WOFAN ICON2

In partnership with

mastercard foundation

WOFAN-ICON2

WOMEN FARMERS ADVANCEMENT NETWORK

Newsletter

Y4 (VOL 9) Q1, NOVEMBER 2025 - JANUARY 2026



Deepening Impact, Driving Inclusion

As the WOFAN-ICON2 moves forward, Volume 9 reflects a period of consolidation, empowerment, and transformative growth. Building on the achievements of Volume 8, this edition highlights how strengthened systems, inclusive interventions, and strategic partnerships are shaping resilient communities and sustainable livelihoods.

From empowering women and youth through entrepreneurial opportunities, to improving market access and logistics for smallholder farmers, this period demonstrates that lasting impact is rooted in community ownership, innovation, and access to resources. The launch of women-led marketing hubs, distribution of mobility and hearing aids, and provision of modern farming equipment are pathways to dignity, opportunity, and economic stability.

Advocacy and policy engagement remain central to WOFAN-ICON2's mission. Landmark progress, including endorsement of critical bills and recognition by traditional and academic institutions, underscores the Project's growing influence on national agricultural systems.

Volume 9 captures stories of communities harnessing knowledge, resources, and collaboration to reimagine their futures, demonstrating that when systems strengthen, inclusion deepens, and people thrive.



WOFAN-ICON2 Project Overview

WOFAN-ICON2 Project is a flagship project funded by the **Mastercard Foundation**, designed to empower smallholder farmers, especially women and youth, by enhancing agricultural productivity, financial inclusion, and market access. The initiative aligns with WOFAN's mission to strengthen rural economies and improve livelihoods through capacity building, technology adoption, and sustainable farming practices.

The Integrated Community-led Network of Hope Scale-up (ICON2) Project is a five-year initiative designed to create sustainable and decent employment opportunities for young Nigerians between the ages of 18 and 35. As part of the Mastercard Foundation's *Young Africa Works (YAW)* strategy, the project aims to empower youth through skill development, agribusiness support, and economic inclusion, ultimately improving their quality of life.

PROJECT DURATION:	START DATE:	END DATE:
5 YEARS	**NOVEMBER 1, 2022**	**OCTOBER 31, 2027**

ICON2 is being implemented across 10 Nigerian states, focusing on equipping young people with the necessary resources, training, and market access to build profitable careers in agriculture and related sectors. The project integrates digital financial tools, climate-smart farming practices, and mechanization support to enhance productivity and economic resilience.

Through strategic partnerships with cooperatives, private sector stakeholders, research institutions, and government agencies, ICON2 fosters an inclusive, community-driven approach to development. By strengthening entrepreneurial capacities and facilitating access to funding, the project ensures that youth beneficiaries can transition from subsistence livelihoods to sustainable enterprises.

ICON2 is committed to driving long-term transformation by empowering young Nigerians with the skills and opportunities needed to thrive in a competitive economy, ultimately contributing to national and regional development.

Objectives:

- To economically empower 1,914,000 (up from 675,000) youth aged 18–35 to engage in and benefit from decent and sustainable livelihoods
- To enhance 63,800 farmers groups and other value chains actors' associations to influence change processes supportive of economic advancement of youth
- To improve the performance and inclusiveness of selected market systems that are important for youth

Priority/Main Activities:

- Capacity Building – training, demonstration of technologies, coaching and mentoring
- Input Grant to support group production:
  - Improved Seeds
  - NPK Fertilizer
  - Urea
  - Pesticides
- Labor-saving equipment grant to support group production:
  - Hand-held tillers
  - Hand-held multi-crop harvesters
  - Hand-held transplanters/fertilizer broadcasters
  - Multi-crop shelling machines
  - Water/irrigation pumps
  - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Makeshift women processing and convergence centers for group processing, training and other group activities:
  - Wet/Dry Milling Machines
  - Rice Parboiling Equipment
  - Fabricated Stoves with Chimneys
  - Rice Milling Machines
  - Destoners
  - Hand-operated Briquette-making Machines with Carbonizers
  - 3-seater wooden benches
- Year 3 Highlights, Achievements, Successes
- (Youth in Work)

