

FCDO-PLANE Quarterly Newsletter

DECEMBER 2025



Dear All,

As 2025 draws to a close, we are pleased to take a few moments to pause, reflect and share some of the achievements and highlights of the PLANE programme in the December 2025 edition of our newsletter.

The last quarter of 2025 (September to November) marked the beginning of PLANE's programme's Year 4 implementation as well as the midpoint of the programme.

In this edition, we are proud to highlight several key achievements, including:

- » **PLANE's progress to date and results from our Year 3 learning assessment outcomes**
- » **The launch of zero-rated data and devices for Nigerian teachers by the Federal Government**
- » **Stakeholders' validation of the Almajiri System Reform Policy**
- » **Commemoration of World Teachers' Day with Kaduna State Government**
- » **Launch of the Federal Ministry of Education's Communications Strategy**
- » **Release of New Episodes on the 'Voices of the Future' podcast series**



We wish to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all our partners and supporters for their collaboration and commitment. This year's successes and impact would not have been possible without our shared dedication and vision for improving learning opportunities for all of Nigeria's children.

Wishing everyone a peaceful and happy holiday season and a prosperous new year ahead.

Happy reading! For more information about our programme, visit www.planenigeria.com.

Highlight of PLANE's Achievement at Midline

The PLANE Window 1 programme, led by DAI, recently reached its midline point after over three years of successful implementation in Nigeria. Thanks to the commitment and incredible support of our partners, the programme is creating real change, strengthening education systems and supporting more than 1.8 million learners (through direct and indirect interventions) to grow, thrive and stay on track for a brighter future. See below a snapshot of our achievements to date.

PLANE PROGRAMME ACHIEVEMENTS



Foundational Learning skills improved in
3,969
Schools



School Leadership and Management Training for
16,517
headteachers and SBMCs.



21st-century pedagogy, subject content knowledge, attitude and behaviour training for
14,369
teachers.



Provided Hausa literacy and mathematics materials to
1,891,387
learners.



22
Policy reforms and four laws influenced to strengthen education delivery in states



231
Community learning hubs established in three states



32
Evidence products developed to improve data use in decision making

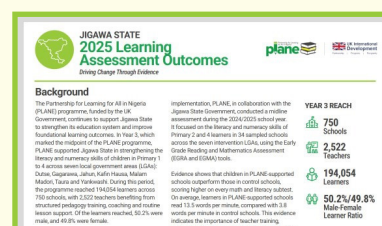


2,562
Schools supported to implement safeguarding action plans

At midline, PLANE's learning assessments show meaningful gains in literacy and numeracy across the three states where the programme initiatives operate. Learners in Primary 4 are building solid skills, and teachers demonstrate improved competence in delivery.

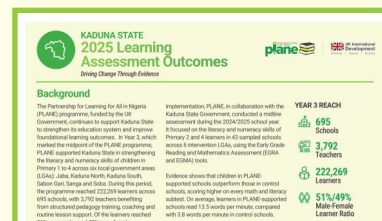
- » **In PLANE-supported schools:**
 - approximately **56%** of learners are now meeting or exceeding foundational literacy expectations
 - more than **80%** of learners are meeting or exceeding foundational numeracy expectations
- » **Primary 4 children in PLANE-supported schools can read about 13.5 words per minute, compared with 3.8 words per minute in control schools**

These results reflect steady progress in Kano, Kaduna and Jigawa as classrooms grow stronger and learners gain the confidence they need to succeed. Click the links to download our learning outcomes brief for each location.



