

CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT



PROFILE

CONTACT DETAILS

Address: 16, A7 Street Mount Pleasant Estate (CITEC), Jabi-Airport Road, Mbora District, Abuja, FCT.

Email: cddabv@cddwestafrica.org

Telephone: +234 09 290 230 4

Website: www.cddwestafrica.org

INTRODUCTION

The Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) was established in the United Kingdom in 1997 and subsequently registered in Lagos - Nigeria in 1999 as an independent, not-for-profit, research, training, advocacy and capacity building organisation. The Centre was established to mobilise global opinion and resources for democratic development and provide an independent space to reflect critically on the challenges posed to the democratization and development processes in West Africa, and also to provide alternatives and best practices to the sustenance of democracy and development in the region.

CDD envisions a West Africa that is democratically governed, economically integrated - promoting human security and people-centered development. The mission of the centre is to be the prime catalyst and facilitator for strategic analysis and capacity building for sustainable democracy and development in the West African sub-region.

The first activity of the Centre was a round table organized in London in 1997 on the democratic future of Nigeria (then under military dictatorship). CDD's activities have since grown not only in Nigeria but in the entire West African region and the rest of the continent. The Centre remains focused on capacity building work, policy analysis and advocacy, and as a research reference point on democratic governance, human security and people-centred development in the region. It has remained a critical bridge building institution between policy makers, civil society activists and academics in West Africa.

CDD programmes are conceptualized to develop the organisation's regional vocation and are centred on the following themes:

1. Democratic Governance:

- (i) Parliamentary engagement
- (ii) Promoting Peace and Human Security in West Africa in concert with regional institutions and civil society
- (iii) Elections
- (iv) Deepening democratic governance through strengthening political parties and promoting free and fair elections
- (v) Facilitating constitution and legal reforms
- (vi) Decentralisation and Local Governance
- (vii) West African Futures and Horizon Scanning

2. People Centred Development:

- i) Promoting Transparency and Accountability through Budget Monitoring.
- ii) MDGs: Advancing people-centred development through raising capacity for MDGs attainment. Supporting, monitoring and promoting local initiatives on MDG.
- iii) Environment and Climate Change: Enhancing civic participation and legislative oversight on emerging trends in the extractive industry, supporting institutions to reduce and mitigate the effects of climate change on local communities.
- iv) Gender and Economic Rights: Promoting gender and economic rights of women as a cross cutting theme
- v) Urbanisation and Migration

Project teams are coordinated by Head of Programmes along thematic areas.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES:

Research, Advocacy, Network Building, Capacity Development are our key implementation strategies.

WHAT WE DO

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE PROJECTS

PARLIAMENTARY ENGAGEMENT

Over the years, CDD has built a working relationship with the legislature, working with members to develop briefs on issues of national importance. Most national assembly committee members rely on CDD's policy brief in articulating issues on the floor of the assembly. For example, a select committee of the Senate and Federal House of Representatives has written to CDD to provide technical support to their parliamentary functions, including drafting of legislative bill and memos.

In addition, on the invitation of the assembly, CDD participated in a number of public hearings, and supported committee works leading to the reviews and/or passage of bills into laws. Very recently, CDD presentation memorandum during the National Assembly public hearing on the 2017 budget, Constituency Development Catalyst Fund (CDCF) bill, Electoral and Constitutional Reforms etc.

❖ **Baseline Study of Parliamentary Strengthening in Nigeria**

CDD was supported by Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) to undertake a baseline study of National Institute of Legislative study (NILS) Female parliamentarians in Nigeria and the office of the clerk. The consultancy services included research, meetings, data analysis and report writing. The baseline was conducted from June to August 2012 and a report was sent to the WFD after the final validation. As a follow up WFD is seeking to support analysis and monitoring of budgets from a gender perspective through CDD/NGBN.

❖ **Gender-Responsive Budgeting and Parliament**

We designed this handbook for Nigerian legislators, which builds on CDD's work with parliamentarians in Nigeria. It seeks to provide both a global perspective to parliamentary intervention in gender budgeting as well as a more domesticated suggestion of entry points for parliamentarians in Nigeria. CDD believes that gender budgeting places people at the centre of development planning. This handbook has been used to carry out the Centre's parliamentarian's training over the years in a bid to institutionalize legislative approaches in the parliament.

PEACE & HUMAN SECURITY

❖ Boko Haram: Government and Peace Negotiation

A monograph on Boko Haram, the Government and Peace Negotiation emanated from a workshop of the same name. The workshop brought together an array of Nigerians from different sectors to look at ways of solving the crisis. The highlight of the event was the presentation of the paper, Boko Haram, the Government and Peace Negotiation by Prof. James Kantiok who explored various narratives in respect of the conflicts and ways of solving the conflict. The report is available online at: <http://www.cddwestafrica.org/index.php/en/reports/category/1-governance-security-and-development>.

