# INTERCONNECTIONS FOR MAKING AFRICA GREAT, EMPOWERED AND SUSTAINABLE (IMAGES) INITIATIVE.

### www.imagesinitiatives.org



### **About IMAGES Initiative**

**IMAGES** Initiative aims to catalyze and help create transformational partnerships to encourage actions that reflect an integrated approach to the 5 pillars of Sustainable Development

**Vision:** To provide policymakers, civil society, development agencies, and researchers with a comprehensive set of innovative approaches and tested good practices around unlocking people's great potentials in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and Africa's Agenda 2063.

**Mission:** To advance the course of the Sustainable Development Goals and Africa's Agenda 2063 through Research, Advocacy, Field Trips, Conferences, Seminars, Policy Roundtables, Workshops, Symposia, Summits, Exhibitions, and Communications through Policy Digests, Communiqués, Quarterly Newsletters, and Social Media Platforms.

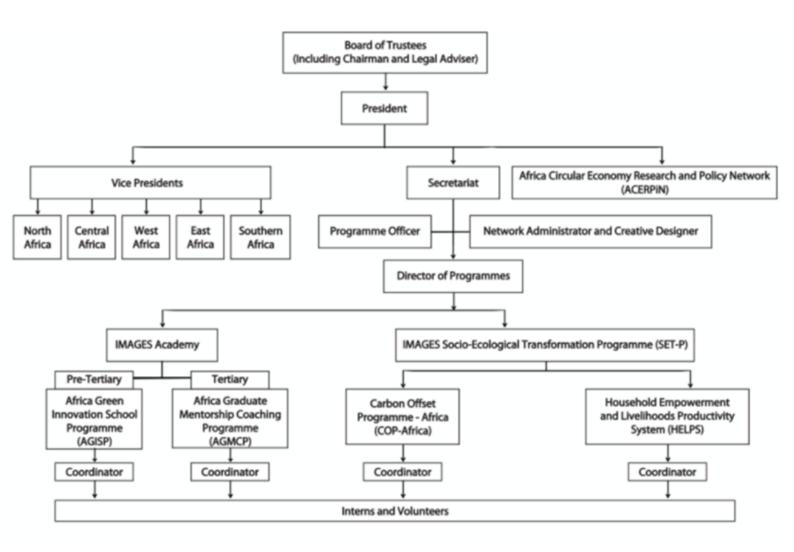
## **Table of Content**

Cover Page	i
Table of Content	ii
Organogram of IMAGES Initiative	iii
Executive Summary	iv
Introduction	1
Circularity Africa Conference 2021	2
Africa Graduate Mentorship and Coaching Programme (AGMCP)	5
Carbon Offset Programme Africa (COP-Africa)	7
Household Empowerment Livelihood Productivity Systems (HELPS)	9
Africa Circular Economy Research and Policy Network (ACERPIN)	10
Africa Green Innovation School Programme (AGISP)	13
Media Activities	14
Visit to the Governor of Oyo State	16
Achievements	17
Recommendations	18
2022 Update: Circularity Africa Conference 2022	19
2022 Update: AGMCP 2022 Application Summary	20
Seasons Greetings	21
Contact	22





### **Organogram of IMAGES Initiative**







### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Interconnections for Making Africa Great
Empowered and Sustainable (IMAGES) Initiative is a
non for profit research and policy advocacy
initiative whose five pillars of performance are:
People, purpose, programmes and projects,
platforms and publications, and partners.

- **1. People:** Our core human values are integrity, professionalism, and impact. Our team and volunteers are defined by these core values.
- **2. Purpose:** We seek to promote greatness, facilitate empowerment and ensure socioecological transformations to sustainability
- **3. Programmes & Projects:** Our anchor programmes are:
  - Africa Green Innovation School Programme (AGISP), Africa Mentorship and Coaching Programme (AGMCP), and Carbon Offset Programme – Africa (COP-Africa).
  - AGISP promotes Green, Innovation, Science, and Technology (GIST). Green (environmental, agricultural, health and well-being); Innovation (new idea or old idea with new approach);
     Science: (applied, basic or social); Technology (applications, mobile or integrative).
  - AGMCP fosters Research & publication,
     Emotional intelligence, Acculturation, and
     Professionalism & leadership (REAP)

- COP-Africa advocates Carbon-reduction
   (mitigation), Attitude and lifestyle adjustment
   (adaptation), Resilience-building (resilience),
   and Entrepreneurship & empowerment
   (enterprise) CARE
- **4. Platforms & Publications:** Our operational platform for engaging stakeholders is the Africa Circular Economy Research and Policy Network (ACERPiN). We also connect with our audiences through the Circularity journal and other publications.
- **5. Partners:** Our partners are from different segments of society, including the academia, governments, and businesses.

