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**ADVANCE PROGRAM**

**QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT  
April – June 2011**

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

# I. BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

## A. Activity Summary

<b>Implementing Partner:</b> Pact, Inc.
<b>Activity Name:</b> Advocacy, Awareness, and Civic Empowerment (ADVANCE) Project
<b>Activity Objectives:</b>  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
<b>USAID/Nigeria SO:</b> SO11: Strengthened Foundations for Democratic Governance
<b>Life of Activity (start and end dates):</b> May 23, 2005 through March 31, 2012
<b>Total Estimated Contract/Agreement Amount:</b> \$12,173,848
<b>Obligations to date:</b> \$\$12,173,848
<b>Current Pipeline Amount:</b> \$ 2,589,243 of which \$ 351,613 is already obligated to sub grantees and therefore not available for any purpose; leaving an <b>Effective Pipeline Amount of \$2,237,630</b>
<b>Accrued Expenditures this Quarter:</b> \$483,237
<b>Activity Cumulative Accrued Expenditures to Date:</b> \$9,584,605 (or \$9,936,218 including sub-obligations)
<b>Estimated Expenditures Next Quarter:</b> \$1,515,547
<b>Report Submitted by:</b> Ahmed N Mohammed, Pact Nigeria Acting Country Director.

## **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.
- Prepared and released the second ADVANCE subgrants Request for Application (RFA) coded as RFA No. A11A2 on the remaining normal ADVANCE programming areas to appropriate existing partner CSOs.
- Prepared and released the third ADVANCE subgrants Request for Application (RFA) coded A11A3-P, on ADVANCE/PIND programming areas, which was open to all states in the Niger Delta region.
- Completed Technical review of the applications received in response to the RFA No A11A2 and finalizing the proposals for the award of 10 new subgrants in the next quarter.
- Completed both compliance and Technical reviews of the applications received in response to the RFAs and selected some of the proposals/applications
- Commenced pre-award grant worthiness assessments of the applicants whose proposals were selected
- Staff recruitment to fill most of the existing vacancies
- Made some reconciliations, tracking of cost share and closeout of some completed projects of partner CSOs
- Finally Completed Registration of Pact Nigeria with the Federal Inland Revenue Service to facilitate the periodic remittance of staff taxes to the FIRS

### **Program outputs**

Program outputs are detailed in Section II. A quick summary of results from this quarter include:

- On-going Capacity development in terms of technical/mentoring support provided to PPCD project and its Consortium member NGOs.
- 8 ADVANCE partners deployed and supported 500 domestic election observers in 16 states in six geo-political zones of Nigeria in the month of April.
- FOI Act signed May 28th at the national level
- Budget Advocacy and Monitoring Training for ADVANCE/PPCD Partners
- Peace-building training of Trainers for ADVANCE/PPCD project

## **C. Recent Programmatic Context**

### ***FOI Bill Context***

During the last quarter, civil society groups nationwide closed ranks and made efforts to push the limits by getting candidates to make promises that would make them attractive to the electorate. There were formally and informal steps taken to get those canvassing for political offices to commit to making the environment more transparent while also making the actors

more accountable. This was probably the situation that convinced our partner, Media Rights Agenda (MRA) that the time was right for the signing of the Freedom of Information bill. Following series of advocacy meetings and lobbying, MRA, under its Executive Director, Edet Ojo, was able, to lobby and pressurize the National Assembly men and women, who in turn convinced the president to sign the Freedom of Information bill into law.

President Goodluck Jonathan signed the bill at the lame duck period of the 6th National Assembly, therefore gained international acclaim by signing the bill, which had been ignored by the past administration of President Olusegun Obasanjo. This done, Pact Nigeria is now working on supporting MRA and another partner, MULAC to develop the capacity of civil society groups to enforce the provisions of the law at the national level while also supporting its domestication in Kaduna and Lagos states respectively. It is expected that the signing of the bill will make Nigeria's governance more democratic, participatory and accountable. Therefore, as CSOs push for increased openness in Nigeria's governance, especially in the country's public expenditure process, Pact is also committed to developing the capacity of state actors to meet the expected demand for transparency in the system.

## ***Elections Context***

In April 2011, Nigeria held elections to stabilize the fourth Republic. The month of March had been characterized by increased political activities and campaigns with the candidates and political parties trying to sell their manifestos to the electorate. There was also increased violence, assassination of candidates and disruption of normal day to day activities, especially in the South- South and some parts of Northern Nigeria. But irrespective of these developments, some Nigerians remained hopeful that the country would have free and fair elections.

Consequently, the mid-way postponement of the first election into the National Assembly, scheduled to hold on April 2 to April 9, 2011 was met with disbelief as many thought it was a joke. The Independent National Election Commission (INEC) Chair, Prof. Atahiru Jega, however was able to re-strategize and proceeded to bring the elections back on track. Therefore with some modifications in scheduled dates, due to logistics challenges and in some places, due to insecurity of lives and property, the INEC was able to conduct the National Assembly, the Presidential and the Governorship and State Assembly elections in April 2011. Although the elections had some challenges, the consensus was that it was relatively free and fair, especially considering the fact in some states, the people successfully resisted attempts by some politicians to impose their candidates on the electorate.

The electorate mobilized and ensured that their candidates of choice were elected. The April elections were therefore by and large used to either reward inefficient and effectual leadership by voting out those who did not perform well or reward those who appeared to have delivered the dividends of democracy by returning them to power. Nowhere else was this true as with the National Assembly election, which expelled two thirds of the former assembly men and women and in some states where there was a change of guard.

## **II. QUARTER PROGRESS**

### **A. Program Management**

This quarter, Pact continued to provide the usual regular mentoring and oversight support in program implementation and reporting to its few subgrants that still have on-going projects. It also worked to prepare and release two additional Request for Applications (RFAs); RFA No A11A2 and RFA No. A11A3-P.

The RFA No A11A2 was issued to address some of the pending core ADVANCE programming areas that could not be addressed in the previous quarter's RFA that focused mainly on general elections programming. This RFA was issued strictly to ten appropriate existing ADVANCE partners CSOs. All the ten applications received from the partners were thoroughly reviewed by Pact for quality improvements, the partners thereafter revised their proposals, which are currently being finalized for subgrant awards in the next quarter.

Subsequent upon the receipt of the funds for the ADVANCE/PIND program component by the end of April this quarter, the second RFA with No A11A3-P (but third in the fiscal year) was issued mainly to solicit applications/proposals from the Niger Delta region and to pick new fresh partners for the programming activities of the ADVANCE/PIND. Thus, this RFA was open strictly to applicant CSOs in the Niger Delta region only. At the end of the solicitation, twenty-eight applications/proposals were received in response. The 28 proposals went through compliance review and fourteen (14) were selected for technical review, which were reviewed by technical review committee made up of Pact/ADVANCE staff and a representative of PIND. The committee selected 7 proposals out of the 14 for subgrant worthiness assessment on the applicant organizations, after which the required 5 proposals will be selected for final subgrants awards depending on the outcome of the assessments. The 7 proposals are from applicant CSOs from Rivers, Bayelsa, Cross River and Imo states. It is worthy to note that the pre-award assessments of the 7 applicants commenced at the last week of the quarter and will hopefully be finalized in the first month of next quarter. Based on the outcomes of pre-award assessments, the names of the subsequent 5 potential partner CSOs will be selected and will be sent to the Mission for concurrence. As soon as the concurrence is received from the Mission for the selection of the partners, their proposals will be fully finalized and subgrant award will be issued to them.

### **Regional/HQ Support**

Pact Headquarters 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 organized and sponsored the Pact Governance Community of Practice (CoP) meeting that was held in Mombasa, Kenya from May 16 – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The Pact Nigeria/ADVANCE Program Coordinator for Budget Advocacy in the CoP meeting at Pact HQ expense, to share some of the key accomplishments, success stories and lessons learned from the ADVANCE program in Nigeria and was also able to learn some best practices in governance programming from other country offices at the meeting, which will contribute to enriching the effectiveness of the ADVANCE program.

## **Collaboration with USAID relevant IPs**

During this quarter, Pact/ADVANCE collaborated with the National Democratic Institute (NDI) in observing the April general elections. During the previous quarter, Pact collaborated with NDI to train its partners who further stepped down the training in 16 target states. It was in continuation of last quarter's collaboration that the eight partners supported about **500 Domestic Election Observers (DEOs)** to send incidents reports to the NDI website. In addition, Pact/ADVANCE partners were also encouraged to send twitters to a dedicated mobile which in turn was collated by Pact/ADVANCE. Information on the website was collated and published by NDI. This singular initiative assisted many to follow the election proceedings within and outside the country. The incidence reporting also alerted the relevant authorities on areas of need and helped them to resolve challenges and prevent identified challenges from snowballing into more serious problems.

