

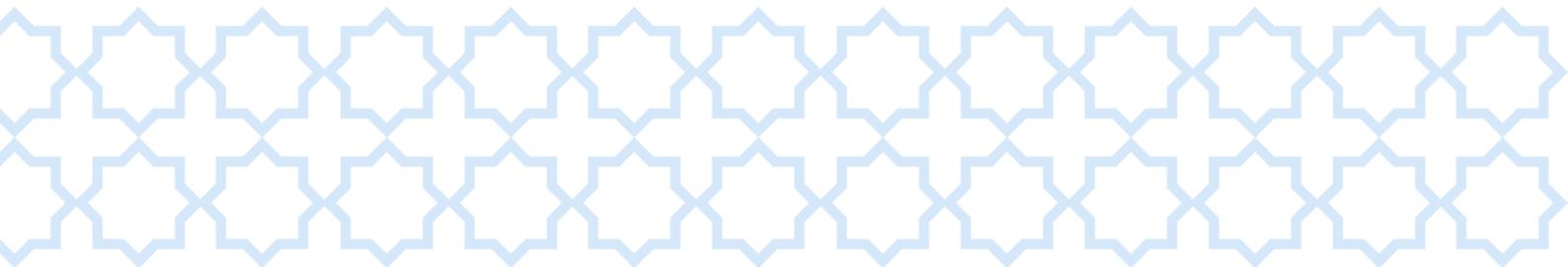


INTERNATIONAL
OPEN UNIVERSITY
WWW.IOU.EDU.GM



1MAS
Million African Scholarships
FALL 2025 REPORT

Introduction	1	Testimonials - Students	41
Statistics	3	Testimonials - Graduates	44
Our Team	5	Sponsorship Opportunity	47
1MAS Countries	7	Contact Information	49
1MAS Student Committees	8		
1MAS Student Summary	9		
1MAS Learning Centers	10		
List of Centers	11		
Cameroon	12		
Eswatini	13		
Gambia	15		
Ghana	17		
Liberia	18		
Malawi	19		
Mozambique	23		
Nigeria	24		
Sierra Leone	35		
Tanzania	36		
Uganda	37		
Zambia	38		
Zimbabwe	40		

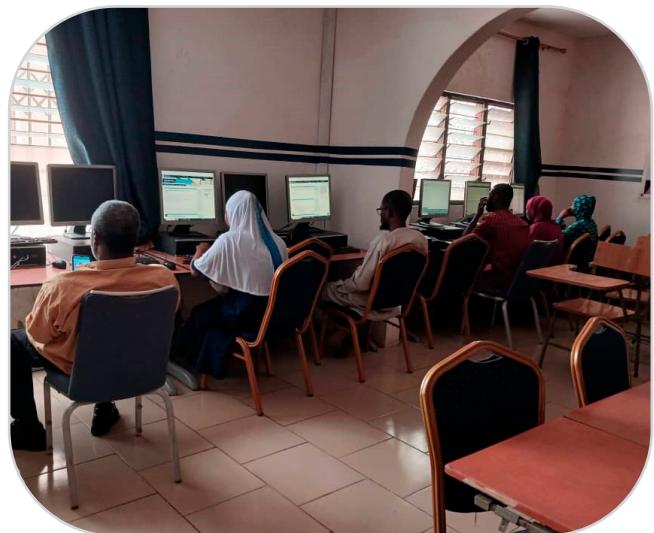


Introduction

The International Open University (IOU) is an accredited online university founded in 2001 by Dr. Abu Ameenah Bilal Philips. IOU's mission is to make authentic Islamic knowledge readily available and it endeavors to strengthen the capabilities of African youth through the provision of quality higher education. Earning a university degree helps disadvantaged students create a beneficial livelihood for themselves and in turn others, as well as empowers them adequately to work towards the eradication of poverty in their communities.

In 2017, IOU launched the 1 Million African Scholarships (1MAS) project with the aim of educating one million student in Africa and its diaspora. Alhamdulillaah, within 8 years we have reached 30 countries and have offered bachelor degree scholarships to almost 7,000 students.

We've granted scholarships across Algeria, Botswana, Cameroon, Egypt, Eswatini (Swaziland), Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Zambia, Vanuatu, and Zimbabwe. Currently, 35 1MAS personnel are overseeing the 1MAS operations across Africa and the African diasporas.



Purpose

The ultimate purpose of the 1MAS project is to build and develop the capacities of the African poor, the deprived, and the underprivileged populations to acquire relevant education that will enable them to lead a productive and prosperous life and livelihood to transform individual, family and community modelled on the profitable economic and sustainable development approach. It must also be understood that the 1MAS Scholarship project is overwhelmingly contributing to the United Nation's resolve of the right to education which revolves around availability, accessibility, acceptability, and adaptability.

Goals and Objectives

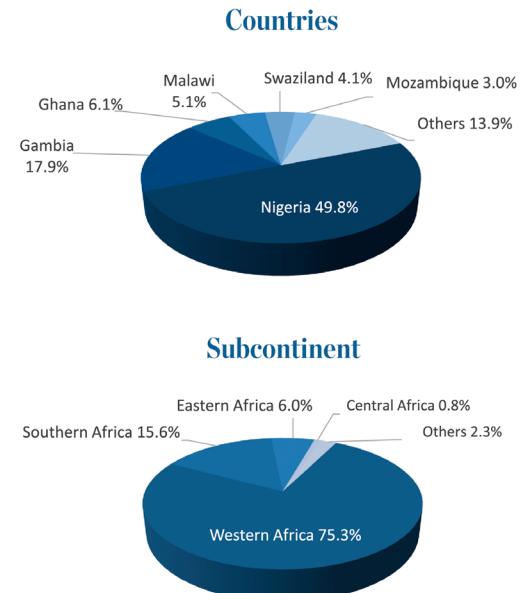
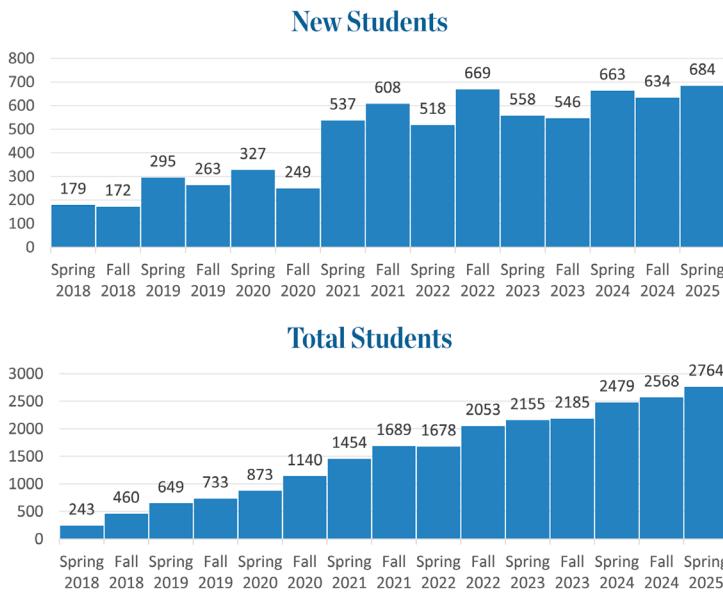
The 1MAS project is an IOU initiative that provides scholarships to determined students who need more financial capability to fund higher education. Article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966) advocates state parties' transition into free education, which depends on state parties' commitments. In this regard, the International Open University has championed to advance and implement the global call for providing free education is the 1MAS project.

