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NATIONAL SOCIAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMMES (NSIP)

# 2018

THIRD PARTY MONITORING

# REPORT



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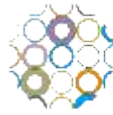


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# PREFACE

This report presents findings from third-party monitoring of the National Social Investment Programmes (N-SIP). It focuses on three of the four programmes, namely: Home-Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP), Job Creation Programme (N-Power), and the Government Enterprise Empowerment Programme (GEEP), across all the States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, FCT (excluding Ekiti State), for the period May to November 2018.

Data analysed in the report represents findings in 21 out of 36 States and the FCT where representative data was obtained. It is worth mentioning that only one Civil Society Organisation (CSO), was assigned per State. We understand that this might have an impact in the representativeness of the data and reports given the extensive, geographic nature of States and the limitation caused by logistics to cover all Local Government Areas (LGAs). For most States, CSOs attempted monitoring in 70% of LGAs in assigned States. This is in addition to limited funding for commute within the States and the initial lack of access to information on beneficiaries of the programmes.

This report is limited to data accessible to Third-Party Monitors (TPMs) at the time of monitoring. It does not reflect the total number of beneficiaries of the programmes as stated by the Federal Government of Nigeria.

Subsequent publications of this report will be updated once collation is complete in States not featured.



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# FOREWORD

It has been a great pleasure to be part of the process for the 2018 Third-Party Monitoring of the National Social Investment Programmes. This report will help steer conversations on how Nigeria should approach Social Protection with improved systems and funding so that more Nigerians can be lifted out of poverty. Over the years, there have been several attempts of social protection programmes in Nigeria to alleviate poverty and increase social safety nets coverage for the poor and vulnerable in the society. For the just concluded monitoring exercise, reports from the field have come out strongly that pupils are being fed, schools are recording new enrolment, vulnerable women and girls in the society are being empowered, more youths are being productively engaged to reduce restiveness but as an organisation, ActionAid Nigeria wants more. Nigeria keeps growing in terms of population and the poverty pool continues to widen, what should be a serious concern for the leaders of the country should be how to capture more people under the Social Protection Programme.

Of course, one of the key questions to ask is: where is the money budgeted for the Social Investment Programme? Our position in ActionAid Nigeria is that, if the entire money voted in the budget was released to the programme instead of nearly 35% approved, so many Nigerians would have been lifted out of poverty in the last few years. We believe that inadequate funding of the Social Protection Programme in Nigeria has denied the programme the maximum impact it would have made. We acknowledge the programme is led by highly technical, committed and passionate personnel. The principle of social justice which we believe in compels us to be involved in supporting processes that will lead to equal opportunities for growth and self-actualisation irrespective of sex, class, religion ethnic background and status.

ActionAid Nigeria's efforts to coordinate Civil Society Organisations in all the States and Federal Capital Territory was informed by our desire to promote people in the community to have a voice and be heard in places that matter and also facilitate their participation in the governance process. The monitoring was by no means perfect, but the process gave the people an opportunity to appreciate the government for its efforts and bring forth some of the challenges that need to be addressed.

The present report is a concise publication that envelopes the account of the implementation of Social Investment Programme from the views of the CSOs that participated. It focused on programme implementation, accounts from the communities, success stories, challenges, responses from key stakeholders and recommendations. In addition, the report presents a compendium of reports from the States so that its readers have both a general, as well as more specific insights of the monitoring exercise. ActionAid Nigeria hopes that the report will provide key stakeholders and other readers firsthand account of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of the National Social Investment Programmes. The feedback sessions held with the NSIO in the course of the implementation were greatly helpful in terms of the achievements so far recorded.

Ene Obi  
Country Director, ActionAid Nigeria



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ActionAid Nigeria (AAN) benefitted immensely from coordinating monitoring activities of independent Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) of the National Social Investment Programme (N-SIP). The exercise facilitated access to relevant information and provided a platform for citizens to make valuable contributions by encouraging constructive engagement with the Federal Government of Nigeria on ways to ensure successful and sustainable implementation of the N-SIP. All these contributed to the richness and independence of the report.

ActionAid Nigeria would like to express its deepest appreciation to all Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and the Community Based Organizations (CBOs) they partnered with to visit various communities in their working states daily to monitor and provide feedback on situations arising from implementation of the N-SIP. We acknowledge the support of our independent monitors which includes members of the Engaging Citizens' Participation in the Social Investment Programme (EnCE-SIP) Project Steering Committee and Citizens' Group Members; Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT), GEEP Advocacy Platform (GAP), Country Women's Association of Nigeria (COWAN), Small Scale Women Farmers Organisation of Nigeria (SWOFON), National Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ), Civil Society Action Coalition Education For All (CSACEFA) and National Association of Nigerian Traders (NANTS).

ActionAid Nigeria thanks His Excellency, Vice President of Nigeria, Professor Yemi Osinbajo, GCON for the cooperation of the programme under its Office, that is the National Social Investment Office (NSIO), throughout the duration of this intervention. Special thanks to the Special Adviser to the President on Social Investments- Mrs. Maryam Uwais, MFR, who granted unfettered access to information required by the CSOs in the course of carrying out their responsibilities. Many thanks also to the NSIO Monitoring and Evaluation Manager- Ms. Sola Afolayan for coordinating the free flow of information between the programmes within the National Social Investment Programme (NSIP) and the EnCE-SIP ActionAid team. Similar cooperation received from other relevant Federal Government institutions including States and Local Governments, Community Leaders, Headteachers, School Administrators and Ethnic Associations, is acknowledged.

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# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AAN	ActionAid Nigeria
ASUBEB	Abia State Universal Basic Education Board
BOI	Bank of Industry
BVN	Bank Verification Number
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CCT	Conditional Cash Transfer
CiSHAN	Civil Society for HIV and AIDS in Nigeria
CORBON	Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria
CRC	Community Re-Orientation Council
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DRTS	Directorate of Road Traffic Services
EBSUBEB	Ebonyi State Universal Basic Education Board
ECCD	Early Childhood Care Development
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
FGN	Federal Government of Nigeria
HGSFP	Home-Grown School Feeding Programme
LGA	Local Government Area
LGEA	Local Government Education Authority
NDDC	Niger Delta Development Commission
NDE	National Directorate of Employment
NOA	National Orientation Agency
NSIO	National Social Investments Office
N-SIP	National Social Investment Programmes
TESCOM	Teaching Service Commission
TPM	Third-party Monitor
PHC	Primary Health Care
PPA	Place of Primary Assignment
PRO	Public Relations Officer
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SBMC	School Board Management Committee
SUBEB	State Universal Basic Education Board
UBEB	Universal Basic Education Board
WEEO	Women Economic and Empowerment Organisation



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# N-SIP Outcomes: Summary of results

From May 01 to November 30, 2018



## 2,170,166

Lives impacted



## 1,986,010

Pupils given one nutritious meal a day through the HGSFP

(Only for 21 out of 36 States on the Programme where CSOs were only able to cover cumulatively 50% of the LGAs in each State; except Kano with 44 LGAs and less than 20% of LGAs covered. As at today, N-SIP reports daily feeding of 9,536,860 million school children, in 52,604 Schools. Likewise, 101, 913 cooks empowered ).



## 202,156

Men and women empowered with skills development, training, monthly income and micro credit loans through HGSFP, GEEP and N-Power

(As at today, N -SIP reports number of beneficiaries in the following Programmes, MarketMoni : 330,568, FarmerMoni: 1,172, TraderMoni : 1,374,192. N-Power : 500,000 existing beneficiaries; 20,000 non-graduates in training or attached to organisations as interns ).





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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2018, through the process of third-party monitoring of N-SIP, 2,170,166 beneficiaries were identified across 277 LGAs in 21 states where data collation was complete. As stated at the preface, limitations regarding coverage was as a result of restricted funds to deploy more than one CSO to each State, has had been the case. For States with wide geographical landmass like Kano, only 20% of the 44 LGAs was covered for this exercise.

Notwithstanding this shortcoming, this third-party monitoring exercise provided insights into the implementation of N-SIP, illuminating key challenges with the programme's implementation and documenting recommendations for improvement, particularly from the perspective of beneficiaries and the wider community. However, the process of third-party monitoring was plagued by challenges relating to poor access to information on beneficiaries, inadequacy of third-party monitors, and paucity of fund, among others.

It is our expectation that results reported here as obtained through third-party monitoring would assist in the review of the implementation strategies adopted for N-SIP, based on the challenges and recommendations documented for each programme in each state.

It is necessary to address the issue of inadequate funding with a view to expanding the scope of third-party monitoring for the purpose of improving the overall implementation of N-SIP and realisation of the programme's stated goals.

Pertinent also is the issue of poor awareness of the programme by the public, especially potential beneficiaries. A robust communication strategy is therefore imperative to enhance awareness about the values and successes of the N-SIP.

It has been observed that gaps exist in the utilisation of information technology in the implementation of the programme. This should be radically changed in the next phases of the programme particularly as digital technology has a way of resolving extant issues that are inherent in the manual or analogue approaches to doing things.

The Federal Government of Nigeria should, therefore, critically consider adopting the recommendations presented in this report, to improve N-SIP implementation in 2019 and beyond.



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# INTRODUCTION

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PROGRAMME COUNTRY CONTEXT  
PROGRAMME DESIGN

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## INTRODUCTION

### Programme Country Context

Nigeria operates a decentralised system of government with a three-tier structure comprising the federal, the states and the local governments. Apart from the federal authorities, power devolves to 36 states and 774 local governments. The states may further be grouped into six geopolitical zones, namely: north-central, north-east, north-west, south-east, south-west, and south-south. Differences in land mass, population size, resources, and human capital across states and local government areas contribute to significant disparities in poverty, inequality, and instability among states.

With a population of over 191 million, Nigeria accounts for approximately 18% of the population in sub-Saharan Africa. At an annual population growth rate of about 3.0%, the population of Nigeria is projected to more than double in the next twenty years. This poses serious implications for the country in which about 44% of the population, at present, lives in extreme poverty. The argument, therefore, is that economic growth is the only means through which Nigeria can mitigate the effects of rising population growth and reduce the percentage of its population living in extreme poverty. However, in Nigeria, limited economic opportunities, inequalities in income and asset distribution, socio-cultural norms and imbalanced access to basic infrastructure and services strongly foster poverty, inequality, and instability across regions in the country, thereby stifling efforts at economic growth.

A socially and culturally diverse society, Nigeria has one of the largest populations of young people in the world, and an abundance of natural resources of which oil is one. As the largest exporter of oil in Africa, the country enjoyed strong economic growth due to high oil prices between 2005 and 2014. However, in recent years, oil prices have declined, and this has had dire consequences for the country's economy due to heavy dependence on oil and neglect of other sectors such as agriculture. Unfortunately, during the years of positive economic growth, the country failed to judiciously invest in its people and their welfare, in systems and other sectors to maintain the growth, which meant the country's poverty and inequality levels were not positively impacted and, therefore, continued to rise.

Over-reliance on oil with limited growth and economic opportunities in the agriculture sector, high proportion of people working in the informal sector and high unemployment rates, particularly among young people, greatly impede efforts to reduce poverty. It is argued that, to overcome the high unemployment rates, Nigeria needs to create, at the minimum, 15 million jobs over the next 10 years to maintain current employment levels, and, at the maximum, 50 million jobs to bring unemployment levels to less than 10%.

The rate of poverty and the attainment of education are connected in Nigeria. The correlation means that households headed by individuals with little or no education experience extreme poverty, compared to

<sup>1</sup> African Development Bank; *Nigeria Electrification Project*, 2018

<sup>3</sup> African Development Bank; *Nigeria Electrification Project*, 2018

Overseas Development Institute; *Social Protection in Nigeria: Synthesis Report*; Jessica Hagen-Zanker and Rebecca Holmes; Overseas Development Institute; Abuja, 2012.

<sup>4</sup> The World Bank; *The World Bank in Nigeria: Overview*; The World Bank; <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/nigeria/overview>; 01 November 2018

Overseas Development Institute; *Social Protection in Nigeria: an overview of programmes and their effectiveness*; Rebecca Holmes and Banke Akinrimisi, with Jenny Morgan, Rhiannon Buck; Overseas Development Institute; No. 59; 2011

households headed by individuals with educational attainment. Unfortunately, and despite government efforts to reduce this disparity, over 10.5 million children are out of primary school, with girls, especially those in the northern part of the country, mostly affected. The pervasiveness of gender inequality in the country means that access to education, credit facilities, health, and access and control over land is biased against women. The result is that the poverty incidence is greater among households headed by women, particularly in rural areas.

The future is uncertain unless the government makes strategic and conscious efforts to tackle some of the issues presented. This is why the National Social Investment Programmes, a social protection initiatives, appear to be a move in the right direction.

The National Social Investment Programmes (N-SIP) over the years, the government of Nigeria has implemented various social protection interventions to combat poverty, inequality and vulnerabilities in the country. The choice of strategies adopted had been dependent on what different administrations of government considered crucial to alleviating inequalities in the country. The current social protection interventions, the National Social Investment Programmes (N-SIP), are protective and promotive programmes. They collectively aim to protect households' income and consumption, as well as enhance households' ability to engage in productive activities and increase their incomes.

N-SIP is the brain-child of President Muhammadu Buhari's administration. It aims to overcome the shortcomings in the social protection strategies of previous administrations. It, therefore, encapsulates the values and visions of the present

administration towards improving economic growth and welfare of the citizenry by combating the factors that foster poverty through capacity strengthening, financial investment, and direct support. This is in line with the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP), 2017–2020.

For Nigeria to pull more of its population out of poverty, it is imperative that the unemployed, the poor and vulnerable are lifted out of poverty and supported to become productive and contribute to the country's growth. In this regard, the country's large youth population falls within the category that must be supported. The group of programmes under N-SIP have been developed to target specific segments of the society.

As a result of government's commitment to this purpose, N500 billion was budgeted annually to fund the N-SIP in 2016, 2017 and 2018. It is, however, pertinent to note, at this point, that, despite the budgetary commitment, as will be elucidated further in the details of this report, only a small fraction of the amounts allocated was actually released for the implementation of the programmes. Thus, in each year of the programme implementation – 2016, 2017 and 2018 – paucity of funds was a major challenge. This needs to be resolved. Below is a synopsis of the programmes.

### Home-Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP)

Through the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP), food is provided to pupils in public primary schools, to encourage enrolment into primary one to three, improve retention and, in the long term, improve literacy rates in those

<sup>6</sup> Overseas Development Institute; *Social Protection in Nigeria: Synthesis Report*; Jessica Hagen-Zanker and Rebecca Holmes; Overseas Development Institute; Abuja, 2012

<sup>7</sup> United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF); *Education: The Challenge*; UNICEF; <https://www.unicef.org/nigeria/education>.

schools. The beneficiaries of N-SIP are, therefore, children aged 4 — 8, who are not enrolled in primary school and those that are already enrolled but are likely to leave school to assist their parents in the search for food. Indeed, the programme aims to not only provide free school meals with food procured from local smallholder farmers, it also seeks to strengthen communities across the country by: increasing school enrolment and completion. Nigeria currently has a primary school dropout rate of around 30 percent.

Secondary beneficiaries of the programme are cooks who prepare and deliver the meals, and smallholder farmers who supply the cooks with farm produce. However, their involvement or non-involvement does not form part of the basis upon which the success of the programme is assessed.

### **Job Creation Programme (N-Power)**

The N-Power Programme is targeted at young Nigerians to help them acquire and develop life-long skills. The programme is directed at job creation and empowerment initiatives. It is meant to help reduce unemployment by assisting young Nigerians to create jobs and engaging them in activities while unemployed.

Specifically, the focus of the N-Power programme is on improving the employability and income status of young Nigerians across all the states. The programme does this through the provision of profitable and sustainable employment and self-employment opportunities. Precisely, 500,000 graduates and 100,000 unemployed non-graduates are targeted with paid work placement, skills development as enabler of self-employment, and competency enhancement programmes. Harnessing Nigeria's young demography through appropriate skill development efforts provides an opportunity to achieve inclusion and productivity within the country. Large-

scale skill development is the main policy thrust of the N-Power Programme.

### **Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programme**

The primary purpose of the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programme, also known as household uplifting programme, is to pull the poorest and most vulnerable households out of poverty. The programme achieves this through the provision of financial aid via monthly cash transfers of N5,000 to each of 5 million households. The programme also provides beneficiaries with capacity building on basic financial management, nutrition and hygiene, as well as support them to form savings groups in their communities.

### **Government Enterprise Empowerment Programme (GEEP)**

The Government Enterprise and Empowerment Programme (GEEP) provides financial aid and training to micro, small and medium enterprises. It is focused on segments of the society that have the greatest difficulty accessing credit: market women, traders, artisans, women co-operatives, enterprising youth, farmers, and workers in the agricultural sector. It therefore, provides micro lending opportunities to 1.6 million people who fall within any of these categories in the country. Specifically, it provides interest-free loans of N10,000 to microenterprises, the segments of society with the greatest difficulty accessing credit.

### **Third-Party Monitoring**

A key part of monitoring and evaluating N-SIP programmes was the introduction of Third-party Monitoring - an approach to 'smart supervision' where an independent agent (a third-party monitor, TPM) is contracted to verify that programme implementation by relevant players aligns with the provisions and standards of the programme. The third party collects monitoring data, interacts with

beneficiaries and other stakeholders using appropriate methodologies, and reports findings to the programme's management. TPMs can be one or more individual experts, specialised Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), academic organisations or think-tanks, consulting firms, labour organisations, media voluntary associations or other qualified bodies.

For N-SIP, ActionAid Nigeria (AAN) was strategically selected to coordinate third-party monitoring of three of the five programmes – GEEP, HGSFP and N-Power. AAN carried out its function through CSOs who in turn worked with Community Based Organisations (CBOs). One CSO was recruited in each state and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), and each CSO worked through six CBOs assigned to a group of LGAs in the state. The CSOs were responsible for managing the activities of CBOs under their purview. Training was provided to CSOs at the national level and was cascaded to CBOs at the state level.

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<sup>8</sup> The World Bank; *Environment & Social Framework for IPF Operations: Third Party Monitoring*; The World Bank Good Practice Note; First edition, June 2018



An N-Agro beneficiary processes cassava to make garri, a Nigerian staple, from savings from her monthly stipend in Iseyin, Oyo State



Male and female N-Build beneficiaries at their PPA, a mechanic workshop in Oyo East LGA, Oyo State



# RESULTS

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NATIONAL OVERVIEW  
STATE LEVEL

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### National Overview

Of the three programmes implemented across the 36 states and the FCT, GEEP was found to be the least implemented with monitoring in 16 states, followed by HGSFP with monitoring in 26 states, and N-Power in 35 states. All the three programmes delivered expected outcomes, to the extent that the programmes reached targeted beneficiaries, although at differing levels across the locations. Children in primary schools were fed and schools attested to increase in enrolment; people were trained and provided with paid work as part of the N-Power programme; and loans were applied for and disbursed to people under GEEP.

For the 21 states – Abia, Adamawa, Bauchi, Benue, Borno, Ebonyi, Enugu, Gombe, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Kogi, Kwara, Nasarawa, Niger, Osun, Oyo, Plateau, Sokoto and Zamfara – where data collation was complete, 2,170,166 beneficiaries were identified during third-party monitoring; 1,982,220 beneficiaries of HGSFP; 114,316 beneficiaries of N-Power programme, and 73,630 beneficiaries of GEEP -- Figures 1 & 2. See state level results for further details. Across the 21 states, programmes were implemented in 277 LGAs visited; Katsina had the highest number of LGAs where programmes were implemented while data was not provided for Adamawa and Kebbi – Figure 3.

Figure 1 : Total beneficiaries identified during monitoring in 21 states

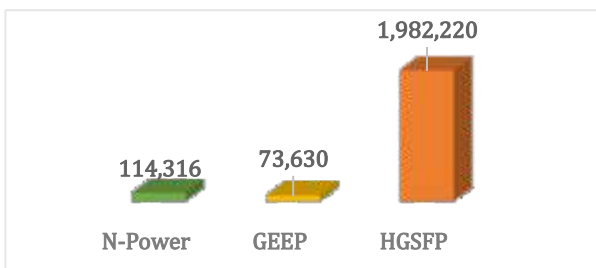


Figure 2 : Primary and secondary beneficiaries of HGSFP identified during monitoring in 21 states

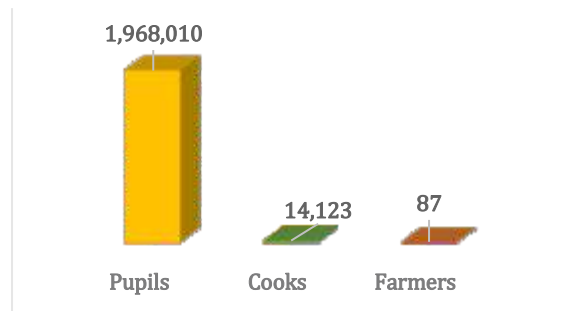
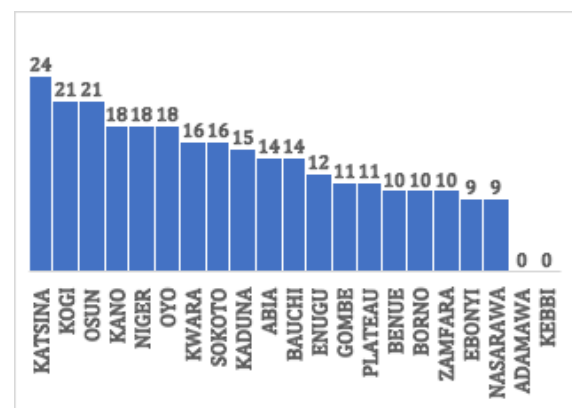


Figure 3: LGAs visited during monitoring across 21 states



Introduction of third-party monitoring into N-SIP provided insights into programme implementation beyond what was previously available. This insight should be used to improve decision-making and programme implementation. Importantly, the third-party monitoring process has fostered confidence among stakeholders because it is indicative of FG's commitment to ensuring that the programmes are implemented as expected and that the right people are serviced. Prior to the activities of the TPMs, many locations in the remotest parts of the country where the programmes were implemented had not been monitored.

Aligned with more pupils going to school, there were reports of improved concentration of pupils during classroom teaching, reduction in absenteeism, and reduction in the rate of illness among pupils. Government officials heading the PPAs/sites visited, generally, confirmed the added value that beneficiaries of the programmes had brought to their schools, primary healthcare centres (PHC), agricultural establishments, and offices as a whole. It was also confirmed that schools that were in dire need of teachers got teachers through the N-Power programme, and other non-teaching establishments also gained skilled labour to add to their existing workforce. Furthermore, the programme's success is apparent from the various co-operatives and micro and small businesses that have been started by beneficiaries of N-Power.

## Spotlight: Adding Value

In Eruku Secondary School, Computer Science and Physics were not being taught for over eight years because there were no teachers for the subjects. However, things changed when Olamoyegun Felicia, an N-Teach beneficiary, was posted to the school. Felicia took on the job with zeal. She was excited that this time around, her students have a better chance of passing both subjects when they write the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) exams. – Kwara State.

The capacity, diligence and dedication shown by Aliyu Saad Abubakar, an N-Health beneficiary, was rewarded when he was asked to head the Dental Demonstration Room in the School of Health Technology, Kano State.

## Spotlight: Becoming self-sufficient and productive

Some N-Agro beneficiaries have formed co-operatives to set up farms which have been able to sustain them after their tenure with N-SIP. One of the farms, a fish farm in Yola North LGA, is up and running. – Adamawa State

Mr. Anyanwu Rejoice Nwadiuto, a 2017 N-Agro beneficiary at the Osisioma LGA Agriculture Department, established a poultry farm close to the demonstration farm. He commended the programme, expressing his excitement over his achievement, which was a product of determination and desire not to be stranded after his two-year term with the programme. – Abia State

Mr. Ifemadu John – a 2016 N-Teach beneficiary at Ndume Otuka Community Secondary School, Ahiaeke, Umuahia North LGA – saved part of the N30,000 paid to him monthly and successfully established a small business where he sells phone accessories and charges mobile phones for a fee. He said he took advantage of the poor electricity supply in the community where he resides. He is grateful to the Federal Government for enrolling him into the programme which has further enhanced his teaching skill. – Abia State

## General Challenges

A number of key challenges were reported across states and programmes. Highlights of these challenges were lack of coordination due to lack of a structure or improper use of existing structure, lack of monitoring, poor communication across all levels of N-SIP, and grossly poor records tracking and management. The frustration of TPMs

in Kaduna State was palpable and reflected in their reports:

“the seemingly very important structure of hierarchical communication has been found to be non-existent in Kaduna State, and a programme as big as this should have a central database administering management system for implementation and monitoring.”

### Home-Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP)

**Low quality and insufficient quantity of food:** This was a recurring complaint across the states. Quality, in this case, encompasses the nutritional value of meals served and quality of food items used in cooking. Meat and other animal protein sources were omitted or infrequently provided. Food was improperly cooked, and water was not always provided with meals.

Complaints about food insufficiency came from both pupils and teachers. In some states, food was reportedly rationed among pupils so as to cater for all the pupils, whereas in other states such as Niger, classes were served food in turns, that is, if Class A is served today, then tomorrow would be Class B's turn. Unfortunately, across the states, very little was said about managing pupils with special dietary needs or pupils with disability that required assistance. One exception is Plateau State.

### Inconsistent and untimely food delivery:

Another problem was inconsistent and untimely serving of food in schools. Contracted cooks either failed to consistently supply food, as agreed, or they served food outside of agreed feeding times, thereby disorganising schools' class schedules. In most states, schools complained that not all

cooks assigned to them supplied food; in fact, some states reported that they had never been served by some of the cooks on their list.

### Fund inadequacy, variations and delay:

Inadequacy of funds paid to cooks, along with delays and disparity in payments, resulted in no, or irregular, food supply and inconsistency in the quantity and quality of foods supplied across the states.

In addition, where cooks were not paid or experienced delays in payment, farmers (where they were included) were also affected.

### Increased population of pupils to feed:

One of the achievements of the programme is the reported increase in enrolment in schools. However, what this invariably implied was that money allocated to cooks was insufficient and the number of available cooks was also insufficient to cover for the additional pupils. Hence, smaller quantities, rationing, non-daily feeding and other practices were adopted in some states to mitigate the problem.

### Low patronage and inclusion of farmers:

The activities of some cooks and officials of the programme have resulted in the exclusion of farmers from the programme. In some states, LGA desk officers and N-SIP officials sold produce directly to cooks, while in other states cooks purchased produce and other items from the market, thereby bypassing farmers and farmer associations completely. Also, in some other states, cooks were not linked to farmers and farmer associations, which might explain why they purchased from the market.

To corroborate the low patronage, farmers interviewed reported non-patronage from cooks as a major constraint to their participation in the programme.

