FORERUNNER WELFARE FOUNDATION

NGI NextGen–Ideate

NextGen-Ideate

2025 Cohort Graduation and Send-off Ceremony

THEME:



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Saturday 26th September 2026

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PROGRAMME OF EVENTS : 10:00 - 14:00 WAT

S/N	Items	Owners	Duration	
1.	Opening: Arrival of Guests/ Housekeeping	MC	10:00	10:20
2.	Recitation from the Glorious Qur'an: **An-Najm, Q53:32–44**	Mahmoud Shafi'i Muqsit Fayemi	10:21	10:26
3.	Opening Prayer (Duʿāʾ)	Prof. Ibrahim O. Uthman	10:27	10:30
4.	Call to Order & Introduction of Guests	MC	10:31	10:40
5.	Welcome Address	Dr Ibrahim Hammed	10:41	10:46
6.	Brief on Forerunner Welfare Foundation: Its Evolution and Programmes	Engr Muyiwa Tijani	10:47	10:52
7.	What NGI represents	NGI Programme Director	10:53	11:00
8.	Keynote Speech 1 **Topic**: Islamic perspective on future-proof career in an uncertain world	Mr Ibrahim Ande	11:00	11:25
9.	**INTERLUDE 1: 11:26–11:46**			
	a. Comments and contribution I	Prof. Ibrahim O. Uthman	11:26	11:31
	b. Comments and contribution II	Alh. Imran Abdulmojeed	11:32	11:37
	c. Comments and contribution III	Dr Lateefat O. Dairo	11:38	11:43
10.	**Ewi**	Abdul-Mateen Gbadegesin	11:44	11:46
11.	Keynote Speech 2 **Topic**: From learning to earning— walking the thorny path	Mr Abdulrahmon Ahmad, Esq	11:47	12:12
12.	**INTERLUDE 2: 12:13–12:30**			
	a. Comments and contribution I	Prof. S. Bankole	12:13	12:18
	b. Comments and contribution II	Engr Dr Ololade Raji	12:19	12:24
	c. Comments and contribution III	Dr Idayat M. Lamidi	12:25	12:30
PRESENTATION OF AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES: 12:31–13:30				
13.	**Ewi**	Abdul-Mateen Gbadegesin	12:31–12:35	
14.	Presentation of Awards and Valedictory Speech	▪ Babatunde AZEEZ ▪ Kazeem AKANBI ▪ Sukura AKEEM ▪ Abdulroqeeb ADEDOKUN ▪ Mubarak TIJANI	12:36–12:50	
15.	Presentation of Certificates	15 NGI Mentees	12:51–13:05	

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS : 10:00 - 14:00 WAT

16.	Goodwill Messages	Prof. Taofeeq Yekinni	13:05–13:15
		Mr Hussein Adepoju	
		Prof. Ashiata B. Lanre–Abbas	
		Dr Halimat Adeniran	
		Alh. Idris Ismail	
17.	Light refreshments and photographs	Media and Support Team	13:16–13:25
18.	Vote of Thanks and Closing Prayer (Duʿā)	Engr Muyiwa Tijani	13:25–13:30

List of Dignitaries

S/N	Names	Designation	Affiliations
1.	Dr Ibrahim Hammed	Chief Host	Data Specialist, Sanofi Budapest, Hungary FWF BoT Chairman
2.	Engr Muyiwa Tijani	Host	CEO and Founder of Phylum Integrated Services Limited FWF Chief Moderator (MT19)
3.	Engr Dr Ololade Raji	Co-Host	Managing Director, Inovere Chairman, FWF Human Capacity Development Committee
4.	Engr Dr Tunji A. Owoseni	Co-Host	Dept. of Biomedical Engineering, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria NGI Programme Director
5.	Prof. Taofeeq Yekinni	Chairman of the Occasion	Secretary General Muslim Community of Oyo State Ibadan, Nigeria
6.	Prof. Ibrahim O. Uthman	Spiritual Father of the Day	Chief Imam, University of Ibadan Ibadan, Nigeria
7.	Prof. Surajudeen Bankole	Guest of Honour	Chairman, University of Ibadan Muslim Community Ibadan, Nigeria
8.	Alh. Imran Abdulmojeed	Guest of Honour	National President UIMGA
9.	Prof. Ashiata B. Lanre–Abbas	Guest of Honour	Department of Philosophy, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria
10.	Mr Hussein Adepoju	Guest of Honour	Ameer MSSN, Oyo Area Unit, Ibadan
11.	Dr Lateefat O. Dairo	Guest of Honour	Ameerah FOMWAN, Oyo State
12.	Dr Halimat Adeniran	Guest of Honour	Faculty of Law , University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria
NGI Mentors			
13.	Dr Idayat M. Lamidi	Guest of Honour	Department of English and Literary Studies, Kola Daisi University, Ibadan, Nigeria
14.	Dr Ridwan Kolawole	Guest of Honour	Department of Creative and Lang. Arts, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria
15.	Alh Idris Ismail	Guest of Honour	Federal Polytechnic Ayede, Oyo State Member, FWF BoT
16.	Dr Rasheed Adebiyi	Guest of Honour	Ass. Prof. Fountain University Oshogbo Strategic Communication Consultant
17.	Mr Gafar Ogungbade	Guest of Honour	Proprietor Roheemah Nursery and Primary School, Ibadan
18.	Alh. Saheed Amao (FCA)	Guest of Honour	Group Head, Retail & SME (South-West), LOTUS Bank
19.	Alh. Babatunde Abdulsalam	Guest of Honour	Dev. Economist on World Bank projects
20.	Mr Taofeeq Kareem	Guest of Honour	Entrepreneur and Autotronics Expert
21.	Mr Mutiu Iyanda	Guest of Honour	Co-Founder and Chief Visionary Officer, Infoprations Communication Strategist

