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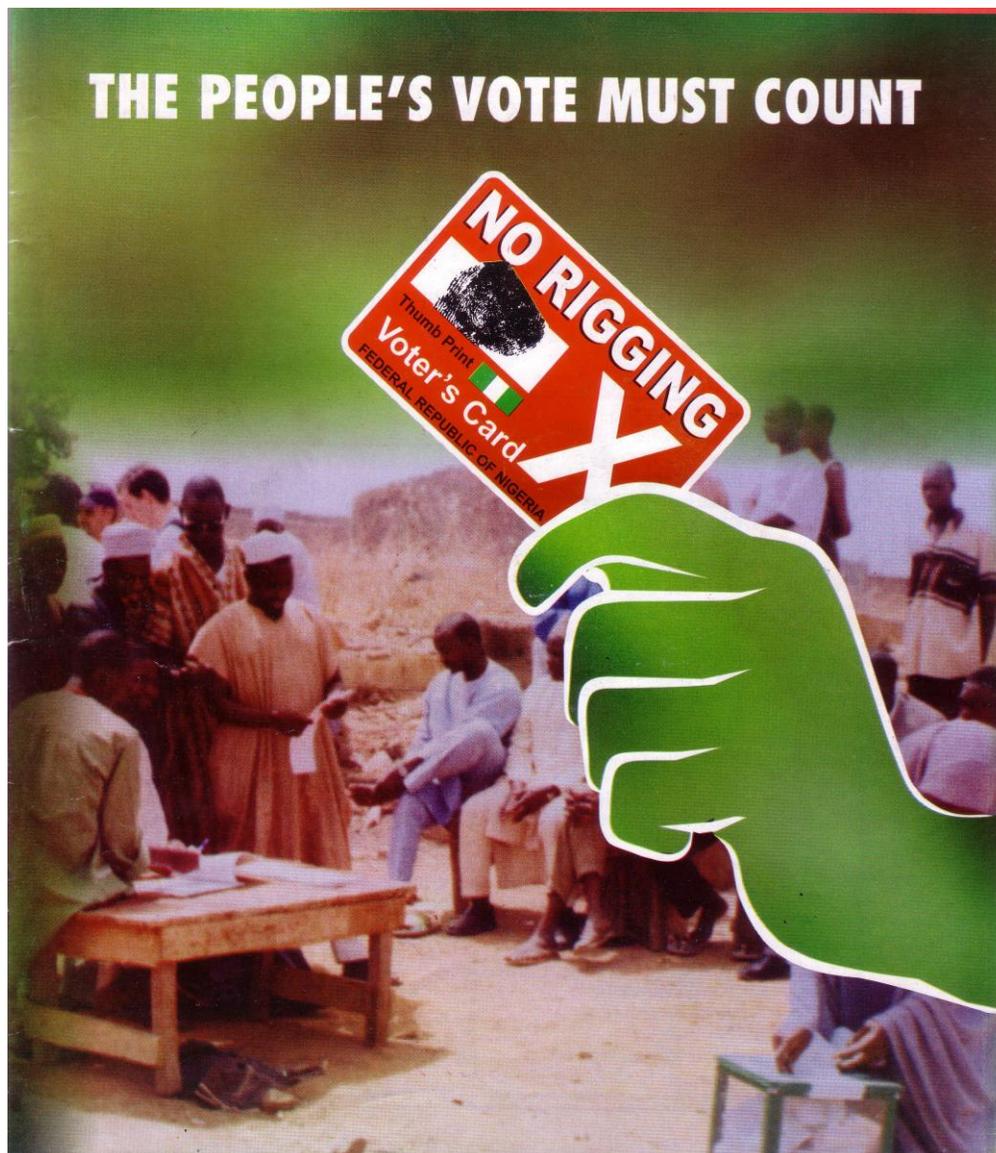


**BUILDING
CAPACITY
WORLDWIDE**

Report on Activities Supported by Pact through funding from USAID
THE ADVANCE PROJECT -- QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT
January – March 2007

Submitted by Pact Nigeria
Cooperative Agreement #620-A-00-05-00096-00

An Historic Opportunity



THE ADVANCE PROJECT
QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT
January – March 2007

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Attachments:

Quantitative Report with Election Additions

PACT/ADVANCE QUARTERLY REPORT -- SECOND QUARTER OF FY 2007

January – March 2007

ACTIVITY SUMMARY	
Implementing Partner:	Pact, Inc.
Activity Name: (ADVANCE) Project	Advocacy, Awareness, and Civic Empowerment
Activity Objectives:	<p>Strengthened civil society organization (CSO) capacity for effective program and financial management</p> <p>Increased CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key policy reforms such as budget transparency, access to information, and judicial oversight</p> <p>Strengthened public-private (CSO) partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives</p>
USAID/Nigeria SO:	SO11: Strengthened Foundations for Democratic Governance
Life of Activity (start and end dates):	May 23, 2005 through May 22, 2010
Total Estimated Contract/Agreement Amount:	\$8,000,000
Obligations to date:	\$4,291,848 through September 30, 2007
Current Pipeline Amount:	\$2,252,046.19 (Of which Unliquidated Obligations to Partners, i.e. Advances is \$403,678.41)
Accrued Expenditures this Quarter:	\$324,066.07
Activity Cumulative Accrued Expenditures to Date:	2,673,894.19
Estimated Expenditures Next Quarter:	\$550,000.00
Report Submitted by:	<u>Eve Thompson, Chief of Party</u> Submission Date: <u>May 3, 2007</u>
	Name and Title

NARRATIVE REPORT

I. Background and Overview

The ADVANCE project has three program objectives.

- 1. Objective ONE: Strengthened civil society organization (CSO) capacity for effective program and financial management**
- 2. Objective TWO: Increased CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key policy reforms and civic participation, including in electoral processes**
- 3. Objective THREE: Strengthened public-private (CSO) partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives (Pact Anti-Corruption Initiative (ACI))**

Pact/ADVANCE-supported election-related activities reached a crescendo by the end of this reporting period as civil society organizations (CSOs) across Nigeria geared up to play their part in seizing an historic opportunity to entrench democratic practice and culture through the promotion of free, fair and credible elections in April 2007. In view of the highly flawed elections of 2003, civil society organizations rallied to mobilize voters around a campaign to “protect the mandate of the people” and to challenge the ruling party’s anticipated efforts to ignore popular will and impose its own unpopular party loyalists on the Nigerian electorate. They equally responded to Pact Nigeria’s call in December to focus voters, politicians and campaign discourse on the daunting social, economic and environmental challenges Nigeria must overcome to ensure a better life for all.

Despite the predominance of election activities, Pact/ADVANCE CSO partners continued to balance their involvement in election preparations with on-going commitments to engage actively in anti-corruption advocacy. In some instances, this task was made easier by the natural convergence of the two where for example, the role played by government of Nigeria (GON) anti-corruption agencies in qualifying or disqualifying electoral candidates, created new advocacy opportunities for CSOs pressing for greater independence of these institutions.

The Freedom of Information (FOI) bill was finally harmonized and sent for Presidential assent. While it was rumored that the President would not sign it, perhaps as a means of punishing the legislature for its rejection of his third-term bid, Pact/ADVANCE partners nevertheless played strong leadership roles in both legislative and executive advocacy around the bill. The early passage of the 2007 Budget by the Federal Government in December 2006 also opened a window of opportunity for broad participation in the budget process. Pact/ADVANCE has taken the lead in ensuring civil society involvement in the process and in building civil society capacity to participate meaningfully.

Finally, this period saw a marked increase of Pact/ADVANCE support of historically marginalized groups and organizations. Through its election work, Pact established new relationships indicating promising long-term potential with youth, women, disability rights and Muslim groups. The Pact/ADVANCE network is thus on track to lead the process of steering Nigeria towards a future characterized by broad participation and inclusion.

II. Quarter Progress

A major focus of this quarter was the general elections scheduled for April 14 and 21, 2007. The January - March reporting period witnessed concerted efforts by existing sub-grantee and in-kind partners to mainstream election advocacy into their anti-corruption programming and engage the government and politicians alike on issues accountability. New election partners focused more specifically on election-related advocacy and mobilization.

A. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Indicator 1. *Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) representing marginalized group(s) engaging with the Government of Nigeria (GON)*

Indicator 13. *Subgrants Issued and Effectively Managed¹*

Indicator 14. *Project-Level Planning and Timely Reporting²*

I.4, I.13, I.14³ Representation and Sub-Grant Management

Sub-Grants Made to Existing Partners

During the reporting period, an additional total sum of **\$93,200.54** was advanced to four (WOTCLEF, IPC, MRA and CISLAC) of the existing seven partner CSOs for program implementation.⁴ This brings total disbursements/advances made, from the inception of the ADVANCE program to the first set of existing partners to **\$696,989.88** (from \$603,789.88).

Sub-Grants Made to New Partners

Six new partner CSOs were added to the ADVANCE sub-grants portfolio during this period. They are Zero Corruption Coalition (ZCC), Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD), Muslim League for Accountability (MULAC), Alliance for Credible Elections (ACE), Joint National Association of People with Disabilities (JONAPWD) and Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN).

The activities of all new partner CSOs were election-focused. A total of **\$141,758.59** under sub-grant arrangements was advanced to five of the new six partners as initial disbursements to enable them to commence the implementation of their programs. Thus, the total advances made this quarter to partners *in sub-grant form*, was \$234,959.13 (from \$211,670.78). This figure excludes in-kind and sub-project consultancies. Thus, the cumulative total disbursements/advances so far made to all the existing *sub-grant* partners at the end of this quarter stood at **\$838,748.47** (from \$603,789.88 last quarter).

¹ Indicator 13 is not a PMP indicator.

² Indicator 14 is not a PMP indicator.

³ Meaning Indicators 1, 13 & 14. This format is continued throughout.

⁴ The fifth and sixth partners, ActionAid International Nigeria and PWYP did not request a draw-down this quarter as they were still making use of funds disbursed in the last quarter by the end of this quarter. The seventh partner, JDPC/ACE completed their project last quarter.

Sub-Grantee Expenditure

Of this amount, the sub-grantees have expended and retired the sum of **\$573,527.58** (from \$472,399.76 last quarter). This shows an increase in sub-grantee expenditure of **\$101,127.82**. This figure excludes in-kind support and sub-project consultancies.

