

CIVIC CHANGEMAKERS FELLOWSHIP

Impact Report

2020 - 2022

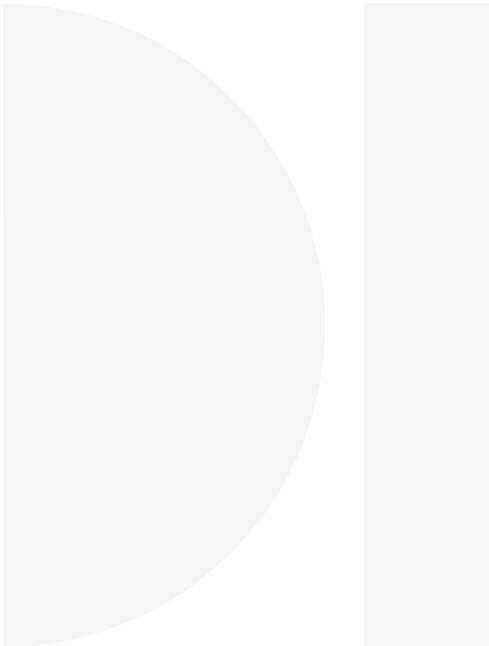




**ALIYU SADIQ | 2022 FELLOW
EMPOWERING SCHOOL CHILDREN ON CLIMATE CHANGE & RECYCLING**

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

CAP	-	Civic Action Plan
CCD	-	Civic Changemakers Day
CCF	-	Civic Changemakers Fellowship
CCFAN	-	Civic Changemakers Fellowship Alumni Network
CSOs	-	Civil Society Organizations
SDGs	-	Sustainable Development Goals
TransparencIT	-	Transparency Information Technology Initiative
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Programme
USA	-	United States of America



INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

The idea for change by the people and for the people

The civic space is shrinking across many countries. In Nigeria, the excesses in government's arbitrariness, clampdowns on social media and stereotypes mainly limit the civic space. There is increasing attempt by the National Assembly and law enforcement to gag civil society with restrictions on participation, freedom of expression and assembly, and access to information, these actions are also closing the civic space, limiting the operational effectiveness of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), stifling civic participation, heightening the security risks for local staff, and affecting the involvement of key players, especially women.

These challenges are further exacerbated by a lack of support, mentorship, and training for citizens and community/youth-led startup organizations to possess the tools to advocate, understand, and react to the situation.

In 2020, TransparencIT launched the Civic Changemakers Fellowship program using interdisciplinary modules and actionable insights from data to train, mentor, and support community champions and startups to strengthen the civic space and enhance the resilience of local and youth-led organizations to solve civic and governance challenges in their communities.

The Civic Changemakers Fellowship seeks to address the shrinking civic space as a precondition for good governance, inclusive growth, effective open government policies, and increased civic participation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The sole mission of the program is to make a difference in the lives of our communities by developing the knowledge, skills, values, and motivation of community champions to learn new skills and drive positive change.

The program focuses on experiential learning and leadership development using cutting-edge technology and digital classrooms for facilitators and learners to streamline learning processes and outcomes in a quicker and more organized way. It partners with local and international organizations to deliver hands-on training and empower the fellows. The program goes beyond teaching and learning to incubating viable solutions that solve myriads of local social justice and governance issues in line with the SDGs.

THE CIVIC CHANGEMAKERS FELLOWSHIP

Empowering the next generation of community champions...

The Civic Changemakers Fellowship (CCF) program was launched in 2020 for residents of Kaduna State and subsequently expanded to other States in Nigeria. In 2021, the program received support from The Governance Lab of Northeastern University, Boston, USA, which provided learning resources to the Changemakers.

The program focuses on individuals who work in the social sector and are dedicated to solving civic and social justice issues. The Fellowship provides participants with practical skills and values for social change, productive engagement, leadership, inclusion and diversity. The Changemakers also engage in virtual learning experiences and discussions with experienced mentors in the development space.

Upon completing the program, Changemakers will have a deeper understanding of how to solve public problems and advance social justice in their communities. They will be empowered and inspired to take further action, driven by new ideas and skills, and become part of a growing network of active community champions.