CHAIRMAN OF THE OCCASION



PROF. TAOFEEQ YEKINNI

Secretary-General
Muslim Community of Oyo State

SPIRITUAL FATHER OF THE DAY



PROF. IBRAHIM O. UTHMAN

Chief Imam, University of Ibadan

GRAND MENTOR



LATE PROF. ABDULGANIYU O. RAJI



Engr. Ibrahim Ande is the Founder of Ande Technologies Co. A platform for consulting & executing on energy projects - with focus on grid automation and renewable energy. Before this, He worked for 10 years in Manufacturing and across the Energy value chain (including in Oil, Gas and Power T&D) and across 3 continents . Ibrahim Ande is a Power Systems Engineer and Electrical Engineer by training at University of Ibadan and University College London.

Keynote speaker 1

Mr Ibrahim Ande

Founder Ander Technologies Co.



Abdulrahmon Abiola AHMED is a legal practitioner and the Managing Partner at A & A Attorneys (Frontliner Chambers), which operates from Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria. His experience springs from the firms of Afe Babalola, SAN & Co., Yusuf O. Ali, SAN & Co., Lasun Sanusi, SAN & Co., Adebayo & Gbadamosi SAN & Co., Wale Adegoke & Partners. He uses his experiences to simplify legal and literary complexities. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK). He is also a member of Chattered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria.

He is a Justice of the Peace conferred upon him by the Governor of Oyo State. He has well over ninety awards and laurels to his credit. He is a trustee of some Not-for-Profit Organisations through which platforms he contributes to the

Keynote speaker 2

Mr Abdulrahmon Ahmad, Esq

Principal Managing Partner

A & A Attorneys (Frontliner Chambers)

Foreword: Refining Potential, Empowering Nigeria

Allaah SWT reminds us in the holy Qur'an of a timeless law of transformation: "Indeed, Allaah will not change the condition of a people until they change what is in themselves." (Ar-Ra'd, Q13:11).

We stand today at a critical, defining moment in our nation's history. Every year, millions of graduates pour into a brutal Nigerian labour market, only to find that their degrees are seemingly a drop in the ocean against a staggering reality: over 50 % of our youth population faces joblessness or severe underemployment. Behind these cold statistics are the shattered dreams of brilliant minds locked out of opportunity. It is against this backdrop of national emergency that the NextGen–Ideate (NGI) capacity development programme was born. We refused to sit idly by as a generation's potential evaporated.

The journey for the second cohort of NGI began with 58 hopeful, raw recruits, each eager to defy the odds. However, NGI was never meant to be an easy walk. The gruelling curriculum and real world leadership demands served as a strict process of separating the wheat from the chaff. As the pressure intensified, the group narrowed to 32 deeply engaged individuals who refused to back down. Today, we celebrate the absolute vanguard of that journey: 22 exceptional graduates who completed the training. They did not just pass; they survived a true trial by fire, proving beyond doubt that the cream rises to the top. They satisfied the unyielding criteria of resilience, accountability, and diligence against all odds.

This triumph was not built in a vacuum; it is the product of radical, collective love. We owe an immense debt of gratitude to the remarkable facilitators who volunteered their time pro bono, pouring their world-class expertise into these young souls without asking for a single kobo in return.

Your sacrifice has altered the trajectory of their lives forever. We also honour the visionary members of the Forerunner Welfare Foundation (FWF), whose relentless organisational labour turned an audacious dream into a physical reality. To our 22 graduates: you are no longer victims of a broken statistics board. You are the answer to a national prayer. As you step out to begin blazing a trail across industries, remember the profound words of the Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم): "Verily, Allaah loves that when any one of you does a deed, he performs it with excellence (Itqan)" (at-Tabarani in Al-Mu'jam al-Awsat).

