



REPORT OF MALALA FUND ONE-OFF INTERVENTION SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE FLOOD VICTIMS (WOMEN AND GIRLS) IN 3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS IN ANAMBRA STATE, NIGERIA

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Acronyms

NEMA - National Emergency Management Agency

NFI - Non-Food Items

IDPs - Internally Displaced Persons

WRAPA - Women's Right Advancement and Protection Alternative

LGA - Local Government Area

HRM - His Royal Majesty

MDA - Ministry, Department and Agency

MoU - Memorandum of Understanding

NCWS - National Council for Women Society

MHPSS - Mental Health and Psycho-Socio Support

PWD - Person with Disability

ASEMA - Anambra State Emergency Management Agency

INTRODUCTION

Nigeria has experienced heavy rains and devastating floods that have caused loss of life, population displacement and extensive destruction of houses, farms, and infrastructure. Since July, over three million people have been affected in 34 states in the worst flooding the country has seen in over a decade. At least 603 people have died and over 2,400 have been injured. According to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), over 1.4 million people have been displaced due to the floods as of 24 October 2022.

In Anambra State, the 2022 flood has been recorded as the most devastating since the state started experiencing floods. The flood affected seven (7) out of the twenty-one (21) local government areas in the state. The main factor for the flood is the overflow of rivers around the state. More than 120 persons lost their lives while thousands are homeless, while agriculture, livelihood and social amenities have been lost and destroyed. The State government has created 27 IDPs in addition to the settlements created by desperate victims. These formal camps and settlements are densely populated with more women and children exposed to illnesses ranging from infectious and water-borne diseases to sexual exploitation

The 2022 annual flooding in Anambra state has accentuated the vulnerabilities suffered by women and girls. In particular the destruction of educational and health facilities exposes girls to loss of educational opportunities, well-being and dignity. In health they are exposed to communicable diseases, high rates of maternal mortality and even death due unmet reproductive health needs and facilities.

The several interventions by state and non-state actors at all levels are diminished by the high demand and weak capacities to access the relief. It is on record that while seeking access to government and philanthropic relief items, women and girls in formal and informal displaced communities are further exposed to risks of bodily and sexual exploitation. Women and girls in displaced and relocated communities are therefore in desperate need of food, shelter, clean drinking water, toilet and dignity items, psycho social support, legal intervention rehabilitation and relocation. These needs cannot all be met by any single entity, which justifies organizations and individuals selecting to provide according to expressed and affordable needs.

Objectives

- a) To provide a one-off non-food (NFI) relief item towards education, health, and economic empowerment for 600 number of affected women and girls affected by the 2022 floods in Anambra State.
- b) Strengthen psychosocial support awareness delivery for affected women and girls.

Expected Outcomes

- a) Enhanced opportunities for return and completion of school age girls.

- b) Protection and improved sanitation, hygiene and dignity.
- c) Enhanced chances of safe delivery accessing and using the maternity kits
- d) Increased knowledge on mental health and its management skills.

Deliverables

- a) Scoping and Advocacy Report
- b) Mapping Report
- c) Database & Distribution Records
- d) Full Intervention Reports
- e) Media and activity images, testimony audios and video clips
- f) Attendance and Beneficiary participation lists

Executive Summary:

"Beacon of Hope"

In a serene village, Umuenwelum community, Anambra West LGA, a group of determined women formed the Highly Favoured Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited to improve their livelihoods. Their main income came from processing cassava, a staple crop. Every day, they toiled, manually processing cassava into products like flour, garri, and fufu. Their production was limited due to the lack of modern equipment.

The 2022 flooding, one of the most devastating occurrences since the community started experiencing floods, resulted from factors such as rainfall patterns, riverbank overflow, climate change, deforestation, urbanisation, and inadequate drainage infrastructure. This directly affected the population, infrastructure, and the economy, destroying homes, displacing communities, and causing loss of life, further impoverishing people, including members of the Highly Favoured Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited.

