



EMPOWER HER - EMPOWER THE FUTURE

Digital Literacy for the Girl Child

REPORT

Initiative By:

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Event Date:

7th March 2025

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On March 7, 2025, the Empower the Future (ETF) Initiative successfully hosted its maiden workshop titled **Empower Her – Empower the Future: *Digital Literacy for the Girl Child***.

The event was held at the main auditorium of the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun (FUPRE), and attracted over 300 participants, including 220 senior secondary school girls, teachers, speakers, panellists, volunteers, and other guests. The aim of the workshop was to inspire, educate, and mentor young girls in Warri and its environs on the importance of digital literacy, personal development, and career planning.

The workshop featured a keynote speech by Mrs. Lola Aworanti-Ekugo, Non-Executive Director, Odu'a Investment Company Limited, a series of educational talks, a panel discussion, interactive games, and an inter-school quiz competition.

A total of 30 girls were carefully selected for a year-long mentorship program based on their essays, in which they described their passion for the program and how it could help shape their future.

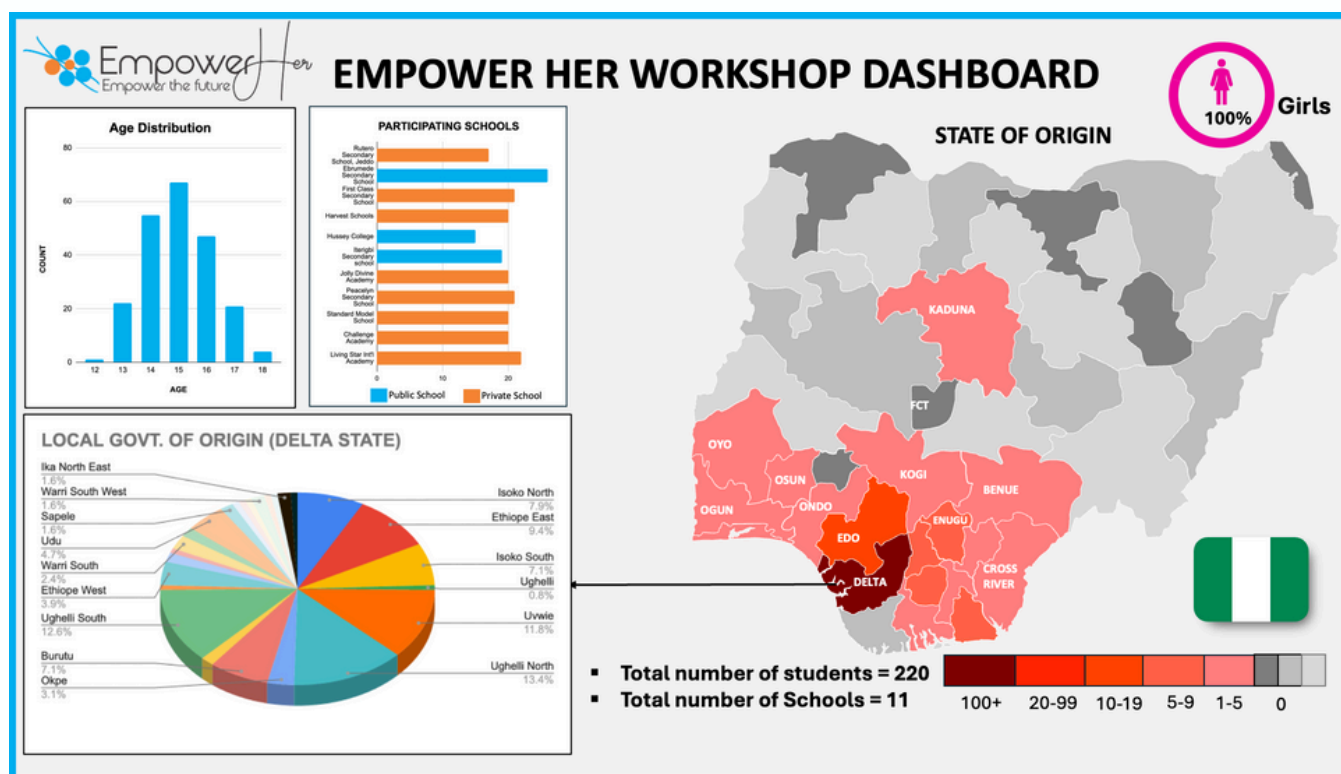


Fig 1: Empower Her- Empower the Future Workshop Dashboard

INTRODUCTION

The Empower the Future Initiative was founded by Promise Ekeh, a UK-based data geoscientist and digital educator, as a platform to promote digital literacy, mentorship, and leadership among young girls in underdeveloped communities. Motivated by her own experiences growing up in Warri and her journey into the tech space, she created this initiative to bridge the digital divide and empower girls to dream beyond their present circumstances.

