

TITLE OF PAPER: IMPLICATION OF QUALITY DATA GENERATION AND UTILIZATION FOR FISCAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES IMPLEMENTATION IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WITH FOCUS ON THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY – NEEDS. KOSEEDS-STATE/ LEEDS-LGA

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CONFERENCE: Macroeconomic Challenges Facing Low-Income Countries

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The main questions to be examined,

- 1) To what extent does data quality utilize for policy planning /implementation limit the implementation?
- 2) INDEPTH ANALYSIS: How do we ensure high precision that will facilitate relevant in-depth analysis?
- 3) HISTORICAL RECORDS: How reliable and valid are historical records available for policy formulation?
- 4) CROSS CULTURAL COMPARISON: Do countries employ cross cultural comparisons for similar issues?
- 5) MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES: how applicable are multidisciplinary/ intersectoral approaches?
- 6) AID EFFECTECTIVENESS: what are the lessons learnt over the years from diverse institutions
- 7) INTEGRATION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANT FROM NORTH AND SOUTH – how accessible and integrated are technical assistance from the North and South and what are the limitations of ICT4D
- 8) COORDINATION OF BILATERAL AGENCIES PROJECT DOCUMENTS, REPORTS: HOW?
- 9) MONITORING AND EVALUATION: At the LGA level how do we integrate the expertise to activities?
- 10) BEST PRACTICES, LESSONS LEARNT AND SYNTHESIS: how prepared in the Federal coordinating, regulatory and monitoring approaches to track implementations at the local government and state levels?

Relevant literature: NEEDS/ LEEDS-NPC, NDHS-USAID/FGN, MICS-UNICEF, HDR-UNDP, MDG, WB

The intended contribution of the paper to the literature: Further analysis on completion of surveys is utilized by diverse institutions including the World Bank if data generated is of good quality. The US Embassy in 1990 sponsored my participation for quality control of data a status that has not been repeated in subsequent NDHS and the implication is generation of data that lack continuum and consistency. The paper will review diverse government papers and the limitation for policy implementation. The data sets methodology will focus on local governments that interact with agrarian families and high % of populace.

INTRODUCTION:

Roles and responsibilities of the LGs are enormous because they house over 60% of the population predominantly the agrarian families and increasingly the educated youths without work cannot afford to stay in the cities and retirees, they are back in LGs. With increasing responsibilities data availability is limited and when available are not of expected quality for utilization. LGs, State and Federal Government will need partnership with bilateral agencies to strengthen the data management system in the 7 sectors of the LGs departments - Health, Education, Agriculture, Works, Personnel, Planning and Accounts. The G77 TCDC UNDP proposal was prepared in 2006 with State and 2008 and 2012 with LGs. The NEEDS activities of National planning commission are concurrent at the Federal, State and LGs and will be reviewed

BACKGROUND REVIEW: NDHS, NEEDS, LEEDS, MICS. HDR, World Bank/

The World Bank document on Local Government Development Sector study report No. 9844-UN1 dated May 28, 1992 from the Infrastructure Operations Division, West Africa department of the Africa region noted the following:

- 1.03: “the ability of the Federal, State and Local Governments to provide infrastructure and social services depends largely on their financial and management capacity”.
- 1.04: “ the constitution of 1979 and 1989 gave jurisdiction over very important economic and social subjects – agriculture, primary and secondary education, most health care, roads (with exception of federal highways), water and rural electricity to state and local level authorities. Approximately half of world bank loans are directed to state levels projects partly because are, in many cases not fulfilling their constitutional roles”
- 1.05: decree no 15 of 1989 set a framework for 453 democratically elected LGs currently there are 774 LGs in Nigeria. The federal government is committed to democratic process at the grass roots level by setting up elected councils and developing administrative and leadership capacity at the local level.
- 2008 – 2011, three local governments in Kogi State – Ijumu, Dekina and Bassa all in former Kabba province were selected to implement Local Economic empowerment and development strategy initiative of NEEDS by National planning commission. Similarly in NITDA implemented pilot Rural information centers in 10 centers including Kabba/Bunu LGA and later launched the ICT4D initiative in conjunction with UNECA in Africa