Thank you.

Olawale Olayide

President, IMAGES



### INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the achievements, challenges, and charting of the way forward at the Interconnections for Making Africa Great, Empowered and Sustainable (IMAGES) Initiative. This report covers the activities in the year 2021 from January to December.

### Appointment of new vice president



Dr. Daniel Sakyi of Kwame Nkrumah University of Science of Technology, Kumasi, Ghana became the new vice president representing West Africa in the initiative (WEST AFRICA VICE PRESIDENT)



Dr. Greenwell Matchaya of International Water
Management Institute, Pretoria, South Africa became
the new vice president representing South Africa
(SOUTH AFRICA VICE PRESIDENT)

### **IMAGES** engaged additional volunteers in 2021:

- Ms. Fatima Umar Projects and communications
- Mr. Isaac Oritogun Projects and communications
- Mr. Temitayo Bamidele Projects and partnerships
- Ms. Olufunmilola Falade Assistant Director
   AGISP
- Mr. Sope Afolayan Coordinator COP-Africa
- Ms. Gift Ifokwe Administrative assistant
- Ms. Ruth Babayanju

### **IMAGES staff sendforth in 2021:**

- Ms. Deborah Ajeboriogbon
- Mr. Gboluwaga Olaomo
- Mrs Grace Amiola

# CIRCULARITY AFRICA CONFERENCE 2021

The 2nd Circularity Africa Conference was held 12-13th May 2021. The team lead/Chair for the 2nd circularity Africa Conference 2021 was Dr. Olawale Olayide who was assisted by Dr. Omobolaji Obisesan as the co-chair. Goodwill messages for the conference was delivered by Dr. Daniel Mann, Prof. Grace Oloukoi, Ms. Rose Kobusinge, Soren Beur, and Ms. Victoria Nyabam

### Good will Messages:

- a) Dr. Daniel Mann: collaboration with Nigeria on Climate change and sustainable development
- b) Prof. Grace Oloukoi from Lead City University: Reminding ourselves of the importance of sustainable development, the conference will bring about a policy guideline for the sustainable development (circular economy, reduction of waste, etc)
- c) Ms. Rose Kobusinge of Ellen MacArthur Foundation, United Kingdom: Global player in circular economy
- d) Soren Beur of Circular Media Austria
- e) Ms. Victoria Nyabam (Secretary of ACERPIN)





# CIRCULARITY AFRICA CONFERENCE 2021

### **Good will Messages:**

The Keynote Address was delivered by Dr. Greenwell Matchaya from Pretoria South Africa.

The overview of his keynote address was:

- a) Circular economy is one that reduces waste
- b) Lifecycle of products is extended
- c) The Impacts of the SDGs and the global agenda is better felt
- d) The enablers and di-enablers of trade

#### **Technical Presentations**

- a) Olufemi Oloba: Our Future in our hands: combating poverty and inequality in post-2015 Africa. (Physical)
- b) Prof. Emmanuel Aiyede: Energy policy and Sustainable Development in Africa: Towards the Circularity Economy. (virtual)
- c) Kadio Valere Rodolphe Angaman: Effect of Climate Change on the productivity of Yam Crop in Cote D'ívoire (virtual)
- d) Ayoola Ayodeji: Coping Strategies Adopted by Farmer to Mitigate the effect of Covid-19 Pandemic in the Poultry Business in Ibadan/Ibarapa, Oyo State.
- e) Mujidah Ajibola: Education for the Circular economy
- f) Damilola Fasoranti: Creating sustainable Grassroots Development through Unconventional Education.

