

National Voluntary Presentation of Nigeria on the theme: “Science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the MDGs” for the annual ministerial review of the Economic and Social Council in July 2013

Table of contents

Summary	2
I. Overview	3
II. Innovations driving MDGs progress in Nigeria	4
<i>a. The Debt Relief Gains (DRG)</i>	4
<i>b. The Conditional Grants Scheme (CGS)</i>	6
<i>c. Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) Programme</i>	7
<i>d. Other policy and institutional innovations</i>	8
III. Harnessing the potential of science and technology for socio-economic transformation	10
IV. Maximizing the benefits of culture and creative sector as well as minimizing threats to development	16
V. Mainstreaming sustainable development into national development strategies	17
VI. The emerging national challenges	18
<i>a. Addressing the security threats to national transformation and development</i>	18
<i>b. Tackling the threats of flood to the MDGs</i>	21
VII. Conclusions	23

Summary

Over the past decade, the improved economic performance of Nigeria sets the climate for enhanced social progress. The nation's economy grew at an annual average of 6.8 per cent between 2005 and 2011 and 6.9 per cent between 2012 and 2014 with agriculture and petroleum sectors being the key contributors. Analysts have projected that the country would be the twelfth fastest growing economy in the world by 2014. Already, the current rate of growth has been impacting positively on the MDGs. Substantial progress has been recorded since 2008 on a number of targets and the country is on track in many others. Some of the targets have started to improve quite rapidly, e.g., under-five and maternal mortality rates. Despite the high economic growth in past decade, however, poverty and inequality still remain major concerns.

Some policy and institutional innovations introduced by government have facilitated progress. For instance, the implementation of the Debt Relief Gains (DRG) and Conditional Grants Scheme (CGS) has led to the construction and rehabilitation of over 2,844 primary health care facilities; training of 6,673 health workers – by 2010 it rose to 9,756; recruitment of over 74,000 primary school teachers; provision of 2.4 million long-lasting insecticide-treated nets; construction of 10,437 boreholes; construction of 3,709 ventilated improved pit toilets; investment in vocational and technical training, including the training of 7,673 people vocational skills and 14,420 workers in agricultural extension; and construction of 307 rural electrification schemes. Between 2007 and 2009, about 33.3 million people benefited from direct primary health interventions. This is in addition to the people who benefited from the Conditional Cash Transfers (CCT), the Child Savings Scheme in Bayelsa State, the Disability Allowance in Jigawa, and the Old-Age Pension Scheme in Ekiti and Osun States. Nigeria is also maximizing the existing institutions and frameworks to strengthen stronger coordination.

Science and technology is also facilitating socio-economic transformation. This includes use of solar and renewable energy providing amenities to alleviate poverty; innovations in telecommunication which is providing ripple effect in job creation, income generation, and addressing logistic and access bottleneck to maternal health. Others include improved technology to facilitate learning in schools, provide skills acquisition, enhance productivity and reduce associated gas flaring; improved seedlings to produce better harvest and climate- and pest-resistant crops; new technology to provide small dams, irrigation, and silos to enhance all-season farming, improve post-harvest management and boosting employment. Within a decade, access to telephone services rose from about 0.6 per cent of the population to about 60.0 per cent, thus making Nigeria the largest telecom market in Africa and among the 10 fastest growing telecom markets in the world. However, without a culture that values education and research, as well as advancement in science and technology, it is difficult to maximize its impact.

The Government of Nigeria has also transformed the cultural and creative industry, And it has started yielding dividends. For instance, the Nigerian video feature film industry, known as *Nollywood*, grew between 1990s and 2000s to become the largest African film industry and the second largest in the world in terms of number of annual film productions. The country has a US\$ 500 million movie industry which serves the export market well.

Some national challenges, however, make it difficult to accelerate progress on the MDGs and other internationally agreed goals. The insurgence of *Boko Haram* has not only paralysed economic activities in a few northern states, it has led to the death of close to 3000 people and the destruction of properties worth hundreds of billions of naira. The recurring flood in many states of the federation is also a serious challenge. In 2012, 35 of the 36 states were ravaged by floods – affecting 3,870 communities, 4,199 schools, and causing serious health problems in Kogi and Niger states. Addressing the threat is a key challenge that government must face .

I. Overview

1. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are the globally agreed time-bound targets the world aims at to eliminate poverty and human suffering by promoting the right to decent lives and nutrition, enhancing the dignity of women and children, providing access to basic education and health services, as well as to improved safe drinking water, shelter and sanitation; and promoting environmental sustainability. Since Nigeria signed the Millennium Deceleration in 2000, it has invested a lot of time, and human and financial resources on the MDGs. These include setting up the Presidential Committee on MDGs, the establishment and continuous implementation of the DRG funds, mainstreaming of the MDGs into Vision 20: 2020 and the Transformational Agenda, and the preparation of an MDG acceleration priority action plan for maternal health.
2. The improved economic performance over the decade has set the climate for enhanced social progress. The nation's economy grew at an annual average of 6.8 per cent between 2005 and 2011 with agriculture and petroleum sectors being the key contributors. Recent projections put the growth rate at 7.0 per cent (2012), 7.2 per cent (2013) and 6.6 per cent (2014). Analysts have projected that the country would be the 12th fastest growing economy in the world by 2014.¹ This is evidenced in the fact that its per capita income (purchasing power parity) in 2011 was estimated at about \$2,500,. The improved macroeconomic environment, favourable weather, and stability in the Delta region have been quite supportive to growth. The macroeconomic performance, coupled with series of policy and institutional innovations including applications of science and technology, have yielded some social dividends.
3. Although the country may not achieve all the MDG targets by 2015, however substantial progress has been recorded on a number of targets since 2008, and the country is on track in many others. Some of the targets have started to improve quite rapidly, e.g., under-five and maternal mortality rates. Nigeria is one of the 12 countries in Africa that have achieved the target on the proportion of undernourished population. It fell from 19.3 per cent in 1990 to 8.5 per cent in 2011 – against the 9.7 per cent target for 2015. This positive trend has, however, been reversed owing to the global food and financial crises since 2008. Concrete efforts are needed to reverse the downward slide.
4. Nigeria achieved gender parity in primary and secondary school enrolments in 2012. Parity in primary school enrolment rose from 76 girls to 100 boys in 1990 to 100 in 2012; same for secondary school enrolment which also rose from 75 to 102 during the same period.² The country also continues to reverse the trend on HIV&AIDS. HIV prevalence among pregnant young women aged 15-24 years, which rose consistently from 1.8 per cent in 1990 to 5.8 per cent in 2001, declined to 5.0 per cent in 2003 and further to 4.1 per cent in 2010. However, challenges remain in some states where prevalence rates have remained high. Progress has also been recorded in the fight against malaria.
5. Appreciable progress has also been made in primary school completion rate, as well as in infant, under-5 and maternal mortality rates. Primary school completion rate improved from

¹ See CIA World Fact book, June 2012.

² See recent National Bureau of Statistics' survey on the MDGs in February 2013.

76 per cent in 1990 to 96.4 per cent in 2012 – though it experienced some instability over time. Infant mortality rate fell from 100 per 1000 live births in 2000 to 61 per 1000 live births in 2012, while under-5 mortality rate declined from 201 per 1000 live births to 94 during the same period. Also, maternal mortality fell from 1000 deaths per 100,000 live births in 1990 to 350 in 2012 – just 100 deaths above the 2015 target. More vigorous implementation of DRG and CGS and innovations in some states, such as the ‘Abiye Project’ in Ondo State, made this possible.