In its commitment to change the world through education, the International Open University endeavours to strengthen African youth's capacities for an improved, sustainable, productive, and economically viable life. The realisation and exploration of the potential of the African youth population will ultimately contribute to the growth and socio-economic development of the continent. In this endeavour, the International Open university has built numerous learning centres in 12 countries for young people to access this rare opportunity that will subsequently improve individual, family and community quality of life and livelihoods.

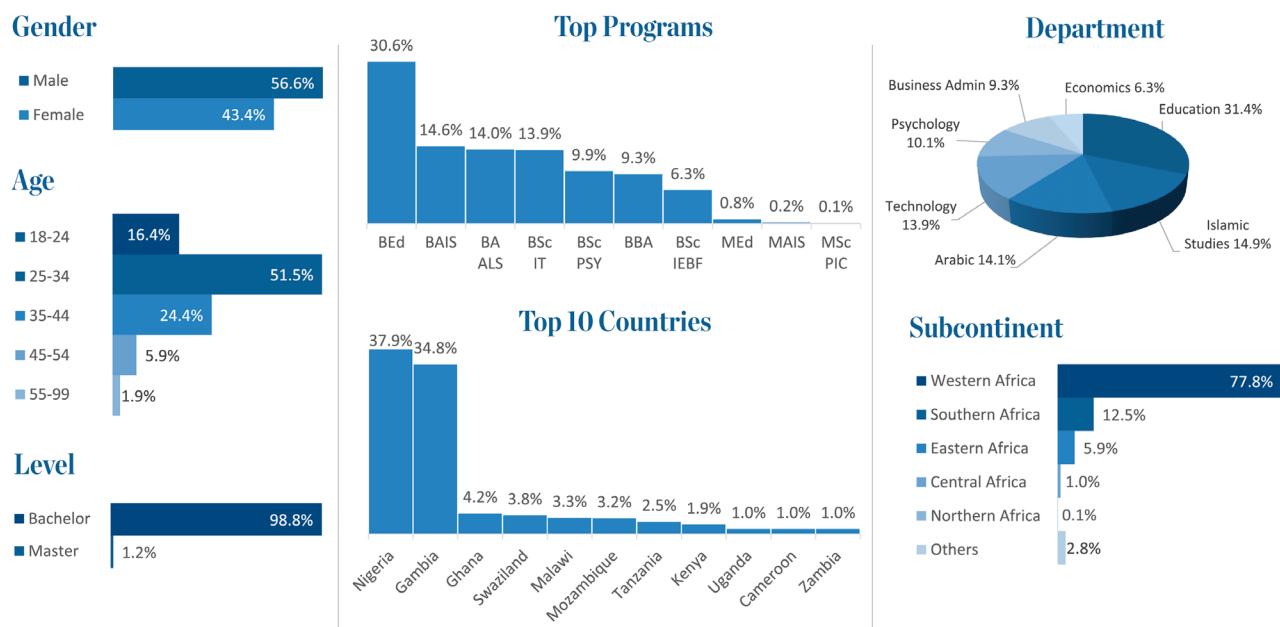


Statistics

Overview



Current Students (2,250)

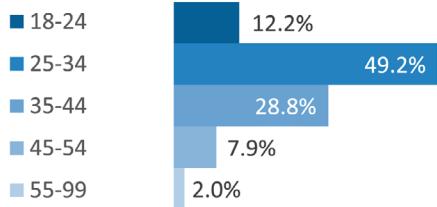


Graduate Students (596)

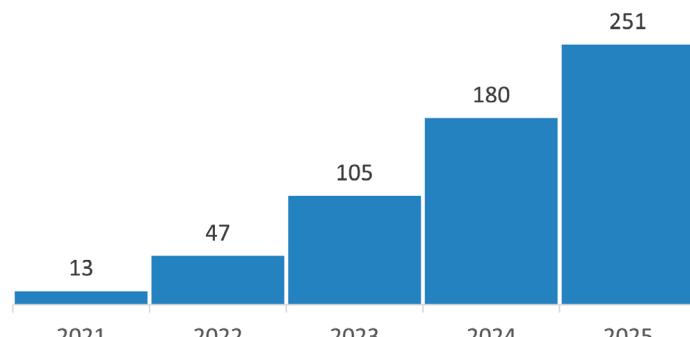
Gender



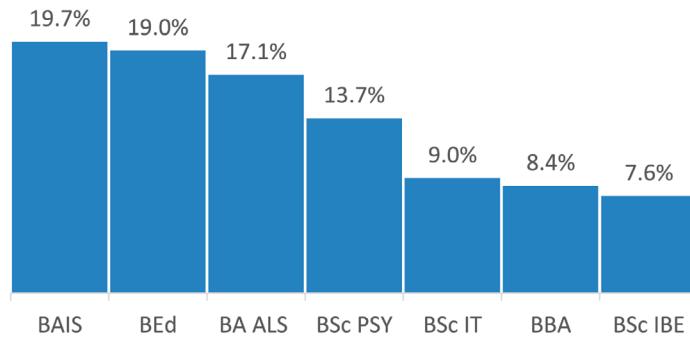
Age



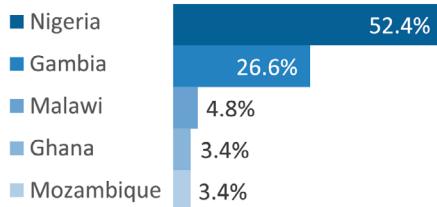
Year



Program



Top 5 Countries





Our Team

Supervisor

The scope of the Supervisor covers many aspects of the project like the strategic development, financial analysis, establishing the governing policies, level-one approvals, ensuring procedural compliance, and central student performance evaluation, etc.

Representatives

The Representative ensures development of the project in a country and monitors overall functionality of the local learning centers. This includes local collaborations, legal engagements, local learning center facilitation, and student retention. Currently, 17 active Representatives are deployed in 14 countries.

Center Managers

The role of a Center Manager is to ensure smooth running of the learning center and to provide complete support to the active students; it includes day-to-day operations of the center and routine administrative support. To operate Centers across Africa, 21 Managers are actively working under the 1MAS project.

