



# **NIGERIA COMMON COUNTRY ANALYSIS (CCA) REPORT 2016**

**UNCT NIGERIA**

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## **Abbreviations and Acronyms**

AU	African Union
CCA	Common Country Analysis
EFCC	Economic and Financial Crimes Commission
ERC	Electoral Reform Committee (
FGM/C	Female Genital Mutilation/Cut
FGN	Federal Government of Nigeria
FIRS	Federal Revenue Service (FIRS)
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GII	Gender Inequality Index
ICPC	Independent Corrupt Practices and other related Offences Commission
INEC	Independent National Electoral Commission
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MTSP	Medium Term Strategic Plan
NDHS	Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey
NPCC	National Prosecution Coordination Programme
NPF	Nigeria Police Force
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SIECs	State Independent Electoral Commissions
STI	Science, Technology and Innovation
U5MR	Under five Mortality Rate
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**1. In the context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Nigeria Common Country Analysis (CCA) 2016<sup>1</sup> is intended to provide analytical basis for joint visioning and planning process for the new United Nations Development Assistant Framework (UNDAF IV) 2018-2022** by the UN system, Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) and other non-government stakeholders. The CCA was done between June and September 2016. This document is based on extensive literature review and consultations with Government and non-government stakeholders at national and states levels, FGN Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), UN Agencies and selected Delivering as One (DaO) states. Validation workshops on CCA findings were held for various stakeholders in various states including Cross-River, Benue, Oyo, Anambra, Gombe and Kaduna. There was also a national validation workshop, bringing together stakeholders from the federal and selected states governments, civil society organizations, the academia, the private sector and UN agencies.

**The Country Analysis Report is presented in five sections.** Section one gives the background of the CCA indicating the objectives and methodology of the analysis. Section two summarizes Nigeria's international, regional and national development context. Based on the 2030 Agenda and SDGs targets and framework, section three presents analysis and status of development and social issues in Nigeria, including the following:

- Federal Government of Nigeria's commitment to and plans for SDGs
- The People of Nigeria, Access to Social Services and Dignity
- Prosperity and Inclusive Economic Growth
- Planet: Environment, Resilience and Sustainable Development
- Protection and Humanitarian Crisis and Management, and
- Justice: Governance, Peace and Security

Section four focuses on the UN Nigeria comparative analysis and capacity assessment. Section five draws conclusions, summarises of FGN and UN Nigeria commitment to SDGs, and makes recommendations.

### **Nigeria's Commitment to Sustainable Development Goals**

**1. As active member of the international community, Nigeria is committed to the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).** The Presidential Committee on the Assessment and Monitoring of the MDGs and the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs has been transformed and mandated to monitor pro-poor programmes and projects, and coordinate progress towards the SDGs.<sup>2</sup> The Ministry of Budget and National Planning is also mainstreaming SDGs in its effort at implementing the Strategic Implementation Plan to move the Nigerian economy forward based on the 2016 Budget and the Medium Term Development Plan, 2017 - 2020.

**2. FGN commitment to SDGs comes at the wake of the general slowdown in global economic activities as well as declining oil prices and production levels that have adversely affected the Nigerian economy.** The Government and development partners like the UN Nigeria is committed to using this crisis to implement the reforms needed to unlock the economic potentials of the non-oil and high-employment sectors for inclusive growth and sustainable development. The FGN has, therefore, developed the Strategic Implementation Plan

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<sup>1</sup> *This CCA Report was validated on September 29, 2016 in Abuja by United Nations and Government of Nigeria through the Ministry of Budget and National Planning at a Stakeholders Workshop, in the presence of Permanent Secretary Ms Fatima Mede, for the Minister and Angele Dikungue-Atangana, UN Resident Coordinator ai for UN Nigeria.*

<sup>2</sup> *Nigeria Road to SDG, Country Transition Strategy, 2015.*

(SIP) for 2016 Budget to progressively facilitate true national development.<sup>3</sup> The FGN has also developed a **Medium Term Development Plan (MTSP), 2017 - 2020**. The key policy thrust of the MTSP is to diversify the productive base of the national economy and direct the trajectory towards the path of sustainable development and inclusive growth, thus promoting employment creation, for the youth and poor women in particular.

The FGN commits to take leadership, and effectively work with UN Nigeria, in making sure that UNDAF IV links with Nigeria's development priorities and needs through the Medium Term Development Plan. This is because the two are veritable frameworks for actualizing the long term development agenda of the country as articulated in Nigeria Vision 20:2020 (and indeed NV2030), and attaining the objectives of SDGs by 2030. UN Nigeria together with the FGN undertook Common Country Analysis, the results that are presented below, to inform (baseline for) prioritization and the development UNDAF IV.

### **The People of Nigeria: Access to Social Services and Dignity**

**3. In 2014, the National Population Commission estimated Nigeria's population at 180 million, with a growth rate of 3.2 per cent and an estimated birth cohort of 7 million children.** Nigeria is, thus the most populous nation in Africa and the seventh most populous in the world. The country's population is estimated to grow to approximately 200m by 2019, and to over 400m by 2050 becoming one of the top 5 populous countries in the world.

**4. Despite various interventions by the FGN and development partners, poverty levels have continued to be a major challenge in Nigeria. Over 64 per cent of the population is living below poverty line.** With a Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.514, Nigeria is ranked 152 among 188 countries of the world in 2015 UNDP Report. There are geographical disparities in the country demonstrated by differences in social-development indicators among the states. UN Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index and NBS data indicate that poverty and hunger have remained high in rural areas, remote communities and among female-headed households, and cuts across geo-political zones, with prevalence ranging from 19.3 per cent in North Central to 45.7 per cent in the South West to 80.9 per cent in North West. Analysis by states also indicates variations in the prevalence of poverty as indicated in the following states: Benue 59.2 per cent, Kaduna 56 per cent, Gombe 76.4 per cent, Cross River 76.9 per cent, Oyo 29.0 per cent and Anambra 11.2 per cent.

**5. Poverty and location are correlated with limited access to nutrition, health, education, shelter, clean water and sanitation, and electricity;** with Northern regions recording lower development and social indicators compared to Southern regions. The implication is that the human development outcomes remain low for a county like Nigeria with abundant resources and wealth. There are development shortfalls, such as low earnings for families, poor social indicators and growing disparities despite a decent rate of economic growth during the last decade.

**6. Nigeria faces the challenge of food insufficiency and insecurity due to various factors including reliance on rain-fed agriculture, global economic downturn, the effect of global increase of food prices especially the rise of prices of staple food, negative impact of climate change, insecurity and displacement of people.** The people hit hard are the poor and vulnerable groups like orphans, women headed households, those in rural communities and slums in particular. According to NDHS 2013, 37 per cent of children under five years are stunted, 18 per cent wasted, 29 per cent are underweight, and overall only 10 per cent of children aged 6-23 months are fed appropriately based on recommended infant and young children feeding (IYCF) practices. Eleven per cent of women are under-nourished (BMI<18.15), and 25 per cent are overweight or obese (BMI>25.0). Wasting is generally high

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<sup>3</sup> *Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, 2016.*

in the North West (27 percent) followed by North East (20 percent) and is lowest in the South West (10 percent). Children in rural areas are more likely to be underweight (32 percent) than those in urban areas (23 percent). Fifty-eight percent of children in Kano and Kaduna are underweight, as compared with only 7 percent in Enugu and 8 percent in Edo. Malnutrition may increase if food demand is not sufficiently matched by supply as food import bill reached N630bn in 2015.

The FGN recognizes the challenges faced by the agricultural sector in general and food security sub-sector in particular. Accordingly, the federal government launched the Agricultural Transformation Agenda in 2011 as a medium-term strategy for promoting agriculture as a business and commodity value chains, providing farmer support, while inducing foreign direct investments into agriculture sector, among other policy instruments. Following a change of government in 2015, there are presently underway to consolidate the past policy actions and reinforce the system with necessary changes to accelerate the attainment of food security and food sovereignty of the country.

**7. Health is a basic right and is an enabler to development. But the majority of Nigerians have limited access to this right.** The country's effort towards universal health coverage is limited as less than five per cent of the population is covered by the National Health Insurance Scheme. The rest are dependent on out of pocket expenses to cater for their health expenditures. With high prevalence of poverty, the poor and the most vulnerable groups and households across the country have limited capacity to meet health expenses. Health outcomes like infant and maternal mortality rates are high. About 49 per cent of children were immunized for measles and with all necessary vaccines in 2013, exposing the majority of Nigerian children to risk of preventable diseases. WHO data indicates that about 111 Nigerian women and girls die every day<sup>4</sup> (representing more than 14 per cent of all maternal deaths worldwide), due to preventable pregnancy and child birth related complications and 30 per cent of these deaths can be averted by increasing uptake of modern family planning methods.

**8. Clean water and sanitation are prerequisite for good health and nutrition.** The NDHS 2013 indicates that only 61 per cent of households (49% rural and 76% urban) have access to improved water sources. Only 3 out of 10 households in Nigeria use improved toilet facilities (25% rural areas and 37% urban areas). Overall, 29 per cent of households (40 rural and 16 urban) have no toilet facilities. Wide disparities in access to water and sanitation exist between the geo-political zones as well as between the wealth quintiles. Growing population and rampant open defecation have increased levels of contamination of water sources and associated public health risks. Illegal economic activities have also caused water sources contamination in some states like Niger, Zamfara and Cross River States where some unconfirmed laboratory reports indicated lead contamination.<sup>5</sup>

**9. NDHS 2013 indicates that Under-5 mortality was at 128 deaths/per 1000 live births in 2013. Poverty and limited access to health services, primary health care in particular are the factors behind high infant.** There are zonal differences in infant and under-5 mortality as well. For example, the under-five mortality for North West Nigeria was 185 per 1000 live births. For North East, it was 160 per 1000 live births and 100 for North Central. The under-five mortality for South East, South South and South West was 131, 91, and 90 per 1000 live births respectively. Nigeria's **maternal mortality rate** (MMR) is also very high, estimated at 575/100,000 / live births in 2013, resulting in an estimated maternal death of 40,000 Nigerian women annually. According to DHS 2013 (and Malaria Indicator Survey) less than 20 per cent of children are sleeping under insecticide bed nets, against the SDG target of 100 per cent. As

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<sup>4</sup> World Health Organization (WHO) (2014); 'Global causes of maternal death: a WHO systematic analysis'; *Lancet Global Health* 2: e323–33. Available on line [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(14\)70227-X](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(14)70227-X).

<sup>5</sup> UNICEF. *Wash Sector Issue Paper*, July 2016.

a result, malaria is responsible for 60 percent outpatient visits, 25 per cent deaths in infants and 11 per cent of maternal deaths.

**10. Education is a powerful instrument for the development of people and society. The people without education across Nigeria are high.** Nationally, primary school attendance stands at 64 per cent. Net attendance in the urban areas (84.3%) was higher than in rural areas (62.2%) in 2015. Quality of education is not good and there are several factors playing behind it, which includes non-timely payment of teachers' salary, inadequate educational infrastructure, limited teaching-learning resources, and disruption of learning by insecurity and conflicts. Available data indicates that a high proportion of children remain out of school. School enrolment in some states is very low, for example, Jigawa, (12.0%), Bauchi, (47.3%), Sokoto, (32.7%), Kebbi, (34.1%), Katsina, (43.5%), Zamfara, (35%) and Borno (35.1%) constitutes the major bottleneck to the realization of the objective of 100 percent enrolment of children of basic education of school going age.

**11. Women are likely not to be educated compared to men and this is associated with geographical location and poverty.** NDHS 2013 indicates that 21.5 per cent and 53.5 per cent of women in urban and in rural areas respectively have no education compared to 13.9 and 40.4 per cent of men in urban and rural areas respectively. There are variations from state to state, for example, Benue (women with no education 25.5 per cent, men 11.2 per cent), Kaduna (women 40.3 per cent, men 31.6 per cent), Gombe (women 61.6 per cent, men 46.4 per cent), Cross River (women 18.0 per cent, men 7.3 per cent), Oyo (women 24.9 per cent, men 21.9 per cent, and Anambra (women 10.1 per cent and men 7.9 per cent). Poverty, social-cultural practices and traditions, insecurity and conflicts, limited financing of education, high unemployment among the educated youths are some of the underlying factors that negatively affect participation in education in various zones and states.

**12. Inadequate information and services for adolescent and youth on sexual and reproductive health.** The proportion of population 15-24 years with comprehensive knowledge of HIV and AIDS is poor in Nigeria. It increased from 18.3 per cent in 2003 to 25.9 percent in 2005, but remained almost the same at 24.5 per cent in 2010. The contraceptive prevalence rate among young people is only 18.50 per cent (16% among women) and adolescent birth rate is very high at 17 per cent. The South West zone has the highest proportion of women currently using a family planning method (38 percent), followed by the South East (29 percent). The lowest proportion of married women using a family planning method is in the North East (3 per cent). Among the states, Lagos and Kwara have the highest percentages of women using any method (48 per cent and 40 per cent, respectively). In six states, Jigawa, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto, and Yobe, only one per cent of women use any method of contraception.

**13. Nigeria has a good policy framework in place to prevent gender discrimination and promote women's empowerment. But implementation of the framework remains a challenge.** Nigeria ranks 118 out of 134 countries on the Gender Equality Index.<sup>6</sup> Currently, the percentage of women elected to the National Assembly is 7.3 per cent, (i.e. 8 out of 109), for the Senate, while that of House of Representatives is 5.8 per cent (21 out of 309), which is low. In Nigeria, women occupy about 30 per cent of all posts in the public sector and 17 per cent in senior management and decision-making positions. There are major gaps on gender disaggregated data on various social and economic sectors. Nigeria's Inequality Index (GII)<sup>7</sup> varies by geo-political zones and status according to 2013 data. The GII is highest in the North

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<sup>6</sup> UNDP. *Nigeria Human Development Report, 2016*.

<sup>7</sup> *The Gender Inequality Index (GII) is a measure of inequality between males and females in the population. It incorporates three dimensions namely reproductive health (Maternal Mortality Rates and Adolescent Fertility Rates), empowerment and labor market (share of parliament seats). The higher the value of GII the wider the inequality gap between males and females.*

West (0.774) and lowest in the South East (0.397). All the southern geopolitical zones have GII value lower than the national average (0.579), while the northern zones all have GII value higher than the national average.

**14. Violence against women and girls, including physical and sexual assault, early child marriages, FGM, is prevalent in some parts of Nigeria; in households, schools, work places and in the streets of bigger and small towns.** The NDHS (2014) indicates that about 30 per cent of women aged 15-49 experience physical and sexual abuses in Nigeria. Women in urban areas are more likely than their rural counterparts to report having experienced physical violence since age 15 (33 percent versus 24 percent). There are notable variations in the experience of physical violence by zone. The proportion of women who experienced physical violence by the age 15 is highest in the South South (52 percent) and lowest in the North West (7 percent). The percentage of women age 15-49 who have experienced physical violence since age 15 varies from a low of 1 percent in Kano to a high of 72 percent in Benue. In spite of the endemic nature of VAWG in Nigeria, a culture of impunity still prevails including cases of sexual violence against minors (children), young girls and older women. The rejection of "Gender and Equality Bill" by national assembly is a good illustration of how far Nigeria still is in gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment.

**15. The National Violence Against Children Survey<sup>8</sup> found a high prevalence of violence against children - 6 in 10 children suffer one or more forms of physical, sexual and emotional violence before the age of 18 years, with over 70% experiencing this type of violence on multiple occasions.** One in two children suffer physical violence, 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 10 boys suffer sexual violence, and 1 in 5 boys and 1 in 6 girls suffer emotional violence. Most children do not report violence, with less than 5% receiving the services that they need to recover.

Nigeria has the largest number of child brides in Africa: 23 million girls and women were married as children. Currently, 43% of girls are married before their 18th birthday. 17% are married before they turn 15.9. Although prevalence is falling, due to the population growth, the number of child brides will rise by 1 million by 2030 and double by 2050.

The overall prevalence of FGM/C among girls and women aged 15-49 years in Nigeria (27%) is lower than in many countries. However, due to its large population, Nigeria has the third highest absolute number of women and girls (19.9 million) who have undergone FGM/C worldwide (after Egypt and Ethiopia).

**16. HIV and AIDs has negative impact on economic growth and social progress.** A 2014 survey by the Federal Ministry of health (FMoH) shows that the national HIV prevalence in Nigeria was 3.0 per cent compared to 4.1 per cent in 2010. The number of people living with HIV in Nigeria in 2014 estimated to be 3.4 million. HIV prevalence was highest in the North Central zone at 5.8 per cent and lowest in the North West zone with 1.9 per cent. HIV prevalence is distinctly high in Benue state (15.4%), Akwa Ibom state (10.8%), Anambra state (9.7%) and Imo state (7.5%). The high-risk groups include sex workers, men who have sex with men, people who use drugs, police, transport workers, and armed forces. The high levels of HIV prevalence endangers the lives of the future generation and efforts towards producing healthy, educated and skilled Nigerian for faster inclusive economic growth and sustainable development. The situation also increases government expenditure on health and social protection, the resource that could be channeled towards development.

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<sup>8</sup> *Violence Against Children : A National Survey 2014. National Population Commission US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and UNICEF:2016*

<sup>9</sup> *United Nations Children's Fund, A profile of Child Marriage in Africa, UNICEF, New York, 2015*

## **Prosperity, Inclusive Economic Growth and Shared Prosperity**

**17. The recent precipitous fall in oil revenues, which has been the major source of foreign exchange earnings, is having a negative impact on the country's growth prospect and macro-economic stability.** Oil prices have remained largely unstable in the two quarters of 2016 exacerbating the problem of export earnings, instability and consequently, vacillating government revenue. The global effect has had negative ramifications in the domestic market, as well as on capital importation and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), inflation, household and government consumption expenditure, gross capital growth, external reserves and merchandise trade and balance of payments. It is estimated that government revenue has fallen by as much as 33 per cent, which has further resulted in the contraction of the GDP by 0.36 percent in the first three months of 2016.<sup>10</sup> Public debt has also increased in the last four years, with a consolidated Federal Government debt stock totaling N12.6 trillion as at December 31st 2015, from N1.2 trillion as at December 31st 2014.

The Ministry of Budget and National Planning indicates that the total value of capital imported into the country in 2015 was \$9,643.01 million (FDI \$1,446.2m) as against \$20,750.76 million (FDO - \$2,276.8m) in 2014, representing a 53.5 per cent decline in capital importation and 36.6 per cent decline in FDI. Besides, it has led to low productivity and increased cost of doing business. Investors are struggling to get foreign exchange to import equipment and raw materials. Nigeria's abundant resources have not been used effectively and efficiently to promote and sustain inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection. The economy is currently in a recession and the inflation is at a double digit.

**18. Agricultural Sector potential:** - Nigeria has not been able to exploit its agricultural sector potential and is thus experiencing food insufficiency and insecurity, and increased poverty. The country is importing food, including rice, wheat and fish. The country's agricultural sector is undeveloped, with only 34.4 million hectares (42 per cent) of arable land is currently under cultivation. The main agricultural commodities cutting across agro-ecological zones, but under-developed and unexploited, include food crops such as cassava, sorghum, rice, maize, yams, among others; cash crops, such as cotton, cocoa, oil-palm, and groundnuts; as well as livestock such as cattle, sheep, goats and poultry. The sector is largely dominated by subsistence farming, which is rain-fed.

19. Agriculture has experienced declining productivity during the last decade due to various factors including climate change, unfavourable policy environment, limited application of appropriate technology, and dwindling prices. Currently Nigeria spends N635 billion on wheat importation. The country also loses about US\$100 million annually to fish imports. Such imports have negatively affected the local fish industry, rendering those in the local fishing industry poor. Meanwhile, heavy investments, such as Imo Modern Poultry, Avutu; Panyam Fish Farm; Ajaokuta Steel Plant, and closed cottage textile industries/businesses with great potential for job creation and increased income, lie idle and wasted. Millions of Nigerians across different states who benefited directly and indirectly from such ventures remain frustrated, confused but hopeful that one day such idle investments will be revived for their benefits.

The present state of market disorientation is another important issue in Nigeria's agriculture. Across the country, the market remains the weakest link of the agricultural value chain, whereby there is no national market for farm products for effective disposal of farm output. The FGN policy efforts to reorganize the national market have failed to yield the desired results. Poor governance, corruption, limited accountability and transparency negatively affect the agriculture sector.

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<sup>10</sup> Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, 2016.

**20. Private Sector (industry/manufacturing and SMEs): - Although the FGN-led major reforms targeting the private sector have created new and dynamic environment, which while encouraging sprouting of local companies, have at the same time driven many domestic owned businesses underground.** Consequently, the share of manufacturers' value added in GDP in 2015 stands at only 10%.<sup>11</sup> Many small and medium enterprises (SME) and cottage industries struggle to operate, while large companies, e.g., those manufacturing beer and soft drinks, and financial institutions (banks) have survived the harsh economic environment. Nigeria has great potential of agro-processing (value-addition) for tomatoes, palm oil, cassava, groundnuts, cotton, poultry, and fish among others. But this has not been exploited. Hence the share of manufacturers' value added in GDP in 2015 stands at only 10%.<sup>12</sup> Although the private sector, SMEs in particular, in Nigeria has shown resilience and some growth over the years, most private sector investments have not shown a significant improvement. For example, financial liberalisation has not improved savings, as a possible source of increased investment. With low incomes and increased poverty, majority of Nigerians has very limited capacity to save/invest, increase productivity, create jobs and improve their standards of living. The growth of the private sector, SMEs in particular, faces various challenges including limited access to credit, higher lending rates, and unfavourable business environment including limited financial transparency, poor governance.

**21. Current Efforts in Tackling Current Economic Challenges:**

**To tackle the current economic and social challenges, the FGN has developed two-prong approaches: the short-term and the medium-term strategies. The Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) for 2016 Budget is to progressively move the country's economy out of recession and facilitate true national development.**<sup>13</sup> The Plan is anchored on four policy fundamentals i.e.

- i. Investing in Critical Infrastructure
- ii. Embracing and Encouraging the Private Sector
- iii. Continuously Advocating for Greater Social Inclusion with a particular focus on Job Creation
- iv. Improving Security and Tackling Corruption

22. As articulated by the Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, the immediate critical steps to assure diversification of the economy include:

- Tackling challenges inhibiting private sector participation in the upstream petroleum sector and building on the petroleum products deregulation (\$7.9bn or about 30% of forex demand in 2015)
- Boost agricultural production for food sufficiency (food imports has the third highest demand for forex (\$3.4 billion in 2015 or about 8% of total demand)
- Growing non-oil exports in the light of competitive and comparative advantage created by the depreciation of the Naira following the introduction of a market reflective exchange rate.
- Attracting foreign and domestic investment by improving ease of doing business.
- Building on the comparative and competitive advantage of the depreciation of the naira following the flexible exchange rate by promoting exports.

23. The FGN is developing a **Medium Term Development Plan (MTSP), 2017 - 2020.**<sup>14</sup> The key policy thrust of the MTSP is to diversify the productive base of the national economy and

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<sup>11</sup> UNIDO, 2014.

<sup>12</sup> UNIDO, 2014

<sup>13</sup> Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, 2016.

<sup>14</sup> Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, 2016.

direct the trajectory towards the path of sustainable development and inclusive growth. The policies will be realised within the context of six strategic pillars namely: i. Economic reforms; ii. Infrastructure; iii. Governance and Security; iv. Environment; v. Social Investment; and vi. States and Regional Development. The FGN is also working with various development partners to address economic and poverty challenges. For example, UNDP Nigeria is currently facilitating the development of the value chain of key commodities in Nigeria.<sup>15</sup> This work involves enhancing the linkage between various stakeholders within the value chain, particularly the linkage between off-takers and farmers. Going forward, this sort of intervention should continue particularly harnessing existing agricultural development policy and other governmental interventions for helping agriculture to contribute to an inclusive economic growth. In this regard, UNDP is promoting the linkage between primary and secondary actors in the sector to ensure existing government policy and interventions attain desired outcome. An example is the facilitation of linkage between smallholder farmers and off-takers with commercial banks to access the newly launched Anchor Borrower Finance Instrument for small farmers.

**24. Science, technology and innovation (STI) is critical to help meet the challenges for sustainable development, as it lays the foundations for new approaches and technologies to identify, clarify and tackle global challenges for the future.** Science can thus significantly contribute to sustainable development, but requires to that end a broad understanding of science as such. FGN is committed to promoting mainstreaming and development of STI as a strategy for national development. STI is captured in the National vision 20:2020. In addition, the 2012 Nigeria STI policy, and the establishment of the National Research and Innovation Council further indicate the country's recognition of the importance of STI and a basis for sustainable development. In Nigeria there are, however, 4 categories of issues related to STI including, lack of institutional capacity, especially at the state level, for the inclusion of STI in national development agenda; lack of funding for the establishment of the National Science Foundation, lack of adequate monitoring of Global (SDG related) and regional (ASTII) agreed indicators; and lack of harmonization between National STI priorities and Regional (STISA, AU 2063 Vision) and global (SDG) ones.

#### **Planet: Environment, Resilience and Sustainable Development**

**25. Nigeria is well endowed with forest resources, accounting for 2.5% of GDP. The resources provide employment for over two million people through the supply of fuel wood and poles and 80,000 people working in log processing industries.** Nigeria has one of the highest rates of forest loss in the World. Between 1990-2000, Nigeria lost an average of 409,700 Hectares of forest per year (FAO, 2010) on average of Deforestation rate of 3.5% per annum (350,000-4000 hectares per year. Between 1990 and 2005, Nigeria lost 35.7% of its forest cover. The country is also faced with serious challenges of desertification in the northern frontiers and menace of gully erosions in the South East and South-South regions.

**26. Deterioration of environment, ecosystem and natural resources.** In the past, unsustainable exploitation of natural resources across the country has led to pollution, thus exposing the population to vulnerability and risks caused by climate change among others. Increase in population, human activities like farming, construction, and cutting of trees, use of wood, and effect of climate change lead to environmental destruction. The implications of these are reduced agricultural productivity, destruction of property and loss of lives among others. The poor and vulnerable communities are the most affected, leading to increased poverty and hunger. There is a clear link between rainfall variability (and floods and soil erosion) and increased poverty, hunger and inequality in Nigeria.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> UNDP. Annual Report 2015.

<sup>16</sup> FAO. *Issue Paper, 2016. UNDP. Nigeria Human Development Report, 2016.*

**27. The impact of climate change in the Lake Chad region reflects the general picture of the pressures of desertification and increasing aridity in the northern region. It has taken a heavy toll on the livelihoods of over eight million pastoralists and fishermen around Lake Chad.** The Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET) and Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency are warning of major floods, and soil erosions, in the coming months (greater than the 2012 ones) that will affect 12 states. Those living along river banks, in the River Niger and River Benue in particular, are forced to move to higher grounds. Over seven million people, the poor and most vulnerable, would be affected, creating humanitarian crisis if pro-active and elaborate plans are not put in place early enough.