❖ Talk on Boko Haram; Boko Haram, Insecurity, and the 2015 Elections in Nigeria: Taking Stock and Looking Forward

To broaden the discussion and look at the challenges that the country faced in the lead up to the 2015 Nigerian General Elections, the organisation in collaboration with the Swiss Embassy organised a ‘Talk’ on “Boko Haram, Insecurity, and the 2015 Elections in Nigeria: Taking Stock and Looking Forward.” In the lead up to the elections, the Boko Haram insurgency posed a lot of challenges toward the peaceful conduct of the elections in terms of the continuing acts of violence and the constitutional issues that lingered in the elections were not be conducted in the areas where the crisis was ensuing. The talk featured prominently Jacob Zenn of the Jamestown Foundation in Washington DC, USA and Prof. Kyari Mohammed of the Modibbo Adama University of Technology Yola, Adamawa State. Both speakers offered their perspectives of the crisis. Members of the diplomatic community, civil society, and government officials at the state and federal levels participated and contributed to the talk.

CDD is now a part of the Countering Violence Extremism Coalition. It is a coalition of civil society organisations working with the Office of the National Security Adviser. The coalition has designed a project that will look at ways of countering the insurgency in the North-East of Nigeria.

❖ Rural Banditry in Northern Nigeria

Even as the Boko Haram insurgency threatened the very existence of the country, the long persisting conflict between the farmers and herdsmen reached a crescendo in the period. The middle belt region of Nigeria was enmeshed in crisis that cost several lives and property. To engage the issue for possible solutions, the organization commissioned a research on Rural banditry in Northern Nigeria. Drawn from a well-articulated methodology the project engaged seasoned researchers who looked at different issues pertaining to the conflict and made

recommendations that can take the country away from this quagmire. Research book published and policy briefs detailing different issues with respect to the conflict and recommendations also published and widely disseminated. A dissemination workshop was convened to share the research output with the Governor of Kaduna State and other critical stakeholders in the Northern Nigeria. A memo was also drafted based on the research findings and used to engage the National Assembly during debate over addressing rural banditry challenges in the country.

❖ Swiss Political Forums - Approaches to dealing with violent extremism: the case of North-eastern Nigeria

These are sets of forums jointly organized by the Embassy of Switzerland in Abuja and Centre for Democracy and Development. The forum bring together seasoned experts and key stakeholders to intellectually discuss and practically analyze the push and pull factors, as well as approaches to preventing and countering violent extremism within the Nigerian context.

The Forums also aim to provide an avenue for knowledge sharing and experience learning, and intend to avail at the end of the series a consolidated report with policy recommendations to Government and others working to address the security challenges in North-eastern Nigeria. This series of logically sequenced forums are:

- ✓ Doctrinal Analysis and Development of Counter Narratives (was held on 17 February 2016);
- ✓ Options to End Violent Extremism in North-eastern Nigeria (3 May 2016);
- ✓ Amnesty vs Justice – Reconciliation in the Context of the North East (6 September 2016);
- ✓ Individual Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (4th of October 2016).

These Forums are also in line with Switzerland’s support to and engagement in the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), which works in partnership with governments, civil society, and the private sector to support national strategies to address local drivers of violent extremism.

❖ Open Mind

The Open Minds Nigeria Project is a program initiated to engage youth in schools and vocational centres with sustainable skills through training, mentoring and training of trainers, reaching the broader population of Nigerian youths through public debate and substantial media outputs. The project uses the tools of civic education, instruction in critical thinking, media production and public debate to help young people – girls and boys – navigate their own way to positive futures: thus thinking constructively about social issues, engaging in supportive networks, and developing their skills for future employability. In the short and long term, the project is intended

to equip the beneficiaries with knowledge and capacity that will ensure they do not become easy recruit of violent ideologies and doctrines. This project is being implemented with the International Peace and War Reporting (IWPR), Center for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) and Paradigm Initiative Nigeria (PIN). As the hub of research and training, CDD is implementing the research component/field work of the project which is design to enrich other activities on the project

❖ De-Radicalization, Counter-Terrorism and Migration in Northern Nigeria (DCM)

The project “De-Radicalization, Counter-Terrorism and Migration Project in Northern Nigeria” (NERSS) is jointly implemented by Centre for Democracy and Development, Internal Peacekeeping Centre of the Nigeria Armed Forces and Institute of legal studies with Financial support through the United Nations Development Programme by Government of Japan. The project supports the community level clergy and traditional rulers and civil society organizations in developing and disseminating counter-radical narratives to radical ideologies of fundamentalist groups in Nigeria. It is also addressing increasing distrust between the security agencies and the communities which has further accentuated the emergence of extremists and rendered ineffective government’s counter-terrorism measures, including the prevention of irregular migration. Security agencies would also be brought up-to-scale on community partnership in the fight against terrorism. The Project also support communities in strengthening their capacity in the area of developing counter-radical narratives to extremist religious views as well as support for intra and inter-community coordination in preventing and responding to emergent cases of radicalism.

DEEPENING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

❖ Nigerian Political Parties Discussion Series (NPPDS)

The Nigerian Political Parties Discussion Series (NPPDS) was the highlight of the organisation’s activities during the 2015 general elections. The project supported by the International Republican Institute (IRI) Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) was in twofold. The first part of the engagement involved political parties and a scrutiny of internal party democracy. Three debates were organized by CDD to look at the issues of party financing, promotion of internal party democracy and the inclusion of women and youth in the activities of political parties. The open session part of the initiative gave room for the general public to engage the political parties directly.

