

# FCDO-PLANE Quarterly Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2025



Learners from Wasai Special Primary School, Kano State, holding their PLANE books

## Dear All,

We are delighted to announce the relaunch of PLANE's external newsletter, beginning this September 2025. More than just an update, we hope this quarterly edition of our newsletter will be a platform to further support coordination with our stakeholders in the education sector, amplifying voices, celebrating partnerships, and reflecting on the positive impact we are achieving together across our programme areas.

In this edition, we highlight the following key achievements from the past quarter:

- » **Headline sponsorship at the KADA EduPACT International Summit 2025**
- » **Launching the new National Policy on Non-State Schools in Nigeria and the new Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) portal.**
- » **Scale-up of our foundational learning initiatives in Jigawa and Kano States.**

We are also sharing a link to our strategy document on PLANE's approach to foundational learning. We look forward to keeping you connected to our work and welcome you to share this newsletter widely in support of stronger collaboration across the education sector.

# Top Stories



(Left to right) - British Deputy High Commissioner to Nigeria, Mrs Gill Lever OBE; Minister of State for Education, Prof Suwaiba Sa'd Ahmad; Governor of Kaduna State and Chief Host, Senator Uba Sani, CON; Minister of Education, Doctor Muruf Tunji Alausa, CON and Hadiza Elayo Representing the Deputy Secretary General United Nations, Amina J. Mohammed, GCON

In July 2025, the UK Government, through the FCDO-PLANE programme, joined the Kaduna State Government in organising the KADA EduPACT International Education Summit. The summit was convened to strengthen and revitalise Kaduna State's education sector, and it had as its theme: Strategic Visioning for Educational Transformation: Developing a Kaduna State Education Model

Some of the distinguished guests in attendance at the opening ceremony were the Governor of Kaduna State and Chief Host, Senator Uba Sani, CON; Minister of Education, Dr Maruf Tunji Alausa CON; Minister of State for Education, Prof. Suwaiba Said Ahmad; Charge d'affaires and British Deputy High Commissioner to Nigeria, Mrs Gill Lever OBE; and Hadiza Elayo, representing the Deputy Secretary General United Nations, Amina J. Mohammed, GCON.



Cross-section of participants



Special Guests at the KADA EduPACT Summit

At the KADA EduPACT Summit, the Governor of Kaduna State reaffirmed his administration's unwavering commitment to building a resilient, inclusive, and innovative education system that delivers measurable results for every child in Kaduna State.

In the same vein, the Chargé d'Affaires and British Deputy High Commissioner to Nigeria, Mrs. Gill Lever OBE, also delivered remarks, emphasising the UK's enduring support for education reform in Nigeria. In case you missed the event, you can now watch a full recap of the KADA EduPACT on YouTube.

[Click Here](#)



(Left to right) - Country Director, DAI in Nigeria, Dr Joe Abah; Strategic Adviser for the PLANE Programme, Dr Nguyen Feese; British Deputy High Commissioner to Nigeria, Mrs Gill Lever OBE; Senior Education Adviser, British High Commission, Ian Atfield; National Team Lead, PLANE, Dr Gboyenga Ilusanya; Education Adviser, British High Commission, Mkalilu Ibrahim.



PLANE's Exhibition Booth



Guests from the British High Commission in Abuja at the KADA EduPACT Summit



*"This summit marks a defining moment in our continued commitment to transforming education in Kaduna State. We are moving past fragmented efforts and embracing a cohesive, data-driven, and future-focused strategy—one that places our children and youth at the very center of our development agenda."*

**— Senator Uba Sani, CON  
Governor of Kaduna State  
& Chief Host**

# Federal Ministry of Education Introduces New Policy on Non-State Schools

The Federal Ministry of Education, Nigeria, with support from the FCDO-PLANE programme, has officially launched the National Policy on Non-State Schools in Nigeria. This milestone represents a significant step forward in the collective effort to strengthen the management and regulation of non-state education providers — including private, faith-based, community, tutorial, charity, and other non-government schools across the country.



Unveiling of the National Policy on Non-State Schools in Nigeria by the Minister of Education, Dr Maruf Tunji Alausa



Ian Attfield, Senior Education Adviser, British High Commission delivering a goodwill message at the TRCN Portal launch

PLANE is proud to have worked closely with government partners and key stakeholders, including various non-state school associations, in developing this policy over the past two years. Unveiled on July 16 by the Honourable Minister of Education, Dr. Maruf Tunji Alausa, the Non-State Schools Policy introduces a unified national framework to improve the sector by addressing challenges such as poor quality, inadequate funding, unqualified staff, insufficient infrastructure, and weak data systems. It also outlines solutions such as teacher licensing, stronger regulation, improved data systems, inclusive learning environments, and financing partnerships that align with national education goals.

You can download the [policy](#) and its [executive summary](#) on the PLANE website.