During the quarter, ADVANCE provided support to the USAID/LEAD, Sokoto in the preparation and facilitation of two training workshops for their CSO partners. The training workshops were on Budget Literacy and Advocacy, held in April in Gusau, Zamfara state and Strategic Planning held in Kano, Kano state in June.

In this quarter, Pact/ADVANCE also engaged with the USAID/NMEMSII and provided them with PMP information including actual results for FY 2010 and the targets for FY 12 and 13 for all the active indicators. Pact ADVANCE also worked with them in confirming the ADVANCE indicators' data that were feed into the USAID/NMESII performance management database.

## **Leadership Transition and Staff Challenges**

Pact/ADVANCE experienced sudden leadership transition with the disengagement of the Chief of Party/Country Representative by the end of April, 2011. Equally, the Program Coordinator for CSO and GON Partnership on Anticorruption also disengaged almost at the same time. These coupled with the already two existing vacancy positions (Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Officer as well as Capacity Building Officer) and the Grant officer position that subsequently emerged due to change in leadership greatly slowed down the programming activities including making of the anticipated new subgrants awards.

In view of the above, some proactive actions were quickly taken within the quarter for necessary and appropriate immediate interventions to manage the sudden leadership transition. The Pact home office proactively made Ahmed N Mohammed, the Pact Nigeria Deputy Country Representative as the Acting ADVANCE Chief of Party and Acting Country Director/Representative while vigorously working hard to ensure that the two positions are filled on time. The Acting Country Director/Acting ADVANCE CoP has proactively filled three of the existing vacant positions through competitive process. These are the positions of Program Coordinator for CSO-GON Partnership for Anticorruption; the MER Officer and Capacity Building Officer. The Program Coordinator assumed work by the end of this quarter, while the remaining two officers will assume work early next quarter. The only staff challenge left now is filling the position of Grants Officer because the candidate selected for

this position later turn down the offer at the last hour because of the remuneration and short-term duration of the position.

## General Portfolio Management

The ADVANCE subgrant portfolio as of this quarter cumulatively remained at 68 subprojects and 32 CSO partners as reported in the previous quarter. There were 9 on-going subprojects (MRA, ANEEJ, CITAD, CISLAC, Centre LSD, MULAC, IMC, YPI and ZCC) out of which 8 were on elections and one (MRA) on Freedom of Information Bill, which got passed (harmonized versions) by the National Assembly and was assented to by the President in May. It is noteworthy to emphasize that the efforts of Pact/ADVANCE supported partner (MRA) contributed and played a very significant role in this great accomplishment. All the on-going subprojects were completed by the end of this quarter.

Regrettably, the plan to make immediate new subgrants awards this quarter to avoid unnecessary gap in programming by our partner CSOs, was taunted due to unanticipated leadership transition coupled with staffing challenges as a result of staff turnover experienced this quarter. Nevertheless, Pact/ADVANCE took some proactive actions at addressing most of these challenges by filling most of the vacant positions but still left with the position of Grants Officer. In addition, despite these challenges and very limited short time this quarter, Pact/ADVANCE was proactive to develop and release two different new solicitations (RFA No A11A2 and No A11A3-P) and to a large extent processed and selected suitable proposals. It is important to note that RFA No A11A3-P was jointly developed by Pact/ADVANCE and PIND. Equally, PIND was also involved in the entire solicitation process as required by the ADVANCE extension document.

Pact/ADVANCE worked closely with ten exiting Partner CSOs, all of whom proposals were received in response to RFA No A11A2 for new awards by providing them with technical/mentoring support in reviewing and providing necessary comments to improve the quality of the proposals. It is expected that these proposals will be finalized early next quarter and new subgrants awards will be issued. The ten partner CSOs and the focus of their project proposals are as reflected in the table below:

Partner CSO	Project Title	Project Goal
African Centre for Leadership, Strategy & Development (Centre LSD), Abuja	ENHANCING CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION IN THE BUDGETARY PROCESS IN BAYELSA STATE	Increase the capacity of civil society for effective engagement with Bayelsa State Government through budget advocacy for participatory and right based budgeting.
Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ), Benin-City	Enhancing Transparency and Accountability in Resource management the extractive industries in Bayelsa State	Improve the capacity of relevant stakeholders to effectively engage with the Public Procurement Law and Fiscal Responsibility Law in Bayelsa State
Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC), Abuja	Strengthening the NEITI Process through Enhanced Legislative Oversight	Enhance the capacity of the appropriate new Legislators to effectively intervene in the NEITI implementation processes for timely completion and dissemination of Audit Reports and implementation of remediation actions.
Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD), Kano	Promoting Transparent and Accountable Public Expenditure Management through Effective Implementation of the Procurement and Fiscal	Contribute to the promotion of transparent and accountable public expenditure management/system in Bauchi State through the effective implementation of the Fiscal Responsibility and Procurement Acts as well as enabled independent monitoring of

	Responsibility acts in Bauchi State	implementation processes by mobilized CSOs and the citizens
Centre for Public Private Cooperation (CPPC), Ibadan	Analysing of the 2006-2008 NEITI Oil & Gas Audit Report and Economic Literacy Programs for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	Provide an evidenced based platform for civil society to launch advocacy measures that seeks to promote transparency and accountability within the NEITI Oil and Gas sector, and to ensure informed and effective advocacy.
National Procurement Watch Platform (NPWP), Abuja ( <i>but award to be made through CISLAC as the Secretariat since the Platform is not a registered entity</i> ).	Strengthening Capacity of CSOs and the Media in Public Procurement Participation in Nigeria	Increase awareness on issues relating to public procurement in Nigeria through necessary trainings and advocacy to the Media, Bureau for Public Procurement and other governmental institutions
Media Rights Agenda (MRA), Lagos	Advocacy on Freedom of Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the enacted Freedom of Information Act signed by President Goodluck Jonathan is effectively implemented and that the implementation meets international minimum standards and best practices on Access to Information laws</li> <li>• Ensure the passage of FOI Bill/Domestication of FOI Act in Lagos State by the State House of Assembly and assent by the Governor</li> </ul>
Muslim League for Accountability (MULAC), Kaduna	Making Governance more Participatory, Transparent and Accountable through Enhancing Information Flow in Kaduna State	Broaden the scope of engagement with the legislature and the executive arm of government towards the passage of the FOI Bill and enhancing participatory, transparent and accountable budgeting in Kaduna State.
Public and Private Development Centre (PPDC), Abuja	Sustained CSO Participation in Public Procurement Act Implementation in Nigeria (II).	Deepen the participation of Non State actors and stakeholders' engagement in the public procurement process in order to improve transparency, accountability and value for money.
Publish What You Pay Nigeria (PWYP), Abuja	Remedial Action DEMAND 2011 (READ 2011)	Contribute to enhanced implementation of recommendations from the NEITI 1999-2008 audit reports.

In addition, Pact/ADVANCE carried out compliance review of the 28 proposals that were received in response to RFA No 11A3-P. The review was done by the Senior Civil Society Specialist who recommended 10 out of the 28 proposals for technical review. The recommendation was carefully reviewed along with all the 28 proposals by a 5-member technical review committee comprising Pact/ADVANCE staff and a representative of PIND (the PIND Capacity Building Officer). Based on the review, the committee increased the number of proposals recommended from 10 to 14. The 14 proposals were then subjected to rigorous technical review by the committee and 7 proposals were finally selected for pre-award grant worthiness assessment. Pact/ADVANCE immediately commenced the pre-award grants worthiness assessment on the 7 selected applicants in the last week of the quarter and the assessment will be completed early next quarter. Thus, early next quarter, depending on the outcome of the assessment, 5 potential partners will be finally selected from the 7 and a concurrence request will be sent to the Mission for approval to issue award to each of the 5 partners.

## **Subgrant Finances**

During this reporting period, Pact Nigeria continued to service the existing partners with ongoing projects and an additional sum of **\$30,968.04** was disbursed to some of these partners (ANE EJ, MULAC, Centre LSD, IMC, CISLAC and ZCC) of whom had on-going project. This brings the cumulative of disbursements/advances so far made for all subgrants as of the end of this quarter to **\$3,242,434.95** to date (up from \$3,211,466.91 in the previous quarter and excluding consultancies/in-kind subgrants). Of that amount, the subgrantees have expended and retired/liquidated a total of **\$2,747,198.75** to date (up from \$2,716,230.71 reported in the previous quarter, and excluding consultancies/in-kind subgrants). No expenditures this quarter on in-kind subgrants, thus the cumulative expenditures incurred on consultancies/in-kind subgrants remained at **\$522,555.61** to date as reported in the previous quarter. 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 **\$3269754.36** ( up from \$3,238786.31 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, June 30, 2011.