**28. Rapid and uncontrolled urban growth has remained defining attribute of Nigeria's economic and social evolution. The World Bank<sup>17</sup>, in a recent urbanization review, has noted that: "Nigeria's economic potential is huge if it can get urbanization right, but tremendous costs await it under business as usual."** Cities have been widely acknowledged as "engines of growth" and with the urban population expected to reach 67 percent of the total by 2050<sup>18</sup>, the economy will need to create about 50 million jobs by 2030 (from 2010), translating to over 2 million more jobs a year, vast majority of which will be in urban areas

#### **Justice: Governance, Peace and Security**

**29. The important factors that constrains Nigeria's inclusive economic growth, shared prosperity and social development are limited national integration, limited and/or lack of good governance, increased insecurity across geo-political zones and states, in North East, Niger Delta, North Central, and Lake Chad region in particular, and uncertain political environment.** The situation is exacerbated by the existent of systematic corruption, limited capacities of independent institutions/commissions, and limited accountability at federal, states and local government levels. Besides, duty-bearers are largely not living up to their obligations and right-holders (including citizens, NGOs and faith-based organizations) lack the capacity to claim their rights. Whereas all of these factors have impacted on the level of insecurity, the relatively insufficient control of illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), largely due to the porous management of borders have contributed to armed conflicts.

**30. Electoral Democracy and Governance:** - Nigeria's progress in electoral democracy since 1999 is the result of the momentum for electoral reform by the Nigerian government when the country experienced flawed 2007 elections. The Federal government set up a committee to reform the country's electoral process. The initiative was also a response to the popular clamour for electoral reform informed by the experience of elections that fell short of international standards for credible, free and fair elections since 1999. The Electoral Reform Committee (ERC) chaired by Justice Muhammed Uwais made far-reaching recommendations including an independent process for appointing the Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), unbundling INEC by establishing bodies for dealing with electoral offences and the administration and registration of political parties, improved internal party democracy, among others. Although most of the recommendations were not implemented by the government, it resulted not only in the appointment of a credible Nigerian in the person of Professor Attahiru Jega as Chairman of INEC and the reform of the constitutional and legal framework of elections carried out by the National Assembly in 2010.

**31. National Integration:** - Many factors continue to play a role in people's sense of belonging and inclusion. Apart from regional, ethnic and religious groupings, other segment of the population such as women and other vulnerable groups (like the youth and those living with disabilities and those infected and affected by HIV), NGOs, professionals, and unions have sometimes expressed frustrations arising from a sense of exclusion. Nigeria's development requires a strong national integration and inclusive economic growth.

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<sup>17</sup> World Bank 2014a

<sup>18</sup> United Nations 2014

**32. Legislature and Judiciary:** - Since returning to civil rule in 1999, the institutions of democracy such as the legislature and the judiciary have largely restored public confidence in democracy, rule of law and promoting human rights to all Nigerians. But more needs to be done. For instance, the National Assembly has shown signs of institutional growth; becoming assertive in the process of law making and policy formulation, although the situation, is not the same at the state levels where enhancing capacities of legislative organs and structure are required to enhance governance and accountability. The judiciary in Nigeria also requires support, enhancement and building of public confidence to dispense justice without favour or discrimination on the basis of socio-economic status, gender, location or creed.

**33. Corruption in Nigeria:** - Nigeria's economic and social progress is bedeviled by a culture of systematic corruption and impunity traversing the public and private sectors alike. There exists both economic and political corruption. Corruption has stifled inclusive economic growth, competitiveness of the private sector, effectiveness and efficiency of operations in both the public and private sectors. The result is low productivity and increased inequalities across Nigeria. The FGN created relevant organs such as the National Prosecution Coordination Committee (NPCC), the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), the Independent Corrupt Practices and other related Offences Commission (ICPC), the Nigeria Police Force, and the Federal Revenue Service (FIRS) with a mandate to fight corruption and promote public integrity. The degree of independence, effectiveness and efficiency of such organs remains critical for fighting corruption and promoting good governance in both the public and private sectors across Nigeria.

#### **Humanitarian Crisis and Management**

**34. Management of humanitarian crisis remains a big challenge facing the federal and state governments and development partners, in the North East in particular.** The humanitarian crisis is fueled by a combination of factors including inter-communal conflict and violence, insurgency, climate change, recurrent floods, heavy-handed tactics of security forces in combating crime, and state / local governments sponsored evictions. The overall consequence is the situation of systematic and chronic internal displacements that have given rise to different humanitarian crises that include the most egregious and dehumanizing human rights abuses. Nigerian children suffer a high level of deprivations and violations. In 2007, nearly 4 out of every 5 children in Nigeria remained severely deprived in at least one of the seven dimensions measured, while 2011 survey report (MICS) revealed that more than 70% of children remain poor, suffering from a least one rights violation.

35. According to the Humanitarian Needs Overview report by UN OCHA, 2016, 14.8 million people are affected by the crisis in the North-East of Nigeria precipitated by Boko Haram-related violence since 2009. However, some internally displaced people (IDPs) live outside the four states of focus - Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe disproportionately affected by the crisis and are prioritized and referred to collectively here as North-East. From the affected population, an estimated seven million people, comprising displaced, confined and hosting civilians, are currently in need of humanitarian assistance, food and basic services including health, education, water and sanitation. There are 4 million vulnerable people in accessible areas that need shelter, food, water and other basic services.

**36. Armed conflicts have affected civilians already living in precarious conditions and have undermined poverty reduction and development efforts, putting at risk inter-ethnic and inter-religious co-existence, strained State government resources and depleted community coping capacities over the past six years.** The 2016 Strategic Conflict Assessment (SCA) conducted by the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution reveals the prevalence of conflict issues in all geo-political zones of the country. The roots and proximate causes, as well as the drivers, all point to the growing threat of insecurity that could likely derail

Nigeria's development despite the abundant potentials and opportunities. It is imperative to underscore that at the core of these armed conflicts is the easy availability/ accessibility of illicit Small Arms fostered by porous borders, obsolete legal and regulatory frameworks needed to address these contemporary challenges.

**37. The gender dimension of conflict and emergency in the country is highlighted by the sexual violence characteristic of Boko Haram attacks on communities, and the extent of gender-based violence (GBV) perpetrated by the deadly sect and among displaced communities.**<sup>19</sup> Women and girls face a greater risk of GBV as a result of their displacement, whether in camps or in host communities, and particularly at night. Meanwhile, female and child-headed households face increased risks during displacement. In addition, children have been used by Boko Haram and the Civilian Joint Task Force. For example, 45 children have been used by Boko Haram to carry out suicide attacks from 2014 – 2016. Promoting a protection-centered and durable solutions-orientated approach to humanitarian crises require saving lives, protecting civilians and increasing equitable access to basic services for the most vulnerable people, while building the local capacity for humanitarian response is key in Nigeria.

**38. Mainstreaming conflict prevention and peace building in federal and states governments development plans development** through budgetary allocations and ensuring holistic human security approach at Federal, State and Local Government Area (LGA) levels is crucial in creating the enabling environment for implementation of the SDGs.

**39. UN Comparative Advantage and Capacity Assessment: - Overall, six unique UN comparative advantages emerge from discussions and consensus building with UNCT Nigeria.** These include the following:

- Global knowledge and expertise to address local development and social problems;
- Ability to give technical advice in various socio-economic, political and environmental sectors and issues;
- Independent monitoring and promotion of international standards.
- Ability to harness existing capacities to deal with humanitarian and other emergencies;
- Ability to harness global networks and capacities of the UN system and other partners;
- Ability for creation of and support to evidence base decision making and programming;
- UN has stronger footprints and thematic coverage
- Convening power through the Resident Coordination System.

**40. Risks and threats: - As Nigeria UNCT plans to develop UNDAF IV, it is important to also think of possible threats that could make the implementation of the plan ineffective and how to mitigate them.** The global economic downturns and increased food prices, insecurity and climate change are major external threats and risks to addressing SDGs in an effective manner in Nigeria. Internal threats include increase in insurgency, insecurity, conflict over pasture/water, and economic sabotage like blowing up oil pipelines in the Niger Delta could derail efforts towards addressing SDGs. UNCT members were asked to indicate what they perceive as the likely threats/risks to the UN work in the nearest future. Over 40 per cent of respondents cited "UN efforts to spread and thin" as a major threat, followed by "limited coordination with other development partners" (20 per cent). The other threats mentioned include: "insufficient counterpart contribution by government", "insecurity", and "limited coordination of UN activities" (each cited by 10 per of respondents).

## Conclusions

**41. The current economic downturn in Nigeria** in the wake of the signing of newly agreed upon SDGs, 2030 Agenda and AU 2063 agenda provide both a challenge and an opportunity for the UN Nigeria to (re) position itself as a key partner based on its unique comparative advantage and capacity. Visioning and prioritization for new the UNDAF for Nigeria should be informed by the findings of this report and other relevant documents on the country's socio-economic, political and environmental situation.

**42. The FGN and the UN see the current economic and social crisis in Nigeria as an opportunity for the country to make major structural changes needed to reform Nigeria's economy and society for good.** The Government is committed to using the crisis to implement the reforms needed to unlock the economic potentials of the non-oil and high-employment sectors for inclusive growth and sustainable development. The FGN therefore already developed a Medium Term Development Plan (MTSP), 2017 - 2020.<sup>20</sup> The key policy thrust of the MTSP is to diversify the productive base of the national economy and direct the trajectory towards the path of sustainable development and inclusive growth. The policies will be realised within the context of six strategic pillars namely: i. Economic reforms, ii. Infrastructure, iii. Governance and Security, iv. Environment, v. Social Investment, vi. States and Regional development.

The FGN is clear of (and committed to) the relationship between its MTSP and the SDGs. The policies are expected to build on the foundation laid by the Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) for 2016 Budget as well as aligned with the UNDAF IV; form the basis for the development of the Nigeria Vision 2030 (NV2030), and also to align the country's developmental aspirations to the collective global developmental aspirations of the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063. The Federal, states and local government together with the UN Nigeria, have the opportunity under the new UNDAF 2018-2022 to develop practical-oriented programmes and interventions that will effectively address and support FGN on the SDGs. But this will require commitment and zeal of MDAs and the development partners alike.

43. For Nigeria to address the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieve the SDGs, the economy must grow at an average of 7% over the next 14 years. Besides, peace building and conflict prevention must be mainstreamed in Federal, States and local governments' development plans. As indicated in SDGs Indicator Table (Annex 3), a lot of work still remains to be done. The FGN and the UN Nigeria have already embarked in this journey and put in place frameworks and plans that in harmony with SDG's agenda.

**44.** As the UNCT in Nigeria in partnership with the FGN is currently planning for the development of the United National Development Framework (UNDAF IV) 2018-2022, the business of development in Nigeria has to be different from how it has been in the last 56 years of post - independence existence. This is because:

**First,** the era of flood of petrodollars is over and Nigeria has to innovatively explore other potentially viable sources of income, foreign exchange earning in particular. The country is currently in recession, with concomitant negative ramifications in the domestic capital markets, as well as FDI, inflation, household and government consumption expenditure, external reserves and merchandise trade and balance of payment.

**Second,** the socio-economic, security, political and environmental challenges facing the country are due to absence of equitable economic growth, equity, shared prosperity and fairness. Systematic corruption and lack of transparency at the Federal, States and Local Government levels exacerbate the situation.

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<sup>20</sup> *Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, 2016.*

**Third**, over the last three decades since the return to civil rule in 1999 , it is becoming clear that the current political and governance arrangement in Nigeria needs to work more effectively to support equitable development, shared prosperity and sustainable development across the country. There is need to have inclusive dialogue about the current structure.

**Fourth**, agriculture continues to be the main source of livelihood and income to 80 per cent of Nigerians and key to sustainable poverty reduction and overcoming conflicts. Therefore, revitalizing and investing in this sector is one of the key strategies required for diversifying Nigeria's economy, creating jobs and improving access to social services like education, health, and housing.

45. Nigeria's people, economy, environment and politics/governance require transformation and diversification, if the SDGs are to be met and the quality of life of all Nigerians, the poor and the vulnerable individual and communities in particular, improved. Nigeria needs a change of mind-set and attitudes/practices to break the country's economy from mono-economic culture, which is solely dependent on oil to a diversified economy driven by agriculture and entrepreneurship.

## **Recommendations**

**46. Transforming and diversifying Nigeria's development paths need a radical and new approach, which is transformative, strong, inclusive and sustainable, and people-centred. . This requires diversifying the economy by investing in people and in a strong, more dynamic, inclusive and productive informal sector (cottage industries and IT-based businesses and agro-processing), restoring security and promoting peace building, and reforming the existing federal arrangement.** To achieve these, UN and the government should explore and build consensus on designing and implementing two to three key joint programmes. Specific recommendations include the following:

**1. Restoring Good Governance, Peace and Security:** - Design and support a joint programme to reinforce national coherence, good governance, peace and security from human rights, gender equality, and sustainable development perspectives and principles. Support efforts to restore and build peace across the country by providing appropriate and inclusive platforms for dialogue and consensus building on restructuring Nigeria's political and economic landscapes and practices. Such platforms should be across geo-political zones and states. Political and religious leaders, civil society organisations, professionals, and communities are not dialoguing enough about Nigeria's future and development.

The UN needs to support platforms for inclusive dialogue and consensus building on Nigeria political and economic processes and practices. This would enhance and promote equitable and inclusive economic growth, shared prosperity and build sustainable peace and co-existence of various ethnic and religious groups.

The UN will have to continue to support efforts to deal with humanitarian crisis in the North East and other parts of Nigeria by focusing and investing in early recovery, reconstruction, peace building and stability across the regions. Supporting efforts and investment for the reintegration of children and adults associated with Boko Haram and other insurgencies, in particular girls and women subjected to rape, forced marriages, are also a priority. Promoting inclusive dialogue and the involvement of women and the youth in these efforts is critical for peace, reconciliation and stability.

## **2. Investment in People:**

**Improving Access and Quality of Basic Education.** Supporting and working with the federal and state governments to target the 10 million out of school children and bringing them back

to school. There is also need to focus on various interventions targeting improving quality of basic education. This include supporting the training and re-training of teachers, supplying teaching-learning materials including textbooks (in for example core subject including: languages, science and technology, and investment in monitoring learning outcomes across Nigeria. There is also need for capacity building to improve school leadership and management - targeting school heads and School-Based Management Committees. Once piece is restored in North East Nigeria, there will be need for rehabilitation and furnishing of schools to improving the teaching-learning environment.

**Youth empowerment for sustainable development:** - The Youth Question in Nigeria presents both opportunity and a challenge for enjoying demographic dividend. Thus, UN and partners should explore designing a joint programme focusing on youth empowerment. The programme should target enhancing both soft and technical and innovations skills among the adolescent and young people (15-24 years) across Nigeria. Some of the projects would include comprehensive sexuality education, skills development and investment in TVET, ICT, creation of employment and innovations opportunities, environment and sustainable development, and gender equality among others.

**3. Human Rights, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:** - Given the gender issues and gaps in Nigeria in all development and social sectors and environment, there is need to explore designing and supporting a joint GEWE programme for Nigeria. The target should be empowering economically, socially and politically the poor and the most vulnerable and marginalised girls, boys, the youth, women headed households and people living with disability and HIV in selected geo-political zones and states.

Human rights and GEWE programme should also include support to establishing rehabilitation centres to offer comprehensive services to survivors of SGBV (e.g. one-stop and comprehensive centre offering health, counseling, legal services among others) at federal and state levels across Nigeria. It is critical to create a cadre of psychologists and counsellors able with the skills and knowledge to deliver critical support to survivors.

**4. Protection of Children from All forms of violence and harmful practices: -**

Nigeria was the first country in the region and the 9<sup>th</sup> in the world to undertake a comprehensive national survey on violence against children in 2014, for the first time providing data on prevalence, location, perpetrators and impact of physical, sexual and emotional violence against children. This data was used to embark on a nationwide campaign to end violence against children launched by the President in 2015, and state specific campaigns to strengthen the system of child protection to prevent and respond to violence, including a nine State initiative to develop a model child protection system. These programmes should be further scaled up under the framework of the End VAC by 2030 campaign launched in October 2016, encompassing harmful traditional practices such as FGM/C and child marriage. Additional studies targeting specific abuses and high risk groups such as child labor, child trafficking and abuse of children living with disabilities, should be carried out to ensure programmes address the specific needs of these groups.

**5. Addressing WASH through enhancing capacities of communities: - There is need for comprehensive targeting and investment in Primary Health Care (PHC).** This is because child health and WASH cannot be addressed effectively through vertical programming for HIV/AIDs, Malaria, polio, and other immunization interventions. There is need for continuous advocacy with States to take leadership and invest into the health sector interventions. While it is good to ensure WASH services are available at the PHCs, the very low WASH coverage in communities needs urgent attention. Investing in WASH in communities could act as a significant preventive health measure by cutting down health care costs at the PHC level.

Community engagement and effective participation is critical in addressing child health and WASH. There is need therefore for increased financial mobilization and allocation to promote community level engagements and participation in promoting and sustaining PHC across geopolitical zones and states. There is need to mount and implement integrated outreach services targeting hard to reach settlements, identification, training, and placement of a Village Health Workers volunteer program.

**6. The current population dynamics, with high dependency rates, and limited access to education and health services, could lead to lower per capita income, larger family size, low per capita output and risk of non-achievement of SDGs.** On the other hand, the large percentage of young people provides opportunity for reaping a demographic dividend, as it has happened in countries like Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Rwanda and Malaysia. For this, planned and inclusive strategies in health and education, skills development, access to sexual and reproductive health education, among adolescent and youths in particular are required. Besides, increased investment should be ensured for increased job creation through sound economic policy, creating appropriate investment climate and ensuring good governance.

**7. Addressing Humanitarian crisis and Empowering the Affected:** - Addressing the root causes of conflicts and displacement of people across Nigeria is a sustainable solution to humanitarian crisis and management. Commitment, focus, partnership and effective coordination among the various partner (government, UN and other development partners) and accountability is needed to provide effective and efficient humanitarian assistance not only in the North East and the Lake Chad Basin, but extended to other parts of the country, where individuals and communities are at risk and vulnerable to climate change, religious, political and economic conflicts. More financial and technical support and accountability is needed to deal with humanitarian crisis across the county.

There is also need to have comprehensive interventions and support targeting the victims of natural disasters and conflicts to reconstruct their lives. Urgent action is needed to support women and girls (and boys and men) who have faced sexual and gender based violence by setting national and states-based comprehensive support and rehabilitation centres offering various services including psycho-social, health, legal, and economic empowerment services. There is also a critical need to support the reintegration of children and adults who were associated with both Boko Haram and Civilian Joint Task Force and the vigilante groups, and other conflicts in the country.

**8. Strengthening evidence-based planning, monitoring and evaluation:** - There exist challenges at federal, states and local government levels on appreciation of planning, monitoring and utilization data/evidence from evaluations for decision making, targeting and planning for SDGs. There is need to create an enabling environment for effective evidence generation, storage and usage through a legislative framework or policy. There is need to support efforts to produce, disseminate and use credible and gender sensitive evidence for decision making, targeting and programming. Strengthening the capacities of relevant structures and institutions, like NBS and units within MDAs, and state governments to produce, store, and use credible and comprehensive data on various socio-economic, political, humanitarian and environmental issues is critical and strategic.

**Other strategic areas that could be areas of focus include the following:**

**9. Investing in People: Health support programme:** - There is need to support efforts to invest in primary health care across the country, in states in particular, by strengthening the health systems, including improving the quality of health infrastructure and hiring, retaining and motivating health workers. Supporting efforts to increase investment in health insurance services/coverage targeting the poor and the most vulnerable individuals and groups should also be given a priority. Supporting government to implement the National Health Act, thereby

accelerating the country's efforts in pursuing universal health coverage is key. This involves strengthening states and LGAs to implement PHC programmes and addressing the needs of the most vulnerable groups – children, mothers and other vulnerable groups such as IMNCH, PMTCT, and nutrition services in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

**11. Inclusive economic growth, Shared Prosperity and Environmental Protection:** Support the FGN and state governments' efforts to put together a comprehensive gender and environmental sensitive economic and social development road map for faster growth and spread of wealth. Focus on and support economic diversification, women and youth empowerment, resilience (political, economic and environmental) and protection of the environment. A joint programme targeting youth economic, social and environmental empowerment could be explored. Specifically,

- Support the establishment of an agro-processing fund, open to women and the youth in particular (for value-addition and business in agriculture sector);
- Invest in efforts to revive and revitalize potential and viable businesses and manufacturing investments such as the Imo Modern Poultry, Avutu; Panyam Fish Farm; Ajaokuta Steel Plant, and closed cottage textile industries/businesses among others across the country;
- Support efforts to scale up SMEs (cottage industry and ICT-based entrepreneurship in particular) that have shown great potentials with limited resources by providing access to finance, training and marketing;
- Support efforts to re-energize trade between Nigeria and her neighbours through incentives, reform in doing cross-border businesses and capacity building.
- Support interventions to increase investment, publicity and marketing of tourism in Nigeria, taking advantage of rich and abundant potential of culture and diversity, music and art, and robust social media.
- Support environmental protection and conservation interventions targeting young people and the youth, public and private sectors' economic investments and environment.

**12. Strengthening Delivering as One:** - To enhance UN delivering as one and effective support to the FGN, both the UNCT Nigeria and the FGN should work and enhance harmonization/coherence, coordination, and accountability of humanitarian agencies and bodies based on UNDAF for effective and efficient support to the FGN's national development priorities and objectives. The FGN has to take a stronger lead and be active in setting the development agenda under UNDAF IV, making sure that there is both vertical and horizontal coordination, coherence and communication among MDAs and UN agencies. On the other hand, UN agencies should be committed to DaO through joint planning and implementation. Designing a joint programme is one strategy of achieving this objective.

## **SECTION 1: BACKGROUND AND INTRODCUTION**

### **1.1 Context and Objectives of CCA**

1. The Nigeria United Nations Country Team (UNCT), with participation of the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) has started the process of formulating a new United Nations Assistance Framework (UNDAF-IV) for the period 2018-2022. One of the critical stages in the UNDAF process is the Common Country Analysis (CCA). The Nigerian UN UNCT commissioned the CCA, which was carried out between June and September 2016.

2. The purpose of Nigeria CCA is to provide analytical basis for joint planning and visioning process that include the participation of UN, FGN and other non-government stakeholders. The CCA is conducted to identify and analyze underlying factors and root causes of gaps and challenges facing development and social progress and prosperity of Nigeria; their impact on the population especially the most vulnerable, disadvantaged and hard to reach individuals and groups such as poor children, youth, women, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV & AIDs, internally displaced persons, street people, orphans, migrants among other groups.

3. The overall objectives of the CCA are (i) to support and strengthen national analytical processes and products on the country's and peoples' development situation, gaps, opportunities and challenges; (ii) to identify the comparative advantages, key priorities, entry points and opportunities for the UN system' normative and programmatic activities in Nigeria; and (iii) to conduct UNCT Nigeria capacity assessment and preparedness to support the Government and other partners achieve development objectives and priorities. The CCA is guided by the basic elements and principles of the UN programming, putting into consideration three core SDGs focus of inclusive economic growth, social progress, and environmental protection.

### **1.2 CAA Methodology and Process**

4. The approach to, and production of Nigeria CCA was carried out in conformity with the UN Development Group (UNDG) Guidelines on how to prepare United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and in the context of the six core elements of SDGs and the core underlying principles of UNDGs, which include human rights, sustainable development and resilience, leave no one behind, and accountability. This document is based on extensive policy/literature review <sup>21</sup> and consultations with Government and non-government stakeholders at national and states levels, which included FGN Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), UN Agencies and selected Delivering as One (DaO) states. Validation workshops on CCA findings were also held for various stakeholders in six sample states, which are: Cross-River, Benue, Oyo, Anambra, Gombe and Kaduna. There was also a one-day national validation workshop, bringing together stakeholders from the federal and selected states governments, civil society organizations, the academia, the private sector and UN agencies. The inputs from the validation workshops were used to enrich the CCA report.

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<sup>21</sup> A list of references is given in Annex 1.

## **SECTION 2: NIGERIA'S DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT**

### **2.1 International Development Context**

5. Nigeria is an active member of the international community including the UN and a signatory to several global initiatives and agenda for development and social progress including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and its successor, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2005, Nigeria successfully negotiated debt relief from the Paris Club, which enabled the country to increase and target public investments in pro-poor programmes and projects towards achieving the MDGs. The Presidential Committee on the Assessment and Monitoring of the MDGs and the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs were subsequently established to guide the use of the Debt Relief Gains (DRGs) in the execution of pro-poor programmes and projects, and coordinate progress towards the MDGs.<sup>22</sup>

In September 2015, the international community, including Nigeria, adopted the SDGs, and agreed on 17 development goals, 169 sub-goals, and 255 indicators targeted for the period 2016-2030. The international community also adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. There are six core elements of the SDGs namely: People, Dignity, Prosperity, Planet (sustainability), Justice (including Protection and humanitarian aspects) and Partnership. These elements are related and interconnected for a holistic and sustainable development and social progress. To effectively support national efforts to achieve transformative ambitions of the 2030 Agenda, the UN has identified four core underlying principles arising from the norms and standards of that the United Nations is tasked to uphold and promote, and which should inform UN programming at country level. These are: i. Human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment; ii. Sustainable development and resilience; iii. Leave no one behind; and iv. Accountability.

### **2.2 Continental and Regional Context**

6. Nigeria regularly features as a leading performer in the West African sub-region, and, indeed, the African Continent, particularly in cultural, economic, social and financial arena. As the biggest economy in West Africa, it accounts for about 41 percent of the region's GDP.<sup>23</sup> Apart from SDGs and other international instruments, the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), all provide additional guidance and priorities for Africa's continental, regional and countries' development. AU Agenda 2063: "The Africa We Want" articulates the aspirations and focus of the continent, bearing in mind the opportunities and resources that exist globally and continent-wise (in various African countries).

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<sup>22</sup> *Nigeria Road to SDG, Country Transition Strategy, 2015.*

<sup>23</sup> *NBS, 2014; Africa Development Bank, 2010.*

As indicated in Exhibit 1, with diversity and unity the aspiration for the Africa we Want include the following:

**Exhibit 1: African Union Aspiration for Africa.**

**Our Aspiration for the Africa We Want**

1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development.
2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the idea of Pan Africanism and the Vision of Africa's Renaissance.
3. An Africa of good governance, democracy and respect for human rights, justice and rule of law.
4. A peaceful and secure Africa.
5. An Africa with strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics.
6. An African where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth.
7. Africa as strong, united and influential global player.