SUPERVISOR

MOHAMMED SHAJIUDDIN

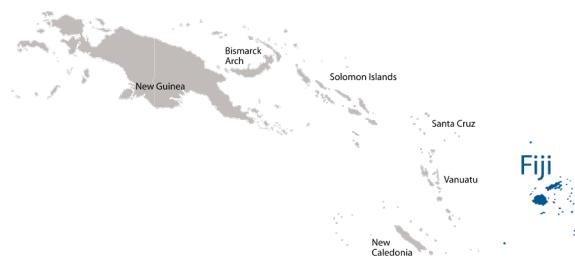
COUNTRY	REPRESENTATIVE	REGIONS	CENTER MANAGER
CAMEROON	BR. ABDULLAH	YAOUNDE	BR. ABDULLAH
ESWATINI	SR. NAZEERAH	MANZINI	SR. NAZEERAH
		NHLANGANO	BR. ISSA
GAMBIA	BR. SEDIKE	HQ	BR. CAMARA
		SOMA	BR. SAIN
GHANA	BR. SAMUDEEN	TAMALE	BR. YAMUSAH
KENYA	BR. ABDUL NASER	NAIROBI	NONE
LIBERIA	BR. ISHMAEL	MONROVIA	BR. ISHMAEL
MALAWI	BR. KACHALA	ZOMBA	BR. QASIM
		LILONGWE	BR. KASINDE
		MANGOCHI	BR. MUSTAFA
		BLANTYRE	BR. KACHALA
MOZAMBIQUE	BR. LOBOS	ANGOCHE	BR. LOBOS
NIGERIA	BR. ABDULLAH & BR. MURTADHA	LAGOS	BR. MURTADHA
		ILORIN	BR. ABDUL HAKEEM
		OGBOMOSHO	SR. JEMILAT
		OSHOGBO	BR. IBIKUNLE
		SULEJA	SR. FATHIMA
		ZARIA	BR. ABDUL QADIR
		KADUNA	SR. UMME ASMA
		JIGAWA	BR. SADIQ
		MUBI	BR. RASHEED
		YOLA	BR. AYUBA
		JOS	BR. GATA
			BR. DAHIRU
SIERRA LEONE	BR. IBRAHIM	FREETOWN	BR. IBRAHIM
TANZANIA	BR. SALUM	PEMBA	BR. MUSTAFA
UGANDA	BR. ABDULLAH	KAMPALA	BR. ABDULLAH
ZAMBIA	BR. BILAL	LUSAKA	BR. BILAL
	BR. HASSAN	KITWE	BR. HASSAN
ZIMBABWE	BR. SHAIBU	HARARE	BR. SHAIBU

1MAS Countries

The countries highlighted in the map below are the beneficiaries of the 1MAS project.



Melanesia



The Caribbean



1MAS Student Committees

Student Committee is a panel where nominated students collaborate and work to accommodate IOU students in a region. Therefore, regional Student Committees work together to assist local students with their studies and allied activities - below is the list of 1MAS student committees:

SR.	COUNTRY	CHAIRPERSON
1	ESWATINI	Br Mohammed Khadir Uthman
2	ETHIOPIA	Br Abdullahi Noor
3	GAMBIA	Br Tijan Loum
4	GHANA	Br Abdul Rahman Issaka - Ghana (Eastern Zone) Br Alhassan Abdul Malik - Ghana (Middle Zone) Br Djibril Batadja - (Northern Zone) Sr Asmau Musah - (Western Zone)
5	JAMAICA	Br Malik Blake
6	KENYA	Sr Manal Abdulrahman
7	NIGERIA	Br Yusuf Sanni Brothers Committee Chairperson Nigeria (Lagos) Sr Shonekan Khadijah Sisters Committee Chairperson Nigeria (Lagos) Sr Khadija Ibrahim Committee Chairperson Nigeria (North West) Br Aminu Yahaya Brothers Committee Chairperson Nigeria (North Central) Sr Hauwa Lami Jibril Sisters Committee Chairperson Nigeria (North Central) Sr Raliat Afolabi Sisters Committee Chairperson Nigeria (South West) Br Bashir Oyegbola Brothers Committee Chairperson Nigeria (South West) Sr. Maryam Ali Jamila Sisters Committee Chairperson Nigeria (Plateau) Br. Aliyu Hassan Ardo Brothers Committee Chairperson Nigeria (North-East)
8	SOMALIA	Sr Hibaq Mohamed
9	SOUTH AFRICA	Sr Nabeela Paleker
10	TANZANIA	Br Abdallah Mchenga
11	UGANDA	Br Jabbar Yunus
12	ZAMBIA	Br Alex Mwewa
13	ZIMBABWE	Sr Aleena Mlotshwa Belinda

1MAS Student Summary

Following is a breakdown of the students who have been granted scholarships under the 1MAS project since the scholarship scheme was introduced in 2017.

COUNTRY	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
ALGERIA	0	1	1
BOTSWANA	2	0	2
CAMEROON	40	23	63
ESWATINI	121	165	286
EGYPT	1	3	4
ETHIOPIA	16	10	26
FJJI	2	1	3
GAMBIA	913	577	1,490
GHANA	328	114	442
JAMAICA	0	2	2
KENYA	78	48	126
LIBERIA	4	0	4
LIBYA	1	0	1
MALAWI	293	88	381
MAURITIUS	0	3	3
MOROCCO	2	0	2
MOZAMBIQUE	197	12	209
NAMIBIA	1	0	1
NIGERIA	2,035	1,488	3,523
RWANDA	15	7	22
SIERRA LEONE	81	13	94
SOMALIA	14	19	33
SOUTH AFRICA	26	33	59
SUDAN	1	0	1
TANZANIA	57	32	89
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	1	0	1
UGANDA	134	34	168
VANUATU	2	3	5
ZAMBIA	73	38	111
ZIMBABWE	45	22	67
TOTAL	4,483	2,736	7,219

1MAS Learning Centers



Fiji



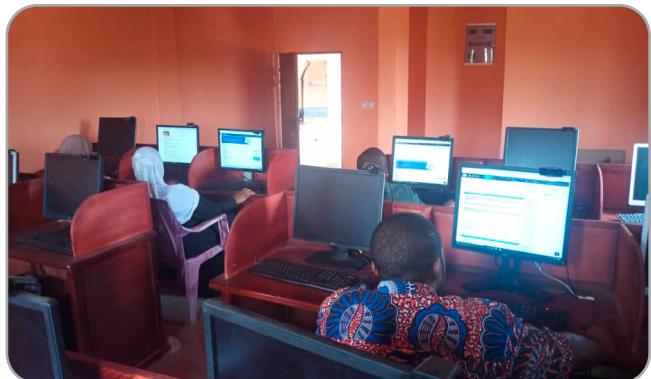
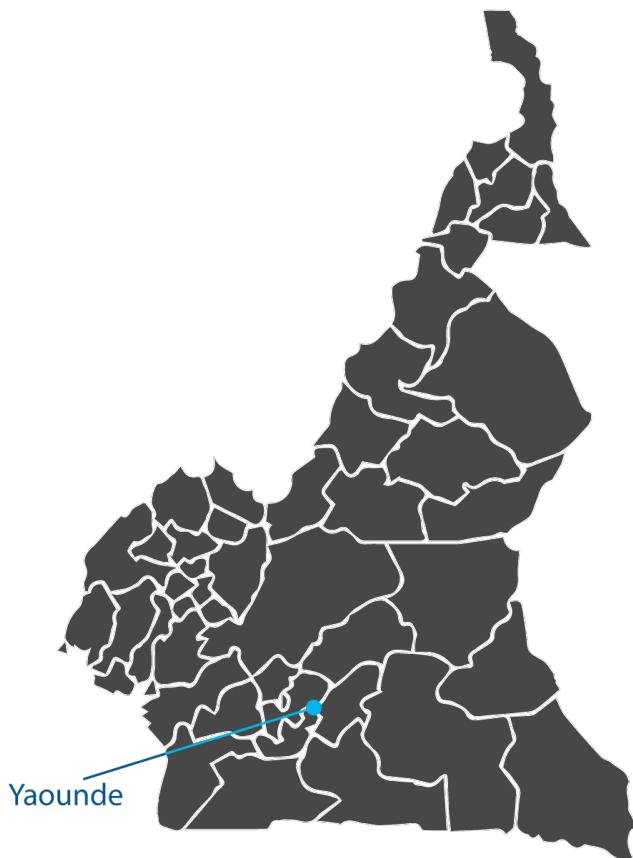
10

List of Centers

The table below shows the region-wise 1MAS centers along with the details of the active students as of the current semester.

