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**ADVANCE PROJECT
QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT
July – September 2009
Submitted by Pact Nigeria
Cooperative Agreement #620-A-00-05-00096-00**

List of Acronyms

AAIN Action Aid International Nigeria
AAN AIDS Alliance Nigeria
ADVANCE Advocacy, Awareness and Civic Empowerment Project
AOTR Agreement Officer's Technical Representative
BPP Bureau of Public Procurement
CBN Central Bank of Nigeria
CDA Centre for Development Action
CIRDDOC Civil Resource Development and Documentation Centre
CISLAC Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre
CPPC Centre for Public-Private Cooperation
CSO Civil Society Organization
DG Democracy and Governance
DRG Debt Relief Gain
EFCC Economic and Financial Crimes Commission
EITI Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
FOI Freedom of Information
FOMWAN Federation of Muslim Women Associations of Nigeria
FY Fiscal Year
GON Government of Nigeria
IMC Interfaith Mediation Centre
INEC Independent National Electoral Commission
IP Implementing Partner
JDPC Justice Development and Peace Commission
JONAPWD Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities
LGA Local Government Area
MDA Ministry, Department and Agency
MER Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting
MERL Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning
NASS National Assembly
NBA Nigerian Bar Association
NEEDS National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
NEITI Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
NGO Non-Governmental Organization
NNF New Nigeria Foundation
PIB Petroleum Industries Bill
PPCD Public Private Collaborations for Development
PWYP Publish What You Pay
REACH Rapid and Effective Action to Combat HIV/AIDS
RFA Request for Application
SEEDS State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
USAID United States Agency for International Development
WANGONeT West Africa NGO Network
WOTCLEF Women Trafficking and Child Labor Eradication Foundation
ZCC Zero Corruption Coalition

Contents

I. BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW	4
A. Activity Summary	4
B. Summary of Outputs.....	5
Management outputs	5
Program outputs.....	5
C. Recent Programmatic Context	5
Budget Context.....	5
Anti-Corruption Context	6
II. QUARTER PROGRESS	7
A. Program Management	7
Coordination	7
ADVANCE Stakeholders’ Evaluation Review (SER) Meeting.....	8
Pact Nigeria Registration	8
Regional/HQ Support.....	8
Recruitment of Additional Finance Staff.....	9
Portfolio Review of ADVANCE Program	9
General Portfolio Management	9
Subgrant Finances	9
Subgrant Summary Table	11
B. Programmatic Results.....	13
Objective 1: Strengthened civil society organization (CSO) capacity for effective program and financial management	13
Objective 2: Increased CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key policy reforms and civic participation	15
Objective 3: Strengthened public-private (CSO) partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives	20
C. Challenges and Opportunities	22
Partner and Programmatic Challenges	22
Administration and Management Challenges.....	23
Partner and Programmatic Opportunities.....	23
Administration and Management Opportunities	23
D. Activity Changes and Explanations	24
E. Success Stories	24
Muslim Scholars/Imams and Groups Embrace Nigeria’s FOI Bill.....	24
Advocacy Clinic	25
III. HIGHLIGHTS OF PLANS FOR NEXT QUARTER	27
Partner Activities	27
B. Pact Activities	27
C. Subgrant Management.....	27
IV. QUANTITATIVE INDICATOR DATA.....	28

I. BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

A. Activity Summary

Implementing Partner: Pact, Inc.
Activity Name: Advocacy, Awareness, and Civic Empowerment (ADVANCE) Project
Activity Objectives: Strengthened civil society organization (CSO) capacity for effective program and financial management Increased CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key policy reforms such as budget transparency, access to information, and judicial oversight Strengthened public-private partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives
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: \$8,000,000.00
Obligations to date: \$7,623,848
Current Pipeline Amount: \$690,487 of which \$160,765 is already obligated to sub grantees and therefore not available for any purpose; leaving an Effective Pipeline Amount of \$ 529,722
Accrued Expenditures this Quarter: \$432,922
Activity Cumulative Accrued Expenditures to Date: \$6,933,360
Estimated Expenditures Next Quarter: \$397,000
Report Submitted by: Dan Spealman, Pact Nigeria Country Rep.

B. Summary of Outputs

Management outputs

Primary capacity building and grants/program management accomplishments this quarter include the following:

- Supported existing partner CSOs through fund disbursements, oversight and mentoring.
- Issued new subgrants to some of the selected applicants of the latest Request for Application (RFA).
- Continued implementation of IMC capacity building interventions.
- Continued the provision of technical assistance/ mentoring to partner CSOs in project implementation and reporting.
- Recruited additional finance staff
- ADVANCE program periodic portfolio review conducted by USAID Nigeria
- Continued the on-going reconciliations and closeout of completed projects.
- ADVANE Stakeholder Evaluation Review Meeting carried out

Program outputs

- CISLAC's training workshop for Energy Correspondents on NEITI audit process in Nigeria
- CISLAC-organized CSOs pre-Public Hearing meeting on Petroleum Industry Bill
- CISLAC-organized CSOs' Consultative Forum on NEITI progress
- ActionAid's Budget Analysis and Advocacy Training (BAAT)
- Pact Advocacy Clinic for ADVANCE CSO partners
- Pact's capacity building for IMC
- Pact assessment of PPCD
- CPPC's development of simplified version of the 2005 NEITI Audit
- State Budget advocacy visits by CPPC, CIRDDOC, AIDS Alliance and JDPC
- Budget summits by AIDS Alliance and JDPD
- Budget scorecard development by CIRDDOC
- Media Roundtable by AIDS Alliance
- MULAC's Freedom of Information Sensitization Workshop

C. Recent Programmatic Context

Budget Context

Several developments relating to budget and expenditure tracking took place during the period under review. First, the Federal Executive Council (FEC) lamented the low level of budget implementation by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). According to information from the Council meeting held in July 2009, despite the strategic importance of agriculture in ensuring food sufficiency, the Ministry of Agriculture, with a total budget allocation of N136.93billion, had so far had only about N46.69billion released to it. In addition, the 2007 report of the Auditor General of the Federation (AGF), which was made public in August this year exposed how the excess crude oil account has become a pot for illegal withdrawals. The report also highlighted certain irregularities in the way and manner allocations from the Federation Account were transferred to some states. Finally, the report

pointed out the lack of clear cut tracking of inflow and outflow of funds from the Federation Account.

Anti-Corruption Context

Responding to the demands of CSOs (including those supported by ADVANCE), the NEITI Secretariat in August finally released the report of its financial, physical and process 2005 Oil and Gas Sector Audit report, which was again produced by the Hart Group. The TOR of the Auditors was to reconcile all payments due to the government, ascertain the accuracy of the volumetric data from the oil companies, as well as identify lapses in the capacity of government agencies responsible for monitoring revenue payments by all extractive industry companies. This is the second of such audits of the sector, with the first covering operations between 1999 and 2004.

The audit report identified unprecedented financial discrepancies and system inefficiencies. There was over US\$800 million of unresolved differences between what companies said they paid in taxes, royalties and signature bonuses, and what the government said it received. Of this amount, US\$560 million was identified as shortfalls in taxes and royalties owed to the government and around US\$300 million in payment discrepancies relating to signature bonuses, payments of dividends, interests and loan repayments. The largest amount owed to the government according to the report is an estimated US\$4.7 billion by the state-owned Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) for payments of domestic crude. However, the NNPC claims it is owed US\$1.7 billion in subsidies from the government. This report, like the previous one, highlights numerous issues that call for urgent attention and action by all stakeholders, and CSOs have thus begun carrying out a robust response, including those supported by ADVANCE(as detailed further in this report).

One key result of the audit is that Nigeria will this year recover \$553 million from oil firms who underpaid various oil taxes in 2005. This underpayment was not as a result of deliberate default by the oil firms, but by erroneous assessment of their taxes by government agencies responsible for collecting this revenue from the 16 oil companies. Another key result is the commissioning by the Federal Government of a metering infrastructure study to Telemetric Nigeria Limited with the financial assistance of DFID. This is a direct result of the embarrassing finding that Nigeria does not know how much oil it produces per day. The Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) of the Federal Ministry of Petroleum Resources provided data on the volume of production that differed from those declared by the oil companies. The weak metering infrastructure has made it impossible for the country to know the exact hydrocarbon flows per year and by individual companies. It also made it difficult to determine precisely losses of oil occurring everyday between the well heads and loading terminals.

Complimentary efforts to NEITI also took place this quarter as both Chambers of the National Assembly held public hearings on the Petroleum Industries Bill (PIB). The bill has been the most talked about legislation this quarter, with allegations and counter allegations that some International Oil Companies (IOC) are working with some Senators to kill it. If passed, the bill could potentially usher in a new, more transparent era in the manner in which the oil and gas sector operates. The thrust of the proposed reforms is to free the oil industry substantially from government control. It also aims to derive more revenue from petroleum by increasing royalties and taxes payable by oil companies. It has come under criticisms by IOCs who believe the government was trying to create monopoly for national oil companies

and that the fiscal proposals are uneconomical. The public and CSOs have largely given their support to the bill, but have raised concerns on some of its provisions.