**TABLE 1: Summary of Status of ADVANCE Sub-grants and Consultancy (Advances and Actual Expenditures including Balance) as at End of Quarter 3 FY 11 (April to June 2011)**

	Recipient	Start Date	End Sate	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				
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	-	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	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			

				(Kano, Osun and Cross River States)										
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	\$820,701.60	\$820,701.60	-	\$820,701.60	-	Closed			
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	0.00	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	(0.00)	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	-	Closed			
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	\$35,671.40	\$35,671.40	-	\$35,671.40	-	Closed			
15	JDPC, Ijebu-Ode	1-May-07	30-Sep-08	Enhancing CS Capacity to Engage the Public Budget	Civic Participation and Oversight- Education & Agriculture Budget Tracking & Oversight	\$46,537.22	\$46,537.22	-	\$46,537.22	-	Closed			

				Process through the Drawing of Shadow Budgets in Lagos State										
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 mandate 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	\$18,062.12	5,575.67	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	\$9,751.08	\$9,751.08	-	\$9,751.08	-	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	\$29,317.52	\$29,317.52	-	\$29,317.52	-	Closed			
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	1,890.60	Completed			
25	CPPC	26-Jun-08	30-Dec-08	Empowerment of CSOs in Analyzing the NEITI Audit and Processes	Assessment of the capacity of CSO/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	\$31,473.04	\$31,473.04	-	\$31,473.04	-	Closed			

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 Secretariat to deepen NEITI Act implementation	Enhance Effective implementation of the NEITI Act in Nigeria	\$27,967.42	\$27,967.42	-	\$27,967.42	-	Closed			
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	To increase participation of non- state actors in the budget process in Lagos state	\$21,072.11	\$21,072.11	-	\$21,072.11	-	Closed			

				of HIV in Lagos state										
30	CIRRDOC	1-Jul-09	31-Dec-09	Enabling CSO's 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	\$22,018.77	\$22,018.77	-	\$22,018.77	-	Closed			
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	\$14,749.72	\$14,749.72	-	\$14,749.72	-	Closed			
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	\$27,073.74	\$27,073.74	-	\$27,073.74	-	Closed			
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	\$27,122.97	2,501.03	\$26,768.86	354.11	Completed			

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.	\$ 29,009.92	\$29,018.62	(8.70)	\$29,018.62	-	Closed			
35	MULAC	30-Sep-09	31-Jan-10	Creating Pressure from Religious groups for passage of the FOI bill	Sensitize Muslim groups to engage with their representatives at the NASS with the view to pass the FOI Bill into law	\$ 16,633.30	\$16,633.30	-	\$16,633.30	-	Closed			
36	IMC	10-Jun-09	30-Nov-09	Capacity Building of IMC, via systems development	Enhance the capacity of IMC	\$ 27,975.12	\$27,975.12	-	\$27,975.12	-	Closed			
37	IMC	1-Apr-10	31-Dec-10	Enhancing The Capacity of Interfaith Mediation Centre (IMC), Phase II	Further capacity enhancement of IMC plus advocacy to NYSC on inclusion interfaith peaceful co-existence in NYSC curriculum	\$ 64,962.00	\$ 64,241.63	720.37	\$ 58,565.91	5,675.72	Completed			
38	MRA	1-Apr-10	30-Nov-10	Freedom of Information Advocacy 2010	Advocacy on passage of FOIB at National level and in Lagos State	\$ 65,508.00	\$ 65,562.43	(54.43)	\$ 41,933.56	23,628.87	Completed			
39	MULAC	12-Apr-10	31-Aug-10	Creating Pressure from Religious Group for The Passage Of FOI Bill at State and Federal Level	Advocacy on passage of FOIB at National level and in Kaduna State	\$ 25,267.00	\$ 27,316.25	(2,049.25)	\$ 26,635.64	680.61	Completed			

40	ZCC	15-Apr-10	14-Sep-10	Promoting Popular Engagement of the NEITI Process.	Advocacy on NEITI Audit remediation	\$ 37,666.66	\$ 38,462.97	(796.31)	\$ 35,840.68	2,622.29	Completed			
41	PPDC	1-May-10	31-Dec-10	Sustained CSO Participation in Public Procurement Act Implementation in Nigeria.	Implementation of PPA	\$ 149,365.00	\$ 147,019.34	2,345.66	\$ 105,092.90	41,926.44	Completed			
42	CIRDDOC	6-Jan-10	15-Dec-10	Supporting CSOs to influence primary education budget in Rivers State	Budget advocacy and tracking in Rivers State	\$ 29,990.00	\$ 30,200.68	(210.68)	\$ 28,255.59	1,945.09	Completed			
43	JDPC	1-Jun-10	31-Dec-10	Monitoring And Influencing Lagos State Education Budget For People's Development	Budget advocacy and tracking in Lagos State	\$ 11,746.67	\$ 11,746.67	-	\$ 10,743.87	1,002.80	Completed			
44	CISLAC	21-Jun-10	30-Nov-10	Strengthening Legislative Oversight and Civil Society Intervention in the NEITI Process in Nigeria	Legislative advocacy on NEITI	\$ 97,629.33	\$ 94,418.42	3,210.91	\$ 95,810.01	(1,391.59)	Completed			
45	CSACEFA	10-Aug-10	30-Sep-10	Monitoring and	Primary education Budget advocacy and tracking at national level	\$ 29,870.60	\$ 29,316.87	553.73	\$ 30,374.76	(1,057.89)	Completed			

				Enhancing Civil Society Participation in the										
46	ANEEJ	11-Mar-11	10-May-11	Public Budgetary Process as a means of poverty alleviation	Training domestic election observers and deployment of observers	\$ 33,215.00	\$ 32,576.41	638.59	\$ 12,367.88	20,208.53	Completed			
47	CISLAC	17-Mar-11	16-May-11	Enhancing the Credibility of the Electoral Process through Active Election Observation in FCT and Kano State	Training domestic election observers and deployment of observers	\$32,993.33	\$ 26,293.33	6,700.00	\$ -	26,293.33	Completed			
48	IMC	13-Mar-11	14-May-11	Training and Observation of 2011 Elections in Bauchi and Plateau States of Nigeria	Training domestic election observers and deployment of observers	\$35,803.33	\$ 33,507.93	2,295.40	\$ 27,529.91	5,978.02	Completed			
49	MULAC	9-Mar-11	8-May-11	Towards Ensuring Credible Elections in Kaduna and Zamfara States	Training domestic election observers and deployment of observers	\$33,833.00	\$ 32,561.41	1,271.59	\$ 34,095.23	(1,533.82)	Completed			
50	Centre LSD	14-Mar-11	13-May-11	Election Observation in Imo and Delta states of Nigeria	Training domestic election observers and deployment of observers	\$ 29,973.16	\$ 29,341.26	631.90	\$ 22,263.17	7,078.09	Completed			

51	YPI	17-Mar-11	16-May-11	Working with Youths for Elections Observation and Reporting in Cross River & Akwa Ibom States (WISE PROJECT)	Training domestic election observers and deployment of observers	\$33,379.99	\$ 26,599.99	6,780.00	\$ 31,517.31	(4,917.32)	Completed			
52	ZCC	21-Mar-11	20-May-11	Promoting Credible Elections in Nigeria Through Citizens Observation of the 2011 Elections	Training domestic election observers, deployment of observers and hosting of coordinating committee's meetings and press conference	\$54,105.33	\$ 47,832.00	6,273.33	\$ -	47,832.00	Completed			
53	CITAD	17-Mar-11	16-May-11	Building Confidence in the 2011 Election through Election Observation (Jigawa and Yobe States)	Training domestic election observers and deployment of observers	\$ 33,776.00	\$ 28,162.67	5,613.33	\$ 26,490.01	1,672.66	Completed			
	<b>Total</b>					<b>\$3,289,552.86</b>	<b>\$3,250,221.08</b>	<b>\$39,331.78</b>	<b>\$3,063,768.19</b>	<b>\$186,452.89</b>				

