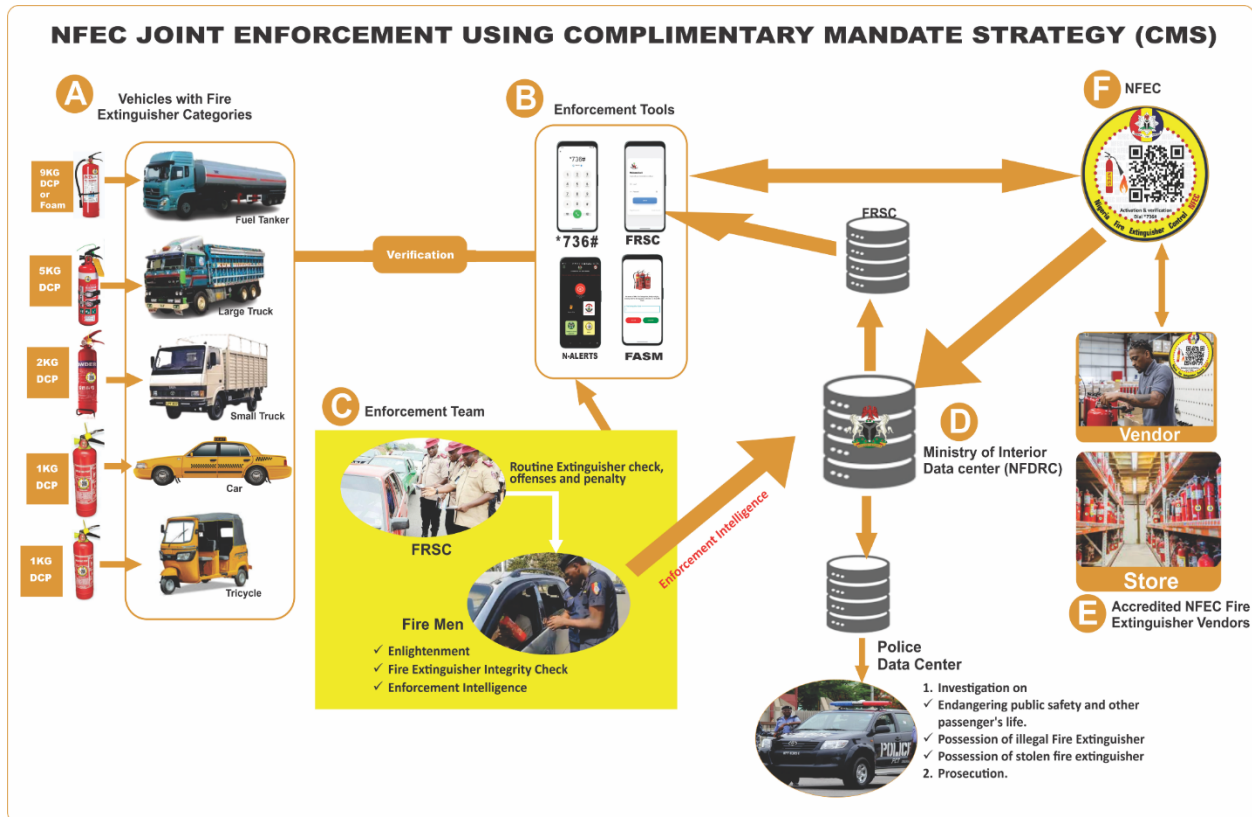




**Proposal for Youth Empowerment Sponsorship:
Training and Start-Up Kits
for
6,000 Nigerian Youths
As
Fire Extinguisher Servicing Vendors (FESV)**



Introduction:

This proposal seeks sponsorship to empower 6,000 Nigerian youths by training them as certified Fire Extinguisher Servicing Vendors (FESV). This initiative addresses the dual challenges of youth unemployment and the prevalence of illegal and substandard fire extinguisher servicing practices in Nigeria. By equipping these youths with the necessary skills, tools, and start-up kits, they will be positioned to provide legitimate, high-quality fire extinguisher servicing, ensuring public safety and compliance with Nigeria Industrial Standards (NIS).

Background:

The current fire extinguisher servicing market in Nigeria is plagued by illegal practices that endanger lives and property. These include:

1. **Illegal Pressurization:** Expired extinguishers are illegally pressurized to show a "GREEN gauge status," deceiving enforcement teams and endangering vehicles and passengers.
2. **Use of Cassava Flour:** Criminals refill extinguishers with cassava flour and pressurize them with atmospheric air instead of CO₂, which exacerbates fires instead of extinguishing them.
3. **Underfilling of DCP Powder:** Servicers use less than the required quantity of Dry Chemical Powder (DCP), violating NIS rules. For example, they use 0.25kg instead of the mandated 0.9kg for a 1kg fire extinguisher.

These practices compromise fire safety and highlight the urgent need for trained, certified professionals to replace these illegal operators.

Proposed Solution:

This initiative will train and empower 6,000 Nigerian youths to become certified Fire Extinguisher Servicing Vendors (FESV). The program includes:

1. **Three-Day Training:** Covers entrepreneurship, servicing techniques, and the use of the NFEC aggregator platform to drive customer acquisition.
2. **Start-Up Kits:** Provision of tools and consumables required for servicing fire extinguishers.
3. **Opening Stock:** Initial supply of DCP powder and other materials to begin operations.

Program Details:

- **Cost per Participant:** ₦345,000 (covers training, tools, consumables, and opening stock).
- **Training Duration:** Three days per batch.
- **Certification:** Participants will be certified as NFEC-approved FESVs, ensuring credibility and compliance with NIS standards.

Benefits of the Program:

1. **Youth Empowerment:** Provides legitimate, lifelong self-employment opportunities for 6,000 youths, reducing unemployment and its associated social and security challenges.
2. **Public Safety:** Replaces illegal operators with certified professionals, ensuring fire extinguishers are serviced to NIS standards and function effectively during emergencies.
3. **Economic Impact:** Creates a new ecosystem of skilled professionals, boosting local economies and fostering entrepreneurship.
4. **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensures adherence to NIS rules and enhances enforcement efforts by federal agencies such as the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Fire Service, Police, and Standard Organization of Nigeria (SON)

Implementation Plan:

1. **Stakeholder Engagement:** Collaborate with federal and state agencies, including FRSC, Fire Service, NEMA, SON, and the Police, to ensure enforcement and patronage.
2. **Training Delivery:** Partner with certified trainers and NFEC aggregators to deliver the three-day training program.
3. **Distribution of Kits:** Provide start-up kits and opening stock to participants upon completion of training.
4. **Monitoring and Support:** Establish a support system to monitor participants' progress and provide ongoing assistance.

Funding Request:

In view of the high unemployment rate and the program's relevance to national security, we humbly request your support in the following ways:

1. **Direct Funding:** Sponsor the training and start-up kits for a specified number of participants.
2. **Access to Loans:** Facilitate access to low-interest loans for participants, enabling them to repay after establishing their businesses.

Guaranteed Patronage:

Participants will benefit from guaranteed patronage as enforcement agencies, including FRSC, Fire Service, Police, and SON, will mandate the use of NFEC-certified FESVs for fire extinguisher servicing. This ensures a steady stream of customers and sustainable income for the trained youths.

Conclusion:

This initiative represents a unique opportunity to address youth unemployment, enhance public safety, and eliminate illegal fire extinguisher servicing practices in Nigeria. By sponsoring this program, you will contribute to national development, empower thousands of youths, and save lives. We appeal for your support to make this vision a reality. For more information visit www.nfec.com.ng