6. The performance on most targets of Goal 8 is also encouraging. For instance, the debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services fell from 22.3 per cent in 1990 to 9.0 per cent in 2000 and to 0.5 per cent in 2008. Mobile cellular phone subscription per 100 people also increased from 0.0 per cent in 1990 to 41.7 per cent in 2008. A similar trend is observed for internet users per 100 people.
7. However, performance on such targets as access to improved water supply and sanitation is very slow. In spite of high economic growth in past decade, poverty and inequality still remain a major concern. While sub-Saharan Africa succeeded in reducing both the rate and number of people living in poverty, both indices kept getting worse in Nigeria. Indeed, poverty rate in the country rose from 42.7 per cent in 1992 to a worrisome 69 per cent in 2010 (national poverty line). The index of income inequality, which has been established as an important determinant of poverty, also worsened, rising from 0.429 in 2004 and 0.447 in 2010. Essentially, high income inequality, inequitable access to social and economic opportunities, weak infrastructure such as roads, electricity and water, as well as food price volatility, frequent flooding, etc., are major impediments to progress. Inadequate and irregular generation of MDGs statistics also makes progress monitoring quite challenging.

II. Innovations driving MDGs progress in Nigeria

2.1 The Debt Relief Gains

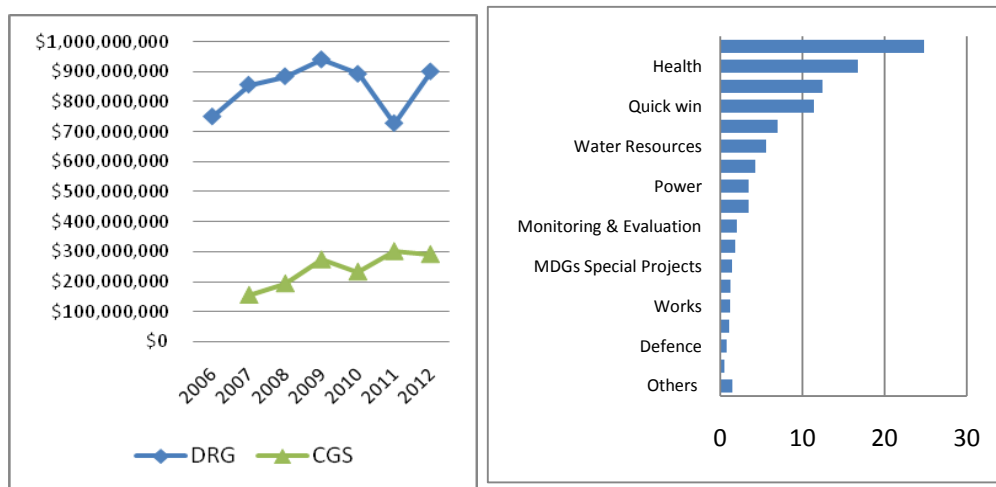
8. In 2004, Nigeria faced an unsustainable debt profile – with a debt stock of US\$ 36 billion. The country spent more on interest payments than it committed to health care and education. This made achieving the MDGs difficult. The debt relief provided in October 2005 allowed Nigeria to obtain the sum of US\$ 18 billion, representing an overall cancellation of about 60 per cent of its debt to the Paris Club of about US \$ 30 billion.³ This led to the establishment of a Virtual Poverty Fund (VPF) in 2006 -- a mechanism for enhanced funding, tracking and monitoring of budget lines in key sectors aimed at meeting the MDGs. Through the DRGs, the government has been able to deepen the implementation of compulsory free universal basic education; establish conditional cash transfer (CCT) to support the vulnerable; and

³ Paris Club creditors was paid an amount of US\$ 12.4 billion, representing the regularization of arrears of US\$ 6.3 billion, plus a balance of US\$ 6.1 billion to complete the exit strategy.

introduce and continuously deepen the conditional grant scheme (CGS) to support MDG investment at the States and Local Governments.

9. Based on the proportion of debt owed by Federal and State Governments in 2004, the sharing arrangement of the DRG is 70:30 ratios, respectively. In addition to the traditional annual budgets, the Fund aims at dedicating about \$1.00 billion to MDGs interventions. Figure 1 shows the trend of allocation between 2006 and 2012. The figures rose consistently between 2006 and 2010 but declined in 2011 due to political issues surrounding the illness and eventual demise of the President Umaru Yar'Adua and the general elections in 2011. This, however, normalized in 2012. Among the various sectors, the health had the largest share (about 17 per cent), followed by education (12 per cent); land, housing and urban development (7 per cent); water resources (6 per cent); and agriculture (4 per cent) (Figure 2).
10. The implementation of DRG has been fostering expansion of socio-economic facilities in the country. In addition to helping the various ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) of government to deliver on their mandates, the DRG has contributed substantially to institutional and human development. It has particularly helped to expand the activities of such institutions as the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP), the Small and Medium Scale Enterprise Development Agency (SMEDAN), the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), the Education Tax Trust Fund (ETF), and the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC).

Figure 1: Trends of DRG and CGS, 2006–12 **Figure 2: Percentage share of DRG allocations, 2006-12**



Source: Computed and compiled from EPAC (2013a): Technical Study on Nigeria’s National Voluntary Presentation, March 2013.

11. For example, the implementation of the quick-win interventions in military formations and barracks through the Ministry of Defence (with just 0.78 per cent of the total DRG

allocation) is quite revealing. The interventions have led to: (i) the construction of 30 classrooms and administrative blocks; (ii) rehabilitation of 53 classrooms and administrative blocks; (iii) 19 rehabilitation of Medical Reserve Services (MRS); (iv) 17 provision of strategic medical supplies; (v) procurement of 24 high-voltage electricity generating sets; (vi) 24 supply of sets of furniture/equipment; (vii) 19 drilling of boreholes and construction of reticulation and reservoirs.

2.2. The Conditional Grants Scheme (CGS)

12. Introduced in 2007, the CGS is an innovative strategy to foster intergovernmental collaboration to accelerate the achievement of the MDGs. It seeks to improve governance, service delivery, financial management, transparency, and accountability at the state and local government levels for the attainment of the MDGs.
13. The criteria for participating in the scheme include: (i) the 50 per cent counterpart funding and a bank guarantee bond; (ii) acceptance of the scaling down of the maximum amount accessible from ₦3.0 billion to ₦ 1.0 billion; (iii) evidence of institutional structure and human capacity to manage the CGS transparently; (iv) evidence of articulation of the focus of CGS in existing strategies, policies or programmes of the State Government; (v) a commitment or promissory note duly signed by the State Governor; (vi) evidence of consultation and collaboration between different tiers of government and stakeholders in project selection and location; and (vii) designation of CGS state focal person.
14. Overall, the CGS has been a resounding success. Evidence from the monitoring reports, for instance, shows that projects funded through CGS between 2007 and 2009 have been successfully executed.⁴ The number of states covered rose from 18 in 2007 to 36 in 2012, including the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). Expectedly, too, disbursement rose from N20.00 billion in 2007 to N32.60 billion (2009), N45.59 billion (2011) and N45.45 billion (2012). Figure 1 provides the trend in dollar equivalent. By December 2012, total investment in CGS reached N203.07 billion (approximately \$1.47 billion).⁵
15. The CGS' investment has focused essentially on primary health care, education, water and sanitation; and it has targeted human and institutional development. Between 2007 and 2009, for instance, such achievement included: (i) construction and rehabilitation of over 2,844 primary health care facilities ; (ii) training of 6,673 health workers – by 2010 it rose to 9,756; (iii) recruitment of over 74,000 primary school teachers; (iv) provision of 2.4 million long-lasting insecticide-treated nets; (v) construction of 10,437 boreholes (comprising 3,524 small town boreholes with solar-powered pumps, 6,031 boreholes with hand pumps, 489 motorized boreholes, and 393 small town water supply schemes); (vi) 3,709 ventilated improved pit (VIP) toilets; (vii) investments in vocational and technical training including training of 7,673 people in vocational skills, and 14,420 extension workers/farmers; and (viii) construction of 307 rural electrification schemes.