SR.	COUNTRY	CENTER	ACTIVE STUDENTS
1	Cameroon	Yaounde	21
2	Eswatini	Manzini	49
		Nhlangano	37
3	GAMBIA	HQ	653
		Soma	81
4	GHANA	Accra	61
		Tamale	33
5	Liberia	Monrovia	3
6	MALAWI	Zomba	18
		Lilongwe	7
		Mangochi	11
		Blantyre	38
7	MOZAMBIQUE	Angoche	72
8	NIGERIA	Lagos	82
		Ilorin	35
		Ogbomosho	13
		Oshogbo	72
		Suleja	47
		Zaria	77
		Kaduna	23
		Jigawa	36
		Mubi	7
		Yola	43
		Jos	403
9	SIERRA LEONE	Freetown	16
10	TANZANIA	Pemba	57
11	UGANDA	Kampala	22
12	Vanuatu	Port Vila	1
13	ZAMBIA	Lusaka	18
		Kitwe	3
14	ZIMBABWE	Harare	16

Cameroon



IOU-YAOUNDE

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAAH
REGION	YAOUNDE, CAMEROON
CENTER MANAGER	BR. ABDULLAAH
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	21
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	AUGUST 2023

Eswatini



IOU-MANZINI

REPRESENTATIVE	SR. NAZEERAH
REGION	MANZINI, ESWATINI
CENTER MANAGER	SR. NAZEERAH
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	49
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	MARCH 2019

Eswatini



IOU-NHLANGANO

REPRESENTATIVE	SR. NAZEERAH
REGION	NHLANGANO, ESWATINI
CENTER MANAGER	SR. JEMILAT
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	37
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	JUNE 2023

Gambia

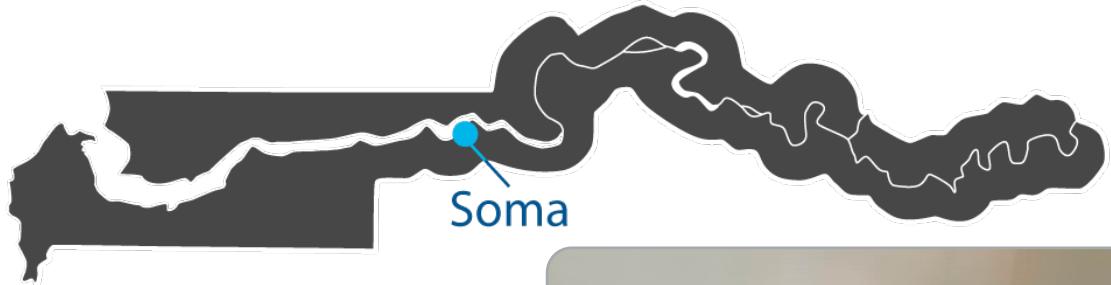
Kanifing South



IOU HQ

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. SEDIKI
REGION	KANIFING SOUTH, GAMBIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. CAMARA
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	653
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2017

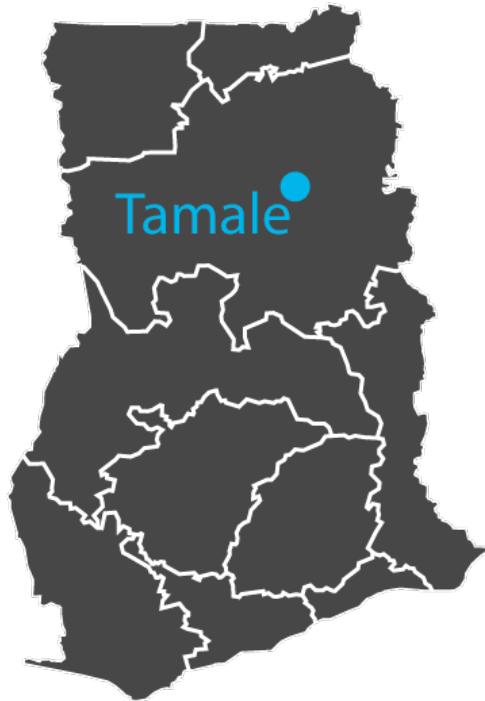
Gambia



IOU LEARNING CENTER – SOMA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. SEDIKI
REGION	SOMA, GAMBIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. SAINÉ
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	81
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	NOVEMBER 2022

Ghana



IOU-TAMALE

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. SAMUDEEN
REGION	TAMALE, GHANA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. YAMUSAH
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	33
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	JANUARY 2023

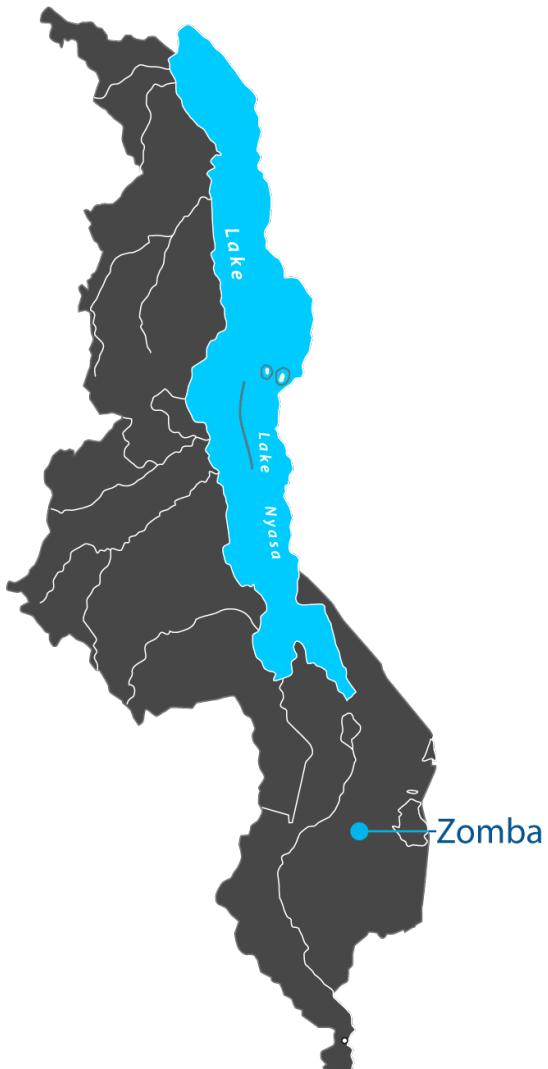
Liberia



IOU-MONROVIA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ISHMAEL
REGION	MONROVIA, LIBERIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. ISHMAEL
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	3
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	JULY 2023

Malawi



IOU-ZOMBA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. KACHALA
REGION	ZOMBA, MALAWI
CENTER MANAGER	BR. QASIM
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	18
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2018

