

DATA MATRIX: NIGERIA

The data matrix summarizes The data matrix summarizes the expressed needs of the various stakeholders in the Nigerian oil, gas, and mining sector and their associated recommendations. Our research in Nigeria confirms the feasibility and the need to implement an Open Data Portal for mining and also the oil and gas sector that will:

- ① Support the current Freedom of Information Law
- ② Reduce the fragmentation of extractive industry (EI) data by focusing on interoperability with existing systems
- ③ Complement NEITI's audit system and publish data on the impact of EI on the environment, gender, education, health, and the local economy
- ④ Translate the most complex concepts into easily-understood information through visual and analytical tools designed to enhance citizen participation and promote accountability

All Stakeholders

EXPRESSED CHALLENGES

Difficulty in making EI data approachable and relevant to ordinary citizens

Lack of a clear mandate encouraging formal data sharing and exchange among government agencies across sectors, not only in the oil, gas, and mining sector

RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS

Increase state-level engagement with EI data – connect revenue flows to state budgets to help citizens conceptualize how revenue flows (or the lack thereof) impact the success or failure of initiatives in their communities

Continue supporting the development of a more engaged media (print, web-based, radio, tv) – address the critical need for the proliferation of media resources that make EI data accessible/digestible to non-technical audiences

Support the creation of a national open data policy – Facilitate data exchange across government agencies and clarification of what kinds of data should be shared and in what formats

NEITI

EXPRESSED CHALLENGES

Limited engagement from wider audience with the contents of the annual audit reports

Long delays are experienced in data validation, audit, and reconciliation processes, as documents are sent via emails to all relevant entities. These delays impact publication of annual EITI reports

RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS

Invest in the routine creation of data visualizations as part of the annual audit report – even if data becomes increasingly available, and available in real-time, its impact will remain limited if intended audiences are unable to grapple meaningfully with the data

(Ongoing) Implement an open-source, web-based system designed to make data collection more timely, and useful for both data producers and data users

CSOs

EXPRESSED CHALLENGES

Lack of engagement with EI data from youth demographic, which limits ability of the next generation to carry forward ongoing transparency and accountability initiatives

RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS

Consider engagement with National Youth Service Corps and community development groups (CDs) to help improve EI data use among youth

Government

EXPRESSED CHALLENGES

Lack of timely access to EI data, even with Freedom of Information (FOI) law in place

Lack of a clear mandate around disclosure and sharing of EI data across government agencies

Limited investment in the mining sector, contributes to a culture heavily reliant on paper-based reporting, which negatively impacts the availability of timely data in machine readable formats

Limited data on value add (and value lost) in the local processing of minerals

Fragmentation of data systems across government agencies

RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS

Clarify the scope and implementation of the FOI Law – it is essential that the FOI law and/or any additional laws and policies address the role Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and other parastatals play in information disclosure for the sector

Invest in the systematic rollout of FOI portals in government agencies – rollout thus far has been piecemeal, and investing in a systematic rollout of FOI portals could be a more concrete way to operationalize some of the core obligations laid out in the FOI Law

Increase inter-agency connectivity – agencies could benefit from exploring technical (e.g. web-based) and analog (e.g. shared Excel sheets) tools that would enable more efficient sharing of critical information between agencies. This recommendation is provided with an asterisk, acknowledging that political will is essential for inter-agency cooperation

Reinvigorate efforts to formalize the artisanal mining sector – concerted investment can have a direct economic impact on some of the poorest citizens in the country as well better support their safety by using cooperatives to disseminate health and safety best practices

Develop detailed policy for investment in local mineral processing that includes data collection to track improvements to the sector – there is potential for a national policy to build on gaps in existing law to operationalize investments in local processing

The Government should partner with well qualified IT companies to design and implement a centralized system – with an eye to encouraging system linkage across government agencies. The system should include sustained efforts to digitize records, particularly where information has previously only been available in hard copy

IT tools should be accompanied by capacity building (training) and data management plans, which will set clear roles and responsibilities for each stakeholder in terms of data collection, use, and publication

Development Partners

EXPRESSED CHALLENGES

Need for new, creative ways to engage government partners in proactive EI data disclosure

Lack of locally available information on beneficial ownership thresholds from other countries

Lack of understanding from the private sector about beneficial ownership requirements (challenges and opportunities)

Limited data visualization expertise in the public sector and among CSOs

RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS

Build strategic partnership with the Office of the Vice President, which has a team dedicated to exploring database harmonization across government agencies

Create and disseminate international best practice on beneficial ownership thresholds in other countries

Sensitize private sector actors to what beneficial ownership is and why it (should) matter in the context of international best practices – creating shareholder satisfaction, and, generating community-level good will

Support CSOs and select government agencies to develop creative ways to access data visualization expertise

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