



Guaranty Trust Bank plc
RC 15232*



2018

CORPORATE SOCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY REPORT



At Guaranty Trust Bank, we strongly believe that, beyond the immense benefits of our business to society, we have a critical role to play in building a world where everyone, irrespective of their background or economic status, has all the support that they need to reach their full potential. Over the years, this belief has continued to drive our strategic focus and significant investments in Community Development, Education, Arts and the Environment; four areas which we believe are fundamental pillars to building a strong and sustainable society.

In 2018, we continued to deepen and expand the impact of our CSR initiatives; funding developmental projects in underserved communities, championing local and global humanitarian causes, expanding access to quality education, promoting Africa's Art and cultural heritage, creating opportunities for economic empowerment and adopting measures that help protect the environment. In this book, you will find, not just a comprehensive report of our CSR activities through 2018, but also several testimonials that reflect our massive impact in enriching people's lives.

“Enriching lives and helping communities thrive is not just a moral imperative, it is a fundamental part of who we are.”

OUR CSR Pillars



Total Amount:
N928,078,323.42

“Access to quality education is not only critical for self-improvement, it is fundamental to any society’s social and economic development.”



EXPANDING ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION

Our Education Footprint in 2018

- Monthly book readings
- Renovation of the Children’s Section of the Herbert Macaulay Library
- Read-aloud Marathon
- Promoting Financial Education in Secondary Schools
- Increased Investment in Sports Education
- Paid Academic Trip for Innovative Students

In today’s knowledge-based economy, we know that it is only by expanding access to quality education and promoting life-long learning opportunities for all that we empower people and communities to reach the fullness of their potential. During the year we continued to build on our efforts to rekindle to the culture of reading, grow financial literacy, and, most importantly, promote activities that keep kids in school and help them build critical life skills.

■ Rekindling the Culture of Reading

Having transformed the Herbert Macaulay Library into a vibrant centre for personal learning and group interactions, we continue to leverage the space to host book readings with inspiring authors as part of our YouRead Campaign. Among the authors that participated in our YouRead campaign was 19-year-old Nkechinyere Chidi-Mbolu, the author of “Tales of an Uber Minor.” A PhD student at the University of California, Nkechinyere graduated from Howard University, in the United States of America, at the age of 18 with magna cum laude in Chemical Engineering, gaining a scholarship to further her studies. She has since become an inspiration for young people in Nigeria and beyond, especially the dozens of students who participated in her book reading at the Herbert Macaulay Library. Similarly, Commonwealth Short Story prize winner Lesley Nneka Arimah thrilled more than 200 participants with stories from her award-winning short story collection “What it means when a man falls from the sky” during her book reading session. This was also the first time that she had hosted a book reading session in Nigeria where she interacted with a large audience. Other authors who hosted book reading sessions include; Bolatito Bezldakula, author of “Royalty;” renowned life coach, Lanre Olusola, and author of bestselling “Secrets of the Streets,” TejuBabyFace Oyelakin, amongst others. Through our book reading sessions, we hosted seven authors, with more than 1,500 persons in attendance and reached over 500,000 people through our social media channels.

IMPACT IN NUMBERS

- 10 authors
- 1,500 book lovers
- Over 500,000 online participants





Renovation of the Children's Section of the Herbert Macaulay Library

To commemorate the 2018 World Book Day and encourage reading activities amongst children at the remodeled Herbert Macaulay Library, we remodeled the children section of the library into a more vibrant space for reading, complete with a wide range of books to spark creativity and excite the imagination of children.

Books Rock

We marked this year's Children's day Celebration with a book reading session for kids tagged "Books Rock". We had more than 100 children in attendance and organized several engaging and enlightening exercises such as Reading sessions, Spelling Bee competitions, Arts & Craft works and Letter Writing competitions.



Read Aloud Marathon



To put Nigeria on the global map as a nation passionate about books, and inspire Nigerians to maintain an active reading culture, we sponsored 40-year-old Olubayode Treasures Olawunmi attempt to break the Guinness World Record in the Longest Read Aloud Marathon. With the Bank's support, Bayode read over 15 Nigerian published books in 120 hours over a period of 6 days at the Herbert Macaulay Library, Yaba.