The recently held public hearings were used as a platform to raise these concerns, although the notice given for the event was short. Nevertheless, many CSOs were able to quickly organize with funding provided by ADVANCE in order to make their voices heard at these hearings. ADVANCE partners attended and presented memoranda collated from a larger body of CSOs. One of the objectives of the Bill which is the “entrenchment of principles of transparency and good governance in accordance with the NEITI Act” is something that has earned the bill the commitment of CSOs already working on ensuring good revenue management through the mechanism of the NEITI Act.

Finally this quarter in regards to the anti-corruption environment, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) continued to come under heavy criticism as the U.S Secretary of State expressed concern about Nigeria’s anti-graft war, saying that the EFCC had fallen off in the last two years. She further lamented the fact that Nigeria, a leading crude oil producer, is also a major importer of refined petroleum products, and has very little to show for it because of bad governance. She called for a reinstatement of anti-graft initiatives, as was conceived in the beginning.

Despite this unfortunate review, the EFCC has so far recovered N87 Billion from individuals and corporate organizations owing the five banks whose chief executives were recently sacked by the CBN. The CBN governor, Sanusi Lamido, fired CEOs of five banks believed to be in a state of illiquidity or a near state of collapse. Even more controversial was the recent step taken by the CBN to publish the names of major borrowers to the five banks in the newspapers, and to invite the EFCC to pursue the debtors of these banks. The EFCC then gave a one-week ultimatum to these debtors to pay their debts. These reforms have provoked mixed reaction in the polity, as a cross section of people have expressed concern about the discarding of banking confidentiality, apparent criminalization of borrowing, and the implications for enterprise in the Nigerian economy if this trend is not stopped. However, many have also applauded it as a welcome development that will sanitize the banking sector.

II. QUARTER PROGRESS

A. Program Management

This quarter, Pact continued to provide regular mentoring and oversight support in program implementation and reporting to its subgrantees that have on-going projects as well as those with new projects. Within the quarter under review, Pact continued to track cost share contributions of CSO partners (having now met its cost share requirement as of the writing of this report) and also processed the financial closeout of most of the few remaining completed but unclosed projects. Pact also worked with majority of the remaining selected applicant CSOs under the most recent RFA, finalized the proposals of those proposed projects considered to be of high priority, and issued them subgrant awards. Pact will work with the few remaining selected applicants next quarter to finalize their proposals for subgrant awards.

Coordination

In addition to regular, ongoing engagement with the Agreement Officer’s Technical Representative (AOTR), the ADVANCE team met with the AOTR and the International Republican Institute (IRI) Country Director at Pact Nigeria’s office on September 8, 2009.

Issues discussed at the meeting included concerns about the leadership of a shared partner (which were quickly alleviated), potential cooperation regarding the ADVANCE Advocacy Clinic, potential training support that could be provided by Pact to IRI partner CSOs working on electoral reform.

ADVANCE Stakeholders' Evaluation Review (SER) Meeting

During this quarter, Pact/ADVANCE held the FY 09 stakeholders' evaluation review meeting, which is a mandatory requirement for the development of FY 2010 workplan, and an important aspect of Pact's participatory project management strategy. The meeting was held in Kaduna from August 26 – 27 and was attended by most of the Pact ADVANCE partner CSOs, the ADVANCE AOTR, a representative of the DFID-supported Coalition for Change, as well as some representatives of the relevant Federal government agencies such as the National Planning Commission and the Office of the Special Adviser to the President on Relations with CSOs.

The meeting provided the ADVANCE program, partner CSOs and other stakeholders with opportunity to:

- Give an update of the ADVANCE program's progress to date and evaluate its performance in FY 09;
- Discuss why progress towards planned results in FY 09 had been positive or negative;
- Identify and analyze unintended consequences and effects of assistance activities;
- Examine sustainability of activities and their results;
- Distill lessons learned in FY 09; and
- Seek input and consensus for fiscal year 2010 workplan as a clear way forward for the program in anticipation of the possible extension of the program.

The result of the review was very positive and the inputs from the partners and other stakeholders are being reflected in the FY 2010 workplan in the context of the prevailing ADVANCE budget, USAID priorities and the anticipated extension of ADVANCE program. Full results of the workshop are available separately in the SER Report.

Pact Nigeria Registration

It was expected that the registration process of Pact Nigeria with the National Planning Commission would be completed this reporting period given that Pact Nigeria had met all the requirements in the previous quarter. Unfortunately this has not happened, and as such, Pact Nigeria is requesting the intervention of USAID Nigeria to enable the quick completion of the process, which is long over due.

Regional/HQ Support

Pact Headquarters and the Regional Office in Nairobi continued their usual support to Pact Nigeria through information sharing and advice on issues that have enhanced the management of the ADVANCE program. In addition, Pact Headquarters sponsored the Pact global Grants Management (Module III) training; the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (MERL – Data Sampling Techniques) training; as well as the Country Representatives' meeting, all of which Pact Nigeria staff participated in at Pact HQ expense. The Grants Management training was held in August in Cape Town, South Africa and was attended by the Pact Nigeria Country Representative, Deputy Country Representative, Finance Manager and Finance Officer. The MERL training was attended by the Pact Nigeria

MERL Officer and M & E Specialist, and was held in September in Nairobi, Kenya. The Country Representatives' meeting was also held in September in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and was attended by the Pact Nigeria Country Representative.

Recruitment of Additional Finance Staff

In compliance with one of the recommendations of the USAID Nigeria financial review of the ADVANCE program, Pact/ADVANCE completed the recruitment process of a new Finance Officer as part of the start-up of the Community REACH program. The Finance Officer immediately assumed duty and his time is being shared between the ADVANCE and REACH programs of Pact Nigeria.

Portfolio Review of ADVANCE Program

USAID also conducted its periodic portfolio review of the ADVANCE program during this quarter, focusing on the period from October 01, 2008 to June 30, 2009. The report from the review was generally positive and ADVANCE maintained its overall "green" grade. As always, there are places for improvement, particularly in meeting some indicators' targets, and Pact taken significant efforts that have addressed most of the identified issues this quarter. Most of the FY 09 targets have now been substantially met or exceeded.

General Portfolio Management

The ADVANCE subgrant portfolio as of this quarter increased to 49 subprojects (up from 45 reported in the last quarter) for the life of the award, but the cumulative number of CSO partners is still 29 as reported in the previous quarter. There were six ongoing subprojects (ActionAid, CISLAC, Aids Alliance Nigeria, CIRDDOC, IMC and JDPC) as of the beginning of this quarter but the number soon increased to ten subprojects with the award of four new subgrants to NPWP, PPDC, CPPC, and MULAC. The award to NPWP was through CISLAC since NPWP is not yet a registered entity.

Subgrant Finances

During this reporting period, Pact Nigeria finished reconciliations with an increased number of partner CSOs whose projects are completed, and successfully closed-out the projects of Aids Alliance Nigeria (1st project), FOMWAN (2nd project), CITAD, ERA, ZCC (NEITI 1st project), CDA, and MULAC (2nd project) and ACE (first project). This allowed Pact to de-obligate the sum of **\$15,972.48** from these closed-out projects, which brings the cumulative to **\$128,259.48** (up from \$112,287 reported in the last quarter). Pact staff were also able to track and report additional cost share of **\$23,250.99**, which brings the cumulative to **\$401,698.78** (up from \$378,447.79 reported in the last quarter), which is 95.40% of the required cost share (\$421,052) for the life of the program.

During this reporting period, an additional sum of \$41,239.11 was disbursed to some of the existing partners with on-going projects (Aids Alliance, CIRDDOC, JDPC, and ActionAid). In addition, the sum of \$42,335.65 was advanced to some of the existing partners (PPDC, CISLAC/NPWP, CPPC and MULAC), to commence the implementation of their new projects, bringing the cumulative of disbursements/advances so far made for all subgrants as of the end of this quarter to **\$2,185,169.66** (up from \$2,164,733.82 in the previous quarter and excluding consultancies/in-kind subgrants). Of that amount, the subgrantees have expended and retired/liquidated a total of **\$2,101,594.9** to date (up from the \$1,993,175.89 reported in the previous quarter, and excluding consultancies/in-kind subgrants).

Also this quarter, the cumulative expenditures incurred on consultancies/in-kind subgrants still remain at \$458, 994.68 because there was no additional expenditure incurred. Together, the cumulative grand total of expenditures at the end of this quarter, based on retirements/liquidations of subgrants including expenses from in-kind support and consultancies stands at **\$2, 560,589.58** (up from the \$2,452,170.57 in the last quarter). Table 1 below provides a summary of current subgrant recipients (including those receiving in-kind support) along with each subgrantee's obligated amount, advances/disbursements, expenditures and balances as well as the status of their projects as of the end of this quarter, September 30, 2009.