**Beneficiary-related Challenges:**

Exploitation by State programme officials, non-provision of cooking utensils, schools forcing cooks to cook inside school premises even when the schools did not have potable water or suitable cooking spaces, distance to schools which affected their income from the programme, and insufficiency in the number of cooks assigned to schools were among complaints from cooks across the states.

**Non-involvement of stakeholders in programme planning and monitoring:**

Head teachers, community heads and other stakeholders complained of being excluded from the programme's planning in their communities. As a result, they were ill-informed of what to expect from the programme and how to monitor it. For instance, schools were not briefed on what to expect from cooks, and so they were unable to monitor the quality and quantity of food supplied to their pupils and children.

**Unsavory practices:** There were also reports around biased recruitment of cooks, exploitation of cooks, and deliberate inflation of numbers of pupils to be fed at the behest of programme officials.

**Job Creation (N-Power)****Unpaid, delayed, inadequate and inconsistent stipend:**

Monitoring reports from all states were filled with complaints from beneficiaries over unpaid stipend, delays in payment, and inconsistent and inadequate income. Some beneficiaries are owed backlogs of income as far back as 2016.

Complaints about inadequacy of the monthly stipend was also reported. While some beneficiaries were complaining of delays and unpaid stipend for work done, others were getting paid for not working.

**Gaps in beneficiaries' recruitment:**

Reports from some states indicated that many of the N-Power beneficiaries were already employed elsewhere, particularly in the civil service, and, in fact, a few N-SIP officials were themselves beneficiaries.

**Posting of beneficiaries to PPAs:**

Posting of beneficiaries to PPAs appeared not to have been in accordance with information provided by beneficiaries in their applications, such that beneficiaries were posted to PPAs outside of their residential communities or LGAs and to establishments unrelated to their area of specialisation. This resulted in challenges for the beneficiaries: for example, high cost of transportation, inability to secure affordable accommodation, and difficulty performing at their PPAs, especially where training had not been provided prior to posting.

**Absence and irregular reporting at PPAs:**

Absence and irregular reporting to PPAs were also highlighted. Some beneficiaries reported once and never returned; some never reported; while some others re-deployed without informing their PPAs.

**High workload:**

Beneficiaries, particularly N-Teach beneficiaries, complained of being overworked due to insufficiency of beneficiaries posted to PPAs and permanent staff shifting most of their work to them.

**Difficulty accessing portal:**

Beneficiaries in most states reported difficulty logging into the N-Power portal to upload their information during registration. This difficulty unnecessarily prolonged their registration process. It also made staying updated about goings-on in the programme difficult. In addition to these, beneficiaries posted to rural communities had poor internet access to grapple with.

**Access to work tools:** Complaints around access to work tools were mostly from N-Teach beneficiaries. In many states, they complained that devices were not supplied and where they were supplied, they did not contain teaching materials to aid their work. An associated complaint was the fact that devices supplied were faulty or of low standard, and beneficiaries were uninformed about the protocol for repairing, returning or getting assistance with faulty devices.

**Training-related complaints:** There were also complaints of difficulties faced during training in the states, that is, where training was provided. These included no provision for transportation allowance and feeding during training, unfavourable training venue, poor information dissemination about training, and insufficient training days.

### Government Enterprise Empowerment Programme (GEEP)

**Poor awareness and knowledge of the programme:** The monitoring exercise revealed that awareness about GEEP across the states was generally poor as many people interviewed were either unaware of the programme's existence or had no knowledge about where or how to access information about the programme.

**Loan access, disbursement and repayment processes:** The loan application process was reported as being demanding and time-consuming, and in those instances where potential beneficiaries (or applicants) had successfully applied, many did not receive the loans applied for or get any feedback from the programme. This angered many potential beneficiaries.

Some beneficiaries complained of prolonged delays in loan disbursement, underpayment of loan amount applied for, and disparity in loan

amount paid across beneficiaries in the same state. Other beneficiaries also complained that the duration given to them to repay loans was too short and the interest on loans was prohibitive, thus making repayment difficult.

**Lack of or inadequate orientation of beneficiaries:** Potential beneficiaries (applicants) and beneficiaries were not given proper orientation on the processes involved with accessing and repaying loans. The result was that they were unaware of pertinent information such as bank protocols, waiting time for loan disbursement and loan repayment terms, to enable them make informed decisions about, and adequately service, loans. This gap in the process may explain why some beneficiaries defaulted on their loans in some states while in other states there were complaints about the delays in loan disbursement.

**Abuse of the loan application process:** Many people in the states were reportedly abusing the loan application process by devising unscrupulous methods to access loans, thereby preventing those who truly needed loans from getting them. For instance, it was reported that some politicians used unsuspecting community people to access loans by establishing false cooperatives.

## INSIGHT

Most beneficiaries were unaware that the money given to them was a loan as they had been mobilised by some politicians to form associations so as to access the money. And once money was received, they gave some agreed amount (percentage) to the politicians who had given them the forms to complete. – Zamfara State

### Third-Party Monitoring Constraints

Third-party monitors in some states did not have access to information on beneficiaries. This made data collection arduous and it affected proper monitoring of the programmes. The consequence of this is that data reported does not necessarily provide a complete picture of on-the-ground realities, but only gives an indication that programme implementation occurred.

The approved number of CSOs and CBOs per state as well as funds allocated for third-party monitoring were also limitations to monitoring. This is because they restricted the scope of coverage, particularly in states with large land mass and difficult terrain. It, therefore, meant that CSOs and CBOs were compelled to restrict monitoring to local governments within their immediate geographic locations.

Monitoring coinciding with the period when schools were on holiday, closure of schools due to elections, and insecurity also constrained the process. As a result, reports for months in which some of these events occurred were incomplete since monitors were unable to gain access to beneficiaries and other stakeholders.

In some states, monitors were constrained by their inability to gain access to GEEP associations and beneficiaries; officials and especially aggrieved GEEP potential beneficiaries and farmers refused to respond to questionnaire; and aggregator channels refused to cooperate and share information.

### State Level Results

Due to the fact that data collation at the field level was ongoing as at the time this report was produced, results presented are based on analysis of data for only 21 states. The report will be updated to reflect results from other states once data collation is complete.

### Abia State

Two reports were provided for Abia State; however, data presented here reflects data reported in the state's November monitoring report, which was organised with beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries consulted clearly defined.

In November, monitoring occurred across 17 LGAs in the state. A total of 9,673 beneficiaries were verified – Figure 4; 9,350 for HGSFP and 323 for N-Power. Of the HGSFP figure, 45 were pupils reported as People with Disability (PWD). It is important to note that the PWD figure was not disaggregated by sex. As a result, Figure 5 showing number of pupils disaggregated by sex is less by that number. 364 beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries were also consulted during the monitoring – Figure 6.

For N-Power, total number of verified beneficiaries as well as number of non-beneficiaries consulted was not provided; only data for beneficiaries consulted was given – Figure 7.

Figure 4 : Total beneficiaries consulted in Abia State.

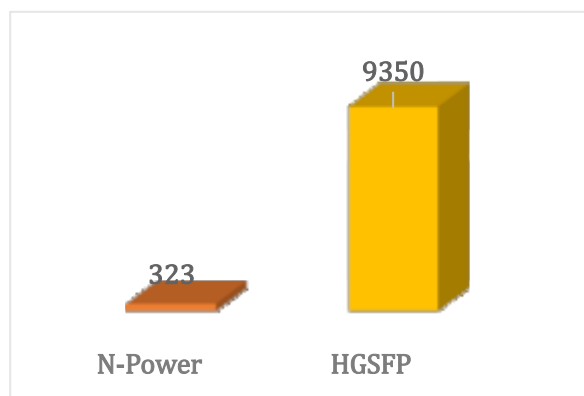


Figure 5: Number of pupils verified during monitoring in Abia State, disaggregated by sex

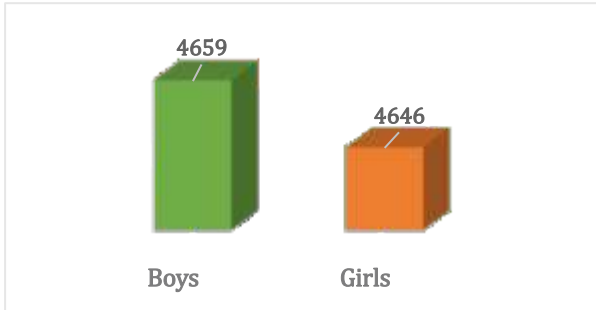


Figure 6: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Abia State

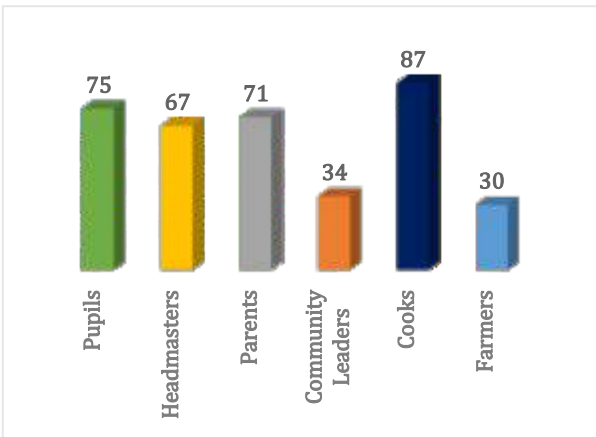
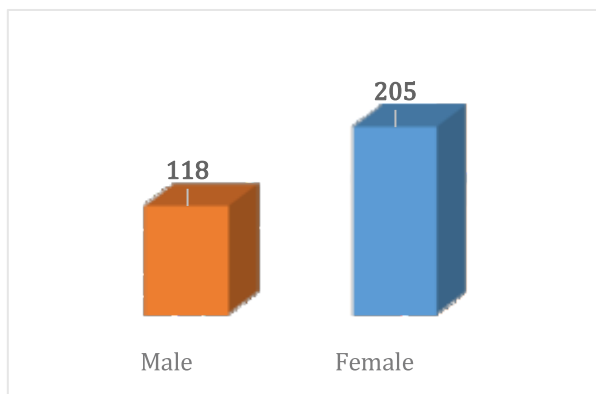


Figure 7: Number of N-Power beneficiaries consulted during monitoring in Abia State, disaggregated by sex



### Adamawa State

In Adamawa State, third-party monitoring occurred between September and November 2018.

A total of 2,523 beneficiaries were identified in the state. Of this number only 114 pupils participating in HGSFP were verified beneficiaries while the remaining were beneficiaries of GEEP and N-Power consulted during monitoring – Figures 8, 9 & 10. 150 headmasters were also consulted.

Figure 8: Beneficiaries identified during monitoring in Adamawa State.

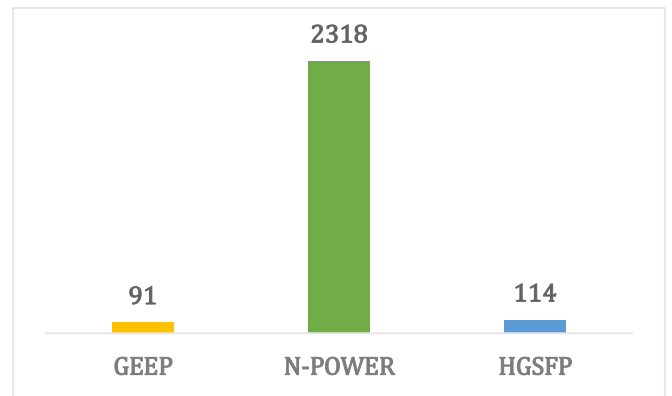


Figure 9: Verified pupils identified in Adamawa State, disaggregated by sex

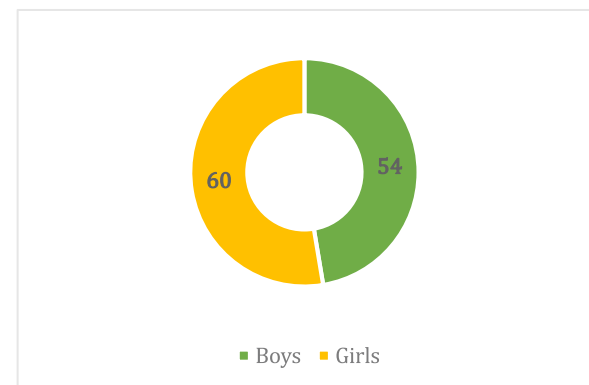
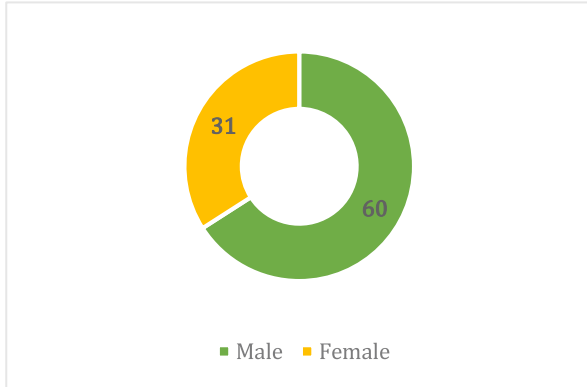


Figure 10: GEEP beneficiaries consulted in Adamawa State



### Bauchi State

Third-party monitoring was conducted in 14 LGAs in Bauchi State between May and December, 2018.

The monitoring process led to the identification of 72,711 beneficiaries of GEEP, N-Power and HGSFP; 60,689 were verified beneficiaries of N-Power and GEEP while 12,022 were pupils benefitting from the HGSF programme that were consulted during monitoring – Figure 11.

In total, 14,472 individuals were consulted in the course of monitoring in the state – Figures 12 & 13.

Figure 11: Beneficiaries identified during monitoring in Bauchi State.

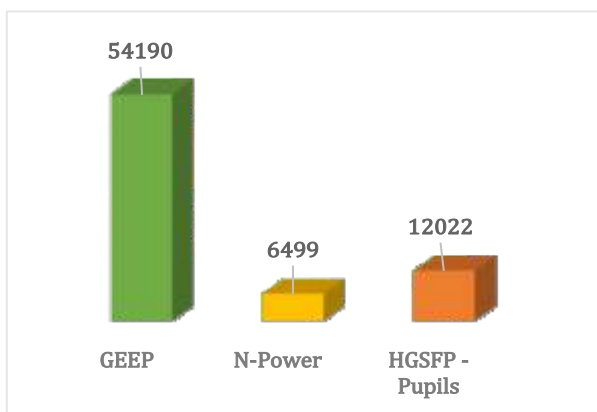


Figure 12: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Bauchi State

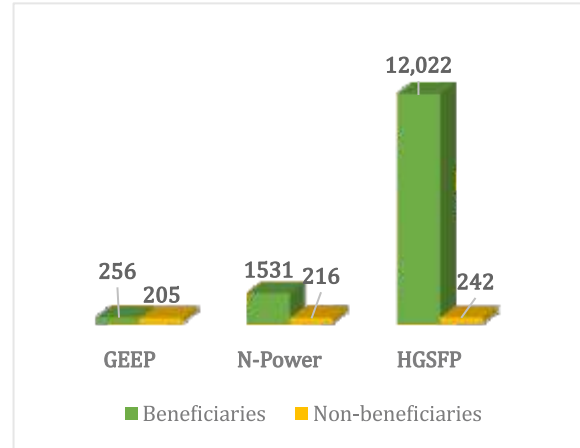
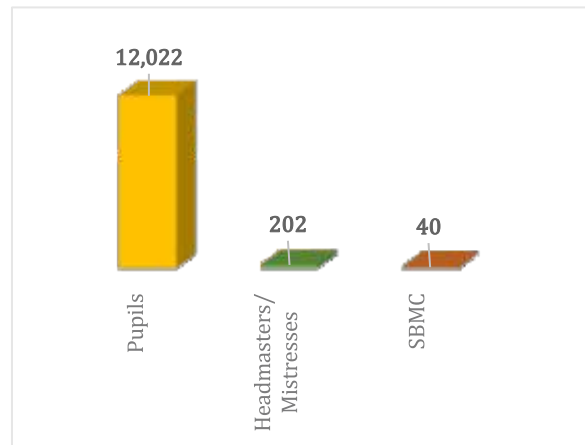


Figure 13: Individuals consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Bauchi State



Monitoring occurred consistently in 10 local government areas in Benue State, from September through November 2018. All programmes implemented in the period under review were monitored.

A total of 2,225 beneficiaries were verified during monitoring. However, only 1,334 were reported as beneficiaries consulted during monitoring while the remaining 891 were reported as 'men' (413), and 'women' (478). As a result, the number of secondary beneficiaries



for HGSFP as well as number of non-beneficiaries consulted cannot be confirmed. Of the 1,334 consulted beneficiaries, N-Power had the highest number of beneficiaries while GEEP had the least -- Figure 14. In total, 671 females and 663 males were consulted -- Figure 15.

Figure 14: Total number of beneficiaries consulted during monitoring in Benue State.

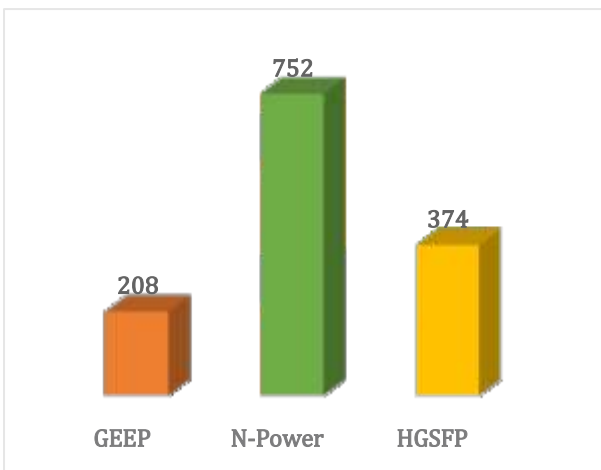
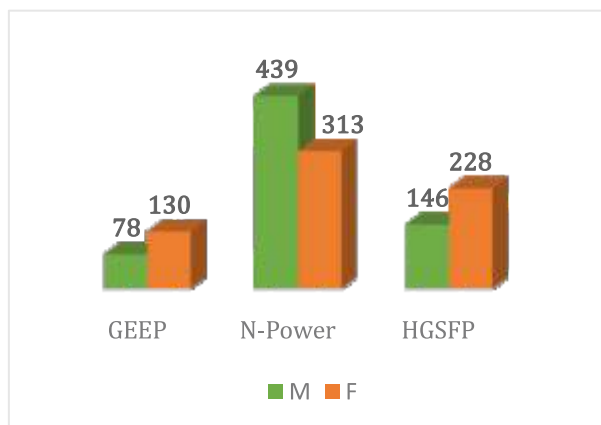


Figure 15: Total number of verified beneficiaries consulted in Benue State, disaggregated by sex



### Borno State

In Borno State, third-party monitoring occurred in 10 LGAs between September and November 2018, with two programmes monitored – HGSFP and N-Power.

For the N-Power programme, 1,169 verified beneficiaries were identified in the state – Figure 16. A total of 973 individuals were consulted: 599 beneficiaries and 374 non-beneficiaries.

For HGSFP, the monitoring process led to the identification of 38,079 verified beneficiaries – Figure 17. 298 individuals were consulted and included pupils, school headmasters and members of SBMC – Figure 18.

Figure 16: Verified N-Power beneficiaries identified in Borno State, disaggregated by sex

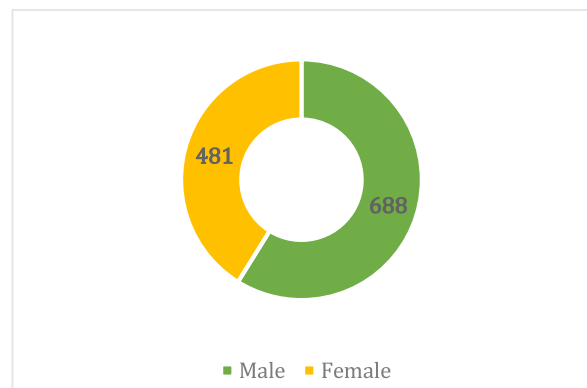


Figure 17: verified HGSFP beneficiaries identified during monitoring in Borno State.

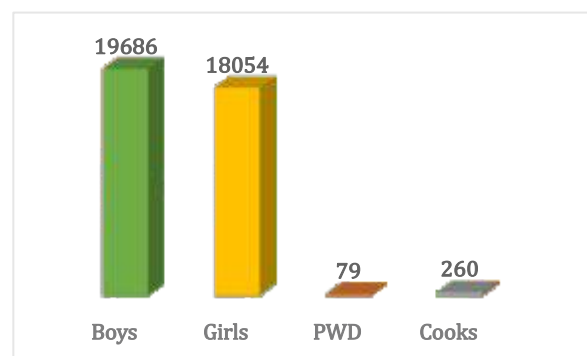
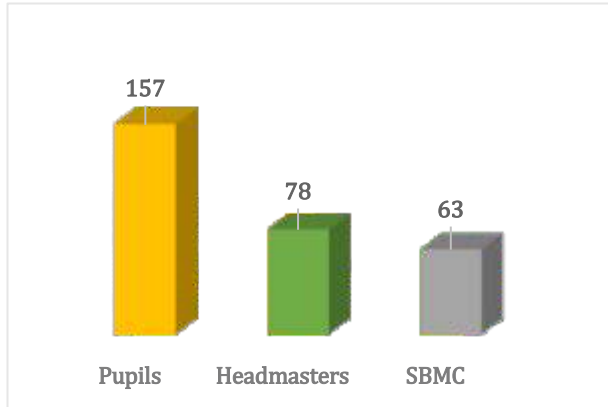


Figure 18: Individuals consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Borno State.



### Ebonyi State

Third-party monitoring was conducted across nine LGAs in Ebonyi State and resulted in the identification of 186,647 verified beneficiaries.

Of the total verified beneficiaries identified, 180,249 were pupils while 6,398 were beneficiaries of the N-Power programme. No data on GEEP beneficiaries was provided – Figure 19.

A total of 6,260 individuals were consulted during monitoring: 1 non-beneficiary of GEEP; 5,534 beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of HGSFP; and 725 beneficiaries of N-Power – Figures 20 & 21.

Figure 19: Verified beneficiaries identified during monitoring in Ebonyi State.

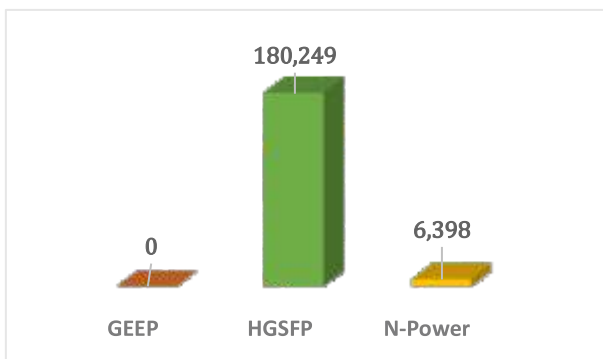


Figure 20: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Ebonyi State

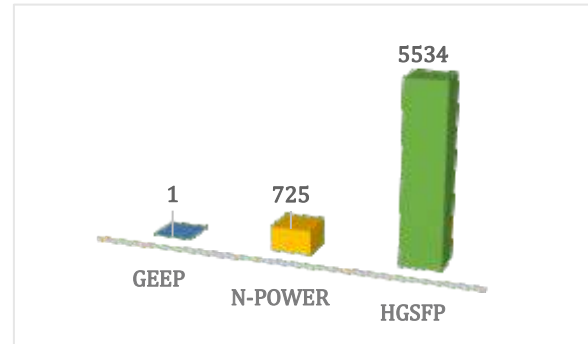


Figure 21: Categories of individuals consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Ebonyi State



### Enugu State

In Enugu State, third-party monitoring took place in 12 LGAs between September and November, 2018. In total, 24,533 verified beneficiaries of N-Power and HGSFP were identified.

For HGSFP, total verified beneficiaries identified were 21,548 – Figures 22 & 23. Of this number, most were pupils while one was a female farmer; 159 of the pupils were PWDs. Similarly, 2,985 verified beneficiaries were identified for the N-Power programme. There were more females who were beneficiaries of the programme than males –Figure 24.

5,479 individuals were consulted during monitoring: 3,216 for HGSFP and 2,263 for N-Power – Figures 25 & 26.

Figure 22: Verified HGSFP beneficiaries identified during monitoring in Enugu State

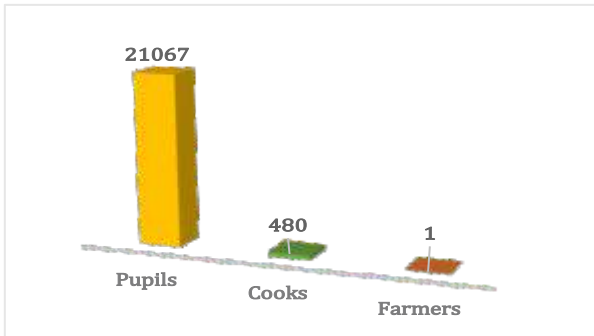


Figure 23: Verified HGSFP beneficiaries, disaggregated by sex

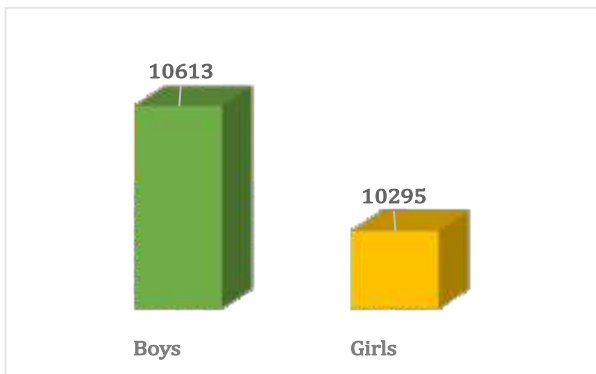


Figure 24: Verified N-Power beneficiaries identified in Enugu State.

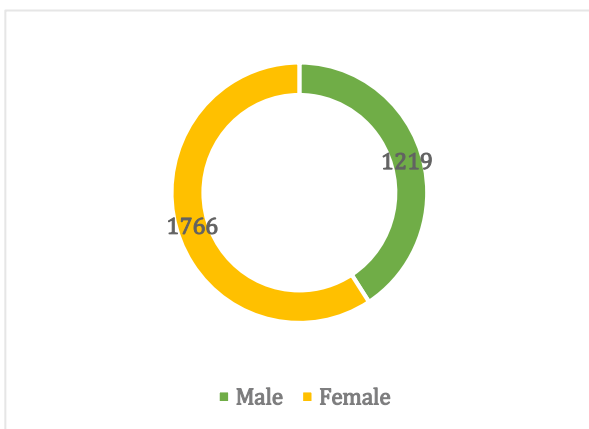
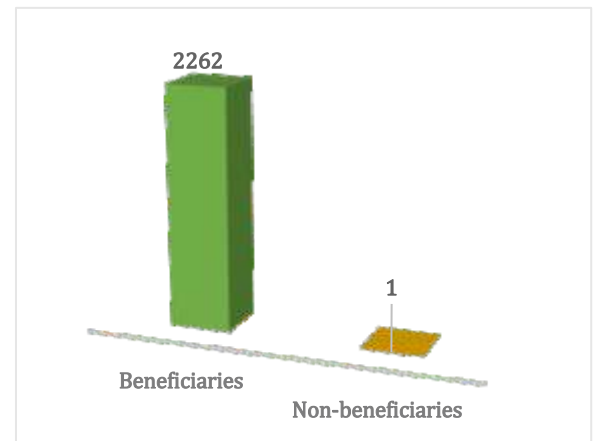


Figure 25: Individuals consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Enugu State



Figure 26: Individuals consulted during monitoring of N-Power in Enugu State



### Gombe State

In Gombe State, monitoring took place in 11 LGAs. A total of 354,959 verified beneficiaries of N-Power and HGSFP were identified in the state, with 2,547 individuals consulted during monitoring – Figures 27 & 28.

