



Empowerment Through Enlightenment



EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE

Welcomes you to the

2021 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY



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The International Youth Day 2021/ Launch of The Women Parliament (TWP)

International Youth Day is celebrated annually on 12 August to bring youth issues to the international community's attention and to celebrate the potential of youth as active partners in the global society.

The theme of International Youth Day 2021 is "[Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health](#)", to highlight that the success of such a global effort will not be achieved without the meaningful participation of young people. IYD gives an opportunity to celebrate and mainstream young peoples' voices, actions and initiatives, and their meaningful, universal and equitable engagement.

To mark this year's IYD, EWEI organised an event that also served to launch a new project called "**The Women's Parliament (TWP)**." The event held at Hotel Seventeen, Kaduna, on 12 August 2021. EWEI's Educational Subsidy Programme (ESP) beneficiaries, student leaders, police officers, youth leaders, Parliamentarians, media personnels, representatives from Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Education were in attendance.

The event started at 1000hrs with the national anthem. Salome Patience Yakubu, EWEI's Programme Officer, Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Learning (POMEAL), anchored the opening salutations and welcome address; she welcomed the participants to the IYD event, introduced the stakeholders present at the event and gave an overview of EWEI and EWEI programmes.



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Image 1: Recitation of the National Pledge by Participants



Image 2: POMEAL giving the welcome address

Ibi Divine Doo, EWEI's Communications Officer II, gave an overview of IYD. She presented to the participants the significance of IYD and the purpose of the event. To provide participants with a better understanding of what TWP is all about, a detailed video that talked about EWEI's The Women Parliament (TWP) was played by the communications team.

The keynote speaker, Priscilla Efe Johnson, a youth leader talked on the theme of the IYD; **"Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health"**. She highlighted the problems of the food systems and the solutions listing out the 5Ps: Problems, People, Production, Planet and Prosperity. She ended with the role of youths in transforming the food systems.



Image 3: Efe Johnson giving the Keynote Address

A video message was played from the founder's desk. Safiya Ibn Garba, EWEI's founder and Programme Director, welcomed the participants and gave an introduction of TWP. She talked about the idea behind TWP and how important it is to address these issues. She encouraged participants to give their full attention and contribution to the issues that will be presented by the Parliamentarians.

The event progressed to the parliamentary stage. Ruth Oluwasemilore Olalowo, the moderator for the parliamentary session, introduced the eight Parliamentarians, reading out their profile and their SDG focus (the SDG they will be discussing). Each Parliamentarian had an SDG focus and were to present clearly the problems relating to the SDG within the context of Kaduna state, the data/evidence available and the call to action.

While the first four parliamentarians were preparing to get on stage, a brief video explaining what EWEI can do for you was played to get participants familiarised with EWEI and EWEI programmes.



Next activity was presentation of SDGs brief from the first four Parliamentarians. Each Parliamentarian presented their allotted SDGs.

First, Nana Firdausi Ibrahim spoke on SDG 3- Good Health and Well Being. Next, Grace Ajibola Okunola, spoke on SDG 4- Quality Education. Then, Deborah Johnson, spoke on SDG 5- Gender Equality and Marantha Daniel, the fourth Parliamentarian, spoke on SDG 8- Decent Work and Economic Growth.



Image 4: Parliamentary Session



Image 5: Parliamentary Session

After the first set of Parliamentarians made their presentation and the next set were preparing to get on the stage, Mendie Jeremiah, EWEI's Programme Officer Gender (POG) talked about the Our Safe Spaces (OSS) Project mentioning that EWEI has a GBV toll-free helpline to report GBV issues. He encouraged participants to listen properly to the jingle and take down the helpline number. The communication team played the helpline jingles for participants.

The next set of parliamentarians presented their SDGs brief. First, Mary Emmanuel Bawa spoke on SDG 10- Reduced Inequality. Next, Zuliehat Ohunene Abdullahi spoke on SDG 13- Climate Action. Then, precious Naomi Yohanna spoke on SDG 16- Peace and Strong Institutions and the eighth Parliamentarian, Maryam Mohammed, spoke on SDG 17- Partnerships for the Goal.



