

**MTN FOUNDATIONS' ACHIEVEMENTS IN EDUCATION – SPEAKING
NOTES FOR GALA DINNER AT UNGC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE,
GENEVA, 2007**

- **Greetings**

- **MTNN corporate philosophy on CSR**
 - CSR is an intrinsic part of our corporate philosophy and key to our business strategy.
 - In Nigeria, MTN is at the forefront of a win-win ideology of running business ethically and contributing to the sustenance of a vibrant and stable society as a prerequisite for sustaining its stellar business performance.
 - Our vision is to sustain our leadership position in Nigeria, and continue to provide first class telecommunication services in a healthy and stable market.
 - To achieve this, we are committed to supporting the government of Nigeria in its development objectives and its war against corruption, by doing our bit and setting an example for others to follow.

- **Our three areas of CSR**

We have three dimensions of responsibility:

 - Good Corporate Governance – institutionalizing ethical conduct through various processes and procedures. We have also made public our stance on corporate governance by signing up to distinguished bodies such as **the United Nations Global Compact** – MTN Nigeria is an active member of the Nigerian network and the **Convention of Business Integrity(CBI)**.
 - Inherent value addition to society through our presence/products and services – the advent of GSM technology pioneered by MTN has stimulated economic growth on different levels.
 - Corporate Social investments through the MTN Foundation – **To improve the qualities of life in our communities.**

- **Brief background of MTNN Foundation**
 - In 2005 at the inception of the MTN Nigeria Foundation, we stepped back and took a long hard look at what corporate responsibility really meant to us at MTN and how MTN could really make an impact.
 - We consulted with a wide stakeholder group, drawn from civil society and came up with was a very simple model for a Foundation; based on **collaboration, sustainability, and wide impact.**
 - In order to achieve this, we determined that all the activities of the Foundation would be **project based**, and run on strict project management lines.

- **The MTN Foundation – Vehicle for our CSI.**
 - The Foundation’s vision is to positively impact lives in the communities where we operate and intervene in 3 key focal areas - **Education, Health and Economic Empowerment.**
 - The Foundation is funded by 1% PAT from MTN Nigeria and deploys a unique brand of project-driven, wide impact, sustainable corporate social investment programmes which have won several accolades.
 - We only embark on projects that can be replicated in the 6 geo-political zones of the country, with a population of 140 million.
 - We have a long term view, and we are confident that in time, we will make tremendous impact.
 - **Currently, we estimate that we have touched the lives of over 1 million persons – we have 100 project sites, spread over 25 out of 36 states in Nigeria, and we are still growing**

- **Achievements in Education**
 - In Education, the Foundation’s mission is in line with **MDGS** - ‘bridging the digital divide’ and the Federal Government of Nigeria’s **NEEDS** strategy.

MTN Foundation Education Projects - Aim is to support the Federal Government in providing educational tools and infrastructure.

- **SCHOOLSCONNECT**
 - Award-winning secondary schools project - in partnership with SchoolsNet Nigeria, a local NGO, which is responsible for maintenance of the facilities.
 - provides fully equipped digital libraries for secondary schools comprising of the following:
 - 21 networked computers and a server
 - VSAT Internet Connectivity
 - Hands on teacher training
 - To date, over 85,000 secondary school students almost 4,000 teachers in 37 schools in the 6 geo-political zones have benefited from the **SchoolsConnect Project**. By the end of 2007, the number of schools should go up to **50**.

It’s very difficult for others to imagine the kind of conditions that we grapple with, and the impact of our work, until you see this -



Before



After

- **UNIVERSITIESCONNECT**

- On-line digital library which provides access to the world's largest collection of digital resources from over 5,500 libraries and 300 publishers to assist teachers and students with their research in universities across the country and computer training for the students.
- The University **of Lagos** with a population of **25,000 students** was the first beneficiary.
- The project will be replicated in **ABU Zaria** and is due to be commissioned very soon.
- The same project is planned for other federal universities in due course.

Again, it's very difficult to imagine the impact of our intervention, until you see this.....



Before



After

- **MTNF UNICEF Child Friendly School Initiative**
 - In partnership with UNICEF
 - Designed to equip schools with infrastructure to create an enabling learning environment – renovation of classrooms, provision of toilet facilities and play areas.
 - Adopts a phased approach and should improve the environment in which children work and play through the provision of furniture, water and sanitation facilities.

- **Donations**
 - Yearly donation of exercise books to several deprived public schools.
 - Adhoc assistance .e.g. renovation of football pitch for **Kings College – Nigeria’s oldest public school.**

These relatively small but periodic donations really do make a difference, and the joy they bring is amazing....



Impact of projects

The impact of these projects has been significant in the following areas:

- Significant contribution to development of Educational infrastructure across the country
- Attracting government presence/attention to the community
- Encouraging replication of the projects at other schools by other organisations
- Motivates alumni and PTA to further improve quality of education in the MSC schools
- Raised educational standards in the schools

MTN has clearly demonstrated leadership in the area of CSR and commitment to the UNGC principles. It has become a catalyst in corporate Nigeria for corporate citizenship. Clearly this is a model that works.