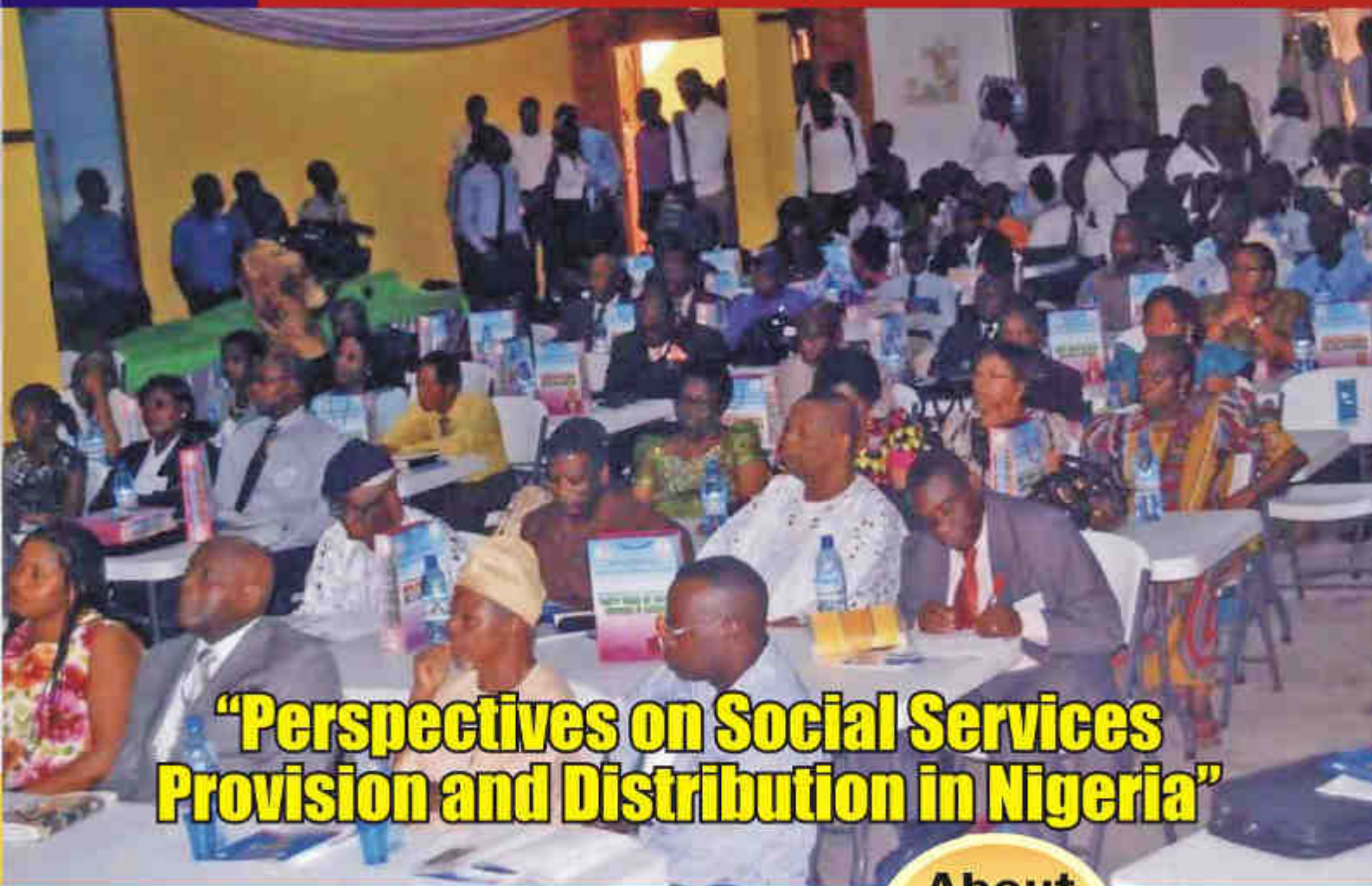




CPED-Research For Development News

Vol. 3, No 1 June 2012

A Bi-Annual Publication of the Centre for Population and Environmental Development



"Perspectives on Social Services Provision and Distribution in Nigeria"

Also in this issue

About
CPED

2

4 Editorial Policy of Research for Development News (CRDN)

5 Editor's Note

This Publication is supported by the *Think Tank Initiative Programme* initiated and managed by the *International Development Research Centre (IDRC)*



About CPED

The Centre for Population and Environmental Development (CPED) is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit and non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting sustainable development and reducing poverty and inequality through policy oriented research and active engagement on development issues. CPED started as an action research group based in the University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria in 1985. The action research group was concerned with applied research on sustainable development and poverty reduction challenges facing Nigeria. The research group also believed that communication, outreach and intervention programmes, which can demonstrate the relevance and effectiveness of research findings and recommendations for policy and poverty reduction, especially at the grassroots level, must be key components of its action research. In order to translate its activities more widely, the Benin Social Science Research Group was transformed into an independent research and action Centre in 1998. It was formally registered in Nigeria as such by the Corporate Affairs Commission in 1999.

The establishment of CPED is influenced by three major developments. In the first place, the economic crisis of the 1980s that affected African countries including Nigeria led to poor funding of higher education, the emigration of academics to advanced countries which affected negatively, the quality of research on national development issues emanating from the universities which are the main institutions with the structures and

capacity to carry out research and promote discourse on socio-economic development. Secondly, the critical linkage between an independent research or think tank organisation and an outreach programme that translates the findings into policy and at the same time test the applicability and effectiveness of the recommendations emanating from research findings has been lacking. Finally, an independent institution that is focusing on a holistic approach to sustainable development and poverty reduction in terms of research, communications and outreach activities is needed in Nigeria. CPED recognises that the core functions of new knowledge creation (research) and the application of knowledge for development (communication and outreach) are key challenges facing sustainable development and poverty reduction in Nigeria where little attention has been paid to the use of knowledge generated in academic institutions. Thus, CPED was created as a way of widening national and regional policy and development debate, provide learning and research opportunities and give visibility to action programmes relating to sustainable development and poverty reduction in different parts of Nigeria and beyond.

The vision is to be a key non-state actor in the promotion of grassroots development in the areas of population and environment in Africa. The overall mission is to promote action-based research programs, carry out communication to policy makers and undertake outreach/intervention programmes on population and environmental development in Africa.

CONTENTS

- Communique of International Colloquium On Thirty Years Of Social Services Delivery In Nigeria March 26-28, 2012 At Precious Palm Royal Hotel, Benin City, Nigeria
- Report of the International Colloquium On Thirty Years Of Social Services Delivery In Nigeria March 26-28, 2012 At Precious Palm Royal Hotel, Benin City, Nigeria
- Brief Reports on CPED Activities

6

8

27

EDITORIAL TEAM

● Professor Andrew G. Onokerhoraye	Editor
● Mr. Johnson Dudu	Member
● Mr. Job Eronmhonsele	Member
● Ms. Eloho Tobrise	Member
● Professor Peter Odjugo	Member
● Ms Mercy Makpor	Member

Editorial Policy of CPED's Research for Development News (CRDN)

CPED's Research for Development News (CRDN) is the official publication of the Centre for Population and Environmental Development (CPED). Through this medium, CPED seeks to reach out to relevant policy makers and other stakeholders on key issues concerning development in Nigeria in particular and other parts of Africa in general.

Vision: CRDN seeks to inform, educate and report development issues and challenges as well as the progress in the research and outreach activities of the Centre for the consumption of policy makers, other stakeholders and the reading public in its quest to promote sustainable, holistic and grassroots development.

Mission Statement: To provide a medium for drawing the attention of policy makers, other key stakeholders and the general public to the issues and challenges of development and the policy response needed to promote equitable development.

Core Values: The two core values of CRDN are derived from those of CPED. The first relates to the fact that the universal ideals of intellectual and academic freedom is promoted and respected by CRDN. In this respect CRDN will remain an independent, professional and development news letter. Secondly, CRDN is a non-partisan newsletter which is not associated with any political party or organization. However, when the need arises, CRDN in its publication of CPED's research, advocacy and outreach activities will address key political issues that have considerable impact on development, especially at the local level.

Editorial Board: The Editorial Board of CRDN shall be made up of CPED's Executive Director, two professional staff of CPED and two other members from outside CPED comprising mainly of CPED Fellows.

Editorial Policy: While CRDN will report on any

development issue and the various activities of CPED, CRDN will, as much as possible, focus on a particular development theme in one edition. The theme to be addressed in a subsequent edition shall be announced for the benefit of contributors in advance.

Adverts: There shall be created in every issue, a space for advertisement. The cost of the advert placements shall be determined by the Editorial Board.

Manuscript submission: Persons interested in contributing to any edition of CRDN are welcomed to do so. Manuscripts should be original with a maximum length of five pages typewritten with double-line spacing and accompanied with biographical sketch of the author which must not be more than fifty words. Each article should be typed on A 4 paper with a margin of one inch round. Manuscripts already published elsewhere shall not be accepted.

Direct all correspondence and enquiries to:

The Editor,
CPED's Research for Development News;
BS-1 and SM-2, Ugbowo Shopping Centre,
P.O. Box 10085, Ugbowo Post Office
Benin City, Nigeria
Email address: enquiries@cpedng.org

Editor's Note



Professor Emeritus Andrew G. Onokerhoraye, PhD, DDM, JP
Editor

The Centre for Population and Environmental Development (CPED) is pleased to launch its *Research for Development News*, with support from the *Think Tank Initiative* initiated and managed by the *International Development Research Centre (IDRC)*. CPED's *Research for Development News (CRDN)* series is published twice a year in June and December. The Series will report on the research, communication and intervention activities of CPED with the major aim of informing policy makers and other key stakeholders on development issues as well as informing key stakeholders on CPED's activities on research and intervention. In this respect the editorial policy of *CPED's Research for Development News* is to focus on one major development issue in each number of CRDN.

This June 2012 edition of CRDN is focusing on

reporting the key issues emanating from the International Colloquium on Thirty Years of Social Services in Nigeria held from Monday, 26th to Wednesday 28th March 2012 in Benin City, Nigeria. The workshop was organized by the Centre for Population and Environmental Development (CPED) and the Department of Geography and Regional Planning, University of Benin, Benin City. The workshop received funding support from the *Think Tank Initiative (TTI)* managed by the *International Development Research Centre (IDRC)*, the Federal Government of Nigeria, Delta State Government, Edo State Government and Ondo State Government. This edition of the newsletter presents a summary of some of the papers delivered at the workshop and the communiqué of the workshop. Subsequent editions of the Newsletter will present some other papers and conclusions of the workshop.

Professor Emeritus Andrew G. Onokerhoraye
Editor,
June, 2012

INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM ON THIRTY YEARS OF SOCIAL SERVICES DELIVERY IN NIGERIA MARCH 26-28, 2012 AT PRECIOUS PALM ROYAL HOTEL, BENIN CITY, NIGERIA

COMMUNIQUE

The Department of Geography and Regional Planning, University of Benin and the Centre for Population and Environmental Development put together an International Colloquium to:

- i) Critically reflect on the history and character of social services provision, delivery and management
- ii) Review and build on the major contributions of Professor Emeritus Andrew G. Onokerhoraye to the study of social services provision and management, particularly through the book 'Social Services in Nigeria: An Introduction' published by Kegan Paul International in 1984
- iii) Critically reflect on the current state and trends of social services provision, management and delivery
- iv) Chart the path for the future of social services provision and management.

The Colloquium was held from Monday, 26th to Wednesday 28th March 2012 at Precious Palm Royal Hotel, Lagos-Benin Express Road, Benin City. The opening ceremony was chaired by Chief John Odigie-Oyegun, former Executive Governor of Edo State and was attended by distinguished persons including 4 Vice Chancellors, representatives of the governors of Edo State and Ondo State, representative of the Minister of Works, representative of the President of the Customary Court of Appeal in Edo State, a former Minister of Information and Culture, royal fathers and chiefs from the Benin Kingdom, professors and administrators from various universities within and outside Nigeria.

A book on 'Critical Issues on Nigeria's Development' edited by Professor Francis Okafor in honour of Professor Emeritus A.G. Onokerhoraye was presented at the opening ceremony. It was reviewed by Professor Eghosa Osaghae, Vice Chancellor, Igbiniedion University

and presented by Professor Eric Arubayi, Vice Chancellor, Delta State University and Professor Sam Oyovbaire, former Minister of Information and Culture.

