



ZONTA DISTRICT 18 HISTORY

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

District Information

Zonta was introduced to Africa in 1970 by Zontian Barbara Baeta - She was First District Governor from 1970 - 1972. Following this 19 Clubs have since been formed with the E-Club of West Africa being the most recent one chartered in 2018. We have had 26 District Governors, six (6) International Officers and Directors and One International President.

Areas and Clubs.

There are nineteen (19) clubs in nine (9) different countries, namely, Ghana, Nigeria, Cote D'Ivoire, Togo, Burkina Faso, Benin, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Uganda. District 18 is comprised on Area1, Area 2 and Area 3.

Current Board Members

Below is the composition of the District Board

- Yvonne Kouloufoua - Governor
- Ore Awoonor-Renner - Lt Governor
- Manindja Toure Diabate - Treasurer
- Patinvoh Akuto Tchilalo - Secretary
- Adèle Nanga Akpa - Area 1 Director
- Nana Ofowiraa Koranteng- Area 2 Director
- Olufowora Oladipo- Area 3 Director

DISTRICT HISTORY

Development of the District

Zonta District 18 since 1970 has been vibrant both in local activism and participation Zonta International conferences and advocacy programs. Below are two tables. Table 1 highlights the various clubs and their Charter dates while table 2 provides an outline of all past District Governors

AREA	CLUB NAME	DATE CHARTERED
AREA 1	FREETOWN SIERRA LEONE	01/06/1970
AREA 1	DAKAR SENEGAL	10/09/1970
AREA 1	ABIDJAN COTE D'IVOIRE	25/10/1970
AREA 1	KAMPALA UGANDA	21/02/2014
AREA 2	ACCRA GHANA	09/02/1970
AREA 2	ACCRA II GHANA	09/02/1996
AREA 2	TEMA GHANA	19/06/1974
AREA 2	METROPOLITAN GHANA	30/09/2006
AREA 2	LOME TOGO	23/08/1988
AREA 2	LOME MILLENIUM TOGO	05/04/2002
AREA 2	OUAGADOUGOU BURKINA FASO	
AREA 2	BOBO DIOULASSO BURKINA FASO	22/02/1995
AREA 2	OUAGADOUGOU CRYSTAL BURKINA FASO	25/03/2006
AREA 2	E CLUB OF WEST AFRICA	19/06/2018
AREA 3	LAGOS 1 NIGERIA	20/04/1970
AREA 3	IBADAN NIGERIA	23/06/1970
AREA 3	IBADAN II NIGERIA	11/05/1989
AREA 3	COTONOU BENIN	01/03/2000
AREA 3	COTONOU AMAZONE BENIN	24/12/2014

Table 1: Clubs and Club Charter Dates by Area.

GOVERNORS	COUNTRY	START	END
BARBARA BAETA	GHANA	1970	1972
ADEYOLA DAVID	NIGERIA	1972	1974
EDITH BRIGHT	LIBERIA	1974	1976
JANINE NDIAYE	SENEGAL	1976	1978
NJERI WAMBAA	KENYA	1978	1980
ANNIE CHINEBUA	GHANA	1980	1982
FOLAKE SOLANKE	NIGERIA	1982	1984
ANTOINETTE KONAN-FERRAND	COTE D'IVOIRE	1984	1986
CLARA ROBIN-COKER	SIERRA-LEONE	1986	1988
FRANCES ADEMOLA	GHANA	1988	1990
MYRIAM VIEYRA	SENEGAL	1990	1992
JADESOLA AKANDE	NIGERIA	1992	1994
DUNSTANETTE MACAULEY	TOGO	1994	1996
MIRANDA GREENSTREET	GHANA	1996	1998
RENEE NELLY TORRELLA	COTE D'IVOIRE	1998	1999
SIMON BIEU-LAINE	COTE D'IVOIRE	1999	2000
OMOTOYA MORGAN	NIGERIA	2000	2002
VERONIQUE KEYLEM	BURKINA FASO	2002	2004
OAYINKA KOSO THOMAS	SIERRA-LEONE	2004	2006
JOSEPHINE ODEDINA	NIGERIA	2006	2008
MARQUIRITE AKOSSI	COTE D'IVOIRE	2008	2010
STELLA BENTSI-ENCHILL	GHANA	2010	2012
GLORASTINE T. AGBOOLA	NIGERIA	2012	2014
HORTENSE CHEKETE	BENIN	2014	2016
ANNE-MARIE FRENCH-CUDJOE	GHANA	2016	2018
YVONNE KOULOUFOUA	COTE D'IVOIRE	2018	2020

Table 2: Governors to Date

District Conferences

Zonta District 18 held its **24th District Conference** from 24th to 27th of April, 2019 in Abidjan Cote D'Ivoire.