⁴ See (OSSAP-MDG, 2009).

⁵ See EPAC (2013 a and b).

16. The total number of beneficiaries constitutes about 26 per cent of the population. About 28.4 million are benefiting from the investment in the primary health care centres while the distribution of insecticide treated bed nets is protecting 4.9 million people from malaria. This translates to about 33.3 million people benefiting from direct primary health interventions. Intervention in water and sanitation also benefits about 8.85 million people. There are at least 213,437 beneficiaries from the skills acquisition and economic enhancement interventions such as vocational skill acquisition, training of extension workers and rural electrification schemes.
17. The wide coverage of DRG has contributed significantly to the 53.2 per cent reduction in under-5 mortality rate and 56.3 per cent reduction in MMR between 1990 and 2012; it also accounts for the 520 per cent increase in the number of children sleeping under ITNs.
18. The stakeholders' monthly meetings have increased the capacity to manage CGS projects and to share knowledge between States and OSSAP-MDGs. It has also fostered genuine consultations among the federal, state, local governments, communities and civil society. The use of experts in the management and monitoring of CGS projects and the focus on results-based management has increased the rigour of its working practices. The political commitment at the state level is also an important factor in the progress achieved.
19. While appreciating the rising trend of the number of beneficiaries over the years, there is still room for substantial improvement in coverage, usage and access by the target groups; same for the quality of the facilities provided. The sustainability of the initiative is threatened by non-provision for recurrent implication of expanding the facilities (including provision of day-to-day management, regular maintenance and training of staff to manage the facilities) at the state and local government levels. Giving emphasis to the voices of beneficiaries in project identification and management is also critical.

2.3 Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) Programme

20. The National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) coordinates the implementation of the conditional cash transfer scheme, which was launched in 2007 and linked to education and health services. The programme is christened 'In Care of the People' (COPE) and is already running as a pilot programme in 12 states. It aims at breaking the intergenerational transfer of poverty and reducing the vulnerability of the core poor. The beneficiary households receive a monthly Basic Income Guarantee (BIG) for one year and then a lump sum Poverty Reduction Accelerator Investment (PRAI). The BIG depends on the number of children in the household while entrepreneurship and life skills training are provided to beneficiaries of PRAI. Payments are based on households meeting two key conditions: the enrolment and retention of children of basic school age in basic education (Primary 1 to junior secondary education), where a child must maintain at least 80 per cent school attendance, and participate in all free healthcare programmes.

21. The DRG allocation to three safety nets was ₦10 billion (\$78 million) in 2007 and ₦2 billion (\$13.2 million) in 2009.⁶ In its Phase 1, the programme cost N1.0 billion (\$7.8 million), with ₦ 2.4 million (\$18,720) allocated to each of the 12 states and the FCT. In its Phase 3 (the current one), states are required to contribute a counterpart fund to match the contribution from the federal government. For instance, each state allocates N30 million (\$234,000) to the BIG, ₦ 42 million (\$327,600) to the PRAI and ₦ 2.4 million (\$18,720) to NGO paymasters.
22. The focus is state specific. For example, CCT programmes in Cross River and Niger States are focused on education and health, while those of Kano, Bauchi and Katsina States concentrate on girl-child education. In Kano, for instance, two benefit levels are being tested, depending on size of children benefiting from the programme: N5,000.00 (approximately \$32) and N2,500.00 (approximately \$16) – contingent on 80 per cent school attendance per child. It is covering 12,000 beneficiaries.
23. The CCT programme, which started with 3,790 households in 2009, reached 22,000 households in 2010 and was expanded to cover 113 local governments in 2011 to make the impact more broad-based. This intervention has started to yield appreciable results especially in facilitating access to education, health and improved services. However, the implementation of CCT programmes in Nigeria at both Federal and State levels is faced with a plethora of bottlenecks, including weak identification and registration of beneficiaries, inadequate MIS, weak technical expertise in programme design and implementation, and weak monitoring and evaluation.
24. There are some other small-scale cash transfers such as the child savings scheme in Bayelsa State, the disability allowance in Jigawa, and the old age pension scheme in Ekiti and Osun States. For instance, in Jigawa, a social security allowance consisting of a monthly payment of N7,000 (approximately \$46) to physically disabled persons as provided under State Accountability and Voice Initiative (SAVI) was initiated - covering 5,000 families. The Senior Citizen's Social Security Scheme in Ekiti State, the first in West Africa, which began in October 2011, transfers US\$33 monthly to residents aged 65 and over, who do not have a pension and whose monthly income is less than US\$19 a month, but who has stayed in the state for the past three years. As at May 2012, 20,000 elderly people were benefiting from the scheme. The Osun State Government also pays N10,000 (\$66) to 1,602 elderly people identified as 'most vulnerable' in the State. This also includes payment of medical treatment for these selected senior citizens.

2.4 Other policy and institutional innovations

Promoting better coordination within and across tiers of government:

⁶ See See EPAC (2013a): Technical Report on Nigeria's NVP on progress towards the achievement of the internationally agreed goals including the MDGs.

25. Policy coordination is always an issue in a federal setting. The implementation of most of the MDGs is the primary mandate of the state and local governments. For instance, primary health care, including neonatal and maternal health issues, primary education, and sanitation fall under the residual functions of sub-national governments as prescribed by the 1999 Constitution. Despite this constitutional arrangement, political leadership is strongest at the federal level, followed by some state governments, while it is relatively weak in some other states and extremely weak at the local level where the real actions are supposed to be taking place. Given the federal nature of government and the constitutional mandates of each tier, policy coordination across federal, state and local governments could be quite challenging due to varying level of commitments from leaders.
26. In spite of this challenge, the use of existing institutions and frameworks are being maximized to achieve stronger coordination. First, the buy-in of states and local governments on Vision 20: 2020 is a very good opportunity. Second, the Presidential Committee on the MDGs with all actors on board also creates an incentive for improved coordination. Third, the implementation of CGS and CCT by the MDGs Office also contributes to the process. Fourth, the use of Joint Planning Board and National Economic Council also provides the impetus for stronger coordination. There is also the challenge of horizontal coordination which often leads to duplication of functions and unhealthy competition among MDAs. The formation of the *National Economic Management Team* has addressed this substantially at the federal level. But there is still room for improvement. It is important to replicate this at the state and local levels to ensure policy coherence on the MDGs and sustainable development agenda.
27. The governments (federal and state) have initiated several policy and institutional innovations to accelerate progress on the MDGs since 2000. Some of these include⁷:
- Ensuring effective integration of the MDGs into overall national and sub-national development visions, strategies and plans;
 - Establishing an Excess Crude Oil Account (now replaced by the Sovereign Wealth Fund) and promulgating the Fiscal Responsibility Legislation to ensure transparency in use of public resources;
 - Realizing the challenge of addressing absorptive capacity in the public sector, Government introduced the service compact (SERVICOM), established procurement cadre in the federal public service, undertook a needs assessment and introduced capacity building for all levels of government in 2008; and
 - Improving experience sharing, learning and accountability environment, including the SEEDS benchmarking exercise and the State Peer Review Mechanism by the Nigeria's Governors' Forum.⁸
28. There are other sectoral or goal-specific innovations that are contributing to progress. The establishment of the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) and strengthening of

⁷ See the "Countdown Strategy - 2010-2015: Achieving the MDGs".

