



**Terms of Reference  
2020 Independent Evaluation  
Open Niger Delta (OPENED) project**

**1. Introduction**

The Open Niger Delta (OPENED) is a three-year project with current funding from the Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service, Berlin (project number A-NGA-2017-0317) and the British Department for International Development (DFID). The project commenced in October, 2017 and is scheduled to end on 30 September, 2020.

**Background**

Nigeria is a country of over 170 million people and UNDP Human Development Index report of 2016 says poverty rate is 62.6% with per capita income of \$1280. Nigeria has an overall Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.47.<sup>1</sup>

A United Nations, UN, report on Nigeria's Common Country Analysis, CCA, published by The VANGUARD said the country's population will be approximately 200 million by 2019 and over 400 million by 2050, becoming one of the top five populous countries in the world.<sup>2</sup>

The situation has not changed over the decades, but is increasing. Poverty and hunger have remained high in rural areas, remote communities and among female-headed households and these cut across the six geo-political zones, with prevalence ranging from approximately 46.9 percent in the South West to 74.3 percent in North West and North East.

The UN report said over 80 million Nigerians live in poverty and are affected in one way or the other by the current humanitarian crisis. Available reports indicate that there are over 3.3 million internally displaced persons, IDPs, which is Africa's largest, ranking behind Syria and Columbia on a global scale.

In Nigeria, 37% of children under five years old were stunted, 29% underweight and overall, only 10% of children aged 6-23 months are fed appropriately based on recommended infant and young children feeding practices, while 2,300 die per day from preventable diseases.

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<sup>1</sup> National Human Development report 2016 <http://www.ng.undp.org/content/nigeria/en/home/library/poverty/national-human-de...>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.vanguardngr.com/2016/09/nigeria-deeply-divided-says-un-report/>

Youth unemployment which is 42% in 2016 is very high, creating poverty, helplessness, despair and easy target for crime and terrorism. Over 10 million children of school age are out of schools with no knowledge and skills.

Nigeria's economy is currently in a recession and it is estimated that government revenues have fallen by as much as 33 percent, which has further resulted in the contraction of the Gross Domestic Product, GDP, by 0.36 percent in the first three months of 2016.

The vulnerable macroeconomic environment in Nigeria is affecting investors' confidence in the domestic economy.

In spite of Nigeria being a signatory to a number of protocols on sustainable and renewable environment, the country had, over the decades, failed to protect the environment, ecosystem and natural resources. Over-exploitation of natural resources and pollution of the environment, desertification are exposing the population to vulnerability and risks caused by climate change, among others.

A new report from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has projected Nigeria as Africa's biggest economy, in spite of its current challenges. Nigeria is placed ahead of South Africa and Egypt which are second and third respectively.<sup>3</sup> While this should ordinarily attract investors, the country is currently in a recession as is evident in the negative GDP growth rates of -2.06 percent and -2.24 percent in the second and third quarters of 2016 respectively.

The declining GDP has been accompanied by a high inflation rate of 18.3 percent in October 2016 as a result of government's monetary policy that starved the economy of foreign exchange as well as low oil prices in the international oil market and high unemployment rate of 42 percent at the end June 2016. With the current weak global oil prices, the country's revenues have experienced a significant decline from the projected values. This has been aggravated by reduced production caused by the militancy in the Niger Delta region of the country, which has resulted in a fall in production from 2.2 million barrels-per-day (bpd) to about 1.4 million bpd in September 2016.

The Nigeria Foreign Exchange Reserves also fell to a ten-year low of about \$24.6 billion in November 2016, a 30% decline from the October 2014 figure, reflecting the effect of lower oil prices, falling production volumes and dwindling foreign investments. Insurgency in the Northern part of the country has claimed over 20,000 lives and properties worth billions of naira. All these have put a strain on the country's import-dependent economy and increased the incidence of poverty.

