TAKE IT BACK
MOVEMENT
March 2019 Newsletter

REVOLUTION
INTERVENTION
FREEDOM

LIBRARY
LEARNING
AT ALARO
The Take it Back team took an empty room in a secondary school in Ijebu Ode and created a befitting library. p. 04

TAKING BACK
OUR NATION
OUR WAY
The question "What happens next?" is answered in our blueprint for Take it Back’s future. p. 02

IDP GIRLS
GET NECO
LIFELINE
The Take it Back team worked with internally displaced students in Benue state. p. 04

MESSAGE FROM THE
CONVENER,
OMOYELE SOWORE
The journey ahead
A message of gratitude and fortitude, the charting of waters anew and the introduction to our monthly newsletter. Taking back Nigeria starts here.

CONTINUED P. 02
FROM THE CONVENER

Marching into a greater future

Salvaging a country ravaged over 58 years by corruption and greed takes some time but the Take it Back Movement will weather the storm and stand in the gap.

We knew the long walk to freedom would not be easy, we knew the cabals would not walk away without a fight, so we have resolved to be a mainstay in the Nigerian political scene by doing the following:

1. Speaking and protesting against civil injustices everywhere we find them on the Nigerian landscape, and
2. Starting non-governmental intervention initiatives that will benefit the most vulnerable Nigerians, creating sustainable welfare and giving our people hope for tomorrow.

Join us. Nigeria deserves better and you and I can turn "inconsequential" dreams into a beautiful reality.

THE STRUGGLE TO TAKE IT BACK CONTINUES!

The Sowore 2019 campaign showed us exactly how much work there is to be done in Nigeria. In every sphere that affects the quality of human life, we found neglect, rot, despondence, misery and death.

Across Security, Power, Infrastructure, Corruption, Economy and Job Creation, Restructuring, Health, Education, Agriculture, Tourism and Culture, nothing works. Our people lay hungry and dying, human life and property languishing while resources are being wasted by an elite few who exist only to steal from the masses to enrich their pockets.

"Nobody can give you freedom. Nobody can give you equality or justice or anything. If you're a man, you take it."

- Malcolm X

It has become clear that this Movement can neither retreat nor surrender. We must continue to march ahead with the plans to liberate Nigeria armed with nothing but passion for our country.

We are not afraid of the work; Nigeria is worth it. All we ask is that you join us.

We are looking for critical projects we can intervene on. Send your suggestions to: impact@tibglobal.org.
TAKE IT BACK MOVEMENT SPEAKS OUT AGAINST FG’S DECISION TO PUNISH NIGERIANS WITH VAT HIKE AND POVERTY

We are dedicated to fighting for the underdog; the marginalised Nigerians, the forgotten and the downtrodden. This is why the minimum wage battle - raising the minimum wage to a dignified living wage of ₦100,000 for the most vulnerable workers in our society - was one of the principal tenets in our recently concluded presidential campaign.

In 2018, the Take it Back Movement stood shoulder to shoulder with the Nigerian Labour Congress as we embarked on numerous protests and strike actions to press for minimum wage to be increased to at least ₦30 thousand naira.

After denying the average Nigerian of a wage increase for many years, the Buhari-led government, in a transparent bid to garner support in the upcoming elections, made a very reluctant concession to the demands of Labour and increased the minimum wage.

It is unconscionable that the perceived choice before the Nigerian people was either Atiku’s PDP who were busy fronting programs of selling public property to enrich his friends, programs that would only serve to further plunge the average Nigerian into deeper poverty and misery, or Buhari’s APC whose arm had to be twisted to give Nigerians a decent day’s pay for a decent day’s work.

After the staged charade that were the 2019 elections, it is now clear to the Nigerian public, if it weren’t already, that the Buhari regime is one that gives with the right hand and robs with the left.

As soon as the National Assembly passed the hard-won minimum wage increment into law, the incumbent government announced a VAT increase to “fund the new minimum wage” – an amount that is still comparatively a slave wage when compared to other African countries with substantively fewer resources.