7. Other important guidance and development frameworks include the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and on the Rights of Women in Africa, Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy, the AU's Africa Regional Nutritional Strategy; Comprehensive African Agricultural Development (CAADP/AU); ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP/ECOWAS); Zero Hunger Initiative; (FAO), Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa and its Protocol (2004), among others. With the endorsement of SDGs and the AU and regional protocols, the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN)<sup>24</sup>, and its partners including UN agencies, has to domesticate and put into consideration these guidance and priorities when developing the new national development plan.

The implications of the global and regional development agenda and the current status of development in Nigeria are significant to the development of the federal and state's plans. The FGN and the UN are therefore repositioning themselves to effectively address MDGs unfinished business and strategically and effectively address the SDGs. In planning for this, they have to put into consideration Nigeria's national development context.

### 2.3 National Development Context

8. Nigeria is one of the largest countries in Africa, covering an area of 923,678 square kilometers. It is located within the tropics along the Gulf of Guinea on the West Coast of Africa and lies between the latitudes of 4016' and 13053' N and longitudes 2040' and 14041' E. It is bordered to the west by the Republic of Benin, to the east by the Republic of Cameroon, to the north by Republic of Niger and Chad, and the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Guinea to the south.

Nigeria is divided into six geopolitical zones for political and administrative purposes. But constitutionally it runs a federal political system. It has 36 states, 774 Local Government Areas and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) with Abuja as the national capital. Federalism in Nigeria is complex and how states autonomy affects transparency and accountability, economic growth and social progress also remains complex, with various understanding and explanations from various duty bearers and right holders.

9. Nigeria is a lower middle income developing country with one of the fastest growing economies in Africa with a Gross National Income (GNI) Per Capita of \$5, 341.<sup>25</sup> However, the steady economic growth in Nigeria has not translated into shared prosperity, social progress and protection of the environment. Despite huge natural and human resources across the country, Nigeria failed to meet the MDGs.

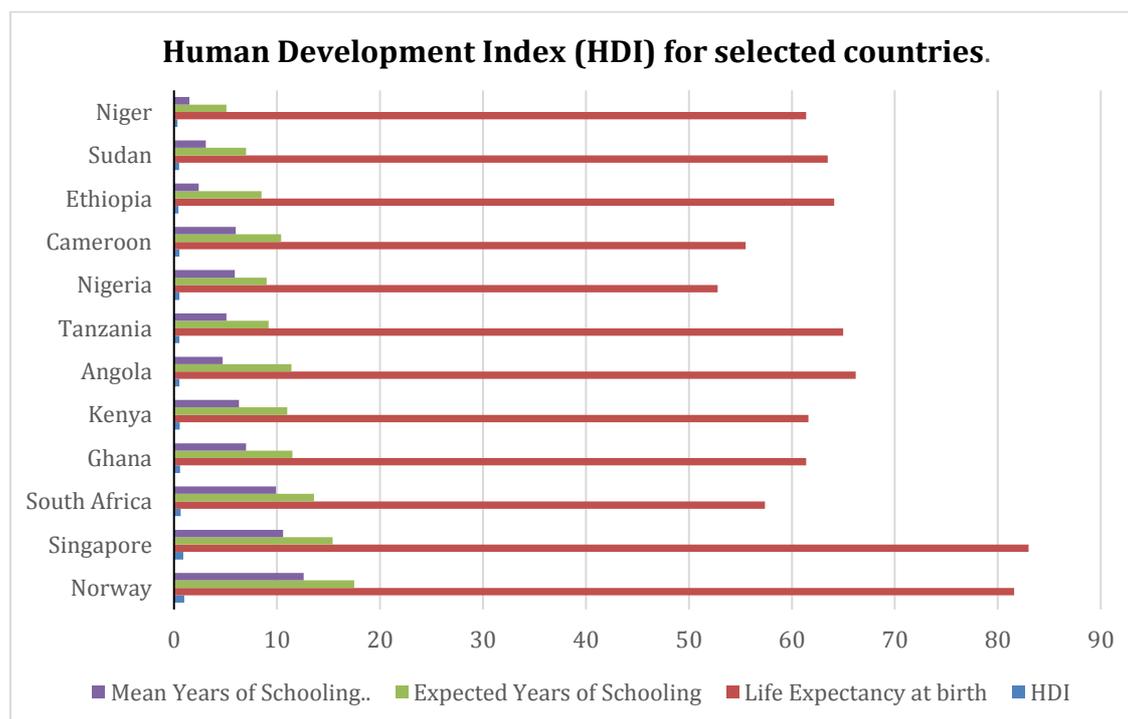
<sup>24</sup> Annex II indicates the Ratification Status for Nigeria on Selected Various International Treaties.

<sup>25</sup> Human Development Report 2014

10. With a Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.514, Nigeria is ranked 152 among 188 countries of the world.<sup>26</sup> As seen in Exhibit 2, Nigeria performs poorly compared with countries with lower or the same Gross National Income (NGI) per capita.

**Exhibit 2: 2015 Human Development Index (HDI) of Selected Countries, including Nigeria**

HDI Rank /Country	HDI	Life Expectancy at birth	Expected Years of Schooling	Mean Years of Schooling	Gross National Income (GNI) Per Capita (\$)
1. Norway	0.944	81.6	17.5	12.6	64,992
11. Singapore	0.912	83.0	15.4	10.6	76,628
116. South Africa	0.666	57.4	13.6	9.9	12,122
140 Ghana	0.579	61.4	11.5	7.0	3,852
145 Kenya	0.548	61.6	11.0	6.3	2,762
149 Angola	0.538	66.2	11.4	4.7	6,822
151 Tanzania (Republic of)	0.521	65.0	9.2	5.1	2,411
152 Nigeria	0.514	52.8	9.0	5.9	5,341
153 Cameroon	0.512	55.5	10.4	6.0	2,803
174 Ethiopia	0.442	64.1	8.5	2.4	1,428
167 Sudan	0.479	63.5	7.0	3.1	3,809
188 Niger	0.348	61.4	5.1	1.5	908



11. **FGN commitment to SDG's comes at the wake of the general slowdown in global economic activities as well as declining oil prices and production levels that have adversely affected the Nigerian economy.** The current Administration sees this crisis as an opportunity

<sup>26</sup> United Nations Development Fund (2014). *Human Development Report 2015 - Sustaining Human Progress: Reducing Vulnerabilities and Building Resilience* <http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/hdr14-report-en-1.pdf>

for the country, to make major structural changes needed to change this economy for good. The Government is, therefore, committed to using this crisis to implement the reforms needed to unlock the economic potentials of the non-oil and high-employment sectors for inclusive growth and sustainable development. The FGN has, therefore, developed the Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) for 2016 Budget (refer to section 3.2 for details) is to progressively facilitate true national development.<sup>27</sup> Plan is anchored on four policy fundamentals i.e.

- i. Investing in Critical Infrastructure
- ii. Embracing and Encouraging the Private Sector
- iii. Continuously Advocating for Greater Social Inclusion with a particular focus on Job Creation
- iv. Improving Security and Tackling Corruption.

The Sections below presents Nigeria's current status (baselines) as far investment in people, inclusive economic growth, and sustainable development is concerned.

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<sup>27</sup> *Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, 2016.*

## **SECTION 3: ANALYSIS OF NIGERIA'S DEVELOPMENT & HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN THE CONTEXT OF SDGS FRAMEWORK**

12. **The Country Analysis Report is presented in five sections.** Section one gives the background of the CCA indicating the objectives and methodology of the analysis. Section two summarizes Nigeria's international, regional and national development context. Based on the 2030 Agenda and SDGs targets and framework, section three presents analysis and status of development and social issue in Nigeria, including the following:

- The People of Nigeria, Access to Social Services and Dignity
- Prosperity and Inclusive Economic Growth
- Planet: Environment, Resilience and Sustainable Development
- Protection and Humanitarian Crisis and Management, and
- Justice: Governance, Peace and Security

Section four focuses on the UN Nigeria comparative analysis and capacity assessment. Section five draws up conclusions and makes recommendations.

### **3.1 The People of Nigeria: Status and Dignity**

13. SDGs 1, 2, 5, 3, 4 and 10 in particular require countries to focus their development agenda on people, by ensuring that poverty and hunger are addressed in a sustainable manner, the vulnerable children, youth, women and those living with disabilities and HIV, in particular, live healthy and dignified lives, and have empowering knowledge and skills for learning, adaptation and competitiveness. With the available data and development situation, Nigeria is far from offering its people dignified lives and making sure that their rights are protected.

14. In 2014 Nigeria's population was estimated at 180 million, with a growth rate of 3.2 per cent and with an estimated birth cohort of 7 million children.<sup>28</sup> Nigeria is, thus, the most populous nation in Africa and the seventh most populous in the world. The country's population is estimated to grow to approximately 200m by 2019, and to over 400m by 2050<sup>29</sup> becoming one of the top 5 populous countries in the world.

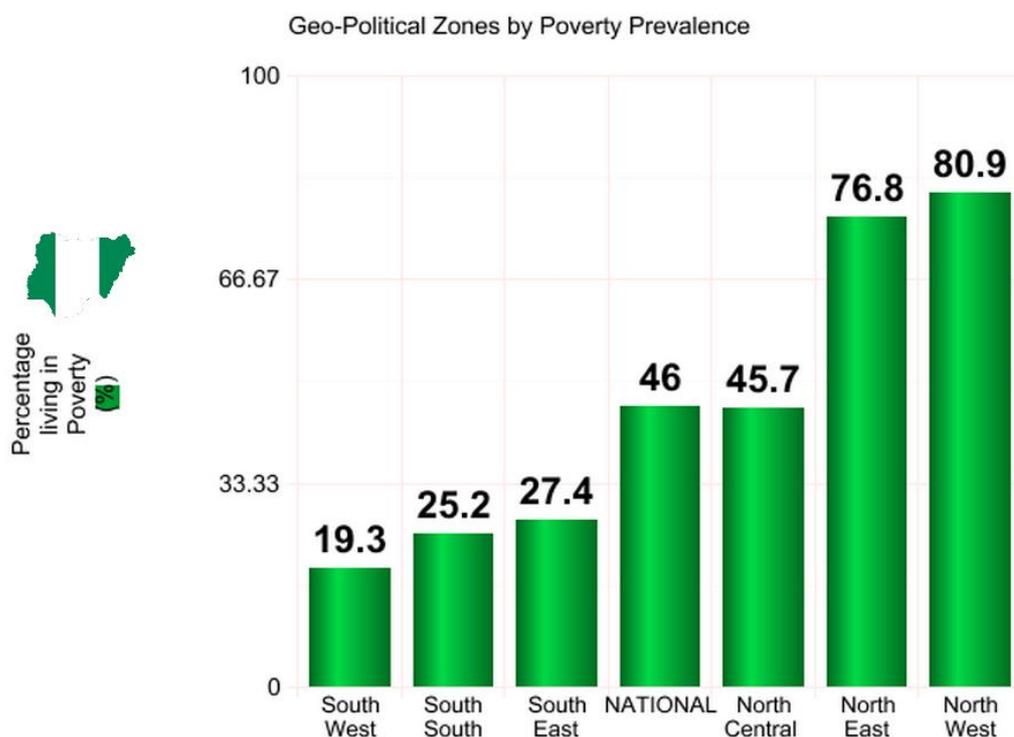
15. **Nigeria has over 64 per cent of the population leaving below poverty line.** With a Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.514 in 2015, Nigeria is ranked 152 out of 188 countries of the world. As shown in Exhibit 3, there are geographical disparities in the country demonstrated by differences in social-development indicators among the states. The data shows that poverty remains high in rural areas, remote communities and among female-headed households, and cuts across geo-political zones, with prevalence ranging from 19.3 per cent in the South West to 45.7 per cent in North Central to 80.9 per cent in North West. Analysis by states also indicates variations in the prevalence of poverty as indicated in the following states: Benue 59.2 per cent, Kaduna 56 per cent, Gombe 76.4 per cent, Cross River 76.9 per cent, Oyo 29.0 per cent and Anambra 11.2 per cent.

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<sup>28</sup> *FGN Gazette (2009). Legal Notice on Population of 2006 Census Final Results. Vol 96, No.2.*

<sup>29</sup> *United Nations, 2013*

**Exhibit 3: Poverty Prevalence by Geo-political Zones**



Source: UN Multi Dimensional Poverty Index (2015).

16. The available population figures indicate high dependency. The population is predominantly young with approximately 45.7% under 15 years of age and 17.1% under 5 years of age (Exhibit 3). Women of childbearing age (15-49 years) account for 22.53% of the total population and children less than 1-year accounts for 4% of the total population. In addition, only 4% of the population is 65 years and above. The average household size in Nigeria is 4.6 persons. The population has a low life expectancy, which the 2015 World Health Statistics puts at 55 years for 2013 (55 years for females and 54 years for males)<sup>30</sup> while the World Bank puts it at 53 years in 2014 compared to the average of 59 years for sub-Saharan Africa and 67 years for lower middle-income countries<sup>31</sup>.

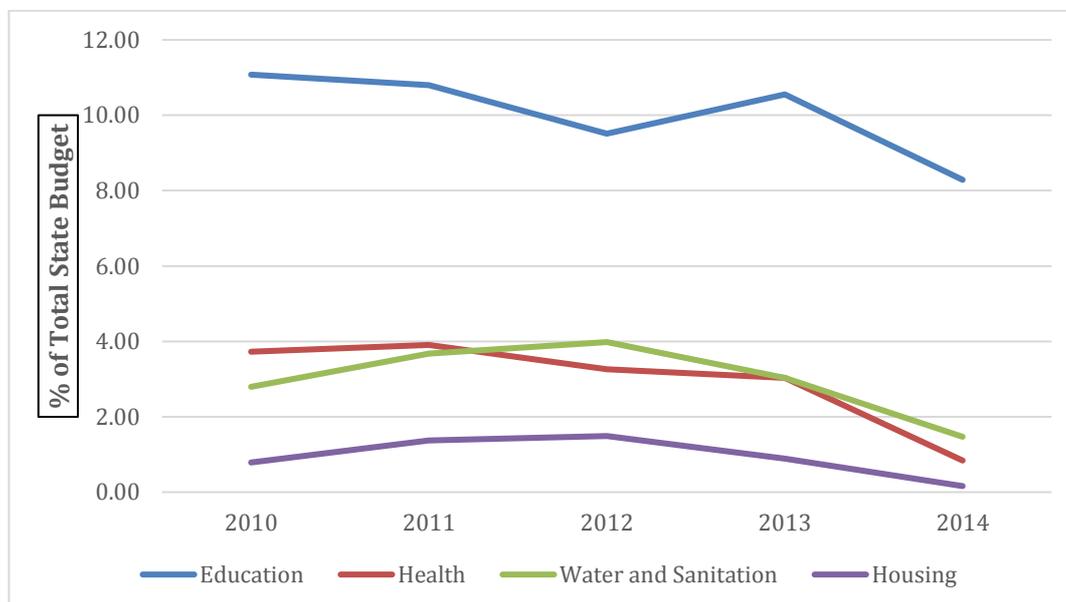
17. Development and social services indicators show that most of Nigeria's children, youth and women in particular, are denied their human rights. Analysis by UNICEF indicates that the percentage of the total FGN budget that has been invested in children has been on a continuous decline since 2011 (over 20%) and in 2014 was 11.4% of the state budget (Exhibit 4). Each component of investment in children (including education, health, nutrition, WASH, social protection, sport and leisure, and child protection system) has been allocated a smaller percentage of the state budget each year. Moreover, by 2014 housing, health, social protection and nutrition interventions for children formed a minute portion of the state budget and in summation formed less than 2% of the state whilst funding for child protection systems was eliminated entirely.

<sup>30</sup> World Health Organisation. 2015. World Health Statistics. Geneva, WHO. Available at: [http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/170250/1/9789240694439\\_eng.pdf](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/170250/1/9789240694439_eng.pdf).

<sup>31</sup> World Bank. Data. Available at: <http://data.worldbank.org/country/nigeria>.

Although spending on education declined, it remained the largest portion of investment in children (8.3%).<sup>32</sup>

**Exhibit 4: Trends of National Public Expenditure by Sector**



**18. Right to Food and Nutrition:** - Nigeria faces food insufficiency and insecurity. The poor are unable to meet their food needs. Many children and women across the country, North East and North West in particular, suffer from lack of necessary nutrients. Underlying factors behind insufficient nutrition include – food insecurity, unhealthy environment and inadequate care for women and children with particular reference to rural areas. According to NDHS 2013, 30 per cent of children under five years are stunted, 18 per cent wasted, 29 per cent are underweight, and overall only 10 per cent of children aged 6-23 months are fed appropriately based on recommended infant and young children feeding (IYCF) practices. Eleven per cent of women are under-nourished (BMI<18.15), and 25 per cent are overweight or obese (BMI>25.0). Wasting is generally high in the North West (27 per cent) and North East (20 per cent) and is lowest in the South West (10 per cent). Rural children are more likely to be underweight (32 per cent) than urban children (23 per cent). Fifty-eight per cent of children in Kano and Kaduna are underweight, as compared with only 7 per cent in Enugu and 8 per cent in Edo.

Some of the factors that contributed to food crisis in Nigeria include the following: relying too much on oil, preference for imported food items over locally produced ones induced by petrodollars, the effect global increase of food prices especially the rise of prices of staple food, rain-fed agriculture affected by climate change (droughts and floods), and increased insecurity, in the North East in particular.

**19. Right to Quality Health Services:** The FGN is generally committed to the provision of quality health care to all Nigerians. But available data indicates that the situation of health sector services and care is just average, with many Nigerians, the poor and vulnerable population (the over 64.4 per cent who are below poverty line) having limited access to quality health services, WASH and nutrition services. The country's effort towards universal health coverage is highly limited as less than 5% of the population is covered by the National Health

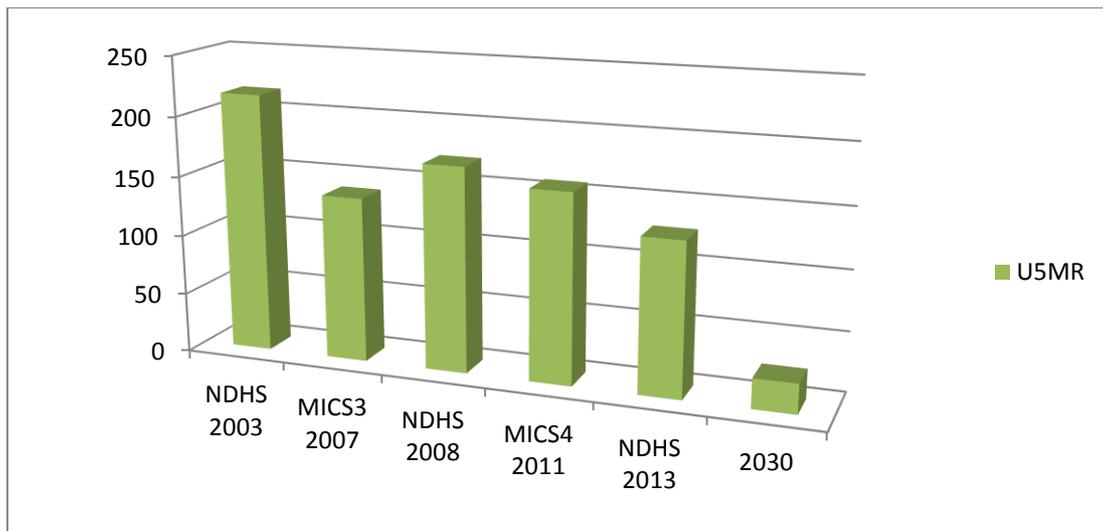
<sup>32</sup> UNICEF. *Situation Analysis of Children (Draft) September 2016.*

Insurance Scheme (NHIS). The rest are dependent on out of pocket expenses to cater for their health expenditures. As a result, many households are thrown into the poverty bracket when they encounter catastrophic health events.

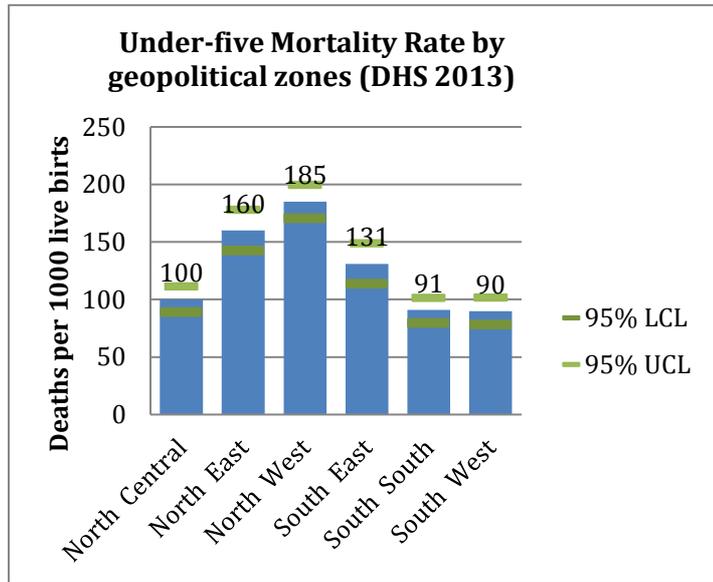
In the recent years, the FGN budgetary allocations to health ranged from about 6-8 per cent against the “2001 Abuja Declaration” of at least 15 per cent of the overall national budget. Even then, about 85 per cent of Federal Ministry of Health Budget is devoted to recurrent expenditures and with over 65 per cent of the budget going to tertiary hospitals. The financing of Primary Health Care is largely left to the Local Governments and States but these has been observed to be un-predictable, inconsistent and associated with widespread industrial actions due to non-payment of health workers salaries. The National Health Act, which was enacted in 2014 to address the funding of basic health services and insurance coverage for Nigerians, is yet to be implemented. The government is to set aside a grant of not less than one percent of its consolidated revenue to fund it and fifty percent of the fund shall be administered by the NHIS for the provision of basic minimum of health services to the citizens.

20. Poverty, limited education, and limited access to health services/facilities are behind high **under-five mortality** in Nigeria. NDHS 2013 indicates that Under-5 mortality is at 128 deaths/per 1000 live births in 2013 (Exhibit 5).

**Exhibit 5: Under Five Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)**

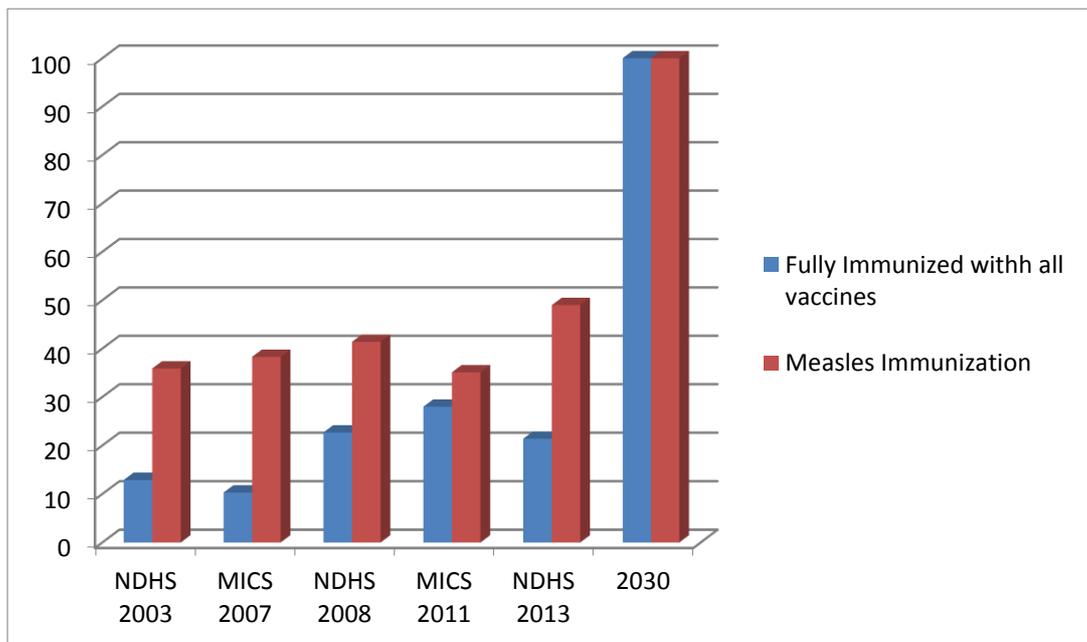


There are zonal differences in infant and under-5 mortality as well. For example, according to the NDHS 2013, the under-five mortality for North West Nigeria was 185 per 1000 live births (Exhibit 6). For North East, it was 160 per 1000 live births and 100 for North Central. The under-five mortality for South East, South South and South West was 131, 91, and 90 per 1000 live births respectively. Besides the geographic disparities, a big portion of under-five mortality is accounted for by neonatal deaths. Going by the NDHS 2013, 54% and 29% of the infant mortality and under-five mortality is accounted for by deaths during the neonatal period- before 28 days of life.



**21. Communicable diseases** account for 66 per cent of the total burden of morbidity in Nigeria. These diseases include malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDs, acute respiratory infections (ARI), measles, diarrhoea and neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). Exhibit 7 indicates the existing gap on percentage of children of Under One Year who are fully immunized. According to NDHS data by 2012 only 20 per cent of children were fully immunized and below 50 per cent had been immunized against measles.

**Exhibit 7: Percentage of Children of Under One Year Fully immunized against measles and all vaccines (%)**



This means that on the average over fifty per cent of children in Nigeria are at risk of measles and expectedly higher proportions at risk attacks from the other vaccine

preventable disease like polio if the situation is not addressed now. The resurgence of wild polio virus in Nigeria after two years of being cleared is worrisome. WHO has recently given an alert that cases of polio could be in the increase if the current low status of immunization continues. As per the SDGs target, by 2030, 100 per cent of children should be fully immunized.

**22. HIV and AIDs has negative impact on economic growth and social progress.** A 2014 survey by the Federal Ministry of health (FMOH) shows that the national HIV prevalence in Nigeria was 3.0 per cent compared to 4.1 per cent in 2010. The number of people living with HIV in Nigeria in 2014 estimated to be 3.4 million. HIV prevalence was highest in the North Central zone at 5.8 per cent and lowest in the North West zone with 1.9 per cent. HIV prevalence is distinctly high in Benue state (15.4%), Akwa Ibom state (10.8%), Anambra state (9.7%) and Imo state (7.5%).<sup>33</sup> HIV prevalence among the high-risk groups is estimated to be 9.5 per cent and this is highest among MSM (22.9%), followed by BBFWSS (19.4%), NBBFWSS (8.6%), PWID (3.4%), Police (2.5%) Transport workers (1.6%) and Armed forces (1.5%).<sup>34</sup> Nigeria currently has the highest burden of TB in Africa with about 590,000 TB cases occurring annually, with only 15 per cent of these cases as at 2015 detected and put on treatment (2015, NTBLCP report). TB on the other hand is a leading killer of HIV-positive people, about 170,000 died of TB annually in Nigeria most of these deaths are among the TB/HIV co-infected patients.

