



Bread for the World –
Protestant
Development Service



Terms of Reference for the Evaluation of the Enhancing Social Protection in Nigeria (ESPPIN) Project (October 2020-September 2023)

Poverty has remained a major development problem in Nigeria in the past few decades. The World Poverty Clock report released in 2018 shows Nigeria has overtaken India as the country with the most extreme poor people in the world. The struggle to lift more citizens out of extreme poverty is an indictment on successive Nigerian governments which have mismanaged the country's vast oil resources through incompetence and corruption. This development already threatens the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which targets ending extreme poverty by 2030.¹

The National Bureau of Statistics in its November 2022 report notes that 130 million Nigerians are now living in multidimensional poverty out of its estimated 200 million population². This is shockingly coming when expectations were high that the number of poor people should be dropping. 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 Niger Delta is where almost all of Nigeria's oil comes from, but the region remains one of the poorest in the country.³ The situation became worse with the outbreak of COVID 19 pandemic, the Russia/Ukraine War and the resultant global economic crisis as well as increasing climate crisis.

Dealing with poverty has remained a tall order for government both at national and sub-national levels. Various efforts made by past and present administrations have not effectively translated into poverty reduction, rather the problem is being daily accentuated.

The Federal Government, working in collaboration with sub-national Governments and the World Bank is currently implementing a Social Investment Programme (SIP) with four cardinal focus areas namely;

¹ <https://punchng.com/number-of-poor-nigerians-rises-to-91-million-world-poverty-clock/>

² <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/business/565993-133-million-nigerians-living-in-poverty-nbs.html?tztc=1>

³ <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2015/03/nigeria-poverty-niger-delta-150305014819233.html>

The N-power programme is designed to assist young Nigerians between the ages of 18 to 35 to acquire and develop life-long skills for becoming change makers in their communities and players in the domestic and global markets and given a stipend of N30,000 monthly.

The Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programme directly supports those within the lowest poverty bracket by improving nutrition, increasing household consumption and supporting the development of human capital through cash benefits to various categories of the poor and vulnerable. A monthly N5,000 is usually paid bi-monthly to the beneficiaries.

Government Enterprise and Empowerment Programme (GEEP) is a micro-lending intervention that targets traders, artisans, enterprising youth, farmers and women in particular, by providing loans between N10,000 and N100,000 at no monthly cost to beneficiaries.

The Home-Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSF) aims to deliver school feeding to young children with a specific focus on increasing school enrollment, reducing the incidence of malnutrition (especially among the poor and those ordinarily unable to eat a meal-a-day) empowering community women as cooks and by supporting small farmers that help stimulate economic growth⁴.

Besides the Federal Government, a few sub-national governments are involved in the implementation of Social Protection Programmes in Nigeria even though, Nigeria practices a federal system of government. Expectations are that states would complement the efforts of the federal Government by setting up their own SIPs, this is not happening at an appreciable scale given the poverty level provided above.

It is against this background and in line with our vision of *Africa Without Poverty* that ANEEJ in 2020 designed a project, entitled *Enhancing Social Protection Programme in Nigeria (ESPPIN)*, specifically aimed at strengthening Social Protection Programmes in Nigeria and advocate for the implementation of SIPs in five states of Nigeria. This project has made some modest achievements at the national level and the target states.

3. The project Objectives

The specific objectives of the project are:

- a) Stakeholders in the relevant 5 states are aware of the importance and opportunities of SIPs.
- b) Key actors in government, civil society organisations and media actively contribute to monitoring the implementation of SIPs in five Nigerian states.
- c) A Network of Civil society organisations advocate for the improved implementation of SIPs by the federal and five state governments.

ESPPIN is a three-year project being implemented in 5 states and the Federal Capital territory (Anambra, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Ekiti and Abuja). ANEEJ worked with Government, CSOs and

⁴ <https://statehouse.gov.ng/policy/economy/national-social-investment-programme/>

Media for the the achievement of Social Protection reforms in the respective States and at the National level.

4. Purpose of the Consultancy

The purpose of this consultancy is to evaluate the ESPPIN project from inception to date of evaluation. Specifically, the Evaluation is to assess the OECD DAC Criteria and Cross Cutting issues of **relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact (actual or expected) and sustainability** in the implementation of the project. Cross-cutting issues of **Gender, Inclusion and Environmental Impact** should be addressed. The evaluation will cover both the performance and management concerns of the project, as well as issues arising from the implementation. The evaluation also should assess additional impacts achieved through the project and related adjustments to project implementation.

5. Methodology

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

- Desk Review: Project narrative reports, logical framework, mid-term report, baseline reports etc.
- Key Informant Interviews (KII) or other tools possible
- Use of virtual meetings is acceptable.

Specifically, the evaluation is expected to answer the following questions and any other questions the evaluator deems fit:

1. What success has been made by ANEEJ in achieving the goals and objectives specified in project plans, role of stakeholders in achieving results?
2. Determine whether the organization 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. How far were other stakeholders were involved and informed?
4. What are the unintended consequences (if any) and/or effects of the organizations 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 were the major challenges encountered in the course of implementation of the project?
7. What specific changes in management and/or implementation which ensure that results are achieved and maximize impact?
8. How relevant the project is to the beneficiaries and Nigerians in general?
9. How efficient has the use of available resources been to the project?
10. Are the workshops effective in meeting project goals and objectives? How far ANEEJ is following up on Workshops?

11. What concrete outcomes or impact of the project are in your state or region?
12. What concrete recommendations can you proffer for the sustainability of the project?
13. Are stakeholders familiar with the States Governance Index? What are the merits and demerits of this index?
14. How can the SGI be improved for greater impact?
15. How were women and persons with disabilities involved in the implementation of the project?

5. Outputs, Timelines and delivery

1. Draft Methodology, Sample size and draft Questions for KII-3 days
2. An inception report and a draft of an implementation plan-2 weeks after signing contract
3. First draft Evaluation report for ANEEJ review-4 weeks after signing contract
4. Final report-5 weeks after signing contract

16. Consultant experience

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

- At least 5-7 years of proven experience in subject matter especially in an NGO setting.
- Have Understanding of Social Protection Programmes in Nigeria
- Understanding of OECD DAC criteria and cross cutting issues for evaluation
- Clear, effective communicator in English.

6. Remuneration

Remuneration for the research is negotiable and as applicable in the industry.