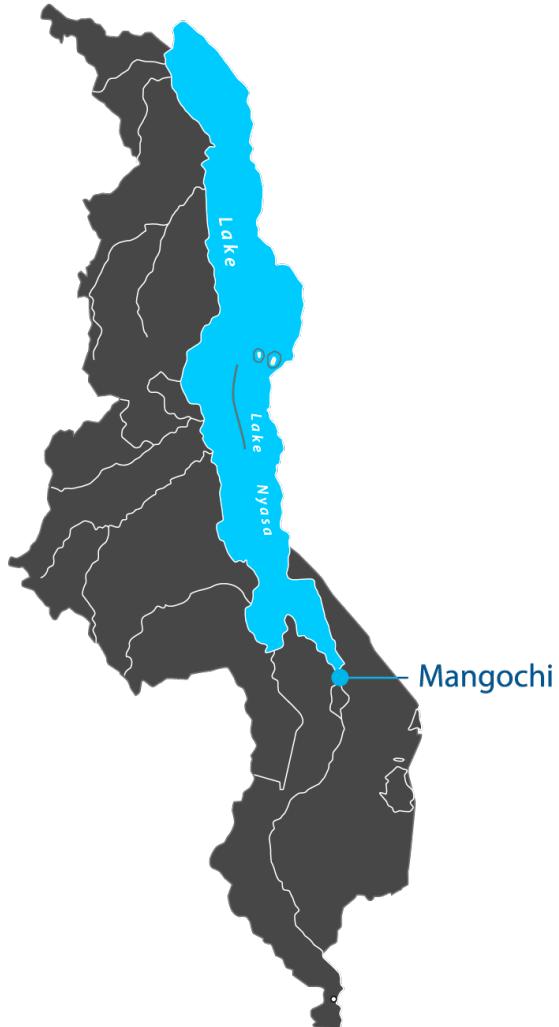
Malawi



IOU-LILONGWE

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. KACHALA
REGION	LILONGWE, MALAWI
CENTER MANAGER	BR. KASINDE
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	7
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2018

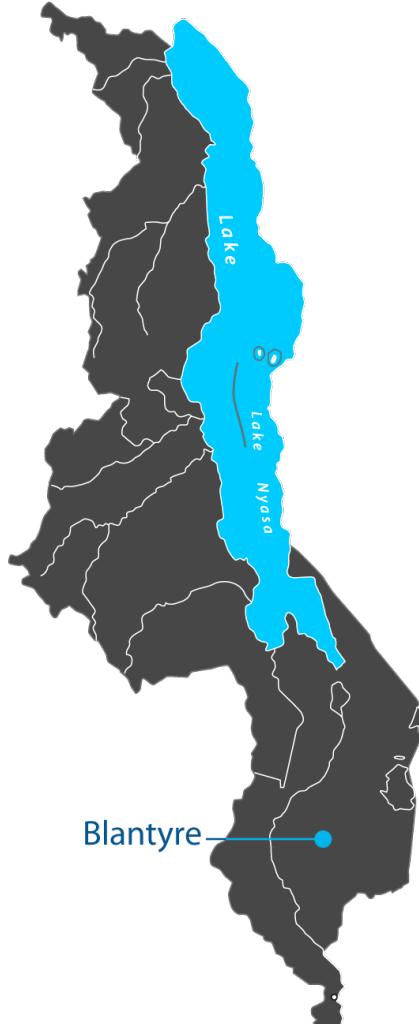
Malawi



IOU-MAMA KHADIJA CENTER

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. KACHALA
REGION	MANGOCHI, MALAWI
CENTER MANAGER	BR. MUSTAFA
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	11
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2018

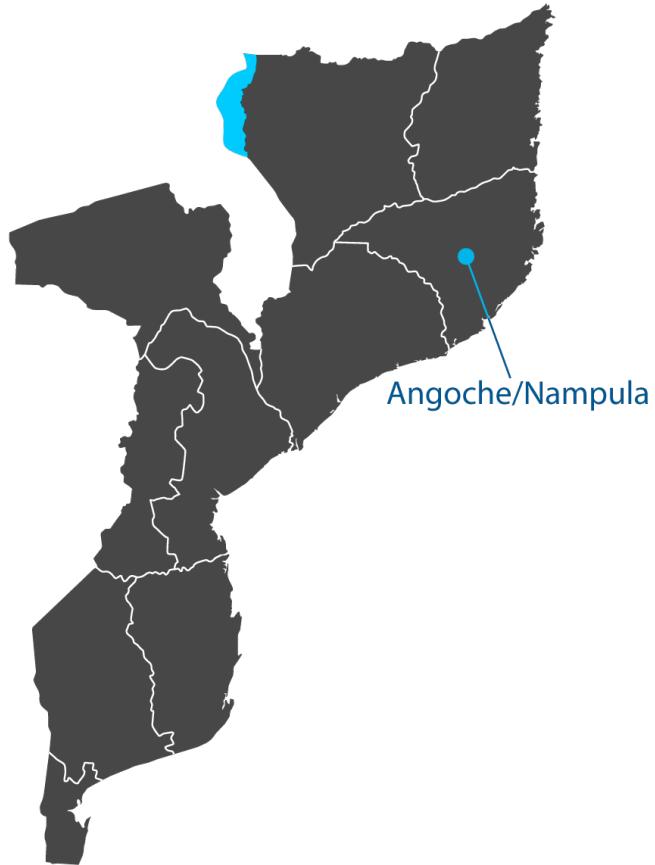
Malawi



IOU BLANTYRE

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. KACHALA
REGION	BLANTYRE, MALAWI
CENTER MANAGER	BR. KACHALA
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	38
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2018

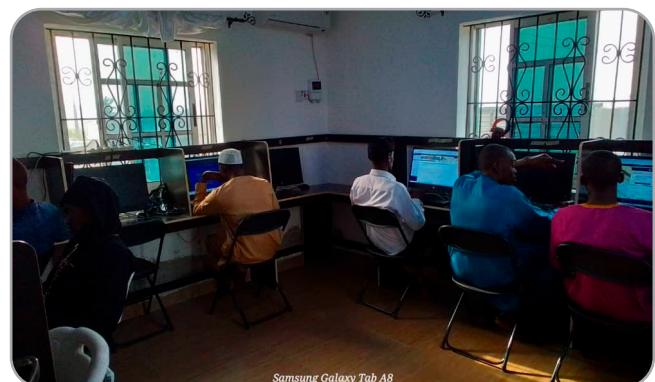
Mozambique



IOU-CISLAMO-ANGOCHE

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. LOBOS
REGION	ANGOCHE, MOZAMBIQUE
CENTER MANAGER	BR. LOBOS
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	72
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	MARCH 2020

Nigeria



IOU-LAGOS

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. MURTADHA
REGION	LAGOS, NIGERIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. MURTADHA
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	82
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	APRIL 2019

Nigeria



IOU-MUBI

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
CENTER MANAGER	MUBI, NIGERIA
REGION	BR. UMAR
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	7
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2021

Nigeria



IOU-ZARIA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
REGION	ZARIA, NIGERIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. ABDUL QADIR
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	77
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2021