### **Good will Messages:**

There was a high level policy round table online on circularity in cities moderated by Ms. Fatimar Umar of the United Nations Development Programme in Nigeria and the following persons as panelist

- i)Dr. Faith Kasim, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
- ii)Dr. Eugene Itua, Circular Economy Club, Abuja, Nigeria
- iii)Mr. Cyrus Mbugua, Circular Economy Club, Kenya

This was followed in close succession on site at the conference venue another High-Level round table on gas flaring in Nigeria, moderated by Mr. Chidi Ugwu of Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Office, Abuja, Nigeria and the following persons as panelists:

- I)Mr. Ken Henshaw, We the People, Nigeria.
- II)Father Edward Obi, National Coalition on Gas Flaring and Oil Spills in the Niger Delta
- III)Barrister Oluwatoyin Aladegbami, Legal Resources Law Office, Abuja, Nigeria.

# CIRCULARITY AFRICA CONFERENCE 2021

Cross-section of participants at the 2nd Circularity Africa Conference 2022 The conference was capped with the presentation of Awards to:

- His Excellency the Oyo State Governor, Engineer Oluseyi Makinde
- His Excellency, Ambassador Oluseyi Onafowokan
- NESTLE Nigerian Plc.
- The second runner up for Green Innovation School Challenge









# AFRICA GRADUATE MENTORSHIP AND COACHING PROGRAMME

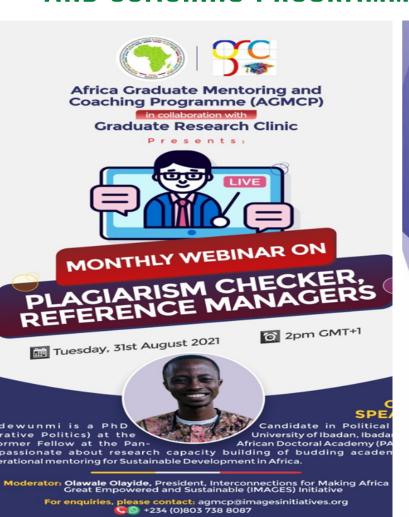
The AGMCP is designed for mentoring and coaching graduate-level (masters and PhD students) between 20 and 30 years of age in Africa in the areas of research and professional development. Each successful national from an African country was assigned to a mentor and life coach in Africa and Diaspora. The life goal and professional profile of mentees and mentors were matched.

- The programme for 2nd cohort lasted for one year from January to December 2021.
- Inaugural call held in January, and virtual seminar with mentees and mentors held in February
- Monthly check-in call held in February with Prof. Rodrigo Lozano as Guest Speaker on Journal Publication. Fellows' attendance at the monthly online discourse was impressive. There was over 80% attendance of the Fellows.

The table below shows the activities of African Graduate Mentorship and Coaching Programme in 2021

DATE	THEME	GUEST SPEAKER
JANUARY 2021	INAGURAL CALL	Dr. Olavide
FEBRUARY 2021	Virtual Seminar with Mentees/ Webinar on Journal Publications	Prof. Rodrigo Lozano
MARCH 2021	Book Chapter Publication	Dr. Desalegn Aval
APRIL 2021	Communicating Science to non-scientific audiences	Mr <u>Adejuwon</u> Soyinka
MAY 2021	Circularity Africa Conference 2021	
JUNE 2021	Fellowship Mid-term review	Dr. Olavide
JULY 2021	Microsoft Office Packages (Automatic Table of content, in text citation etc.)	Mr <u>Oludele</u> Folarin
AUGUST 2021	Plagiarism checker and reference manager	Mr Tobi Adewunmi
SEPTEMBER 2021	Basics of Quantitative Data Analysis	Mr Isaac Oritogun
OCTOBER 2021	Professional Network and Career development	Dr Ebenezer Idowu Ajayi
NOVEMBER 2021	Marriage, Family and the Academia	Dr. Olufunke Alaba
DECEMBER 2021	Graduation	

# AFRICA GRADUATE MENTORSHIP AND COACHING PROGRAMME





Moderator: Dr Olawale Olayide, President, Interconnections for Making Africa Great Empowered and Sustainable (IMAGES) Initiative



### CALL FOR APPLICATION

AFRICA GRADUATE MENTORSHIP AND COACHING PROGRAMME 2022 (3RD COHORT)

#### Introduction:

The Africa Graduate Mentorship and Coaching Programme (AGMCP) is a mentor-mentee network facilitated by the Interconnections for Making Africa Great Empowered and Sustainable (IMAGES) Initiative. It is designed for mentoring and coaching graduate-level students (Masters and PhD) between 20 and 30 years of age in Africa in the areas of research and professional development.













