GS-26

PIC
POLICY INNOVATION CENTRE

GENDER & INCLUSION SUMMIT 2026

Post Summit Summary Report






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Federal Ministry of




POLICY INNOVATION





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Gender & Inclusion Summit

A platform to catalyse evidence-based agenda setting, human centred policies, institutional and societal transformation, as well as sustained advocacy for gender equity and gender responsive governance in Africa.



About PIC

The Policy Innovation Centre (PIC) is the first national institutionalized behavioural initiative in Africa supporting government and stakeholders to make behaviourally informed decisions and generate evidence for impact-driven interventions in critical thematic areas.

VISION

Delivering better policies and innovative solutions for social impact.

MISSION

We improve policies and programs using gender transformative and behavioural approaches to drive positive social change.

Gender Foyer: The PIC Gender Foyer is an innovative multidisciplinary hub that serves as a platform for capacity development, networking, research, and partnerships to advance gender responsive policies, programs, and practices in Africa. The Gender Foyer's focus areas include Policy and Governance, Gender Systems Strengthening, and Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) Programming.





About the Gender & Inclusion Summit

The Gender and Inclusion Summit was conceptualised as a platform for dialogue, reflection on evidence, and consensus building to advance gender equity, inclusion, and gender-responsive governance in Africa. By joining forces and leveraging the collective power of government, development partners, civil society, academia, and the private sector, the summit aims to foster collective commitment and focused action. Since its inception in 2022, the Summit has convened notable National and International Leaders to generate innovative insights and propose actionable solutions for inclusive growth.

The Summit is delivered as a three-day hybrid event, featuring plenary sessions, breakout sessions, learning workshops, oral and poster abstract presentations, innovation pitches, as well as an exhibition booth display.

PARTICIPATION OVER THE YEARS

PHYSICAL PARTICIPATION

700+ Participants in 2022 — ***2988+*** Participants in 2025

VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION

3000 Participants in 2022 — ***3849+*** Participants in 2025

Our Impact Pathway

- Evidence, Knowledge Generation and Learning
- Awareness, Thought Leadership and Agenda Setting
- Innovation, Ideation & Solution Development
- Policy Dialogue, Consensus and Commitments
- Youth Engagement, Leadership and Influence
- From Commitments to Action and Adoption
- Capacity Strengthening, Networking and Collaboration
- Strategic Partnerships, Investment and New Initiatives
- Last-Mile Reach, Inclusion and Gender-Equitable Change



Gender and Inclusion Summit 2026 (GS-26)

GS-26, themed; From Agenda to Action: Making Innovation Count for the Last Mile, was held on September 8-9, 2026, in Abuja, Nigeria.

The theme is anchored in the imperative to move from agenda to action by ensuring that innovations, policies, and commitments translate into measurable improvements in the lives of those furthest behind. The Summit focuses on strengthening the pathways that carry solutions from concept to scale, prioritising inclusive design, evidence, and accountability. It brings together leaders, innovators, and practitioners to co-create practical roadmaps that will address structural barriers and expand access to essential services for women, youth, persons with disabilities, and underserved communities. At its core, GS-26 is a call to ensure that innovation delivers real value where it matters most: at the last mile.





Our task is fourfold: design inclusion as a system, invest in it where tomorrow's value will be created, measure whether it is working and scale what works.

- H.E. Patrick Achi
President of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire

The Youth Conference

The GS-26 Youth Conference themed; “The Dream We Choose” was held on 9 September 2026, placing young people at the centre of conversations on turning ideas into actions that drive inclusive impact.

The conference convened government leaders, young people, experts, and changemakers to examine youth’s role in shaping a thriving Nigeria and explore pathways to translate their aspirations into meaningful, collective action.

The Federal Ministry of Youth and Development, with technical support from the Policy Innovation Centre, launched the Nigerian Youth Dream Charter, translating the priorities and aspirations of young Nigerians, particularly those in underserved and last-mile communities, into actionable policy commitments.











...For that woman who goes to the primary healthcare centre, the issue is not a lack of innovation; it's the distance between a good idea and a service you can actually use

- Mr. Ekenem Isichei
Deputy Director, Program Advocacy and Communications, Gates Foundation

The Academic Conference

The GS-26 Academic Conference, held on 7 September 2026 at the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS), Abuja, was convened to bridge the gap between research evidence and the policy and programme decisions needed to advance inclusive development. Guided by the theme, "From Agenda to Action: Making Innovations Count for the Last Mile," the conference explored how research, evidence and innovations can be translated into practical, scalable solutions that reach people furthest from services and systems.