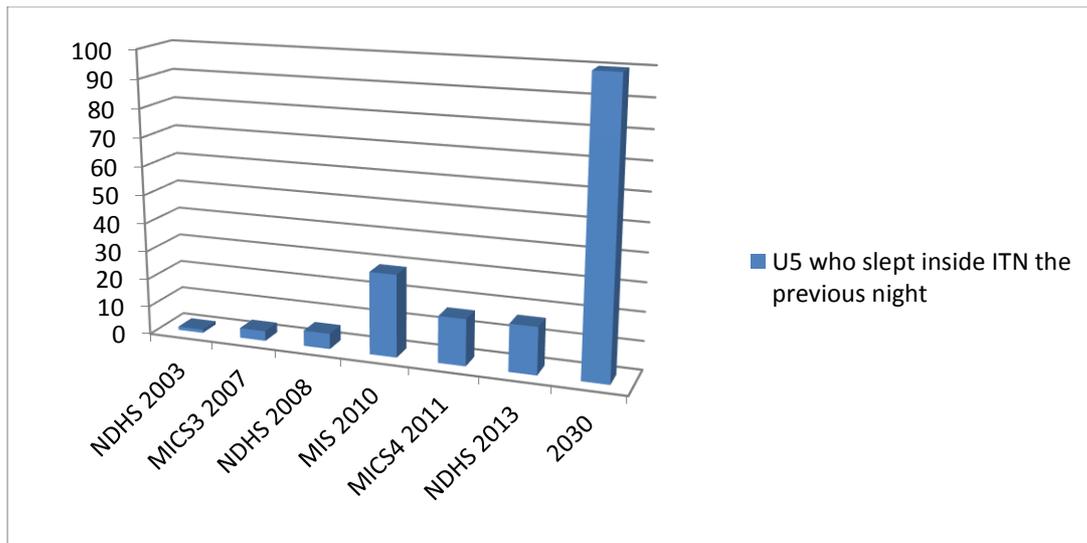
**23. Malaria Challenge:** - An estimated 97 percent of the country's approximate population of over 180 million residents is at risk of malaria. Children under age 5 and pregnant women are the groups most vulnerable to illness and death from malaria infection in Nigeria. Malaria is responsible for 60 percent outpatient visits, 30 per cent childhood deaths, and 25 per cent deaths in infants and 11 per cent of maternal deaths. As shown in Exhibit 8, according to DHS 2013 (and Malaria Indicator Survey) less than 20 per cent of children are sleeping under insecticide bed nets, far away from the SDG target of 100 per cent.

**Exhibit 8: Proportion of children under 5 who slept inside insecticide treated bed nets the previous night (%)**

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<sup>33</sup> FMOH (2015). *National HIV and Syphilis Sero-Prevalence Sentinel Survey among Pregnant Women Attending Antenatal Clinics in Nigeria*.

<sup>34</sup> *Females Who Sell Sex (FWSS), Men Who have sex with Men (MSM), People Who Inject Drugs (PWID), Transport Workers (TW), and officers and men of the Armed Forces and Police*

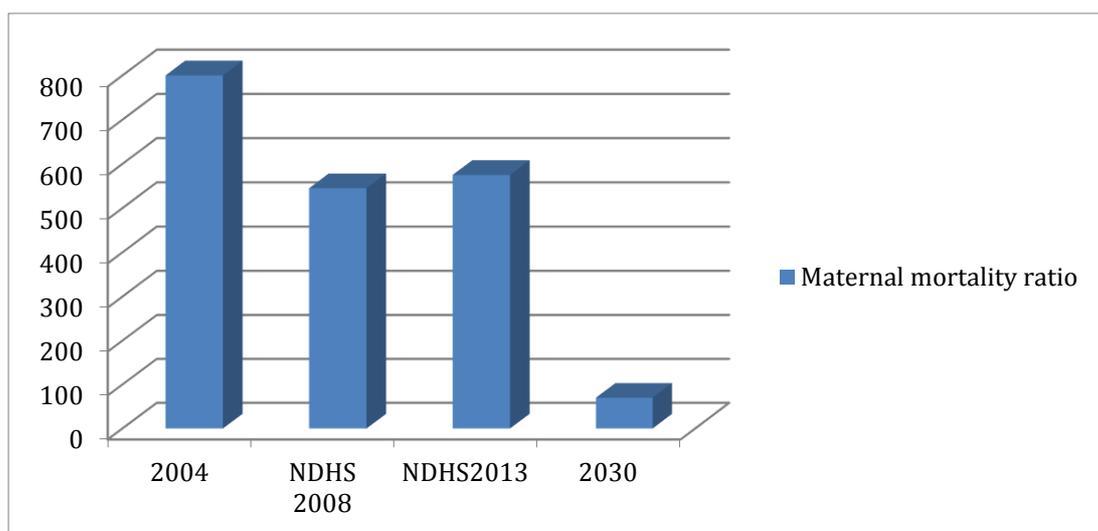


**24. Available data indicates that about 111 Nigerian women and girls die every day<sup>35</sup>** (representing more than 14% of all maternal deaths worldwide), due to preventable pregnancy and child birth related complications and 30% of these deaths can be averted by increasing uptake of modern family planning methods.<sup>36</sup> Approximately 25.2% of the total population is women of reproductive age with adolescent girls aged 15-19 constituting over 5 percent of the population. Nigeria's Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) is very high estimated at 575/100,000 live births in 2013 (NDHS 2013), resulting in an estimated maternal death of 40,000 Nigerian women annually (Exhibit 9).

<sup>35</sup> World Health Organization (WHO) (2014); 'Global causes of maternal death: a WHO systematic analysis'; *Lancet Global Health* 2: e323–33. Available on line [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(14\)70227-X](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(14)70227-X)

<sup>36</sup> Singh S and Darroch JE, (2012) *Adding It Up: Costs and Benefits of Contraceptive Services—Estimates for 2012*, New York: Guttmacher Institute and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Available at: <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/AIU-2012-estimates.pdf>

**Exhibit 9: Maternal Mortality Ratio (Per 100,000 Live Births)**



However the lack of reliable information as shown in the differences of MMR data between official sources such as the National Demographic and Health Survey, 2013) puts it at 350 per 100 000 live births (MDG Performance Tracking Survey 2013) and 224 per 100 000 live births (National Reproductive Health Survey 2013) makes it impossible to conclude if the country has made any substantial progress towards the achievement of the MDG 5A. According to the last UN report on maternal mortality in 2015 Nigeria, together with India, still accounts for over one third of all global maternal deaths<sup>37</sup>.

**25. Sexual and reproductive healthcare Services-**Nigeria experienced marginal increases in contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) over the last three decades with CPR rising from 6% in 1990, 13.3% in 2008 and 15.4% in 2013. There are wide disparities across states, geo-political zones and socio-demographic groups. Factors associated with the low CPR include a culture that is highly supportive of large family size, misconceptions about family planning methods, and male child preference, limited access and poor quality FP services. Despite recent policy measures such as the free contraceptive policy, adoption of task shifting on FP delivery, financial commitments by government to fund family planning and the adoption of the national family planning blueprint, the attainment of universal access to family planning in line with the MDGS is off target. Also the nation is at great risk of missing its set target of 36% CPR by 2018 as stipulated in the FP Blueprint

Family planning is yet to be recognized as a key development issue championed by the National planning Commission/(Ministry of Budget and Planning) and fully integrated into all aspects of national development for sustainability rather than left as a health matter that is left for the Federal Ministry of Health to pursue amongst the myriads of other competing health issues. States and local government levels are apathetic to FP and most have no provisions for it. Yet population issues are the fundamental

<sup>37</sup> Trends in maternal mortality: 1990 to 2015 Estimates by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and the United Nations Population Division. Accessed on 23/12/2015  
<http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/monitoring/maternal-mortality-2015/en>

challenges underlining the poor health indices of the country – high maternal mortality, high infant and childhood mortality, severe and chronic malnutrition currently ravaging the states of the country and high rates of out of school children and other associated social malaise, and conditions.

**26. Nigeria’s health system is not robust and inadequately funded at Federal and States level.** The poor performance is characterized by low service coverage as a result of a combination of poor infrastructure and equipment maintenance including limited drugs; inadequate and poor distribution of health professionals; chronic drug stock outs; and weak accountability for results for the sector. On the demand side, there is low level of financial protection because of the low health insurance coverage of less than 5 per cent of the population and problems associated with other social protection systems. The implications of these challenges are seen in health indicators among the population. For example, According to NDHS 2013 data, the antenatal care attendance increased only from 58 per cent in 2008 to 61 percent in 2013. In the same period deliveries in health facilities rose from only 35 per cent to 36 per cent and deliveries assisted by a skilled birth attendant showed a marginal decline from 39 per cent in 2008 to 38 per cent in 2013. The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) reduced only marginally from 5.7 in 2008 to 5.5 in 2013. The country's health system requires increased focus and investment in primary health care and strengthening health systems, including health care micro financing and insurance coverage system across the country.

27. The challenges and deprivation most children face are largely carried into youth and adulthood. For example, the proportion of the population 15-24 years with comprehensive knowledge of HIV and AIDS is poor in Nigeria over the years, from only 18.3 per cent in 2003, 25.9 per cent in 2005, but declining to 24.5 per cent in 2010.<sup>38</sup> The contraceptive prevalence rate among young people is only 18.50% and adolescent birth rate is 17% (DHS, 2013). The overall contraceptive prevalence among women in Nigeria is 16 percent. The use of any family planning method increases with age from 6 percent among women age 15-19 to 21 percent among women age 35-39, after which it declines to 12 percent among women age 45-49. The South West zone has the highest proportion of women currently using a family planning method (38 percent), followed by the South East (29 percent). The lowest proportion of married women using a family planning method is in the North East (3 percent). Among the states, Lagos and Kwara have the highest percentages of women using any method (48 percent and 40 percent, respectively). In six states - Jigawa, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto, and Yobe—only 1 percent of women use any method of contraception.

This indicates the limited impact of current interventions on sexual and reproductive health and HIV and AIDS. This is a serious gap that endangers the lives of the future generation. The situation also increases government expenditure on health and social protection, the resource that could be channeled towards development capital (investment).

**28. Education access, participation and quality:** - Since independence in 1960, the FGN has shown commitment to the provision of basic education to school age population. However, with the FGN budgetary allocation to education being about 5 per cent of GDP and between 8 per cent and 15 per cent of total public spending, the funding is well below the EFA threshold of 20 per cent of GDP. This imposes financial constraint on the sector translating to gaps in provision of infrastructures, instructional materials, training and professional development of teachers.

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<sup>38</sup> (MDG End Point Report, 2015).

29. Data available indicates that mixed progress has been made in promoting school attendant nationally and many children are denied their right to quality education. Despite FGN effort to provide free and compulsory basic education, Nigeria failed to meet EFA goals and MDG2. It is estimated that about 10.5 million school age school children, 42 per cent of which are primary age children are out of school. At the national level, the net primary school attendant was 61 per cent in 1995 and it increased to 84% in 2005. But this nose-dived to the present 64 per cent.<sup>39</sup> Classified by sectors, net attendance in the urban (84.3%) was much higher than in rural areas (62.2%) by 2015.

There are serious concerns about the quality of basic education across Nigeria. Learning environment in many public schools across geo-political zones and states are still not motivating and conducive to effective teaching and learning. The situation is worse in nomadic and poor regions. Available documents indicate that students' performance in both West Africa Examination Council (WAEC) and National Certificate of Education (NEC) has been less than satisfactory over the last five years. Teachers in many states are owed several months arrears of salary, they are demotivated and there are incessant industrial actions spanning several months and educational infrastructure in deplorable states. The elites including political leaders have lost confidence in the educational system and send their wards to foreign lands for schooling.

30. Data indicates that there are also wide variations in terms of states and geo-political zones. A high proportion of children remains excluded and denied their right to education. Enrolment of children into schools in some states such as Jigawa, (43.2%), Bauchi, (47.3%), Sokoto, (32.7%), Kebbi, (34.1%), Katsina, (43.5%), Zamfara, (35%) and Borno (35.1%) constitutes the major bottleneck to the realization of the objective of 100 percent enrolment of children of basic education of school going age<sup>40</sup>. Close to half a million children dropped out of school within the period covered by the survey. This is about 1.7% of the population of children currently attending primary schools. The dropout rate in the rural areas is more than double that of the urban areas for both males and females.

Among the factors that explain disparity and variation in access to, and participation in education across geo-political zones are both demand and supply factors. Presence and/or absence of cultural practices and traditions like FGM and child-marriages, attitudes towards girl-child education, religious and economic factors negatively affect public and individual demand to education. Limited availability of schools (distance to school), insecurity, lack of infrastructure and teaching-learning facilities, among others are also key factors behind access and participation of school age population in education. Child marriage is not only an education issue. It impacts negatively on the child's health, freedom and gender equality. It is a human rights issue. This is a significant challenge for Nigeria. If the present prevalence level continues unabated, the number of child brides will double by 2050 due to population growth.

31. The NDHS indicates that a large number of the population in Nigeria have no education. As shown in Exhibit 10, 21.5 and 53.5 per cent women in urban and rural areas respectively have not attained any level of education compared to 13.9 and 40.4 per cent men in urban and rural areas respectively. There are wider variations by Geo-political zones and states. Women and men from poor states are likely not to attend and attain any level of education.

**Exhibit 10: Proportion of No Education level attained by Region, State and Gender**

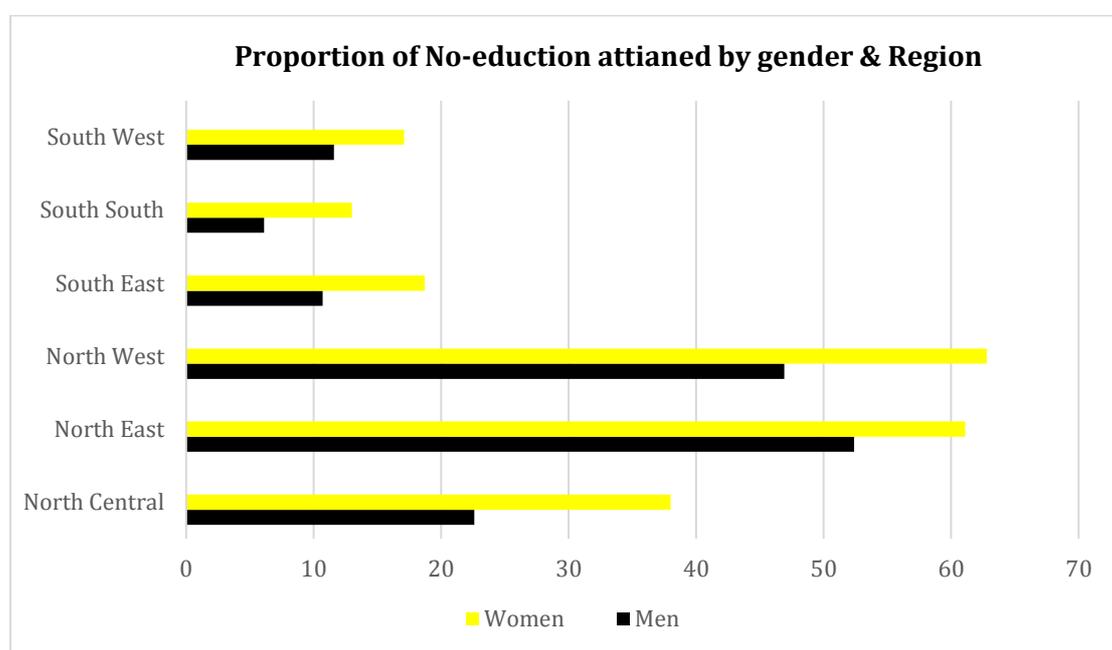
Background Characteristic	Men: No Education	Women: No Education
Urban	13.9	21.5
Rural	40.1	53.5

<sup>39</sup> MDG End Term Report, 2015; NHDR for Nigeria, 2016).

<sup>40</sup> FIS, 2011 State of Education Report, Beyond Access, Abuja, 2011.

<b>Geo-political Zone:</b>		
<i>North Central</i>	22.6	38.0
<i>North East</i>	52.4	61.1
<i>North West</i>	46.9	62.8
<i>South East</i>	10.7	18.7
<i>South South</i>	6.1	13.0
<i>South West</i>	11.6	17.1
<b>Selected States:</b>		
<i>Benue</i>	11.1	25.7
<i>Kaduna</i>	31.6	40.3
<i>Gombe</i>	46.4	61.6
<i>Cross River</i>	7.3	18.0
<i>Oyo</i>	21.9	24.9
<i>Anambra</i>	7.9	10.1

Source: NDHS, 2013.



**32. Gender Mainstreaming, Women's empowerment (GEWE):** - Nigeria has a good policy framework in place to prevent gender discrimination. But the effectiveness of implementation of the existing relevant laws and policies has remained problematic. Consequently, Nigeria ranks 118 of 134 countries on the Gender Equality Index. Gender inequality is greater in the Northern states where many of the states have not domesticated federal legislation. A 2012 report found that women and girls suffer systematic disadvantage that is magnified for those in the poorest states and sectors of society. In many states across Nigeria, young girls and women are more likely to be poor, go hungry, have limited health services and have limited access to school than their male counterparts. The manifestations and consequences of gender inequality differ among girls and women according to such factors as religion and ethnicity, social class, age, marital status, and education.

33. The gap in women's participation in political leadership is huge considering that SDG target is calling for gender parity (or at least 30 per cent women's participation). Currently the percentage of women elected into the National Assembly is 7.3 per cent for the Senate (i.e. 8 out of 109), while that of House of Representatives is 5.8 per cent (21 out of 309), which makes female representation in elective positions in Nigeria one of the lowest in the world. . In Nigeria, women occupy fewer than 30 per cent of all posts in the public sector and only 17 per cent in

senior management and decision-making positions. Distribution of workers by economic activities shows that women concentrate in the low level of a few sectors such as agriculture (23.8%), wholesale and retail trade (29.2%) and manufacturing mainly in food processing activities (13.9%). This is an indication that more work needs to be done on gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment at federal, states and local government levels.

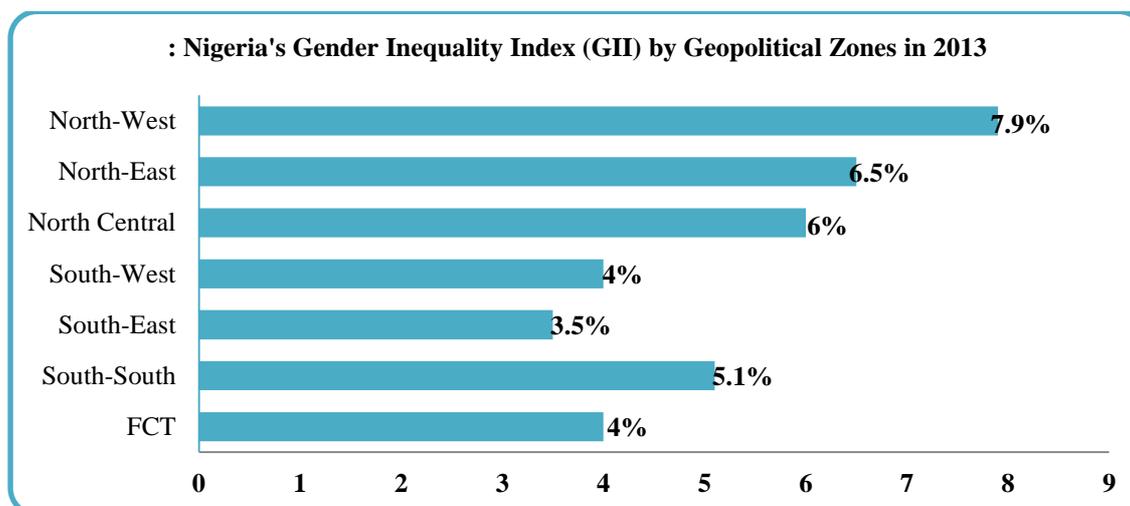
34. Exhibits 11 and 12 show Nigeria's Inequality Index (GII) by geo-political zones. The GII is highest in the North West (0.774) and lowest in the South East (0.397) (National Human Development Report for Nigeria, 2016).

**Table 11: Women in Leadership by Geo-political Zones**

<b>Geo-Political Zones</b>	<b>No of senate seats</b>	<b>Women senators</b>	<b>% of women Senator</b>	<b>House of Representative Seats</b>	<b>No of women Representatives</b>	<b>% of women</b>
North-Central	18	1	5.6	49	2	4.1
North-East	18	1	5.6	48	4	8.3
North-West	21	1	4.8	92	1	1.1
South-East	15	2	13.3	43	6	14.0
South-South	18	1	5.6	55	4	7.3
South-West	18	1	5.6	71	8	11.3

*Source: Udodima (2013)*

**Exhibit 12: Nigeria's Gender Inequality Index (GII) by Geopolitical Zones in 2013**



**35. Violence against women and girls is widespread across Nigeria.** In the last 3 years, there has been increase in the number of minors and girls raped across the country, in households, schools, work place and streets. The NDHS 2013 indicates that about 30 per cent of women aged 15-49 experience physical and sexual abuses in Nigeria. Women in urban areas are more likely than their rural counterparts to report having experienced physical violence since age 15 (33 percent versus 24 percent). There are notable variations in the experience of physical violence by zone. The proportion of women experiencing physical violence since age 15 is highest in the South South (52 percent) and lowest in the North West (7 percent). The same pattern is observed for experiences of physical violence in the past 12 months (19 percent in the South South versus 3 percent in the North West). The percentage of women age 15-49 who have experienced physical violence since age 15 varies from a low of 1 percent in Kano to a high of 72 percent in Benue. The most commonly reported perpetrator of physical violence is the current husband or partner. A total of 36 percent of women who have experienced violence since age 15 reported their current husband or partner as the perpetrator, while 11 percent reported their former husband or partner. Nearly one third of never-married women reported teachers as the perpetrator of physical violence (32 percent).

In spite of the endemic nature of VAWG in Nigeria, a culture of impunity still prevails including cases of sexual violence against minors (children – boys and girls), young girls and older women. The rejection of "Gender and Equality Bill" by National Assembly is a good illustration of the attitude of policy makers to issues of gender mainstreaming.

**36. Child Abuse and Protection from early marriages and harmful practices:** - Nigeria was the first country in the region and the 9<sup>th</sup> in the world to undertake a comprehensive national survey on violence against children in 2014, for the first time providing data on prevalence, location, perpetrators and impact of physical, sexual and emotional violence against children. This data was used to embark on a nationwide campaign to end violence against children launched by the President in 2015, and state specific campaigns to strengthen the system of child protection to prevent and respond to violence, including an initiative in nine states to develop a model child protection system specific to the needs of these groups.

The National Violence Against Children Survey<sup>41</sup> found a high prevalence of violence against children - 6 in 10 children suffer one or more forms of physical, sexual and emotional violence before the age of 18 years, with over 70% experiencing this type of violence on multiple occasions. 1 in 2 children suffer physical violence, 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 10 boys suffer sexual violence, and 1 in 5 boys and 1 in 6 girls suffer emotional violence. Most children do not report violence, with less than 5% receiving the services that they need to recover.

Nigeria has to the largest number of child brides in Africa: 23 million girls and women were married as children. Currently, 43% of girls are married before their 18th birthday. 17% are married before they turn 15.<sup>42</sup> Although prevalence is falling, due to population growth, the number of child brides will rise by 1 million by 2030 and double by 2050. The overall prevalence of FGM/C among girls and women aged 15-49 years in Nigeria (27%) is lower than in many countries. However, due to its large population, Nigeria has the third highest absolute number of women and girls (19.9 million) who have undergone FGM/C worldwide (after Egypt and Ethiopia).

**37. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** - Access to improved water, sanitation and hygiene also lag behind across Nigeria. However, there is lack of reliable data at federal and state levels about the extent to which people are denied this crucial right. Available estimates indicate that Nigeria ranks among the top 5 countries globally for having large numbers of people without access to safe water, improved sanitation and practicing open defecation. Between 1995 and 2010, Nigeria's progress has been even lower than the regional average for sub-Saharan Africa in both water and sanitation<sup>43</sup>. Nigeria just about met MDG target for water and was largely off-track for sanitation (65%) with major gaps in the rural areas.

NDHS 2013 indicates that only 61 per cent of households (49 rural and 76% urban) have access to improved water source. If we apply the SDG-6.1 indicator (of functionality and water quality) to current water access figures for rural areas, there is a significant drop in access to safe water from 57% to 23%. Only 3 out of 10 households in Nigeria use improved toilet facilities (25% rural areas and 37% urban areas). Overall, 29 per cent of households (40 rural and 16 urban) have no toilet facilities. As indicated in Exhibit 13 the majority of Nigerian perceives their inability to access potable water as a personal threat to their personal security. Specifically, 83 per cent and 78 per cent of the respondents in FCT and North East Geo-political zones, respectively, perceive inability to access potable water as a threat to their personal security (National Human Development Report for Nigeria, 2016).

