



STRONG ENOUGH GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

Annual Impact Report 2025



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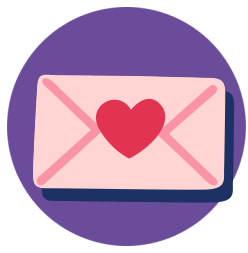
About SEGEI



SEGEI is a women-led non-profit organization dedicated to helping girls and young women in low-resource settings find their voices, access resources, and use their talents to thrive. We seek to **IGNITE**, **NURTURE**, and **HARNESS** the intellectual, emotional, and social strengths of adolescent girls and young women through education (formal and informal), mentorship, and life skills development.

SEGEI works with government and community leaders, and in junior and senior secondary schools and communities across Nigeria, to help girls practice healthy living and acquire marketable skills by educating them on self-esteem, leadership, sexual and reproductive health, and academic success, and by promoting trans-continental exchange.

SEGEI supports girls in staying in school and pursuing university degrees by providing school supplies and academic scholarships. We aim to close the economic and gender gaps in education and advance Global Goals 3, 4, and 5: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all; Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, and achieve gender equality by empowering all women and girls.



Message from our Founder & CEO



Dear Friends, Partners, Supporters, and Members of the SEGEI Community,

As I reflect on 2025, one word comes to mind: resilience.

This year unfolded against a backdrop of significant shifts in the global development landscape. Across the world, organizations faced growing uncertainty as traditional funding streams contracted, donor priorities evolved, and many nonprofits were forced to make difficult decisions about their future. For those of us working to advance education, health, and opportunities for girls and young people, the challenges were real and impossible to ignore. Yet, amid the uncertainty, SEGEI remained steadfast.

Over the past year, we continued to invest in the leadership, education, and voices of young people. Through the Global Girls Leadership Initiative (GGLI), we supported 48 girls across communities in Abuja to become advocates for change in their schools and communities. Through the Safe Spaces Online Kwara Project, we empowered adolescents to speak out against gender-based violence while reaching more than 6,000 people through digital advocacy efforts. We expanded youth storytelling and digital advocacy through Season 2 of the Indi-Genius Podcast, released 19 episodes, and trained 20 young people to use their voices as tools for change. We also continued to support girls' education through scholarships and educational assistance while creating opportunities for conversations around mental health, sexuality education, and youth leadership. To date, the SEGEI Scholarship Program has supported more than 50 girls to access and complete secondary and tertiary education, with five scholars successfully graduating from university in Nigeria, Uganda, and Zambia.

While the numbers matter, what inspires me most are the stories behind them. Loveth in Abuja, who found the confidence to speak publicly for the first time. Queen in Kwara, who challenged harmful gender norms in her community. Stephanie in Lagos, who remained in school because we believe in her potential. These stories remind me that meaningful change often begins quietly, with a single opportunity, a single conversation, or a single act of belief.

To our donors, mentors, volunteers, staff, Board members, alumni, and partners – thank you. Your trust, encouragement, expertise, and contributions have sustained this work through both moments of growth and moments of uncertainty. Because of you, SEGEI continues to stand as a testament to what is possible when people come together around a shared vision for girls and young women.

As we look ahead, 2026 marks a significant milestone: SEGEI's 10th Anniversary. Reaching a decade is both humbling and energizing. What began as a simple desire to ensure that girls had access to mentorship, encouragement, and opportunity has grown into a movement that has touched thousands of lives across communities and countries. As part of this celebration, we launched The Next 100 Campaign, inviting our community to help us open the doors of education to 100 more girls. It is our way of honoring the first decade of impact while investing boldly in the next. Because we know the work is far from finished.

The first decade of SEGEI has shown us what is possible when people come together around a shared vision. The next decade calls us to dream bigger, reach further, and invest even more boldly in girls and young women.

Thank you for being part of this journey. I invite you to celebrate this milestone with us and help shape the future we know is possible - an equitable future where every girl and woman feels supported and empowered to reach her full potential.

With gratitude and hope,
Onyinye Edeh-Vincent



Breaking the Silence

The most powerful evidence is lived experience



SEGEI launched the 2nd Season of the Indi-Genius Podcast for SRHR, a multilingual digital platform centered on the real, unfiltered stories of young people navigating sexual and reproductive health experiences and challenges in Nigerian communities. What began as 20 trained storytelling champions evolved into 19 published episodes featuring their experiences with issues such as sexual assault, menstrual shame, family planning barriers, disability exclusion, teenage pregnancy, and their resilience in navigating them.

Oluwadunsin Debo

Oluwadunsin shares her harrowing experience of sexual assault and the confusion many young women face around the meaning of consent.

Deborah Doom

In this deeply moving episode, Deborah shares how the death of her father shut down her dreams of going to school and exposed her to early forced marriage.