Subgrant Summary Table

TABLE 1: Summary of Status of ADVANCE Sub-grants and Consultancy (Advances and Actual Expenditures including Balance) as at End of Quarter 3 FY 09 (April to June 2009)											
Recipient	Start Date	End Date	Project Title	Focus	Advances/Disbursements, Actual			Expenditures and Project Status			
					Obligated Amount \$	Advances to Date (\$)		Expenditures to Date (\$)	Balance Due/Grantee/Pact	Project Status	
						Advances	Balance on Obligated Amt				
1 PWYP	30-Mar-06	31-May-07	Publish What You Pay Campaign in Nigeria	Awareness and advocacy around the NEITI and ongoing oil industry audit process	140,051.18	140,051.18	-	140,051.18	0.00	Terminated	
2 MRA	30-Mar-06	31-Jul-07	Advocacy on Freedom of Information Bill	Freedom of Information Bill (Legislative /Executive advocacy for the final stages of passage/implementation planning	120,605.53	120,605.53	-	120,605.53	(0.00)	Closed	
3 IPC	30-Mar-06	31-Jan-08	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	100,393.82	100,393.82	-	100,393.82	(0.00)	Closed	
4 WOTCLEF	30-Mar-06	30-Jun-07	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.	85,065.49	85,065.49	-	85,065.49	0.00	Closed	
5 CISLAC	20-Sep-06	30-Sep-07	Strengthening Civil Society Engagement of the Legislative Process through Targeted Policies	Legislative Advocacy & Tracking of Targeted Bills at NASS	157,419.48	157,419.48	0.00	157,419.47	0.00	Closed	
6 Action Aid Int'l Nig	15-Aug-06	22-Feb-10	CSO Budget Monitoring & Tracking	National & Focal State	616,142.42	641,827.23	(25,684.81)	688,935.87	(47,108.64)	On-going	
7 JDPC/ACE	1-Nov-06	31-Dec-06	Voter Registration Monitoring in 15 states across all the 6 Geo-Political Zones of Nigeria	Voter Registration and Oversight of INEC	57,729.19	57,729.19	-	57,729.19	-	Closed	
8 CITAD	9-Feb-07	30-May-07	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	27,789.91	27,789.91	-	27,789.91	-	Closed	
9 MULAC	1-Feb-07	30-Apr-07	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	18,500.31	18,500.31	-	18,500.31	-	Closed	
10 ACE	1-Mar-07	30-Nov-07	INEC Oversight and Stakeholder Advocacy. However, project scope increased to include National Peoples' Tribunal on 2007 Elections	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	116,001.95	116,001.95	-	116,001.95	-	Closed	
11 FOMWAN	8-Mar-07	30-Apr-07	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	62,192.76	62,192.76	-	62,192.76	-	Closed	
12 ZCC	27-Mar-07	31-Jul-07	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.	28,305.88	28,305.88	-	28,305.88	-	Closed	
13 AAN	1-May-07	30-Sep-08	Strengthening Capacity of CSOs in HIV Budget Tracking & Improving Transparency in Resource Allocation for Effective Service Delivery in the Prevention & Treatment of HIV in Lagos State	Civic Participation and Oversight- HIV/AIDS Budget Tracking & Oversight	48,320.81	48,320.81	-	48,320.81	-	Completed	
14 CIRDDOC	1-May-07	30-Sep-08	Enabling CSOs to Monitor Government Spending on Education in Rivers State	Civic Participation and Oversight- Primary Education Budget Tracking & Oversight	49,326.17	37,224.59	12,101.58	36,632.96	591.63	Completed	
15 JDPC, Ijebu-Ode	1-May-07	30-Sep-08	Enhancing CS Capacity to Engage the Public Budget Process through the Drawing of Shadow Budgets in Lagos State	Civic Participation and Oversight- Education & Agriculture Budget Tracking & Oversight	49,994.57	37,732.20	12,262.37	44,676.72	(6,944.52)	Completed	
16 CISHAN	1-May-07	30-Aug-08	Enhancing Capacity of CSOs in HIV/AIDS Budget Tracking & Monitoring of Allocation of Resource & expenditures for attaining MDG in HIV/AIDS in Kano & Rivers States	Civic Participation and Oversight- HIV/AIDS Budget Tracking & Oversight	49,946.27	47,524.61	2,421.66	44,961.23	2,563.38	Completed	
17 ERA	19-Sep-07	12-Aug-08	Local Empowerment and good governance in Edo/Delta states, South south Zone of Nigeria	Conduct of Survey Research on NEITI process & practice including its Act, publication (e-copy) and dissemination of report; conduct of environmental parliament on NEITI; and advocacy campaign on expanding the mandates of NEITI.	34,888.73	34,888.73	-	34,888.73	-	Closed	
18 CASS	19-Sep-07	18-Sep-08	Oil revenue transparency and civic oversight of the NEITI process in Rivers/Bayelsa states, as well as national perception survey in some targeted states in the remaining 5 geopolitical zones in Nigeria.	Desk research on effectiveness of NEITI at state and LGA level; FGD in each state; conduct of 3 capacity building / dissemination workshops for CSOs; and conduct of enlightenment Forums at grassroots level by trained CSOs; Conduct National Perception Survey on NEITI; and provide leadership role to other partners on State Perception Surveys.	86,526.69	90,095.49	(3,568.80)	91,670.20	(1,574.71)	Completed	
19 ABGREMO	19-Sep-07	31-May-08	Legislative Advocacy & Capacity Building for CSOs on oil revenue transparency in Akwa Ibom and Cross river state	Legislative Advocacy and Capacity Building for Civil Society Organizations on Oil Revenue Transparency in Akwa Ibom, and Cross River States of Nigeria.	35,140.61	35,140.61	-	35,140.61	-	Closed	
20 WANGONET	19-Sep-07	2/29/2009	Capacity Building for CSOs on oil Revenue Transparency and Civic oversight of the NEITI process in Nigeria	Conduct of Training on Extractive Revenues Transparency and Oil Sector Audit to address the identified gaps by CPPC.	27,136.22	23,637.79	3,498.43	17,142.95	6,494.84	Completed	
21 ZCC	1-Feb-08	31-Mar-09	Production of citizens guide to information and process of NEITI as well as engaging government of Nigeria on NEITI audit report	produce a Citizen's Guide to Information & Processes of the NEITI, carryout Legislative/Policy Advocacy on NEITI Audit Process and hold a stakeholder review & dissemination of audit report	40,026.94	40,026.94	-	40,026.94	-	Closed	
22 MULAC	24-Jan-08	18-Apr-08	Promoting Muslim Participation in Electoral reform process in Nigeria	Engagement with electoral reform committee	9,751.07	9,751.07	-	9,751.07	-	Closed	
23 ACE	14-May-08	30-Jul-08	Consultation on the Electoral Reform	Support Performing Musicians Association of Nigeria and the Association of Professional Bodies in Nigeria to provide input to the ERC	30,787.67	29,367.52	1,420.15	29,196.42	171.10	Completed	
24 NBA	15-May-08	31-Oct-08	Consultation on the Electoral Reform	Holding a roundtable with members on electoral reforms and drafting of mentioned policy documents.	29,952.91	29,388.89	564.02	27,498.29	1,850.60	Completed	
25 CPPC	26-Jun-08	30-Dec-08	Empowerment of CSOs in Analysing the NEITI Audit and Processes	Assessment of the capacity of CSOs/NGOs currently engaged in, or are interested in audit process and NEITI/Oil Revenue budget performance monitoring and evaluation for WANGONET to use and train CSOs; and development and production of a reference manual on NEITI auditing	39,354.00	36,142.28	3,211.72	31,960.89	4,181.39	Completed	
26 CISLAC	26-Jun-08	30-Nov-08	Civil Society Engagement of Government on Oil Revenue Transparency and Civic Oversight of the NEITI Process	Provision of regular technical support on NEITI Act Implementation to NASS Legislators and their support staff, through relevant Committees & Stakeholder review meeting on NEITI Act.	25,419.53	25,419.53	-	25,419.53	-	Closed	
27 FOMWAN	27-Jun-08	30-Sep-08	Consultation on the Electoral Reform	Stakeholder consultation on electoral reform to develop memoranda and submit to the ERC	9,478.29	9,478.29	-	9,478.29	-	Closed	
28 CISLAC	19-Jun-09	30-Nov-09	Engaging the legislature and NEITI Secretariate to deepen NEITI Act implementation	Enhance Effective implementation of the NEITI Act in Nigeria	\$ 29,965.00	15,091.44	8,356.84	14,636.41	455.03	On going	
29 AAN	1-Jul-09	31-Dec-09	Strengthen the capacity of CSO in tracking health and HIV budget to improve transparency in resource allocation for the effective service delivery in the prevention and treatment of HIV in Lagos state	To increase participation of non stateactors in the budget process in Lagos state	\$ 23,448.28	15,965.75	8,172.25	6,293.29	9,672.46	On going	
30 CIRDDOC	1-Jul-09	31-Dec-09	Enabling CSOs to monitor government spending on Education in Rivers state	To consolidate on the achievements of the previous project towards increasing access to education budget in Rivers state	\$ 24,138.00	9,994.52	13,068.93	11,276.92	(1,282.40)	On going	
31 JDPC	9-Jun-09	31-Dec-09	Making Public Budget work for the Masses Through CSO engagement of the Agricultural and Education Budgetary provisions in Lagos state	Strengthen capacity of CSO for effective involvement in the budget process as a way of promoting good governance and public service delivery	\$ 23,063.45	7,068.49	22,921.51	3,915.76	3,152.73	On going	
32 PPDC	7-Aug-09	28-Feb-10	CSO participation in Public Procurement Act Implementation in Nigeria	To promote accountability, transparency and popular participation in the Nigerian Public Procurement system	\$ 29,990.00	14,171.23	15,452.77	1,241.46	12,929.77	On going	
33 CISLAC for NPWP	7-Aug-09	28-Feb-10	Improved Citizens Participation in Public Procurement in Nigeria	To promote accountability, transparency and popular participation in the Nigerian Public Procurement system	\$ 29,624.00	10,794.53	18,585.47	3,260.27	7,534.26	On going	
34 CPPC	7-Aug-09	30-Nov-09	Analyzing the 2005 NEITI Audit Report Processes and Findings For CSOs	To initiate a process that would help empower adequately the Nigerian CSO/NGOs community in effective audit-based processing and advocacy in the nation's extractive industry	\$ 29,380.00	13,561.64	3,183.36	12,500.00	1,061.64	On going	
35 MULAC Total	30-Sep-09	31-Jan-10	Creating Pressure from Religious groups for passage of the FOI bill	To effectively and maximally sensitize Muslim groups to engage with their representatives at the National Assembly with the view to pass the FOI Bill into law	\$ 16,745.00	2,302,602.13	2,190,500.50	112,101.63	2,195,508.90	(5,008.41)	

