

# ACCESS IMPROVEMENT TO BASIC SERVICE DELIVERY THROUGH VOICE FOR THE MOST MARGINALISED GROUPS IN ANAMBRA AND KADUNA STATES, NIGERIA

Institute for Development Studies (IDS)  
University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus (UNEC)



# Outline

- **Background**
- **Research Objectives and Questions**
- **Literature Review**
- **Sampling**
- **Methods**
- **Audience and Use of Findings**
- **Challenges**
- **Research Ethics**

# Snapshot at Nigeria's Target Groups

- Nigeria has the highest population in Africa (over 200 million people in 2020 and projected to about 400 million in 2050).
- About 23 percent of the population are adolescents depicting a young population, high fertility rate and dependency with huge implications for the labour force .
- About 15 percent of Nigeria's population or at least 25 million people have one form of disability
- Disabled persons in Nigeria suffers from lack to access to basic facilities including healthcare; education; Water; and Agricultural inputs. These people face several human right abuses including discrimination, stigma and violence.
- Rural women in Nigeria especially those living in hard-to-reach areas now have poverty as their second names according to a feminist report

# ECID Project Background

- The ECID project focuses on increasing access to essential services for marginalised people in Nigeria.
- The project seeks to understand the complexities of how systems exclude people and ways in which data can be used to inform better decision making.
- In Nigeria the ECID project specifically seeks to improve the wellbeing of three groups that have been identified as the most marginalized:
  - a) Adolescents (boys and girls between the age of 13 and 19),
  - b) People living with disability
  - c) Poor rural women (19 and above living in hard-to-reach communities).

# ECID Project Background

- ECID targets these groups in Anambra and Kaduna as the focal states for its intervention
- Eight Local Government Areas (LGAs) have been participatorily selected as the focal Local Governments.
- They include: Awka North, Anambra West, Ayamelum and Ogbaru LGAs (for Anambra), and Jaba, Kauru, Kubau and Makarfi LGAs (for Kaduna).
- These focal LGAs were chosen based on the situational analysis of exclusion of the focal groups.
- The summary findings from the perception survey shows that 33.5% of the respondents consider that they have social, political, and economic power, to help them meet their basic needs if empowered.

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# Research Questions

- The main research Question is:
- What process(es) should be taken to ensure the generation and use of data to inform effective engagement and participation of most marginalised groups [adolescent boys and girls (13-19), PWDs and rural women (19 and above in hard-to-reach communities)] in decision making with regards to access to public services (education, healthcare, agriculture and WASH services)?
- Sub research questions include:
  - a. What is needed in building a reliable **database with relevant indicators** around the most marginalised groups [adolescent boys and girls (13-19), PWDs and rural women (19 and above in hard-to-reach communities)] that is acceptable and be utilised by both government and non-government Stakeholders in Anambra and Kaduna states- Nigeria?

# Research Questions

- a. What are the major issues inhibiting Government alertness to the needs of the marginalised groups [adolescent boys and girls (13-19), PWDs and rural women (19 and above in hard-to-reach communities)] in Anambra and Kaduna states- Nigeria?
- b. How can data be used by the marginalized groups [adolescent boys and girls (13-19), PWDs and rural women (19 and above in hard-to-reach communities)] and other Stakeholders in decision making that results to better access to public services (education, healthcare, agriculture and WASH services) in Anambra and Kaduna states- Nigeria?



