



PROJECT NEWS (MARCH 2014)

Dear Supporter and Partners of Springboard,

I am pleased to bring to you another Springboard news update for the year 2014. We started the year with BIG dreams and goals. I am happy to inform you that we are on the move towards realising them. We are UPWARD and ONWARD towards creating a new Nigeria through organic farming and personal enterprise

News from Springboard Graduates: Tosin is happy with his new business!



Tosin, one of our 2013 participants is happy to be employed at his new business. He has also employed another person to work with him! Tosin buys telephone recharge cards and accessories in wholesales and sells in retail to the people in his community. “I am happy to start this business from the micro credit I received from Springboard. I have big dreams for my business...” says Tosin.

Bamboo Craftsmanship Training in India

In January this year, the local government partnered with Springboard to train five ex-political violent youth on bamboo craftsmanship in India. This was carried out to create meaningful and responsible jobs for them and put an end to the crime these youth have long engaged with. Also, this will help to add value to several species of bamboo wasting away in the community. Over 1000 functional and decorative products can be generated from bamboo. In the coming weeks, the local government will be working with us to raise funds towards establishing a bamboo cluster where these youth will make their bamboo products and also train others in bamboo craftsmanship. During the 5 weeks training, students learnt to make bamboo- chair, pen, bed, lampshade, solar torch, masks, key chain, etc. The pictures below show some training activities and products made.



Training in workshop



Training in Bamboo Nursery



Learning techniques of Bamboo bending



Making of bamboo shirt hanger



Learning to weave bamboo



Making Bamboo lampshade

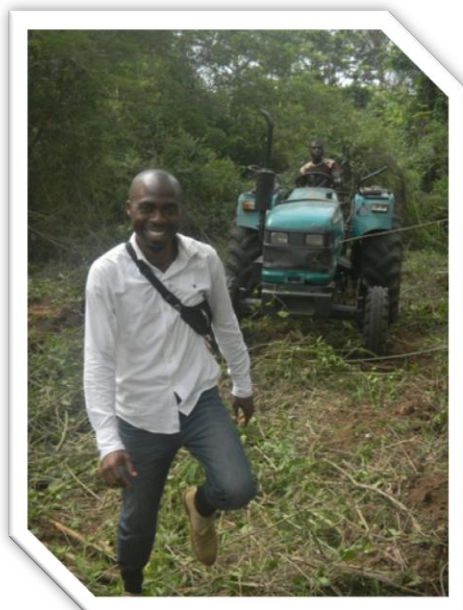


Bamboo Lampshade and Chair made by the students



Students display their products during graduation

Clearing of New Springboard Farmland



In preparation for the new planting season, 2014 Springboard training and expansion of our farmland, we have begun to clear new farmland donated to us. We plan to grow more plantain and corn on the new farmland; have a sizeable portion for organic spinach and also have a demonstration plot for some selected mints plants.



Springboard Plantain Chips (branded as IPEKERE) gradually making waves in the Market

One at a time, one customer at a time, we are gradually pushing our plantain chips into the hearts of the people and consumers! In the last 3 months alone, we were able to make over \$700 in profit! At the beginning of the year, we set a goal to sell 50 bags (25 pouches/sachets in each bag) of the chips per week. Unfortunately, we have not achieved this goal due to mobility challenge. We pray that soon we should get a vehicle to help us with effective and efficient distribution.



Dear Supporters and Partners,

As you can read, this year started well and we are right on a good path towards helping unemployed young people in low-income communities to become self employed and generating wealth from our local resources. All of this would not have been possible without your support! On behalf of the Springboard team, I want to say thank you very much for your continuous support.

With much gratefulness from Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria

Afere Alaba Lawrence and Springboard team

Request: we are in need of a project vehicle to help us in our farm and training activities and distribution of Springboard plantain chips. A very good used/second hand pick up van costs \$6,550. We will appreciate your kind donation towards purchasing this vehicle. Also, if you know anyone who can donate towards this, kindly help us pass the information to her/him. THANK YOU!

Springboard...the Promise of a New Nigeria through Organic Farming & Personal Enterprise

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