  Total Outreach – 1,046,294
  Outreach Female – 881,749
  Youth in Work (YIW) – 1,046,294
  Youth in Work Female – 881,749

Newsletter Highlights

Welcome Note ***I***

WOFAN-ICON2 Project Overview ***ii***

Newsletter Highlights ***iv***

Project Highlights ***1***

- Advocacy Visits and Meetings to Set the Pace for Y4 Implementation 2
- 2025 Harvest Season Marked by Growth and Gratitude 3
- Affordable Logistics Empowering Farmers' Market Success 6
- Community Partners Step Into Dry Season 2025 With Confidence and Modern Power 9
- Strengthening Market Skills and Financial Confidence Across Micro-Produce Marketers Clusters 10
- Bringing Sound and Hope Back to Communities in Adamawa State 12
- Unlocking Dry Season Opportunities - *Inputs That Power Production* 14
- Year 3 – End of Quarter 4 Review Meetings - *A Reflective Journey of Progress, Learning & Future Readiness* 17
- Advocacy, Mobilization and Sensitization - *Building Trust at Community Level* 19
- Digital Readiness for Year 4 Implementation 22
- From Training to Community Impact 24
- Y4 Flagged Off with Royal Endorsement - *Traditional Leadership Backs Inclusive Development* 26

Success Stories ***28***

Grand Launch of the WOFAN Marketing Hub in Tudun Wada 29

Turning Advocacy Into Action: WOFAN Leads a National Breakthrough for Women Farmers 32

Royal Endorsement for WOFAN-ICON2 34

Impact Recognized: Strengthening ICON2 Pathways for Women and Youth 36

WOFAN-ICON2 Women Are Driving Household Stability Through Income That Meets Daily Needs 37

Lasting Impact: When Women Earn, Families Thrive 38

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Advocacy Visits and Meetings to Set the Pace for Y4 Implementation

Across the project states, WOFAN-ICON2 conducted advocacy visits and meetings with major stakeholders, policy makers, and community leaders to create the right environment for the successful implementation of Year 4 activities.

The visits were particularly essential given the additional outreach numbers planned for Y4. By engaging key leaders early, the project ensured that communities were aware of upcoming activities and ready to support their implementation.

These efforts laid the foundation for strong community participation and smooth onboarding of project beneficiaries. They reflect WOFAN-ICON2's commitment to building on past successes while reaching even more women, youth, and persons with disabilities.



WOFAN-ICON2 conducted advocacy visits and meeting with major stakeholders

Moreover, these engagements fostered mutual understanding and trust between the project teams and local stakeholders. By listening to community leaders' insights and incorporating their perspectives into planning, WOFAN-ICON2 strengthened collaboration and ensured that interventions are context-specific, inclusive, and responsive to the unique needs of each community.

2025 Harvest Season Marked by Growth and Gratitude



Extension Workers & & Super Trainers provide targeted guidance on GAP

The 2025 harvest season has been a period of remarkable growth and accomplishment for WOFAN-ICON2 communities. Extension Workers (Ews), alongside super trainers, continued to deliver targeted guidance on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), ensuring that farmers progressed smoothly through the final stages of the harvest.

Under their supervision, farmers received hands-on support for key post-harvest activities, including:

- Threshing
- Winnowing
- Drying and moisture content testing
- Bagging
- Weighing
- Proper storage techniques

This practical support has been instrumental in preserving crop quality, reducing post-harvest losses, and maximizing productivity. Across project communities, cooperative members are now celebrating a bumper harvest, which they proudly attribute to the improved inputs and consistent advisory services provided by WOFAN-ICON2 Extension Workers.

The season's success not only reflects individual effort but also underscores the importance of capacity building, knowledge transfer, and community collaboration. Farmers are now better equipped to maintain sustainable practices that will continue to yield results in future seasons, fostering resilience, food security, and economic stability within their communities.



Extension Workers & Super Trainers providing hands on support



Cooperative members are now celebrating a bumper harvest

Affordable Logistics Empowering Farmers' Market Success



Cooperative groups transporting their produce through WOFAN Logistics Riders Clusters

Access to reliable and affordable transportation continues to play a critical role in strengthening farmers' market participation across WOFAN-ICON2 communities. Through the WOFAN Logistics Riders Clusters, cooperative groups received consistent support in transporting their produce to markets and storage facilities at highly affordable rates.