Thirty two (32) lead papers were presented by commissioned authors who are distinguished professors in various disciplines while 35 other papers were presented by academics from universities across the geo-political zones in Nigeria. In all 24 universities in Nigeria, two in South Africa, one in Canada and two International Organizations/non-governmental organizations were represented.

The papers were presented in the following sub-sectors: Education, Health, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment, Housing, Urban Planning, Energy, Water, Poverty, Justice, Social Work, Employment and Income Generation, Museums and Tourism. Papers also focused on the goals and strategies of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS), Private sector roles, Public Private Partnerships, governance, regulatory frameworks and geospatial technology.

At the end of the colloquium, the following communiqué was issued.

1. The Role of the State in Social Services Delivery

The colloquium believes that a primary responsibility of governments is the adequate provision, effective delivery and efficient management of social services. In addition, governments have a responsibility to maximize the welfare of citizens, alleviate their sufferings and improve their livelihoods. Some governments tend to be reneging on this primary responsibility by inaction, insensitivity, vacation of space, poor commitments and poor funding.

2. The State of Social Services Delivery

The last thirty years have witnessed deterioration and decline in social services provision and delivery. The state of social services is characterized by inadequacy, poor quality, shoddy services, escalating costs and poor client satisfaction. The management of social services is characterized with poor planning, weak administrative and institutional capacity, poor consultation, poor work attitudes, indiscipline and lack of transparency. Nigeria is far away from the achievement of the MDGs in almost every area including health, housing, employment, education, and poverty.

However, there have been pockets of progress in recent times in some states of the federation particularly in terms of roads, health care, education and poverty alleviation.

3. The Challenges of Social Services Delivery

There are persisting challenges of ineffective utilization of funds to achieve set goals, poor budgetary provisions and funding, inappropriate and obsolete technology, equipment shortages, spatial inequality between rural and urban areas, and between and among states. Others are poor access to services, poor and inadequate manpower, inappropriate policy, planning and institutional frameworks, short term planning, poor monitoring and poor information dissemination.

Insecurity, violent conflicts, increasing criminality and poor policing are further threatening the existing social services infrastructure. In some sectors such as tourism, there has been almost a complete breakdown.

Government has failed clearly to provide social services in terms of adequacy and quality. The governance of the social services sector has not been driven by political commitment, citizen and pro-poor driven concerns and transparency.

As a consequence of inaction, inadequacy and poor quality, citizens, groups and corporate bodies have been pushed to occupy the space vacated by the state. The quality of life and livelihoods have

declined massively just as socio-economic inequalities and vulnerabilities have been heightened.

4. Emergent Strategies of Social Services Delivery

There are doubts about the sincerity of the emerging strategy of public-private partnership and the non-involvement of citizens in the conception and implementation of partnership projects.

5. The Pathway to Better Social Services Delivery and Management

The efficient provision and delivery of social services would check illegal migration, human capital flight, human trafficking, criminality, unemployment, low productivity and poverty. There is therefore an urgent need for greater commitment of governments towards social services delivery through:

- ▶ The payment of counterpart funds for which many governments are in default.
- ▶ Innovative ways of funding social services delivery, particularly urban and rural infrastructure that are citizen and beneficiary friendly.
- ▶ Adoption of sound methodological and technological approaches that could estimate and facilitate tax generation
- ▶ Consistent and stable social services delivery policies
- ▶ Effective combating of corruption and lack of transparency among political and bureaucratic leaders.
- ▶ Maintenance and optimization of existing social services
- ▶ Effective use of technology and communication skills in the management of social services delivery
- ▶ Development and effective implementation of pro-poor social services policies
- ▶ Broad involvement of stakeholders in the conception and management of social services delivery

Further research, publications and advocacy are required to clarify issues, provide understanding, identify problems and point the way forward.



A cross-section of participant of the opening ceremony of the International Colloquium on Thirty Years of Social Services Delivery in Nigeria

Key Elements of the Proceedings of the International Colloquium on Thirty Years of Social Services Delivery in Nigeria March 26-28, 2012 At Precious Palm Royal Hotel, Benin City, Nigeria

The colloquium discussed the challenges facing the provision and utilisation of a variety of social services including education, health, power supply, water supply, waste management, housing, justice, employment and the challenges facing the governance of social services. Some of the highlights are presented in this section.

Education in Nigeria

Nigeria is committed to the goals of learning and completion of basic education for all. However, the education system in the country is far from reaching these goals and the challenge implicit in this commitment is daunting. Less than one-third of the children of school age acquire the knowledge and the skills specified in the national primary education curriculum. This jeopardizes the very objectives of economic development, social progress, peace and democracy that are at the core

of the New Partnership for African Development. Most critical is the challenge of quality. An educated population is a precondition for meaningful participation in a world economy where competitive advantage is increasingly technology based and knowledge-driven. Education has been found to be a key determinant of increases in productivity and improvements in health and nutrition. It helps to lift people out of poverty, creates opportunities for social mobility and reduces economic and social disparities.

The challenge of basic education for all has to a large extent become one of quality. In many schools in Nigeria, the learning achievement is so low that after several years of schooling the students still have not obtained basic literacy and numeracy skills. Therefore, if the improvement of quality of instruction is not a focus, much of the programmes



on education for all might be wasted because important resources will be invested without being translated into learning outcomes and because children-future-adults risk dropping out of school too soon or being illiterate despite completing primary school. To reach the objectives of Education for All, it is particularly important to ensure that: (i) all children enter school; (ii) all children complete the primary cycle; and (iii) primary education imparts a set of basic competences.

The basic education system in Nigeria has made reasonable progress in terms of the first objectives, but major efforts remain to be undertaken to achieve the last two. Progress in these areas will require considerable improvement in the quality of education and measures that will ensure access to this quality education for the poorest populations. Quality and equity are thus the two inseparable objectives that Nigeria needs to pursue in their quest of Education for All. Some of the papers presented at the Colloquium addressed some of these challenges.

Leonard N. Muoghalu in his presentation begins with an introduction on the economic, social and political benefits of education, but laments that poor management can rob people of these immense benefits. The second segment sketches the conceptual delineation of secondary education (for this paper senior secondary and technical and vocational education sub-level). He points to the state of affairs in the developed countries of the world and sketches a conceptual model for the paper based on the interrelationships between key concepts in this sub-level of education. The model is based on the overall critical goals of Nigerian development linked to reform initiatives; a definition of the educational goals derived from the reform processes, the intervention strategies to address the challenges arising from the present management strategies that would eventually lead to quality secondary/technical and vocational education (TVE) output. The third section addresses the state of senior secondary, technical and vocational education as a sub-level in the overall educational system in terms of structure of management,

pattern and trends using performance indicators of enrolment, gender parity, teacher qualification and employment by gender, total teacher ratio, student-teacher ratio, student-classroom ratio, total quality teacher ratio, national enrolment, infrastructure and instructional materials (all considered in their variation across national space and at public and private school levels). The administration of this sub-level by tiers of government and private sector is examined. Reasons for the spatial pattern of welfare at these levels are highlighted. The institutional framework accounting for the current pattern is examined and includes the roles of Teachers' Registration Council, National Educational Research and Development Council, ETF, Inspectorate/Monitoring and Evaluation Units of Federal and State Ministries of Education, UNESCO, School Communities, WAEC, NECO, Private school proprietors, etc. The problems and challenges in the current management, including poor out from the sub-system, under enrolment, spatial and gender disparity, scanty nature of TVE, examination malpractice, poor funding, dearth of adequate number and quality of teachers, poor infrastructure and dearth of instructional facilities, curriculum reforms, and funding etc are discussed. The next section examines existing strategies/instruments, government policies and policy development overtime that have produced the present scenario. Against the above mosaic the paper examines reforms introduced as part of emerging trends and challenges of state policy. These reforms are as contained in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the NEEDS and National Policy on Education.

Chris Ikporukpo's contribution focused on state universities as follows: Although, universities are a relatively recent phenomenon in Nigeria, the growth in their number has been phenomenal. Generally speaking, State universities emerged much later than federal ones. Ikporukpo analyses the challenges and approaches in managing such issues in state universities. As part of the preliminary analysis, the changing complexity in university management and some peculiarities of state universities that are potentially challenge-generating were examined.



For the purpose of clarity the challenges of managing state universities are conceptualized as either internal or external, although the two groups are related. Of the internal challenges, double-tiered strikes, the restrictive definition of stakeholdership and the struggle to build a world-class university are fundamental. The experience of the State universities of the south east zone during the ASUU strikes of 2010 and 2011, where these universities continued to be on strike even after the national strike had ended, is very illustrative. The issue of restrictive stakeholdership, which typically emerges where a non-indigene is appointed into a high position, has been apparent in many of the universities. The recent experience in Niger Delta University and the struggle for possession of Ladoke Akintola University, Ogbomoso between indigenes of Oyo State and of Osun are good examples. The challenge of building a world-class university encapsulates various challenges. The interference by government officials and other elite is one of the most fundamental external challenges. Given the fact that these universities are public facilities, the issue of accessibility is of significance. Approaches to addressing these challenges are also examined.

Private Universities and higher education in Nigeria

Globally, universities are set up to develop human capital for the modern knowledge-driven economy. In the beginning in Nigeria, when the numbers were few, universities were able to meet this expectation. However, as they increased in number and their sizes also grew, the burden of sustenance became too much for government. This created the setting for a number of systemic challenges. Funding started to decline and became inadequate; facilities became deplorable; demand for admissions rapidly exceeded the capacity to absorb them; working conditions deteriorated and became unattractive; consequently, staff, especially academics, started to look elsewhere; the authorities started to lose control of discipline of both staff and students, creating environments for anti-social behaviours like cultism to thrive; agitations by unions became rampant; academic calendars became unstable and unpredictable; and eventually, the quality of teaching and learning

plummeted, and the quality of graduates fell. Consequently, government was compelled to consider opening the doors for private participation in the provision of university education. It is now over ten years since private universities were licensed in Nigeria.

During this period private universities have acquitted themselves very well in their short history. Among other things, they have been able to absorb a reasonable number of admission seekers who otherwise would have been at home or roaming the streets; and with their existing excess carrying capacity, and the possibility of licensing more, they are projected to absorb at least a quarter of all admission seekers in the next five years; they have succeeded in raising the quality of infrastructure and facilities for teaching and learning; they are aggressively redressing the gender imbalance in the participation in university education; they have successfully restored and stabilized academic calendars; checked the menace of cultism; developed market driven curricula; redressed the imbalance in the mix between academic and non-academic staff; enhanced the quality of university graduates by producing morally sound graduates based on the spiritual principles, since most of them are owned and operated by religious bodies and organization among others.

However, private universities still face a number of serious challenges. These include: insufficiency of funds to sustain the high standards they have set; the shortage of quality academics, which has necessitated sharing and poaching, with their attendant implication on efficiency and effectiveness; high fees that have tended to restrict patronage, as well as affect the quality of student intake, since the first choice tends to be non fee paying universities, and private universities being a matter of last resort; and excessive interference by overbearing proprietors, who see private universities as business and seek to be directly involved in their day-to-day running; among others.

Among the options available to the authorities of private universities to deal with their challenges



are: the setting up and maintaining virile alumni associations, ensuring transparency and accountability in governance; setting up strong consultancy units; establishing and maintaining linkages and partnerships; developing healthy community engagement; aggressive staff development schemes to meet their staff needs and ensure replacement for older ones; and lobbying for the review of the enabling laws setting up the Education Trust Fund (ETF), so that private universities could access its facilities, provided that they meet some conditions like a period of moratorium and a certain percentage of all their academic programmes being fully accredited. Some of the issues and challenges were examined in the Colloquium as reflected below.

Anthony Osagie led the discussion when he stated in his contribution "In the fifty-two years since independence, the Nigerian university system witnessed tremendous growth including the establishment of over 40 private universities. These private universities have small class sizes, predictable small calendar; moral education championed by missionary institutions and creation of opportunity for candidates with less outstanding scores in university entry examinations. Governance is the major area where Nigerian private universities differ from their public sector counterparts. Other challenges that affect the effective operation of the private universities in Nigeria are exorbitant level of school fees, inadequate funding for provision of infrastructure/ICT, inadequate opportunities for studying professional courses like Medicine, Engineering and Architecture, acute shortage of senior faculty staff. It is suggested that for meaningful development to take place in private universities in Nigeria, the government must be ready to provide them with necessary logistics support while the proprietors provide adequate financial support for 10-15 years of initial establishment."