In-Kind Support and Consultancies

Equally, in-kind grants/consultancies were awarded totaling **\$23,555.18**. This brings the cumulative total of actual expenditures this quarter for in-kind/consultancies to **\$315,196.80** (from \$291,641.62 last quarter) at end of this quarter. Therefore, the grand total expenditures based on retirements of sub-grants including in-kinds/consultancies stood at **\$888,724.38** (from \$764,041.38 last quarter). Thus, there is an increase of **\$124,683** in our sub-grantee expenditures including in-kinds.

Kindly note that six additional sub-project consultancies on once-off elections related projects across the country were made to six different partner CSOs, namely, ZCC, Abuja; Concerned Professionals (CP), Lagos; Institute of Chartered Trustees Nigeria (ICTN), Abuja; Center for Development Action (CDA), Lagos; Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD), Abuja; and Young People Initiative (YPI), Calabar. The sum of **\$161,409.30** was obligated for these sub-project consultancies and over 70% of this amount was advanced to the partners as initial disbursements to commence project implementation.

Tables 1 and 2 below provide a summary of current sub-grant recipients including in-kinds in terms of obligated amounts, advances/disbursements, expenditures and balances as at the end of this quarter, March 31st 2007. Please note that given that most of the six sub-project consultancy partners who were given advances on contracts to organize once-off election activities were in the throes of organizing and executing those activities just at the end of the reporting period and still had some activities scheduled for early April. As a result, expenditure figures have not been finalized and will therefore be reflected in next quarter's report.

General Portfolio Management

It is important to note that the Pact/ADVANCE sub-grant portfolio witnessed a remarkable increase from 6 sub-grants previously to 18 this quarter. This shows an increase of 12 new projects (a 200% increase) this reporting period, the highest number of active projects since the inception of the ADVANCE program in May 2005. Elections programming received the lion's share of attention while only one new award was made to support an activity outside of election work, namely an award made to ZCC on anti-corruption advocacy and oversight related to the pending EFCC Amendment Act.

During this reporting period, the program activities of CSO partners were continuously and closely monitored to ensure high quality in the course of program implementation and also to ensure that marginalized groups (women groups/women focus group, youth groups/youth focused groups and Muslim groups from Islamic north) are continuously involved in their program activities. The addition of new election-focused partner organizations to the Pact/ADVANCE portfolio which specifically represent these groups added exponentially to these groups' representation in the ADVANCE program. There was also high visibility of

our partners' programs occasioned by improved attendance at most of the programs by Pact Nigeria staff and representatives of USAID Nigeria.

The sub-grant agreements with the first four partner CSOs to be signed by Pact/ADVANCE (PWYP, MRA, IPC and WOTCLEF) were due to expire at the end of the quarter. However, by the end of the quarter, all four partners had yet to complete at least one key deliverable due to unavoidable delays in program implementation. As a result, Pact was in the process of executing no-cost extensions to these partners by the end of the quarter.

TABLE 1. Summary of Status of ADVANCE Sub-grants (Obligated Amount, Advances and Balance on Obligated Amount) as at End of Quarter II FY 07 (January - March 2007)

Recipient	Time Frame	Project Title	Focus	Amount		Advances/Disbursement to Date \$	Balance \$
				Amount Obligated			
				\$	=N=		
PWYP	30 March 2006 to 31 March, 2007	Publish What You Pay Campaign in Nigeria	Awareness and advocacy around the NEITI and ongoing oil industry audit process	210,000	26, 880,000	114,191.01	95,808.99
MRA	30 March 2006 to 31 March, 2007	Advocacy on Freedom of Information Bill	Freedom of Information Bill (Legislative /Executive advocacy for the final stages of passage/implementation planning	120,936.80	N15, 479,910	94,944.35	25,992.45
IPC	30 March 2006 to 31 March, 2007	Media Strengthening for Reporting on Corruption and Policy Reform	Media audit and capacity building for increased effectiveness of CSOs in using the media for awareness on anti corruption, trafficking, & budget monitoring	104,535.54	N13, 380, 549.60	78,387.66	26,147.88
WOTCLEF	30 March 2006 to 31 March, 2007	Public Awareness and Advocacy on Trafficking in Women and Children (Kano, Osun and Cross River States)	Increased awareness, public support and advocacy for more effective policies and enforcement of anti-trafficking laws.	85,000	N11, 968,000	80,210.91	4,789.09
CISLAC	Sept 20 2006 – August 30, 2007	Strengthening Civil Society Engagement of the Legislative Process through Targeted Policies	Legislative Advocacy & Tracking of Targeted Bills at NASS	160,012.50	20,481,600	93,181.57	66,830.93
ActionAid Int. Nigeria	August 15, 2006 – Feb 22,2010	CSO Budget Monitoring & Tracking	National & Focal State	280,817	35,944,576	189,674.38	91,142.62
Justice, Development & Peace Commission (JDPC)/Alliance for Credible Elections (ACE)	01 November – 31 st December, 2006	Voter Registration Monitoring in 15 states across all the 6 Geo-Political Zones of Nigeria	Voter Registration and Oversight of INEC	58,000	7,424,000	46,400 (but 48,881.25 actually expended)	11,600 (for de-obligation because project has ended)
Centre for Information Technology & Development (CITAD)	01 Feb – 30 May 2007	Voter Education Program	Civic Education (Elections) including training of CBOs on voter education; distribution of voter education materials; voter education advocacy visits to traditional rulers and religious leaders; and conduct of voter	29,725.78	3, 804,900	23,437.50	6,288.28

Recipient	Time Frame	Project Title	Focus	Amount			
				Amount Obligated		Advances/Disbursement to Date \$	Balance \$
				\$	=N=		
			education forums at grassroots level in 15 Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Kano, Jigawa and Bauchi States in the northern part of Nigeria				
Muslim League for Accountability (MULAC)	March 08 – April 30 2007	Right to Vote	Civic Education (Elections) including public awareness lectures for Islamiyya & Conventional schools; Seminar for Imams & Muslim clerics plus public enlightenment & education on the right to vote in 5 States (Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Sokoto and Niger) in the Northern part of Nigeria	18,510.94	2,369,400	15,625	2,885.94
Alliance for Credible Elections (ACE)	March 01 – June 31 st 2007	INEC Oversight and Stakeholder Advocacy	Civic Education (Elections) including tracking & reporting of election s activities in some national dailies; advocacy visits to some stakeholders; conduct of town hall meetings with road transport unions & okada riders associations; & production & airing radio jingles in North Central zone of Nigeria	69,970.31	8,956,200	31,250	38,720.31
Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)	March 08 – April 30, 2007	Voter Sensitization for Increased Participation & Protection of Mandate at Mosques, Churches, & Market Arenas	Civic Education (Elections) including advocacy visits to state media; road shows on voter education; and radio dialogues in 5 Targeted States (Kogi, Nassarawa, Kano, Niger and Kwara) in the northern part of Nigeria	62,089.84	7,947,500	55,898.44	6,191.40
Joint National Association of People with Disabilities (JONAPWD)	March 05 – 31, 2007	Disabled Engaging the Politicians & INEC for 2007 Elections	Civic Education (Elections) for Disabled Persons representatives across the country including advocacy visit to INEC Headquarters, stakeholders' meeting/training; and interactive sessions with politicians	21,812.11	2,791,950	15,547.66	6,264.45
Zero Corruption Coalition (ZCC)	Feb 28 – May 31, 2007	Engaging the Processes of EFCC Amendment Act in Nigeria	Citizen Participation and Oversight including National summit on the passage of EFCC amendment Act; advocacy visits to chairman of Good Governance group in the House of Representatives & to the	35,234.38	4,510,000		35,234.38

Recipient	Time Frame	Project Title	Focus	Amount		Advances/Disbursement to Date \$	Balance \$
				\$	=N=		
			House ad-hoc committee; and press conference.				
Total				\$1,256,645.20	N161,938,585.60	\$838,748.48	\$417,896.72 (out of which 11,600 for de-obligation because one of the projects has ended)
Explanation of AAIN as Higher Level Technical Partner							
ActionAid Int. Nigeria	August 15, 2006 – Feb 22,2010	CSO Budget Monitoring & Tracking	National & Focal State	1,249,547 but 280,817 obligated through Feb. 22, 2007		189,674.38	91,142.62
In-Kind Sub-grants and Consultancy							
CISLAC, ZCC, IPC and AAIN	In-kind/Consultancy; ongoing pre-award support	N/A	Legislative advocacy on the Fiscal Responsibility Bill; NEITI Bill; EFCC and ICPC oversight; Budget monitoring and advocacy	\$330,938.77	42,360,162.56	315,196.80 Expended (Cumulative In-kind made prior to this quarter)	
ZCC	Feb 08 – April 30, 2007	Regional Stick to the Issues Launch	Civic Education (Elections); regional launch of stick to the issues in the 6 geo-political zones of Nigeria	70,034.77	8,964,441.60	56,027.81	
Institute of Chartered Trustees Nigeria (ICTN)	March 20 – April 11, 2007	Democratic Right to Vote Credible Candidates into political positions	Civic Education (Elections) sensitaization/training of CSOs on democratic rights, production and airing of radio jingles in Nassarawa and Taraba states	18,410.55	2,356,550.40	To be reported next quarter when all activities will have been completed	
Concerned Professionals (CP)	March 19 – April 15, 2007	Improving Citizen's Participation in the 2007 Elections	Civic Education (Elections) through gubernatorial debates in the 3 states of Lagos, Kano and Anambra States.	18,279.02	2,339,714.56	To be reported next quarter when all activities will have been completed	
Centre for Democracy & Development (CDD)	March 19 – May 31, 2007	Policy dialogue on institutionalizing mechanisms to address violence against women in public life	Civic Education (Elections) including panel discussion with women candidates, civil society organizations and INEC	18,364.84	2,350,699.52	To be reported next quarter when all activities will have been completed	
Centre for Development Actions International (CDA)	March 19 – June 30, 2007	Facilitating A Mainstream Youth Agenda In The 2007 Electoral Process	Civic Education (Elections) including regional and National Consultative workshops High-profile media appearances & breakfast meetings with some Political Candidates at selected states and National level	17,960.74	2,298,974.72	To be reported next quarter when all activities will have been completed	
Young People Initiative (YPI)	March 26 – April 30, 2007	Nigeria Youth Colloquium on 2007	Civic Education (Elections) through a Two-day National	18,359.38	2,350,000.64	To be reported next quarter when all activities	