The ball is now in your court. Carry the spirit of NGI as your shield, demand excellence of yourselves, and let your resilience illuminate the path toward a redefined Nigeria.

Congratulations. You are the future we have been waiting for.



Ibrahim Hammed, PhD

Chairman, Forerunner Welfare Foundation (FWF)

The Evolution of Forerunner Welfare Foundation (FWF)

In May 2016, a casual conversation unfolded between two former University of Ibadan (UI) alumni, leading to a nostalgic reflection on the strong camaraderie they had experienced during their university days. This conversation sparked the idea of reigniting the spirit of brotherhood they had cherished. Motivated by the challenge of reviving that special bond and the fond memories of their time as undergraduates at the University of Ibadan, more than two decades ago, as members of the Muslim Students' Society of Nigeria (MSSN), a group of friends decided to come together despite living thousands of kilometres apart. They harnessed the power of information and communication technology, particularly through WhatsApp, to strengthen the Islamic brotherhood they once shared. This endeavour eventually gave birth to the University of Ibadan Muslim Brotherhood (UIMB). As the idea evolved, the former secretary of MSSN UI, along with other supporters, embraced the concept. It transitioned from a purely social initiative to something more impactful. The turning point occurred when another individual joined the cause and infused their energy into the project.

Much like the day Umar ibn Khattab (radhiya-Allāhu anhu) embraced Islam, this idea grew into a value-added initiative. It captured the enthusiasm of generations of Muslim alumni who had passed through UI. From May 14, 2016, this brotherhood was rekindled and has since thrived and expanded, continuously adding value. It eventually transformed into the Forerunner Welfare Foundation (FWF), a registered foundation with over 250 members from various walks of life in Nigeria and abroad, sanctioned by the Nigeria Corporate Affairs Commission since December 20, 2019. The once WhatsApp group, known as UIMB (University of Ibadan Muslim Brotherhood), has now developed into a fully structured organisation with a clear vision and mission. FWF has evolved from a mere WhatsApp group where old friends socialized to an incorporated trustee with a BoT, Moderating Team (MT), and Committees whose operation is guided by a Code of Conduct approved by its General Assembly (GA).

What does the membership of FWF brings? It gives a platform for alumni of MSSN UI to get involved in social goods and give back while nurturing one another to further greatness. We have given financial and technical support to the University of Ibadan Muslim Students Society of Nigeria (UIMSSN). We have given scholarships to indigent students. We have rescued a few members of the Ummah who had health emergencies. The drive to keep the giveback efforts going again birthed **NextGen–Ideate (NGI),** the reason for which we are gathered here today.

We are not "*a dara n'ta ma dara n'le*". We take the welfare and overall development of our members seriously. We have a market forum we called Bazaar where sales-related activities take place. We conduct scheduled sermons via Zoom with speakers chosen from FWF rich base of experts and occasionally from outside its folds. We organized a highly subsidized but extremely impactful Mini-MBA for members over 14 weekends during COVID-19 outbreak using internal resources. May Allah (subhaanaHu wa ta'ala) bless faculty members for this free service. Our Human Capacity Development Committee (HCDC) conducts periodic lectures on burning local and global issues via Zoom using experts from within and outside of FWF. This is done via Ask the Expert (ATE) series. HCDC also provides a forum for discussions on credible and halal sources of income to help members shore up their earnings via the Alternative Source of Income (ASI) series. We created a N2,000,000.00k endowment for small and medium enterprise (SME) owners with brilliant ideas to pull from. This is without prejudice to cash injection into businesses of members that needed to scale. We provide advisory services to SMEs owned by members—this business support effort has now grown into a full fledge and registered Cooperative entity.

Engr. Muyiwa Tijani (Chief Moderator MT19, FWF)

NextGen-Ideate (NGI)

هُوَ الَّذِي بَعَثَ فِي الْأُمِّيِّينَ رَسُولًا مِّنْهُمْ يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِهِ وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَإِن كَانُوا مِن قَبْلُ لَفِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

"*He is the One Who raised for the unlettered people, a messenger from among themselves—reciting to them His revelations, purifying them, and teaching them the Book and wisdom, although they were before certainly in clear error.*" (Q62:2)

AlhamduliLlaah for the favour of Islām through which we found a purpose for existence. This purpose of existence engenders a Muslim to nurture and be nurtured. **NextGen–Ideate (NGI)**, stems from this "**nurture and be nurtured concept**" as a mentoring scheme anchored by the Forerunner Welfare Foundation (FWF). Recognizing that the unique voice, perspective and talents of our youngsters are needed in this world, the scheme aims to cultivate a dynamic community of Muslims, where graduating students of higher institutions of learning, fresh graduates, and early career professionals can come together to learn, grow, and create their path through the unsteady waves of the global space. This informs the slogan for the scheme—**NGI, ...*going further together***.

