MONITORING PROGRESS ON THE SDGS: A LENS FROM 3 REGIONS OF NIGERIA

Citizens’ Report
September 2018
Nigeria faces a huge development challenge of epidemic proportions. With 87 million people in poverty, 13.2 million boys and girls out of school and lacking quality education, the widening gap between the rich and poor along with 4.1 million Nigerians occupying the middle class, the complexity of sustainable development problems faced by majority of Nigerians have become a priority that needs urgent forms of action enabled by new systems and models.

An era of a new global developmental framework is coming at a pivotal time in Nigeria’s quest to address its growing challenges. Three years ago, Member States of the United Nations including Nigeria adopted ‘Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UN 2030 Agenda)’, an integrated framework of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) spanning economic, environmental and social development. By achieving this Agenda, no Nigerian will be left behind.

While we are witnessing a growing momentum and signs of coalescence around the SDGs across Ministries and Agencies of Government, backing progress made so far with citizens driven evidence is at best weak: the aggregate impact of the SDGs at the national level does not focus on citizens’ priorities but input and remains largely underreported, mostly due to missing data and weak accountability systems.

This report resulting from the Citizens’ Report Initiative (CRI), launched by African Monitor is an attempt to fill this void. Inspired by the need to effectively capture the voices and realities of the average African citizen to produce demand driven data (produced by citizens) focused on specific goals and needs of the people to complement existing but limited data which is supply driven (produced by governments).

For this iteration of the CRI, we chose to focus on the progress made on 6 Sustainable Development Goals (1, 4, 5, 8, 10 and 16) through carefully selected targets and indicators agreed by the United Nation’s member states together with civil society and business in 2015. The methodology developed in this report has been applied in six countries: Ghana, Zambia, Botswana, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Malawi.

While we are still in the early days towards the journey to attain the goals, the results of this research and their development implications are hard to ignore. The results draw on citizens generated data captured by trained youth champions in three out of the six geo-political zones (South West, South-South and North Central) of Nigeria. Our report tracks the implementation of the SDGs (through unheard voices of citizens), with a view to projecting these into the National Development Agenda.

Most importantly, this work reaffirms the need for open, inclusive and transparent follow-up process in which all stakeholders are encouraged to participate. The implication of this is that we will not move the needle on the attainment of the SDGs unless we bring a wide range of stakeholders including youths and civil society organisations around the same table. If we get this right development outcomes will improve significantly for the poor, citizens will gain confidence to claim their rights and solve local problems.

This is not going to be an easy task. But we are convinced that this type of citizens generated data will arm policymakers, civil society and business with the knowledge and data they need to design and scale solutions that benefit the poor, create better outcomes and “leave no one behind”.

While the findings are not in themselves sufficient to mandate
specific policies, the analysis contained therein offers a deep conceptual basis for priority setting exercises around attainment of the focal targets and indicators in national planning and merits the support of critical stakeholders. The report thus provides a foundation for the next steps in accelerating progress towards attainment of the global goals: fully including citizens in monitoring its implementation and impact.

Acknowledgements

The Nigeria Network of NGOs, host organisation for the CRI in Nigeria is extremely grateful to every community, organisation and individual that agreed to participate in this research, which would not have been possible without their willingness to engage, share their views and perspectives on the six goals and how it impacts their life.

This report was written by Oyebisi, Babatunde Oluseyi and Olufunke Samuel. The Nigeria Network of NGOs wishes to thank the report authors as well as those that contributed to the research design, data collection, data analysis, drafting and report review, including Oyindamola Aramide, Temitope Ogunweide, Adeola Odunsi, Hammed Alabi, Enitan Oluwa, Timileyin Olaifa, Tobi Akande, Chidinma Okpara and Timothy Odion.

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Methodology

The research process involved the selection of the SDGs targets and indicators to be monitored, quantitative and qualitative research methods; 3 in-depth citizens hearings followed by an analysis of the information gathered and a national dialogue with youth and civil society organisations to shed light on the diverging and converging perspectives from the field and to seek recommendations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.</td>
<td>1.2.1 Proportion of people who have an independent source of income by sex and age.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.</td>
<td>1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, workinjury victims and the poor and the vulnerable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.</td>
<td>1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.4.2 Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: Goals, selected targets and indicators
### 4 Quality Education

**Target**
- **4.a** Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

**Indicators**
- **4.a.1** Proportion of schools with access to:
  - (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions).

