



FISCAL YEAR
2017
ANNUAL REPORT

CODE
connecteddevelopment.org

31 Communities
17 States
523,000 Rural Lives
3,290,849 Media Reach
www.ifollowthemoney.org



ABOUT CODE

Founded in 2012, Connected Development [CODE] is a non-governmental organization [NGO] whose mission is to empower marginalized communities in Africa. We strengthen local communities by creating platforms for dialogue, enabling informed debate, and building capacities of citizens on how to hold their government accountable through Follow The Money.

CODE provides marginalized and vulnerable communities with resources to amplify their voices with independence and integrity while providing the communities with information that ushers social and economic progress. To enhance effective democratic governance and accountability, CODE creates platforms [mobile and web technologies] that close the feedback loop between citizens and the government. With global expertise and reach, we focus on community outreach, influencing policies, practices, and knowledge mobilization.

CODE's commitment to participatory capacity & community building and monitoring and evaluation creates effective and sustainable programs even within the most challenging environments.

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Bassan Plaza, Last Floor, D Wing, 10th Street, CBD,
Abuja, Nigeria
Telephone: +234 (09) 291 7545
Email: info@connecteddevelopment.org
Website: www.connecteddevelopment.org

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIRBDA - Anambra Imo River Basin Development Authority

BCDA - Border Communities Development Agency

CGS - Conditional Grants Scheme

CODE - Connected Development

EU-WSSSRP - European Union Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme

FMH - Federal Ministry of Health

FOI - Freedom of Information

FTM - Follow the Money Team

ICPC - Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission

LGA - Local Government Area

MDAs - Ministries, Department and Agencies

NDDC - Niger Delta Development Commission

NEITI - Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

NPHCDA - National Primary Healthcare Development Agency

PCR - Paris Club Refund

PHC - Primary Healthcare Centre

PPDC - Public and Private Development Centre

RUWASSA - Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency

SBMC - School Based Monitoring Committee

SDGs - State Sustainable Development Goals

SOML - Saving One Million Lives Program

SPHDA - State Primary Healthcare Development Agency

SUBEB - State Universal Basic Education Board

UBE - Universal Basic Education

UBEC - Universal Basic Education Commission

UNESCO - United Nations Economic and Social Council

PTA - Parents Teachers Association.

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**EXECUTIVE
SUMMARY**

Since 2012, Connected Development [CODE], through its Follow The Money Initiative, has been tracking and monitoring the implementation of capital funds intended for rural communities in the thematic areas of education, environment and health. Follow the Money is a network of 1000+ activists through which, we have built the capacity of rural dwellers to hold the government accountable, engaged governmental implementing agencies, improved service delivery, organized platforms for the citizens to engage with the government through town hall meetings, ensured open government, carried out budget advocacy and analysis, and created far-reaching awareness about public financial governance using the new and old media.

2017 has been a great year, we clocked 5 and won the ONE Africa 2016 Award which recognizes, rewards, and advances the exceptional work of Africa-based organisations; dedicated to helping the continent achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The Award was presented by Bono, the lead singer of the Irish group-U2, and co-founder of ONE Campaign, during the Mo Ibrahim Foundation Governance Forum, that was held on Saturday, April 8, 2017 in Marrakech, Morocco.

Also in the year, we commissioned Follow The Money Radio Programme in Abuja and Kaduna. This was to share and sustain our activities in rural communities, create awareness about funds going into such communities and publicise how citizens are holding the government to account. Follow The Money Radio Abuja was on Wazobia FM 99.5 FM, by 09:30 GMT + 1 on Wednesdays. The Kaduna version was on Liberty Radio (91.7), by 10 am, on Tuesdays (bi-weekly).

We were at Maiduguri, Borno State for the Mapping North East 4 Good Event. The event held from 17 - 18 May, and was in partnership with Exit Lanes. During the event, we built the capacity of our volunteers and many young people in the region on how they can use financial data to facilitate the reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts in the North East. In addition, the year featured a considerable number of information sharing partnerships. Notable amongst them were the collaboration with the Independent Corrupt Practices and other related Offenses Commission (ICPC), Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI), Kaduna State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency, Borno State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation agency, Kaduna State Universal Basic Education Board, Cross River State Primary Healthcare Development Agency, Saving One Million Lives Program Department of the Federal Ministry of Health, Projects Monitoring and Documentation Department of Niger State Governor's Office, several media partners, amongst others.

In furtherance, we were able to flag off Follow The Money State Chapters across Delta, Kano, Benue, Yobe, Adamawa, Plateau and Borno States to decentralize our operations and be more effective in our social mobilization obligation. This report presents our campaigns across 31 rural communities (population estimate of 523,000) within the year in Plateau, Kebbi, Benue, Kwara, Adamawa, Kaduna, Delta, Imo, Edo, Abia, Akwa Ibom, Gombe, Sokoto, Yobe, Cross River, Ondo and Kano States. Through these campaigns, we tracked an estimated amount of NGN 377 million (USD 1 million) which encompasses funds/projects earmarked/implemented by the Niger Delta Development Commission, the European Union Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme II (WSSSRP II), Border Communities Development Agency, Gombe, Benue and Cross River States 2017 Budgets, and from Delta State Government Paris Club Refund, Federal Government 2016 and 2017 Appropriations, Ondo State Conditional Grants Scheme 2014/2015, Kaduna State Universal Basic Education Board 2014 Action Plan etc.

Through these campaigns, we made several visits to these rural communities to monitor projects/collect baseline data, had correspondences with over 15 government agencies and administered online and offline activities to enhance citizens participation. Our on-line media reach was 3,290,849 of which Twitter had a share of 2,914,003 and Facebook had 376,846.

Highlights from our tracking experience include:

- *Through empowering communities for effective public oversight on these projects/funds, we were able to provide water to Garandiya and Rikadawa Communities of Kano State, as well as Dala and Afunori communities of Yobe State; and provide classrooms and other school facilities for thousands of children in Nisama, Fadan Kamatan, Taban Sani and Kufana Communities of Kaduna State, as well as Tongo in Gombe State.*
- *Projects implementation is ongoing in 3 communities, the contractor has been on site in one community, four projects are at contracting stage, while implementation has not started in the remaining 14 communities. Part of the reasons to explain this is that albeit we did not get feedback from the NPHCDA regarding why implementation had not started, the #BuildUzebu, #ConstructBirninTudu and #ErectLamba campaigns probably failed due to revenue challenges of the 2016 federal budget. These projects were directly extracted from the 2016 budget. However, the NDDC and Delta Paris Club Refund projects have not started despite the fact that the funds have been released, and the projects were extracted from the tender documents.*
- *It was herculean accessing information from most of the Government MDAs. Institutions such as NDDC, BCDA, Kano State Garun Malam and Kumbotso LGAs, NPHCDA and Delta State Government failed to provide key data as requested on project amounts, contractor details and bills of quantities.*
- *Out of the 31 communities we worked in, only 4 were duly aware of the projects or appropriations before we informed them. This showcases poor participatory budgetary processes and non involvement of the communities during needs assessment. This is undesirable on the part of the government. It also suggests weak and impecunious oversight roles of the legislature.*
- *We got 12 government responses through the campaigns.*

We are glad to mention our donors such as, **Omidyar Network, The Indigo Trust, The MacArthur Foundation**, the **Open Society Initiative for West Africa** and **ONE Campaign**, who made this year possible.

We also appreciate our partners in the sector such the **Public and Private Development Centre, BudgIT**, and **One Campaign Nigeria** etc.

Ultimately, kudos to all our community champions across the states and state chapter leads that made this year outstanding. And to you reading this, thanks for all your support.

Best Regards!

Hamzat B. Lawal
Chief Executive



**OUR 2017
CAMPAIGNS**

#BuildUzebu, Edo State

<http://www.bit.ly/BuildUzebu>

In January 2017, we kicked off the #BuildUzebu Campaign after examining the 2016 Federal Ministry of Health's Appropriation and realized that NGN 24.5 million (\$80,328) was budgeted for the Construction of Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) at Uzebu community in Oredo LGA of Edo State with the implementation agency being the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA).