This intervention has significantly improved the efficiency of farm-to-market movement. By ensuring timely transportation, farmers are able to maintain the quality of their produce, reduce post-harvest losses, and access better market opportunities. The availability of organized, low-cost logistics has also minimized the challenges previously associated with delayed deliveries and high transport expenses.

Beyond transportation, this service has become a crucial link within the agricultural value chain. It ensures that community partners' hard-earned harvest reaches the right destination safely, on time, and in a condition that attracts competitive pricing. As a result, cooperatives are experiencing improved returns, stronger market confidence, and greater overall sustainability in their farming enterprises.

The Logistics Riders Clusters are also creating an enabling ecosystem where production and marketing are closely connected. By bridging the gap between farms, storage facilities, and market hubs, the riders contribute to smoother coordination and better planning within cooperative groups. Farmers can now harvest with greater confidence, knowing that a dependable transport system is available to move their produce efficiently.



WOFAN Logistics Riders supporting cooperative produce movement.

Overall, the affordable logistics support reinforces WOFAN-ICON2's broader commitment to strengthening value chains and improving livelihoods. It is not only about moving goods from one point to another, it is about protecting farmers' investments, increasing profitability, and ensuring that agricultural effort translates into tangible economic gain for community partners.



Cooperative harvests delivered through WOFAN Logistics support.



Cooperative groups transporting their produce through WOFAN Logistics Riders Clusters

Community Partners Step Into Dry Season 2025 With Confidence and Modern Power

Community partners across project states, particularly in Jigawa and Kano, are stepping into the 2025 dry season with renewed energy and significantly improved capacity. Preparations are already underway, and this year marks a notable shift in how groups are positioned to approach dry season farming.

Unlike previous seasons, community partners now enter fully equipped with modern heavy-duty machines that will ease farm operations and enhance overall productivity. Through disciplined crowd-savings initiatives, combined with WOFAN's continuous support, the groups successfully acquired tractors and combine harvesters, assets that reflect collective effort and strong financial discipline within the clusters.

These machines serve a dual purpose: reducing the physical workload on farmers while also functioning as income-generating resources for the super clusters. By expanding service delivery and ensuring long-term returns, they strengthen the sustainability strategy of the groups. With better tools and stronger coordination, community partners are approaching the 2025 dry season more prepared, more efficient, and more optimistic than ever before.



Community partners now fully equipped with modern heavy-duty machines

Strengthening Market Skills and Financial Confidence Across Micro-Produce Marketers Clusters

To strengthen the economic capacity of Micro-Produce Marketers Clusters across project states, Extension Workers and Super Trainers delivered structured step-down trainings focused on practical market and financial management skills. These sessions were designed to build confidence, improve accountability, and position cluster members for sustainable growth.

The trainings emphasized practical knowledge that members could immediately apply within their daily trading activities and cooperative structures. Participants were guided on improving group coordination, strengthening internal accountability systems, and making informed financial decisions that support long-term business expansion.



Extension Workers and Super Trainers delivering structured step-down trainings

Key Training Focus Areas



As a result of these interventions, clusters are diversifying into new business ventures and strengthening their internal financial systems. Members now make consistent weekly savings contributions into their cluster accounts, demonstrating improved discipline and collective responsibility. There is also a clearer understanding of financial planning and stronger market positioning for agro-produce.

Overall, the initiative is fostering financially empowered entrepreneurs, more resilient clusters, and smarter marketing practices—strengthening sustainable income pathways for ICON2 communities.

Bringing Sound and Hope Back to Communities in Adamawa State

WOFAN, in collaboration with Farm Innovation (IP), officially flagged off the distribution of hearing aids to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) with hearing impairments in Adamawa State. The initiative reflects a strong commitment to inclusive development and ensuring that no community member is left behind.

Beneficiaries underwent a careful selection process to ensure appropriate support. Community partners were:

01 Screened for eligibility

02 Assessed to determine the level of hearing impairment



Flag off of hearing aids by WOFAN in collaboration with Farm Innovation (IP)

Through this intervention, WOFAN continues to:

- Promote inclusive support for PWDs
- Improve communication and community participation
- Enhance social and economic opportunities
- Restore a renewed sense of dignity and belonging

Beyond restoring hearing, the initiative is restoring confidence, connection, and hope, enabling beneficiaries to engage more actively in their families, cooperatives, and communities.