**Target**
- **4.c** By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States.

**Indicators**
- **4.c.1** Proportion of teachers in:
  - (a) pre-primary;
  - (b) primary;
  - (c) lower secondary;
  - (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country.

### 5 Gender Equality

**Target**
- **5.4** Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.

**Indicators**
- **5.4.1** Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location.

**Target**
- **5.a** Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.

**Indicators**
- **5.a.1** Proportion of teachers in:
  - (a) pre-primary;
  - (b) primary;
  - (c) lower secondary;
  - (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country.

- **5.a.2** Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women’s equal rights to land ownership and/or control.

### 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth

**Target**
- **8.3** Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.

**Indicators**
- **8.3.1** Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment, by sex.

**Target**
- **8.5** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

**Indicators**
- **8.5.1** Employment to working age population ratio (15 years and above) by sex age and disability status.

**Target**
- **8.6** By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.

**Indicators**
- **8.6.1** Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training.
To carry out a thorough research and reach out to an audience reflecting the realities of Nigerians, the study population comprises all households in Nigeria, selected through multistage sampling procedure amidst a five-stage sampling procedure having elements of purposiveness and randomness.

Figure 2: Sampling procedure

1. Random selection of 3 geopolitical zones
2. Random selection of one state per selected geopolitical zone
3. Purposive selection of one Local Government Area per state
4. Purposive selection of one communities per selected Local Government Areas
5. Random selection of 200 Households from each community to generate 600 respondents
Survey tools were used to elicit responses from each selected household in the selected communities. The survey consisted of 44 closed ended and multiple-choice questions pertaining to source of income, population covered by social protection, access to basic services, tenure rights to land, employment, and satisfaction with public services as well as inclusiveness in decision making. The survey data collected was analysed using the statistical programme SPSS. Overall, there were a total of 600 survey responses.

The citizens' hearings gathered views from 212 participants ranging from students, farmers, self-employed, unemployed through to civil servants selected across different religious, educational, gender, ethnic and occupational diversities. Each hearing dwelled on issues relating to participants experience relating to poverty, education, gender equality, employment and security. Hearings, while adopting in-depth general group style were conducted in local languages with translations provided where needed.

Hearings typically began with introductions of participants and brief introductions on the SDGs, CRI and focus goals following which participants were prompted by questions asked based on the hearing guide developed by the African Monitor team.

**Figure 3: No of Citizens’ Hearing participants by State**

To reach out to communities in selected states, the project team utilized the support of the Nigeria Network of NGOs membership database and also conducted an extensive mapping to identify member civil society organisations with the right experience, trust and credibility to access these communities. The local organisations led our community entry activities and ensured inclusiveness.

**Figure 4: Respondents by gender across study areas**
Key Findings

Analysis of Goals

This section presents the main findings from both the survey and citizens hearing on selected targets and indicators relating to goal 1—end poverty, goal 4—quality education, goal 5—gender equality, goal 8—decent work and economic growth, goal 10—reduce income inequality and goal 16—peace, justice and strong institutions. The datasets focus on indicators selected to measure progress for each goal as seen in Figure 1. Overall the results suggest an ongoing need for all stakeholders (government, civil society and business) to implement policies and programmes including scaling up initiatives that can lift millions of people out of poverty. The following section examine the issues according to data analysed from the survey and in-depth citizens hearings held in Oyo, Kwara and Delta States based on prompted questions.

The Poverty Trilemma

Many of the developmental challenges acting as big influences on poverty globally are amplified in Nigeria. With 87 million people\(^1\) living in poverty according to a May 2018 report by the Brookings Institute. Nigeria is one of the most vulnerable countries of the world, as every minute according to the report six Nigerians fall into poverty. The government is looking to different sectors of the economy through the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan\(^2\) to improve the situation and to ensure that many Nigerians are lifted out of poverty by the year 2020.

The connection between income, home ownership, access to basic services and social assistance is a central measure for gauging progress on how Nigerian’s are seeing an end to poverty. The trade-off that exists between income and the three hierarchy of needs (self-fulfillment, psychological and basic) is a central dilemma or ‘trilemma’ for poverty reduction strategies. Income and wellbeing are intricately linked. The effects of poverty and stress associated with it can be lasting contributing to increased risks of dropping out of school, poor adult health, and poor employment outcomes, among other adverse consequences.