"It was long overdue for the people of Uzebu to have a PHC as this has been the desire of the Ministry of Health but as at the time of the town hall meeting, we were not aware of the appropriation and have not been informed by anyone on such project."

Mrs. Iyobosa Aghaowa, Community Member.

We visited the community and found out that there was no sort of implementation of the fund. This prompted us to send out Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to the Implementing agencies, the NPHCDA and Edo State Primary Health Care Agency (SPHCDA) demanding answers to why there was no ongoing implementation. Our requests were not replied.

Subsequently, our community cluster lead in Edo, John Eromosele, co-organized a town hall meeting with the Ezomo 11 of Uzebu, with governmental stakeholders in attendance.

A major outcome was the formation of a six-man committee that will follow up on the fund/project and make sure the project is actualized and done according to specifications.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking N24.5Million for the Construction of a Primary Healthcare Center at Uzebu, Oredo Local Government Area, Edo State.

Population

120,000

Thematic Area

Health

Status

Not started

Sector

NPHCDA

Response

NPHCDA did not respond to our FOI



#ConstructBirninTudu, Kebbi State

<http://www.bit.ly/ConstructBirninTudu>

In Kebbi, we started tracking NGN 20 million (\$65,574) earmarked by the NPHCDA on the 2016 budget for the construction of a PHC at Birnin Tudu, Augie LGA. The data was gotten through an examination of Federal Ministry of Health's budget, which was accessed from the Budget Office portal. Our aim was to ensure that the PHC is built for the rural community members in order to provide adequate healthcare services to them.

A site was given to the government for the construction of a PHC since 2014 and it has been abandoned, while in June 2016 people from the State Primary Healthcare Development Agency visited the site. We are yet to hear from them and also not aware of the 20 million Naira appropriated for construction of a new one.

Alh. Muhammed Sani Gandu, Village Head.

Our community cluster in Kebbi, led by Kabiru Garba visited the community (Birnin Tudu) and found out that there was an already abandoned PHC facility construction that was appropriated on the 2014 budget.

Hence no new construction was taking place. This prompted us to send out FOI requests to the implementing agencies, NPHCDA and the Kebbi SPHCDA to know the status of the project. None of them got back.

Our findings during the town hall meeting showed that no one from NPHCDA or even a contractor has come to the community since June 2016 till date.

To that effect, a committee with the mandate to meet with relevant stakeholders on the project from the state up to the national office of the NPHCDA was set up.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking N20 Million for the Construction of Primary health Care Center at Birnin Tudu of Augie Local Government Area, Kebbi State

Population

80,000

Thematic Area

Health

Status

Not started

Sector

NPHCDA

Response

NPHCDA did not respond to our FOI



#ErectLamba, Plateau State

<http://www.bit.ly/ErectLamba>

A campaign in Plateau State through which we tracked NGN 14.2 million budgeted for the construction of a PHC at Lamba District of Wase LGA, Plateau State with the implementation agency being the NPHCDA. The data was gotten through an examination of Federal Ministry of Health's 2016 budget, which was accessed from the Budget Office portal.

Thank you Follow The Money for bringing such notice all the way to the grassroots. We were not aware of the N14 million made available to the state for the construction of the PHC here. We are ready to give all necessary support.

Mr Abdulahi Adamu Community Spokesperson.

Our community cluster in Plateau, led by Preston Obadan visited the community to find out if the implementation of the project had started and to our utmost surprise, we found out that there was no ongoing construction nor a site approved for constructing the PHC.

The Hakimi of the Village also highlighted that he gave out a piece of land for the construction of a 2 bedroom quarters for staff of the only referral healthcare centre in the district which is 20 minutes away from the closest village, three years ago.

The updates prompted us to send FOI requests to the implementing agencies, NPHCDA and the Plateau SPHCDA demanding answers over the delay in the implementation of the NGN 14.2 million. They did not get back.

A town hall meeting was organized to provide a forum to address questions and the reason why the PHC facility hasn't been constructed in the community. A major outcome of the meeting was that the State Ministry of Health offered to collaborate with the community and Follow The Money to locate the whereabouts of the fund and ensure the project implementation.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking N 14.2 Million for the Construction of Primary Healthcare Center at Lamba District of Wase Local Government Area, Plateau State

Population

NA

Thematic Area

Health

Status

Not started

Sector

NPHCDA

Response

NPHCDA did not respond to our FOI



#WaterUmuduruAnyanwu, Imo State

<http://www.bit.ly/WaterUmuduruAnyanwu>

In November 2016, the FollowTheMoney Team examined the 2016 Federal Ministry of Water Resources' Appropriation which was accessed from the Budget Office portal. It was disclosed that NGN 10 million (\$30,000) was budgeted for the construction of a motorized borehole at Umuduru Anyanwu Dim Na Nume Isu, Nwangele LGA in Imo State, with the implementation agency being the Anambra Imo River Basin Development Authority (AIRBDA).

It's sad that myself, my cabinet and community members were not aware at the commencement of the project, and even the fact that it was on the 2016 budget. Regardless this, I expect Follow The Money to get hold of the contractor who diverted this project, either to his hometown or to make use of the money, to see that this job is completed in this community.

HRH Eze Nelson Obasi

Our community cluster in Imo, led by Clinton Ezeigwe embarked on an on-site visitation to Umuduru Anyanwu to know if the implementation of the NGN 10 million water project had started. It was found out that the borehole contractor arrived the community sometime in mid-December, 2016 with some representatives from AIRBDA, and a site was shown to them.

A Freedom of Information request was sent out to the implementing agency and a town hall meeting was equally held where it was confirmed that the NGN 10 million has not been released to the AIRBDA and that the contractor mobilized himself and started, and when he found out funds were not coming, he pulled off.

The representative of AIRBDA promised to prioritize the project once funds have been released to them.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking N10 million for the construction of a borehole at Umuduru Anyanwu Dim Na Nume Isu, Imo State

Population

10,000

Thematic Area

Water

Status

Not started

Sector

AIRBDA

Response

The AIRBDA never responded to our FOI request but attended the town hall meeting and made a commitment



#FurnishTongo, Gombe State

<http://www.bit.ly/FurnishTongo>

Our primary research of the 2016 Federal Ministry of Education budget, which was accessed from the Budget Office portal, allowed us to discover that 20 million Naira (\$65,574) was budgeted for the building and furnishing of 2 blocks of classrooms in Tongo 2 Primary School, Tongo, Funakaye Local Government in Gombe state.

We have little knowledge or none so what is the real issue about 20 million Naira for equipping and construction of 2 blocks of classrooms in Tongo 2 primary school in 2016 appropriation.

Education Secretary.

On 11 February 2017, our community cluster in the state, led by Alhaji Muazu were at Tongo to investigate whether the construction of the classrooms had started. It was found that while construction had not started, the school of 200 students had no toilet and source of water supply. The number of functioning classrooms were only 2.

A town hall meeting was organized where in attendance were government personnel who stated that they were not aware of the appropriation, including the representative of the Universal Basic Education Commission.

After extensive advocacy through Facebook and Twitter and local radio and the use of FOI requests to the Ministry of Education, on 26 April 2017, Tongo 2 Primary school headmaster called Muazu to inform him that work started on the site. By May 2017, the construction of the 2 school blocks which has 4 classrooms was completed.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking N20m for the Building and Furnishing of 2 Classrooms at Tongo 2 Primary School

Population

1,500

Thematic Area

Education

Status

Completed

Sector

2016 Federal Budget

Response

Government representatives came for the town hall meeting



#WaterGarandiya, Kano State

<http://www.bit.ly/WaterGarandiya>

Further desk research on the WSSSRP website revealed that Kano State was also a beneficiary-state of the European Union Fund [NGN 3 billion] for the rehabilitation and construction of water and sanitation facilities in Northern Nigeria. There is a counter funding arrangement (EU-Kano State) for implementation. Garandiya in Takai L.G.A, with a population size of 11,000 is a beneficiary community.

