



2022 ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT



Dear Stakeholders,

The Nigerian economy has sustained positive growth rates since its recovery from the pandemic-induced recession in 2020. However, the growth momentum has slowed significantly, evident in decline in real GDP growth to 2.3 percent in the third quarter of 2022 from a peak of 5 percent in the second quarter of 2021. In the same vein, the average output growth of 3.0 percent in the year's first three quarters is lower than the 3.2 percent recorded in the same period in 2021. This is largely attributable to renewed economic shocks due to the fallout of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which disrupted global commodity flows, particularly energy, fertilisers and selected agricultural products. The war-induced supply chain disruptions and attendant surge in global commodity prices contributed to the heightened inflationary environment in 2022. Headline inflation has been on a steady rise since February 2022, reaching 21.1 percent in October 2022, a 17-year high from 15.6 percent at the beginning of the year.

From a sectoral perspective, the non-oil sector continued to show some resilience while the oil sector remained in contraction. In the first three quarters of 2022, the non-oil sector grew by 5 percent, representing an improvement

compared with an average growth of 3.2 percent in the same period in 2021. The growth of the non-oil sector reflected the sustained growth posted by activity sectors, including Agriculture, Construction, Information & Communications Technology (ICT), Real Estate and Finance, among others. The non-oil sector's contribution to GDP stood at 94.3 percent in Q3'2022, while the sector expanded by 4.3 percent during the period. On the other hand, the oil sector contracted by 22.7 percent in Q3'2022, the tenth consecutive quarter of negative growth, as it continues to grapple with persistent crude oil theft in the Niger Delta region.

Fiscal and external vulnerabilities remained in 2022, considering the underperformance of the oil sector, Nigeria's key source of revenue and foreign exchange earnings. The expected gains from higher crude oil prices in the year were decimated by low domestic oil production and the increase in fuel subsidy payments. Nigeria's crude oil production averaged 1.1 million barrels per day (mbpd) in Q3'2022, 15.4 percent lower than 1.3mbpd in the same period last year. As of June 2022, total public debt was N42.8 trillion, up 8.1 percent from N39.6 trillion in December 2021. External debt has also risen to \$40.1 billion in Q2 2022 from \$38.4 billion in Q4 2021.

Meanwhile, the country continued to experience severe currency pressures, resulting in the depreciation of the official exchange rate to N445/US\$ from N410/US\$ in 2021. This was despite several efforts by the monetary authorities to ensure price and exchange rate stability. The central bank raised the monetary policy rate four times this year, bringing it to 16.5 percent per annum from 11.5 percent per annum in December 2021. This was targeted at curbing inflation and reducing the risk of capital flight in the face of rising interest rates in advanced economies. Albeit, the country's socioeconomic conditions have continued to deteriorate with increased insecurity and heightened political tensions.

Being a transition year, the NESG Macroeconomic Outlook for 2022 highlighted critical reforms necessary to achieve a paradigm shift in governance and policy design in Nigeria. These include the oil and gas sector deregulation, the fuel subsidy reform, foreign exchange reforms and sector reforms. The 28th Nigerian Economic Summit (NES #28) also emphasised the priorities for shared prosperity in 2023 and beyond. The government and other stakeholders articulated the country's development imperatives that satisfy the need for economic security, social justice, conscientious governance, political stability and environmental sustainability.

Nigeria's economic outlook in 2023 and beyond will be shaped by the political and policy environment and the commitment to implement the needed reforms to promote shared prosperity for all. This, to a large extent, has influenced the NESG Secretariat's policy advocacy and intervention activities this year. As the year draws to a close, we are pleased to share a snapshot of some of our advocacy efforts and interventions you might have missed. Highlighted in this activity report are some of the many engagements in 2022.



DIALOGUE PARTNER

As a Dialogue Partner, the NESG drives Policy Change through Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) Platforms and Engagements. The NESG has several platforms to drive this objective, including Roundtables, Policy Commissions, and Communities of Practice(s).

The 28th Nigerian Economic Summit

The Nigerian Economic Summit (NES) is the NESG's flagship event and the foremost Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) platform in Nigeria. The Summit is organised annually in partnership with the Federal Government of Nigeria through the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning.

As Nigeria proceeds into a transition year, drawing lessons and insights from the past and present to set the economic policy agenda for sustainable economic development becomes imperative. Thus, the 28th Nigerian Economic Summit (NES #28) convened national and global policymakers, business leaders, development partners, civil society leaders and scholars through a hybrid platform of in-person and virtual dialogues to deliberate on the theme "2023 and Beyond: Priorities for Shared Prosperity".

Discussions at NES #28 were centred around four sub-themes: Delivering Macroeconomic Stability for Shared Prosperity; Investing in Our Future; Unlocking the Binding Constraints to Execution, and Reframing the Agenda for Transformational Leadership. Stakeholders engaged in candid discussions on the country's development imperatives, which include Economic Sustainability, Inclusive Growth, Policy Execution, Political Economy and Visionary Leadership.

The key objectives of the Summit were to:

- Set an economic policy agenda for accelerated economic growth underpinned by sustainable and inclusive development;
- Deliberate an actionable framework for transformative political leadership and effective governance that builds the Nigerian state's capacity to deliver dividends of democracy;
- Build consensus on the imperatives for transforming Nigeria's human capital into national, productive and innovative capacity that creates a secure collective future of prosperity for all;
- Identify critical factors for effective implementation of the national development plan for sustained economic development;
- Identify pragmatic initiatives to elicit economic leadership at the subnational levels, adopting a "Bottom-Up" approach to subnational competitiveness that contributes to national economic growth and development; and
- Articulate the framework within which economic priorities for Nigeria in 2023 and beyond are debated, discussed and agreed upon.

Over the two days of the Summit, participants converged in 5 Plenary Sessions, 10 Interactive Panels, 2 Design Workshops, 1 Roundtable, and 4 Breakfast Sessions to deliberate on the Summit theme and continue the dialogue, which had commenced in 8 Pre-Summit Events, and 3 Twitter Space Events. The full report (Greenbook) will be published on the NESG website.

National Economic Dialogue

On May 20th 2022, the Nigerian Economic Summit Group hosted a National Economic Dialogue with the theme “Critical Challenges Confronting the Nigerian Economy”. Following the dialogue, the Nigerian Economic Summit Group (NESG) proposed a six-point agenda to nudge Nigeria’s prospective political actors and government to rethink socio-economic development outcomes, the role of the market and private sector, deepen sectoral reforms to support broad-based growth and competitiveness, facilitate integrated national and sub-national economic inclusion, adopt pragmatic and actionable social sector reforms and deploy workable and inclusive national security strategy in all dimensions.

THE NESG ROUNDTABLES

Roundtables are special-purpose public and private dialogue platforms established to champion a specific reform process. They are usually initiated by MOUs, specific Stakeholder drives, or Donor funding. The following are the Roundtables at the NESG:

The National Assembly Business Environment Roundtable (NASSBER)

The National Assembly Business Environment Roundtable (NASSBER) has used its unique position to enable collaborative solutions between the National Assembly, the civil society, and the organised private sector to build consensus in reforming Nigeria’s business environment. NASSBER strives to accomplish this by broadening participation, engagement and the quality of output to the nation’s legislative process. By ensuring the steady advancement of business environment legislation through the National Assembly. NASSBER has, over the years, played a crucial role in securing the passage and signing into law of several key legislations aimed at improving the business environment. It has also facilitated the progress of many other legislations through engagements with the legislators and bureaucracy of both chambers of the National Assembly.