The statistics presented above is partly a consequence of corruption that has been one of the biggest impediments to the country's development. The administration of Muhammadu Buhari elected in 2015 in its determination to address these challenges embarked on war against corruption, a war that has seen politically exposed persons being tried and sentenced to jail terms as never before, while millions of dollars in looted assets are being recovered, even though that a lot needs to be done to stabilise the anti-graft war. For instance, a whopping \$9.8million was recovered from the former Group Managing Director of Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation, Mr. Andrew Yakubu who is currently being prosecuted by the

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<sup>3</sup> Read more at: <http://www.vanguardngr.com/2016/10/nigeria-remains-africas-biggest-economy-imf>

Economic and Financial Crimes Commission.<sup>4</sup> Former Governor of Adamawa State in North East Nigeria, Mr. Bala James Ngilari was jailed recently for failing to adhere to procurement laws of the state.<sup>5</sup> Since the death of General Sani Abacha in 2004 believed to have stolen over \$4.3billion, Switzerland has repatriated close to \$1billion to the country and a huge chunk of his loot are still stashed in Switzerland, United States of America and other offshore destinations. Another \$321million is expected to be repatriated from Switzerland from the Abachas to finance the 2017 Nigerian annual budget.

Additionally, the government believes in enhancing the demand side of governance which has to do with operating an open, transparent and accountable government. During the Anti-Corruption Summit in London in May 2016, President Buhari announced Nigeria signing on to the Open Governance Partnership (OGP) and currently the nation which is the 70th country to sign on to the global initiative currently has a National Action Plan (2017-2019) which spans into four key thematic areas of fiscal transparency, anti-corruption, access to information, and citizen engagement.<sup>6</sup> The commitments are concrete, ambitious but implementable. Some of the key deliverables are open budgeting, open contracting, revenue transparency, and a publication of a register of beneficial ownership of companies especially in the extractive industry among others.

Civil Society Participation is a key requirement of the OGP process. States and Local Governments have not yet declared adoption of the OGP process and principles in the country.

- in the project area

The Niger Delta region encompassed 25% of the 36 states in Nigeria, which also correspond to the nine oil-producing states in Nigeria, namely Rivers, Delta, Cross River, Akwa Ibom, Abia, Bayelsa, Ondo, Imo and Edo states.

The population structure of the area, based on the 2006 national population figure, is 31,277,901, comprising of 15,857,359 males and 15,420,542 females. The Niger Delta area is home to 22.27% of the Nigeria population (140,431,790)<sup>7</sup>.

The Nigerian economy is heavily dependent on the oil resource of the region. About 80% of the nation's total revenue earnings and 90% of her export earnings come from the region. There is therefore a very strong motivation for continued oil exploration in the area to finance the nation budget<sup>8</sup>.

Despite the contribution of the region to the economic survival of the nation, the irony however, is poor deplorable condition of residents of the region. Despite fueling much of Nigeria's economic growth, the Niger Delta is somewhat marginalized from Nigeria's national development. Essentially, there is a

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/223140-efcc-recovered-9-8million-yakubu-ex-nnpc-gmd-see-mountains-dollars.html>

<sup>5</sup> <http://saharareporters.com/2017/03/06/former-nigerian-governor-jailed-corruption>

<sup>6</sup> The National Action Plan is available at <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/country/nigeria>

<sup>7</sup> 2006 National Population Census.

<sup>8</sup> Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs, 2014

significant disconnect between the wealth the region generates for the Nigerian federation and the transnational oil companies extracting oil from the region, and the region's human development progress.

The Niger Delta is a region suffering from administrative neglect, crumbling social infrastructure and services, high unemployment, social deprivation, abject poverty, filth and squalor, and endemic conflict<sup>9</sup>.

According to the Niger Delta Human Development Report, the prevailing situation not only explains the increasing waves of restiveness in the region, it also presages a grim future for the region and the country. "For most people of the delta, progress and hope, much less prosperity, remain out of reach," the report states.

