Wednesday, 18 September 2024 | Issue 001

NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2024

CHAIRMAN'S BRIEF

I believe in the intrinsic value of all human beings and their inherent ability to translate that value into positive impact.

Within all of us is the potential for creating positive change in our homes, communities and countries if we look inwards and channel our resilience and Innovative spirit to steer the continent to greatness.

This is why the work we do at ASR Africa is so important. We believe we can harness this idea to development models specific to African needs and provide support for their actualization. This support for Africans by Africans will create the path to sustainable solutions to African challenges.

We look forward to creating strategic partnerships with all those who share in this dream and values.

Abdul Samad Rabiu CFR, CON
Chairman ASR Africa

FROM THE MD/CEO's DESK

It is with great pleasure that we share with our partners our activities driving sustainable impact in Social Development, Health and Education in Africa

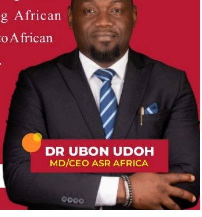
It has been a privilege to steer ASR Africa towards achieving Alhaji Abdulsamad Rabiu's vision to impact Nigeria and the African continent. We are committed to the chairman's vision and results of our activities and partnerships are evidence of this.

Our goal in targeting Social Development, Health and Education interventions is to address quality of life challenges at nodal points that can be scaled to the larger benefitting communities.

During our journey, we have encountered incredible individuals and organizations doing great things, Solving and addressing developmental challenges with innovative approaches and creativity. These are the partners we want to support and celebrate going forward.

The passion of our team is seen through the sheer volume of engagements and support to our partners and our goals and milestones for 2023/2024, bear the mark of this sustainable passion.

We are excited about the possibilities the future presents and call on likeminded individuals and organizations to partner with us in creating and delivering African solutions to African problems.



DR UBON UDOH
MD/CEO ASR AFRICA

Visit our website Click here

ASR AFRICA INFRASTRUCTURE INTERVENTIONS

In line with Alhaji Abdul Samad Rabiu's vision of unlocking sustainable development opportunities in Africa, by Africans, for Africans, ASR has initiated Infrastructure projects carefully curated to initiate, provide support to, or catalyze innovation and sustainable development in the areas of Education, Health, Security and Social Development. With over 50 construction projects in various stages of completion in the past 2 years, ASR is active in Federal Republic of Ghana, Federal Republic of Niger, and 16 states of the Federal Republic of Nigeria including the Federal Capital Territory.

From community libraries in Federal Republic of Ghana ($500,000.00) to Boarding Complexes in Seven (7) Regions in the Niger Republic ($3,000,000), an Innovation Center at the University of Maiduguri (N1b), Faculty Buildings in Sokoto (N2.5b), Zaria (N1b), Katsina(N250m), Ibadan (N1b) and others, Hostels, Workshops, Sports Centers, Amphitheaters, Laboratories, Staff Accommodation and a wide range of multi-sectoral infrastructural projects, ASR Africa is committed to making a mark in developing Africa.

With a wide array of projects across all schemes and sectors to date, ASR Africa aims to continue making a significant impact and contribute to sustainable development across the continent.

Olukayode Adewakun
International Infrastructure Grants Specialist
ASR Africa

ASR commissioned digital library in Ghana

Osenase Library, Estern Region, Ghana

ASR Police Reference Hospital, Utako, Abuja

Groundbreaking of Students 'hostel building, FUT Minna

Commisioned N1bn Center for Innovation, University of Maiduguri

Commissioning of N1bn Centre for Innovation, University of Maiduguri

Groundbreaking of N2.5bn Oncology Center, Illorin, Kwara State

Groundbreaking of N2bn Nigeria Army CBQ

SPOTLIGHT
ASR AFRICA WIDOWS SUPPORT GRANT

On the 12th of June 2024, the Chairman and the Board of Directors of ASR Africa awarded a Ten Million Naira Widows Social Support Grant (WSSG) to the International Women's Society (IWS) to augment its Widows Trust Fund. Established in 1957 in Lagos, IWS was founded by a group of women dedicated to assisting the less privileged and advancing the cause of women and children.