The Ernest Shonekan Centre for Legislative Reforms and Economic Development

NASSBER set up this centre to embody all its existing and future initiatives as the expansion to the subnational legislature and the judiciary created opportunities for achieving optimal cross-cutting outcomes for economic development. The centre was named in honour of the Late Chief Ernest Shonekan, whose contributions remain invaluable to the NESG.

Key activities in the year include;

Partnerships

- NASSBER, in collaboration with the National Judicial Institute (NJI), organised a Virtual Workshop for Judges on “The Role of the Bench in Nigeria’s Economic Development”. The Workshop had judicial officers from the Court of Appeal, Federal High Court, and State High Courts in attendance.
- NASSBER, through its Regulations Working Group and Trade Working Group, partnered with the GIZ Nigeria’s Pro-Poor Growth and Promotion of Employment in Nigeria Programme- SEDIN to hold a Private-Public Dialogue on Franchising in Nigeria. Stakeholders from the public and private sectors identified legal and regulatory gaps. They made recommendations for a technical working group with the specific mandate of bridging the policy, legal and regulatory gaps in franchising in Nigeria.

Technical Support:

- In the first quarter, the Senate Committee on Works held a Public Hearing on the Public Private Partnership Regulatory Commission Bill (PPPRC Bill). At the Public Hearing, the Committee accepted NASSBER’s offer to provide technical assistance to review all the memoranda submitted to the Committee, identify recurring themes from the various stakeholders, and conduct research and analysis of global practices in the delivery of public-private partnerships. NASSBER convened experts from the public and private sectors to provide key insights on the legislation based on their knowledge and expertise at a 1-day Expert Forum on the PPPRC Bill on March 24, 2022.
- NASSBER provided technical support for the review of the Investment and Securities Bill, 2022, adopting an inclusive approach to the review process that has strengthened the capital market ecosystem through engagement platforms for both the public and private sector stakeholders. This support will culminate in the passage of the Bill into law which will boost activities in the capital market and provide a well-regulated framework for enhanced economic growth and development.
- At the request of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, NASSBER and the Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission of the NESG held a Legislative Retreat to review the Food Safety and Quality Bill 2022 and the memorandum submitted at the public hearing for the Bill. The report was delivered to the Chairman and Clerk of the Committees.

Advocacy

- The National Assembly Business Environment Roundtable, in collaboration with CLEEN Foundation, convened an Open Forum to deliberate on key sections of the Police Act 2020 that can be implemented in the short term and actions that can trigger the implementation of other provisions of the Act in the medium to long term. The one-day Forum for Public Safety discussed police reforms and their implications for Public Safety in light of the Police Act 2020, as well as charted an action plan for

the implementation of identified provisions. The Open Forum attendees were drawn from Nigeria's security institutions; the Nigerian Police Force, the Nigerian Security Civil Defence Corps, Civil Society Organizations, citizens and the Press.

- NASSBER also advocated for Presidential assent on the Arbitration and Mediation Bill, 2022, passed in the National Assembly. NASSBER received and published quotes on its Twitter page from Prof. Paul Idornjie, Mr Isaiah Bozimo, and Mr Babatunde Fagbohunlu. A publication was also made in respect of the Bill.

Stakeholder Engagements

- NASSBER, in collaboration with the Pro-Poor, Growth and Promotion of employment in Nigeria-SEDIN programme of the GIZ upon determining franchising as an effective business strategy for MSMEs, held a public-private dialogue on franchising in Nigeria. The Dialogue, which focused substantially on the legislative and regulatory framework of franchising, was significant in ensuring that major players in the public and commercial sectors deliberate extensively on critical problems influencing the expansion and development of franchising in Nigeria.
- NASSBER, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health, organised a technical Workshop for food safety experts to review the Bill in preparation for a sensitisation/engagement exercise with members of the National Assembly. The meeting aimed to articulate the inherent advantages of the Bill in relation to health, agriculture, trade, environment, and economic sectors to ensure a successful and sustained campaign that will lead to the passage of the bill.
- NASSBER held an Expert Forum on the Food Safety and Quality Bill, 2022. The Bill provides a robust regulatory framework that ensures food safety and quality from "Farm to Table", which is expected to boost the economic value of Nigerian food for export purposes.

NASSBER held a validation meeting with the Joint Tax Board on the 13th of April, 2022. The meeting, attended by the Joint Tax Board, represented by members from the six geopolitical zones and the Thematic Lead, reviewed the provisions of the Bill and provided clarifications for the provisions of the Bill. The overall consensus was that the stakeholders were happy with the provisions of the Bill, and all the comments would be reviewed and inputted into the Bill. As agreed at the meeting, the next steps were that the Bill would be presented to the National Assembly through NASSBER, and the Bill would also be socialised with the Nigerian Governors Forum. NASSBER also sent out documents to the NGF that indicates its interest in meeting with the NGF to familiarise them with the provisions of the Bill.

The Debt Management Roundtable

The Debt Management Roundtable formally presented its full report in May 2022 on Debt Management and Sustainability in ECOWAS to Nigeria's Debt Management Office (DMO) for possible adoption and implementation. The presentation, held at the National Debt Management Office in Abuja, was graced by stakeholders from Nigeria's public and private sectors, including Dr Abel Essien, ECOWAS Commission; Paul Adeyeye, OSIWA and Zainab Mangga, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Country Office. The report provided some background on the ECOWAS fiscal landscape and public debt portfolio, including several policy recommendations for debt sustainability and key performance indicators. It proposed a 10-Point action plan under an integrated strategy for revenue optimisation, expenditure efficiency and debt management.

NGF-NESG Economic Roundtable (NNER)

The NNER profiled about eight sub-national governments (not directly affected by the coming elections) based on political risks, ease of doing business ranking and factor endowments. The objective was to commence engagement around providing technical assistance to execute projects that facilitate investment promotion. The concept included creating an award system for showcasing top reformers among sub-nationals, a microsite for increasing online presence, and a 'Brown Book'- the classification of most recent NES recommendations with direct and specific effects on sub-nationals. This process is necessary to assist sub-nationals in implementing policy recommendations made at the Summit, with further engagement via the NES Recommendations Implementation Coordination System.

Key Activities in the Year

- Facilitated a subnational-focused session at NES#28 (Subnational Perspectives to Economic Viability); outcomes from the session alongside other subnational-related conversations at NES#28 will be compiled into a Brown Book to be produced alongside the Green Book and disseminated accordingly as an advocacy tool for further policy engagements.
- Supported the engagement process of a technical consultant who provided documentation and knowledge management support for the maiden edition of the Primary Health Care (PHC) Financing Forum, an initiative of the Nigeria State Health Leadership Collaborative (NSHLC), under the aegis of the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF). Provided technical support for the 7th edition of the Kaduna Economic and Investment Summit (KADInvest 7.0). Commenced engagements with a consultant to provide technical support for the "What Works Hub" workstream of the NNER.
- Currently exploring collaborations with the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) to provide technical support around capacity building for State Investment Promotion Agencies (SIPAs), creating an effective coordination framework between NIPC and SIPAs, and other areas as may be required.

