensitized on neonatal jaundice

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT: **Funding Cancer Control****Sebeccly Cancer Care**

Sebeccly Cancer Care was founded in 2006 to reduce inequality in cervical cancer screenings and reach underserved communities that have little or no access to healthcare due to poverty.

Every year, more than 14,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer with about 80% of them presenting with advanced diseases and complications which require advanced treatment. The lack of awareness, the prohibitive screening costs and the lack of state-wide, coordinated screening programs have significantly contributed to the low uptake of screenings in Nigeria with screening services barely covering 9% of the entire population. These barriers are among the reasons responsible for the high diagnosis rate as well as the 8,000 cervical cancer deaths reported every year.



Over the past five years, ACT Foundation has supported Sebeccly to improve access to cervical and breast cancer screenings, treatment and survivorship services for girls and women in communities in Lagos and Ogun state. As cervical cancer stands as the second most frequent cancer among women in Nigeria, early detection remains critical to supporting improved health outcomes for girls and women.

The TimetoScreen program has offered screening services including clinical breast examination, Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid (VIA) and Visual Inspection with Lugol's Iodine (VILLI). Equipment utilised during the earlier programs, including a colposcopy and cryotherapy machine, provided immediate treatment of cervical abnormalities.

The ACT Foundation grant has enabled Sebeccly Cancer Care to reach over 30,000 women and girls with screening and patient navigation services. Each grant cycle has allowed for learnings which have led to improved screening processes.

Women found to be in the pre-cancer stage have been referred for follow-up investigations which have contributed to an increase in positive outcomes. As a result of health talks given at the community level, Sebeccly has been able to demystify and remove the fear associated with the disease. Targeted communities have also developed an improved understanding of cervical cancer leading to an improvement in health-seeking behaviours. Sebeccly has also maintained partnerships with local governments to put in place screening programmes that support increased access for women.



During the COVID-19 pandemic, Sebeccly pivoted from carrying out screenings to developing an online support group known as the SOAR Champions program, which simplified cancer care through patient engagement and education. The program provided an instant connection for patients and survivors to access cancer coping resources, oncologists, and a network of survivors.

Over the past five years, their outreaches have shown that there is still so much work to do within the nation, as about 70% of women they engaged had never been screened before with a majority of them lacking knowledge about cervical cancer.

Project Testimonials

“

In 2019, I came to Redemption Camp where Sebeccly was having an outreach and had my first ever screening test done. The screenings came back with an abnormal result so I was told to come back the next day for treatment. Due to COVID-19, I, unfortunately, could not get screened in 2020 to confirm my status after the treatment. In 2021, I was finally able to take another screening test and was happy to hear from the nurse that my result is Negative.

”

- Esther Edue - Ogun, Nigeria

“

For a long time, I had faced challenges with bleeding and did not get screened for cervical cancer due to my fear of bad news. After my sister insisted, I summoned the courage to attend a TimetoScreen outreach for a screening. Despite a negative result, I was directed by the nurse to visit a doctor for further reconfirmation of her findings which were not cancerous but needed to attention. I was very grateful that my health improved once the substance which the nurse discovered was taken out of my cervix and drugs were prescribed.

”

- Kehinde Edun - Ilaro Medical Centre

Entrepreneurship

In the focus area of Entrepreneurship, ACT Foundation seeks to promote entrepreneurial endeavours that improve the lives of individuals and families through income generation and economic empowerment. Therefore, in the past five years we have supported interventions focused on help people develop relevant skills to tackle unemployment and create an enabling environment for entrepreneurs to start and grow businesses, access finance and markets, and contribute to the economic development of their communities.