In-Kind Sub-grants								
	Receipient	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;	370,838.63	370,838.63	-	Closed
2	JONAPWD	Wednesday, January 23, 2008	Friday, February 29, 2008	Mainstreaming Disability Concern in Electoral Reforms	9,796.63	9,796.63	-	Closed
3	JONAPWD	Saturday, March 01, 2008	Monday, March 31, 2008	Disabled Engaging the Politicians & INEC for 2007 Elections	19,519.99	19,519.99	-	Closed
4	PPDC	Thursday, April 10, 2008	Monday, June 30, 2008	PPDC Procurement Watch program	20,292.84	20,292.84	-	Closed
5	PWYP	Wednesday, December 10, 2008	Wednesday, December 31, 2008	Annual General Meeting: PWYP	13,090.77	13,090.77	-	Closed
6	PWYP	Monday, March 15, 2010	Tuesday, November 30, 2010		49,738.00	42,044.72	7,693.28	Open
7	JDPC	Tuesday, June 01, 2010	Friday, December 31, 2010		17,672.00	22,709.06	(5,037.06)	Open
	<b>Total</b>				<b>500,948.86</b>	<b>498,292.64</b>	<b>2,656.22</b>	

Consultancies								
SN	Receipient	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	-	Closed
5	CDD	March 19, 2007	May 31, 2007	Policy dialogue on institutionalizing mechanisms to address violence against women in public life	18,364.84	18,364.84	-	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	-	Closed
7	YPI	March 26, 2007	April 30, 2007	Nigeria Youth Colloquium on 2007 Elections	18,284.87	18,284.87	-	Closed
	<b>Total</b>				<b>149,708.47</b>	<b>149,708.47</b>	-	

## 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, including in electoral processes

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.

In contributing to the achievement of the above objective, Pact/ADVANCE in addition to the regular provision of technical assistance also carried out a number of activities in this quarter and most of the capacity development interventions focused largely on mentoring and provision of guidance to the targeted organizations, particularly the ADVANCE/PPCD partner CSOs and the PPCD Secretariat as they implemented their various activities. These specifically included the following:

**PPCD Office:** During the quarter, a series of meetings with Prof. Femi Ajibola, Chairman of the PPCD Project Planning Committee and Emmanuel Azaino, Project Coordinator, on the project's programming administration and training needs of the Project Office and Consortium members.

Reporting and report writing was the focus of one of the meetings that Pact ADVANCE had with the Project Manager. Pact staff advised the manager on how best to coordinate the various stakeholders that ought to be contributing to the overall PPCD report especially the Consortium NGOs and the RDC Trainees. For the Consortium NGOs, they were advised that since they primarily work with the RDCs, they should contribute aspects to the report prepared by the project office. At the meeting with the Chairman of the Planning Committee on the same issue, Pact had proposed that since the NGOs send their invoice to him for approval/payment every month that it would serve the process very well to insist that they submit reports of their work with the RDCs they work with, before payment could be made.

On the 2nd and 3rd of May 2011, Pact-facilitated in-house training for PPCD Consortium members on report writing and reporting the PPCD project. The workshop focused on what makes a good report, skills for writing good reporting and how in view of the MERL needs of the PPCD project, reports can be written in such a way that it reflects the needs of the project. New Nigeria Foundation: The quarter started for New Nigeria Foundation (NNF) with activities marking its 10th anniversary. Pact-ADVANCE provided them with support on resource persons and related issues in the course of the process. The planning process was expanded which ensured that all staff were involved in the process.

Pact/ADVANCE/PPDC also provided NNF with program and organizational support on an ongoing basis especially on those occasions when Pact staff was in Lagos and in some cases when in the field because of the strong relationships Pact had forged with them overtime.

**Morgan Smart Foundation for Development:** Morgan Smart Foundation for Development (MSDF) continued to focus on meeting its identified capacity gaps during the quarter. There were discussions with the Managing Trustee, Dr. Omawumi Urhobo on the programme and organizational needs of MSDF. She agreed that a strategic planning retreat be facilitated for the organisation on the 23rd to the 25th of June, 2011. However, this did not happen due to other circumstances beyond their control- specifically the health needs of the Managing Trustee and staff engagements. It is expected that the Strategic Plan session would be held in the course of the next quarter.

Also Pact staff provided advisory to the Managing Trustee and staff on the need to include their core values and audit provisions in the organization's Constitution. Discussions around human resource and administration were also discussed. It was agreed that they would display their organizational organogram, ensure that their employment procedure is embedded in their staff manual, undertake staff appraisal for the last 6 months, install and train relevant staff on the Peachtree Accounting Software.

Pact drafted a core values statement for approval and possible adoption by MSDF. It was understood that it would form part of the issues for discussion during the planned strategic plan session.

**Accord for Community Development:** Accord for Community Development was admitted into the Consortium during the last part of the quarter. Pact staff had discussions with their management and staff on possible areas of need that they would want Pact's immediate intervention pending the administration of the OCA process. It was agreed that they would be paid more, intensive attention during the course of the next quarter.

**Pact/ADVANCE/PIND Partners:** During the quarter, Request for Applications (RFA) No. A11A3-P Small Grants Program for CSOs to promote socio-economic growth in Niger Delta communities was issued. Following the shortlisting Compliance and Technical Review of the 28 applications received, 7 were shortlisted for pre-award assessment, which commenced this quarter by Pact/ADVANCE, will be finishing next quarter. The organizations that were being assessed include: Forward Africa-FOFA (Imo State), Bayelsa NGO Forum-(BANGOF and Nembe City Development Foundation (Bayelsa State), Centre for Environment, Human Rights and Development-CEHRD and Community Initiative for Enhanced Peace and Development-CIEPD (Rivers State), Justice Peace and Development Commission-JDPC/CARITAS (Cross Rivers) and, Antof Research and Resource Development Centre-ARRDEC (Akwa Ibom State).

## **Peace Building Training of Trainers for Civil Society Organizations**

During the quarter, ADVANCE/PPCD conducted a 3-day Training of Trainers on Peace-building for 27 participants drawn from PPCD project secretariat and the four consortium NGOs including the representatives of the some of the Regional Development Councils (RDC). The objectives of the ToT was to develop participants understanding of the various peace building and conflict resolution tools and also to develop participants skills in peace building and conflict resolution using best practices. At the end of the training, the participants' knowledge, skills and attitude were enhanced on the appropriate peace-building and conflict resolution tools, approaches and they were also exposed to some relevant best practices. The training was held from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 03, 2011 at Vichi Gates Suites and Hotels, Benin City, Edo State.

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

The main advocacy activity during the quarter under the ADVANCE project was election observation, sharing of position papers with the media and engaging with duty bearers on electioneering issues. To this end, eight ADVANCE partners recruited, screened and supported about **500** Domestic Election Observers (DEOs) in 16 target states spread in the six geo-political zones of the country and the Federal Capital territory (FCT). The partners and their target states were ANEEJ for Edo and Ebonyi; CISLAC for FCT and Kano; Centre LSD for Imo and Delta; ZCC for Oyo and Lagos; MULAC for Kaduna and Zamfara; CITAD for Yobe and Jigawa; IMC for Plateau and Bauchi; and YPI for Cross River and Akwa Ibom.

For the first time, Nigeria joined the International Community in using social network to share election experience with the outer world. In this regard, many of Pact's partners and observers tweeted hundreds of messages through SMS and the Web that recorded irregularities, updated the status of voting activities, and shared results. It's impossible to know how many people around the globe read them (there is no way to track this on Twitter, unfortunately), but they were available to anyone interested in the Nigerian elections, and it is possible to know that Pact's account was followed and its messages forwarded on by dozens of people. Pact was also able to document that INEC, via its official Twitter account, directly responded in real-time to a number of Pact's tweets. In addition, Twitter turned out to be a great tool for rapid communication to Pact's partners, allowing quick updates with timely and accurate information requiring immediate action, such as the suspension of the original elections on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The usefulness of this tool was effectively demonstrated over the 5 election dates (April 2, 9, 16, 26 and 28), and will serve as a basis for greater use of powerful social media tools in the future

### **MULAC**

In the quarter under review, MULAC with the support of Pact/ADVANCE, sought to enhance the credibility of the 2011 elections by deploying trained, unbiased and non-partisan individuals to observe the voting process during the National Assembly, Presidential and Gubernatorial/State Assembly elections in Kaduna and Zamfara States.