Hearing aid distribution launched by WOFAN in partnership with Farm Innovation (IP).

Unlocking Dry Season Opportunities

Inputs That Power Production

To maximize dry season productivity, WOFAN-ICON2 ensured that community partners had access to genuine farming inputs at competitive prices. Through the WOFAN Inputs Revolving Scheme, farmers were able to procure essential inputs affordably, reducing financial strain while maintaining production momentum.

The initiative supported enhanced production to meet the strong demand that typically characterizes the dry season. By making quality inputs accessible at the right time, WOFAN-ICON2 helped farmers prepare adequately and sustain their agricultural activities without disruption.

Smooth and Inclusive Distribution

Reaching Farmers Where It Matters

Distribution processes were structured to be smooth, transparent, and inclusive, ensuring that inputs reached farmers efficiently across project communities. The focus was not only on availability, but also on timely and equitable access, allowing community partners to fully benefit from the opportunity.



Dry season inputs distributed to community partners



Quality inputs powering dry season production

Why It Matters

- Reduced cost of quality farming inputs
- Strengthened self-reliance among community partners
- Supported continuous production and income during the dry season

By combining affordability, accessibility, and structured distribution, the Inputs Revolving Scheme is creating sustainable access with lasting impact—empowering farmers to maintain productivity, strengthen their livelihoods, and build resilience across seasons.



Strengthening production with timely input support.



Farmers accessing genuine inputs through the Revolving Scheme.

Year 3 – End of Quarter 4 Review Meetings

A Reflective Journey of Progress, Learning & Future Readiness



End of the year Quarter 4 Review meeting

WOFAN and Implementing Partners (IPs) convened the Year 3, Quarter 4 (Y3Q4) review meetings to reflect on key achievements, assess implementation challenges, and align strategies for a strong and coordinated Year 4 rollout. The sessions brought together project teams across states, clusters, and partner organizations to evaluate performance and consolidate lessons learned.

The meetings focused on:

- Assessing overall achievements in Year 3
- Identifying challenges and implementation gaps
- Capturing lessons learned across states, clusters, and groups
- Defining a clear way forward for strengthening implementation
- Finalizing strategic priorities for Year 4

Beyond performance evaluation, the review sessions also served as a moment of appreciation and transition. The Executive Director extended heartfelt gratitude to the project teams, Gender Advocates at Board and regional levels, implementing partners, and community groups for their dedication, resilience, and commitment throughout Year 3.

She acknowledged the collective effort that made the recorded milestones possible and encouraged continued collaboration as the project advances into a new phase.

In her closing reflections, she emphasized that the progress achieved is the result of shared vision and disciplined teamwork. The review meetings concluded not only with strategic clarity for Year 4, but also with renewed motivation, strengthened partnerships, and a unified commitment to delivering deeper, more inclusive impact across all communities.



Hajia Salamatu Garba, bidding farewell to stakeholders, as she transits to her Executive Leadership role on the WOFAN GROUP conglomerate Board

Advocacy, Mobilization and Sensitization

Building Trust at Community Level

As preparations for Year 4 implementation progress, WOFAN-ICON2 has intensified advocacy, mobilization, and sensitization efforts across project states. These activities are focused on ensuring that communities are well-informed, engaged, and prepared to participate effectively in upcoming interventions.

The mobilization drive places strong emphasis on micro agro-produce marketers, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), and logistics service providers, with particular priority given to women and youth aged 18–35. State teams from WOFAN and its Implementing Partners (IPs) have led coordinated visits to communities, engaging traditional leaders, market leaders, and other key stakeholders to strengthen awareness and participation.



Advocay, Mobilization and Sensitization visits to communities

Through clear communication of project goals, opportunities, and expectations, these engagements are building trust at the grassroots level. By securing early stakeholder support, the project is fostering stronger community ownership and shared responsibility for successful implementation.

Why It Matters

- Buy-in that drives smooth onboarding
- Strong stakeholder support secured early
- Improved community ownership of the project
- Ensures smooth pre-onboarding and effective Y4 implementation



Grassroots engagement driving inclusive participation.