WRAPA received funds from Malala Fund for a One-Off Intervention Support for Vulnerable Flood Victims (Women and Girls) in Anambra State, Nigeria. The cooperative was selected for support with a complete set of cassava processing equipment instead of cash transfers. Access to modern machinery would significantly boost their production and improve their living standards.

With Malala's support, a cassava processing centre was set up at Amma Goat Market, Aguleri, to serve residents and neighbouring communities that patronise on market days. The machines have the capacity to peel, wash, grate, press, fry, and dry cassava efficiently, eliminating manual labour.

Mrs. Rosemary Onwuegbuka, the cooperative's leader, expressed gratitude and highlighted their journey, emphasising how WRAPA's support revitalised the cooperative.

The equipment brought relief and would benefit the entire community, in the increase of garri and cassava production. It would enable the women to process larger quantities in less time.

The processing centre's impact would bring positive change to the cooperative members' lives, allowing them to secure better prices, invest in education, improve living conditions, and expand farming activities. Cassava waste products would be sold, generating additional income.

The cooperative would serve as a beacon of hope, inspiring other women to join and strengthen their collective impact. They received training on efficient equipment use, ensuring sustainability. Plans included transparent income management and expansion to other communities.

Over time, the cooperative would flourish, making the women self-reliant entrepreneurs known for exceptional cassava products, improving their lives and the entire community.

The Highly Favoured Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited's story would inspire cottage industries, encouraging others to harness their potential, collaborate, and embrace modern technology for a better future.

Likewise, the communities of Ebenebe and Umunankwo celebrated the installation and commissioning of the garri processing center. The Ebenebe New Face Cooperative Society and Young Farmers' Cooperative, recipients of this donation, highlighted the significant advantages

of the garri processing plant for their members and the immediate as well as surrounding communities.

The trio of women group beneficiaries who received the garri processing equipment demonstrated their dedication and assurance in the intervention. They rallied their members and collectively gathered more than five hundred thousand naira (N500,000.00) each to erect the structure housing the processing plant. Their substantial contribution serves as a testament to the anticipated advantages that the garri processing plant will deliver.

Light shone on Ugbenu

Ugbenu, a small village in Awka North LGA, Anambra State, hosted the community's primary school, nestled amid lush green fields. The students at this school hailed from humble backgrounds, and their families faced financial struggles. Despite their enthusiasm for learning, the students' spirits were dampened by their [worn-out school uniforms, tattered bags, and lack of books](#).



With funding from Malala Funds, WRAPA initiated a One-Off Intervention Support for Vulnerable Flood Victims (Women and Girls) in selected local government areas in Anambra State, Nigeria. This effort aimed to provide two sets of new uniforms, school bags, and books to the vulnerable schoolchildren. The children gathered at the school with pounding hearts, eagerly



awaiting the arrival of the donors. A convoy of vehicles approached, and a team of kind-hearted WRAPA emerged, carrying bags filled with gifts.

[Joy lit up the children's faces as the donations were distributed.](#) They received two sets of new uniforms, crisp and neatly ironed. The vibrant colours filled them with pride. Sturdy, spacious school bags followed, perfect for carrying books and supplies. The children held them close, eyes shimmering with gratitude.

The best surprise was yet to come. Each child received a stack of six exercise books, their eyes widening they flipped through the pages, eager to explore the world of learning. With their new uniforms, bags, and books, the children gained confidence. They stood tall, no longer burdened by the weight of poverty. Their dreams seemed more attainable, and their aspirations soared.



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The school underwent a transformation as well and [the pupils sang with joy.](#) Classrooms echoed with laughter and enthusiasm. The children actively participated in discussions, raised their

hands to ask questions, and delved into their studies with passion. Inspired by their students' zeal, teachers worked diligently to nurture their potential to guide them toward a brighter future.



The entire village witnessed the positive change in the lives of these young students. Inspired by their determination, the community came together to support the school. Parents volunteered their time and skills, local businesses contributed resources, and village elders organised mentoring programs.

