JICA SEMINAR ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING POLICIES FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICERS (JFY 2009)

Country Report

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Basic Information On Nigeria

- Nigeria lies between latitudes 4◦53 North and 13◦ 53 North and longitudes 2 ⅀40 E and 14 ◦41 east
- It is located in West Africa. It is bordered on the west by the republic of Benin, on the North by the Republic of Nigeran on the east by the republic of Cameroun and on the south by the Atlantic ocean.
- The country occupies a land area of 923,768 square kilometers
- The 2006 population census put the population of Nigeria at 140 million(72 million men and 68 million women)

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

My Job Description

I am the Principal Women Development Officer in the Women Organization Division of the Women Affairs Department. In Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development

- My job description includes:

Assist in coordinating the activities of Non governmental organizations working on gender equality and women empowerment

Assist in formulating policies and development of programmes to promote the political participation of women

Assist in developing programmes to empower women focused organizations

Represent the Ministry in some standing committees and activities to mainstream gender eg report writing of National Demographic Health Survey ,the committee on energy workshop for women.

Major Policies On Promotion Of Gender Equality

- National Gender Policy 2007;
- Child Rights Act 2003
- National Economic Empowerment Development Strategy(NEEDS)
- Millennium Development Goals;
- National Education policy
- National Health Policy;
- National Poverty Eradication Programme(NAPEP)

Major Policies On Promotion of Gender Equality

- Women Fund For Economic Empowerment(WOFEE)
- Business Development Fund For Women;
- Re-activation of Women Development Centres.

Major Challenges In Mainstreaming Gender In Nigeria

- Socio cultural perceptions that encourage inequalities between men and women
- Lack of sufficient resources to promote gender mainstreaming
- Low level of women empowerment as expressed in the existence of such indicators as high level of poverty of women and low participation of women in decision making

MY EXPERIENCE ON THIS COURSE

I have gained useful insight into the strategies and methods used to promote the participation of women in other countries that could be applied to my country.

I have also been inspired by the high performance of Japan in the human development indices achieved partially by the adoption of appropriate policies.

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My experience

- Similarly I have been inspired by the efforts of the people and government of Kitakyushu in playing a lead role in gender mainstreaming and mobilizing the capacities of women to effect change.
- In addition I aspire to emulate the ability of the organizers of this seminar to give adequate attention to detail in organizing programmes.

ACTION PLAN

- **i)Title**: National Sensitization Campaign on women's participation in 2010/2011 general elections

- **ii) Objective**: To create awareness on the suitability of women as candidates for election into decision making positions for the 2011 elections.

Action Plan

- iii) **Site**: The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, and the thirty six states.

Action Plan cont

- iv)**Duration**: one year March 2010 to March 2011.
- v) **Implementing body**: Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development and the Non Governmental Organizations partners managing the zonal Women Political Empowerment offices and the state ministries of Women Affairs

ACTION plan

vi) Target: Opinion leaders, Women organizations and the general public

vii) **Activities**

- A) Coordination meeting with stakeholders -women organizations, Women Political Empowerment offices and State Ministries of Women Affairs b)Design and development of IEC materials
  c) State level advocacy with opinion leaders

My Role

- viii) My role in the project would be to provide the administrative coordination for the execution of the project. My ministry will provide the logistical support while the NGOs managing the zonal offices for women political empowerment will implement.

ACTION PLAN
Outputs

- Women and men are adequately informed through accessible media that women have capacity to perform well in decision making positions.
- Political and Community leaders are ready to support women contesting for elections.

THANK YOU FOR WATCHING