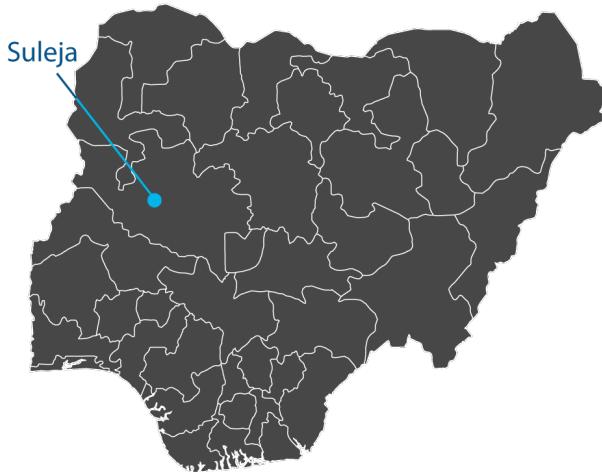
Nigeria



IOU-OSOGBO

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
REGION	OSOGBO, NIGERIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. IBIKUNLE
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	72
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	MARCH 2020

Nigeria



IOU-SULEJA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
REGION	SULEJA, NIGERIA
CENTER MANAGER	SR. FATIMA
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	47
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2020

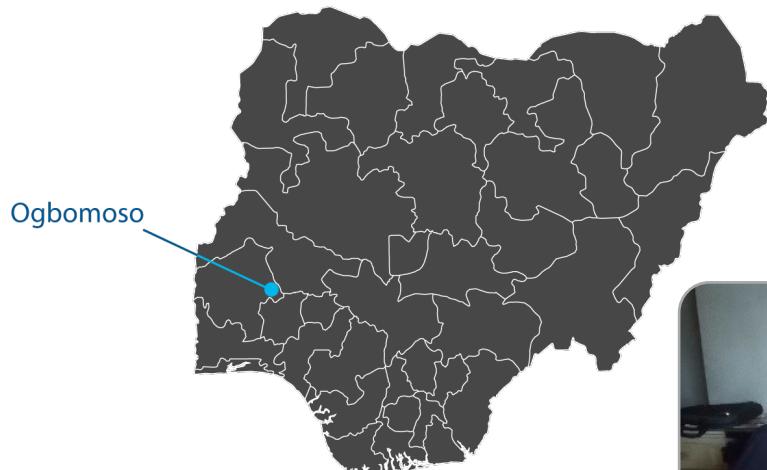
Nigeria



IOU-JOS

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
REGION	JOS, NIGERIA
CENTER MANAGER	SR. AUWAL & GATA
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	403
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	MARCH 2019

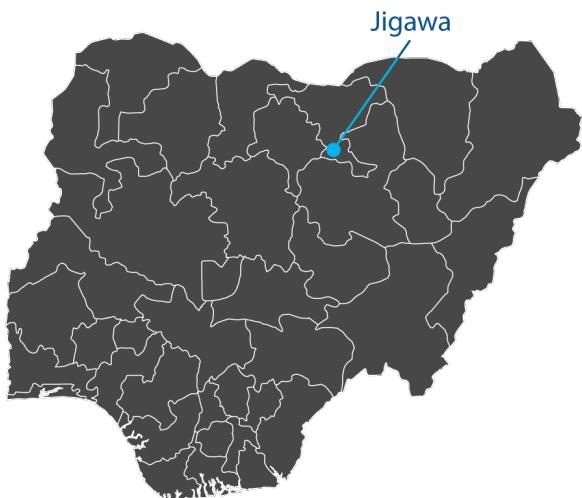
Nigeria



IOU-OGBOMOSO

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
REGION	OGBOMOSO, NIGERIA
CENTER MANAGER	SR. JEMILAT
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	13
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	MARCH 2018

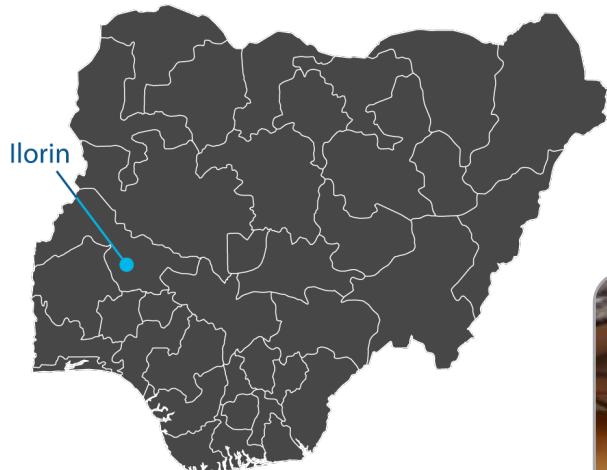
Nigeria



IOU-JIGAWA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
REGION	JIGAWA, NIGERIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. SADIQ
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	36
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2020

Nigeria



IOU - ILORIN	
REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
REGION	ILORIN, NIGERIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. ABDUL AKEEM
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	35
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2022

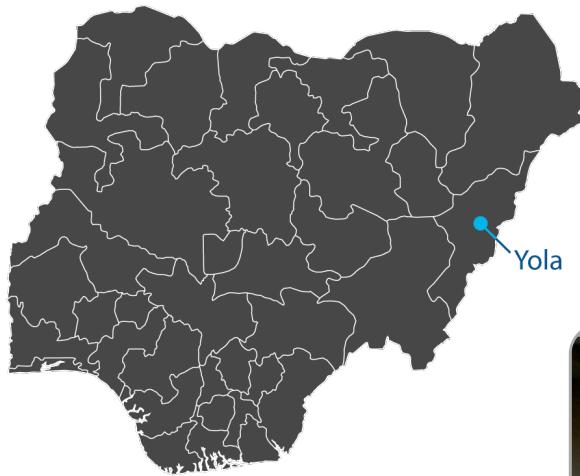
Nigeria



IOU-KADUNA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
REGION	KADUNA, NIGERIA
CENTER MANAGER	SR. LATEEFA
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	23
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2021

Nigeria



IOU-YOLA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
REGION	YOLA, NIGERIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. AYUBA
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	43
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	AUGUST 2023

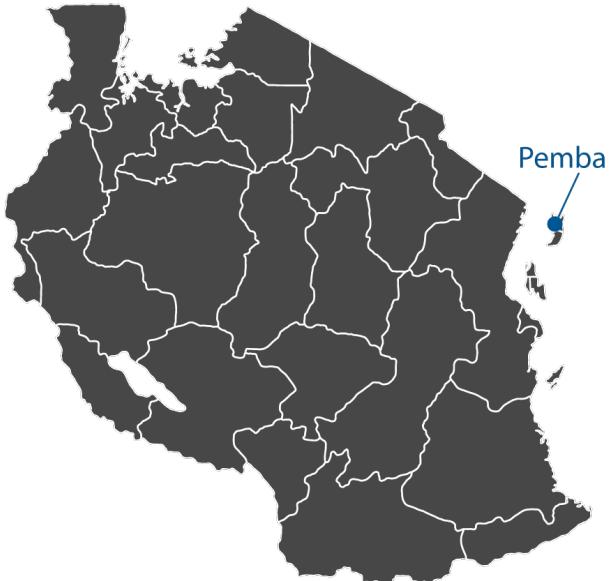
Sierra Leone



IOU-FREETOWN

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. IBRAHIM
REGION	FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE
CENTER MANAGER	BR. IBRAHIM
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	16
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	SEPTEMBER 2018