⁸ See more information is also contained in Nigeria Governors' Forum (2011), "State Peer Review Mechanism – Base Document".

such institutions as the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) and the Industrial Training Fund (ITF) are critical. However, their efficiency remains a concern. The establishment of the Universal Basic Education (UBE) (to implement free primary and secondary education) and the Education Tax Trust Fund as well as deepening of non-formal education such as the nomadic and riverine education also enhanced progress on Goal 2. Most progress on gender is associated with the implementation of National Gender Policy and political will of leaders at federal and state government levels – e.g. the Presidential target of 35 per cent of women in the Federal Executive Council (FEC). In the health sector, the formulation and implementation of the National Strategic Health Development Plan, free maternal care in some states, the setting up of the National Agency for the Control of HIV&AIDS (NACA) and its state (SACA) and local government (LACA) counterparts, the implementation of eMaternal Health - Abiye Project in Ondo State (see Box 1), the implementation of Rollback Malaria, and the distribution of insecticide treated nets are notable success factors. The establishment of the flood early warning system and development of tools to forecast occurrence of flood five days in advance in about 600 communities, the Community-based Urban Development Programme and the National Water Supply and Sanitation Policy (NWSSP), and setting aside of monthly environmental days in some states are instrumental to progress on Goal 7. The debt relief, the setting up of the Debt Management Office, stronger collaboration with development partners and liberalization of the communication sector contributed to progress on Goal 8.

III. Harnessing the potential of science and technology for socio-economic transformation

29. Science and technology (S&T), if effectively harnessed, are important drivers of economic growth, job creation and poverty reduction. S&T helps to facilitate all-season farming and higher crop yields in the face of climate change and accelerates climate change adaptation. They also advance scientific knowledge and their application could facilitate the achievement of the MDGs especially in improving access to quality social services.
30. Nigeria had its first National Science and Technology Policy in 1986 while the current policy commenced in 2012. The policy aims among others to popularize and inculcate the culture of S&T; strengthen national capacity and capability to stimulate inventions and generate innovations for sustainable development; prioritize R&D; and develop capacity for technological transfer.
31. The institutional framework for planning and managing S&T in Nigeria includes the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology (FMST); National Council on S&T; National Assembly Committees on S&T; State Ministries and Houses of Assembly; research institutes and academia; and National Centre for Technology Management (NACETEM). While these institutions are doing their best under the leadership of the FMST, there is need for coherence and alignment of roles and responsibilities for better results.

32. The implementation of National Bio-Technology Policy, National Information Technology Policy and Policy on Space Science and Technology is bearing some fruits. The progress made in ICT and space technology, food preservation technology, and science and engineering infrastructure are good examples.
33. The establishment of the National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) in November 2001 has been contributing to the nation's response to food security, sustainable environment, affordable healthcare delivery, and wealth creation. This takes the form of: (i) establishing tissue culture laboratories, aquaculture, snailery, mushroom and grass-cutter units which have led to the development of improved varieties of crops and animals; (ii) domesticating bio-reactors and developing bio-processes for the commercial production of various agro-based products; (iii) embarking on the local production of diagnostic kits for HIV&AIDS, Malaria, Hepatitis B & C, syphilis, TB and Pregnancy; (iv) developing environmental biotechnology including the bio-remediation of the polluted environment, combating desert encroachment, genetic research conservation and utilization; (v) developing the molecular genetic characterization of Avian Influenza virus and genetic barcode for database of various plants and animals in Nigeria; and (vi) developing human and infrastructural capacity in biotechnology in partnership with some selected universities.
34. The establishment of the Information Telecommunication Technology has led to the following: (i) popularization and propagation of the use of the internet; (ii) introduction of the Computer for All Nigerians Initiative (CANI); (iii) and the creation of the Nigerian e-Government Strategies (NeGst). Through the implementation of the Policy on Space Science Technology, the following have been achieved: (i) the launch of the NigeriaSat-1 (earth observation satellite) in 2003 and the NIGCOMSAT-1 (Communication satellite) in 2007; (ii) development of remote sensing and Geographic Information System model for desertification; (iii) mapping and monitoring of the impact of gully erosion; (iv) domestication of space science technologies; and (vi) mineral resources mapping, exploration and exploitation; etc.
35. Through the National Atomic Energy Commission (NAEC), curriculum for the introduction of degree programmes in nuclear science & engineering in the relevant knowledge centres and roadmaps for nuclear power generation of between 1,000 and 4,000 megawatts over a period of 12 years developed. The Raw Materials Research and Development Council is promoting the development of knowledge-intensive new and advanced materials from petrochemicals, minerals and agro resources.
36. Through the National Agency for Science & Engineering Infrastructure (NASeni), the following has been achieved: (i) use of Advanced Manufacturing Technology (AMT) technique to replicate Oil Seed Expeller and the Integrated Cassava Flour Processing Plant; and (ii) establishment of a solar panel manufacturing facility in Abuja for the production of Solar Panels under a PPP arrangement. These innovations have overarching impact on the MDGs as well as on social and economic transformation.

37. Evidence from stakeholders' consultations and feedback from questionnaires administered during the forum reveals the following roles of STI in facilitating socio-economic transformation:
- Solar and renewable energy which provides amenities to alleviate poverty
 - Innovations in telecommunication which provide ripple effect in job creation, income generation, and address logistic and access bottlenecks to maternal health
 - Improved technology which facilitates learning in schools, provides skills acquisition, enhances productivity and reduces associated gas flaring
 - Several farm-related benefits which include improved seedlings, better harvest and climate and pest resistant crops
 - Mechanized agriculture which makes farming attractive to the youth and raises farm productivity
 - New technology which provides small dams, irrigation, silos, etc., thereby enhancing all-season farming, improving post-harvest management and boosting employment.
38. While it may be challenging to address the role of the various segments of STI on socio-economic transformation in Nigeria, this report uses ICT as a case study. The deregulation of the telecommunication sector has been transforming the social economic activities in Nigeria. Prior to the advent of GSM in 2001, less than 0.45 million lines were serving about 120 million people.⁹ Then, telephone was a luxury only for the rich. As at first quarter of 2011, the subscriber base had risen to 90 million. Within a decade, access rose from about 0.6 per cent of the population to about 60.0 per cent.¹⁰ By 2008, Nigeria had become the largest telecoms market in Africa, and it is among the 10 fastest growing telecoms markets in the world. The transformative role of GSM in Nigeria's development process is captured by Akwaja and Akintaro (2011) thus:

Just like yesterday; yet, it's already 10 years since GSM service providers began operations in Nigeria. An effort to free Nigerians from communications barrier has led to technological, human capital and social-economic benefits, bringing voice, data and internet communications to the citizens – who have never had a chance of savouring such freedom before.

39. Box 1 illustrates how pregnant women's access to mobile phones transformed pregnancy from a death sentence to a life-upholding experience. It increased service utilization by over 700 per cent in one year. Box 2, on the other, shows how OSSAP is using technology to deliver on its mandates especially in tracking CGS at the state and local levels.