Health care Services in Nigeria

As a country of approximately 160 million people, Nigeria has struggled to build a health system that is expected to effectively deliver quality health services to its population. However, there are many

constraints and challenges. Access to health care varies widely throughout the country and is determined on numerous factors, though in particular, major divides exist between rural and urban communities, and between the elite and the poorer masses. In Nigeria, the poorer masses those living below the national poverty line constitute approximately 70% of the population. The prevalence of communicable disease in Nigeria is a major factor in determining health outcomes. HIV prevalence among adults is estimated at 5%. HIV prevalence is not evenly distributed throughout the country with prevalence rates in some states nearly doubled the national average. Compounding the challenge presented by high HIV positive rates, there were in excess of 150,000 cases of Tuberculosis (TB) in 2008, with co-infection rates for TB and HIV of 47%. Malaria represents another significant burden, with 15.8% of deaths in children under five caused by the disease. The WHO refers to malaria as a major public health problem in Nigeria. The disease is ubiquitous among adults living in malarial areas. Considering this challenging health landscape, utilization of health services is a key factor in improving health outcomes for Nigerians, in both the short- and long-term. Currently, the level of and access to care varies by state, with the most facilities per person located in urban centres, and the least located in the rural areas. According to recent data, the health care utilization rate in Nigeria is approximately 65% for those who are sick, meaning that a large percentage of the population does not seek care despite being ill. In order to bring about broad improvements in health in Nigeria, it is essential to understand who is currently using the facilities that are available, and what factors are preventing those who do not seek care from doing so. Some of these issues were examined in the Colloquium.

Key elements of Sebastian N. N. Nwosu contribution on health is as follows:

"Organized, modern healthcare service in Nigeria was started by the British colonial administration with the major aim of providing medical services for colonial civil servants and the military personnel. The first attempt at planning for the development of healthcare services in Nigeria was



in 1946 but this did little to surmount the health challenges of the natives. After independence, Nigerians took their destiny in their own hands and embarked on health care reforms that culminated in the formulation of the National Health Policy in 1988 and the institution of the National Health Plan (1996-2010), which based on primary health care emphasized preventive medicine and extension of health care services to the rural areas. In spite of efforts by government the latest WHO figures show that Nigeria's health indices are uniformly poorer than the global averages. Available skilled healthcare manpower meet the WHO minimum requirement but the distribution of the manpower; motivation of the manpower; insecurity of lives and property and administration of the health services may be factors militating against the efficient and cost-effective health care delivery in Nigeria. To minimize the challenges of healthcare delivery and thus ensure sustainable healthcare services to Nigerians all stakeholders demonstrate serious commitment to public health issues and practice. The health superintendents/inspectors cadre should be re-introduced to ensure that our homes are rid of filth and the attendant communicable diseases. Education of the girl-child and health education of mothers should be an important aspect of child survival strategy. Immunization against childhood killer diseases is a serious pillar of preventive health service which should be carried out on a continuous rather than on ad hoc basis, free from political interference and administrative ineptitude. The private healthcare practitioners should pool their resources and form group practices as a way of maximizing resource use, improving efficiency and ensuring sustainability. There is need for adequate remuneration and proper supervision/monitoring of healthcare personnel; efficient implementation and extension of NHIS to the rural areas; cooperation between university medical schools and local governments in order to bring quality health care service to the rural and urban slum dwellers as well as research into their health problems"

On his part, Ambrose Isah's contribution is as follows: "Medicines serve as an important tool in the health care system. The teeming population,

the communicable and non-communicable disease-mix presents a scenario for the use of large volumes of medicines to achieve the desired therapeutic objectives in the health care system. In the period dating from the latter part of the last century, significant efforts global and national were made to improve the supply of medicines in the healthcare system with the establishment of the essential medicine programme. It was appreciated that rational use of medicines is a key element in the healthcare system since benevolent supply of medicines no matter how large cannot sustain the availability of medicines. In the context of the Millennium Development Goals and targets the prudent use of medicines is essential to ensure success since they impact on some of these provisions. This overview highlights the various irrational uses of medicines practices-polypharmacy, excessive use of antibiotics, dangerous and high level use of injections etc. The factors driving them and recommendations to address the challenges are also discussed. The numerous reasons adduced for the growing interest in rational use of medicines include the consequences of increased availability of medicines, growing resistance to antimicrobials, rising cost of medicines, heightened awareness of the public etc. A number of independent studies using the WHO indicator - an objective index - have highlighted a significant level of irrational use of medicines. Amongst these are the high level of polypharmacy, excessive antibiotic use, inappropriate use of injections and brand name prescribing. A three prong intervention strategy educational, managerial and regulatory have been used to improve the use of medicines with varying level of success. The establishment of agencies like the National Agency for Food Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) with appropriate powers has addressed the issue of counterfeit, substandard and adulterated medicines. Furthermore, safety of medicines has been further enhanced by the establishment of Pharmacovigilance and its integration into the health care system. This has provided a surveillance system to monitor the safety of medicines used in Nigeria. In all, there is need for putting in place the necessary structure and mechanisms such as the rational medicines commission to coordinate the strategies to ensure



appropriate and safe use of quality medicines. Furthermore, proper education and engagement of all stakeholders in the medicine use chain is another essential step. These steps will further guarantee the realization of some provisions of the Millennium Development Goals.

Furthermore the overview of Friday Okonofua and Lawrence Omo-Aghoja's contribution is as follows: "Nigeria's high rate of maternal mortality is currently one serious developmental challenge that the country faces. Although there is evidence that global maternal mortality rate has declined from 422 per 100,000 births in 1980 (526,300 maternal deaths) to 320 per 100,000 births in 2008 (average of 342,900 maternal deaths), Nigeria still has one of the highest rates of maternal mortality in the world. In 2010, Nigeria was assessed as being the country with the second highest absolute number of maternal deaths in the world and was listed as one of six countries that account for 50 percent of global estimates of maternal deaths. Further analysis has shown that Nigeria will likely not achieve the MDG-5 goal of reducing maternal mortality by 75% by 2015, going by the current rate of progress in this indicator. These alarming statistics are due to systemic poor performance of Nigeria's health care delivery system, the dismal state of our maternal health care and emergency services, and persistent failure of the country to address the background social and economic risk factors that predispose pregnant women to high rates of death.

In 2011, Nigeria's health system was rated 51st out of 53 surveyed African countries by the Mo Ibrahim index in terms of performance and effectiveness. The World Health Organization had previously acknowledged that "Nigeria's health system is sick and in urgent need of intensive care". Unfortunately, when the health system is so sick, pregnant women (and children) bear its negative effects and consequences. A major manifestation has been the lack of proper coordination between the three levels of health care delivery to offer maternal and child health services. Primary health care has almost been lost in the scheme of things with the persistent failure or inadequacy of the Local Government Councils to superintend this

level of health care. Furthermore, the lack of referral services between the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of health care has ensured that many women who need emergency sophisticated care are often denied such care. It is little wonder therefore that Nigerian women have been reported to have some of the lowest levels of access to maternal and child health services in the world. Data from the Nigerian Demographic and Health Survey (2010) indicate that only 60% of pregnant women attend antenatal care at least once; less than 10% of pregnant women have been tested for HIV/AIDS (with Nigeria having the highest burden of mother to child transmission of HIV/AIDS in the world); while less than 30% of pregnant women are attended by a skilled birth attendant (doctor or midwife) at the time of delivery.

This paper will elucidate on the causes, determinants and consequences of the current pallid state of maternal health in Nigeria. We will present statistics and data to show that some of the major causes of the problem are poor funding, the lack of political will to address health and maternal health, continued poverty and illiteracy and pervading harmful cultural/traditional beliefs and practices in the country. In April 2001, Nigeria was one of several African countries that signed the Abuja Declaration that pledged to allocate 15% of national annual budgets to health. To date, Nigeria is one country in Africa that has never reached that benchmark. Indeed, in the 2012 budget estimate, only 3.6% of the budget was allocated to health, with maternal and child health that has the highest burden of disease, having a miniscule sum. We will conclude by recommending that high level "political will" is needed to address the high rate of maternal mortality in the country. Not only is adequate funding required, even the allocated funds need to be better applied to re-build health infrastructure, motivate staff and provide safety nets for communities and women to access available evidence-based maternal and child health services. Indeed, it is our considered view that the passage of the National Health Bill that is currently awaiting assent of the Presidency, and its full implementation, will greatly boost the delivery of maternal and child health services and reduce associated maternal and child mortality in the country.



Infrastructure Facilities in Nigeria

Access to safe water is essential for addressing poverty and health problems. It is unfortunate that access to water and sanitation remains low in Nigeria where only slightly over half the population is estimated to have an improved water source with gaping differences between urban centres and rural areas. In rural areas access is defined as meaning households have to travel less than half a kilometre to a protected water source in the dry season. Both as a whole and on average, Nigeria has extensive water resources, however, water sources are distributed unevenly both in time and space. During the dry season, for example, even large rivers can dry up or their flow declines substantially. Some parts of the country receive on the average up to 3,000mm of rain per year while in other regions annual rainfall averages 600mm. And projections indicate that by 2025 Nigeria will experience water stress due to population growth and the resulting increase in consumption. Water stress is defined as average per capital water resources below 1,500 cubic metres. Ground water is also another source of water for both urban and rural areas. The current situation of sanitation and hygiene in the country is not conducive for supporting a disease-free and happy living environment.

One of the primary goals of water development policy in Nigeria is to achieve increased access to clean, affordable and safe water, sanitation, good shelter, a safe and sustainable environment. Despite significant achievement in the provision of clean and safe water supply and sanitation to the people, the sector faces many challenges including deterioration of water supply schemes caused by poor management; inadequate availability of spare parts due to non-standardised investment; inadequate investments for development of water schemes due to high capital requirements. Other challenges include scattered settlements in rural areas make costly investments for water supply services; improper and uncontrolled allocation of water resources to different users; inadequate involvement of beneficiaries in managing and controlling water supply schemes resulting into communities' lack of sense of ownership; climate

changes and rainfall variations; environmental degradation as a result of increased human activities; and inadequate management of competing needs of water resources for various requirements. Some of these issues and challenges were discussed in the Colloquium.

Samuel T. Wara in his contribution with respect to electricity stated as follows:

Electricity provision and management is a social responsibility. Electric power (electricity) is the engine that drives industrialization, which improves communication, helps innovation in Science and Technology, provides sound healthcare delivery system and improves citizens' standard of living. Since Electric power is the engine that drives industrialization, a stable Electric power supply (Provision) and management is the key for Nigeria to become one of the 20 most developed economies in the world and to meet her MDGs targets. But it is very unfortunate that the biggest problem in Nigeria is electricity (electric power) provision and management, a crisis without end. Different institutional frameworks and policies have been put in place by the past and current administration of the country with varying impacts on the sector; this study considers reforms pursued all through the democratic dispensation of the country to provide a proper perspective about the state of the sector. This helped to clearly identify the problems/challenges, existing strategies/instruments as well as critically proffer better approaches to solving the ominous power problem. For most of the measures adopted, implementation and output so far have been short of the projected values indicated due to diverse drawbacks and challenges. Comparative studies reveal that West-African countries (particularly Nigeria) are not faring well compared to other regions of the world. The current minister of power believes that achieving a stable power supply will require stabilizing and improving existing structures: Transmission Grid, Distribution Network, and Generating stations which have suffered partial or total neglect since commissioning. Several short and long-term interventions are at various stages of implementation. Analyses have shown that



demand side/supply management will yield a significant result when implemented and appears the best shorter solution to the menacing power problem in Nigeria. Nigeria has just launched its energy efficiency component of the reform process. Meeting the Millennium Development Goals is only possible with the provision and management of power as there is certainly a direct relationship between the level of development of a nation and the power generation and consumption. Energy being the main driver upon which all the aims and objectives of Vision 20-2020, the MDGs, and other social infrastructure rests, Nigeria's chances are bleak and needs to declare a 'real' state of emergency in the Energy sector very urgently. If this country must get anywhere close to achieving the developmental goals in the MDGs list, it is imperative that electricity generation is stepped up significantly. The quest to rapidly and firmly put Nigeria on the course of economic development is, technically, a function of adequate provision and management of energy, particularly electricity (electric power). In considering the prospects and challenges of providing and managing electricity in Nigeria, a number of questions need to be answered. In conclusion, the development of every other sector in the country (sound education, good health system, adequate housing, functional recreation /tourism system, functional social structures/infrastructure, employment generation, income generation, personal welfare and urban planning) is no doubt hinged on the power sector; hence, this paper presents some key recommendations in the areas of policy development, financing strategies, best management practices, alternative energy sources, sensitization, and administration among others. If these measures are adopted, there would be a significant improvement in the provision and management of electricity in Nigeria which will ultimately increase the level as well as the rate of development.