IMPACT STORY: Olubayode Treasures Olawunmi

Since January 2017, I had this dream: to attempt a Guinness World Record. I love reading; it is that one thing that I can do for the longest time and not get tired. So, when I hatched the idea and started to seek support, many of the organisations were not interested: reading and literature is not “market-worthy”. So, you can imagine the joy when GTBank came to my support—it felt as though I'd been chasing the small animals and the lion then said “you have my support.” I was very happy.

Reading opens you up to an exciting new world, takes you to many places, and gets you to meet different people you may never come across in real life. During my attempt of the Guinness World Record, I read 23 books and about 17 of them were Nigerian titles. Despite the challenges along the way, blurry vision at some point, I continued reading not only because I wanted to break the record, but also to demonstrate my passion for reading. And having GTBank behind me helped me to scale the hurdles and at the same time shows what happens when institutions believe and support ordinary people's dreams. Before the Read Aloud Marathon, I was just another person who loved to read; today, I am a Lagos State Ambassador, talking to many people about the beauty of reading.

Fostering Learning Through Extracurricular Activities

Over 300 students from five secondary schools—Queens’ College, Isale Eko Grammar School, Ansar-ud-Deen Girls’ High School, St. Georges’ Girls’ and Boys’ Schools—who participated in the 2017 Principals Cup Football tournament were treated to an all-expense paid trip to watch Black Panther at iMax Cinemas. This provided a platform for the pupils to glean lessons on diversity, race and other global issues in a fast changing world. Through the film, the students experienced a world of possibilities beyond their daily realities, beyond the walls of a classroom.



Promoting Innovation and Academic Excellence

In 2018 we empowered four outstanding Junior Secondary School students; Mordi Menashi, Gbemi Famobiwo, Afolabi Williams and Osagumwenro Ugbo, who created a Virtual Farm Application that helps farmers manage their farm and connect with their target market. We sponsored the young innovators, aged between 12 and 14, and known together as Team Neon, to participate in the Conrad Foundation Spirit of Innovation challenge summit held at the Kennedy Space Centre, Visitor Complex, Florida, USA. At the event, the team emerged the 2018 Power Pitch Winner in the Smoke-Free World category, making history as the first team from Africa to win the innovation challenge.



Empowering Schools to Tackle Bullying

To combat this social malaise of bullying and the long-term effects that it can have in children and young people in their formative years, we embarked on an anti-bullying campaign across secondary schools in Lagos. Held in December 2018, we organized pep talk sessions in various schools during the campaign and distributed, for free, 1,000 copies of “Bantu: The Big Fat Bully,” a powerful book on bullying authored by Temi-loluwa Adeshina. Beyond putting a spotlight on bullying and the urgent need to combat it, this campaign also empowered children to speak up and reach out to their parents, guardians and teachers whenever they feel they are at the danger of being bullied.



PROMOTING FINANCIAL LITERACY

Financial Literacy Day 2018 Theme: #MoneyMatters

Financial literacy is central to improving individual financial responsibility, increasing financial inclusion and enhancing a robust financial system. To make this a reality, and in line with the Central Bank of Nigeria's mandate to achieve financial inclusion, we celebrated the Financial Literacy Day as part of the Global Money Week in March 2018. Through financial literacy trainings co-ordinated by GTBank staff, over 1,330 students in Abia, Benue, Cross-River, Gombe, Osun, Taraba and Zamfara states learned more about ways to manage their finances.



World Savings Day 2018 Theme: Decoding the Financial Education Challenge

On October 31, the World Savings Day, GTBank joined the rest of the world to raise awareness about the importance of savings. Tagged "Decoding the Financial Education Challenge," over 1,400 students learnt practical ways to cultivate healthy savings habit and financial independence. 14 secondary schools from 7 states across Nigeria benefitted from this initiative.





NURTURING THE NEXT GENERATION OF FOOTBALL TALENTS

Over the years, our sports education program has served as a platform for identifying, nurturing and grooming young talents. In 2018, we continued our sponsorship of our grassroot football tournaments with the aim of actively engaging young people through sports whilst promoting the values of excellence and fair play.