What NGI Represents

The space offered by NGI a hand-holding interaction between the experienced mentors and the green mentees. As such, NGI serves as both a mentoring group and a vibrant networking platform dedicated to supporting the personal and professional development of the participants. NGI offers a comprehensive set of programmes to guide graduates on their journey, providing valuable insights and advice from experienced and older generations of Muslim alumni professionals. Additionally, the networking opportunities offered by NGI connect participants with like-minded individuals, fostering collaborations, and building a strong, supportive community—did not Allaah say "*O ye who believe! Fear Allah and be with those who are true (in word and deed)* [at-Tawbah, Q9:119]". It takes a fertile and conducive "neighbour" for a healthy seed to germinate—wise people choose their company.

NGI is in its second year of moulding the next generations. 57 mentees graduated from the first cohort, and we are today graduating another 32 for this second cohort. In the period of operations, the handlers of NGI have got insights to rejig plans and engage in consonance with prevailing circumstances to demonstrate the workability of what the programme gives. We have deployed distinct recruitment methods, and an improved ranking process to certify 22 of the recruited 58 mentees for **responsibleness, resilience, and accountability**—we are however, not done adapting. A notable change is a contraction of the engagement period from nine to six months and to run the programme within the first two quarters of a year starting from the third cohort. Also, we are pleased to share that the programme now provides opportunities for internship and sponsorship for specialized trainings that positions mentees for grand opportunities.
In summary, the NGI delivers the following:

- Bridges generational gap through knowledge transfer and skills development
- Helps participants build the best workplace practice, knowledge, skills and attitude.
- Building self-awareness in both mentors and mentees.
- Provides support to achieve career satisfaction that engenders progression.

Echoes from 2024 Cohort Members

Q: Impact: How has your participation in the NGI programme supported your personal and professional journey?

Mentees Responses:

- My participation in the NGI programme has contributed significantly to both my personal and professional growth. It gave me the opportunity to strengthen my technical and problem-solving skills while working on practical challenges and learning from other participants with different backgrounds. The programme also improved my confidence in applying what I learned to real-world situations and encouraged me to approach challenges with a more structured and innovative mindset.
- "Personally, empathy and forgiveness have helped me feel freer and show kindness, even to those who disappointed me. This brings my mind peace and teaches me how to manage healthy relationships with people from diverse communities. Professionally, stepping into a corporate management role for the first time was not easy. However, strong communication, attention to detail, feedback loops, and conflict management helped me survive. These skills, along with positive relationship-building and record management, helped me bridge the gap between senior staff and fellow corps members during my service year. This teamwork led to their support in executing a community development project: an AI Literacy for Career Development program for senior secondary school students in Abuja, empowering them with AI career assistance guides and basic digital skills."
- "The NGI program has improved my interpersonal relationship with people, taking better initiative in my professional journey. The programme together with self-reflection and improvement has increased my negotiation skills, speaking skills and diplomacy in scenarios and conversations. Overall, as I have further progressed personally and in my profession, I have employed tools that I acquired during the programme at different times in the journey to achieve desired results. Although, given that I didn't have a mentor or any direct person in my field, the professional journey is largely a solo walk."
- "My participation in NGI has helped me stay organised and focus on my goals. The program added lots of values to my professional life especially in negotiation skill. It has helped me to become more organised and intentional about focusing on what matters. It's exposed me to all I needed to thrive in the corporate world."
- My participation has given me a torch which has shown me that there is so much I can do and that there is always a way to make myself better—all I need is to try. As regards to profession, my participation has showed me that I can't afford to be half baked so I am trying my hands on courses to get better and hopefully secure a job.

Q: What has been the most beneficial of your takeaways from the NGI programme?

Mentees Responses:

- "One of my most beneficial takeaways from the programme has been learning that professional growth goes beyond technical knowledge. The sessions on communication, record-keeping, interpersonal and intrapersonal relationships, and

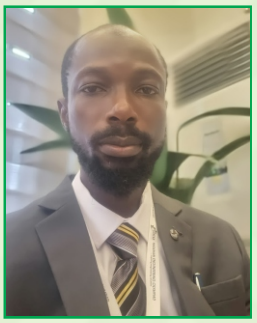
other essential soft skills helped me understand how important it is to conduct myself effectively in professional environments. Since completing the programme, I have continued to learn, build projects, apply for opportunities, and explore different areas of my career. I believe the programme gave me a stronger foundation for doing these things with greater self-awareness, discipline, communication, and willingness to learn."

- The fact that someone who owes me nothing is my mentor and will always respond to me if I ever need help or advice. I get what some people pay heavily for, for free and I got myself some new sisters. To crown it all, while we were in session, I love and appreciate how Islaam and putting Allaah first was always incorporated. It was such a beautiful reminder for me to pay attention to.