CCF GOAL

To empower, inspire
& connect community
champions to drive
positive change.

THE FELLOWSHIP STRUCTURE

A fellowship program enabled by technology

The Civic Changemakers Fellowship is a 12-week online program that utilizes the power of Google products, including Google Drive, Meet, Classroom, Chat, Forms, Looker Studio, Docs, Sheets, and Slides, as its primary tools to provide training sessions, collaborations among fellows, speakers and mentors. These tech tools provide access to global leaders in the civic space and allow fellows to learn and develop innovative solutions to civic problems in their communities.

The program is made up of three courses, each containing 3-4 modules that are approximately two hours long and taught on a weekly basis. Upon completion, the fellows undertake selected online courses from The Governance Lab and submit civic action plans from which innovative ideas are selected and incubated after the close-out session.

In the three cohorts conducted so far, fellows received training on GovTech, Civic Tech, and Data Analysis from experts who shared their experiences and insights on how technology can be leveraged to promote civic engagement and its impact on communities. All training sessions were recorded and saved on Google Cloud for future reference or iteration.

As the fellowship program continues to expand and grow, TransparencIT seeks support and partnerships from organizations and individuals who share its vision of using technology to enable civic engagement and build a strong community of civic changemakers to drive positive change at the grassroots level.



PROGRAM COTRIBUTORS

The CCF is anchored on the support of global civic leaders

- Prof. Beth Noveck, Director of The Governance Lab, Northeastern University, Boston, USA - supported the program with learning resources on solving public problems.
- Mr Seun Onigbinde, Global Director of BudgIT – taught fellows on public institution engagement and advocacy
- Dr. Saied Tafida, Founder of Transparency and Accountability in Totality (FollowTaxes) – taught fellows on financial management.
- Blair Glencorse, Executive Director of Accountability Lab – taught fellows on design thinking for the social sector.
- Onyedikachi Ekwerike, PhD, Leadership Lecturer at the University of Georgia – taught fellows on leading effective teams.
- Muhammad Sani Abdullahi (Dattijo), Former Policy Adviser at the Executive Office of United Nations Secretary-General and Ex-Commissioner of the Planning and Budget Commission of Kaduna State – taught fellows on understanding public policy.
- Adam Talsma, Innovation Advisor at World Health Organization – taught fellows on civic tech for engagement.
- Jonah Yahaya, Regional Director (West and Central Africa) of Co-Design2030 – taught fellows on grant writing.
- Gloria Kasang Bulus, Executive Director of Bridge That Gap Initiative – taught fellows on diversity, gender and social inclusion.
- Daniel Meindous Bijimi, Monitoring and Evaluation Expert – taught fellows on project management.
- Emmanuel Bonet, Executive Director of Aid Foundation – taught fellows on government relationship management.
- Busayo Morakinyo, Community Engagement Manager, Connected Development – taught fellows on identifying social problem and community consciousness.
- Farida Kabir, Digital Development Consultant – taught fellows on campaign design in the social sector.
- Arigbabu Nimah, Founder NGvoices – taught fellows on citizen engagement.
- Abdulsalam Badamasi, PMP, Policy and Communication Expert – taught fellows on government relationship management.
- Abayomi Akinbo, Civil Society Specialist at Open Government Partnership (OGP), Nigeria – taught fellows on overview of public policy.
- Ahmed Rufai, Senior Analyst at Twitter – taught fellows on design thinking for the social sector.
- Ibrahim Faruk, Program Manager at YIAGA Africa – taught fellows on campaign design in the social sector.
- Lydia Odeh, Chief of Party, Palladium SCALE Project – delivered a lightning talk to fellows.
- Rinsola Abiola, Founder of Equity Now for Women and Girls – taught fellows on gender and social inclusion.
- Ijeoma Ofonagoro, Manager of People and Culture at Reboot – taught fellows on team management.
- Semiye Michael, Executive Director of DEAN Initiative – taught fellows on civic organizing and networking.
- Francisca Chiedu, Executive Director of Citizen Connect & Advice Centre – taught fellows on public speaking as a tool for advocacy.
- Yop Rwang Pam, Strategist and Community Advocate – taught fellows on communication for development.
- Shakir Akorede, Development Communication Consultant – taught fellows on communication for development.
- Odeh Friday, Country Director, Accountability Lab Nigeria – taught fellows on campaign design and project management.