We commend Follow The Money for such wonderful initiative and hope this process can be sustained in building the capacity of the community members on funds tracking in our community.

Mohd Sani Bello, Garandiya Village Head.

In June, after we observed the water projects implementation had not started through a community outreach to the community, we engaged with the Kano State Ministry of Water Resources, inquiring on why implementation has not started for 3 water borehole points. We were also on the old and new media, advocating for implementation to be fast tracked. Consequently, on 8 August 2017, we learnt that implementation had started in the community.

Our community cluster in Kano then went for another outreach in the community to supervise the ongoing implementation. Many red flags were observed, first, the company implementing the project wasn't the actual firm the project was awarded to. Secondly, the community chief has imposed a levy on his subjects that they should contribute 10% of the contract amount claiming the funds will be used for maintaining the solar-powered boreholes after handing over.

This we observed stalled implementation as the chief liaised with the contractor to suspend implementation till the community pays. The Kano State Water Ministry countered this after we informed them and cautioned the Chief. Thirdly, Ministry has not been properly monitoring the implementation of the projects.

A town hall meeting was then organized to address these red flags. During the meeting, the village head and elders lamented the slow pace of the project and faulted Kano State Ministry of Water Resources for coming into his community to carry out such project without consulting the community and decried many abandoned water projects in Garandiya which are left moribund.

After the town hall meeting, we also visited one of the new water project sites where the water borehole has been completed. At the same time, the remaining 2 water project sites have not been completed.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the EU-Kano State counterpart funding [NGN 3 billion] for the rehabilitation and construction of water and sanitation facilities in Kano State

Population

11,000

Thematic Area

Water

Status

Completed/Ongoing

Sector

EU Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme II

Response

Ministry of Budget and National Planning did not reply our FOI



#RevitalizeApaOlailota, Kwara State

<http://www.bit.ly/RevitalizeApaOlailota>

Through the social media, we learnt that the Federal Ministry of Health disbursed \$1.5 million to each of the 36 states and the FCT, as part of the World Bank funded Saving One Million Lives program. As a result, we started tracking the fund in Kwara State for improving the state of PHCs in the state. Apa Ola/Illota Health Centre, a dilapidated health post, in Kwara South Local Government Area of the state was used as a point of contact.

This PHC was built in 1975 as a community self-help project with full facilities to cater for basic medical needs of their people. Regrettably, Kwara State Government took over and everything stopped working. My people especially women and children do not access to a functional PHC.

Alh. M. Olarenwaju, Baale of Ilota.

The population of the community is 3,000. Kwara State Ministry of Health, Kwara South L.G.A., State Ministry of Finance and Apa Olailota community leadership were key stakeholders identified.

In May 2017, our community reporters in the state conducted a community outreach to examine the status of the PHC and investigate if the SOML fund is being implemented in the facility/community. It was observed that implementation was not ongoing.

Working with the Baale (paramount chief) of Ilota, our community champion facilitated a town hall meeting in which government officials were invited to render accountability. Top officials of the government were in attendance including including the SSA to Kwara State Governor on Media and Local Government who promised to make sure the PHC benefits from the health grant.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking \$1.5 Million dollars for improving PHCs in Kwara State

Population

3,000

Thematic Area

Health

Status

Not Started

Sector

Saving One Million Lives Program, Federal Ministry of Health

Response

SOML PforR Department of Ministry of Health provided the SOML work plan of the Kwara State
The Chairman of Ilorin South LGA promised that the Local Government authority will try all its possible best to renovate the ApaOlailota PHC



#EducateGengle, Adamawa State

<http://www.bit.ly/Educate-Gengle>

Through intelligence gathered by our community cluster in Adamawa State, we advocated for the rehabilitation of classroom blocks at Gengle Primary School. Gengle is a rural community, located in Mayo Belwa Local Government of Adamawa State, with an estimated population of 2000 persons. The community has a collapsed primary school facility of about 200 pupils. There were no desks, the headmaster lives in a close by hut.

I attended this primary school. It was functional before government abandoned it to decay. Our children now struggle to learn here.

Mallam Usman Mohammad.

We mobilized community members, took our advocacy to the Adamawa State Ministry of Education, Universal Basic Education Board, and Mayo Belwa LGA Government for urgent action.

In May 2017, Follow The Money Cluster in Adamawa State conducted a community outreach at Gengle. They were received by an enthusiastic audience including the village head, headmaster of Gengle primary school, youth and women leaders of Gengle, as well as other residents.

After several courtesy calls, and advocacy on of-line and online media for the primary school to be fixed, we then organized a town hall meeting at the school in June 2017.

In attendance included the Executive Chairman of Adamawa State SUBEB, Alhaji Hassan Mohammed Toungo who promised Gengle people that he will do everything to make sure the school gets back on its track like those in other communities during a town hall meeting that was subsequently organized.

The community is closely following up on this promise.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Advocating for the Rehabilitation of Classroom Blocks at Gengle, Adamawa State

Population

2,000

Thematic Area

Education

Status

NA

Sector

NA

Response

Adamawa SUBEB Chair promised his Board will fix the school during the town hall meeting



#WaterOdodegho, Delta State

<http://www.bit.ly/waterodedegho>

This campaign tracked the sum of NGN 4.6 million for the Construction of Water Hydrant/Borehole at Ododegho in Ughelli North LGA, Delta State from the NGN 14.5 billion Paris Club Refund [PCR (first tranche)] of Delta State. This was after we learnt of the PCR disbursement to states from the traditional and social media. Subsequently, the project proposal for the PCR utilization in the state was gotten from the state government's portal.

We were not aware of this fund. No government personnel or contractor has ever been here for such. If not for Follow the Money, we might never have known.

Mr. Oke Samson, youth leader of Ododegho Community.

The FTM team, in a community outreach, visited the community to assess the status of implementation of the project. There was no water project construction project going on at the time of visitation. In addition to an FOI letter to obtain details about the project implementation, our team paid a courtesy visit to the Ministry of Finance and related ministries. The meetings revealed the unwillingness to share information or details on the project while showcasing contradictory information on fund release from the Ministry to the Ministry of Water Resources.

A town hall meeting was organised with all relevant stakeholders, subsequently. A representative of the Delta State Ministry of Water Resources, Engr Emmanuel Odogwu, said that he was not aware of water project appropriated for the community on the Delta PCR project proposal.

However, he promised that the Ministry would assist in rehabilitating the moribund water facilities across the community. The community members were happy to learn about the proposed water intervention in their community, confirming that water is one of their major problems.

They testified that they have been empowered with basic information on monitoring development projects in their community and vowed never to allow the water project fund slip off their grip.

We subsequently wrote to the Delta State Governor, for reasons why the water project implementation had not started. To our amazement, the Attorney-General of the State replied and stated that the FOI Act is not domesticated in the state.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking NGN 4.6 million for the Construction of Water Hydrant/Borehole at Ododegho in Ughelli North LGA, Delta State

Population

7,000

Thematic Area

Water

Status

Not Started

Sector

Delta State Paris Club Refund (first tranche)

Response

Delta State Attorney General responded and commented the FOI Act Law is not domesticated



#WaterRikadawa, Kano State

<http://www.bit.ly/waterrikadawa>

#WaterRikadawa tracked an EU-Kano State counterpart funding [NGN 3 billion] for the construction of water borehole at Rikadawa in Madobi LGA of Kano State. This was a continuation of the EU Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme II (WSSSRP II) tracking, after further data mining on the WSSSRP website revealed that Rikadawa was one of the beneficiary communities in Kano State.

During dry season our livestock used to grow lean and some die due to the lack of pasture and water.

Hajiya BIU Sanda, Women Leader of the Community.