Nigeria Triple Helix Roundtable

The Nigeria Triple Helix Roundtable (NTHR) was launched on the 20th of September 2019 as a permanent platform for implementing the government-academia-industry collaboration towards fostering economic growth and national development in Nigeria. It is the first practical expression of the Triple-Helix model in the country, coming after the signing of an MoU between the National Universities Commission (NUC) (for academia) and the Nigerian Economic Summit Group (NESG) (for the industry) and the interactive session and retreat which held thereafter. While the primary objective of the academia-industry collaboration is to revitalise the Nigerian higher education system, the broader long-term objective is to facilitate a tripartite partnership between the government, academia and industry such that the three actors can actively collaborate to develop solutions to critical problems and implement an agenda for economic growth. The NTHR seeks to enhance collaboration between these actors to stimulate growth by transitioning into an innovation-led and knowledge-driven economy.

- In July 2022, in a culmination of four years of engagement and planning with the Tertiary Education Trust (TETFund) to drive the revitalisation of tertiary education in Nigeria, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc Sonny Echono, approved for the Secretariat of the Roundtable to be domiciled in the NESG Abuja Liaison office.



POLICY COMMISSIONS

In its role as a dialogue partner, the NESG strategically functions within workgroups known as “Policy Commissions”, which comprise public and private sector networks and experts who bring their insights to bear on strategic industry and crosscutting issues. Policy Commissions review government policies, conduct policy advocacy and facilitate the execution of programs and initiatives as dictated in the annual work plan, prepared by members, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, the NES recommendations and the NESG Macroeconomic Outlook. Policy Commissions also facilitate and fast-track the adoption of various Nigerian Economic Summit (NES) recommendations.

Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission

The Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission (AFSPC) engages in advocacy concerning agriculture-specific issues to ensure the formulation, adoption, and implementation of appropriate policies regarding the agro-industrial development space and food and nutrition security as a whole. The overarching objective of the AFSPC is to facilitate the adoption of various NES recommendations to fast-track the economy's growth and development.



The Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission was involved in the following activities:

- In collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health and other key stakeholders, the AFSPC hosted an Expert/Stakeholders Review & Harmonization Workshop on the Food Safety and Quality Bill (2019) on February 24, 2022. The Workshop was held in line with the NESG's support for protecting the lives and health of Nigerians by providing safe foods, which is crucial to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The AFSPC also held a Workshop on the Expert Review of the Food Quality and Safety Bill on the 31st of May, 2022. The forum was attended by stakeholders across the public and private sectors, including representatives from the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD), the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH), the Federal Ministry of Justice (FMJ), the National Food Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), and the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON).
- The AFSPC, in partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, held a validation workshop on the 'Rapid Baseline Assessment of all Agricultural Policies and Initiatives to improve Market-led Food System' on the 30th of August 2022. The workshop sought to generate data on the detailed implementation status of Sustainable Development Goal Two, highlight the nature and causes of the binding constraints, and catalyse the interventions needed to improve market-led food systems.
- The AFSPC also engaged with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) towards providing technical assistance/support for harmonising the Food Safety & Quality Bill and the post-passage implementation roadmap.

The AFSPC, in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Health, the Food & Agriculture Export Alliance (FAEA), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the University of Missouri (UoM), and the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) hosted a Food and Feed Safety Strategic Planning Workshop on the 13th and 14th of December, 2022. The inaugural activity was aimed at initiating a USDA/FAEA/UoM joint plan to support the implementation of Nigeria's Food Safety and Quality Bill, 2022. The workshop was also aimed at bringing together Nigerian stakeholders: primarily Government stakeholders, to help inform and validate a roadmap of USDA/FAEA/UoM technical training and assistance activities to be conducted with Nigeria over the next two years (2023-2024). The proposed technical assistance partnership offers an opportunity for experience sharing between the USDA, Nigerian regulators and private industry in the areas of food and feed safety regulatory reform and enforcement and address capacity gaps in implementation.

Energy Policy Commission

The Energy Policy Commission (EPC) is a veritable public-private dialogue platform aimed at addressing and removing bottlenecks, identifying viable opportunities and developing effective frameworks to expand and scale the energy industry across the renewable energy, oil and condensates as well as power and gas sub-sectors. The overarching mandate of the EPC is to facilitate the adoption of various energy-related Nigerian Economic Summit recommendations to fast-track economic growth and development.



The Energy Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities in 2022:

- The Energy Policy Commission developed a Policy Brief on the Nigerian Electricity and Alternative Electricity Power Sector Supply.
- The Policy Commission sustained evidence-based advocacy engagements with the key players and regulators in the energy sector to drive tangible reform efforts. The Policy Commission organised a Power Sector Experts Workshop on 27th July 2022. At the workshop, short, medium, and long-term solutions underpinning the best and most effective way forward for the Nigerian Power Sector were agreed on.
- As a follow-up to the NESG Power Sector Experts Workshop held on 27th July 2022, the Energy Policy Commission also prepared the following policy documents to engage the Presidency and Presidential Aspirants.
- The NESG Power Sector Position - Public Brief;
- The NESG Power Sector Position - Brief for Presidential Aspirants and;
- The NESG Power Sector Position - Brief for Presidency.
- The Energy Policy Commission and the Sustainability Policy Commission facilitated three webinar

events in collaboration with the African Climate Foundation, the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), the Federation of Egyptian Industries and the National Business Initiative in supporting Shared Learning on Energy Transitions in Africa - a Dialogue with African Business on the Road to COP27.

- The Renewable Energy Thematic Lead virtually facilitated a session on “Suggestion to reflect on the Launch of Nigeria’s Energy Transition Plan” and “Building project pipelines for Just Transitions and climate action in Africa” at a webinar in a 2-day study tour in Cairo, Egypt. The tour included a 2-day workshop on a series of conversations to highlight best practices, share learnings, and highlight investment opportunities with a focus on Ensuring Just Climate Transitions in Africa and Mobilizing Finance.
- The Energy Policy Commission is conducting a review to support the transition of low-income economies from biomass to the use of modern energy cooking services and facilitate the need to understand the complexity and scale of both the opportunities and challenges of modern energy cooking transitions in Nigeria.
- The Energy Policy Commission is conducting a wide-ranging review of the current dynamics and future direction of the financing of electricity production and distribution and its implications for the viability of significant acceleration in the utilisation of electricity for cooking for the next ten (10) years in 3 African countries.

Health Policy Commission

The Health Policy Commission (HPC) has the mandate to stimulate the country’s response towards building responsive and resilient health systems to achieve Universal Health Coverage in Nigeria. The overarching objective of the Policy Commission is to facilitate the adoption of the various NES recommendations as it relates to fostering equality in access to health, ensuring quality health services, and financial risk protection.

Public-Private Dialogues and Policy Advocacy initiatives of the Health Policy Commission in 2022 include the following:

- The HPC published a White Paper on Enhancing the Local Production of Medicines and Vaccines in Nigeria. The Policy Commission also reviewed the Nigeria Vaccine Policy (NVP) draft, which seeks to boost the local production of vaccines and foster self-sufficiency in vaccine availability. The White Paper, alongside the review of the Nigeria Vaccine Policy, was sent to the Federal Ministry of Health.
- At the request of the Federal Ministry of Health, the HPC presented its review of the National Vaccine Policy at the Stakeholders Meeting on the Development of the National Strategic Plan for the Nigeria Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Sector. The Ministry communicated its willingness to collaborate with the HPC on developing the proposed National Strategic Plan.