The second phase of the NPPDS aimed at promoting issue-based campaign during the 2015 general elections at national level. Series of debates were convened between the Peoples’

Democratic Party (PDP) and All Progressives Congress (APC) – the two major political parties, to inform Nigerians about their policy preferences to address development challenges confronting the country, if elected. The series focused on a host of issues from economy to security and gave the political the opportunity to state clearly to the Nigerian people their intentions and how they intend to better the livelihoods of the Nigerian people. The NPPDS was the most effective platform on which the Nigerian people had the opportunity to engage the political parties. The series were aired on television and streamed live on the internet. Videos of the debates were also uploaded to the CDD Youtube Channel. Other components of the project are still ongoing and will be concluded in February 2017,

❖ NPPDS: #Buharimeter

In August 2015, CDD launched Buharimeter project, (www.buharimeter.ng) as a monitoring tool that enables Nigerians and the global community keep tab on the status of implementation of over 200 campaign promises of President Muhammad Buhari and the All Progressives Congress (APC). This flagship initiative addressed the challenges of governance, civic participation and effective service delivery in Nigeria by ensuring that the current government is held accountable to its campaign promises. It is an independent, unbiased and non-political monitoring platform and provides alternative opinion about government policy, where necessary. By analyzing data gathered through tracking of media reports; policy analysis; opinion polling; and rating government performance, we have empowered Nigerians to take an active role in making the APC-led government live up to its campaign promises. The project theory is “the more citizens hold elected officials accountable and the more the government responds to citizens, the higher the quality of democracy. It also follows that the better elected representatives’ plays their role in relating with the citizens, the higher the quality of democracy. Thus, it places accountability at the heart of democracy.

Since then, we have continued to advance discourse on the implementation of election pledges in order to promote democratic accountability in Nigeria. Overall, there has been an increasing conversation on holding the incumbent administration accountable to its election promises. For example, in July, 2016, Emmanuel Ugwu, in his article titled ‘*Why Buhari Must Watch Buharimeter,*’ drew the attention of President Buhari to the importance of Buharimeter as a tool for objective assessment of its administration. According to him:

‘Buhari ought to face the mirror of his campaign promises every day of his finite tenure. He should respect the Buharimeter as the reflection of his vows and accomplishments. This will furnish him with the right perspective he needs to secure a befitting legacy.’

Citizens are increasingly aware of campaign promises and consequently begun to add their voices on governance issues, particularly with regards to holding President Buhari’s administration to its election promises. Buharimeter’s one-year report did provide a synopsis of citizens’ perception on the implications of actions of government but also revealed degree at which Nigerians are aware of campaign promises and actions to achieve them. Knowledge about existence of Buharimeter and its findings has taken a global outlook. Aside highlighting how the

initiative was widely reported internationally, Buharimeter is now one of the promise tracking initiatives on the Duke Reporters' Lab (<http://reporterslab.org/global-fact-checking-up-50-percent/>; <http://reporterslab.org/fact-checking/>).

In addition, we held several sub-activities:

Good Governance Forum: The forum provided the ruling party opportunity to account for its stewardship while interacting with Nigerians. The opposition parties also had the right of response adjudging the progress or otherwise of the ruling party.

Quarterly CSO/Media Cluster Meeting: a cluster of active civil society organizations and media with similar agenda was brought together to discuss the progress of and agree on complementary roles on the project.

Policy Monitoring: the progress of Buhari-led government to tackle sector-based challenges was assessed in terms of the effectiveness and efficiency of policy formulated and implemented. So far, four reports have been released and discussion papers commissioned on diversification of the economy.

Citizens' platform: to make the project more people oriented and give voice to the voiceless, the project monitored and evaluated community based projects. Using the vox pop, opinion of citizens at local level was assessed on the government implementation of campaign promises. This served as community random assessment of the administration's implementation of its promises on specific challenges.

Production of Policy Brief: The policy monitoring and citizens assessment of the governance was put together in form of policy brief for further engagement.

Media Partnership/Publicity: to keep conversation on democratic accountability, as it relates to tracking, monitoring and measuring status of implementation of campaign promises in public domain, CDD has built a more robust, strategic and comprehensive partnership with the media through 1) periodic appearance on media platforms, 2) development of infographics and placement of advertorial in national newspapers.

❖ Building Civil Society Capacity On The Ratification, Popularisation And Implementation Of The African Charter On Democracy, Elections And Governance And The ECOWAS Supplementary Protocol On Democracy And Good Governance In Nine ECOWAS Member States

As part of the organization's efforts towards deepening democracy in the region, this project was designed and implemented in 9 West African countries. The objective of the project was to popularize the African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance (ACDEG) and the ECOWAS Supplementary Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance - two documents that define the basis for the practice of democracy in West Africa and the rest of Africa. The project was implemented in Cote d' Ivoire and Senegal to ratify the charter, and also popularize same in

Nigeria, Togo, Benin, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Niger. The project achieved the ratification of the charter in Cote d' Ivoire. There was a strong assurance from the Senegalese government for the ratification of the charter. We continue to engage the Senegalese government to see that this is eventually done. The organization is at the moment engaging the Open Society Initiative for West Africa who supported the initiative for a continuation of the project. The project is concluded.