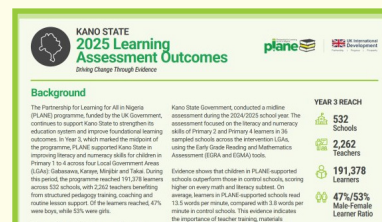
Jigawa Learning Assessment Outcomes

[VIEW DOCUMENT](#)



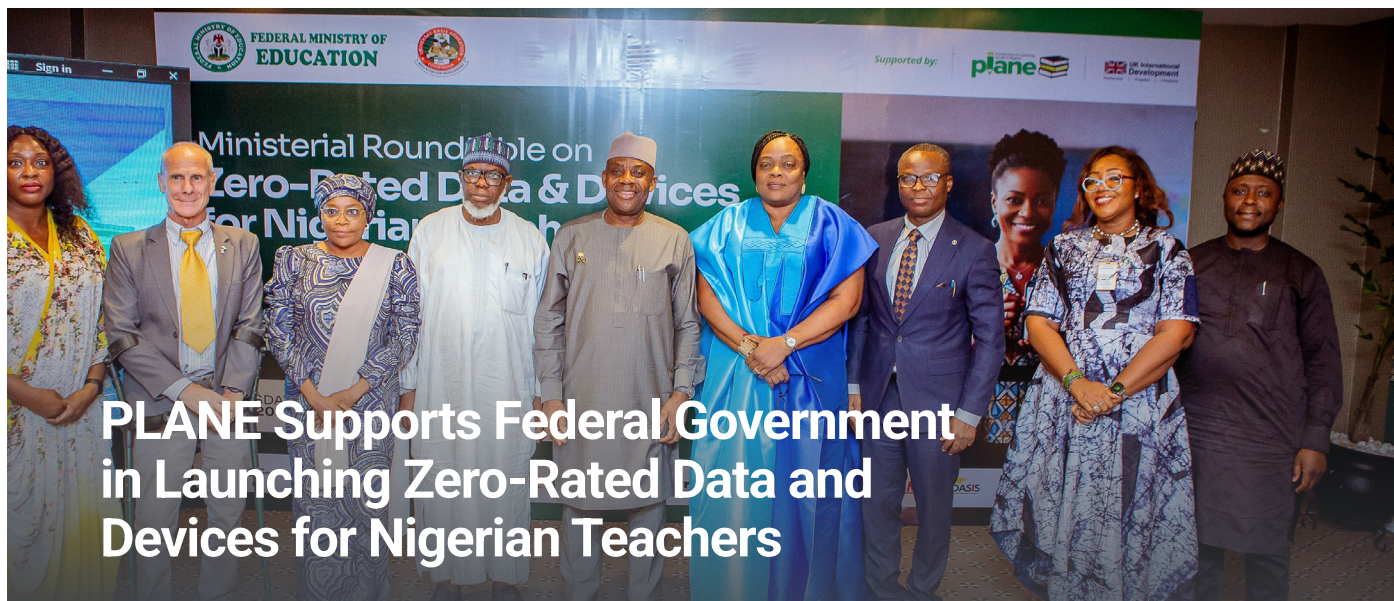
Kaduna Learning Assessment Outcomes

[VIEW DOCUMENT](#)



Kano Learning Assessment Outcomes

[VIEW DOCUMENT](#)



PLANE Supports Federal Government in Launching Zero-Rated Data and Devices for Nigerian Teachers

On Thursday, 23rd October, the Federal Government of Nigeria, through the Federal Ministry of Education, unveiled a landmark initiative to equip teachers nationwide with zero-rated data access and subsidised devices for professional development and improved classroom delivery. Implemented with technical support from FCDO PLANE, this initiative reflects the government's commitment to advancing digital learning through the Education Public-Private Partnership (ePPP) framework.

At the pilot launch, the Minister of Education, Dr. Muruf Tunji Alausa, underscored the need for digital readiness in teaching. "We need our teachers to be 21st century compliant to impact students effectively," he said. The Minister also inaugurated a Coordination and Implementation Committee (CIC) to guide the rollout and foster collaboration among government, development partners, and private-sector stakeholders, including telcos and Internet Exchange providers.



Minister of Education, Dr Muruf Tunji Alausa, giving a goodwill message at the launch

Mr. Ian Attfield, Senior Education Adviser at the British High Commission, reaffirmed the UK's support for Nigeria's EdTech drive and called for scalable, locally adapted solutions to close access gaps and strengthen education equity.