THE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Catalyzing community change, one action at a time

Speaker Series

The Speaker Series is an essential component of the Civic Changemakers Fellowship program. It is a platform where experienced professionals, leaders, and changemakers from various fields share their knowledge, experience, and insights with the fellows. The series provides the changemakers with a diverse perspective on civic innovation and governance and equips them with the skills and knowledge necessary to address the challenges in their communities.

The Speaker Series features experts like government officials, social entrepreneurs, academics, activists, and civil society leaders. So far, we have conducted thirty-one (31) sessions. All sessions were virtual and interactive and provided a forum for the fellows to ask questions, share ideas, and engage with the speakers. The sessions covered a wide range of topics, including leadership, public policy, civic tech and engagement, project management, campaign design, community mobilization, diversity and inclusion, advocacy, grant management, etcetera.

Online Courses

The online course activity is designed to provide the fellows with third-party resources and an in-depth understanding of the social change-making concept to support them in solving social justice issues in their communities.

The fellows take online courses on Solving Public Problems and Open Justice from a dedicated web application developed by the Governance Lab of the Burnes Centre for Social Change, Northeastern University, Boston, USA. The Governance Lab supports the programme with learning resources at no cost to increase the program's learning outcomes.

The two online courses provided the fellows with a wealth of learning resources, including videos, reading materials, quizzes, and interactive exercises. The courses are flexible and self-paced, allowing the fellows to learn at their own pace and convenience during the fellowship program.

Civic Action Plan

As a requirement for completion of the program, fellows develop and submit a Civic Action Plan (CAP) aimed at benefitting a defined group or community that is considered disenfranchised or has a civic and governance challenge. The CAP is a comprehensive strategy that outlines the problem, stakeholders, resources, timeline, budget, and expected outcomes of the proposed intervention. The CAP allows the fellows to put into practice all that was learned during the speaker series and the online course. The plan must align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and demonstrate a clear pathway towards achieving the desired social impact.

The Civic Action Plan also fosters networking and collaboration among fellows and relevant stakeholders. The activity creates a platform for fellows to exchange ideas, resources, and knowledge and form partnerships with other community champions and organizations working on similar challenges. Through the Civic Action Plan, fellows leverage the power of collective action and maximize the impact of their interventions.

So far, the program has supported the implementation of twenty-five (25) Civic Action Plans in various States nationwide.

Close-out and Projects Showcase Session

The close-out and project showcase session, also known as Civic Changemakers Day (CCD), is the last day and final activity for each program cohort. The session provides a platform for the fellows to showcase the results of their projects and present their civic action plans to stakeholders. In this activity, the fellows demonstrate the impact of their projects, share their experiences, challenges, and lessons learned during the fellowship, and network with potential partners and supporters.

Upon graduation from the program, fellows are issued certificates to mark the end of the program and admitted into the Civic Changemakers Fellowship Alumni Network (CCFAN) to connect with past fellows and receive regular support on their projects and leadership journeys.

4:08 PM | Meeting on Civic Changemakers Fellowship with Th...

People

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Search for people

In call

- TransparentIT Nigeria (You)
- Anruth Dineah
- Beth Newack
- Henri Hammond-Paul
- Inuwa Ahmed
- Jennifer Colville
- Zaliha Lawal

3:00 PM | Design Thinking for the Social Sector w/ Blair Glenc...

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In call

- TransparentIT Niger... (You)
- Adetokun James Adetayo
- Aiyu Sadiq
- Amina Mubarak Ahmad
- Blair Glencoe
- Crossworlitz TV
- Eloka Oduah
- Fatima Mufau

11:52 | Civic Changemakers Fellowship

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In call

- Abbas Inuwa (You)
- Abbas Inuwa
- Adetokun James Adetayo
- Amina Mubarak Ahmad
- Ebenezer Wilina
- Eloka Oduah
- Fatima Mufau
- Idris Bhiyinu Ndasauk...
- Inuwa Ahmed

Recording...