In a nut Shell

To round off, the NextGen–Ideate is an opportunity to unlock potentials. Therefore, as the mentees get on their respective journey, we at the Forerunner Welfare Foundation would like to whisper to our youngsters to believe in themselves, take the leap of faith and watch the universe conspire to make their dreams a reality. Remember, every sunrise brings new hope, every sunset mark progress and every moment offers a chance to take a leap—**the world awaits your brilliance!**

Engr Dr Tunji A. Owoseni
NGI, Programme Director



NGI Patrons

1. Mr Lukman Omotoso
2. Engr Fatai Ibikunle
3. Alh. Saheed Amao, FCA
4. Dr Nureni Abiodun Busari, FSM, FNSE
5. Mr Yusuf Daniju
6. Kayode Olowu
7. Pharm. Taofik Odukoya
8. Mr Muslihudeen Popoola
9. Mr Elias Raji,
10. Dr Munirudeen Oloso
11. Dr Ibrahim Hammed
12. Mr Abidemi Adebayo
13. Mr Hussein Akere

Award Presentation

S/N	Award Presenter	Award Category	Awardees
1.	Prof. Taofeeq Yekinni	Outstanding mentee and Valedictorian	Babatunde AZEEZ
2.	Prof. Ibrahim O. Uthman	Outstanding mentee	Kazeem AKANBI
3.	Prof. Ashiata B. Lanre–Abbas Dr Lateefat O. Dairo Dr Idayat Lamidi Dr Halimat Adeniran	Outstanding mentee	Sukura AKEEM
4.	Prof. Surajudeen Bankole	Outstanding mentee	Abdulroqeeb ADEDOKUN
5.	Alh. Imran Abdulmojeed	Outstanding mentee	Mubarak TIJANI

Valedictory speech

Bismillahir-Rahmanir-Raheem. All praise is due to Allaah, Lord of the universe. May peace and blessings be upon the final Messenger—our model in character and in service.

Chairman of the occasion, the spiritual father of the day, National President of UIMGA, Chairman UIMC, Chairman FWF BoT, Special Guests of Honour, NGI Mentors and Facilitators, distinguished guests, my fellow Graduands of the NGI 2025 Cohort, and everyone gathered here today, I greet you with the deepest respect and gratitude, "As-salaamu 'alaykum wa rahmatuLlaah wa barakaatuHu." It is an honour I did not expect and one I do not take lightly, to stand before you as the valedictorian of a cohort of brilliant, hardworking young Muslims.
Let me start with where I was before NGI found me, or perhaps before I found NGI.

I am the tenth child from a modest family, yet I made it to school. I however carried with me, a quiet fear, whether someone like me could truly succeed among the lions already running the life race. When I began my NYSC service in Anambra State, that fear sat beside me every single day. I was searching for a way to stand on my own feet after service, searching for something halal and honest that could carry me into a sustainable future. A sister I served with posted about NGI on her WhatsApp status. That was my first encounter with the name, NGI. That single post would change my life trajectory months down the line. I joined without knowing exactly what to expect. I was simply desperate for information, for opportunity, for someone to serve as a lamp in what felt like darkness. I wanted to change a generational story. What I received was far more than I had asked Allaah for.

The very first session, with Mr Salaudeen Sheu and Hajia Aishat Alao, will ever live with me. They spoke about how this scheme could change a life, and as I sat listening, it felt as though every word had been written specifically for me. From that day, I decided, no matter how far the network stretched or how weak the signal became in Onitsha, I would be present. There were nights without electricity when I had to walk to another location just to charge my phone before a session. There were mornings I moved around outside with my device raised, chasing a signal, determined not to miss a single point, bowing over my notes to write as I walked. I say this not to be praised, but because I want every young person listening today to understand that consistency does not require perfect conditions. It only requires a decision that refuses to bend.

Distinguished guests, NGI did not simply teach us, it rebuilt us from the inside. The carefully curated sessions were led by remarkable minds. We were exposed to emotional intelligence through the wheel of core emotions and through a verse of the Qur'aan describing the character of our Prophet, peace be upon him, and I still carry the many Yoruba proverbs reeled out by the facilitators with me. The session on financial literacy opened my eyes to halal investment and financial discipline, I have not stopped drawing from the insightful contents delivered since then on. I learned negotiation as fairness rather than pressure, record management as order, and problem solving as the patient work of understanding before acting.

The sessions command, professionalism, called to networking, engenders simple daily discipline of showing up with focus, confidence and determination. To every facilitator who stood before us across these eleven sessions of Business Communication, Effective Communication, Record Management, Negotiation, Financial Literacy, Social and Emotional Intelligence, and Problem Solving, we honour you today. Rather than risk leaving out a single name, I say, on behalf of this cohort, that every mentor and every facilitator who poured into us is seen, valued, and remembered. jazaakumuLlaahu khayran jaza'a.