Only 45 per cent of the respondents had at least one income earner in their household, with a little over half (54.8%) having none. Given that over half of the respondents are without income and many of those concerned suffer frequently from issues arising from lack of income and those associated with poverty, the expansion of social assistance to these group of people is a top priority.

We put the question of government assistance to our survey participants. We asked them if they have access to any form of social assistance from government, not surprisingly a small percentage, 13.7% claimed to have received one form of assistance or the other from government while 86.3% of the households have never received any form of social assistance from government.

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\[^1\] [https://worldpoverty.io/](https://worldpoverty.io/)

During the citizens hearing, participants noted an increase in poverty and deaths because of hunger when asked to share their experience of poverty.

In Malate, Moro community of Kwara State we heard: “The family did not have food, and they were suffering, and this was what caused their death, we tried to help but even us, we are poor so couldn’t do much”. Speaking on their experience of poverty, participants from Gbopa community in Ido Local Government, Oyo State noted: “look at our roads, look at our community, we have no schools, we no health centers, we have nothing to support us, all we do is suffer, government has never done anything for us”.

“Poverty is rising in our area, the rich are getting rich and...
Education as a vaccine to ending poverty

Addressing participants at the Presidential retreat for members of the State Executive Council in November 2017, President Muhammadu Buhari was quoted by Vanguard Newspaper\(^1\) to have stated: “The state of education in Nigeria calls for a serious concern and that is why we are all gathered here today. The problem is no longer a secret that the quality of education in Nigeria requires greater attention and improvement. With an estimated 13.2 million children out of school, high illiteracy level, infrastructural deficit and decay, unqualified teachers, and inadequate instructional materials, to mention some of the challenges, we can clearly see the effect of decades of neglect that the education sector has suffered”.

“The summit must work to enhance quality in, and access to, higher education and other challenges in the sector that will debar us from attaining the SDGs and be among the top 20 economies in the am delighted to welcome you all to this important ministerial summit which I consider crucial to our quest to improving the lot of our people through the provision of quality and functional education for all, at all levels.”

\(^1\) https://www.vanguardngr.com/2017/11/state-education-nigeria-calls-serious-concern-buhari/

Despite moves by the government, quality education is still some way off for most families, with households facing the dilemma of how to balance accessibility and affordability. Among our survey participants, 64.5% had education by attending a formal school, of these 27% completed primary education, 25.5% secondary, 6.4% adult education and 4.5% tertiary education. We asked how many members of their household have completed schooling stages, on the average 2 members per household surveyed have completed primary school while 3 completed secondary school. 52.5% of respondents attend fee paying schools.
**Figure 7: School attendance and Education attainment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you or any member of your household attended school</th>
<th>Delta</th>
<th>Kwara</th>
<th>Oyo</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>72.2</td>
<td>69.7</td>
<td>75.3</td>
<td>64.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>30.3</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>35.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational attainment</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>30.3</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>35.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete primary school</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed primary school</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>27.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete secondary school</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed secondary school</td>
<td>42.3</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>47.3</td>
<td>25.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete tertiary education</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As one of the respondents at the citizens hearing noted:

“There are no government schools within the community, so our children have to go 17-20km into town to attend private schools, sometimes we book commercial bike men to carry them and they refuse to come because of the bad roads”. (Ido LGA, Oyo).

“Although, the government do not seem committed to working on the educational sector generally, in the country, the situation is worse in our own community, they say they practice free education, but it is not true, there is no free education in this community because there is no education.” (Moro LGA, Kwara)

Apart from paying school fees, respondents also paid additional costs such as text books (45.5%), Uniforms (65.5%), Shoes (55.0%) and Transport (15.0%). When asked if they can afford additional costs associated with schooling for their children, 90.1% said they are unable to afford it, 9.9% are able to.

With so much emphasis on education as a tool for lifting households and individuals out of poverty and despite a larger percentage not being able to afford costs associated with schooling, findings from our survey revealed that 66.2% of our respondents are not letting school fees and additional costs to prevent them or members of their households from attending school anytime in the last 12 months though they cited lack of money for transportation and feeding and sickness as other reasons that has prevented their children from attending school in the last 12 months.