In August 2017, an outreach was organized in Rikadawa by our chapter lead, Ali Isa and it was found out that there was no ongoing construction. According to the community, the last time EU officials were in the community was in January 2017. As a result, during the dry season, some residents have to use wheelbarrows or motorcycles to get water from neighboring villages, covering unusual distances.

In July 2017, an FOI was sent to Kano State WSSSRP requesting for project details of WSSSRP II in the state. The government responded with the details. In September 2017, a town hall meeting was held at Rikadawa on the project implementation.

Despite the heavy turnout of other stakeholders, government representatives failed to show up during the meeting. A visit was made to the site of the proposed project after the town hall meeting, led by the community leaders. After a period of consistent campaign and advocacy in favour of the project, FTM learnt that the project has commenced.

This success cannot be divorced from our persistent and coordinated engagements with the media and relevant government agencies. This project, when completed, will address water scarcity and deliver potable water to the residents.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the EU-Kano State counterpart funding [NGN 3 billion] for the rehabilitation and construction of water and sanitation facilities in Kano State

Population

11,000

Thematic Area

Water

Status

Completed/Ongoing

Sector

EU Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme II

Response

Ministry of Budget and National Planning did not reply our FOI



#WaterDala, Yobe State

<http://www.bit.ly/waterdala>

Through the campaign, we tracked EU-Yobe State counterpart funding [NGN 3 billion] for the construction of water borehole at Dala in Bade LGA of Yobe State. This was a continuation of the WSSSRP II tracking, after further research on the WSSSRP website revealed that Dala was one of the beneficiary communities in Yobe State.

The issue of water is a big problem to us, if the pumps we are using gets spoiled we have no other alternative than to go to the river and fetch water.

Community Member.

In August 2017, we led an outreach to Dala community by our chapter champions. It was found that there was no ongoing construction as regards water borehole at the site. Dala community have two sources of water for domestic use: a solar powered borehole which is damaged and abandoned, and a hand pump borehole whose water is brownish with pronounced odour.

Furthermore, in September 2017, We sent an FOI to the Ministry of Budget and National Planning on the contracting finalization and status of the project. We also requested the full particulars of the contractors for onward transmission to community leaders at Dala.

Upon the response from the government, we organised a town hall meeting with stakeholders and beneficiaries on September 17th.

During the town hall meeting, the representative of Yobe State WSSSRP II, Mr. Gazali, who doubles as the delegate of the State Ministry of Water Resources revealed that the rehabilitation and construction of water projects in the community are billed to commence in October, since the evaluation of contracts were just concluded.

Subsequently in December, we visited the community and was informed that the contractor visited the project site.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the EU-Yobe State counterpart funding [NGN 3 billion] for the rehabilitation and construction of water and sanitation facilities in Yobe State

Population

3,000

Thematic Area

Water

Status

Completed/Ongoing

Sector

EU Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme II

Response

Ministry of Budget and National Planning did not reply our FOI



#BuildMgbele, Imo State

<http://www.bit.ly/buildmgbele>

We tracked the construction of perimeter fencing, landscaping and provision of a generator set at Mgbele Health Centre, Oguta LGA, Imo State. This was part of NDDC 2017 Capital Projects which we accessed from a tender advertisement of the commission.

Our people are being deprived of health attention. We need a health centre of standard specification.

Ogbuefi Geoffrey Ozor, Former President General of Mgbele Autonomous Community.

In a community outreach organised in July 2017, FTM team was at Mgbele and investigated the activities at the PHC as regards implementation. No tangible activity was observed going on at the project site. The FTM Community Cluster in Imo State sent an FOI request to the Executive Director of Projects, NDDC, for project details and particulars of the contractor. The commission never reverted.

In October 2017, the FTM team at Abuja met with NDDC Chairman, Senator Victor Ndoma Egba to discuss the best and efficient ways information could be shared, for us to fully track the funds earmarked for Mgbele PHC. He assured us that our FOI letters will be attended to immediately as the bureaucracy in the commission affects quick response. He stated that he is excited to work with us as there is a need for citizen watchdogs in monitoring projects of the commission.

On 13 October 2017, a town hall meeting was held at Mgbele to discuss the future of the project. The Youth Leader stated that through the town hall meeting, they have been empowered and will follow up with adequate support from FTM team. It is expected that with due diligence of the stakeholders, the project will be actualized.



“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking NDDC Funding for Perimeter Fencing, Landscaping and Generator Provision at Mgbele Health Centre, Oguta LGA in Imo State

Population

5,000

Thematic Area

Health

Status

Not Started, long after bids evaluation

Sector

Niger Delta Development Commission 2017 Capital Projects

Response

The NDDC replied our FOI request asking for more time to send the requested information. They never got back. Even a meeting with its Chairman, Sen Victor Ndoma-Egba has not yielded results in terms of facilitating information access

#EducateOgbomoide, Edo State

<http://www.bit.ly/educateogbomoide>

#EducateOgbomoide tracked the construction of a block of classrooms at Ogbomoide Primary School, Ogbomoide Ekpoma, Esan West LGA in Edo State. The project which was also part of the NDDC 2017 capital projects, was extracted from a tender advertisement of the commission.

If more organizations like Connected Development exist nobody would loot Government funds.

Mrs. Ogbekhilo E.O, Teacher at Ogbomoide Primary School.

In July 2017, we embarked on an on-site assessment to the primary school. It was found that the project had not started. The FTM Community Cluster in Edo State sent an FOI request to the Executive Director of Projects, NDDC, requesting full particulars of the project. Unfortunately, the NDDC never reverted.

We proceeded with a townhall meeting to engage the community and build their capacity on monitoring projects situated in their locality.

The community promised to follow up on all the projects on the tender and also perform oversight when it starts. Government personnel billed for the town hall meeting never attended.

In October 2017, due to lack of response to the FOI letters submitted, the FTM team met with NDDC Chairman, Senator Victor Ndoma Egba to discuss opportunities for collaboration on implementation of projects.

He promised that our FOI letters will receive attention. Also he commended our efforts and the need for citizen watchdogs in monitoring projects of the commission. We hope this will facilitate access to necessary information for effective tracking of the project.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking NDDC Education Construction of Block of Classrooms at Ogbomoide Primary School, Ogbomoide Ekpoma, Esan West LGA

Population

50,000

Thematic Area

Education

Status

Not Started, long after bids evaluation

Sector

Niger Delta Development Commission 2017 Capital Projects

Response

The NDDC replied our FOI request asking for more time to send the requested information. They never got back. Even a meeting with its Chairman, Sen Victor Ndoma-Egba has not yielded results in terms of facilitating information access



#RehabilitateIkyumbul, Benue State

<http://www.bit.ly/rehabilitateikyumbul>

After our analysis of the 2017 Federal Budget, which we accessed on Budget Office portal, we commenced the tracking of NGN 3,000,000 appropriated for the rehabilitation of Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) at Ikyumbul, Gboko Local Government Area of Benue State.

The contractor has never come to the site, least carry out renovation work. The little renovation you see is done by the committee and community efforts.

Chief Simon Tyotule of Mbativ District in Mbadim Ward.

On 12 July 2017, Follow The Money team took a trip to Ikyumbul PHC for community outreach and on-the-spot assessment of the facility. The ground truthing reveals that the facility needs rehabilitation and the proposed project had not started. There were no visible sign that the project would start anytime soon.

In October 2017, we wrote FOI letters to the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency over the campaign. They never reverted. The reluctance of government officials in sharing relevant information to the public is frustrating and limiting.

When information and details are not shared, monitoring implementation is greatly hampered.

However, we went ahead with a town hall meeting with concerned stakeholders. This was to increase awareness among the targeted beneficiaries and also a way of sustaining pressure on the government to commence implementation.

The community members felt empowered with the information our team shared and expressed commitment for continuous engagement with the government especially on the funds appropriated for the rehabilitation of their PHC. FTM team promised further actions and support for the commencement of the project.

CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking N3,000,000.00 For Rehabilitation Of Primary Healthcare Centre at Ikyumbul, Gboko Local Government Area Of Benue State

Population

8,000

Thematic Area

Health

Status

Not Started

Sector

Federal Government 2017 Appropriation

Response

NPHCDA did not reply our FOI request



#RenovateJessu, Gombe State

<http://www.bit.ly/renovatejessu>

As part of the open government movement in the country and our grassroots development programme, we tracked the sum of NGN 9,858,800.49 for the renovation of a PHC in Jessu, Yamaldu/Deba Local Government Area of Gombe State, being implemented by the Office of the Gombe State Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This was after we examined the state's 2017 budget which was found on its government's website.

I will ensure that all community leaders will follow up on this project, so that we can have a good and safe primary health care centre.

Mr Jackson Durodi, Village Head.

In our community outreach at Jessu PHC in August 2017, we observed that the implementation of the proposed renovation had not started. In addition, moving around the PHC, there were no beds, medical equipment, vaccines, electricity and the facilities were dilapidated. We engaged with authorities using FOI letters and courtesy calls.

In September 2017, we held a town hall meeting at Jessu to further discuss the way forward. Government ministries, finance, health, SDGs office and local council chairman were invited. Unfortunately, none of them attended.

This is a discrepancy to the Open Government Partnership of which Nigeria is a signatory.

The community members were elated as the meeting brought hope to them in knowing that action is been taken to ensure the community gets a functional and equipped PHC.

Due to the absence of government representatives in the meeting, the community expressed dissatisfaction. In response, they made a trip to the ministries which assured them that the project will commence as soon as the contracting processes are concluded. The community committed to driving the process.

CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking NGN 9,858,800.49 for the Renovation of Jessu Primary Health-care Centre in Yamaldu/Deba Local Government Area of Gombe State

Population

2,000

Thematic Area

Health

Status

At Contracting Stage

Sector

Gombe State 2017 Budget

Response

The Office of the Gombe State SDGs who are the implementing agency met with the community members informing them the project is at contracting stage



#EducateNisama, Kaduna State

<http://www.bit.ly/EducateNisama>

Following the commencement of the Tracking UBEC/SUB-EB Spending Project in Kaduna State, we started tracking the implementation of the construction of facilities and rehabilitation of existing ones in Nisama Primary School in Jema'a LGA of the state. A sum of #38,288,052.00 million was earmarked for the reconstruction under the 2014 UBEC Action Plan of the state.

The school lacks toilets, potable water, adequate number of seats, no electricity and lack computers" he also said "I expect that at the end of this project, toilets, electricity, computers, portable water and desk for students will be provided.

Mr Isah Galadima, Madaki of Nisama.

This we found out from the list of successful bidders of the action plan projects which Kad-SUBEB provided to us after we wrote an FOI letter. The school has a total of over 422 pupils with a community strength of over 6000 inhabitants who are predominantly farmers.

In October 2017, we undertook a community outreach to Nisama Primary school to ascertain the level of ongoing work in correlation with the bills of quantities. We engaged various stakeholders within and outside the community equipping them with critical information on the project and the need for them to continue the tracking process till the project is finished.

We noticed that construction had started on some of the block of classrooms, but work had not commenced on some facilities including the Construction of the VIP toilets.

In November 2017, the FTM team held a townhall meeting in the community. Members of the community, the contractor and government officials came together to address various red flags and get more clarity on the status of the project. The project was nearing completion in accordance to the 20 weeks timeline on the project, as finishing touches were put in place to ensure the timeline was met.

In deepening the growing culture of tracking development projects, the sense of responsibility of the community was enhanced as they vowed to follow up on other governmental projects in their community.

CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking NGN 38 Million for the Construction and Rehabilitation of Nisama Primary School

Population

6,000

Thematic Area

Education

Status

Completed

Sector

2014 UBE Action Plan, Kaduna - SUBEB

Response

Kad-SUBEB provided the list of successful bidders, project amounts, contractors list and bills of quantities



#RebuildKufana, Kaduna State

<http://www.bit.ly/RebuildKufana>

Kufana is a community in Kajuru LGA. It has a population of about 4000 people with their major occupation in farming. Kufana Primary school is part of the schools set to be rehabilitated/reconstructed through the 2014 UBEC grant in Kaduna State. The school boasts of a population of over 335 pupils.

I am happy that the FTM sensitization was starting in this community, I believe once the ongoing construction is completed, pupils will be motivated to learn and come back to school.

Victoria Iliya, Rep. Women Leader.

The total sum of N38,637,182.22 was earmarked and approved for this construction and rehabilitation work.

In October 2017, the FTM team embarked on a community outreach to Kajuru LGA for an onspot assessment of the construction and rehabilitation at the school. Apart from the fact that the community didn't know about the project, construction was at the foundation stage.

After the community engagements, the community pledged to follow up in the construction to ensure that the project was undertaken according to specifications.

The FTM engagements instigated and activated the interest of the community to join in the monitoring of the project.

The team returned back to the community in November 2017 for a town hall meeting, which brought together key stakeholders from the government, community members and various media personalities.

The contractor was charged on delivery of the projects according to specification in the bill of quantities and projects specification.

The FTM team have been engaging critically on Liberty Radio in Kaduna to reach out to people in rural communities and mobilize a mass movement towards transparency and accountability.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking NGN 38,637,182.22 for the Construction and Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities at Kufana 1 Primary School

Population

4,000

Thematic Area

Education

Status

Completed

Sector

2014 UBE Action Plan, Kaduna - SUBEB

Response

Kad-SUBEB provided the list of successful bidders, project amounts, contractors list and bills of quantities



#RevampFadanKamatan, Kaduna State

<http://www.bit.ly/RevampFadanKamatan>

Zango Kataf LGA was part of the local governments in Kaduna State that benefited from the 2014 UBE intervention in the state for the construction and rehabilitation of primary schools in the LGA. Fadan Kamatan was a beneficiary community and has a population of about 38,000 people. A total of about 35,028,096.60 million was approved for its school's projects.

Even though the construction is going on, we are very very happy with that. So we are praying that the project will finish in time so that our children will have where to study ... they are studying under the trees.

Thomas Ayuba, Head teacher, Fadan Kamatan Primary School.

In October 2017, the FTM team was at Fadan Kamatan for a community outreach to engage with the members of the community and to see the level of work done by the contractors according to the specification and bill of quantities. It was observed that the rehabilitation had started but at a very slow pace as children were taught under trees and in harsh weather conditions.

Following red flags emanating from the ongoing projects implementation, a town hall meeting was organized to address such as well as various complaints from the community outreach.

The representatives from the KADSUBEB, community leaders, SBMC chairman, head teacher as well as the media were present. The contractor failed to show up, without any reason or apologies sent.

The community having seen the effects of engaging the government committed to the Follow the Money process to ensure that developmental projects are tracked ensuring its timely completion which is to their overall benefit.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking NGN 35 Million for the Construction and Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities at Fadan Kamatan Primary School

Population

38,000

Thematic Area

Education

Status

Completed

Sector

2014 UBE Action Plan, Kaduna - SUBEB

Response

Kad-SUBEB provided the list of successful bidders, project amounts, contractors list and bills of quantities



#RefurbishTabanSani, Kaduna State

<http://www.bit.ly/RefurbishTabanSani>

Taban Sani Primary School which has a population of over 1300 pupils, located in Kudan LGA in Kaduna State was a beneficiary community in the UBEC/Kad-SUBEB educational intervention of 2014. A total of N30 million was awarded for the rehabilitation and construction of existing and new facilities at the primary school.

We had an average knowledge of the project but we do not have the BoQ of the project. The contractor has refused to share information he gets angry when we request for the bill of quantities, after insisting, he gave us just a leaflet which says little or nothing about the project.

Bello Suleiman, Head Teacher, TabanSani Primary School.