I have taken the lessons forward and so would have been many of my co-mentees. In my case, I got to serve as the General Secretary and later President of my NYSC CDS group for Sustainable Development Goals and Financial Inclusion. In those roles, I communicated with clarity and purpose. I moved from context to problem and through alternative solutions to chart a path. I deployed the listening skills working with my pairs knowing when to act. None of this transformation happened by accident. Implementing the many nuggets from the sessions was further shaped by my indefatigable mentor, Engr. Shamsudeen Olatubosun, despite his packed schedule. I cannot thank you enough. There was a period when he lost a great deal of his data after his phone was stolen, yet he found ways to ensure his mentees get their 'growth peels'. If I were to describe his contribution to my journey in one sentence, I would say he was the northern star a young adult needs to reach the promised land. JazaakumuLlaahu khayran, sir.

NGI did not only change how I think. It changed what I was willing to do. After my service year, I secured a teaching position as a Digital Technologies Teacher, ICT Lab custodian, and Islamic Teacher. I also served on several academic committees for the school. It was steady work, and many would have stayed, but NGI had taught me to recognise when a role no longer matched my purpose, and it had taught me the courage to act promptly. I resigned after three months. When colleagues asked whether I had secured something else, I simply smiled and told them everything was fine, bi 'idhniLlaah. Not long after, I was admitted into the Onokoya Tech scholarship, one more door that NGI had quietly prepared me to walk through. So where do I stand today, and where am I going? Bi 'idhniLlaah, in the coming years, I see myself building a multisector enterprise committed to sustainability in food, energy, housing, and education. I seek to duly serve the ummah through my professional calling; my life to answer questions even before they are asked. I intend to build a platform that encourages, teaches, employs, and mentors the next generation the way NGI mentored me.

To my fellow graduates of this cohort, I have not always been the loudest voice among you, but I have watched you closely. I admired the way we carried each other through group discussions, the questions we asked without fear, the answers we offered without holding back. We are not many meaningful friendships old yet, but we are family in purpose, and I look forward to what still lies ahead amongst us. Let us hold the value NGI offered—use it and grow. To whom much is given, much is expected, we must look back as we get ahead. Whatever has a beginning would have an end; hold this close to your chest. Let not this send-off mark the end of what NGI started in us.

To Forerunner Welfare Foundation, the owner of NGI, there is no gift or payment we could place in your hands that would equal what you have placed in ours. We can only ask Allaah, SubhaanaHu wa Ta'ala, to reward you abundantly in this life and in the hereafter. And finally, if there is one young Muslim undergraduate seated in this hall today who will one day join a future NGI cohort, hear me clearly. Do not ever underestimate your dream. The moment you can dream it; it has already begun to exist. Let your today become the testimony you tell tomorrow. Because of NGI, I now believe the world is wide enough for every one of us to rise, cheers to this new beginning. JazaakumuLlaahu khayran. Thank you, and may Allaah bless this cohort and everyone who built it.

As-salaamu Alaykum
Babatunde Adebayo AZEEZ

NGI 2025 Cohort Awardees

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Babatunde Azeez (Valedictorian)



Babatunde Adebayo Azeez is a Sustainable Innovator committed to building solutions in food, energy, housing, and education across Nigeria. He currently serves as Zonal Coordinator for Youth for Sustainable Development in Southwestern Nigeria and as a Member of the Junior Youth Ambassador programme. The tenth child in his family and the first to step into a higher institution and emerge a graduate, Babatunde's journey began with a quiet determination to change what was possible for those who came after him. During his NYSC service in Anambra State, he discovered the NGI mentorship scheme, a decision that reshaped the direction of his life. Through the programme's eleven learning sessions and a close mentorship relationship, he developed the confidence, communication, and financial discipline that would soon define his professional path. That growth showed up quickly. Babatunde rose to General Secretary and later President of his NYSC CDS group for Sustainable Development Goals and Financial Inclusion. He later made the difficult decision to resign from a teaching role that no longer matched his purpose, choosing instead to pursue the Onokoya Tech scholarship and a career built around sustainability and service. Guided by Islamic values of excellence and responsibility, Babatunde is now working toward a multisector enterprise built to serve real needs in food, energy, housing, and education, and toward becoming the kind of leader who mentors others the way he was once mentored. "Your future lives in you. What you do today becomes your story tomorrow. And know this: success will not come until you earn it." Message to

Kazeem Akanbi



Kazeem Akanbi is a Political Science graduate of the University of Lagos with strong interests in public policy, public administration, institutional development, research, education, leadership, communications, and social impact. His experience spans teaching, community engagement, research, media, and youth development initiatives. He is passionate about continuous learning and applying his knowledge and skills to contribute meaningfully to society. His career interests cut across both public and private institutions, particularly in roles involving administration, operations, research, communications, programme support, governance, and organisational development.