Recipient	Time Frame	Project Title	Focus	Amount		Advances/Disbursement to Date \$	Balance \$
				Amount Obligated \$	=N=		
		Elections	Youth Roundtable on Elections 2007 & Interactive Forum with Presidential Candidates & Chairmen of Political parties			will have been completed	
Total				\$492,348.07	N63,020,574.72	\$315,196.80 Expended	

TABLE 2. Summary of Status of ADVANCE Sub-grants and Consultancy (Advances and Actual Expenditures including Balance) as at End of Quarter II, FY 07 (January – March 2007)

Recipient	Time Frame	Project Title	Focus	Advances/Disbursements, Actual Expenditures and Project Status					
				Obligated Amount \$	Advances to Date (\$)		Expenditures on Advances to Date (\$)		Project Status
					Advances	Balance on Obligated Amt	Expenditures	Balance Due(Grantee)/Pact	
PWYP	30 March 2006 to 31 March, 2007	Publish What You Pay Campaign in Nigeria	Awareness and advocacy around the NEITI and ongoing oil industry audit process	210,000	114,191.01	95,808.99	100,500.54	13,690.47	Period ended but to be extended to enable subgrantee complete project
MRA	30 March 2006 to 31 March, 2007	Advocacy on Freedom of Information Bill	Freedom of Information Bill (Legislative /Executive advocacy for the final stages of passage/implementation planning	120,936.80	94,944.35	25,992.45	53,989.13	40,955.22	Period ended but to be extended to enable subgrantee complete project
IPC	30 March 2006 to 31 March, 2007	Media Strengthening for Reporting on Corruption and Policy Reform	Media audit and capacity building for increased effectiveness of CSOs in using the media for awareness on anti-corruption, trafficking, & budget monitoring	104,535.54	78,387.66	26,147.88	63,461.98	14,925.68	Period ended but to be extended to enable subgrantee complete project
WOTCLEF	30 March 2006 to 31 March, 2007	Public Awareness and Advocacy on Trafficking in Women and Children (Kano, Osun and Cross River	Increased awareness, public support and advocacy for more effective policies and enforcement of anti-trafficking laws.	85,000	80,210.91	4,789.09	55,604.54	24,606.34	Period ended but to be extended to enable subgrantee

		States)							complete project
CISLAC	Sept 20 2006 – August 30, 2007	Strengthening Civil Society Engagement of the Legislative Process through Targeted Policies	Legislative Advocacy & Tracking of Targeted Bills at NASS	160,012.50	93,181.57	66,830.93	59,757.69	33,423.88	Open
ActionAid Int. Nigeria	August 15, 2006 – Feb 22, 2010	CSO Budget Monitoring & Tracking	National & Focal State	280,817	189,674.38	91,142.62	164,239.38	25,435	Open
Justice, Development & Peace Commission (JDPC)/Alliance for Credible Elections (ACE)	01 November – 31 st December, 2006	Voter Registration Monitoring in 15 states across all the 6 Geo-Political Zones of Nigeria	Voter Registration and Oversight of INEC	58,000	48,881.25	9,118.75	48,881.25		Completed
Centre for Information Technology & Development (CITAD)	01 Feb – 30 May 2007	Voter Education Program	Civic Education (Elections) including training of CBOs on voter education; distribution of voter education materials; voter education advocacy visits to traditional rulers and religious leaders; and conduct of voter education forums at grassroots level in 15 Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Kano, Jigawa and Bauchi States in the northern part of Nigeria	29,725.78	23,437.50	6,288.28	7,303.13	16,134.37	Open
Muslim League for Accountability (MULAC)	Feb 08 – April 30 2007	Right to Vote	Civic Education (Elections) including public awareness lectures for Islamiyya & Conventional schools; Seminar for Imams & Muslim clerics plus public enlightenment & education on the right to vote in 5 States (Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Sokoto and Niger) in the Northern part of Nigeria	18,510.94	15,625	2,885.94	To be reported when all activities have been completed		Open
Alliance for Credible Elections (ACE)	March 01 – June 31 st 2007	INEC Oversight and Stakeholder Advocacy	Civic Education (Elections) including tracking & reporting of election s activities in some national dailies; advocacy visits to some stakeholders; conduct of town hall meetings with road transport unions & okada riders associations; & production & airing radio jingles in North Central zone of Nigeria	69,970.31	31,250	38,720.31	To be reported when all activities have been completed		Open
Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)	March 08 – April 30, 2007	Voter Sensitization for Increased Participation & Protection of Mandate at Mosques, Churches, & Market	Civic Education (Elections) including advocacy visits to state media; road shows on voter education; and radio dialogues in 5 Targeted States (Kogi, Nassarawa, Kano, Niger and Kwara)	62,089.84	55,898.44	6,191.40	3,476.56	52,421.88	Open

		Arenas	in the northern part of Nigeria						
Joint National Association of People with Disabilities (JONAPWD)	March 05 – 31, 2007	Disabled Engaging the Politicians & INEC for 2007 Elections	Civic Education (Elections) for Disabled Persons representatives across the country including advocacy visit to INEC Headquarters, stakeholders' meeting/training; and interactive sessions with politicians	21,812.11	15,547.66	6,264.45	9,460.16	6,087.5	Complete
Zero Corruption Coalition (ZCC)	Feb 28 – May 31, 2007	Engaging the Processes of EFCC Amendment Act in Nigeria	Citizen Participation and Oversight including National summit on the passage of EFCC amendment Act; advocacy visits to chairman of Good Governance group in the House of Representatives & to the House ad-hoc committee; and press conference.	35,234.38		35,234.38			open
Total				\$1, 256,645.20	\$838,748.48	\$417,896.72 (out of which 11,600 for de-obligation because one of the projects has ended)	\$573,527.58	5,220.90	
In-Kind Sub-grants and Consultancy									
CISLAC, ZCC, IPC and AAIN (in-kind)	In-kind/Consultancy; ongoing pre-award support	N/A	Legislative advocacy on the Fiscal Responsibility Bill; NEITI Bill; EFCC and ICPC oversight; Budget monitoring and advocacy	\$330,938.77			\$315,196.80		open
ZCC	Feb 08 – April 30, 2007	Regional Stick to the Issues Launch	Civic Education (Elections); regional launch of stick to the issues in the 6 geo-political zones of Nigeria	70,034.77	8,964,441.60				open
Institute of Chartered Trustees Nigeria (ICTN)	March 20 – April 11, 2007	Democratic Right to Vote Credible Candidates into political positions	Civic Education (Elections) sensitization/training of CSOs on democratic rights, production and airing of radio jingles in Nassarawa and Taraba states	18,410.55	2,356,550.40				open
Concerned Professionals (CP)	March 19 – April 15, 2007	Improving Citizen's Participation in the 2007 Elections	Civic Education (Elections) through gubernatorial debates in the 3 states of Lagos, Kano and Anambra States.	18,279.02	2,339,714.56				open
Centre for Democracy & Development (CDD)	March 19 – May 31, 2007	Policy dialogue on institutionalizing mechanisms to address violence against women in public life	Civic Education (Elections) including panel discussion with women candidates, civil society organizations and INEC	18,364.84	2,350,699.52				open
Centre for Development Actions International	March 19 – June 30, 2007	Facilitating A Mainstream Youth Agenda In The 2007 Electoral Process	Civic Education (Elections) including regional and National Consultative workshops High-profile media appearances &	17,960.74	2,298,974.72				open

(CDA)			breakfast meetings with some Political Candidates at selected states and National level					
Young People Initiative (YPI)	March 26 – April 30, 2007	Nigeria Youth Colloquium on 2007 Elections	Civic Education (Elections) through a Two-day National Youth Roundtable on Elections 2007 & Interactive Forum with Presidential Candidates & Chairmen of Political parties	18,359.38	2,350,000.64			open
Total				\$492,348.07	63,020,574.72	\$315,196.80		Expended

B. PROGRAM RESULTS

During the reporting period, significant progress was made under each of the key ADVANCE program objectives. Programmatic results are thus elaborated below:

Objective ONE: Strengthened civil society organization (CSO) capacity for effective program and financial management

Indicator 4. Organizational capacity assessment Index (of Targeted CSOs)⁵

I.4 Organizational Capacity-Building

Pact/ADVANCE continued during this period to provide technical assistance to all partners. First, new partners were assisted through interventions ranging from pre-award assessments and help with project proposal refinement to training on how to meet minimum requirements for USAID sub-grants. Equally, mentoring of existing partner CSOs continued on program implementation and management, monitoring and evaluation, monthly financial and weekly and quarterly program reporting.

Pre-award assessments were conducted for CITAD, MULAC and FOMWAN. During the assessments, critical issues relating to organizational capacity and advocacy capacity were discussed and this enabled the partners to identify organizational challenges and explore possible approaches to addressing them with the support of Pact/ADVANCE. Ultimately, partners came to regard the pre-award assessment itself as a capacity-building opportunity and a chance to hone in on key indicators of organizational performance.

Thus, a major achievement during this period was the establishment of Organizational Capacity Index baselines for three additional partner CSOs which qualified to receive sub-grant awards (FOMWAN, CITAD and MULAC). The baselines are expressed in table form below.

Table 3: Organizational Capacity Index - Baseline

Partner CSOs	Average Index Score
CITAD, Kano	1.98
MULAC, Kaduna	1.61
FOMWAN, Abuja	2.33
Total Average Index Scores for Partners	5.92
Overall Average Index Score Baseline	1.97
Common Capacity Gaps Identified	
○ <i>Governance:</i> Constitution needs review (CITAD and MULAC); lack of strategic plan (MULAC and CITAD); lack of updated membership/staff list (FOMWAN, CITAD and	

⁵ Relevant Operational Plan Indicator submitted by Pact in January 2007 is “Number of CSOs using USG assistance to improve internal organizational capacity.”

MULAC); meetings not regularly held as scheduled (MULAC); lack of adequate documentation of minutes of various meetings (management, board etc) (ALL); board members need to improvement in their roles and responsibilities (ALL).

