



Stella Odiase

Gender and Social Inclusion Lead

Stella.odiasse@niafng.org



Nick Leffler

Senior Manager

Nick.Leffler@adamsithinternational.com

Infrastructure, Poverty and Social Inclusion: Lessons Learnt

Executive Summary

- The premise of NIAF technical assistance (TA) is that improved infrastructure planning, delivery, and maintenance can be a catalyst for pro-poor non-oil growth.
- While the types of technical deficits to be addressed with respect to infrastructure delivery in Nigeria were largely clear from inception, their relationship with poverty, gender and social inclusion (PG&SI) were less so.
- Approaches for integrating poverty, gender and social inclusion concerns in infrastructure delivery are still evolving globally and the evidence base is therefore limited
- Against the above back drop, NIAF has adopted a two-pronged approach:
 - Providing specific TA on social impact targeting as part of infrastructure planning support; and
 - Tracking the impact of improved infrastructure on low income beneficiaries

The Challenges

In Nigeria, the link between infrastructure design and social impact targeting is not clearly articulated in policy and planning documents. At best, policy makers espouse generic references of improved infrastructure provisions ‘automatically’ resulting in improved living standards for poor and excluded demographic groups. However, the approach for ensuring that this actually happens is often not clear.

This challenge is compounded by:

- Misconceptions about targeting for pro poor outcomes in “non-social” sector programming;
- Traditionally focused donor support addressing demand-side shortfalls, with limited attention to supply side gaps and how these distort market efficiency;
- A lack of clarity on measures to action the aspirations of the National Gender Policy within the context of infrastructure provision; and
- The difficulty in assessing pro-poor impact and job creation associated with upstream NIAF TA to Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs).

NIAF has focused on supporting Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) to anticipate not just the pace of infrastructure related growth but also pattern.

The NIAF Approach

NIAF's approach to targeting and measuring its impact on poverty, gender, and social inclusion is articulated in its *Gender & Social Inclusion Strategy* and *Beneficiary Monitoring Report* respectively. The latest versions, finalised in the second half of 2015, represented a deliberate effort to promote inclusive growth through infrastructure delivery.

The *Gender & Social Inclusion Strategy* identified opportunities within existing NIAF work sectors to mainstream social inclusion through the delivery of technical advice for sector management improvements. Notable areas of work include:

Power: working to minimize consumer market vulnerabilities

- Support to NERC for developing and administering a power sector low income survey, leading to the development of the national power sector customer enumeration policy guidelines.
- NIAF continues to provide technical oversight support to NERC in overseeing the national customer enumeration exercise.



Capital Projects: policy advice and training:

Working with local government development officers in Kaduna state to map skills for infrastructure jobs

- Training federal budget and planning officers on Poverty, Gender & Social Inclusion (PG&SI) within the context of capital budget planning
- Support to the federal budget office to integrate a social development pillar in the national project prioritization template
- Support to the Kaduna State Government's 'inclusive infrastructure jobs creation' drive. NIAF's support involved the design, testing and administration of a skills mapping tool among unemployed persons in the state's 23 Local Government Areas, including women and persons with disabilities.
- Integration of G & SI issues and targets in Kaduna state Energy Policy

In parallel, the *Beneficiary Monitoring Report* identified opportunities for impact evaluation based on the literature of poverty impact from infrastructure development. NIAF has undertaken two studies to broaden the evidence base and attempt to quantify this impact, including:

- A study tracing the effect of increased power generation on manufacturing output by reducing the effective cost of power consumption. The innovative new model provides a multiplier of power availability to increased GDP and job creation.



- An assessment of the impact of the Lagos Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system on household decision making, improved access to jobs and livelihoods, and opportunities for business creation.

The Outcomes

- Integration of milestones for social impact targeting in national infrastructure policy frameworks, including *'The national guidelines on the enumeration of electricity consumers'*, and the *'Capital projects prioritisation template'* for budget preparation by Federal MDAs
- Adoption of a framework for collating feedback from low income consumers by the National Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC).
- Development of key policy messages on 'creating inclusive infrastructure jobs' by the Kaduna State government as they work towards creating 200,000 infrastructure jobs in the current fiscal year.
- Inclusion of a 'social infrastructure' category in the Kaduna State M & E dashboard for capital budget planning and use.
- Demonstration of the suitability of a new economic model for assessing the relationship of power generation on GDP and low-income job creation, expanding the evidence base for pro-poor infrastructure planning
- Highlighting the benefits of LAMATA's investments in BRT and the value of NIAF's TA to this area of work.