In-Kind Sub-grants								
	Recipient	Start Date	End Date	Project Title	Amount estimated for In-Kind	Final Grant Value	Amount Due for De-obligation	Status
1	CISLAC, ZCC and AAIN (in-kind)	Various prior to awards	March 1, 2007	Legislative advocacy on the Fiscal Responsibility Bill;	305,235.77	305,235.77	-	Closed
2	JONAPWD	January 23, 2008	February 29, 2008	Mainstreaming Disability Concern in Electoral Reforms	9,198.64	9,198.64	-	Completed
3	JONAPWD	March 1, 2008	March 31, 2008	Disabled Engaging the Politicians & INEC for 2007 Elections	20,118.28	20,118.28	-	Completed
4	PPDC	April 10, 2008	June 30, 2008	PPDC Procurement Watch program	14,825.05	14,825.05	-	Closed
5	PWYP	December 10, 2008	December 31, 2008	Annual General Meeting: PWYP	13,090.77	13,090.77	-	Completed
6	IMC	June 10, 2009	November 30, 2009	Capacity Building for IMC	26,295.00	15,307.05	10,987.95	On-going
	Total				388,763.51	377,775.56	10,987.95	

Consultancies								
SN	Recipient	Start Date	End Date	Project Title	Amount estimated for In-Kind	Final Grant Value	Amount Due for De-obligation	Status
1	ZCC	November 6, 2006	December 8, 2006	National Stick to the Issues Launch	2,312.50	2,312.50	-	Closed
2	ZCC	February 8, 2007	April 30, 2007	Regional Stick to the Issues Launch	62,045.16	62,045.16	-	Closed
3	ICTN	March 20, 2007	April 11, 2007	Democratic Right to Vote Credible Candidates into political positions	18,410.55	18,410.55	-	Closed
4	CP	March 19, 2007	April 15, 2007	Improving Citizen's Participation in the 2007 Elections	16,122.85	16,122.85	-	Complete
5	CDD	March 19, 2007	May 31, 2007	Policy dialogue on institutionalizing mechanisms to address violence against women in public life	14,737.85	14,737.85	-	Complete
6	CDA	March 19, 2007	June 30, 2007	Facilitating A Mainstream Youth Agenda In The 2007 Electoral Process	14,167.70	14,167.70	-	Complete
7	YPI	March 26, 2007	April 30, 2007	Nigeria Youth Colloquium on 2007 Elections	18,284.87	18,284.87	-	Complete
	Total				146,081.48	146,081.48	-	

B. Programmatic Results

The ADVANCE program has three primary objectives:

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

Objective TWO: Increased CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key policy reforms and civic participation

Objective THREE: Strengthened public-private (CSO) partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives

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

Objective 1: Strengthened civil society organization (CSO) capacity for effective program and financial management

Pact/ADVANCE continued to provide technical assistance to all partners, some of which had on-going projects this quarter. The partners were assisted through interventions consisting of project proposal refinement and mentoring of existing partner CSOs on program implementation and management, monitoring and evaluation, monthly financial reporting, and quarterly program reporting.

Targeted Capacity Building: IMC

This quarter, the Pact team conducted governance training, a computer appreciation session, and an introduction to monitoring, evaluation and reporting, as well as monitoring/mentoring visits to IMC. As a way of demonstrating capacity acquired, the IMC team planned all the trainings, taking care of all the logistic arrangements.

The two-day governance training for IMC board of directors and trustees took place on August 13 – 14, 2009. The objectives of the training were to share knowledge on board membership and expected responsibilities, review the existing IMC constitution and discuss next steps. It also served as an introduction and initial gathering of the two boards, as well as the directors and newly hired staff. A total of 21 persons (17 males, 4 females) were in attendance. Methodologies for the workshop included presentations, brainstorming, plenary discussions, experience sharing, questions/answers and group work. A lot of issues emerged and were ironed out during the training.

The training began with a general overview of Governance for NGOs, contextualized to review IMC's existing constitution, paying particular attention to review/development and clarification of Board mandate, roles and responsibilities, separation of powers, and decision making processes. The participants spent most of the first day reviewing and making input into the constitution. This was very useful as members of the two boards used this opportunity to make their input and the staff was given the task of harmonization and circulation to all participants.

The Board composition was analyzed and the option of committees discussed. Orientation of new board members was used as the introduction, and the response that was generated as participants were asked what they would bring on board was interesting. Responses ranged from networking, unity, to the ability to motivate other people. Running an effective board meeting was also discussed, and the training ended with a visit to the IMC office, both the rented office space and the permanent site under construction. In discussion of next steps, the participants agreed that the training had been very useful, but that they would need to meet again by the first half of next year as a combined house.

The objectives of the computer appreciation session were to share knowledge on general computer use (including introduction to hardware and software such as Windows, Word and Excel), and enhance staff ability to use the internet (especially e-mail). Both components of the training employed presentations, group work and questions/answers as methodologies. Most of the 15 participants had very low level of computing skills, and as such the training was designed to be a mere introduction to the use of computers. It is expected that the Pact team will continue to provide mentoring and coaching to the participants online and through frequent site visits.

The Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER) component of the training was basically to introduce the 14 participants to the theory and practice of MER, making the participants appreciate the important role of MER in project management. This was made as easy to understand as possible, in view of the participants' lack of prior experience with MER. The facilitator took time to define the key terms, and demystified the formulation of performance indicators. He also emphasized the important role reporting plays in any project. As with the computer session, more follow-up will be needed.

Capacity Assessment: PPDC

In this quarter, Pact completed the pre-award /organizational capacity assessment of PPDC that commenced the previous quarter but was not completed due to the tight schedule of the partner. This was done using Pact pre-award assessment and participatory Organizational Capacity Assessment tools. The pre-award assessment was designed to assess the technical, managerial and financial capacity of PPDC to use the planned subgrant award funds for its proposed project. This was particularly important in view of the fact that Pact Nigeria wanted to graduate this partner from an in-kind subgrant to a full cost-reimbursable subgrant.

During the assessments, critical issues relating to organizational capacity were discussed and this enabled the partner to identify organizational capacity challenges and explore possible approaches to addressing them with the support of Pact/ADVANCE. Ultimately, PPDC came to regard the pre-award/organizational capacity assessments 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 baseline for PPDC, and a determination that they were qualified to receive the planned subgrant award.

Objective 2: Increased CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key policy reforms and civic participation

This objective includes information on progress this quarter in regards to Pact and partner activities around legislative advocacy, budget advocacy and electoral reform advocacy.