The workshop marked the beginning of the initiative's mission to foster a generation of confident, digitally literate, and visionary young women.

MISSION & OBJECTIVES

The mission of the Empower Her initiative is to bridge the digital divide by equipping young girls with the tools, confidence, and mentorship needed to thrive in a tech-driven world. The core objectives of the workshop included

- **To inspire:** Empower girls to dream beyond their current circumstances through exposure to relatable role models and success stories.
- **To educate:** Introduce basic concepts of digital literacy and the potential of technology for personal and professional growth.
- **To mentor:** Select 30 outstanding participants for a yearlong mentorship program to build their digital skills, confidence and leadership.

WORKSHOP PLANNING & EXECUTION

The idea for Empower Her was first conceptualised on the 16th of November 2024. The planning for the workshop began almost immediately and took approximately three months to execute, involving coordination with local schools, volunteers, and partners. A detailed programme was designed to include keynote speeches, technical sessions, health education, and competitions. The event team, led by Promise Ekeh, ensured that all logistical, media, and welfare arrangements were effectively executed.

PARTICIPANTS & DEMOGRAPHICS

4.1 AGE DISTRIBUTION

The age range of student participants fell within the 12–18 age group, with the majority between 14-16, which aligns with the senior secondary school level. This age range is a crucial developmental stage for building digital literacy and career awareness. This distribution suggests that the workshop was well-timed to influence critical decision-making years before university applications or career choices.

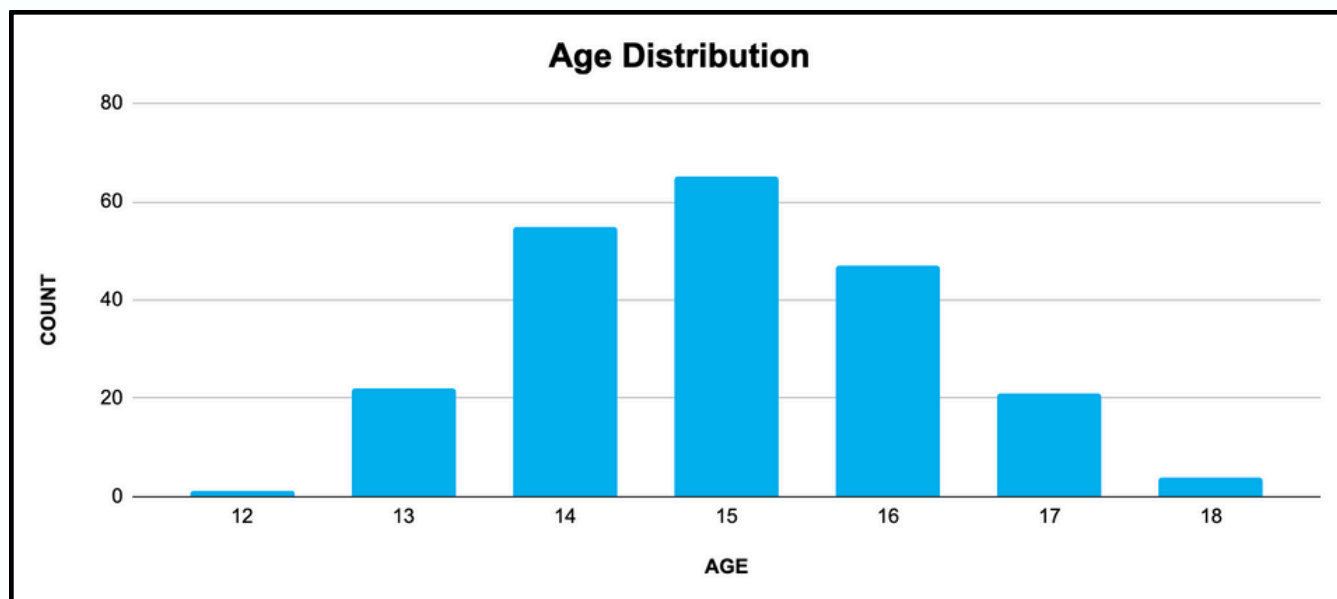


Fig 2: Age distribution chart

4.2 PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Eleven schools from Warri and its environs participated in the workshop. These schools were selected to ensure diverse representation from public and private institutions. The highest participation was from Ebrumede Secondary School (25), followed closely by Living Star International Academy and First Class secondary school.