Following various engagements, in October 2017, the FTM team embarked on a community outreach to ascertain the level of being done, and to sensitize the community on their responsibilities on tracking the projects in the school.

The community didn't know about the project, this has been a common observation in most of the projects we tracked. Construction and rehabilitation had started, while pupils sat on bare floor and under trees to be taught. After various engagements the members of the community committed to following up on the project to ensure its timely completion.

At the town hall meeting, which took place in November 2017, members of the PTA, old boys association, head teacher, community leaders and other members of the larger community gathered together with government representatives and other stakeholders to discuss the completion of the project and clarify grey areas recorded so far.

The community members were happy with the level of work done, as finishing touches were being done on the various structures at the school. The campaign was aired on Liberty radio in Kaduna to mobilize more support and engage the larger populace on how to get involved in the follow the money processes as active citizens.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking NGN 30.39 Million for the Construction and Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities at Taban Sani Primary School

Population

16,000

Thematic Area

Education

Status

Completed

Sector

2014 UBE Action Plan, Kaduna - SUBEB

Response

Kad-SUBEB provided the list of successful bidders, project amounts, contractors list and bills of quantities



#Waterlyere, Ondo State

<http://www.bit.ly/Waterlyere>

As part of the 2014/2015 Ondo State Conditional Grants Scheme (CGS) State Track, the State's CGS Implementation Committee under the Intergovernmental Affairs and Multilateral Relations Department of the Governor's Office were to execute among others, the construction of school toilet with cargo textures and drilling of a borehole at Ayorinde Baptist Primary School, Iyere in Ile-Oluji/Okeigbo LGA of the state.

We lack knowledge of the project amounts for the components of the ongoing intervention. I do not know the timeline and do not have access to the bills of quantities to be able to monitor the projects and hold the contractor to account. I don't even know the contractor.

Mr. Rotimi, Headmaster.

We kicked off #Waterlyere to track the implementation of the aforementioned facilities. This we learnt after an examination of a tender advertisement of the state government. The school has a total number of population 106, with 6 government teachers and one addition teacher which was enlisted by the PTA community to assist with the running of the school.

Follow The Money Champions in Ondo State visited the community to investigate/track the project implementation where it was found that the water project construction has been ongoing for some months but only been successful at sinking the hole with other parts of the construction been on a halt since September 18, 2017.

The toilet construction had not started, as well as the school fence. The new block of classrooms construction was slow. Subsequently, we sent an FOI to the Ondo State CGS Implementation committee for the projects amounts, contractor details and bills of quantities.

They never got back. During an engagement facilitated at our town hall meeting between the community members and stakeholders, the community commented on their fear that the new projects might be abandoned as a result of a previous governmental project that was carried out in the same school which after a while, got abandoned with no trace of who the contractors or government in charge of such project was. The Ondo CGS office failed to show up in the meeting.

In addition, feed from touring the project sites after the town hall meeting suggested that the implementation is slow. An old block of classrooms was brought down for the new construction which has not started since the past 3 months. As a result, the school only has 2 classrooms, where different classes share spaces. Through the meeting, the community members agreed on a courtesy call on the CGS committee to provide and explain the specifics to the community.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the construction of school toilet with cargo textures and drilling of borehole at Ayorinde Baptist Primary School, Iyere

Population

15,000

Thematic Area

Water/Education

Status

Ongoing

Sector

Ondo CGS Committee

Response

The Ondo CGS Committee did not reply our FOI request and ignored the town hall meeting



#RehabilitateYadakwari, Kano State

<http://www.bit.ly/RehabilitateYadakwari>

Yadakwari, an agrarian community in Garun Mallam, LGA of Kano State with a population of over 16,000 people has been affected by the lack of potable drinking water as all the major mechanized boreholes are not functional. The rehabilitation of the borehole was budgeted under the 2017 budget of Guran Mallam Local Government.

About 100 people have lost their lives including children and women due to lack of clean potable water because of the contaminated water we drink from the stream, it has been confirmed medically that the water is the cause of these deaths, herbicides and insecticides used by farmers close to the stream has contaminated the only water source we currently have.

Community Leader, Yadakwari

The budget was accessed through an informal meeting between our Kano community cluster and the LGA authorities.

In November 2017, the FTM team visited the community to ascertain the level of work done and to sensitize the community on their duties and responsibility as regards the project implementation.

This engagement brought to fore how the community had no idea about the said project. The community lamented bitterly how government have consistently not carried communities along when they are projects to be done in the community.

The community leader lamented that over 100 people had died because of the contaminated water people drank as it had been medically proven that water poisoning were responsible for these deaths in just 8 months.

Following the various FOI requests sent to the Local government with both online and offline advocacies, the LGA official and contractors paid a visit to the water project site to be rehabilitated in the the community. In December 2017, FTM brought together key stakeholders with about 12 village heads, Community Chief and various members of the community including the Interim management officer of the LGA for a town hall meeting to discuss about the project and the challenges of the community.

The community again made a case of the deaths recorded as a result of the contaminated water, which is the only water source in the community.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Yadakwari, an agrarian community in Garun Mallam, LGA of Kano State with a population of over 16,000 people has been affected by the lack of potable drinking water as all the major mechanized boreholes are not functional.

Population

16,000

Thematic Area

Water

Status

Completed/Ongoing

Sector

EU Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme II

Response

Ministry of Budget and National Planning did not reply our FOI request



#WaterEtokUrukEshiet, Akwa Ibom State

<http://www.bit.ly/WaterEtokUrukEshiet>

In Akwa Ibom state which is located in the South-South geopolitical zone, and is bordered on the east by Cross River State and on the west by Rivers State and Abia State, we tracked the NDDC project of providing water borehole to Etok Uruk Eshiet, in Etim Ekpo LGA of Akwa Ibom State. This was still part of the commission's 2017 projects.

We are completely in the dark about this. Never heard of such.

Community Chief, The UkporoakpaObong.

The community members are mainly subsistence farmers with their main source of income being oil palm and oil milling. They have an estimated population of 2,000. Our community cluster in the state visited the community to investigate project implementation.

They observed that no sort of implementation had started and NDDC officials have not been to the community over the project or any other one in the past few years.

We hope to access information from NDDC on the contractors for the projects and actual project amounts through the FOI request we have sent to them while inquiring on why implementation had not started.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking water project construction at Etok Uruk Eshiet, Akwa Ibom State

Population

2,000

Thematic Area

Water

Status

Not Started, long after bids evaluation

Sector

Niger Delta Development Commission 2017 Capital Projects

Response

The NDDC replied our FOI request asking for more time to send the requested information. They never got back. Even a meeting with its Chairman, Sen Victor Ndoma-Egba has not yielded results in terms of facilitating information access



#BuildArongwa, Abia State

<http://www.bit.ly/BuildArongwa>

In October 2017, the FTM team in Abuja met with NDDC Chairman, Senator Victor Ndoma Egba to discuss the best and efficient ways information could be shared, for us to fully track the funds earmarked by the commission for projects in the states they are working in, in 2017.

For over 32 years that I have been in this community, I haven't seen any government official in our community for a primary health centre. This is new to me. I pray your organization can do something to help us so we can have a PHC.

Chief J.O Chiuwa, Former Village Head.

His assurance towards quick response to our FOI letters paved way for us to embark on another NDDC campaign.

Leveraging on our meeting with the chairman of the commission, we kicked off #BuildArongwa to track the construction of a Cottage in Arongwa, Autonomovus Community In Osiisioma, of Ngwa LGA In Abia State.

A community outreach was organized by the cluster of our FTM team in Abia state to ascertain the status of the project. Arongwa is an independent community with an estimated population of about 1500.

The community has no PHC as they had to go the neighboring village to get little medical assistance. The community claims not to be aware of the appropriation on the NDDC project.