<sup>9</sup> Data for pupils who are PWD was not disaggregated by sex and is therefore not included in Figure 23.

Figure 27: Individuals consulted during monitoring of N-Power in Gombe State

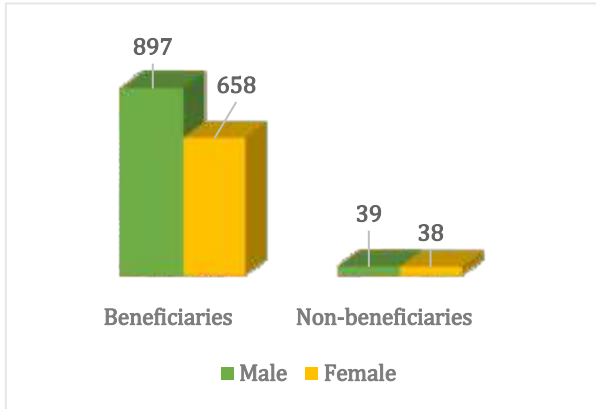
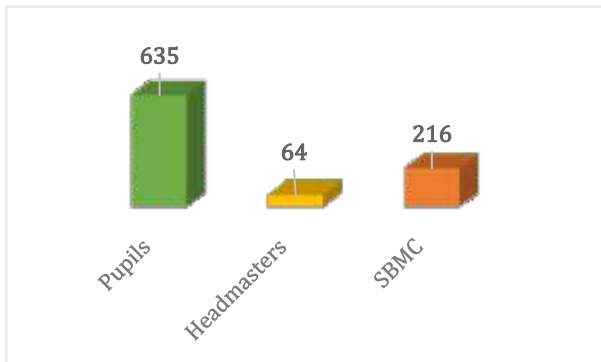
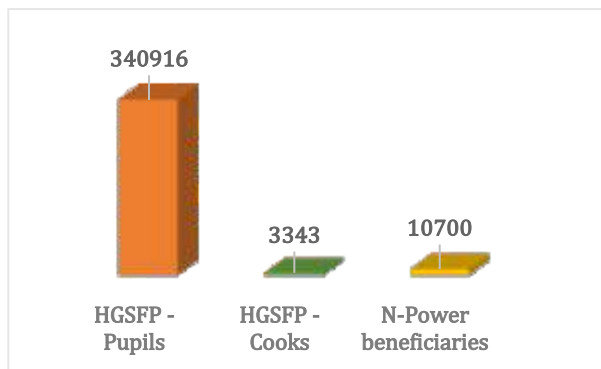


Figure 28: Individuals consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Gombe State



Of the total verified beneficiaries identified in the state, 10,700 were N-Power beneficiaries while the remaining 344,259 were HGSFP beneficiaries. No farmers were identified in Gombe – Figure 29.

Figure 29: Verified beneficiaries identified during monitoring in Gombe State



### Kaduna State

Third-party monitoring occurred across 15 LGAs in Kaduna State between September and November, 2018.

A total of 3,570 individuals were consulted during monitoring, which led to the identification of 773,824 verified beneficiaries of N-Power and HGSFP programmes – Figures 30, 31, 32 & 33.

Figure 30: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Kaduna State

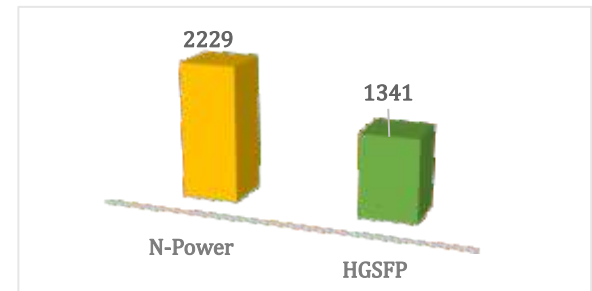


Figure 31: Beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Kaduna State

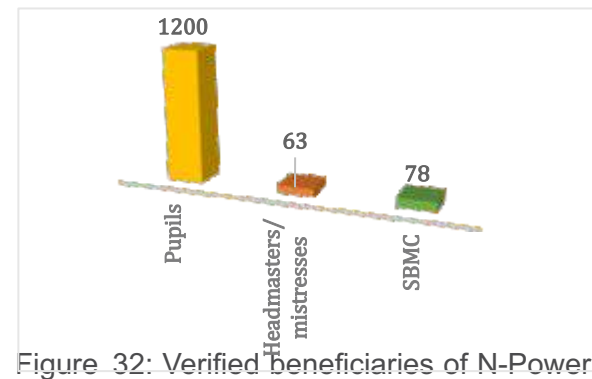


Figure 32: Verified beneficiaries of N-Power and HGSFP identified in Kaduna State.

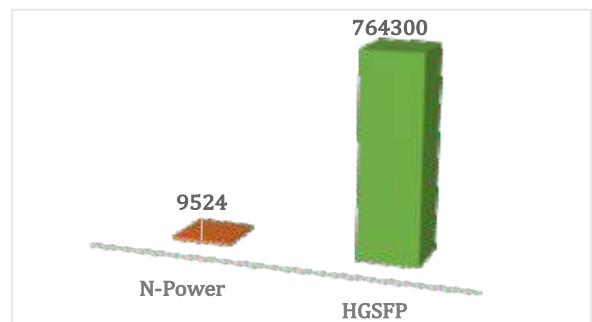
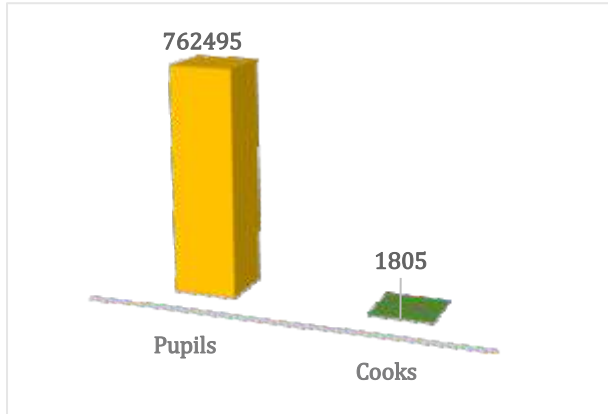


Figure 33: Verified beneficiaries of HGSFP in Kaduna State, disaggregated by type of beneficiary



**Kano State**

In Kano State, monitoring took place between July and December 2018 in 18 LGAs. 2,465 individuals were consulted during monitoring with 52,738 beneficiaries identified for GEEP, N-Power and HGSFP – Figures 34 & 35. However, verified beneficiaries were only ascertained for N-Power and HGSFP while beneficiaries identified for GEEP were those interviewed in the course of monitoring.

Figure 34: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Kano State

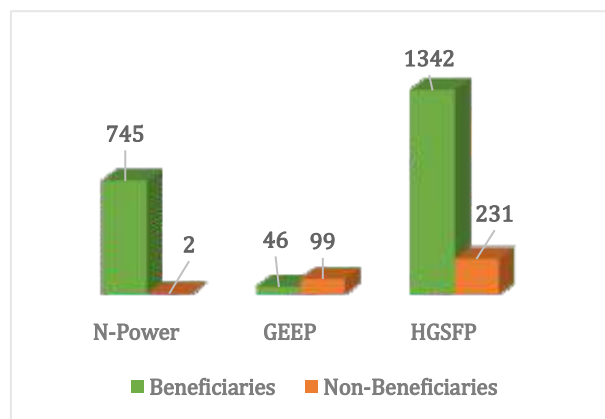
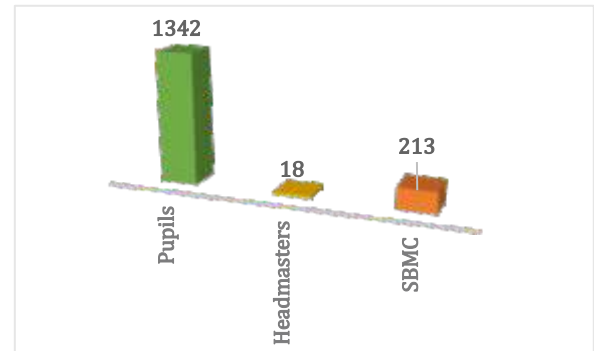


Figure 35: Individuals consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Kano State



Of the total number of beneficiaries identified, 4,132 were N-Power beneficiaries; 48,560 were HGSFP beneficiaries; and 46 were GEEP beneficiaries – Figures 36 & 37.

Figure 36: Beneficiaries identified in Kano State.

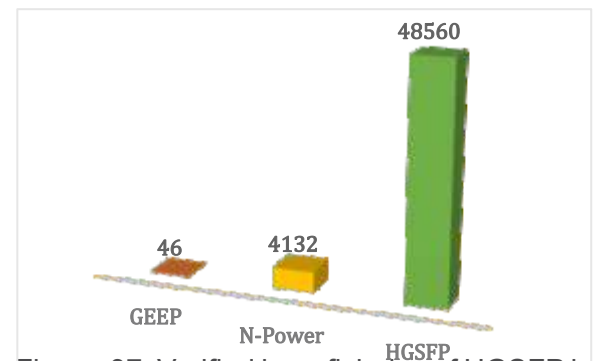
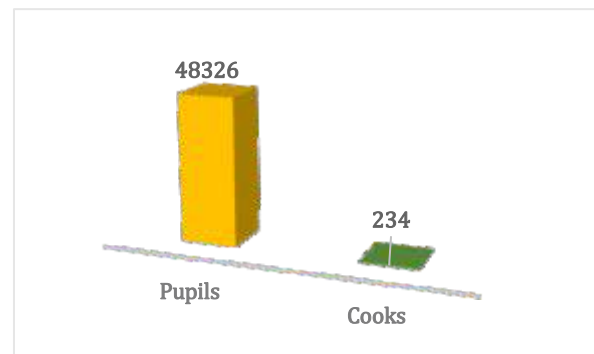


Figure 37: Verified beneficiaries of HGSFP in Kano State, by type of beneficiary



### Katsina State

Third-party monitoring occurred from September to November 2018 in 24 LGAs in Katsina State. 12,364 individuals were consulted in the course of monitoring across all programmes – GEEP, N-Power and HGSFP – Figures 41 & 42. Number of verified beneficiaries in the state were ascertained for all programmes. However, HGSFP pupils identified were those consulted as part of the monitoring process.

A total of 19,300 beneficiaries were identified in the state; 14,501 were verified beneficiaries, while the remaining were pupils consulted during monitoring of HGSFP – Figures 38, 39 & 40.

Figure 38: Beneficiaries identified in Katsina State.

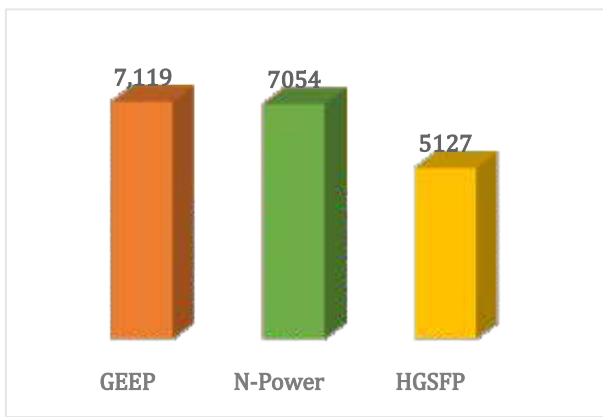


Figure 38: Beneficiaries identified in Katsina State

Figure 40: Verified N-Power beneficiaries identified in Katsina State, disaggregated by sex

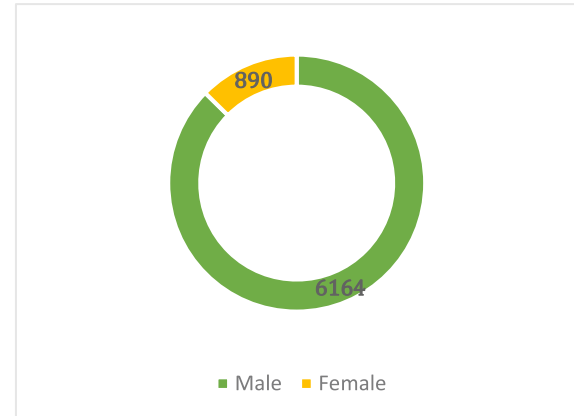


Figure 41: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Katsina State

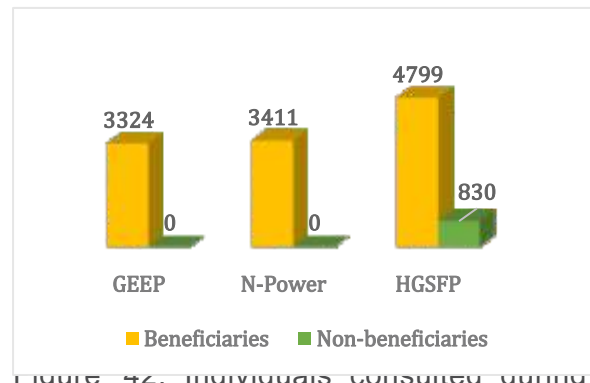
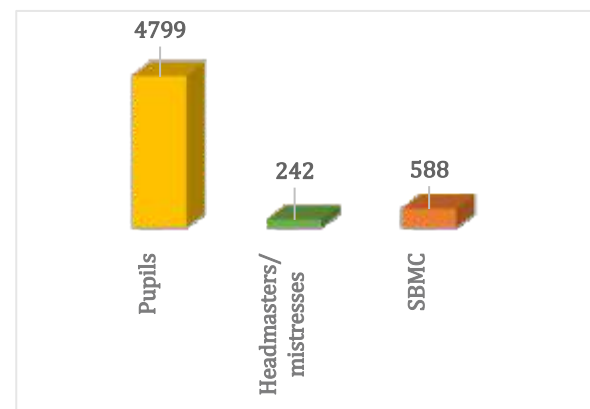
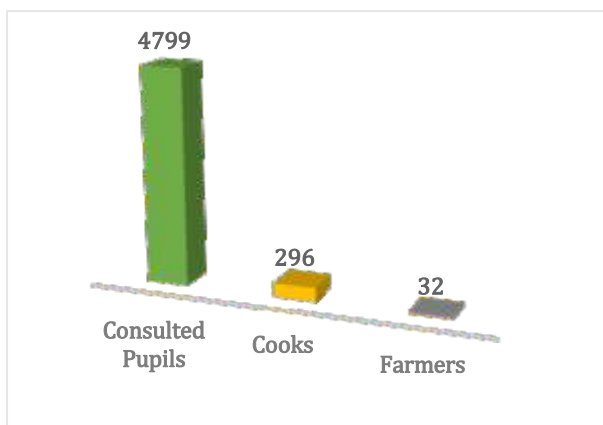


Figure 42: Individuals consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Katsina State



### Kebbi State

Monitoring occurred from September to November 2018 in Kebbi State. 851 individuals were consulted in the course of monitoring. A total of 10,212 beneficiaries were identified – Figure 43; most were verified N-Power beneficiaries while the rest were GEEP beneficiaries. – Figure 44.

Figure 43: Beneficiaries identified in Kebbi State.

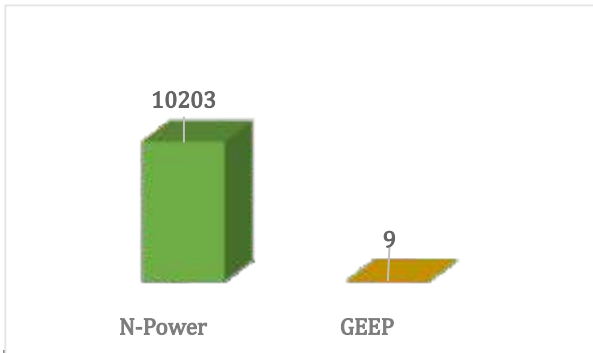
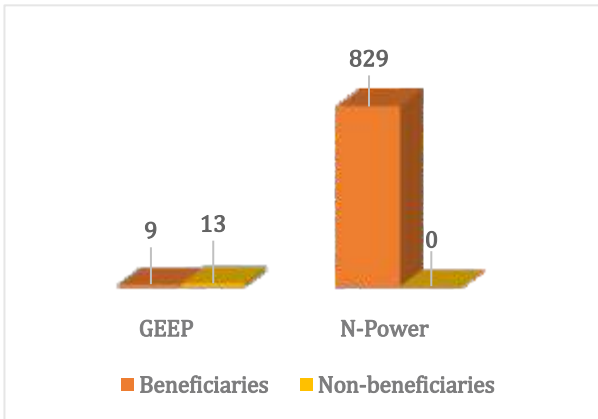


Figure 44: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Kebbi State



Monitoring occurred between September and November 2018 across 21 LGAs in the state. A total of 4,699 individuals were consulted across N-Power and GEEP: 2,763 beneficiaries and 1,936 non-beneficiaries -- Figure 45. The non-beneficiaries' data provided was not further organised into

categories. Please note that the total number of verified beneficiaries for the state during the reporting period was not confirmed; only those consulted during monitoring.

Overall, more male than female beneficiaries were consulted in the state for the period of monitoring -- Figure 46.

Figure 45: Individuals consulted, by programme, during monitoring in Kogi State

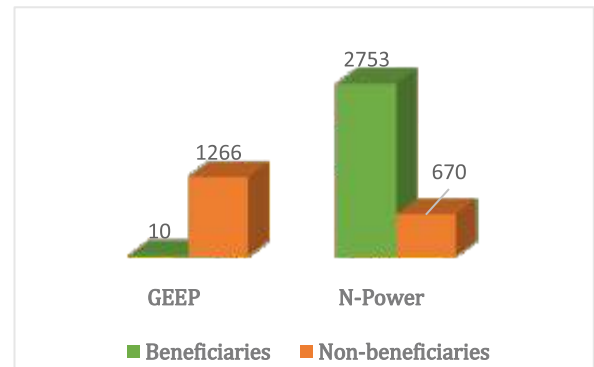
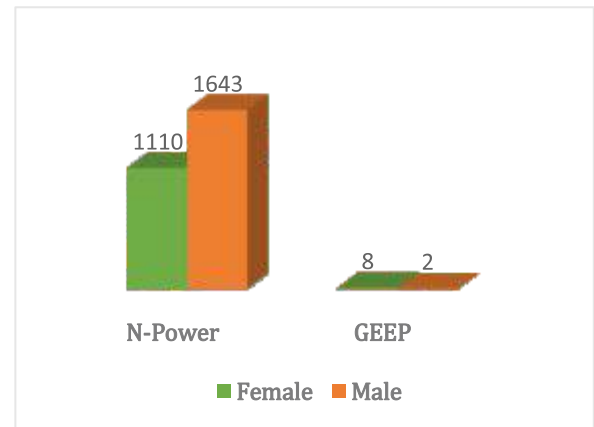


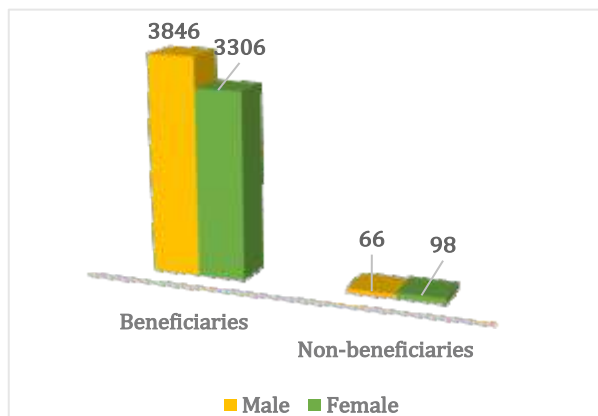
Figure 46: Beneficiaries consulted by programme during monitoring in Kogi State, disaggregated by sex



In Kwara State, third-party monitoring was conducted in 16 LGAs between August and November 2018.

8,052 beneficiaries were identified during monitoring. All of them were N-Power beneficiaries. Of the total N-Power beneficiaries identified, 4,984 were documented as verified beneficiaries in August 2018, while 7,152 were consulted during monitoring – Figure 47.

Figure 47: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Kwara State

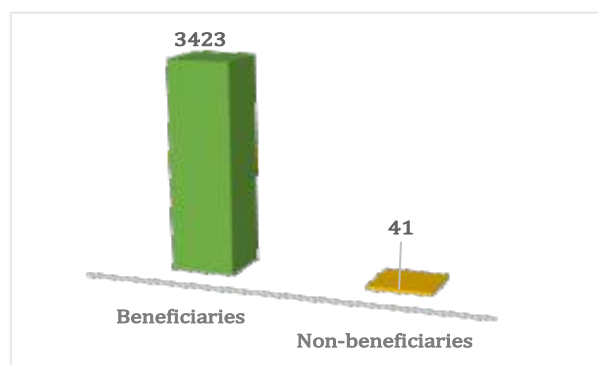


### Nasarawa State

Third-party monitoring occurred from September to November, 2018 in nine LGAs in Nasarawa State.

From the monitoring process, 5,262 verified beneficiaries of the N-Power programme were identified, with 3,464 individuals consulted overall – Figure 48.

Figure 48: Beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries consulted during monitoring in Nasarawa State



### Niger State

In Niger, third-party monitoring took place from September to November 2018 in 18 LGAs. 5,984 individuals were consulted during the months of monitoring (Figures 51 & 52), which resulted in the identification of 82,707 beneficiaries.

Of the beneficiaries identified, 773 were N-Power beneficiaries consulted during monitoring; total number of verified N-Power beneficiaries in the state was not ascertained – Figure 49.

For HGSFP, 81,934 verified beneficiaries were identified – Figure 50. This figure includes pupils and cooks, with 12 of the pupils categorised as PWDs.

Figure 49: Identified N-Power beneficiaries consulted during monitoring in Niger State

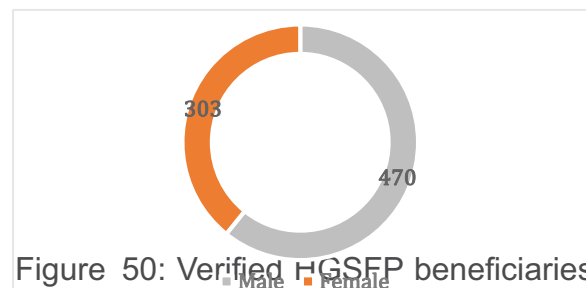
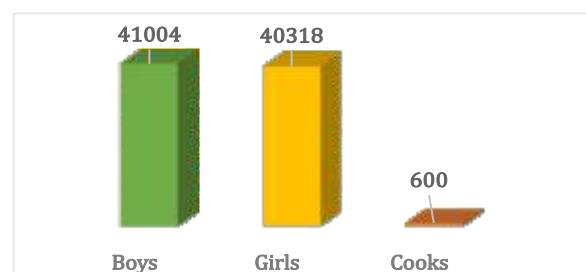


Figure 50: Verified HGSFP beneficiaries identified in Niger State, by type of beneficiary



<sup>10</sup> Total number of pupils depicted in Figure 50 is less the number of pupils categorised as PWD because data provided was not disaggregated by sex.



Figure 51: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Niger State

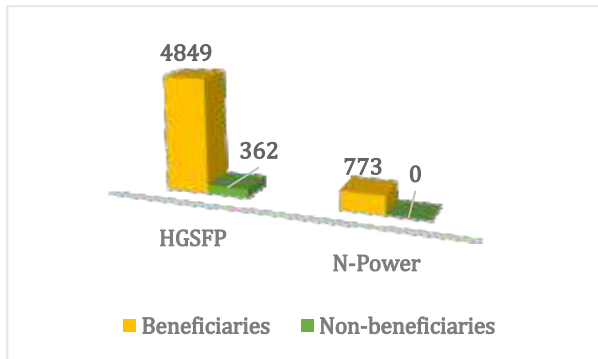
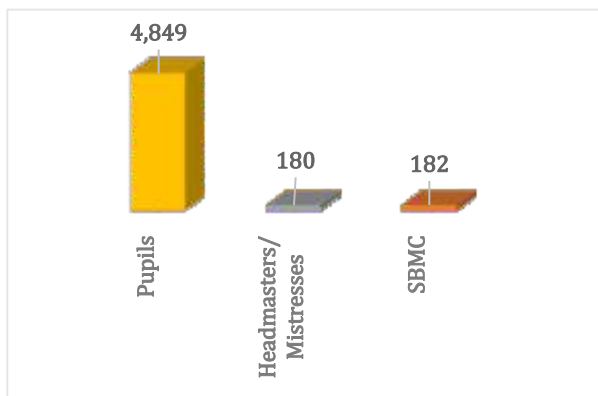


Figure 52: Individuals consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Niger State



**Osun State**

Monitoring occurred between August and September 2018 across 21 LGAs. For the period under review, 32,359 verified beneficiaries were identified and consulted across all programmes.

Of the 32,359 verified beneficiaries, 28,581 were beneficiaries of HGSFP – 27,417 pupils and 1,164 cooks – Figure 53. 590 of the verified pupils were identified as PWDs. However, this value was not disaggregated by sex and is thus not included in Figure 54.

For N-Power and GEEP, 4,870 and 72 verified beneficiaries were consulted respectively, with more women than men represented for both programmes – Figures 53 & 54.