- *Operational and Management Systems*: Absence of some relevant policies and procedures (ALL); and weak project management including monitoring, evaluation and reporting (ALL).
- *Human Resource*: Absence of documented human resource development and management plan as well as recruitment policies and procedures (ALL).
- *Financial Resources*: Absence of standard financial/accounting policies and procedures manual, resource mobilization plan, overall annual operational budget (ALL); no system for producing annual audited financial reports (MULAC and CITAD).

Training in Program Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation, Financial Management and USAID compliance was held for all Pact/ADVANCE grantees. The training in particular covered the introduction of new monitoring and evaluation and program reporting forms as well as internal control systems, cost share reporting and operations policies and procedures. In view of the considerable knowledge gained, several of Pact/ADVANCE initial grantees expressed regrets that the training had not been undertaken sooner and immediately undertook to improve their organizational and financial systems. The Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist has followed up with grantees on their M&E programs. Both periodic program and monthly financial report submissions among partners have shown dramatic improvement as a result.

In addition, in the newly created position, Knowledge Resource Management & Capacity-Building Coordinator (KRMCC), the incumbent oversees the knowledge management systems and capacity-building programs of Pact Nigeria. The work of the KRMCC seeks to imbed knowledge-sharing into the culture and programs of Pact in order to improve the organizational effectiveness of partners and enhance their capacity to launch and execute effective advocacy campaigns. The KRMCC together with the Grant Management and Capacity Assessment Coordinator (GMCAC) during this period, initiated the development of capacity-building training modules tailored to address the organizational capacity gaps of ADVANCE partners.

Specifically, Pact engaged the services of four consultants to prepare training manuals for the building of the organizational capacity of partners and other civil society organizations in the country. The consultants have produced a first draft which is undergoing review after which it will be shared with Pact Nigeria partners to incorporate their input. The resultant newly-designed training programs will be carried out in the next quarter.

Objective TWO: Increased CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key policy reforms and civic participation, including in electoral processes⁶

Indicator 2: *Citizen input reflected in targeted policies*

Indicator 3: *Advocacy capacity index of targeted CSOs*

Indicator 5: *Number of CSOs/members trained (disaggregated by gender)*

Indicator 6: *Selected policy and advocacy information available (especially through use of media)*

Indicator 8: *Civil society participation in budgetary processes*

Indicator 9: *Increased citizen awareness and understanding of campaign issues and electoral processes⁷*

Indicator 10: *Number of events engaging people and political parties on elections issues*

Indicator 11: *Number of publications and reports produced and distributed on electoral processes and issues*

Indicator 12: *Number of political contestants briefed on issues*

I.2 Citizen Input Reflected in Targeted Policies

Pact/ADVANCE advocacy partner CSOs continued to focus their advocacy efforts on eight target policies, albeit amidst election-related distractions vying for their own attention as well as that of Nigerian politicians and the public alike.

Thus considering the circumstances, legislative advocacy in particular, registered impressive gains during the quarter as most of the bills targeted by the ADVANCE program advanced with significant CSO partner input. The Freedom of Information (FOI) Bill was harmonized by the National Assembly (NASS) and submitted to the President for assent. However, speculation was that he would refuse assent and CSOs would have to revert to NASS for an override.

Also, the Public Procurement (PPB), Nigeria Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (NEITI) and Fiscal Responsibility (FRB) bills have progressed in the NASS. The PPB and NEITI bills have been passed by the Senate. The FRB has been passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. These bills are all awaiting harmonization and Presidential assent. As these were Executive-initiated bills, they have a greater likelihood of passage than the NASS-initiated FOI bill. At the same time, NASS has limited time in the remainder of its tenure within which to harmonize and submit the bills. Advocacy progress on the bills is elaborated below, and while a complete list of bills appears immediately below, full reports on items e, f and g are included under Objective 3.

a) Freedom of Information Bill

⁶ **Relevant Operational Plan Indicators Submitted by Pact in January 2007** here are Number of USG Assisted CSOs that engage in advocacy and watchdog functions; Number of CSO Advocacy Campaigns assisted by USG; Number of CSOs using USG assistance to promote political participation; Number of people who have completed USG assisted Civic Education and Women-focused CSOs supported by USG assistance to engage in advocacy or promote democratic participation.

⁷ Indicators 9-12 of indicators have been added as a result of the incorporation of the new but temporary programmatic focus on elections.

- b) Fiscal Responsibility Bill
- c) Public Procurement Bill
- d) Trafficking-in-Persons Law Enforcement and Administration Act
- e) NEITI Bill (Reported under Objective 3)
- f) Amended Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) (See Objective 3)
- g) Re-Enactment of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Crimes (ICPC) (See Objective 3)
- h) Annual Federal Appropriations Bills

A) FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BILL

Pact/ADVANCE partner Media Rights Agenda (MRA) proactively led the harmonization of the Senate and House versions of the FOI bill by providing technical and logistical support to the NASS Conference Committee tasked with that responsibility. In particular, MRA assisted the Conference Committee in identifying and highlighting the differences in the two versions of the bill and recommending preferences for the finalized version. A memorandum was drawn up and copies were distributed to all members of the Conference Committee ahead of the harmonization meeting. By preparing meeting inputs and taking charge of logistical support, MRA essentially drove the process and deserves much of the credit for the accelerated pace with which the two versions were harmonized.

MRA aired two separate 30-minute presentations on the Freedom of Information Bill on the Nigeria Television Authority (NTA) and the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN). They were both aired in six stations in different parts of the country, namely Lagos, Enugu, Kaduna, Benin, Maiduguri and Abuja. The campaign materials covered key features of the bill, details of advocacy efforts so far and the various potential benefits of FOI laws. It also included testimonies and brief interviews with some of the key promoters and supporters of the bill in the National Assembly, the civil service and civil society. One unanticipated outcome of the MRA publicity blitz came when scores of university students currently preparing assignments on FOI flooded MRA offices with requests for more detailed information.

In the period leading up to the harmonization conference on the bill, MRA organized a series of text messaging campaigns targeted at various key legislators. The first of these targeted the leadership of the House of Representatives to get them to submit nominations for conference committee membership to accelerate the harmonization process.

Following the formation of the Conference Committee, another round of text messaging was organized, targeted at the leadership and members of the Conference Committee to urge them to speedily convene the harmonization conference. A third round of text messaging was organized in the days leading to the harmonization conference, urging the leadership and members of the Conference Committee to reject specific aspects of the Senate version of the bill that they considered undesirable. Following the conclusion of the harmonization process, yet another round of text messaging was organized to thank the members of the Conference Committee for their work as they had accepted almost all the recommendations made by the MRA network. After the harmonization of the bill, there were several weeks of delay before it was finally sent to the President for assent. The final round of text messaging was thus

organized around the need to send the bill to the President as a matter of urgency given the limited time before transfer of power at both Legislative and Executive levels.

MRA continued to update and maintain the Freedom of Information Coalition website by uploading relevant information, including the various versions of the bill, to keep members of the Coalition and other members of the public updated about the progress of the bill. There has been a very high demand for copies of all versions indicated by e-mail requests and telephone calls. In addition to using the MRA website as a tool for distribution, several hundred hard copies of the bill were distributed at various workshops and meetings.

Following the conclusion of the harmonization process on the Freedom of Information Bill by the Conference Committee, MRA initiated lobbying and advocacy activities targeted at members of the Executive. This started with a letter to President Olusegun Obasanjo, urging him to assent to the bill as quickly as possible. This letter was followed up with dozens of other letters to members of the Executive and other close associates of President. MRA also made efforts to arrange meetings with the President and other officials, but these did not materialize during the period under review. Instead, earlier letters were followed up with phone calls to influential associates of the President to urge him to assent to the bill.

MRA also organized a nationwide text messaging campaign aimed at those members of the Executive for whom it could obtain mobile telephone numbers. MRA also contacted influential persons outside of government who have access to the President.

To leave no stone unturned and to ensure international pressure was also exerted, MRA's Executive Director met with European Ambassadors in Nigeria at the European Commission (EC) in Abuja to solicit their intervention to persuade the President to assent to the bill. MRA learned from EC representatives that some EC Ambassadors did subsequently contact the President on the issue. MRA also embarked on a larger international campaign as a result of which several international NGOs wrote to the President to urge assent. MRA also worked with the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) which wrote to British Prime Minister, Tony Blair; South African President Thabo Mbeki and former President, Nelson Mandela, asking them to prevail on President Obasanjo to assent to the bill.

B) FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY BILL

Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Center (CISLAC) pressed for greater media focus on the Fiscal Responsibility Bill (FRB) by carrying out an advocacy visit to the management of AIT/Ray Power Television and Radio at its Abuja office and presenting their position on the bill. CISLAC's position on the bill was publicized on AIT TV and radio stations for two days. AIT is the biggest privately owned station, with wide coverage.

CISLAC also held a press briefing on the need to speed up passage of the FRB before the expiration of the current legislative session. The briefing took place in the Press Corp Chamber of the National Assembly and had in attendance 25 representatives of both electronic and print media organizations covering the Senate. The press briefing was eventually published in three national dailies. CISLAC also issued a press statement in support of the bill to sustain momentum. The statement ultimately appeared in three national dailies.

C) PUBLIC PROCUREMENT BILL

CISLAC continued lobbying the Senate Committee on Establishment and Public Services on the Public Procurement Bill (PRB). CISLAC's Executive Director met with the committee's chief consultant to ensure swift finalization of the committee report to be presented to the Senate for deliberation.

The January edition of the CISLAC monthly publication, *Legislative Digest* entitled, "President Obasanjo presents census report to NASS" was published and distributed in February 2007. A total of 1,500 copies were produced and distributed to CSO organizations, government agencies and private organizations.

D) TRAFFICKING-IN-PERSONS LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

ADVANCE partner, the Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF) continued to engage Youth Corp members of the National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) in advocacy and awareness creation efforts in the three project states. During this quarter, WOTCLEF integrated election-related messages including, voter education and citizen mobilization appeals into its anti-trafficking campaigns. Rallies, talk shops, dramatizations at schools, orphanages, market places, bus-stops and religious institutions became forums through which to spread the anti-trafficking message and over 14,005 persons were reached through the awareness and sensitization campaign in this quarter.