Our Impact

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



856+ Female entrepreneurs trained on developing sustainable businesses, capacity building and access to funds



1270+ Female farmers trained on savings, financial literacy and good agricultural practices



4400+ households impacted by increased income and livelihoods due to the commercialization of farmer associations



180+ Female micro-traders empowered with improved income due to access to long-term credit and sustainable assistance



1300+ women empowered through capacity building in agribusiness

FINANCIAL LITERACY AND INCLUSION



9835+ trained on financial literacy (information on savings & budgeting, borrowing smartly, alternative banking and bookkeeping)



50 Businesses developed capacity on disability inclusion



50 Persons with Disabilities provided business development support

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION



8000+ women and youth empowered with vocational skills and employability training



761 Engineering students and lecturers equipped with hands-on upskill training on modern engineering skills to bridge the Nigerian skills gap



775 Widows and young girls from barracks in Oyo equipped with skills in indigenous textile design

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



1640+ Budding entrepreneurs and apprentices trained on business management



100+ Student businesses developed



22,000+ students enrolled in business development training

DIGITAL SKILLS



1640+ school girls equipped with STEM training



4800+ Online learners trained on relevant tech skills for careers in tech



185 Acquired skills in programming languages such as HTML, CSS, JavaScript, jQuery, PHP and MySQL

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT: Bridging the Engineering Skills Gap



Clintonel Innovation Centre (CIC)

Clintonel Innovation Centre is a solar-powered STEM centre, makerspace and hardware business incubator that provides training, mentoring and equipment for young people to create engineering innovations and build indigenous products. Through its Engineering for Industry (E4I) program, which ACT Foundation supports, CIC bridges the skills gap between engineering students in the Eastern part of Nigeria and the industry, thus enhancing the employability of graduates and facilitating the growth of indigenous industries. University lecturers, students and graduates are trained on industry-relevant skills whilst secondary school students are trained on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) skills that enable them to excel in STEM careers and prepare them for the future of work.



Nigeria imports over 95% of the engineering products which it consumes, as the gross engineering skills gap in Nigeria leads us to depend on expatriates to meet our engineering needs. Engineering skills are required to design and build machines for industries as well as to develop indigenous products. This skills gap inhibits industrial development in Nigeria and consequently results in massive unemployment, especially amongst the youth.

Furthermore, CIC hosts an Annual Engineering Challenge each year, also known as the Nigerian Genius, and brings together Nigeria's brightest minds from tertiary institutions to solve our most complex engineering and manufacturing challenges.

Four finalists are selected out of 45 universities with the winning team awarded 1 million naira and recognition as the top-ranking institution amongst engineering educational systems nationwide.



Over the years, Clintonel has grown beyond ACT Foundation's support and secured partnerships and certifications to further the impact of its work. Last year, they received recognition from the federal government as the Most Outstanding MSME in Nigeria for building the blocks for a true industrial revolution in Nigeria. As a powerhouse in product design, fabrication and manufacturing, CIC remains on a mission to drive sustainable industrialization in Nigeria.

Project Testimonials



“

Despite it being my fourth year as an engineering student at the Federal University of Technology in Owerri, I was clueless about the world of manufacturing and practical engineering. Because of Clintonel, I was introduced to the advanced engineering world of CAD and CAM which I never thought existed. I gained skills in product design, 3D printing, 3D scanning, CNC machining, laser cutting and engraving, and other precision manufacturing processes. After the training, I sat for the Autodesk Fusion 360 global certification exam and was successful. I am now an Autodesk Certified User - a globally recognized engineering certificate.”

”

- Hanna Igboke - Abia, Nigeria

Environment

In the focus area of Environment, ACT Foundation is committed to environmental protection and support for human activities such as waste management, upcycling, tree planting and recycling - to guarantee environmental sustainability for future generations. For the past five years, ACT Foundation has supported environmental initiatives in Africa that promote sustainable land use, improve access to clean water and sanitation, and reduce the impact of climate change on vulnerable communities.

Our Impact

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



3,028
Trees planted



45,316+
Students trained on better environmental protection and waste management practices including gardening, composting, recycling and upcycling.



60+
Secondary schools involved in environmental sustainability

WASTE MANAGEMENT



124
sustainable waste management enterprises supported and developed



248,843
Kilograms of waste collected and recycled



49,898+
Sensitized towards participation in better waste management, hygiene and sanitation practices as well as climate change mitigation/adaptation strategies



34,450+
PET bottles gathered from community beach clean-ups

ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER



16,000+
vulnerable Households provided sustainable access to water



65
boreholes constructed



GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT: Sustaining the Environment for Community Resilience



Development Institute of West Africa (DIWA)