Transportation in Nigeria

Transport is playing a major role in delivering economic development in Nigeria. But as the demand for transport grows and cities expand,

policy makers need to tackle transport challenges to make sure that all parts of society can benefit from this central driver of jobs and growth. Road safety is extremely poor compared with the rest of the world with Nigeria accounting for over 3 per cent of global road fatalities. As urban populations in Nigeria continue to expand at unprecedented rates, traffic congestion is increasing with some cities approaching gridlock. Urban air and noise pollution is also worsening, particularly as result of the increase in numbers of vehicles and their associated emissions. Lack of air quality monitoring, emission standards and regulatory procedures exacerbate the problems. This has serious implications in terms of health and equity as well as thwarting economic development. Rapidly rising greenhouse gas emissions from the transport sector are also a cause for concern. The development of sustainable transport policies in Nigeria must be based on five central principles including: maximizing transport accessibility for all social groups, genders and income levels, so that all citizens can access health care, education, training and jobs with minimal effort, costs and journey time; creating a safe, secure urban environment with the minimum possible risk of death and injury from road accidents; ensuring that all public health measures deal with the debilitating and costly consequences of air pollution on human health; freeing up urban road space by improving traffic flow conditions in a way that stimulates economic activity and job creation and avoids the generation of new traffic; reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Some of these issues were discussed in the Colloquium.

P. C. Onokala in her contribution stated as follows: "As a major social infrastructure, transportation constitutes one of the major features of the economic development of Nigeria. The study of transport involves many disciplines and although the role of transportation in economic development is rather controversial, it is generally agreed that it has impact on development because it is the major means of actualizing policy initiatives in most of the other sectors of the economy. The historical development of the five major modes of transportation which have played,



are playing and will continue to play very significant roles in the social, political and economic development of Nigeria, namely waterways, railways, roads, airways and pipelines are presented. These major modes require heavy capital investments and regular maintenance in order to satisfy the transport needs of Nigerians. The current state of these modes are critically analysed with special reference to the Classical Model of Transport Development, geo-strategic location of Nigeria, National Transport Policies and Funding of Transportation projects in Nigeria. The challenges facing each mode of transport are discussed. It was shown that in order to face these challenges the unique roles which the various modes play in the transport sector should be taken into consideration. Finally, recommendations that will enable Nigeria to develop a sustainable transportation system were made.

M. O. Filani in his contribution stated that "Every country in the world recognizes the important and pivotal role which transport has played and will continue to play in facilitating socio-economic growth and development. Since Nigeria attained political independence in 1960, its economy has witnessed tremendous growth. The role that the transport sector has played in this growth cannot be overemphasized. In the last 30 years the various transport subsectors have witnessed varying degrees of growth, changes and contributions to the country's economy. For example, with regards to institutional framework there has been, at various times, the consolidation or unbudding of the transport ministries and agencies with its concomitant economic implications. There has been dramatic transformation and growth in such subsectors as aviation and maritime transport; the rail subsector has suffered such a spiral decline in its fortunes that its contribution to freight and passenger movement has become almost insignificant; the expected growth in the road subsector has continuously been stragulated by poor physical conditions of most roads while inland water transport has witnessed only marginal development in spite of good prospects for its growth. This paper provides a comprehensive review of the developments and challenges in the

transport sector most especially in the last 30 years of service delivery in Nigeria. In particular it deals with transport's pervasive influence on the nation's economy and spatial organization, capital investment in the sector and physical achievements, the significant reforms that have taken place and related achievements and the various challenges. It concludes with the way forward for development in the transport sector."

Housing in Nigeria

Housing is one of the three basic needs of mankind. After the provision of food, it is the most important factor for the physical survival of man. It has been shown that housing is one of the best indicators of a person's standard of and cultural objectives. It provides investments opportunities, offers shelters and privacy and enhances one's social and cultural status in the society. Housing is much more than physical structures; housing is/has become a subject of highly charged emotional content: a matter of strong feeling. It is the symbol of status of achievement, of social acceptance. It seems to control, in large measure, the way in which the individual, family perceives himself/itself and is perceived by others. From here, it becomes obvious that the importance of adequate and affordable housing in any country cannot be overemphasized since housing possesses certain attributes or qualities through which safety, security, satisfaction and good health can be realized/guaranteed by man.

Improved housing is not only a desirable goal in its own right, but it also contributes to economic growth, social development, improved governance and enhanced security and stability. Housing construction and upgrading are major sources of employment, particularly for the unskilled poor. Improved housing and urban services can also have a major impact on the health of the urban poor. They can play a constructive role in the strengthening and spread of community, civic, and democratic values, which in turn enhance social stability and personal security. Failure to deal with housing issues will lead to the continued growth of slums and poorly serviced informal settlements on the urban periphery. Already, between 65% and



80% of urban residents in Nigerian cities live in squalid slums of ramshackle housing. The efforts of Nigerian governments and international donors have barely impacted the need for new and improved housing and for essential urban services, particularly for low and moderate income families. Very little new housing is actually being built or improved by the formal sector. Most Nigerians continue to build housing incrementally through the unregulated informal sector as their financial circumstances permit.

Housing delivery becomes a continuing challenge facing both the urban and rural dwellers in Nigeria because the housing statistics is only 2 dwelling units per thousand people, compared to the required rate of about 8 -10 dwelling units per 1000 as recommended by the United Nations. It is also pertinent to know that the housing deficit Nigeria is currently facing is about 15 million housing units. It is for this reason that the Colloquium focused a critical assessment of the challenges and strategies of housing delivery in Nigeria as some of the presented papers indicate.

Andrew O. Ozo in his paper pointed out as follows: "As a result of the crucial role of housing in human well-being; it is now regarded as a social service for which government takes responsibility in many societies. However, the extent of this practice varies from country to country. This chapter examines this issue, i.e. the extent to which housing is provided as a social service in Nigeria. This is done in the context of a discussion of housing policies in Nigeria. To provide the conceptual tools for clarification, the concept of social housing is examined. A clarification is made between 'market housing' and 'social housing', on the one hand, and between 'social housing', 'public housing', and 'affordable housing', on the other. A major distinction between social housing and each of these other concepts is made on the basis of the criteria of allocation and whether the scheme includes some 'need-related subsidies'. Against this background a critical analysis of Nigerian housing policies shows that although Nigeria has had a fairly long tradition of government intervention in the housing market; the provision

of housing has never included elements of social housing. Although 'public housing' and affordable housing have been major elements of housing policies in the country; the programmes fall short of social housing. While the current administration, through the minister of Housing and Urban Development, has reiterated government's political will to provide social housing for Nigerians, developments so far in that ministry do not suggest a trend in that direction. Focus appears to be, rather, on the provision of decent and affordable housing. While the issue of social service delivery generally, has till-date, remained highly neglected in Nigeria; the situation is more pronounced in the area of housing. Social housing remains a completely missing gap in the country's housing policy framework as well as in the architecture and culture of Nigerian cities. The paper tries to explain this high degree of neglect by examining two basic issues: could the neglect be due to inadequate case for the service? What are the constraints/challenges militating against social housing in Nigeria? The paper made a strong case not only on the basis of the general arguments the importance of the role of housing and the negative externalities of poor housing that are normally used in support of social housing but also on characteristics peculiar to the Nigerian environment. These were based on such social indicators as:

- Level of poverty
- Level of unemployment and under employment
- Growing trend of homelessness
- Increasing wave of vulnerable groups; as well as housing indicators such as:
- Level of housing deficit
- Housing costs to income ratios; and
- Other measures of un-affordability.

On the other hand, the paper drew attention to the challenge posed by inadequate resources – material and finance. The argument is often made that in spite of Nigeria's huge natural and human resources; Nigeria is too poor to sustain housing as a social service. The paper believes that in spite of the resource constraint a more, serious constraint is the lack of political will. The argument is hinged on



the consistent low priority accorded the housing sector in development plans and the target beneficiaries, middle income and state employees, of the products of the minimal outcomes of the ensuring programmes. The paper, also identified the under development of the required institutional and legal framework for the provision of social housing as a major constraints. Local Government councils and, even, state governments, as they are now, are ill-equipped to cope with the responsibilities of ownership and management of social housing. Furthermore, non-profit organizations such as Housing Associations, Philanthropic Organisations, Housing Co-operatives, which have provided the bedrock for the foundation of social housing in most countries, are yet to be developed in Nigeria. Similarly, the legal framework, which in many countries provided the foundation for housing as a social service, is completely lacking. The culture of corruption and mismanagement which is endemic in Nigeria is also identified as a potential source of abuse likely to constrain housing delivery as a social service in Nigeria. The issue relates to both the administrators and the potential beneficiaries of the programme. The paper concludes that in spite of the enormous constraints, the case for social housing makes its provision imperative and that a complete market solution cannot address the problem of inadequate housing in Nigeria. The paper holds the view that until social housing is introduced; solutions to the housing problems of the low-income and vulnerable groups will remain a mirage. Consequently, the paper recommends the introduction of housing as a social service, at least to the vulnerable groups, including the elderly and homeless, as well as those on income 1-3 times the minimum wage. While this is recommended as a starting point; it is hoped that the scheme will progressively expand. Suggestions are made in terms of funding, development of institutional and legal framework, etc.

Environment in Nigeria

Nigeria suffers from some serious environmental problems, including deforestation, soil erosion, desertification, wetland degradation, and insect infestation.

One of the challenges of the past military era in Nigeria is giving the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalized people who are usually objects of the different environmental wrongs protection. The various environmental problems confronting Nigeria have been summarized by the Report of the Vision 2010. These include: population pressure and the continuous exploitation of marginal lands, aggravating the process of drought and desertification in the north; severe gully erosion in Eastern and Northern States; coastal and marine erosion, and land subsidence in coastal and wetland states; flooding in low-lying belt of mangrove and fresh swamps along the coast, the plains of large rivers and short-lived flash floods in the inland rivers; uncontrolled logging with inherent problems of the destruction of biodiversity; inappropriate agricultural practices; - destruction of watersheds; - soil-crust formation caused by loss of water; destruction of vast agricultural lands; creation of burrow pits associated with bad mining practices and road works; oil pollution from spillage and gas flaring-related problems; and industrial pollution, municipal waste generation and urban decay.

Environmental degradation in Nigeria beyond being a national problem attests to the reality of global climate change and the vulnerability of the Nigerian state. There is no part or a single area of the country that is free from this menace. The tendency has always been to see environmental calamities that are associated with oil exploitation activities in the Niger Delta region as the main environmental challenge of the Nigerian nation. While the Northern part of the country is facing the looming danger of desertification, the communities in the southern part have the menace of erosion and flooding to contend with. The unfortunate trend in Nigeria now is to see building collapse even in urban areas. Efforts to deal with these problems, however, have been handicapped by a real failure to understand their nature and possible remedies. Protecting the environment of Nigeria is an issue that needs to be examined more carefully and incorporated into an overall strategy of sustainable economic development. Nigeria now finds itself afflicted with the consequences of inappropriate policies, as well as by almost



endemic political instability, an inability to manage its economies effectively, and an increasingly hostile external economic milieu. As simple survival has become more problematical, it has become increasingly difficult to avoid overexploiting natural resources and degrading the environment. Analysts are now concerned that this will compromise the prospects for sustainable development in the near future. The Colloquium focused on this challenge during the discussion of the environmental situation in Nigeria.

