

# ANEEJ CASAN NEWSLETTER

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## Editorial

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- **Leo Atakpu**, *deputy executive editor*
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- **Charles Iyare**, *Editor*
- **Kelly Umukoro**, *communications officer*.
- **Ovie Erhisohwode Assurance**, *ICT*

## ANEEJ TRAINS CSOs & JOURNALISTS ON OGP&UNCAC

The Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ) is currently implementing the “Civil Society Advocacy to Support Anti-Corruption in Nigeria (CASAN) project with support from UNDP under the EU founded 10th European Development Fund (EDF). The goal of the project is to enhance the capacity of CSOs and journalists to support anti-corruption effort of the government of Nigeria. The project objectives include; Build the capacity of CSOs and Media on the concept of Open Government Partnership (OGP) and the UNCAC to support their policy advocacy around the issues by end of project. Engage the relevant arm/agencies of government on the implementation of

Open Government Partnership (OGP) and the UNCAC Raise public awareness through the launch of the “support open government partnership” campaign As part of the project implementation, ANEEJ is holding this workshop to build the capacity of selected CSOs on the concept of Open Government Partnership (OGP) including the open contracting platform and the implementation United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) in Nigeria including the second UNCAC review process, to support their policy advocacy and engagement with relevant arm/ agencies of government around the issues. This workshop has been designed to: Train participants on the concept OGP



### 2-DAY WORKSHOP ON OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP & UNCAC IMPLEMENTATION/REVIEW IN NIGERIA

#### CIVIL SOCIETY ADVOCACY TO SUPPORT ANTI-CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA (CASAN) PROJECT

March, 29 - 30, 2017 | 9:00AM

Grand Ibro Hotel Annex  
Wuse Zone 5, Abuja

This Project is fully funded by the European Union (EU) under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF)

and the implementation of United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) in Nigeria including the second UNCAC review process. Prepare CSOs to participate in the 2nd UNCAC review circle Bring focal persons involved in the implementation of OGP and UNCAC review process to meet with CSOs

<http://www.aneej.org/aneejholds-advocacy-meet-supportanti-corruption/>

## SERDEC CALLS FOR LAUNCH OF NIGERIA'S OPEN CONTRACTING PORTAL

**Abuja, Nigeria**...The Socio-Economic Research and Development Centre, SERDEC, has called on government and the Bureau of Public Procurement, BPP, to intensify effort to launch the long-awaited Open Contracting Portal, OCP, to deepen fiscal transparency in the procurement process in Nigeria. The Nigerian Government in June 2016 signed up to the open government partnership (OGP), hereby committing to implement the open contracting

process as part of a National Action Plan to promote access to information, enhance fiscal transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in public procurement. Both groups say that implementation of the open contracting portal will help to improve public service integrity and ensure that a greater amount of public resources are managed more effectively. 'Beyond the commitment however, it is now time for government to purposefully work

towards its implementation. The 2017 budget will soon be passed and procurement activities are expected to follow, there is no better time to link budget and procurement data to public services, thereby encouraging participation, disclosure and entrenching public accountability', Tijani Abdulkareem, Lead Director, SERDEC said.

For full story, visit: <http://nigeriantimes.ng/news/serdec-calls-for-launch-of-nigerias-open-contracting-portal/>

## REV UGOLOR’S CASAN WELCOME ADDRESS

*Welcome Address by ANEEJ Executive Director, Rev. David Ugolor during 2-Day Workshop for CSOs on OGP and UNCAC Implementation in Nigeria, Wednesday 29th – Thursday 30th March, 2017.*

I want to formally welcome you all to this important 2-day workshop for CSOs on the concept of open government partnership (OGP) and



*ANEEJ ED, welcoming participants in Abuja*

United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), for which the review of two chapters is currently in progress in Nigeria. This is part of activities lined up under the “Civil Society Advocacy to Support Anti-Corruption in Nigeria (CASAN)” project which ANEEJ is currently implementing. The CASAN project is supported by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) under the European Union (EU) founded 10th European Development Fund (EDF). The goal of the project is to enhance the capacity of CSOs including journalists to support anticorruption effort of Nigerian government. Our target is to get a number of CSOs to understand what the Federal Government is currently doing regarding two important processes so that they will be able to engage the relevant government

agencies taking lead in the implementation of such initiatives. The processes we are referring to here are the; Implementation of Open Government Partnership (OGP) and; the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) As part of the project implementation, ANEEJ is holding this workshop to strengthen the capacity of selected CSOs including journalists on the concept of open government partnership including the open contracting platform and the implementation UNCAC in Nigeria including the 2nd UNCAC review circle, to support their policy advocacy and engagement with relevant agencies of government around the issues.