A new dimension of this work featured efforts to demonstrate the nexus between bad governance, corruption and trafficking in persons. This addition was inspired by the Pact initiated "Stick to the Issues" Campaign in which voters were encouraged to demand issue focus from candidates on the campaign trail and to vote according to which political aspirant appears most likely and able to address the daunting social and economic challenges confronting the vast majority of Nigerians. Workshops were held in each of the states on the link between human trafficking and corrupt government practices. The workshops drew participants that included Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) officials, market women, local government executives, youth, representatives of pensioners associations, representatives from the police, school teachers, students, Ministry of Women Affairs officials, corps members, the press and civil society representatives. Workshops featured drama and dance presentations, lectures and discussions highlighting the need to eradicate human trafficking in Nigeria.

Visits were conducted to orientation camps and awareness talks given to over 2000 new corps members to sensitize them on the project's efforts in combating human trafficking and to give them an opportunity to sign on to the WOTCLEF Community Development Service (CDS) group. The outpouring of volunteers was so great that the NYSC schedule officer had to insist on screening candidates as only a limited number could be allowed in the CDS group.

Advocacy visits were made to police headquarters in respective states to solicit ongoing police support in the anti-trafficking crusade. Traditional leaders were also visited and at least one related stories regarding his community's own efforts to combat the high rate of

trafficking in the area. He then promised to collaborate with WOTCLEF members to reduce if not eradicate the practice.

Media campaigns continued during this period and once again, jingles and radio discussions were aired via electronic media reaching approximately 13,100,000 people in three states.

The simplified guide to the Act is in the process of being completed and is expected to be published in the next quarter as a final deliverable of this project.

I.3 Advocacy Capacity Index of Targeted CSOs

A baseline for the Advocacy Capacity Index was also established for CITAD, MULAC and FOMWAN. The baselines are expressed in table form below.

Table 4: Advocacy Capacity Index – Baseline

Partner CSOs	Average Index Score
CITAD, Kano	2.15
MULAC, Kaduna	1.52
FOMWAN, Abuja	1.89
Total Average Index Scores for Partners	5.56
Overall Average Index Score Baseline	1.85
Common Capacity Gaps Identified	
<p><i>The majority of these partners are weak in the areas of collecting information and input on their advocacy issues from stakeholders; formulation of alternative viable policy positions on issues; getting and allocating resources for advocacy on the issues; building of strong and cohesive joint cooperative efforts; taking of appropriate actions at the right time to influence policy makers,; engaging the media and also taking appropriate follow-up actions and monitoring & evaluation of advocacy efforts. They also tend to focus on too many issues at a time without the desired concentration for achieving effective, meaningful and targeted results.</i></p>	

Even ahead of the development of advocacy training modules planned for next quarter, Pact has begun to more aggressively support advocacy capacity strengthening through enhancing its own intellectual capital.

In particular, Pact Nigeria intensified its work on the publication of the e-newsletter, the ADVANCE VOICES, which reports on the activities of ADVANCE partners and is published on the Pact Nigeria website at www.pactnigeria.org. The website and the newsletter have improved the profile and visibility of Pact Nigeria in the country and enabled partners to share their experiences and resources.

The aptly titled “ADVANCE VOICES” newsletter seeks to give voice to our partners and provide a medium to publicize and refine their advocacy initiatives. The monthly newsletters

have been produced every month this year and are accessed by partners and the larger civil society community in Nigeria and abroad.

I.6 Selected Policy and Advocacy Information Available (especially through use of media)

During the reporting period, Pact Partner the International Press Center (IPC) published three editions of the Cost of Corruption Monthly Newsletter. The newsletters are intended to simplify the measure, extent and cost of Nigerian corruption for readers, the majority of whom are practicing journalists. The newsletters further offer examples and perspectives on reporting corruption for journalists and have proved a vital tool in translating theory into practice vis-à-vis creating appropriate standards for corruption reporting in the media.

ADVANCE partners engaged in watchdog functions predominantly by using the media as a tool for effective advocacy. Some of the initiatives undertaken include the following:

ZCC organized a series of newspaper content analyses to critically examine the promises made by candidates for political office and other campaign issues with particular focus on corruption. The analyses were developed into editorial pieces which ultimately appeared in The Guardian magazine and were further posted on the ZCC listserv for easy access by Coalition members. These reports have now been added to the growing database amassed by ZCC and Pact/ADVANCE in general on anti-corruption and governance issues.

A key observation from some of the analyses conducted shows that most of the political candidates make promises without outlining strategies on how to embark on such promises. For instance, while the Action Congress' (AC) national publicity secretary stressed the need for a more independent EFCC, he failed to articulate detailed strategies for achieving this. A comprehensive review of the reports collated, exposed the pervasive shallowness of political campaigns which gave few details on how to build a national consensus on meritocracy or a legal framework to support greater credibility and efficacy of Nigerian anti-corruption institutions.

I.8 Civil Society Participation in Budgetary Processes

The quarter under review featured the attainment of key milestones in the Pact/ADVANCE Budget Advocacy Program. Engagement in the planning process for the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy-2 (NEEDS 2) and the Medium Term Sector Strategies topped the list of project achievements. Pact/ADVANCE, through senior partner ActionAid Nigeria (AAIN), continued to provide leadership for civil society and facilitate citizens' engagement with policies and institutions that are essential for entrenching a people-centered budget regime.

During the period under review, AAIN, representing ADVANCE, was invited to partner with the Budget Office of the Federation in the ministerial briefing on the 2007 Budget. AAIN's role was to facilitate the participation of civil society organizations in the briefing. The event featured the presentation of the 2007 Federal Budget by the Director General of the Budget Office followed by a question and answer session with civil society members. This opportunity enhanced civil society capacity to understand the policies and priorities reflected

in 2007 Federal Budget allocations. It also afforded a chance to improve government-CSO collaboration on budget transparency. It further provided a platform for civil society networking on budget monitoring and for accessing relevant information which will aid civil society budget monitoring work.

The project also facilitated a Civil Society Consultative Forum on the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy-2 (NEEDS 2) which produced a civil society position paper, Participation for Human Development: Civil Society Memorandum on the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy – 2 (2008-2011) on this successor policy to NEEDS 1 whose life span will terminate at the end of 2007. NEEDS 2 is intended to build upon achievements registered during the course of the NEEDS 1 phase and to chart Nigeria's economic road map for 2008 and beyond.

The forum helped to 1) expose civil society to the proposed policy direction and targets in the NEEDS-2 framework, 2) build the capacity of civil society in understanding the impact of economic policies in the attainment of development goals and 3) forge a common civil society response and input into the emerging NEEDS-2 strategy.

A total of 23 participants (*7 females and 16 males*) drawn from various civil society organizations and coalitions participated in the two-day meeting.

The Budget Office also invited AAIN to a Stakeholders Workshop on the Medium Term Sector Strategy (MTSS) for 2008-2010 to review and appraise the MTSS exercise conducted in 2006 and to provide input, ideas and feedback on the MTSS process and refine guidelines for the 2008-2010 MTSS process, including defining roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders.

AAIN's strong participation in the forum resulted in civil society perspectives getting reflected in the 2008-2010 MTSS strategy documents and ensuring civil society representation on the MTSS Planning Committee.

I.9-12 Increased CSO Capacity To Engage In Electoral Processes

Zero Corruption Coalition (ZCC)

ZCC, with support from PACT Nigeria, launched the Stick to the Issues (STIC) campaign in the six geopolitical zones in the country. The main objective of the launches was to take the "gospel" of issue accountability among politicians to the far reaches of Nigeria for access by all sections of the electorate and to raise public awareness of targeted political parties on accountability, transparency and principles of good governance.

The launches were held in Kano (North-West), Bauchi (North-East), Minna (North-Central), Enugu (South-East), Uyo, Akwa Ibom (South-South) and Lagos (South-West) and drew participants from across each zone and used various means including keynote addresses, discussions and drama presentations to sensitize the populace on critical campaign and governance issues. The launches helped to focus participants on specific issues in order to

create a demand among voters for more focused campaigns and issue accountability among political parties and election candidates.

By the end of the sessions, the majority of participants evidenced a heightened awareness of the distinction between “vote-buying” or ethnic-based campaigns and issue-focused campaigns. Moreover, many expressed a greater appreciation that the latter would more likely produce more reliable, more credible public servants and that the former should be rejected even where poverty was a factor militating against the choice of issue-focused politicians over the more familiar “vote-buyers.”

Forum participants equally offered substantive recommendations for promoting and entrenching a permanent culture of issue-based campaigning in Nigerian elections. For example, participants suggested that the National Assembly should enact laws making it mandatory for INEC to organize political debates for candidates at various levels in which members of the public, CSOs and the press would play active parts. They also wanted INEC to mandate politicians to prepare and publish manifestoes to which voters can hold them accountable. INEC, it was suggested, should also make it compulsory for all political parties to expressly incorporate fundamental objectives and founding principles into their constitutions. Many stressed the need for a re-orientation of values to positively refocus the rapidly declining Nigerian value system which currently prevents strenuous challenges to the status quo of rampant graft of public resources.

The forums served to facilitate and promote interaction among the candidates, political parties and voters and helped participants to appreciate the need for more active civic participation if they are to safeguard constitutionally guaranteed freedoms.

Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities (JONAPWD)

As part of the Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities’ (JONAPWD) efforts to make the electoral process disability-sensitive, JONAPWD members paid an advocacy visit to the Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to advocate that the Commission adhere to Section 57 of the Electoral Act. The section mandates government facilitation of enhanced electoral participation of persons living with disabilities. The JONAPWD address pointed to some of the challenges that persons with disabilities face in participating in mainstream activities such as voter registration and election-day voting. Members presented the INEC chairman with promotional materials designed to raise awareness on disability issues in the election context. In the aftermath of the visit, a press statement containing recommendations already presented to INEC was released by JONAPWD. The Commission promised to set up a committee to look into the implementation of this recommendation.

Members of JONAWPWD later formally engaged nine political parties on issues of persons with disabilities to promote better candidate and ultimately government responsiveness to disability issues. These politicians and parties promised to mainstream issues of persons with disabilities into their programs.

Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD)

CITAD developed a radio jingle that was aired in Hausa and Fulfulde languages (the local languages of the five Local Government Authorities) and broadcasted on Radio Jigawa, which covers all the five local governments targeted by the project. Fifty-four slots of the jingles in all have been aired reaching about six-million people. CITAD also produced 5000 copies of two different posters that encouraged people to come out and vote wisely. The jingles and posters have helped to increase the level of awareness about election issues in the communities of the project.

CITAD visited 15 influential leaders in nine communities (traditional rulers and Chief Imams) and secured their support for CITAD's "get-out-the-vote" campaign. CITAD encouraged leaders to urge their constituents to conduct themselves peacefully and to vote for credible candidates who will stick to social development issues when eventually elected.

Thirty-two representatives of community-based organizations (CBOs) from 15 local governments in three states, Kano, Bauchi and Jigawa were trained by CITAD in a two-day training program on how to carry out voter education activities.

A significant outcome of the CITAD intervention was the recruitment of 100 of CITAD's CBO partners in Kano and Jigawa states to monitor the elections for the Transition Monitoring Group (TMG). This was the first time that CITAD-linked CBOs in these states had been exposed to national coalitions such as the TMG.

Muslim League for Accountability (MULAC)

MULAC, with support of Pact, conducted five seminars in selected states in Northern Nigeria (Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Niger and Sokoto). The aim of the seminars was to sensitize imams and Islamic preachers on issues accountability and mandate protection. At each seminar, on average, 10 imams and Islamic preachers, including women, were sensitized to the importance of using religious centers as platforms for encouraging civic participation, including registering, voting and even mandate protection activism. Following the seminars, MULAC sampled 10 mosques whose imams had attended the seminars and monitored their Friday sermons to assess the impact of the seminar. In all mosques sampled, there were sermons on mandate protection, issues accountability and/or voter mobilization.

MULAC also conducted election-related public awareness lectures in Kaduna, Sokoto, Katsina, Niger, and Kano for students of Islamiyya and conventional schools. In general, the program focused on sensitizing students of both categories of schools on their right to vote and to protect the "people's mandate" during and after elections. A total of 5000 students (3000 male and 2000 female) were sensitized through organized lectures by MULAC during which the students were allowed to ask questions and seek clarification and also make meaningful contributions. At each session, prominent Muslim scholars were invited to give guest lectures highlighting the aspects of Islamic teachings which support and encourage civic participation.

Federation of Muslim Women Association in Nigeria (FOMWAN)

FOMWAN held a roundtable meeting which brought together five Amirahs from Kwara, Kogi, Nassarawa, Kano and Niger states together with eight members of the FOMWAN

leadership. The interactive session discussed the rudiments of logistics for planned advocacy visits, voter education road shows, voter education and promotional material development and branding. These materials, including 300 branded Hijabs, 200 caps, 1000 posters and 600 T-shirts were subsequently produced with catchy captions on each and used for advocacy.

Visits were made by FOMWAN officials to state media in the five project states in order to solicit coverage of the group's planned election-related advocacy campaigns. The media houses visited were Minna Radio Corporation, Graphic Newspaper of Kogi State, Radio Kogi, NTA Nassarawa, Precious F. M Nassarawa, Okin FM, and NTA Kano. In response, all media outlets contacted widely publicized visits and aired election-related jingles produced by FOMWAN.

FOMWAN also organized voter education road shows in the five states during this reporting period. These road shows were platforms to address mammoth crowds of men, women and youth, both Christian and Muslim, on the issues of electoral participation. Various schools, churches, mosques, tribal meeting venues and market places were visited.

Any opportunities to address large crowds were utilized including on-going seminars in various states. FOMWAN even took the voter education campaigns to a few weddings where they were given audience. In Idah Local Government, Kogi State, FOMWAN members made input into the 10th Annual Islamic Seminar on "Political Thuggery and Intimidation as The Bane of Democracy and Good Governance: Islamic Options", organized by Idah Muslim Forum (IMF) to sensitize over 1500 Muslim men, women and youth on the need to vote for the candidates best prepared to address the needs of Nigerians and to protect their mandate. Other Islamic seminars were attended in Kano State including Asalatu and prayer groups.

Institute of Chartered Trustees of Nigeria (ICTN)

ICTN held seminars on *Democratic Right to Vote Credible Candidates* in Karu, Nasarawa State and Wukari, Taraba state. Participants were drawn from the general public, youth groups, women groups, government agencies and religious organizations. A total of 442 people were sensitized on the electoral process and issues accountability.

Centre for Development Action (CDA)

CDA held a town hall meeting in Calabar to review and popularize the draft "*Political Agenda for Nigerian Youths*" prepared by the Nigerian Youth Network. It was envisioned that the process of reviewing, internalizing and popularizing the draft would help to prepare youth leaders to become active members of civil society, demanding post-election political accountability and good governance beyond the April 2007 elections. Active participant involvement in refining and finalizing the draft agenda helped to broaden the sense of ownership of the document and participants were encouraged to commit to the implementation of the agenda at both individual and organizational levels.

Alliance for Credible Elections (ACE)

Advocacy visits were carried out in five project states (Kwara, Niger, Markurdi, F.C.T and Nassarawa) to media houses, executives of the Nigeria Union of Road Transport Workers

(NURTW), the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) Secretariats and Inter-Religious Committees. The meetings generated a strong stakeholder constituency for subsequent town hall meetings.

In particular, four town hall meetings in Kwara, Benue, Niger, F.C.T and Nassarawa for members of the NURTW were held following the initial introductory advocacy visits. These meetings resulted in members of the NURTW and the general public in these states resolving formally to participate in the elections, to hold political parties and candidates accountable to issues and to protect their mandates.

Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Center (CISLAC)

CISLAC, with support from Pact/ADVANCE, organized a one-day dialogue with Political Parties on “Mainstreaming Transparency Initiatives in Political Party Programs.” The political parties in attendance were urged to embrace the draft good governance laws (FRB, PPP and NEITI) and incorporate their principles in their party manifestoes and campaigns. The outcome was captured in seven newspaper publications.

ActionAid Nigeria (AAIN)

Rigging and other forms of electoral malpractices have been the bane of Nigeria’s attempt at conducting free and credible elections and by extension, democratic governance. These undemocratic practices in Nigeria have been popularly characterized as “mandate theft.” In response, civil society began mobilizing citizens around the concept of “mandate protection.” To reinforce the momentum of this unique campaign, Pact/ADVANCE through its senior partner ActionAid, organized a capacity-building program for civil society groups on *Protecting the Peoples Mandate in Elections*. The trainings which took place in Enugu and Kaduna, helped to transfer skills to civil society activists in taking the campaign forward by sensitizing ordinary citizens on the need for constant vigilance to ensure that their votes count in the final determination of true popular will. The training curriculum sought to 1) build participants’ skills on the role of elections and mandates in governance and community development, 2) build the capacity of civil society and community stakeholders to understand electoral institutions, 3) build skills on various strategies in mandate protection and 4) increase skills in designing mandate protection plans and strategies.

In addition, AAIN, in partnership with the National Orientation Agency (NOA), convened a Conference for Political Party Manifestoes to provide a platform for political parties to publicize their manifestoes. Ordinary citizens were also invited to attend. The occasion thus afforded them an opportunity to analyze and question the policy positions of party candidates. In the end, the event that was attended by 26 Political Parties, of which only 10 came prepared to share manifestoes or party positions on such issues as poverty reduction, corruption, health, education and social inclusion. The event thus served as an important step towards democratic consolidation as emergent political parties were exposed to an electorate poised to demand more substantive approaches to political campaigning in future.

International Press Center (IPC)

Finally, IPC convened an experts meeting that reviewed the content, structure and format of their previous publication entitled “Resource Handbook on Coverage of Elections for

Journalists.” The meeting suggested additions that reflect current realities as the previous was focused on 2003 elections. Among the experts were media professionals, academics, conflict specialists and civil society activists. The book will be published and launched next quarter.

Objective THREE: Strengthened public-private (CSO) partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives Pact’s Anti-Corruption Program (ACI)

I.7 Civil society-GON Partnership to Implement the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) and Strengthen Anti-Corruption GON Agencies

E) NIGERIAN EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE (NEITI)
Pact/ADVANCE has been working with the Publish What You Pay (PWYP) Coalition and CISLAC to ensure civic oversight of the implementation of the NEITI process. CISLAC as a member of PWYP concentrates primarily on legislative advocacy on the NEITI bill.

CISLAC has been strategizing with other stakeholders on how to ensure that undesirable clauses in the NEITI bill are removed. During the reporting period, the CISLAC team met with the chairperson of the NEITI and the NEITI Secretariat to strategize on how to engage the Harmonization Committee of the National Assembly on amendment of a clause deemed to be overly protective of private sector interests. The meetings produced a strategic plan aimed at sensitizing the public through the media on the implication of the clause and at lobbying the Harmonization Committee to ensure appropriate amendment in the course of the harmonization process.

Pact has focused intensely on institutional and capacity building for PWYP in addition to providing support for advocacy activities. The Coalition, with the support of Pact, procured office equipment for its advocacy office in Abuja. The proximity of the new office to NASS has aided Coalition staff efforts to engage directly with government, the extractive industries sector and other stakeholders on a more regular basis.

Pact, together with the Open Society Initiative of West Africa (OSIWA) sponsored the 2nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the PWYP Coalition. The AGM was one among three essentially organizational activities supported by Pact during this quarter. These included support for two Steering Committee meetings that were held to follow up decisions taken at the AGM and to resolve on-going tension among Coalition leadership.

On the program side, as part of efforts to mainstream revenue transparency issues into election campaign discourse, PWYP members organized 12 town hall meetings across Nigeria’s six geopolitical zones. The town hall meetings created awareness in communities on the need for active citizen participation in the 2007 general elections and the need to hold politicians accountable specifically on revenue transparency related issues. The outcomes of

several of the meetings were published in news reports which helped to broaden the reach of the message.

As the current National Assembly legislative session neared the end of its term, the Coalition made one final effort to press for the passage of the NEITI legislation. In a press statement carried by one national daily, the Coalition leadership laid out its own recommendations for strengthening the bill and advocated strenuously for its passage.