Through the NGI 2025 Cohort, Kazeem strengthened his capacity for personal growth, mentorship, professional development, and purposeful leadership. The programme further deepened his commitment to building a career that combines knowledge, service, leadership, and meaningful impact. As he continues his professional journey, Kazeem hopes to contribute to effective institutions, youth development, and social

Sukura Akeem



Sukura Opeyemi, AKEEM trades alongside being an educator, while aspiring to career in financial analysis. In preparation for her aspired career, she has completed higher national diploma in Accounting at the Federal School of Statistics, Ibadan. Beyond the classroom, Sukura has gained practical experience through trading and teaching. These experiences have helped her develop strong skills in communication skills, responsibleness, interpersonal relations. Her decision to join the NGI Mentorship Programme was driven by a desire to challenge herself differently—to learn, grow, discover more about her abilities, and become a better version of herself. Through the programme, she gained a deeper understanding of herself and the importance of continuous personal and professional growth. A particularly valuable part of her NGI journey was the mentorship and guidance she received from Mr. Ogungbade Gafar

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Through their conversations and interactions, she gained valuable perspectives that helped her examine her goals from a clearer, more practical, and more intentional point of view. The experience also taught her that mentorship goes beyond receiving advice. It requires the humility to listen, the courage to ask questions, the openness to accept corrections, and the discipline to apply what was learned. These lessons have become valuable principles that she intends to carry into her professional journey.

Sukura appreciates the support of her husband, who made this journey easier. His persistent encouragement and support motivated her to stay committed and present throughout the sessions. "Thank you for believing in me, may Allaah reward you abundantly." With the experience gained Sukura

Abdulroqeeb Adedokun



Abdulroqeeb Adeyemi Adedokun is an entrepreneur, educator, and emerging business strategist with a strong foundation in accounting and grassroots enterprise. Born in Abuja and raised across Nigeria, he developed an early sense of responsibility as the first child in his family. He holds an ND and HND in Accounting from the Federal School of Statistics, Ibadan (2024), and began his entrepreneurial journey in bread distribution—gaining hands- on experience in sales, customer relations, and cash-flow management. His participation in the Next-Gen Ideate (NGI) programme marked a turning point, earning him recognition as an Outstanding Mentee in the 2025 Cohort while sharpening his focus on building system-driven, scalable businesses that can thrive beyond their founder. Guided by faith, family, and a commitment to continuous learning, Abdulroqeeb is married to Sukura Opeyemi Akeem—a co-awardee, and they are blessed with a son, Abdur-rahman. He balances entrepreneurship, education, and family life with a clear long-term vision: to create value-driven enterprises that generate employment and sustainable impact. For him, potential is only the beginning—disciplined development is what turns it into lasting influence. His journey reflects the transformation of grassroots experience into strategic vision, and he remains dedicated to building opportunities that benefit both his

Mubarak Tijani



Mubarak Tijani is a First-Class graduate of Mechanical Engineering from the University of Ibadan. He has interests in advanced manufacturing technologies and the intersection of engineering and finance. His interests are particularly centred on how advanced manufacturing technologies can be adapted and developed within Nigeria to strengthen local industrial capacity. He is passionate about improving conventional fabrication practices, promoting higher standards of local production and exploring how technology, engineering expertise, and investment can enable more sophisticated products to be designed and manufactured locally. Beyond engineering, Mubarak is passionate about continuous learning, personal development and mentorship. He aspires to contribute to building competitive local businesses and a more technologically capable manufacturing sector.

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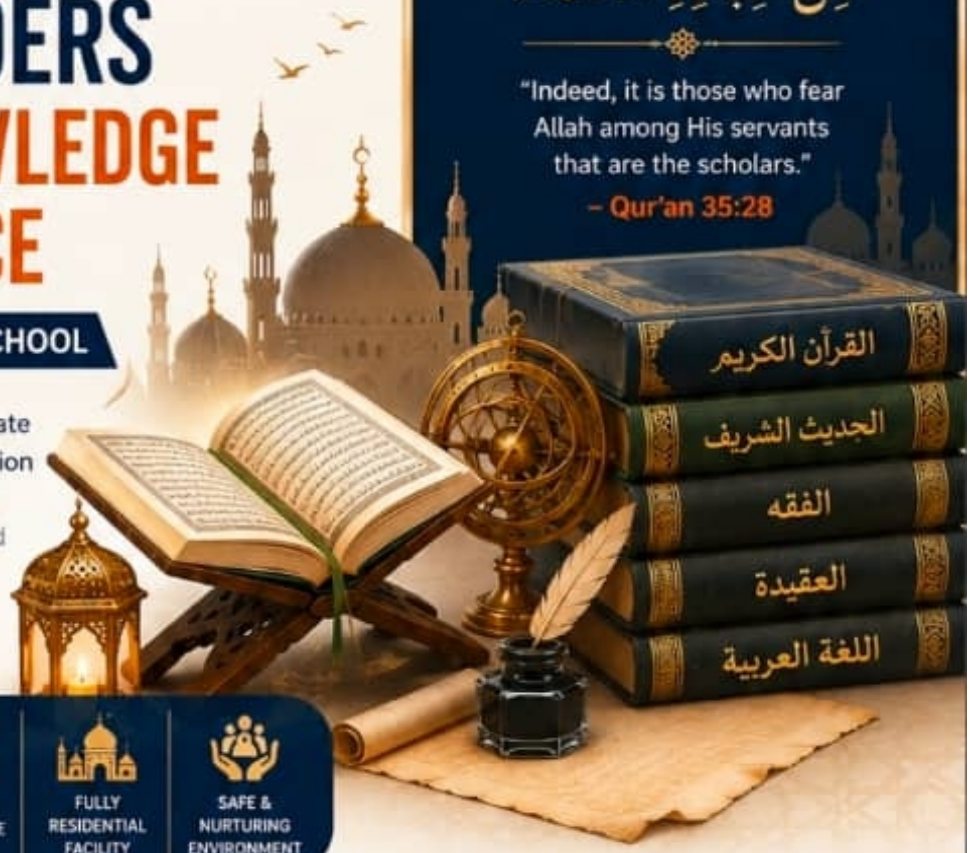
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"Indeed, it is those who fear Allah among His servants that are the scholars."
– Qur'an 35:28