⁹ Telephone lines expanded from 18,724 in 1960 to 450,000 installed capacity in 2001 when the GSM was introduced. In 40 years (1960-2001) it grew by 2,303.3 per cent as opposed to 5,614.3 per cent just in ten years. See Akwaja, Chima and Samson Akintaro (2011): "The Revolution that means freedom", IT & Telecommunication Digest, 2011, Belmang Limited

¹⁰ This is in the absence of dual ownership, which is not the case in Nigeria due to poor quality services which made people to have multiple lines.

Box 1: Mobile Phone has transformed pregnancy from a death sentence to a life-giving experience under the Abiye Project in Ondo State

The Safe Motherhood Programme - Abiye programme¹ - is an innovation to address maternal health challenges in Ondo State. The 2008 National Demographic and Health Survey rated Ondo State as one of the most burdened states on maternal mortality in Nigeria – the worst in the South Western zone. Having access to maternal health services was an issue especially in rural areas. In 2009 a baseline survey conducted shows only 16 per cent of pregnant women that registered with government facilities eventually delivered in them. To address this challenge, the *Abiye* programme, which is aimed at reducing child and maternal mortality by 50 per cent and increasing facility utilization by 60 per cent in 2011, was initiated.

At the point of registration at the Abiye Centre, each pregnant woman is assigned a physician, a specially trained community health worker called the ‘Health Ranger’, to monitor her. Twenty five pregnant women are assigned to one health ranger who calls and visits them regularly. The health rangers detect high risk, carry out birth plan, embark on complications readiness, carry out education on related areas of need, and administer first-aid kits. The pregnant woman also gets a mobile phone linked to a toll-free user group to ease communication with the physician. Ambulances (motor cycles and tricycles) are always on standby.

The programme achieved its target in one year. Prior to the commencement of the programme in the last quarter of 2009, less than 100 pregnant women registered for antenatal clinics in public clinics. At the end of 2009, total number rose to 346. By 2010, it increased to 2,791 representing an increase of 706.65 per cent. It stood at 2,376 in 2011 and 2,427 in 2012 without casualties. Postnatal cares also rose appreciably. Owing to the success of the programme, it was replicated in all the local governments in January 2013.

Success factors include willingness of community leaders in mobilizing people, NGOs in providing health materials and helping with sensitization, and community health volunteers helping to reduce capacity gap. Challenges abound; including capacity of health rangers to cope with the rising number of registration, resistance from traditional birth attendants, and capacity of government to cope with day-to-day running of the programme. Addressing these challenges is vital to sustaining its progress.

Source: EPAC (2013): Rapid assessment survey of Abiye Project in Ifedore Local Government, Ondo State, March 2013.

40. The boom in the telecoms market has attracted substantial investment to the country. Private sector investment rose from about US\$50 million in 1999 to over \$18 billion 2009. This includes more than N300 billion (about \$2.17 billion) as revenue to the Federal Government through frequency spectrum sales. The annual revenue from mobile services is also very high – about 4 per cent in Nigeria’s nominal GDP. For instance, the four GSM operators in the country -- MTN, Globacom, Airtel and Etisalat -- remit over N264 billion (\$1.9 billion) to government annually through Company Income Tax (CIT), annual operating levy, education

tax and government agencies task. There has been a phenomenal growth in the telecoms market's percentage share of GDP; it rose from 0.06 in 1999 to 3.66 in 2009.¹¹

Box 2: OSSAP is applying technology to manage baseline data and track progress on CGS

The OSSAP-MDGs' is applying technology in discharging its mandates especially in the deployment of the Conditional Grants Scheme and the Conditional Cash Transfer Programme. To be able to do this effectively, the MDG Office created the Nigerian MDGs Information System (NMIS). In order to make the support from CGS context specific, the OSSAP-MDGs conducted a Baseline Facility Inventory and a Needs Assessment in all the 774 LGAs. Android phones were used to collect and collate data of existing infrastructure at this sub-national level with pictures of health centers, primary schools, and water schemes, among others, taken and stored in a database. The data was eventually cleaned up, analyzed and is now resident in the Nigerian MDGs Information System which helps to target CGS investment in the states and LGAs. The based provides a basis for effective monitoring of progress at sub-national levels in a more scientific way.

OSSAP-MDGs is also adopting the use of e-payment and e-registration in the scale up of the Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme to 56,000 households in 24 states of the Federation. The Office is in partnership with Ecobank which has provided 56,000 android phones to these households to help in the process of e-disbursement and e-registration of these families. The deployment of Science and Technology has enhanced transparency, accountability and efficiency in the management of the DRGs, allowing funds to reach intended beneficiaries.

The NMIS tracks information on efforts related to the nation's Conditional Grant Scheme (CGS). One of the greatest strengths of the NMIS platform is the ability to spatially map facility information. The NMIS is helping to identify service delivery performance gaps; effectively site project interventions to maximize impact and avoid duplication; provide up-to-date information on the facilities; provide a baseline for monitoring and evaluating progress of the various initiatives; and avail local governments with relevant information on grant applications under the CGS.

41. The growth of this market has led to substantial job creation, improved business performance, and timely information exchange. Particularly, the wide-availability of digital mobile service has led to improvement in efficiency and productivity, reduction in transactions cost, increased service innovation and better quality of life. It facilitated easy business by drastically reducing the time, energy and resources spent by business people on transactions. The use of GSM also spurred the complementary growth in information and communication technology (ICT). For instance, the various GSM service providers also provide internet services,¹² thereby increasing internet penetration rate.

¹¹ See Akwaja and Akintaro (2011).

¹²As at 2011, 44 million Nigerians are now accessing the internet mostly through their mobile phones.

42. In addition to over 15,000 direct jobs created by the GSM companies across the 36 states of federal and the Federal Capital Territory, millions of GSM-related jobs have been created, mostly for the youths. More than 71.0 per cent of people engaged in retail GSM services are those that never had any employment before.¹³ The empirical findings from Gold, Saibu and Yusuf (2012) summarize the impact of this sector on the Nigerian economy as follows¹⁴:

Firstly, it has impacted on the transaction cost by reducing the cost of transportation and information gathering on their daily business. Secondly, it has also increased their market access and reduced distribution cost which invariably affected the service provider cost. Lastly it leads to reduction in poverty level and incidence through increase in income generating capacity and business expansion of households.(ibid, page 263).

43. In spite of this, issues of poor quality of service, high call rates and poor customer relations still haunt the achievements recorded so far. Although the history of STI is long in the country, Nigeria still has a lot to learn. Some of the challenges of STI System in Nigeria include inadequate number of scientists and researchers in Nigeria; limited international cooperation between Nigerian academics/institutions and international academics/institutions; poor research funding; poor infrastructure to support S&T; and limited integration of science and technology into national development strategies. Limited linkage between R&D and the manufacturing sector, weak political will, and inadequate funding are other bottlenecks.¹⁵ There is also limited coherence and coordination among relevant institutions involved in STI planning, management and implementation.

44. Without a culture that values education and research, advancement in science and technology will be difficult. To effectively leverage explosion in new knowledge of STI in the context of limited capacity to adopt, it is important to put in place a policy framework that supports the adoption of appropriate policies, strategies and activities in facilitating human resources development especially through an education system that promotes sound science education at all levels; increasing demand for knowledge in the private sector;¹⁶ raising public support for S&T;¹⁷ and accelerating access to information and communication technologies. While deepening STI infrastructure is critical, having appropriate technological applications and engineering that can help drive sectors such as manufacturing, health, agriculture, and natural resource management is also pivotal.