❖ **Perspectives on West Africa towards 2015-2017**

This project was part of organization's West Africa work in the areas of governance and the challenges that democracy continues to face. The project, which focuses on seven countries, sought to understudy the trends and dynamics that were shaping the landscape of the various countries. These countries include Nigeria, Niger, Guinea (Conakry), Mali, Cote d' Ivoire, Burkina Faso and Togo.

A comprehensive report from a well thought out methodology emanated from all the countries. The reports formed the basis for a multi-stakeholders engagement in all the countries. The reports provide the basis for further engagements and advocacy on the issues that were prevalent in all the countries before and during the elections. In Burkina Faso, for instance, the launch of the report paved the way for the continuous civil society dialogue that led to the eventual formation of an interim government and subsequently elections and the return to democratic governance in the country. The project is concluded.

❖ **Key Drivers Of Unconstitutional Changes Of Government In West Africa**

With the ever present of democratic reversals still hanging over the regions democratic governments this project was most timely. It was funded by the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) through the African Peacebuilding Network (APN). The research project did a thorough analysis of the drivers of unconstitutional change in government in three studies commissioned by the Centre. The research brought to the fore a plethora of issues and how these can be curtailed so as to consolidate on the regions democratic gains. The reports were launched and shared widely online and via other means by the organization. The project was successfully completed. The project is concluded.

❖ **Promoting Democratic Accountability in Burkina Faso**

This project was conceptualized to promote peaceful and issue-based election, and improve citizen participation in electoral process in Burkina Faso. Three key activities were implemented during the project implementation. These include peace meeting with traditional rulers and party

leaders, presidential debates, and radio programme. The project has been concluded and currently followed by support to Presimetre initiative

❖ Deepening Democracy in Burkina Faso through Support to Accountability Campaign

In continuation of CDD's work to deepen democracy in Burkina Faso, it conceptualized this project to support partners in the country to launch promise tracking initiative known as Presimetre. This is a civil society-led initiative that is tracking the implementation of election pledges of President Kabore in the lead up to the 2015 Presidential election. To support this project, CDD is hosting weekly radio programme, convened technical workshop on promise tracking to discuss required capacity for effective implementation of the project and high-level meeting on constitutional reform in West Africa. Additionally, CDD is supporting local partners to mobilize citizens' opinion about six key constitutional thematic issues as the country is drafting an entirely new constitution. Citizens' proposal – gathered through opinion poll – will be used to engage the Constitution Review Committee, headed by Mr. Halidou Ouedraogo.

ELECTIONS

The organization continued in her traditional way of engaging in activities around elections. Elections have been a core part of the organisation's work given the importance of elections to democracy strengthening and consolidation. While consolidating on pasts efforts, the organization also introduced some pioneering activities around her elections work.

❖ Promoting Peaceful Elections

Kaduna and Kano states have often been among the most volatile states during elections. The events of 2011 clearly show this fact. To arrest the situation, the organization embarked on key initiatives to help curtail pre, during and post-election violence.

In Kaduna State, the, "We are Peace Kaduna" initiative was launched and implemented in which radio programme was an essential component. The project aimed at promoting violent-free elections. In few weeks leading to the elections, peace messages were collected from well-known people and influencers in the state, ranging from clergy men, politicians, transport workers, sportsmen etc., and transmitted in Hausa, English and Pidgin languages on Liberty Radio, Kaduna. The highlight of the program was the combined elections day broadcast which brought together journalist and experts who provided real time analysis of events as they unfolded across different local government areas in the state on Election Day.

The Kano State project promoted issues-based politics and violence free elections in Kano State by educating voters on how to make informed electoral choices ahead of the 2015 general elections. The project was very significant in light of the events that trailed the aftermath of the 2011 General Elections. Through Town Hall Meetings and a weekly radio programme, a set of carefully designed programmes on Non-Violence, Rigging, Issue-Based Politics etc., helped educate the Kano people in the lead up to the elections. The projects are concluded.

❖ Election Observation

The organization continued her involvement in the observation of elections both locally and internationally. At the international level CDD staff formed part of the ECOWAS election observer team to Guinea Bissau. Locally the CDD team observed the staggered gubernatorial elections in Ekiti, Edo, Ondo and Osun states. The organization also later deployed observers across several states in Nigeria during the 2015 general elections. During the period the organization innovated the “Analysis Centre” and continued to observe staggered elections in Nigeria.

LOCAL GOVERNANCE

❖ Study on State Independent Electoral Commissions (SIECs)

Between 2011 and 2012, CDD commissioned a research on the effectiveness of State Independent Electoral Commissions (SIECs) in six states of the federation, cutting across the six geo-political zones (one state per zone). The study predicated on the long-standing challenge of conducting free, fair and credible elections into elected official in local government areas of the country. The research was timely completed and its report published.