The Development Institute of West Africa (DIWA) was established to address critical long-term issues affecting the quality of life of vulnerable communities in the areas of access to education, health and nutrition, water, capacity-building, good governance, emergency relief, peaceful co-existence and other social services. As insurgency, desertification and a dwindling economy compete for the government's attention in Northern Nigeria, life-supporting amenities as basic as water supply continue to go out-of-reach in the grassroot regions. With the help of grants from ACT Foundation in 2021 and 2022, DIWA was able to support access to clean water in 20 communities in Yobe and Benue State, Nigeria. The construction of 20 hand-pump boreholes led to the following outcomes for over 700 households:



- Improved and easier access to clean and sustainable drinking water for 13,905 beneficiaries
- Increased water supply in Yobe and Benue by 100,000 litres
- Reduction in water borne diseases
- Reduced physical and mental stress of walking long distances due to the closer proximity (approximately 10 - 50m) of community members to the water source.

During each project cycle, DIWA carries out advocacy exercises to get community buy-in and to decide on the best location to construct the boreholes. After workers and volunteers receive an orientation on the project, diggers are engaged towards the installation of the mechanical hand-pumps. The process culminates in the commission and official handover to community leadership and the Local Maintenance Committee (LMC) to ensure sustainability. For a period of not more than 3 months after the handover to the community, the DIWA team continue to monitor and offer technical advice on the usage of the handpump borehole.

The targeted communities mostly consist of internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have had to relocate into satellite towns due to the increasing banditry and terrorist attacks in the North. As there is an upsurge in population density within these host communities and a prolonged dry season, there continues to be a gross undersupply of drinking water.

In terms of environmental sustainability, the project's impact on community resilience is of great importance to ACT Foundation's mission as we believe that access to clean and sustainable drinking water will help these targeted communities remain strong in the face of environmental challenges, such as climate change and natural disasters. Furthermore, the project continues to promote long-term sustainability by reducing vulnerability to environmental shocks and improving the capacity of communities to adapt to the ever-changing environmental conditions.



Project Testimonials



At every stage of the project, the local community has been carried along, from pre-execution advocacy where community, women and youth leaders are engaged, to the construction process where local diggers are hired, and during the post-construction period where a community-based committee is constituted to be in charge of the continuous supervision and maintenance of the project.

Leadership

Through our focus area of Leadership, ACT Foundation desires to cultivate a new generation of credible, accountable, and ethical leaders who will propel the continent towards effective and sustainable, economic and human development as well as peace and security. Therefore, within the past five years, we have supported interventions focused on the development of African leaders committed towards good governance, sustainable development, and the contribution of positive change in their communities.

Our Impact



760+

young under-served women and girls provided with strategic, structured mentoring and leadership training to support their career ambitions



70+

Teachers empowered to support vulnerable school students and train students in advanced EdTech skills



1.5M+

Nigerians engaged in dialogue on good citizenship, national development and relevant community and national issues



16

COVID-19 related interventions developed to tackle its transmission and its socio-economic impact on people.



2900+

students from educational institutions provided capacity development training in leadership, teamwork, entrepreneurship and project management



135

Persons with disabilities provided capacity building and mentorship support



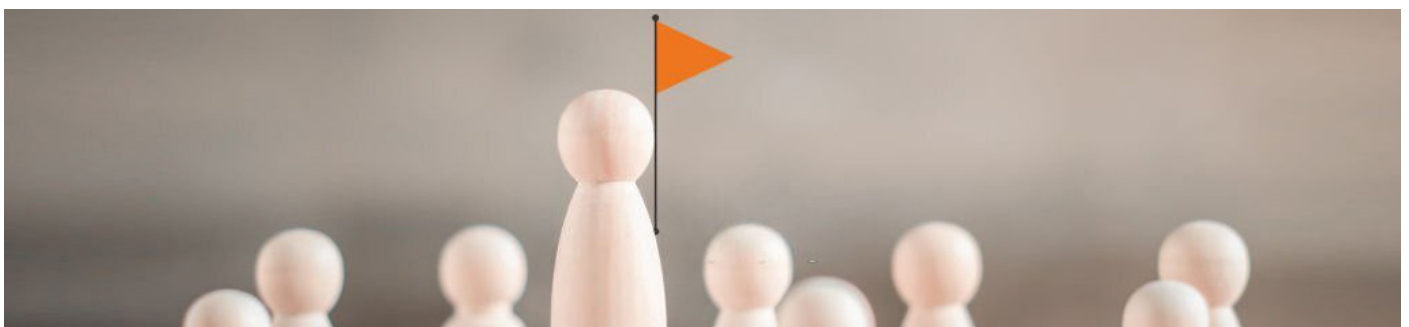
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science-based and technology-driven innovative projects developed to create jobs for unemployed Nigerians