Our annual football tournaments include: Principals Cup tournament in Lagos and Ogun States, the Masters Cup tournament and the Super Cup.

The Principals Cup Football Tournaments:

This competition currently runs in Lagos and Ogun and is in its 9th and 6th seasons respectively. The tournament is open to all Secondary Schools in the participating States and is coordinated in partnership with the State Ministries of Youth, Sports & Social development and the Ministries of Education.

The GTBank-Lagos State Principals Cup competition started in 2009/10 with 296 teams and has now grown to over 500 competing teams in both the male and female category. The GTBank-Ogun state Principals Cup now also has over 380 participating teams in both male and female categories.



Principals Cup

The Masters Cup Football Tournament

This tournament is for non-Government managed schools. The competition has a total of 42 teams in both the male and female categories and is in its 7th season of the competition.

The winners in all the tournaments - the Principals Cup Lagos and Ogun States and the Masters Cup play at the end of the season in the Super Cup match, to decide 'the champion' of the tournament champions. We further develop the talents of exceptional players discovered during the season through our player's developmental programme, "CAMP GTBank," during which the players are trained and nurtured by world class coaches.



Masters Cup



Masters Cup




IMPACT STORY: Adenike Abiola, MediaVision

The impact of the GTBank's football tournaments over the last decade has been remarkable for discovering new talents, making school more exciting for kids and most importantly giving parents and academic authorities a very positive environment for their children's and ward's self-development. That is why the popularity and number of participants of the GTBank Lagos State Principals Cup, The GTBank Ogun State Principals Cup and GTBank Masters Cup has continued to grow every year.


What excites me the most about GTBank's Football Tournaments is the clear pathway that it has created for young talents to nurture their skills and pursue professional football aspirations. For example, last year we had two remarkable players—Akanni Rahmon, a former student at Igbobi College and Adekoya Daniel, a student of Ijaiye Housing Estate Senior Grammar School—make a big leap to a professional club and an elite football academy, respectively.

As someone who is very involved in grassroots football, it is very inspiring to see a big institution like GTBank champion so passionately the narrative of developing grassroots football as a means of encouraging students to stay in school.

STATISTICS SUMMARY FOR FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS



110 Outstanding Players



417 female players during the Masters Cup

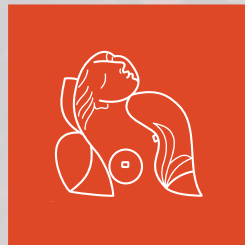


3743 goals across the tournaments

“Beyond its a role in enabling creative expression and promoting our cultural heritage, Art is a powerful lever for empowering people across Africa and beyond to make the most of their talents and ingenuity.”



VIRTUAL

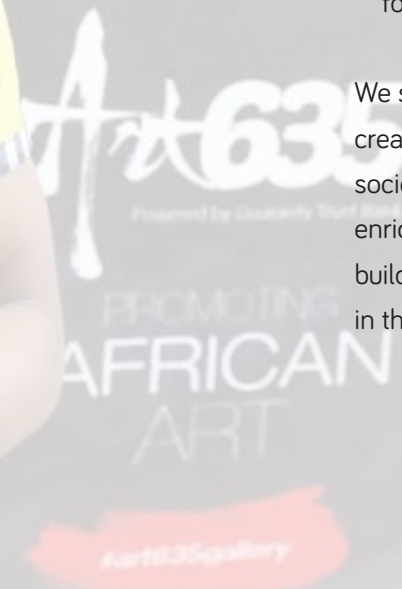


PROMOTING ARTS

OUR ARTS FOOTPRINTS IN 2018

- Art635 Summer Camp
- Dusty Manuscript Prize
- Art365 Gallery
- Days of Dorcas Photography Workshop
- Promoting African Cultural Heritage through Support for Festivals

We strongly believe in the potential of Arts to unlock creativity and innovation, as well as in its critical role in societal development. Our arts initiatives seek to connect, enrich our communities whilst breaking societal barriers and building global relationships. In 2018, we made giant strides in this area through the following initiatives:



Painting the Future for Tomorrow's Leaders

During the summer holiday of 2018, we engaged children with a 4-week Art635 Summer programme where they explored and harnessed their creativity through painting, sketching and photography. The Art 635 Summer programme was an amazing atmosphere for kids as they were encouraged by their parents, an abundance of paint brushes and acrylic paints to recreate the images of their favourite superheroes, dream houses, nature and other abstracts. Over 600 children and 200 young adults participated in the Art635 Summer programme.