PEOPLE-CENTRED PROJECTS

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

❖ Promoting Democratic Accountability

In a bid to enhance the delivery of democratic dividends, CDD engaged in and executed this project in Kano and Jigawa States. The project enhanced capacity of residents of the States, and their environs, to engage budget processes and in effect promote good governance and service delivery. The project involved primarily local actors, it created a platform for citizens and governments to engage in respect of the design and implementation of the budget in the two states. The Radio Programme ‘Akasa fai fai’ became very effective channel of interaction between the government and the people in the two states. Local actors in the state have since adopted the project and are now engaging government on budget issues constantly. This project has been concluded successfully, to funder’s satisfaction.

❖ Mending the leakages: Africa’s Battle Against Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs)

In response to the plaguing issue of Illicit Financial Flows in Nigeria and Africa, the organization embarked on this project to understand the issues and make possible recommendations that can curtail the menace. A Consultative Round-table on “Mending the leakages: Africa’s Battle Against Illicit Financial Flows.” The event brought together an array of stakeholders across Africa with respect to the issue. Specifically policy makers within governments and multi-lateral institutions, researchers, activists from within civil society organisations and social movements were targeted. A communique emanated from the round-table calling for the better advocacy on the issue, the building of capacity of civil society to better understand and engage the issue and advocate for collective regional frameworks of response and a development of a multi-stakeholder platform for managing natural resources among several others.

❖ Curbing Illicit Financial Flows in Nigeria

Following resource mobilization challenge confronting Africa, and Nigeria in particular, and the revelation by Thabo Mbeki’s panel on IFFs, it becomes imperative that a national-level analysis of divergent but inter-related issues of IFFs is critically interrogated, examined and policy framework proposed to address the economic quagmire. As a result, CDD commissioned four reports, convened meetings to deliberate on Nigeria’s peculiar issues, and organize several campaigns to create awareness and enlighten Nigerians about it. This project was concluded in 2016.

GENDER

❖ Promoting Gender Responsive Budgeting in West Africa:

This project was implemented with support from Oxfam Novib. The project assisted in building civil society capacity to analyse budgets from a gender perspective and also development advocacy messages for policy influencing. More than 60 NGOs from Mali, Ghana, Niger and Nigeria benefitted directly from the project. The project also worked with the ECOWAS gender desk and national parliaments in the four countries.

❖ Gender and Taxation in Nigeria

As part of effort to advance understanding of the gendered impacts of tax policies and tax reforms in Nigeria at the various levels of development, in order to promote equity enhancing policy changes and reforms, CDD embarked on ‘Gender and Taxation study. The project was implemented from May 2010 to October 2011 and achieved the following objectives:

- ✓ Analyzed how tax policies and tax reforms are impacting differentially on women and men, and in particular on poor women
- ✓ To engender and improve current tools and techniques for analyzing tax policies and reforms
- ✓ To influence tax policy makers and other stakeholders in Nigeria, to pay greater attention to the gender equity implications of tax policies and reforms

HUMAN RIGHTS AND CITIZEN MOBILIZATION

❖ Amnesty International Africa Human Rights Education Project:

The aim of the project is to enable communities to identify and address local human rights issues within a human rights framework, provide them with information on how human rights relate to their lives and the obligations duty bearers have in promoting and protecting those rights.

❖ Mobilizing Civil Societies Engagement on the PIB:

The aim of the project is to contribute to improvement of transparency and accountability in the oil and gas sector in Nigeria particularly in the petroleum downstream sector by ensuring that the content and passage of the PIB benefit Nigerians.

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

❖ **Monitoring and Evaluation of Nigeria's Debt Relief Gains on the Millennium Development Goals**

This programme has been implemented over the last eight years and is funded by the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President in Millennium Development Goals. Over this period, the CDD has produced over 5 National reports and submitted same to the Nigerian Government.

The Centre for Democracy and Development is the appointed National CSOs a position CDD has occupied since the commencement of the project in 2007 till 2015 the official termination year of the MDGs. Her roles were general coordination of 45 civil society organizations (CSOs) engaged in the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of DRGs funded projects and programmes in Nigeria under the auspices of the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs; periodic visits to project sites; analysis of findings; collation of state reports; production and presentation of the annual MDGs/DRGs report and general reports with recommendations on the overall conduct on the M&E activities to the presidency.

❖ **Strengthening Budget Transparency through Public Participation: Monitoring the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) and State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (SEEDS)**

This project was funded by the European Commission (EC) for three years (2006 – 2009); it was worth 1.2 million Euros. The project was implemented in the six geo-political zones of Nigeria with a specific focus on the following states: Osun, Kano, and Cross River, Anambra, Borno, Jigawa states and the FCT. As part of the project implementation, CDD engaged policy makers and technical staff members of the National Planning Commission and their State counterparts and civil society allies in the development of the NEEDS and the SEEDS economic policy blueprint.

Specifically, the research and advocacy work was mainly in 3 sectors, Health, Education and Water Resources. The CDD and the state civil society partners carried out quarterly analysis of budget implementation to ascertain whether it is in line with the commitments made in the NEEDS and SEEDS document. This process was further enhanced through advocacy and dialogues around issues that underpin sustainable development in the focal states and nationally. The quarterly analyses done on the project were published in a newsletter called the **Public Finance Watch**.