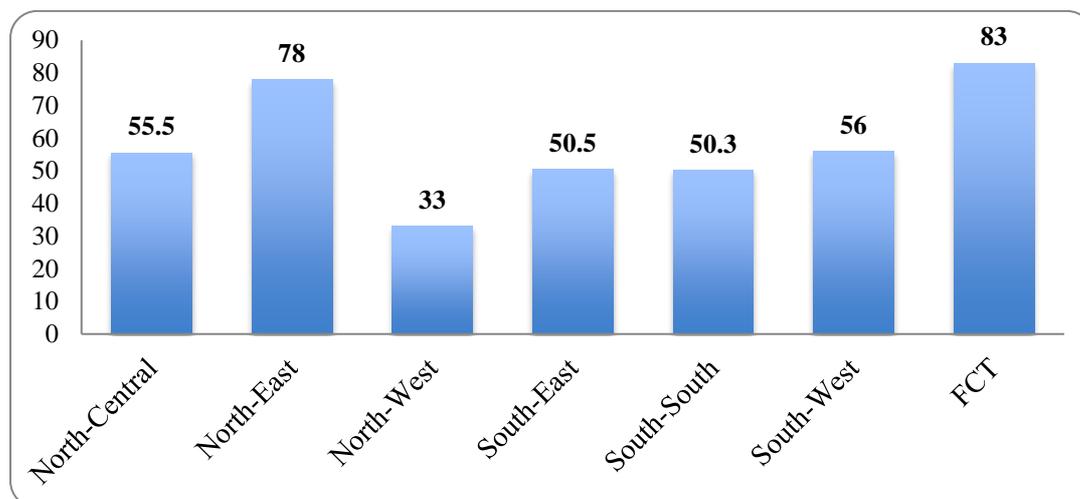
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<sup>41</sup> *Violence Against Children : A National Survey 2014. National Population Commission US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and UNICEF: 2016*

<sup>42</sup> *United Nations Children's Fund, A profile of Child Marriage in Africa, UNICEF, New York, 2015*

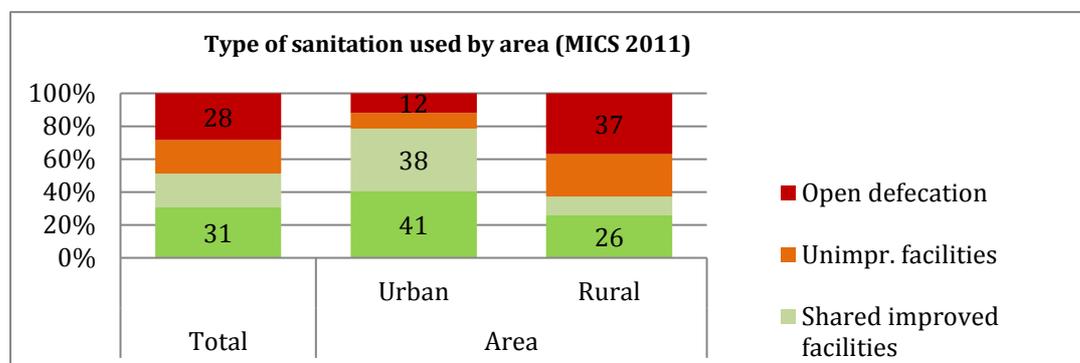
<sup>43</sup> *A Snapshot of Drinking Water and Sanitation in Africa – 2012 Update, African Minister's Council on Water on UNICEF Situation Analysis of Children (Draft September 2016),*

**Exhibit 13: Respondents perception of their inability to access potable water as a personal threat by geo-political zone**



38. MICS data 2011 indicates that 31 per cent of Nigerians are using improved sanitation (Exhibit 14). This is above the regional average of 26% but significantly lower than the global average of 64%. Open defecation is three times higher in rural areas.

**Exhibition 14: Type of Sanitation Used by Area**



The disparity between urban and rural areas has not changed much in over four years. Other important disparities are between area of residence and between rich and poor. The key issues hampering the WASH sector can be categorized into six broad areas; institutional capacities and arrangements at national/ sub-national level, lack of reliable data, low investments in the sector, poor operation & maintenance regime and lack of mechanisms to harness domestic resources/ private funding.<sup>44</sup>

Climate change issue is becoming a reality in Nigeria with increasing droughts in the Sahel region and flooding in the coastal areas. Saline water intrusion to ground water source is another challenge especially in the coastal states. Nigeria is currently identified as a “Water Stressed” country having less than 1,700 cubic meters of renewable water resources per capita per year. Scarcity in Nigeria is more of “economic

<sup>44</sup> UNDAF WASH Sector Issues Paper 2016

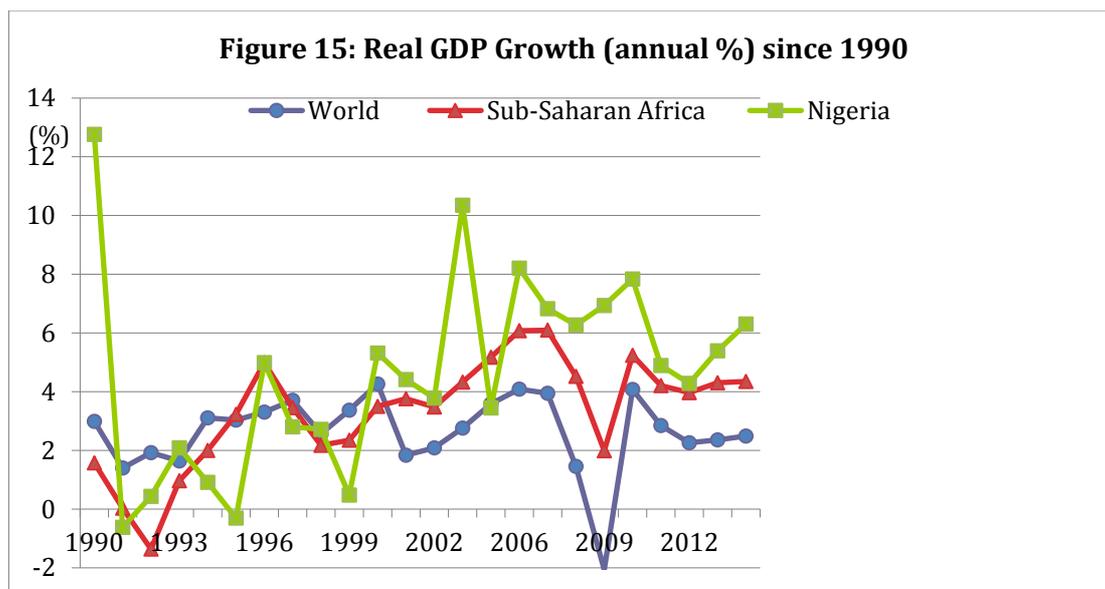
scarcity”, which is the lack of adequate infrastructure to contain available resources, especially rainwater. Under “business as usual” scenario, World Bank estimates a loss to GDP by 6% due to effects of water scarcity and estimates an increase to GDP by 1% by 2050, if efficient water policies are implemented.

39. In Nigeria, the focus during the MDGs period has been the provision of infrastructure without making adequate provisions for its operation and maintenance, resulting in a large number of facilities in a state of dis-repair. The SDG-6.1 and 6.2 indicators are much more ambitious than the MDG indicators for water supply and sanitation. SDG-6.1 aims at reaching everyone (including communities, health centres, schools, public institutions, markets, etc.) with access to safe, reliable and affordable water and preferably in the premises. It is not just the presence of the mere water facility as was the case during the MDG period. SDG-6.2 similarly talks about safe management of sanitation waste, which includes treatment and disposal; not just access to toilets. This clearly calls for greater collaboration between various line Ministries and the need to go beyond capital expenditure and include provision for operational expenses throughout the life of the infrastructure. The UN with its multi-sectoral expertise is well-placed to bring about this collaboration between the various Ministries to address the basic WASH needs.

### **3.2 Inclusive Economic Growth and Prosperity**

40. SDG target is for countries to grow a strong, inclusive and transformative economy, linked to 6 of the 17 new SDG targets. Available data indicates that Nigeria will need people focused economic equality policies to achieve SDGs and the country's Vision 2020 targets on economic development and shared prosperity. It will require transforming and diversifying the economy and deepening inclusive growth, targeting the unemployed youth and poor women, especially those in the informal sector.

41. Compared to other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, Nigeria is a country with enormous potential which includes: an economy with over 180m people, relatively good access to skills, capital and technology, fertile land and minerals resources (including natural gas, petroleum, tin, iron ore, coal, limestone, niobium, lead, and zinc), and a favourable geographical location, GDP of \$488 billion, and a GDP per Capita of US\$2,688. Nigeria became the second largest economy in Africa, after a GDP rebasing exercise in 2014. As indicated Exhibit 15, in the last decade Nigeria's economic growth has been phenomenon, out-pacing that of Sub-Saharan Africa and the world.



However, these resources have not been used effectively and efficiently to promote and sustain inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection. Economic growth has been on the decline since 2014 because of the factors mentioned above; 2014 at 6.22 per cent, 2015 at 2.81, and first and second quarters at -0.38 and -2.06 respectively. Nigeria's economy is currently in a recession, with a double-digit inflation rate.

42. The recent precipitous fall in oil revenues, which has been the major source of foreign exchange earnings, is having a negative impact on the country's growth prospect and macro-economic stability. Gross foreign and fiscal reserves declined steady from the second half of 2014 and into 2016 as oil prices fell 66.8% from \$114/barrel in 2014 to about \$38/barrel by December 2015.<sup>45</sup> Oil prices have remained largely unstable in the two quarters of 2016 exacerbating the problem of export earnings, instability and consequently, vacillating government revenue. The global effect has had negative ramifications in the domestic market, as well as on capital importation and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), inflation, household and government consumption expenditure, gross capital growth, external reserves and merchandise trade and balance of payments.<sup>46</sup> It is estimated that government revenues have fallen by as much as 33 per cent, which has further resulted in the contraction of the GDP by 0.36 per cent in the first three months of 2016. Available data from the Debt Management Office reveal that public debt has increased in the last four years, with a consolidated Government debt stock totaling N12.6 trillion as at December 31st 2015, from N1.2 trillion as at December 31st 2014. The exchange rate, in both the interbank and parallel market, exhibited significant volatility in the last 12 months. The exchange rate depreciated by 9.2 per cent in the official market but by over 37 per cent in the Bureau de Change (BDC) market. There is a widening gap between the official exchange rate and the parallel market.

43. The vulnerable macroeconomic environment in Nigeria has affected investors' confidence in the domestic economy. This has led to decline in the flow of FDI into the country. For example, a total value of capital imported into the country in 2015 was \$9,643.01 million (FDI \$1,446.2m) as against \$20,750.76 million (FDO - \$2,276.8m)

<sup>45</sup> Ministry of Budget & National Planning, 2016.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid.

in 2014, representing a 53.5 per cent decline in capital importation and 36.6 per cent decline in FDI.<sup>47</sup> Besides, it has led to low productivity and increased cost of doing business - as the cost of importing raw material and machines has increased.

### **3.2.1 Untapped Potential in Agriculture**

**44.** Dependence on oil (a mono-economy for decades) has constrained the development of agricultural sector across Nigeria. This is a missed opportunity for inclusive and sustained economic growth because majority of Nigerians depend directly or indirectly on this sector. Limited investment and development of the sector has resulted in food insufficiency and insecurity, thus major importation of food such as rice, wheat and fish, thus the country depleting its foreign exchange reserve. Data from NBS (2015) indicates that the share of the agriculture sector in GDP remains relatively small at 23.11 per cent, although about 80 per cent of the population, those in rural areas in particular, depend on agriculture. But the share of other sectors in GDP is even smaller, manufacturing (9.54%), oil & gas (9.61%), construction (3.88%), utilities (0.53%) and solid minerals (0.15%). Service sector is the largest contributing to about 53.15% into the country's GDP. However, export earnings and government revenues receipts are still dominated by the oil sector.

**45.** The country covers about 91 million hectares of land area, out of which 82 million hectares (90%) is arable land, and only 34.4 million hectares (42 percent) of arable land is currently under cultivation. The main agricultural commodities cutting across agro-ecological zones include food crops such as cassava, sorghum, rice, maize, yams, among others; cash crops, such as cotton, cocoa, oil-palm, and groundnuts; as well as livestock such as cattle, sheep, goats and poultry. But the sector is largely dominated by subsistence farming, which have experienced declining productivity during the last decade due to various factors including climate change, unfavourable policy environment and dwindling prices.

**46.** According to the federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the country has not been able to take advantage of its agricultural potential. For example, Nigeria's cassava was about 45 million tonnes in 2015, making the country the largest cassava producer in the world. But Nigeria exported less than one per cent of its cassava output in 2015, which represents US\$1m, compared to the country's overall cassava output valued at US\$16 billion.<sup>48</sup> Cassava industry is largely defined by subsistence sector. There are about 6 million smallholders cassava farmers across the country. But many have limited access to inputs, technology and markets, resulting in low productivity and limited revenue. Such farmers are also exposed to exploitation by middle traders. Nigeria could save N127 billion each year from promotion and increase of cassava in the baking industry. Currently Nigeria spends N635 billion on importing wheat.

**47.** Nigeria loses about US\$100 million annually to fish imports. Such imports have also affected negatively the local fish industry, rendering those dealing in fish poor. While this is happening, a 65-year-old state owned Panyam Fish Farm (established during colonial times and once reported as the largest fish farm in Nigeria and West Africa) remains closed. The farm has the capacity to produce over 4.9 million tonnes of fish and 10 million fingerlings annually. It has great potential of creating jobs and providing needed income including foreign exchange. According to the West Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CIRAF/WECARD), Nigeria has the capacity to supply over 65 per cent of quality seeds needed by farmers in West Africa. This remained un-tapped and is one of the opportunities that could turn around the sector, increase income, productivity and create jobs to the youths across the West Africa region. Nigeria has great potential in growing and processing cotton. But in the last decade cotton growing in places like Kano and Kaduna among other regions has stopped

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<sup>47</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>48</sup> *Africa Development Bank, 2016*

and farmers are no longer interested in the crop. This is due to limited market and low prices in Nigeria occasioned by the collapse of the textile industry.

48. The FGN recognizes the challenges faced by the agricultural sector in general and food security sub-sector in particular. Accordingly, the federal government launched the Agricultural Transformation Agenda (ATA) in 2011 as a medium-term strategy for promoting agriculture as a business and commodity value chains, providing farmer support, while inducing The present administration has sued for a socially responsible agricultural programme, in order to replace oil as the major source of foreign exchange earnings, in addition to the traditional role of agriculture to provide food security, employment and livelihood improvement to the people of Nigeria. The government is putting together an agricultural roadmap for the country comprising a draft policy document and incorporating the policy measures, programme initiatives, and investment opportunities required to address the challenges and constraints identified. This newly drafted policy document is highlighted as follows: 1. Promoting Access to Land; 2. Promoting Access to Finance and Agribusiness Investment Opportunities; 3. Promoting Access to Agricultural Inputs; 4. Promoting Access to Extension Services; 5. Promoting Access to Mechanization Services, vi. Promotion Access to Agro-processing; 6. Promoting Commodity Value Chains; 7. Enhancing Irrigation Services; 8. Promoting Sustainable Agriculture (climate smart agriculture), 9. Promoting mainstreaming Gender and Youth Employment in the agriculture sector; and 10. Promoting Agricultural Research

### **3.2.2 Private Sector: Industry/Manufacturing Sector**

49. Nigeria has not been able to exploit its private sector led export-oriented (industries, manufacturing and SMEs) economic growth potential. Although Government reforms targeting the private sector have created new and dynamic environment, which while encouraging the sprouting of local companies, have at the same time driven many domestic owned businesses underground. Many SMEs, cottage industries have stopped operating, while large companies, e.g. those manufacturing beer and soft drinks, and financial institutions (banks) have survived the harsh economic environment. Some organizations in the private sector conduct their business surreptitiously and illegal, while some exist only in paper. However, the Nigeria's hope for economic recovery lies on the extent to the country builds a strong, competitive and export oriented private sector, SME (cottage) in particular.

Not surprisingly, the contribution of manufacturing sector to GDP as at 2015 is placed at 10%.<sup>49</sup> Nigeria has great potential of agro-processing production (value-addition) for tomatoes, palm oil, cassava, groundnuts, cotton, poultry, and fish among others. But this has not been exploited. Although the private sector, SMEs in particular, in Nigeria has shown resilience and some growth over the four years, most factors affecting private sector investment in Nigeria have not shown a significant improvement of the years. For example, financial liberalization has not improved savings, as a possible source of increased investment. With low incomes and increased poverty, the majority of Nigerians has very limited capacity to save/invest, increase productivity, create jobs and improve their standards of living. The growth of the private sector, SMEs in particular, in faces various challenges including limited access to credit, higher lending interest rates, and unfavourable business environment including limited economic freedom and harassment by town/urban council authorities.

50. The uncompetitive business environment in Nigeria is one of the challenges that impact negatively on the growth of the private sector, manufacturing in particular, thus adversely affecting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and local Small and Medium

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<sup>49</sup> UNIDO, 2014

Enterprises (SMEs). The global measures of business environment including the Global Trade Reports, Ease of Doing Business Indicators, and Enterprise Surveys suggest that Nigeria business regulations and cost of doing business across the country are major constraints to industrial and manufacturing growth. Poor infrastructures (especially energy) and the high cost of doing business according to a 2015 survey report by World Bank is stifling the business environment and therefore, jobs are not being created by SMEs which should be the engine of employment creation. Public sector job opportunities are dwindling and in the recent past several State governments cannot pay salaries. Nigeria's ranking in competitive industrial performance is 110 (out of 143 countries). The country currently has the capacity to produce 10000MW of electricity but only about 4000 MW is distributed due to a limiting national transmission grid.

51. As a result many international and regional companies, which operated in Nigeria for decades, have closed shops and moved to other competitive countries and regions like the Southern and Eastern Africa. What is more worrying and sad is the legacy of waste in manufacturing (agro-processing - value addition facilities) that were viable and creating jobs in Nigeria but now are closed or operating at a very low unprofitable level. The best illustration is the Imo Modern Poultry, Avutu in Obowo Local Government Area of Imo State. Built some 32 years ago, the facility is the largest poultry processing facility in Sub-Saharan Africa, located in 177 hectares of land with 45 poultry houses of 2.5 million birds capacity.<sup>50</sup> The Israel build facility apart from the capacity of housing 2.5 birds provides potential for investment in other areas like fisheries, livestock, feed production, processing and packing of frozen chicken. But, sadly, the facility has been neglected, abandoned and virtually all the facilities and sections of the company are overgrown with weeds. There are many examples of neglected facilities across Nigeria, in towns and cities like Lagos and Abuja in particular. Another abandoned investment is the Ajaokuta Steel Plant build in 1979 on a 24,000 hectares landmass, with the steel plant build on 800 hectares of land on three platforms on the bank of the River Niger.<sup>51</sup> The plant was planned to produce 1.3 million tones of steel per year and expanded to 2.6 million tones in the third phase, creating thousands of direct and indirect jobs, and effectively contributing to income earning for the government and individuals.

### **3.2.3 Youth Unemployment**

52. There is a steady increase in unemployment and under employment in Nigeria. According to the NBS report, the labour force population increased from 65,170,629 in 2010 to about 76,957,900 by end of 2015 representing about 18% increase. The NBS employment watch Q1 2016 indicates that there is an increase in the labour force population from 76,9 million in Q4 of 2015, to 78,4 million in Q1 of 2016 representing an increase in the labour force by 1.99%. The unemployment rate as at end of 2015 is 10.4% while the underemployment rate for the same period is 19.1% in Q1 2016, therefore, there are 31.2% in Q1 2016 of Nigerians of the active labour force population, who are either unemployed or underemployed as at the end of 2015. 53. Youth unemployment emanates from a lack of substantial investment and the articulation of a comprehensive policy framework to address underlying factors including the structural factors. The challenge is more daunting in respect of informal

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<sup>50</sup> *New Telegraph, Thursday August 11, 2016.*

<sup>51</sup> *Sunday Telegraph, Sunday August 14, 2016.*

employment and entrepreneurship. Yet, the National Youth Policy<sup>52</sup> recognizes that the youth are assets that constitute the foundation of society; their energies, inventiveness, character and orientation defining the pattern and development of a nation.

The available data from NBS indicates that, first, a very high percentage of unemployed youth is found in the rural areas, which points to the growing phenomenon of rural banditry. Second, is the feminization of unemployment and the accompanying consequence for the gender dimension of poverty in the country. Over half of unemployed youth who do not have an education past primary school have consistently accounted for over 50 percent of all unemployed youth. However, graduates of tertiary institutions also seem to be badly hit by unemployment too—making up about 20 percent of youth unemployment and often remaining unemployed for upward of five years after graduation<sup>53</sup>. Unemployment and underemployment among the youths are attributed to the unemployability of the youths due to skills mismatch and lack of experience. Trainings provided are not in tune with the current labour market needs. The curriculum used by TVET institutions are obsolete and do not reflect the market realities while the necessary frameworks do not underpin what is provided in terms of training. Standardization and certification is a major challenge. Further to this is the lack of structured apprenticeship and internship programmes to enable the youths gain the experiences needed by the employers.

54. Lack of a functional Labour Market Information System (LMIS) has made planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of employment programmes challenging. LMIS also lack data on labour market administration and adequate information on labour market policies, while there is no data on the sectors where there are dearth of skills and where there are surplus skills to inform the training of youths for the required skills. Coupled with this is the non-functioning public employment services which can link the potential employers and employees.

55. Efforts have been made at the three tiers of government to address the challenge of youth unemployment. Most of the macro level work on employment creation has focused on policy levels to ensure that an appropriate pro-employment policy environment is in place in Nigeria. The policies and plans include Small and Medium Enterprise Policy, Industrial Policy, Nigerian Investment Plan, National Action Plan on Employment Creation (NAPEC), the Nigeria Youth Employment Action Plan (NIYEAP), Child Labour Policy and its Action Plan, Labour Migration Policy etc. The National Employment policy is currently being reviewed. The challenge has been lack of allocation of resources and non-implementation of these policies, and therefore, they have not achieved their objectives of job creation. The prominent ones at the national level include the Subsidy Reinvestment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P) and the Youth Enterprise With Innovation in Nigeria (YOU-WIN). The common problems associated with youth empowerment schemes need to be addressed in a comprehensive and focused manner to promote inclusive growth and overcome the security challenges that are associated with youth unemployment. These include lack of supplementing entrepreneurial trainings and skills acquisition with loans, lack of proper targeting and weak management of these schemes and inadequate funding. Furthermore, government policies should address the structural issues, including demand-side factors such as the expansion of the industrial sector to create opportunities<sup>54</sup>.

56. UNDP is supporting the FGN and specific states in addressing youth unemployment. UNDP has been providing capacity building, training and retraining for youths, women, the disabled and internally displaced people (IDPs) in selected States in Nigeria, particularly

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<sup>52</sup> *The National Youth Policy, Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports, 2001*

<sup>53</sup> *NISER (2013)*

<sup>54</sup> *Brookings Institute, 'Youth Unemployment in Nigeria: A Situational Analysis'*  
<https://www.brookings.edu/2014/09/23/youth-unemployment-in-nigeria-a-situation-analysis/>

Anambra, Kogi, Gombe, Delta, Borno, Niger, Yobe and Adamawa States.<sup>55</sup> Going forward, capacity building for youths should be tailored more along the line of training for gainful employment and entrepreneurship. The successes achieved in this regards should be scaled up and replicated as the case may be in more states and focusing on more sub-sectors such crop production, livestock production, value adding agriculture produce processing and marketing,

### **57. Current FGN Efforts to Address the Economic Challenges**

The FGN is committed to using the existing economic crisis to implement the reforms needed to unlock the economic potentials of the non-oil and high-employment sectors for inclusive growth and sustainable development. Government also using this crisis as an opportunity to promote broader macroeconomic and structural reform so as to mitigate supply-side constraints and diversify the productive and revenue base of the economy. The policy direction of the FGN is contained in the Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) for 2016 Budget, which is to progressively facilitate true national development. The Strategic Implementation Plan is anchored on four policy fundamentals i.e.<sup>56</sup>

- i. Investing in Critical Infrastructure
- ii. Embracing and Encouraging the Private Sector
- iii. Continuously Advocating for Greater Social Inclusion with a particular focus on Job Creation
- iv. Improving Security and Tackling Corruption.

According to the MO&NP, the execution and monitoring of these fundamental objectives are prioritized in six thematic areas (policy actions):

**1. Policy, Governance and Security** (key actions among others include: *achieve an appropriate foreign exchange regime; Increase low interest lending to the real sector; Maintain capital spending in the budget at a minimum of 30%. complement this with funds from the Infrastructure Fund for commercial projects*).

**2. Diversify the Economy (key actions among others include:** *Implement Measures to Achieve Self-Sufficiency & Become Net Exporters of a certain agric. Items: rice-2018, tomato paste-2016, wheat-2019. Increase local production of maize, soya, poultry & livestock, so as to achieve self-sufficiency: deadlines to be announced in due course; Revitalize & Expand Agro-Allied Processing to intensify local production & processing of cassava, cocoa, cashew, fruits and sesame seed; and Utilize 5,000 hectares of Irrigable Land in the 12 River Basin Development Authorities & utilize 22 Dams for Commercial Farming activities by prospective investors; Implement the National Industrial Revolution Plan & Launch 'Made in Nigeria' Campaign; Increase Manufacturing Capacity by operationalizing Industrial Parks, Free & Export Processing Zones, etc.; Enhance support facilities to provide increased financial, technical assistance, networking & information to new investors and existing enterprises; Implement a Roadmap to Increase Private Sector Investment into Tourism, Entertainment & Sports; and Create high-technology innovation hubs to support growth in the Digital & Technology Sector*).

**3. Power, Rail, Roads and Housing:** (Key actions among others include the following: *Optimize the 7,000MW installed power capacity & ensure associated infrastructure to Fuel, Transmit & Distribute this capacity, is operational and effective. Complete the privatization of NIPP plants & improve the management and performance of TCN; Ensure Tariff includes all costs of transmission, generation & gas at the new price, as well as Disco costs required to operate, maintain & upgrade distribution networks; Resolve all Issues on Gas Pricing, Tariff, & Payment Assurance. Conclude Roadmap on Gas Development; Complete the Kaduna-Abuja*

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<sup>55</sup> UNDP. Annual Report 2015.

<sup>56</sup> Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, 2016.

*& Ajaokuta-Warri Rail Lines scheduled for 2016; revise the National Rail Master Plan; commence construction of the Lagos-Kano standard gauge Rail Line; & finalize negotiations for the Calabar-Lagos Rail Project; Undertake the construction of 3552 Mixed housing Units as Pilot scheme in the 36 States of the Federation and FCT under the National Housing Programme (NHP) in a secured and planned environment, and Adopt & Execute a Comprehensive National Oil & Gas Master-Plan (NOGM) as the roadmap for the Petroleum Industry's Development, Diversification, Privatization & Governance. Adopt & Execute a Roadmap of Gas Development & Flare Elimination).*

**4. Ease of Doing Business: (Key actions:** *Move 20 places up the Ease of Doing Business Rankings, by implementing fast track measures for business approvals, acquisition of land titles, etc. (Nigeria is currently ranked 169 out of 189 countries by the World Bank – 2015 Survey), and Fast-track visa application & issuance processes).*

**5. Social Investment: (Key actions:** *Implement Social Intervention Programme and specific Health / Education projects included in 2016 Budget; and Health Sector Interventions including Flagging off the Revitalization of 1 Primary Health Centre per Ward (a total of 10,000 nationwide in 2016 and 2017).*

## **59. Science , Technology and Innovations**

“Science (understood as science, technology and innovation (STI), ranging from natural science to technologies, social sciences and the humanities) is critical to help meet the challenges for sustainable development, as it lays the foundations for new approaches and technologies to identify, clarify and tackle global challenges for the future. Science can thus significantly contribute to sustainable development, but requires to that end a broad understanding of science as such”.

Based on the above recommendation of the UN Scientific Advisory Board, and on a global advocacy effort of the scientific community at large, member states voted to have science as an integral part of the 2030 Global Agenda.