12

community projects developed to address harmful/ wrong belief systems



GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT: Driving Leadership and Innovation towards Economic Empowerment



Enactus Nigeria

ENACTUS was founded with a vision to inspire young people to own and demonstrate leadership within their communities. Since 2017, ACT Foundation has funded five cycles of their community leadership programmes and established over 30 teams of between 30 to 120 student members. Within the Leadership Challenge program, each team is encouraged to identify problems and challenges within their communities and provide support to develop and implement innovative solutions.

ACT Foundation facilitates the realization of their community projects

by providing funding to 10 teams. From among these teams, three outstanding initiatives are selected for additional funding with a view to promoting their expansion and deepen their impact on the communities they serve.



Over the past five years, Enactus Nigeria's integrated community-based outreach program has continued to adapt to address contemporary, national challenges and resulted in the development of scalable interventions led by over 2000 students across 25 states in Nigeria.

In Kano State, a shortage of skilled healthcare workers meant that expecting mothers were having their babies delivered by unskilled traditional birth Attendants (TBAs) who used the wrong tools and adopted unhygienic practices that put both the mother and baby at risk. After identifying the challenges and trust that the rural women had in these unskilled TBAs, they created a program that involved the training of these TBAs and the facilitation of linkages between them and primary health care centres in case of complications arising during delivery.

The COVID-19 pandemic led to a shift in the program's focus as ACT Foundation wished to address resultant impacts of the crisis and empower students demonstrating leadership in implementing projects that responded to the pandemic with a view of reducing its spread or impact on vulnerable communities. In Kaduna state, 15 students and 3 teachers responded to the crisis by developing the project titled HyHeals and producing safe and affordable hand sanitization products, made from biodegradable bamboo, for beneficiaries in Kaduna, Kano, Abuja, and Jos.

Since 2021, the Leadership Challenge has re-focused in response to the rise of the 4th Industrial Revolution, with the aim of supporting Enactus students that implement science based and technology-driven innovations which sufficiently generate wealth amongst unemployed Nigerians. ENACTUS students from the Federal University of Technology in Owerri developed an online ordering and delivery management platform known as RunAm which enabled bicycle riders in the community to earn money by granting local markets, supermarkets, and restaurants easy access to their suppliers and customers. Through ACT Foundation's initial seed funding in 2021, they onboarded 11 businesses

in the community and enabled over 2100 deliveries of products worth 2.3 million naira.

The ACT Foundation Leadership challenge continues working to transform Nigerian communities by improving the leadership skills of students. Furthermore, these students benefit from non-academic outcomes such as goal-setting, basic leadership skills and the application of basic ethics in life. Most importantly, with each call for student innovations, young people are forced to conduct research to identify the greatest challenges within their communities, and think up ways to proffer local, innovative solutions.



Project Testimonials



“

Enactus Nigeria remains completely committed to developing resourceful, purposeful and values-driven entrepreneurial leaders and social innovators, who will change the world by taking entrepreneurial action. The ACT Foundation Leadership Challenge is one of the tools we use to achieve this goal”

”

- Michael Ajayi - Country Director,
Enactus Nigeria

Special Projects

Outside of our annual Grant cycle, ACT Foundation conducts initiatives and aids organisations alongside relevant partners with funding and capacity building support to ensure sustainable action across Africa in areas that align with our key focus areas of Health, Entrepreneurship, Environment and Leadership.