Thus, the story of impoverished schoolchildren with torn uniforms became a tale of hope, resilience, and the transformative power of generosity. The village, once overshadowed by poverty, flourished with the collective efforts of its compassionate residents. The children, who once walked through life with their heads down, now stride with confidence, knowing they had the tools to shape their own destinies."

In a similar vein, the excitement soared at [Mmiata](#) Anam and [Umunakwo](#) community schools upon receiving donations of school uniforms and bags for the students, particularly aimed at



supporting girls' education in the flooded communities. Both students and stakeholders conveyed their heartfelt appreciation to WRAPA and Malala for this generous gesture, acknowledging its significant contribution in ensuring continued access to education for girls in these areas.

Relief Items Distributed:

The relief materials provided by WRAPA, with support from Malala's One-Off Intervention for Vulnerable Flood Victims, have brought about a positive shift in the livelihoods of organized women groups, primary and secondary school students, and community women in three Local Government Areas (Awka North, Anambra West, and Ogbaru) in Anambra State, Nigeria.

The intervention reached a total of **966** beneficiaries, including **150** primary school pupils, **150** secondary school students, **300** vulnerable women and girls, and **366** members of organized women groups. The distributed items, such as school uniforms, bags, school-in-a-bag kits, dignity kits, mosquito nets, MHPSS toolkits, and cassava processing equipment, addressed the pressing needs of the affected communities, enhancing their standard of living.

WRAPA's implementation strengthened organized groups, creating an increased value chain for profit and improved livelihood. Twelve communities in remote areas received interventions, including cassava processing equipment, school uniforms, bags, school-in-a-bag kits, and dignity kits/mosquito nets.

The one-off intervention significantly impacted the focal communities, distributing various relief materials, such as **300** primary uniforms, **150 school bags**, **150 school-in-a-bag kits** for secondary schools, **300 dignity kits**, **300** mosquito nets, and **600** MHPSS toolkits. Additionally, cassava processing equipment and fertilizer/chemicals were donated to six organized women groups, supporting and improving their livelihoods.

Secondary School Backpack



List of Items

1. Twelve 60 Leaves Exercise Books
2. Five Pens
3. One Set of Mathematical Instruments

Supported by:
MALALA FUND

Dignity Kit



List of Items

1. One Sunlight Detergent
2. Three Premier Multipurpose Soap
3. Two Super Toothbrush
4. Two Oral-B Toothpaste
5. One Septol Disinfectant
6. One Familia Body Cream
7. Three Molped Sanitary Pad
8. One Eskoda Pink Deodorant
9. One PermaNet (Treated Mosquito Net)

Supported by:
MALALA FUND

Primary School Backpack



List of Items

1. Six 40 Leaves Exercise Books
2. Three Pens
3. Two Pencils (HB)
4. One Eraser
5. Four Pencil Sharpeners

Supported by:

MALALA FUND

Despite challenges such as insecurity and logistical issues, WRAPA collaborated with key stakeholders and received endorsements from traditional leaders and government ministries. A plan for sustainability involves collaboration with key ministries and community stakeholders to register donated items for monitoring and institutional memory. LGA Project Assistants will work with community-based networks to continue monitoring organized women groups, reporting feedback, and enhancing the value chain for improved livelihoods.

Narration of Implemented Activities:

Scoping visit to Anambra State:

The scoping visit by WRAPA team to Anambra established contact with the relevant MDAs and stakeholder to scout for useful information on the flood affected communities and security situation. MoU were also signed with focal persons (NCWS and Ebenebe Town Union) on ground which facilitated easy intervention in the communities. The focal person also served as link to community gate keepers in the areas of intervention.

Mapping of the flood affected LGAs and communities in Anambra State:

A consultant residing within Anambra State was engaged to Map the most devastated communities in three LGAs in Anambra State. Four LGAs (Anambra West, Awka North, Ogbaru and Ayamelum) and 16 communities were mapped. Three LGAs (Anambra West, Awka North, Ogbaru) and 12 communities were selected for the intervention after much consultation with stakeholders. A total of 25 primary schools, 10 secondary schools and 17 organized women groups were mapped across the 3 selected LGAs. **3** primary schools, **3** secondary schools and **6** organized women groups were finally selected for the intervention across the 3 Local Government Areas.