Junaid Hammed

Junaid's episode highlights the urgent need for inclusive sexual and reproductive health services and disability-friendly care in Nigeria.

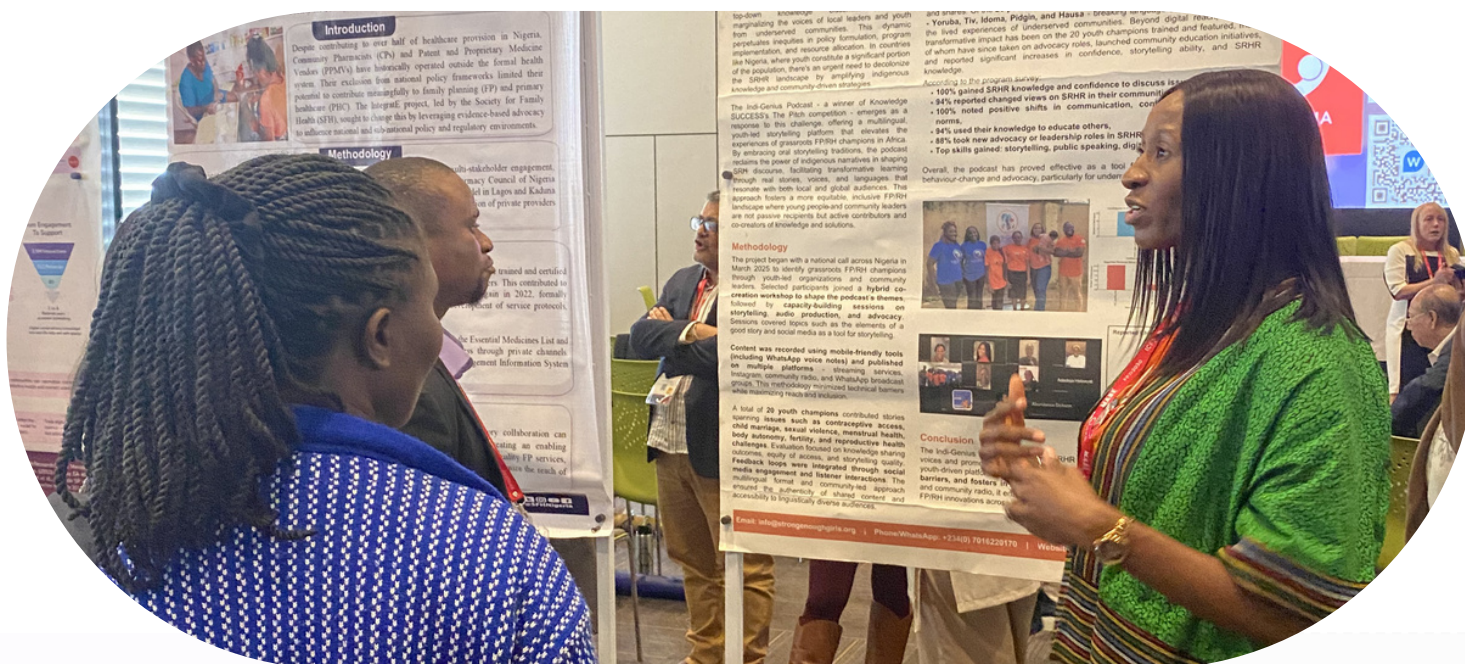
Joan Hassan

Joan's first period began. Joan shares how one small act of kindness from a classmate changed her life and led her to become a nurse and menstrual health advocate.



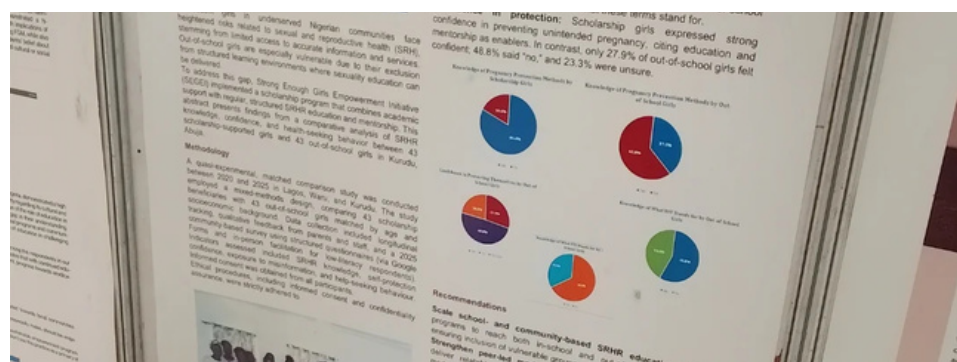
Breaking the Silence

Elevating Community Data and Lived Realities Through Research and Storytelling



RESEARCH VALIDATION

In September, SEGEI's research abstract on sexual and reproductive health knowledge among scholarship girls versus out-of-school adolescents was selected as a top 3 finalist from over 100 submissions at the 4th Gender & Inclusion Summit, a significant validation that inclusion-focused grassroots research belongs in important policy conversations. Two months later, at the International Conference on Family Planning in Bogotá, Colombia, Chief Empowerment Officer Onyinye Edeh-Vincent presented SEGEI's abstract on the Indi-Genius Podcast, making the case for lived experience as legitimate evidence in reproductive health advocacy.