Comments from the citizens hearing reflects the above suggestions from our respondents:

“The schools are so far that parents pay about N15, 000 naira on a monthly basis to motor cyclists for transportation and the children do not get to class until 9:30am and then after school closes, they often get back home as late as 7:30pm but when it rains, they get home later” (Gbopa Community, Ido LGA, Oyo state)

“Some of our parents just put their children in any school no matter the quality because they do not want their children to be the only ones not in school in the community neither do they want other community members to query them” (Ughelli North, Delta).

“Many youths drop out of school “Because the roads are unmotorable, teachers who, mostly, live out of town cannot get transportation into the community and since they are oftentimes unpaid or underpaid by the government, they do not come so they children get discouraged and end up not going to school (Moro. Kwara)”

We asked our survey respondents other reasons why any member of their household is not attending school, they cited reasons such as sickness (25.5%), pregnancy (44.5%) and Marriage (55.0%).
Gender equality is considered a critical element in achieving Decent Work for All Women and Men, in order to effect social and institutional change that leads to sustainable development with equity and growth. Gender equality by the number of hours girls and boys under age 18 are spending on domestic and care work.

Respondents engage in these types of domestic and care work the most; growing or collecting food for the family (67.5%), cooking (55.0%) and fetching water 53.5% with majority (75.5%) spending less than 2 hours and 24.5% spending between 2-4hours on the average on these activities. Boys under 18 are spending less than 2hrs on these activities while girls of the same age are spending between 2-4hours.

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**Figure 8: Fees, additional cost and reasons for not attending school.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons for not attending school</th>
<th>Delta</th>
<th>Kwara</th>
<th>Oyo</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sickness</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>25.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>38.5</td>
<td>44.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>45.2</td>
<td>55.3</td>
<td>44.0</td>
<td>55.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are you required to pay school fees in school?</th>
<th>Delta</th>
<th>Kwara</th>
<th>Oyo</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>52.3</td>
<td>48.5</td>
<td>62.5</td>
<td>52.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>51.5</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td>47.5</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional cost paid besides school fees</th>
<th>Delta</th>
<th>Kwara</th>
<th>Oyo</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Text books</td>
<td>48.5</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>45.3</td>
<td>45.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>60.2</td>
<td>66.3</td>
<td>65.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes</td>
<td>55.4</td>
<td>67.4</td>
<td>67.9</td>
<td>55.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Figure 9: Distribution of gender roles amongst household members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours spent on activities</th>
<th>Delta</th>
<th>Kwara</th>
<th>Oyo</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 2hrs</td>
<td>88.5</td>
<td>92.3</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>75.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-4 hrs</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>24.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average time girls under 18 spend on household chores</th>
<th>Delta</th>
<th>Kwara</th>
<th>Oyo</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 2hrs</td>
<td>91.3</td>
<td>82.6</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>25.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-4 hrs</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>72.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-7 hours</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average time boy under 18 spend on household chores</th>
<th>Delta</th>
<th>Kwara</th>
<th>Oyo</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 2hrs</td>
<td>71.7</td>
<td>60.9</td>
<td>70.8</td>
<td>70.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-4 hrs</td>
<td>28.3</td>
<td>39.1</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>29.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-7 hours</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The inequality that is being spurred by gender is reflected in submissions made by participants at the citizens hearing in Moro LGA of Kwara State:

“Females who lose their husbands have to contend with unfriendly systems as well as family members in order to cater for the well-being of the family”.

“Lack of access to the scarce employment opportunities, land and other resources available to their male counterparts have jeopardized women’s wellbeing and personal happiness”.

“I rely on my husband for almost every of my need, as I do not have the capital to establish my chosen business, although I still try to save the little I can, so I can also become self-reliant”

“Lack of access to finances do not allow us undertake the business opportunities that can better our lives, we cannot cultivate much or increase our productive capacity due to low access”

But in Delta state, a woman observed that:

“In the history of poverty in our communities, women suffer most because our husbands are not empowered, most of them are jobless, and so, us wives have to struggle extra hard with little so as to cater for our children”

They noted that women are most disadvantaged and do not have access to the scarce employment opportunities which may be available to their male counterparts. A woman in Delta state lamented further:

“When it comes to inheritance, women do not get a share of the land belonging to the family, but if they need some for farming, they are often given”

On balance, our survey respondents suggest that female head of households spend more time in domestic and care work using between 5-7 hours while male head household spend less than 2hrs. Asked what they would do, if they could spend less time on domestic and care work, majority would want to use their spare time to rest, engage in business, watch TV and read books.