MULAC deployed 45 trained domestic observers in Kaduna State and 40 trained observers in Zamfara State on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> April 2011 to observe the National Assembly, Presidential and Gubernatorial/State Assembly elections respectively. In each of the two States, the observers were deployed to various polling units across the three Senatorial districts/zones to achieve a good spread, balanced observation and have a good feel of situation in each zone. In Kaduna State, MULAC deployed 20 observers to Kaduna Senatorial zone, 15 to Zaria zone and 10 to Southern Kaduna Senatorial zone. In Kaduna Senatorial zone, the observers observed elections in Kaduna North, Kaduna South, Birnin Gwari, Igagi, Giwa and Chikun Local Governments; while in Zaria Senatorial zone, elections were observed in Markarfi, Kudan, Ikara, Zaria and Sabon Gari local governments; and in Southern Kaduna Senatorial zone, the observers observed elections in Kagarko, Jama'a and Zangon Kataf local governments. In Zamfara State, 20 observers were deployed to Gusau Senatorial zone, 10 observers to Anka/Mafara Senatorial zone and 10 observers to Kaura Senatorial zone.

In preparation for the first round of election i.e. National Assembly elections, initially scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> April, MULAC deployed its observers on 1<sup>st</sup> April and paid their stipends; but following INEC's postponement of that election midway into the exercise, MULAC recalled its observers from the fields and scheduled a briefing for them the following day. MULAC's observers took advantage of INEC's subsequent postponement of all the elections to familiarize themselves with their respective terrains.

From its observation, MULAC noted that the National Assembly Election was conducted in a good atmosphere with most of the set rule being observed; that apart from the late arrival of most of the election officials at their polling units (because they are unfamiliar with the terrain), other aspects of the voting procedures were duly complied with – the procedure for accreditation, voting, counting and pasting of results were properly followed. There were no incidents of violence and/or intimidation either in Kaduna or Zamfara State during the National assembly election.

The Gubernatorial/State Assembly elections held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2011 in Kaduna were reported to be free and fair in the urban areas in the State but fraught with irregularities in the rural areas. For instance in Kidandan ward of Giwa local government area, the 15 polling units in the ward were ransack by security agents and voters were disenfranchised. MULAC observed that the security agents and INEC staff use different mechanism to subvert the will of the people, and express hope that the Federal Government Panel on the 2011 Post-Presidential Election Violence would adequately address the concerns of the electorates.

Overall, MULAC successfully observed the April 2011 elections in Kaduna and Zamfara States, and despite the violence that erupted in some areas where it observed elections, none of its observers was injured or killed in the observation mission.

## **IMC**

Supported by Pact, the Interfaith Mediation Council (IMC) deployed a total of 80 community people in Bauchi and Plateau states to observe the Presidential, National Assembly, Governorship and State Assembly elections. In both Plateau and Bauchi State, IMC deployed 40 people each (18 females and 22 males) while in Bauchi State (10 females and 30males) were deployed to observe the various elections.

Given the peculiarity of the IMC (it works with members of the two major faiths: Christians and Moslems), the faith based organization collaborated with followers of their faith to identify and deploy the observers. The observers were equally shared between the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) and Jama'atu Nasril Islam (JNI). The numbers of observers were evenly shared with each faith producing 40 each in consonance with the IMC's approach of ensuring equality of personnel and program activities between Christians and Muslims in their target areas.

Election observation in Jos and Plateau states experienced some hiccups; starting with the false start which saw the first election being postponed nationwide due to logistic problems from April 2 to April 9 to the postponement of elections in Bauchi and Kaduna states from April 23 to April 28th due to pervasive insecurity in the two states. The IMC also supported election observers to share their incidents reports by sending them to an NDI dedicated website. They also participated in Pact coordinated twitter.

### **CISLAC**

In the quarter under review, CISLAC continued implementing its project aimed at building public confidence in the electoral process and contributing towards a credible 2011 elections in F.C.T and Kano State.

CISLAC deployed 30 trained observers each in Kano State and FCT to observe the National Assembly, Presidential and Gubernatorial/State Assembly elections. Following INEC's election timetable, CISLAC deployed observers on 2nd April to observe the National Assembly election in Kano and FCT, but midway into that election, INEC announced a postponement of the election due to logistic constraints which disrupted the flow of the election and thus adjusted the election time table by pushing back the election by one week. The three elections mentioned above were consequently rescheduled to hold on 9th, 16th and 26th April 2011 respectively.

Following the new election time table CISLAC adjusted its deployment plan and deployed observers on these new dates. These were April 9 for the National Assembly elections in Kano state and the FCT; April 16 for the Presidential elections in Kano State and FCT; and April 26 for the Gubernatorial and State House of Assembly elections in Kano State. As was the case in the first instance and as stated in the proposal, 30 observers were deployed each in Kano State and FCT making a total of 60. Out of these, 25 were deployed and stationed to specific polling units while 5 were roving observers who played supervisory roles over the stationery ones and made stop over observations of uncovered polling units and collation centers. They were also on hand to respond to calls from our loose network of observers who alerted on incidents. Although this was not part of the project, it was considered value added and so was engaged, especially in Kano where we have a network of locally based groups and volunteers. The Project coordinator also went round in the company of one of the roving observers. Each observer was given identification materials, checklists and additional loose sheets to record incidents.

The observers were deployed on the eve of each election and turned in their checklists and summary of reports in the evening of Election Days or the day after. This was to ensure that observers were actually on ground. The roving observers/supervisors also paid unannounced visits to polling units to ensure observers are at their stations. The checklists were studied to distill key information that could be used for the issuance of the joint statement alongside

other Pact Nigeria partners as decided during the pre-project phases. This was done for all three elections.

## **YPI**

In continuation of increasing civic awareness, advocacy and empowerment, Pact/ADVANCE supported the Young Peoples' Initiative (YPI) to deploy youths to monitor elections in Cross Rivers and Akwa Ibom states. YPI observed all elections covering 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2011.

Pact over the years has strengthened the capacity of YPI to actively engage the electoral process. In this quarter, YPI with the support of Pact/ADVANCE led a 50-member elections observer team - 25 persons in each state - and 12-member Supervisory Team (6 per each state) was deployed in 6 Local Government Areas (LGAs) across Akwa Ibom (AKS) and Cross River states (CRS). In AKS, elections were observed in Eket, Ikot Ekpene, and Uyo LGAs. In CRS, elections were observed in Calabar Municipality, Calabar South and Akpabuyo LGAs.

Pact/ADVANCE continued its partnership with YPI to conduct pre and post elections programs to enable the observers plan, assess and improve observation of future elections. But all in all, YPI and its election monitors were able to pull through and recorded some success stories in spite of the challenges of working in a violence prone environment. The program also encouraged young people to partake in election related and was an opportunity for them to learn. Pact's activities contributed to building peace before the elections by supporting YPI and especially the youths. This was recorded by an overwhelming acceptance of the 2011 general elections. The post-election violence recorded in some part of the country was a far departure from what existed in previous elections.

## **Center LSD**

This quarter, the African Centre for Leadership, Strategy & Development (Centre LSD) deployed 68 domestic observers (out of which 61 was with Pact/ADVANCE support); 31 in Imo State, 30 in Delta and seven in Abuja. The Centre was also part of the election situation room, which received reports of observers across the country. In observing all the four elections in the two states, Centre LSD observed elections in *thirty one polling units*, covering *three Senatorial districts* in each of the two target states of Imo and Delta states. The main lessons from the elections were the need to avoid violence prone areas; need for the citizens to own the election process to make it credible; collaboration among stakeholders is key to success and political will enhances credibility of election. From the observation in the two states, the Centre reported that the INEC leadership, donor support and salutary efforts of observers contributed in no small measure to the positive outcome of the elections. For instance, the Governorship election in Imo State was problematic but the people stood their grounds and supported by INEC and security agents, they ensured that their candidate of choice emerged victorious. It was in Imo State that a renowned philanthropist, Mr. Rochas Okorocha displaced incumbent Governor Ikedi Ohakim. Initially, the elections were inconclusive in some local government areas but the residents persisted in calling on government to ensure that they concluded the elections and eventually the process was concluded in favour of Rochas Okorocha.

## **ANEEJ**

In this quarter, the African Network for Environment and Economic Justice on the other hand deployed Sixty-seven (67) Domestic Election Observers for the National Assembly elections

finally held on April 9, 2011 after the its postponement midway on April 02, the Presidential election held on April 16th and the Governorship /State House of Assembly elections held on the April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in Edo and Ebonyi States. The observers covered 12 Local Government Areas, which include: Edo State – Oredo, Egor, Esan South East, Esan North East, Etsako West and Owan East. Ebonyi State – Afikpo North, Afikpo South, Ikwo, Ezza South, Izzi and Abakaliki.