Anthony Chokor in his contribution stated that "The Nigerian environment has been impacted by developmental activities over time and even more intensely in the last four decades following the civil war and oil boom of the 1970s. With minimal regulation and enforcement of desirable environmental standards, unchecked polluting socio-economic activities have introduced a range of harmful substances into the environment; and much of growing concern surrounds ecosystems degradation and the devastating effects of pollutants on human health and the quality of life. This paper reviews the range and extent of environmental pollution in Nigeria, the institutional arrangements and regulations developed to manage them and the desirable and sustainable roadmaps for pollution abatement and containment.

An overall assessment of the Nigerian environment is made and reveals that while the country is ecologically diverse and rich in natural resources, its potential in managing these resources is highly limited because of poor prioritization of environmental concerns. The country had an Environmental Performance Index (EPI) of 56.2 in 2008, ranking 126th out of 149 countries surveyed; it suffered from the 1990s an estimated loss of US\$5.1 billion annually on its sustainable net national product in the absence of clear policies and specific programmes to tackle environmental problems, representing a third of the federal annual budget. While air, land and water pollution is widespread, hydrocarbon contamination in the Niger Delta is most intense. In Ogoni land UNEP 2011 finding showed that water samples in 7 of 28 wells in 10 communities adjacent to contaminated

sites were at least 1,000 times higher than the Nigerian drinking water standard of 3 µg/l. Thus while the rich manage to secure for themselves healthier environments, the poor are exposed to risks and hazards from emissions and effluent discharges which threatened their existence. Poverty-induced polluting activities has grown particularly in the fast expanding and flourishing urban informal sector with well over 10,000 small-scale industries, some operating illegally in residential premises (Vision 2010 Report).

Chokor argues that environmental pollution and quality of governance are closely intertwined. While the control of the environmental actions and behaviour of individuals and corporate bodies is most desirable for pollution abatement, with legally empowered public environmental institutions offering the primary medium for action, these institutions remain largely ineffective. The paper recommends three critical success pathways for the future: First, the evolution of more appropriate rules, policies and regulations to create a positive interface between people and the environment including adopting more effective Environmental Impact Assessment processes so that pollution is better anticipated and minimized. Second, the advancement of public environmental institutions to operate in a more timely business way by reducing bureaucratic delays in order to make the desirable impacts. Third, the articulation of strategic roles for a wider spectrum of stakeholders including non-state actors such as NGOs, youths, children, communities and the private sector in order to stimulate a more environmentally conscious public in driving and implementing more aggressively environmental goals and objectives. While the setting up of the National Environmental Standards, Regulations and Enforcement Agency (NESREA) appears to be realization of some of these evident gaps and shortcomings, limitations to date are further heightened by institutional overlaps in roles and responsibilities with other agencies including the Federal Ministry of Environment and DPR. Finally, the paper demonstrates that over-dependence on traditional command and control mechanisms amongst regulatory bodies instead of drawing on market-



based options that provide for the right incentives for those adopting innovative technologies and sustainable practices, including the polluter-pays-principle, needs to be addressed. The paper concludes that pollution management in Nigeria requires a clearer vision by embracing wastes minimization, recycling and re-use as well as mobilizing for greener consumption and production processes; and deepening and streamlining as well environmental laws and the judicial systems for better delivery of services."

Waste Disposal in Nigeria

Waste generation, both domestic and industrial, continues to increase Nigeria in tandem with growth in consumption. With increases in populations and living standards, waste generation in Nigeria is increasing rapidly, and may double in volume in the next two decades. If current trends continue, Nigeria may see a five-fold increase in waste generation by the year 2025. A high proportion of the waste could be recycled by the urban poor generating income for themselves and protecting the environment. There is a need to develop an integrated approach where the public, private and community sectors work together to develop local solutions promoting sustainable solid waste management. The Colloquium discussed waste disposal issues such as the improvement of municipal solid waste management systems in Nigeria, to promotion of appropriate management policies at the national, regional and local levels in order to enable the integration of suitable management practices and to guide the key agencies responsible for waste management in Nigeria in the design of waste management practices or in the integration of waste management concerns into sanitation or urban development projects.

Gideon Omuta in his contribution noted that "In spite of over three decades of intensive interrogation, an impressive body of literature, and sizeable empirical data bank on the subject, the effective and efficient management of municipal solid waste has continued to be a stubbornly persistent challenge in Nigeria. This is also in spite of such interventions as the setting up of supervisory bodies and agencies at state and local

government levels, periodic declaration of sanitation days, and the allocation of huge sums of money. The logical questions, therefore, are: What has gone wrong with all our intervening efforts? What are we not doing right? What do we need to interrogate and review? This paper briefly debates and further interrogates these issues in an attempt to proffer a framework that could close some of the gaps in the current disjointed efforts in municipal solid waste management in Nigeria.

Pursuant to this objective, three key concepts are outlined, namely: the environment, solid waste, and municipal solid waste management as a social service. Then, the major current conventional municipal solid waste management practices are briefly discussed. These are: open dumping, incineration, compositing, land filling and life cycle assessment. Thereafter, the efficiency challenges of the conventional solutions are briefly debated and summarized under five categories, namely: technical, financial, institutional, economic and social. The major policy deficits identified in the existing management framework, include: not differentiating between developed and developing countries in the application of solutions; ignoring our indigenous knowledge system of waste management; sidelining the contribution of informal private sector waste manager; not factoring in ecological differences and climate change; and applying the disjointed 'multiple choice' approach. This policy approach has been criticized because it is centralized and undiversified; bureaucratic; capital-intensive; and formal.

In its place, an integrated municipal solid waste management framework is proffered. It is defined as an hierarchical and coordinated set of actions that reduces pollution, seeks to maximize recovery of reusable and recyclable materials, and protects human health and the environment. It aims to be socially desirable, economically viable and environmentally sound. The integrated municipal solid waste management framework is accordingly made up of the following interrelated hierarchy or sequence of components: waste prevention; waste re-use; waste recycling, waste compositing; waste incineration and sanitary land filling. The Ondo



State Integrated Waste Recycling and Treatment Project is presented to demonstrate the immense prospects of an integrated municipal solid waste management framework. However, because the concept has a Western origin, it is suggested that it has to be domesticated and customized for guided application to reflect the peculiarities in developing countries, including Nigeria.

The major aspect of the necessary domestication is the mainstreaming of the informal private sector solid waste operators; the waste pickers and scavengers. It should also include the integration of our indigenous knowledge of solid waste management. This sector is a very major source of employment and income to the vulnerable segment of the urban population, made up of the unskilled and uneducated recent migrants, women, children, the elderly and disabled. It is also a source of raw or intermediate materials for small and medium scale producers. Its mainstreaming would, therefore, enable the operators to be organized, empowered, and enhance their bargaining and contractual powers. Ultimately, an integrated municipal solid waste management framework with a mainstreamed, empowered and well organized informal sector has the potential to make copious contributions to the achievement of the millennium development goals.

However, there is need for more information on: the number, type and scope of informal sector waste management activities; how their activities can be improved; how to involve the operators in the articulation and determination of their challenges and perceived solutions; and finally, how to design strategy for promoting and supporting waste pickers and scavengers in grassroots municipal solid waste management.

Employment challenges in Nigeria

One of the greatest challenges facing the Nigerian economy today is the prevalence of unemployment that has maintained a rising trend over the years. The challenge of unemployment has always been an issue of great concern to economists, policy makers and economic managers alike considering the devastating effect of this phenomenon on individuals, the society and the economy at large.

Earliest thoughts on economic issues did not fail to give a central point of reflection on the undesirability of unemployment. The Keynesian revolution of the 1930's which commandeered the explosive attack on traditional economic system also treated unemployment as a central issue of great concern. Following the path of the predecessors, economists at all times and in all ages have expressed various degrees of concern over the threat of the monster called unemployment. In spite of this concern and the frantic effort towards the eradication of this phenomenon, it is sad to note that many economies have been enmeshed in unemployment devastation. The situation in Nigeria is of major concern to all. During the Colloquium discussions focused on the examination of the challenges and policy issues associated with unemployment in Nigeria.

May Nwoye in her paper noted that "Youth problem, like poverty, is a multifaceted one. It encompasses education; health, gender disparity and leadership development, including measures to counter illicit drugs and youth crime as well as tackling unemployment. Making sure that youths are well prepared for their future is enormously important to the course of poverty reduction and growth. Getting the youths to work is a quick and sure way of fighting poverty. While youths had previously been disproportionately affected by unemployment, the current crises and trends had aggravated the severity of the problem. The issue of unemployment had worsened due to the global economic and financial crises, as well as demographic factors. Youth unemployment in Nigeria had even grown at a more rapid rate. Youth unemployment has been recorded as a constant variable in mass protests around the world today, affecting both developed and developing countries. If we are to alleviate these struggles, we must facilitate entrepreneurship to create jobs for this younger generation. The global focus of employment and wealth creation is dependent on the continued development of small and medium enterprise sector which forms the core of entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship has been given a central role in economic development. Government policy makers, international development organizations, and academics see



entrepreneurship as a key mechanism for job creation and economic growth. Efforts to resolve youth unemployment crisis should start by encouraging diverse groups of stakeholders to identify, design and implement specific training and development programmes for promoting youth employment and entrepreneurship. In doing so, there is urgent need to coordinate professional training with the needs of the labour market. Leadership skills, training in marketable job oriented skills, and access to resources and linkages are needed to realize youth potential as young social and economic entrepreneurs. It is against this background that this paper examines the contemporary challenges of youth employment and entrepreneurship promotion in Nigeria as essential elements of the delivery of social services in the country. The paper is divided into five sections. The first section introduces the key issues. The second section provides the theoretical background while the third section examines the nature and characteristics of youth unemployment in Nigeria. The fourth section focuses on strategies to promote youth entrepreneurship in Nigeria while the final section concludes the paper."

Mike I. Obadan and Clement U. Ighodaro in their contribution noted that "The incidence of poverty and unemployment rates have maintained intolerable upward trends in Nigeria in spite of the country's acknowledged endowment with enormous natural, physical and human resources as well as the implementation of a plethora of programmes, projects and policies geared towards addressing the two phenomena. In light of this, this paper highlights and evaluates the key poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes. On the basis of this, it goes on to highlight the challenges and put forward some policy recommendations. On the concept of poverty, the paper observes that although poverty is multi-dimensional, it is one of the most serious manifestations of human deprivation and it is not difficult to recognize the poor in any society. They stand out clearly in terms of material deprivations. The poor lack adequate income and have no access to the basic necessities of life. Formally, however, the incidence of poverty can be measured with any of three approaches: absolute poverty measure,

relative poverty measure and dollar-a-day measure. The Nigerian National Bureau of Statistics computes the three measures.

Poverty and unemployment in Nigeria are closely linked as suggested by theory. Unemployment results in lack of or limited income and limited access to basic necessities and, hence, drives people into poverty or worsen their poverty conditions. The paper shows that the incidence of poverty in Nigeria is not only high, indicating that a large proportion of Nigerians are poor, it has shown an upward trend in recent years even when the economy has been celebrated by government officials as recording high growth rates. The latest statistics show that poverty is deep and pervasive with about 70 percent of Nigerians living in poverty. Over 90 percent of Nigerians believe that they are poor. The latest poverty profile shows that poverty is mainly a rural phenomenon; the incidence is highest in the North West and North East zones of the country. Poverty varies directly with household size while the majority of the poor people engage in low productivity agriculture. In recent years, the incidence of unemployment has been quite high (23.9% in 2010), deep and widespread, cutting across all facets of age groups, educational strata and geographical entities. It poses a serious threat to the country's development, social cohesion, security and democracy. The fact that poverty, inequality and unemployment have increased dramatically since 2004 even though the economy has been growing indicates a paradox entailing jobless growth, non-pro-poor growth and low human development.

Over the years, the federal government has designed and implemented numerous policies and programmes geared towards poverty reduction and employment generation. The state governments have also taken a cue in designing similar programmes. The programmes take the form of multi-sector programmes, and specific sector programmes in agriculture, education, health, transport, etc. In recent years, the key programmes and strategies have included the Poverty Alleviation Programme, National Poverty Eradication Programme, National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy,



National Directorate of Employment, and MDGs-related programmes, among others. As at 2004, a survey of policies and interventions chronicled 28 federal projects and programmes established to address various manifestations of poverty. Rather sadly, none of them has had a significant, lasting, or sustainable positive impact. The phenomenon of poverty has continued to increase, spread and deepen, suggesting that the poverty-related MDGs will not be achieved by 2015. Unemployment among the youths has worsened significantly with grave consequences for poverty, crime and conflict. The trends are indications of the ineffectiveness of the poverty alleviation and unemployment reduction strategies. The few programmes that appear to be successful have very limited impact. The ineffectiveness is due to various reasons, one of which is grand corruption and poor governance.