Advocacy Assessment: PPDC

In addition to the pre-award and organizational capacity assessments discussed above, Pact also completed the advocacy assessment of PPDC this quarter. During the assessment, critical issues relating to organizational and advocacy capacity were discussed, and this enabled the partner to identify challenges and explore possible approaches to addressing them with the support of Pact/ADVANCE. As with the Organizational Capacity Index, PPDC's score on the Advocacy Index will be incorporated into the baseline calculations for partners.

Advocacy Training: Advocacy Clinic

To further build on the capacities built during the Advocacy Skills Building Workshop held at the start of the fiscal year for its CSO partners, Pact Nigeria held a 3-day Advocacy clinic from September 28 – 30, 2009. The event, which brought together 32 persons (22 males, 10 females) drawn from 22 organizations was aimed at refreshing and enhancing participants' knowledge and skills on advocacy whilst giving them the unique opportunity to use the skills gained to carry out legislative and executive advocacy. The clinic was very participatory and employed role play, experience sharing and hands-on practice as key methodologies. The objectives of the advocacy clinic were:

- To share knowledge on advocacy processes
- To deepen participants' understanding on the development of advocacy memos
- To enhance participants' skills in lobbying
- To provide a practical means to practice these skills while making connections to national-level governmental representatives

The first day, participants were exposed to material that built on knowledge gained from the advocacy skills workshop held earlier in the year, and that would be used in particular for the upcoming advocacy visits sponsored by the clinic. The first session took participants through the essential elements for effective lobbying using the process leading up to the passage of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Bill as an example. The second session took participants through the legislative road map. A third session dealt with communications, active listening and negotiation. And the final session was a detailed presentation on how to write an effective advocacy memo.

The rest of the day consisted of group work as participants prepared, refined and rehearsed their individual memos in five thematic groups under the guidance of an advocacy mentor. Each participant had an opportunity to practice their lobbying session in preparation for the last two days of the clinic, in which ADVANCE identified legislative and executive government representatives willing to meet with the participants so that they could build new relationships, advance their points of view, and practice their new skills. Afterwards, the advocacy mentors helped each group reflect on their performance in order to further enhance their capacity.

The five groups were as follows:

- Public Procurement, who met with two government representatives as they advocated against amendments to the PPA
- Freedom of Information, who met with four government representatives as they pressed for the passage of the FOI Bill
- Persons with Disabilities, who were able to meet with five government representatives as they sought support for harmonization of the pending PWD Bill
- Budget Advocacy, who met with five government representatives as they advocated for greater budget transparency
- NEITI, who were able to meet with four government representatives as they promoted improvements in the NEITI process

The groups were received warmly and garnered further backing for their agendas. All of the visits were important in terms of building relationships and capacity that will pay dividends later, but the level of concrete support varied by group and advocacy target. In some cases, support took the form of general support and encouragement, in others it took the form of advice or further contacts, and a few of the visits were successful in identifying champions who pledged to fight on behalf of the visitors and their issues. Further details on particularly successful visits are included in the Success Stories section.

Budget Advocacy: ActionAid

The Budget Analysis and Advocacy Training (BAAT) is an annual activity of the ADVANCE Project, which is designed to strengthen the budget process and encourage institutional transparency and accountability, both within civil society groups and government institutions. Each year, it evolves to meet emerging needs of trainees and the project. This year, the BAAT took place at Tavern Hotel, Kaduna from August 3rd – 6th, 2009, with 28 participants, and its objectives were to:

- Build participants' capacity to prepare and develop project plans
- Deepen participants understanding on administering projects for optimal budget performance
- Sharpen participants skills to analyze budgets on project specific and sectoral based perspectives
- Equip participants with skills to translate budget analysis results into advocacy plans

Specific sessions included:

- Good Governance
- Situational Analysis
- Governmental Framework for Project Design and Management
- Interventions and Responses in Project Management
- Budget Preparation and Control
- Project Costing
- Budget Analysis Calculations
- Access to Budget Information
- Budget Advocacy, Budget Advocacy Tools
- Introduction to Budgets and Policies
- Budgets and Policies (NEEDS, MDGs, 7-Point Agenda)
- Sources of Government Revenues and Income
- Introduction to PEST/SWOT Analysis
- Project Tracking

- Networking and Alliance Building.

During the period under review, ActionAid also continued to provide technical assistance to other ADVANCE budget partners by way of reviewing and making inputs into the development of their training and advocacy materials, as well as facilitation at their trainings. Support was provided to both AIDS Alliance and JDPC for their respective capacity building workshops.

ActionAid also continued to receive and honor requests from a wider spectrum of CSOs beyond just ADVANCE partners, particularly during the quarter. ActionAid ADVANCE personnel helped to facilitate:

- A 3-day training organized for CSOs by the organization Journalists against AIDS (JAAIDS) in which 28 Persons were trained in Accountability and Budget Monitoring in Enugu.
- A 5-day Economic Literacy and Budget Accountability for Governance (ELBAG) training for CSOs in Delta State.
- A 4-day training on Gender Budget Tracking for community representatives in Enugu

Budget Advocacy: CIRDDOC

CIRDDOC led three advocacy visits to selected Rivers State government officials and institutions to call their attention to issues of import to partner CSOs, and to remind them of their obligation to involve the people in decision making processes, particularly in issues that affect their lives. The visits were also meant to introduce the project to the relevant stakeholders and solicit their support in the attainment of its objectives. The challenges of budgeting in the state in particular and the country in general were brought to the fore with special emphasis on the education sector. Most of the officials visited welcomed the initiative and described the visits as timely – particularly as budget preparation was in top gear.

The members of the budget monitoring committee (an advocacy platform constituted by CIRDDOC from the pool of stakeholders it worked with under the first phase of the CIRDDOC ADVANCE project) also visited their respective local government secretariats seeking to obtain the Councils' 2009 estimates, as well as to introduce the project and seek support and cooperation from the council officials. The inclusion of members of National Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE) in the monitoring team of Emohua and Asari-Toru LGAs gave them easy access to their various local governments' 2009 budget estimates. The story was not the same for Ikwerre budget monitoring committee who had no government official among them. The team later secured a copy of the LG estimates, though not without the usual challenges linked to secrecy in government and lack of culture of accountability.

In addition to the advocacy visits this quarter, CIRDDOC and its partners developed the Community Scorecard as a monitoring and evaluation tool that to enable beneficiary community members to assess service providers and to rate their services/performance using a grading system. The assessment, which was conducted in the communities of three local government areas (Ikwerre, Asari-Toru and Emohua) was facilitated by the community members themselves, including the service beneficiaries and service providers. The idea was to enable a mutual assessment of the level of efficiency in service delivery, and identify room for improvement. This exercise is ongoing, and it is expected that the scores will be used to generate continued dialogue between the service/facility providers and the beneficiary communities in order to seek improvement in service delivery where necessary.

Budget Advocacy: AIDS Alliance

AIDS Alliance and two of its CSO partners conducted five advocacy and sensitization visits between July and August, 2009 to the Lagos state Ministry of Health, The Nation Newspaper, Super Screen Television, The Deputy Clerk of the Lagos State House of Assembly, and the Lagos Island Local Government. The objective of the visits was to strengthen collaboration and networking between all of the groups visited, garner support for AIDS Alliances project and positions, and strengthen participation in the budget process in Lagos state. The institutions visited promised to collaborate and participate actively in the process of implementation of the project, and also suggested ways of improving CSO engagement with the Lagos state government.

AIDS Alliance also held a one day Media Roundtable on the role of the media in health and HIV/AIDS budgeting. The program took place on Wednesday July 29th, 2009 at the Conference hall of AIDS Alliance in Nigeria, Lagos and was attended by twenty-one participants drawn from print and electronic media outlets, as well as CSOs. The roundtable discussed ways of improving media reportage of health and HIV/AIDS, as well as the need for budget issues, especially health and HIV/AIDS, to continually be in the news. The roundtable concluded with the development of a media action plan for the project to increase media collaboration with AIDS Alliance in order to bring these important topics to light.

Finally this quarter, AIDS Alliance conducted the Capacity Building Workshop on Health and HIV/AIDS Budget Tracking, Analysis, Monitoring and Evaluation. This was a three-day training which took place at Mukland Hotel Ikeja Lagos from August 31st – September 2nd, 2009. The objective of the workshop was to build the capacity 30 representatives of CBOs, the media, State Government, and the targeted local councils of the project (Ikeja, Mushine and Lagos Island) on HIV/AIDS budget analysis, as well as tracking and monitoring of allocation to health and HIV/AIDS for improved services delivery. The workshop included the following topics:

- Introduction to Budget, Budget Systems and Process
- Understanding Issues in Health and HIV Expenditures
- Overview of Right Based Approach to Budgeting
- Introduction to Governance & Policy
- The Role of Civil Society in Tracking Health and HIV/AIDS Budget in Lagos
- Participatory Budget Analysis (PBA)
- Budget Analysis Information for Advocacy Use
- Working with the Media in Budget Advocacy
- Budget Advocacy Issues
- Advocacy Plan For Engagement with the 2010 Budget
- Group Work Exercises

By the end of the workshop, two key documents were developed: a communiqué on the main issues of concern, as well as an advocacy action plan to lay out how the participants would engage with key state and local government actors. It was also agreed that quarterly meeting will be held to review the advocacy action plan and make presentations on government projects being executed in the various communities in the councils. Of worthwhile mention is that some of the outcomes of the workshop were publish in the Nation Newspaper of (Tuesday September 8th, 2009 pp. 39).