Figure 53: Number of verified beneficiaries identified across programmes during months of monitoring in Osun State

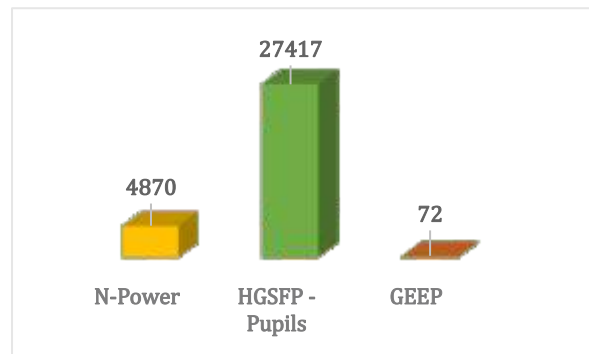


Figure 54: Verified beneficiaries across programmes in Osun State, disaggregated by sex

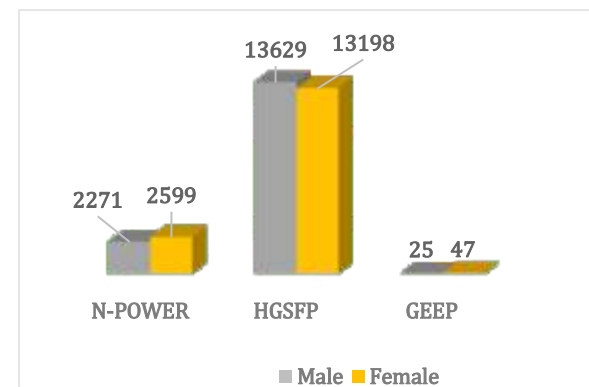
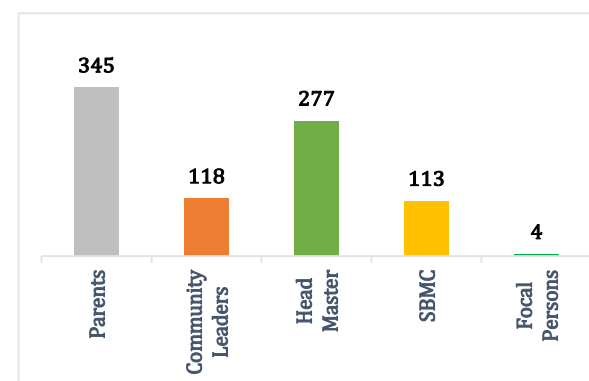


Figure 55: Non-beneficiaries consulted during the months of monitoring in Osun State



### Oyo State

In Oyo State, third-party monitoring took place in 18 LGAs between September and November 2018, with beneficiaries identified for GEEP, N-Power and HGSFP. 4,056 individuals were consulted (Figure 56), and a total of 259,870 verified beneficiaries were identified in the State – Figures 57 & 58.

Figure 56: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Oyo State.

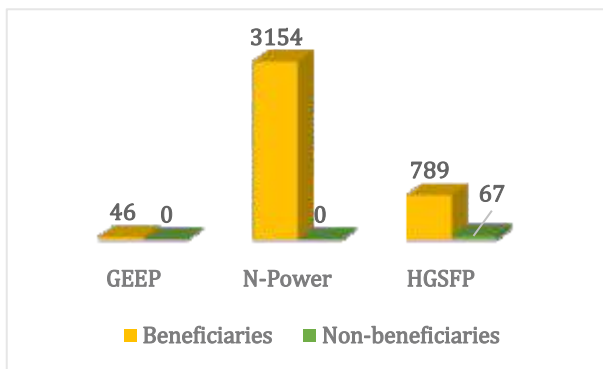


Figure 57: Verified beneficiaries identified in Oyo State

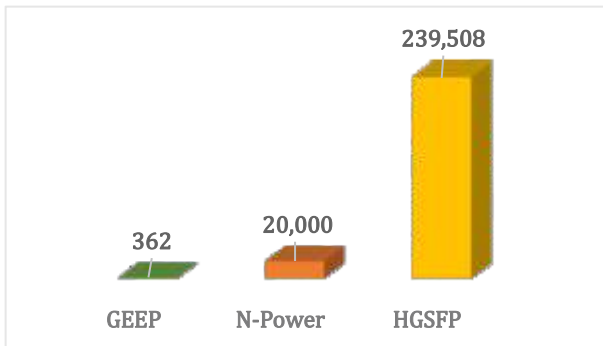
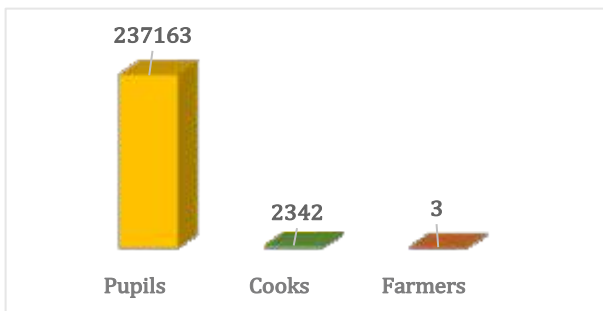


Figure 58 : Verified HGSFP beneficiaries in Oyo State, by type of beneficiary.



### Plateau State

Third-party monitoring occurred in 11 LGAs in Plateau State from September to November 2018.

25,385 verified beneficiaries were identified across all programmes: 374 GEEP beneficiaries, 2,759 N-Power beneficiaries, and 22,252 HGSFP beneficiaries – Figures 59 & 60. Of the 22,252 HGSFP beneficiaries, 22,033 were pupils, 84 of them categorised as PWDs.

1,289 individuals were consulted in the course of monitoring – Figures 61 & 62.

Figure 59: Verified beneficiaries identified during monitoring in Plateau State

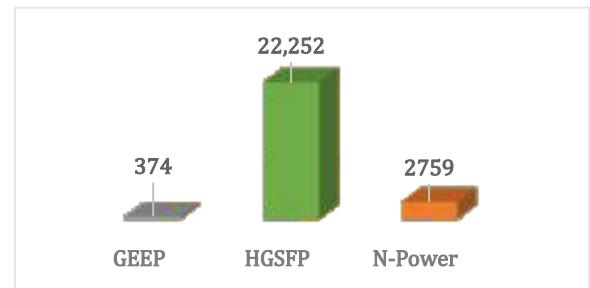
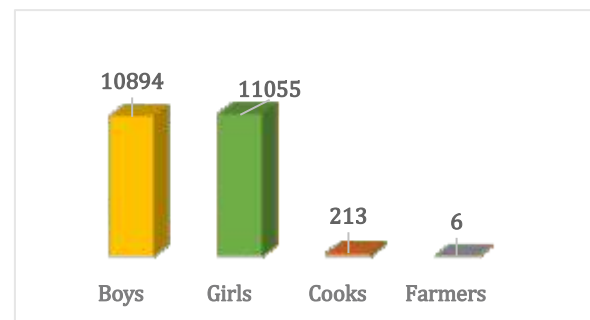


Figure 60: Verified HGSFP beneficiaries identified in Plateau State.



<sup>11</sup> Total number of pupils depicted in Figure 60 is less the number of pupils categorised as PWD because data provided for PWD was not disaggregated by sex.

Figure 61: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Plateau State

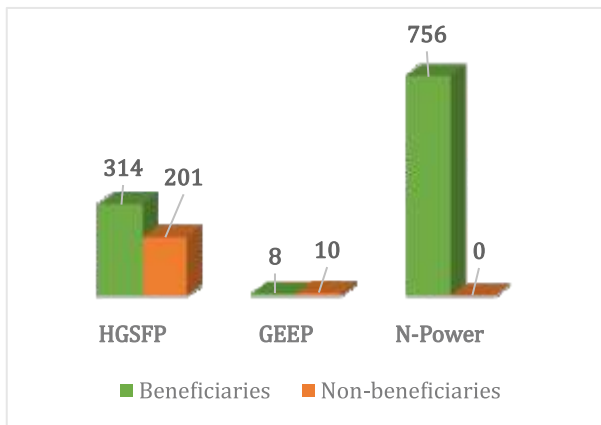
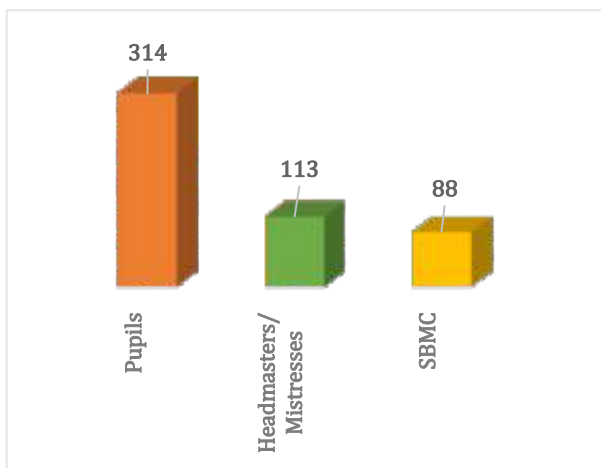


Figure 62: Individuals consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Plateau State



### Sokoto State

Third-party monitoring was carried out between September and November 2018 in 16 LGAs in Sokoto State. 48,895 individuals were consulted during monitoring – Figure 66 -- which resulted in the identification of 352,223 verified beneficiaries.

Out of 352,223 verified beneficiaries, most were HGSFP beneficiaries (334,290), while the least were N-Power beneficiaries (6,822) – Figures 63, 64 & 65. For GEEP, there were more female than male beneficiaries.

Figure 63: Verified beneficiaries identified in Sokoto State.

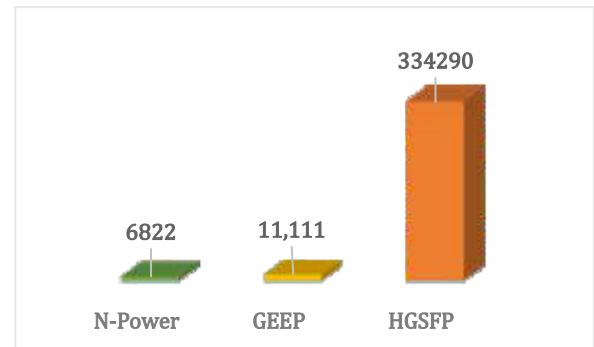


Figure 64: Verified GEEP beneficiaries in Sokoto State, disaggregated by sex

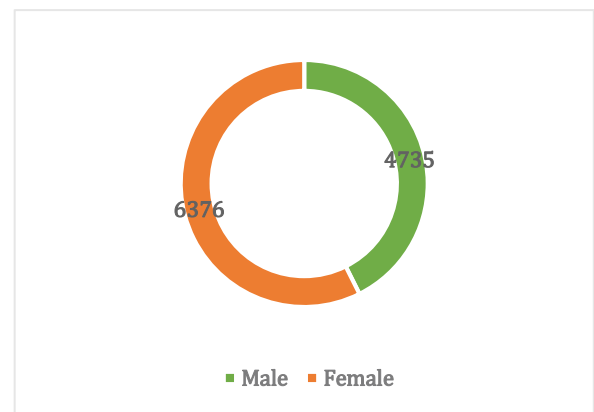


Figure 65: Verified beneficiaries identified in Sokoto State, by type of beneficiary

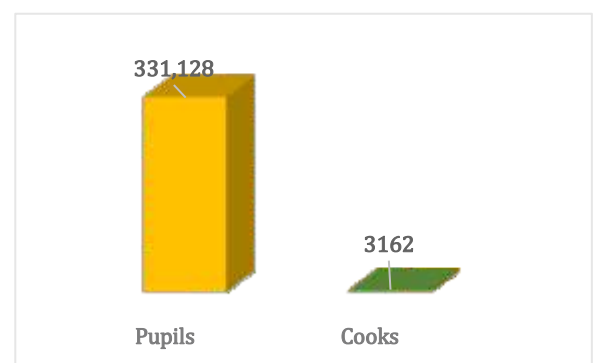
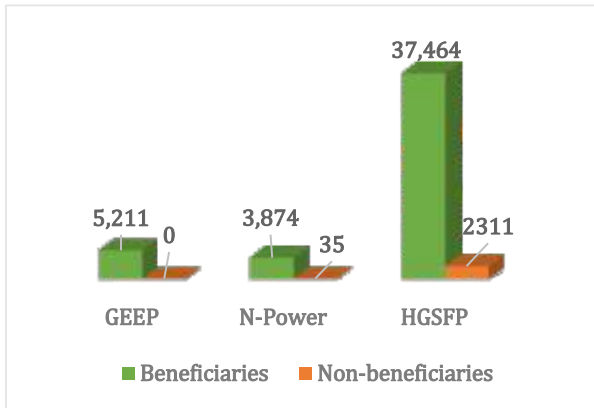


Figure 66: Individuals consulted during monitoring in Sokoto State.



### Zamfara State

In Zamfara State, third-party monitoring took place between August and November 2018 across 10 LGAs. 889 individuals were consulted in the course of monitoring – Figures 70 & 71 -- with 12,904 verified beneficiaries documented – Figures 67.

Of the total verified beneficiaries identified, 11,988 were pupils with 15 identified as PWDs; 246 were GEEP beneficiaries; and 518 were N-Power beneficiaries – Figures 68 & 69.

Figure 67: Verified beneficiaries identified during monitoring in Zamfara State

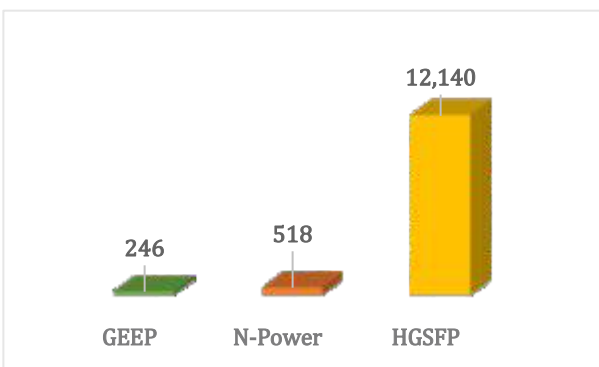


Figure 68: Verified GEEP and N-Power beneficiaries identified in Zamfara State during monitoring

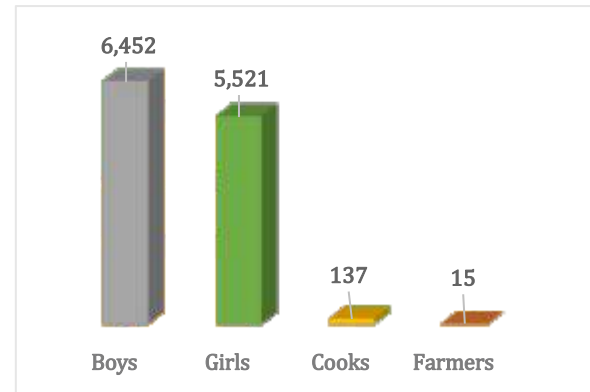
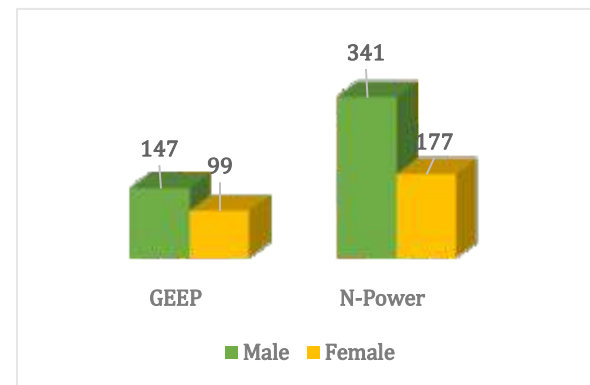
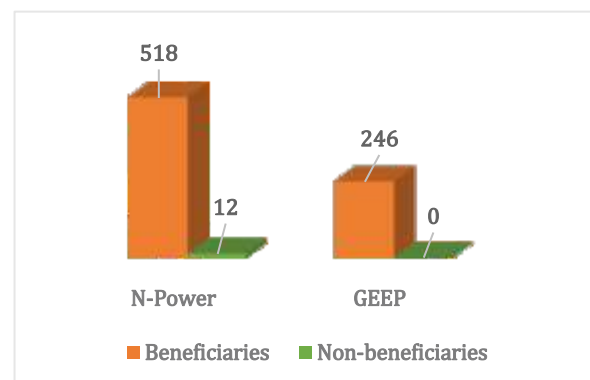


Figure 69: Verified GEEP and N-Power beneficiaries identified in Zamfara State during monitoring

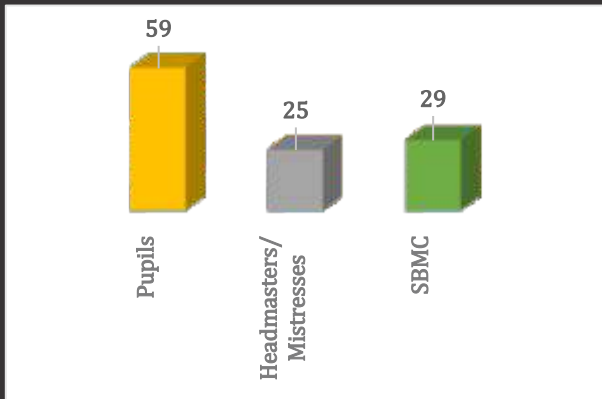


monitoring of N-Power and GEEP in Zamfara State.



<sup>12</sup> Total number of pupils depicted in Figure 68 is less the number of pupils categorised as PWD because data provided for PWD was not disaggregated by sex.

Figure 71: Individuals consulted during monitoring of HGSFP in Zamfara State





An N-Health beneficiary provides dentistry service to a client in the School of Health Technology, Nasarawa LGA, Kano State

### Successes and Challenges

Presented in this section are successes and challenges documented in reports submitted by TPMs. Most challenges were similar across the states and may appear repetitive, but the purpose of this section is to feature feedback from each state. States are presented by their geopolitical region rather than in alphabetical order.

### SOUTH-EAST STATES

#### Abia State HGSFP

In Abia State, 858 schools across 17 LGAs were reported to be participating in the HGSFP programme during the period of monitoring. This is based on information provided by the Abia State

Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB).

#### Challenges:

Pupils:

- Low quality and insufficient quantity of food served.
- Inconsistent supply of food; that is, food was not supplied daily as designed.
- Cooks did not bring plates and spoons to serve pupils; pupils brought their own plates.
- Foods served were high in starch with little vegetables.
- Drinking water was not always provided with meals.

#### Cooks:

- Irregular funding, which meant food was sometimes not served in schools.
- Funds apportioned for feeding was not commensurate with the population of pupils to be fed. This affected the quality and quantity of food supplied.
- Distance: cooks lived far from or in communities different from the schools they supplied food. This often meant delayed or irregular food service.
- Delayed disbursement of funds to cooks.
- Non-availability of cooking utensils.

were sliced into parts and shared to pupils.

- Limited understanding of the programme and its purpose.
- Some children experienced stomach upset after eating the food.

#### N-Power

In 2017, there were 7,649 beneficiaries of the programme in the state based on information obtained from the N-SIP official. According to the official, the total number of beneficiaries for 2016 was unavailable because collected data was yet to be organised.

Some beneficiaries in Aba South LGA were reported to have begun production and sale of cassava flour and shea butter cream with assistance from the agriculture officer in charge.

Others beneficiaries reported that they had begun making savings from monthly stipend paid to them by the programme. For example, Koha Grace, an N-Teach beneficiary in Ndume Otuka Community Secondary School, Ahiaeke in Umuahia North LGA, had begun saving part of her income towards establishing a business at the end of the programme.

## INSIGHT

Cooks in Isiukuato LGA reported that a lady, Mrs. Osundu from Oluama community, often deducted between N10,000 and N25,000 from payments made to them for feeding pupils as bribe every month. This woman has also been accused of collecting payment for cooks that are non-existent ('ghost' cooks). – Abia State

#### Farmers:

- Farmers complained that they were hardly patronised by cooks who preferred purchasing foodstuff from the market.

#### Parents:

- The quality and quantity of food provided was low. Often, neither fish nor meat was provided, while eggs served were not whole -- they

#### Challenges:

- Delay in payment of monthly stipends to beneficiaries.
- Deployment of beneficiaries to PPA was unrelated to their course of study or area of specialisation.
- A majority of N-Teach and N-Health beneficiaries, and a few N-Agro beneficiaries, were inconsistent at

reporting or completely failed to report for duties.

- Lack of accountability of beneficiaries to principals, head teachers, officers in charge, and supervisors at their PPA. This impeded the ability of these officials to reprimand and discipline beneficiaries when necessary.
- Overburdening of beneficiaries with workload in PPA, particularly N-Teach.
- Poor internet network to access the N-Power portal and obtain information or keep abreast of goings-on in the programme.
- Delayed shortlisting of applicants.
- Poor information dissemination to beneficiaries from the programme.
- Long travel distance to PPAs.
- Non-availability of funding to start up private farms.
- Poor working environment.

### GEEP

The status of GEEP in the state is unknown, but it was assumed that the programme had not been implemented during the period of monitoring. This is because TPMs could not locate relevant officials managing the programme. Efforts made towards contacting the programme's officials were unsuccessful, and the Bank of Industry reported that it was not part of the programme in the state.

### Anambra State

Between September and November 2018, 9,275 pupils were reported to have benefitted from the HGSF programme, while for the N-

Power programme 4,506 individuals had benefitted.

### HGSFP

In Anambra, the state government had yet to assume its responsibility to feed pupils in primary 4 to 6 during the period of monitoring.

In spite of the above, the HGSFP recorded some successes. Pupils that were enrolled in private schools were reported to have been deregistered from those schools and enrolled into public schools where the programme was implemented.

Also, pupils in primary 1 to 3 no longer took food to school as they were dependent on food served through the programme. Parents were, thus, relieved of the task of preparing lunches for their children to take to school.

Finally, teachers confirmed that pupils paid better attention in class, and that concentration among pupils had improved.

### Challenges:

- Delayed disbursement of funds to cooks. This was highlighted in Dunukofia, Orumba North and South, Ihiala, and Njikoka LGAs and resulted in irregular food supply in schools in these LGAs.
- Increased enrolment of pupils resulted in a simultaneous reduction in the quantity of food served to pupils.
- Increased enrolment of pupils with no concomitant increase in funds provided to cooks also affected delivery, quantity and quality of food supplied.
- High cost of food items. This affected cooks' ability to supply the quality and quantity of food expected.
-



- Exclusion of nursery pupils in the programme. Pupils in nursery classes expected to be fed as well, but when this did not happen, they cried uncontrollably and became unmanageable. It, therefore, led to disruption of classes.
- Low quality of food supplied to schools.
- Food supply was irregular in some schools across Onitsha North and South, Oyi, and Nnewi North and South. But in some other schools in Njikoka, Oyi and Anambra West LGAs, food had not been supplied since commencement of the second phase of the programme.
- Lack of spoons and water resulted in pupils eating with their hands, which were often unwashed because water was unavailable. This was reported in Dunukofia, Ayamelum, Awka North and Ogbaru LGAs.
- Supply of improperly prepared food was reported in one of the schools visited in Ukpok in Nnewi South LGA.
- Some pupils in Ukpok in Nnewi South LGA complained of stomach upset after eating food supplied, especially beans.

### N-Power

Beneficiaries reported that they have gained knowledge, skills and experience in areas such as teaching, class management, record keeping, multi-sectoral communication skills, and fish farming.

Some officials in LGAs visited, such as the education secretaries and heads of department, acknowledged that the programme was impactful as beneficiaries posted to their establishments had been of great value to them.

### Challenges:

- Late payment of stipends to beneficiaries. This was reported in Awka South, Dunukofia, Anambra West and East, Ekwusigo, Nnewi North and South LGAs.
- Beneficiaries posted to the Local Government headquarters in hard-to-reach LGAs such as Anambra West, Ayamelum, Ogbaru and Awka North reported that the distance from their residence to their PPA, as well as poor access roads, made reporting to work challenging, especially as it increased their expenditure on transportation.
- Many beneficiaries were posted to small establishments in Anambra West, Ayamelum, Ogbaru and Awka North that were incapable of taking all of them on.
- Some beneficiaries in Anambra West, Ayamelum, Ogbaru and Awka North were seen only on verification days.
- Training was not provided to most beneficiaries, and N-Health beneficiaries were not trained on how to use hospital equipment.
- Most beneficiaries in the state were not trained because they either could not access the internet for the online training or were unable to afford the transportation cost to attend face-to-face trainings.
- Allowances were not paid to beneficiaries during training, and some beneficiaries reported that they were still owed allowances after the training.
- Beneficiaries with differences in the names reflected on their bank accounts faced challenges getting paid.

### GEEP

The TPMs were unable to obtain information from relevant personnel about the programme's activities in the LGAs visited. The majority of those consulted at the LGAs were unaware about the programme.

A few potential beneficiaries or applicants encountered at the time of monitoring stated that they had applied for GEEP loans but had yet to receive the loans.

### TPM-related challenges:

- The state coordinator had not been active in the implementation of N-SIP in the state.
- Insufficient fund for carrying out monitoring activities.
- High cost of transportation in some hard-to-reach and riverine LGAs.
- The number of CBOs contracted to carry out third-party monitoring was insufficient to cover the 21 LGAs in the state.

### Ebonyi State

#### N-Power

10,037 people have reportedly benefitted from the programme in Ebonyi State: 3,641 in 2016 and 6,396 in 2017.

### Challenges:

Complaints of unpaid monthly stipends as well as beneficiaries' poor or irregular reporting to work were observed across LGAs visited in the state.

#### Afikpo LGA:

- High cost of transportation to training venue.
- Difficulty logging into the N-Power website from cybercafés for registration. This unnecessarily prolonged the registration process.

#### Ohaozara LGA:

- Lack of or poor internet service impeded beneficiaries' efforts to access the N-POWER website for updates and information regarding the programme.

#### Ishielu LGA:

- Long travel distance from home to PPA was reported as a major difficulty for beneficiaries in this LGA.

#### Ezza South LGA:

- Delayed enrolment of beneficiaries.
- A few beneficiaries complained about poor internet service.
- High transportation cost from home to workplace.
- Delayed payment of stipend.

#### Ezza North LGA:

- Devices were not provided to beneficiaries.
- High cost of transportation to PPA.

#### Ohaukwu LGA:

- Long travel distance to PPA.
- Unfavourable environment: no good roads, no electricity, and lack of other social amenities.
- All beneficiaries reported lack of internet service, which made staying up-to-date with the programme challenging.

#### HGSFP

A total of 1,066 public schools and 180,249 pupils have reportedly benefitted from the programme in Ebonyi State.

The desk officer for the programme in Abakaliki LGA, Mr Uguru Samuel, stated that the programme had impacted positively on

enrolment and retention rates in the LGA. He added that people in the community donated lands to schools for farming as their contribution to the programme.

However, he reported that, since September, only 26 of the 85 public schools in Abakaliki had been benefitting from the programme.

### Challenges:

A key challenge reported by the chairman of Ebonyi State Universal Basic Education Board (EBSUBEB) was that N-Teach beneficiaries were posted to schools without prior notice of the EBSUBEB.

#### Ezza North LGA:

- The six schools visited complained that plates and spoons were not provided. Sometimes, pupils were served food in plastic bags, while at other times they brought their plates from home.

- All the schools did not have potable water, which was a major challenge as pupils were unable to wash their hands before and after meals.

#### Afikpo South:

- All pupils in this LGA complained of inconsistency in food supply.

- Cooks consulted complained that funds were not consistently disbursed to enable them to perform their function.

#### Ohaukwu LGA:

- Two food vendors interviewed complained of delayed disbursement of funds, and that the increase in the number of pupils they were to feed was a major challenge.

- Three cooks deployed to Odeatang Primary School, Ngbo; Ugoeze Community Primary School, Ngbo; and Abogodo Community Primary School

complained of delayed disbursement of funds.