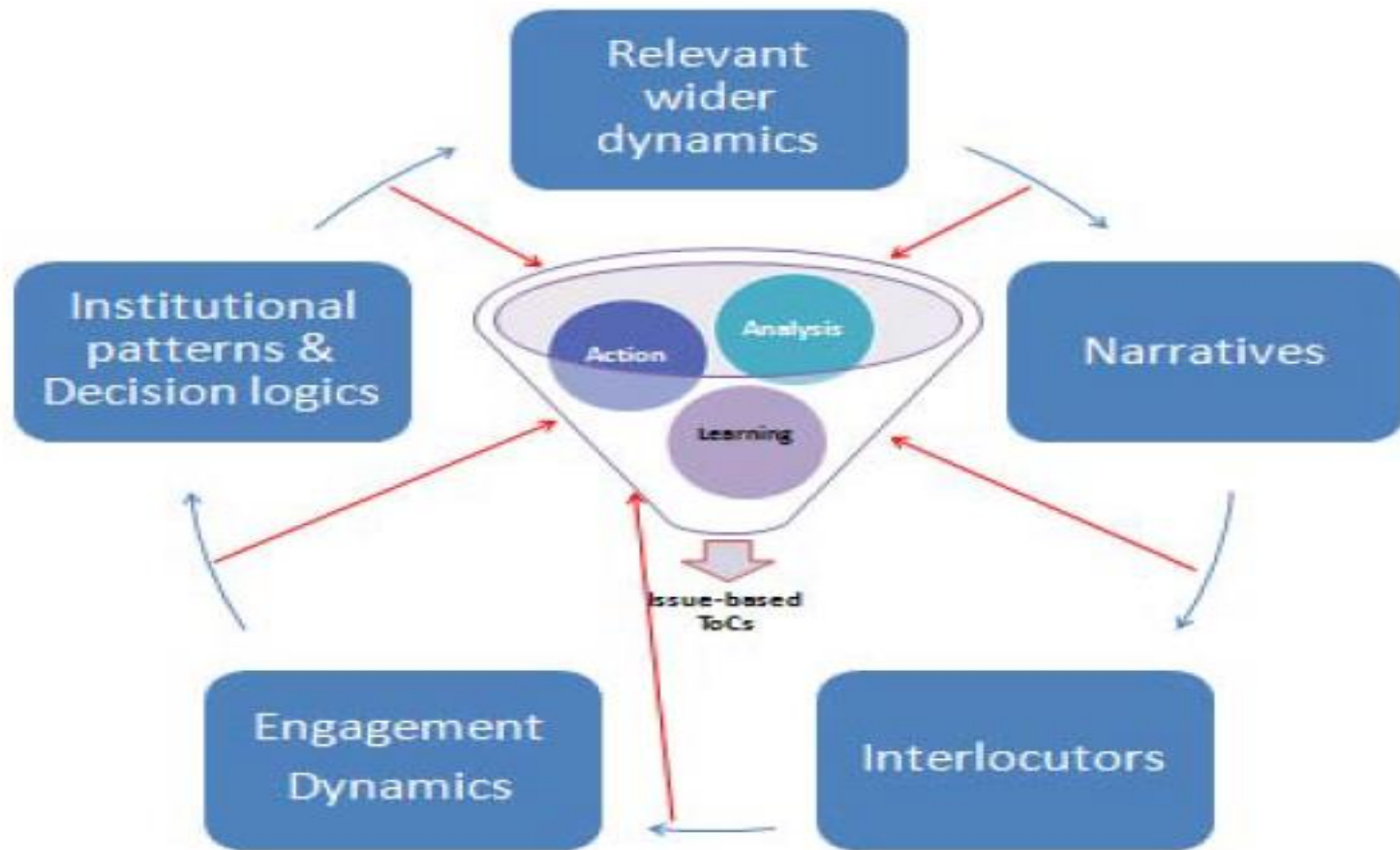
# Some contextual definitions

- **ECID Most marginalised groups in Nigeria** – This includes adolescent boys and girls (13-19); People with Disabilities (PWDs): and rural women (19 and above in hard-to-reach communities)
- **Public Services** – The study will focus on basic services being addressed by ECID in Nigeria and they include: services in Education; healthcare; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH); as well as Agriculture.
- **Relevant indicators** – These are local indicators relating to the welfare of most marginalised including: adolescent boys and girls (13-19); People with Disabilities (PWDs): and rural women (19 and above in hard-to-reach communities)
- **Reliable Database** – This database is expected to be built and used by all Stakeholders both government and non-government actors. The government institutions as well as non-government actors including Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) working in ECID will be part of building and usage of the database. The database will be housed by government but owned by all stakeholders in terms of usage.

# Conceptual/Theoretical Framework

- Literature on exclusion (social, economic, religious, and ethnic), why exclusion and factors responsible for exclusion of the most marginalised at the State and Local government levels
- Literature on role of data existence, data reliability and access to data in amplifying the voices of the most marginalised in a society
- Literature on accountable governance – citizens as demand and governments as supply

# Conceptual/Theoretical Framework



*Framework for Developing Citizens Voice and Accountability, Fletcher Tembo, 2012,  
See <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/7557.pdf>*

# Data, Sources and Sampling

- Primary data collection using simple random and multi-stage sampling techniques
- Literature review and secondary data from baseline and other related surveys.
- Target of twenty (20) KIIs and four (4) Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) in every LGA leading to a total of 80 KIIs and 16 FGDs per State or 160 KIIs and 32 FGDs across the two focal States.
- All the ECID target groups in Nigeria i.e., marginalized groups [adolescent boys and girls (13-19), PWDs and rural women (19 and above in hard-to-reach communities) from the four focal Local Governments across the two focal States.

# Challenges

- Absence of a dedicated data platform for the project which all stakeholders (the government, CSOs and private sector) needs to build together and make use of.
- Government's restrictions on making data available to the public. This could pose a threat to our research work because we will rely on the availability of these data for our research evidence
- Government viewing development partners as opposition groups rather than as development partners remains widespread in Nigeria, and this usually limits the level of cooperation enjoyed when engaging government on data.
- Cultural and religious beliefs which differ across the focal States which might not allow same theoretical underpinning to be applied across both.
- Some stakeholders not having enough conviction that they can be change agents due to long time of misrule and neglect.

# Ethics

- Breaches in ethics that *MUST* be avoided include
  - misconduct such as plagiarism,
  - falsification of data,
  - abuse of confidentiality,
  - suppressing or distorting contradictory data,
  - deceptive publication attribution, and gross negligence;
  - violation of research regulations;
  - undisclosed conflicts of interest; misuse,
  - misappropriation,
  - misapplication, or misrepresentation of research funds (irrespective of source); and
  - failure to report observed misconduct.

# Ethics

- This research is set to ensure that proper consideration is given to rights of individuals, the risk involved, that informed consent is obtained from subjects and confidentiality in the use of any information obtained from them as well as the “do no harm” assurance prior to conducting the protocol while ensuring that anticipated benefits and the importance of knowledge accruing are explained to the subjects.
- In the case of adolescents, the study envisages having Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) at their various schools or learning centres. School principals, head teachers and head of learning centres will be briefed of the importance and the nature of the questions.
- Consents from the school principals, head teachers, head of learning centres and parents must be sought for before any interview or discussions.
- Training and proper supervision of field officers will be given a high priority
- Research instruments such as questionnaires and FGD checklist shall be sent to the Research Office of the University for review and approval.

# Thank You