Budget Advocacy: JDPC

JDPC organized a capacity building workshop for 41 stakeholders in Lagos state on the 2009 budget from the 28th till 30th of July 2009. Participants were drawn from the State Ministries, Departments and Agencies, Lagos State House of Assembly, CSOs, and the media. The purpose of the workshop was to prepare CSO participants to make inputs into the 2010 Lagos state budget (especially in regards to the education and agricultural sectors); promote and enhance civil society interaction and engagement with legislators and government officials in the budget process; to enhance budget literacy among civil society groups; and to highlight the link between budget performance and political constituency nurturing. The workshop was particularly successful in engaging government ministries and the State Assembly to provide key 2009 budget and expenditure information for the workshop analysis. By the end, the groups had developed a communiqué to indicate where they would like to see changes from the 2009 budget to the 2010 version.

JDPC then took that communiqué, in partnership with 15 CSOs in Lagos State, to present it to the Ministries of Education and Agriculture, the Budget Director, and the State House of Assembly. The visits were also intended to discuss more broadly how civil society can work in partnership with government and contribute to the 2010 budget processes in Lagos state. The advocacy built important connections to increase the working relationship of civil society groups through effective engagement with government, and to bring citizens' voices and interests into the budget process. The visitors were warmly welcomed and were able to have a detailed dialogue on their concerns with the relevant government officials.

Freedom of Information: MULAC

This quarter, MULAC was able to expand the FOI bill advocacy constituency when it held a Sensitization Workshop on the FOI Bill for civil society representatives in the Islamic North on the FOI Bill. Groups that attended included those focusing on Muslim youth, women and persons living with disabilities, which were drawn from a number of northern states including Kaduna, Sokoto, Kebbi, Kano, Katsina, Zamfara, Jigawa and Niger. Members of the government (including a representative from the Northwest zonal office of ICPC, and the Special Adviser on NGOs to the Kaduna State Governor) were also in attendance so that civil society could engage with them directly. The event provided an opportunity for groups and Scholars/Imams from the Islamic North to be introduced to the Bill and its importance in promoting good governance and fighting corruption in Nigeria. Through an Islamic lens, participants analyzed the provisions of this Bill and determined it to be generally in line with Islamic norms which require transparency and accountability in the conduct of government and public business. As such, they unanimously pledged their full support for the bill, while also identifying a few recommendations with the aim of strengthening it. The workshop was also used as a platform for these individuals and groups to plan for how they can effectively use their unique status and identity to push for the passage of the law. More details of the activity are described below in the Success Stories section.

Objective 3: Strengthened public-private (CSO) partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives

NEITI Advocacy: CISLAC

The capacity of media was built this quarter to effectively report on the NEITI process when CISLAC held a training workshop for Energy Correspondents. The workshop was part of CISLAC's and ADVANCE's broad aim of enhancing the capacity of civil society to adequately engage the implementation process of the NEITI Act. It was attended by 39 participants and presentations updated the knowledge of the correspondents and reporters on the workings of the NEITI process, emerging issues on the topic, and their roles in ensuring progress and prospects of the NEITI Act were accomplished. It ended with a communiqué whose highlights were carried in several newspaper dailies. Some of the resolutions contained in the communiqué were as follows:

- The media has a primary responsibility under the Constitution for ensuring efficient and equitable management of resources, including resources from the extractive sector, having regard to Section 22 of the 1999 Constitution which enjoins the media, among other things, to “uphold the responsibility and accountability of the Government to the people.”
- Although the Media is critical to the effective management of extractive resources, for it to be effective in playing its role, the media practitioners should engage the NEITI process more actively and scale up their capacity to cover the issues which are highly technical.
- The media practitioners covering issues of the extractive sector require access to relevant information to engage the process effectively. Although the Nigeria NEITI Act 2007 provides a framework for accessing some information, the transparency regime instituted by the Law is inadequate. The media must therefore continue to campaign for the passage of a comprehensive Freedom of Information Act.

In response to the government's effort towards reform in the oil and gas sector by its introduction of the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB), CISLAC organized a Pre-Public Hearing Forum for CSOs working on transparency and accountability in the oil sector to ensure their attendance at the August House hearing, and to harmonize their positions. This Forum was attended by 46 representatives of CSOs and the media from all over Nigeria, and was held in Abuja. Formal presentations on their position on the PIB were made by Publish What You Pay (PWYP), the Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria, Revenue Watch Institute, Niger Delta Budget Monitoring Group (NDEBUMOG) and Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEJ). The meeting ended with participants harmonizing all their positions on the Bill and coming up with one memorandum to be presented at the House of Representatives Public Hearing.

After the Roundtable, these CSOs attended the House of Representative Public Hearing where they presented this Memorandum they came up with at the Roundtable. They emphasized that they were not concerned with controversies surrounding the Bill, but to raise policy issues that may help in improving the issues presented. The memorandum highlighted the positive aspects of the bill to include gender sensitive language; provision for consumer protection, and Nigeria local content. The fault lines in the Bill were also highlighted, including: no community participation; excessive discretionary powers of the Minister of

Petroleum; and the powers of government officials to accept gifts and grants. Recommendations were then made to address these identified faults.

Also this quarter, CSOs carried out an assessment of the NEITI process at CISLAC's Consultative Forum with the aim of analyzing the process and sharing common strategies for a more effective engagement in it. Topics discussed included an Assessment of the NEITI process since inception; the role of the media in promoting transparency and accountability in Nigeria's oil and gas sector; and the NEITI Oil & Gas Audit Reports. The Forum ended with advocacy issues identified which included:

- The 2005 audit should be released without further delay
- Clauses of confidentiality as currently enshrined in the NEITI Act should be removed;
- The National Assembly should as a matter of urgency constitute a committee that will oversee the NEITI for effective implementation;
- Representative of CSOs in the National Stakeholders Working Group (NSWG) of the NEITI should be nominated by CSOs themselves, and should be rotational (as opposed to a permanent basis) to promote accountability;
- The process of the 2006-2009 Audits of the NEITI should commence immediately;
- FIRS should seek legal assistance in interpreting MOUs and the exact tax obligations of operators;
- The NEITI Secretariat should ensure that copies of the NEITI Audit Reports are made easily accessible in electronic and hard copies to the public.

NEITI Advocacy: CPPC

This quarter, advocacy visits were made to agencies that have statutory roles to play in the NEITI Oil and Gas sector Audit. The purpose was to build relationships with these agencies and to ensure their participation and cooperation with CPPC in its proposed activity of appraising and analyzing the NEITI 2005 Audit report. The agencies visited were NEITI, NNPC, FIRS and DPR, where the officials shared their roles and experiences in the preparation and production of the 2005 Audit report. They also shared their assessment of the impact of the NEITI Audits on their work and the processes involved. These visits gave the CPPC project team insights that helped when appraising and analyzing the 2005 Audit Reports, and ensured that they agencies further cooperated and provided more information when the analysis started proper.

CPPC also completed its main task of the quarter, which was the appraisal and analysis of the 2005 Audit Report by seasoned academia and professionals in accounting, fiscal policy, and public sector auditing and budgeting. The appraisal clearly showed that some of the identified loopholes and inherent weaknesses in the 1999 – 2004 Audit Report were yet to be rectified in the 2005 report. The analysis also presents the 2005 report in a simple terms, and identifies some areas that need improvement in future audit processes and reports. Next quarter, CPPC will hold a stakeholder's workshop where this appraisal will be presented to enlighten participants on the findings. The analysis will also be followed-up with advocacy efforts by ADVANCE partner ZCC.

Procurement Advocacy: NPWP

This quarter, in furtherance of its bid to improve the practice and implementation of the current procurement system at the federal level, the Platform developed a position paper on the proposed amendments to the Public Procurement 2007 Act. This paper, which was developed with inputs from Platform members, critically analyzes the proposed amendments

and their implication to the current procurement system at the federal level. The central thrust of the position paper is that the proposed amendments are retrogressive in nature and will encourage corruption in the system. Some of its observations include:

- The proposal to remove CSOs and the media from the membership of the Council clearly portrays a desire for opaqueness and hiding procurement issues from the public;
- The proposal to remove competitive selections as a requirement for the hiring of the Director General of the Bureau [section 7 (1)] is clearly anti-competition, anti-transparency, and a return to the days of using inordinate opportunity as a basis for securing sensitive positions that demand knowledge, integrity and credibility;
- The proposal to amend section 17 (1) of the Act to make the President the determiner of the prior review thresholds for procurements and to introduce the Federal Executive Council as the approving authority beyond a certain threshold runs contrary to the spirit and letter of modern procurement reforms.

