



IRIAD-THE ELECTORAL HUB
Commemorates International Youth Day 2022
“Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for all Ages”
...Calls for youth inclusion in the electoral process and
representation in governance to promote intergenerational
solidarity and sustainable development...

The Initiative for Research, Innovation, and Advocacy in Development (IRIAD) and The Electoral Hub commemorate International Youth Day 2022 by celebrating young people across the world. The youth make up about one-sixth of the world’s population, and they play a key role in socio-economic and political development in the world. Youth in developing countries particularly face various economic and socio-political barriers hindering them from full and effective participation in society.

Despite these challenges, youth are playing a significant role in climate change, governance, and social justice. IRIAD -The Electoral Hub is committed to improving youth’s participation in governance and democracy as well as promoting gender equality and social inclusion (GESI). We are concerned about the poor representation of youth people in politics and governance. As we approach the Nigeria 2023 general election, we call on the Executive, Legislature, political parties, and INEC to do more to ensure substantive improvements in youth inclusion and representation in the electoral process and governance.

August 12 every year has been set aside by the United Nations to celebrate the amazing contributions of youths and amplify the conditions of young people all over the world. Since 2000, the United Nations and other organizations have observed International Youth Day raise awareness and draw attention to issues facing youth worldwide and this day also provides an opportunity to mainstream youth voices, actions, and initiatives.

The theme for this year’s commemoration is *‘Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a world for all Ages.’* This highlights the importance of collaboration across all generations. We all regardless of age have a responsibility to maximize and build our collective existence. In line with this year’s theme, we urge all relevant stakeholders at local, national and international levels to do more in ensuring youth are well represented in governance. For us at, the Initiative for Research, Innovation, and Advocacy in Development (IRIAD) and The Electoral Hub we have always believed that:

Youth as champions for social transformation and development. They should be included in governance and the electoral processes to foster intergenerational learning, experience sharing, and continuation of our democratic values and ethics.

On the premise of leave-no-one behind, IRIAD – The Electoral Hub calls for the effective implementation of all national, international, and continental instruments and policies for the advancement of the youth such as the National Youth Policy, and INEC Youth Engagement Strategy.

#IYD2022
#LeaveNoOneBehind
#InternationalYouthDay2022
#IRIAD4Youths
#YouthElectoralAdvocates

Signed

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