Advocacy visit with local leaders.



Engaging stakeholders for smooth Y4 implementation.



Mobilization meeting with market leaders and partners.

Digital Readiness for Year 4 Implementation



Training was on the effective use of CommCare

To ensure a seamless and data-driven Year 4 rollout, WOFAN, in partnership with Sane Konsult, conducted comprehensive training sessions for newly engaged extension workers. The trainings were held across Abuja, Adamawa, and Kano, equipping field teams with the digital skills required to support efficient implementation.

The focus of the training was on the effective use of CommCare for data collection, registration of community partner groups, and structured data management. By strengthening digital competence at the field level, WOFAN-ICON2 is reinforcing transparency, accuracy, and real-time reporting across all project locations.

A total of 1,094 extension workers were successfully onboarded and trained, with coverage spanning Adamawa, Bauchi, Benue, Gombe, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Nasarawa, and the FCT.



Training was on the effective use of CommCare

Participants were equipped with complete working tools to support their assignments, ensuring readiness for immediate deployment.

The first phase of Training of Trainers (ToT) capacity building has also been completed, further strengthening the technical backbone of Year 4 implementation. This digital readiness positions the project for improved coordination, stronger accountability, and more efficient service delivery across communities.



Presentation and live demonstration of the CommCare platform.

From Training to Community Impact



Extension Workers began registering women, youth and Persons with Disabilities (PWD)

Following the digital readiness and capacity-building sessions, extension workers immediately transitioned from training to field implementation. The registration of cooperatives and onboarding of community partners commenced without delay, ensuring that Year 4 activities moved swiftly from planning to action.

The registration process is being carried out under the close supervision and support of Project Teams, reinforcing accuracy, accountability, and consistency across states. Extension Workers (EWs) began registering women and youth engaged in micro-agro marketing, Persons with Disabilities (PWD) groups, as well as loaders and logistics service providers.

This step marks a critical foundation for strengthening market-based livelihoods across markets, motor parks, and small business spaces. By formally onboarding participants into structured groups, WOFAN-ICON2 is creating organized pathways for inclusion, improved coordination, and sustainable income opportunities within community economies.

MORE PICTURES OF ONGOING Y4 REGISTRATION ACROSS PROJECT STATES













Y4 Flagged Off with Royal Endorsement

Traditional Leadership Backs Inclusive Development



Official flag-off of Y4 with royal endorsement.

The implementation of Year 4 (Y4) of the ICON2 Project was officially flagged off in Dutse, Jigawa State, marking a significant milestone for the programme. The Emir of Dutse, Muhammad Hamim Nuhu Sunusi, reaffirmed strong support for women, youth, and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), underscoring the importance of inclusive growth in community development.

Describing the ICON2 Project as a critical platform for creating dignified jobs and sustainable livelihoods, the Emir highlighted its alignment with broader development priorities. The flag-off ceremony, held at the Dutse Emir's Palace, brought together key stakeholders, traditional rulers, government representatives, and community leaders, reinforcing collective commitment to the success of Year 4 activities.

A major highlight of the event was the distribution of productive assets aimed at boosting economic participation.

Sixty (60) logistics tricycles were presented to Y4 ICON2 youth loaders and service providers, while one hundred and twenty (120) mobility tricycles were distributed to Y4 ICON2 PWD beneficiaries. These assets are expected to significantly enhance mobility, service delivery, and access to income-generating opportunities.



Y4 flag off with Royal Endorsement

The distribution of tricycles represents more than material support, it reflects a deliberate strategy to reduce barriers to participation in economic activities. For youth loaders and logistics providers, the tricycles strengthen their capacity to facilitate efficient farm-to-market movement. For PWD beneficiaries, improved mobility expands their access to markets, community engagement, and livelihood opportunities.

The royal endorsement further strengthens community confidence in the project and demonstrates strong traditional leadership backing for inclusive development. With visible support from respected institutions, Year 4 begins on a foundation of trust, collaboration, and renewed momentum toward sustainable economic empowerment.