In the light of the foregoing, there is need to address the notable challenges to effective poverty alleviation and employment generation, among which are the following: poor governance and corruption, politics of implementation of poverty alleviation programmes and policies, weak overall institutional capacity in the coordination of different poverty alleviation institutions and agencies, and how to involve beneficiaries in programme and project design, implementation and monitoring. In order to make meaningful progress in the war against poverty and unemployment, there is need to consider the following policy suggestions: intensification of the war against corruption and promotion of good governance; eschewing of politics and sentiments from the implementation of poverty-related programmes and policies, coordination of efforts between policy makers and other stakeholders, provision of targeted resource transfers and support to the vulnerable groups; providing greater access to resources and means of production; increasing and diversifying agriculture to ensure food security; promotion of rural non-farm activities; fostering of human capital development and provision of social services, and not least effective population control. Very importantly, as sustainable growth is vital for poverty reduction, there is need for not only broad-based and equitable growth but also a re-assessment of

growth dynamics to determine how growth can effectively contribute to reducing poverty and increasing employment."

Access to Justice and Social Services in Nigeria

Laws and rights do not exist for the poor in most countries including Nigeria. To put the point another way, they exist in theory but not in reality, on paper but not on the ground. Legal aid and related legal empowerment efforts constitute the most important part of legal reform because they are necessary for making rights a reality in the lives of the poor. Well-intentioned governments and development agencies expend substantial resources on rewriting laws, training judges and prosecutors, improving case processing, strengthening bar associations, and engaging in a host of other initiatives that aim to build the rule of law. But these efforts often prove meaningless for the poor because without legal aid, the poor will never even enter a courthouse or any other justice forum. Post-colonial Nigeria suffers from serious shortcomings in its justice systems, particularly in relation to citizen access to those systems. Can informal and traditional justice systems be considered a valid option in attempting to improve access to justice in Nigeria? This and other questions were discussed during the Colloquium by examining the role played by informal and traditional justice systems regarding access to justice. It was noted that, like formal judicial systems, there are requirements for informal and traditional justice systems to work: Informal and traditional justice systems should not be incorporated in the formal state judicial system; Informal systems should remain entirely voluntary and their decisions non-binding; The state should not interfere with the appointment of informal 'arbitrators' within a community; Jurisdiction of the traditional systems should not be heavily restricted but physically coercive measures should be prohibited; Formal, legal representation before traditional and informal justice fora should not be required; Human rights education and gender awareness training must be an integral part of any assistance to traditional and informal justice systems.

M. Olu Adediran in his contribution stated that



"All over the world, governments are now showing more interest in the administration of justice. Its efficiency has been found to prepare and improve the society for development. Not only are the interests of judicial officers focused on, how to improve easy access of litigants to the judicial bodies, is the present pre-occupation of governments. In the United States of America, Australia, England, India and some other jurisdictions, efforts are now put on the improvement of peoples access to justice. Statutes and administrative bodies have now emerged to ensure this. Research shows that access to justice has not been smooth in Nigeria. While the military was in government, it characteristically prevented peoples' access to justice through statutes in many instances. Also, poverty, illiteracy and ignorance, loss of faith, lack of facilities, traditional beliefs and so on, are important factors that affect access to justice in Nigeria. The government has tried to ameliorate this by providing limited legal aid to assist the poor in this regard. There is need for a general reform of the procedural rules to make them simple for the ordinary man to pursue his case without the assistance of the lawyer. There is need to introduce mass literacy to the people to enable them know their rights and how to enforce them. The economy needs to be improved to enable the citizens afford legal representation whenever they want. The time has come for lawyers to be actively involved in pro bono cases to appear freely for the people. The judges need to improve and adopt technology in performing their judicial functions. Like what happens in other jurisdictions; it is time for judicial activism to remove all outdated rules of court that prevent access to justice. If these are addressed, there will be better free access to justice in Nigeria."

Stanley I. Okafor in his contribution with respect to spatial access to social services which can be considered as a component of access to justice stated that "Social services are provided primarily by the state and their provision is not based on market criteria such as ability to pay for services. The services that have received the most attention are health care, education and housing. These services are financed by funds raised through taxation or other revenue sources,

and their consumption is not governed by market forces but is mediated by the state in a bid to assure wide access, especially for disadvantaged groups. The rationale for state provision is because social services are not very attractive to the private sector on account of their lower than average rate of profit. Therefore, if left to the private sector, there might be under-provision, and the geography of whatever is supplied will be determined by ability to pay, leading to severe spatial inequalities in provision as low income areas will not be attractive to private providers. In addition to the welfare of the citizen, social services are also necessary for the reproduction of labour power, which involves not only biological reproduction, but the continual reproduction of all the skills necessary for the maintenance of an adequate workforce. Social services are thus important for economic development and for the welfare of the citizen. However, geography is important in questions concerning access to these services as the issue of who gets what, where is a function of location. Where one resides determines the bundle of public goods and services one can access. Okafor therefore examines the provision of social services from a spatial perspective. As a backdrop, it discusses the shifts in the role of the state in response to changes in the capitalist mode of development, as well as the 'facts of geography' that make a spatial perspective indispensable.

Globally, there have been shifts in the role of the state in the provision of social services in line with changes in the capitalist mode of development, particularly shifts in regimes of accumulation and modes of regulation. The extant regime of accumulation and mode of regulation, namely, post-Fordism and neoliberalism respectively, have implications for the provision of social services, and the spatial pattern of the services. So, too, do jurisdictional partitioning and the existence of externalities underscore the need for a spatial perspective on social service provision. All these considerations shed some light on the spatial variations in the provision of social services in Nigeria. These variations are more pronounced with regard to services provided by the private sector, indicating that reliance on the private sector for the provision of social services is not a desirable



policy option. The analyses of the spatial aspects of social service provision is a complex issue that requires geographers to be cognizant of the political-economic context and other factors which have implications for the role of the state and for the spatial pattern of provision.

Governance and social services provision in Nigeria

Governance is being increasingly recognized as an essential component of sustainable and equitable development. There are many ways in which good governance contributes to economic development. Governments make decisions on macroeconomic and social policy that have a direct impact on the long-term health of the economy. Governments provide critical goods and services, such as infrastructure, health and education that determine the competitiveness of the economy. Governments foster an enabling environment for private sector growth and regulatory structures that balance objectives of growth and equity. Many national and international experts, and indeed true friends of Nigeria, say that the real impediment to sustained economic growth and development in the country has more to do with her leadership and the absence of good governance than with economic plans or reforms. Research has established a relationship between leadership and governance and economic growth. For instance, the World Bank has made it clear in its studies that good governance is a significant determinant of economic progress.

It has been pointed out that every plan that has been designed by successive administrations in Nigeria has had its good and bad sides. But on the whole, there was no plan that was incapable of moving the country forward considerably. Rather, it was poor implementation, selfishness, gross misconduct and corruption on the part of those entrusted with the powers of state, so-called leaders, who have always spoilt the chances of such plans to make any big difference. As is well recognised, it is not the name of the plan that matters; neither can the plan in itself transform the country. It is the leaders into whose hands the plan falls that are required and expected to keep the ball rolling for the plan to succeed. Economic plans,

foreign investment and overseas development aid, for instance, will only succeed in boosting economic development if they are orchestrated and directed by competent leadership underpinned by good governance in recipient economies. To showcase the importance of good governance to economic development, the United Nations Development Programme has been at the forefront of the growing international consensus that good governance and sustainable human development are indivisible, and that the development of the capacity for good governance is the primary way to eliminate poverty. If good governance, through good leadership, is so important for sustained economic development and prosperity, then Nigerians and other sub-Sahara African countries have no choice but to make good governance the cornerstone of development.

Augustine Ikelegbe in his presentation stated that "Governance has become a catch all phrase that denotes underlying principles of public sector management explains failure and provides the basis for the advocacy of change. It is however central to the social service sector because it provides the values, norms, goals, principles, methods, practices and orientation that undergirds management and delivery and determines the level of citizen concerns, clientele satisfaction, programme efficiency, service quality and overall performance that characterizes the sector. The dominant traditions, principles and frameworks of governance can then become not only a basis for critical analysis of the social service sector, but also the guide for reforms and new directions.

The State itself exists and was constructed to provide certain common services usually beyond the individual, groups and community. The basis for the social contract between State and citizens is not just that the State goes beyond their competence and ability and is better able to provide services, but that being equipped in power and resources hitherto surrendered by citizens, the State should effectively and satisfactorily design, manage and deliver certain services. Thus historically and contemporarily, the strength, performance and utility of the State has been



judged by the extent, quality and effectiveness of delivery of critical social services of education, health, housing, welfare, security and others that are in fact centrally associated with the progress and well-being of society. Governance refers to the ways and means by which the State conducts its affairs, manages its services and directs society and more specifically the means, methods and framework and the dominant values, philosophy and orientation that drives the State management of social services and indeed public sector management. The paper seeks to situate the Nigerian social service sector in the nature and character of governance. It identifies the nature of values, principles, orientations and philosophy that has characterized public services and social service delivery, and the structures, processes and practices of social service management since independence. It assesses the nature of conception, extent, quality and effectiveness of social service delivery and seeks explanation in the nature of social service policy, expenditures and output; the nature of government goals, plans and reforms and the nature of governmental and public service leadership. The paper further identifies the governance failures inherent in the extant state of

social service design, management and delivery; the consequences for state legitimacy and stability; the impact on the citizens and need for governance based reforms. The analysis would depend on secondary data on the state of social service delivery and governance framework and is essentially an evaluatory and prescriptive exercise as part of overall efforts for reforms and change in the social service sector currently ridden with failure, unaccountability and waste. The first part of the paper, beyond the introduction would be devoted to the theoretical exploration of the concept, dimensions and import of governance. Clear indicators of assessing governance would be derived from the literature. The second part would identify the dominant principles and philosophy of social service delivery in Nigeria and the framework of structures, methods and practices by which social services have been managed. Thereafter, the state of performance of social service delivery would be examined. Then a critical assessment of the social service sector within the framework of governance and hitherto identified governance indicators would be undertaken and recommendations made."



Professor Leonard Moughalu making a presentation at the International Colloquium in honour of Professor Emeritus A. G. Onokerhonye

Brief Reports on CPED Activities

Evaluation report on CPED project titled "Enhancing the Capacity of Local Civil Society Groups to Claim Civil and Political Rights in Nigeria's Niger Delta Region"

The project titled "Enhancing the Capacity of Local Civil Society Groups to Claim Civil and Political Rights in Nigeria's Niger Delta Region" financially supported by the *European Commission* for the period of two years, 2009-2010, to help build the capacity of CSOs to claim their rights in target LGAs of three Niger Delta States was formally and successfully concluded in December 2010. The overall aim of the Project is to improve the civil and political rights situation in Nigeria's volatile Niger Delta region through interventions designed to strengthen the capacity of local civil society organisations and groups to play important roles as civil and political rights claim-holders in their localities. The programme was targeted at fifteen local Government Areas across Bayelsa, Delta and Rivers States.

The final external evaluation of the project was commissioned by CPED Board of Trustees. Some of the key observations of the External Evaluator with respect to the unique approach of the project to human rights promotion in rural communities of the Niger Delta are as follows:

"Introduction: The Project is a good example of how to work with local organizations introducing human rights activities in rural communities in a way that makes it relevant to them. Training and providing support to a volunteer network of human rights who are leaders or members of local civil society organizations and groups with the aim of empowering and encouraging them to demand protection and respect for their civil and political rights is a viable model. It has proved to be an effective strategy with considerable resilience in difficult circumstances such as that which prevails in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. The key elements of the observations which can be made from the process evaluation of the Project are outlined below:

(i) *Training and supporting human rights volunteers within rural CBO's is an effective strategy to mobilize people to defend their civil and political rights, particularly in conflict situations. In the*

Niger Delta region local civil society groups which have not been previously used in the promotion and defence of civil and political rights have become useful instruments for raising awareness of civil and political rights issues and taking action against abuses. The majority of the volunteers who are leaders and members of the civil society organizations in the rural communities have so far remained active after training.