❖ **Monitoring of the Virtual Poverty Fund**

The project ‘Monitoring the Virtual Poverty Fund’ was aimed at monitoring the implementation of projects funded by the Debt Relief Gains in the country. The intermediaries’ intervention were at two levels. Firstly, working towards strengthening institutional capacity within the MDAs in three critical sectors - Education, Health and Water Resources for delivery of the MDGs. Secondly, Tracking/Monitoring the Virtual Poverty Fund to ensure accountable, transparent and effective use of the Fund as a strategy for enabling the government achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The focal states are: Cross River, Benue, Enugu, Gombe, Kano and Lagos States.

❖ **Can Nigeria meet the MDGS in 2015?**

This project was funded by the EU. The book was an output of a research. It was an offshoot of a four day workshop/retreat held in Kaduna between September 14 to 17 2007. It consisted of the collection of works by various Nigerian scholars and activists with experience in development planning, policy process and policy making. The work provided an assessment of the progress and challenges of meeting and surpassing the MDGs in Nigeria.

❖ **The Legacy of Mauritania’s Colonels**

This work examined the political evolution of Mauritania over the last thirty years in light of the scholarly literature on democratic transitions, causes of conflict and the study of political phenomena through a focus on leadership characteristics. We argued in the book that the Colonels (five of them, who have ruled the country since the inaugural 1978 coup d’état) failed to meet the pressing challenges in the country.

❖ **The ‘Boko’ Question: Prohibition or Obligation**

The challenges to Islam and Muslims posed by the conventional educational system motivated the publication of this monograph, it is a swift response and counter narratives to common religious arguments against conventional “western” education. It provided response to thirty-five (35) common religious arguments against “western” education. In the foreword, Sheikh Dr. Ahmed Lemu (OFR) prayed that the material be widely read, translated and disseminated through the nooks and crannies of the Muslim society. The monograph opined, citing several verses from the Quran that Islam from its inception, placed a high premium on education and enjoyed a long and rich intellectual tradition.

❖ **Political Instability and the Challenge Of Democratization in Africa: A Conceptual Analysis**

This publication provides analytical information on political instability in Africa. Within a timeframe of twenty-two (22) years, seventeen countries on the continent had experienced military intervention in politics. The essay book is a good read for anyone interested in the “contagion of the coup”, and it seek to explain the seeming persistence of political instability on the continent, in spite of the rapid spread of liberal democracy in the 1980s and 90s. It also examined the causes of political instability, its impact on democracy, and the prospects of its containment in Africa. In addition, the essay book identified one hundred and forty-six (146) active insurgency groups in Africa in twenty-four (24) country, from Algeria to Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Egypt, Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda and Western Sahara.

❖ **Le Koglweogo ou Le Risque de L’appropriation Communautaire de La Securite**

This policy brief examines the dynamics of Koglweogo from a government sponsored sub-structure security intervention in Northern Burkina Faso, to a self-regulating local security network which is parallel to government regulated security infrastructure. The author Prof. Augustin Loada argues that the present structure of Koglweogo threatens the state jurisdiction over internal security particularly its unrestrained patterns of human rights abuses against citizens.

❖ **The Millennium Development Goals Progress, Prospects and Policy Implications.**

This was a research conducted in 2014 by expert from both local and international levels. The research was necessitated by the need for Nigeria to rethink her MDGs framework as it enters the period and process of scaling up approaches on MDGs through the development of an MDGs acceleration framework and devising means to fast track the implementation of the countdown strategy. It was therefore important for CDD to carry out an overhaul of the MDGs in Nigeria through this research having participated actively in the process since inception.

❖ **Breaking Point: a review of progress towards the attainment of the MDGs in Nigeria.**

This was also a research. It was conducted in 2012. It was prepared for “Breaking with Business as usual: Perspective from Civil Society in the Commonwealth on the MDGS and was funded by the United Nations Millennium Campaign (UNMC). The research was conducted to x-ray the prevailing situation on the achievement of the MDGs in Nigeria with a view of the approaching deadline of 2015.

❖ **Partnership that works: Monitoring the Implementation of MDGS in Nigeria.**

This publication was an account of CDD's experience in promoting people centered development agenda, fostering partnerships for attaining the MDGs and building capacity for monitoring and evaluation of the MDG exercise. The publication was funded by CDD and it offers a reflection on the lessons learnt that if sustained might be helpful to scaling up efforts towards the attainment of the MDG goals.

❖ **Monitoring the Implementation of the ECTS**

We began the project to increase civil society's credibility by building a sustainable multi-country, civil society network in West Africa of "best practices sharing" and peer learning. The project was poised towards bridging these gaps: data gathering and documentation, monitoring of the level of implementation of the ECOWAS CTS, training CSOs and the Media to monitor and report compliance with ECOWAS CTS and advocacy to push for further implementation of the CTS. In many ways, the project has helped to enlighten the global community on reporting platform on incidences, casualties, perpetrators and responses. In turn, the information on the platform is expected to provoke discussions that will enhance regional commitment to the CTS at all levels.