- Pupils in Ugoeze Community Primary school, Effium, complained that the quantity of food served was insufficient, especially since food supplied was shared with pupils in lower classes.

#### Ezza South LGA:

- Quantity of food served was insufficient.

- All pupils reported that they were not fed for over two weeks in November.

- Some parents complained of unsanitary handling of food by cooks.

- Head teachers stated that delayed disbursement of funds to cooks was one of the programme's biggest challenges.

- Some public schools were yet to participate in the programme as at the time of monitoring.

#### Abakaliki, Ohaozara and Onicha LGAs:

Delayed disbursement of funds to cooks.

- Funds provided was inadequate to feed the increasing number of pupils.

High cost of food items.

- Some public schools were yet to participate in the programme

#### Ishielu LGA:

- Pupils in primary 1 -3 in Okpoto and other communities in the LGA reported that they had never benefited from the programme.

#### GEEP

The state N-SIP focal person, Hon. Ugo Nnachi, reported to TPMs that the state was yet to benefit from the programme. She

She explained that the aggregator channels selected by the Federal Government worked independently and so she could not access beneficiaries' database. However, she confirmed that a total of 4,367 applicants qualified for loans since January 2018, but that she was unaware if they eventually got the loans.

Unfortunately, as of November 2018, TPMs were still unable to identify a single GEEP beneficiary in the state. The desk officer for one of the co-operatives, Integrated Relief Co-operative, complained that the co-operative was unable to recover up to 70% of its credit facility because of the high rate of defaulters among beneficiaries.

#### **TPM-related challenge:**

The state N-SIP focal person refused to release documented information (example: list of N-Power beneficiaries, list of GEEP applicants, list of registered associations) on N-SIP to TPMs until a formal letter from Abuja was submitted.

### **Imo State**

#### **N-POWER**

##### **Challenges:**

- Distance to PPA and lack of funds for transportation.
- Poor or lack of internet service.
- Difficulty logging into the N-Power website.
- Difficulty collecting employment letter.
- Unpaid monthly stipend.
- No allowance during training.
- 

#### **Ehime Mbano LGA:**

- Officials were not provided with resources to aid monitoring -- it was reported that they personally financed monitoring of beneficiaries across the LGA.

- The LGA education secretary, Mrs. FC Osuji, reported that the LGA Education Authority (LGEA) was not involved in the programme's implementation.

#### **HGSFP**

Some of the reported successes of the programme in the state are summarized as follows:

- Most head teachers interviewed informed TPMs that the programme had led to some parents transferring their children from private schools to public schools so as to benefit from the feeding. This contributed to increasing enrolment rate in these schools.

- The School Board Management Committee (SBMC) also confirmed that the programme had indeed improved enrolment in schools.

- Attendance in school had noticeably improved.

- Pupils interviewed across LGAs reported that the programme had contributed to improving their performance in school.

- None of the pupils interviewed during monitoring had experienced stomach ache after eating food provided.

- All cooks interviewed reported increased household income since they joined the programme.

- All cooks interviewed, except one, reported that they were better able to

support their families financially.

- Community leaders reported that the programme had increased buying and selling in the community and provided employment for women and youth.
- Parents stated that the programme assisted them in taking care of their family, and has enabled them save money they would have spent on preparing packed lunches.
- Farmers in six LGAs reported that their savings increased by about 20%.

#### Challenges reported:

- All cooks interviewed reported that the amount provided for meals per child was insufficient.
- Cooks also complained of delayed disbursement of funds, which affected supply of food to schools.
- The SBMC stated that food served to pupils was inadequate and the funds provided for feeding were equally insufficient.
- The monitoring report conveyed that the programme had been politicised in the state, as cooks had been mandated to mobilise 20 votes each for the state governor's political party.

## INSIGHT

Mrs Ogoonina, a teacher and a cook under the programme, said she was recruited as compensation for the votes she mobilised for the state governor during the general election. The process was coordinated by the governor's wife, Mrs Nnoma Okorochoa. – Imo State December monitoring report

## Enugu State

### N-POWER

#### Challenges:

- Beneficiaries, especially N-Health beneficiaries, were not trained prior to posting to PPAs.
- Transportation cost was high due to bad roads, especially in Aninri.
- Beneficiaries were not consistent at their PPAs. This greatly affected the number of people TPMs could interview.
- The N-Power focal person was never available, as a result, monitors were unable to get a list of beneficiaries of the programme.

### HGSFP

Most cooks interviewed reported that the programme had improved their finances and brought joy to their children.

The programme was, however, challenged thus:

- TPMs struggled with getting the list of beneficiaries to aid monitoring; only some of the departments contacted gave them access.

- In Oji River LGA, cooks had to travel to Enugu to purchase food items because there were no community farmers associated with the programme in the LGA.

Delayed payment to cooks.

- Late supply of food by cooks.
- Spoons were not provided with meals.
-

- Poor quality and insufficient quantities of food were supplied to pupils.
- Parents interviewed expressed their unease with their children eating meals served, because the meals were prepared by cooks away from the schools and under conditions they were unsure of.
- Fruit and vegetables were not always provided with meals in Idaw River and Zik's Avenue Primary School 2.
- Insufficient number of cooks were assigned to some schools, especially Zik's Avenue School 4.
- Absence of an SBMC.
- De-worming and BMI checks were not performed on pupils.

#### **GEEP**

##### **Challenges:**

- TP monitors were unable to get access to GEEP data.
- All LGAs were unaware of any beneficiary of GEEP.
- Beneficiaries on the list provided to monitors claimed not to have received their loans.

## **INSIGHT**

Poor engagement of key stakeholders can have unfavourable results.

Parents interviewed expressed unease about their children eating meals served, because they were prepared by cooks away from the schools and under conditions, they were unsure of.

## **SOUTH-WEST STATES**

### **Ekiti State**

#### **Challenge:**

Ekiti State did not receive funding for third-party monitoring. There is therefore no data to report for the state.

#### **Recommendation:**

National Social Investment Office (NSIO) should investigate why funding was not extended to Ekiti State, and institute measures to ensure the state participates in the next round of third-party monitoring.

### **Lagos State**

#### **N-POWER**

N-Health beneficiaries are more experienced and have acquired skills that will equip them to work in the health sector in the future.

N-Health beneficiaries have also become invaluable to resolving problems of understaffing in PHCs, which contributed to reducing heavy workload experienced by staff.

Beneficiaries were able to meet some of their immediate needs. They could support themselves and their families as a result of the monthly stipend received.

One of the beneficiaries interviewed stated that he had rented an apartment and was able to feed himself because of the N-SIP programme.

## SPOTLIGHT

“The programme is really beneficial to me because, before this programme, I was jobless. Now I know I will receive N30,000 at the end of the month, which I have been using to cater for myself” – Olayomi Yetunde, N-Health beneficiary in Iponri PHC, Lagos State.

“I want to specially thank the Federal Government for giving me this opportunity through N-Agro training to establish and run my personal farm.” – Isimi Taiwo, an N-Agro beneficiary in Lagos State.

### Challenges recorded are listed:

- Delay in payment of stipend was reported by beneficiaries in Ifako Ijaye, Alimosho, Ikorodu, Agege, Somolu, Mushin, and Ajeromi Ifelodun LGAs.
- Lack of or late dissemination of information in Ifako-Ijaiye, Somolu, Mushin and Ajeromi-Ifelodun LGAs.
- Delays during verification and posting in Mushin LGA.
- Overcrowding during verification in Ajeromi-Ifelodun, Ikorodu and Alimosho LGAs.
- Training venues in Agege, Alimosho, Ifako-Ijaiye, Ikorodu and Ajeromi-Ifelodun LGAs were reported as not conducive for training due to poor sound systems, language barrier and others.
- N-Agro beneficiaries in Agege, Oshodi-Isolo and Ifako-Ijaye complained of lack of equipment for proper training on the farms.
- Lack of proper data tracking and record-keeping of information on beneficiaries as officials were unable to provide reliable

information on beneficiaries assigned to their local governments.

- Unpaid stipend.

## INSIGHT

The N- SIP official in Ifako Local Government Primary Healthcare Centre disclosed that he had no idea of the total number of beneficiaries posted to the local government since inception. There were clear gaps in communication between N- Health beneficiaries and their N- SIP coordinator in the LGA.

### Ogun State

#### N-POWER

Some beneficiaries who were not trained teachers but were posted to schools reported that they initially struggled with writing lesson notes, marking registers, among others, at the beginning of the programme. However, training and support received through the programme empowered them to overcome this challenge.

Beneficiaries also confirmed that the monthly stipend had been of immense support to them as they were able to support themselves and their families as well as explore their interests.

N-Teach beneficiaries reported that teaching has given them the opportunity to impact the lives of the pupils at their PPAs.

Beneficiaries had acquired new skills through the training provided, had the opportunity to put to practice those skills, and were now very confident at utilising and deploying them.

Participation in the programme motivated some beneficiaries to develop themselves further by taking up certifications in education.

Some beneficiaries who were posted under N-Agro and who had no prior interest, experience or academic background in agriculture developed deep interest in it and have plans to make an impact in the sector.

### Reported challenges:

TPMs noted that the peculiar political atmosphere in Ogun State affected implementation of N-SIP and the monitoring process. For instance, the selection and payment of cooks for the HGSF programme, access of monitors to schools and other public offices where N Power beneficiaries were assigned, the role of market leaders in the determination of the GEEP beneficiaries, among others, were key cases to consider.

With regards to inclusion of PWDs, TPMs reported that in Ijebu-Ode some monitors were PWDs and that a few beneficiaries of the N Power programme were also PWDs. However, this was insignificant and more had to be done to improve the participation of PWDs.

Some N-Teach beneficiaries don't report to their PPAs, but still get paid their stipend.

- There is no monitoring framework to confirm/certify work done before stipend is disbursed.
- Irregular and delayed payment.
- Long distance from home to PPAs forced beneficiaries to spend a lot of their stipend on transportation.
- Some N-Teach beneficiaries reported that training was not provided for them prior to
- 

deployment to their PPAs. They also complained of heavy workload due to insufficient number of teachers in schools.

- Traditional rulers consulted expressed their grievance at the state and federal governments for not including them in the implementation of N-SIP. The Oni-Ilogbo, in particular complained of not being aware of the implementation of any of the programmes in his community.

### TPM-related challenges:

- High cost of transportation and difficult terrains in rural communities, which were also challenges for N-Power beneficiaries.

## INSIGHT

Traditional rulers consulted expressed their grievance at the state and federal governments for not including them in the implementation of N-SIP. The Oni-Ilogbo, in particular complained of not being aware of the implementation of any of the programmes in his community.

### HGSFP

Income and savings of most parents and farmers/traders were reportedly improved due to the programme.

### Challenges

- Most of the cooks interviewed reported cases of food spoilage due to weekly supply of food items by farmers, which resulted in added cost on their part or reduction in the quantity of food provided to the pupils.

A few pupils complained of stomach upset after eating meals in school.



- Not all cooks brought plates to serve pupils.
- Potential fraudulent practice: the number of pupils in government records is higher than the actual number of pupils being fed in some schools.
- Absence of SBMC in some schools.
- Closure of public schools by the state government and the lack of letters of introduction and authorisation from the NSIO and other relevant MDAs like SUBEB prevented monitors from gaining access to beneficiaries.
- Some monitors, especially in Abeokuta, reported that cooks in the state were mostly members or affiliates of political parties, and that food items were purchased from open markets instead of through farmers.
- Some of the N-Teach beneficiaries failed to report to their PPAs, but they still received their stipends.
- Supplies like fish and meat were often incomplete.
- Lack of water and firewood, and storage facilities.
- Food theft.
- Poor coordination and management.
- Poor stakeholders' engagement.
- Poor food quality and non-availability of food.
- High cost of food items.
- Inadequacy of trained cooks.
- 

### **GEEP**

Monitors were not given information about or access to beneficiaries by relevant officials. As a result, in places like Ijebu-Ode LGA they reportedly went into the markets and communities asking questions in an attempt to identify GEEP beneficiaries. In Abeokuta, however, they relied on market leaders for information, but most of them denied knowledge of GEEP.

The Iyaloja of Ipokia town reported to monitors that, due to politics, none of the market women had accessed GEEP loans.

## **INSIGHT**

A minimum of N5,000 was deducted from payments made to cooks every month for uniform and utensils. These items were supposed to be provided for cooks by the programme.

Potential fraudulent practice: the number of pupils in Government records was higher than the actual number of pupils being fed in some schools.

### **Oyo State**

#### **N-POWER**

Some N-Agro beneficiaries were taught how to use the internet to enhance their work, and now have small poultry and fish farming projects.

Most beneficiaries have been able to save and provide for their families.

Some beneficiaries were reported to have started some viable agro-related businesses with their stipends.

Similarly, some N-Health beneficiaries have utilised their stipends to further their

education, while others have started small-scale businesses.

The manager of a mechanic workshop behind Methodist Primary School in Oyo State, Mr. Saheed Kasali, told monitors that the programme would make beneficiaries self-employed as well as employers of labour. He added that the female N-Build beneficiaries had been exposed to mechanic/automobile work and become more knowledgeable.

In Montana High School, Lagelu LGA, the principal stated that the dedication of N-Teach beneficiaries posted to their school led to improvements in their students' academic performance -- their WASCE results were very good.

In Iseyin LGA, most of the 2016 beneficiaries who already owned farms said that the capital would help them to expand their production and add value to their produce.

#### Challenges:

- Beneficiaries in PHC Apete, Ido LGA, reported the communication gap between them and the NSIO as a major challenge.

#### Lagelu LGA:

- TPMs were informed that the LGEA requested money from beneficiaries before signing their documents.

- Some 2016 N-Power beneficiaries were not given devices.

#### Ogbomosho and Oyo East LGA:

- Some N-Build beneficiaries complained of irregular and unpaid stipends for over eight months. Upon investigation by the TPMs, it was discovered that CORBON was responsible for managing the units of N-Build that were yet to receive their stipends, while those managed by NDDC got their stipends regularly.

- Beneficiaries also complained that inappropriate work tools were provided to them, and that they were paid only N10,000 as training allowance whereas their counterparts in other locations got between N35,000 and N40,000.

#### Egbeda and Lagelu LGAs:

- In these LGAs beneficiaries complained that the devices given to them did not contain teaching manual for secondary schools, and since they did not get trained before deployment, they found it difficult to perform, especially in the secondary schools.

- N-Agro beneficiaries complained that they lacked facilities to practise with.

#### Iseyin LGA:

- N-Agro beneficiaries complained that cattle were grazing on and destroying their farmlands.
- Unpaid monthly stipend for between one and four months.

#### Ibadan North East:

- N-Health beneficiaries complained that there was poor awareness about the N-Health programme in communities, which makes community mobilisation difficult.

#### HGSFP

More pupils from private schools have been enrolled in the public schools because of the free meal.

**SPOTLIGHT: One never can know how much a little can go a long way unless one looks closely.**

In Ogebo Primary schools 1, 2, 3 in Atiba LGA, a pupil who was promoted to primary 4 kept going back to his former class (primary 3) where food was provided. When the school met with his parents to discuss his behaviour, the parents asked that the boy be allowed to stay in primary 3 because they were unable to provide food for him at home. They begged the Federal Government to extend the programme to all pupils.

### Challenges:

#### Lagelu and Ogbomosho LGAs:

- Monitors observed inconsistencies in the number of pupils in the school register against that of the state education board. In many cases, it was observed that cooks fed more pupils than estimated.
- In Ogbomoso, cooks were compelled to pay a sum of N1,500 each by the LGA for certificate of fitness.

## INSIGHT

Community Primary School III, Efun, Egbeda LGA: One cook, Mrs. Grace Olajide, who was supposed to feed 130 pupils, was discovered to be feeding 233 pupils with funds provided for only 130 pupils because the second cook abandoned the job. She said she managed the feeding by alternating the classes she fed. So, not all pupils were fed every day.

### GEEP

Mr. Abdulkareem, GEEP Desk Officer, Oyo State, confirmed that many people have been given loans through the programme. He stated, however, that the programme's process for loan disbursement is faulty and that the state has been unable to track applicants who have been given loans.

#### Iseyin LGA:

- All those who applied for loans have accessed and completely paid back the N50,000 loan.

#### Challenges:

- In Ogunpa market, Ogunpa LGA, one of the GEEP beneficiaries consulted, a woman, reported that the agent, Mr. Kelvin, collected N2, 000 from them as fees and also from those who had not 'balanced-up'. She confirmed that she had received and repaid her loan. However, she complained that the interest rate on the loan was too high.

- Beneficiaries who had accessed loans were uninformed about how to access higher loans.

- Extortion of members of Egbejoda Market Association, Ibadan, was reported; an agent made them to pay N4,500 for GEEP application form and insurance. They were yet to receive the loan they applied for. The same agent collected about N3,000 for GEEP application form from members of POWA Association. This time around, most of them obtained the loan and made weekly repayment remittances to a certain Mr. Kelvin a DRTS agent. However, there were complaints that the remittances might have been diverted as the Bank of Industry (BOI) still sent out notifications to loan beneficiaries to repay their loans or have their BVN blocked even after the record showed they had completed their

loan repayment. The agent, Mr. Kelvin, should be investigated.

## Ondo State

### N-Power

Beneficiaries consulted confirmed that the programme has been quite beneficial and has given them a sense of purpose.

### Challenges:

#### Irele LGA:

- Most beneficiaries complained that they were present all through their training period, but they were not paid any allowance.
- Beneficiaries also complained that they were highly extorted by cyber-café owners during the application and shortlisting processes.
- Beneficiaries complained of delays in payment, and new beneficiaries reported that they were owed three months unpaid stipend, and their devices were yet to be provided.

#### Okitipupa LGA:

- N-Teach beneficiaries in the LGA were posted to PPAs where they were not being utilised. For instance, some B.Sc holders who were posted to primary schools found it difficult to adapt.

#### Owo LGA:

- Delay in stipend, especially for newly deployed beneficiaries who had not been paid since deployment.
- Difficulty in accessing the N-Power website.

#### Idanre LGA:

Some beneficiaries in the LGA were absent from their PPAs, while others failed

to report.

### HGSFP

389 schools were recorded as benefitting from the programme across the six LGAs, with the highest number of participating schools in Owo LGA.

Pupils in primary 1-3 no longer brought food to school but depended solely on food provided by the Federal Government.

Teachers reported that they had noticed an increase in enrolment, better academic performance, eagerness to learn, and punctuality of pupils, which they attributed to the programme.

### Challenges:

- Fruits were served only at the onset of the programme, but subsequently no longer part of the menu.
- Delayed payment to cooks; very small portion of meat, lack of good plates or food flasks for serving the food and drinking water did not accompany food.
- Cooks reported that meat was not part of their budget, which explained the small piece of meat complained about by some schools.

#### Ifedore LGA:

- Most head teachers were incapable of determining the quantity and quality of food served in their schools.
- Most contracted cooks sublet to other caterers who had not been assessed by the programme.
- Food was not served to pupils on 29 October as the cook did not turn up to feed the children reportedly due to the death of her mother.

- Head teachers did not have any information on cooks or how the food items were purchased. They only saw prepared food, a situation that made it difficult for them to ascertain the source and quality of the food.

- Plates were not provided, so children brought plates from home. However, some head teachers reported that the plates brought were often dirty, and there was no water in the school to wash the plates or take care of other needs.

#### **Owo LGA:**

- The SBMC no longer held meetings.
- There were no facilities in place for measuring the weight and height of pupils, hence there was no record for the MUAC, height and weight of enrolled pupils.

- The quantity of food provided was insufficient for pupils. This was partly because food meant for primary 1-3 was shared to the kindergarten classes as well to give them a sense of belonging.

- Farmers were not being patronised as cooks preferred to buy directly from the market.

#### **Ile-Olujioke LGA:**

- Most schools in Ile-Olujioke have not started benefiting from the HGSFP: e.g., St. Matthew Primary School, Lipaanu; C.P.S., Leegun; C.P.S., Iloro; St John Anglican Primary School, Awo; L.A. Primary School, Olorunsogo; St. Matthias Primary School, Lipannu, among others.

#### **Irele LGA:**

- The quantity of food served was poor and most pupils did not have meat with their food; for those who had meat, it was too small to be noticed. However, monitors reported that class teachers, meanwhile, were seen collecting food with meat.

- Food was not enough as enrolment rate had increased due to the programme.

- Pupils in other classes that were not benefiting from the daily meal felt marginalised.

#### **Akoka North East:**

- Absence of SBMC.
- No facility in place for measuring the weight and height of pupils, so there was no record for MUAC.

#### **Osun State**

##### **N-POWER**

18,253 individuals had been deployed across 30 LGAs in the state between 2016 and 2017.

Beneficiaries reported that the programme had provided gainful employment for them, and expressed happiness and wished the government would make their jobs permanent.

##### **Challenges:**

- Poor network during registration.
- Poor information dissemination between the programme and the beneficiaries.
- Delays in supply and collection of devices.
- Network congestion during registration.
- Epileptic power supply making it difficult to charge tablets to enable reading online.
- Long travel distance from their residential homes to PPAs.
- Heavy workload for N-Teach beneficiaries, particularly in those schools where some

permanent teachers no longer taught.

- Insufficient duration for training.
- Only a few beneficiaries were trained. They complained that the training venues were not conducive because they were not spacious and thus crowded, lacked public address system, and training materials were not provided.
- Network inconsistency for beneficiaries who were to undergo online training.
- High cost of transportation due to long distance from their residence to the training centre.
- Delayed payment of some beneficiaries' stipends.
- Training allowance was not paid to beneficiaries.
- Training provided was not conducted as expected.
- Delays in shortlisting of applicants.
- Inadequate communication between N-Power officials and beneficiaries.

## INSIGHT

No incentives provided to farmers by the programme. Most farmers requested incentives from beneficiaries before they could work on their farms.

### HGSFP

1,399 schools were participating in the programme across the state as at the time of monitoring.

Feedback from teachers showed that enrolment rate of pupils increased from 34,063 to 39,159 between 2016 and 2018.

All cooks registered with the programme were trained and most had been engaged since the programme's inception, thus providing a source of income for them and their families for those years.

## INSIGHT

Isokan LGA: Cooks complained that before now, payments were made in advance for cooking but now there is delay in payment, still they are expected to bring food to the pupils. Even when they do not have money to buy foodstuff, they are forced to borrow money to meet up.

## INSIGHT

The monitoring team could not interact with any farmer but discovered that an organisation, Tuns International Holding Company, is responsible for supplying meat (fish, chicken) and eggs for the programme in the state. All efforts made to interact with the company's spokesperson were unsuccessful.

### Challenges

#### Cooks:

- Delayed payments, which also delayed food supply, and forced cooks to purchase food items on credit.
- High cost of transportation to designated schools assigned to them.
- Irrational reduction of earned income as some cooks were being owed.

- Feeding allowance for each pupil was not enough to feed them to satisfaction.
- Changing cost of food items in the market.
- Irregular payments resulting in some cooks being owed for months and were still expected to provide food for the pupils.
- Increase in number of pupils without a corresponding increase in feeding allowance.

#### **Pupils:**

Food rations were too small.

#### **GEEP**

14,334 people had reportedly been serviced since the start of the programme.

#### **Challenges:**

Delays in loan disbursement.

- Process of applying for loan was time demanding.
- In some instances, amount received was less than amount applied for.
- Repayment process corrupted by association leaders.
- Most beneficiaries complained of receiving alerts that they owed when they had already paid their money in full to their leaders.

Payment was stopped by most beneficiaries as they were not sure if their repayment was being remitted appropriately.

The process for loan disbursement was a bit faulty as some 5.8% of the beneficiaries received alert without being paid.

- Verified beneficiaries interacted with during monitoring were in only six LGAs. This was because most beneficiaries claimed not to have collected any money from government and some were scared of being arrested and thus did not give adequate response when contacted by TPMs. According to the monitors, feedback from beneficiaries, the purpose for which the programme was established, has been corrupted, especially by the aggregator channels.

- Generally, the process for repaying loans was reported by TPMs as not well structured, and they have recommended that it should be investigated.

## **SOUTH-SOUTH STATES**

### **Akwa Ibom**

#### **N-POWER**

Akwa Ibom State had 12,235 beneficiaries enrolled into the programme across 31 LGAs as at the time of monitoring.

The programme has contributed to the reduction of unemployment and youth restiveness.

It also resulted in rapid entrepreneurship development by the beneficiaries. Some beneficiaries were able to use savings from their monthly stipends to start small businesses.

Beneficiaries reported that they had gained knowledge, skills and experience related to their work in areas such as teaching, class management, record keeping, multi-sectoral communication skills, and fish farming.

#### **Challenges**

- Lack of an efficient platform/system through which beneficiaries could get support and report complaints. Beneficiaries expected the local government to have a front desk officer to

whom they could report issues and get support.

- A few beneficiaries reported that lack of access to the internet, especially in rural communities, was a major challenge with completing the application process, and receiving information via the portal.
- Absence of a system for beneficiaries who wanted to redeploy.
- The non-existence of communication flow from the community through to the LGA and state made it difficult for beneficiaries to access information from the state.
- Beneficiaries incurred high transportation costs due to distance of their PPAs from their communities; some reportedly paid as much as N400 daily.

#### HGSFP

Nearly all those consulted during monitoring indicated that school enrolment had increased because of the programme. Reductions in dropout rate and truancy were also attributed to the programme.

Farmers and cooks reported improvement in their income.

#### Challenges:

- Most of the schools visited during monitoring reported that they were yet to see community representatives coming on monitoring visit, but that teachers tasted the food for quality and hygiene before it was served to the children.

Not all products were sourced directly from the farmers; most were sourced from the markets.

- Most members of the SBMC in some schools visited reported that they were not sensitised to monitor the programme.

- Unavailability of water was a major challenge for some schools.
- Increase in enrolment resulted in overpopulation in some schools which didn't have enough space, teachers and other resources to manage them.
- Cooks reported that delays in fund disbursement and rising cost of commodities were two of the major challenges they were faced with.

#### Bayelsa State

The Honourable Commissioner for Women and Children Affairs, Mrs. Martha Jenakum, confirmed to monitors that the N-Power programme was being implemented in all eight LGAs in the state with beneficiaries deployed to various communities. However, she reported that the HGSF programme was supposed to be ongoing, but that the state government could not adopt the programme because the money provided for meals was not adequate in view of the realities in the state.

On GEEP, she was not sure of its implementation; however, for the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programme she said assessments were ongoing in three of the poorest LGAs of the state – Ekeremor, Nembe and Southern Ijaw.

#### N-POWER

Some officials in Yenagoa LGA stated that they were grateful for the programme because the beneficiaries had been helpful and useful to their places of deployment.

#### Challenges:

In some establishments, officials were waiting on the Ministry to send them a manual on how to make use of the 600 people deployed to their PPA.



### **Kolokuma-Opokuma**

- High cost of transportation to their PPAs due to the difficult terrain in the state, especially boat transportation.
- Some beneficiaries complained that deployment was not done within the communities or LGAs where they were resident.
- Most N-Agro beneficiaries at the LGAs had not been assigned PPAs.