¹³ See Fazoranti , M.M. (2010): “The Influence of the Deregulated Tele-communication Sector on Urban Employment Generation in Nigeria”, Research Journal of Social Sciences, 5: 1-6, 2010

¹⁴Gold, Kafilah Lola; Muibi Olufemi Saibu; and Hamed Agboola Yusuf (2012): “Mobile Telecom (GSM): Its impacts on household income generating capacity and business expansion in selected states in Southwest Nigeria”, Las Vegas International Academic Conference Las Vegas, Nevada USA 2012

¹⁵ SeeNACETEM (2010).

¹⁶ This includes promoting competitive markets that allow for the emergence of innovative firms that demand knowledge; encouraging financial infrastructure that supports innovative firms; protection of indigenous knowledge, subsidizing firm-based training to encourage technology deepening, providing tax incentives for firms engaged in R&D.

¹⁷ This includes competitive, merit-based allocation of funding to basic research priorities and evaluation and accountability mechanisms for research output and effectiveness.

45. The implementation of STI is not yet strong. To achieve synergy, a system that is strong in linkages and collaboration between industry and university research, and among educational and research institutions, policy and regulatory agencies, financial institutions and industry is needed. This report also supports the establishment of a National Research and Innovation Fund (NRIF) with a capital base of not less than 1.0 per cent of GDP.

IV. Maximizing the benefits of culture and creative sector as well as minimizing threats to development

46. Culture is the enabler, the progenitor, the conditioner of all human endeavours. It is a productive force and an effective instrument for social change and development. It promotes social inclusion and ownership of development processes. To maximize the nation's immense and rich cultural heritage, in June 1999, the Federal Ministry of Culture and Tourism was carved out of the Federal Ministry of Information and Culture and the Federal Ministry of Commerce and Tourism. To use culture as a source of growth and transformation, the Ministry built 12 Cultural Industries Centres in the six geo-political zones namely, Sokoto, Taraba, Enugu, Edo, Benue, Ondo States and the FCT. The centres provide physical infrastructure to enable cultural activities thrive and serve as a one-stop shops for cultural goods and services.

47. The Nigerian video feature film industry, known as Nollywood, grew between the 1990s and 2000s to become the largest African film industry and the second largest in the world in terms of number of annual film productions, placing it ahead of the United States and behind the Indian film industry.¹⁸ The country has a US\$500 million movie industry, creating some 200 videos for the home video market every month. The products from Nollywood have become a major source of export to the various parts of the world. The major export destinations of the output include West Africa (50 per cent per cent), rest of Africa (18.8 per cent per cent), Europe (12.5 per cent per cent) and others (18.7 per cent per cent).

48. A major challenge today is how to empower Nigerian artists and creators and strengthen their capacity for better productivity and quality of products and services. A large part of creative revenues originates from copyrights, licensing, and marketing and distribution practices with a meager part of it reaching the creator of the films. Accelerating development of the creative economy requires strengthening the regulatory and promotional agencies to promote the industry, facilitating healthy competition, upgrading quality, ensuring appropriate controls and standardization, and monitoring and enforcing standards. Encouraging the development of a window of special funding is also vital.

49. In spite of progress made in the creative economy, there are some pockets of cultural practices that are impinging on MDGs and development progress in the country. Critical among these are: (i) some inheritance structures still discriminate against women especially

¹⁸See United Nations (2013): "[Nigeria surpasses Hollywood as world's second largest film producer](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=30707#.UW5zn2dvAfg)". United Nations News Centre, UN, <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=30707#.UW5zn2dvAfg>

on landed properties; (ii) the negative aspects of widowhood; (iii) prevalence of early marriages for girls in some parts of the country; (iv) preference for the education of boys at the expense of girls; (v) negative perception of western education especially in some northern states; and (vi) the practice of boys going into business at an early age thereby forfeiting their educational opportunities especially in some parts of south-east. Gender violence is still an issue, especially female genital mutilation and violence against women and children. To address this, the government should create well targeted awareness campaign on these inimical cultural practices while emphasizing cultural attitudes that support social inclusion, resilience and development.

V. Mainstreaming sustainable development into national development strategies

50. Sustainable development is about ensuring socially responsible and environmentally responsive economic development in the context of protecting the national resource base (including ecological assets) for the benefit of future generations. This strategic framework was adequately captured in the 1999 Constitution in Sub-section 2 – Articles 1, 17 and 20. In addition to ensuring individual's equal access to economic activities, it also states: “*....exploitation of human or natural resources in any form whatsoever for reasons, other than the good of the community, shall be prevented*”; and “*....the State shall protect and improve the environment and safeguard the water, air and land, forest and wild life of Nigeria*”.¹⁹
51. Operationally, sustainable development was mainstreamed into national development strategies including the Vision 20: 2020. In addition to having two of the six goals of the National Implementation Plan (NIP) for the Vision on improving social advancement and fostering accelerated, sustainable social and economic development, the three main pillars of sustainable development (economic, social and environment dimensions) are important objectives of the NIP. The integration has improved advocacy, policy focus and implementation commitment.
52. Some innovations were put in place to accelerate sustainable development in the country. They include formulating an inclusive financial strategy (including micro finance policy), improving the investment climate through a one-stop shop arrangement, revamping the 23 Industrial Development Centres (IDCs),²⁰ establishing the National SMEs Credit Guarantee Scheme to facilitate easier access of SMEs to credit, and promoting industry-wide standards through social corporate responsibility among banks by forming the Strategic Sustainability Working Group that aims at improving environmental and community wellbeing. Others include forming several employment programmes, including those managed by the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (SMEDAN) such as Youth Enterprise With Innovation in Nigeria Programme (YouWiN),²¹ focusing on training, providing finance and

¹⁹ See Article 17(sub-section 2) and Article 20 (sub-section 2) for the first and second quotations respectively.

²⁰ It is expected to generate about 69,000 jobs in a year.

²¹ This targets 3,600 youths in three years.

mentoring of youths; promoting a One Local Government One Product (OLOP) programme that is expected to generate about 332,400 jobs in ten years; and promoting the Women Entrepreneurship Development Programme (WEDP), which is a capacity building, counselling, mentoring, coaching and other business support services for 3,700 women.

53. This has yielded some benefits. The economy grew at an annual average of 6.8 per cent between 2005 and 2011 while the prospect is bright for 2013 and 2014 – about 6.9 per cent, according to projections.²² The country also succeeded in reducing gas flare from 26 billion cubic meters (BCM) per year in 2003 to 15 BCM in 2009. With a population 167 million in 2011, 45 per cent of the total population is under 15 years of age while 4 per cent is 65 or older – an indication of high dependency ratio. While several other countries have succeeded in reducing poverty, this, however, remains a serious challenge in Nigeria. The poverty ratio rose from 42.7 per cent in 1992 to 69.0 per cent in 2010. Unemployment remains very high – at 24 per cent in 2011.
54. Specific policies and action plans to address environmental challenges have been put in place. They include: (i) National Policy on Drought and Desertification; (ii) Drought Preparedness Plan; (iii) National Policy on Erosion, Flood Control and Coastal Zone Management; (iv) National Environmental Sanitation Policy and Action Plan; (v) National Policy Guidelines on Solid Waste Management, Market and Abattoir Sanitation, Excreta and Sewage Management, Sanitary Inspection Premises and Pests and Vector Control; (vi) National Forest Policy; (vii) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan; (viii) National Healthcare Waste Management Policy/Action Plan and Guidelines; and (ix) State of the Environment Report of 2008. In spite of the country's environmental endowment, Nigeria still faces the challenge of substantially addressing biodiversity; coastal and marine environment; deforestation; drought and desertification; flooding and erosion; human displacement; land resource use; pollution; water resources; and waste.