Over 8,000 teachers across all six geopolitical zones will join the pilot from December 2025 to July 2026, accessing the Federal Government's eLearn platform and other digital resources at no data cost.

This scheme is a significant step toward a more inclusive and connected education system.



Cross-section of participants at the launch

PLANE Participates in Sectorwide Validation of the Almajiri System Reform Policy.



Cross Section of Participants

PLANE has continued to support the Federal Ministry of Education (FME) in strengthening its role in education service delivery, including through technical assistance to the National Commission for Almajiri and Out-of-School Children Education (NCAOOSCE) in the development of the National Policy for the Enhancement of Almajiri Education in Nigeria.

➤ **PLANE supported and participated in a two-day national stakeholder workshop from 28th to 29th October 2025 at the Porto Golf Hotel, Kano, which brought together participants from State Ministries of Education, traditional rulers, Alarammas, and development partners.**

The purpose of the workshop was to review and validate the draft policy in preparation for its presentation to the National Council on Education (NCE) scheduled for the 6th November 2025 in Ondo State.



Participants at the Stakeholders Engagement



Participants at the Stakeholders Engagement

As anticipated, at the NCE, the Federal Government approved the validated National Policy on Almajiri Education, marking a historic step toward inclusive learning and the formal integration of the Almajiri system into Nigeria's national education structure. Key provisions of the new policy include: harmonisation of curricula across Tsangaya schools; integration of literacy, numeracy, critical thinking, and skills acquisition; teacher training and stipends; improved funding and supervision; proper learner documentation and parental engagement; and minimum infrastructure and WASH standards.



Prof. Abubakar Sani Sambo, Commissioner of Education, Kaduna State

PLANE Joins Kaduna State Government to Celebrate World Teachers Day 2025.

In celebration of the 2025 World Teachers' Day, themed "Recasting Teaching as a Collaborative Profession," PLANE joined the Kaduna State Universal Basic Education Board and other partners to recognise 115 outstanding teachers across all 23 local government areas of the state.



At an event which held on Saturday, October 4, 2025, the Kaduna State Government honoured each top awardee with a ₦500,000 cash prize and a plaque, while the overall best teacher received two plaques, two certificates, and ₦1,000,000.

All winners will also benefit from scholarships and soft loans to further their careers and strengthen the education sector. This celebration not only honours the dedication of teachers but also highlights the importance of collaboration in the teaching profession. Together, we are creating an environment where teachers are empowered, supported, and celebrated for their invaluable contributions.



Sample of Award Plaque Given to the Awardees



Cultural Display at the World Teachers Day Celebration



One of the outstanding teacher receiving her award



Cross section of Participants at the Kaduna Teachers Day Celebration



Federal Ministry of Education Launches New Communications Strategy with Technical Assistance from PLANE

The Federal Ministry of Education, with support from the PLANE programme, launched its Communications Strategy and Framework for 2025-2027 on September 30, 2025. The new strategy aims to strengthen communication across the Ministry's departments and agencies, promote transparency and ensure citizens are more effectively engaged.

At the launch in Abuja, the Minister of Education, Dr Maruf Tunji Alausa, described the strategy as a tool to tell Nigeria's education story "with clarity, credibility, and consistency."

He was joined by the Minister of State for Education, Professor Suwaiba Said Ahmad, who stressed that education reforms only succeed when they are clearly communicated, understood, and embraced by all stakeholders.



Education Adviser at the British High Commission Abuja, Dr Mikailu Ibrahim, Delivering a Goodwill Message.



Cross Section of Participants at the Launch of the Communications Strategy.



A Group Photograph of Stakeholders at the Launch of the Communications Strategy.

Delivering a goodwill message, Education Adviser at the British High Commission Abuja, Dr. Mikailu Ibrahim, noted that "communication is the bridge between policies and the people. This framework helps us build that bridge, and I can say with confidence that it has what it takes to deliver the Ministry's message effectively." Representing PLANE's National Team Lead, Deputy National Team Lead, Mr. Sam Achimugu, explained that PLANE's engagement aims to support the Ministry in aligning its communication structures with current reform priorities, while strengthening the visibility of education sector initiatives, whether led directly by government or in partnership with development actors.