Pre-distribution of relief material engagement with stakeholders:

Meeting was held with traditional rulers of Ebenebe, Ugbenu, Ugbene and Awba Ofemili and letters of invitation to the distribution were distributed and acknowledgement received. Key MDAs; ASEMA and Ministries of Budget, Planning and Economic Empowerment, Agriculture, Women Affairs, Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, and Education were all engaged and given letters of invitation to ensure institutional capture of WRAPA distribution into the states database for institutional memories evidenced by a letter of commendation from the Executive Governor through the Ministry of Education Anambra state. Buy-in of all key stakeholders were secured, which ensured smooth distribution of relief materials.



Distribution of Relief Materials:

Awka North LGA:

The one-off intervention in Awka North LGA benefitted one primary school (Community Primary School Ugbenu), one secondary school (Community Secondary School Ebenebe), two organized women groups (Ebenebe Newface Cooperative Society Ebenebe and Artisan women Awba Ofemili), and four communities (Ugbenu, Ugbebe, Ebenebe, and Awba Ofemili). The following items were distributed:

- 100 sets of uniforms and 50 school bags were provided to 50 primary pupils at Community Primary School Ugbenu.
- 50 school-in-a-bag kits and 100 MHPSS toolkits were donated to 50 students at Community Secondary School Ebenebe.
- 45 bags of NPK fertilizer and 45 liters of chemical each were given to the Artisan Women Association (Awba Ofemili) to support their farming activities.
- A complete set of cassava processing equipment (1 Cassava peeler, 1 Cassava Grater, 1 Cassava Presser with Hydraulic Jack, 1 Garri Communal Fryer, and 1 Cassava Cabinet

Dryer) was donated to an organized women group (Ebenebe Newface Cooperative Society, Ebenebe).

- 100 dignity kits and 100 mosquito nets were distributed to vulnerable women and girls in the four selected communities (Ugbene, Ugbenu, Ebenebe, Awba Ofemi), with 25 dignity kits and 25 mosquito nets for each community.

The intervention brought joy to pupils who lacked uniforms and school bags. WRAPA's support was warmly received, and a gratitude song was composed at Community Primary School Ugbenu. School heads and community leaders praised the positive impact, expecting increased enrollment, particularly among girls. Donated equipment, fertilizers, and chemicals will enhance cassava processing, fostering employment and community growth. Notably, 15 persons with disabilities benefited, promoting inclusivity. Dignity kits aid women and girls' self-esteem during challenges like floods. Community leaders expressed gratitude for the considerate intervention, acknowledging its significance.

Anambra West LGA:

The one-off intervention in Anambra West LGA impacted one primary school (Community Primary School Mmiata Anam), one secondary school (Community Secondary School Umueze Anam), two organized women groups (Small-Scale Women Farmers Organization of Nigeria (SWOFON) Umuewelum and Artisan women Oroma Etit), and four communities (Umeuze Anam, Mmiata Anam, Oroma Etit, Umuenwelum). The distributed items include:

- 100 sets of uniforms and 50 school bags provided to 50 primary pupils at Community Primary School Mmiata Anam.
- 50 school-in-a-bag kits and 100 MHPSS toolkits donated to 50 students at Community Secondary School Umueze Anam.
- 45 bags of NPK fertilizer and 45 liters of chemical each were given to the Artisan Women Association (Oroma Etit) to support their farming activities.
- A complete set of cassava processing equipment (1 Cassava peeler, 1 Cassava Grater, 1 Cassava Presser with Hydraulic Jack, 1 Garri Communal Fryer, and 1 Cassava Cabinet Dryer) donated to an organized women group (Highly Favoured Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited Umuewelum).
- 100 dignity kits and 100 mosquito nets distributed to vulnerable women and girls in the four selected communities, with 25 dignity kits and 25 mosquito nets for each community.