This position paper will be used next quarter to pay advocacy visits to approximately 35 Members of the National Assembly and the Bureau for Public Procurement to improve the current law and protect it from being watered down.

Procurement Advocacy: PPDC

This quarter, to keep citizen sector advocates informed of developments in the procurement sector, PPDC commenced a procurement news list-serve called “PPNEWS.” This electronic newsletter collates relevant stories from the internet, dailies, stakeholder meetings and procurement events in order to update civil society members and other stakeholders with procurement-related news. This has included both local news and interesting procurement practices from around the globe. The list-serve has 300 subscribers, and serves as an important tool to keep them informed and engaged in the procurement reform process.

PPDC also started the process for the production of a simplified version of the Public Procurement Act, which will provide a ready resource for consultation by all procurement monitors, and serve as effective introductory tool for new organizations and groups involved in procurement issues. A legal development specialist was hired through a competitive process who has begun simplifying and producing an abridged, readable, summary version of the Act that will capture the essence of its key provisions as well as the changes that are being proposed to be introduced into the Act. The document will be finalized after the proposed amendments have been passed and incorporated into it.

C. Challenges and Opportunities

Partner and Programmatic Challenges

- Security has been tightened around the NASS because of threats from militants from the Niger Delta and Boko Haram sect. This has made it very challenging for CSO partners trying to access the legislators for advocacy.
- More synergy with DFID/C4C supported alternative coalition on revenue transparency is necessary to avoid duplication of PWYP activities and tension in the CSO community.
- A number of difficulties surrounding bureaucracy at government offices were highlighted this quarter:
 - It took several visits to be able to fix appointments for advocacy visits.

- Often, visits that were confirmed did not take place because the offices concerned were not available at the time of our visits.
- Public officers who participated in trainings often could not give 100% of their time and participation.
- A culture of secrecy still pervades the government, and it is difficult to access key information
- Reluctance of the government to partner with CSOs
- The bad road network and remoteness of some LGAs targeted for project implementation caused challenges
- As did civil unrest and security concerns

Administration and Management Challenges

- A number of ADVANCE partners have continued to delay the final reconciliation of their completed projects, which in turn is delaying the financial closeout of a number of completed projects.
- Delay by some partners to adequately provide response/revise their proposed project proposals including budgets in line with Pact comments impeded the quick finalization of their project proposals and budgets for subgrants awards.

Partner and Programmatic Opportunities

- CSO engagement of the Petroleum Industry Bill, which is under public spotlight as Nigeria's first oil industry reform bill, will increase space for civic participation in revenue governance.
- CISLAC, one of ADVANCE's key NEITI partners just got a large grant from OXFAM NOVIB to carry out advocacy around NEITI issues because of their track record with ADVANCE in the last 3 years. This will create more impact on civic engagement of the process as they will leverage this project with ADVANCE supported activities.
- The subgrant support given to MULAC provided a great opportunity to expand the constituency for the FOI Bill to include a key historically marginalized group: Islamic/Muslim groups from the north.
- The advocacy training clinic that was held along with practical field visits provided an opportunity to Pact ADVANCE partner CSOs to individually and collectively develop enriched advocacy memos on their respective advocacy issues, and also to carry out advocacy visits to both the houses of the National Assembly, as well as to the Executive arm of the Federal Government of Nigeria (through relevant ministries, departments and agencies – MDAs). The groups successfully garnered more support for getting their advocacy issues addressed, and in the process helped ADVANCE to meet its targets for the year.
- The program has received increasing requests for technical support and partnership from local government institutions on budgeting and planning
- The inclusion of government officials in budget monitoring committees facilitated access to budget estimates at the local governments.

Administration and Management Opportunities

- Pact/ADVANCE had began to tap the expected opportunity for the ADVANCE program to share facilities, logistic and staff time, as well as potentially co-planning

activities with the newly awarded REACH HIV/AIDS program, thereby leveraging the inherent advantage of economy of scale.

D. Activity Changes and Explanations

- The total number of subgrants planned to be awarded and/or active this quarter could not be reached due to a number of factors:
 - Long delays in response of partners to Pact's comments on their proposals.
 - A requirement for one subgrantee that the analysis of the 2005 NEITI audit report currently being done by a partner should be completed in order for them to do their proposed work.
 - Complete retooling of one of the subgrantees' proposal from electoral reform advocacy to FOI advocacy, based on changing program priorities.
 - The legislative environment and its perceived readiness for subgrantee activities.
- Civil Society/Legislature Summit on Budget was delayed for planning purposes
- Newspaper publication of budget tracking reports/scorecards was delayed as scorecards were finalized
- Training for legislators on participatory and rights-based budgeting was delayed due to the impromptu recess/holidays
- Health sector expenditure review delayed until December 2009 to accommodate government participants
- The Pact networking training was moved to next quarter and replaced with the Advocacy Clinic for programmatic and logistical reasons (the planned facilitators were not available until the following months)

E. Success Stories

Activities under the ADVANCE project have continued to yield impressive results, which in many cases have had transformative impact.

Muslim Scholars/Imams and Groups Embrace Nigeria's FOI Bill

In an unprecedented expansion of the constituency for reform, over 60 Muslim groups, along with Scholars/Imams, have pledged support for Nigeria's Freedom of Information (FOI) Bill. With the assistance of USAID through a grant from Pact, the Muslim League for Accountability (MULAC), a national network for Islamic organizations that champions transparency and accountability, held a 2-day workshop on September 9th and 10th to sensitize civil society representatives in the Islamic North on the FOI Bill and garner their support for it. Groups that attended included those focusing on Muslim youth, women and persons living with disabilities, which were drawn from a number of northern states including Kaduna, Sokoto, Kebbi, Kano, Katsina, Zamfara, Jigawa and Niger. Members of the government (including a representative from the Northwest zonal office of ICPC, and the Special Adviser on NGOs to the Kaduna State Governor) were also in attendance so that civil society could engage with them directly. Moreover, the workshop received coverage in both Hausa and English languages by the National Television Authority (NTA) and a private TV station, DITV, in Kaduna. These stations included the event as one of the top items reported during the 7 pm news broadcast – reaching thousands of additional listeners with key information on the bill and its support by respected groups.

The FOI Bill last achieved partial success in March 2007 when the National Assembly passed it, but was set back again when the previous President Olusegun Obasanjo refused to sign it. In accordance with the law, the Bill had to be introduced afresh at the commencement of the new legislative calendar in May 2007. However, it is now meeting much opposition from the new Assembly members who often claim that there is not a broad base of CSOs clamoring for its passage. Instead, it is frequently labeled as solely a media Bill, which will be used to witch hunt them, rather than an important transparency initiative with a broad base of support. Moreover, the majority of CSOs who previously involved in advocacy for the Bill have been largely from the Southern part of the country, and this has to some degree also affected the Bill's legitimacy. For the most part, legislators from the Northern part of the country have not felt pressured to support the Bill, since their constituents have not been advocating for its passage; indeed it was at times even referred to as a "southern" Bill. This lack of support among civil society in the Islamic North can largely be attributed to the low level of awareness of the Bill and its importance, and so MULAC, with assistance from USAID/Pact's Advocacy Awareness and Civic Empowerment (ADVANCE) program, set out to change that.

MULAC's workshop provided an opportunity for groups and Scholars/Imams from the Islamic North to be introduced to the Bill and its importance in promoting good governance and fighting corruption in Nigeria. Through an Islamic lens, participants analyzed clause by clause the provisions of this Bill and determined it to be generally in line with Islamic norms which require transparency and accountability in the conduct of government and public business. As such, they unanimously pledged their full support for the bill, while also identifying a few recommendations with the aim of strengthening it.

This workshop was also used as a platform for these individuals and groups to assess their previous engagements in governance issues in the country and to plan for how they can effectively use their unique status and identity to push for the passage of the law. Importantly, there is now a general sense of ownership of the bill and the process of pushing for its passage by groups from the Islamic North. While they acknowledged that they had not previously engaged much in matters of public affairs, especially at the national level, they determined that this was an issue that would affect them and that required their involvement.