- On the 7th of April, 2022, the HPC, Stop TB Partnership Nigeria, and Anadach Consulting Limited hosted a workshop themed “2022 World Tuberculosis Day Celebration –Invest to End TB, Save Lives”.
- The HPC and the Fiscal Policy and Planning Thematic Group held a discovery meeting on the nuances of collaboration on policy issues related to the Sugar/Sin tax introduced in the 2021 Finance Act.
- The HPC met with the Director General of the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD) to discuss collaborative efforts to enhance the local production of medicines and vaccines in Nigeria.
- In response to the call for Memoranda on the Health Sector Reform Programme, the HPC submitted two policy memos (Enhancing Local Production of Medicines and Vaccines in Nigeria and Healthcare Financing in Nigeria: Realities, Impediments and Recommendations) on the 17th of August to the Secretariat of the Health Reform Committee chaired by the Vice President, Professor Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON.
- On Friday, 26th August 2022, the HPC attended the first Consultative Forum Meeting on Investment Opportunities in the Healthcare Sector with the Honourable Minister of Health.
- In response to the White Paper on Local Production of Medicines and Vaccines in Nigeria submitted by the HPC to the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD), the HPC was invited by the Institute to a collaborative meeting on the critical role of Vaccines Research and Development and the pivotal role of the NIPRD in the strategic development of Local Production of Medicines and Vaccines in Nigeria. The meeting was held on 13th September 2022.
- The Ministry of Health invited the Health Policy Commission to a follow-up meeting of Key Stakeholders for the Development of the National Strategic Plan for the Nigeria Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Manufacturing Sectors on 8th-12th November 2022. The meeting was to provide technical support to the development of the National Strategic Plan for the Nigeria Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Manufacturing Sector.

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Manufacturing and Mining Policy Commission

The Manufacturing & Mining Policy Commission (MMPC) acts as a public-private policy dialogue platform for the manufacturing and mining sectors with a view to fast-tracking manufacturing and mining growth of the economy, driving advocacy that focuses on specific issues to ensure the formulation, adoption, implementation of appropriate policies. MMPC also champions the Nigerian Economic Summit (NES) recommendations to spark the intended sectoral growth and development needed in the economy. To achieve this, members of the Policy Commission meet regularly as action-oriented partnerships to deliberate on ways to remove the bottlenecks in the sector.



The Manufacturing and Mining Policy Commission's engagements in the year include the following:

- Solid Minerals Diagnostics Report: With support from the Ford Foundation, the NESG Mining Thematic Group developed a diagnostics report on the Nigerian Solid Minerals Sector. The exercise critically examined the status, strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for improvement in the sector. The diagnostics report was an advocacy tool for more evidence-driven and impactful sectoral policy and reform engagements in the Nigerian solid minerals sector.
- A Stakeholder Validation Session on Nigeria's Solid Mineral Sector Governance Landscape and Prospects Report was held on the 7th of June 2022. This session was attended by stakeholders (public and private) sharing recommendations and concepts that would change the outcome of the sector.

Trade, Investment and Competitiveness Policy Commission (TICPC)

The Trade, Investment, and Competitiveness Policy Commission (TICPC) comprises arbiters of specialised competency in trade, investment, competitiveness, tax, and fiscal policy. The Policy Commission is saddled with the mandate to holistically address brewing concerns on the Nigerian business environment, focusing on progressively realising an enabling environment for enhanced economic activities and seamless regulation.



In the period under review, the Trade, Investment and Competitiveness Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities:

- The Trade, Investment and Competitiveness Policy Commission engaged the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Investment in a series of workshops to develop Trade and Investment Policies for Nigeria. The Policy Commission also held a meeting with the World Bank/IFC Nigeria Trade Mission on the 23rd of May, 2022, regarding the trade policy.

- The TICPC participated in the Working Session of the Trade Policy of Nigeria Review Committee (TPNRC) organised by the Nigerian Office for Trade Negotiation (NOTN) held from the 9th to 13th of May 2022. The review team drawn from MDAs, including the NESG, MAN, NASSI, and OWIT, amongst others, presented the final draft of the Trade policy document to the Honourable Minister of Industry, Trade, and Investment on the 11th of August 2022. A validation meeting on the National Trade Policy was held on the 8th of December, 2022.
- The Fiscal Policy and Planning Thematic Group hosted a Fiscal Policy Roundtable on the Impact Assessment of the 2021 Finance Act on March 10, 2022. The Roundtable engaged relevant stakeholders to assess the likely impact of the 2021 Finance Act on households, firms, sub-sectors, and the macroeconomy at large.
- The Policy Commission participated in a meeting of selected stakeholders organised by the Nigerian Office for Trade Negotiation (NOTN) on the 5th and 6th of April 2022, geared toward developing Nigeria's Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Template.
- The Fiscal Policy and Planning Thematic Group developed a report on the Impact Assessment of the 2021 Finance Act. The report drew upon the contributions of leaders and experts who engaged in dialogue during the Fiscal Policy Roundtable. It is intended as a resource for governments, industry experts, and other stakeholders interested in the impact of the 2021 Finance Act on households, firms and the macroeconomy. The report was presented to the Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning and is a valuable resource for policymakers in articulating measures to help design and implement subsequent Finance Acts.
- The Policy Commission participated in the stakeholder's consultation meeting on the phase II AfCFTA implementation plan on the 21st of October, 2022. The objective of the consultation was to collect quick interventions from the Country's stakeholders regarding the current Phase II draft documents on the AfCFTA Protocol on Investment, Competition Policy, and Intellectual Property Rights. These Protocols would be reviewed by the AfCFTA/AU Trade Ministers for onward delivery to the AU General Assembly. The Policy Commission also participated in the validation meeting of the AfCFTA Nigeria Implementation strategy on the 7th of December, 2022.
- The TICPC also participated in the 6th meeting of the enlarged National Focal Point (ENFP), which was held at the Conference room of the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Investment on the 10th of August 2022, where the working group considered the Nigeria-UK Trade Policy and Market access issues.
- The Fiscal Policy and Planning Thematic Group hosted a Pre-Summit event on Critical Tax Reforms for Shared Prosperity on August 10, 2022.
- The Investment Thematic Group hosted a Pre-Summit event on Repositioning Public Governance in Nigeria for Global Competitiveness, Investment Attraction, and Sustainable Development on August 29 2022.

Digital Economy Policy Commission

The Digital Economic Policy Commission (DEPC) is charged with enabling Digital Transformation, Digital Government, Digital Trade and Innovation to develop a Digital Economy across all sectors for inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development. DEPC aims to achieve its objective by actively promoting sectoral private-public collaboration, policy development and implementation, and adopting various recommendations from the Nigerian Economic Summit (NES).



During the period under review, the Policy Commission remained very active with a series of engagements:

- The Digital Economy Policy Commission collaborated with the Policy Innovation Centre (PIC) toward implementing the FCDO DAP project on building sustainable digital inclusion in 5 states across the country. The project sought to advance the implementation of the National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy 2020-2030, focusing on Developmental regulations, Digital services development and promotion, Digital society and emerging technologies, and Indigenous content promotion and development at the national and state level.
- A White Paper from the Nigerian Start-Up Bill Pre-Summit event hosted in 2021 by the Digital Economy Policy Commission was adopted to engage with the Minister of Communications and Digital Economy. The White paper was geared toward engaging the Ministry in leveraging the Digital Economy Industry Working Group (DEIWG) to develop the country's start-up ecosystem. This resulted in the Minister's approval to create the Digital Economy Industry Working Group (DEIWG).
- The DEIWG was created to harmonise and harness the work done by both the FMCDE and the NESG to unlock the potential of a fully Digital Economy and deliver benefits to the public, private and social enterprise sectors to support the delivery of the Short, Medium and Long-Term Ministerial Strategy for driving the growth of the Digital Industry in Nigeria.