For full story visit ANEEJ website:

<http://www.aneej.org/training-csos-ogp-uncac-review-mechanism-organized-aneej/>

*Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a multi-stakeholder initiative that focuses on improving government transparency, accountability and responsiveness to citizens through technology and innovation*

## JOURNALISTS AND CSOs KEY TO ANTI-CORRUPTION CAMPAIGN

The Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice, ANEEJ, has announced that in a forthcoming workshop, it would stress the crucial role journalists and CSOs play in the campaign to rid Nigeria of corruption by demystifying the concepts of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and the United Nations

Convention Against Corruption, UNCAC. ANEEJ is implementing, the “Civil Society Advocacy to Support Anti-Corruption in journalists to support anti-corruption effort of the government of Nigeria. The project objectives include the Engagement of the relevant arm/ agencies of government on the implementation

of Open Government Partnership (OGP) and the UNCAC and to raise public awareness through the launch of the “support open government partnership” campaign.

For full story visit ANEEJ website:

<http://nigeriantimes.ng/news/serdec-calls-for-launch-of-nigerias-open-contracting-portal/>

## ABUJA CASAN WORKSHOP, MARCH 29 – 30, 2017 GROUP WORK

**PREVENTIVE MEASURES Art.5-14**

Identify the gaps in the implementation of the following articles and provisions of UNCAC and make brief recommendation to be submitted to the UNCAC secretariat. Art.5

*Implement Effective and Coordinated AntiCorruption Policies*

**Art.6**  
Public and Private Sectors Civil Society (Art.9)

Codes of Conduct (Art.8)  
Prevention of Money Laundering (Art. 14)

*ASSET RECOVERY Art.51-59 Return of Assets as Fundamental Principle (Art.51)*

Measures for Recovery of Property through International Cooperation (Art.54 - 55)

Measures for Return and Disposal of Assets (Art.57)

# NIGERIA'S OGP NATIONAL ACTION PLAN: THEMATIC AREAS

- 1. Promoting fiscal transparency
- 2. Access to information
- 3. Anti-corruption and asset disclosure .
- 4. Citizen engagement and empowerment.

The National Action Plan contain 14 ambitious commitments to be implemented in 2 years. Nigeria began implementation in January 2017

## FISCAL TRANSPARENCY COMMITMENTS

1.Ensure more effective citizens' participation across

the entire budget cycle.

2. Full implementation of Open Contracting and adoption of Open Contracting Data Standards in the public sector.

3. Work together with all stakeholders to enhance transparency in the extractive sector through a concrete set of disclosures related to payments by companies and receipts by governments on all transactions across the sector's value chain. 4. Adopt common reporting standards and the



Stanley Achonu of BudgIT discussing the OGP with CASAN participants

Addis Tax initiative aimed at improving the fairness, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the tax system .

## USING RED FLAGS TO MONITOR PROCUREMENT.

Red flags are indicators of possible corruption that can help CSOs monitor procurement processes more effectively CSOs should keep in mind that Red flags do not necessarily indicate

corruption, but merely the possibility that corruption may be occurring In some instances, a red flag may be the result of an error in good faith, incompetence or extraordinary circumstances. When

in doubt, inquiring about the findings of the procurement monitoring with procurement officials may help clarify the specific circumstances that led to what appears to be corruption .

*The procurement process is divided into four stages: Planning, Bidding, Evaluation, and Implementation/ Administration.*

## UNDERSTANDING UNCAC REVIEW PROCESS MECHANISM

### CHAPTER II PREVENTIVE MEASURES (ARTS 5 – 14)

Anti-corruption policies and bodies, Public Sector – Recruitment / Retention of Civil Servants – Rules relating to election candidates, Codes of conduct of Public Officials, Public Procurement – Establishing a system with objective criteria, Integrity of the Judiciary, Private Sector – Cooperation / Auditing.

### CHAPTER V – ASSET RECOVERY

Return of Assets a fundamental principle of the Convention (Art 51). Prevention / Detection of transfers of



Adefolahan discussing the UNCAC

Requirements on Financial Institutions to identify customers, Enhanced scrutiny of accounts of public officials, Prevent banks with no physical presence, Recovery of Property through Int. Cooperation, Give effect to confiscation orders from another State Party including freezing orders, Assets to be returned to requesting State Parties.

## ABOUT ANEEJ



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[www.aneej.org](http://www.aneej.org)

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The Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ) is a non-governmental organization whose goal is to amplify the voice of the weak, the less privileged and the marginalized groups in the society including women and youths, in order to increase their participation in the democratic decision-making process. As its basis, ANEEJ believes in a democratic system for managing human interest and operates within two broad focal areas namely environmental and economic justice. Specifically, ANEEJ implements projects relating to governance and democracy, human rights

(including migration and development issues) and anti-corruption, peace building and conflict resolution, environment including water, sanitation and hygiene among others.

ANEEJ worked with over 100 civil society organizations while hosting the Secretariat of the Publish What You Pay (PWYP) Campaign, Nigeria from 2004-2008 and the Nigerian Network on Stolen Assets. The organization also coordinated CSOs that were involved in monitoring repatriated Late General Sani Abacha loots under the Public Expenditure Man-

agement and Financial Accountability Review (PEMFAR), a tripartite agreement between the World Bank, Civil Society and Nigerian governments. ANEEJ in 2003 established the Society for Water and Sanitation (NEWSAN), a coalition of over 300 CSOs working in the area of Water and Sanitation. ANEEJ is currently engaging the Nigerian government, international community as well as local and international civil society groups on the recovery of stolen assets to finance development.