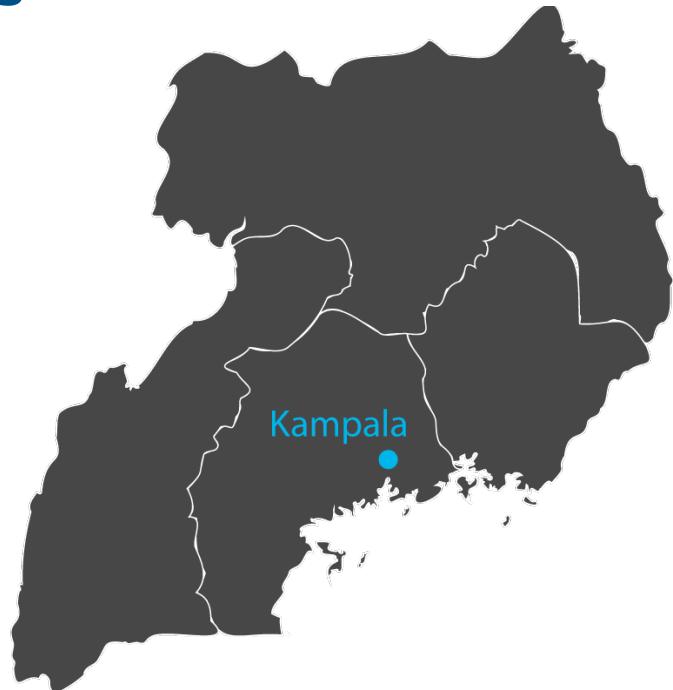
Tanzania



IOU-PEMBA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. SALUM
REGION	PEMBA, TANZANIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. MUSTAFA
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	57
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	FEBRUARY 2023

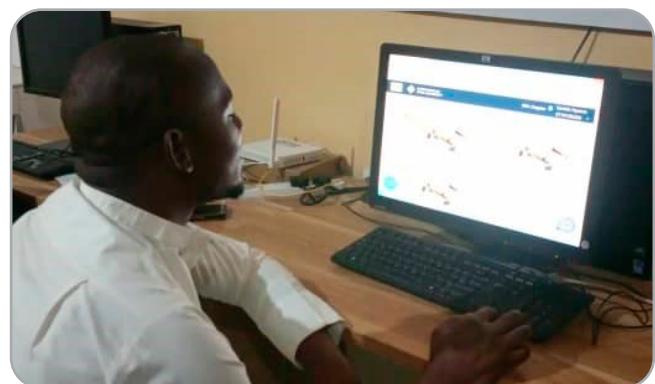
Uganda



IOU-KAMPALA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. ABDULLAH
REGION	KAMPALA, UGANDA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. ABDULLAH
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	22
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	AUGUST 2023

Zambia



IOU-LUSAKA

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. BILAL
REGION	LUSAKA, ZAMBIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. BILAL
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	18
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	MARCH 2022

Zambia



IOU-KITWE

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. HASSAN
REGION	KITWE, ZAMBIA
CENTER MANAGER	BR. HASSAN
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	3
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	MARCH 2022

Zimbabwe



IOU-HARARE

REPRESENTATIVE	BR. SHAIBU
REGION	HARARE, ZIMBABWE
CENTER MANAGER	BR. SHAIBU
STATUS	ACTIVE
ACTIVE STUDENTS	16
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	MARCH 2019

Testimonials - Students



Alkali Jallow

I was born into a large family of farmers and shepherds in The Gambia, among the first generation in my family to attend school. Modern education was not valued in my community, and throughout my primary years I had to combine schooling with farming and rearing cattle. At secondary level, the challenges increased as I studied far from home, facing hunger, stress, and fatigue. What kept me going was my parents' sacrifice, my faith in Allah, and the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), who encouraged the pursuit of knowledge.

Coming from a very poor family, every step of my journey required sacrifice. During my secondary school years, I suffered a broken leg, and my parents had no means to pay for treatment. My mother sold her cultural belongings, and my father sold his only bicycle to support my recovery. Their sacrifices remain one of my greatest motivations.

Despite hardship, I have always been active in serving my community. I initiated youth reconciliation through sports, helped establish a football club that united divided youths, and later contributed my technical skills to convert our village well into a borehole, easing the community's water challenges.

The IOU 1MAS Scholarship did not change my perspective; it strengthened it. It reaffirmed my belief in helping others for the sake of Allah and enabled me to pursue education with purpose. I believe this opportunity was destined, and I pray that Allah continues to bless IOU and all those supporting students like me to benefit the Ummah through knowledge and service.

Stream : Bachelors in Psychology (Spring 2025)

Country : Gambia



Usman Magaji

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh,

My name is Usman Magaji, from one of the oldest villages in Zaria, called Awai, Kaduna State, Nigeria. I come from a very poor family of 23 with less hope, and as the eldest, the responsibility of my siblings weighs heavily on me because all my parents are old enough. In our entire village, it is rare to find up to 5 degree holders the highest level of education most people attain is secondary certificate or a diploma.

I am a married man with four children. After completing my secondary school, it became almost impossible for me to further my studies due to financial hardship. I had to quit studying and struggled to provide for my family and my siblings as well as my two old parents. But Alhamdulillah, the IOU 1MAS Scholarship through the Zaria Learning Centre revived my hope. Without this support, I could not have taken even a single step forward in my educational journey. May Allah continue to assist, bless, and uplift IOU for this life changing opportunity.

I humbly appeal to the Management of IOU to kindly assist me in continuing my education through sponsorship, so that my hope remains alive and my dreams can be fulfilled, In sha Allah.

My Journey at IOU

I first learned about the IOU 1MAS program in 2024 through a friend who was also a student of IOU. I applied for the scholarship and, by Allah's will, I was enrolled in the Foundations of Islamic Studies Part 1 & 2 under the supervision of the Zaria Centre Manager an exceptionally kind person.

Through these introductory courses, I gained a lot of knowledge, especially in matters related to "Aqeedah". IOU opened my eyes in ways I had never imagined. After successfully completing the exams, I was admitted into the BSc IEBF program in spring 2025. Alhamdulillah, I am now in my second semester, learning under renowned international scholars. The knowledge I have acquired so far has already started benefiting me, and I believe, by Allah's will, it will continue to shape my future. My dream is to become an entrepreneur, and with the knowledge I am acquiring from IOU, I am already seeing how it will help me build a brighter future for myself, my family, and my community at large.

Finally, my deepest Appreciation goes to Dr. Bilal Philips, for founding this prestigious university and opening its doors to poor and less privileged like me through the IOU 1MAS program I also extend my heartfelt appreciation to all the donors who make this scholarship possible. May Allah reward you all abundantly with Jannah and continue to bless your noble work.

Stream : Bachelors in Economics & Finance (Spring 2025)

Country : Nigeria



Uthman Bwanali

Assalaamu alaikum,

My name is Uthman Bwanali from Katema Village, Mangochi District, Malawi, central Africa. I was born in 1994 and I come from a very poor family. My father has 4 wives and 16 children. Though my father had 4 wives, financially he was not stable and raising 16 children was not an easy task for him. Alhamdulillah despite all problems I faced, Allah made it easy for me to pass well my secondary school examinations and I got good grades to qualify for entry into university.