In more recent times, arising from either poor performance of instituted Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) over the decades, existing agencies/commission have either been re-branded or new ones established to address the incessant Niger Delta question that border on development, livelihood improvement and security. Despite relative achievements, many still believe that compared with their allocation, Government MDAs are still underperforming. Many have blamed this on corruption, opacity and bureaucratic bottlenecks, in addition to political interferences in their operations.

## **2. The project**

The OPENED project is being implemented by Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ) in four Niger Delta States of Edo, Delta, Bayelsa and Rivers State.

### **Project Goal**

The goal of the project is to mainstream OGP principles in the Niger Delta states

The project objectives and indicators are as follows:

1. CSOs are engaging 4 State Governments for the introduction of OGP.
2. At least 2 state governments in the Niger Delta adopt OGP by 2020.

Please spell out up to three indicators to monitor the extent the project objective has been achieved.

1.1 20 persons using the Niger Delta Governance and Transparency Index platform on a monthly basis.

1.2 The number of public statements from CSOs to lobby for the introduction of OGP reaches sixteen (16) in 2020.

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<sup>9</sup> Niger Delta Human Development Report 2016. <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-report>

1.3 The number of media reports (print and online) per year about OGP increased from (zero) in 2018 to Twenty-two (22) in 2020.

2.1 Four (4) state governments make public statements indicating interest in the introduction of OGP.

2.2 The introduction of OGP is supported by government structures in at least 2 Delta states

### **3. Purpose of the Evaluation**

The purpose of this Evaluation is to assess the **relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact (actual or expected) and sustainability** of both the performance and management concerns of the project, as well as **issues** arising from the implementation. The evaluation will also need to assess any additional impacts which have been achieved through the above-mentioned project and related adjustments to project implementation.

Specifically, the evaluation should answer the following questions:

1. What success has been made by ANEEJ in achieving the goals and objectives specified in project plans?
2. Determine whether the organisation is working with the appropriate stakeholders to achieve its objectives.
3. Determine whether communications and relations with the government of Nigeria, its agencies and the states have been effective in achieving results.
4. What are the unintended consequences (if any) and/or effects of the organisations activities, either positive or negative?
5. Lessons learned covering implementation, management approaches as well as the effectiveness of relationships with partners and donors and inter-relationships.
6. What specific changes in management and/or implementation which ensure that results are achieved and maximize impact?
7. How relevant the project is to the stepping down of OGP in the Niger Delta?
8. How efficient is the use of available resources is to the project?
9. Are the workshops effective in meeting project goals and objectives?
10. What concrete outcomes or impact of the project are in your state or region?
11. What concrete recommendations can you proffer for the sustainability of the project?
12. Are you familiar with the Niger Delta Governance index? What are the merits and demerits of this index?
13. How can the NDGI be improved?

### **4. Methodology**

ANEEJ expects that key elements and methodology of the evaluation will include:

- Document review (project documents including beneficiaries' evaluation, project reports and any other related/relevant documents) to be provided by ANEEJ
- Key Informant Interviews (KII) with stakeholders using virtual meetings where physical meetings are not possible
- Field visits (where possible adhering to government's COVID 19 guidelines).

## **5. Outputs**

1. Inception report (should include presentation of the assignment concept, the evaluation methods, a time frame and potential restrictions) for ANEEJ's approval
2. Debriefing/Presentation of results of OPENED project to target group/ANEEJ
3. Comprehensive evaluation report (not exceeding 20 pages) is expected to be submitted to ANEEJ
4. All raw data obtained from the evaluation should be provided as annexes

## **14. Consultant experience**

The consultant for this task would need to meet the following criteria:

- At least 5-7 years of proven experience in project monitoring and evaluation especially in an NGO setting.
- Have Understanding of project management structures and change management concepts.
- Knowledge of project management.
- Clear, effective communicator in English.

## **15. Submission of Application**

Interested applicants should submit their applications with detailed resume and submit to [procurement@aneej.org](mailto:procurement@aneej.org) within three weeks from the date of this advertisement. Only successful application will be contacted.

Consultancy for Independent Evaluation of OPENED Project - ANEEJ Calls for Expression of Interest