Traditional leadership pledges support for inclusive development

SUCCESS STORIES

Grand Launch of the WOFAN Marketing Hub in Tudun Wada

A New Dawn for Rice Processors, Women, Youth, and the Entire Community

WOFAN successfully launched a women-led Marketing Hub at the Tudun Wada Rice Market, marking a significant milestone in expanding market access and value-addition opportunities for women and youth. The hub, a 5-shop commercial complex with branded spaces, was strategically developed to strengthen rice processing, trading, and enterprise growth within the community.

The launch event attracted traders, processors, farmers, and community leaders from surrounding communities in Kano and Kaduna States. It created a vibrant atmosphere that reflected collective pride and ownership of the initiative. The Marketing Hub stands as a visible investment in women's economic empowerment and structured market participation.



A new chapter begins at the WOFAN Marketing Hub, Tudun Wada.

In recognition of WOFAN's life-changing interventions, capacity building, and infrastructure support, Rice Processing and General Enterprises Tudun Wada (RIPAGET) presented an award to the Kano WOFAN-ICON2 mobilizers. The award acknowledged the project's consistent efforts in transforming livelihoods and strengthening the rice value chain across the region.

A highlight of the event was the live showcase of women-owned businesses. Participants demonstrated rice value addition processes, creativity, and entrepreneurial innovation in real time. The displays not only showcased products but also illustrated the confidence and skills women have developed through sustained support and training.

Beyond the ribbon-cutting, the event served as a powerful platform for:

- Networking and collaboration among traders, clusters, and women groups
- Experience sharing and peer learning across communities in Kano and Kaduna States



Grand Launch of the WOFAN Marketing Hub in Tudun Wada

The launch of the WOFAN Marketing Hub represents more than infrastructure, it signals a new chapter of opportunity, strengthened enterprise capacity, and sustainable income pathways for women, youth, and the broader community.



A moment of appreciation for WOFAN's impact in rice processing communities.



Highlights from the WOFAN Marketing Hub launch event.



From infrastructure to income, WOFAN Marketing Hub opens new opportunities.

Turning Advocacy Into Action: WOFAN Leads a National Breakthrough for Women Farmers

For years, WOFAN has championed the belief that lasting transformation begins when the voices of smallholder farmers, especially women, are represented at the highest levels of decision-making. This month, that long-standing advocacy gained remarkable momentum at the national stage.



WOFAN FCT Team lead and Gender specialist Hajia Maryam Lawal delivered a speech before the Senate Committee

The Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Food Security appeared before the Senate Committee to endorse three landmark bills with the potential to reshape Nigeria's food security landscape:

- Rice Development Council of Nigeria Bill
- National Food Reserve Agency Bill
- Cassava Flour Inclusion Bill

Among these, the Rice Development Council of Nigeria Bill stands out as a monumental breakthrough aligned with WOFAN-ICON2's sustained advocacy efforts. The bill represents a strategic opportunity to strengthen the rice value chain, improve coordination, and expand structured support for producers across the country.

Representing women farmers nationwide, Hajia Maryam Lawal, WOFAN Gender Specialist, delivered a compelling presentation before the Senate Committee. She emphasized that the Rice Council Bill goes beyond policy reform, it presents an opportunity to unlock millions of dignified jobs for women and youth, stabilize food production, and reinforce Nigeria's agricultural systems.

This milestone demonstrates how grassroots advocacy can influence national policy. By amplifying the voices of women farmers and positioning their realities within legislative discussions, WOFAN continues to bridge the gap between community-level experiences and national development frameworks, turning advocacy into tangible progress for inclusive agricultural growth.

Royal Endorsement for WOFAN-ICON2

Recognition, Trust, and Community Impact

In recognition of her decades of dedicated service to women, youth, and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), and in acknowledgment of WOFAN-ICON2's strong alignment with national priorities on job creation and value addition, the Emir of Dutse approved the conferment of the traditional title Garkuwan Aujara on Hajia Salamatu Garba. The honour represents not only personal recognition but also validation of the impact and credibility of the ICON2 Project within Jigawa State and beyond.



Conferment of the traditional title Garkuwan Aujara on Hajia Salamatu Garba.

The conferment ceremony marked a significant milestone for community partners in Jigawa State, who expressed renewed hope and strengthened commitment to the project's objectives.