The conference brought together 398 participants, including researchers, academics, policymakers, development partners, practitioners, industry stakeholders and civil society, and featured 33 oral and 29 poster presentations. It provided a platform for evidence to inform dialogue and strengthen connections between research and decision-making, reflecting PIC's commitment to ensuring that research contributes to meaningful outcomes for last-mile communities, with inclusion embedded from the outset.

The three learning sessions examined key dimensions of the agenda-to-action challenge: "Breaking Silos for Last-Mile Resilience: Multi-Sectoral Coalitions as Drivers of Sustainable Systems Strengthening," which explored cross-sector collaboration; "Co-Designing Evidence, Policy, and Community Accountability for Inclusive Last-Mile Action," which focused on connecting evidence, policy, and community accountability; and "The Scaling Toolkit: Overcoming Infrastructure, Resource, and Implementation Quality Challenges in Grassroots Scaling," which addressed practical barriers that hinder scale-up of innovations.

398
Participants



33
Oral Presentations



29
Poster Presentations






GS-26 Academic
Conference










GS26 Academic
Conference
Thank You
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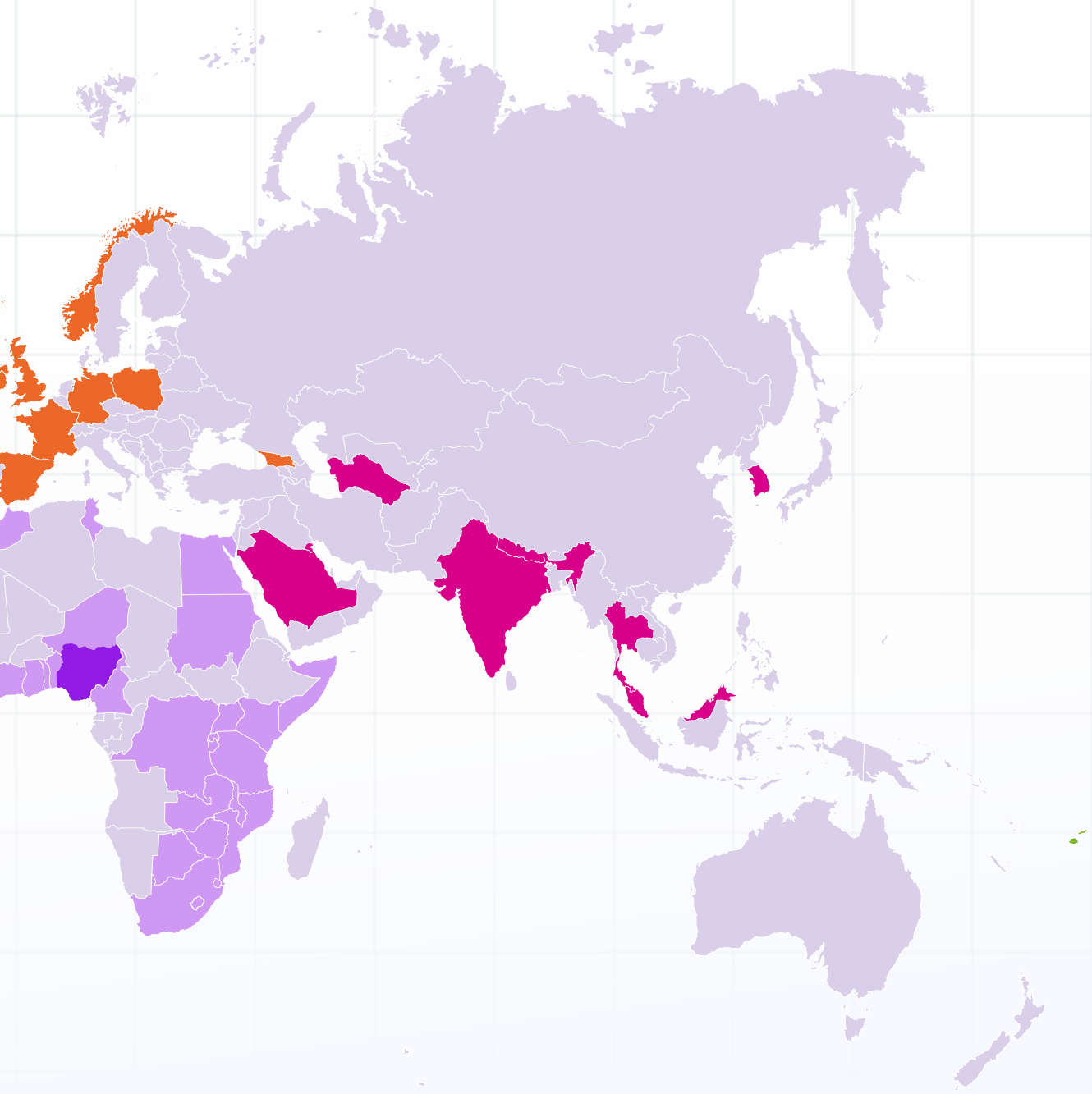
GS 26 Highlights

