

IMPROVING PARTICIPATION OF

UNDERPRESENTED GROUP:

Projecting the image of the Nigerian Female Surveyor

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INTRODUCTION

- Every community of persons has a potential for conflict. In other words every community of persons suffers a capacity for conflict. Selfless disposition makes for a more potentially purposeful and united community.
- It is the absence of this posture in the community that we find domination, intimidation, competition, frustration and retaliation among the sexes.
- This in no small way, causes much unhappiness and dissatisfaction in the polity. Unfortunately the woman is the most hit.

SURVEYORS EDUCATION/TRAINING

- The Training does not segregate among sexes.
- It as much as possible encourage both sexes male and female into the profession .
- What happens after graduation? This is stage where some females are singled out as incapable for the job requirements.

WOMEN – IN - SURVEYING

- An umbrella organization under the Nigerian Institution of Surveyors for women.
- Its mission is that `women shall form at least 30% of the total membership of the NIS, and actively participate in all NIS programmes.
- Prior to WIS, female surveyors constitutes only 3% of the total membership of NIS and are hardly seen to participate in the affairs of the institution (NIS).
- With the establishment of WIS participation has increased from 3% to 8%. This figure still poor, women – in – surveying still have a lot to do to achieve their vision.

Amongst others WIS intends to:-

- Organize workshops/Seminar to create awareness in the profession for the young ladies at every Annual General Meeting (AGM) of NIS in the hosting region and zones.
- Massively mobilize women graduating from higher institutions as surveyors to register as members of NIS and WIS.
- Encourage more women to attempt the surveyors Council of Nigerian (SURCON) Examination and aspire to get registered.
- Encourage more women to venture into private practice.
- Formulate and cause to be implemented ideas and policies that will improve the image of the female surveyor.
- Cause to be established a special scholarship fund for young girls who are reading Surveys and Geometrics in our institution of higher learning.

PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES OF THE NIGERIAN FEMALE SURVEYORS

- Outright discrimination (during interviews for employment as well as depriving them from field work).
- The inability to differentiate between their status duties and their working responsibilities (they are regarded as a weaker sex).
- Sheer laziness and indifferences of some class of women.
- Lack of knowledge about survey, how it operates and what it has to offer. (many Nigerian female surveyors did not have prior knowledge of what surveying was).

TIPS ON THE USEFULNESS OF A FEMALE SURVEYOR.

- ❑ Proficient in resolving Disputes (Litigation Survey)

 - ❑ Good Conflict Managers (Strong Bargaining powers)

 - ❑ The needed care of diligence the profession entails
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THE WAY FORWARD

- ❑ Education (enhances the quality and standard of life of every citizen regardless of gender).
 - ❑ Continuous Enlightenment and Mobilization (follow-up actions to all regional workshops in order to actualize the goals of WIS.
 - ❑ Removing self imposed barriers – what a man can do a woman can do better.
 - ❑ Image improvement-to be the best for the enhancement of the profession.
 - ❑ Encouragement – everyone needs this to excel in life.
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CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ I have no doubt in my mind that the on going effort to redress the situation of gender inequality in our system is a positive development.
 - ❑ The removal of gender discrimination in the rules and regulations and policies in the Civil Service in Nigeria will no doubt help develop the potentials of women to put in their best in their chosen field of human Endeavour.
 - ❑ Surveying is an important aspects of human development the Nigerian Institution of Surveyors has created an enabling environment for the participation of Women-in-Surveying. This could be used in achieving the aim of the Nigerian female surveyors.
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- ❑ When you are a woman in a male-dominated industry, you have to carve a niche for yourself in order to succeed. You do not have to behave as if you are a man or have to imitate your male counterpart.

 - ❑ You have to be yourself, and be the woman you are.

 - ❑ The Sky will be your limit.
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Thank you for listening.