As such, this workshop was not just a one-off event, but encouragingly, became a platform to launch a much larger effort. The groups in attendance committed to going back to their constituencies to spread the FOI message and engage their legislators to ensure that the Bill was passed into law. As follow up, a memorandum detailing the discussions and agreements from the workshop is being drafted as a tool for legislative advocacy. Representatives from the group will then meet in a few weeks to harmonize various CSOs' positions on the Bill into one Memorandum and subsequently visit various national legislators – urging them not only to pass the FOI Bill, but to do so in a form that will not defeat its intended purpose. This will ensure that voices from Islamic groups which have barely been heard in this process will finally have an impact. Additional advocacy campaigns and efforts will follow at both the national and state level. And a number of the participating Imams have committed to include messages in their sermons on the importance of an FOI Law in order to further educate their followers and encourage the legislators to pass the Bill.

Advocacy Clinic

As the fiscal year approached its conclusion, Pact recognized that many of its partners were having challenges putting into action many of the skills they learned at the Advocacy

Training at the start of the year. Challenges included a lack of funding or ability to make necessary contacts, but whatever the reason, Pact saw an opportunity to more directly support the efforts of its partners to conduct advocacy – to open doors for them and provide them with an opportunity to actually conduct advocacy with the guidance of an experienced mentor. Thus, Pact developed and implemented the Advocacy Clinic this quarter.

It is important to note that the clinic took place under very difficult circumstances. The clinic was delayed once due to legislative recess, but once the recess was expended, it was determined that it was too late to postpone once again. So, ADVANCE staff and partners had to work extra-diligently to secure meetings with relevant officials and/or their aids. That ADVANCE was able to secure so many positive meetings in such a difficult environment was a testament to the flexibility and skill of its partners and staff.

Once the clinic got underway, it reviewed lobbying, communications, negotiation, active listening and memo development skills for half a day. But the rest of the 3-day clinic focused on practical efforts. With the support of Pact facilitators and an advocacy mentor, participants were divided into thematic groups (PWD, NEITI, FOI, Budget Transparency, and Public Procurement) to develop and/or refine an advocacy message and memorandum for delivery to key government officials. They then role-played at lobbying and received feedback from their mentors and peers. The next two days were spent visiting key government officials to present their concerns and develop relationships. And after they finished their lobbying visits, they once again got together to debrief, discuss what they had learned and think about how they could improve further.

All of the groups were received warmly at their visits, were able to present their agendas, build relationships, garner additional support and enhance their skills through the practice. But some of the visits were particularly successful. For example, when the NEITI group met with the Chairman of the House Committee on Petroleum (Upstream), Hon. Bassey Out, he was extremely supportive and excited to hear what they had to say. He told the group that his “doors are open to you anytime because we need this collaboration. So you are free to come and see me or the committee members with any issues.”

When they visited Mr. Uche Okorie, Clerk of the House of Representatives Committee on Information and National Orientation, the FOI group received a particularly favorable response. Mr. Okorie informed the team that the House would reconvene soon and promised to arrange a meeting between the House Committee and the Freedom of Information Coalition as requested in the memo to him, before mid October. Such a meeting, he said will afford members of the Committee the opportunity to engage the FOI Coalition members and get clarification to any questions they might have. He said if the former Chairman of the Committee, Hon. Dino Melaye was within the National Assembly Complex, he would have arranged for a meeting with him that instant with the team. He commended the team for its efforts and the methods it employed in its advocacy activities.

The efforts of the partners working on the Persons with Disabilities Bill were also particularly successful. Their goal was to garner support for their preferred wording of the bill during the reconciliation process, and to advocate for that process to commence. A visit to the Special Adviser to the president on Civil society Organizations was very positive, as he indicated he would be a champion, offered to serve as an intermediary to the ANPP for the group, extended an open invitation for them to visit him, and provided advice on how best to pursue their issues. Hon. Farouk Lawan also pledged to champion the legislative efforts, while Hon.

Uzoma Abonta pledged to ensure that the harmonization proceeded expeditiously so that it would be budgeted for, and in addition, the Clerk of the House Committee on Women's Affairs and Social Development was also very supportive. Senator Enyi Abaribe was particularly moved to action, and promised to initiate the harmonization as soon as the NASS resumed from recess. Impressively, he even went so far as to make a small donation to the group.

III. HIGHLIGHTS OF PLANS FOR NEXT QUARTER

Partner Activities

- Capacity building workshop for CSOs and Professional bodies on Procurement monitoring;
- Media briefing and sensitization on procurement system and practice at the federal level;
- Briefing Meeting with relevant NASS Committees on the NEITI;
- Production and dissemination of Newsletter on NEITI;
- Production of CSO Procurement Observers Manual/Handbook;
- NEITI audit process and findings workshop for CSOs;
- Monitoring of Imams sermons on access to information.
- Quarterly sectoral roundtable on the health sector
- CSO/Media Summit on the 2009 Lagos State Health and HIV/AIDS Budget
- Production of Policy Brief
- Advocacy visits to various Ministries, State Assembly and attendance at budget hearing
- Newspaper publication of budget tracking reports/ scorecards
- Civil Society budget summit on 2009 and 2010 budget
- Media/Legislative/Bureau advocacy against amendment (NPWP)
- Production and dissemination of Observer's Handbook (PPDC)
- Training of Observers (NPWP)

B. Pact Activities

- Ongoing mentoring of all partners, especially IMC and PPCD Partners
- PPCD Partner assessments
- Networking and Coalition Building Training
- Preparation and release of new subgrants RFA for FY 2010 depending on finalization of the proposed extension of the ADVANCE program by USAID Nigeria

C. Subgrant Management

- Support existing partner CSOs through fund disbursements, oversight and mentoring.
- Closeout of completed projects.
- Work with about 3 partners to finalize pending proposals (pending obligation)
- Process and issue new subgrant awards after finalizing the proposals (pending obligation)

IV. QUANTITATIVE INDICATOR DATA

#	Ind. Reference #	Indicator	Collection	Target for FY 09	Quarter Target	Quarter Result	Cumulative Result FY 09	Comments
1		Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) representing marginalized group(s) engaging with government	Quarterly	Wom: 25 Youth:13 Islm:19 Disab: 8 Total: 65	W: 8 Y: 3 Islm: 6 Disab: 3 Total: 20	W: 22 Y:8 Islm:18 Disab:1 Total: 52	W: 33 Y: 17 Islm. 19 Disab.3 Total: 72	Many of the marginalized groups fulfilled more than one requirement, so they have been placed in only a single category. For example, many of the women's and youth groups were also Islamic groups, but they have only been counted towards the women and youth numbers.
2	S11.1	Women-focused CSOs supported by USG assistance to engage in advocacy and/or promote democratic participation	Quarterly	25	8	22	33	See comments from above.
3	S11.1.1	Citizen Input Reflected in Target Policies	Quarterly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No milestones set for this fiscal year.
4	GJD 4.1.1	Number of Civil Society Organizations using USG assistance to promote political participation	Quarterly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Targets not set for FY09 as election activities which were the primary source for this indicator ended in FY 08.

#	Ind. Reference #	Indicator	Collection	Target for FY 09	Quarter Target	Quarter Result	Cumulative Result FY 09	Comments
5	GJD 4.1.3	Number of CSO advocacy campaigns supported by USG	Quarterly	40	14	30	40	
6	GJD 4.1.5	Number of People who Have Completed USG Assisted Civic Education Programs	Quarterly	Total: 1,200 M: 800 F: 400	Total: 350 M: 270 F: 80	Total: 260 M: 176 F: 84	Total: 1,014 M: 672 F: 342	Target was 85% met. In the past, one of the main contributors to this indicator has been election and electoral reform-related activities. With these activities removed from this year's workplan, it became much more difficult to reach the target. It is recommended that next year, target should be significantly reduced or eliminated.
7	GJD 4.1.8	Number of USG Assisted Civil Society Organizations that engage in advocacy and watchdog functions	Quarterly	30	4	10	38	
8	S11.1.2	Advocacy Capacity Index	Periodically	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.86	End of program reassessment to be measured against the initial baseline.
9		Number of people trained (disaggregated by gender)	Quarterly	Total: 800 M:480 F:320	Total: 190 M: 126 F: 64	Total: 319 M: 213 F: 106	Total: 924 M: 636 F: 288	
10		Selected Policy and Advocacy Information Available	Quarterly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No target set for this indicator, as it is related directly to indicator 3.

#	Ind. Reference #	Indicator	Collection	Target for FY 09	Quarter Target	Quarter Result	Cumulative Result FY 09	Comments
11		Organizational Capacity Index	Periodically	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.83	End of program reassessment to be measured against the initial baseline.
12		Civil Society Participation in Budgetary Processes	Quarterly	Total: 25 Nat : 10 State: 15	Total: 7 Nat: 3 State: 4	Total: 12 Nat: 0 State:12	Total: 26 Nat: 12 State: 14	
13	S11.2.1	Civil Society-GON partnership to implement the NEITI	Quarterly	8	1	1	10	
14	GJD 4.1.2	Number of Civil Society Organizations using USG assistance to improve internal organizational capacity	Annually	40	10	0	48	