60. In April 2014, AMCOST (African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology) approved the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024 (STISA-2024)<sup>57</sup>. The STISA is part of a more global framework of the African Union, Agenda 2063, which recognizes the importance of STI for sustainable development of the African Continent. STISA's mission is to accelerate Africa's transition to an Innovation-led, Knowledge-based Economy. In order to achieve this objective, the common understanding is that the prerequisites are:

- Up- grade of African STI infrastructure
- Enhance technical and professional competencies
- Stimulate Collaborative Innovation and
- Entrepreneurship
- Provide Enabling environment for STI

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<http://www.hsrc.ac.za/uploads/pageContent/5481/Science.%20Technology%20and%20Innovation%20Strategy%20for%20Africa%20-%20Document.pdf>

- Build a science culture
- Strengthen IP and regulatory systems

**61. FGN is committed to promoting, mainstreaming and development of STI** as a strategy for national development. STI is captured in the National vision 20:2020. In addition, the 2012 Nigeria STI policy, and the establishment of the National Research and Innovation Council further indicate the country's recognition of the importance of STI and a basis for sustainable development. In Nigeria there are 4 categories of issues related to STI:

- Lack of institutional capacity, especially at the state level, for the inclusion of STI in national development agenda;
- Lack of funding for the establishment of the National Science Foundation;
- Lack of adequate monitoring of Global (SDG related) and regional (ASTII) agreed indicators;
- Lack of harmonization between National STI priorities and Regional (STISA, AU 2063 Vision) and global (SDG) ones.

### **3.3. Planet: Environmental Protection, Resilience and Sustainable Development**

**62.** SDGs target is environmental protection, linked to 7 out of the 17 goals. The focus on the planet and sustainable development requires Nigeria, like other countries, to "protect our ecosystems for all societies and our children". Protecting the environment and a national resilience is demonstrated by the ability of a country to manage and protect its natural resources and ecosystem, and providing enabling environment (e.g. legal and policy frameworks) and empowering its citizens to protect the environment and use natural resources in a sustainable manner, preserving it for future generation.

**63.** Despite the fact that Nigeria is a signatory to a number of protocols on sustainable and renewable environment, over the past decades Nigeria has failed to protect the country's environment, ecosystem and natural resources. This has led to careless exploitation of natural resources and pollution of the environment, and thus exposing the population to vulnerability and risks caused by climate change among others.

**64.** Nigeria is well endowed with forest resources, accounting for 2.5% of GDP. The resources provide employment for over 2 million people through the supply of fuel wood and poles and 80,000 people working in log processing industries. But the status of environmental security in Nigeria is worrying. For instance, Nigeria has one of the highest rates of forest loss in the World. Between 1990-2000, Nigeria lost an average of 409,700 Hectares of forest per year (FAO, 2010) on average of Deforestation rate of 3.5% per annum (350,000-4000 hectares per year. Between 1990 and 2005, Nigeria lost 35.7% of its forest cover (Ibid.). Increase in population, human activities like farming, construction, and cutting of trees, use of wood, and effect of climate change lead to environmental destruction across Nigeria, endangering health and lives of millions of the population.

**65.** Regarding natural shocks, the country is facing erratic hot weather, flooding and soil erosion. Recent variability of annual rainfall pattern across Nigeria poses serious threat to human security because it is a threat to agricultural production. There is a clear link between rainfall variability (and floods and soil erosion) and increased poverty and inequality in Nigeria. Which result into increased environmental destruction and the vicious cycle is completed. Flooding and soil erosion have caused destruction and deaths in Nigeria, particularly in South East zone and the Lake Chad region. . Erosion has affected farming,

displaced people from their homes and disrupted businesses when farms and road/bridges are washed away. It was reported in 2011 that 20 per cent of Nigerian's population was at risk from one form of flooding or the other.<sup>58</sup> In the Northern part of the country, climate change has caused delay and unpredictable rainfall. The major consequences have been limited water in streams and rivers for herdsman as well as poor harvest for rain-fed agriculture. Desertification has constituted one of the serious challenges facing the task of poverty alleviation in the Northern part of Nigeria.

67. The impact of climate change in the Lake Chad region reflects the general picture of the pressures of desertification and increasing aridity in the northern region. It has taken a heavy toll on the livelihoods of over 8 million pastoralists and fishermen around Lake Chad. The Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET) and Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA) are warning of major floods, and soil erosions, in the coming months (greater than the 2012 ones) that will affect 12 states. Those living along the banks of River Niger and River Benue in particular, are forced to move to higher grounds. Over 7 millions of people, the poor and most vulnerable, would be affected, creating humanitarian crisis if pro-active and elaborate plans are not put in place early enough. There also reported cases of floods in North West zone.

68. The Global Environmental Performance Index (EPI)<sup>59</sup> ranks Nigeria poorly. In 2014 Nigeria was ranked 134 out of 178 Countries, with a score of 39.2%. In the year 2012, Nigeria was ranked 119<sup>th</sup> out of 132 CTs with a score of 40.1%. An best example of destruction of the environment by human activities is in the Niger Delta (Ogoniland), where a report of UNEP indicated that oil contamination is widespread and severely impacting on many components of the environment, causing deaths, low productivity, loss of income and suffering to the people. The study concludes that the environmental restoration of Ogoniland is possible but may take 25 to 30 years.<sup>60</sup> The ethnic minority groups from the Niger Delta view the legislation underpinning Nigeria's fiscal federalism, especially the Petroleum Act and the Land Use Act as hurting because they vest the ownership of oil resources and land in the federal government. They particularly decry the lack of basic infrastructure such as good road network, health care facilities, schools and portable water in the region.<sup>61</sup>

69. Climate variability and climate change has important consequences for health, ranging from the immediate impact of extreme weather events, to the longer-term impacts of droughts and desertification on food production and malnutrition, and the increased spread of infectious disease vectors for malaria and dengue. Long-term climate change threatens to exacerbate today's problems, while undermining tomorrow's health systems, infrastructure, social protection systems and supplies of food, water and other ecosystem products and services that are vital for human health. The poorest and most vulnerable populations are likely to experience the most severe impacts. These may be worsened by rapid and unplanned urbanization, the contamination of air and water, and other consequences of environmentally unsustainable development.

70. Environmental destruction/pollution in urban areas (small and large cities across geo-political zones) is an increased phenomenon in Nigeria. Ubiquitous urban poverty and urban slum proliferation, so characteristic of Africa's large cities, is likely to become an even more widespread phenomenon in Nigeria under current urban development trajectories, especially given the continuing and significant shortfalls in urban institutional capacities. Since the bulk of the urban population increases are now being absorbed by Africa's secondary and smaller

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<sup>58</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>59</sup> *Environmental Performance Index (EPI) ranks how well countries perform on high-priority environmental indicators in two broad policy areas: protection of human health from environmental harm and protection of ecosystems.*

<sup>60</sup> *UNEP (2011). The Environmental Assessment of Ogoniland Report.*

<sup>61</sup> *MDG End Point Report, 2015.*

cities, the sheer lack of urban governance capacities in these settlements is likely to cause slum proliferation processes that replicate those of Africa's larger cities. The new towns and satellite cities now being established to relieve pressures on the largest African urban concentrations will also add to further urban slum proliferation, because these new towns almost exclusively cater for the residential needs of higher-income groups. Consequently, there is near certainty that these new towns will soon be surrounded by the informal accommodations of the low-income labour needed to service these new cities.

71. Rapid population growth experienced in Nigeria (3.2%<sup>62</sup>) has been characterised by an even higher urban population growth rate of 3.97%<sup>63</sup>, which has seen the proportion of urban dwellers rising from 10.6% of total population in 1953 to 19.1% in 1963, 35.7% in 1991 and 48.2% in 2006. The 2006 National Population Census has projected the urban population in Nigeria at 50 per cent of total population by 2015, and is expected to rise to 60% by 2025. This large urban population is distributed among several fast growing cities in the six geo-political regions of the country with more than 1,000 cities now having populations of 20,000 and above while no fewer than 19 cities have population figures of more than one million.

Several critical challenges that have characterized urban transformation include:

- The rapid growth in the proportion of urban residents who live in slum conditions (estimated at about 69%) compounded by limited options for the poorer residents to access urban land;
- A rising housing deficit estimated at between 16-18 million units;
- Insecure land tenure;
- Poor infrastructure and growing inadequacy of basic services in urban centres;

Other key urbanisation issues in Nigeria include:<sup>64</sup>

- Incoherent urban governance framework due to overlaps in administrative jurisdiction between states and local governments;

72. Among the factors that have driven Nigeria's high urbanisation rate are:<sup>65</sup>

- i. Unplanned urbanisation: The failure to appropriately plan for and manage the large natural increase through high population growth rate and the rapid growth of towns and cities in Nigeria are a primary underlying factor behind Nigeria's urbanisation challenge;
- ii. Absence of an effective urban governance framework that recognizes and addresses the peculiar needs of urban centres, as most major cities are fragmented into numerous local administrative units in the form of Local Government Councils or Local Council Development Areas (LCDAs);
- iii. Weak capacity for internal resources mobilisation leading to poor provision of urban basic services;
- iv. Weak institutional capacity for urban planning and limited public consultation/participation in the planning process, through use of top-down approaches to addressing development issues; This is reflected in the failure to formulate, adopt and implement development/land use master plans for towns and cities;

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62 National Population Commission, 2006 National Population Census

63 World Bank Survey 2010

64 *Federal Republic of Nigeria, National Urban Development Policy, 2012*

65 *FMLHUD, Draft Nigeria Land, Housing and Urban Development Roadmap (2014 – 2043), 2014*

The re-designation of several towns as headquarters of Federal, States and Local Government administrations and the unprecedented expansion of commercial and industrial activities in most towns and cities have served as a critical pull-factor attracting rapid migration into cities.

73. Environmental protection, conservation and revival/cleaning should be put at the centre of development planning and interventions, including funding, in Nigeria. This is one of the strategies towards building a strong and inclusive economic growth and reducing poverty and inequalities across Nigeria

### **3.4 Justice: Governance, Peace and Security**

73. SDG 16 specifically articulates targets that urge countries to promote safe, peaceful and just societies, and strong institutions, for sustainable development. It is now well established that there cannot be strong and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection without good governance, peace and security in a country. Experience from more industrialized nations proved this connection. If Nigeria is to develop and reduce inequalities and poverty, it has to establish and sustain strong governance structure/institutions and build sustained peace and security across geo-political zones and states.

74. The major challenges Nigeria is currently facing that constrain economic growth and social development, are limited national integration, and/or lack of good governance and increased insecurity across geo-political zones, in North East, Niger Delta and Lake Chad regions in particular. The situation is exacerbated by the existent of systematic corruption and limited accountability at federal, states and local government levels. Besides, duty-bearers are not living up to their obligations and right-holders (including citizens, NGOs and faith-based organizations) lack the capacity to claim their rights. In the process, and for decades, poverty, inequalities, exploitation, and abuse of the majority of vulnerable citizens, children, youth and women continue unabated. However, it is worth noting that the FGN and its development partners have in the last five years tried to address the issues of democracy, governance, transparency and accountability at federal, states and local government levels.<sup>66</sup> These issues are summarized below.

**75. Electoral Democracy and Governance:** - Nigeria's progress in electoral democracy since 1999 is the result of the momentum for electoral reform created by the Nigerian government in 2007 when the country experienced flawed 2007 elections. The Federal government set up a committee to reform the country's electoral process. The initiative was also a response to the popular clamour for electoral reform informed by the experience of elections that fell short of international standards for credible, free and fair elections since 1999. The Electoral Reform Committee (ERC) chaired by Justice Muhammed Uwais made far-reaching recommendations including an independent process for appointing the Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), unbundling INEC by establishing bodies to deal with electoral offences and the administration and registration of political parties, improved internal party democracy, among others. Although most of the recommendations were not implemented by the government, it resulted not only in the appointment of a credible Nigerian in the person of Professor Attahiru Jega as Chairman of INEC and the reform of the constitutional and legal framework of elections carried out by the National Assembly in 2010.

76. The outcome of the 2011 general elections, reinforced by that of the 2015 elections which witnessed power alternation at the national level shows that electoral governance and integrity has considerably improved; elections are held regularly, have become more competitive, and outcomes are increasingly considered to reflect the will of the people. Evidence of this is found in the reduction in the number of election petitions before Election Tribunals from The number of petitions before Election Tribunals from

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<sup>66</sup> UNDP. Annual Report 2015.

1, 290 in 2007 to 732 in 2011 and a further decline to 611 after the 2015 elections.<sup>67</sup> The legacy of flawed elections which has been variously described as a situation in which the vote did not count<sup>68</sup>, the will of the people deliberately subverted<sup>69</sup>, and “primitive accumulation” or “allocation” of votes has been reversed and public confidence in the ballot has been considerably increased. Furthermore, election has become a mechanism for resolving the country’s problem of political succession that brought democracy to grief in the first and second Republics. The success recorded in these elections highlights the growing institutional confidence within INEC as an election management body, including the determination of its leadership to undertake measures including adoption of technology to enhance the management of elections. Improvement in the electoral process has also been made possible by increased citizens’ engagement especially civil society and the youth with the electoral process.

77. Despite evidence of improved elections, however, there are challenges to be addressed to deepen Nigeria’s electoral democracy. These include the lack of structural autonomy of INEC low capacity of the State Independent Electoral Commissions (SIECs). The electoral reform agenda failed to unbundle INEC by creating a dedicated Electoral Offences Commission as recommended by the ERC , while required amendment of the Electoral Act to empower INEC to prosecute electoral offenders has not being carried out by the legislature. The persistence of electoral violence undermines democracy as a rule-based game, rubbishes election as a contest of ideas, and weakens the notion of mandate and the legitimacy of government.

78. A related challenge that needs to be addressed to sustain improved integrity of the electoral process relates to the results collation and tabulation processes. The improvement in the outcome of the 2015 polls was partly due to the decision to declare and announce results at the polling unit level in the presence of party and security agents. However, the problem of results’ collation and transmission processes has persisted in some of the elections where declared votes were almost five times higher than the authentic number of voters accredited with card readers and Permanent Voter Cards.<sup>70</sup>

79. Nigeria’s party system remains a challenge because of the institutional weaknesses of political parties; which are manifested in the culture of godfathers and party financiers who subvert the will of party members and select candidates for elected offices who are beholden to them. The monetization of politics undermines the electoral process, while the marginalization of women in elective positions demonstrates the lack of inclusiveness in the political process. The level of women representation in elective positions has hovered between 6-8% since the return to democracy, despite increased level of advocacy and awareness, and in disregard of international conventions and protocols on gender equity signed by Nigeria as well as the National Policy on Women. Like women, youth and the physically challenged persons are excluded from the electoral process in the absence of guaranteed electoral quota and implementation of

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<sup>67</sup> Amina Bala Zakari, INEC Acting Chairman (then); Quoted in Scan News, October 21, 2015.

<sup>68</sup> *Do the Vote Count? Final Report on the 203 Elections in Nigeria*, Transition Monitoring Group, Abuja (2003)

<sup>69</sup> *Divining the People’s Will, Report on the 2004 Local Government Election in Nigeria*; Transition Monitoring Group, Abuja (2004); *‘An Election Planned to Fail?’: Final Report on the 2007 Elections in Nigeria*, The Transition Monitoring Group, Abuja (2007).

<sup>70</sup> Premium Times, July 2, 2015

Affirmative Action policies. Finally, although the Inter-Party Advisory Council exists as platform for inter-party dialogue, it remains weak.

**80. *The National Assembly:*** - The institution of the legislature needs reforms to make it stronger to promote democratic governance and enhance horizontal and vertical accountability. The National Assembly has however shown signs of institutional growth; becoming assertive in the process of law making and policy formulation in addition to the stability of leadership of the sixth and the seventh sessions.<sup>71</sup> But its exercise of oversight powers is not effective leading to low level of budget implementation and the failure of the MDAs to meet the expectations of citizens in terms of service delivery. A recent institutional needs and capacity assessment of the National Assembly points to gaps in the constitution, funding problems, internal capacity issues partly accounted for by high turnover rate in the legislature and the reluctance of the executive to subject itself to effective oversight as the underlying causes<sup>72</sup>. The state assemblies also require strengthening through advocacy, training and capacity building. The leadership of state assemblies appears unstable because of executive interference. . Consequently, their exercise of oversight power is less effective compared to what obtains at the national level. State legislatures lack financial autonomy, which could wrestle for them a margin of autonomy and independence. Attempt to give state legislatures financial autonomy in previous constitutional review exercise was resisted by the State Assembly Speakers because of pressures mounted on them by governors.

**81. *The Judiciary and the Rule of Law:*** - The judiciary is largely doing some good work in promoting the rule of law. However, the judiciary lacks independence, adequate funding, while issues of corruption, capacity and the weaknesses of other institutions and agencies involved in CJA remain a challenge. The major complaint about the judiciary is the high level of corruption and the perception that justice can be purchased by the wealthy in the society who can afford to pay. According to the Human Rights Watch<sup>73</sup>, the judiciary remained nominally free from interference and pressures from other branches of government, but the pervasive corruption within the system impedes pursuit of justice. Not unexpectedly, there have been no major cases of conviction in the numerous high profile corruption cases in the courts across the country, while impunity reigns at all levels of the society.

**82. *Challenges facing the Nigeria's Federal System:*** - Nigeria's governing elites are united around the federal ideology as a mechanism of meeting desire for "shared rule" and "home rule." The problem however is that Nigeria's federalism is troubled by the history and political culture within which it is embedded. First, it was founded on the mutual fears of domination of one region by another. Thus, despite coming close to the ideal federal arrangement, what existed in the first Republic that operated essentially as equilibrium of regional tyrannies in which each region was characterised by the domination of a majority ethnic group and the repression of regional minority groups..<sup>74</sup> The federal system also suffers from the debilitating legacy of decades of military rule

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<sup>71</sup>S.G. Egwu, 'The Legislature in a Presidential Democracy; Nigeria's Fourth Republic' in R. Suberu and L. Hamalai, eds, *Democratic Governance in Nigeria's Fourth Republic*, NILS, Abuja (2015)

<sup>72</sup> NILS (2016) *Institutional Needs and Capacity Assessment of the National Assembly*, National Institute for Legislative Studies. 2016.

<sup>73</sup> Human Rights Watch (2014)

<sup>74</sup> Jibrin Ibrahim, "Are We All Biafrans? Daily Trust, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2016

which centralized resources and power at the expense of states which increased in number and grown weaker, becoming mere fiscal appendages of the national government. With the exception of a few states like Lagos, Kano and River, states in Nigeria depend on the monthly allocations largely from sale of crude oil, a revenue source that has severely declined. However, there are still demands for new states driven by continuous demands by oppressed groups for states of “their own”, for the purpose of sharing the “national cake”.

83. The overwhelming power of the federal government in relation to the constituent states is evident in the 69 items contained in the federal legislative list including items on which such as solid minerals, etc. on which states can legislate to stimulate economic growth and development. Yet, the states constitute the nodal point of development, and, therefore should have more powers accompanied by greater resource allocation. Nigerians clamour for this kind of arrangement under the guise of “true federalism” which itself is a misnomer. The review of the 1999 Constitution for decentralizing power and resources appears irresistible.

There are obvious tensions that need to be addressed to make federalism an instrument for strengthening national coherence and the management of diversity. One of such is the challenge of fiscal federalism, especially the contentious issue of the formula for sharing revenues among the states of the federation and the demand for resource control by the oil bearing Niger Delta region. Despite the increased share of federally generated to 13 per cent to the Niger Delta states in 1995, persistent agitations fueled by the relative neglect of the region and environmental degradation occasioned by oil exploration have remained a key challenge. Although it is sometimes problematic to distinguish between genuine agitation and criminality, the sense of anger fueled by neglect has resulted in the emergence of different militants and youth groups whose attack on oil facilities threaten oil exploration in the region.

**84. Human Rights in Nigeria:** - Since return to multi-party democracy in 1999, Nigeria has made progress in the area of human rights. But critical challenges remain evident in knowledge and capacity gaps portrayed by weak national protection systems and undermining the realization of all human rights. Despite efforts at reform and passage of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, lapses remain in the criminal justice system characterized by allegations of torture in a context where over 80 per cent of detainees in usually overcrowded prisons are awaiting trial. Other challenges include the weak administration of human rights and the rule of law, discrimination against and disempowerment of women, youths and minorities as well as remarkable disparities between regions, groups and communities. Although the legislation establishing the National Human Rights Commission has been revised, strengthening the Commission and granting it operational and financial independence challenges remain in fully implementing the mandate of the Commission.

85. Another major human rights challenge is the insurgency in the North East and the response thereto which has led to violations and abuses including extra-judicial and summary executions, killings, torture, arbitrary and often incommunicado detentions, disappearances, sexual and gender based violence as well as displacement of over 2

million persons. The multiplicity of inter-ethnic violence in the North Central and other parts of the country as well as conflicts between nomadic cattle herders and sedentary farmers present critical human rights issues.

86. Nigeria has signed and ratified the core human rights treaties. However, implementation of the documents remains a critical challenge. The Child Rights Act passed by parliament to actualize the provisions of the International Covenant on the Rights of the Child is yet to be accepted by most of the northern states and the country has several outstanding and overdue reports to UN human rights mechanisms. Although Nigeria is a signatory to the Convention against Torture and has ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the Convention, torture is not prohibited under national law and the national mechanism established pursuant to the Optional Protocol remains under resourced. The realization of economic, social and cultural rights remains a challenge in a country where 64 per cent of the population lives below the poverty line.

**87. Corruption and Public Accountability:** - Nigeria's economic and social progress is bedeviled by a deep culture of systematic corruption and impunity traversing the public and private sectors. There exists both economic and political corruption. Corruption has stifled inclusive economic growth, competitiveness of the private sector, effectiveness and efficiency of operations in both the public and private. Thus leading to low productivity and increased inequalities across Nigeria.

The salience of corruption in the subversion of the national economic and political objectives is not only due to the fact that the Nigerian economy is primarily dependent on oil. There is also indication that it is exacerbated by a patronage culture that has evolved around a powerful executive that is in control of large oil revenues at all levels of governance. The Nigerian Constitution confers immunity on Presidents and governors who can only be investigated, but not prosecuted for criminal offences while in office. A system of public expenditure not tied to taxation furthers a mentality that the essence of accessing political power is the sharing of the "national cake". In a state like Lagos where taxation features as a critical component of public expenditure, the nexus between taxation and governance is beginning to emerge.

88. The latest Global Corruption Barometer suggests that corruption is on the rise, despite the fact that anti-corruption movement is gaining traction in civil society and at the highest level of the executive following the victory of the APC in the 2015 general elections. The Zero Corruption Coalition (ZCC) alone is aligned to more than 60 civil society groups working in the areas of budget, health, contracts and the extractive sector to rid the country of deep corruption<sup>75</sup>. The perception that corruption has been on the rise is evident by the fact that with three in four Nigerians surveyed feeling that corruption had increased between 2014 and 2015<sup>76</sup>. A recent study by PricewaterhouseCoopers concludes that in addition to resulting in weak investments, especially FDI and lowering human capital, corruption is expected to cost as much as 37% of the country's GDP by 2030, equivalent of \$1,000 per person in 2014 and nearly \$2,000 per person in 2030 if drastic measures are not taken<sup>77</sup>.

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<sup>75</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>76</sup> <http://allafrica.com/stories/201606300107.html>.

<sup>77</sup> PWC, *Impact of Corruption on Nigeria's Economy, 2016*

**89. Fighting Corruption:** - The plethora of agencies established to fight corruption demonstrates the commitment of the Nigerian leadership to fight corruption in keeping with existing international and regional instruments.<sup>78</sup> Anti-corruption institutions and agencies established by the Nigerian governments include the Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC, Act 2000); The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC Act, 2004); the Code of Conduct Bureau and the Code of Conduct Tribunal in the 1999 Constitutions which existed by virtue of Decree 1 of 1989; Nigerian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) and the Technical Unit on Governance and Anti-Corruption Reform (TUGAR). Others are: the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) and the Public Complaints Commission (PCC). In order to address the challenge posed by coordination and synergy among these agencies, the Inter-Agency Task Team (IATT) was created and the Technical Unit on Governance and Anti-Corruption (TUGAR) designated as its secretariat. Despite these efforts endemic corruption continues to undermine the national progress including the erosion of the moral fabrics of the Nigerian society.

90. Offices created by the Nigerian constitution to checkmate corruption include the Auditor-General of the Federation and the States to audit public accounts and present periodic reports to the National and State Assemblies. In addition to the investigative powers of the legislative arm of government and the power to expose corruption, inefficiency or waste, the two chambers of the National Assembly have committees dealing with corruption: the Committee on Anti-Corruption, National Ethics and the Committee on Values and Ethics, Code of Conduct and Public Petitions in the House of Representatives and the Senate respectively.

**91. National Integration in Nigeria, Conflict Prevention and Peace Building:** - Since independence in 1960, Nigeria has been working to build and sustain national integration. However, expressions of feelings of disaffection remain deep, resulting in varying degrees of conflict and violence. Apart from regional, ethnic and religious groupings, other segment of the population such as women and other vulnerable groups (like the youth and those living with disabilities and those infected and affected by HIV), NGOs, professionals, and unions have sometimes expressed frustrations arising from a sense of exclusion. Nigeria's development requires a strong national integration and inclusive economic growth. Without a constructive and inclusive dialogue to build a strong national integration, Nigeria's people oriented and sustained development will be affected and meeting SDGs will be difficult.

**92. The cost of limited or lack of national integration has been enormous, including a civil war, agitations for resource control, loss of lives, continued corruption, insecurity and marginalization of the poor and other vulnerable groups.** Youth militancy protesting alleged neglect of the Niger Delta region has resulted in targeted attacks of oil installations and kidnap of foreigners for ransom. While in the South East, there has been a revival of agitation for Biafra with the emergence of groups like Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), and, more recently, the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB). Insurgency in the North East and the different forms of rural banditry, including cattle rustling in the North West highlight the regional manifestations of conflict spiral generated by the contradictions of the Nigerian political economy and an effective federal system.

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<sup>78</sup> These include the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (AUCPCC) and the Economic Community of West African States Protocol on the Fight Against Corruption (ECOWAS Protocol)

**93. Conflict Prevention and Peace-building:** - Nigeria's deeply divided society, and the political exploitation of ethnic, religious and regional identities provides the framework for protracted conflict and violence that has furthered weakened a sense of nationhood and common citizenship.<sup>79</sup> Since independence different segments of Nigeria's population have, at different times, expressed feelings of marginalisation, of being short-changed, dominated, oppressed, threatened, or even targeted for elimination. The cost of limited or lack of national integration has been enormous, including a civil war, loss of lives, continued corruption, insecurity and marginalisation of the poor and other vulnerable groups.