VI. The emerging national challenges

55. Some national challenges are making it difficult to accelerate progress on the MDGs and other international agreed goals. This focuses on two: the security challenge and the recurring flooding.

6.1 Addressing the security threats to national transformation and development

56. Security is a state of being free from danger, fear, threat, anxiety and uncertainty. It is a public good. This is duly recognized by the 1999 Constitution of Nigeria (Section 14 (2) (b)) which states that “the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government”. Insecurity, the presence of fear and absence of economic or physical protection for persons, buildings, organizations or country against destruction or threats like crime or attacks, is having serious implications not only on the MDGs but the overall development. Evidence abounds on the role conflict and insecurity have played in constraining MDGs and

²² See CIA World Fact book, June 2012

development progress in Africa.²³ Until recently, armed robbery, communal clashes (especially in Plateau and Benue States) and turbulence from the Niger Delta militancy as well as ethnic militants such as those associated with Egbesu boys, the Odua People's Congress, the Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), religious clashes and post-election violence were considered to be the main security concerns in Nigeria. Recently kidnapping (especially in the South East and South South) has also become another source of insecurity. This crime is assuming a commercial trend in recent times. In fact, this criminal act has earned the country a cliché of being designated as the global capital for kidnap-for-ransom²⁴ by the African Insurance Organization (AIO) as indicated in its 18th African Reinsurance Forum, held in Mauritius in October 2012.

57. Since 2009, however, insurgence of the 'Boko Haram'²⁵ has become the most challenging security issue. Boko Haram introduces a new dimension into the country's security dimension – frequent bomb explosions and attack of innocent citizens by gunmen. More than 2,800 lives were lost to terror-related violence between 2009 and 2012. Of this, 815 people were killed in 275 suspected attacks by the Boko Haram group between January and September 2012. This represents more than the total number of deaths recorded between 2010 and 2011 combined. Over 60 police stations have been attacked in at least 10 northern states, including the attack on the police headquarters in Abuja. The United Nations Office in Abuja was also bombed.
58. The result of the National Crime Victimization and Safety Survey²⁶ indicates that the percentage of people fearful of becoming victims of crime which declined from 86 per cent in 2010 to 72 per cent in 2011 increased to 75 per cent due to rising wave of bomb and gun attacks from the Islamic sect in 2012. Taraba and mostly affected states by the sect had the worst performance. The actual crime rate follows the same pattern.
59. Insecurity in Nigeria has been linked to the prevalence of poverty, inequality and high unemployment in the midst of opulence. The Boko Haram insurgence is also being perceived as a political weapon.²⁷
60. The wave of insecurity is imposing serious economic and social impact on the country. For weeks, social and economic activities were paralysed in such states like Borno, Bauchi, Yobe, Gombe and Kano states. Students did not go school, and public and private sector

²³ See for instance, EPAC (2013a) for detailed references on this.

²⁴ This is due to the huge record of kidnap cases reported in the country yearly - accounting for a quarter of globally reported cases. See Chiedu, A. (2013): "Economic implications of insecurity in Nigeria" <http://www.spyghana.com/economic-implications-of-insecurity-in-nigeria/> [accessed, April 2013] for more information.

²⁵ Boko Haram sect which rejects western education as well as western culture has international links with other terrorist groups such as the Al-Qaeda in the Magherb and the Arabian Peninsula and al-Shabab in Somalia.

²⁶ Conducted by CLEEN Foundation (2012): Summary of Findings of 2012 National Crime and Safety Survey, Lagos, 2012.

²⁷ See (i) Katsina, Aliyu Mukhtar (2012): "Nigeria's Security Challenges and the Crisis of Development: Towards a New Framework for Analysis", *International Journal of Developing Societies Vol. 1, No. 3, 2012, 107-116*; (ii) Nwagboso, C.I (2012): " Security Challenges and Economy of the Nigerian State (2007 – 2011)", *American International Journal of Contemporary Research Vol. 2 No. 6; June 2012 244*

workers could not go to their offices. In some situations schools were attacked (e.g. in Borno State) and, occasionally, health workers, including the killing of 9 polio vaccination women workers in Kano in February 2013. This has started to have a serious toll on education performance. For instance, the impressive progress achieved on primary school net enrolment between 1990 and 2006 from 58.0 per cent to 91.1 per cent nosedived to about 70.0 per cent in 2008 – a period when the insurgence of the Boko Haram was becoming intense. In the 2008 education survey, more than 15.0 per cent of parents mentioned safety considerations as the reason why their children stopped schooling.

61. The Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA), has linked the collapse of more than 800 companies in Nigeria between 2009 and 2011 to insecurity and harsh operating business environment in the country. The National Employers' Consultative Assembly (NECA) stated that 73.3 per cent per cent of businesses have partially closed operations in northern Nigeria. The spate of kidnapping in commercial cities of Port Harcourt, Aba and Onitsha, obviously forced investors, businessmen and manufacturing companies to relocate to other peaceful cities in Nigeria. For instance, companies such as NBL, Seven Up Plc, Unilever Plc, PZ Plc relocated from Aba to Enugu largely due to constant kidnapping of their expatriate staff.²⁸
62. The negative impact goes beyond low education performance to poor health outcomes, low women empowerment and increase poverty particularly due to loss of access to land, property, jobs, assets and therefore means of livelihood. The mostly affected states by Boko Haram insurgence are among those with the highest poverty incidence. This increases people's vulnerability to shocks and high likelihood of slippage into poverty and heightened inequality.
63. Moving forward, the support and strong collaboration from the state governments in providing logistic and financial support to the joint task forces across the country has been quite helpful. The progress Lagos State Government made in stamping out 'areas boys' through rehabilitation of erstwhile hoodlums has reduced armed robbery substantially. Other states would need to learn from this. The Amnesty provided the Niger Delta militants has brought unprecedented calm in the Niger Delta region which has contributed appreciably to crude oil productions in the past three years. It is also important to note that improved intelligence gathering and better coordination and collaboration among the security agencies are important.
64. The Federal Government is also creating platforms for effective government-civil society collaborations to address the root and proximate causes of insecurity in Nigeria. A programme on arms control with a view to managing proliferation of arms and production of locally made arms in Nigeria is underway.

²⁸ See Nwagboso (2012)

65. The public is not yet fully satisfied with the handling of terrorism in the country.²⁹ Some of the policy options suggested to government include improved dialogue with the sect, strengthening the capacity of the security personnel and a combined use of force and dialogue. Over the past weeks, however, as mandated by the National Economic Council, four Governors of the mostly affected states (Bauchi, Yobe, Borno and Gombe) have initiated dialogue with the leadership of the sect. The Federal Government has set up a committee to advise it on the desirability or otherwise of amnesty for the Islamist sect. The Federal Government has set up a committee to advise it on the desirability or otherwise of amnesty for the Islamist sect. Ensuring improved development outcomes and results and intensification of programmes that fully engage youths and promote livelihoods are also critical.