Promoting Creative Expression through Writing

As part of our initiatives aimed at creating a platform for the appreciation of Africa's literary excellence, we invited Nigerian authors and aspiring writers to submit their unpublished stories and stand a chance to get publishing deals for their works. The contest which was named Dusty Manuscript, received over 1,000 entries and had a panel of four judges made up of authors Eghosa Imasuen, Yejide Kilanko and Toni Kan and Assistant Professor of English, Dr. Ainehi Edoro-Glines. The winner of the contest was a decade-old manuscript, titled "Devil's Pawn" which was written by Kukogho Iruesiri Samson. "The Orchid Protocol" by Onoche Emeka Onyekwena and "The Other Side of Truth" by Nneoma Aniето came first and second runner-up respectively. As part of the prizes in the Dusty Manuscript Contest, the authors of the top 3 manuscripts received N1,000,000, N500,000 and N250,000 respectively, as well as publishing contracts with Kachifo Ltd. The authors of the top 10 manuscripts also received e-publishing contracts with OkadaBooks, while the authors of the top 20 manuscripts were hosted to a two-day intensive writers' boot-camp to sharpen their literary and business skills.



KUKOGHO IRUESIRI ▶
First Prize Winner, Dusty Manuscript



IMPACT STORY: KUKOGHO IRUESIRI, First Prize Winner, Dusty Manuscript

The story that became Devil's Pawn started in 2004. I wrote a full-length novel by hand and titled it The Black Cats. In 2010, I picked a part of that novel, focused on one character and wrote Devil's Pawn. The story came to me in a deluge. So, I wrote every day and night. In December 2010, I finished the second draft of Devil's Pawn. It was a staggering 95,000 words. Since then, the book has undergone several changes; excerpts from it have appeared in different forms, on various platforms. For a while, I tried getting local and international publishers but it didn't work out. I didn't want to self-publish. So I left it. In 2016, I changed a few things in the book again. In 2017, I entered it for the ANA Prize for Fiction. It got the first runner-up prize, rekindling my interest in publishing it. Early 2018, I sent the manuscript to about fifty people for feedback. After reworking it yet again, I entered it for the Dusty Manuscript Prize—it was the opportunity I was waiting for—with the hope of getting the attention of an independent publisher. When the shortlist was announced, I hoped for any of the first three spots because of the guaranteed contracts and was glad to emerge the overall winner.

Now, the book is in its final publishing stages and this was made possible by the Dusty Manuscript Prize; my dream for the book is becoming real, thanks to GTBank. The Devil's Pawn will be released this year. I want to encourage other dreamers out there to refuse to let go. Keep working...and, most importantly, develop. You too can do it and even have a much more glorious story than mine. Just do it!

Building the Capacity of Upcoming Female Photographers

During the year, we launched the Days of Dorcas Photography Competition to support talented female artists and enhance their career in visual arts and photography. The competition was held as a 6-day workshop facilitated by renowned Professionals including; celebrity photographer TY Bello, Uche Okpa-Iroha, a founding member of Blackbox photograph, Yetunde Ayeni-Babaeko, the founder of Camara-Studios, French photographer Bénédicte Kurzen, and Video Art and Virtual Reality artist Jumoke Sanwo.

The 25 shortlisted female photographers also received mentorship from the trainers and their works are currently available on the GTBank Art635 gallery (www.art635.gallery)



Promoting African Cultural Heritage

We partnered with the Ogun State Government to celebrate Africa's Drum Culture through the African Drum Festival 2018. The festival brought together drummers from 20 African countries to showcase the continent's rich cultural heritage through dance, exhibition, music and drums.