The students, previously without school bags, expressed excitement, as the intervention alleviated the burden of purchasing these items after struggling to pay school fees. The school-in-a-bag kits will ensure students have necessary supplies for the current school session. The donated equipment, fertilizers, and chemicals are expected to boost cassava production, diversify its uses, and improve the livelihoods of farm families by creating employment opportunities and generating income.

The leader of the organized women's group expressed gratitude for the intervention, anticipating a bumper harvest that will improve their livelihoods. The dignity kits provided will contribute to maintaining the dignity, self-esteem, and confidence of women and girls, particularly in challenging situations like floods. Community leaders, represented at the event, commended the organization for its thoughtful gesture, praising the praiseworthy intervention and expressing appreciation for its positive impact on the community.

Ogbaru LGA:

The one-off intervention in Anambra West LGA benefited various groups and communities, comprising: One primary school (Community Primary School Umunankwo), One secondary school (Ogbaru High Secondary School, Ogbakuba), Two organized women's groups (Young Women Farmers Association Umunankwo and Artisan Women Akili Ozizo), Four communities (Amiyi, Akili Ozizo, Ogbakuba, and Umunankwo). The intervention included the provision of essential items:

- 100 uniforms (2 sets per pupil) and 50 school bags for 50 primary pupils at Community Primary School Mmiata Anam
- 50 school-in-a-bag kits and 100 Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) toolkits for 50 students at Community Secondary School Umueze Anam
- 45 bags of NPK fertilizer and 45 liters of chemicals for the Artisan Women Association (Akili Ozizo) to support their farming activities.
- A complete set of cassava processing equipment (including Cassava Peeler, Greater, Presser with Hydraulic Jack, Garri Communal Fryer, and Cassava Cabinet Dryer) for the Young Women Farmers Association Umunankwo
- Distribution of 100 dignity kits and 100 mosquito nets to vulnerable women and girls across the four selected communities (Amiyi, Akili Ozizo, Ogbakuba, and Umunankwo), with 25 dignity kits and 25 mosquito nets allocated to each community.

The donated items brought immense joy to students who previously lacked school bags. This support significantly eases the financial burden, particularly after struggling to pay school fees. The school-in-a-bag kits ensure that students have necessary materials throughout the academic session.

The equipment, fertilizers, and chemicals provided to the women's groups aim to enhance the value chain in cassava processing. This support is expected to result in increased cassava production, diversified uses, employment opportunities, income generation, and improved livelihoods for farm families. The leader of the women's group expressed heartfelt gratitude for the intervention, emphasizing its substantial support for this farming season and the hope for a bumper harvest to uplift their livelihoods.

The distributed dignity kits are vital for women and girls, ensuring the preservation of their dignity, self-esteem, and confidence, especially in stressful situations like floods. These kits enhance their ability to cope effectively in such challenging circumstances.

Challenges:

In Anambra State, security challenges like incidents involving gunmen, kidnappings, and heightened political tensions were widespread. These factors significantly limited the team's movement, particularly blocking access to specific high-alert security zones. As a result, the distribution of relief materials had to be centralized or redirected to nearby communities closer to the capital.

Many of the chosen communities were positioned in the state's most remote areas, and the roads leading to these places were largely impassable. Additionally, the considerable distance between these communities and the capital presented logistical hurdles, making it challenging to reach these areas and return to the capital within a single day.

Recommendations:

- Implement monitoring procedures to evaluate the value chain enhancements achieved by the organized women's group post-intervention.
- Designate the Local Government Area (LGA) project assistant as on-site monitors to gather and report feedback from the beneficiaries.
- Collaborate with the state government and donors to construct elevated houses in flood-affected areas, aiming to minimize material damage caused by flooding.

Annexes:

- a) [Scoping and Advocacy Report](#)
- b) [Mapping Report](#)
- c) [Database & Distribution Records](#)
- d) [Media and activity images, testimony audios and video clips](#)
- e) [Attendance and Beneficiary participation lists](#)
- f) [Commissioning of the Garri Processing Plant](#)