The increase in gender discrimination and harassment has continued to put barriers to increasing the chances of overcoming poverty more quickly. As findings from survey respondents show households have witnessed in the last 12 months, 37.1 % economic status-based discrimination, 27.2 % gender discrimination and 15.1% discrimination based on education levels. Public spaces are becoming unsafe, as it has the highest frequency (65.8%) as the place where discrimination or harassment took place the most. Sadly majority (96%) of respondents are not aware of any government effort against domestic violence or gender inequality in their state.
### Table: Forms of discrimination and where it took place.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forms of discrimination</th>
<th>Delta</th>
<th>Kwara</th>
<th>Oyo</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic</td>
<td>42.9</td>
<td>30.1</td>
<td>39.3</td>
<td>37.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>41.6</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>27.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where the discrimination took place</th>
<th>Delta</th>
<th>Kwara</th>
<th>Oyo</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family/friend settings</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>25.4</td>
<td>30.1</td>
<td>25.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public place</td>
<td>72.6</td>
<td>66.5</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>65.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Decent work, economic growth and income inequality

As the Nigerian economy continues to recover from recession, we are seeing slower growth, widening inequalities and not enough jobs to keep up with the growing labour force and number of graduates produced by higher institutions in the country. As at the third quarter of 2017, unemployment figures stood at 18.8%.

The SDGs promote sustained economic growth, higher levels of productivity and technological innovation. Encouraging entrepreneurship and job creation are key to this, as are effective measures to eradicate forced labour, slavery and human trafficking. With these targets in mind, the goal is to achieve full and productive employment, and decent work, for all women and men by 2030.5

Our findings show, a large number of survey participants (53.8%) are not employed. Of the 46.2% that are employed, 44.4% are temporarily employed. A mean difference from our analysis suggests males (1.48) were more employed than females.

In many households (49.5%), only one person earns a regular income, among 28.5% two persons, 15% have households where no one earns a regular income and 7% had more than two members earning a regular income. 30.5% of household members had between one to four members (within ages 18-35) who ought to be in school but were not while up to 26% of respondents had above 4 persons attending school.

This implies that about 56.5% of household members between ages 18-35 years who ought to be in school were not enrolled in school. A household had an average of 3 people who ought to be in school and are not, and at least one person of age 18-35 who ought to be at work and is not

A citizen hearing participant explained:

“Government only do things into their own pockets, we are graduates and want to work but end up not getting jobs, even graduates with sound results end up doing menial jobs or riding okada (commercial motorcycle)"

The hearings further gathered:

“Major cause of youth unemployment is the lack of functional industries in the country. They lamented that this factor is coupled with the prevalent issue of duplication of positions, offices and workers within the

civil service”.

“Favouritism based on “connections with key people in the society further encourage marginalization of young people at the grassroots”.

On responding to questions on youths living with disability, a participant at the hearing said, “Access to services to protect the interests of people living with disabilities is non-existent”.

What then do survey participants tell us about how they are covering their needs? 56.6% cover their needs by consuming agricultural goods they have produced themselves, 10.39% through income from formal employment. 41.75% said income from growing/raising agricultural goods and selling them has helped them to cover their needs. 23.5% cover theirs through income from self-employment.

Income inequality is widening between the rich and the poor. “The gap is too much, the rich are getting richer while the poor are suffering”, this is the view expressed by a citizen hearing participant in Ughelli North LGA of Delta State. “Income and living conditions are not improving, in fact it is moving from worse to worst” he concluded.

Selfishness, corruption and lack of sensitivity to the needs of the people on the part of government were cited as reasons for the increasing rate of income inequality by participants.

Government programmes on small scale agriculture input has benefited 14.4% of those surveyed, public works 37.5%, small business training and support 15.5% and another 15.5% benefiting from public sector employment.

Sharing their views on governments intervention to reduce income inequality a participant expressed this sentiment: “in the last 12 months, the has hardly been any concrete government intervention solely aimed at tackling inequality, things seem to be getting worse as time pass”.