The scheduling and re-scheduling of elections resulted in some logistic challenges for ANEEJ. The organization had to maintain close contact with both Pact and its election observers to ensure smooth and effective communications to remain on top of the situation. Some of the domestic elections observers (DEOs) deployed by ANEEJ reported first hand short of sensitive election materials at polling booths visited before the re-scheduling of the first election.

For the ANEEJ partners, an overall assessment of the election shows that, there was significant improvement as compared to 1999, 2003 and 2007 elections in Nigeria. Despite some isolated reports of hitches, the final outcome of the election is adjudged by ANEEJ observation team as credible. The outcome of the election was satisfactory and comparable only to that of June 12, 1993 elections believed to be the freest and fairest election in Nigerian democratic history.

From ANEEJ's observation of elections in Edo and Ebonyi states, it was obvious that security agents played a very creditable role in ensuring a relatively conducive atmosphere for the elections. Civil Society groups also clocked round and assisted in no small measure in making the process transparent and participatory. In addition, in the two states, the media did not relent in constantly moving from one polling booth to another reporting their findings and providing space for Nigerians to air their views. They constantly followed up on events as they unfolded.

On its own part, ANEEJ equally briefed the media at intervals of its findings in the field. There was a press conference at the ANEEJ

## **CITAD**

During this quarter, CITAD with the support of Pact Nigeria continued its contribution to building confidence in the electoral process which is needed to enhance the credibility of the elections by deploying observers in two states of the Federation. The States are Yobe and Jigawa.

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April, CITAD deployed 86 observers with full complements of kits to various polling units across Yobe and Jigawa State. In addition to observers attached to specific polling units, CITAD also deployed six roving observers who roamed around within the various local governments. All the observers were embedded within their communities, ensuring that not only they have sufficient knowledge and understanding of the place but also know virtually all the key stakeholders. In turn the stakeholders also know the observers. This was done to ensure that their presence at the polling units and stations would give confidence to voters to come out to vote and to act in accordance with the law. All observers moved to the fields on 2<sup>nd</sup> April (the first Election Day); however, due to the postponement of the National Assembly election mid-way into the election on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the observation on that

day was inconclusive and the exercise was repeated on the rescheduled date which is April 9<sup>th</sup>. CITAD observers observed the elections across the three Senatorial districts/zones in the following local government areas:

**Zone A:** Damaturu, Tarmuwa, Bursari, Gujba, Gulani, Geidam and Yunusari LGAs

**Zone B:** Fune, Potiskum, Fika and Nangere Local government areas

**Zone C:** Bade, Nguru, Yusufari, Karasuwa, Jakusko and Gashua Local government areas

CITAD noted that the procedure for setting up the polling stations, counting of votes and announcement of results were observed by the election officials. There were only 4 polling units where party agents did not sign the results' forms. It further noted that there were no reports of violence or intimidation in about 85% of the areas it covered and generally threats to security at the polling centres were almost non-existent. It however noted that vote buying in some areas including Katuzu in Gashua local government where detergents, toilet soaps and money were distributed in exchange for votes.

For the Presidential election held on 16<sup>th</sup> April, CITAD deployed 46 election observers in Yobe State. In addition to observers attached to specific polling units, CITAD also deployed 6 roving observers who roamed around within the various local governments and also followed the collation activities in the local governments' collation centres as well as the state collation centre. Most of the observers were embedded within their communities. CITAD noted improvements in the organization of the Presidential election in comparison with the National Assembly election i.e. early arrival of polling staff, adequacy of electoral materials, provision of voting booths in most polling units, minimal incidents of violence and intimidations, and proper accreditation of voters.

CITAD deployed 40 observers to observe the Gubernatorial/State Houses of Assembly election held on 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2011. Six roving observers were also fielded, who moved around assessing the conduct of the elections in various places to give us a wider sense of coverage. Overall observers were deployed in 12 of the local governments of the state these include Geidem, Bursari, Gaidem, Yunusari, Potiskum, Fika, Damaturu, and Gashua. The observers covered the election processes from the deployed of personnel and materials to polling units to accreditation, voting, counting, announcement of results, collation and ultimately to the declaration of results by the various returning officers of the elections. CITAD noted that election materials were adequate, voting procedure was observed, voters were properly accredited, minimal incidence of violence – one person was murdered at a Juma'a polling unit (ward code 04 and unit code 03) in Potiskum local government which disrupted the process and votes could not be counted. It noted that generally the turn was low but election was fair, transparent and credible.

## **ZCC**

In the quarter under review, ZCC continued implementation of its project aimed at contributing to the conduct of free, fair and credible 2011 elections in Nigeria by deploying observers to observe the national Assembly, Presidential and Gubernatorial/State Assembly elections in Oyo and Lagos States.

Following INEC's time table for the conduct of the elections, ZCC deployed for the first round of elections that is National Assembly election, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April but had to recall its observer's midway into the elections when INEC announced the cancellation of the exercise. INEC subsequently issued a fresh election time table and schedule the three elections as

follows: National Assembly elections to hold on 9<sup>th</sup> April; Presidential elections to hold on 16<sup>th</sup> April; and Gubernatorial/State Assembly elections to hold on 26<sup>th</sup> April.

ZCC deployed 30 observers each in Oyo and Lagos States, making a total of 60 observers. In each State, 25 observers were deployed to various polling units while 5 were deployed as roving observers who played a supervisory role as well as observers. Each observer was given identification materials, checklists, incident forms, call cards of their various call networks to enable them report incidents to the National Emergency Incident Centre (NEIC). The observers were deployed on the eve of each election and turned in their checklists and summary of reports either in the evening of Election Days or the day after. The observers were also given a part payment of their stipend and then given the balance at the submission of their check list. This was to ensure that observers were actually on ground as well to confirm their participation. The supervisors also paid unannounced visits to polling units to ensure that the observers were at their stations. The checklists were studied to distill key information that could be used for the issuance of the joint statement alongside the other PACT partners as decided during the pre-project phases. This was done for all three elections.

ZCC was given the additional responsibility of coordinating all the 8 eight partners of Pact which included ZCC in deliberations on their findings and observations while on the field and to issue one Press Statement and hold one Press Conference for each of the three elections. The conference for the National Assembly election took place on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> April 2011, while the press conference in respect of the Presidential election was held on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> April 2011 and that of the Gubernatorial/State Assembly elections took place on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, 2011. The last of the three had to factor in the postponement of elections in Kaduna, Kano and Bauchi where some of Pact partners Observed elections as well. Hard copies of text of the Press Briefing for each election were submitted to the office of the INEC chairman and to the office of the Director, Civil Society and Gender INEC Abuja. All the Press Conferences experienced full media participation ranging from prints, pictures and electronic.

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

#### **Freedom of Information Act**

In this quarter, MRA sustained its advocacy efforts for the passage of the Freedom of Information Bill in order to get the two versions of the bills that were passed by the low and upper chambers of the National Assembly harmonized and passed and subsequent signing of it by the President into FOI Act. Some intense strategic targeted advocacy visits and capacity development including appropriate technical support aimed at ensuring the passage of the Bill by the Senate and assent by the President were carried out by MRA. Intensive technical support was provided to the National Assembly harmonization committee to ensure speedy harmonization of the various versions of the Bill that were passed by both chambers. Immediately the harmonized copy was produced, MRA followed up with appropriate legislators through targeted advocacies, which resulted in the passage of the harmonized copy by NASS. Based on the lesson learnt in 2007 when the Bill got passed by NASS but non-assent by the then President, MRA swiftly turned its engagement efforts to the presidency by contributing to facilitation of moving the passed bill to the Presidency, actively following up

with necessary systematic and strategic advocacy visits to targeted dignitaries in the presidency, which eventually contributed to speedy assent the bill into FOI Act by President Goodluck Jonathan on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011. This development indeed, marked the end of a very long battle of protracted years in creating an enabling environment for freedom of information in Nigeria. See below box on MRA's email message informing Pact/ADVANCE on the positive development on the President's assent.

From: Edetaen Ojo <edetaen@gmail.com>  
To: ahmed@pactnigeria.org  
Cc: augusta akparanta-emenogu <augusta@pactnigeria.org>  
Sent: Tue, May 31, 2011 6:24:27 PM  
Subject: President Jonathan Signs FOI Bill into Law

Dear Mallam Ahmed,

This is to formally inform you that President Goodluck Jonathan has signed the Freedom of Information Bill into Law, bringing to a successful end our advocacy for the adoption of this legislation.

Accordingly, I wish to express on behalf of Media Rights Agenda our sincere gratitude and appreciation to you for keeping faith with us over the years and for the kind support of Pact Nigeria which made it possible for us to continue to engage the process, resulting in this monumental success.