- Each successful candidate from an African country will be assigned to a mentor and life coach in Africa and Diaspora.
- The life goal and professional profile of mentees and mentors will be matched.
- The programme runs from January to December each year.

### **Application Process and Requirements**

Interested graduate students in any African university should apply via: https://bit.ly/agmcp2022

Application opens on 1 November 2021 and closes on 30 November 2021.



## CARBON OFFSET PROGRAMME AFRICA (COP-AFRICA)

The overall aim of this unit is to facilitate and ensure the reductions of carbon emissions by the activities and programmes of IMAGES to the nearest minimum levels, in alignment to achieving a low carbon economy. Tree planting exercise holds on 11 May 2021 as preconference for circularity Africa 2021. The preconference event is being organised in collaboration with the State and Federal Ministry of Environment.





## CARBON OFFSET PROGRAMME AFRICA (COP-AFRICA)

The staking of vegetal garden in Abadina began in the month of November 2021. Planting on the remaining land, and staking will commence this month, and selected Abadina school students will be involved and trained in the process.



- •The Rainwater Harvesting technology is 90% installed, we just need to purchase hose and tidy up a few loose end. So, we are prepared for the dry season.
- •The damaged part of the mesh fencing has been repaired. What is left to be done is clearing of the remaining part of the garden for cultivation.



## HOUSEHOLD EMPOWERMENT LIVELIHOOD PRODUCTIVITY SYSTEMS (HELPS)

Call to Participate in save the Children CDGP round up and roll out of new Programme:

IMAGES initiative was invited as a committed organisation in the about to be concluded CDGP programme to the round up event of the programme. Also, the event feature the unveiling of a successor project which is Expanding Social Protection for Inclusive Development Programme (ESPID). ESPID will further strengthen the gains and accomplishments of the CDGP.

We believe it's a new opportunity/platform to further get our projects achieved. The programme was held in Abuja on the 30th of September.

The HELPS Team held an online discourse on the 11th of November where we had rich and engaging discussions on social protection policy implementation in Nigeria. We had discussants from Kaduna and Lagos State who took us social protection policy implantation picking lessons from their various states. Our speakers were Barr. Ayo Adebusoye of Nigerian Network of NGOs and Mrs Saude Amina Atoyebi (Deputy Chief of Staff Kaduna State Government).

We had about 34 persons in attendance who took part in the webinar.

# AFRICA CIRCULAR ECONOMY RESEARCH AND POLICY NETWORK (ACERPIN)

Online Discourse Series- ACERPIN in collaboration with IMAGES had a monthly online discourse series every quarter of the year. The first edition was held on 14 January 2021.

### New Volunteer for communications unit -

There was a new volunteer for the communications unit. The new volunteer, Mr. Isaac Oritogun, assisted with the network's social media visibility. Network membership- the network now has a total of 373 members with a comprehensive list on the website

# (<a href="http://imagesinitiatives.org/acerpin/registered-members">http://imagesinitiatives.org/acerpin/registered-members</a>)

Introduction of membership numbers- members have been assigned membership numbers in the format A201900001, beginning with their year of registration. The Members and Board of IMAGES Initiative and ACERPIN are the first set of registered members.

Social media visibility- presently, ACERPIN has 123 and 174 followers on LinkedIn and Twitter, respectively. University of Ibadan, through ACERPIN, is in the process of getting profiled on the website of Ellen MacArthur Foundation to show its activities relating to Circular economy and Higher education space and other areas of collaboration



# AFRICA CIRCULAR ECONOMY RESEARCH AND POLICY NETWORK (ACERPIN)

- Talks are ongoing with the Brew-Hammond Energy Center to have members of ACERPIN have a short course/training on Renewable Energy before the year end.
- The network has been invited to various webinar series and workshops hosted by other Circular Economy related organizations such as the Association of Commonwealth Universities, CRESTING projects among others.
- Discussions are ongoing with Foot Prints Africa on possible area of partnership in their forthcoming project on measuring the impact and circularity of business initiatives as well as models of value creation.
- The Network was invited to participate at the forthcoming Nigeria Nordic event organized by the Embassy of Sweden & Business Sweden Middle East and Africa which came up November 30 2021



# AFRICA GREEN INNOVATION SCHOOL PROGRAMME (AGISP)

AGISP is designed for mentoring of pre tertiary student on the concept of Sustainable development goals across Africa.