Changemakers Innovation Challenge (CIC)

The Changemakers Innovation Challenge was conceived by ACT Foundation in 2019 in response to the impressive work of community non-profits and social enterprises in Africa that leverage technology and digital tools to create social change within their communities. The challenge is open to non-profits and social enterprises across Africa who are using various technological and digital tools to create innovative social solutions. After a call for applications, grant funding is awarded to the top three winners towards the scaling of their innovative solutions across different communities whilst technical support in form of either software, hardware or capacity building trainings is awarded to the top ten finalists. In the past four years, we have supported some of the following tech-based innovations:

Organisation	Innovation	Country of Implementation
Afrilearn	Online coding resources for students	Nigeria
Digital AgroConnect Solutions	Mobile short code farm inputs for rural, smallholder farmers	Nigeria
Fourthline limited	Adoption of a 3D low-cost and eco-friendly beehive system for rural farmers	Zambia
Vinsighte Nigeria	Artificial Intelligence (AI) digital reading devices for visually impaired students	Nigeria
Foundation for Moral Value Reorientation	Digital empowerment for rehabilitated prison inmates	Nigeria
Dare to Innovate	Digital financial services for entrepreneurs and businesses	Guinea
Infiuss Health	Digital blood bank for vulnerable communities	Cameroon
Natal Cares	Distribution of delivery kits to pregnant women and traditional birth attendants in rural communities	Nigeria
Pad-UP Creations	Distribution of safe and reusable hygienic menstrual pads to low-income women	Nigeria

Our Impact

**10,000**

learners provided access to online resources on HTML, JavaScript and basic CSS

**2200**

Patients in need of blood reached with blood through digital platform connecting hospitals with blood banks

**400**

Guinean entrepreneurs empowered through digital recordkeeping

**300+**

Smallholder farmers provided short cards to access farming inputs such as seeds and fertilizers

**761**

Visually impaired students empowered through AI reading devices installed in schools

**100+**

Zambian farmers empowered through specialized beehives

**1500+**

Incarcerated males empowered through digital education to support integration back into society

Project Testimonials



“

Through Vinsighte's AI reading tools, our students can read their course materials and books without the aid of their classmates. You have given us the courage that our disability is not inability, and we are so pleased that you have come to our aid with the Assistive Reading devices

”

- Williams Chioma Favour- Director from Bethesda Home for the Blind, Lagos



Youth Entrepreneurship Skills Grant

Through support from Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) America and Sony Pictures Entertainment Fund, ACT Foundation developed the Youth Entrepreneurship Skills (YES) Grant initiative in 2021. We aimed to equip low-income Nigerian communities with skills for the future and contribute to the advancement of young and female Africans on a global scale.

This initiative enabled organizations three organizations - Aspilos Foundation, the Assembly Hub and Ashake Foundation - to implement programs centred on tackling unemployment - which further escalated during the COVID-19 pandemic - and equip women and young people with the necessary entrepreneurial, digital and technological skills to improve their economic independence. As part of the special grant, we also partnered with Dr. Stella Ameyo Adadevoh (DRASA) Health Trust to hold COVID-19 Safety and Prevention trainings for non-profits implementing in Africa - including the three YES grantees - to enable safe and healthy work environments.

AboCoders Digital Program - Aspilos Foundation

- 203 women and girls from low-income families in Abuja, Abeokuta, Kaduna and Minna state, Nigeria were empowered with digital skills in digital literacy, web development, data science and graphics design.
- 40% of these beneficiaries were supported with either access to tech internship opportunities or mentorship from volunteers working in the space.
- 50 beneficiaries secured positions in AltSchool Africa and TalentQL advanced training programs on frontend development skills.
- 25 beneficiaries secured positions in KSH Foundation tech-entrepreneurship programs as well as funding to support their tech-enabled start-ups.
- 2 beneficiaries secured internships at ForceBolt to develop skills in JavaScript and Ruby on Rails



Ashake Skill & Knowledge Acquisition for Women and Girls - Ashake Foundation

- 206 women and girls from 5 area councils in Abuja, Nigeria were empowered with digital skills (Digital Marketing, Graphics Design, Photography, Website Design) and vocational skills in indigenous fabric making and soap making (disinfectants, washing soap, perfumery and air fresheners).
- Beneficiaries were equipped with business development skills for organisational growth through specialised masterclasses and trainings.
- Start-up kits (including materials such as fabric, dye, internet data, tripods, makeup kits, sewing kits, mannequins etc.) were distributed to beneficiaries to support income generation through the development of their acquired skills.