The Bill was passed by the House of Representatives on February 24, 2011 and by the Senate **on March 16, 2011**. The different versions of the Bill passed by both Chambers of the National Assembly were harmonized by the Conference Committee constituted for that purpose on **May 19, 2011**. The harmonized version of the Bill was subsequently adopted by the two chambers in separate proceedings on **May 24, 2011**.

A clean copy of the Bill was transmitted to the President by the Clerk of the National Assembly on May 27, 2011. We engaged every stage of the process directly, working with members and staff of the National Assembly to see it through.

Although our contacts in the Presidency informed us yesterday, May 30, that the President had assented to the Bill, a Deputy Director of Information in the office of the Special Adviser to the President on Media and Publicity, Mr. Justus Abuah, confirmed in a statement issued today in Abuja that the President had indeed assented to the Bill. He said President Goodluck Jonathan signed the Freedom of Information Bill 2011 into law **on Saturday, May 28, 2011**, a day after he received it from the National Assembly.

We will be sending you a full report of our advocacy efforts and activities in due course, but I thought it appropriate to share this good news with you immediately and to thank you for your support.

Warm regards,

Edet

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## **Budget Advocacy and Monitoring Training for PPCD Partners**

In this quarter, ADVANCE/PPCD conducted a 5-day Training of Trainers on Budget Advocacy and Monitoring training workshop for 32 participants drawn from PPCD project secretariat and the four consortium NGOs including the representatives of the some of the Regional Development Councils (RDC). The objectives of the training were to:

- Improve participants understanding of Public Finance Management and Budgeting Process & Procedures
- Build participants skills in the identification of opportunities for budget advocacy and monitoring for development
- Challenge participants on the need to develop Budget Advocacy and Monitoring activities and program

During the training, the participants were taken through some relevant topics including budgetary process and cycle, budget analysis, methods of analyzing budget using the current national budget using sectorial budget, budget components and types, budget monitoring and tracking as well as budget advocacy and critical stages in the budget cycle for effective civil society engagement. At the end of the training, not only that the knowledge and skills of the participants enhanced but the training also exposes the participants to how ineffective and inefficient most of the state governors of the Niger Delta states some mismanaging their states resources, but it also got them resolved and prepared to use the acquired skills, knowledge and attitudes to begin to engage with the appropriate government agencies at the national, state and LGA levels to begin to demand for increase allocation and release of funds in some critical areas of their needs for their improved wellbeing. The training was held from May 16<sup>th</sup> – May 20, 2011 at Vichi Gates Suites and Hotels, Benin City, Edo State.

## **C. Problems and Opportunities**

### **Partner and Programmatic Challenges**

- Delay from the ten existing partners selected for new subgrants award in providing response to the comments raised on their proposal contributed to some delay in finalizing their proposals and issuance of subsequent awards to them.
- Sudden leadership transition in ADVANCE coupled with other staffing challenges resulted in slow programming activities this quarter.
- The two above challenges also resulted in the non- implementation of the planned activities of the ten partners under their new proposed projects since the awards could not be made to them. This has subsequently led to low accomplishments of set targets in this quarter since the targets are normally achieved through partner CSOs.
- The Observation of elections by Pact/ADVANCE partners witnessed several major challenges. First and foremost was the false start, which took observers aback. The announcement of the postponement of the National Assembly Election came late after

partners had deployed trained observers. This had financial implications and our partners had to adjust their budgets to accommodate the development. Also, in some states, the observation kits from INEC came in very late on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2011. For instance, Centre LSD staff, participating in the observation, left for Delta and Imo without collecting the materials from Abuja INEC office because the materials were not available. The materials were therefore sent through Arik Air to Warri and Owerri. The flight to Warri was delayed and Centre LSD staff and co-coordinators of observers had to wait till night to collect the kits. The flight to Owerri was cancelled and they could not get the kits to observe the aborted national assembly elections. But they all had photocopies of the letter of accreditation of Centre LSD by INEC and observation materials produced by Centre LSD, which they used in the observation exercise. It is noteworthy that some of the observation and recommendations made during debriefing sessions and coordination meetings among stakeholders were taken on board by the relevant authorities and this assisted in making subsequent elections better than previous ones.

- Another challenge was the spate of violence that preceded and in some cases characterized the election in some states. This dissuaded some election observers from continuing after the first election. Also, the two red spot zones of Bauchi and Kaduna witnesses a lot of violence and at some point, we considered the possibility of having our partners observe elections in less violence prone areas alone. It was however due to the doggedness of our IMC partners that we relented and allowed them to observe elections in the two hot spots. They used their peculiar methods of deploying Christians to predominantly Christian areas and Moslems to observe elections in predominantly Muslim areas. Our IMC partners, the pastor and the Imam had argued that because the two states had experienced violence in the past, it was important to build confidence in the area and have the people come out to choose their preferred leaders, who should assist them with peace building and Pact relented and allowed them to observe elections in Bauchi and Jos.
- There was also the issue of reported alleged intimidation by security agencies, as some security personnel were alleged to be partisan by supporting some politician to prevent some domestic observers from carrying out their duties. In one incidence, security personnel practically hindered observers from getting access to polling units. The worst case was recorded in Ebonyi State where ANEEJ observer was whisked away by security personnel to give way for some politicians to have a field day.
- There was also the challenge posed by the ratio of observers to polling units Kano has about 1080 across 44 LGAs and there were only 30 Observers. The challenge was confronted by mapping and identifying poling units with huge number of registered voters and where vested interests could be at play. However, only 7 LGAs could be covered and volunteers used for others. The post-election violence, in some of the states deprived the full participation of Pact partners during the Presidential coordination meeting as some members could not travel from their stations due to security reasons.

## **Administration and Management Challenges**

- Delay in the obligation of the funds for the ADVANCE/PIND program component until April 27, 2011 led to the delay in releasing the RFA for the program's component, which consequently resulted in short period in this quarter for processing the solicitation (including development, release, review of proposals, selection of potential partners and conducting pre-award grant worthiness assessment, preparing assessment reports and final selection of potential partners as well as requesting for concurrence from the Mission and getting approval) since it was not contractually possible to issue any new award to partners without getting the funds for such program component.
- The unanticipated leadership transition caused by the sudden disengagement of the ADVANCE Chief of Party/Country Representative by the end of April, 2011 as well as the disengagement of the Pact/ADVANCE Program Coordinator for CSO and GON Partnership on Anticorruption almost at the same time created some challenges in programming this quarter. These coupled with the already two existing vacancy positions (Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Officer as well as Capacity Building Officer) and the Grant officer position that subsequently emerged due to change in leadership greatly slowed down the programming activities including making of the anticipated new subgrants awards this quarter. However, most of these were addressed by the end of the quarter and hopefully, the awards will be made next quarter for programming activities to pick up.

## **Partner and Programmatic Opportunities**

- The opportunity that emerged for engaging some of our existing partner CSOs for new subprojects under the ADVANCE extension was fully tapped this quarter. Ten of the partners were already involved this quarter in the development of new subproject proposals to be finalized for subgrant award next quarter.
- Opportunity for expanding Pact/ADVANCE/PIND programming in the Niger Delta region began this quarter with the issuance of solicitation for the selection of partners from the region.

## **Administration and Management Opportunities**

- Pact/ADVANCE continued to reap the expected benefits of sharing facilities, logistics and staff time, as well as potentially co-planning activities with the Community REACH HIV/AIDS program and the LEAD local governance program.

## **D. Activity Changes and Explanations**

- The Elections were re-scheduled twice due to poor logistics and insecurity in some states. Late announcement of this rescheduling caused our partners to redeploy observers twice and this had budgetary implications for programming. It also affected partner's ability to collate, compile and produce final report to Pact on time.

- All the new subgrant awards planned for this quarter could not be made due to the challenges explained above. These awards will now be made next quarter and full implementation of their projects will commence immediately.
- The planned activities of the partners could not be implemented since the planned award could not be issued to the partners. These activities will commence next quarter as soon as the awards are issued to the partners.

## **E. Success Stories**

### ***The Efforts of ADVANCE Contributes to the newest Nigeria Reform Legislation- FOI Act***

The Mission's support to Pact/ADVANCE in promoting and ensuring good, transparent and accountable governance in Nigeria resulted in another very significant accomplishment this quarter as President Jonathan signed the long awaited Freedom of Information Bill into Law/Act. This brings to four of the national reform bills that Pact/ADVANCE and our partner CSOs greatly contributed to their passage into Law in Nigeria since the inception of the ADVANCE program. The earlier three were Fiscal Responsibility Act, Public Procurement Act, and the Nigeria Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (NEITI) Act; all in 2007.