Participants (16)

Find a participant

In call

- Lilian Efobi
- TransparentIT
- Jecinta Egbin
- Olaniyi Olaleye
- Ahmed Inuwa
- Yazid S. Mikail
- Lydia Odeh
- Halima Idris
- basheer saliu
- Mubarak Idris
- fawziyya zakariyya
- Abdulazeez Inuwa
- Makiyah Sulaiman Muham...
- Muhammad Shamsuddin I...
- Suleiman inuwa Usman
- Abdulazeez Inuwa

People

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- Ebenezer Wilina
- Eloka Oduah
- Fatima Mufau
- Idris Bhiyinu Ndasauk...
- Inuwa Ahmed

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Halima Idris

Idris Mubarak

basheer saliu

Lilian Efobi

Adam Benjamin Talsma

Olaniyi Olaleye

Imade

You

People

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In call

- TransparentIT Niger... (You)
- Meeting host
- Adam Benjamin Talsma
- basheer saliu
- Halima Idris
- Idris Mubarak
- Imade
- inuwa ahmed
- Lilian Efobi

THE IMPACT OF THE FELLOWSHIP

Transforming communities through changemakers

In the first three cohorts of the program, the Civic Changemakers Fellowship received an impressive number of 418 applications, demonstrating the strong interest and commitment of individuals to address civic and governance challenges in Nigeria. From this pool of applicants, 25 exceptional fellows were carefully selected, representing a diverse group of changemakers ready to make a difference in their communities.

The fellowship program has supported a total of 18 organizations that align with the Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on areas such as good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, reduced inequalities, climate action, peace, justice, and strong institutions. The support to these organizations amplifies the program's impact in addressing critical societal issues through a multidimensional approach.

The fellows have successfully executed 21 projects, demonstrating their innovative ideas and unwavering dedication to driving positive change. These projects directly impacted over 11,000 beneficiaries, improving their lives and addressing critical social justice issues in communities across 14 states, which are Kaduna, Lagos, Kano, Ondo, Nassarawa, Kogi, Ogun, Benue, Oyo, Bauchi, Borno, Kwara, Rivers, and the Federal Capital Territory (Abuja).

The Shin Kun Sheda? project, which was incubated during the first cohort of the fellowship, is an inspiring example of the program's impact. The project has made a significant impact, with over 5 million people reached through its multi-media platforms and local radio programs and 30 community dialogues conducted to facilitate accountability and transparency in governance. Through its innovative approach of disseminating credible financial information like budget, debt analysis, procurement information, sector performance, federal allocation, and internally generated revenue in a simplified Hausa language, the project empowers grassroots communities to demand accountability, transparency, and inclusion in public institutions. The addition of animations and infographics has further enhanced the accessibility of financial information to the grassroots. The project is a shining example of the transformative power of training and mentoring community champions to address social justice and equity issues.

The impact of the fellowship extends beyond the immediate beneficiaries, as evidenced by the remarkable social media analytics. The program generated 1.27 million impressions, indicating significant online visibility and engagement. With 29,000 social media interactions and an impressive reach of over 884,000, the fellowship's message and activities resonated with a wide audience, sparking discussions and raising awareness about civic participation, good governance, and social justice.

These metrics collectively demonstrate the far-reaching impact of the Civic Changemakers Fellowship and the extent to which it has empowered a group of dedicated individuals, supported a network of organizations, and executed impactful projects that have positively influenced the lives of thousands of beneficiaries. Through its reach, engagement, and geographic spread, the fellowship has created a ripple effect of inspiring others and fostering a culture of active citizenship and social change in Nigeria.



THE JOURNEY SO FAR

We have taught and supported community champions to effectively lead social change projects in Nigeria

14

States were covered in Nigeria in 3 years; including Kaduna, Lagos, Kano, Ondo, Nassarawa, Kogi, Ogun, Benue, Oyo, Bauchi, Borno, Kwara, Rivers and FCT (Abuja).