Over the years Zonta District 18 Conferences have been held in the home country of the District Governor. All Governors have emphasized in their reports the following thematic areas.

- Improvement in visibility of Zonta International within the countries of members of District 18.
- Membership Drive as key to improving Zonta’s goals and ideals
- Advocacy and involvement with UN at the Local level and ensuring that funds allocated to the various agencies supported by Zonta are being used assiduously.
- Participation and need for Leadership participation of District 18 members at the International Level.
- Importance of dedicated time and resources of District 18 members towards Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation.
- Collaborative service projects among Clubs within member countries.

District Membership at International Leadership Level

NAME	POSITION	DATE
Z. FOLAKE SOLANKE (SAN)	Past International President	1994- 1996
Z. DUSTANETTE MACAULAY	Past International Director	1996- 1998
Z. OMOTOYA MORGAN	Past International Director	2005- 2007
Z. JOSEPHINE ODEDINA	Past International Director	2015 - 2016
Z. MARGUERITE AKOSSI- MVONGO	International Director	2018- 2020

Several members from the District however have served at International Committee levels and as Foundation Ambassadors.

Disbanded Clubs in District 18

District 18, like other districts has encountered its fair share of challenges. Issues such as membership decline, financial constraints and other operational challenges have caused some clubs in the District to be disbanded. Below is the list of Disbanded Clubs in District 18.

LAGOS II	NIGERIA
LAGOS III	NIGERIA
AKURE	NIGERIA
IFE	NIGERIA
JOS	NIGERIA
BENIN	NIGERIA
CALABAR	NIGERIA
CONAKRY	GUINEA
YAOUNDE	CAMEROON
NIAMEY PREMIER	NIGER
NAIROBI	KENYA
KAOLACK	SENEGAL
LENEXA	SIERRA LEONE
CAPE-TOWN	SOUTH AFRICA
JOHANNESBURG - PRETORIA	SOUTH AFRICA
DURBAN	SOUTH AFRICA

REPORT ON ACTIVITY

Throughout the years, all clubs have been actively involved in Local advocacy and Service Projects. Additionally, some countries with multiple clubs have undertaken Inter-City Projects while still pursuing their localized projects. The Club history reports will outline the details of the independent projects, however, below are some collated pictures of some relevant information about District 18 over the last 50 years.



Picture of Madam Barbara Baeta, the first Zontian in District 18, receiving a citation for her introduction of Zonta to Africa and her contributions to Zonta District 18 in the last 50 Years



District 18 Board and Committee Chairperson at a Board meeting in 2014



22nd Zonta District 18 Conference held in Benin in 2015



Photo: Vivien G.

22nd Zonta District 18 Conference held in Benin in 2015 - Delegates Casting their Votes



Zonta Club of Ibadan 1, Donates Solar Biomass Hybrid Dryer system to Akufo Farms in Ibadan to enhance activities of the predominantly female farming community. 2017



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Local service project of Lagos 1 - A crèche for infants and children of market women who can be assured of a safe haven for their little ones whilst they sell in the market.



*Local service project of Lagos 1 - A crèche for infants and children of market women who can be assured of a safe haven for their little ones whilst they sell in the market.
One of two of the Crèche attendants with some of the children.*



Members of Zonta Club of Freetown providing Informational Workshop during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



Zonta Club of Lagos 1 providing Free Health Screening exercise for residents in the Makoko Community.

ZONTA DISTRICT 18 ADVOCACY DURING 16TH DAYS OF ACTIVISM -ZONTA SAYS NO!!



Zonta Club of Abidjan Advocacy Walk - 16 Days of Activism



Zonta Club of Benin Advocacy Walk - 16 Days of Activism



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Zonta Club of Dakar Advocacy Walk - 16 Days of Activism



Zonta Club of Accra Metropolitan Advocacy Walk - 16 Days of Activism

20 NEWS/BUSINESS

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Zonta Int'l: 100 Years Of Women Empowerment, Advocacy

Zonta International marked its centenary anniversary worldwide today, being 8th of November 2019. In this piece, ANTHONY AWUNOR looks at their activities in Nigeria and other parts of the world.

Founded in 1919 with headquarters in Illinois, United States, Zonta International will be celebrating its 100 years of existence worldwide. The organisation with over 20,000 members in a global service organisation with the mission of enhancing the status of women in the very coming years of the globe.

Some of the countries where the Zonta empowerment programmes have impacted positively on the life of women include Nigeria, Madagascar, Jordan, Syria, Liberia, Rwanda, Vietnam, Guatemala, El Salvador, Sri Lanka, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Honduras, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russia, Bolivia, Peru, India and India.