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**Figure 11: Household members benefiting from Government Programmes.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than two</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Peaceful society and accountable government

Peace, stability, protection of rights, effective and inclusive governance are an important must have if the SDGs are to be achieved. Increasingly we are seeing a Nigeria that is divided along ethnic and religious lines. Some regions of the country enjoy relative peace, security and some level of prosperity while others are deep in conflicts and growing violence. Crime, sexual violence, discrimination, exploitation and insecurity is becoming prevalent too.

When we asked survey respondents if they feel safe walking around the area they live during the day, 55% though that their neighborhood is safe during the day however 87.6% do not feel safe walking around during the night when asked, citing crime and political conflict as the main cause of safety in their communities. Our survey respondents suggest neighborhoods are becoming unsafe according to 73.9% of them who said they feel personally unsafe walking in the neighborhood with very few feeling unsafe while in school.

As well as guaranteeing their safety, government face a continual need to deliver services to and for citizens to benefit from them. Our survey participants where unsatisfied with the assistance provided by the police, health workers (clinic or hospital), electricity distributors and social welfare officers during the last 12months when they visited them.

In seeking help from a government service or official, 92.7% of our respondents were not asked to pay bribe in order to get the help while nearly all the respondents claimed they have not paid a bribe to get help from a government service or official.

There is a growing acceptance that sustainable development must involve good governance and the co-operation and participation of many stakeholders, including the general public. We asked our survey participants if they have been invited by a government official or organisation to participate in a consultation or decision-making process about issues affecting their community, almost all the respondents answered in the negative.

In discussions of governance, local governments have a strong role to play in promoting local democracy and enhancing development; we sought to know how our respondents feel about their local government, were interested in knowing if the municipality listened to people in their area, 91.5% strong disagreed. 5.8% agree that the municipality cares for the people in the area equally. In terms of representation, 92.6% felt that the municipality do not stand for them.

**Figure 12: Quality of assistance by service providers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Unsatisfactory</th>
<th>Satisfactory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>88.1%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>96.4%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>98.0%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>89.8%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Welfare</td>
<td>90.8%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion and Recommendation

The analysis presented in this report has its independent value rooted in both citizens generated data and voice but its significance will only emerge when used for policy advocacy and planning.

Evidence emanating from this work cannot only inform policy discussions and catalyse advocacy, but they are also a starting point. The three communities and regions chosen for this research were a convenience sample offering entry point for the analysis of other regions.

Given the size and population of Nigeria, how do we have an analysis that can be extended to other regions of the country? How can this initiative run in other parts of the country? What does action on the realities from this research look like? What policy options and recommendations for attaining the goals are there for policy makers? What additional evidence is needed for planning?

These questions informed the hosting of a national dialogue on the 28th of August 2018 in Lagos, where findings from this report was presented to a board section of civil society organisations and other critical stakeholders in the implementation of the SDGs especially citizens and citizen organisations to discuss outcomes and together proffer workable solutions and recommendations.

This report has presented the findings of a research process involving a household survey, in-depth hearing from family heads and individuals as well as a national dialogue on the findings. A wide array of issues requiring policy prioritization, policy areas for improvement, ideas about the state of affairs in relation to public participation, service delivery, discrimination, income inequality, decent work, education, peace and poverty were described comprising the opinions of 600 survey respondents, 212 participants attending the citizens hearing and 60 civil society organisations participating at the national dialogue.

Overall, several common trends were seen in the study area. Half of the households in the three states had at least one person earning a regular income. The average age of regular income earner was 43 years. More than half (50.5%) of the households surveyed have members with no regular income with an average age of 34 years, suggesting the high rate of unemployment amongst young people.
Government interventions, support programs and schemes were either not popular or accessible for many respondents, a view that was consistent across survey and interview data collected. The fact that these interventions were not popular amongst majority of respondents suggests the need for an improved communication strategy to increase awareness on government interventions aimed at assisting citizens.

Another consistent finding from this report is the ownership of homes with almost half of survey respondents owning a home with full rights to resell and 30% with authority from landlord. While data suggests an improved housing outcome, worrisome though is the accessibility of facilities in these houses, a little over half of the respondents have access to toilet facilities, 40.5% electricity and barely 32.5% pipe borne water, these comes with negative consequences for attaining health outcomes within the SDGs.

Nevertheless, it is also striking to note there was an average of two and three members of households surveyed having primary and secondary education respectively though majority attend fee paying schools. Heads of households have had difficulties paying other costs associated with their children's education, majority of them have not allowed payment of school fees to prevent their wards from attending school though in some instances cost of transportation and feeding had prevented them from attending in the last 12 months. We see the emphasis placed on education by our respondents and their investments although many claimed that they can't afford this.