25

community champions trained

As of December 2022,

448

applications were received and reviewed; 36 in cohort I, 93 in cohort II, & 319 in cohort III.

18

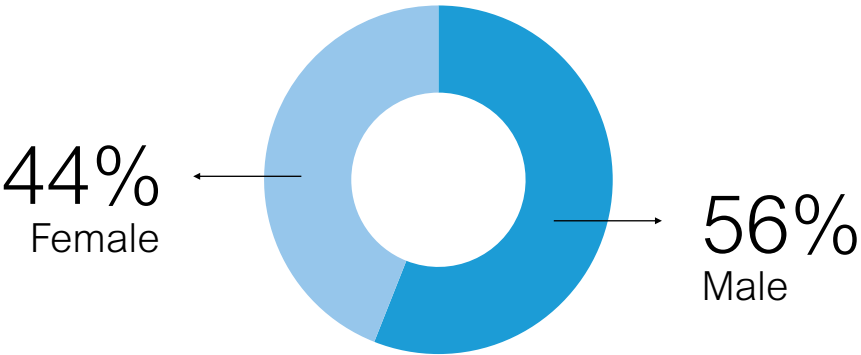
social change organizations supported

11,000+

indirect beneficiaries

THE FACES OF CHANGE

Positive change. Social change.



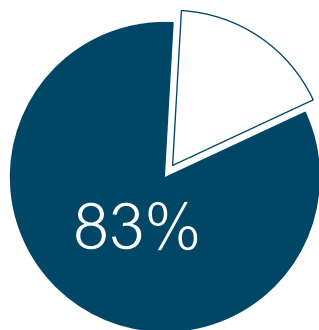
THE CHANGE IN SECTORS

Our changemakers work across various sectors

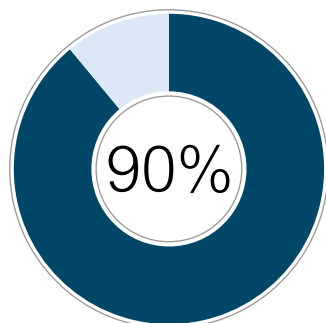
In line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Civic Changemakers Fellows work to solve civic and governance challenges in nine (9) thematic areas – health, justice and human rights, disability rights, gender equality, education, transparency and accountability, climate action, art and media, and youth and community engagement.

Learn more about the fellows [here](#).

Key Outcomes



83% of fellows reported increased knowledge and skills in executing their work after the fellowship



90% of fellows reported increased capability to lead social change projects in their communities



Health



Justice and Human Rights



Disability Rights



Gender Equality



Education



Transparency and Accountability



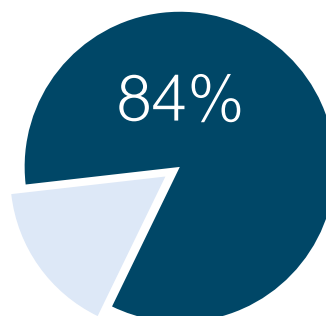
Climate Action



Art and Media



Youth and Community Engagement



84% of fellows developed civic action plans and implemented local projects in their communities



Yusha'u Abubakar, in the middle, on a community engagement while implementing his Civic Action Plan.



Maureen Aggie Alor, on the right, while implementing her Civic Action Plan.

“If everyone is a changemaker,
there's no way a problem can
outrun a solution.”

- Bill Drayton

PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS


Partnerships that work for the good of the people

TransparencIT collaborates and partners with local and international organizations to implement the Civic Changemakers Fellowship program. The partnerships provide experienced facilitators and trainers from the academia, government, and civil society organizations like The Governance Lab, Accountability Lab, BudgIT, Kaduna State Government, and the University of Georgia to deliver hands-on training, mentorship, and support to the community champions in the fellowship. These facilitators also offer technical assistance and guidance to help the fellows incubate viable local solutions and expand the civic space.