In 2025 I was selected to join Zanzibar University however, I failed to join it as my parents could not afford paying fees for me. I lost hope of attaining tertiary education and I joined a local Islamic college where I did Diploma in Islamic Studies to become a Muallim just to try to get a simple job to assist my family. It had always been my dua that one day I should achieve a dream of getting a bachelor's degree however, poverty taught me that it is powerful to derail one's dream.

Fast forward, International Open University came to my rescue with an opportunity of scholarship. IOU is the answer to dua. It has taught me not give up in life. Alhamdulillah Allah gave us a religion and Muslims who have a heart of availing fellow believers from situations they cannot afford on their own.

I never thought that I would join a very powerful and accredited university like IOU at some point in my life. Alhamdulillah my future looks brighter now. May Allah reward Dr. Bilal and everyone taking part in assisting the poor with this authentic knowledge and scholarships. Aameen.

Barakallaahu feekum!

Stream : Bachelors in Arabic Language (Spring 2025)

Country : Malawi

Testimonials - Graduates



Josephin Masadeh

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuhu!

My name is Josephin, and I am a spring 2025 graduate of the International Open University.

The 1MAS Scholarship gave me a chance when I had none. I come from a very needy background. I lost my mother and grew up without my father, and I was raised by my grandmother with no financial support for my education. University once felt like an impossible dream.

Through the support of the IOU 1MAS Scholarship, I was able to study at the International Open University. Today, I am committed to giving back to the society by using my education to serve and uplift others. This scholarship did not only change my academic path but it transformed my life and empowered me to be a source of hope in my community. For that, I am truly grateful and prayed for its continued success to support more needy students.

Jazak Allahu Khairan.

Stream : Bachelors in Psychology (Graduate)

Country : Gambia



Suleiman Ibrahim

Assalamu alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.

I come from a background where access to structured and quality higher education once felt unattainable. Before receiving the IOU 1MAS Scholarship, pursuing a university degree seemed like a distant dream due to financial limitations.

Through the IOU 1MAS Scholarship, that barrier was removed. Studying Psychology at IOU, grounded in Islamic principles, has transformed both my academic journey and personal life. The program deepened my understanding of the human mind while linking mental health with spiritual well-being. This unique perspective has brought clarity, balance, and inner peace.

Beyond personal growth, the knowledge I gained has equipped me to serve my community better. I now contribute to mental health awareness from an Islamic perspective, offer guidance, and help reduce stigma while promoting holistic well-being within the Ummah.

I am deeply grateful to the Founder of IOU, Dr. Abu Ameenah Bilal Philips, for making authentic Islamic education accessible. I also appreciate the efforts of the 1MAS leadership, national representatives, study center managers, sponsors, especially GOLF, and everyone behind the success of this noble initiative.

The IOU 1MAS Scholarship has been more than financial support. It has been an investment in my ability to serve, heal, and benefit the Ummah, insha'Allah.

Jazakumullahu khairan

Stream : Bachelors in Psychology (Graduate)

Country : Nigeria



Deen Namweto

My academic journey at the International Open University (IOU) from September 2021 to August 2025 has been one of the most transformative experiences of my life. As a student from Zimbabwe, pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Islamic Economics, Banking and Finance, I gained not only academic knowledge but also a deeper understanding of ethical financial systems rooted in Islamic principles.

Receiving the 1 Million African Scholarship (1MAS) was a turning point that made this opportunity possible. The scholarship removed financial barriers that would have otherwise limited my access to higher education. It allowed me to focus fully on my studies, engage with course materials, and participate actively in IOU's global learning community. This support strengthened my commitment to academic excellence and inspired me to contribute meaningfully to the development of ethical and sustainable financial solutions in Africa.

Throughout my studies, IOU provided a rich curriculum that combined theoretical foundations with practical applications. I benefited immensely from courses covering Islamic banking, financial jurisprudence, macro- and microeconomics, risk management, and the principles of Sharia-compliant finance. The university's emphasis on integrity, discipline, and service to humanity shaped my worldview and prepared me to approach economic challenges with both analytical skill and moral responsibility.

Studying in a flexible online environment also taught me discipline, time management, and self-motivation-skills that are essential in both academic and professional settings. The diverse student body broadened my perspective and helped me appreciate the global relevance of Islamic finance, especially in emerging markets like Zimbabwe.

The knowledge and values I gained at IOU have equipped me to contribute to the growth of ethical financial systems, promote financial inclusion, and support community-centered economic development. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity, the scholarship, and the guidance I received throughout my studies.

My journey at IOU has strengthened my identity as a student, a professional, and a member of the African community committed to positive change.

Stream : Bachelors in Economics & Finance (Graduate)

Country : Zimbabwe

Sponsorship Opportunity

An IOU initiative requires IOU funding which needs the unwavering support and assistance of individuals, philanthropists, organisations, and donors to step up their commitments for a successful implementation of this project. The successful implementation of this project means a change in the lives and livelihoods of more than a million African people. A difference in the lives of a million African people subsequently reduces the burden of poverty and its underlying factors leading to its ultimate eradication. Commitments and assistance to the International Open University are greatly appreciated, respected and valued; the change envisioned can only be properly implemented by soliciting unreserved benevolence.

Sponsor a Student

The 1MAS sponsorship model allows donors to support a student at different stages of their academic journey, from a single semester to the completion of a full degree. This flexible structure enables individuals and organizations to contribute based on their capacity while ensuring continuous academic support for deserving students. Each contribution directly helps reduce financial barriers and supports long-term educational impact.

SPONSOR A STUDENT	COST (USD)
One Semesters	200
2 Semesters	400
Two Years	800
Three Years	1,200
Four Years	1,600
Graduation Fee	100
Total	\$1,700

Establishing a Center

The below is a one-time cost for establishing a 1MAS learning center in an African country, with a capacity of approximately 50 students. The cost-range mentioned is developed after thoroughly reviewing the market in different African regions.

SR.	ITEM	UNIT COST (USD)	QUANTITY	TOTAL COST (USD)
1	Desktop-Computer/Laptop	300 - 400	25	7,500 - 10,000
2	Projector	350 - 500	1	350 - 500
3	Computer Desks	40 - 60	25	1,000 - 1,500
4	Chairs	25 - 35	25	625 - 875
5	Office Desk and Chair	80 - 120	1	80 - 120
6	Uninterruptable Power Supply	25 - 35	25	625 - 875
7	Power Generator	300 - 400	1	300 - 400
8	Air Conditioner (optional)	275 - 325	3	825 - 975
TOTAL				\$11,305 - \$15,245

Operating a Center

The below are the recurring costs for running a 1MAS learning center. The cost-range mentioned is developed after thoroughly reviewing the market in different African regions.

SR.	ITEM	MONTHLY COST (USD)	ANNUAL COST (USD)
1	Center Rent	200 - 300	2,400 - 3600
2	Internet	30 - 50	360 - 600
3	Electricity	50 - 70	600 - 840
4	Gasoline for Power Generator	10 - 15	120 - 180
5	Center Manager	200 - 250	2,400 - 3,000
6	Security-Guard/Cleaner	40 - 60	480 - 720
7	Maintenance	5 - 10	60 - 120
TOTAL			\$6,420 - \$9,060

Contact Information

📞 +91 99637 03143 | 📲 Whatsapp

✉️ 1mas.supervisor@iou.edu.gm

🌐 <https://iou.edu.gm/1mas>

🌐 <https://golf.org.my/1mas>