### **Nembe**

- One of the major complaints was that beneficiaries were posted to LGAs different from the one they indicated in their application.
- High cost of transportation.
- Unpaid allowances for some beneficiaries since the inception of the programme.

### **Sagbama**

- Distant locations of PPAs for some beneficiaries.
- Difficulties in getting accommodation, as some beneficiaries preferred to live in the communities they were posted to work.
- Delays in shortlisting beneficiaries, which caused a lot of anxiety.
- Delays in the payment of allowances.
- Some officials refused to respond to questionnaire administered by monitors, stating that the questionnaire did not apply to them.
- Officials did not know the beneficiaries and could only name one or two that reported for work daily.

- Most beneficiaries did not resume after their deployment.

### **Ekeremor**

- Most beneficiaries complained about the high cost of transporting themselves to their respective PPAs.
- Some beneficiaries reported accommodation as a challenge because they were posted far from their communities.
- Lack of electricity in most of the communities was also a problem, as most of them were trying to establish small-scale businesses with their stipends.

Also, a majority of the N-Teach beneficiaries demanded that the device should be sent to enable them use the teaching aid in them.

### **Ogbia**

- Some beneficiaries were owed stipend due to error in their account details.
- Beneficiaries complained of high cost of transportation from their residence to their PPAs.

### **Yenagoa**

- Beneficiaries in this LGA complained that the monthly income was too small.
- Beneficiaries were not monitored.
- Poor internet access, which affected application process.

- Some beneficiaries complained that they were posted to places where they were not needed.
- Some of the beneficiaries had not been paid since they came on the programme.
- Most beneficiaries, especially N-Agro, were still waiting to be given responsibilities.
- Some beneficiaries were eager to work but had not been assigned anything to do or even given chairs to sit on.
- The officials allowed some beneficiaries to go about their other businesses.

### **Southern Ijaw**

- Beneficiaries had trouble in locating their PPAs.
- Most beneficiaries were not acquainted with the areas they were posted to work.
- Cost of transportation to their duty post was very high, and beneficiaries could not afford to pay the high cost of transport on a daily basis.
- The monthly stipend was too small for the month.
- None of the N-Power beneficiaries had been gainfully employed after their term on the programme.
- The N-Power website was too weak; most of the time, there was no network.
- Some of the beneficiaries were owed their monthly stipends.
- Beneficiaries in this LGA reported that they had not been monitored since they started the programme.

- Too many beneficiaries were posted to small establishments that were incapable of taking them all.
- Some of the beneficiaries were seen in their duty post only on the day of verification.
- Officials at PPAs were not able to control the number of people sent to their establishments.

### **TPM-related challenges/constraints**

- Cost of transport was also too high for monitors because most of the communities had to be visited twice or thrice in a month to administer questionnaire to all beneficiaries in a particular location.
- The questionnaire is vague; most of the questions are not applicable to the officials in the establishments.
- Objective 2 of the beneficiary questionnaire is not useful.
- The M & E template has a lot of repetitions and should be reviewed.
- The money made available was not enough to cover most of the LGAs.
- Most of the locations are difficult to reach.

### **Cross River State**

#### **N-POWER**

Most beneficiaries have reportedly been able to give back to the society, and by so doing now have a sense of belonging and fulfilment while benefiting from the N-Power programme.

Beneficiaries have been able to bridge

the gap in paucity of teaching staff in participating schools, and in most of the schools students have been taught all subjects due to the presence of N-Teach.

### Challenges/Constraints

- The long distance to PPAs has greatly affected beneficiaries' ability to be regular at work.
- Some beneficiaries (Batch B) are owed months of stipend.
- Some N-Power beneficiaries were transferred without proper documentation.
- Beneficiaries complained that the long distance of PPA to their residence meant they often spent most of their stipends on transportation.
- Some beneficiaries complained of poor information dissemination about the orientation training and the stressful nature of the verification exercise. Some of the beneficiaries have not been given devices.
- No proper monitoring by N-SIP officials to curtail absence from duty by beneficiaries.
- No proper communication channel(s) through which beneficiaries can obtain information.
- No prompt payment of stipends for a new batch of beneficiaries.

### Calabar South/Akpabuyo/Bakassi LGA

- PHC beneficiaries ran shifts; they were therefore hardly all present at any one time.
- Beneficiaries performed most of the work in schools/PHC.
- Some newly posted beneficiaries were yet to be paid their stipends.

- Some beneficiaries wished to be reposted to places close to their residence.
- Distance was a major reason for poor attendance at PPAs.
- Some schools did not deserve the number of beneficiaries they received due to small enrolment size.
- Due to the level of insecurity in Bakassi LGA and across the river, beneficiaries posted there found it difficult to report to their PPA.

### Calabar Municipality/ Odukpani/ Akamkpa LGAs

- Only two beneficiaries were posted to Mbarakom health centre; they were overburdened by the level of work there.
- Unconducive working space hindered the discharge of duties in some facilities/institutions.
- Due to poor information flow, some beneficiaries were unaware that they had been shortlisted as no text message or email was officially sent to them.

### Yala/Boki/Ogoja LGAs

- Long distance from their LGA of residence to their various places of deployment was constraining.

### Biase/Abi/Yakurr LGAs

- Beneficiaries complained of long distances they had to travel every time they went for verification.
- Unavailability of some N-Power beneficiaries as at time of visit of TPM.
- Nonchalant attitude of some beneficiaries to work due to lack of proper disciplinary measures.

### Obudu/Obanliku/Bekwara LGAs

- Beneficiaries reported that they often spent almost all their allowances on transportation due to the distance from their place of residence to their PPA.
- There is no office space to accommodate beneficiaries in some establishments.
- Poor information dissemination.

### HGSFP

The programme has created job opportunities for community members who previously depended solely on their petty businesses. They can now boast of having additional or multiple sources of income.

The population of pupils in schools has increased since the commencement of the HGSF programme, especially in rural areas. A small number of pupils stated that the food they were served was actually better than the meals they were given at home.

Children from schools not benefiting from the programme requested to be transferred to participating public schools because of the food served.

### Challenges:

- It was observed that the state has only one food collection centre, and cooks go through batch managers to collect food items. This process often resulted in spoilage of food items, which were still served to the pupils.
- Food is usually not provided to pupils along with drinking water.
- Some schools in Obudu LGA reported that pupils were fed noodles, cheese balls, biscuits and so on, in contravention of the central HGSF programme's meal plan.
- No local farmer was part of the programme in the state as food supplies were

contracted on behalf of cooks by the state; cooks received supplies every Sunday.

- Cooks were not selected by community heads and some of them did not reside in the communities where they supplied food.
- Parents discouraged their children from partaking in food served by cooks due to fear of witchcraft.
- Interviews with pupils revealed that the quantity of food given to them was very small; fruit or sometimes an egg is shared by two to three pupils.
- In some weeks, meals were shared thrice and not daily as it ought to be.

### DOMSOJ (Calabar-South, Akpabuyo, Bakassi)

- Teachers were unhappy for not benefiting from the programme.
- SBMC was non-existent in some schools.
- Superstition, fear of being initiated into witchcraft, hindered many pupils from participating in the programme.
- Some teachers stated that they would have preferred waived school fees to feeding of children.
- Some communities where public schools are located were experiencing communal clashes as at the time of monitoring, making monitoring difficult.
- Beneficiaries work/live in fear of militancy and kidnapping, which was reported to be common in the area (Bakassi).

- Pupils were not fed for some weeks because cooks were unable to obtain food supplies from their cluster leaders.

### **Elohim Foundation (Calabar Municipal, Odukpani, Akamkpa)**

The Deputy Head Teacher, Mrs. Ogar Glory Anthony, in Calabar Municipal, reported that some cooks assigned to her school had never supplied food to the school. They are: Maryanne Uregbo Monjok assigned to feed 100 pupils; Esther Ipeh-Olah assigned to feed 75 pupils; Ekaette Vincent Ukpong assigned to feed 148 pupils; Ashegu Agatha Iyala assigned to feed 75 pupils, and Ene Tom Odey assigned to feed 75 pupils.

- Feeding of pupils in Community Primary School, Ikami in Akamkpa LGA, stopped in March 2018 because of long distance from the residence of cooks to schools.
- Pupils were fed three times per week due to shortage in supply of food items to cooks by their cluster leaders.

### **HICLOSED (Obubra, Ikom, Etung)**

- Some cooks complained of irregular supply of food items by their cluster leaders coupled with poor funding.

- Some head teachers and parents complained of poor quality and quantity of food served to pupils.

### **IPGH (Biase, Abi, Yakurr)**

- Two cooks in PCN Adim, Mrs Elizabeth Inah-Eyong and Mrs Patricia Umet, shared with the TPM team their challenges about the HGSFP. They include delay of funds, which usually impeded their inability to supply food as expected; shortage of supplies of food items and increased number of children in schools resulting in reduced quantity of food served per child.

- All the pupils interviewed in Obanjom Primary School reported that they were not served food on a daily basis.

### **ORACCI (Obudu, Obanliku, Bekwara)**

- One of the key challenges identified was poor involvement of SBMC in the programme's implementation.
- Communities were not involved despite that most of the items were supposed to be sourced from farmers in the communities.
- Key issues identified in Obudu were: Poor stakeholders (communities and parents) involvement, and delayed disbursement of funds.
- It was reported that the programme had been hijacked by some politicians that involved their relatives who, at the end of the day, were incapable of handling the programme.
- Head teachers and teachers were not involved in the monitoring process.
- The government dealt with co-coordinators instead of the cooks who were directly involved in the programme's implementation.
- Some schools that were supposed to have three to four cooks had only one or two supplying food with no food menu displayed or given to the schools.
- A cook who was supposed to be on the programme was disengaged at some point and replaced with one of the co-coordinator's relatives in Obanliku LGA.
- Pupils were only served food two times per week.

### PFIF (Yala, Boki, Ogoja)

- The major challenge in most of the schools visited was inconsistent supply and insufficient quantity of food supplied. Cooks complained of late arrival of food supplies from the central collection point to their cluster leaders and asked to be given the liberty to purchase supplies by themselves.

### GEEP

#### NOT Implemented

Mrs. Theresa Ephraim, the GEEP state focal person, refused to share information with monitors and stated that a letter must be sent from the N-SIP office to the state commissioner of women Affairs, through the registry, giving her directives to share information.

The CSO paid a visit to a mini market on Barracks Road, Calabar, to identify GEEP beneficiaries. The people interviewed in the market had no idea about the existence of GEEP in the state. Thus, no beneficiary has been identified so far.

### Delta State

#### N-POWER

#### Challenges with implementing programme

- Most beneficiaries did not attend the training because most of the trainings were online, while for the on-site training beneficiaries complained of transportation cost.

- In Isoko South LGA, the focal person and the LGEA secretary stated that they could not rate the shortlisting process because they were not part of the process and the criteria for selection were not known to them. They recommended that the LGA should be carried along during subsequent shortlisting for “proper

documentation and grassroots mobilisation and monitoring”.

## INSIGHT

The uncoordinated design of the programme makes it difficult to collect data. The programme is highly politicised with political interest determining who should be the focal person or coordinator without regard for capacity to implement the programme in each LGA.

### HGSFP

#### Challenges:

**Okpe LGA:** The key challenge faced was lack of water in schools and delayed release of money to cooks.

**Sapele LGA:** Noodle was a major part of the menu, which was attributed to inability to purchase farm produce. Mrs Victoria Oghogho of Ogodo Primary school said they stopped paying for her cooking without reason.

**Warri South LGA:** The pupils wanted the quantity and quality of the food to be increased while the cooks wanted the amount paid to feed a child to be increased.

**Warri North LGA:** According to a cook in Koko, “the amount paid is barely enough for specified quantity of food being prepared. The payment does not come on time and the cost of foodstuff is very high”.

**Warri South West LGA:** Cooks said lack of access to potable water forced them to buy water for pupils. Due to the riverine terrain of the LGA, the cost of transportation was very high and it affected service delivery.

**Patani LGA:** Lack of feeding utensils and water was a serious challenge for pupils and cooks. Cooks were not enough and funds provided per pupil was inadequate, which led to small quantity of food served in response to increase in number of pupils enrolled.

**Bomadi LGA:** Due to increased enrolment, cooks were not enough to cater to all the pupils and there was no corresponding increase in funds to match the increased number of pupils. 50 cooks were engaged but 41 were being paid; the other 9 cooks had BVN issues.

**Burutu LGA:** The terrain and high cost of food items were challenges. Since there were no farmers, cooks bought food items from the market, which made profit-making difficult.

**Ughelli South LGA:** Lack of storage facilities, unavailability of food items in the communities, poor stakeholder engagement t, and inadequate labour for the programme were among issues reported.

Generally, all LGAs visited had the same challenges of delayed payment to cooks, incongruence in the amount paid cooks and the number of pupils to be fed, especially as the number of pupils enrolled kept increasing; provisions were not made for payment of additional pupils.

**Okpe, Sapele and Ethiope West LGAs** had the same challenges of delayed payment to cooks and disparity in the amount cooks were paid against the number of pupils they were assigned to feed.

In Warri South LGA, the LGEA secretary was reported to have instructed all heads of primary schools in the LGA not to respond to TPMs or they would be deployed to remote, hard-to-reach schools of the state. This was because, according to him, “the Local

Government Authority is not involved in any of the activities of N-SIP and as such had no knowledge of the programme”

### GEEP

Beneficiaries interviewed stated that loans obtained through the programme had impacted their business positively such that there was noticeable increase in profit.

Mrs. Bello, the state N-SIP focal person, stated that there were 270 aggregator channels disbursing funds in the LGA, and that 25 LGAs had been reached thus far.

She also stated that 14,431 GEEP beneficiaries had received 31 full hours of financial literacy training.

She added that each beneficiary was expected to receive N100,000. However, only a few beneficiaries got the N100,000; others later got N50,000, while some were still given N10,000. The reason for the disparity in amount received by beneficiaries was not known to her.

### Challenges:

- Sapele and Ethiope West LGAs had the same challenges of delayed payment to beneficiaries and disparity in the amount each beneficiary received. Deductions started immediately loans were given.

- According to the state focal person, Sterling Bank “was hostile to micro-borrowers because they perceived it was distorting their corporate image”.

- BVN blocking is another challenge, according to the state focal person. Through the use of BVN, the bank accounts of loan defaulters were blocked. It was alleged that the BVN of those who had paid back their loans were also blocked. Those who had started

complaining had their BVN blocked, and those who never got the loan had their BVN blocked too. “This led to the arrest of several agents by beneficiaries who believed that it was evidence that they might have collected the loan on their behalf and diverted it for their personal use.” She said that with BOI intervention some accounts have been unblocked while others were still blocked at the time of the interview.

## Edo State

### N-Power

#### Challenges

- Unpaid Allowance.
- Training was not provided to most beneficiaries, including N-Health beneficiaries, on how to use hospital equipment.
- Allowances were not paid to beneficiaries during training.
- Some beneficiaries were still owed allowances after the training.
- The N-Agro beneficiaries were not paid transport allowance whenever they were asked to attend meetings outside their PPAs.
- Women with babies were not considered during programme planning and implementation.
- Shortlisting of applicants who were already employed.

## Rivers State

Monitoring occurred consistently from October to December 2018 in 18 LGAs across three senatorial districts. Of the three

programmes monitored during the period, only two – N-Power and GEEP – were implemented in the state.

In total, 712 beneficiaries were consulted by TPMs: 344 females and 368 males.

### Challenges:

#### Okrika LGA:

In Okrika, many of the N-Teach beneficiaries consulted reported that they had been trained, which prepared them to carry out their tasks in their PPAs.

Principals consulted in the schools stated that they wanted their N-Teach beneficiaries permanently. The medical director at the General Hospital, Dr Thom-Manuel, also requested that beneficiaries posted to them should be retained beyond their tenure. These feedbacks prove that beneficiaries have been invaluable to their PPAs and the communities.

#### Obio/ Akpor LGA:

In this LGA, the coordinator of the N-Agric component of the N-Power programme stated that beneficiaries undertook field assignments to farms in the LGA. However, he complained that the government was only paying beneficiaries and not the staff.

Some beneficiaries consulted -- for instance, those posted to Community Secondary School Rumudumaya -- complained that they had not been paid for three months. Another beneficiary complained that she had been wrongly posted as she had applied for an N-Health position but was posted to an N-Tech position.



## SPOTLIGHT

One of the beneficiaries consulted in Model Primary Health Centre, Rumudumaya in Obio/Akpor LGA, said that when they were initially deployed to the facility there were no patients. However, due to their presence many people are accessing health services in the facility. – Rivers State

### **Gokana LGA:**

There were complaints about unpaid stipends. For example, the headmistress of K-Dere Community Primary School, Mrs Kornom Ees, stated that beneficiaries in her school were owed November stipends.

There were also complaints of irregular reporting to work. An example is from Kpor Community Primary School where the head teacher, Mr Taol Ledielo, reported that beneficiaries posted to the school did not always report for work.

### **Emohua LGA:**

In some communities in this LGA only the N-Power programme was implemented at the time of monitoring. This was confirmed during consultations with community leaders such as Chief Ikne Obindah in Rumuoro-Ogbakiri community, as well as people linked to schools such as Pastor Philip Ojire in State School, Rumuoro-Ogbakiri.

## INSIGHT

Chief Ikne Obindah lamented that the school feeding programme was yet to commence in his community. He stated that he would like to have more information about the implementation of the programme in the state.

He added that community leaders should be involved in the implementation of N-SIP to enable them support the programme through monitoring and oversight functions for maximum programme impact. – Rumuoro-Ogbakiri community in Emohua LGA, Rivers State

Some of the N-Teach beneficiaries encountered confirmed that they had been trained on skills relevant to their duties, such as classroom management, teaching process, communication skills, and preparation of lesson notes, among others.

### **Ahoada West LGA:**

Many of the schools visited attested to the dedication and strong work ethic displayed by beneficiaries posted to them, requesting that their employment be made permanent. However, it appeared not all schools had benefitted from the N-Power programme; for instance, Community Primary School, Joinkrama 4.

## INSIGHT

When the team visited Community Primary School, Joinkrama 4, the assistant head teacher was unaware of the N-Power programme. No N-Teach beneficiary had been posted to the school; teachers met were regular staff of the school. – Ahoada West LGA, Rivers State

### **Abua/ Odual LGA:**

Principals and head teachers in some schools visited complained that some beneficiaries did not report to work regularly and they were unable to discipline them because they (the beneficiaries) complained that they could not afford the high cost of transportation which prevented them from going to work regularly.

Distance was a major challenge to N-Teach beneficiaries who mostly lived on the outskirts of the LGA. The long distance to work from their residences attracted high transportation costs. As a result, they only reported to work when they were able to afford to pay their way there.

- Beneficiaries who lived on the outskirts of town also complained of poor mobile network service, which greatly affected their ability to communicate.
- Some beneficiaries complained that they had not been paid for three months.
- N-Agric beneficiaries complained of the unavailability of materials for practice, such as milling machine for rice harvesting. Beneficiaries on the rice farm claimed that they had had to contribute their personal money to hire machines and buy fertilizer.
- Security challenges in some LGAs. There were reported cases of kidnapping, violence, killings and others.

## NORTH-CENTRAL STATES

### Benue State

#### N-POWER

The programme is credited with the reduction of unemployment and poverty in the state, and reduction in the rate of crime. However, there is no formal evidence of this except for feedback from those consulted during monitoring.

Staffing problems in participating schools have, in many instances, been resolved due to the presence of N-Teach beneficiaries, thereby increasing the quality of education.

#### Challenges:

- Some of the beneficiaries who received training complained that allowances were not paid during training, materials were not made available for trainees, and the venues for the training were too crowded.
- The new batch of beneficiaries complained that they had not been given any form of training.

- Some beneficiaries complained about working in PPAs far from their homes.
- Some N-Agro beneficiaries complained that they were posted to schools to teach.

Poor supervision of beneficiaries.

#### The Desk Officer:

Beneficiaries posted to communities where crisis ensued were asking to be redeployed because they had been made redundant as their schools or PPAs had been shut.

Some beneficiaries complained that their stipends had been delayed, while others complained that the stipend was insufficient to cater for their needs and those of their dependants.

#### HGSFP

Not only is the HGSF programme credited for the increase in number of pupils that had enrolled into public schools in the past one year, it is also recognised for the reduction in the number of pupils who dropped out of schools in 2017.

#### Challenges:

- The Desk Officer reported that they were not financially equipped to run the office and monitor the programme at the same time.

- The last set of recruited cooks were not given plates, aprons, head covering, and other cooking tools. (Most of the cooks in Katsina-Ala complained that they were not given cooking utensils.)

Cooks complained of delayed funding.

- Delays and inconsistency in payment received.
- The insecurity in the state has affected
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the programme, and in many cases, it has prevented the programmes from working in some communities.

- Teachers reported that they had not been involved in the programme, hence the cooks did not heed their counsel.
- Untimely disbursement of funds to cooks affected timely resumption of pupils for the term.
- Insufficient water supply for washing of hands after eating.
- Insufficient supply of food items to cooks, especially biscuits and juice, thus affecting the quantity of food supplied to pupils.
- Money allocated to cooks is not commensurate with the high cost of items, and has affected the ability of the cooks to save.

## SPOTLIGHT

Mr Idris Abdul Akeem reported that he was the first Agricultural Science teacher ever at Isapa Junior Secondary School. Idris was grateful for the experience he has acquired through the programme which has further enriched his impartation in his students. At present, running a weekend post-graduate sandwich programme.

## INSIGHT

In Benue State, stakeholders complained that women in their community were not involved in the programme; instead, they said, people were brought from other places to cook for their children.

### GEEP

#### Challenges:

- None of the potential beneficiaries of GEEP, who had applied for loans, reported that they had been given the loans as at the time of monitoring.
- Most of the potential GEEP beneficiaries interviewed who had applied for loans reported that they had given up on getting the loan and hoped that the relevant authorities would look into the matter.

### Kogi State

#### N-POWER

##### Challenges:

Unpaid allowances.

- Devices not provided.
- Beneficiaries not reporting to their PPAs.
- N-Tax beneficiaries complained of transportation difficulties in discharging their duties during field work.

#### Okene LGA:

Director of PHC in the LGA, Onipe Momoh Jimoh, confirmed that there were

- some beneficiaries who were already employed either by the local government or other private companies. They were thus contravening the aim of the programme by taking up slots meant for those that are truly unemployed.

#### Kabba/ Bunu LGA:

Ogbonnikan R.A. of L.G.C.S.S., Korede, complained that despite that she had requested beneficiaries to be deployed to the school, nobody had been deployed.

### Koton Karfe:

- The principal of Community Girls' Secondary School, Upper Koto, Hajia Habibat Zakari O., complained that since the programme's inception, her school had not benefitted.

### Lokoja:

- The Vice Principal of Muslim Community Secondary School, Lokongoma Lokoja, Olorunfemi H. Yemisi, reported that some of the beneficiaries posted to her school were always absent while others were not committed. In their defence, beneficiaries claimed that the school's environment was not conducive, and that the school lacked basic facilities required for teaching.

### HGSFP

As at November 2018, the programme was reported as 'yet to commence'.

### GEEP

#### Challenges:

- Awareness about GEEP was very poor as most people had not heard about it until they were interviewed by the monitors.
- Most associations met by monitors had not applied for loan because they did not know how and where to apply.
- GEEP was also very unpopular as almost all the associations interviewed had not benefited from it.
- There was no proper coordination of the programme at the grassroots.

### Kwara State

#### N-Power

Beneficiaries reported that their impact was considerably felt in the local governments as many of the schools they had been posted to had staffing issues, which their presence helped to overcome.

## SPOTLIGHT

The Principal of LGEA Central School, Patigi, had nice words to say about beneficiaries posted to her school:

"I'm enjoying the beneficiaries. They come to school early and we [don't] have enough teachers, so evidently they have been a major source of help and hope even for the future of the students in the school."

She mentioned how she had taught and trained them to write lesson plan when they had just been posted to the school, among many other things. She said they have become assets not only to her school but to the community and the Nigerian society at large. – Kwara State

#### Challenges:

The N-Power focal person in the state listed the challenges facing N-SIP as lack of a strong collaboration among the federal, state and local government; lack of funds for monitoring and administration at the state level, and lack of a decentralised means of reporting. He recommended that, for effective implementation, there should be:

1. Strong collaboration among the federal, state and local governments, which would enable free flow of information, accountability and involvement of relevant stakeholders across the board
2. Availability of funds for administration and monitoring at the state level to facilitate appropriate monitoring of the programme's beneficiaries.
3. Decentralisation of reporting offices, which would fast-track resolution of issues. Offices for N-Power can be maintained at the zonal level. This would give states under each region easier line of reporting.

### Challenges that cut across LGAs:

- Some beneficiaries are owed months of stipend. Many of the 2017 N-Teach beneficiaries under TESCOM had not received any stipend as at the time of monitoring.
- There were no channels through which to lodge complaints.

### Ilorin East LGA:

- Distance: Some beneficiaries claimed they spent almost all their stipends on transport fare.
- No proper and regular monitoring of beneficiaries.
- Some beneficiaries are owed backlog of allowances, which affected their productivity.
- Some 2016 beneficiaries reported that they were not given devices.
- Some beneficiaries complained that information about training was not properly disseminated, and that the verification exercise was stressful.
- Other beneficiaries reported that they had not been visited at their PPAs by NSIP officials.
- Some beneficiaries from the first batch had not been given devices, and some complained about unpaid allowance.
- Unavailability of mechanised farm implements to execute farm operations for N-Agro beneficiaries.

### Moro LGA:

Distance from residence to PPAs.

- Unpaid allowances.
- 

- Lack of or irregular visit and monitoring from the N-SIP officials.
- Low-quality devices.
- No proper and effective monitoring of beneficiaries.
- Lack of teaching materials in schools.
- Lack of mechanised farm implements to execute farm operations.

### Ilorin South and Offa LGAs:

- Some beneficiaries reported that their residences are far away from their PPAs.
- Some schools did not have facilities to accommodate the beneficiaries posted there.
- Too many beneficiaries were deployed to some PPAs.
- Some beneficiaries' disciplines are unrelated to their N-Power clusters and this made them less effective.
- Unpaid allowances of some beneficiaries, especially those under the Teaching Service Commission.

### Ifelodun and Ekiti LGAs:

- Many beneficiaries posted to these LGAs were redeployed to Ilorin metropolis.

### Ilorin West and Asa LGAs:

- Some beneficiaries complained about the distance from their homes to their PPAs.
- They said they spent much on transportation as against the N-Power rule, which provides that beneficiaries would be posted to PPAs that are easily accessible from their homes.

- Difficulty making changes on the N-Power portal. The inability to update or correct information has meant that some beneficiaries experienced delays in their payment due to incorrectly entered information.

