Over the next ten years, Teach For Nigeria teachers will reach over a million students each year in their initial two-year commitments alone.
Teach For Nigeria
Creating 20,000 leaders committed to the country’s transformation

Teach For Nigeria has recruited and placed over 1,200 outstanding leaders over the last 5 years, with 508 fellows in the midst of two-year teaching commitments and 634 alumni who continue to stay engaged with the organization’s work. They have worked in over 600 primary and secondary schools in Ogun, Lagos, Kaduna, and Oyo states.

Teach For Nigeria’s students are making significant academic progress. Within the 2020-2021 academic year, the number of students meeting the standards for minimum proficiency in numeracy increased from 37% to 80%, and in literacy from 50% to 81%. Additionally, preliminary first year results from a two-year quasi-experimental study in progress by RAND Corporation to evaluate the impact of Teach For Nigeria’s Leadership Development Program show that students in classrooms taught by Teach For Nigeria fellows scored approximately 0.11 standard deviations higher in mathematics and 0.07 standard deviations higher in literacy—equivalent to 2–3 months of additional learning gains in literacy and 2–5 months of additional learning gains in mathematics compared to students in the comparison group.

Indeed, Teach For Nigeria’s teaching fellows have been publicly recognized for having an outsized impact. The overall winner of Ogun state’s “Most Outstanding Lockdown Teacher Award” was Gideon Ogunfeyimi, while the first runner-up was Precious Adegunle, both fellows. Moreover, at the commemoration ceremony of World Teachers’ Day in Ogun state, fellow Odutayo Joseph Oluwadare emerged the “Best Primary School Teacher of the Year in Ogun State”, and Badru Akeem, a Teach For Nigeria alumnus, came in second place.

Fellows’ students have been winners too. The students of Afeez Saka, a fellow teaching in Lagos State, were the second runners up at the “Beyond School Community Challenge 2021” for their proposal to build a community tech lab. Two students won the 2021 Lagos State Debate Competition with the support and coaching of Olafemiwa Adeshola, a fellow who created a literary and debate club as soon as he arrived at his school to nurture confidence and debating skills in his students. For World Science Day, Teach For Nigeria fellows engaged their students in solving problems in their communities: Itunuoluwa Bamidele supported his students to produce an eye-irritant spray that momentarily renders would-be sexual predators numb, Lateef Afolabi and Joseph Ogbonnaya mobilized students of classes 3-6 to build cars, bicycles, and trucks from...
locally sourced materials, and Adetola Adedapo helped students learn how to make petroleum jelly to address the dry, scaly skin that results from bathing in the river without access to body cream.

The fellowship is transformative for the alumni as well. In Teach For Nigeria’s most recent alumni survey, 100% of alumni said they believed they have a role to play in ensuring all children attain an excellent education, and 92% believe it’s possible to achieve this in Nigeria. These mindsets and commitments are spurring most alumni to continue to work to address the issues they encountered as fellows, with more than 70% reporting either working or studying to expand opportunities for children and/or improve the quality of life in under-served communities.

Some work from the governmental level: alumni work as special assistants to the Governor of Kaduna state and within the education ministries of Oyo and Edo states. A full 20% of alumni are working at social enterprises and non-profits they have founded to address gaps in the system—such as Schoolinka, which works to bridge Africa’s teacher professional development gap by providing easily accessible learning content; Bookaclan Academy, which develops literacy and digital skills of children in low-income schools in Kaduna state; Empower Me, which provides economic empowerment for mothers in low-income communities through vocational skills training; the No Box Initiative, which works to strengthen the capacity of teachers to deliver inclusive teaching and learning in the classroom; and TalentMine Academy, which provides quality educational opportunities to vulnerable and out-of-school children in Nigeria.

Even beyond the leadership pipeline Teach For Nigeria is building, the organization is having a far-reaching systemic impact. During the pandemic, they trained more than 17,000 teachers in digital literacy skills, hosted a radio school with more than 44,000 listeners, and piloted a school leadership development program to invest in the mindsets, skills and knowledge of their school principals.

These are still early days for Teach For Nigeria. These coming years will see an exponentially growing force of alumni leaders to fuel systemic change across the country. The organization is about to launch a plan to grow its movement to include 20,000 leaders over the coming decade across all geopolitical zones of the country through which they will work in deep partnership with local communities to bring in almost 4,500 teachers a year by 2033. By this point, Teach For Nigeria teachers will reach over a million students each year in their initial two-year commitments alone.

---

1 Minimum proficiency is the measure of students scoring at least 50% in their program-level assessments
2 Full report forthcoming following the end of the two-year study at the end of 2023