Image 6: Parliamentary Session



Image 7: Parliamentary Session

Jelilat Abidoye, EWEI's Technical Adviser Monitoring Evaluation Accountability and Learning (TAMEAL), facilitated the next activity. She took responses and action points from stakeholders.



Image 8: TAMEAL facilitating the action points from stakeholders

The Deputy Director, Gender Equality Ministry of Education, said that the ministry would soon begin implementation of a "Second Chance" programme. The programme would provide both out of school children, married women, and children with disabilities a chance to have access to education. In addition, the ministry would implement other activities in 2022 to improve the quality of education.



Image 9: Deputy Director, Gender Equality Ministry of Education stating her action points

A representative from the Ministry of Agriculture said she supports gender equality in the ministry; however, she has noted the issues highlighted during the event. The ministry of agriculture has many programs that the ministry would implement soon, especially for the empowerment of the youths. The ministry is seeking more female participation in agriculture and encourages youth to go into agriculture.

She also mentioned that work is being done as regards Climate change. For example, they enlightened farmers about climate change, printed flyers which they shared with farmers. The representative for the ministry of agriculture said that doors are open at any time to organisations for partnership.



Image 10: Representative from the Ministry of Agriculture

A representative (representing the Deputy Police Officer) from the Nigerian Police Force, Unguwan Rimi Division Kaduna state, said he is promising and will ensure that females are given adequate attention regarding G.B.V. (Gender-Based Violence), rape and any form of violence against women.



Image 11: Representative from the Nigerian Police Force

A student leader from Kaduna Polytechnic (KADPOLY) stated that they would commit to female participation in school activities; ensure social impact and entrepreneurship programs include females and males to ensure that women are not left out.



Image 12: Student Leader from KADPOLY

EWEI's POMEAL, Salome Patience Yakubu, facilitated the post-event survey.

EWEI's Program Officer Organisational Development and Partnership (POODP), Deborah Adigun, gave the closing remarks. She appreciated the beneficiaries for coming, and the event came to an end.



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Image 11: Closing Remarks by POODP