The program is affiliated with the Burnes Center for Social Change, Northeastern University, Boston, USA. The Center supports the program with valuable learning resources. The partnership with The Governance Lab also allows fellows to register and undertake its online courses on Solving Public Problems and Open Justice, at no cost.

These partnerships and collaborations established with different stakeholders have been instrumental in the success of the Civic Changemakers Fellowship program.

Affiliated to:



**The Burnes Center
for Social Change**
Northeastern University

CHALLENGES

- The program operates in a challenging environment where the civic space is shrinking, and civil society faces increasing restrictions. These limitations hinder the implementation of projects and initiatives of the community champions, posing challenges in navigating bureaucratic hurdles and fostering collaboration with governmental institutions.
- Sustaining the impact of the fellows' projects beyond the fellowship duration is also a challenge. Community champions face difficulties securing long-term funding, scaling their initiatives, and ensuring sustainability due to the shrinking space, even though the fellowship takes them through rigorous training on financing, limited opportunities for startups are still a challenge.
- The Civic Changemakers Fellowship program also faces limited funding support, which hampers its ability to increase its reach and impact. The limited funding support poses constraints on various aspects of the program, including training resources, access to specialized expertise, tailored mentorship, and project implementation support, such as providing seed funding to viable civic action plans developed by the fellows.

LESSONS

- A valuable lesson from the fellowship is the power of building networks, partnerships, and alliances with other organizations, stakeholders, and individuals. We have learned that collaborative efforts amplify and enhance the impact of the fellowship in advocating for change in our communities through training and mentorship.
- The fellowship recognizes the need for an adaptive approach to address evolving challenges. We have learned the importance of flexibility, agility, and the ability to pivot strategies when faced with unforeseen circumstances, and therefore, adopted an adaptive mindset and continuous learning and innovation to provide quality learning outcomes.
- The need for capacity building emerges as a key lesson from the fellowship. We have learned that equipping the community champions with comprehensive training, mentorship, and resources; and building their capacity in leadership, project management, advocacy, and resource mobilization enhances their effectiveness in implementing their projects and running their organizations effectively.
- The fellowship highlights the significance of engaging in advocacy and policy dialogue to influence systemic change. We have learned the need to strategically navigate policy environments and utilize evidence-based approaches in advocating for sustainable solutions.

NEXT STEPS

Our plans for sustainability

Web Application – we plan to develop a customized instructor-led web (learning) application containing all the modules with advanced features structured with an option of self-paced study.

Partnership – we plan to partner with reputable universities and organizations to review the program curriculum to support modern-day learning and address contemporary civic and governance challenges.

Project Incubation – we plan to increase the number of innovative ideas to incubate in each cohort as we look forward to increasing the number of fellows.

In-person Summit - after the online learning sessions, we plan to converge all fellows of each cohort in a selected location for an in-person Civic Changemakers Day, where they will meet, network, and share perspectives on approaches to improve civic participation in their communities with global experts.

Internship – we plan to connect fellows with our partner organizations to work and get hands-on experience.



TESTIMONIALS

Hear from the fellows...

The Civic Changemaker Fellowship Program (Cohort One) was an incredible opportunity for me to grow both personally and professionally. The program provided me with the resources and guidance I needed to make a positive impact in my community. Through the program, I was able to learn new skills, connect with other changemakers, and gain a deeper understanding of the issues facing our society. I am grateful for the experience and feel confident that the skills and knowledge I gained through the program have been serving me towards making impacts in efforts towards ensuring transparency and accountability efforts for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, NDCs and just energy transition and will serve me well in my future endeavours. - **Ibrahim Muhammad Shamsudeen**

What I really loved about the Civic Changemaker Fellowship program is how it opened my eyes to the importance of advocacy. I grew personally and professionally every day with the skills the program offered me. The knowledge of civic engagement, policy, and research I learned from the fellowship has informed all the progress I am making in my work on mental health advocacy. I am grateful for the foundation it provided me, which continues to shape my career positively. - **Fawziyya Zakariyya**