This project is in response to the use of national Army for CTS, who are often ill-equipped and ill-trained in asymmetric warfare or human rights observation in operation. For instance, Mali's national government forces were almost overwhelmed in field battle against insurgents in 2012 until the establishment of an Africa-led International Support Mission to Mali (AFISMA). Particularly in Nigeria where the insurgency has reached advanced levels; spreading into neighboring countries of Cameroon, Chad and Niger, the observance of human rights abuses by the parties involved has become necessary. Often time, these abuses are neither reported nor heard of. Fortunately, there are codes of conduct, rules of engagement, strategies and laws that government security forces are often expected to observe in battle field, again, little or no monitoring and enforcement has given room for impunity. More so, the people who are most affected by these excesses of government forces and insurgents, have not been able to register abuses or seek redress owing to ignorance of extant laws and policies within Nigeria and the region. While resort to human rights abuses may be the product of frustration owing to lack of requisite skills and equipment, many government troops have not been trained on human rights issues.

In Nigeria, the National Human Rights Commission alone has indicted the military on two occasions (the Baga Killing in 2012 and the Apo killing in 2014). This is couple with various international reports from Amnesty International, the United States Department of States, among other reports. Although the ECOWAS and various member states have attempted policies and laws to approach the threat of insurgency within the region and to ensure state obligations in

observance of human rights, the level of state implementation of the ECTS for instance is largely unknown owing to lack of public information.

❖ **Small Arms and Light Weapons Stakeholders Dialogue**

Against the backdrop of fragile security, local manufacturing and the circulation of illegal guns, grenades and rocket launchers that have ripped communities apart while fuelling terrorism, in Nigeria. These weapons, described as small arms and light weapons (SALWs) are in dense possession of unauthorized non-state actors. For this reason the government of Nigeria has initiated several interventions in addressing the proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons; in April 2013, The Federal Government set up the Presidential Committee on Small Arms and Light Weapons, PRESCOM. The Nigeria Firearms Act of 1959 is also before the national assembly for review.

The country has also committed to several regional and international treaties including the implementation of the UN's Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, their ammunition and other related materials amongst several others. However, the implementation of these frameworks remains a challenge; for instance, Nigeria as well as Gambia remains the only member states without a functional National Commission on Small Arms as stipulated under the article 24 of ECOWAS Convention on SALW. It is within this purview that the Centre conveyed a stakeholder's forum to propose series of actionable efforts to address various aspects of preventing and solving the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

CURRENT PARTNERSHIP

The Centre is partnering with development consulting firms to implement the following projects:

- ❖ **Partnership to Engage, Reform and Learn (PERL):** This is a flagship five-year Public Sector Accountability and Governance Programme in Nigeria. The Centre is working with ICF International to implement the LEAP pillar of the project in the country.
- ❖ Partnership with other like minds civil society organization to monitor the Sustainable Development Goals and to develop *Shadow Reports*, which will be submitted during the High Level Political Forum.
- ❖ The Strengthening Advocacy and Civic Engagement (SACE) project in Nigeria is a new initiative, funded by USAID with the aim of strengthening institutional, organizational, and technical capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs) coalitions and networks to advance targeted democracy and good governance initiatives. The project awarded grants to six Nigerian CSOs and/or coalitions, who are working to

strengthen civil society's ability to influence the development and implementation of key democratic reforms at the national, state, and local levels. CDD is one of the organization in the Transparency and Accountability in the oil and Gas sector cluster under this project.

- ❖ **USIP Northern Nigeria Project:** The Centre provides support to The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) project, which seeks to support governors of northern states, civic leaders, and the Nigerian government more broadly by strengthening their collective capacity to develop sustainable and inclusive strategies towards addressing drivers of instability in Northern Nigeria. This program is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations.
- ❖ **Partnership with American University:** CDD is providing internship opportunity for students (Graduate Intern) of the university's School of International Service. This Intern work on several research related tasks, including but not limited to substantive research projects and editing the Democracy and Development – Journal of West Africa Studies.

COALITIONS

CDD is secretariat to Citizens Forum for Constitutional Reform (CFCR), Nigeria Gender Budget Network (NGBN), and Nigerian Coalition for the International Criminal Court (NCICC).

More information on CDD can be found on our website: www.cddwestafrica.org

MANAGEMENT OF CDD

The International Governing Council (IGC) is chaired by Dr. Kole Shettima a philanthropist- and Africa Director, MacArthur Foundation, the vice chairperson of the board is Dr Dzodzi Tsikata, a leading Ghanaian feminist and Sociology lecturer in the in University of Ghana. They work with 10 other members selected from across the region to provide policy directions and resource guidance and goodwill for the centre's work and image. Other members of the IGC include:

CDD International Governing Council (IGC)

Chair: Dr Kole Shettima is a Nigerian philanthropist and Africa Director, MacArthur Foundation, Abuja

Deputy Chair: Dr Dzodzi Tsikata is a leading Ghanaian feminist and lecturer in Sociology, University of Ghana

Treasurer: Dr Otive Igbuzor is a Nigerian political scientist and International Advocacy Director, Action Aid International

Chair of Personnel Sub-Committee: Dr Paul Okojie, Faculty of Law, Manchester Metropolitan University, United Kingdom.