Pact staff along with members of the Coalition, attended the Africa regional meeting of the PWYP Campaign in Cameroon. The meeting proved extremely useful for participants who received comprehensive training on revenue transparency advocacy. Notably, despite the numerous problems currently being experienced by the Nigeria campaign, Nigeria PWYP members rallied around an ultimately successful bid to host the 2008 regional meeting.

The Coalition also raised awareness on NEITI through its monthly newsletters, weekly reports and list serve.

F&G) AMENDED ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION (EFCC) BILL & RE-ENACTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT CORRUPT PRACTICES AND OTHER RELATED CRIMES (ICPC) BILL

Until recently, the EFCC and ICPC amendment bills had languished in the National Assembly with little hope of movement or passage owing to limited interest on the part of the majority of legislators. However, the central role the EFCC played in the run-up to the April elections, reignited interest among legislators. The opportunity to take advantage of this development was immediately seized by Pact Partner Zero Corruption Coalition (ZCC) which, with the support of ADVANCE, moved swiftly to re-engage the legislators on the need to amend the act to strengthen the independence of the agency.

In a courtesy visit to the Senate President, ZCC advocates presented their recommendations for amendments. The amendment proposals were produced at a consultative forum convened by ZCC which brought together CSO legal experts. While most of the ZCC proposed amendments were eventually incorporated into the Senate version of the bill, advocacy efforts on the House of Representatives side were still in process by the end of the reporting period.

During the period, Coalition members paid an advocacy visit to the chairman of the Good Governance Group in the House to canvass the Group's support for the adoption of ZCC's amendment recommendations. The Group chairman circulated the amendment proposals to influential House members and ZCC leaders thus remained hopeful that mounting support for the amendments would ultimately translate into their incorporation and the passage of the legislation before the end of the legislative term.

H) ANNUAL FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

Reported below under Indicator 8: Civil Society Participation in Budgetary Processes

C. Problems and Opportunities

Challenges/Problems

Partner & Programmatic Challenges

- The addition of elections work to the Pact/ADVANCE portfolio dramatically increased both the number of CSO solicitations as well as the number of ADVANCE grantees. This stretched the workload of the ADVANCE staff to its limit but this was mostly overcome by solid team work, team spirit and dedication among Pact/ActionAid ADVANCE program and administrative staff.
- The PWYP Coalition continued during this period to be plagued by chronic in-fighting and internal governance challenges. Increasingly, these are affecting the integrity and quality of program implementation and the credibility of the campaign in general both in Nigeria and internationally. The inordinate amounts of time spent by all stakeholders on resolving this seemingly endless crisis is counterproductive for all concerned and proving not to be an effective or prudent use of USG funds. The end of the PWYP sub-grant coincides with the end of this reporting period. At the end of the quarter, Pact/ADVANCE staff were preparing to conduct a full organizational audit which is intended to serve as the basis for determining whether to continue the PWYP relationship. The relationship might well have ended earlier had it not been for the high profile of the PWYP campaign internationally and attendant pressure to support what is essentially an externally-driven initiative. By all accounts, this imposition has caused more harm to the pre-existing revenue transparency movement in Nigeria than it has advanced the cause. All three significant funders of the PWYP Coalition of Nigeria, USAID/Pact/ADVANCE, OSIWA and Oxfam are currently reviewing their respective relationships with the Coalition which has consistently missed quarterly deliverable targets because of these distractions. During this reporting period, Oxfam Nigeria indicated that it was not likely continue its sponsorship of PWYP. In addition, at the meeting in Cameroon, the PWYP Africa Regional Coordinator expressed concerns that the Nigeria campaign was not meeting expectations because of internal bickering and divisive leadership.
- By the end of the reporting period, the tenure of the National Assembly was soon to expire without any of the bills worked on so assiduously by Pact/ADVANCE partners being signed into law. Moreover, election fever proved highly distracting. Sadly, despite excellent advocacy worthy of best practice documentation by the Pact/ADVANCE CSO partners on some of the bills, the President has increasingly signaled his hostility towards the FOI bill since it was not initiated by the Executive. Plans are nevertheless underway to document advocacy innovations developed and executed, particularly around FOI.

- Pact/ADVANCE continued operating without certainty that FY07 funds would be made available before the end of FY07. Pact/ADVANCE is administering FY05 and 06 funds in the interim. At the same time, while Pact has already begun to engage in discussions with potential beneficiaries of FY07 funds, it is not in a position to make any commitments at this time especially given the narrowly defined programming mandate of the FY05/06 funds.

Opportunities

Partner and Programmatic Opportunities

- The Stick to the Issues Campaign has helped to significantly raise the profile of Pact Nigeria. As a result, many local CSOs which show promise as potential partners have sought Pact out to showcase their work and to appeal for support.
- Some of the one-off election partners have shown significant potential to be brought on board on a more permanent basis. These include youth, Muslim, women and disability coalitions. Disability and youth groups especially show promise and interest in engaging in budget monitoring projects that are specific to their issues.
- By the end of the quarter, it appeared that some election grantees might have additional funds left to conduct post-election activities, although it was not clear whether activities during the first 3 weeks of April would deplete funds to the point of this not being a viable option. Pact staff planned to undertake an analysis of remaining funds immediately after the elections on 21 April.
- Numerous opportunities arose during this period for Pact staff and partners to participate in training programs abroad, within Africa and within Nigeria. In addition to the Publish What You Pay regional training on revenue transparency, Pact staff attended trainings on monitoring and evaluation and on USAID regulatory compliance. Several Pact partner members and staff were also nominated during this period to participate in future programs ranging from anti-corruption advocacy to appreciative inquiry.

Administration and Management Opportunities

- Two staff redeployment decisions taken at the end of the previous quarter and implemented during the reporting period have already paid off significantly. In particular, a staff member who was brought on initially as a Youth Corper who then took on the WOTCLEF portfolio has been appointed as Monitoring and Evaluation specialist. During the course of this quarter, she attended 3 different M&E training programs and in turn worked closely with Pact/ADVANCE partners on their own M&E programs. This together with the decision to bring forward quarterly reporting due dates for partners has immediately yielded results. Following the end of the quarter, reports submitted contained fewer problems requiring clarifications. The fact that this report will be submitted much closer to the due date than has previously been

the case is entirely attributable to these improvements in M&E and reporting administration.

- These improvements were supported by the recent introduction by Pact Nigeria of a weekly reporting template. Pact instructed partners to use it to provide brief details of all activities carried out during the week, provide updates on upcoming activities and inform Pact of any challenges, opportunities or success stories managed during the week. This will aid the compilation of quarterly reports and ensure better notification of upcoming activities that can be shared with various stakeholders.
- A second member of staff was redeployed to serve as the Knowledge Resource & Capacity Building Coordinator. This has similarly yielded outstanding results, most notably the consistent publication of a monthly newsletter, the regular updating of Pact's website, an active list-serve and the long-awaited initiation of Pact's formal capacity-building training program which had received little attention previously. The newsletters, website and list-serve have raised Pact's profile considerably.

D. Activity Changes and Explanations

During the reporting period, certain activities not achieved were mainly postponed for environmental or quality control reasons. These included:

- WOTCLEF's simplification of the Anti-trafficking Act – First draft not simplified enough and experts consulted to produce more appropriate version to ensure high quality and high impact.
- IPC's publication of a survey on corruption reporting – First draft requires reworking.
- MRA assessment of GON capacity to implement FOI – Not done because bill yet to be enacted into law. This was expected to be a post-enactment exercise.
- MRA dissemination of a simplified guide to FOI – Not done because bill yet to be enacted into law. This was intended to be a post-enactment exercise.
- Assessment of performance of NEITI Secretariat and Oil and Gas Sector Audit not done because of continued problems among leadership of PWYP.
- State level budget work did not commence because of the demanding election-related workload for Pact staff as well as some of the intended beneficiaries of the state-budget monitoring grants.
- Advocacy training material development was moved to next quarter because of election demands and decision taken to start first with the development of general organizational development training material.
- Election-related monthly stakeholder reviews came to be viewed as redundant as the situation was so fluid and other election-focused NGOs such as TMG and NDI were holding similar forums.
- MRA reports on party access to media were not done because of the focus on FOI. A decision had accordingly been made to drop this item from the 2007 workplan but it was inadvertently retained. At the same time, MRA did organize a meeting with

media owners on election coverage which was held under the auspices of another donor. However, Pact was invited to observe and participate in this meeting.

- Instead of a Stick to the Issues periodical, ZCC opted instead for newspaper inserts and editorials which examined political party election promises.
- IRI's campaign schools were cancelled as a result of their own shifting priorities. Pact partners therefore did not get to take part.
- Grant solicitations held during this period were mainly election-related and were for less than a year.

E. Success Stories

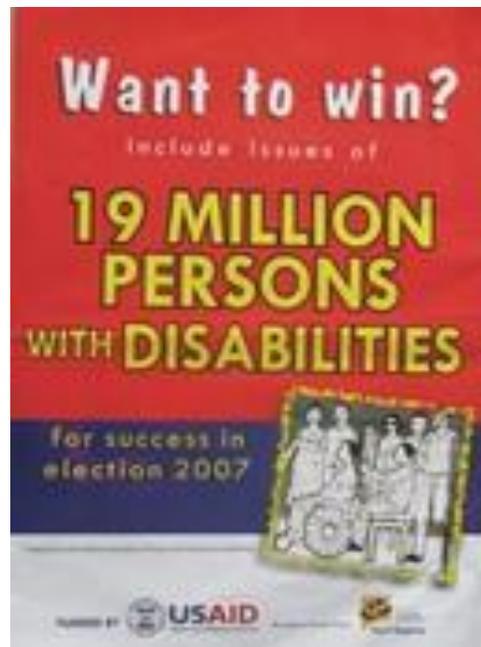
Activities under the ADVANCE project have continued to yield impressive results which in many cases have had transformative impact. Key among these are the following:

LANDMARK ENCOUNTERS FOR DISABILITY ADVOCATES



JONAPWD Members handing disability IEC materials to the INEC Chairman

For the first time ever in Nigeria, disability rights campaigners were formally supported by an international donor (USAID through Pact) to engage in high-level advocacy, first with the Chairman of INEC and later with senior political aspirants. Several letters and calls were received from members of the group to thank Pact for affording it this historic opportunity. The brilliant red poster designed by a member of the Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities immediately put politicians and voters alike on notice that the millions of Nigerians living with disabilities are a force to be reckoned with and therefore to be taken seriously by would-be public office holders. This process also enabled JONAPWD to develop, formally articulate and enumerate disability advocacy issues with politicians and through the media.