The Bridge Bootcamp - Assembly Hub

- 200 low-income, community artisans from Lagos and Kano state were equipped with technical skills in the areas of leatherworks, tailoring, pattern making and indigenous fabric making.
- Beneficiaries developed their skills in the areas of quality control, digital marketing, bookkeeping, financial management and client management at business boot camps.
- 36 expert trainers and craftsmen across Lagos and Kano took beneficiaries as apprentices to further develop their craft.
- Beneficiaries were enabled to access markets to sell their products, through a secured partnership with Afrikea, an African retail and distribution platform



COVID-19 Safety and Prevention Training for Non-profits - Dr. Ameyo Stella Adadevoh (DRASA) Health Trust

- 129 non-profits from 39 cities in 10 countries (Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Kingdom, Malaysia, Uganda and Zambia) were trained on the COVID-19 virus, precautions to prevent transmission and the management of COVID-19 exposures in workplaces.
- Besides the trainings, these non-profits were equipped with the necessary guidelines, resource materials, posters and supplies - including public health posters, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) resource packs, COVID-19 Guidelines for Workplaces and COVID-19 Operating Checklists - to support the implementation of a safe work environment.



Project Testimonials

“

Despite having no prior knowledge of computer science or technology, I developed skills in HTML, CSS and JavaScript skills from my AboCoders digital literacy and Frontend Web Development classes. It is my hope that my through my current role as a remote intern at dHub Innovations, I will improve my frontend skills and become a full stack developer in the future.

- Daodu Aisha from Abeokuta, Nigeria”

“

Before joining the Printmaking training track, I was in debt due to past business management decisions. After the training in Lagos, I generated enough income to settle all my debts and maintain a sustainable income by selling my products through a pop-up shop. The sales strategies I learned during the Bridge business coaching classes helped me to organize my pop-up shop.

- Rita Macdonald from Lagos, Nigeria”



Sunlight Empowerment Grant

In 2020, our partnership with Unilever Nigeria led to the actualization of the Sunlight Empowerment Grant which focused on driving sustainable social change for marginalized Nigerians facing challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Two women-led organisations - **Grow with Data Youth Foundation** from Adamawa, Nigeria and **Save our Needy organization** from Lagos, Nigeria - were awarded a 1 million naira grant through which they empowered and equipped 65 women and youth with necessary skills in technology and entrepreneurship.



Project Testimonials



“

The Techpreneur program helped my clothes selling business to grow because I become more financially literate and intentional about my savings. Now I can keep track of every amount I make, and justify what it is spent on”

- Adedoyin Kolade - Yola South, Adamawa, Nigeria



Distribution of Personal Protective Equipment for COVID-19 Frontline Workers

In 2020, ACT Foundation launched a COVID-19 initiative in partnership with Novartis to facilitate the distribution of 26, 840 units of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including surgical and cloth facemasks, latex gloves, face shields and hand sanitizers, to primary frontline healthcare workers as well as the distribution of IEC materials across Nigerian hotspots for the virus. The initiative served as a response to the COVID-19 global pandemic which highlighted inadequacies of health care systems around the world and plagued countries with a shortage of necessary protective equipment, putting an additional toll on health care workers at the front lines, and increasing their risk of contracting the virus.

The project focused on three (3) Nigerian states and engaged the following implementation partners to support the establishment of connections with the beneficiary health institutions and facilitate the PPE distribution:



Lagos state: Girlsaide Initiative, Sebecly Cancer Support, Westfield Development Initiative and Girl Hub Africa

Edo State: Women's Health and Action Research Centre (WHARC)

Kano state: Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital

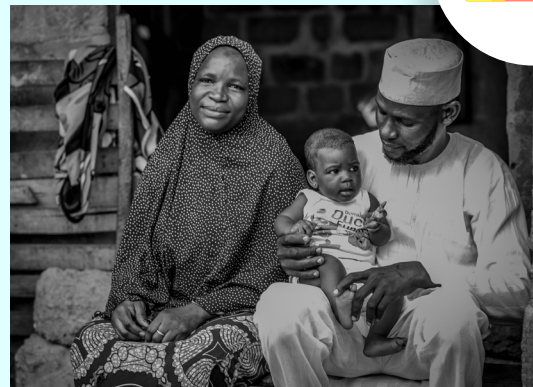
INSIGHTS FROM THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Through stakeholder consultations and the conduction of evaluations, ACT Foundation received impact-oriented data from our grantee projects and valuable insights into the effectiveness of our programs, opportunities for innovation and growth, best practices and lessons learned.