The FTM Community Cluster in Abia State sent an FOI request to the Executive Director of Projects, NDDC, for project details and particulars of the contractor. The commission never reverted. All hands are on deck to follow through this campaign.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the Construction of Cottage In Arongwa, Autonomous Community In Osiisioma

Population

1,500

Thematic Area

Health

Status

Not Started, long after bids evaluation

Sector

Niger Delta Development Commission 2017 Capital Projects

Response

The NDDC replied our FOI request asking for more time to send the requested information. They never got back. Even a meeting with its Chairman, Sen Victor Ndoma-Egba has not yielded results in terms of facilitating information access



#ErectUchuYache, Cross River State

<http://www.bit.ly/ErectUcheYache>

In Cross River State, we tracked the construction of a Comprehensive Health Care Centre/Staff Quarters/Perimeter Fence and Procurement of Medical Equipment in Uchu Yache, Yala LGA of the state which is being implemented by Cross River State Primary Healthcare Development Agency (CRSPHCDA).

We had a Nurse but she is late, so now, I carry women in labor to Ogoja or Benue State to give birth even in the midnight on my Motorcycle...I wish the Government can quickly finish the Health center to help our suffering.

Joseph Ajah, Member of the Community.

This was after an examination of the agency's tender advertisement. Uchu Yache Community is 7 hours from the state capital and has an estimated population of 6000, who have no access to good Primary Healthcare services.

Owing to our community outreach to investigate the implementation of the projects, we observed that while implementation had started, it was at a slow pace and currently being stalled. The community is still faced with the challenges of going to Ogoja or Benue State which is about 2 hours from the community in cases of emergency.

On 20 November 2017, the team paid a courtesy visit to Dr. Betta Edu, the Director General, of CRSPHCDA to discuss about the ongoing project in Uchu Yache and also pave a way for forging a working partnership to enable and initiate a much more fluid exchange of information between us and CRSPHCDA.

She made it known that the contractor who is in charge of the project has completed the first phase of his work and is already asking for the second tranche of fund to be disbursed.

A request for the exact project amounts, contractor details and bill of quantities for the health centre project has been sent using the Freedom of Information Act.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the Construction of a Comprehensive Health-Care Centre/ Staff Quarters/Perimeter Fence and Procurement Of Medical Equipment In Uche Yache

Population

6,000

Thematic Area

Health

Status

Ongoing

Sector

CRSPHCDA

Response

We met with CRSPHCDA DG who promised to facilitate information provision as requested during the campaign



#ConstructKadadin - Sokoto State

<http://www.bit.ly/ConstructKadadin>

Sokoto State, is located in the extreme northwest of Nigeria, near to the confluence of the Sokoto River and the Rima River. In October 2017, the FTM team started tracking the construction of Kaddadin PHC in Sokoto State being implemented by the Borders Communities Development Commission (BCDA). This was part of the commission's 2017 projects as advertised on a tender.

While we await for the construction of the new PHC, there is need for immediate employment of female health workers in our existing one so they can treat our women better.

Village Head of Kaddadin Community.

Kadadin community in Buba Gada LGA has a population of about 22,000 members with farming as their means of livelihood.

Our community champions in the state led by Kabiru Garba conducted an outreach in the community where it was gathered that there is an already existing PHC which was built 10 years ago.

The PHC lacks a midwife, toilet, drugs, water and electricity.

The construction is yet begin as the community members and village head interviewed stated that they were not aware of any proposed project.

An FOI request for project details was sent out by the community cluster to meet with the agency to get first hand information on why the project hasn't begun, unfortunately, the agency never got back.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the construction of Primary Health Centre in Kadadin

Population

22,000

Thematic Area

Health

Status

At Contracting Stage

Sector

BCDA

Response

The BCDA has not replied our FOI requests



#ConstructFarawa, Kano State

<http://www.bit.ly/ConstructFarawa>

As part of our work in keeping the government accountable, we examined the Kumbotso LGA budget and found out that an appropriation was earmarked for the construction of a PHC at Farawa community. The budget was accessed through an informal meeting between our Kano community cluster and the LGA authorities.

The contractor just came to the community and started the construction without details. It is vividly clear that the contractor is only going to use about 20% of the space allocated for the construction of the Hospital.

Ahmadu Abubakar, The Community Chief Representative.

The community, with a population size of about 25,000 inhabitants lacks a functional and equipped health care facility, for better and adequate treatment. As a result, the community transports themselves to nearest healthcare center in Amino Kano teaching hospital in Kano Metropolis.

On 11 November 2017, the team organised a community outreach at Farawa to create awareness around the construction of the PHC.

It was found out that the construction had started. However, inferior materials were being used and the community was not carried along in the project implementation. We then wrote to the Kumbotso LGA for the specifics details of the project, including the project amount and bill of quantities for the construction. They have not gotten back.

Subsequently, we held a town hall meeting at the community. Through this, it was observed that the project amount is NGN 64 million.

The community frowned at the fact that what is being constructed ain't commensurate with such huge sum. A meeting has been fixed between the community and the LGA authority to get project specifics for enhanced public oversight.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the Construction of Primary Health Care Center in Farawa, Kumbotso LGA

Population

25,000

Thematic Area

Health

Status

Ongoing

Sector

Kumbotso LGA

Response

Government attended the town hall meeting



#EquipMachina, Yobe State

<http://www.bit.ly/EquipMachina>

As part of our work to track healthcare projects in marginalised community we went to Machina community in Yobe state, which has only 1 healthcare center to cater for 10,000 - 11,000 population. #EquipMachina was then birthed as a campaign, to track the construction of a PHC with solar powered borehole to be executed by the BCDA as part of its 2017 projects.

A single toilet will ease the suffering encountered by women, small children and aged people. Patients and staff easing themselves in the bush is embarrassing and it has an adverse effect on the health of the community in general.

Head of Health Centre.

On 4 October 2017, during the community outreach with Machina district head, we gathered that the health care center have no single toilet and pregnant women are usually taken to the bush close by to ease themselves.

He went further to say that in severe cases pregnant women and children are taken to other LGA like Federal Medical Center in Nguru or Birniwa Local Government of Jigawa State, also there is no electricity supply and no single borehole for the PHC.

And ultimately, the project implementation had not started.

Subsequently, we wrote an FOI for project details to BCDA and they have not reverted.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the construction of a Primary Healthcare Center with solar powered borehole in Machina, Machina Local Government

Population

11,000

Thematic Area

Health

Status

At Contracting Stage

Sector

BCDA

Response

The BCDA has not replied our FOI requests



#EducateJakusko, Yobe State

<http://www.bit.ly/EducateJakusko>

Jakusko community has a population of over 15,000 people with a record of one of the highest number of enrolled children in Yobe State, with about 3325 children in the Central Primary school alone. The BCDA was to construct a six block of classrooms with solar-powered borehole in Jakusko, still as part of their 2017 intervention.

This is something am hearing from you guys for the first time. Of the things that amazed me this year, this issue is among. As a community leader, no one contacted us or informed us about such great development to be brought to this land.

District Head, Jakusko.

In October, the FTM team were at the community to see the level of work done and to engage the community on how to track various developmental projects in their community. As typified, the community didn't have a clue about the project, not even the name of the implementing agency had been heard or known.

The community leader lamented on how children had to be sent home when it rained because of the dilapidated nature of the school, and how the buildings that still had roof didn't have seats as about 300 pupils occupied one class and sit on the bare floor.

The FTM team is still in the engagement process with the BCDA seeking for information sharing partnerships to ascertain the amount budgeted/released for this project and when project implementation would start to ensure adequate tracking and oversight by the members of the community to alleviate the educational challenges of Jakusko.



“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the construction of six blocks of classroom with solar powered borehole in Jakusko, Jakusko LGA

Population

17,000

Thematic Area

Education

Status

At Contracting Stage

Sector

BCDA

Response

The BCDA has not replied our FOI requests

#RebuildIberede, Delta State

<http://www.bit.ly/rebuildibrede>

Further examination of Delta State PCR project proposal revealed that NGN 14.4 million was appropriated for the construction of classroom blocks at Iberede Community Primary School, Ndokwa East LGA, Delta State. In August 2017, the FTM team visited the community to investigate the implementation of the project.