In 1998, IWS set up the Widows Trust Fund (WTF) which annually empowers widows with marketable skills through skills acquisition programmes and financial literacy courses. Widows receive tools and machines to start small scale businesses, while some are awarded grants, or scholarships for their young children. So far, the fund has empowered over 2,500 widows.

Beyond the grant, the ASR team has pledged to partner with IWS in developing a sustainable programmatic intervention which will allow the Widows Trust Fund to continue without relying on constant external funding. The benefits of the program to IWS include providing IWS with a replicable program template to pool more funds from multiple donors. It also positions the Society to contribute to the United Nations SDGs of No Poverty, Gender Equality, Decent Work & Economic Growth, and sustainability of the goals. At the IWS annual Widows feast and empowerment program held in Lagos Nigeria, ASR Africa provided media support to the Society and palliative care from BUA foods, a sister organization of ASR Africa was also distributed among the widows.

The ASR Africa Widows Social Support grant is testament to the commitment of the Chairman of ASR Africa and the BUA Group, Abdul Samad Rabiu to improve the livelihoods and welfare of Nigerians.

International Women's Society, Nigeria
JUNE 12, 2024
Ten Million Naira
₦ 10,000,000.00
N10 Million for Social Development Project

Beneficiaries during the IWS empowerment programme

One of The Beneficiaries During The Iws Day

FROM THE SPECIALIST CORNER

AN INSIGHT INTO THE ASR AFRICA SECURITY SECTOR SUPPORT GRANT

The Chairman of ASR Africa, Alhaji Abdul Samad Rabiu on his visit to the immediate past President of Nigeria President Muhammed Buhari in 2022, made the announcement of a grant of 10 Billion Naira to the Armed Forces and security agencies in Nigeria. This grant which is a part of the ASR Africa Security Sector Support grant (SSSG), is aimed at providing support for security agencies and armed forces in the country to increase their effectiveness in fulfilling their mandate and role. Beneficiaries of the grant included: The Nigerian Navy, The Nigerian Air Force, The Nigerian Army, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Customs, Immigration, Department of Secret Services (DSS), Nigerian Drug, Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and the Nigerian Correctional Service. The SSSG award ranged from 500 Million Naira to 2 Billion Naira.; with the Navy, Army and Airforce each being beneficiaries of the 2 Billion grant award.

Nigeria Navy

The uniqueness of the SSSG lies in the ability of the project beneficiaries in making their preferred choices of project amidst their quantum of needs. Presently, all the selected projects are ongoing, and ASR Africa is pleased to work closely with the beneficiaries on the construction of infrastructural projects such as housing, hospitals, training centres, to the purchase of vehicles and provision of rapid response equipment. ASR Africa is mostly pleased to support the activities of the security services, in ensuring personnel well-being and ability to safeguard the Nation.

25 Nos. Vehicles donated to NDLEA

With over a decade of practice in the Social Development sector, I am deeply pleased to support and bring this experience to bear with our team in managing stakeholder expectations in these dynamic work environments. Our participatory, objective reviews of the infrastructural drawings, strict adherence to the provision of the ASR Africa Mutual Accountability Framework in selecting relevant, impactful and sustainable projects; and the delivery of our projects within stipulated time, have created mutual learning and knowledge transfer while fostering our professional decorum and project management skills.

As we look forward to the commissioning of the SSSG projects in the coming months, we appreciate the beneficiaries who have been patient with our processes, the contractors who are committed, and the end users who are willing to maintain and preserve these projects donated by the ASR Africa.

Edidiong Idang
Social Development Specialist
ASR Africa

Strategic Meeting with The Chief of Air Staff

Strategic meeting with the Chief of Defense Staff

ASR AFRICA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

PARTNERSHIP IN ACTION

The need for synergies and partnerships cannot be overemphasized. ASR Africa recognises the gargantuan nature of the developmental issues faced on the African continent. These can only be addressed by collaborations and synergistic approaches that leverage experience, insight and resources. ASR Africa prioritises strategic partnerships that directly impact on the quality of lives of beneficiaries and provide sustainable solutions to developmental challenges on the continent of Africa. We seek partners who share our vision for unlocking development opportunities for Africans by Africans.