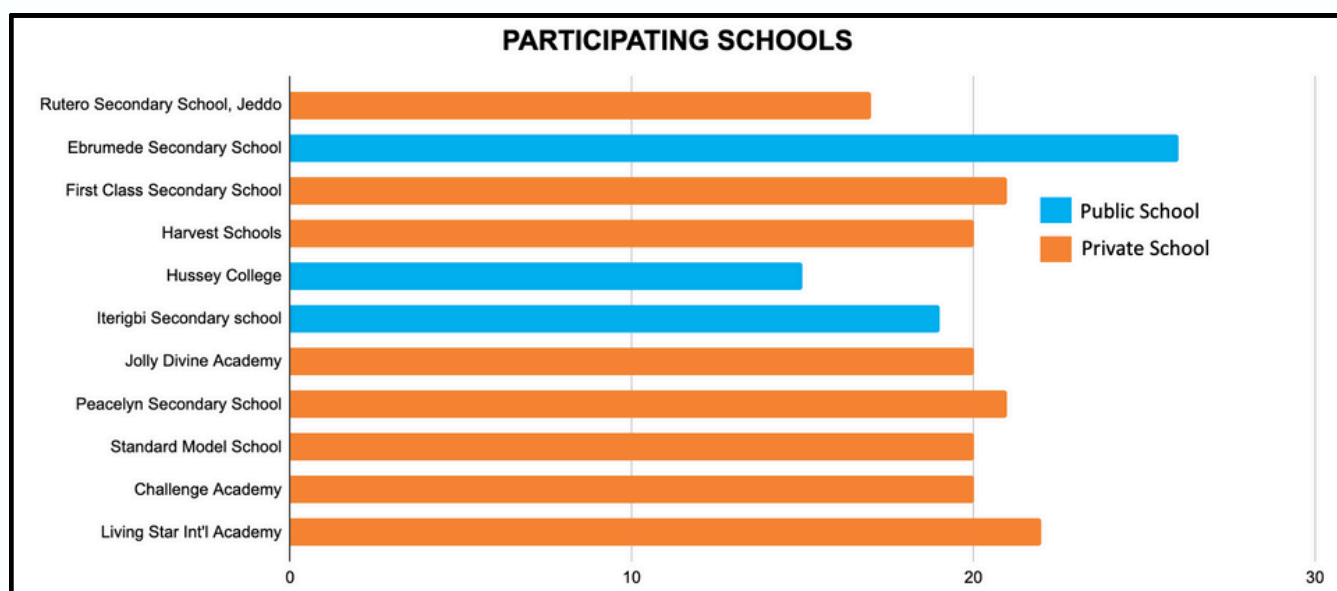


Fig 3: Empower Her- Empower the Future Workshop School Distribution

4.3 STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION

While most of the girls currently reside & school in Delta State, their states of origin revealed a spread across Nigeria. This diversity emphasizes the inclusiveness of the initiative and the reach of its message beyond just one state. The majority of the students were from Delta State. Ughelli North & South Local Government had the highest representation (fig 5).