This Nigerian government, the most expensive in the entire world; a government that oversaw Nigeria slipping into the position of world’s poverty capital on their watch NEVER blackmails itself with the increment of VAT.

We will never relent. We will continue to pressure the Nigerian government to do right by the Nigerian people. We will not accept the thoughtless, cruel and barbaric treatment of our people. We will Take it Back by force.
LIBRARY BOOKS AND COMPUTERS FOR STUDENTS AT ALARO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

The only way to light the path at a child’s feet is to educate that child; feed a curious mind with learning, knowledge and ideas. Indeed, the only way that a nation can liberate itself from abject subjugation is through education and constant learning.

In keeping with our ongoing commitment to move Nigeria forward with intervention projects, the Take it back Movement, in association with other well-meaning bodies and organisations, took an empty room and created a well-equipped library for the students of Alaro Community High School, Ijebu Ode, Ogun State.

The school had purposed a classroom to be used as a library but other than a few shelves, the room lay empty, with the school churning out students without a reading culture, students graduating with inquisitive minds but few answers.

A joint effort from GAIN and the Take it Back Movement, and kind donations from First Baptist Church, Laurel, Maryland, USA saw the empty shell transform into a centre for learning, with books and computers, everything a twenty first century student needs to become one of tomorrow’s leaders.

It was a joy to be able to watch the students happily partake in changing their own destinies, joining in the arrangement of the shelves and books, their faces lighting up as they thumbed through books they’d previously heard of but never had the opportunity to read.

GBAJIMBA IDP CAMP, BENUE: TIB VOLUNTEERS PAY FOR 16 YOUNG GIRLS' NECO FEES

During the 2019 electoral campaign, we came across many of our fellow citizens who had been displaced from their homes by the Boko Haram or Farmer-Herdsmen conflicts, and were languishing in IDP camps. There are over 30 official IDP camps in the country, not to mention host communities that have had to absorb hundreds of thousands of displaced individuals.

We were told about 16 young girls in the Gbajimba IDP camp, Benue State, who are poised to take their senior secondary exams but were at risk of not being able to participate in the exams due to a lack of funding. These young ladies were displaced as a result of Farmer-Herdsmen clashes in their communities, many losing everything they had to come and start life in an IDP camp that was meant to be temporary but became their daily existence. The immediate need was N15,000 per girl student – to cover NECO registration and administration costs incurred by the school.

TIB donors who have chosen to remain anonymous, in partnership with GAIN, pooled together to raise the funds needed and, with the help of the TIB/AAC Benue team, made a payment of N240,000 on Wednesday, 20th March for the 16 students to write their exams.

This is just the beginning. With your help and a little initiative, we will move Nigeria further than most governments do within their tenures!
PICTURES FROM ALARO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY PROJECT

PICTURES FROM GBAJIMBA IDP CAMP GIRLS' NECO FEES PROJECT
FINAL THOUGHTS

Our projects are now open to anyone interested in making a difference. We know that there are many issues that require immediate intervention, but we cannot take on all of Nigeria’s problems. We will be using our SPICER HEAT guide to prioritise intervention. Please see examples below:

1. Security - e.g., IDP support.
2. Power - e.g., solar and renewable power projects.
3. Infrastructure - e.g., refurbishment and basic community roads maintenance.
4. Corruption - e.g., whistleblowing support and youth training.
5. Economy & Jobs - e.g., skills development programmes.
6. Restructuring - e.g., advocacy.
7. Healthcare - e.g., interventions to support vulnerable and displaced Nigerians.
8. Education - e.g., tuition support, book supplies and training.
9. Agriculture - e.g., training and expert support for farmers.
10. Tourism - e.g., promotion of diaspora return projects.

At this time, we will NOT be looking into personal, individual issues.

If you have any ideas you think are worth looking into, please reach out to the team at: impact@tibglobal.org. We look forward to hearing from you.