While households are making necessary investments, data on educational challenges cleaned for the citizens hearing such as unqualified teachers, proximity to schools, lack of facilities such toilets and modern teaching aids, suggests that urgent attention needs to be paid to the quality of education in Nigeria. The growing inequalities in the number of hours spent by girls on house chores (2-4hrs on the average) and less than 2hrs for boys shows the growing disparity in gender equality. Mirrored across data for men and women in terms of employment, access to land and support programs more men are employed than women, women had lesser access to land and support programs. Educational, economic and gender discrimination are prevalent across data analysed for the survey. This provides a broader indication on the potential impact of gender equality to the attainment of any of the SDGs.

Neighborhoods are becoming unsafe to walk at night with citizens feeling unsafe in their own neighborhood. Crime and political conflicts are the two major causes according to respondents. It seems that the current rhetoric of peace and peaceful societies now need to shift to forming true partnerships with citizens and community groups to foster and facilitate peaceful cohesion. Institutions in governance and those provide services will need to demonstrate more commitment by ensuring that unsatisfactory rating given to assistance sought by citizens becomes satisfactory. Data collected showed unsatisfactory rating for services rendered by the police, health care, electricity and social service providers.

Data collected on perception about local governments provides important broader indications for citizens participation in their own development and the growth of local democracy. Nearly all respondent felt that municipalities are not standing for them, neither do they care for their needs. In particular these findings demonstrate the need for inclusion of citizens in the decision making process including creating arenas for consultation on issues that affect their community.

What then is to be done to address the challenges and gaps identified. While hoping that our contribution will encourage further work, we have analysed the recommendations from the 60 civil society organisations attending the national dialogue framing them into four overarching recommendations as outlined below:

1. Strengthening institutions and governance capacity including lead agency capacity to align national development plans and budgets to the global goals, its targets and indicators.

2. Integrate citizens consultation and engagement in all phases of planning, design operation, monitoring and evaluation.

3. Rhetoric’s around engagement and partnership with civil society must shift to action by ensuring that government consults and include civil society in all phases of planning and implementation of the SDGs.
4. Formulation and implementation of well designed review framework and engagement of sub-national governments in their adoption through the crafting of a national vision that is SDGs based, engagement of state and local governments within a sense of shared responsibility and strong commitment to the prosperity of people and planet.

The time to support concerted efforts to attain the SDGs is now. Growing income inequality, weak education systems, gender inequality, youth unemployment, weak confidence in local government systems, insecurity, conflicts and weak institutions present a real threat to the country’s development. Investing in effective interventions and scaling up already successful one to millions of Nigerians who need them would bring millions more out of poverty.

Prioritising the SDGs and averting preventable deaths owing to issues associated with poverty and other developmental challenges will contribute to human capital accumulation, a key factor for sustainable growth and enhancement of the nation’s cumulative wealth.

The race to attain the SDGs is only twelve more years away, progress will have to be swift. The time is now for leaders to re-commit to attaining and surpassing the goals, targets and indicators they committed to three years ago, they cannot afford to leave anyone behind.
ABOUT NNNGO
The Nigeria Network of NGOs (NNNGO) is the first generic membership body for civil society organizations in Nigeria that facilitates effective advocacy on issues of poverty and other developmental issues. Established in 1992, NNNGO represents over 2,400 organizations ranging from small groups working at the local level, to larger networks working at the national level.

The Network is charged with the objective of identifying, registering, coordinating, building capacity and mobilizing civil society organizations to promote interconnectivity and bring equity, justice, peace, and development to grassroots communities throughout Nigeria, including the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

ABOUT AFRICAN MONITOR
African Monitor is an independent, not-for-profit Pan-African body that works to monitor development funding commitments and to advocate for effective delivery for the benefit of the poor and vulnerable.

ABOUT CRI
The Citizens’ Report Initiative is a project that puts citizens in at the centre of driving accountable implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

This project which has a strong presence at the local, national and regional level is driven by the theory that when citizens effectively hold their governments accountable for delivery, democracy is strengthened, development outcomes improve significantly for the poor, and citizens gain confidence to claim their rights and solve local problems.