6.2 Tackling the threats of natural disaster (flood) and the MDGs in Nigeria

66. Natural disasters often cause enormous damage, leaving behind large proportions of the population at risk of losing their livelihoods, their homes, and many times their lives. Population groups that are typically most at risk include smallholder farmers, rural landless poor, fishers, and the urban poor. Natural disasters especially floods and droughts are a major source of vulnerability to the poor. Given the nation's poor infrastructure and weak response capacity, when such disasters as floods happen, the impact is always very serious.³⁰
67. Over the past three decades, many parts of the country have been prone to flooding with many states experiencing serious flooding that often claim properties, livelihoods and lives. States like Anambra, Bayelsa, Niger and Oyo, for instance, have been experiencing recurring flooding. However, Nigeria witnessed an unprecedented flood that ravaged 35 out of the 37 states of the federation in 2012. It affected 3,870 communities in 256 LGAs. The flood wrecked serious havoc on not less than 14 states in terms of its intensity and impact. In these 14 states, 395,631 households in 116 out of 291 LGAs were severely affected - that translates to about 2.769 million people.³¹ About 20.0 per cent of the population in Bayelsa was affected followed by Delta, Jigawa and Kebbi States affecting close to 10.0 per cent while about 5.0 per cent was affected in Niger, Kogi and Anambra States (Figure 3). Kogi and Adamawa states had the highest number of traditional houses that were totally destroyed - 124,085 and 117,829 respectively.
68. About one in every three people affected by the flood had serious health problems in such states as Kogi (29.4 per cent per cent) and Niger (28.5 per cent per cent). Most of them suffered from malaria, cough and diarrhoea. Because either hospitals and or health personnel

²⁹ The CLEEN Foundation's national crime and safety survey in 2012 reveals that 54 per cent of the respondents interviewed were not satisfied while 31 per cent felt satisfied with the performance security agencies in the fight against terrorism in the country.

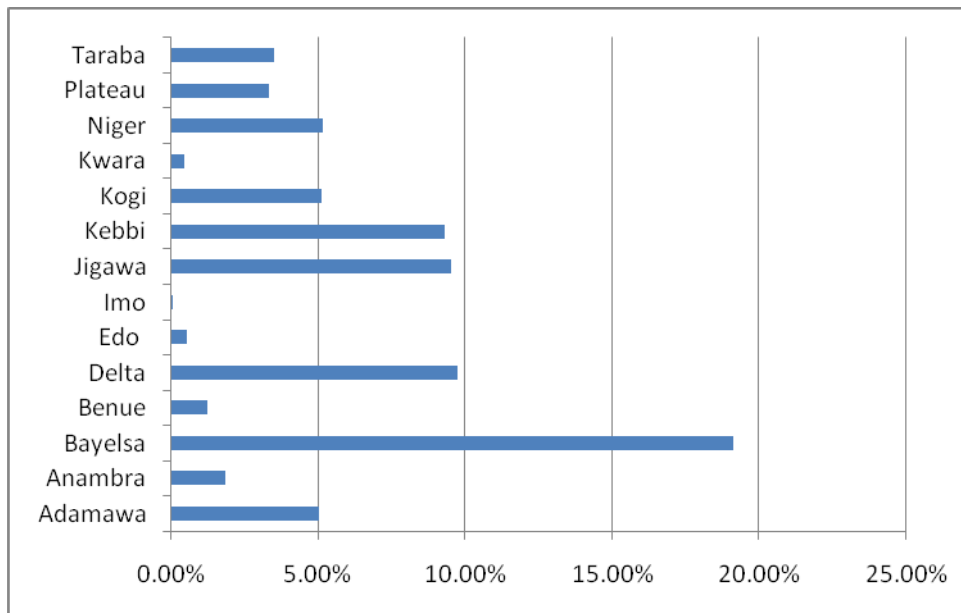
³⁰ See EPAC (2013a) and Figure 3.

³¹ See the Nigeria 2012 Flood Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA).

were affected, when flood victims went to hospitals they complained of unavailable or unaffordable medicines as well as overcrowding and inadequate health workers. Due to the foregoing challenges in public hospitals, affected people resorted to traditional sources of seeking health services. For instance, in Adamawa and Taraba States the use of traditional sources rose by from 30 per cent in pre flood era to 40 per cent after.

69. The impact of the flood disaster on education is even worse especially in terms of school infrastructure damaged. In only 11 states³², 4,199 schools were affected, comprising 3,205 primary schools and 994 secondary schools. Of the primary schools, 2478 (77.3 per cent) were partially damaged and 22.7 per cent were totally destroyed, while 79.8 per cent of secondary schools were partially damaged and 20 per cent totally destroyed. Anambra accounted for 40.7 per cent of the affected primary schools (42.3 per cent of those partially damaged and 35.2 per cent of those totally destroyed).
70. Income and livelihood had their shares. There was reduction in agriculture, forestry and fishing as main source of livelihood in Kogi and Niger states after the flood. The coping strategy is the recourse to other livelihood such as mining and small trading (Zamfara) and part-time teaching (cases in Adamawa and Taraba).

Figure 3: The 2012 flood wrecked serious havocs on Nigeria in terms of number of population affected by states



Source: Author’s calculation using Nigeria 2012 Flood Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA).

71. Managing the crisis was quite challenging but the outcome is rewarding. There was a strong collaboration among governments (Federal and States), the private sector, NGOs and international development agencies especially in providing water, food, shelter, sanitation/toilets, and support for restoration of livelihoods, security and health care. To avoid epidemic, clinics were established in IDP settlements while referral systems to still

³² These are Adamawa, Anambra, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Jigawa, Kebbi, Kogi, Nasarawa, Rivers and Taraba.

functional health facilities were also established. This was complemented with strengthened disease surveillance and suspension of user fees for IDPs in government facilities.

72. A number of interventions were put in place to ameliorate the educational impact. This includes (i) integration of schools affected into others to accommodate their pupils; (ii) provision of alternative buildings or rented accommodation for schooling by state governments; and (iii) formation of flood relief distribution committees in the State Ministries of Education.
73. Other rapid actions taken to cushion the impact of damaged houses in the affected states include: (i) immediate evacuation of the affected population away from the flooded areas; (ii) relocation of the affected population in temporary shelters/accommodation (iii) provision of food and non-food items, medical and other humanitarian assistance; and (iv) repair of roads to link cut-off towns/settlements.
74. The Federal Government in collaboration with development partners carried out the national 2012 Flood Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). The Federal Ministry of Environment with the support from development partners like UNDP developed the flood early warning system and tools to forecast occurrence of flood within five days in advance in about 600 communities. The National Emergency Management Authority (NEMA) in collaboration with UNDP and OCHA has developed the draft Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction with particular focus on DRR policies, education and innovations as well as identification and monitoring of risks.
75. To facilitate early recovery and to prevent recurrence of flooding, key areas to focus attention on include:
 - (i) Developing early warning systems, vulnerability mapping, technological transfer and training of communities to avoid and manage floods;
 - (ii) Developing response plan and actions as well as associated guidelines;
 - (iii) Promoting partnerships, improving scientific research on the causes of natural disasters and better international cooperation to reduce the impact of climate variables;
 - (iv) Encouraging governments to address the problems created by megacities, the location of settlements in high-risk areas and other man-made determinants of disasters;
 - (v) Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into national strategic plans, and planning and budgeting processes; and
 - (vi) Developing adequate infrastructure to prevent recurring floods.

VII. Conclusions

The Federal Republic of Nigeria is committed to the realization of MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals. Our Vision 20:2020 aims at optimizing the country's human and natural resources to achieve rapid, sustained economic growth and translating such growth into inclusive, equitable and sustainable development for its citizens. It articulates policies and strategies to achieve economic, social, environmental and institutional dimensions of development. Achieving this goal requires addressing the challenges identified in this report and building a strong partnership and collaboration with national and international partners. Scaling up commitment to the implementation of sustainability agenda and STI-based development transformation is critical. Sustained development is only possible in a peaceful and stable society.