



IGE-SRH

Initiative for Gender Equality
& Sexual Reproductive Health

PROJECT REPORT SOUTH SOUTH INITIATIVE

SUPPORTED BY:



**OUTRIGHT
INTERNATIONAL**

Table of Contents

01. Executive Summary

02. Project Background & Rationale

03. Project Objectives & Goals

04. Methodology & Training Model

05. Implementation Timeline & Work Plan

06. Monitoring, Evaluation & Impact Assessment

07. Risk Management & Mitigation Strategies

08. Sustainability & Scalability

09. Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagement

10. Conclusion & Recommendations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview:

The South South Rise Project was launched to empower marginalized youth and underserved individuals in Nigeria's South-South region through vocational skills training. With discrimination limiting access to stable employment, this project provided an alternative path to financial independence by equipping participants with marketable skills in fashion design, hairdressing, shoemaking, and nail artistry.



Key Outcomes:

- 9 individuals were enrolled, and 6 successfully graduated.
- All graduates received start-up kits to remove financial barriers.
- 70% of participants are projected to launch businesses within six months.
- 60% of these businesses are expected to be self-sustaining within a year.
- Key lessons learned include the importance of mentorship, adaptive learning methods, and ongoing community support.

The project didn't just train individuals; it created pathways for dignity, independence, and long-term economic stability.

Project Background & Rationale

Marginalized youth in Nigeria's South-South region face systemic barriers to employment, from workplace discrimination to financial constraints in accessing vocational training. This project aimed to address these challenges by:

- Offering vocational skills that provide immediate income opportunities.
- Providing essential tools to enable business startups.
- Creating a support system through mentorship and peer networks.

The project fosters self-sufficiency and empowerment for underserved individuals by breaking cycles of exclusion.



PROJECT OBJECTIVES & GOALS

Primary Objective:

To equip marginalized youth with vocational skills, resources, and support to achieve financial independence.



Specific Goals:

- Train 9 individuals in fashion design, hairdressing, shoemaking, and nail artistry.
- Provide start-up kits to remove financial barriers to business setup.
- Support business sustainability, ensuring 60% of ventures thrive after one year.

Measuring Success:

- 80% training completion rate.
- 70% business launch rate within six months.
- 100% of graduates receiving startup tools.

Methodology & Training Model

The program was designed to address barriers unique to marginalized youth through:

- **Strategic Recruitment:** Social media outreach and community engagement.
- **Decentralized Training:** Conducted in safe spaces across Akwa Ibom, Rivers, and Edo states.
- **Personalized Learning:** Tailored training with flexible support mechanisms.
- **Adaptive Implementation:** Real-time adjustments based on participant feedback.

This model ensured accessibility, safety, and high engagement.



IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE & WORK PLAN

Phase 1: Preparation (Months 1-2)

- Developed curriculum, recruited trainers, and conducted baseline assessments.
- Open call for applications; 9 trainees and 3 focal persons selected.



Phase 2: Training Launch (Month 3)

- Official launch event and enrollment in safe training centers.
- Hands-on skill training in chosen trades.

Phase 3: Skill Development & Midpoint Evaluation (Months 4-6)

- Bi-monthly field visits and mid-term assessments.
- Additional soft skills training in financial literacy and business management.
- Addressed participant challenges such as resource access and time constraints.

Phase 4: Transition to Independence (Months 7-8)

- Graduation and certification.
- Distribution of start-up kits and alumni network formation.

Monitoring, Evaluation & Impact Assessment

Monitoring focused on:

- **Enrollment & Retention:** Tracking dropouts and addressing challenges.
- **Skill Mastery:** Mid-term and final assessments.
- **Participant Experience:** Regular surveys and feedback mechanisms.
- **Business Growth:** Post-training follow-ups on start-up kit utilization and income generation.

Through real-time feedback, the program was continually refined to maximize impact.



RISK MANAGEMENT & MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Key Challenges & Solutions:

- **High Dropout Rates:** Maintained an active waiting list and provided ongoing support.
- **Budget Constraints:** Partnered with local suppliers and decentralized monitoring to reduce costs.



- **Post-Training Business Challenges:** Provided start-up kits and established alumni networks for continued mentorship.
- **Safety Concerns:** Carefully selected inclusive training environments and trainers.

These strategies ensured program effectiveness despite external challenges.

Sustainability & Scalability

The project was designed for long-term impact by:

- **Providing necessary tools** for immediate business launch.
- **Financial support** for shop rentals and material purchases.
- **Encouraging peer networking** for knowledge exchange and business collaboration.

Scaling Strategies:

- Expanding to new regions such as North Central Nigeria.
- Strengthening the alumni network for continuous mentorship and business support.



PARTNERSHIPS & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Collaboration was key to maximizing impact:

- **NGO Partnerships:** Provided funding, legal support, and advocacy.
- **Government Engagement:** Connected participants to business grants and vocational programs.



- **Alumni Network:** Created a platform for mentorship and peer support.
- **Community Leaders & Local Businesses:** Engaged to support training centers and offer apprenticeship opportunities.

The project is positioned for long-term success by building strategic alliances.



CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

The South South Rise Project has proven that targeted skills training can transform lives. Beyond financial independence, it has restored dignity and provided underserved individuals with opportunities they were previously denied.

Key Recommendations:

- Expand the program to new regions to reach more marginalized youth.
- Provide continued mentorship and startup grants for graduates.
- Strengthen alumni networks and create market linkages for business growth.
- Document and share success stories to attract further funding and support.