The efforts of ADVANCE almost got to this level in 2007, when the National Assembly got it passed but unfortunately, the then President (Obasanjo) refused to give his assent, thus the Bill was returned back to the National Assembly, when the new legislature came on board to start the entire process again. In view of this development, Pact/ADVANCE and our amiable partner CSO - Media Rights Agenda critically assessed the situation, identified the lessons learned, re-strategized and then re-engaged the process again. During this engagement, ADVANCE also expanded the constituency for the FOI Bill to include the northern regions particularly that most national legislators from that region have a notion that the FOI Bill is a media one with southern constituent and mostly dominated by one faith. This was done through support to a northern based partner CSO (MULAC -Muslim League for Accountability) in 2009 and 2010 whom engaged the Muslim religious leaders and groups in the north to advocate and convinced their national legislators to support the passage of the bill particularly that the bill is compliance with the teachings of Islam. This effort indeed contributed to expanding the constituency for the bill to northern part that was to a large extent resistant to the bill.

In this quarter, with ADVANCE support, MRA sustained its advocacy efforts for the passage of the Freedom of Information Bill in order to get the two versions of the bills that were passed by the low and upper chambers of the National Assembly harmonized and passed and subsequent signing of it by the President into FOI Act. Some intense strategic targeted advocacy visits and capacity development including appropriate technical support aimed at ensuring the passage of the Bill by the Senate and assent by the President were carried out by MRA. Intensive technical support was provided to the National Assembly harmonization committee to ensure speedy harmonization of the various versions of the Bill that were passed by both chambers. Immediately the harmonized copy was produced, MRA followed

up with appropriate legislators through targeted advocacies, which resulted in the passage of the harmonized copy by NASS. Based on the lesson learnt in 2007 when the Bill got passed by NASS but non-assent by the then President, MRA swiftly turned its engagement efforts to the presidency by contributing to facilitation of moving the passed bill to the Presidency, actively following up with necessary systematic and strategic advocacy visits to targeted dignitaries in the presidency, which eventually contributed to speedy assent the bill into FOI Act by President Goodluck Jonathan on May 28th, 2011. This development indeed, marked the end of a very long battle of protracted years in creating an enabling environment for freedom of information in Nigeria. It also brings to a successful end our advocacy for the adoption of this legislation. What remains now is another engagement to ensure effective implementation of the law to ensure full compliance.

### ***Imo Re-run Governorship Election a Testimony of Return of Sovereignty to the People***

The alleged anomalies during the governorship elections in some part of Imo and Delta states led to the postponement of the elections in some part of state by INEC. During the rescheduled elections in the states, citizens' ownership of the process was very evident as demonstrated by the high voters' turnout. Their participation demonstrated clearly that a new Nigeria is possible, either in terms of governance, social or economic engagement. People's resolution to bring about a change was given expression in several forms; coming out to exercise their franchise not minding the violence that is known to characterize elections because of the proclivity of some individuals to unwittingly scuttle the process. They were determined this time to protect their votes and make sure their votes counted. As a result, the intense heat from the sun was not an issue to them. Some of the voters indeed said this was *the return of sovereignty to the people*. In PU/06/034 on Ahwinahwi Street, Ughelli, Delta State where Centre LSD deployed some domestic observers for instance, one of the voters said **“this is the first time we are voting in this street. I was 18 years before 2003 but since that time till now, I only hear people talk about vote, and have not seen people vote in this street. But today, I have experienced it”**.



*Pact/ADVANCE partner CSO's( Centre LSD's) Domestic Observers at a post-election 2011 Meeting*

## ***Youths as Active Domestic Elections Observers through Pact/ADVANCE Support***

A total of 410 youths and a youth organization engaged in the domestic observation of the 2011 general elections by Pact/ADVANCE. As a youth organization, it was indeed exciting for the Young People Initiative (YPI) to be supported to mobilize by itself over 50 young people among the 410 youths mobilized by other partner CSOs of Pact/ ADVANCE, to observe general elections. This gave youths some sense of belonging, kept them busy and active in owning the process. This was in contrast to what used to happen in the previous general elections, when quite a number of youths were engaged by politicians to foment trouble, act as thugs to harass political opponents of whoever could pay their bills. Working with young people for elections observation and reporting is a welcome development and positive departure from the past where youth and negativity could always be inextricably linked especially in the Niger delta region where YPI observed elections. The YPI WISE Project itself is a healthy reference about youth engagement for democratic participation and nation building. Young people who saw their peers as observers got motivated to get involved positively. The observers had first-hand experiences to believe in the potentials for routine electoral credibility in Nigeria. ***“YPI widely celebrates the success of this project due to its huge potentials and achievements in positively shifting negatively held attitudes among young people and other citizens,”*** says Excellence Eyo Offiong Uso, the YPI Executive Director who is himself a youth.



*Pact/ADVANCE partner CSO (ANEEJ) observing the April 2011 Elections*

## **III. HIGHLIGHTS OF PLANS FOR NEXT QUARTER**

### **A. Partner Activities**

- Training of legislators and staff (especially those that are newly elected and hired) on participatory and rights based budgeting.
- Advocacy on implementation of Public Procurement in Bayelsa and Bauchi states and at the National level
- Advocacy visits to canvass for domestication of FOI Bill in Kaduna and Lagos states

- Advocacy on increased participation, transparency and accountability in public finance expenditure in Bayelsa and Kaduna states
- Advocacy for proper implementation of NEITI at Federal and state levels
- Advocacy to media houses to support implementation of FOI in Kaduna and Lagos states

## B. Pact Activities

- Ongoing monitoring and mentoring of all existing and new partners, on the implementation of their new projects to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of their subgrants award and attainment of projects' goals and objectives.
- Conduct of OCA and development of capacity development plans for the ADVANCE/PIND partners
- Commence implementation of capacity development plans for the ADVANCE/PIND partner
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting training for partner CSOs
- Coalition/Network Strengthening training for Partner CSO
- Staff Retreat
- Continuation of capacity development support PPCD project office and consortium NGOs as the need arises.
- Strengthening networks for transparent, accountable governance in Rivers and Imo States
- Empowering local communities to access micro-credit in Akwa Ibom State
- Monitoring of partners to ensure compliance with Pact-regulations

## C. Subgrant Management

- Support existing partner CSOs through fund disbursements, oversight and mentoring.
- Continue closeout of completed projects.
- Completion of the pre-award grant worthiness assessment of ADVANCE/PIND potential partner CSOs
- Send concurrence request to the Mission on selection and issuance of subgrants awards to ADVANCE/PIND partners
- Conduct start-up Subgrant Finance/Admin training for ADVANCE/PIND partner CSOs to be brought on board
- Work with the selected partners (both existing and new ones) to finalize their proposals.
- Process and issue 15 new subgrants awards to partner CSOs for the implementation of their proposed projects.

## IV. QUANTITATIVE INDICATOR DATA

#	Ind. Reference #	Indicator	Collection	Target for FY 11	Quarter Target	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Result	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Result	Cumulative Result at the end of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY 11	Cumulative Result at the end of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY 11
1		Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	Quarterly	Women = 25 Youth	0	W=2 Y=1 I=1	W=3 Y=2 I=2	W = 11 Y = 6 I = 1	W = 14 Y = 8 I = 3

		representing marginalized group(s) engaging with government		= 13 Islamic = 19 Disabled = 8 Total = 65		D = 0	D=2	D = 0 Total =18	D = 2 Total =27
2	S11.1	Women-focused CSOs supported by USG assistance to engage in advocacy and/or promote democratic participation	Quarterly	25	0	9	8	9	17
5	GJD 4.1.3	Number of CSO advocacy campaigns supported by USG	Quarterly	35	10	11	0	34	34
7	GJD 4.1.8	Number of USG Assisted Civil Society Organizations that engage in advocacy and watchdog functions	Quarterly	35	0	0	207	50	257
9		Number of people trained (disaggregated by gender)	Quarterly	M=300 F=200 T=500	550	M=445 F=221 T=666	M=22 F=37 T=59	M=491 F=258 T= 749	M=513 F=295 T= 808
12		Increased Civil Society Participation in Budgetary Processes	Quarterly	State=1 2 Nat=0	0	0	0	10	10
13	S11.2.1	Increased Civil Society Participation in NEITI implementation	Quarterly	8	0	0	0	8	8
14	GJD 4.1.2	Number of Civil Society Organization	Annually	50	10	9	0	18	18

		s using USG assistance to improve internal organizational capacity							
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