The community members had no knowledge about the project and were surprised upon learning about same.

In September, we sent an FOI to the Delta State Ministries of Education, Delta SUBEB, RUWASSA and Governor's Office over the implementation of the project. The government was unwilling to cooperate and refused to share details of the funds, claiming the FOIA has not been domesticated.

Later in the same month, we facilitated a town hall meeting with all relevant stakeholders on the project, *Mr. M. C. Bioseh, a representative of the government, claimed that the project/fund was part of an intervention of the State Government in 2015.*

"The value of the Contract was 34 Million Naira and 50% (17 Million Naira) was paid as mobilization fee on that same day. A second payment of N14,446,521.00 was made to the contractor on the 20 February 2017.

This is what was captured on the Paris Club Refund document". The community considered his explanation controversial and sketchy.

The effort of the community on engaging with their public officials was encouraged and strengthened, through continuous active engagement for better delivery of public projects.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking Delta State Paris Club Refund to Iberede Community Primary School in Ndokwa East LGA where NGN 14.4m was earmarked for the Construction of Classroom Blocks

Population

30,000

Thematic Area

Education

Status

Not Started

Sector

Delta State Paris Club Refund (first tranche)

Response

Delta State Attorney General responded and commented the FOI Act Law is not domesticated in his state



#Educatelkpayongo, Benue State

<http://www.bit.ly/Educatelkpayongo>

The Roman Catholic Mission Primary School Ikpayongo is a primary school located in Gwer East Local Government of Benue State. The school has a total population of 456 students studying in 9 classrooms with 6 teachers. The primary school has a student to class ratio of 50 to 1 which surpasses the UNESCO recommended 40 to 1.

Also, a ground truthing investigation by our community cluster lead in the state revealed to us that some students were seen studying without chairs and tables under deteriorated classrooms condition.

We then started advocating for the provision of a serene learning environment and furnishing of the school as part of our quarterly education campaign.

We sent advocacy letters to the major stakeholders to advocate for the rehabilitation of the school and during a townhall meeting which was held at Ikpayongo to discuss the state of the school and likely government intervention, we learnt that that the State Government intends to return all RCM schools back to their owners, and concentrate on repairing its own schools.

It is believed the school will be fixed once this is done.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Advocating for the Provision of Classrooms and Writing Materials to Children in Rural Benue State

Population

NA

Thematic Area

Education

Status

NA

Sector

NA

Response

Government attended the town hall meeting



#WaterAfunori, Yobe State

<http://www.bit.ly/WaterAfunori>

This campaign tracked European Union-Yobe State counterpart funding [NGN 3 billion] for the rehabilitation and construction of water and sanitation facilities in Yobe State. This was through the 10th European Development Fund Programme and under the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme Phase II [WSSSRP].

The data for the campaign was gotten from the WSSSRP website after a desk research.

Afunori is located in Nguru LGA, Yobe State and was a beneficiary community. Stakeholders in the campaign encompassed the Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, Federal Ministry of Water Resources, as well as the Yobe State Ministry of Water Resources, Rural Water and Sanitation Sector Agency and Afunori Community Leadership.

A community outreach was held and it was found out the project implementation had not started. This was followed up by persistent engagement with relevant governmental authorities, using FOI letters and courtesy calls.

We also engaged in continuous online and offline campaigns, calling on key stakeholders to implement the water project. Subsequently in December, we visited the community and was informed that the contractor visited the project site.

“ CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

Campaign

Tracking the EU-Yobe State counterpart funding [NGN 3 billion] for the rehabilitation and construction of water and sanitation facilities in Yobe State

Population

NA

Thematic Area

Water

Status

Completed/Ongoing

Sector

EU Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme II

Response

Ministry of Budget and National Planning did not reply our FOI



**LESSONS
LEARNT**

ACCESS TO DATA

In the year, one of the major challenges was the lack of definitive data (project amounts, contractor details and bills of quantities, or even reasons why implementation was being stalled on projects) as concerns several campaigns on projects/funds being implemented by institutions such as the NDDC, BCDA, Kano State Garun Malam and Kumbotso LGAs, Ondo CGS Committee, NPHCDA and the Delta State Government. FOI requests were sent to these institutions/bodies for projects specifics, first, the BCDA, Kano State Garun Malam and Kumbotso LGAs, Ondo CGS Committee and NPHCDA never provided feedback. Secondly, the Delta State Attorney General and Commissioner of Justice replied our 7 September FOI request in November of the year stating they cannot reply our request because the FOI law is not domesticated in the state. Thirdly, the NDDC replied our enquiry letter, asking for more days to send us the project details we requested. They have not.

This was a contrast to what we observed in Kaduna State, where immediately after the evaluation of bids was concluded for school projects under the 2014 UBE Action Plan of the state, the Kaduna SUBEB provided us with the list of successful bidders which contains the project amounts, locations, and contractors. Subsequently, the board shared the bills of quantities for the projects with which we empowered the Parents Teachers Association, School Based Management Committees, community leaders, community based organizations etc. to provide oversight over the projects implementation. In addition, the board participated in the town hall meeting we organized at the local government level on the projects where challenges to implementation were discussed and relevant stakeholders made commitments to address them.

We have also observed the open government perception variance amongst government officials from the southern to northern parts of the country. While a good number of governments in the northern part mostly share government data, their southern counterparts are repressive and suppressive to calls for transparency. While the Kaduna experience occasioned the participation of local non governmental stakeholders in the school projects implementation, ensuring service delivery, public oversight and community ownership of the projects, in Ondo State, the CGS Committee did not provide project specifics on the construction and rehabilitation works at Ayorinde Baptist Primary School at Iyere (see #Waterlyere Campaign above). They also indicated that they would not be attending the town hall meeting that was consequently organized and kept to their word. Another instance is that while the Delta State government informed us of FOI non-domestication in the state, Kaduna State became the first state in the country to sign onto the open government partnership.

The open government movement in the country is a process quite alright, at the same time, more advocacy and campaigns are needed in the southern part of the country to drive the open government narrative. In addition, the use of media will be utilitarian in putting pressure on the government release data. We have had instances such as in Kano where after discussing the state's WSSSRP II projects which were being stalled over unknown reasons, the Kano State Ministry of Water Resources commenced implementation immediately.

SECURITY

In the first quarter, we became concerned about the security of our community members who often go to high-risk rural communities. During a town hall meeting on #FurnishTongo, our community reporter was threatened by the Madaki of the community and warned to make the town hall meeting its first and the last as the leader claimed we gathered their elders for baseless information gathering.

This was due to the politicization of the town hall meeting because of the participation of many politicians which led to our community reporter being misinterpreted as a partisan fellow. It took the explanations of our community reporter and the intervention of the representative police officer to calm the situation. In the words of the police officer, "I have been living in this community among you for a very long time, I know all your personal and political differences. Please put your personal and political differences aside. From my point of view, evidences and explanation presented by the project assistant, this organization has no political motive. Their activities are strictly developmental. We should welcome them and their ideas."

Similarly, we have seen the need of inviting policemen during our town hall meetings to ensure adequate security and de-incentivize the politicization of our far reaching gatherings. This also highlights the political neutrality in our campaigns and action on social mobilization. Many public officials feel that civil society activities on open government is shrinking their space for corrupt practices by making the citizenry more active. In response, we paid courtesy calls to several security agencies especially in the North East to guarantee security during our campaigns and town hall activities.



OMIDYAR NETWORK
A WORLD OF POSITIVE RETURNS

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© Connected Development 2017

Bassan Plaza, Last Floor, D Wing, 10th Street, CBD,
Abuja, Nigeria
Telephone: +234 (09) 291 7545
Email: info@connecteddevelopment.org
Website: www.connecteddevelopment.org
[@4lowthemoney](#)
[@Connected_dev](#)