Preserving Historical Artefacts and Monuments

In commemoration of the International Museum Day on May 18, we worked with the National Commission for Museums and Monuments (NCMM) to raise awareness about preserving historical artefacts and monuments. We also organized an educational program targeted at secondary school students to promote the importance of our cultural heritage.

“Understanding that every society is judged by how wide it paves the path to opportunities for all its people, we will continue to work tirelessly to expand access to opportunities for our customers and the communities wherein we operate.”



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES

OUR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOOTPRINT

- Orange Ribbon Initiative
- Making Big Impact through Simple Change
- Medical Outreach for Women with Disabilities
- Empowering Students to Tackle Bullying

We know that our vision of a society of thriving fathers, prospering mothers and excelling youths, cannot be fully achieved without critical interventions in our communities. That is why now, more than ever, we are working with local communities and organizations that share our values to execute community development initiatives that uplift people in underserved areas of our society.



Making Big Impact through Simple Change

In 2018, we launched a nationwide campaign, tagged “#SimpleChangeBigImpact,” through which we collaborated with individuals and groups to invest in the social infrastructure of twenty communities nationwide. Members of the community were challenged to think about simple changes they could make in their immediate community that will positively impact people. We received many ingenious ideas and working with the originators of these ideas, we brought twenty of these simple change ideas to life. Some of the projects include providing sustainable sources of clean water to communities where drinking water was not available, providing shoes for children using recyclable materials, providing employment to disadvantaged members of the community, supporting pregnant women in IDP Camps and developing a USSD application that allows members of the community book hospital appointments.

IMPACT IN NUMBERS



436 Ideas submitted



20 communities transformed



20 Winning Ideas

Rallying Support for Children with Autism

In 2018, the Bank raised its voice for children living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) through the 8th edition of its annual autism conference. Since the launch of the Orange Ribbon Initiative eight years ago, the Bank has offered more than 14,000 people trainings on how to manage ASD; provided free one-on-one consultation services to over

3,200 children and led a sustained campaign to tackle the stigma facing people living with autism. One conference at a time, we change deep-seated stereotypes about autism; educate more families with the right knowledge to raise their children with ASD and empower community members to create a supportive environment.



// Supporting Our Communities

In 2018, the conference was themed “Raising a Child with Autism, the Role of Family and Community” the free to attend, two-day conference attracted over 1,000 parents, caregivers and educators. The discussions with experts emphasised the different roles that every member of the society plays in raising children with autism from childhood through adulthood.

We believe that all children, despite their challenges, deserve an opportunity to reach their full potential. Hence, beyond the workshops, we also organized free one-on-one consultations for children with autism and other developmental challenges as well as free counselling services for their parents and guardians. There were also free sessions for speech therapy, physical therapy, behaviour analysis, audiology, clinical psychology, developmental psychiatry, physiotherapy, and occupational therapy. Beyond the physical conference, millions were also reached with this life-changing information through several social media channels via the hashtag #BeAVoice.

We remain devoted to increasing societal awareness of ASD, improving the knowledge of the care and management of autism and supporting inclusive quality education for children living with autism. We currently maintain an online forum—Autism Initiative Community Website (<https://csr.gtbank.com/autism/forum/>)—a space where conference attendees can access resources and continue the conversation on the issues.



IMPACT IN NUMBERS: Number of participants: 2,500 / Online audience: 1,520,340

It Takes A Village: Raising A Child With Autism

Every parent greets the arrival of a child with celebration. Parents watch with joy as their children break into their first smile, say their first words, take their first step and accomplish each milestone of their life. As they progress, they acquire fundamental life skills that makes it easy for them to move from childhood to adulthood. However, not all children take these steps at the expected time. This is the case for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and other neuro-developmental disabilities.

Children with ASD have difficulties with social interaction and communication. These challenges vary from child to child, however one thing is constant: when a child has ASD, life changes for the entire family. Parents have to learn how to deal with behavioural challenges they are not accustomed to, siblings have to understand being treated differently and typical events like family outings can become an uphill task. In communities where there is little or no understanding of ASD, families and children living with autism also have to deal with stigma and labelling about a disorder that they themselves have not yet fully understood and have no control over.