Director Basic Education, Federal Ministry of Education, Dr Folake Olatunji-David and the National Team Lead, PLANE, Dr Gboiyenga Iusanya, presenting an overview of the Non-State Policy.



Unveiling of the National Policy on Non-State Schools in Nigeria by the Minister of Education, Dr Maruf Tunji Alausa



Participants holding copies of the newly launched policy

# Federal Government Launches TRCN Portal to Reposition Teaching Profession



Official unveiling of the TRCN Portal's printed interface by the Minister of Education, Dr. Tunji Alausa

On Monday, 25th August 2025, the Federal Government of Nigeria, through the Teacher Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) in partnership with PLANE, launched the TRCN Digital Portal, a landmark initiative to modernise teacher management and strengthen professionalism in the education sector.

The Minister of Education, Dr. Tunji Alausa, alongside the Minister of State for Education, Professor Suwaiba Said Ahmad, unveiled the new portal in a ceremony in Abuja, describing the new portal as a 'new dawn for Nigerian teachers' and 'a promise of action, support, and dignity'.

*"In a world that competes through ideas, skills, and creativity, digitisation is no longer optional. Teachers must be at the centre of this transformation,"* said Professor Suwaiba Ahmad.

Also present at the unveiling was Ian Attfield, Senior Education Advisor, British High Commission, who emphasised the UK's support through the FCDO-funded PLANE programme. He noted the importance of building "integrated, smart systems that motivate all teachers in both public, private, faith-based, and volunteer alike."

The new portal enables teachers to register, renew licenses, update records, check results, and print certificates online. It is expected to strengthen transparency, efficiency, and professionalism across Nigeria's teaching workforce.

Click here to explore: [TRCN - Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria | Teaching for Excellence](#)



Cross-section of attendees at the TRCN Portal Launch



Ian Attfield, Senior Education Adviser, British High Commission delivering a goodwill message at the TRCN Portal launch



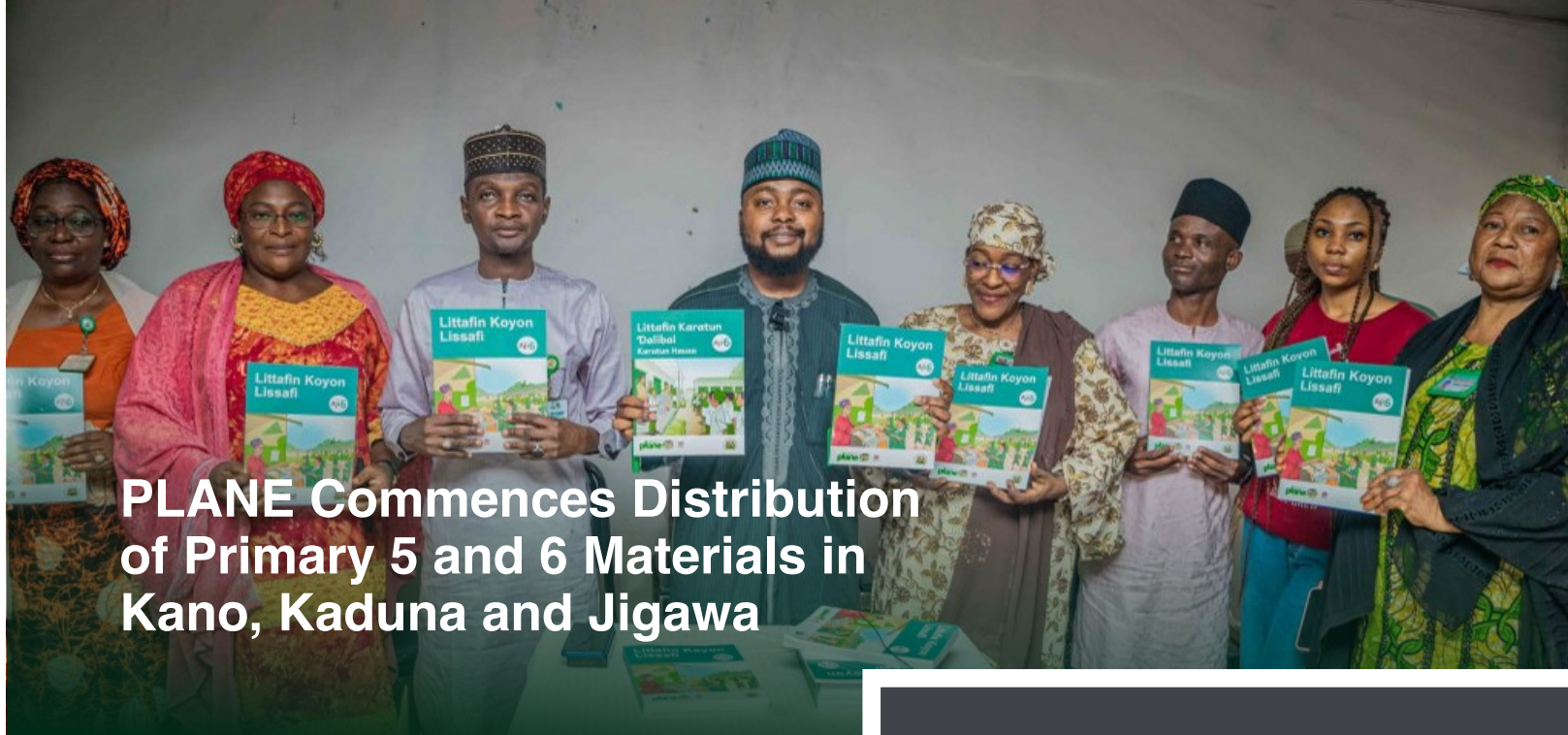
Cross-section of Participants at the TRCN Portal Launch