With a good feeling of nostalgia in reminiscence of the amazing and truly inspiring time I had during the Civic Changemakers Fellowship, I state how impactful the courses and tasks I took during the fellowship have been in my career as a creative artist, activist and development worker. Classes like design thinking, development communication, project management and the online course on Solving Public Problems (SSP) have come to make me a more innovative and dynamic leader in my creative and social impact communities. Also, the certificates I acquired after the program completion have opened numerous doors in my applications to other programs and fellowships. I'll be forever grateful for the opportunity to learn, grow and network during the Civic Changemakers Fellowship and even after. - **David Ikani**

My experience as a fellow with the Civic Changemakers Fellowship (CCF) has shaped my professional journey in many ways. The knowledge and skills I gained during the fellowship have helped me in my organization, Ignite Sickle Cell Initiative. The program honed my skills and instilled a deep sense of social responsibility in me. The training modules were crucial in redesigning our programs to deliver a better impact for people affected by sickle cell disease. The fellowship also extended my professional network by allowing me to collaborate with diverse and talented individuals. I am grateful for the invaluable lessons learned and the connections I made during my time with the CCF. - **Oluwakemi Oguntimehin**

Participating in the TransparencyIT Civic Changemakers program was transformative. It has not only provided me with invaluable access to industry experts and influential leaders within government and civic society but also granted me a rare glimpse into their unfiltered experiences and insights on crucial issues like design thinking and fostering national development. Engaging with these luminaries profoundly impacted my perspective, empowering me to forge meaningful connections and cultivate strategic alliances within the civic space. Their wisdom has become the bedrock upon which I build relationships, fueling my passion to drive impactful change globally. - **Idris Mubarak**



The Civic Changemakers Fellowship has been a transformative experience that significantly impacted my career trajectory. When I first entered the development space, my passion and enthusiasm were strong, but I lacked the necessary skills to navigate this complex field. This fellowship provided me with a comprehensive set of training that empowered me to upskill and make a more profound social impact. I now confidently apply design thinking to understand the needs of the communities I serve, and I've successfully implemented projects that address pressing public issues. The leadership and team management classes have equipped me with the tools to effectively lead and manage my team, even in remote settings. Additionally, the insights gained from the public policy classes have allowed me to engage in advocacy efforts more effectively, yielding positive outcomes. Thanks to the Civic Changemakers Fellowship, my career in the development space has taken a new and exciting direction, and I'm enthusiastic about what the future holds. I've even gained the ability to manage projects remotely with confidence. I wholeheartedly recommend this platform to any aspiring changemaker; the opportunities and training it offers will undoubtedly shape your career path and empower you to make a meaningful difference in the world. - **Maureen Aggie Alor**

The Civic Changemakers fellowship had an incredible impact on my personal and professional journey. It has enhanced my knowledge and developed my understanding of civic engagement, public policy, stakeholder engagement and communication for development. These skills have created pathways and significantly contributed to the achievements I made since the fellowship. From attending the Burnes Centre for Social Change Accelerator Program on Problem-Solving in Italy to leading the development of the first Africa Youth Climate Action Plan, launched at COP27 and many more accomplishments. The fellowship is an impact-driven training that paves the way for many young champions like me, and I am proud to be part of it. - **Yazid S. Mikail**

The Civic Changemakers Fellowship has been a game-changer, amplifying my knowledge, refining my skills, and fortifying my commitment to counteract the shrinking civic space. This newfound conviction spurred the inception of the "Shin Kun Sheda?" initiative, a tangible manifestation of the transformative impact of the fellowship. Armed with practical tools and a strengthened understanding of civic issues, I'm actively contributing to expanding the civic space and fostering innovative solutions in the face of challenges. The fellowship wasn't just a learning experience; it catalyzed meaningful action, providing the confidence, resilience, and vision needed to make a lasting impact. - **Muhammad Sani Kassim**

My Fellowship at TransparencIT as a Civic Changemaker was a transformative experience, equipping me with valuable knowledge and honing my skills. I've successfully applied this newfound expertise to refine and enhance my projects. Furthermore, the relationships I've built with fellow participants have been instrumental in driving interventions within my foundation, and I eagerly anticipate future collaborations on impactful projects. This Fellowship has been profoundly insightful, shaping my journey towards greater impact and positive change. - **Sarah Nathaniel Yanayork**