While it feels like a lonely bumpy road most of the time, families of children with ASD do not have to walk alone. For children with ASD to grow into responsible adults, families and communities need to fully comprehend their roles as nurturers and supporters. With proper understanding, people living with ASD can live holistic lives and contribute to the society at large.

The burden is not just on the family, it is in the hand of the teacher who makes deliberate efforts at finding alternative solutions to meeting the unique learning needs of children with ASD.

It is in the eyes of caregivers paying particular attention to the peculiar care-giving needs of a child with ASD. It is in the cognisance of health care professionals who know that children with ASD are unique and treat each case as such. It is in the compassion of the random stranger, sharing hope rather than stigma. It is in each and every one of us raising children, with a sense of awareness of the individuality of every child. It is in organisations giving people with ASD a chance to express themselves through their skills. It is in a nation making legislations that creates a society that is more accepting of people with ASD. It is in showing empathy for the next individual, it is in being kinder — sharing a smile, lending a hand, giving a hug. By being better humans, we also show a child with ASD, how to become just that!





IMPACT STORY: Solape Azazi (Parent and Conference Participant)

As a parent of a child with autism, the journey has not been easy but day by day, you lean on the strength and support of the people around you. You just kind of find a way to make it a good one. The first time I attended the conference was in 2017, I had so many unanswered questions. I was able to connect with people in similar situations with me at the time. It made me realise that I had more to give. It helped me to build my courage to start looking for answers. That was how I started the journey of advocacy by trying to educate people more about autism and how we can help each other in our little ways. I returned to the 2018 Conference a better person—stronger—I mean I'd built myself, learned more, educated myself on autism. I was able to sit on the parent platform. 2018 made me realise that I could do more in terms of advocacy, enlightening people on autism and how to give support to people living with autism.



GTBank is doing a good job in terms of increasing awareness, opening people up to the fact that autism is a real issue and sparking discussions about autism. GTBank has created a platform of influence, a platform that can change the way people look at autism. For me, I was able to connect me with people with similar experiences. Together, we were able to discuss it, and lean on each other for strength. It is also a platform for all of us to come together and chart a way forward and change the misbeliefs around autism.

Funding access to Medical Services for Women with Disabilities

In line with our goal of touching lives, we partnered with a not-for-profit organization called Empathy Driven Women International Initiative (EDWIN) to organize a medical outreach for women with disabilities. Through the support of medical personnel and volunteers, we provided medical care and consultations we to the beneficiaries.

IMPACT STORY: Uri Ngochichukwuka, The Convener, EDWIIN

Every March 8 is United Nations' International Women's Day and you see different organisations celebrate it in different ways—awards, cocktails, parties. And the woman living with the disability is never recognised. In the past I'd been part of a lot of medical fairs but none targeted persons with disabilities. So, I thought EDWIIN will remember these women on March 8, 2018. We started talking with different hospitals and pharmaceutical companies. We got 12 clinics and several doctors on board. For the doctors, it was a surreal experience. For many of them, that was the first time they were dealing with such persons—either persons that were hearing and speech challenged, or women on wheel chairs, or persons with albinism—at the same time. They said we should call them anytime we have another medical fair. Many of the women had never had a full medical checkup before then. They had never been checked for cervical and breast cancer, never had their eyes checked. That was their very first time. It gave them a lot of joy that they were healthy. Though we had some cases that needed further attention. Now, these women you hardly see them because of their disabilities but a lot of them are breadwinners and showing them that kind of care, boosted their mental well-being. We are talking about inclusion and they felt included. We are looking forward to doing another one. Once we have credible partners that identify with the cause, we will continue to make impact in the society.



Supporting Families, Celebrating Love

At GTBank, we know that every strong and successful society is built on thriving families. That is why, in 2018, we marked Valentine's Day by bringing together couples who had been together for more than two decades to celebrate love and promote the value of family. We treated the couples to an all-expense paid during the weekend that followed the Valentine's Day, making new memories for couples who have spent the better part of their adult lives together.