#### **PROGRESS SO FAR ON AGISP 2021**

From the first edition in 2020 which was limited to public schools in Oyo state only, in which the activities was disrupted by the pandemic, We were able to adopt 7 projects from instructors who proceeded with their works amidst the pandemic and we are glad with the result so far.

2021 became a continental competition for the whole Africa Continent at large Awareness and Publicity kick started December2020 via our email list, Linkeldn, Twitter and other social media handles. Presently we have just one submissions from a school, this isn't encouraging as closing date is near Our flyers has been shared across platforms of the 214 unity schools in Nigeria All public secondary schools in Oyo state are also aware about the event Three schools were awarded certificate of recognition for participating in the 2021 AGISP School challenge. Thou there submission didn't meet the criterion for the event.

The schools awarded for recognition include

- ·Glisten International Academy.
- ·Asha International Academy
- ·African Model International School

# AFRICA GREEN INNOVATION SCHOOL PROGRAMME (AGISP)

Plans are in top gear for the Year 2022 Annual Green Innovation School Challenge as the official e-flyer is being shared on various social media platforms;

- We are liaising with the President, IMAGES on the possibility of having more collaborators and sponsors for the challenge.
- We have received 3 applications so far;
- We are gathering schools' information, so as to send bulk messages to introduce AGISC to them;
- We are also liasing with organisations and individuals who work closely with Secondary Schools, so they can introduce AGISC to as many Secondary schools they come in contact with



# MEDIA ACTIVITIES - TWITTER



## ACERPIN~Africa Circular Economy Research & Policy

@ACERPIN

Official Twitter Account for: ACERPIN A network of Scholars, Researchers, Practitioners and Policymakers in Africa.

Between January and March 2021, the ACERPin twitter handle has recorded a total of 656 engagements (likes, mentions and retweets) and 14,684 impressions (number of times people saw each tweet/post) with 18 posts.

Hashtags: #CircularityAfrica

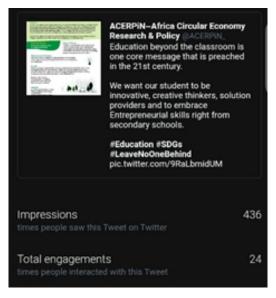
#CircularityAfricaConference #Africa4Circularity