Breaking the Silence

TESTIMONY AS DATA

The Indi-Genius podcast emboldened SRHR conversations that are often silenced and proved that young people’s voices can move systems when strategically amplified

INDI-GENIUS PODCAST SEASON 2 IN NUMBERS

Storytelling Champions Trained	20
Podcast Episodes Produced	19
SRHR Topic Themes Explored	6
International Conference Presentations	1



Building Leadership from the Ground Up

Girls Identifying and Solving Community Problems



GLOBAL GIRL LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

SEGEI implemented 3 cohorts of the Global Girls Leadership Initiative (GGLI) in partnership with Global Girl Project across Kurudu, Jikwoyi, and Yimitu, reaching 48 adolescent girls in an intensive, 3-month leadership and civic engagement program.

GGLI COHORT 2 COMMUNITY ACTION KURUDU- Girls designed and distributed educational flyers, spoke to community members one-on-one, and mobilized peer support for girls' education.

GGLI COHORT 3 COMMUNITY ACTION JIKWOYI- Girls met with community leaders in August to condemn substance abuse and propose practical solutions

GGLI COHORT 4 COMMUNITY ACTION YIMITU- Girls hosted an inter-generational dialogue event titled "Chores Without Gender, to demand fair distribution of chores in their households.





Building Leadership from the Ground Up

GLOBAL GIRL LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

The Indi-Genius podcast emboldened SRHR conversations that are often silenced and proved that young people’s voices can move systems when strategically amplified

GGLI IN NUMBERS

Cohorts Launched	3
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Communities Engaged	3
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GGL Cohort Graduates	48
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Community Advocacy Actions Executed	3
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Institutional Partnerships & Systemic Accountability

Embedding Girls' Rights in Community and Government Spaces



SEGEI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FORMALIZATION IN WARU & KURUDU

SEGEI held a stakeholder meeting in Waru and Kurudu, FCT, with chiefs, parents, and community leaders to formalize the SEGEI Scholarship Program through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This transformed community trust into institutional commitment, signaling that girls' education is a collective responsibility.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

SEGEI met with the Esu of Jikwoyi and other community leaders to introduce the 3rd Cohort of the Global Girl Leadership Initiative. We were thrilled to have received their full support and partnership towards empowering the next generation of young girls to lead, thrive, and create lasting change in their community





Institutional Partnerships & Systemic Accountability

Embedding Girls' Rights in Community and Government Spaces



SAFE SPACES ONLINE KWARA PROJECT

With the support of the French Embassy in Nigeria and in partnership with Zabi Repro Health Initiative, SEGEI launched the Safe Spaces Online Kwara Project, a digital safety and anti-GBV initiative. Strategic courtesy visits to the Kwara Commissioner of Education, Permanent Secretary, and UNESCO Desk Officer. These engagements helped us strengthen partnerships, align on project goals, and reaffirm our shared commitment to creating safer digital spaces for adolescents across the state. We held a space for 84 adolescent boys and girls in Kwara State to learn, reflect, and take charge of their digital health. These soon-to-be leaders learned about digital Gender-based Violence, how to stay safe online, and keep others safe as well. We witnessed these incredible adolescents show curiosity and a strong desire to create kinder online communities. They also shared their messages and reflections as part of their commitment to end digital GBV .