IMPACT STORY: Mr Bolaji & Mrs Oluwatoyin Adisa

We have been married for twenty-eight years, and many times you get caught up with the demands of living that you do not have time for such romantic getaways. So, it was quite refreshing and exciting for us when GTBank organised one for us. It was a time of rest. We had a great time. We were treated to a spa experience, ate what we wanted, and had a really great time. For me, it is something unique and I think that GTBank did it well, for thinking like that and for encouraging couples to rekindle their love. It cemented our marriage. It was like you put lubricant into your vehicle and it is able to move better now. It was as if I just got married yesterday. Now, we are thinking of going on our own on such a trip. We really appreciate it.

Swiss Red Cross

Our partnership with the Swiss Red Cross (SRC) provided an avenue to contribute to the solving of global challenges of hunger and displacement especially for Internally Displaced Persons and migrants across the world. In October 2018, we joined SRC on a fundraiser tagged "Through the Eyes of a Child" to raise funds for children with sight disabilities in Nepal.



STAFF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY CHALLENGE

We show our commitment to the communities we work in even as our staff across the country solve specific challenges within their communities. Through these, we executed 78 staff projects across various states and made thousands of beneficiaries smile. The projects ranged from medical outreaches to scholarship projects.

Aba Road Branch, Port Harcourt

The Aba Road branch donated new chairs and tables for the pupils at Junior Model Primary School. Through this donation, we believe that more children will have access to quality education.



Airport Road 2 Branch

Provided chairs and writing tables for the pupils of the Nursery section at St Paul's Nursery and Primary School Mafoluku, Oshodi. This will further ensure that young students have access to quality education.



Adeola Odeku Branch

The Adeola Odeku Branch made cash donations to eight patients at the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital (LUTH) and General Hospital in Lagos. This not only enabled them to receive proper medical care but took the burden off their families who had spent so much on paying hospital bills.



Abakaliki Branch

The Abakaliki branch renovated and painted Central Urban Nursery and Primary School Abakaliki. They also beautified the school with flowers even as they provided writing materials to students.

The Ahmadu Bello Way Branch

renovated the City of Refuge Orphanage home. They also donated toys to the children at the orphanage.

The Airport Road Branch

Supported the police station within their locality with some items to make their work felt in the community. These included torchlights, reflective vests, rechargeable fans, writing materials and more. This would help the security agency to achieve its main task of protecting the community.



Akin Adesola branch

embarked on a medical outreach to the less privileged within its environs. The team conducted medical tests that catered to conditions like hepatitis, blood pressure, malaria, and more. Drugs were dispensed accordingly after a counselling session with the patients.



The Ajoye Adeogun Branch

embarked on 3 several sanitation projects at Kuramo Senior Secondary School, Victoria Island. This included the repair of toilet facilities, the provision of a new pumping machine and an evacuation of the school's septic tank. This will go a long way in ensuring that students learn in a hygienic environment.



DRIVING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH OUR FREE BUSINESS PLATFORMS

Our Free Business Platforms, the GTBank Fashion Weekend and the GTBank Food and Drink Fair, were borne out of our understanding that the SME sector is the best vehicle to drive inclusive economic growth. Africa is home to some of the most enterprising people on this planet, with millions of self-employed people who mostly young, very talented, incredibly passionate about their businesses, and very keen to make positive change in our society. Although their businesses are small, often employing less than a dozen people, by promoting enterprise in the sectors where many of their businesses operate, we are empowering these small businesses to become the driving force for Africa's rapid socio-economic development.

Building capacity for entrepreneurs is at the top of our priorities list; a major reason we put together, every year, a team of internationally reputed food and fashion experts to facilitate masterclasses for thousands of budding and established indigenous entrepreneurs. Through the GTBank Fashion Weekend, and the GTBank Food and Drink Fair, we are supporting our customers to realize the full potential of their businesses whilst addressing the current challenges that they face. As a proudly African institution, we are at the forefront of driving business initiatives that put our indigenous talents on a global pedestal. There are so many great things happening in Africa, and the GTBank Food and Drink and Fashion Weekend are the perfect places to experience a great deal of it.



“Protecting our environment is more than just a moral obligation, it is essential to maintaining a habitable world now and for generations to come.”



PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

OUR ENVIRONMENT FOOTPRINTS IN 2018

- Waste recycling
- Commitment to a clearer environment
- Support for Nigerian Conservation Foundation
- Waste2Style Initiative

We believe that we have a collective responsibility to leave this planet in better shape than we found it, and we are constantly leveraging partnerships and collaborations to safeguard the environment for future generations.

Recycling Waste to Play

Understanding the key role of waste recycling in environmental sustainability, we worked with people and organizations who share our passion for the environment to turn waste into resources for communities. We supported an Ibadan-based group of environmentalists called PP40 on a Waste-To-Play project. The focus of this project was to convert waste materials such as plastic and used tyres to recreational equipment for secondary school students. Through this project, four public primary schools without playgrounds were equipped with accessible playgrounds made from waste materials picked from their environment. The programme was also an avenue to equip over 500 young students with hands-on arts skills which will be beneficial to them in the future.

Support For Nigerian Conservation Foundation

In 2018, we partnered with the Nigerian Conservation Foundation—the leading organisation dedicated to nature conservation and sustainable development in Nigeria—on some of their projects to protect nature. With our support, the foundation was able to carry out the following projects across the country:

- Participatory Forest Management Project in Taraba
- Biodiversity Action Plan, Edo
- Management of Becheve Nature Reserve Obudu
- Living on the Edge project, Gombe
- Lekki Conservation Centre Lekki
- Omo-Oluwa-Shasha Conservation Project in Ogun, Ondo and Osun states

IMPACT STORY: Jumoke Olowookere, Coordinator PP40

“Early 2018, I decided to embark on an environmental project—to use waste to transform 40 primary school playgrounds in Ibadan. I noticed that while there was an abundance of waste in Ibadan, thanks to poor waste disposal methods; I also knew that there was a lack of proper playgrounds in public primary schools. So, I wanted to use one stone to kill two birds: to use the available waste to make the unavailable playgrounds available.

I was on the twentieth school when the GTBank support came. With GTBank’s help, we were able to transform four primary schools by giving them befitting playgrounds. We also taught the school children art skills with which they revamped environmental waste to useful arts and crafts pieces. For many of the students, this was the first time, they would have a practical experience of arts. We believe that this opportunity was an avenue to reform their thinking about how to use waste for environmental good.

My experience with the schools, showed that the solution to environmental waste is with us, is in our hands—literally. It is in us using what we have in our hands to transform our environment. It also shows that with love, for our community, for ourselves, we can change our environment. Going from one school to the other, working with the students, I learned that excuses are not good enough. And excuses do not have power in the presence of vision.

I also enjoyed watching the participants explore recycled arts for the first time and discovering new inherent skills that they never knew existed. GTBank made my experience at the selected schools easier to execute as I did not have to worry about the source of funding for those schools. This gave me the freedom to concentrate on the creativity of each project without worry and fear. Today, it is good to watch the smiles on the faces of the students as they play on their waste enhanced playgrounds.”

Sandcastles for Children

As part of the Simple Change Big Impact project, we funded the Sandcastle Project for the people of Folu Village in Ibeju Lekki, Lagos. The project, which focuses on recycling plastic tops to build a sandcastle now serves as a play area for more than 200 underprivileged children in the community.

Promoting a Cleaner Lagos

At the centre of many of our initiatives in 2018 was the need to meet members of our host community at their pain point. To achieve this, we organised an environmental workshop for students within the Ipaja community of Lagos. At the workshop, the students learnt how to construct and re-utilise waste items such as PET bottles for their benefit. We also distributed paper waste collection boxes called the Green Boxes to 20 public schools within Ipaja and environs, Lagos. Through these activities, younger Nigerians will not only become more committed to a cleaner environment but will begin a lifelong habit devoted to ensuring a sustainable habitat for all.

Waste2Style Initiative

The crisis in the North-Eastern part of the country has rendered thousands homeless. Stuck at camps spread across the country, these citizens who have lost everything need a lifeline to start a new life for themselves. We also empowered the women of Kuchingoro IDP Camp Abuja by training them on the art of making accessories from waste. Done in partnership with the W2S Initiative, we funded machineries and materials used to educate the women. Through this initiative, the displaced women can now generate alternative means of livelihood for themselves and family.