(ii) *Working directly with CBOs to promote and protect human rights is effective and relevant: Providing civil and political rights training to people already active in local organisations and groups means the civil and political rights issues become integrated into existing community activities. Civil and political rights become relevant for the communities if they recognize their own daily problems as such and when they see that problems translated into rights can help them to demand protection and respect of their rights. Using participatory methods and consultation at various stages of the capacity building gave the volunteers and the communities itself a voice, making the Project relevant to their needs.*

(iii) *The need for a project to be rooted in the country's realities: It is significant for the Project to be managed from within the volatile Niger Delta region. This guaranteed that the overall vision, the choice of issues to be addressed, the management structure as well as the way the Project is implemented were geared towards the local realities of the region. It also provided a close oversight once the Project was functioning, as well as flexibility to adaptation in the light of new experience.*

(iv) *Community-based volunteers know how to make use of existing community structures: Training people who were already active in their communities produced volunteers with close*

- contact with local traditional structures and decision-making culture. Informally, volunteers were able to work with traditional leaders. They have seen the importance of including elders in their awareness raising activities. This makes civil and political rights issues accessible and relevant to key players within the community, and brings the potential for sustained change.
- (v) *Many community development workers are keen to promote human rights:* The Project and its network of volunteers is stimulating collaboration between social development and civil and political rights work at local level. Some community development workers have been trained and supported in their efforts to take up civil and political rights activities.
 - (vi) *Start preparations with an open mind but aim for a clearly focused strategy:* Not surprisingly, faced with many fundamental development and poverty alleviation problems, the people in the target communities of the Niger Delta interacted with wanted to improve everything at the same time. Obviously, this was not realistic. To retain effectiveness, it was necessary to accept the need for limited, clear and focused goals. The limits also applied to the number of volunteers who could be trained as well as the sorts of issues which would be addressed.
 - (vii) *Recruiting trainers for training of volunteers from local CBO's built support for the Project and its aims:* The support of trainers selected from the Niger Delta locality was invaluable, as was their local knowledge of language, power relationships and other sensitivities. Through their involvement in and understanding of the Project, they have been able to gain support at the community level when required.
 - (viii) *The value of blending of theory and practice:* The training methodology used was participatory, and drew on the experience and abilities of participants. The practical approach included using role-plays and problem solving.
 - (ix) *The value of developing training materials specifically for the Project:* The Project team developed a framework for the training of volunteers during the training of trainers, drawing on the input and geared towards the level of experience of the trainee-trainers. So, the trainers left the trainees with handouts ready for use in their peer education training, and tailored to their own level of skills on the one hand and relevant for the local situation on the other hand.
 - (x) *A gender balance is possible and beneficial:* One of the major successes of the Project is the inclusion and involvement of women. Approximately 45% of the volunteers are women. This was largely due to applying a quota system, which generated a heated debate. Some felt that human rights work was too risky for women. It has had a strong positive influence on the kinds of issues that volunteers work with at community level and also the way issues were tackled. The rights of women and children have come to prominence, including issues of domestic violence and the physical abuse of children and are now more broadly and easily discussed. It has also enhanced women's confidence to participate which was in evidence during the workshops and discussions.
 - (xi) *The importance of analysing the civil and political rights situation and civil society as a solid basis of the Project:* The project realized the importance of the need to undertake an in-depth analysis of the civil and political rights situation as well the structure of civil society in the target communities. It is equally important to assess the perception of the target groups and beneficiaries with respect to civil and political rights. This baseline data collection has enhanced the training activities and the selection of topics.
 - (xii) *There is a keen interest on civil and political rights within rural organisations and communities in the Niger Delta:* Whereas development organisations at national level in Nigeria are in most cases reluctant to cooperate with human

rights organisations because they were considered too political, community development organisations were interested to participate in the Project. This interest was largely due to communities defining their own burning issues rather than "importing" human rights concepts as something separate from community development.

- (xiv) *Participation of women in human rights organizations remains a challenge:* While the level of participation of women at the community level in the Project was successful and encouraging, equal involvement of women in human rights organizations at national level is still far away in Nigeria. Men heavily dominate leadership and programme staff. On the other hand, women's organisations often focus solely on women's rights. Whereas entrenched values and attitudes (of both men and women) are difficult to change, encouraging them to work together is feasible and seemed to influence attitudes.
- (xv) *Training needs to be focused:* In the context of this Project, several training workshops were organised for volunteers and leaders of local civil society organisations. The aim was to build their

capacity to develop and manage the Project. The organisations chose a wide range of subjects, but it was only training on those topics directly related to the core aims of the Project which was effectively implemented.

Conclusion: Communities in rural Niger Delta region of Nigeria had not previously had the opportunity to take collective action against civil and political rights violations. They had felt rather powerless, depending on urban-based human rights organisations to act on their behalf while the security forces and militant youths committed human rights violations with impunity. Unfortunately, urban based human organizations rarely focus on rural areas. Rural inhabitants in the target communities have welcomed the initiative of the Project to train them to identify and respond to civil and political rights abuses and to promote equality, tolerance and respect for diversity using human rights values. One indication of the relevance of the Project is the fact that rural citizens, especially women, young people and even children are now increasingly and actively involved in advocating for their civil and political rights. We believe that the experience of this Project when successfully completed will be of value to others in the Niger Delta region in particular and other parts of Nigeria in general.

CPED continues to make progress in the implementation of its five-year strategic plan

The Centre for Population and Environmental Development (CPED) was selected in 2009 as one of the African Think Tanks under the Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Institutions Global Think Tank Grant Initiative. IDRC is one of the world's leading institutions in the generation and application of new knowledge to meet the challenges of international development. It is well known that IDRC has worked during the past forty years in close association with researchers in developing countries to build healthier, more equitable and prosperous societies in different countries with considerable success. The institutional grant facility to CPED is a major breakthrough in that it will provide core funding for the research, communications, intervention and capacity building of CPED and its partners.

One major output of the support for CPED under the Think Tank Initiative is the formulation of the five-year strategic plan. CPED's Five-Year Strategic Plan seeks to consolidate and build on its modest achievements of the past ten years to make the organisation one of the most unique independent policy research institutions in Nigeria which combines policy-oriented research with communication, outreach and intervention programmes. Under the five-year programme of work, CPED activities will focus on four broad areas reflecting the objectives set for the five-year period i.e. Research; Communications and outreach; Intervention programmes; and Capacity Building of CPED and partners.

Research Activities

In the first six months of 2012, CPED core research staff and associates continued research activities and published papers on each of the four research themes being addressed during the period i.e. Growth and equity in Nigeria; Conflict and Development in Nigeria's Niger Delta region; Education and Development in Nigeria; and Health including HIV/AIDS and development in Nigeria. The targets set on the research component of the strategic plan for the first year are being achieved.

Research communications and policy linkage

The Communications and Dissemination Plan of CPED has been approved by the Board of Trustees with effect from January 2012. The Communication and Dissemination Plan has guided various research communication and policy linkage since then. Thus CPED has intensified disseminating its policy research results through multiple channels and formats including reports, policy briefs for policy makers, a revamped website, and an improved biannually newsletter largely for policy makers. CPED has also organised policy workshops and dialogues on socio-economic development issues, especially in the context of meeting the challenges of achieving MDGs relating to health and education. CPED has also built the capacity of local partners so as to enhance their participation in promoting policy linkage with relevant public and private agencies.

Intervention programmes on key development challenges at the local level

In the first half of 2012, CPED has carried out intervention programmes with local partners on

promoting grassroots stakeholders participation on development and poverty reduction, promoting good governance at the grassroots level to hold elected representatives accountable to the people that elect them, promoting human rights-based approach to development, and projects on control of the spread of HIV/AIDS, especially for rural communities.

Strengthening the institutional capacity of CPED

In the last six months considerable attention was paid to consolidate the capacity building of CPED by improving the equipment and facilities in CPED offices; Improving the governance and management structure of CPED; putting in place clear systems for managing and appointing staff performance and dealing with promotion, progression and remuneration; revamping CPED's website with the aim of making it a key instrument in communications and outreach activities; recruiting Senior research staff to enhance the research capacity of CPED; and establishing CPED branch offices in specific parts of the country.

Empowerment of CPED partners to participate in research, policy linkage and outreach/ intervention activities

CPED has continued with its programme of identifying and building the capacity of local partners in intervention project areas in different parts of the country; continuing to build network links with the empowered local partners and other stakeholders; building a contact base that allows CPED to manage its relationships with local partners efficiently and effectively; and sourcing for funds from key donors for the core activities of CPED.

CPED continues to make progress on its project on building civil society capacity for advocacy on sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Nigeria

After about two years of the implementation of the project entitled "Building civil society capacity for advocacy on sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Nigeria" steady progress is being made in the execution of some of its key activities. The overall purpose of the project is to improve the reproductive and sexual health situation in Nigeria, which has the

worst indicators of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in Africa and the second to the worst in the world, through interventions designed to strengthen the capacity of local civil society organisations to play key roles in policy dialogues on sexual and reproductive health and rights while at the same time participating in the delivery of RH care

services to underserved groups and localities. The project is expected to help the target civil society organisations (NGOs) to clarify their vision, improve their organisational efficiency, increase their knowledge of SRHR, improve their knowledge of or access to policy and planning processes, improve their advocacy skills, increase their ability to deliver SRHR services and develop networks to work with key stakeholders on SRHR. The project seeks to contribute to securing the rights of women, men and adolescents in different parts of Nigeria to good reproductive and sexual health. The project has a research, intervention and policy linkage components. The three-year project initiative is funded by European Commission. In the last two years, the following research, intervention and policy linkage activities have been carried out.

The empowerment of the project team and other key staff/associates

- (a) A-46 member Project Team composed of experts on socio-economic surveys, finance, stakeholders mobilization, NGO management, sexual and reproductive health issues and advocacy strategies have been put in place. Our interactions with some of them show that they have relevant skills and experience to handle the schedule assigned to them in the project.
- (b) A three-day workshop was organized for the 46-Project team members to keep them abreast of the issues and challenges of implementing the Project was held on Monday 1st to Wednesday 3rd of February, 2010.
- (c) The workshop also empowered 15 other staff of CPED, ICWA and CPAP on the issues and strategies of the Project in case there is need to make changes in the project personnel.
- (d) The workshop empowered the project team members on issues such as NGO mobilization strategies in different target states; Strategies for the identification of relevant NGOs for empowerment on advocacy on reproductive health; Stakeholders mobilization strategies for State and Local Government Officials and Local Leaders at the community level; Community mobilization strategies especially for youths in the context of the target LGAs in the different states; Preparation and discussion of survey instruments for the baseline surveys; and Methodologies for the administration of baseline survey instruments;
- (e) The workshop also discussed the general principles and issues to be focused on in the preparation of the training manuals, especially Manual for the training of NGOs on organizational development and management; Manual for the training of NGOs on reproductive health challenges and issues in Nigeria; Manual for the training of NGOs on Advocacy on Reproductive Health; and Manual on Adolescents Reproductive Health and service delivery.
- (f) The 46-Project team members have remained part of the project implementation for the past one year which is a reflection of their continuing commitment to the implementation of the Project.
- (g) Draft survey instruments and training manuals were prepared during the workshop.

Mobilisation of target groups and other stakeholders for participation in the project

From the records documented on project activities and interactions with stakeholders and target groups including beneficiaries it can be stated that mobilisation of stakeholders, target groups and beneficiaries was successfully carried out with respect to the following:

- (i) Mobilisation of State Government Officials
- (ii) Mobilisation of NGOs in the ten target states
- (iii) Mobilisation of Media Houses for participation in the project.
- (iv) Mobilisation of Local Government and Health Officials.
- (v) Mobilisation of target groups, beneficiaries and out-of-school youths in the target LGAs
- (vi) Mobilisation of target schools and in-school youths.
- (vii) Selection of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that will participate in the implementation of the action.
- (viii) Selection of Journalists and media houses that will participate in the implementation of the action.

