

OCI Foundation International

Sponsors of the: (i) Cyfed Undergraduate Scholarships (ii) CBH Scholarships (iii) IFOMSSA Junior Awards (iv) IFOMSSA Senior Awards and (v) Annual JAMB Awards (vi) ArOF Health Campaign (vii) LAMS Initiative (viii) The Gynocular Project



ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT TO LOCALLY-LED ACTION (March 2025)

The OCI Foundation recognises that local actors are best placed to understand and respond to the priorities of their communities. As such, we are intentional about supporting local leadership. This enables us to empower local actors to operate and take ownership of development and humanitarian activities in the areas where we operate.

Approach

We ensure that power imbalances do not exist within the OCI Foundation regarding the development of our members and our humanitarian initiatives. To achieve this:

- Primary stakeholders are typically consulted in the planning of our initiatives and are usually involved in their roll-out and implementation, wherever possible.
- We train our staff on issues relevant to this Commitment. Areas covered include participatory processes, accountability and empowerment. These ensure that the voices and engagements of primary stakeholders are always maintained.
- We facilitate conversations at all levels of the OCI Foundation in ways that address issues of power and optimise local leadership for our initiatives.

Principles Underlying the Commitment

The OCI Foundation's commitment to locally led action is built on the triad of Sustainability, Inclusion and Human Rights:

- 1) **Sustainability:** A major goal of the OCI Foundation is to enable communities in ways that allow them to continue helping themselves long after our organisation leaves their areas. Given this, our projects aim to apply local solutions to local problems by promoting self-reliance, ownership, and autonomy among the communities we assist. We collaborate with trusted local partners, supporting them and our primary stakeholders through capacity-building initiatives.
- 2) **Inclusion:** We strive to create a world where everyone is included. This requires us to remove barriers that exclude vulnerable and disadvantaged groups like women and the disabled by developing initiatives to support their participation in our activities.
- 3) **Human Rights:** The basic human right of all individuals we relate with is crucial to all OCI Foundation activities. This approach helps us to empower disadvantaged and vulnerable groups with respect while promoting their freedom and dignity.

Review of Policy

This policy is subject to review in March 2028, three years after its implementation. This can be sooner if legislation or other events warrant so.