Institutional Partnerships & Systemic Accountability

National & International Advocacy Presence

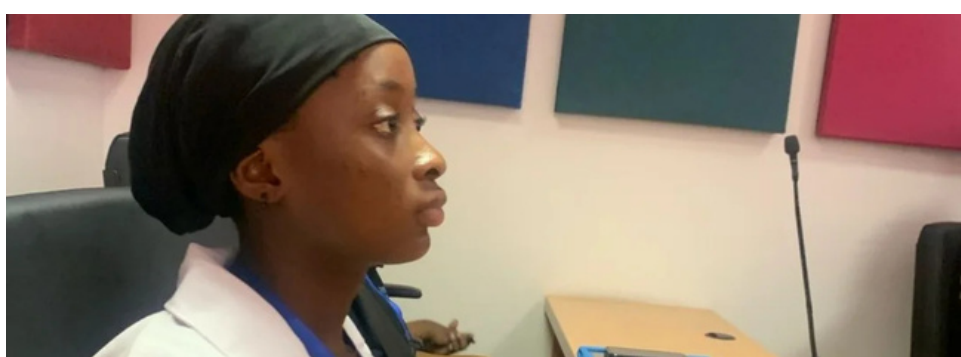


SEGEI SCHOLAR AT THE UNITED NATIONS HOUSE

SEGEI Scholar Faith Hussein from Waru represented youth at the United Nations House in Abuja, contributing to Nigeria's Voluntary National Review hosted by UNICEF, placing a young girl's voice directly in national accountability conversations.

YOUTH HUB AFRICA ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING

SEGEI was represented at the Youth Hub Africa's high-level meeting targeted at advancing youth inclusion in SRHR, gender, GBV, family planning, and HIV conversations across Nigeria, reinforcing SEGEI's presence in national decision-making spaces.





Institutional Partnerships

GOVERNMENT, COMMUNITY & INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

SEGEI moved beyond awareness-raising to formalize partnerships with schools, government actors, traditional authorities, and community leaders, embedding girls' empowerment into institutional systems and accountability structures.

METRICS & OUTCOMES

Memoranda of Understanding Signed

2

Community Leaders Formally Engaged

10+

Government Partners Engaged

3

Safe Spaces Online Project Reach

6000+



ORGANIZATIONAL MILESTONES & CELEBRATIONS



SEGEI'S 9TH ANNIVERSARY

SEGEI celebrated nine years of consistent and community-rooted work. This milestone affirms the depth of SEGEI's relationships and the trust it has built across communities.

VIRTUAL PURPLE BALL CELEBRATION

Every year, SEGEI holds the Purple Ball in celebration of women, featuring an incredible array of speakers and mentors who share their experiences and inspire participants. 2025 was no different

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY 2025

SEGEI hosted an Instagram Live on 'Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond,' platforming youth organizations doing extraordinary work across Nigeria.

SEGEI also held a school mental health awareness outreach for 74 students in JSS Kurudu, FCT, and a four-part social media video campaign on the roles of communities, teachers, parents, and healthcare professionals in supporting adolescent wellbeing, reaching thousands with prevention-focused messaging.





ORGANIZATIONAL MILESTONES & CELEBRATIONS



Titilayo Mesaiyete



Mercy Ebere Vincent

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

In 2025, we celebrated two remarkable milestones that reminded us why we do this work through the SEGEI Scholarship Program. Mercy proudly graduated from university, while Titilayo began an exciting new chapter after gaining admission to university. Though they are at different stages of their educational journeys, both achievements tell the same story: when girls are given the opportunity, encouragement, and support they deserve, they can achieve extraordinary things. We are incredibly proud of Mercy and Titilayo and look forward to all they will accomplish in the years ahead.

Mercy Ebere Vincent

“The scholarship program was an opportunity of a lifetime; if not for it, I wouldn’t be where I am today. A happy graduate (it seemed impossible). Currently serving, and I’m excited about the next phase of life, possibly finding my way into the workspace or getting a masters degree (by God's grace).”

Titilayo Mesaiyete

“The SEGEI scholarship eased my financial burden, allowing me to focus on my studies, and I’m most excited to use the knowledge and opportunities I've gained to build a successful career while making a positive impact in my community.”

2025

IMPACT IN NUMBERS

9

Years of SEGEI



6

Communities served



48

Girl Leaders trained



20

Indi-Genius podcast
champions trained



6000+

People reached by Safe
Spaces Online Kwara Project



19

Indi-Genius podcast
episodes released



84

Adolescents trained in digital
safety



7

Schools engaged



Partner Acknowledgements

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

Global Girl Project | Seattle Girls School | The Core Group | French Embassy in Nigeria | Zabi Repro Health Initiative | UNESCO Desk Office, Kwara State

COALITION & NETWORK PARTNERS

Youth Hub Africa | Stand With A Girl (SWAG) Initiative | AfriYAN Nigeria | Education As a Vaccine | Vaccine Network for Disease Control

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

Kwara State Ministry of Education | Federal Ministry of Education | Federal Ministry of Health

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Esu of Jikwoyi and Community Leaders, Jikwoyi, FCT | Community Chiefs and Leaders, Waru, FCT | Community Stakeholders, Kurudu, FCT

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Kurudu Secondary School, FCT | Waru Secondary School, FCT | Ilorin Grammar School, Ilorin | Unilorin Secondary School, Ilorin

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Dalex Secondary School, Ilorin | Queen Elizabeth Secondary School, Ilorin | Model Secondary School, Ilorin



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