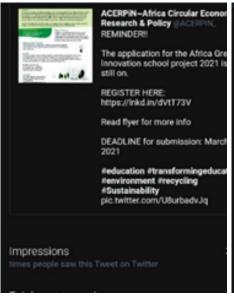
#AGMCPSeminarSeries #Education

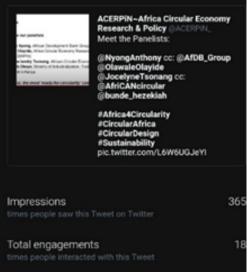
#LeaveNoOneBehind #CircularAfrica

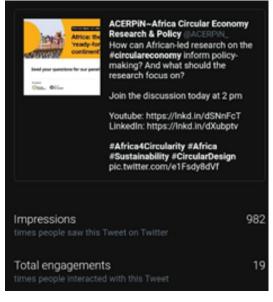
Analyze another account igoplus

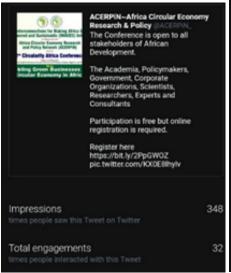
281 TOTAL TWEETS 174 FOLLOWERS 159 FOLLOWING



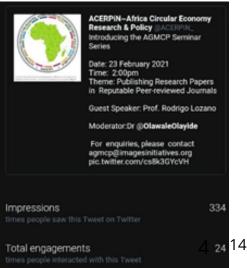












# MEDIA ACTIVITIES - LINKEDIN

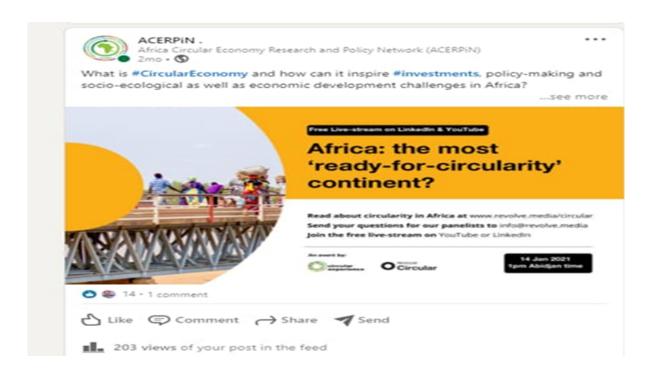
Between January and March 2021, the ACERPin's LinkedIn page has recorded 659 views and 38 engagements (likes and comments) with 129 connections and 131 followers



### ACERPIN .

Africa Circular Economy Research and Policy Network (ACERPIN)

Oyo, Nigeria · 129 connections · Contact info



# VISIT TO THE GOVERNOR OF OYO STATE



President IMAGES initiative Dr.Olawale Olayide with the executive governor of Oyo state Governor Seyi Makinde, December 2021



Team members of IMAGES initiative with the Executive Governor of Oyo state



Some IMAGES Initiative Team members



End of the year felicitations with some of the team members and their family members

### **ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Weekly online meeting: continued attendance of our virtual weekly meetings.
- AGMCP Fellows: One of our mentees received a scholarship from Orange Knowledge Programme managed by NUFFIC and funded by the Dutch ministry of foreign affairs,
- We were well represented at some virtual engagements in January 2021:
- REVOLVE AFRICA CONFERENCE: Dr. Olayide was one
  of the panelist at the event that brought about 900
  participants from all around the Africa Continent
  together to chart the course on Circular Economy.
- Sustainability Leadership Event held during 25-27 January 2021
- Network membership number on ACERPIN 301
  members (with a comprehensive list of members on
  the website.
- Completion of online Financial Innovation for Developing Economies course and selection of the Blum Global Fellows
- Mr IfeOluwa Olawale and Ms Fatima Umar are the two Blum Global Fellows (Nigerians) selected from the list of recommendation by IMAGES Initiative
- Successful hosting of circularity Africa Conference
   2021 with over 100 person onsite and online
- We had our first ever physical event with over 100 persons in attendance.
- Support from FES for Circularity AfricaConference 2021
- Mail subscribers Increased from 445 to 767
- Continuous support from individuals and organization for School garden project and tree planting exercise.
- Launch of Vegetable garden
- Commencement of tree planting exercise
- Increased number of volunteers who supported the conference planning

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Administrative support as the network is growing and engaging in more activities, there is the need to have more administrative support/volunteers.
- Continuous membership drive
- More internal and external collaboration

## 2022 UPDATE: CIRCULARITY AFRICA CONFERENCE 2022 MAY 11 - MAY 13TH 2022

- Registration is now opened for the third circularity Africa conference 2022 with theme "Paradoxes of Natural resources in Africa"
- Preparations are underway for the conference, fliers and adverts have been circulated. The theme for the conference is 'Paradoxes of Natural Resources in Africa'. It will be a hybrid conference allowing participants to attend both virtually and physical attendance. The keynote speakers, Dr. Sandra Caeiro from NOVA University of Lisbon, Portugal and Dr Daniel Sakyi from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana have also confirmed their participation. Ellen MacArthur Foundation has also shown their willingness to support towards the conference.
- Part-payment for International conference Centre, University of Ibadan and UI hotels Main conference hall 50% deposit



# 2022 UPDATE: AGMCP 2022 APPLICATION SUMMARY

### **Total No Applications received: 45**

Male 30

Female: 15

PhD 9

Masters 36

### **Application received from six countries**

- 1. Benin
- 2. Congolese (DRC)
- 3. Ghana
- 4. Kenya
- 5. Nigeria
- 6. Uganda



## Contact Us

## **Headquarters/Secretariat**

St. Anne's Hostel, Barth Road, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

Website www.imagesinitiatives.org

## **Email**

info@imagesinitiatives.org president@imagesinitiatives.org

WhatsApp +2348082440457, +23480335973449