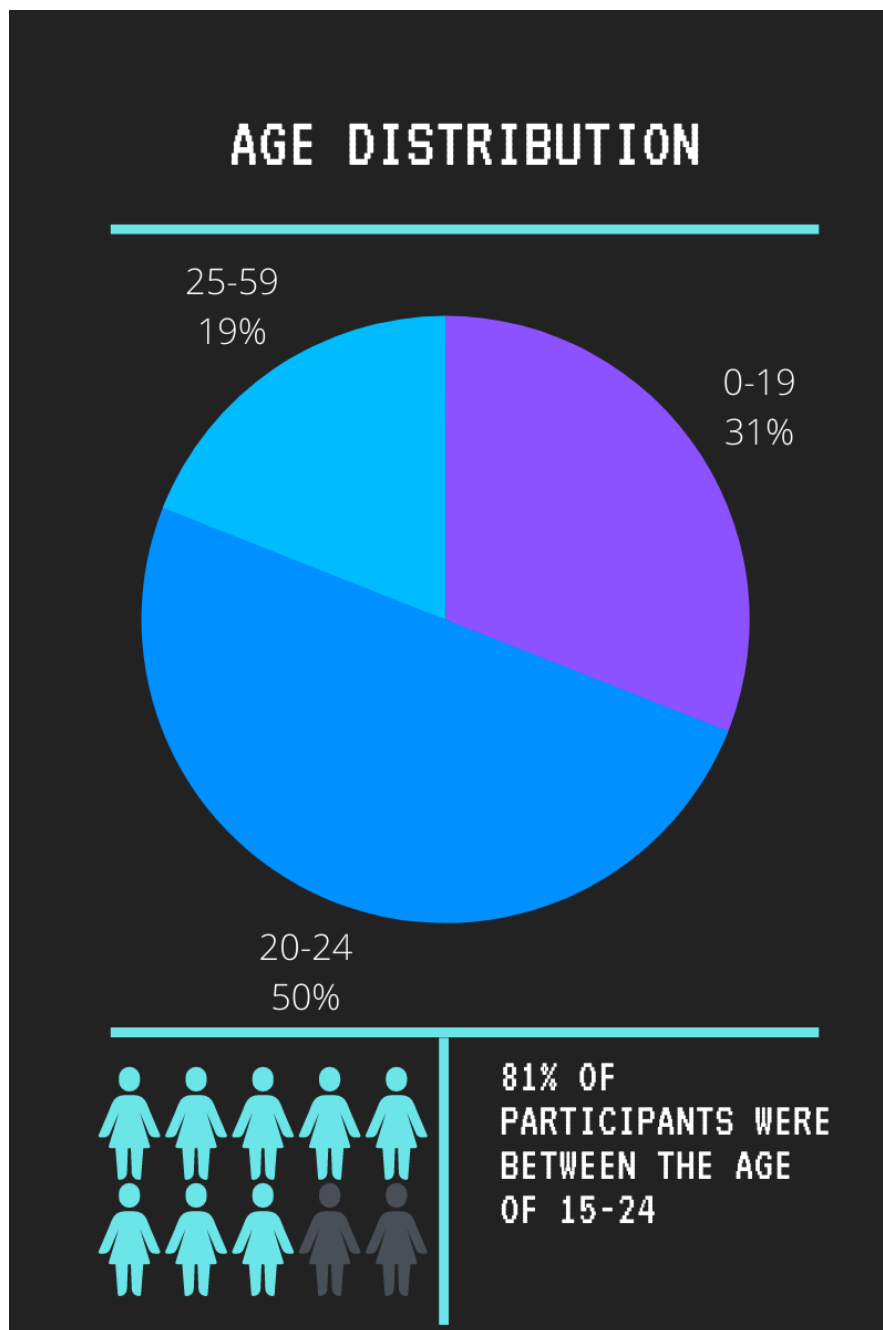


Image 11: Participants at the IYD 2021



Post Event Survey

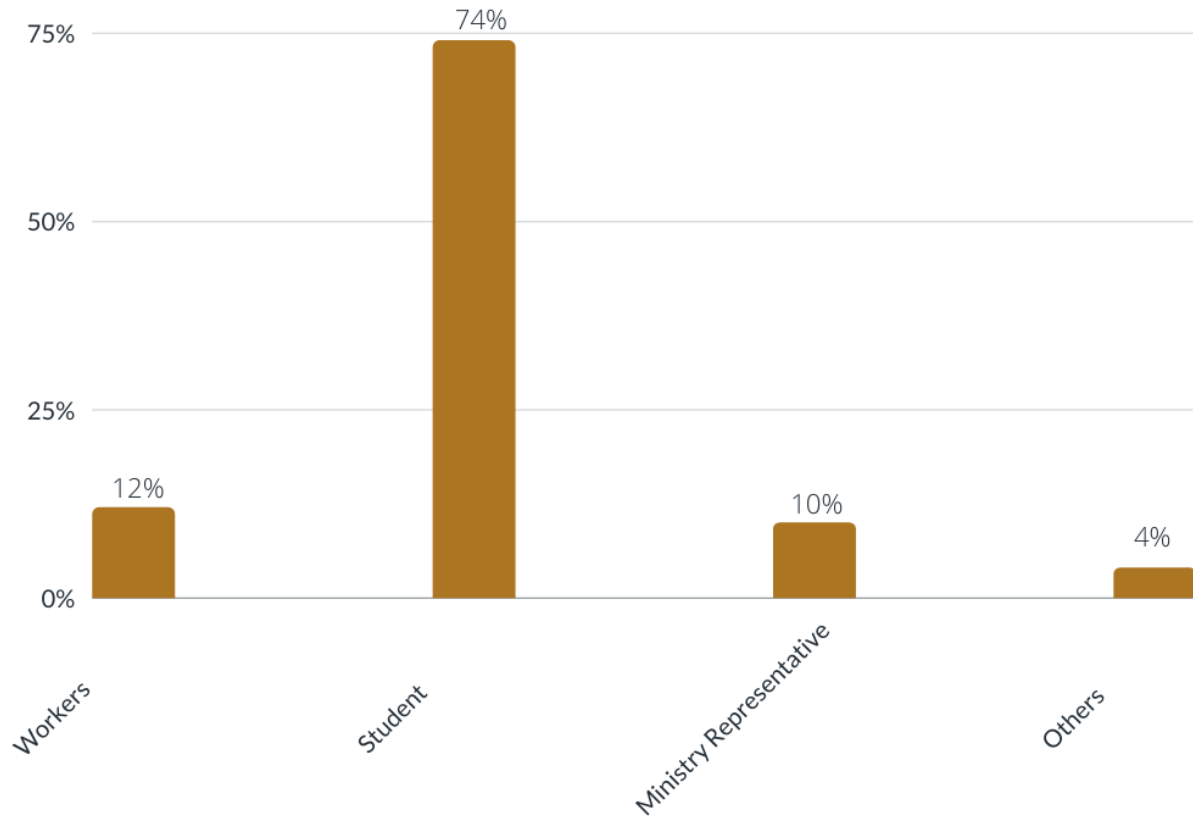
Find below data from the post event survey at the event.