Creation and Inauguration of the Digital Economy Industry Working Group

The Digital Economy Industry Working Group (DEIWG) was inaugurated on the 27th of October 2022 by the Honourable Minister for Communications and Digital Economy as an action group established as a Public Private Dialogue (PPD) platform formed by the NESG and FMCDE to champion close working relationships between the public and private sector leaders in the Information and Communications Industry. The DEIWG will map out government initiatives and policies affecting the private sector regarding the Digital Economy.

- **NES #28 Design workshop**

At the 28th Nigerian Economic Summit, the Digital Economy Policy Commission hosted a Design Workshop on Digital Economy and Transformation to dimension private sector participation and define outcome KPIs in the Nigeria Digital Economy Using NDEPS 2020-2030 Implementation Roadmap as Business Case.

- **NES #28 Roundtable**

At the 28th Nigerian Economic Summit, the Digital Economy Policy Commission hosted a Roundtable on Building a Digital Future. The Roundtable leaned towards building a future grounded in a Sustainable Digital Economy and Consolidating on getting Execution right – for a brighter future for our youths. The Roundtable included the government and private sector for the signing of the Nigeria Digital Economy Compact.

Financial Market and Financial Inclusion Policy Commission (FMFIPC)

The Financial Markets and Inclusion Policy Commission (FMFIPC) continually works to facilitate the adoption of various financial sector-specific NES recommendations to improve Nigeria's financial system and position the sector to support the growth and development of the Nigerian economy.

In the period under review, the Financial Market and Financial Inclusion Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities:

- The Financial Markets and Financial Inclusion Policy Commission collaborated with the Zedcrest Group to host a hybrid event on Securing and Enriching Nigerians at Scale: Prosperity Inclusion through Financial Sector Innovation on the 26th of April 2022.
- The Financial Market Thematic Group engaged in deliberations geared towards establishing a new Benchmark for the Naira. A research report has been prepared to support the new Benchmark and is currently under review by other industry players.
- The Financial Market Thematic Group developed advocacy strategies for the off-take of the Benchmark, which includes engagement with key stakeholders, including industry players – Financial Market Dealers' Association (FMDA), Association of Corporate Treasurers of Nigeria (ACTN), and the financial market regulatory bodies – Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN).
- Through a series of meetings held during the year, members of the Financial Inclusion Thematic Group focused on identifying the obstacles and articulating a monitoring framework to drive the growth of Financial Inclusion in Nigeria. The Thematic Group also deliberated on ways to engage relevant stakeholders to ensure agreed solutions are implemented.
- The Financial Inclusion Thematic Group, on the 24th of August 2022, hosted an NES #28 Pre-Summit event themed "Financial Inclusion for all by the Year 2020: What Worked, What Didn't, Which Way Forward?"



Infrastructure Policy Commission (IPC)

The Infrastructure Policy Commission (IPC) is structured to address infrastructure-specific issues and recommendations of the annual Nigerian Economic Summit to ensure the formulation, adoption and implementation by the relevant government agencies. The IPC currently works through six thematic groups led by subject and sector experts in Roads, Rail, Aviation, Ports & Inland Waterways, Water and Sanitation, and Housing & Urban Development.



The Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities in 2022:

- The Policy Commission engaged the Deputy Director of the Census Department and the Head of the Communication Centre of the National Population Commission (NPC) on Wednesday, August 24, 2022, to understand the dynamics and process of the upcoming housing census in 2023.
- The Water and Sanitation Thematic Group met with the Permanent Secretary and Honourable Minister of the Ministry of Water Resources to discuss and ensure that the CEO Water Mandate project is operationalised.
- The NESG, in collaboration with the UN Global Compact Network Nigeria (UNGCNN), launched the Nigerian CEO Water Mandate on 6th October 2020. The Water Mandate is a UN Global Compact initiative to assist companies in developing, implementing and disclosing water sustainability policies and practices. At the launch, the Honourable Minister of Water Resources, Engineer Suleiman Hussein Adamu and the Chairman of the NESG, Dr Asue Ighodalo, made commitments to support the CEO Water Mandate towards sustainable water resources management in Nigeria.

Inauguration of the CEO Water Mandate Business Council

The CEO Water Mandate Business Council was established to drive collaboration and synergy towards achieving sustainable water resources management. It was inaugurated with a signoff of the CEO Water Mandate Nigeria Business Council on the 31st of August 2022 towards facilitating the attainment of sustainable water resources management and stewardship using a risk-based approach.

Tourism, Hospitality, Entertainment, Creatives and Sports Industries (THECS) Policy Commission

The overarching objective of the Tourism, Hospitality, Entertainment, Creatives and Sports Industries (THECS) Policy Commission is to facilitate the adoption of various THECS-related NES recommendations to fast-track the growth and development of the economy.



The Policy Commission remained very active in 2022 with a series of engagements:

- In Q1 2022, the Tourism and Hospitality Thematic Group of the Policy Commission held sub-group meetings to develop Position Papers to be presented to the Federal Ministry of Information and Culture, geared towards developing a Working Group (Tourism and Hospitality Industries Working Group) jointly with the Ministry.
- The Tourism and Hospitality Industries Thematic Group, in collaboration with the Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Committee of the Nigerian Bar Association Section on Business Law, hosted an event on June 30th 2022, with the theme “Regulatory Governance Framework for the Tourism and Hospitality Sectors under the Nigerian Constitution”.
- On 9th August 2022, the Policy Commission met with the Honourable Minister and Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Information and Culture to brief them on the policy recommendations concerning the development of the Tourism, Hospitality, Creative, and Entertainment sectors and seek areas of collaboration with his Ministry.
- In Q3 2022, “Sport Nigeria”, a Limited by Guarantee private sector initiative facilitated by the Nigerian Economic Summit Group, was officially launched to aggregate, facilitate and enable the requisite investment into the sports sector. Established to chart a business-oriented pathway for sports development in Nigeria, Sport Nigeria will complement the government’s efforts at national and subnational levels and leverage the opportunities and potentials for sports industrialisation transformation in the country for the successful development of a thriving sports industry that contributes significantly to the Nigerian economy.

Launch of the National Sports Industry Policy (NSIP)

On the 2nd of November, 2022, the Federal Executive Council approved the National Sports Industry Policy (NSIP). The approval of the NSIP is a big win for the Sports Industry Thematic Group (SITG) as it was one of the major outputs of the Thematic Group's work in 2019. After several dialogues, meetings, webinars, and reports, the Policy was finally approved, becoming Nigeria's first Sports Industry Policy.

- As a follow-up on the approval of the National Sports Industry Policy (NSIP), on Thursday, 17th of November 2022, the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development (FMYSD) held an Implementation Strategy Meeting at the Media Centre of its office with the NESG represented. At the meeting, Dr Ikenna Nwosu, the Facilitator of the THECS PC, highlighted the need to:
- develop a Policy for each school to dedicate a day for compulsory sports within the Nation. This is expected to be developed by the Ministry of Youths and Sports Development and the Ministry of Education.
- Host Retreats with the different Federations
- Host Workshops for each federation to understand how they will operationalise the newly approved National Sports Industry Policy, etc.
- The NESG, represented by Mrs Ngozi Ngoka, Thematic Lead of the Tourism and Hospitality Industries Thematic Group (THITG), was on the Planning Committee for the 1st United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Global Conference on Tourism, Culture and the Creative Industries that held in Lagos Nigeria on 14th-16th November 2022.