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED
ONLINE/ONSITE



6 Continents
54 Countries

Algeria
American Samoa
Benin
Botswana
Burundi
Cameroon
Canada
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Côte d'Ivoire
Egypt
Ethiopia
France
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Haiti
Hong Kong
India
Ireland
Kenya
South Korea
Kuwait
Lesotho
Liberia
Malawi
Malaysia
Morocco
Mozambique
Nauru



Nepal
Niger
Nigeria
Norfolk Island
Norway
Peru
Poland
Rwanda
Saudi Arabia
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
Spain
Sudan
Eswatini
Tanzania
Thailand
Togo
Tunisia
Turkmenistan
Uganda
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States
Zambia
Zimbabwe

GS 26 Highlights

ATTENDANCE – IN-PERSON



3,239 Attendance on both days

ATTENDANCE –VIRTUAL

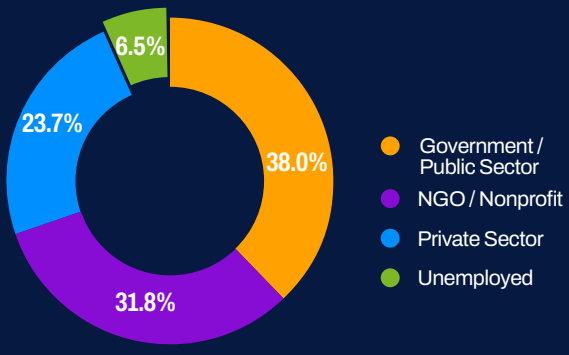
8,390 **Persons** streamed on both days

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS

160+ Speakers & Panelists

- Academia
- Healthcare
- Policymakers
- Advocacy Coalitions
- Executives
- Development Experts
- International Delegates

SECTORS REPRESENTED



PRESENTATIONS AND PITCHES

60+
Innovation Pitches and Research Presentations

PRIZES

₦ 5million
worth prizes and awards given





Youth Conference

ATTENDANCE

91 Physical Attendance

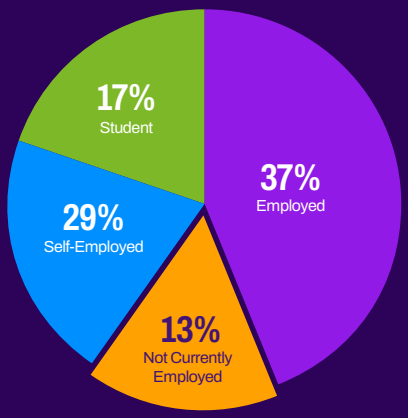
331 Online Attendance

66% Female **34%** Male

AGE DISTRIBUTION

18-29 Years **62%** | 30-35 Years **38%**

EMPLOYMENT STATUS



Academic Conference

389 Attendance

Female **52.7%** | Male **47.3%**





GS-26 Digital Engagements

8.5M

Total impressions targeted at converting ticketed attendance across spanning **13 top countries and 4 continents.**

4.4M

Unique individuals reached with GS26 content, messaging and digital advertising material.

73K

Meaningful engagements and content interactions with our content across four major digital platforms.

381K

Social media clicks across platforms engaging multiple summit experiences and calls to action.

102K

Direct clicks driving traffic to the summit website, ticketing, resources, and other key information.

84K

Companies engaged with our content and media across academia, research, public policy, development, private sector, banking and finance, governments, social good organizations, and more.

4933 Hours

Watch time across all video content distributed across our owned digital media platforms.

44.1K

Page profile visits from our larger brand-aware audience seeking deeper brand connection.





An intervention is innovative when it solves a real-life problem, when it improves access, reduces cost, increases efficiency, strengthens dignity, or produces better outcomes and when those gains can be sustained and taken to scale.