94. Several decades after a three-year fratricidal civil war (197-1970), there are echoes of dissatisfaction, agitation and violence that continue to tear at the fabrics of Nigeria's unity and cohesion. In more recent times, there has been a resurgence of agitations despite efforts to foster inter-group tolerance and accommodation through the adoption of federalism and constitutional measures in the form of ethnic balancing such as "federal character" and "quota system". In some instances, the boomerang effects of implementation of these policies have created more problems than they were intended to solve. A practical example is the persistent and deadly confrontations between "indigenes" and so-called "settlers" within the same state that have resulted in killings in states such as Plateau, Taraba, Nasarawa, Kaduna and Osun States

95. The main sources of conflict and violence that have threatened the security of Nigerian citizens and poisoned inter-group harmony are mostly framed around identity issues, resource competition and the struggle for power. Identity-based conflicts are expressed in communal and sectarian violence as well as conflict and violence fueled by the exclusion of "settlers" and non-indigenes by indigenes. Resource-based conflicts are propelled by competition for resources such as land for both farming and grazing purposes and the oil-induced conflict in the Niger Delta region can be described as resource-based conflicts. There are also conflicts driven by political dynamics such as elections and the struggle for power at local levels belongs to the category of power-based conflicts. The evidence points to the convergence of livelihood pressures, ecological degradation, poor governance, changes in family structure and demographic pressures, rejection of western education and increasing marginalization of greater sections of the society as crucial factors in explaining the different forms of agitations, terror and insurgency.<sup>80</sup> These have significantly contributed to humanitarian crisis especially the increasing problem of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

96. Successive Nigerian governments recognize the obstacle placed to the country's quest for national unity and stability and an environment conducive for economic development, democratization and national progress by internecine conflict and violence. In response, The Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) was set up in year 2000. The Institute is a research platform and think tank for the government on matters of domestic and regional peace building and conflict management. A

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<sup>79</sup> *National Integration simple means the process by which different ethnic, religious, social and economic groups in a country, with socio-economic, political and cultural links, develop a sense of nationhood, of unity, of oneness, of interdependence, irrespective of their different histories, experiences, ideologies and cultural values and practices.*

<sup>80</sup> 'Violent Radicalisation in northern Nigeria: Economy and Society', *Policy Brief*. Office of the National Security Adviser, 2015; p.

flagship project implemented by the IPCR is The Strategic Conflict Assessment of Nigeria (SCA), was first carried out in 2002, and reviewed in 2008 and 2012. The IPCR has just concluded the fourth strategic conflict assessment of Nigeria. On the basis of the knowledge generated on the underlying causes of conflict, drivers, triggers and manifestations in the different parts of Nigeria, the Institute has been able, among other activities, to draft a National Peace Policy and the design of a National Infrastructure for Peace.

97. One of the key findings of the Strategic Conflict Assessment points to the failure of governance and political corruption as the drivers of protracted conflict and violence in Nigeria. It also identified the failure to resolve basic issues relating to resource competition and tackling the root causes of conflict as critical challenges to be addressed. These challenges mean that local conflict management and peace building initiatives largely implemented by civil society groups with the support of Nigeria's development partners are not complemented by concerted efforts of government to address the underlying causes. While the media has failed to play a constructive role, and most of the time served to heighten tension and conflict, business leaders and investors who are key actors in some of the conflicts tend to be ignored.

98. The availability of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) to conflict "entrepreneurs," thugs recruited by various groups including asymmetric combatants' fuels conflict and violence. Available evidence suggests that of the about 500 million weapons that may be circulating in West Africa in 2010, 70% could be found in Nigeria<sup>81</sup>. The situation appears to have been worsened by the spillover effect of the recent crises in Libya and Mali as well as unresolved conflicts in different parts of the country, including the North East, Niger Delta and other parts of southern Nigeria.

99. Several factors make Nigeria destinations for SALW; the chief ones being the country's uncontrolled, porous and un-policed international borders, which include 770 kilometres border with Benin Republic; 1500 kilometres with Niger Republic; 1700 kilometres with Cameroon; 90 kilometers with the Chad Republic; and another 850 kilometres maritime border. Others include local manufacture especially from the 1990s beyond local demand for hunting and traditional rites, theft of weapons belonging to state authorities and individuals, and civilian quest to obtain arms and ammunitions sometimes driven by the need for self-defense in the context of dramatic rise in crimes and the perception that the police and state institutions charged with the responsibilities have failed to guarantee personal security.

100. Alongside the general trends of protracted conflict and violence in Nigeria are region-specific manifestations. For instance, in North-central geo-political zone that coincides with the "Middle Belt", the predominant forms of conflict are defined along ethno-religious fault-line, more often than not pitching the predominantly Christian ethnic minorities against the predominantly Muslim Hausa/Fulani. In many instances, the conflict occurs along indigene/settler dichotomy. More recently, farmers/herders conflict, which has increasingly become intertwined with cattle rustling and other forms of rural banditry, has rendered the conflict scenario more complex. In both the South-south geo-political zone, which roughly coincides with the Niger Delta and the South

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<sup>81</sup> *Statement by the United Nations Regional Director for Peace and Disarmament in West Africa (UNREC), Olatokunbo Ige, Quoted in Tribune, August 3, 2016.*

East, the conflict dynamics is fairly different. Youth militancy protesting alleged neglect of the Niger Delta region has resulted in targeted attacks of oil installations and kidnap of foreigners for ransom. While in the South East, there has been a revival of agitation for Biafra with the emergence of groups like Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), and, more recently, the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB). Insurgency in the North East and the different forms of rural banditry, including cattle rustling in the North West highlight the regional manifestations of conflict spiral generated by the contradictions of the Nigerian political economy.

101. The agitations of the different groups are rooted in historical grievances associated with the quest for justice, equity and fairness, which ultimately are tied to issues of development, democracy, nation building and social justice. There is a widely shared perception that the country's hollow federal system and the perception that the antinomies of concentration of enormous powers and resources at the federal centre fuel identity politics and enduring separatist impulses on the part of many nationalities that make up the country<sup>82</sup>. Although many Nigerians have clamoured for credible platforms to discuss these issues, especially since the return to civil rule in 1999, government organized national dialogue forums such as the National Political Reform Conference convoked of 2006 and the 2014 National Conference have not met such desires.

102. The transformation of grievances and extremism into terrorist acts and insurgency has become a key concern in recent times. Boko Haram led insurgency in the Northeastern states of Borno and Yobe, which has consistently challenged the institutions of the state and carried out unprecedented murderous activities, is a good example. The sect which goes by the name, *Jama'atu Ahlus Sunna Lidaawati wal Jihad* (JAS) is said to have started in the early 2000s, but increasingly turned violent from 2009. At the height of the Boko Haram insurgency in 2014, it occupied more than ten local government areas in Borno State where it hoisted its flag, including proclaiming a caliphate in Gwoza Emirate after the sect overran the town.

103. In recognition of emergent patterns of insurgency and terrorism, the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA) has been given the mandate to respond to the challenges. The Terrorism Prevention Act 2011 (amended in 2013) mandates the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA) to coordinate the efforts of the government and people of Nigeria to prevent, respond to and address terrorism in the country. This has necessitated a review of the National Security Strategy. The reviewed strategy places emphasis on a people-centred approach, especially the use of a soft approach and countering violent extremism and the amplification of all elements of national power. The ONSA is developing a three-pronged interrelated strategy, namely: De-radicalization, Counter-radicalization and Strategic Communications. The ONSA, with the support of the National Stability and Reconciliation Programme (NSRP) of the British Council is developing a systematic policy framework and National Plan of Action on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE). The initiative is a multi-stakeholder and multi-layered approach aimed at bringing government institutions and civil society together in the efforts to counter violent extremism.

### **3.5 Humanitarian Crisis Management**

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<sup>82</sup> *Jide Oluwajuyitan, 'Restructuring and Military Avengers' The Nation, August, 2016*

104. As mentioned above, over 64 per cent Nigerian's leaves below poverty line. Besides, Nigeria faces humanitarian and emergency crises of considerable proportions fueled by a combination factors including climate change, inter-communal conflict and violence, insurgency, recurrent floods, heavy-handed tactics of security forces in combating crime and insurgency, and state sponsored evictions. The overall consequence is the situation of systematic and chronic internal displacement that has given rise to different humanitarian crises that include the most egregious and dehumanizing human rights abuses.

**105. Available reports indicate that 14.8 million people are affected by the crisis in the North-east of Nigeria precipitated by Boko Haram-related violence since 2009.**<sup>83</sup> The armed conflict has affected civilians already living in precarious conditions and undermined poverty reduction and development efforts, putting at risk inter-ethnic and inter-religious co-existence, strained State government resources and depleted community coping capacities over the past six years. While some internally displaced people (IDPs) live outside the four states of focus, states of Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe, have been disproportionately affected by the crisis and are prioritized and referred to collectively here as north-east. From the affected population, an estimated 7 million people, comprising displaced, confined and hosting civilians, are currently in need of humanitarian assistance. There are 4 million vulnerable people in accessible areas: a host community population of 1.8 million and 2.2 million IDPs who have exhausted resources and have limited or no access to basic services.

Having fled from their communities due to violent conflict, 2.2 million IDPs are living in makeshift shelters, seeking refuge in overcrowded, poorly-resourced camps or centres, including at least 50 schools, or with friends and relatives, which results in serious protection concerns. Over 80% of IDPs are living in host communities, where space and resources are over-stretched, and belongings worn out from protracted displacement. Reaching the most vulnerable communities with humanitarian assistance remains severely constrained in 26 Local Government Authorities (LGAs) where the needs of approximately 3 million people can only be estimated.

106. The gender dimension of conflict and emergency in the country is highlighted by the sexual violence characteristic of Boko Haram attacks on communities, and the extent of gender-based violence (GBV) perpetrated by the deadly sect and among displaced communities<sup>84</sup> Women and girls face a greater risk of GBV as a result of their displacement, whether in camps or in host communities, and particularly at night. Meanwhile, female and child-headed households face increased risks during displacement. In addition, women and children have been recruited and used by Boko Haram and Civilian Joint Task Force. 45 children have been used by Boko Haram to carry out suicide attacks from 2014 – 2016.

107. Nigeria has developed a policy for the protection of internally displaced persons. The policy has been revised twice in 2009 and 2012. It has also ratified the Kampala convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons on 17 April 2012. The revised national policy incorporated the provisions of the Kampala Convention but the government has neither adopted it nor enacted a domestic law to implement the Convention. The absence of such frameworks as a means of clearly defining roles and responsibilities has, and will continue to, hamper humanitarian and development efforts to mitigate the effects of internal displacement. They are also essential to a holistic approach in supporting IDPs' search for durable solutions, and in preparing for and preventing future displacements. FGN and various development partners need to step up financial and technical support needed, coordinate and target better in dealing with humanitarian crisis. But the most sustainable solution is dealing with the root causes of the problems and challenges that lead to such crisis.

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<sup>83</sup> UN OCHA (2016). *Humanitarian Needs Overview*.

<sup>84</sup> *Human Rights Watch*, 27 October 2014.

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109. Addressing the root causes of conflicts and displacement of people across Nigeria is a sustainable solution to humanitarian crisis and management. Commitment, focus, partnership among various partner (government, UN and other development partners) and accountability is needed to provide effective and efficient humanitarian assistance not only in the North East and the Lake Chad Basin, but extended to other parts the country, where individuals and communities are at risk and vulnerable to climate change, religious, political and economic conflicts. More financial and technical support and accountability is needed to deal with humanitarian crisis across the county.

#### **Section 4: UN COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE AND CAPACITY ASSESSMENT**

122. Based on Nigeria's socio-economic, political and environmental situation, priorities and needs, the major strategic question is that: does the UN Nigeria demonstrate a comparative advantage as a relevant partner that could effectively support the FGN and the DaO States? In the context of CCA, comparative advantage means<sup>85</sup>:

- *the mandate to act;*
- *the capacity to act; and*
- *being best positioned to act*

Classical comparative advantage of many UNCTs across the globe mainly include the following:

- Capacity to strengthen national capacities at all levels;
- Supporting monitoring and implementation of international commitments, norms and standards;
- Acting as a convener of a wide range of national and international partners;
- Providing high quality technical expertise in specific areas;
- Objective monitoring and evaluation of the national development framework,
- Providing impartial policy advice, based on international experience, technical expertise and good practices;
- Providing a neutral space with which sensitive political issues can be addressed and resolved. In mission/non-mission setting this might include support for mediation or peace negotiations.

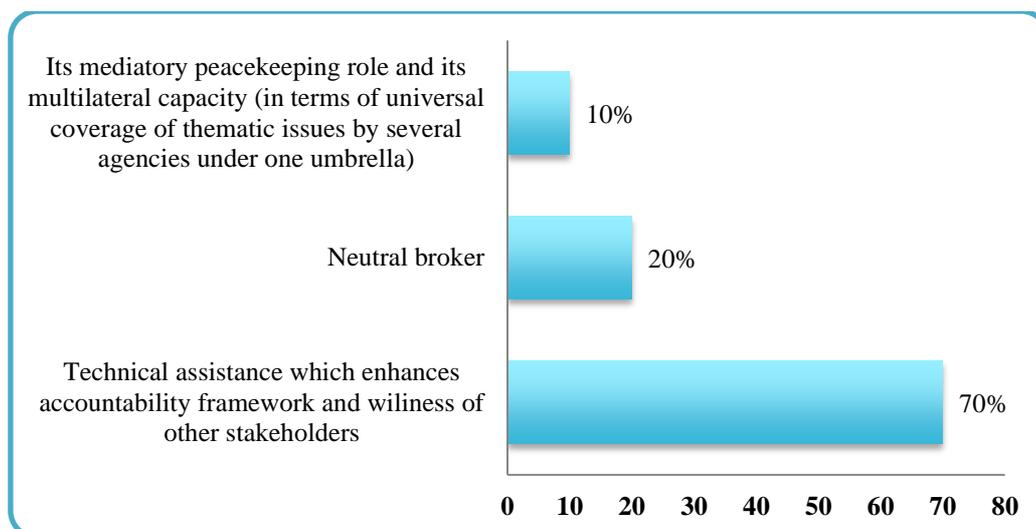
123. The UN might not always be best placed to deliver the most effective and efficient support and results, given the number of development partners and specific needs of a country. In addition, the UN must consider the risks of both action and inaction in any development context, be it the primary partner or not.

124. Informed by the above principles, the UNCT Nigeria was given an opportunity, through a survey questionnaire and comparative advantage consultative workshop, to assess and build consensus on unique UN comparative advantage in Nigeria and also to conduct a capacity assessment reflecting on their current staff and future needs for effective and efficient delivery on UNDAF. As indicated in Exhibit 16 below, three strategic issues were mentioned, including providing technical assistance (70%), being a neutral broker (20%) and playing a mediatory peacekeeping role (10%).

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<sup>85</sup> *United Nations Development Group (2016). Interim UNDAF Guidelines.*

**Exhibit 16: UNCT Responses to Survey Question on UN Nigeria Comparative Advantage**



74. In a nutshell six unique UN comparative advantages emerge. These include the following:

1. **Global knowledge and expertise to address local development and social problems:** - Based on UN-wide experience and individual agencies expertise, and the application of tested approaches and tools, the UN has a unique advantage to support the FGN and DaO states domesticate global commitments like SDGs on a number of sectors.
2. **Ability to harness existing capacities to deal with humanitarian and other emergencies:** UN has unique experienced staff (from various UN agencies) and systems/structures with ability to deal with humanitarian and other emergencies, e.g. effect of climate change, and thus effectively support the FGN's efforts and priorities.
3. **Ability to harness global networks and capacities of the UN system and other partners:** - UN has effective global systems and networks compared to other development partners in Nigeria. And it can tap on the same for effective support to the FGR and DaO states.
4. **Ability for creation of evidence base:** - UN has the ability to support the creation, storage, and dissemination of credible development data in Nigeria through policy oriented research, monitoring and evaluation.
5. **UN has stronger footprints and thematic coverage:** - Various UN agencies have a stronger focus and effective coverage on specific development and social sectors. Thus, as a family UN has a unique advantage of pooling together such expertise and experiences to support the FGN and other partners.
6. **Convening power through UN family.** UN being seen by various partners as a neutral broker thus has a unique comparative advantage of convening powers. Many different groups in Nigeria trust the UN as unbiased entity thus able to bring together various partners for round-table discussions on various issues.

125. There are other advantages, which the UN should not overlook. At **national level**, the UN can demonstrate coherence, harmonisation and value through joint programmes, and/or joint resource mobilization, and targeting of development assistance by sector, by state, by cause of development deficit, or by theme. Each has a distinct comparative advantage if the UN family can demonstrate value and ascertain that it has the capacity to fulfill its responsibility for agreed upon and signed off interventions. **At the regional level**, there are Africa Union and UN specific platforms that offer comparative advantage to the UN. UN agencies, unlike most bilateral agents, have **regional offices**, where inter-agency technical expertise can be mobilized to assist in regional, sub-regional and country specific interventions. The Africa Union also offered good platform for training, learning and exchange of ideas.

**126.. Risks and threats:** - As Nigeria UNCT plans to develop UNDAF IV, it is important to also think of possible threats that could make the implementation of the plan ineffective and how to mitigate them. There are both external and internal threats to Nigeria's achieving SDGs. Global economic downturn and effect of climate change are real threats to Nigeria's economic growth and poverty alleviation. Internally, the increase of insecurity, violence and insurgency across geo-political zones across the country is also real threat to the achievement of SDGS.

UNCT members were therefore asked to indicate what they perceive as likely threats/risks to the UN work. As indicated in Exhibit 20 below, 40 per cent of respondents cited "UN efforts too spread and thin" as a major threat, followed by "competition from other development partners" (20 per cent). The other threats sighted include: "insufficient counterpart contribution by the Nigeria government", "insecurity", and "limited coordination of UN activities" (each cited by 10 per of respondents).

## SECTION 5: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 Conclusions

127. The development of UNDAF IV (2018-2022) for Nigeria comes at a time when Nigeria's economic growth, social progress and environmental protection are at the crossroads. This is in the wake of the signing of newly agreed upon SDGs, 2030 Agenda and AU 2063 agenda. These situations provide both a challenge and an opportunity for the UN Nigeria to (re) position itself as a key partner based on its unique comparative advantage and capacity. Visioning and prioritization for new the UNDAF for Nigeria should be informed by the findings of this report and other relevant documents on the country's socio-economic, political and environmental situation.

**The FGN and its development partners including the UN sees the current economic and social crisis in Nigeria as an opportunity for the country, to make those major structural changes needed to change this economy for good. The Government is committed to using this crisis to implement reforms needed to unlock the economic potentials of the non-oil and high-employment sectors for inclusive growth and sustainable development.** The FGN therefore already developed a **Medium Term Development Plan (MTSP), 2017 - 2020.**<sup>86</sup> The key policy thrust of the MTSP is to diversify the productive base of the national economy and direct the trajectory towards the path of sustainable development and inclusive growth. The policies will be realised within the context of six strategic pillars namely: i. Economic reforms, ii. Infrastructure, iii. Governance and Security, iv. Environment, v. Social Investment, vi. States and Regional development.

128. As indicated in Exhibit 17, the FGN is clear of (and committed to) the relationship between its MTSP and the SDGs. The policies are expected to build on the foundation laid by the strategic implementation plan (SIP) for 2016 Budget as well as align with the UNDAF IV; form the basis for the development of the Nigeria Vision 2030 (NV2030), and also to align the country's developmental aspirations to the collective global developmental aspirations of the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063.

#### Exhibit 17: Key Priority Areas of Nigeria's Medium Term Development Plan

Key Priority Areas of UNDAF and Nigeria's Medium Term Development Plan	
 <p><b>Nigeria's Medium Term Plan</b> Plan Period – 2017 – 2020</p> <p>Policy, Security and Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversification of the Economy,</li> <li>• Power, Rail and Roads</li> <li>• Oil and Gas Reforms</li> <li>• Ease of Doing Business, and</li> <li>• Social Investment.</li> </ul> <p>☐ Aimed at achieving Nigeria's Vision 2030</p>	<p><b>UNDAF***</b> Plan Period – 2018 – 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good Governance;</li> <li>• Social Capital;</li> <li>• Economic Growth; and</li> <li>• Human security.</li> </ul> <p>☐ Aimed at achieving SDGs/ Agenda 2030</p>
<p>From all ramifications the two plans have similar end time horizon and similar Intervention areas.</p>	

<sup>86</sup> Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, 2016.

*Source: Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, 2016*

**Footnote:** UNDAF\*\*\* the intervention pillars for UNDAF-IV is yet to be determined, what is shown above is the program pillars for UNDAF-III.

129. The FGN, through the MOB&NP calls for commitment and active participation of all stakeholders to ensure that the national development goals are achieved. In particular, the Federal Government appeals to States to ensure that their State's Plans and Sector Plans are consistent with the national medium to Long term plans which have adequately mainstreamed the UNDAF and the SDGs. The development partners like UN and the donor community are also expected to ensure that all their programmes and projects are in line with Government's priority areas. This is a sure way of making sure that SDGs are addressed in the most effective and efficient way.

130. The above harmonisation and alignment is critical, and urgent, because if Nigeria's economic, social, political and environmental situation remains the same in the next five years, and beyond then:

- Inequalities and poverty are likely to increase and about 70 per cent of Nigerians could be trapped into poverty and helplessness, with limited access to social services (health, education), shelter and justice;
- The country's governance challenges (including systematic corruption and limited accountability) and insecurity are likely to continue, thus negatively affecting investment, productivity and lives of millions of people;
- Over-exploitation and destruction of natural resources and the environment (but benefiting only a few elites) will continue, resulting into more unfavourable weather conditions (e.g. floods and soil erosion), destruction of property and loss of lives; and increasing poverty and hunger.
- Increased government social expenditure but less investment, thus depleting foreign reserves and increasing public debt. Thus, sinking deeper into macro-economic and social risks.
- The vulnerable and poor women and men, girls and boys, the youth, people living with disabilities and HIV are more likely to suffer human right abuses, including sexual and gender-based violence, harassment and limited access to justice. They will remain helplessness and defenseless, with the consequences of increased environmental destruction, conflicts and agitations for independence from a federal government.
- Humanitarian crisis cross Nigeria is likely to intensified with millions of people displaced and in need of shelter, food, security, education and health services among others. The crisis will need millions of dollars to mitigate and the FGN will not be able to afford it. Development partners, just like the government, will be drawn in funding humanitarian issues rather than development issues.

131. As the UNCT in Nigeria in partnership with the FGN is currently planning for the development of the United National Development Framework (UNDAF IV) 2018-2022, business of development in Nigeria has to be different from how it has been in the last 56 years since independence in 1960. This is because:

**First**, the era of flood of petrodollars is over and Nigeria has to innovatively explore a sustainable look for other sources of income, foreign currency in particular. The country is currently in recession, with concomitant negative ramifications in the domestic capital markets, as well as FDI, inflation, household and government consumption expenditure, external reserves and merchandise trade and balance of payment.

**Second**, the socio-economic, security, political and environmental challenges and gaps the country is facing are due to absence of equitable economic growth, equity, shared

prosperity and fairness. Systematic corruption and lack of transparency at the Federal, States and Local Government levels exacerbate the situation.

**Third**, over the last three decades (Since the 1999) Constitution, it is becoming clear that the current political and governance arrangement in Nigeria is not working effectively to support equitable development, shared prosperity and sustainable development across the country. There is need to have about genuine dialogue about the current structure.

**Fourth**, agriculture continues to be the main source of livelihood and income to 80 per cent of Nigerians and key to sustainable poverty reduction and solving of conflicts. Therefore, revitalizing and investing in this sector is one of the key strategies required for diversifying Nigeria's economy, creating jobs and improving access to social services like education, health, and housing.

**132.** Nigeria's people, economy, environment and politics/governance need a new beginning through radical transformation and diversification. If the SDGs are to be met and the quality of life of all Nigerians, the poor and the vulnerable individual and communities in particular, improved, Nigeria needs:

- An honest and sober look at and appraisal of existing solutions to national integration, peace building, conflict resolutions and federal and state government relationship. Nigeria needs a viable and better working federal system except the current arrangements.
- A change of mind-set and attitudes/practices to break the country's economy from mono-economic culture, which is solely dependent on oil to a diversified economy driven by agriculture and entrepreneurship; and
- New, comprehensive and practical zeal and commitment to peace building, co-existence among diverse groups and sustained conflict resolutions across the country, North East, Niger Delta and Lake Chad regions in particular.

## **5.2 Recommendations**

**133. Transforming and diversifying Nigeria's developing paths need a radical and new approach, which is transformative, strong, inclusive and sustainable, and people focused.** This requires diversifying the economy by investing in people and in a strong, more dynamic, inclusive and productive informal sector (cottage industries and IT-based businesses and agro-processing), restoring security and promoting peace building, and reforming the existing federal government arrangement. To achieve these, UN and the government should explore and build consensus on designing and implementing two to three joint programmes. Specific recommendations include the following:

**1. Restoring Good Governance, Peace and Security:** - Design and support a joint programme to address national integration, good governance, peace and security from human rights, gender equality, and sustainable development perspective and principles. Support efforts to restore and build peace across the country by providing appropriate platforms for genuine dialogue, consensus building on restructuring Nigeria political and economic landscapes and practices. Such platforms should be across geo-political zones and states. Political and religious leaders, civil society organisations, professionals, and communities are not dialoguing about Nigeria's future and development.

The UN needs to support create a platform to provide appropriate and inclusive dialogue and consensus building on Nigeria political and economic processes and practices. This would

enhance and promote equitable and inclusive economic growth, shared prosperity and build sustainable peace and co-existence of various ethnic and religious groups.

The UN will have to continue to support efforts to deal with humanitarian crisis in the North East and other parts of Nigeria by focusing and investing in early recovery, reconstruction, peace building and stability across the regions. Supporting efforts and investment for the reintegration of children and adults associated with Boko Haram and other insurgencies, in particular girls and women subjected to rape, forced marriages, are also a priority. Promoting inclusive dialogue and the involvement of women and the youth in these efforts is critical for peace, reconciliation and stability.

## **2. Investment in School Age Children and Young People:**

**Improving Access and Quality of Basic Education.** Supporting and working with the federal and state governments to target the 10 million out of school children and bringing them back to school. There is also need to focus on various interventions targeting improving quality of basic education. This include supporting the training and re-training of teachers, supplying teaching-learning materials including textbooks (in for example core subject including: languages, science and technology, and investment in monitoring learning outcomes across Nigeria. There is also need for capacity building to improve school leadership and management - targeting school heads and School-Based Management Committees. Once piece is restored in North East Nigeria, there will be need for rehabilitation and furnishing of schools to improving the teaching-learning environment.

**Youth empowerment for sustainable development:** - The Youth Question in Nigeria presents both opportunity and a challenge for enjoying demographic dividend. Thus UN and partners should explore designing a joint programme focusing on youth empowerment. The programme should target enhancing both soft and technical and innovations skills among the adolescent and young people (15-24 years) across Nigeria. Some of the projects would include comprehensive sexuality education, skills development and investment in TVET, ICT, creation of employment and innovations opportunities, environment and sustainable development, and gender equality among others.

Another area is the support to federal and state governments to target the 10 million out of school children and bringing them back to school or organizing informal literacy and vocational training programme for them. There is also need to focus on research and policy interventions to promote quality education at all levels. Learners need to be empowered to acquire high level literacy and adaptable (soft) skills competencies, including analytical skills, communication skills, human rights skills, sustainable environmental skills and skills of being tolerant of diversity, peaceful co-existence and non-violent skills.