Impact on Local and Community Issues

Over the years, grantees have indicated that ACT Foundation has made a very significant impact on addressing local and community issues within its focus areas. Furthermore, through ACT Foundation's support, the majority of its grantees have had an improved understanding of local issues and dynamics leading them to be more effective in reaching beneficiary needs (e.g. quality healthcare, access to safe drinking water, improved maternal and child mortality, vocational training, life building skills, increased access to job market, improved attitudes towards civic duties etc.) at the local level, especially in hard-to-reach communities.



Impact on Grantee Organizational Capacity

Through the provision of financial support and capacity building trainings, ACT Foundation has enabled its grantee organizations to improve their project delivery, strengthen internal capacity and move closer to achieving their strategic goals. Capacity building training programs curated by ACT Foundation have strengthened internal capacity in areas including strategic planning, branding, resource management, fund raising and financial management. Moreover, most grantees have indicated that trainings on branding, for example, have allowed them to tell their stories in a more impactful way, and led to increased visibility and more grant opportunities and financial sustainability.



For younger organizations, ACT Foundation grants have helped increase their visibility, which has enabled them to secure grants from other organizations and this has, in turn, promoted financial sustainability. More seasoned grantees have indicated that each grant cycle has allowed them to improve their screening and data collection processes. Overall, many grantees credit the grant received from ACT Foundation because some of the subsequent grants received were only possible due to the trainings and visibility provided by the Foundation.

It remains important to us that our grantees succeed and do well.”

- ACT Foundation Management

Program Diversity

Within our key focus areas, ACT Foundation supports a diverse amount of projects to ensure that we maintain an equitable and sustainable approach to grantmaking. In the focus area of Health we have supported cancer awareness advocacy, sensitization on malaria control and prevention, eye screenings and distribution of eye glasses, treatment of neonatal jaundice, creation of awareness on domestic violence and many more.

Moreover, in the focus area of Leadership, we have supported projects that empowered teenagers in public secondary schools to understand and achieve their full leadership potential, provided capacity development trainings and practical business experience to persons with disabilities and many more. It is our hope that through this approach, we can reach as many marginalized groups as possible and contribute to reduced inequalities within African societies.



Uniqueness of ACT Foundation

Being an indigenous grant maker, ACT Foundation has a better understanding of the needs and challenges faced by several organizations within the continent. Because of this, grantees view ACT Foundation as a flexible and supportive donor when it comes to responding to their capacity needs. Although a few NGOs may receive technical assistance from international offices or experts, most grantees have primarily relied on ACT Foundation's training and reporting tools to successfully implement their projects and deliver results aligned with the organization's Theory of Change.



Role as a Thought leader

ACT Foundation has established itself as a thought leader on social impact issues within the non-profit and development space. In the past five years, ACT has produced four major research publications on key social impact issues such as digital transformation in the non-profit space, the role and impact of non-governmental organisations in cancer control and the impact of COVID-19 on social impact organisations. Furthermore, our annual Breakfast Dialogue, which has convened six times, has enabled discussions on transformative strategies and perspectives that will maximize the development potential of African organisations.

In 2022, we took a step further by publishing a book series to serve as a guide for non-profit leaders, professionals and aspiring non-profit founders in Africa and a knowledge source for running successful and sustainable non-profits.



Conclusion: The next five years



ACT Foundation is proud to celebrate its 5th year of driving social impact across Africa. In this report, we aimed to briefly document our progress and learnings over the past five years with a view of the building upon our success and strengthening our impact for many more years to come. Looking ahead, we will continue to support diverse initiatives that address African challenges in health, entrepreneurship, environment, and leadership, and we will sustain our relationship with our grantees to ensure that our investments have the greatest possible impact.

To achieve the goals, we will focus on strengthening our partnerships with organizations that share our vision and. We will also explore new and innovative approaches to grant-making to help us reach more marginalized communities within Africa and achieve even greater impact. In the next five years, we aim to prioritize interventions that are sustainable and can be continued even after the funding period has ended to ensure long-lasting impact. Furthermore, as new challenges arise within the continent, we plan to broaden our focus areas and mainstream more pressing issues at the forefront of international development such as climate change.