- Hon. Iman Suleiman-Ibrahim
Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development




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Gender & Inclusion Summit 2026


Purple Diarles
POWERED BY PIC


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Gender & Inclusion Summit 2026
SWOLE Policy Transformation Toolkit


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GS26 Sessions

Economic Inclusion Forum

- Next Gen Powering Africa Forward (Youth Session)
- Innovation For Prosperity: Scaling Economic Opportunities for Women in Agriculture, Entrepreneurship, And Trade in Nigeria
- Designing the Future of Work: Unlocking Talents for Persons with Disabilities at the Last Mile
- Lessons from the Nigeria for Women Project: Expanding Pathways to Women's Economic Participation and Empowerment
- National Dialogue: Advancing Gender Equity in Academic Economics Across Nigerian
- From Processing to Prosperity: Unlocking Finance and Economic Opportunities for Female-led Food Enterprises
- Pre-Launch of the Gender Legislative Agenda for Africa
- Advancing Gender-Responsive and Disability-Inclusive Tax Administration
- SWOLE Gender and Leadership Taskforce Policy Toolkit Workshop: A Practical Learning Session
- Beyond Access: What Does Women's Economic Empowerment Look Like at the Last Mile?
- Innovating from the Boardroom to the Last Mile: A Women in Leadership Breakfast and Networking Session
- Scaling What Works: Inclusive Solutions for Africa's Agricultural Transformation
- Is There Hope for Creatives in Nigeria? Unlocking Economic Opportunity for Nigeria's Creatives
- Beyond 2026: Shaping Nigeria's Next National Gender Policy (2027–2032)
- Evidence to Action: Unlocking Access to Credit and Capital for Women-Owned Businesses in Nigeria
- From Tax Reform to Last-Mile Impact: Building an Inclusive Fiscal Architecture

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Forum

- Education Ends Child Marriage: From Evidence to Action in Nigeria's Northwest and Northeast
- From Protection to Empowerment: Accelerating Community-Led Action to End Gender-Based Violence Against Women and Children in Nigeria
- From Conversations to Action: Ending GBV Together (Town Hall Dialogue)



Innovation and Technology Forum

- Mobilizing Catalytic Partnerships That Reach the Last Mile
- Women in Plastic Innovation Challenge
- Making Innovation Count for the Last Mile: Lessons from Across Africa
- Innovation in Local Governance Systems for Better Service Delivery at the Last Mile
- Innovation and Intellectual Property: From Idea to Impact (WIPO)
- From Pilots to Population Scale: Addressing Barriers to Inclusive Digital Health Transformation in Nigeria
- Tech Justice in the Age of AI: Making It Count for the Last Mile



Health Forum

- Rebuilding Last-Mile Health Systems
- Gender-Informed Approaches to Optimise Immunization Uptake and Coverage: From Evidence to Action
- The National Dialogue on Transforming Gender Norms for Adolescent Health and Wellbeing
- Evidence for Action for Perimenopause in Nigeria
- From Budget Release to Last Mile Delivery: Securing Funding for Family Planning Commodities in KKG States
- Evidence for Action Roundtable: HPV Vaccination in Nigeria
- Evidence to Action: Validation of Preliminary Findings from the Nigerian Survey on Gender Norms, Attitudes, Health and Wellbeing
- Inclusive Wellbeing: Advancing Mental Health and Positive Masculinity for Men and Boys

Early Child Development (ECD) Forum

- Her Future, Their Choices: Who Holds the Power in Adolescent Girls' Choices?
- No Girl Left Behind: Strengthening Accelerated Basic Education for Girls in Humanitarian Settings
- Empowering Gender Equitable Leadership for Early Childhood Development (ECD) Delivery at the Last Mile



The theme, 'From Agenda to Action: Making Innovations Count for the Last Mile,' highlights the imperative for a critical shift from policy to implementation, to ensure that innovations truly reach and benefit underserved and hard-to-reach populations.

- Dr. Iziaq Adekunle Salako
Minister of State for Health and Social Wellbeing




GS-26 | PIC
Amina




GS-26 PIC
THE COMMITMENT WALL


Registration


Last Mile


GS-26 | PIC
Gender & Inclusion Summit 2026


AGENDA

Why GS-26 is Important

97.8%
of returning participants reported acquiring **valuable knowledge from the summit**

88.5%
of returning participants reported that they have **applied the knowledge gained from the previous summit.**

88.8%
of returning participants reported that the summit impacted their career and/or organization.

82.6%
of the returning participants reported that the gender summit has had a **significant impact on their career and personal development.**



Menopause is often neglected, but women's health is a life course. We need to start talking about it.

- Dr Salma Ibrahim Anas
Special Advisor to the President on Health



Commitments and Next Steps

01. Collaboration with the Conference of Speakers and Presidents of African Legislatures (CoSPAL) to launch the Pan-African Gender-Responsive Legislative Agenda: A Roadmap at its 4th General Assembly in Liberia, providing a shared framework for advancing gender-responsive legislative reform across Africa.

02. Support to the Federal Ministry of Youth Development to operationalise the Nigerian Youth Dream Charter, translating the priorities and aspirations of young Nigerians, particularly those in underserved and last-mile communities, into policy commitments and measurable action.