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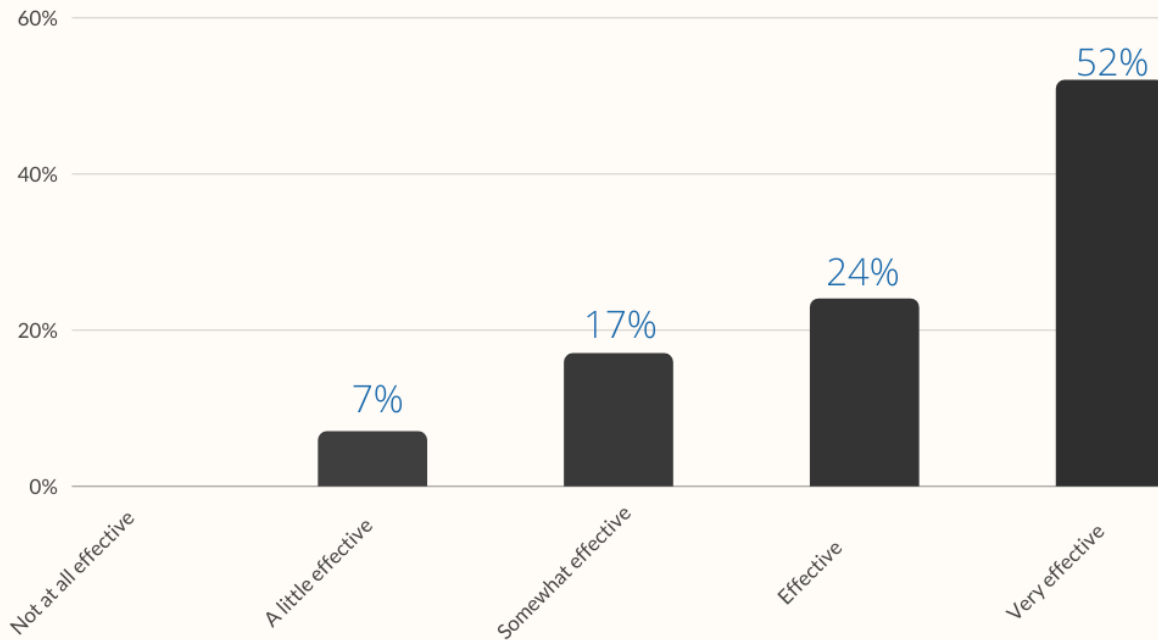
OCCUPATION