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إِنَّ رَبَّكَ يَعْلَمُ أَنَّكَ تَقُومُ أَدْنَىٰ مِن ثُلُثَيِ ٱلَّيْلِ وَنِصْفَهُۥ وَثُلُثَهُۥ وَطَآئِفَةٌ مِّنَ ٱلَّذِينَ مَعَكَ ۚ وَٱللَّهُ يُقَدِّرُ ٱلَّيْلَ وَٱلنَّهَارَ ۚ عَلِمَ أَن لَّن تُحْصُوهُ فَتَابَ عَلَيْكُمْ ۖ فَٱقْرَءُوا۟ مَا تَيَسَّرَ مِنَ ٱلْقُرْءَانِ ۚ عَلِمَ أَن سَيَكُونُ مِنكُم مَّرْضَىٰ ۙ وَءَاخَرُونَ يَضْرِبُونَ فِى ٱلْأَرْضِ يَبْتَغُونَ مِن فَضْلِ ٱللَّهِ ۙ وَءَاخَرُونَ يُقَـٰتِلُونَ فِى سَبِيلِ ٱللَّهِ ۖ فَٱقْرَءُوا۟ مَا تَيَسَّرَ مِنْهُ ۚ وَأَقِيمُوا۟ ٱلصَّلَوٰةَ وَءَاتُوا۟ ٱلزَّكَوٰةَ وَأَقْرِضُوا۟ ٱللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا ۚ وَمَا تُقَدِّمُوا۟ لِأَنفُسِكُم مِّنْ خَيْرٍ تَجِدُوهُ عِندَ ٱللَّهِ هُوَ خَيْرًا وَأَعْظَمَ أَجْرًا ۚ وَٱسْتَغْفِرُوا۟ ٱللَّهَ ۖ إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ ٢٠

...And ⌜continue to⌝ perform ⌜regular⌝ prayers, pay alms-tax, and lend to Allah a good loan. Whatever good you send forth for yourselves, you will find it with Allah far better and more rewarding. And seek Allah's forgiveness. Surely Allah is All-Forgiving, Most Merciful. **al–Muzzammil, Q73:20**

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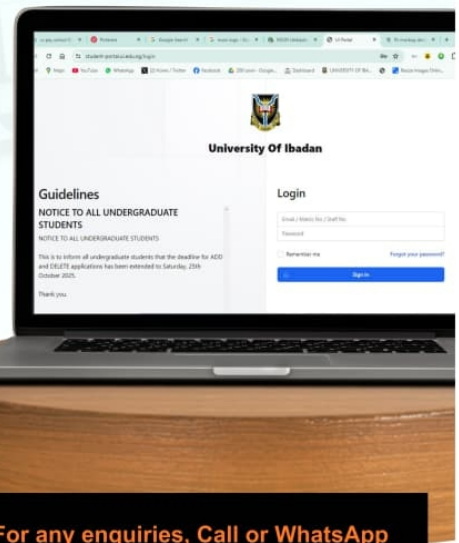
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Abdulsalam Maryam Adewunmi Medicine and Surgery	323	81
Folarin Ridwanallah Software Engineering	323	84
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Olawoyin Mukhtar Olamilekan Electrical and Electronics Engineering	316	80
Haliyah Adegboyega Economics	308	62
Nasrudeen Abdulmujeeb Law	299	78
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Note

Assessment comes up

28th Sept., 2026

Tutorial resumes

5th Oct., 2026

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