The recognition further reinforced trust between traditional institutions and the WOFAN-ICON2 initiative, signaling sustained support for inclusive development efforts. **Turbaning Hajia Salamatu on behalf of the Emirate, the wife of the Jigawa State Governor, Ambassador Amina Namadi, commended the WOFAN Founder's unwavering commitment to youth employment, diversity, and inclusion. She acknowledged the transformative outcomes already being recorded across participating communities.**

The First Lady further highlighted that the ICON2 Project is currently being implemented in 17 of the state's 27 Local Government Areas (LGAs). In light of the visible successes achieved so far, she announced the Jigawa State Government's readiness to replicate the project's interventions across all 27 LGAs. This expansion would enable more youths, particularly women and PWDs, to benefit from structured livelihood opportunities and sustainable economic empowerment.

The royal endorsement stands as a powerful testament to the project's credibility, community trust, and measurable impact, strengthening the foundation for continued growth and inclusive development across the state.



Ambassador Amina Namadi commends WOFAN's commitment to youth employment and inclusion.

Impact Recognized: Strengthening ICON2 Pathways for Women and Youth

In recognition of WOFAN's decades of grassroots impact in agriculture, Bayero University, Kano (BUK) appointed **Hajia (Dr.) Salamatu Garba as Chairperson of the CDA Sectoral and Industry Advisory Board.** The appointment acknowledges her longstanding leadership and commitment to advancing inclusive agricultural development, while reflecting growing institutional recognition of WOFAN-ICON2's work in empowering women, youth, and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).



Bayero University, Kano (BUK) appointed Hajia (Dr.) Salamatu Garba as Chairperson of the CDA Sectoral and Industry Advisory Board.

This recognition highlights Hajia Salamatu's efforts in transforming inclusion into opportunity through the ICON2 Project, which has been impacting lives since 2020. Her leadership has strengthened agricultural value chains, promoted entrepreneurship, and supported the shift from subsistence farming to structured agri-entrepreneurship. As a respected institution in dryland agriculture, BUK's endorsement reinforces WOFAN's credibility and establishes a pathway for knowledge exchange and extension worker specialization.

Beyond personal recognition, the appointment strengthens the bridge between academia, industry, and communities. It increases visibility for WOFAN-ICON2's women- and youth-led development models and supports deeper collaboration along agricultural value chains, reinforcing the foundation for sustainable and inclusive growth.

WOFAN-ICON2 Women Are Driving Household Stability Through Income That Meets Daily Needs

Across project states, WOFAN-ICON2 women-led marketing hubs are generating steady and reliable income for their members. Through structured trading, value addition, and cooperative enterprise, women are earning profits that directly support their households and improve overall family well-being.

The income generated from these hubs is being used to meet essential daily needs, including food, healthcare, and school expenses. This consistent financial contribution is helping families maintain stability and better manage routine costs without excessive strain.

Women's active involvement in income-generating activities is also reducing financial pressure within households. By contributing meaningfully to household expenses, they are strengthening economic resilience and reinforcing their role as key drivers of family stability and community development.



Women actively involved in income-generating activities

Lasting Impact: When Women Earn, Families Thrive



The economic empowerment of women through WOFAN-ICON2 interventions is producing visible and lasting change within households. As women generate steady income through marketing hubs and cooperative enterprises, families are experiencing greater financial stability and improved quality of life.

The impact extends beyond income alone.

Women's contributions are strengthening household resilience, enabling families to better manage expenses, respond to challenges, and plan for the future with greater confidence.

- ***Increased economic resilience for households***
- ***Improved well-being of children and families***
- ***Improved cooperation and decision-making at household level***

When women earn, families thrive, and communities grow stronger.



Women generating steady income through marketing hubs and cooperative enterprises.

WOFAN ICON2

In partnership with mastercard foundation



Women Farmers Advancement Network (WOFAN) was established in June 1993 and was incorporated with the Kano State Government as a Community Development Association in 1995 with 28 community members.

The organization was later registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission in 2004 as WOFAN Associates and WOFAN Enterprise to engage in capacity development, consultancy and provision of corporate services and to develop the entrepreneurial skills and economic inclusion of the rural farming and processing communities, respectively.

www.wofan.org | info@wofan.org
+2348186620598, +2348093861739