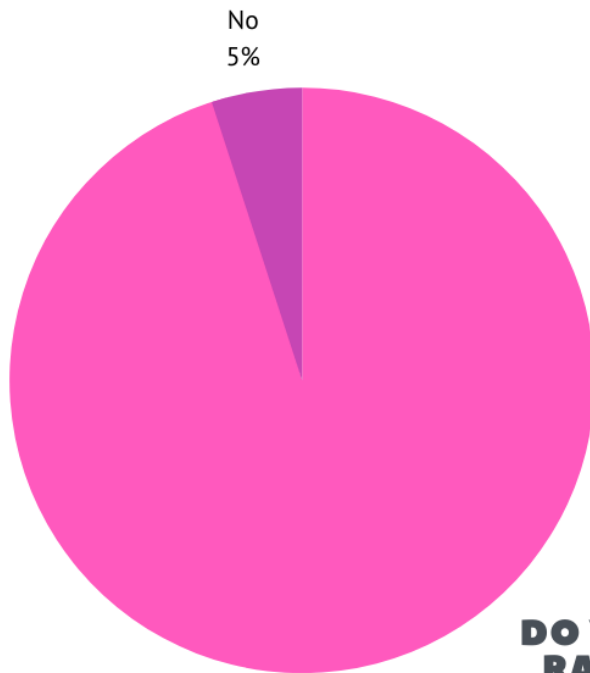




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HOW EFFECTIVE DO YOU THINK THE WOMEN'S PARLIAMENT IS IN PROVIDING A PLATFORM FOR EXPRESSION AND ENGAGEMENT FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN?