We recognize that there is still much work to be done, but we are optimistic about the future and excited to continue our journey of making a positive difference in the world. We thank our grantees, partners, and stakeholders for their ongoing support, and we look forward to collaborating with them in the years to come.

Our Leadership

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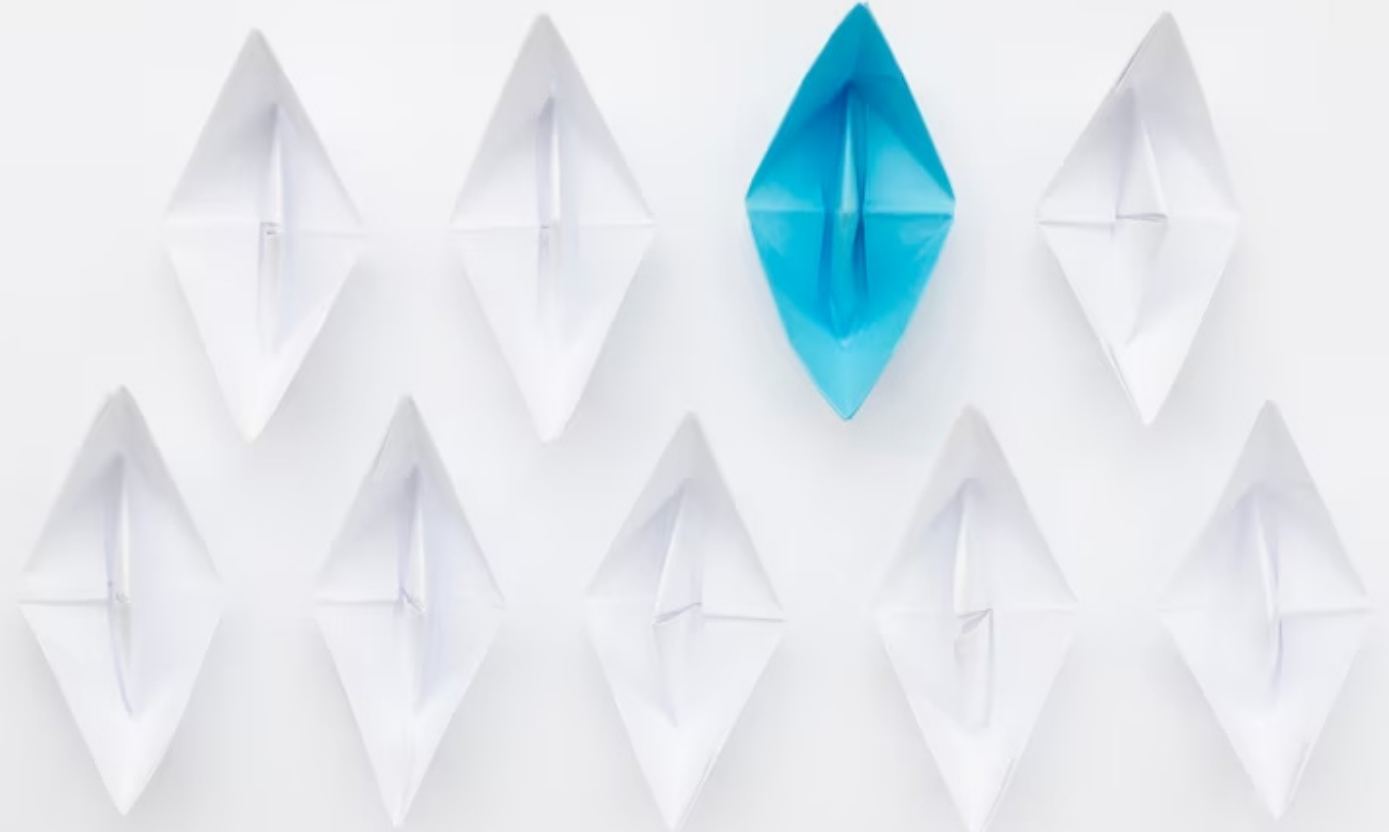
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