**3. Human Rights, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:** - Given the gender issues and gaps in Nigeria in all development and social sectors and environment, there is need to explore designing and supporting a joint GEWE programme for Nigeria. The target should be empowering economically, socially and politically the poor and the most vulnerable and marginalised girls, boys, the youth, women headed households and people living with disability and HIV in selected geo-political zones and states.

Human rights and GEWE programme should also include support to establishing rehabilitation centres to offer comprehensive services to survivors of SGBV (e.g. one-stop and comprehensive centre offering health, counseling, legal services among others) at federal and state levels across Nigeria. It is critical to create a cadre of psychologists and counsellors able with the skills and knowledge deliver critical support to survivors.

#### **4. Protection of Children from All forms of violence and harmful practices: -**

Nigeria was the first country in the region and the 9<sup>th</sup> in the world to undertake a comprehensive national survey on violence against children in 2014, for the first time providing data on prevalence, location, perpetrators and impact of physical, sexual and emotional violence against children. This data was used to embark on a nationwide campaign to end violence against children launched by the President in 2015, and state specific campaigns to strengthen the system of child protection to prevent and respond to violence, including a nine State initiative to develop a model child protection system. These programmes should be further scaled up under the framework of the End VAC by 2030 campaign launched in October 2016, encompassing harmful traditional practices such as FGM/C and child marriage. Additional studies targeting specific abuses and high risk groups such as child labor, child trafficking and abuse of children living with disabilities, should be carried out to ensure programmes address the specific needs of these groups.

**5. Addressing WASH through enhancing capacities of communities: - There is need for comprehensive targeting and investment in Primary Health Care (PHC).** This is because child health and WASH cannot be addressed effectively through vertical programming for HIV/AIDs, Malaria, polio, and other immunization interventions. There is need for continuous advocacy with States to take leadership and invest into the health sector interventions. While it is good to ensure WASH services are available at the PHCs, we should not forget the very low WASH coverage in communities. Investing in WASH in communities could act as a significant preventive health measure by cutting down health care costs at the PHC level.

Community engagement and effective participation is critical in addressing child health and WASH. There is need therefore for increased financial mobilization and allocation to promote community level engagements and participation in promoting and sustaining PHC across geopolitical zones and states. There is need to mount and implement integrated outreach services targeting hard to reach settlements, identification, training, and placement of a Village Health Workers volunteer program.

**6. The current population dynamics, with high dependency rates, and limited access to education and health services, could** lead to lower per capita income, larger family size, low per capita output and risk of non-achievement of SDGs. On the other hand, the large percentage of young people provides opportunity for reaping a demographic dividend, as it has happened in countries like Japan, Singapore, South Korea and Malaysia. For this, planned and inclusive strategies in health and education, skills development, access to sexual and reproductive health education, among adolescent and youths in particular are required. Besides, increased investment should be ensured for increased job creation through sound economic policy, creating appropriate investment climate and ensuring good governance.

**7. Addressing Humanitarian crisis and Empowering the Affected: -** Addressing the root causes of conflicts and displacement of people across Nigeria is a sustainable solution to humanitarian crisis and management. Commitment, focus, partnership and effective coordination among the various partner (government, UN and other development partners) and accountability is needed to provide effective and efficient humanitarian assistance not only in the North East and the Lake Chad Basin, but extended to other parts of the country, where individuals and communities are at risk and vulnerable to climate change, religious, political and economic conflicts. More financial and technical support and accountability is needed to deal with humanitarian crisis across the county.

There is also need to have comprehensive interventions and support targeting the victims of natural disasters and conflicts to reconstruct their lives. Urgent action needed to support women and girls (and boys and men) who have faced sexual and gender based violence by setting

national and states-based comprehensive support and rehabilitation centres offering various services including psycho-social, health, legal, and economic empowerment services. There is also a critical need to support the reintegration of children and adults who were associated with both Boko Haram and Civilian Joint Task Force and the vigilante groups, and other conflicts in the country.

**8. Strengthening evidence-based planning, monitoring and evaluation:** - There exist challenges at federal, states and government level on appreciation of planning, monitoring and utilization data/evidence from evaluations for decision making, targeting and planning for SDGs. There is need to create an enabling environment for effective evidence creation, storage and usage through a legislative framework or policy. There is need to support efforts to produce, disseminate and use credible and gender sensitive evidence for decision making, targeting and programming. Strengthening the capacities of relevant structures and institutions, like NBS and units within MDA, and state governments to produce, store, and use credible and comprehensive data on various socio-economic, political, humanitarian and environmental issues is critical and strategic.

**Other strategic areas that could be areas of focus include the following:**

**9. Investing in People: Health support programme:** - There is need to support efforts to invest in primary health care across the country, in DaO states in particular, by strengthening the health systems, including improving the quality of health infrastructure and hiring, retaining and motivating health workers. Supporting efforts to increase investment in health insurance services/coverage targeting the poor and the most vulnerable individuals and groups should also be given a priority. Supporting government to implement the National Health Act, thereby accelerating the country's efforts in pursuing universal health coverage. Strengthening states and LGAs to implement PHC programmes addressing the needs of the most vulnerable groups – children, mothers and other vulnerable groups such as IMNCH, PMTCT, and nutrition services in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

**10. Investing in creation of Credible Evidence for Decision Making and Planning:** Support efforts and interventions to produce, disseminate and use credible and gender sensitive evidence for decision making, targeting and programming. There is need to enhance the registration of persons at birth and registration of deaths at federal and state government levels, linking vital registrations to the reform of the identity management system under the CRVS reform. Strengthening the capacities of relevant structures and institutions, like NBS, National Population Commission, and units within MDA, to produce, store, and use credible and comprehensive data on various the socio-economic, political, humanitarian and environmental issues is critical and strategic. Ensure that SDG monitoring plan and mechanism is in place embracing the fit for purpose principles and supporting federal and state agencies to incorporate planning, monitoring and evaluation in routine programming activities.

**11. Inclusive economic growth, Shared Prosperity and Environmental Protection:** Support the FGN and DaO state governments' efforts to put together a comprehensive gender and environmental sensitive economic and social development road map for faster growth and spread of wealth. Focus and support on economic diversification, women and youth empowerment, resilience (political, economic and environmental) and protection of the environment. A joint programme targeting youth economic, social and environmental empowerment could be explored. Specifically,

- Support the establishment of an agro-processing fund, open to women and the youth in particular (for value-addition and business in agriculture sector);
- Invest in efforts to revive and revitalize potential and viable businesses and manufacturing investments such as the Imo Modern Poultry, Avutu; Panyam Fish Farm; Ajaokuta Steel Plant, and closed cottage textile industries/businesses among others across the country;

- Support efforts to scale up SMEs (cottage industry and ICT-based entrepreneurs in particular) that have shown great potentials with limited resources by providing access to finance, training and marketing;
- Support efforts to re-energize the trade between Nigeria and its neighbour's through incentives, reform in doing cross-border businesses and capacity building.
- Support interventions to increase investment, publicity and marketing of tourism Nigeria, taking advantage of rich and abundant potential of culture and diversity, music and art, and robust social media.
- Support environmental protection and conservation interventions targeting young people and the youth, public and private sectors' economic investments and environment.

**12. Strengthening Delivering as One:** - To enhance UN delivering as one and effective support to the FGN, both the UNCT Nigeria and the FGN should work and enhance harmonization/coherence, coordination, and accountability of development and humanitarian issues based on UNDAF for effective and efficient support to the FGN's national development priorities and objectives. The FGN has to take a stronger lead and be active in setting the development agenda under UNDAF, making sure that there is both vertical and horizontal coordination, coherence and communication among MDAs and UN agencies. On the other hand, UN agencies should be committed to DaO through joint planning and implementation. Design a joint programme is one strategy of achieving this objecti

## **Visioning in Nigeria: Towards 2030 Agenda**

### **Context**

Nigeria is one of the 38 UN Country Teams that have commenced the new UNDAF cycle preparations in 2016 with the view of aligning the country's long-term visioning/planning with the goals and targets of the Sustainable Development Goals agreed by member states within the UN system. The one-day workshop was meant to validate the Nigeria CCA Report 2016. The report was well prepared and presented by a consultant, Professor Okwach Abagi. It addressed most of the substantive issues. Senior policy-makers, state commissioners, and development partners, among others, attended the workshop.

Participants in the workshop agreed to the conclusion and recommendations of the CCA report on Nigeria. The report generally agreed that despite positive growth trajectories over the period 1999-2015, growth is still below full potential and that economic development has not taken place. Consequently, the standard of living of most Nigerians has not improved. It was anticipated that with government's commitment and partnering with UNDP in particular and other development partners in general, the country can be better by the year 2030.

It follows, therefore, that the various government development plans particularly the Vision 20:2020 be re-examined and extended to 2030 to capture the goals and targets of the SDGs. Contributions in the workshop highlighted specific areas requiring UN's intervention while suggesting how Nigeria would look like in the next 15 years. The objective of this brief is to address these two issues in order to strengthen the CCA report on Nigeria.

### **The Paradox of Economic Growth and Prosperity in Nigeria**

Development partners especially the UN have been part and parcel of Nigeria's development experience. Development partners have provided funds, technical support and pieces of policy advice to the Nigerian government over-time. However, the empirics of support show that Nigeria was unable to meet most of the goals of the MDGs. As it has been shown by CCA, Nigeria's baseline for SDGs indicates a challenge and opportunity to act more effectively and efficiently.

It is important to state that most of the goals of the SDGs mirror that of Nigeria's visioning, the Vision 20:2020 in particular. But why has the country not being able to meet most the goals remains a tall question? As indicated in the CCA, the Nigerian economy is presently in a recession giving two consecutive negative growth rates of the economy in both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2016. Relevant macroeconomic fundamentals such as GDP growth, inflation, unemployment, lending rates, among others are moving in the wrong direction. The rate of unemployment is rising faster than the rate of growth of GDP; calculated economic performance index show dismal performance.

Hence, that Nigeria's growth performance exceeds that of the world as well as that of Sub-Sahara Africa should be interpreted with caution because growth does not imply development. Growth is only a necessary condition for development. Moreover, growth

must be double digit for almost 15 years to have a dent on poverty. The above summary of the Nigerian economy should be incorporated into the CCA report.

**Nigeria's Visioning:**

From 1960 to 1985, the country had the following development plans:

1 <sup>st</sup> National Development Plan,	1962-1967
2 <sup>nd</sup> National Development Plan	1970-1974
3 <sup>rd</sup> National Development Plan	1975-1980
4 <sup>th</sup> National Development Plan	1981-1985

The thrust across all the above plans was to make Nigeria a strong and dynamic economy and to improve the living standards of Nigerians. At the end of the four plan periods, the foundation for sustainable growth and development of the economy had not put in place; the economy remained underdeveloped and backward; none of the so-called booms (commodity, financial etc.) was linked to the real sector.

The economy entered a recession in 1984 and all the various policies to stabilize the economy did not produce the expected outcomes. In 1986, the government implemented a full Breton-woods type of Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) with the promise that the outcome would produce a strong, dynamic and transformed economy. The introduction of SAP signified another end to planning after the first abandonment by the military regime in 1975. The situation became worse than the pre-SAP period. Hence, SAP was abandoned in 1990 and replaced with the policy of guided de-regulation (combination of controls and liberalization) during the regime of the Late General Sani Abacha. Abacha’s regime put together the Vision 2010 blue-print, which was again jettisoned when he died. The Obasanjo’s regime of 1999-2007 provided the NEEDS economic blue-print which was not necessarily a visioning document but tried to indicate some road map for the economy. Thereafter, there was the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) – a 3-year rolling plan stressing the expenditure and revenue profile of government.

It was the regime of the Late Yar-ra-dua that return the economy once again to comprehensive planning in 2006 through the development of the Vision 20:2020 economic blue-print with a 5 year development plans to implement the Vision 20:2020. From analysts point of view this is the last effort at visioning and/or planning the economy. President Goodluck Jonathan accepted the Vision 20:2020 and his Transformation Agenda was derived from the Vision document. However, the implementation of the Vision document was nothing to write home about. Some of the issues discussed above should be incorporated into the CCA report for Nigeria.

**Vision 20:2020**

The Vision 2020 (Economic Transformation Blue-print) defines the vision and national aspirations as follows: “By 2020, Nigeria will have a large, strong, diversified, sustainable and competitive economy that effectively harnesses the talents and energies of its people and responsibly exploits its natural endowments to guarantee a high standard of living and quality of life to its citizens.”

Consequently, the country intends to become one of the top twenty economies in the world by the year 2020 with a GDP target of no less than US\$900billion and a per capita

income of no less than U\$4000 per annum. The vision statement when fully explained encompasses the goals of the SDGs. The vision is anchored on three pillars that will lubricate the economic transformation strategy.

**Pillar 1** guarantees the productivity and wellbeing of the people with the following as its strategic objectives:

**Pillar 1:**

- Eradicate extreme hunger and poverty.
- Enhance access to quality and affordable healthcare.
- Provide accessible and affordable housing.
- Build human capacity for sustainable livelihoods and national development.
- Promote gender equality and empower women.
- Improve access to micro-credit.

**Pillar 2** involves optimizing the key sources of economic growth with the under mentioned strategic objectives:

**Pillar 2:**

- Stimulate primary production to enhance the competitiveness of Nigeria's real sector.
- Significantly increase production of processed and manufactured goods for export.
- Stimulate domestic and foreign trade in value-adding goods and services.
- Strengthen linkages between key sectors of the economy.

**Pillar 3** deals with fostering sustainable social and economic development with the following strategic objectives:

### **Pillar 3:**

- Develop efficient, accountable, transparent and participatory governance
- Establish a competitive business environment characterized by sustained macroeconomic stability.
- Enhance national security and improve the administration of justice.
- Promote unity in diversity, national pride and the conservation of the nation's cultural heritage.
- Develop sufficient and efficient infrastructure to support sustained economic growth.
- Preserve the environment for sustainable socio-economic development
- Promote the sustainable development of Nigeria's geo-political regions into growth poles (National Planning Commission).

The above issues are not majorly different from those found in the SDGs. However, the proposed targets in the Vision 2020 were for the years 2015 and 2020. The assumptions used for projections have changed significantly and moreover the economy is now in a recession. The shock in the global oil prices and its intended consequences were not captured in the model. Furthermore, Nigeria's GDP rebased with 2010 as the base year. It is interesting to state that most of the targets set for 2015 were not met. These targets included those for life expectancy, poverty incidence, infant mortality rate, maternal mortality ratio, adult literacy rate, aggregate GDP, manufacturing contribution to GDP, inflation rate, ranking on corruption index, ranking on ease of doing business, actual power generation capacity, among others.

It would be important to extend the model used in the vision 2020 to reflect current realities in order to make reasonable projection towards 2030. The model was a small macro-econometric model, which could not go beyond 2020, and hence it would be rather difficult to stretch it further. The UN can assist Nigeria through the National Planning Commission to extend the model and thus make projections for key variables up to the year 2030.

However, based on foresight, experience in monitoring development in the Nigerian and global economic environment as well as contributions from workshop participants the following projections of selected key variables were undertaken:

<b>PILLAR 1: Guaranteeing the Productivity and wellbeing of the people</b>		
<b>Metric</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2030</b>
% of population living On less than \$1/day.	15%	20%
% of under-weight children Under age of 5.	10%	8%
% of population with access to Improved water source.	<b>100</b>	<b>85</b>
% of population with access to Improved sanitation.	<b>80</b>	<b>82</b>
Life expectancy.	<b>70</b>	<b>70</b>
Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,100 live births).	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>
Infant mortality rate (per 100,000 Live births).	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births).	<b>70</b>	<b>65</b>
Adult literacy rate (% aged 15 and >).	<b>100</b>	<b>90</b>
% of primary school enrolment (children age 6-11).	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Ratio of female to male enrolments In tertiary education.	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
% increase in number of Housing units.	<b>50</b>	<b>60</b>

<b>PILLAR 2: Optimizing the key sources of economic growth</b>		
Aggregate GDP	>900bn	?
GDP growth	5.5%	8%
Agricultural Productivity	6 fold increase	10 fold increase
Domestic refining capacity	1,500,000bpd	??
Ratio of non-oil contribution to foreign Exchange(%)	40:60	65:35
Contribution of manufacturing to GDP.	25%	30%

<b>PILLAR 3: Sustainable Social and Economic Development</b>		
Inflation rate	<9%	<9%
Ranking on Corruption perception Index.	<40	<60
Actual power generation capacity.	35,000mw	30,000mw
Actual Urbanization rate	4%	8%
Tourism contribution to GDP	10%	20%

Based on the above analysis and if the country meets the proposed targets, the standard of living of Nigerians would improve by the year 2030.

### **How Can UN Assist Nigeria**

The UN and other development partners have assisted the Nigerian government in various ways. In order to implement the objectives of the SDGs from 2017-22 and beyond to 2030, the UN and development partners can contribute in the following ways:

1. It would be important to assist the government to update the Vision 2020 to 2030 to be in line with the time frame of the SDGs. It has been shown by examining the Vision 2020 that the elements are similar to that of the SDGs.
2. UN can contribute in the areas of peace and security. The insurgency in the North-east (Boko Haram) and in the South-South (Niger Delta Avengers) would not promote growth and attract investors whether domestic or foreign. The UN can discuss with the government on various ways it can key into efforts to end the insurgency.
3. Most of the food producing areas in the country do not have enough agricultural extension officers. The training of agricultural extension officers would boost agriculture and generate employment, which is one of the objectives of the SDGs.
4. Another crucial area is that of transparency, accountability and comprehensiveness in the conduct of government matters. This relates to good governance. UN can fund civil societies to ensure that government is held accountable. Furthermore, the civil societies and other relevant organizations can include advocacy in their programmes.
5. Leveraging in Science and technology innovation to transform the economy and create jobs
6. UN can contribute in the area of environment and climate change. The government is very interested in preserving the environment but requires expert advice and funding to do so.

### **CONCLUSION:**

The CCA report<sup>87</sup> on Nigeria is well articulated and addresses most of the issues. It has provided the basis (baselines) for visioning, inclusive consultations and the development of the new UNDAF for Nigeria. This is an opportunity for the FGN and its partners, UN Nigeria in particular, to provide leadership, engage in inclusive dialogue and planning as a commitment to 2030 Agenda and addressing the SDGs, in particular effective inclusive economic growth, social progress and sustainable development.

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## Annex Section

### Annex I: Summary of Nigeria's performance on MDGs

MDG Goal	Overall Assessment (2015)	Remarks for SDGs (Global Numbering) and Gaps	Traffic light Colour code.
Goal 1: <b>Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger</b>	Some progress made. But goal not met by 2015.  There are still high level disparities across the geo-political zones, states and between the urban and rural areas and endemic in rural areas	1: Poverty, 2: Hunger, 8:Economic Growth, 9: Industrialization, 10: Inequality, and 12: Sustainable consumption:	
Goal 2: <b>Achieve universal primary education</b>	<b>Appreciable Progress. Goal not met by 2015.</b>  Good progress halted as a result of the disruptions brought about by the Boko Haram insurgency in Northern States: schools destroyed and children out of school	<b>4: Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education for All</b>	
Goal 3: <b>Promote gender equality and Empower Women</b>	<b>Strong progress on gender parity. Goal Not Met</b>  <b>But weak progress on mainstreaming of gender human rights, equality and women's empowerment.</b>	<b>5. Gender Equality and Empower Women and Girls.</b>	
Goal 4: <b>Reduce Child Mortality</b>	<b>Strong Progress. But Goal Not Met.</b>  There are still high-level disparities across the geo-political zones, states and between the urban and rural areas.	<b>3: Health and Well-being</b>	
Goal 5: <b>Improve maternal health</b>	<b>Strong progress in other indicators Goal Not Met</b>  There are still high-level disparities across the geo-political zones, states and between the urban and rural areas.	<b>3: Health and Well-being</b>	
Goal 6: <b>Combat HIV/AIDS,</b>	<b>Appreciable progress in combating HIV and AIDS.</b>	<b>4. Health and Well-being</b>	

<b>Malaria, and Other Diseases</b>	<b>Goal not met</b>  <b>But weak progress in other diseases.</b>		
<b>Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability</b>	<b>Strong progress in the provision of safe drinking water.</b>  <b>Goal not met</b>  <b>But weak progress in other indicators.</b>	<b>6: Water and Sanitation</b> <b>7. Affordable Sustainable Energy</b> <b>11. Human Settlements</b> <b>13. Climate Change</b> <b>14: Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources</b> <b>15. Ecosystems and Forests</b>	

NB: (i) Colour **Red** means poor performance (ii) **Yellow** means mix performance (iii) **Green** achieved target.

## Annex II: Indicators for SDG and Data Status

SDG/Indicator	SDG Target	Nigeria Value
<b>Goal 1: End Poverty in all its forms</b>		
Proportion of population below the international poverty line, on \$1.25 per day	By 2030 Reduced by at least half the proportion of men, women, and children of all ages living below poverty line	<b>64.4%</b>
% of the population living below the national poverty line disaggregated by sex and age group	By 2030 Reduced by at least half the proportion of men, women, and children of all ages living below poverty line	
Percentage of eligible population covered by national social protection programs		<b>Data very porous</b>
<b>Economic Growth</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>- Q1 = -0.38</b> <b>- Q2 = -2.06.</b>
<b>Goal 2: End Hunger , Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition</b>		
Prevalence of Stunting and wasting of children under age 5 years	0	<b>30% stunted,</b> <b>18% wasted,</b>
Percentage of infant under 6 months who are properly fed	100	<b>29%</b> <b>underweight</b>
Under weight children	0	
<b>Goal 3: Ensure Health Lives and Promote well-being for all at all ages</b>		
Infant (New Borne) Mortality rate	12/1000 live births	<b>58/1,000 live births</b>
Under 5 Mortality Rate	25/1000 live births	<b>128/100 live births</b>
Children under 1 year Fully Immunized	100%	<b>20 per cent</b>
Maternal Mortality Rate	70/100,000 live births	<b>575/100,000</b>

Proportion of births attended by Skilled Health Attendants	100%	<b>58.6%</b>
HIV Prevalence		<b>3.0%</b>
Children under 5 sleeping under insecticide treated bed nets	100%	<b>38.9%</b>
Pregnant Women slept under insecticide treated bed nets	100%	<b>28.5%</b>
<b>Goal 4. Inclusive Quality Education</b>		
Primary School Net Attendance Ratio	100% with gender parity	<b>68.7%</b>
Primary Six Completion Rate	100% with gender parity	<b>74.0%</b>
ECDE attendance rate	100% with gender parity	<b>Data Not available</b>
Youth with ICT Skills	Substantial % increase by type of skills	<b>Data Not available</b>
Learners with relevant knowledge and skills for sustainable development	% of learners (15 year olds) demonstrating a fixed level of knowledge	<b>Data not Available</b>
Educational facilities with child, disability and gender friendly leaning environment for all	% of schools with access to: a) Electricity, b) Internet, c) Computers, d) adapted infrastructure for those with disabilities, e) Single sex basic sanitation, and f) Basic Hand washing facilities.	<b>Data Not available</b>
<b>Goal 5: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All women and girls</b>		
Proportion of Women (15-49 years) experiencing physical and sexual violence	a) 0%	<b>30%</b>
Proportion of seats held by Women in National parliaments and local government	50/50 (gender parity)	<b>- 7.4% - Data not available (local Government)</b>
Access to reproductive health services (Contraceptive Prevalence Rate)	100%	<b>18.5%</b>
<b>Goal 6 : Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</b>		
Safe and accessible drinking water	100%	<b>61%</b>
Access to improved sanitation	100%	<b>31%</b>
Access to reliable and affordable Electricity	100%	<b>Data porous</b>
Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuel and technology	Substantial increase share	<b>Data not available</b>
<b>Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all</b>		
Share of the population using modern cooking solutions, by urban/rural	100%	<b>Data not available</b>
Share of the population using reliable electricity, by urban/rural	100%	<b>Data Not available</b>
Rate of primary energy intensity improvement	Substantial increase share	<b>Data Not available</b>

<b>Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.</b>		
<b>Economic Growth</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>-2.06 (Q1 2016)</b>
Share of informal employment in non-agriculture employment by sex	% share	<b>Data porous</b>
Unemployment rate by sex, age group and persons with disabilities	Full and productive employment	<b>31.2%</b>
Percentage of Youth not in education, employment or training	Substantially reduce this groups	<b>Data porous (Not available)</b>
Percentage of number of children aged 5-17 in child labour by sex and age group	0%	<b>Data porous Not available</b>
<b>Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</b>		
Access to all weather road		<b>Data Not available</b>
Mobile broadband subscription per 100 inhabitants		<b>Data Not available</b>
Manufacturing value added (MVA) as a percentage of GDP		<b>Data Not available</b>
Total energy and industry related GHG emission by gas and sector expressed as production and demand-based emission		<b>Data Not available</b>
Personnel in R&D		
<b>Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries [States]</b>		
Poverty prevalence by States (Nigeria)		<b>Data available</b>
Gini Coefficient by States (Nigeria)		<b>Data porous</b>
<b>Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</b>		
Percentage of urban population living in slums or informal settlements		<b>50%</b>
Percentage of people within 0.5km of public transit running at least every 20 minutes.		<b>Data not available</b>
Mean urban air pollution of particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5)		<b>Data not available</b>
Area of public and green space as a proportion of total city space		<b>Data not available</b>
Percentage of urban solid waste regularly collected and well managed		<b>Data not available</b>
<b>Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</b>		
		<b>Data Not available</b>
<b>Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</b>		
		<b>Data Not available</b>

<b>Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</b>		
Share of coastal and marine areas that are protected		<b>Data Not available</b>
Percentage of fish tonnage landed within Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY)		<b>Data Not available</b>
<b>Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</b>		
Forest area as a percentage of total land area		<b>Porous Data</b>
Net permanent forest loss		Porous Data
Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources	Fair and equitable distribution [citizens' satisfaction]	Porous Data
Area of forest under sustainable forest management as a percent of forest area		Data not available
<b>Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</b>		
Violent injuries and deaths per 100,000 population		<b>Data Not available</b>
Number of refugees [IDPs]		<b>Data porous</b>
Proportion of legal persons and arrangements for which beneficial ownership information is publicly available		<b>Data Not available</b>
Percentage of children under age 5 whose birth is registered with a civil authority		<b>Data porous</b>
Perception of public sector corruption		<b>Data porous</b>
<b>Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.</b>		
Domestic revenues allocated to sustainable development as percent of GNI, by sector		<b>Data not available</b>
Official development assistance and net private grants as percent of GNI		
Private net flows for sustainable development at market rates as share of high income country GNI, by sector		<b>Data Not available</b>
Share of SDG Indicators that are reported annually		<b>Data not available.</b>

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