

Women's Rights are Human Rights! Give to Gain: Rights. Justice. Action. For All Women and Girls”

This International Women's Day, while we celebrate women's achievements all over the world, let us move beyond appreciation and into translating policies into action. In Nigeria in particular, let us vote YES to the Special Seats Bill for Women and obey court judgement in line with *Protocol* to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (African Women's Rights Charter/Maputo Protocol), the international instrument which guarantees a minimum 35% women participation and representation in political and decision-making processes, mandating all STATES of Africa to take action to ensure equal representation.

When we talk about Give to Gain! Rights, Justice, and Action for All Women and Girls, we are talking about the invisible engine of our world: **The Woman.**

She is the backbone of the household, the pulse of the informal economy, yet her name is often missing from the title deed and her signature is ignored at formal financial institutions.

We have heard it said: “When a woman has no money, her voice becomes Permission.”

True justice isn't just a seat at the table. it is the key to building strong and sustainable societies. Poverty isn't just empty pockets for women; it is the locked resources and opportunities she has been denied key to.

This year, "Give to Gain," IRIAD join the global campaign advocating for a fundamental shift:

- GIVE women access, not pity.
- GIVE women systems that work, not sympathy.
- GIVE women credit without a husband's approval.
- GIVE women a seat at the table NOW.

The “**math**” is simple, yet the impact is revolutionary and transformative:

- When women hold resources, families thrive.
- When women hold income, children learn.
- When women hold decisions, society progress.

This means the “math” is not only mathing but will math well. The return on investment on gender equity gives lower poverty, healthier nation, educated generation, innovation, economic growth and sustainable environment. These are what the world needs right now.

Empowering women isn't just a moral imperative; it's an all-inclusive benefit package covering economic, political, social, cultural and environmental spheres.

#IWD2026, investing in women is not an act of charity. it is an act of economic intelligence. When we invest in women, providing all required resources and support, the whole world gains.

Translate policy to action NOW! Respect Women's Rights!

Give Women access, resources, support, opportunities, and a SEAT at the table now!

How will you take action today and going forward?

**#IWD2026 #RightsJusticeAction #GiveToGain #SpecialSeatsBillNow
#ForAllWomenAndGirls #GenderEquityNG #IRIADForWomenRights**

Signed

Princess Hamman-Obels, **Director |IRIAD-The Electoral Hub**

Phone: +234 908 6998 850 +234 704 7998 525

Twitter: @electoralhub and @iriadev

Instagram: @electoralhub, @theelectoralforum, and @iriadev

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LinkedIn: @the-electoral-hub; @iriadev; @the-electoral-forum;

YouTube: @electoralhub1196; @IRIADEV; @ElectoralAccountabilityWatchNG;

@TheElectoralForum

Website: <https://www.electoralhub.org>, <https://www.iriadng.org> and [electoralforum.electoralhub.org](https://www.electoralforum.org)

ABOUT IRIAD AND THE ELECTORAL HUB

The **Initiative for Research, Innovation, and Advocacy in Development (IRIAD)** is an interdisciplinary knowledge, policy, and advocacy hub committed to developing a critical understanding of governance processes and regimes through research, documentation, policy engagement, public education, and impact advocacy. Whilst promoting and encouraging active citizenship through citizens' engagement, participation, and representation in democratic governance.

The **Electoral Hub** is an interdisciplinary knowledge, policy, and advocacy hub committed to promoting electoral knowledge, integrity, inclusion, and accountability in Nigeria. Our aim is to strengthen electoral governance and accountability in Nigeria through the provision of data, critical and contextualized analysis, and solutions to improve the credibility and integrity of the electoral process.

**Knowledge| Innovation | Inclusion|
#Advocacy #Results #Impact
...promoting electoral knowledge, accountability, inclusion, and integrity**