Sustainability Policy Commission

The overarching objective of the Sustainability Policy Commission (SPC) is to facilitate the adoption of the annual NES recommendations to bridge the gap in sustainability and support the embedding of the green, blue and circular economies in Nigeria.

The Sustainability Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities:

- The Sustainability Policy Commission, in preparation for COP27, hosted three events in collaboration with the African Climate Foundation and the National Business Initiative to gather stakeholders to discuss the Roadmap to Nigeria's COP.
- The Policy Commission leaders also took a study tour to Cairo, Egypt. The tour included a 2-day workshop on a series of conversations to highlight best practices and share learnings and highlights investment opportunities with a focus on Ensuring Just Climate Transitions in Africa and Mobilising Finance for the Implementation of Climate Action.



- The Policy Commission also hosted a pre-summit event titled ‘Roadmap to Nigeria’s COP: A Pragmatic Path to Net Zero Using the Green Economy, Blue Economy & Forestry’ on September 9th, 2022. The session aimed to proffer solutions for Nigeria’s pragmatic road to NetZero, engage public and private sector stakeholders on the need to address Nigeria’s Climate change issues, and provide a base for conversations ahead of COP27.

Governance and Institutions Policy Commission (GIPC)

The overarching objective of the Governance and Institutions Policy Commission (GIPC) is to facilitate the overhaul of Public Institutions, strengthen partnerships and measure government performance to fast-track economic growth and development. The Governance and Institutions Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities:

- The leadership of the Policy Commission took part in the Chatham House Exchange Series 2 with the theme: Towards Collective Action on Corruption in Nigeria, held on Wednesday, March 16th, 2022.
- The Measuring Performance Thematic Group of the Governance and Institutions Policy Commission has been collaborating with the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation (AIG) Foundation to develop a Public Sector Performance Index to assess the capabilities and effectiveness of the public sector in delivering public goods and services to Nigerian citizens.



POLICY COMMISSION LEADERS



Amanda Lumun Feese
Thematic Lead Mining TG



Ayo Arikawe
Thematic Lead, Market Access



Blessing Allen-Adebayo
Thematic Lead, Sustainable Land Management



Chris Abulime
Thematic Lead, E-Governance



Zeal Akaraiwe
Facilitator, FMFPC



Dr Ikenna Nwosu
Facilitator, THECS PC



Dr. Adeyemi Dipeolu
Thematic Lead, Strengthening Partnerships & Collaboration



Dr. Eugene Itua
Thematic Lead, Circular Economy



Dr. Felicia Mogo
Thematic Lead, Marine Ecosystem and Blue Economy



Dr. Mariya Saleh
Thematic lead, Public Health & Thematic Lead Human Capital Development (NASSBER)



Dr. Ola Brown
Thematic Lead, Health as a Business



Dr. Uzo Egbuche
Facilitator, Sustainability PC



Edeme Kelikume
Thematic Lead, Ports & Inland Waterways



Emmanuel Adegboye
Thematic Lead, Digital Infrastructure and Tech Sector Financing



Gabriel Ekanem
Thematic Lead, Water & Sanitation



Imoh Igbo-Osagie
Thematic Lead, Post-Harvest Management



Mr Abiodun Oni
Thematic Lead, Digital Skills, Innovation & Entrepreneurship



Mr Bernard Orji
Thematic Lead, Manufacturing TG



Mr Bunmi Akinyemiju
Facilitator, Digital Economy Policy Commission



Mr Taiwo Oyedele
Tax and Fiscal Policy Thematic Lead and Thematic Lead Public Finance and Taxation (NASSBER)



Mr. Baba Agba
Thematic Lead, CEITG



Mr. Belije Madu
Thematic Lead, Power TG



Mr. Bola Onadele
Thematic Lead, Financial Market



Mr. Dennis Onwuegbu
Thematic Lead, Access to Market & Infrastructure



Mr. Niyi Ajao
Thematic Lead, Financial Inclusion



Mr. Segun Adaju
Thematic Lead, Renewable Energy



Mr. Tive Ekpere
Thematic Lead, Aviation TG



Mr. Onyejeli
Thematic Lead, Rail Thematic Group



Mrs Dolapo Kukoyi
Thematic Lead, Climate Change



Mrs Ngozi Ngoka
Thematic Lead, THITG



Mrs. Edughom Hanson
Thematic Lead, Capacity Building TG



Mrs. Ifueko O. Okauru
Thematic Lead, Supporting Reforms of Public Institutions



Mrs. Nkechi Onyenso
Facilitator, GIPC



Mrs. Ofowwe Aig-Imoukhuede
Thematic Lead, Measuring Performance TG



Ms Gloria Ekpo
Facilitator, AFSPC



Mrs Nkechi Obi
Thematic Lead, SITG



Oluwatomi Eromosele
Thematic Lead, Agricultural Financing



Prof. Jonathan Aremu
Facilitator, TICPC



Saadiya Aliyu
Facilitator, Infrastructure PC



Yemi Keri
Thematic Lead, Digital Platform & Financial Services



Dr. Femi Akinbola
Thematic Lead, Regulations
MSME CoP



Mr Peter Oluonye
Thematic Lead Investment &
Competitiveness



Mrs Adenike Adeyemi
Facilitator, MSME Community
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NASSBER



Dr Mariya Saleh



Dr. Franklin Ngwu



**Dr. Mohammed Aliu
Momoh**



Leonard O. Ugbajah



Mr Akin Ajibola



Mr Albert Adu



Mr. Boye Ademola



Mr. Ezenwa Anumnu



Mr. Taiwo Oyedele



Mrs. Daine Okoko



Mrs. Ozofu Ogiemudia



Ms. Chinye Uwanaka

NRFP



Dr. Muhammad Yadudu



Dr. Adewale Adeyinka



Dr. Alexander Ezenagu



Dr. Babatunde Omotosho



Dr. Gbadebo Odularu



Dr. Idris Olabode Badiru



Dr. Iguniwari Thomas
Ekeu-Wei



Dr. Mutiu A. Oyinlola



Dr. Obinna Chris Dike



Dr. Ololade Periola-
Fatunsin



Dr. Raymond Onuoha



Dr. Saliyu Dasuki



Dr. Theresa Onaji-Benson



Dr. Zuhumnan Dapel



Mr. Oluwatomisin J.
Oyewole



Mrs. Bello Aliyu Fatima



COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

As part of the Group's repositioning of the Policy Commissions in 2019, three (3) stand-alone platforms were created for marginalised groups, including the Micro Small Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Gender-related issues and Youth. These platforms allow these groups to come together as communities of practice to champion and promote advocacy based on their thematic focus areas.

Community of Practice (CoP) on MSMEs

The Community of Practice on Micro and Small Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) is a Working Group of Public, Private and Development Sector players committed to developing Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Nigeria. The Community of Practice on MSMEs hosted a Pre-Summit event on Key Drivers for Economic Prosperity: A Critical Look at Entrepreneurship Policies on August 25, 2022.

Community of Practice on Youth

The Community of practice (CoP) on youth was inaugurated at the close out ceremony of the NESG Bridge Fellowship Programme on the 15th of November 2022. The CoP exists as a platform housed within the NESG that actively brings together young people passionate about shaping the future of our nation. The Nation and Africa at large are facing enormous challenges that require young people's ability to provide youth-led solutions. The CoP will therefore bring together youths from diverse backgrounds, expertise, education, income, heritage and identity united by a drive to influence change at the national and sub-national levels.