#### **Oyun and Irepodun:**

- Posting of beneficiaries to places that are far from their place of residence.
- Some beneficiaries are owed months of allowances.
- Some beneficiaries were yet to be given their tablets/devices.

#### **Edu and Patigi LGAs:**

- Unpaid stipend of some beneficiaries for some months. Beneficiaries reported they were not paid for December 2016 and January 2017.
- All 2017 beneficiaries that graduated were confirmed not to have been paid as at the collation of this report.

#### **Nasarawa State**

##### **N-POWER**

##### **Challenges:**

- Beneficiaries of “Batch B” across all the nine LGAs had non-payment issues.
- Beneficiaries complained about not being granted leave.
- Beneficiaries in Nuru Islam Primary School, Wamba East were overburdened with work. There were only nine beneficiaries in the school with about 600 pupils.
- N-Power beneficiaries across all nine LGAs reported the lack of a service centre to repair faulty devices. Some had experienced technical problems with their devices.

- An N-Teach beneficiary from Lafia LGA complained that the topics required to be covered in a term were too many for the pupils to comprehend in one term.
- In Karu and Keffi LGAs, some beneficiaries complained of distance from their residences to their places of work, which depleted their stipends rapidly.
- Beneficiaries across all monitored LGAs complained about delays in payment of allowances.
- Some beneficiaries under Women in Agric (WIA) complained of being posted to departments in Lafia LGA not related to their field of study.

#### **Niger State**

##### **HGSFP**

A major challenge for the HGSF programme was the inadequacy of the monitoring mechanism, except for a few schools that had SBMC which assisted schools' management with monitoring the programme. Schools that lacked SBMC either charged staff with coordinating activities of cooks or formed committees to supervise them.

##### **Challenges:**

- Food provision stopped across the state on November 1, 2018, with no explanation to schools. Head teachers noted that some pupils were discouraged from attending school since feeding stopped. When asked, the cooks explained that the LGA secretariat did not supply them food items.
- Farmers were completely excluded from the programme for the period under

review. Food items were provided by N-SIP officials to the cooks.

- The quantity of meals provided when the programme was still on was insufficient for pupils and findings showed that most schools in Lavun and Gbako LGAs did not serve egg or any protein with the meals. Where eggs were served, such as in some schools in Lapai LGA in Gulu axis, cooks reportedly shared one egg among four pupils.

Schools were not informed about the type of food cooks would serve.

- Head teachers and community heads reported that they were not involved in the programme's planning and were thus not well informed of how to support with monitoring food supply.

- Unavailability of water in almost all the schools for washing up. Food was supplied to pupils without drinking water; many schools do not have access to potable water.

- Some cooks that were contracted did not live within the community of the schools they were to supply food. This often meant that cooks supplied food late. Food often arrived during learning period or when pupils were getting ready to go home. For example, only five of the eight cooks that served food in Edozhigi Primary School were from Edozhigi.

## SPOTLIGHT

In Maigoge Primary School, Maigoge, Bobi ward of Mariga LGA, bambara nuts were distributed to the children in place of food. The nuts were distributed because the pupils had become accustomed to eating food in school, and they would come to school with plates, whether there was food to be given or not. – Nasarawa State

Cooks were not enough to serve the schools they were attached to.

- There were variations in payments made to cooks across LGAs. In Awwal Primary School, Suleja LGA, some cooks were paid N38, 000 while others were paid N32, 000. But in Lawan Gwadabe Primary School, in Gawu Ward of Gurara LGA, cooks reported payments ranging from N14,000 to N19,000.

Some challenges cooks in Zungeru community highlighted included:

Delays in provision of foodstuff by N-SIP officials.

- A large quantity of the meat provided was usually not fresh and thus, unsuitable for consumption.

Only a few crates of eggs were usually supplied, with N-SIP officials complaining that some broke in transit.

- Loaves of bread would usually be completely flattened and stuck together, which led to difficulty at the point of distribution to pupils.

## INSIGHT

Mariam Lawali, a cook attached to Beri Primary School was accused of allegedly misappropriating funds provided for feeding. According to the head teacher, the process was politicised and was the reason the school refrained from taking actions to stop her unethical behaviour. She delivered food that was of low quality and of inadequate quantity, and she often took some of the food away instead of sharing it all to pupils. – Niger State

### N-POWER

- Training was not provided to N-Teach beneficiaries prior to their formal engagement and deployment.
- The beneficiaries also disclosed that there had not been any monitoring visits by N-SIP officials.
- The monitors noted that most beneficiaries did not report at their PPAs daily due to the distance from their PPAs to residential communities.
- Beneficiaries were posted to PPAs where they were not needed. For instance, more N-Agro beneficiaries were posted to some locations in Minna township (Bosso and Chanchaga LGAs), compared to another zone that had six LGAs. These beneficiaries were, therefore, repeatedly absent from work as there was little or no work to do at their PPAs.
- The health department in Lapai LGA complained that some of the N-Health beneficiaries were not health personnel -- some of them read courses that are not health-related in school.

could eat free food. He said that the very next day the children returned with their mallam who told the head teacher that he wanted all the almajiri to start schooling. He said the children would attend school in the mornings and have their Quranic class in the evenings after they returned from school. Without wasting too much time, the head teacher waived the N500 registration fee that day and registered all the children. As at the time of the monitoring, the children were in school. The head teacher's message is: the Federal Government should ensure sustainability of the programme to give many more children the opportunity to get educated. –Minna, Niger State

### TPM-related challenges:

- Distances between LGAs (and within LGAs) and communities are so large that it affected time of arrival for assessment and monitoring activities.
- Poor road network made it difficult to access hard-to-reach communities in the LGAs, leading to late arrival in communities.
- High transportation cost and difficulty getting vehicles or motorbikes to transport monitors to hard-to-reach communities.

## SPOTLIGHT

In Barikin Sale Primary School, Minna, the head teacher noticed that the almajiri in the area always appeared in school during the time of serving food. He would usually chase them away since he was well aware that they only came to partake in the meal and then go back to the streets, reducing the ration available for his own pupils.

However, one time he decided to speak with them to find out what they really wanted. From the conversation he discovered that they were interested in attending the school so they

## SPOTLIGHT: Hidden Costs

In Maigoge ward of Mariga LGA, Bako, an N-Teach volunteer, was unable to regularly report to his PPA because he was posted to a school in Maigoge ward whereas his residence was in Minna. Commuting the long distance, with related transportation costs, made it difficult for him to report daily to work.



## Plateau State

### N-POWER

- Posting beneficiaries outside their communities made them rent houses; those who could not afford to rent did not always report to their PPAs due to high transport cost. Those who requested redeployment were asked to pay money to be redeployed.

## INSIGHT

In Kontangora LGA, according to N-Power beneficiaries interviewed, the N-Power Desk Officer, Alhaji Waziri, requested for 'kick-back' [bribe] from any beneficiary with issues that needed his intervention. He, therefore, refused to provide the list of the N-Power beneficiaries to monitors since they refused to give him 'kick-back'. – Niger State

- Most of those interviewed complained of being overworked and victimised by other teachers who left most of the work for them saying they earned more than the permanent staff.

- The shortlisting was not done based on qualification or field of study as most N-Teach beneficiaries shortlisted did not have the skills to teach.

- Most beneficiaries were not given proper training. Those who were trained received very brief training online and were asked to study the modules on the device with no opportunity for questions and answers.

### Jos North LGA:

It was reported that not all the beneficiaries went to work regularly and that they earned higher than some of the teachers.

### Mikang LGA:

Beneficiaries complained that they

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experienced challenges in accessing internet services during enrolment. They also complained that they were not trained before or after the shortlisting exercise and that they had to cover several miles to be able to reach their PPAs. They had complained this to the Education Secretary but no solution despite that.

- The only N-Agro beneficiary consulted complained that he had not been empowered to enable him increase his livestock.

### Langtang South LGA:

- Beneficiaries were not regular at their PPAs because of high transportation cost to commute their workplaces every day.

N-SIP officials reported that there was little or no supervision of N-SIP because

- of lack of logistics and funding for supervision.

### Jos South LGA:

Long distance to PPAs, delayed payment, and poor internet access for those posted to rural communities.

### TPM-related challenges:

- The violence and insecurity in Langtang South LGA and other LGAs due to LG elections meant N-Power beneficiaries could not be mobilised -- they had fled to avoid being maltreated or even killed by protesters. The three officials interviewed met with the team at a primary school in the community as the LGA secretariat had been closed due to the election tension.

### HGSFP

- Parents were very happy with the programme because they no longer forced their children to go to school as was the case before the programme;

children now went to school willingly and happily.

- Families experienced improved income since women who were engaged as cooks contributed financially to the family. Rural women were especially empowered financially through the programme.
- Reduction in cases of theft and children getting involved in vices was attributed to the programme.

The free food encouraged pupils to stay in school, but teachers were unconvinced that their performance had improved as a result of it.

### Challenges:

#### Mikang LGA:

Food preparation was done and brought to school from a distance; this hindered effective supervision of the cooking process by head teachers.

- Plates, spoons and cups were not provided by some cooks, leading to difficulty in serving the food to the pupils.

A monitoring committee was set up but was ineffective due to lack of logistics to enhance mobility.

- Funding for the HGSP was irregular and had resulted in discontinued feeding in the past.

The number of cooks attached to most schools was insufficient, hence the food was often little and did not reach all the pupils.

#### Mangu LGA:

Late disbursement of funds to cooks, which made the feeding inconsistent.

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- There were a lot of mistakes regarding account opening and documenting BVN for cooks.
- Frequent changing of cooks without any prior notice or explanations.
- Amount provided for cooking was different from the amount originally given.

#### Kanam LGA:

The major challenge, according to those consulted, was that even though pupils were staying in school, classes were not available for them. There were only two blocks of classrooms, which were hardly enough to accommodate the pupils.

#### Kanke LGA:

No access to potable water for cooking and drinking.

- Some of the schools became highly populated due to transfers from schools that were not implementing the programme.

#### Pankshin LGA:

Water scarcity during dry season. In Ner-Pada, the cook was forced to buy water from the town to cook especially with the onset of the dry season, while in Rim Bwarak cooks were denied water in the house where they went to fetch. They also complained about the lack of kitchen and how the harmattan breeze was a major challenge for them no matter how early they started cooking.

- Another challenge was that the population of pupils had increased with no corresponding increase in funds given for cooking. In Rim-Bwarak, cooks had to reduce the quantity of food shared so every pupil could have something.

- Pupils in Rim-Bwarak came to school because of the food, but food service stopped in November when pupils started exams, and some came to school with their plates while others stopped coming entirely.

#### Farmers

- No farmer was found in any community to be administered with questionnaire in respect of the programme.
- The team observed that the farmers were not aware of the programme.

#### Multi-Sectoral Team:

- Inadequate funding greatly limited the effectiveness of the multi-sectoral team:
- There were no regular meetings of the team.
- Inability to properly monitor and supervise the project because of poor mobility.
- Poor information sharing, management and coordination of the programmes. For example, the state focal person was unaware of the other aggregators except the Development Exchange Centre (DEC).

## SPOTLIGHT

In Pankshin LGA, one of the cooks assigned to supply food was a teacher in another school that is over one kilometre away. But she would still manage to cook and deliver to the school before leaving for her second job; she would later return to share the food during meal time. When asked why? She said she needed the extra income because the stipend from teaching was very meagre, and that what she earns as a cook helps her to a great extent.

#### Shendam/Quan-Pan LGA:

## INSIGHT

In Central Primary School, Gar, only two cooks were able to start cooking in January 2018, but by the end of July neither got any alert. Two other cooks never received money even though their names were shortlisted for the programme. They had initially opened their bank accounts with Unity Bank in Langtang LGA, but the accounts were rejected, and they were asked to open a new one with FCMB. This was also rejected. They were then asked to go to Pankshin LGA to open new accounts. So in the last two years they have been going back and forth on the same issue

- Irregularity/inconsistency in food supply due to delay in funding.
- The cost of living and the ailing economy were major challenges reported by the cooks, focal persons and education secretaries of the two LGAs. The few cooks interviewed complained that what they were given to feed the pupils in most cases was not enough to handle the feeding, but due to their passion for the work they had to manage what they were given.
- Monitoring of the programme was also a big challenge. According to the focal person, there was no state government provision or support to ensure regular monitoring. They had a monitoring template in place but they hardly went out for monitoring due to the centralised nature of the programme. More of the coordination is at the federal level; the funding is directly controlled at that level.

- Location and distance were a challenge identified by the focal persons.

In Barkin Ciyawa village and Nomadic School in Quan-Pan LGA, there were issues of mistrust between the community and cooks over allowing strangers to feed their children. The Nomadic School cook had to be relocated to another school because the Fulani community did not trust her since she was an outsider.

### Federal Capital Territory

#### Challenges:

##### Abaji Area Council:

- Lack of PPAs to post N-Build beneficiaries within Abaji. Available PPAs were usually located outside Abaji, which meant higher transportation cost for beneficiaries.
- The terrain in the area council is quite difficult to commute.

##### Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC):

- AMAC's geographical coverage is very large and would require more than the six allotted CBOs and additional resources for effective monitoring.
- Some 2017 beneficiaries were not provided with devices to enable them access training materials to improve service delivery.
- Complaints about outstanding payments and unjust deductions.

##### Bwari Area Council:

- Non-resumption of beneficiaries at their PPAs.
- Long travel distances from home to PPAs, with associated transportation costs.

##### Kuje Area Council:

- No means of identification provided for N-Power beneficiaries.
- Unavailability of an office for beneficiaries to make complaints, give feedbacks and report challenges.
- Some beneficiaries, especially N-Health beneficiaries, complained of their inability to fit into departments they were posted to.
- N-Teach beneficiaries complained of being overburdened with work due to inadequacy of regular teachers.
- Batch A and B beneficiaries had not received their devices during the months of monitoring.

##### Gwagwalada Area Council:

- Some beneficiaries were not given devices.
- Inadequacy of teaching materials provided to N-Teach beneficiaries limits their ability to effectively and efficiently carry out their duties.
- Beneficiaries complained of their inability to communicate with people in rural communities, who are predominantly natives and frequently spoke only their local languages.

##### Kwali Area Council:

- No access roads to facilities.
- Lack of PPAs for N-Build and N-Agro beneficiaries, which resulted in some of them trying to identify PPAs for themselves.
- No focal person for N-Build beneficiaries.

- Some beneficiaries reported that the N-Power portal was user-friendly.

## NORTH-EAST STATES

### Adamawa State

#### N-Power

Over 70% of beneficiaries interviewed believed that the programme had impacted positively on their lives. The positive impacts of the programme on beneficiaries included access to monthly stipend and trainings.

Beneficiaries admitted to having learnt new skills, which they believed could get them employment in the disciplines in which they were engaged. An N-Teach beneficiary at Government Day Junior Secondary School, old GRA of Alkalawa Ward, said he could develop a lesson plan as well as a scheme of work which he could not do prior to enrolling in the programme.

- Beneficiaries have supplemented the manpower deficiency of many government institutions in the areas visited, thereby contributing to the economic growth of the state as well as the service needs of their communities.

- The programme provided beneficiaries with a legitimate source of income, which afforded them financial freedom and opportunity to make savings. However, these payments needed to be consistent, prompt and uniform.

#### Challenges:

- None of the N-Tax beneficiaries could be reached in this reporting period and throughout the phase 1. This was due to the refusal of the coordinator to grant monitors access to these persons. Attempts to get the N-SIP state focal person to intervene also proved unsuccessful.

- A large number of 2017 beneficiaries complained of unpaid stipend.

- Beneficiaries also complained of having to pay for services they received at the state focal person's office.

- Centralisation of services at the state focal person's office in the state capital, Yola, such that every beneficiary with a problem needed to travel to the state capital no matter how long the distance.

- Alleged exploitation by N-Power officials: beneficiaries of "Batch B" who were yet to start receiving their payments were forced to pay between N500 and N1,000 each for identification cards, while others paid for their posting letters.

- Unavailability of needed materials to carry out their jobs, especially the para-teachers who have no access to teaching aids.

#### HGSFP

- Enrolment in schools had massively improved so much so that some schools even turned down applications from parents who wanted to enrol their wards. as This was attested to by the head teacher of Wuro Gude Primary School.

- More rural women, especially cooks, from local communities now own bank accounts with BVN, a mandatory requirement for enrolment in the programme.

#### Challenges:

- Cooks had to travel often to the state capital for clearance at the state coordinator's office and the bank; it sometimes took days to complete the process.

- Delays in the release of funds which sometimes led to a break in daily feeding in some schools.
- Pupils brought their cutlery from home; sometimes they forgot to bring them or misplaced them. Rising cost of foodstuff leave the vendors struggling to deliver based on the requirements of the menu.
- Farmers were left out of the chain because cooks bought their food items from the market.
- In some schools like the ones visited in Jada and Girei LGAs, the numbers of pupils in the schools were slightly higher than the numbers for which the cooks received funds to feed. Therefore, the rations were often reduced, leaving pupils partially satisfied.
- Cutlery for feeding were unavailable as the state government had not allocated funds for buying them. Therefore, pupils in schools like Sangere Primary School brought their spoons and forks from home or sometimes ate with their hands.

### **GEEP**

Beneficiaries interviewed admitted that the programme increased their household incomes.

Traders got access to loan facilities, which they could not previously access from commercial banks for lack of collaterals. The loans seldom got to the target population and, therefore, the goal of providing petty traders and business men and women with access to non-collateral loans had been defeated.

### **Challenges:**

Delays in disbursement of loan.

- Poor awareness about the programme among community members.
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- Beneficiaries were often allegedly exploited
- Loan repayment period is short.
- Exploitations by various syndicates.
- Inadequate information on how to access the application forms leading to the exploitation mentioned above.

### **Bauchi State**

#### **N-POWER**

Over 1,400 beneficiaries were consulted during the months of monitoring. Most of those interviewed were happy with the initiative because it was contributing to reducing unemployment.

A major challenge faced by TPMs in carrying out their function was the reluctance of some N-SIP officials to share information about the programme.

### **Challenges:**

- Unpaid and delayed payment of stipend of some beneficiaries.
- Some beneficiaries were not given mobile devices (e.g., beneficiaries in Ganjuwa LGAs).
- Some beneficiaries were not trained, and those that were trained complained that they were not given refreshments or allowance during training.
- Some beneficiaries opted not to report at their PPAs because of long distance and associated travel costs.
- Deployment of beneficiaries to PPAs unrelated to their disciplines or areas of specialisation.

- Most schools visited depended considerably on N-Teach beneficiaries to teach their pupils.
- Most N-Teach, and a few N-Agro and N-Health beneficiaries did not report to their PPAs.
- Beneficiaries, particularly N-Teach beneficiaries, complained of being overburdened with work in their PPAs.
- Inability to access the programmes' portal due to poor internet service.
- Delayed shortlisting of applicants.
- Poor information dissemination.
- Long travel distance to PPAs.
- Unavailability of funding to start up private farms.
- Poor working environment.

#### **T/Balewa LGA**

- Of all the beneficiaries, only a few from the 2016 batch reported at their PPAs; most reported to work only once in a week.

- Some beneficiaries claimed that their poor reporting to work was because they lacked accommodation within the communities they were posted to, which resulted in long travel distances to their PPAs.

#### **HGSFP**

12,376 beneficiaries were reportedly consulted across LGAs visited during monitoring.

The monitoring revealed that most beneficiaries were happy; enrolment rate had increased in all schools visited; children were more willing to stay back in school after

school feeding; and all recruited cooks were trained on food hygiene and safety in all the schools visited.

#### **Challenges:**

- In almost all schools visited, pupils sat on bare floor.
- Some cooks did not comply with the number of days to supply food. (e.g., in Mallam Muhamed Jahu Primary School, Naima Mohamed did not supply food for five days whereas Aishatu Danladi did not supply for four days in October).
- Food was not served across the state in the first week of every month due to delayed disbursement of funds to cooks.
- In all LGAs visited, cooks complained of insufficient supply of meat, fish, and eggs.
- Insufficient number of cooks in some schools; for instance, in Itas Gadau LGA; Lame Primary School in Toro LGA; and Central Primary School, Kafin Madaki in Ganjuwa LGA.
- Some cooks did not live in the communities they served food, which accounted for lack of prompt and consistent food service. This was observed in Ganjuwa LGA.
- In Dass, Toro and T/Balewa LGAs, beneficiaries complained that food was insufficient. A plate of food was often shared by two pupils.
- Some parents did not allow their children to be de-wormed.
- Some pupils left school soon after eating because the school was unfenced, while there is influx of many other children not enrolled in the school.

- Inadequate and irregular payment to cooks affected both the quality and quantity of food, and often meant that food was not served in schools.
- Increased enrolment made feeding difficult with the funds provided to cooks.
- Unavailability of cooking utensils.
- Pupils to feed were too many and their numbers were not commensurate with funds provided to cooks.

### **T/Balewa LGA**

- Since food provided was usually served to all pupils and not merely pupils in primary 1 to 3 in the schools visited, cooks often overlooked quality of food items purchased so as to increase quantity to accommodate the numbers. This, therefore, led to reduction in the quality of food served.

### **GEEP**

TPM did not have full access to data on beneficiaries of the programme but was able to identify and interview some beneficiaries on the programme

#### **Challenges:**

Delays in disbursement of loans to beneficiaries.

- Aggregators and GEEP focal officer were unwilling to share information.
- Loan amount was inadequate.

### **Borno State**

#### **HGSFP**

Head teachers admitted that the programme has increased the number of enrolment and retention in their schools.

#### **Challenges:**

- Headmasters complained that some of the cooks assigned to their schools were defaulting on their responsibility of feeding the pupils despite receiving payment, and even those reporting were not regular, and they supplied low quality food.
- Pupils complained that food was not supplied daily; sometimes it would take a week or longer before they saw the cooks.
- Cooks, on the other hand, complained about delayed payment, and that there was often disparity in payment received. They also expressed unhappiness that sometimes they were given a token amount to feed the pupils for only 10 days instead of for the whole month without any explanations.
- Parents and community leaders were unhappy because they were excluded from the programme's implementation.
- N-Power beneficiaries complained that they were not trained before deployment to their respective schools and lamented bitterly about unpaid allowances.
- Farmers said that nobody bought food items from them in the name of the programme and felt that they were being side-lined from benefitting from the programme.

### **N-POWER**

#### **Challenges:**

- N-Power beneficiaries posted to schools were not reporting and some were inexperienced in adopting teaching methodologies.



## Gombe State

# SPOTLIGHT

Eight beneficiaries in Bajoga, Funakaye LGA, three in Billiri LGA, six in Gombe LGA, and four in Yamaltu Deba came together and established a small business selling recharge cards, petroleum products, palm oil and hair dressing salon. When asked reasons for going into those businesses, they said it is for them to be able to sustain themselves after the expiration of their tenure since the programme is not a permanent job.

### Challenges:

- High transportation cost to PPAs.
- Delayed payment of stipend such that, often, stipend for a month is paid almost at the end of another month.

### HGSFP

#### Challenges:

- There were no farmers as secondary beneficiaries directly engaged to benefit from the programme. Instead, the LGA Desk Officers sell food items to the cooks at very exorbitant prices.
- Eggs sold don't stay for a week.
- Untimely payment of money leads to irregular supply of food.
- Cooks complained that officials collected money from them, and if they refused their payment would be stopped.
- In the National Directorate of Employment (NDE)/MDG, Kaltungo training centre, women enrolled as N-Build beneficiaries were registered into trades dominated by men. This might make their chances of succeeding very slim.

- Difficulty transporting food to schools due to long distance.
- Delayed payment and supplies of food items.
- Low quality and quantity of food served.
- Increase in the number of pupils to be fed with no corresponding increase in food items supplied.

# INSIGHT

The number of pupils allocated to a cook determines funds disbursed by the Federal Government for purchase of food items to feed pupils. However, rather than submit the actual amount, the Desk Officer would direct the cook to submit an agreed inflated number, and once payment is made to the cook the difference is remitted to the Desk Officer. – Gombe State

## Taraba State

### N-POWER

#### Challenges:

- Overburdening of beneficiaries in Bali LGA.
- Over-concentration of beneficiaries at the LGA headquarters with very few in the communities where their services are needed.
- The head teacher in Bitako Primary School reported lack of communication between the government and service providers as the reason some N-Power beneficiaries were unserious.
- No proper monitoring of N-Power beneficiaries.

## INSIGHT

The third-party monitoring activity revealed that some N-Power beneficiaries in the state were civil servants - some officials of the programme are themselves beneficiaries. For instance, the N-Power beneficiary in Gassol LGA is also the LGA Desk Officer and the state supervisor.

In Sardauna and Gashaka LGAs, it was discovered that some cooks were also civil servants who cooked at their free time. – Taraba State

### HGSFP

Head teachers confirmed that enrolment had increased in their schools and attributed it to the programme. For instance, in Maihula 11 Primary School of Bali LGA, the head teacher stated that 100 new pupils had enrolled into the school as at November.

A community leader of Gembu A ward said that pupils were now willingly going to school unlike before the programme started. He said that, usually due to the topography of the area, farming activities and the climatic condition (it is relatively very cold), pupils found it difficult to go to school, but with the introduction of the HGSF programme, pupils have found a reason to be in school.

### Challenges:

- Food was not served in November across all LGAs monitored because cooks claimed that they had not been paid.
- In Central Primary School, Bali, it was discovered that cooks served pupils food in their bare hands while others used perforated plates.
- Cooks in Monkin Primary school reported that they had paid money for identity cards and uniforms to the school's head teacher but were yet to receive any of the items.

- In Bali A, community leaders complained that the reason food was not adequately and consistently supplied to pupils was that assigned cooks were not from the local community.

- Some community members in Bali A ward said they paid N6,000 each to buy the form for cooks but were not selected.

### Gashaka LGA:

- Some cooks in the LGA complained that they were forced to pay between N2,000 and N, 3000 bimonthly to the LGEA. This report was confirmed by the teachers present.

- Some cooks had not visited their allocated schools since they were deployed.

**Ardo-Kola LGA:** In Malum ward, the community leader, Mallam Sanusi, said that most of the cooks deployed to the LGA were not from the LGA, which thus compromised compliance with their duties, and for that reason the programme had no effect and would soon be stopped.

### Sardauna LGA:

- Cooks in this LGA also complained of being forced to pay a certain amount of money fortnightly to their office in the LGA.

- The cooks were also not happy that they were forced to cook rice, which is not grown in the LGA and thus very expensive.

**Zing LGA:** In Sabon Gari Primary School, cooks reported that some officials were exploiting and collecting money from them for unexplained reasons.



A cook serving a pupil food in his hand in Taraba State

### Yobe State

#### N-POWER

##### Challenges:

- Beneficiaries were not trained before deployment.
- Some beneficiaries were posted to PPA far from their residences.
- Some beneficiaries complained that the assignments given to them did not align with directives in their posting letters.
- Delayed payment of monthly stipend.
- Many beneficiaries relocated to other LGAs for fear of attack by Boko Haram terrorist group.