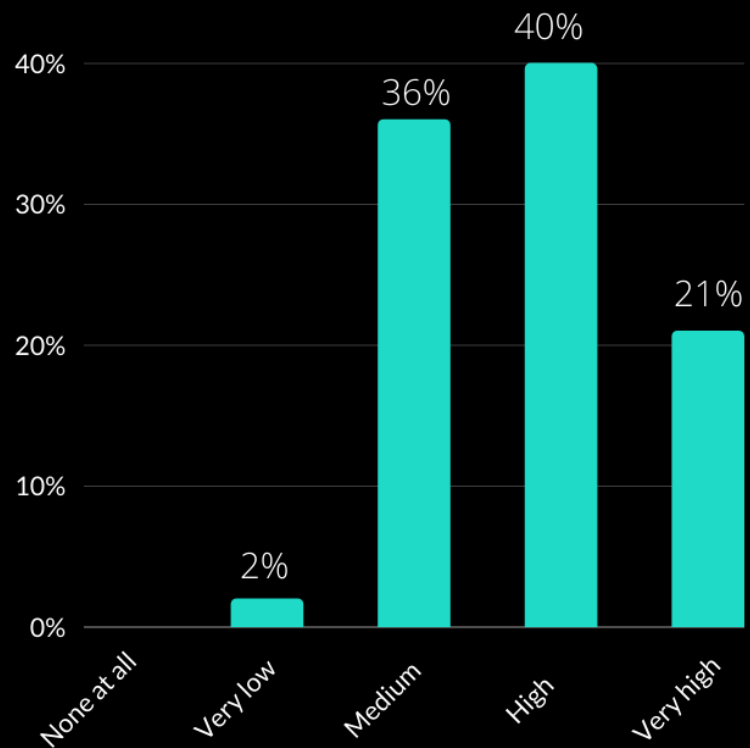


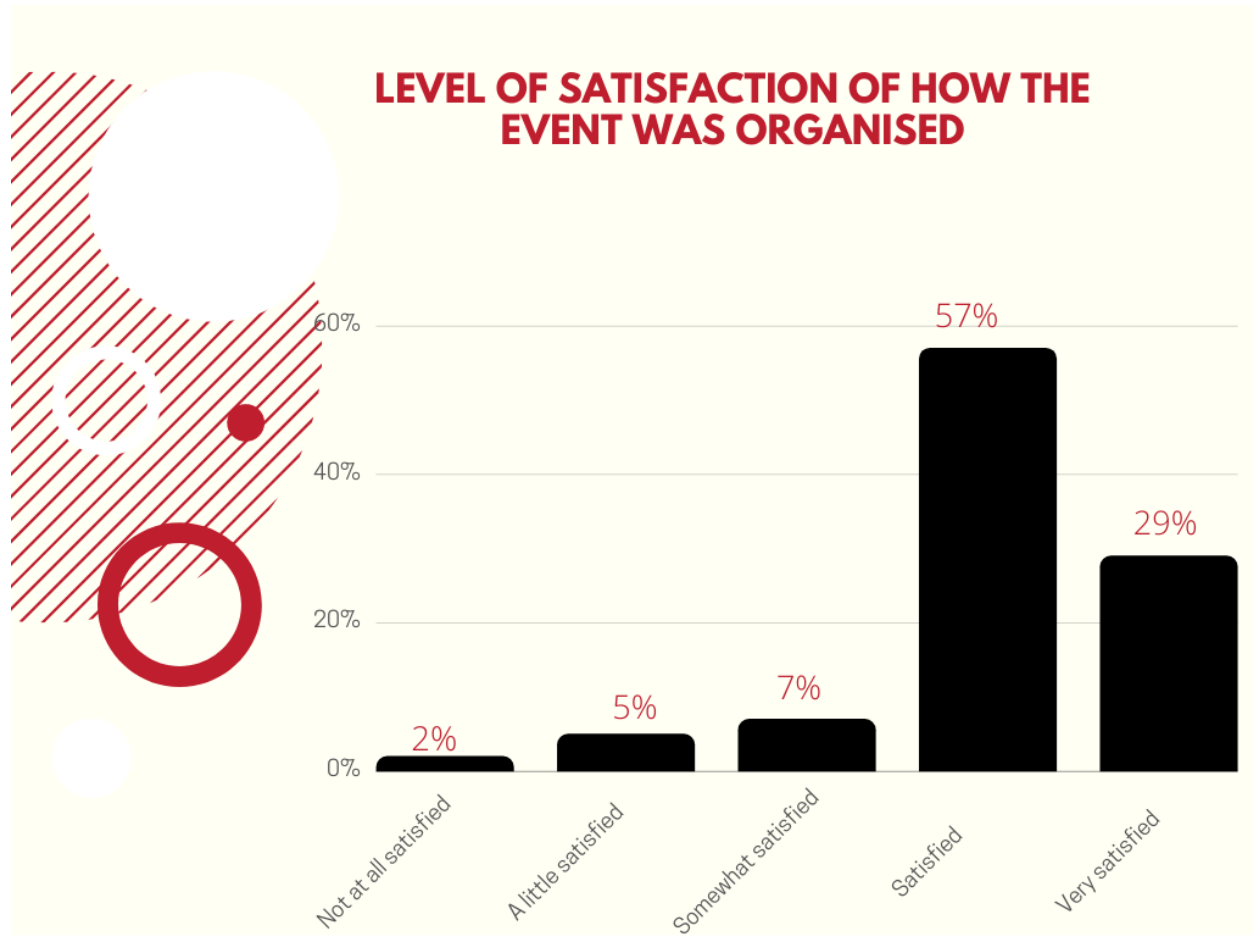
**DO YOU CONSIDER THE ISSUES
RAISED AS IMPORTANT AND
NEED TO BE ADDRESSED?**

Yes
95%



Please rate your perception of the level of ability of Parliamentarians to present and argue their cases?





Conclusion

From the post event survey, we can see that over 70% of participants consider TWP as very effective platform for engagement and expression of girls and women. We can also see that 95% of beneficiaries consider the Issues raised as Important and need to be addressed.

Overall, the event was a great success over 85% of beneficiaries were satisfied with the organisation of the event.