Strengthening Literacy in Nigeria: Lessons, Experiences from the UK-Funded PLANE Programme.

In case you missed it, earlier in September, The Guardian Newspaper (page 22) featured an exclusive interview with Mr Ian Attfield, Senior Education Adviser at the British High Commission.

In the piece, he discussed how the PLANE programme is partnering with the Nigerian government and local communities to strengthen the education system and expand learning opportunities for children across the country.

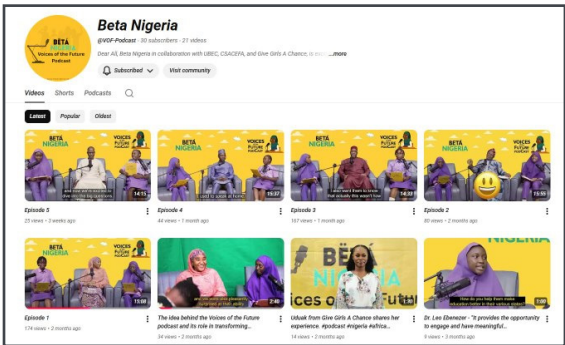
This further highlights the growing visibility and impact of PLANE's work in improving foundational learning and supporting education reforms.

Click here to read the full interview.

[READ MORE](#)



New Episodes: Beta Nigeria Voices of the Future Podcast



Voices of the Future on [YouTube](#)

In our last edition, we announced the launch of the 'Voices of the Future', a new podcast series produced by the Bētā 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).

All episodes of the podcast are now available on the [Beta Nigeria - YouTube channel](#). Special guests hosted include Dr. Muhammad Sani Idris, the Executive Secretary of the National Commission for Almajiri and Out-of-School Children's Education and UBEC's Executive Secretary Hajiya Aisha Garba.

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 [Bētā Nigeria](#) to catch every episode and join the conversation on shaping the future of education. Feel free to share and subscribe.

Success Story: Islamiyya Attendees Embrace Kachako Community Learning Hub

As part of our recently documented success stories, we are pleased to share a community-driven transformation from Kachako Community Learning Hub, Kano State.

Once known for its resistance to Western education, Kachako is now home to a thriving PLANE-supported Community Learning Hub where over 200 children, including Almajiris, gather weekly to build foundational literacy and numeracy skills. This shift became possible through strong community advocacy and the remarkable support of Mallam Ibrahim Abubakar, an Islamic teacher who offered his own compound for the hub after embracing the value of combining Islamic and formal education.

The hub has helped reintegrate out-of-school children into regular schools and continues to inspire families to prioritise learning.

Read the full story here:

[READ MORE](#)



Cross-section of learners at the Kachako Community Learning Hub



Boys at the learning hub during break

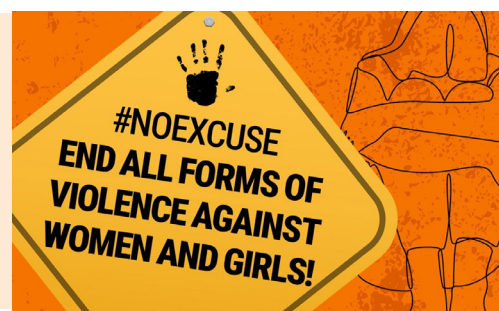


Hussaina, one of the learners enrolled in school through the hub

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

This December, PLANE is joining the global call for change during the #16DaysofActivism against Gender-Based Violence, reaffirming its commitment to safer spaces and strengthening protections for women and girls.

We invite all well-meaning Nigerians to join this campaign by speaking up against every form of abuse and violence targeted at both women and young girls. Remember, there is no excuse for violence. Break harmful norms, help girls thrive in safe spaces and empower women to contribute meaningfully to society.



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