Policy Documents Drafted across Policy Commissions and Communities of Practice- 23

Total Number of Public-Private Dialogues hosted across the NESG's various PPD Platforms - 33

Total number of Stakeholders in attendance at Public-Private Dialogues in 2022 - 4,840

Government MDAs, Development Partners, and Private Sector Organisations engaged in the year by the NESG's Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) Platforms include:

- Federal Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy (FMCDE)
- Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (FMITI)
- Federal Ministry of Information and Culture
- Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH)
- Federal Ministry of Water Resources
- Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD)
- Federal Ministry of Justice (FMJ)
- Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning
- Nigerian Office of Trade Negotiation (NOTN)
- National Population Commission (NPC)
- National Food Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC)
- Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON)
- The National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD)
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)
- Ford Foundation
- World Bank Group
- International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
- UN Global Compact Network Nigeria (UNGCNN)
- African Climate Foundation
- Kenya Private Sector Alliance
- Federation of Egyptian Industries
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- National Business Initiative
- Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation (AIG)
- Anadach Consulting Limited
- Stop TB Partnership Nigeria
- Zedcrest Group
- Chatham House
- Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Committee of the Nigerian Bar Association Section on Business Law



INTERVENER

As an intervener, the NESG drives Policy Change through Interventions, Monitoring, Influential Evaluation and Reporting. Through its various interventions, the NESG seeks to:

- Expand technical assistance for supporting reform implementation
- Drive change by dedicating research or human resources to drive policy changes
- Set up joint working groups with the public sector
- Support capacity development to empower public and private sector institutions to implement policy reform recommendations.

The Policy Innovation Centre

The PIC in Nigeria is the first national-level body of its kind to apply behavioural insights and other innovative policy tools in Africa. The PIC is a dedicated not-for-profit initiative within the NESG with the mandate to implement innovative policy tools, including behavioural insights, to improve policies and programmes in Nigeria. It applies behavioural and social sciences lessons, including testing interventions to find evidence to inform better policies and decision-making. The PIC was involved in many conversations with potential donors and collaborators across sectors.



a) MacArthur Foundation: The PIC directly implemented the MacArthur Foundation project titled “harnessing behavioural insights for improving accountability and transparency” for public and private sector players.

- A co-creation behavioural insights intervention workshop on electoral participation was held on March 29, 2022, with 39 stakeholders in attendance.
- As a follow-up to two design workshops held in 2021, a four-phased course on behavioural insights for transparency and accountability was implemented for MDAs, civil society, community-based, and faith-based organisations from June 21-24, 2022, in Abuja. Forty-five (45) participants from 35 organisations completed this four-day in-person course, of which six were from government agencies/ministries.
- Also, an in-person needs assessment workshop was carried out with private sector players on July 15, 2022, in Lagos to deepen understanding of ways to support the sector in leveraging behavioural insights for accountability.
- Through this project, the PIC supports Behavioural Insights-led transparency, accountability and anti-corruption initiatives in Nigeria.

b) ARC-P: As part of the Bill and Melinda Gate Foundations Grant deliverables, the PIC has assessed the context and behavioural drivers of learning poverty and outcomes for “At-Risk (in-and out-of-school) children” in Nigeria. So far, through secondary data analysis, information on the critical data sources that

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b) ARC-P: As part of the Bill and Melinda Gate Foundations Grant deliverables, the PIC has assessed the context and behavioural drivers of learning poverty and outcomes for “At-Risk (in-and out-of-school) children” in Nigeria. So far, through secondary data analysis, information on the critical data sources that define risk, describe risk factors, vulnerability, and linkages to learning poverty have been obtained. Both qualitative and quantitative data collection was completed in Abuja, Anambra, Edo, Ekiti, Gombe, and Sokoto, which was done from May 19 to June 31, 2022. Across the six states, two thousand five hundred and forty-eight (2,548) quantitative data were collected on children enrolled in primary school, one thousand three hundred and forty-two (1,342) on children not enrolled in primary school, and two hundred and forty (240) on primary school leadership. A total of one hundred and seventy-two (172) qualitative interviews were also conducted. Data analysis has been completed, and the study summary has been made available to the public.

c) Ford Foundation Funded Research: To consolidate preliminary findings from the Solid Minerals Sector Diagnostics Reports, the PIC carried out a gender analysis of the mining sector. The result of the analysis was disseminated at the stakeholder’s validation meeting on June 7 in Abuja.

d) FCDO: The PIC is implementing the FCDO grant, which consists of two projects:

- Private-public dialogue for inclusive digital transformation:
- Objective: This project aims to strengthen the capacity of key players in the digital/tech space and develop an implementable roadmap that can be nested in the National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy 2020-2030.
- Activities: A co-creation workshop in 2 phases was conducted. The first phase aimed to investigate ongoing efforts towards sustainable digital transformation across the Nigerian public sector, map out the duplicities with clear actions to eliminate them and identify policy gaps related to digital inclusion and transformation.

The goal of the second phase was to co-create recommendations that would drive inclusive and sustainable digital transformation in Nigeria.

- Inclusive digital transformation at the state level:
- Objective: This project aims to support the continuous growth of an enabling regulatory condition for inclusive digital transformation in implementing states while aligning with the digital transformation principle of the Mutual Agreement Framework (MAF). These states are Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Lagos and Edo.
- Activity: Implementation has commenced in the five (5) states. A comprehensive stakeholder directory has been developed as an output from the stakeholder mapping activity conducted in all the implementing states. All the relevant stakeholders have been engaged, and need assessment and policy analysis are ongoing. The findings from these activities will be used to develop a state-specific intervention projected to commence in January 2023.

Gender Summit: The Policy and Innovation Centre hosted a Gender & Inclusion Summit (GS-22) on November 16, 2022, with the theme “Connecting the Dots for a Gender Inclusive Society”. The Gender & Inclusion Summit 2022 provided a platform to explore transformative ways to achieve gender equality and accelerate the actualisation of the SDGs and positive outcomes for men and women. The summit convened public, private, and development sector practitioners to co-create actionable strategies for addressing gaps in gender-responsive governance and programming in Nigeria. The full report of the Summit (Purple Book) will be published and made available to stakeholders.

NESG Bridge Fellowship

The NESG Bridge Fellowship Programme, in collaboration with LEAP Africa, is a 15-month programme with mid-level professionals between the ages of 25 to 35 years who have demonstrated interest in research, public policy, community development, social work, business and/or social entrepreneurship. These professionals are drawn from academia and the private and public sectors through a stringent selection process. At the end of the fellowship, the fellows become Alumni members, serve as members of the NESG Community of Practice on Youth to champion reforms in various thematic areas, and volunteer in Policy Commissions and Roundtables as technical anchors.

Since its inception in 2020, the programme has had two (2) cohorts of Fellows: The first cohort, known as the Bridge Set I (2020/2021 set), had 22 fellows, and the second cohort, the Bridge Set II (2021/2022 set) had 32 fellows. As such, 54 young leaders have been trained with hands-on, pragmatic experience in reform craft, policy formulation and development, as it affects the Nigerian economy. The pioneer Bridge Fellows who served as Technical Assistants to Thematic Working Groups on the Medium-Term National Development Plan (2021-2025) rounded up their Capstone Projects in March 2022. Bridge Set II rounded up training at the NESG Academy in collaboration with LEAP Africa in June 2022 and was assigned to work with Policy Commissions and Roundtables to champion the reform of the Nigerian economy. The Bridge Fellows were also assigned to various subcommittees of the Summit (NES#28).