Dr Thomas Jaye a Liberian scholar-activist is a Senior Research Fellow, Kofi Anan Centre for Conflict Resolution, Accra

Dr Musah Abdel-Fatau is a Ghanain activist-scholar and is presently Director, Peace and Conflict Division at the West African Economic Community, (ECOWAS), Abuja.

Prof. BoubakarN'diaye, Wooster College, United States of America

Ms Jeanette Eno, Sierra Leonean and expert on women, gender and conflicts

Dr Ibrahim Abdallah, Department of History, Furah Bay University, Freetown

Ms. Idayat Hassan, Director and Secretary to IGC

The Director is the chief reporting officer of the organization. She works with a team of professional programme, finance and administrative staff to manage and implement the activities of the Centre. Following the Director under the programme team is the Head of Programmes; senior programme officers, programme officers, assistant programme officers, Project assistants (mostly interns). A similar structure is replicated in the finance and admin team. CDD has a total of 15 core staff and 8 support personnel.

SELECT CDD PUBLICATION

1. Gender-Responsive Budgeting and Parliament: A handbook for Nigerian Legislators.
2. The 1999 constitution and the future of democracy in Nigeria
3. Strengthening Nigeria's constitution for sustainable Democracy
4. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD): Challenges and Developments
5. Deepening the Culture of Constitutionalism: Regional Institutions and Constitutional Development in Africa Edited by J.K Fayemi
6. Security Sector Governance in Africa: A Handbook Edited by Kayode Fayemi and Otive Igbuzor (2004)
7. Alternative Poverty Reduction Strategy for Nigeria Edited by Kayode Fayemi and Otive Igbuzor (2004)
8. Gender – Aware Analysis of the Federal Budget in Nigeria 1999 2002 (2005) Edited by Bolaji Akanji, Zakuru Bonat & Amina Salihu
9. Gender – Aware Analysis of the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) (2005)
10. Poverty Eradication in Nigeria: Perspective on a Participatory and Pro – Poor Approach (2005)
11. Towards an Integrated Development of the Niger Delta, Edited by Kayode Fayemi, Stella Amadi and Ololade Bamidele (2005)
12. Out of Shadows: Exile and the Struggle for Freedom and Democracy (2005) by J.K Fayemi
13. Civil Society Input into the Africa Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) (2006) Edited by Stella Amadi and Ololade Bamidele
14. Niger Delta: Political Violence, Governance and Corporate Responsibility in a Petro – state (2006), by Okey Ibeanu and Robin Luckham.
15. The Best is yet to Come: Portrait of a Scholar – Activist: Essay in Honour of Professor Julius Ihonvbere, Edited by Kayode Fayemi
16. Women, Marginalisation and Politics in Nigeria (Co- published with Global Rights: Partners for Justice and Open Society Initiative for West Africa), Edited by Jibrin Ibrahim and Amina Salihu
17. The Niger Delta: Issues in Justice and Development Agenda (2007) by Festus Iyayi
18. Popular Perceptions of Democracy and Political Governance in Nigeria (2007), Edited by Okechukwu Ibeanu and Samuel Egwu
19. Direct Capture: The 2007 Nigerian Elections & Subversion of Popular Sovereignty (2009), Edited by Jibrin Ibrahim and Okechukwu Ibeanu
20. Can Nigeria meet the MDGs in 2015 (2008), Edited by Jibrin Ibrahim and Otive Igbuzor
21. A Handbook for Gender - Responsive Budgeting (2008)
22. Resolving West Africa Conflicts: Early Warning Early Response (2008), Edited by Jibrin Ibrahim and Oumar Ndong
23. Beyond Resource Violence: Civil Society and the Challenges of Peace Building in West Africa (2009), Edited by Okechukwu Ibeanu and Jibrin Ibrahim
24. Civil Society and Conflict Prevention in Sene Gambia (2010), Edited by Jibrin Ibrahim and Ebrima Sall

25. Gender and Taxation in Nigeria: An Analysis of Direct and Indirect Taxes (2011), Edited by Professor Christiana E.E. Okojie
26. China – Nigeria Relations: Search for a New Beginning (2012), Edited by Chijioke Kelechi Iwuamadi
27. Breaking Point: A Review of Progress Towards the Attainment of the Millennium Development Goals MDGs (2012), Edited by Professor Abalu
28. The State Independent Electoral Commission in Nigeria: A Study of Bauchi, Edo, Imo, Kaduna, Lagos and Plateau States (2013), Edited by Massoud Omar
29. The Millennium Development Goals & Poverty Reduction in Nigeria: Progress, Prospects & Policy Implications February 2014
30. From Direct Capture to Mandate Protection: Field Experiences from the 2011 General Elections (soon to be published)
31. Citizenship and Indigeneity Conflicts in Nigeria: Edited by J. Ibrahim and J. Golwa
32. Rural Banditry and Conflicts in Northern Nigeria: Edited by Prof. Mohammed Kuna and Dr. Jibrin Ibrahim
33. Policy Brief on “Approaches to Dealing with Violent Extremism: The Case of North East Nigeria”
34. The State of Inequality in West Africa, 2016, foreword by Idayat Hassan
35. The Legacy of Mauritania’s Colonels: West Africa’s Next Crisis. By Boubacar N’Diye (Ph.D).