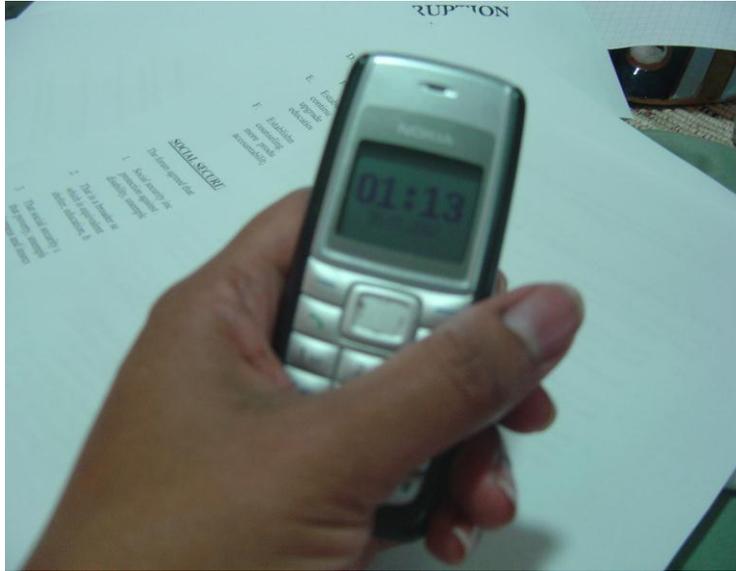
STICK TO THE ISSUES CAMPAIGN GENERATES SOUTH-SOUTH PEOPLES MANIFESTO

The response of participants at the Zonal launches of the ‘*Stick To The Issues*’ Campaign was nothing short of overwhelmingly enthusiastic. Not only did participants in all 6 zones in which regional launches were held express their gratitude at having been enlightened on the need to hold politicians accountable on the issues, in the South-South Zone participants went even further to draft a comprehensive “People’s Manifesto” highlighting community needs in the areas of Health, Education and Social Security. The manifesto included very concrete recommendations such as proposals to increase budget allocations on health in the region by at least 10% that would provide for such badly needed services as “Multiple Rapid Response Ambulatory Medical Teams” and antenatal and pediatric care; to establish a Nomadic Education Program and to create “State Unity Centers” which would incorporate peace studies, anti-corruption, transparency, accountability and security studies into the curriculum. This manifesto will now form the basis for advocacy with candidates during the elections as well as newly elected officials following the elections.



FULL ON ADVOCACY YIELDS RESULTS ON FOUR BILLS

FOI – Dogged determination and relentless pursuit are the only ways to characterize the Media Rights Agenda’s quest for a Freedom of Information Law for Nigeria. The harmonized bill now sits on the desk of President Olusegun Obasanjo awaiting his assent. The bill has advanced thus far almost entirely due to the aggressive leadership of MRA and its network of transparency advocates whose repeated use of text message advocacy strategies and proactive intervention to logistically support the harmonization work of the legislative committee showed an unprecedented level of coordinated advocacy which could rival even the best, most well-funded campaigns anywhere in the world.



A new approach for advocacy, tailor-made for Africa

EFCC - The Senate President gave audience to ADVANCE supported coalition, ZCC at short notice and accepted the proposed recommendations by the coalition on the EFCC Amendment Act. He expressed his appreciation for the role CSOs play in the legislative process and promised to invite ZCC to make a presentation at the public hearing on the Bill. The Chairman of the Good Governance Group in the House of Representatives who is also on the Committee on Anti-Corruption, later encouraged ZCC to organize a national summit on the EFCC Amendment Bill after the general elections and volunteered his services as a resource person to train incoming legislators on CSO/Legislative interactions.



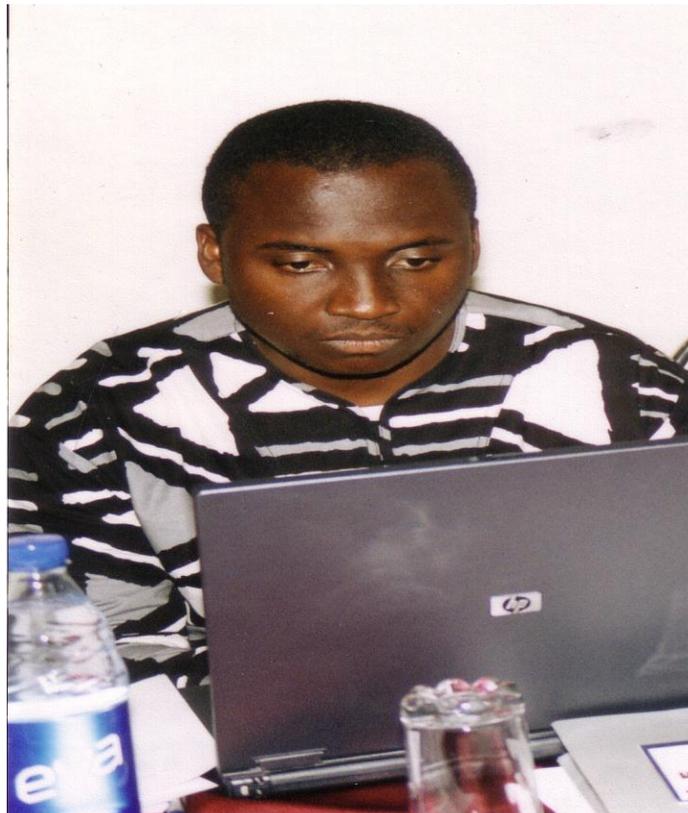
ZCC Coordinator with Senate President

FRB - CISLAC used the media as a means to put pressure on NASS to pass FRB and NEITI. This proved to be a winning strategy. A press briefing held by CISLAC with members of the Senate press corps in which members of the NASS were urged to speed up the passage was instrumental in fast-tracking the passage of the two bills as both were passed shortly after that event.

ADVANCE PARTNER NOMINATED TO GIVE VOICE TO CSO CONCERNS IN GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

In recognition of the invaluable role the Pact/ADVANCE budget team through AAIN has played, the GON appointed the ADVANCE Budget Advocacy Coordinator, Hilary Ogbonna to serve on the Inter-Ministerial Planning Committee of the 2008-2010 MTSS Process.

He will serve as the civil society liaison on the inter-ministerial committee which includes representatives of key government ministries and agencies. He will be responsible for facilitating civil society participation during the ministerial deliberations. This arrangement will enable more systematic input from civil society and is thus seen as a major breakthrough in Nigerian government-civil society relations and budget transparency aspirations.



F. Summary of Work and Activity Outcomes

GRANTS & PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND PARTNER CAPACITY-BUILDING

- **6 new election partners added to the grants portfolio**
- **Representation of historically marginalized groups in grants portfolio dramatically increased**
- **New organizational and advocacy capacity baselines established for 3 new partners**
- **Financial Management training led to dramatic improvement in financial reporting**
- **Accelerated quarterly due date for partners and improved M&E program led to dramatic improvement in partner reporting and Pact's ability to make a timely submission to USAID**

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

- 1. Citizen awareness on the need for issue-based campaigning and their role in holding politicians accountable significantly increased**
- 2. More historically marginalized groups including the disabled, women, youth and Muslims engaged in campaign discourse and election advocacy**
- 3. Senate and House versions of FOI bill harmonized, passed and sent to President due to substantial pressure by Pact/ADVANCE supported advocates**
- 4. FRB and PPB advance due to Pact/ADVANCE pressure**
- 5. EFCC Bill interest resurrected and legislators actively engaged**
- 6. AAIN leads move to more systematically include CSO input on national budget through appointment to serve on MTSS**
- 7. Greater awareness of all bills among legislators and citizens**
- 8. Greater media interest in all bills**
- 9. Greater technical competency within legislature on FOI, FRB and PPB**
- 10. Awareness raised of link between human trafficking and corrupt governance practices**
- 11. People's manifesto created as a result of STIC campaign**
- 12. Cell phone text messaging emerges as pivotal advocacy tool**

III. Highlights of Plans for Next Quarter

In the post-election period, Pact/ADVANCE will hopefully be in a position to fully resume its traditional anti-corruption and transparency and accountability advocacy support work. Accordingly, the following activities are currently planned.

- Final election-related advocacy
- State budget monitoring awards made and program implementation to begin
- Advocacy visits to the House Ad-hoc Committee reviewing the EFCC Amendment Bill to canvass for the adoption of civil society recommendations
- National Summit on the EFCC Amendment Bill by the ZCC.
- ActionAid Civil Society-Government Forum on budget implementation
- National Conference on Political Manifestoes and Accountability in Nigeria
- Training of Media on Budget Analysis and Reporting (taken forward from Q4 of FY06 – had been overtaken by election work)
- Development of Budget Analysis and Advocacy Tools (taken forward from Q4 of FY06)
- ActionAid Policy Dialogue Series
- Continuation of the publication of newsletter, *Legislative Digest*
- Carry out lobby and advocacy for the quick harmonization of the FRB, PPB and NEITI reports
- Strategic meeting with the Due Process Office, Debt Management Office and NEITI secretariat to work out implementation of the bills
- Hold harmonization meeting with the Harmonization committee on FRB and PPB
- Work with new members of the NASS to provide technical support in terms of oversight on agencies responsible for NEITI, FRB and PPB implementation
- Beginning work on the development of documentary series on revenue transparency and corruption
- Revenue transparency related research and analyses

Advocacy Capacity and Organizational Capacity Indices

- Develop advocacy capacity-building training modules
- Finalize organizational capacity-building training modules and implement training
- Capacity-building through mentoring and M&E visits
- Build Pact Staff's own capacity to support anti-corruption advocacy through participation in training programs

Sub-grants

- Quarterly Sub-grants disbursements to some partner CSOs
- Conduct of Pre-award assessment for new partners as the need arises

Program management

- Overall improvement of Pact profile and services provided to grantees
- Preparation of program reports
- Continuation of newsletter distribution, website maintenance and list-serve facilitation.
- Develop further the intellectual capital of Pact/ADVANCE through the identification and formal documentation of partner best practices.