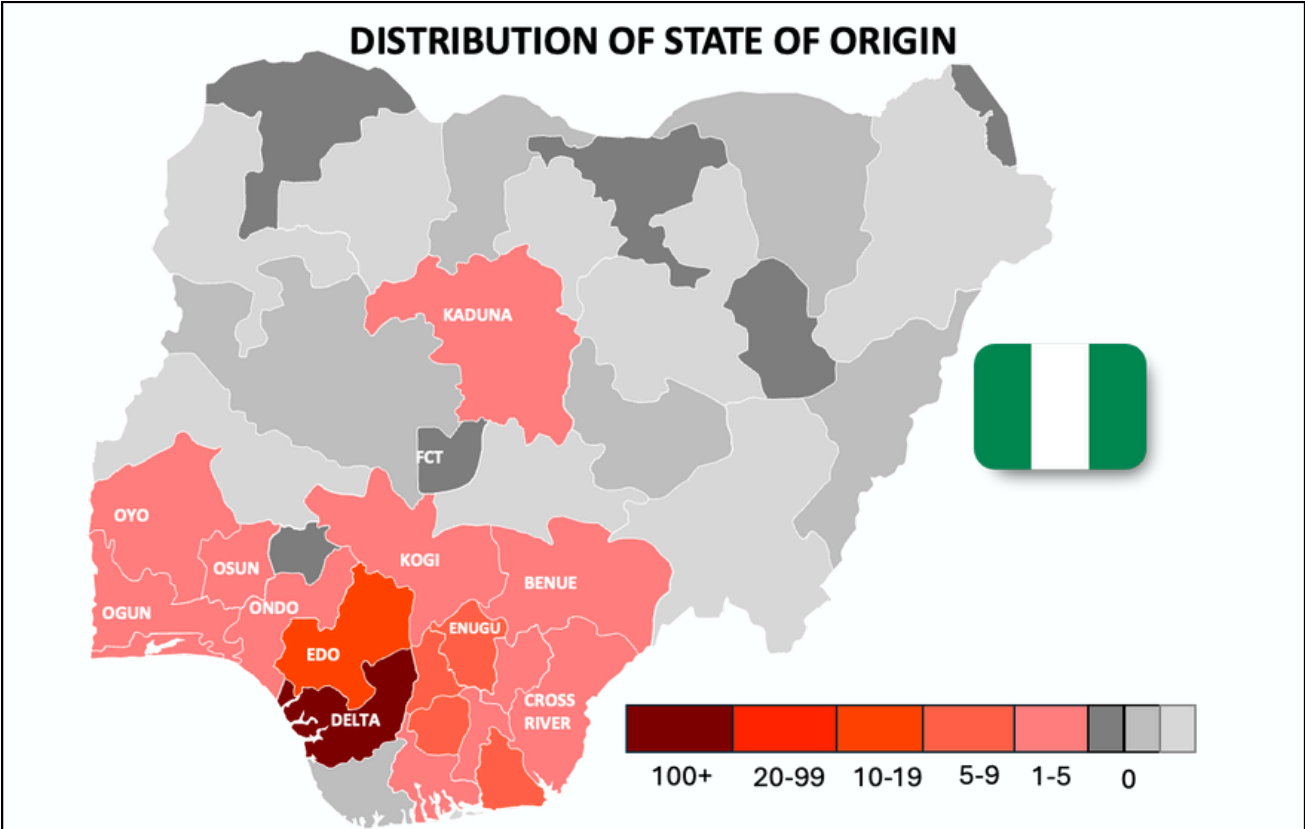


Fig 4: State distribution of students

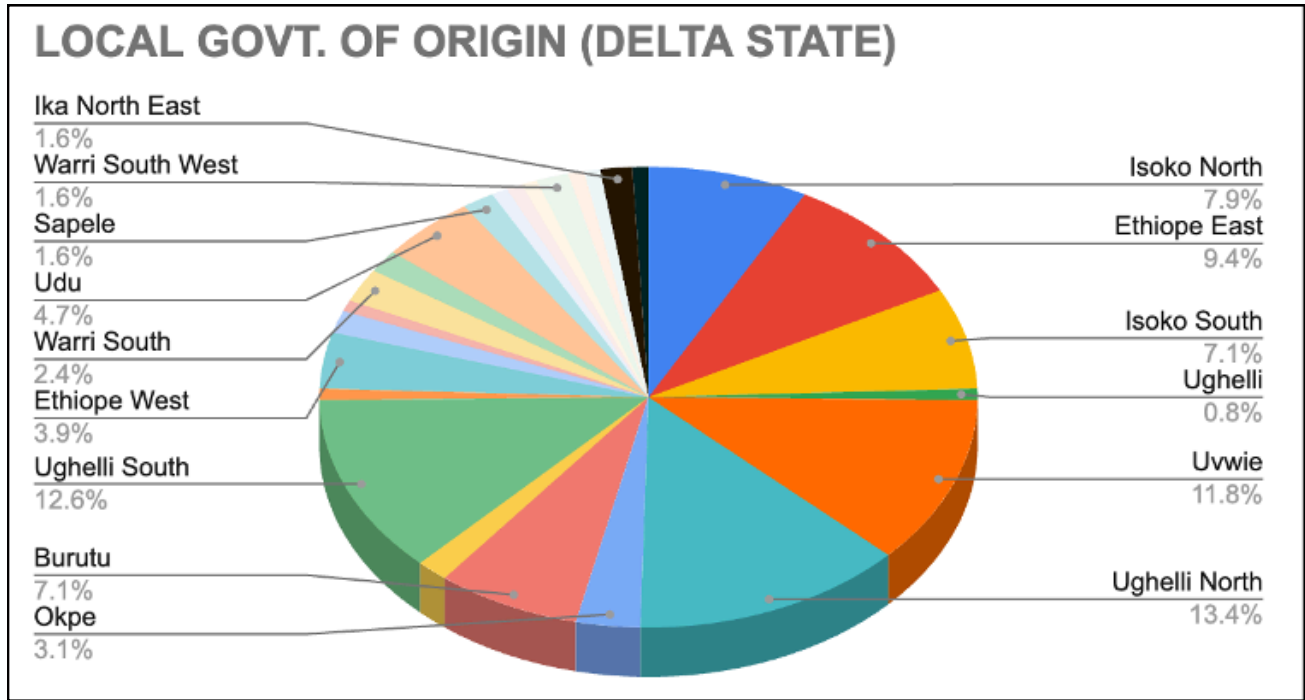


Fig 5: Local government distribution of students from Delta state

KEY ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

The event was packed with diverse activities that left lasting impressions on participants:

- **Keynote Address:** Delivered by Mrs. Lola Aworanti-Ekugo on the theme Empowering the Next Generation: The Future of Women in Technology.
- **Talks and Career Sessions:** Speakers included Mrs Jolomi Adiotomre, Mrs Gbemi Anderson, and Dr Zainab Titus, who addressed topics ranging from career planning and personal development to digital literacy.
- **Health & Hygiene Session:** Representatives from Maden Health Care Foundation and HeySync delivered practical sessions on menstrual hygiene and overall wellness.
- **Panel Discussion:** Moderated by Promise Ekeh, this session featured a range of experts discussing the unique challenges faced by young girls in Warri and strategies to overcome them.
- **Quiz Competition:** Eleven schools participated in a thrilling inter-school quiz competition. First Class Secondary School emerged first, followed by Challenge Academy and Ebrumede Secondary School in second and third place, respectively.
- **Mentorship Selection:** 30 girls were selected for the one-year mentorship program based on their essay submissions.



Fig 6: Quiz winners (Ogbureke Grace & Ogheneovo Faithfulness)

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

The impact of the workshop was immediate and far-reaching. Participants gained exposure to new career paths, learned essential digital skills, and heard inspiring stories from women who overcame similar challenges. Many teachers and school administrators expressed gratitude for the initiative and requested that it become an annual event.

The selection of 30 girls for an intensive mentorship program marks a significant step in ensuring the sustainability and long-term impact of the initiative. These girls will benefit from monthly digital training, career guidance, and life coaching.

CONCLUSION & NEXT STEPS

The Empower Her, Empower the Future Workshop was a huge success, inspiring young girls and providing them with the resources to navigate their careers confidently.

The next steps include:

1. Kickstarting the one-year mentorship program for the 30 selected girls.
2. Creating follow-up digital sessions to track progress.
3. Expanding the initiative to reach more schools in future editions.

SPONSORS/PATNERS

The Empower Her, Empower the Future Workshop was made possible through the generous support of a diverse group of sponsors and partners who contributed both financially and in kind. See below a list of our sponsors.



Fig 8: Empower Her Workshop Sponsors

TEAM MEMBERS

The success of the Empower Her, Empower the Future Workshop was driven by a passionate and dedicated team of volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring the vision to life. From planning to execution, each member played a vital role in ensuring the event ran smoothly and made a lasting impact.

Led by the founder, Promise Ekeh, the team demonstrated excellence, commitment, and a shared belief. We are immensely proud of and grateful for every team member who made this dream a reality.

TEAM MEMBERS



Purity Ejenabedia
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Volunteer Lead



Frank Akighbe
Media
Sub-Team Lead



John Omiye
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Mamuzou Akpo
Strategy



Onyeka Dike
Advisory



Ebenezer Oyichi
Strategy



Juliet C. Aralu
Strategy



Christiana Eziashi
Strategy

APPENDIX

Workshop Photos



Appendix 1: Opening Speech by Promise Ekeh



Appendix 2: Keynote Speech by Lola Aworanti-Ekugo



Appendix 3: Career Exploration Session with Mrs Jolomi Adiotomre



Appendix 4: Career Exploration Session with Mrs Jolomi Adiotomre



Appendix 5: Empower Her Planning Team



Appendix 6: Empower Her Volunteers



Appendix 7: Peacelyn Secondary School



Appendix 8: Career Exploration Video Series



Appendix 9: Personal Development session with mrs Gbemi Anderson



Appendix 10: Empower Her Game winner



Appendix 11: 30 Selected girls with the founder, Empower Her Initiative



Appendix 11: Empower Her Game winner



Appendix 12: Quiz Competition



Appendix 13: Empower Her Game winner



Appendix 14: Quiz Participants



Appendix 15: Menstrual Hygiene Session



Appendix 16: Panel Session



Appendix 17: Speakers with head prefects from participating schools



Appendix 19: Teachers with the founder, Empower Her Initiative



Appendix 20: Peacelyn Secondary School



Appendix 21: Standard Model School



Appendix 22: Rutero Secondary School