The two cohorts of the fellowship (Set I and Set II) had their closeout ceremony on Tuesday, 15th November 2022, which doubled as the inauguration of the NESG's Community of Practice on Youth, the brainchild of the Bridge Fellowship Alumni.





WATCHDOG

In its role as a Watchdog, the NESG drives policy change through Research and Evidence-Based Engagement.

RESEARCH DIVISION

The NESG Research and Development Department collates and analyses social and economic data on the Nigerian economy to generate objective and credible reports to support evidence-based policy advocacy. Outputs of the NESG research are used to champion policymaking and review by influencing economic and social policies toward sustainable growth and development of a modern, globally competitive Nigerian economy. The Thematic areas of our research publications include

- Economic competitiveness
- Foreign aid and investment
- Inclusive growth, equitable and informal sector
- Infrastructure, energy and power
- Institutions and growth
- Private sector and business environment
- Regional integration and trade

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|--|---|-----------|
| Economic Alerts | - | 12 |
| Mini-Macroeconomic Reports | - | 3 |
| Collaborative Research Projects | - | 3 |

• Internal Research Engagements in 2022

a) Macroeconomic Outlook: The research department launched the 2022 Macroeconomic Outlook with the theme “The Last Mile: Reforms towards Significant Improvement in National Economic Outcomes” on the 25th of January, 2022.

b) MacArthur’s Behaviour Theory of Change: The Research department and PIC collaborated with the MacArthur Foundation to apply behavioural insights in promoting transparency, which is still ongoing.

c) Reports: The Research and Development department published a total of nineteen (19) research reports which included 4 Alerts on GDP, 4 on Trade, 1 on Multidimensional poverty, and 3 on Capital importation; 3 mini-reports on foreign exchange reforms, critical sectoral reforms in the last mile, and Oil & Gas deregulation & fuel subsidy reforms; 2 occasional papers on implications of the Russia-Ukraine war: risks and opportunities for Nigeria and Nigeria’s dwindling revenue and reserves in the face of rising oil prices. Other publications released in the year include 1 State of the Economy Report - with the theme “not too

late to turn the curve” - and 1 Business Intelligence Report titled “Nigeria’s Economic Uncertainties: Coping Guidelines for Business Survival”. Also, the department has concluded the collaboration with the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) on debt sustainability in Africa. The partnership closed with the publication of a significant report and five (5) policy briefs.

d) Journal Publication: The Research and Development department placed a call for submission of articles for the first edition of the 2022 Economic and Policy Review (EPR) journal with the theme “Policies and Reforms for Economic Development in Nigeria”. The call for articles closed on April 25, and the journal was published by the end of June 2022 after a thorough review process. The second edition of the 2022 EPR Journal with the theme “Building Resilience for Shared Prosperity in Nigeria” will be published on Wednesday, December 08, 2022.

e) Collaborative Research:

a. International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Funded Research: In July 2022, the Nigerian National Advisory Board (NAB) and the NESG began collaborative research on “Investing for Impact in Nigeria: A Deep Dive into Agriculture, Education and Health sectors”, which is to run for fifteen (15 months). The research project included stakeholder engagement and a policy forum with policymakers.

b. African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Collaboration:

i. The AERC approved the two (2) technical proposals presented by the NESG concerning the project on COVID-19 and Human Capital Development. The two (2) projects were “Health Financing and Human Capital Development in Nigeria: A Multilevel Analysis” and “FDI and Human Capital Development in Nigeria: A Firm-level Analysis in the Manufacturing and ICT sectors”.

ii. In March 2022, the NESG, in collaboration with AERC, organised a “Research Dissemination Workshop” for its research project on “Sectoral Development: Assessing the Conditions that Drive Youth Employment in Key Sectors of the Nigerian Economy” in Abuja.

iii. In June 2022, the NESG, in collaboration with AERC, hosted a dissemination workshop with the theme “Gender Differentials in Access to Medical Services during COVID-19 Lockdown: Insights from Nigeria”.

c. World Economic Forum: The Research and Development Department signed a partnership agreement with the World Economic Forum in Q1-2022 to administer the Executive Opinion Survey for the 2022 edition of the Global Competitiveness Index. The survey presented an invaluable and unique source of high-quality perceptions data providing globally comparable proxies for critical aspects of socio-economic development. The insight from the survey was useful for the Global Competitiveness Report to be launched in 2023.

d. Ford Foundation Funded Research: The Research and Development department conducted a scenario analysis to explore the country's fiscal and policy governance options for the solid mineral sector's potential to become a money-spinner for Nigeria. The analysis was to consolidate preliminary findings from the Solid Minerals Sector Diagnostics Reports. In Q2 2022, consultation with industry experts and advocacy with key stakeholders was held in Abuja.

Non-Residential Fellowship Programme

The Non-Residential Fellowship Programme (NRFP) is a merit-based fellowship that brings together outstanding and high-level intellectuals in academia, research-based institutions, and the public and private sectors to collaborate, share ideas, produce research outputs and ensure that findings from its research are applied in practice. Following a competitive application process with hundreds of applicants, 18 impressive Senior Fellows were selected to be supported by a faculty of 5 subject matter experts. Over the 2-year course of the Programme, the Non-resident Fellows will make notable contributions towards sustainable economic development in Nigeria.

The NRFP has six clusters: The Macroeconomy cluster, Trade cluster, SDGs and Human Capital Development cluster, the Digital Economy cluster, Sectoral Deepening-Agriculture and the Governance Institutions Security & Corruption (GISC) cluster. After submitting and approving the concept notes for the proposed research project in January 2022, each fellowship cluster commenced research. The Senior Fellows also contributed to the H1 2022 NESG Economic Policy Review (EPR).

In the second and third quarters of 2022, fellowship clusters submitted their draft research reports. Policy dialogues were also organised (between July and September 2022), which consisted of a panel discussion with perspectives from experts in different research areas.

Policy Dialogues Hosted by the Non-Residential Fellowship Programme (NRFP)

In the period under review, the NRFP organised policy dialogues between July and September 2022. These include:

- Fuel Subsidy Reforms in Nigeria: Macroeconomic Implications and Policy Options held on 14th July 2022.
- Central Bank Digital Currencies in Africa: Implications for Financial Inclusion and Intra-African Trade held on 2nd August 2022.
- Regulating Energy Transition in Nigeria: Articulating, A Development Policy Approach, held on 18th August 2022.
- COVID-19 Pandemic, Digitalisation and Agri-Food Exports in Nigeria held on August 30th 2022.
- Strengthening Nigeria's Digital Economy: Catalyzing Market Innovation via an Enabling Venture Capital Ecosystem held on 8th September 2022.



CONNECTOR

NESG RADIO

The NESG Radio is a weekly syndicated podcast that keeps Nigerians informed through curated localised content on economic policies and issues across sectors of the Nigerian economy. The NESG podcast helps to effectively communicate the activities of the Group to a younger audience and extend research-based advocacy in a distillable localised format to all Nigerians. The radio had guests from the private sector, public sector, civil societies, and donor communities speak on issues of national interest. In 2022, NESG Radio recorded 30 episodes, with several episodes translated into local languages for the mass audience. To listen, please visit <https://nesgroup.org/podcast>.

30 Episodes recorded on the NESG Radio

ABOUT NESG

The NESG is an independent, non-partisan, non-sectarian organization, committed to fostering open and continuous dialogue on Nigeria's economic development. The NESG strives to forge a mutual understanding between leaders of thought so as to explore, discover and support initiatives directed at improving Nigeria's economic policies, institutions, and management.

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