Statement of the problem:

- 1 high youth dependency ratio,
- 2 high unemployment among youth even when educated
- 3 high female headed household,
- 4 high senior citizens as surrogate parents with death of parents due to HIV/AIDS or other causes
- 5 low level of virtues, performance, integrity and credibility
- 6 result base financing difficult to achieve
- 7 IPPIS and integrated payroll at the LGA level yet to be achieved
- 8 UN and development projects lack appreciation and utilization of technical papers and reports reduced
- 9 % of LGs revenue on salaries high yet with limited productivity requires cross cultural comparison of what has worked best in the low income economies in comparison with the North
- 10 Application of RITC/ICT4D at the rural areas limited but with high potentials
- 11 Effect of universal primary education on quality of personnel and replacement with computer age
- 12 Assessment of fiscal and monetary challenges with high percent of educated retirees in rural areas, population drift from urban to rural contrary of rural to urban and implication on security and integration is required
- 13 Cooping mechanisms at the LGs level is required and what really work best and how can they be benchmark
- 14 How do we ensure technically sound technical assistant performance and experiential knowledge in the field
- 15 Cost effectiveness and cost benefit ration of technical assistant at the LGs level
- 16 LG are expected to handle a wide range of issues but are often limiting because of inappropriate approaches to planning, budgeting and financing of which utilization of good quality data with high level of precision can facilitate relevance of LGsa in resolving pressing problems – but how prepared are LGs to address this?
- 17 NEX - UNDP, Ownership-OECD, sustainability and donor fatigue, aid and development effectiveness, impact

OBJECTIVES: the objective will be integrated with World Bank for upgrade of documents at LGs level thus:

1.06: the objectives of the World Bank review as stipulated in the reports are to define and identify

- a) Functions most efficiently carried out at the Local level
- b) The current divisions of responsibilities between SGs and LGs and how they are well fulfilled
- c) The policy reforms and specific actions required to enable LGs to provide the services allocated to them
- d) The adequacy or inadequacy of the revenue sharing arrangements between FG, SGs and LGs, the potential of improving the internal revenue generation of LGs and the availability of capital for development projects
- e) Manpower constraints and work force development issues and
- f) A strategy for the medium-term (10-15 years) development of LGs

METHODOLOGY – A REVIEW OF NEEDS, KOSEEDS, LEEDS: Desk review, preparation of summary reports and synthesis from diverse projects at the Federal, State and LGs to review the distinctive approaches and strategies. Data utilization at the Federal, State and LGs level will be assessed and issue of data quality

RESULT –

- 1) Low utilization of the report generated by UNDP / NGOS and other bilateral agencies
- 2) Refusal by LGs to collect the LEEDS reports due to lack of relevance
- 3) Benchmark will be difficult / adaptation and replication
- 4) Lack of integration of the operational guidelines of LGs in project report making it abstract
- 5) Lack of ownership by the LGs due to lack of understanding of the development processes

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 Implication of data inconsistencies to fiscal and economic planning, policy formulation and implementation should be assessed
- 2 Building blocks on data for effective planning and budgeting and not brain wave
- 3 Further analysis by the agencies is required of LGs performance and integration with agrarian families
- 4 Credibility and integrity of data should be reviewed
- 5 Technical assistant for data quality as sponsored by US Embassy for USAID and FGN with Integration
- 6 Cross cultural comparisons of LGs performance in Africa and other continents plus distinctiveness of LGs
- 7 Human resource for health results policy and application should be reviewed and also with education
- 8 Result base financing is vital and should be guaranteed at LG level before autonomy can be granted
- 9 IPPIS WITH RITC / ICT4D should be implemented in all LG
- 10 M and e culture with Maputo –AUC agenda
- 11 NEPAD, G77, G8 TCDC regional programs should be implemented at LGs sustainably
- 12 Political will and institutionalization for democratic sustenance with LGs council, executives and legislatures
- 13 Operation research, formative evaluation, interim, summative and ex-post evaluation should be conducted