Cross-section of Participants at the TRCN Portal Launch



Panel session at the TRCN Portal Launch



## PLANE Commences Distribution of Primary 5 and 6 Materials in Kano, Kaduna and Jigawa

Stakeholders showcasing the new foundational learning materials during the flag-off ceremony on 20th August 2025 at the Kaduna North Secretariat

Ahead of the new school year in September, PLANE, in partnership with the state governments of Kaduna, Kano, and Jigawa, has officially commenced the distribution of a new set of literacy and mathematics textbooks for Primary 5 and 6 classes. This distribution marks a critical milestone for the programme, ensuring full coverage of learning materials for all primary classes (1 through 6) in all supported schools across the three states.



Cartons of books delivered to Jigawa State being scanned using Track and Trace system

In Kaduna, a flag-off ceremony took place on 20th August 2025 at the Kaduna North Secretariat, marking the official launch of the distribution process. A simultaneous distribution is underway in Kano and Jigawa states, with complementary teacher training sessions also being conducted to ensure effective use of the new materials and enhance classroom delivery.

**In total, PLANE aims to reach about 583,000 P5 and P6 learners and 10,400 teachers with the new materials, while also providing an additional 298,000 copies of P1 to P3 materials for replenishments.**



Cartons of some of the textbooks delivered to Kaduna State

Kano State PLANE Lead, Umar Lawan, during the textbook inspection with the Honourable Commissioner for Education in Kano State, Dr Ali Haruna Makoda.

## PLANE, Beta Nigeria Launch New Podcast Series



Minister of State for Education, Professor Suwaiba Said Ahmed (in the middle), flanked by the learners who interviewed her and organisers of the 'Voices of the Future' podcast.

We are proud to announce the launch of 'Voices of the Future', a new podcast series produced by the Bêta Nigeria Campaign Network in collaboration with the Civil Society Action Coalition on Education for All (CSACEFA), Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), FCDO-PLANE, PAGED Initiative, and Give Girls a Chance (GGAC).

The podcast's first episode, featuring the Minister of State for Education, Professor Suwaiba Said Ahmed, is set to air on Friday, September 12. Other prominent education policymakers and civil society actors are also billed to appear in subsequent series. Voices of the Future connects learners directly with education policymakers, amplifying their voices and giving them a platform to ask questions about how Nigeria's education system can serve them better.

Follow Bêta Nigeria to catch every episode and join the conversation on shaping the future of education.

For more info, check out Beta Nigeria's YouTube page: <http://www.youtube.com/@VOF-Podcast>



## Jigawa and Kano State Governments Scale up PLANE's Foundational Literacy and Numeracy.

Jigawa and Kano states have recently scaled up PLANE's foundational literacy and numeracy interventions across more LGAs, giving more children access to quality learning. While the scale-up in Kano covered five additional Local Government Areas (LGAs), Jigawa has been able to achieve state-wide coverage, with PLANE materials and methodology now adopted across its 27 LGAs.

### Why states are scaling up:

Since its inception, the UK-funded PLANE programme has supported Kano State in improving learning outcomes for children, with efforts focused on four LGAs: Gabasawa, Karaye, Minjibir, and Takai. Following positive results, the state government is expanding the programme to five more LGAs: Danbatta, Gaya, Gwarzo, Madobi, and Makoda, partnering with PLANE to train teachers and producing 5,000 copies of Mathematics and Literacy Teacher Guides.



In Jigawa, the Commissioner for Basic Education, Dr. Yunusa Lawan Danzomo, said:

*"The Foundational Learning and Numeracy Programme in schools in the local government areas where PLANE is working is making a lot of improvement and bringing a lot of changes in the pattern of learning delivery in our state."*

Building on the success in seven LGAs, the state is expanding access by leveraging support from UNICEF in 10 LGAs and including funding for other LGAs in its budget.

Click here to read more on [Jigawa scale-up](#) and here to read about the [Kano scale-up](#).

[Click here to learn more about PLANE's Foundational Learning Approach.](#)

Thank you for reading and see you next quarter!



Consortium Partners:



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