The Civic Changemakers Fellowship gave me the opportunity to learn what civic responsibility means and the essence of civic participation. I am particularly excited that I learnt how to identify social problems and how to use my profession as a journalist to effect change and development. The fellowship has turned me from a state of apathy to an active citizen using my work to demand accountability in governance. - **Usman Abba Zanna**



The Civic Changemakers Fellowship is a highly intensive fellowship that transformed my civic ideas, skills and experiences into actionable impacts. Through the program, I was equipped with knowledge, experience and skills in understanding public policy, design thinking, government relationship management, public institutions advocacy, financial management, project management and more. As a policy analyst, I was able to inculcate my learnings from the program in managing different civic projects and programs and government engagement. One of such was campaigning for a Councillor in my city council in the UK. During the 2023 Nigeria election, I utilized the skills acquired in embarking on a 137-day online advocacy on voter education, which culminated in supporting 80 young people get their Permanent Voters Cards in my local community. The fellowship also empowered me with policy-influencing skills for change, and today, I am applying the learnings whilst juxtaposing between the non-profit sector and public service. - **Lilian Efobi**

The Civic Changemakers Fellowship served as a launchpad for my community development and civic engagement career. The skills and knowledge gained during the fellowship transformed my approach to civic engagement, which empowered me to lead projects like the Deepening Citizens Interest in Government Spending and Address Accompanying Corrupt Practices (DeSPAAC), a MacArthur Funded project that tracks government spending on infrastructure; a UKAID/UN Women Funded project on Strengthening State Capacities and Women Participation in COVID-19 Response; and an ActionAid/DANIDA Funded project on Youth Focused Public Service Delivery in Kaduna State. My journey after the fellowship is a testament to the program's impact on me and the community I serve. The fellowship honed my skills to lead projects effectively and mobilise and inspire my community to act against injustice. It has also connected me to a network of changemakers, mentors, and experts in the ecosystem, providing me with valuable resources and opportunities. - **Abubakar Mohammed Yayanko**

The Civic Changemakers Fellowship program presented innovative solutions aimed at enhancing societal well-being. It held the potential to empower citizens, amplify their voices, and cultivate a culture of ethical conduct. Through this program, I gained valuable insights into the pivotal role of transparency in governance, which extends to building public trust in various spheres, including political finance, government procurement, hiring practices, judicial rulings, and legislative processes. By delving into these areas, I acquired a deeper understanding of how transparency contributes to establishing a fair and accountable system. Following my participation in the Civic Change Makers Fellowship, I seized the opportunity to contribute to positive change in Nigeria by championing transparency and addressing existing challenges within our governance framework. I dedicated myself to leaving a lasting impact on our society and advancing a vision of a more just and equitable future for all. - **Olaniyi Olaleye**

The Civic Changemakers Fellowship has been a great platform for me because it has improved my skills and allowed me to become more efficient in some of the work I do at my organisation, Ecocykle. I see the fellowship as an impetus for all development workers to accomplish better while making a greater impact. - **Aliyu Sadiq**

The Civic Changemakers Fellowship program has awakened greatness within me, especially toward my Community Action-Led (CAL Project). The skills gained were a great feat that shaped my capacity to solve critical civic challenges affecting our communities across Nigeria. I am very grateful to be part of the program. - **Idris Bilyaminu Ndasadu'Lau**



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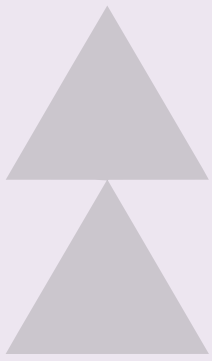
The Transparency Information Technology Initiative (TransparencIT) was founded in 2016 and registered in 2018 under the Companies and Allied Matters Act CAP C20 LFN 2004. TransparencIT's objectives are to promote transparency and accountability in public service, foster social justice and empower citizens to drive positive change.

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