Others are: South Africa, Chile, Georgia, Philippines, Bangladesh, Ghana, Togo, Egypt, Haiti, Sierra Leone, Uruguay, Mexico, Argentina, Botswana, Comoros Island, Thailand, Zimbabwe, Germany, Hungary and Turkey.

Speaking on the activities of Zonta International globally, President of Zonta Club of Lagos I, Dr. Anastasia Gherru said that the club is happy to join the rest of the world and other members of Zonta International to celebrate its 100 years of existence.

Dr. Gherru who is also the legal adviser of the Nigeria Airports Management Agency (NAMA) said that Zonta Club of Lagos I has equally keyed into the global initiative just as they have also joined the United Nations (UN) to support the Girl Child.

Part of these efforts, Gherru said was the recent hosting of 100 college girls in an airport excursion at the Murtala Muhammed Airport (MMA) in Ikeja Lagos.

She said that the excursion was designed to support the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) NextGen professionals which is targeted to encourage the next generation of professionals that can continue to pioneer the work and pilot the work of aviation industry, stressing that particular emphasis is on the girls because there is already a gap.

The club president hinted that they are specifically running an 'nola echa', scholarship which awards up to \$10,000 annually to about 30,000 students worldwide who are pursuing advanced level degrees in the area of Aeronautics.

She emphasised on the key roles Amelia Earhart, a key member and one of the pioneers of the organisation played in the evolution of the organisation, stressing that the pioneer female aviator made records by flying solo across the Atlantic Ocean for the first time.

The Zonta Club of Lagos I President noted that between 1988 to 1990 Zonta organised a workshop in Nigeria in collaboration with the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW) with the theme, 'Women, Water Supply and Sanitation'.

According to reports from International Service Project files, Zonta International Service Project Highlights, \$52, 000 was spent on the project that focused on involving women more efficiently in all aspects of water supply and sanitation projects.

The report further stated that the club will also spend additional fund of \$1,000,000 from 2018 to 2020 working with 'Let Us Learn Madagascar' an ongoing program for adolescent girls with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) USA.

'Let Us Learn Madagascar' addresses education and gender inequality in Madagascar through approaches targeted toward adolescent girls. Zonta's continued support of this project is expected to allow for more than 20,000 girls to realise their right to an education in a secure and protected environment.

The report equally indicated that an additional 600 children will benefit from catch-up classes and 200 students will benefit from four new classrooms with water points, latrines and school equipment.

To improve the resilience and empowerment of Syrian refugee and vulnerable Jordanian women with UN Women, the club within the period, since spent \$1,000,000 on the project.

This project is expected to improve Syrian refugee and Jordanian women's access to sustainable and decent employment, coupled with protection services and community leadership/engagement, to enable greater equality and reduced violence against women.

Towards Elimination of Obstetric Fistula and Reduction of Maternal and Newborn Mortality in Liberia with UNFPA, the report shows that more than 1,000 women and adolescent girls received treatment and more than 200 fistula survivors completed the rehabilitation program and were successfully reintegrated into their communities, with another \$1,000,000 expended on the programme.

However, in 2014, Liberia was hit by the Ebola outbreak and the number of new cases of fistula began rising but Zonta's continued support allowed United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to scale up its capacity in order to eliminate obstetric fistula.

In Rwanda, the club between 2014 to 2016, in a bid to meet

up with to target an Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMCT) of HIV and Gender-Based Violence in Burundi continued to work with the U.S. Fund for UNICEF to contribute to a nation free of AIDS and new HIV infections among children, adolescents, women and families. The \$800,000 project according to the report, is part of the efforts to support the national scale up strategy for One Stop Centres, and to invest in community-based prevention of violence against women and children.

In the health sector, from 1972 to 1974, Zonta also provided \$80,000 worth of Mobile Medical Units project in Ghana in cooperation with the U.S. Fund for UNICEF which aimed the health needs of children and mothers in rural areas of Ghana.

From 1982 to 1976, Zonta International supported the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for the Palestinian and Teacher Training Center for Women in Ramallah, Jordan which included by Zonta's first in partnership with a UN agency which helped \$300,945.

According to the report, Zonta International from 1996 to 1998 Strategised to eradicate Violence Against Women and Children (ZINAW) which was the first international service project administered by Zonta International.

ZINAW which is a \$175, 000 project was however, created to improve education and increase awareness of violence against women and children and was adopted as an ongoing program of Zonta International at the Zonta International Convention in Paris in 1998.

For 2 years starting from 2000 to 2002, Zonta was invited into the \$350,000 project in Burkina Faso which entails Prevention of Female Genital Circumcision (FGC) in Burkina Faso, Phase II with the U.S. Fund for UNICEF.