Signing of MoU between ASR and USAID

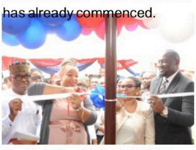
Akinyele DOTS center

USAID PARTNERSHIP

Within our first year of operations, we quickly identified and partnered with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to address a gap in Tuberculosis diagnosis and treatment in Nigeria.

Facilitated and overseen byAlh. Kabiru Rabiu, an ASR Africa Trustee.

The ASR Africa $500,000.00USD donation went into the physical upgrade of 10 Diagnostic centres, the provision of 15 diagnostic machines and reagents as well as dignity kits for female beneficiaries. This has resulted in a very significant positive impact on TB case finding. Within the first 6 months over 18,000 samples have already been taken in all the centres combined. Out of these, 40 positive cases have been identified and their treatment has already commenced.


Commissioning of Akinyele PHC Center, Alimosho LGA, Lagos

IFC-SHE-WINS PARTNERSHIP

ASR Africa partnered with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) on the IFC driven She-Wins Africa program with $1.5millionUSD grant. The program designed to assist women entrepreneurs across sub–Saharan Africa by offering training, mentorship and networking opportunities that will help their startups succeed.Additionally, She-Wins Africa aims to address these challenges and improve opportunities for women-led startups to access financing that persistently hinder the potential of female founders and entrepreneurs in Africa. The first cohort has successfully inducted 100 female entrepreneurs.The successful implementation of this programme highlights the impact of strategic partnerships in creating sustainable solutions where each partner brings their strength to bear on the issue.ASR Africa will continue to build such partnerships as we look forward into the future of touching the lives of Africans with impactful and sustainable programmes.

Nakama Keri
Multilateral Coordination Specialist
ASR Africa

MD IFC and Chairman BUA Group/ASR Africa

COMMUNITY IMPACT

FEEDBACK/COMMUNITY VOICES

abdul samad rabiu initiative
ASR AFRICA
EDUCATION • HEALTH • SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK 2
1ST - 7TH AUGUST 2023
Winners from the World Breast feeding day quiz

On the 17th of February 2022, ASR Africa was privileged to support Gwarinpa General Hospital under the ASR Africa Tertiary Healthcare grant and handed over 85 modern medical equipment worth 65 million naira to the maternal and pediatric unit alongside a fully functional ambulance. ASR Africa recognizes the importance of breastfeeding; it was an awesome moments for the mothers as ASR Africa celebrated the world breastfeeding week on the 7th August 2023 to sensitize and create awareness on the importance of breastfeeding. Some mothers left smiling for winning a cash gifts and the criteria were, the babies with the expected weight for age, on exclusive breastfeeding, and lastly the babies without diaper rash.

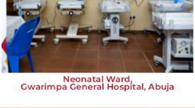
In addition to this, the MD/CEO of ASR Africa approved the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N500,000.00) for the ASR Africa – Gwarimpa General Hospital Indigent Patient Grant to support indigent patients of the pediatric unit of the hospital. This covered the cost of Laboratory investigations, and the procurements of drugs for newborns and children of indigent community members of the Gwarimpa community.

The provision of state of art medical equipment has not only improved patients outcomes but has reduced the risk of medical errors and adverse effects. With the latest medical advancements and technologies, more than 7 medical doctors and healthcare providers in the facility have been trained on the usage of these equipment. Feedback from the hospital reveals that more than 100 patients received lifesaving treatment with a total reduction in fatality rate in Emergency Paediatric Unit (EPU) from 9% in the year 2022 to 4.4% in the year 2023. Neonatal (newborn) fatality rate has also reduced from 3.1% in the year 2022 to 2.2% in the year 2023. Through the indigent patient Grant, more than 60 beneficiaries have received comprehensive and effective healthcare services including access to a range of lab tests and medication.

Presentation of gift to one of the winners

Dr. Hafsah Rabasa
Health Specialist
ASR Africa

Getting feedback from one of the participant breast feeding mothers


Neonatal Ward, Gwarimpa General Hospital, Abuja

ABDUL SAMAD RABIU, CFR, CON
AFRICA'S BIGGEST GIVER

Abdul Samad Rabiu is a leading African industrialist, businessman, and philanthropist from Nigeria. He is the Founder and Chairman of BUA Group, one of Africa's largest conglomerates with business interests in foods, mining, manufacturing, and infrastructure.