The successful mobilisation led to the targeting of

100 State Government Officials in the ten target states to support the action; 150 Local Government and Health Officials in the ten target LGAs mobilised to support and participate in the project; 400 NGOs were initially mobilised for participation in the project; 150 journalists in media houses and agencies were mobilised for participation in the project; 500 community leaders, target groups, beneficiaries and other stakeholders mobilised in the target LGAs for participation in the project; 300 NGOs were finally selected from the initial list compiled for participation in the project and 100 journalists were finally selected from the initial list compiled for participation in the project

Constitution and training of State and LGA Implementation committees

- (a) 10 Local Government Project Implementation Committees with an average membership of between 5 and 10 people were constituted.
- (b) 10 Local Implementation committees with an average membership of between 10 and 15 people were constituted.
- (c) Training of the constituted state and local implementation committee members was successfully carried out.
- (d) The State and LGA Implementation Committees have been empowered to participate in the implementation of the Action.

Collection of baseline information on SRHR and capacity building needs of target NGOs

- (a) Baseline survey instruments were finalized after pre-testing in pilot NGOs and communities.
- (b) Baseline surveys of target NGOs carried out and the results analysed.
- (c) Baselines surveys of SRHR carried out and the results analysed.
- (d) The results of the analysis of the baseline surveys were fed into the training programmes of the NGOs and Journalists

Capacity building of NGOs on management, SRHR and advocacy skills

- (a) The manuals for the training activities finalised and used in the training.
- (b) The management capacity building of the NGOs focused on issues such as: Establishing and

registering a CSO; Mission and planning; Organisational structure and management; Human resources management and supervision skills; Leadership and communications; Programme design and management; Searching for funds; Financial management; Developing public relations; Networking with other organisations; Organisational sustainability; and Monitoring and evaluation.

- (c) Sexual and reproductive capacity building of the NGOs focused on issues such as The context of reproductive health challenges in Nigeria; Trends in pregnancies and child bearing; Family planning; Maternal health; HIV/AIDS; Abortion; Harmful practices, reproductive rights and gender issues; The National Reproductive Health Policy and Framework; and Advocacy issues on reproductive health.
- (d) Advocacy issues on reproductive health capacity building of the NGOs focused on The framework for advocacy on reproductive health; Building a constituency for support; Target audiences and goals; Going public with advocacy issues on reproductive health; Enhancing your public information efforts; Dealing with the opposition.
- (e) Policy linkage with the relevant state and local governments.

Capacity building of Youth Organisations on SRHR and peer education activities

- (a) The manual for the training activities on adolescent reproductive health and peer education activities were finalised and used in the training.
- (b) The topics covered in the training workshops focused on key reproductive health issues with particular reference to adolescent reproductive health as well as peer education skills. These include; the context of reproductive health challenges in Nigeria; Trends in pregnancies and child bearing; Family planning; Maternal health; HIV/AIDS; Abortion; Harmful practices, reproductive rights and gender issues; The National Reproductive Health Policy and Framework; Advocacy issues on reproductive health, peer education, and youth-friendly health centres.

Capacity building of Journalists on SRHR and advocacy

- (a) The manuals for the training activities finalised and used in the training;
- (b) Sexual and reproductive capacity building of the NGOs focused on issues such as The context of reproductive health challenges in Nigeria; Trends in pregnancies and child bearing; Family planning; Maternal health; HIV/AIDS; Abortion; Harmful practices, reproductive rights and gender issues; The National Reproductive Health Policy and Framework; and Advocacy issues on reproductive health;
- (c) Advocacy issues on reproductive health capacity building of the NGOs focused on The framework for advocacy on reproductive health; Building a constituency for support; Target audiences and goals; Going public with advocacy issues on reproductive health; Enhancing your public information efforts; Dealing with the opposition.

Working with the empowered CSOs to carry out advocacy activities on SRHR

CPED has been working with the empowerment of the CSOs to advocate for increased attention by the three levels of government to SRHR service delivery by making appropriate resource allocations to SRHR. The objective of the advocacy activities being carried out by the empowered CSOs is to influence policy, programmes and resource allocation to SRHR services. High level meetings are being held with the specific target audiences. CSOs are also organising public events such as debates, radio and TV programmes, peaceful protests, and other events that draw attention to the challenges facing SRHR. Advocacy meetings with community leaders, elders, men and women are carried out on harmful traditional practices.

Working with the empowered journalists to carry out advocacy activities on SRHR

CPED is also working with the empowerment of journalists to carry out advocacy activities as well as public enlightenment campaigns. These advocacy and public enlightenment activities are focusing on informing the public and also lobby policy makers to

respond to the challenges facing SRHR. As in the case with CSOs, meetings are being held with specific target audiences. Mass media campaign is a major strategy which some of the empowered media houses are using to promote improved SRHR policy and services in Nigeria.

Working with youth organisations to implement peer education on SRHR activities

In each target LGA the peer educators are working with CPED to carry out promotional activities such as discussion groups, music concerts, radio programmes, distributing flyers and hanging posters; informational/educational activities such as giving information to individuals or small groups in a workshop setting with the purpose of educating them on specific SRHR issues; counselling/orientation such as direct, private contact with youth to learn extensively about and address their needs including negotiating skills so that adolescent women can say no to unprotected sex and reinforce their self-esteem; community distribution of services and referrals such as distribution of condoms, and other contraceptives, as well as referring youths to clinics or other services; and advocacy to youths and other stakeholders to build support for the recognition and improvement of SRHR.

Working with the empowered youth organisations to carry out "youth-friendly" reproductive health services

In view of the fact that peer education generates demands for services in the intended audience, peer education is being linked to services that provide access to condoms, medical care, and voluntary counseling and STI management. This is due to the fact that it is generally agreed that "youth-friendly" services are needed if adolescents are to be adequately provided with reproductive health care. Given that young people tend not to use existing reproductive health services, specialized approaches must be established to attract, serve, and retain young clients. Basic components include specially trained providers, privacy, confidentiality, and accessibility.

Supporting civil society coalitions, building

and networking activities to promote collaboration with the executive, legislature, the media and other CSOs on reproductive health advocacy activities

It is expected that CSOs' impact on advocacy for improved SRHR policies and the increase of resources allocation to RH in budgets will be enhanced if they collaborate with other organisations. This requires building networks and coalitions. Facilitation of coalitions and networking of empowered CSOs

advocating for improved SRHR is being carried out by CPED in each state. This is being carried out by the regular meetings and reviews of the activities of the empowered CSOs during the project period starting from the time they were trained collectively in each state. This has formed the basis of their collaboration in advocacy activities on SRHR which is expected to continue even when the project formally ends.



Photograph of CPED Project team and Peer Educators in Dekina LGA, Kogi State during a meeting with Community youths

CPED COMMENDED FOR HER COMMITMENT TO RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT (AS REPORTED BY JOHNSON E. DUDU)

The commitment of CPED to research and development in line with her motto was once again reiterated at the public presentation of the Special Edition of the African Journal of Reproductive Health (AJRH) published by Women's Health and Action Research Centre (WHARC). AJRH was recently ranked by the National University Commission (NUC) as the number one journal in Nigeria (in all disciplines) that meets international standards. At a beautiful event held to present the special edition of the journal in the Lagos University Teaching Hospital in Lagos on the 28th of June, 2012, Editor of the Journal and Programme Officer of Ford Foundation in charge

of West Africa office, Professor Friday Okonofua - commended the Executive Director of CPED Professor Emeritus A.G. Onokerhoraye for his interest in promoting research works and publications over the years. Speaking further, the editor and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and former Provost of the College of Medical Services at the University of Benin, Nigeria, traced the history and survival of the Journal AJRH in part to the encouragement and cash donation of CPED's Executive Director. Speaking in the same vein, one of the Special Guests of Honour at the occasion - Nimi Briggs, Professor Emeritus and Professor of

Obstetrics and Gynaecology and former Vice Chancellor of the University of Port Harcourt, eulogized the Emeritus Professor for keeping to the research traditional instead of going for political appointments like many of his contemporaries.

The journal presentation was done under the chairmanship of distinguished academics Professor Isaac Adewole, the incumbent Vice Chancellor of Nigeria's Premier University - University of Ibadan which coincidentally is the alma-mater of the Emeritus Professor.

Reviewing the Journal at the presentation, the reviewer Professor Innocent Ujah of the Nigerian Institute for Medical Research, pointed out the domination of the journal by articles from Edo State describing the works as original research. The Special Edition of the AJRH Journal was made of 21 articles, out of which 7 of them were from CPED's collaboration with her partners from the University of Windsor, Canada, Action Health Incorporated, Lagos, University of Benin, Benin City and the Edo State Ministry of Education in a Project titled: "HIV Prevention for Rural Youth: Mobilizing Schools & Communities, Edo State, Nigeria" through the Global Health Research Initiative managed by IDRC, Canada. CPED's articles in the Journal are: HIV Prevention for Rural Youth in Nigeria: background overview by Andrew G. Onokerhoraye, Eleanor Maticka-Tyndale and the HP4RY Team, Bridging theory and practice in HIV prevention for rural youth, Nigeria by Eleanor Maticka-Tyndale and the HP4RY Team, What does a decolonizing/decentralizing

methodology in examining sexual lives entails? A critical reflective case study by S. Nombuso Dlamini, Eleanor Maticka-Tyndale, Francisca Omorodion, Uzo Anucha and the HP4RY Team, The use of National Youth Service Corps members to build AIDS Competent Communities in Rural Edo State Nigeria by Francisca Omorodion, Ese Akpede, Eleanor Maticka-Tyndale, Kokunrhe Agbontean-Eghafona, Andrew G. Onokerhoraye and the HP4RY team, Empowering teachers to change youth practices: Evaluating Teacher Delivery and Responses to the FLHE programme in Edo State, Nigeria by S. Nombuso Dlamini, Felicia Okoro, Uyi Oni Ekhosuehi, Adenike Esiet and the HP4RY team, Evaluation of School- and Community-Based HIV Prevention Interventions with Junior Secondary School Students in Edo State, Nigeria by Robert Arnold, Eleanor Maticka-Tyndale, Eric Y. Tenkorang, Daniel Holland, Adeline Gaspard, Isaac Luginaah, and the HP4RY Team, Meeting the Challenges of North-South Collaboration: The Case of HIV Prevention for Rural Youth, Edo State, Nigeria Andrew G. Onokerhoraye, Eleanor Maticka-Tyndale and the HP4RY Team.

The journal presentation also witnessed a keynote address by the Director General of the National Agency for the Control of AIDS Prof John Idoko who spoke on: Addressing Youth Vulnerability to HIV/AIDS in Nigeria and attended by representatives of the First Lady of Ekiti State, University of Windsor, Action Health Incorporated, Ford Foundation, Macarthur Foundation and IPAS. Additionally, presentation of awards to deserving institutions, persons and staff ended the programme for the day.



Professor Emeritus A. G. Onokerhoraye (Second Left) and Professor Maticka Tyndale of University of Windsor, Canada (Centre) at the Public Presentation of the Special Edition of the AJRH



Unveiling the AJRH Journal: Standing immediately behind the Chairman of the Event Prof. Isaac Adewole (Centre) is Professor Emeritus A. G. Onokerhoraye of CPED



CENTRE FOR POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT (CPED)

Under the current five-year programme of work, CPED activities focus on four broad areas reflecting the objectives set for the five-year strategic plan period as follows:

- (i) Research;
- (ii) Communications and outreach;
- (iii) Intervention programmes; and
- (iv) Capacity Building of CPED and partners.

RESEARCH

Four research thematic areas will be targeted by CPED during the five-year period as follows:

1. *Growth with Equity in Nigeria*
2. *Conflict and Development in Nigeria 's Niger Delta Region*
3. *Education and Development in Nigeria*
4. *Health including HIV/AIDS and Development in Nigeria.*

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Partnership development with public and private sector/civil society organisations

INTERVENTION PROGRAMMES ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Beyond action and policy oriented research and its communications activities, our mandate entails implementing intervention activities in our identified areas of policy research during the five-year strategic plan period. In this context intervention programmes that benefit largely deprived grassroots communities and other disadvantaged people are being carried out.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF CPED AND PARTNERS

CPED believes that the strengthening partner organisations including community based organisations must be a key mechanism for the achievement of its mandate during the next five years. This also includes the strengthening of CPED to be able to fulfil its mandate during the strategic plan period.

