



November 2023



Almajiri Literacy program 2.0

Concept note



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Introduction and Background

The Almajiri system is an ancient islamic education system in Nigeria, characterized by its nomadic nature. Nomadic in the sense that the early islamic scholars moved from one place to another. There was a general lack of proper islamic knowledge in the early days, and the system for getting islamic knowledge was such that young boys of mostly Hausa and Fulani descent were sent to wherever knowledgeable scholars were located. For example, a family in some suburb in Katsina would send their boy(s) to a place like Kano where there is a scholar to acquire proper islamic knowledge. This act gave birth to what is known today as the Almajiri system.

In the ancient times, life was not so difficult for the Almajiri child. They'd usually beg for food to eat and take care of themselves, also people in the communities they are in would usually cater for them. Today, the system is seen more as a traditional practice than an actual practice of seeking religious knowledge because islamic religious knowledge is everywhere, there are scholars in every town, every village and in every suburb. It is a practice now common with poor people who send their children away as a form of tradition.

The Almajiri Literacy Program (ALP) 2.0 is a continued development from the Pilot program ALP 1.0 which was initiated and conducted from 2022 through 2023.

ALP 2.0 incorporate all of the lessons learned in the span of the 2 years pilot, designed to deliver literacy and development directly to the doorsteps of Almajiri Children.

It Incorporates a mentorship component that also serve to provide an ample supply of tutors (Senior Secondary Students in the Community) who will teach the Almajiri students while learning and acquainting themselves with community service, as well as benefit from direct mentorship from our team.

We have also incorporated incentives in the form of weekly snacks to serve as incentives and further promote attendance among Almajiri Children.



The Problem

Over 20 million school-aged children in Nigeria are not enrolled in school ([Premium Times](#)), quoting new UNESCO estimates ([here](#)). According to UNICEF, one in every five of the world's out-of-school children is in Nigeria ([here](#)). There are about 10 million [Almajiri](#) children roaming the streets of Nigeria, this number represents about 81% of the out-of-school children population in the country according to Geoffrey Njoku, A UNICEF Communications Specialist in an article published by UNICEF Nigeria titled '[Children adjust to life outside Nigeria's Almajiri system 2020](#)'.

Without a comprehensive government policy to either formalise and integrate the Almajiri system with basic education or outlaw the practice, millions of children are condemned to a life without formal education, basic literacy and numeracy needed to function in today's society.

20 Million

Out-of-School Children

10 Million +

Almajiri Children

No Holistic
Government
Policy

Solution



The Almajiri Literacy Program

1

2

3

Literacy

Providing the Children with Literacy and Foundational Numeracy skills, this opens up a world of opportunities for them, solidifying their ability to survive better in today's world.



Personal Hygiene

Providing the children with working understanding and knowledge of personal hygiene, enhancing their overall health outcomes and letting them develop better hygiene habits.



mentorship and Exposure

The interactions we will have with the children will expose them to the potential of who they can be, what they are missing out on and the possibilities ahead of them. The relationship we develop with the children also allows us to mentor them.



3

Objectives

- To Empower Almajiri children aged 15 and above with foundational literacy in English and Hausa, Numeracy skills and a basic understanding of Personal hygiene management.
- To foster holistic growth by providing access to learning materials, mentorship, and guidance to enhance cognitive and social skills.
- To collaborate with local communities, religious leaders, educational institutions and other shareholders to create a supportive and inclusive learning environment for Almajiri children.

Program Structure

ALP 2.0 will run in a session of 6 months (January to July & July to December) with 96 hours of lessons per session for 30 Almajiri Students per center who will be graduated at the end of the 6 months. ALP 2.0 consist of the following components:

1. Baseline Assessment: At the beginning of the program, each of the 30 children will be assessed to determine his/her level of literacy and numeracy using our assessment tool, this will allow us track the individual progress of the children.

2. Teaching Team: Each learning center will have a center coordinator who will oversee the running of the centre, 2 master tutors who will mentor assistant tutors, and 4 secondary school students (assistant tutors) who will take part in the weekly lessons (2 times a week and 2 hours per lesson).

3. Midline Assessment: At 3 months into the session, the same assessment tool will be used to assess the children, making sure that there is an improvement and adjusting the teaching method for better understanding and friendlier lesson delivery.

4. Incentives: to ensure the success of ALP 2.0 the following incentives must be made available for the centers:

- Weekly transportation allowance for the Assistant tutors
- Weekly incentives for the Almajiri Students in the form of Snacks or food
- Procurement of Exercise books for the students
- Provision of ALP teaching manuals for all tutors
- Technical training on how to teach Almajiri Students for tutors and their assistants

5. Endline Assessment: At the end of the session, the same assessment tool will be used to assess the children, determining their literacy, numeracy and personal hygiene understanding before graduation.

6. Empowerment: At the end of the session, We will collaborate with and hand over those among our graduating students to a partner organisation which will empower them with entrepreneurial skills.

Budget

Item	Unit Price	No. of Units	Total	Comment
Mats	₦2,500	2	₦5,000.00	these mats are purchased at the beginning of a session to ensure availability of sitting space
Exercise Books	₦150	3*30 = 90	₦13,500.00	Each of the 30 Children in a center uses 3 exercise books for English, Hausa and Personal Hygiene
White board Marker	₦3,000	6	₦18,000.00	each center uses 6 packs of marker for a session
Transportation Allowance for Tutors	₦400	₦400 per tutor * 4 tutors a week = ₦1,600 * 24 weeks (6 months)	₦38,400.00	Each of the 4 teachers will be paid ₦1,600 per month
Snacks for Almajiri Children	₦300	30 weekly * 24 weeks (1 session)	₦216,000.00	₦300 is the cost of a Donut (₦250) and a drink (₦50)
Logistics	₦9,100	-	₦9,100	
Total			₦300,000.00	





Expected Outcomes

1

To Graduate Almajiri children who can read, write and comprehend English

2

To Graduate Almajiri children who can read, write and comprehend Hausa

3

To Graduate Almajiri children who can perform simple Numerical operations

4

Improved Personal Hygiene Practice among our current and graduated Almajiri Students

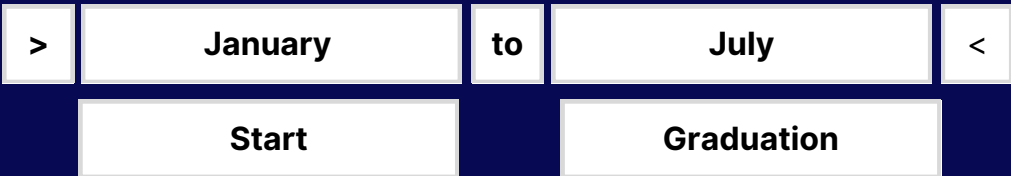
5

To Graduate Highly empowered Almajiri Children who will make better choices and qualify for the opportunities around them

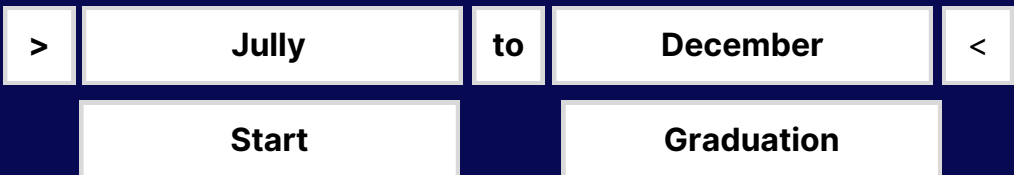
Project Timeline



Phase 1



Phase 2



Let's Work Together



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