> “Additionally, he is the founder of the Abdul Samad Rabiu Initiative for Africa (ASR Africa), which is funded from an annual USD100 million Africa Fund for Social Development and Renewal.”

ASR Africa seeks to support Nigeria and other African countries in bringing about sustainable solutions to the areas of health, education, and social development. Executive Chairman/CEO BUA Group is also a founding member of the Global Business Initiative Circle and advisory Council.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Abdul Samad made a significant impact by being one of the leading champions of Nigeria's support efforts. He was the largest donor as an individual or corporate to the National Response to COVID 19. Other interventions by Abdul Samad Rabiu include grants of various sums ranging from 250 million Naira to 1 billion Naira to 28 tertiary institutions and universities across Nigeria. He even committed N10 billion to the ASR Africa Security Sector Support Grant. Additionally, Abdul Samad Rabiu extended his support by donating US$3 million to Niger Republic for gender-based interventions in education, US$500,000 to Ghana for education interventions, and another US$500,000 to partner with USAID on initiatives for TB control, HIV prevention, and combatting gender-based violence.

A recipient of many awards and a member of the UNGABI circle. Abdul Samad Rabiu was awarded the 2022 CEO of the Year at the African CSR Awards, the 2020 Vanguard Businessperson of the Year, and the New Telegraph Philanthropist of the Year 2021. Other awards of high value include an award facilitated by Unicef Global Office of Innovation in recognition of ASR Africa's intervention on mental health innovation, the Office of the First Lady of Nigeria on the eradication of Tuberculosis and Six category awards by SERAS.

FEATURED NEWS

BUA Chairman, Abdul Samad Rabiu honored with Honorary Degree; hands over fully completed 1 billion Naira Abdul Samad Rabiu International Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center at University of Maiduguri

Industrialist, Philanthropist, and Chairman of BUA Group and ASR Africa, Abdul Samad Rabiu, was today, conferred with an Honorary Degree from the University of Maiduguri during the university's 24th Combined Convocation in recognition of his significant contributions to national development, education, and entrepreneurship in Nigeria.

Read more...

ASR Africa Commences the Construction of N2.5 Billion Oncology Centre in Ilorin with a Groundbreaking Ceremony

The groundbreaking ceremony of the state-of-the-art 2.5 Billion Naira Oncology Centre which will provide services for the entire West African region took place today in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. The health facility is one of many tertiary-level health interventions of the Abdul Samad Rabiu Africa Initiative (ASR Africa) under its Tertiary Health Systems Support Grant scheme.

Read more...

ASR Africa and the Nigerian Early Warning Centre enter into a partnership to broaden Govt. interventions on human security in Nigeria

The Abdul Samad Rabiu Initiative for Africa (ASR Africa) and the National Early Warning Centre have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, promoting partnership between both organizations. The Early Warning Centre which is also known as the Office for Strategic Preparedness and Resilience was established under ECOWAS instruments by President Muhammadu Buhari earlier this year.

Read more...

About ASR Africa

ASR Africa is the brain child of African Industrialist, Philanthropist and Chairman of BUA Group, Abdul Samad Rabiu CFR, CON. It was established in 2021 to provide sustainable, impact-based, homegrown solutions to developmental issues affecting Health, Education and Social Development within Africa. The Initiative was set up with an annual pledge of $100,000,000 (USD) with Nigeria to benefit $50,000,000 (USD) yearly and the rest of Africa, $50,000,000 (USD) in what is the largest private philanthropic giving of its kind by an individual in Africa.

abdul samad rabiu initiative
ASR AFRICA
AFRICA FUND FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & RENEWAL

Plot 1085, Muhammadu Buhari Way,
Central Business District, FCT- Abuja, Nigeria.
www.asrafrica.org info@asrafrica.org
@asrafrica

Copyright © 2024 ASR Africa Initiative. All rights reserved.

If you want to unsubscribe, click here.