03. Pilot a Last-Mile Service Delivery Lab in selected local governments, using ward-level data and community-informed co-creation to identify, address and track priority service-delivery gaps.

04. Support the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development in the drafting and implementation of the National Gender Policy 2027–2032, including technical assistance for the end-term review, pillar development, stakeholder consultations, costing, financing, subnational domestication, sex-disaggregated data systems and accountability mechanisms needed to translate the successor policy into measurable last-mile outcomes.

05. Pilot an Inclusive Tax Data Initiative to generate and use gender- and disability-disaggregated data to identify and address barriers to inclusive and accessible taxpayer services.

06. Incubation of four post-hackathon solutions across Health, Agriculture, Education and Security to support business development, market readiness and commercialisation.

07. Through PIC's Innovation Labs (FluxxEco), provide 24 months of post-Summit support to innovators showcased through the NSIA-supported Innovation Bridge, including market modelling, investment readiness, access to capital and technical support to scale last-mile solutions.

08. Launch of the Strengthening Women's Leadership in Academic Economic Institutions (SWOLE) Policy Transformation Toolkit to support universities to identify institutional gender gaps, translate evidence into policy and institutional reforms, and track women's participation, progression and leadership in academic economics.

09. Pilot a Last-Mile Family Planning Financing and Commodity Accountability Initiative to track budget allocations through fund releases, procurement and distribution, ensuring essential family planning commodities reach service-delivery points.

10. Produce and Launch the Innovator's Bridge Guide. A structured, navigable reference mapping Nigeria's innovation funding and support ecosystem, produced by PIC with sector specialists.

11. Pilot an integrated, gender-responsive early childhood development model that improves access to quality services for children and families while strengthening and supporting the childcare service delivery workforce at the last mile.

12. Test models for expanding access to capital in collaboration with financial institutions, MSMEs and last-mile actors for grassroots women, with a focus on smallholder farmers & cross border traders.

13. Pilot and test an integrated school -health-community delivery model in selected low-performing LGAs to increase routine HPV vaccination among eligible girls and generate evidence for scale-up.

14. Development and launch of the Purple Book 2026









Women cannot exercise economic agency where fear defines their daily lives.

- H.E. Erelu Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi
Co-founder, Amandla Institute;
Former First Lady of Ekiti State

GS26 Result Framework

Results Level	GS-26 Result	How Progress Will Be Tracked
Goal	More inclusive policies, institutions and systems that improve outcomes for underserved and last-mile populations.	Evidence of sustained policy, institutional and service-delivery change.
Primary Outcome	GS-26 commitments translated into policy, institutional and implementation actions that strengthen inclusion and last-mile delivery.	Number and proportion of priority GS-26 commitments progressing to implementation.
Intermediate Outcomes	Partners advance evidence-informed reforms, test and scale inclusive innovations, mobilise partnerships, and strengthen accountability across priority sectors.	• Number of policies/reforms advanced • Number of pilots and innovations initiated or scaled • Number of partnerships established • Number of institutions adopting or testing new approaches.
Outputs	• Policies and roadmaps • Action plans • Institutional Toolkits • Pilots • Innovation-support initiatives • Partnerships • Knowledge products developed through post-summit action	• Number of agreed outputs completed or launched • Number with defined responsible partners, timelines and milestones.
Initiatives	• Gender-Responsive Legislative Agenda for Africa: A Roadmap • Nigerian Youth Dream Charter • Last-Mile Service Delivery Lab • National GBV Strategic Action Plan • National Gender Policy 2027–2032 support • Inclusive Tax Data Initiative • Post-hackathon Incubation and Innovation Bridge support • SWOLE Policy Transformation Toolkit • Innovator's Bridge Guide • Integrated ECD Pilot • Grassroots women's financial inclusion initiative • Purple Book 2026	Progress against agreed milestones, timelines and responsible partners, with commitments tracked through the GS-26 Commitment Tracker.



Across Africa, including Nigeria, significant progress has been made in developing policies, generating evidence, and testing innovative approaches to build more inclusive societies. Yet, the critical challenge remains: translating these efforts into tangible, measurable results that improve people's lives.

- Udeme Ufot
Chairman, Policy Innovation Centre

Thank You to our sponsors and partners

We appreciate your invaluable partnership in making the Gender and Inclusion Summit 2026 a resounding success. Your contribution was instrumental in achieving our shared strategic objectives in accelerating an inclusive society. We look forward to more collaborative partnerships in the future.

GS-27

GENDER & INCLUSION SUMMIT 2027

September 7-9th, 2027

Abuja, Nigeria



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