In doing this, Zonta International continued its commitment to reducing the incidence of female genital circumcision by expanding its support to this UNICEF project in seven additional provinces in Burkina Faso.

Building on the 1998-2000 International Service Project in Burkina Faso, the second phase expanded the extensive public education, training and awareness raising efforts necessary to reduce the incidence of FGC in targeted populations by 50 percent by 2002.

According to the report, Zonta in 1988 to 1990 facilitated Textile Production Project in Guatemala in cooperation with the U.S. Fund for UNICEF. This \$50,000 project, it stated, supported the purchase of equipment and materials and the training of women to improve textile production, nutrition, gardening and food conservation.

FG To Engage Stakeholders On National Digital Plan

By Henry Fumagalli, Lagos

The Minister of Communications and Digital Economy, Dr. Isa Ali Abubakar has said the Ministry at working to engage stakeholders on national Digital Economy Policy plan to ensure the industry is more industry.

Parliament stated this in Abuja yesterday, while playing host to CEO's of Telecommunications Companies in Nigeria, who came to discuss and highlight some issues relating to the growth of the wider telecom industry.

The Minister said he has already drafted a strategy

to invite all stakeholders to come and review it together for the development of the industry.

He pledged that the Ministry will continue to work with telecom industries in the country to arrive at a desired result. He said: "It is a collective effort when we come together to identify our strengths on one hand and our weaknesses on the other. It is only by doing that we would be successful. So I want to give you my assurance and that of my colleagues and that of my professional bodies and take the industry to greater heights and I always admit that no single person can do it alone."

"It has never been done anywhere in the world. Success must be a product of our collective effort. What we are here to do is just to provide the leadership that is required particularly from government perspective. And I am so passionate about that. And I'm willing to provide the leadership."

On maximising the potentials of Broadband in Nigeria, he said the ministry will not hesitate to receive constructive criticisms in order to make it affordable in the country.



L-R: Olubukola Farinra; Segilola Guabadi; Dr Anastasia Gherru; club president, Barr Bakare; Mrs Fatima Odiado and Mrs. Shide Bebenetoum Young, all of Zonta Club of Lagos, during a visit to the Oba of Ife Oshin in Lagos, recently.

Lagos To Partner Underwriters On Life, Assets Insurances

By Zaka Abd-Rahmān, Lagos

The Lagos State government is set to partner the Nigerian Insurance Industry to enhance the wellbeing of people through protection of their lives and material assets against unforeseen losses.

The State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu gave the assurance during the unveiling of 'Plan Insurance Brokers House' in Lagos on Wednesday.

Sanwo-Olu stated that the only way to improve citizens' life expectancy, tackle the alarming rate of poverty and ameliorate the effect of disaster in the society was to embrace insurance as a risk management mechanism.

He noted that the state needed the support of the insurance industry and particularly insurance brokers in the conception of sustainable health insurance schemes, not only for the elite, but all citizens of the state.

Represented by the Deputy Governor of the State, Dr. Obafermi Hamzat, the Governor said, "Insurance operators need to find a way to get people better informed, not just the rich and the educated people."

Referring to the unfortunate fire incident in Lagos recently, the governor stated further that, "you will be surprised that 80 to 90 per cent of people do not have insurance. We cannot build a sys-

tem, neither can we build a state that is sustainable without insurance and effective risk mitigation devices."

He attributed the low life expectancy in Nigeria to poor health insurance scheme.

"As people, we know that our life expectancy is 52 years. Libya, after series of war, still has life expectancy of 78 years, so what is wrong? To me, it is lack of insurance; we do not have health insurance and that goes for every thing," he pointed out.

To him, "When people lose their house, or in case of any other disaster, they have to start all over again. We are one disaster away from homelessness and poverty."



Zonta Club of Accra II presents award to the YWPA Award recipient for District 18.



Zonta Club of Tema spends the International Day of the Girl Child with female students at Chemu Senior High School, providing them mentorship.

HONORABLE MENTIONS



Mr. Nadjim Salami Past President Zonta Club Lomé Millennium, 1st Mixed Club of district 18. Man engaged in the fight of women's rights, elected Area director for the biennale 2020/2022 at the 24th District 18 conference in Abidjan.

DISTRICT 18 CELEBRATES THE CENTENARY ANNIVERSARY OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL



A massive Billboard mounted by the Zonta Clubs in Ghana in conjunction with the UNFPA





Zonta Clubs in Togo mount a Massive Billboard in celebration of Zonta at 100



Zonta Clubs in Burkina Faso held a Seminar on the Topic of Violence against Women and the Girl Child under the auspices of the Minister of Women National Solidarity, and Family