

WOMEN PROFESSIONAL ENTREPRENEURS IN IKEJA LAGOS

BY:

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Attempt towards putting women's effort in perspectives for record purposes, was uncommon until very recently. Ironically women progressive activities which transcend almost every human endeavour, is as old as the creative of man. Today, hardly there is a nation without the threshold of women contributions, even on areas hitherto considered as men's exclusive dormains.

In Nigeria for instance, women have made their marks eminently in politics, education, business, science and technology, and you name it. Interestingly, a good number of these women are professionals, in their own rights, striving even in the face of inhibitive and harsh environments.

Although women make up the larger percentage of the population, yet certain traditional, economic, institutional, legal, attitudinal and religious values had tended to undermine the productive capacity, conditions of domestic life, social status and even life chances of women. These societal attitudes towards women have over the year received global condemnation.

voice towards enhancing the access of women in the Rural Areas to production inputs, especially land, credit and modern agricultural inputs.

Enlightening women in the rural areas on the opportunities and facilities available for their economic, social and political advancement as well as for her personal and family health and well being.

Promoting basic literacy, functional literacy and income generating activities.

essential :

Improving the society's knowledge and understanding of the situation of women in the rural areas and Lastly enhancing the social and legal status of women in the rural areas by exposing and eliminating the obstacles standing in the way of their development, such as anti-women values, attitudes, laws, customs and social practices.

Women want to be free from preconceptions, free from the threat of violence, free to choose from the same range of options that men take for granted. But these freedoms are based on fundamental cultural, social and political changes, which are coming at an agonisingly slow rate.

One UN report states that at current rates of progression, it will be 500 years before women have equal managerial status in the world. And after that, it will be another 475 years before women hold equal political and economic status. The question now arise why are women's achievements, so crucial to the survival of millions of families and communities, so often ignored and invariably undervalued by society? The answer lies in the controls traditionally exercised by patriarchal societies, controls that have been culturally and legislatively reinforced over the millennia. A change is essential for the survival of the species. Clearly, it must be brought about by women, and at a much faster rate than current progress allows.