#### HGSFP

Implementation of the HGSF programme had

yet to commence in Yobe as at the time of monitoring. This feedback was obtained from head teachers consulted in schools visited. When contacted, the state focal person was unable to provide TPMs with a plausible reason why the programme had yet to be implemented.

#### GEEP

Similar to the HGSF programme, GEPP had yet to commence in the state during the months of monitoring. The state focal person was also unable to provide TPMs with any information as to why this was the case.

In an attempt to interact with the programme's beneficiaries, TPMs visited 'mini market' in Gulani, Tarmuwa and Gashua LGAs. Surprisingly, those interviewed were unaware of the programme. Consequently, only a few applicants from Gujba and Potiskum were identified. Most of them were aggrieved that they were yet to receive any feedback about their loan applications.

In addition to the above discoveries, the monitoring process also revealed that there existed communication gaps between the N-SIP official and those responsible for managing the programme's implementation, that is, the BOI

### NORTH-WEST STATES

#### Jigawa State

#### N-Power

##### Challenges:

Beneficiaries found it very difficult applying for the programme online due to poor internet access.

There were delays in sending messages to beneficiaries who had been successfully enrolled.

### HGSFP

Head teachers confirmed that the programme had impacted the community. Enrolment in schools had improved while dropout rate had reduced because parents were motivated to get their children into school.

Children were said to be looking healthier while parents reported that they were able to save from not having to give their children money for lunch or have them come home for lunch, which contributed to improving punctuality.

#### Challenge:

- Inadequate number of cooks.
- Non-usage of e-payment for cooks.
- Delayed payment of stipend to beneficiaries.
- Inadequate monitoring mechanism in place.
- Delayed food delivery to schools.
- Insufficient quantity of food is provided to children.
- Increased number of children enrolling into schools, making them difficult to control.
- Poor coordination.
- High cost of food items.
- Food is not served daily in some schools.
- Poor SBMC and community involvement in monitoring.

### GEEP

#### Challenges:

- The bank protocol for accessing loan was very tedious and stressful, and discouraged associations.

### Kaduna State

#### N-POWER

##### Challenge:

Beneficiaries complained that the monthly stipend paid was not enough.

#### HGSFP

- Schools reported an increase in enrolment attributed to the programme.
- Challenges: Pupils seemed only to come to school to eat because soon after eating they leave in droves.
- Street children not enrolled in HGSFP-participating schools sneaked in through broken fence to partake in the meals.

Cooks complained of the long distance they had to carry the food, which meant that they paid high transport costs and often came late.

Teachers complained that meal time disrupted their classes such that they often had to stop teaching so pupils could eat, and once they had eaten they became relaxed and fell asleep in class.

- Increase in school enrolment resulted in increased number of pupils to feed, which had not been foreseen. So, cooks were tasked with cooking for an increased number of pupils with the same funds.

### Kano State

#### HGSFP

HGSFP had helped reduce absenteeism from school.

- Reports of illness among pupils had decreased; teachers in charge of first aid reported that requests for medication had declined.

- Head teachers confirmed that pupils' concentration in class had improved.
- Parents were encouraged to send their children to school and the children themselves were eager to go back to school.

#### Challenges:

- Some cooks complained that payment was not made directly to them.
- Food service stopped for one week and head teachers noticed a decrease in attendance among pupils.
- It became obvious to teachers that it was impossible to serve primary 1 – 3 pupils' food without serving the ECDE pupils. So, some schools like Tsohon Garu Special Primary School, Kabo, and Shea Special Primary School, Tarauni, served ECDE if food remained.

#### N-POWER

- The level of redundancy among young people had reduced as a result of their engagement in the programme.
- Youth capacity had been developed and young people were empowered to be independent.

#### Challenges:

- A few N-Teach beneficiaries did not report to work regularly.

#### GEEP

##### Challenges:

- Most applicants were dissatisfied that they did not receive the loans applied for.

## Katsina State

#### N-POWER

- N-Power beneficiaries interviewed expressed their happiness with the programme which has reduced unemployment among the youth and increased the level of their livelihood.

#### HGSFP:

- Schools reported an increase in enrolment and retention attributed to the programme.

#### Challenges:

- Most cooks complained of late payment.
- Pupils complained of lack of adequate protein in the food served to them.
- Drinking water was not provided with food served pupils.
- Two cooks in Kankia LGA, Hibbatu Suleiman and Bilkisu Ibrahim, complained that they lacked financial autonomy because their ATM cards were confiscated by Halima Yau who bought foodstuffs for them and paid them a token for cooking the food.

#### GEEP

##### Challenges:

- Leaders of associations thanked the Federal Government for initiating GEEP as it had improved the living condition of their members.

#### TPM-related challenges:

- The state focal person refused to give monitors access to data on programme beneficiaries.

## Kebbi State

### N-POWER

#### Challenges:

- Some N-Health beneficiaries were rejected; for example, 11 N-Health beneficiaries in General Hospital, Zuru, were denied work in the hospital because they did not have professional certificates.
- Most beneficiaries, especially N-Teach beneficiaries, were not reporting to their PPAs.
- N-Teach beneficiaries were not trained.
- Some beneficiaries are being owed their stipends.
- The focal persons complained that they were not involved in the selection and posting process, stating that they were not empowered to effectively coordinate the programme.
- Some beneficiaries complained that they had been posted far from their LGAs or communities.
- Awareness about N-SIP was generally low.
- Inability to access the N-Power portal during registration.

### GEEP

#### Challenges:

- List of GEEP beneficiaries was unavailable; focal persons were unwilling to release relevant information to the monitors.
- Awareness of the N-SIP programme was generally low.
- Many potential beneficiaries were discouraged from the programme because they had yet to benefit after they had

applied for a long time.

- GEEP appeared to have been hijacked by politicians, making it difficult for potential beneficiaries to have access to the funds.

## Sokoto State

### N-POWER

#### Challenges:

- Posting beneficiaries to hard-to-reach areas of the LGAs, which brought to the fore other issues such as transportation cost, security challenges facing the LGAs, among others.
- Head teachers and education secretaries complained that some beneficiaries completely disappeared from their PPAs.

### HGSFP

#### Challenges:

- Inability of some cooks to access funds for the month of November.
  - Insufficient supplies of food to schools in the LGAs.
  - Cooks found it challenging to feed their assigned pupils together with newly enrolled ones without an upward review of funds provided for feeding.
  - Schools struggled to meet the needs of their growing population due to increased enrolment.
  - Engaging aged women as cooks affected service delivery.
- ### GEEP
- #### Challenges:
- It was difficult identifying GEEP beneficiaries as there were several other competing loan schemes in the state and LGAs.

## Zamfara State N-POWER

The SBMC admitted that engaging N-Power beneficiaries had reduced the shortage of teachers in public schools, especially in the science and technical subjects.

### Challenges:

- Some 2017 beneficiaries were yet to receive their August and September 2018 monthly allowances.
- None of the N-Power beneficiaries interviewed had been trained prior to being posted to schools.
- Communication gap, as many of the N-Teach beneficiaries posted to schools in Zamfara State were non-Hausa speakers whereas most of the pupils do not understand English Language.
- There was a major security problem in all the LGAs as a result of armed banditry, robbery and kidnapping.

## HGSFP

- The HGSFP programme empowered many households to be self-reliant and productive.
- The programme is credited for contributing to reducing the number of dropouts among school children in the state.

It increased the rate of school enrolment in the state.

### Challenges:

- There was delay or no payment to some cooks for almost three months in Anka LGA.
- Quantity of food served was not
- 

satisfactory.

- Funds paid to cooks were not sufficient, especially with the increased school enrolment.

## GEEP

Mohammad Dahiru, a GEEP beneficiary, appreciated government's efforts in providing him and other loan applicants the opportunity to access loans, which had greatly increased his working capital to the extent that he was able to expand his business. He emphasised that the loan had empowered him and made him self-sufficient such that he was able to employ two persons in his newly-opened branch. He is now an employer of labour.

### Challenges:

- Most GEEP beneficiaries were unaware that the money given to them is a loan. They were only mobilised by some politicians to form associations. When the money was received, they gave a percentage of it to the political leaders that procured the application form for them.

Awareness about GEEP is very low in the state.

- A major challenge reported by GEEP beneficiaries was that they did not understand the process for repaying loans.
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## Findings by Independent Monitors

### General Findings and Recommendations

#### General Findings

- Beneficiaries were faced with challenges that impeded service delivery.
- Inadequate flow of information from the NSIO to the beneficiaries or prospective beneficiaries.
- Inadequate monitoring of beneficiaries. In fact, some beneficiaries commended the utilisation of TPMs, describing it as a welcome improvement to N-SIP.
- Some instances of corruption were discovered across the programmes.
  - Applicants in Kano reported that they suspected GEEP had been usurped by politicians.
  - In Cross River State, the state focal person informed monitors, in confidence, that the governor's wife had assumed control of GEEP. However, other confidential sources reported that the state focal person was in charge of N-Power and accused her of selling forms from her office at ₦2,500 per form.
  - In Taraba State, it was reported that 1,000 cooks contributed the sum of ₦2,000 each (₦2,000,000) in an attempt to bribe the AAN monitoring team to conceal the fact that the beneficiaries of the HGSFP were civil servants in the state. These “pseudo-beneficiaries” collect payment from the programme to cook for pupils, but then offer a small percentage of the amount to poor unsuspecting women in the communities to do the cooking. The consequence was that the amount for feeding pupils was greatly reduced, and hence the food provided was below expected quality and quantity

#### Programme-specific Findings

##### HGSFP

For the HGSF programme, a major impediment identified was that cooks were made to cater for Early Childhood Care Development (ECCD) classes and Primary 4 to 6, instead of only Primary 1 – 3, as originally designed.

##### N-Power

In the case of the N-Power programme, the following findings were reported:

- Beneficiaries' supervision was unsatisfactory, hence many beneficiaries purposefully refrained from reporting to their PPAs.
- Some beneficiaries appeared to already have jobs, which negates the goal of the programme.
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- Beneficiaries were uncertain about the next phase of their lives after the end of the programme.
- Some logistical issues hindered beneficiaries from reporting to their primary place of assignment. For instance, long distance travel to PPAs with resulting high transportation cost.
- Most Head teachers interacted with in participating schools desired that the diligent N-Teach beneficiaries could be made permanent staff in their schools.
- N-Teach beneficiaries who attended and were diligent at their work have strengthened the staff strength of the schools they were deployed to.
- Beneficiaries found the devices and learning materials contained in them beneficial to their work.
- Teachers in the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) system lamented the disparity between the stipends paid to N-Power beneficiaries and themselves. They highlighted the fact that even after 17-years in the civil service, their earnings were incomparable to that of the N-Power beneficiaries.

#### **GEEP**

In most states, there was little or no information to indicate that the programme was being or had been implemented.

#### **General Recommendations**

- An effective grievance redress (feedback) mechanism, accessible to all direct and indirect beneficiaries of the programme, should be introduced and maintained.
- A strong and regular monitoring system should be established to monitor the programmes and ensure implementation is according to design. The newly established monitoring system should require inspection officers to conduct regular site visits to PPAs.
- Traditional leadership structures in rural communities should be integrated in the implementation of the N-SIP.

#### **Programme-specific Recommendations**

##### **HGSFP**

- Where the programme is sustained, a kitchen or functional space should be provided for cooking, possibly within or around the school premises.
- Usage of home-grown foodstuff should be strictly adhered to. Noodles and other processed foods not categorised as home-grown should be eliminated from the menu.
- Quality assurance mechanism should be introduced; food tasting and scoring framework leading to approval or disapproval is necessary to keep tabs on quality, safety and or quantity.

### **N-Power**

- Introduce monthly clearance for beneficiaries before payment of stipends, a compliance and accountability assurance mechanism like the NYSC clearance.
- The use of time books to check attendance should be mandated.
- To curb absenteeism amongst N-power beneficiaries, “a-clock-in and clock-out” IT driven system should be put in place, where possible.
- Civil servants enrolled in the programme should be sanctioned by the Civil Service Commission and immediately de-listed from the programme. This should be widely communicated to discourage others.
- “Name and shame” approach should be adopted for unscrupulous beneficiaries to serve as deterrent to others.
- Postings and re-posting should be re-visited regularly to ensure that supply correlates with demands or needs.
- Postings should be directly related to the beneficiaries' disciplines.

### **GEEP**

- Re-think and re-design GEEP in its entirety bearing in mind reported challenges.
- State-specific Findings and Recommendations
- Recorded in this section are findings and recommendations that ensued from the monitoring activities of independent monitors in some states.

## **Adamawa State**

### **Findings**

#### **N-Power**

- Most beneficiaries expressed appreciation for the programme and hoped the programme would be sustained beyond the 2019 elections irrespective of the party or candidate that emerged victorious.
- Access to information was a big challenge to beneficiaries due to lack of formal communication channels.
- Delayed payment to beneficiaries in most LGAs with beneficiaries often waiting weeks into a new month to receive their stipends since there were no fixed dates for payment.
- N-teach beneficiaries complained of overwork due to regular staff members transferring responsibilities to them.

## Recommendations

- Stipend should be reviewed and increased to reflect the current economic realities in the country.

## Anambra State

### Findings

#### HGSFP

- Officials in the schools visited were delighted with the programme because it had contributed to increased enrolment.
- Pupils in Oganiru Primary School in Enugwu Agidi, Njikoka LGA, had not been supplied food as at the time of monitoring because the cook was yet to be paid. During the same period, it was observed that N-Teach beneficiaries deployed to the school were yet to report for work.
- Teachers in Eke Central School in Anaku, Ayamelum LGA complained that they have a challenge of staff shortage. Despite that, no N-Teach beneficiary had been posted there.
- One of the cooks in All Saints Primary School, Onitsha North LGA, complained of unusual deductions from her payment.

#### N-Power

- There appeared to be an improvement in the involvement of relevant authorities at the LGA level compared to 2016 where they were excluded. For instance, there is involvement of LGEA in deployment and supervision of newly enrolled N-Power beneficiaries.
- The difficult terrain and high transportation cost in Ayamelum discouraged dedication and punctuality among N-Power beneficiaries.
- Some newly enrolled beneficiaries complained that they were yet to receive their stipend for the month.

#### GEEP

Information about the implementation and coordination of GEEP was limited, if any.

## Recommendations

State Governments should fulfil their responsibility of feeding Primary 4 to 6 pupils, which would contribute to furthering the progress made thus far towards achieving Universal Basic Education.

## Bauchi State

### Findings

#### N-Power

Some beneficiaries complained that postings to PPAs were not in accordance with their disciplines.

Beneficiaries posted to the PHC in Liman Katagum, Bauchi LGA, did not report for work due primarily to long distance from their homes to their PPAs.

There were also complaints of unpaid stipends. 11 N-Health beneficiaries in Shira LGA for the 2017 batch were yet to receive their stipends as at the time of monitoring.

## Borno State

### Findings

It was observed during monitoring that there was a gross lack of awareness among community leaders about N-SIP.

### HGSFP

- In almost all schools visited during monitoring, the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme had commenced.
- Non-compliance and irregular supply of food by cooks due to non-payment or delay in payment of funds.
- Complaints by pupils about the quality of food supplied.
- Cooks are reportedly owed backlog of payments.

### N-Power

- Poor reporting of some beneficiaries to their PPAs.
- Complaints by some N-power beneficiaries about their PPAs.
- Beneficiaries reported unpaid stipends.

### GEEP

As the time of monitoring, no beneficiary of GEEP was identified.

## Benue State

### Findings

### HGSFP

- There were complaints about the low quantity of food being served to pupils, and also the feeding was not regular. Sometimes, food was provided only three times in a week.
- Cooks had not received their payment as at the time of monitoring. Some cooks in LGEA Primary School, Okileme complained that they are usually given funds for four weeks and expected to feed pupils for an entire term of about 12 weeks.
- During the period of monitoring, it was uncovered that LGEA Mbawuar in Ndere ward, Vandeikya LGA, had only one cook who lived in another LGA, and who was expected to

feed pupils for an entire term of about 12 weeks.

- During the period of monitoring, it was uncovered that LGEA Mbawuar in Ndere ward, Vandeikya LGA, had only one cook who lived in another LGA, and who was expected to provide food for 140 pupils. In view of the challenges, the cook contracted another cook in Vandeikya to provide food on her behalf. The resulting effect was that feeding was irregular, quantity of food was insufficient, and the menu was not followed as planned.

### **N-Power**

- N-Health direct and indirect beneficiaries expressed their gratitude to God and the Federal Government for the programme.
- Most N-Teach beneficiaries hardly reported to work. They do not officially seek permission from their PPAs, when and if they would be absent. The commonly attributed reason was that the beneficiaries claimed not be accountable to their PPAs.
- Unpaid stipends for 2018 and training allowances.
- Some beneficiaries were unable to access the internet on their devices due to poor telecommunication services, while others have not been given their devices.
- Some beneficiaries complained of covering long distances from home to their PPAs.
- N-Teach beneficiaries complained that using English Language as a medium of instruction in classes was a challenge because their pupils speak vernacular.
- They also complained that teaching aids were unavailable or incomplete in some schools.

### **Recommendations**

- Timely disbursement of funds to cooks to ensure consistent supply of food, as well as timely payment of monthly stipend to N-Power beneficiaries.
- Frequent and regular monitoring should be carried out to check misconducts among beneficiaries and cooks.
- Monthly stipend should be increased to include transportation allowance to cover long distance travel (where it is inevitable) from beneficiaries' home to their PPAs.

### **Cross River State**

#### **Findings**

It should be noted that monitoring was not conducted in schools and establishments in some communities in Abi LGA due to communal clashes that ensued during the period of monitoring in the State.

### HGSFP

- Across schools visited, the HGSF programme was applauded as a good initiative by the FG and attributed for the increased number of pupils enrolled.
- Twice weekly feeding, rather than daily feeding, appeared to be the order across the State going by reports obtained from sites visited.
- Each cook is given one chicken a week to feed 80 children, and in some cases more than 80 children.
- Inequalities still exist as the poor are still being marginalised. It was observed that most of the vendors in Yakurr LGA, Calabar South and Municipality were individuals in highly placed position.

### Ogoja LGA

Quality and quantity of food supplied to pupils was disappointing, according to Head teachers in Ogoja, even though some pupils interviewed claimed the food was better than what they were given at home and wanted the FG to continue with the programme. Mrs Cecilia Ntagi, the Headmistress at Benedict Demonstration Primary School, Igali in Ogoja, complained that often loaves of bread provided were stale; meat accompanying food was too small, and the established food menu was not followed. She stated that processed food such as 'indomie' was served the pupils with an egg frequently divided into six to seven parts with each part served to pupils.

### Obudu and Bekwara LGAs

In Obudu, it was discovered that pupils were sometimes fed with 'cheese-balls' and biscuits.

- Cooks in the LGA complained that at the start of the programme they were given ₦100,000 monthly for feeding, however, this amount has come down to between ₦25,000 and ₦55,000, over time.
- Pupils in Bekwarra complained that the quantity of food provided was not filling; meat was too small, and water was not provided with food.
- Head teachers interviewed were dismayed at the quality of food provided, wondering why food was served only twice a week.
- In their defence, cooks reported that they were restricted to purchasing food items from a central location, with the quantity of food items provided often being inadequate to cook for all pupils. They demanded that the FG should disburse funds for cooking directly to them rather than through the State.

### Obubra, Ikom, Etung LGAs

- In Saint Francis Primary School, Urban 2, Obubra, the Head teacher confirmed that food had not been served to pupils for about two weeks as at the date of monitoring. She added that the quality and quantity of food provided had deteriorated over time with cooks complaining that food items were not always available at the central collection point, and where available were often of insufficient quantities to cater for all the pupils assigned to the cooks on a daily basis;

- hence, the reason food was provided only twice in a week rather than daily.
- Pupils in Obubra confirmed that they were fed twice in a week, and water was not always provided.
- Monitoring visit to Presbyterian Primary School, Ogada 1 in Obubra LGA, confirmed that food was served twice weekly. However, the quality of food was sufficient as attested to by the Head teacher who reported that the Deputy Head teacher carried out a 'taste test' before food was served to the pupils.
- The Deputy Head teacher at Saint Martin's Primary School, Ikom Urban, was unsatisfied with the quality of food provided to her pupils by 2 of the 3 cooks assigned to her school.
- In Presbyterian Primary School, Urban 1, Ikom, pupils were fed twice in a week and the quality and quantity of food was not always satisfactory as alluded to by the Deputy Head Teacher. She complained that often loaves of bread served were stale; water was not provided with food, and the pupils were not filled by the quantity of food served.
- Government Secondary School Effraya in Etung LGA appeared to have a redeployment problem. During the monitoring visit to the school, only one of all beneficiaries posted to the school was still present as others had requested to be redeployed to schools in the city.

### **Calabar Municipal, Yakurr, Abi, Biase LGAs**

- Head Teachers in schools visited in Calabar Municipal reported that as at the time of the monitoring visit, food had not been served for over two weeks in their schools. They were also dissatisfied with the quantity of food served to their pupils.

- In Unity Primary School in Ofeletam Yakurr LGA, most of the cooks TPMs interacted with were people who did not need the cooking jobs; people who had other means of income. This meant that those who truly needed the cooking jobs were excluded, which negates the programme's design and goal. The School Headmistress, Mrs Okama Micheal Inah, stated that the programme was a success, however, she too complained that feeding of pupils was infrequent. Pupils in the school were happy and thankful for the programme.

- The complaints reported by the Headmistress of Presbyterian Church of Nigeria Primary School in Adim Biase LGA, was no different from those from other LGAs. The quality and quantity of food had worsened over time with assigned cooks touting decrease in supplies provided at the central purchasing point as the reason. The cooks interviewed also complained that food items were purchased centrally and supplied on a weekly basis. This situation usually led to spoilage due to lack of appropriate storage facilities in the villages coupled with other losses in the course of transportation. For instance, chicken supplied for the week go bad and eggs get broken while in transit.

### **N-Power**

N-Teach beneficiaries across local governments visited were appreciative of the programme and hoped the FG would make the jobs permanent.

- N-Teach beneficiaries were reported as regular and of immense value to the schools visited. The Head Teacher at Saint Benedict Primary School 2 in Ogoja, Mr Joseph Ibu, confirmed this about the beneficiaries deployed to his school with the exception of one who was habitually absent. He asked that more beneficiaries should be deployed to his school.
- No N-Health or N-Agro beneficiaries were interviewed as none of the officials in the Health Centre and Ministry of Agriculture were available for consultation.
- Beneficiaries in the Forestry Commission in Obudu LGA reported that Batch B N-Power beneficiaries were yet to be deployed to the commission.
- The Deputy Head Teacher in Presbyterian Primary School, Urban 1, Ikom, expressed her dissatisfaction with the attitude of some of the 19 N-Power beneficiaries deployed to her school; they were irregular at and nonchalant towards work.
- The complaint from the Head Teacher of Government Primary School, Itigidi Abi LGA, mirrored that of the Presbyterian Primary School in Ikom. He asked that disciplinary measures be put in place to curtail the absenteeism and truancy being exhibited by N-Teach beneficiaries.

#### **GEEP**

- At the time of monitoring, the team was unable to locate beneficiaries of GEEP.
- The State Focal Person informed monitors in confidence that GEEP was being managed by the Governor's wife.
- However, other confidential sources revealed that the State Focal Person was in charge of N-Power because she sold forms in her office for N2,500.

#### **Recommendations**

- Centralisation of food purchase seems to be a challenge to the programme going by complaints from cooks; food purchase should, therefore, be de-centralised.
- The FG should disburse funds directly to cooks to enable them to purchase directly from farmers. Doing this may circumvent some of the problems associated with central purchasing and hopefully improve the quality of food stuff and the quality of meals served pupils.
- The selection process for cooks should be re-examined to check infiltration by already employed people, a situation that clearly negates the motive of the HGSP programme.
- Drinking water should be included in the menu and accompany food served pupils.
- Food should be served daily.
- Cooks should be made to adhere strictly to existing menu.
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- Monitoring should be conducted in all participating schools and establishments to curb misconduct among direct and indirect beneficiaries, which would enhance implementation of the N-Power and HGSF programmes.
- N-power beneficiaries should submit signed clearance from their PPAs before their stipends are paid.

## Ebonyi State

### Findings

#### N-Power

- High degree of absenteeism was reported among N-Agro and N-Health beneficiaries in Afikpo North LGA. For instance, only about 10 of the 162 N-Agro beneficiaries deployed to Agric Development Programme office in the Local Government were consistent in attendance.
- At present, there appears to be a greater involvement of Local Government structures and functionaries in the project in Ebonyi State compared to the previous enrolment year.
- The lack of strict supervision and disciplinary measures at the LGA level gives room for indiscretions and misconducts on the part of beneficiaries.

#### GEEP

As the time of monitoring, no information about implementation of GEEP was available.

### Recommendations

- Capacity development of partners at the grassroots, particularly CBOs, in areas such as report writing, data collection, and data analysis should be a key thrust of N-SIP implementation.

## Enugu State

In Enugu State, an important observation was that community leaders have low level of awareness about N-SIP, and thus resulting in their non-involvement in the project implementation across the two senatorial zones monitored.

### Findings

#### HGSFP

- Some government schools for instance, Niger Close Primary School, Uwani, are yet to participate in the HGSF Programme. Ms Rebecca Nwankwo, the Head Teacher, expressed concerns over the potential psychological effect that such exclusion could have on the pupils who see their friends in other schools partaking in the HGSF Programme.
- The service provided by cooks in Zik Avenue Primary School (1-4) were reported to be satisfactory. However, the cooks complained of incurring additional cost due to additional number of pupils they have to feed as a result of increased enrolment, which also affects the

overall quality of food supplied.

### **N-Power**

- Complaints received about the N-teach beneficiaries include absenteeism, truancy and nonchalant attitude to work. It was also revealed that some of them are engaged in paid work with other establishments or are gainfully engaged in other endeavours.
- N-Health beneficiaries were said not be punctual at reporting for duty. This was attributed to the long distances they have to cover to be at their PPAs. This was the reason the Health Centre in Akagbeugwu provided on-site accommodation for one of its N-Health beneficiaries to assist her to be punctual, but also to reduce the risk involved with her commuting the long distance from her community in Mbumbu to work every day.
- Some N-Health beneficiaries were also found not to have the requisite experience required to work in the health facilities, which has resulted in redundancies.
- In terms of successes, the N-Agro Coordinator in Enugu State, Mr Charles Nnaji, reported that a group of six N-Agro beneficiaries registered as a cooperative society and other beneficiaries from “Batch A” have successfully obtained a grant with which they have set-up their farms.

### **Recommendations**

- Systems should be introduced for proper monitoring of the HGSF programme in schools and Local Government level that will involve community leaders and other key stakeholders. This would improve accountability and the quality of services being provided by cooks and other service providers.
- Number of cooks should be increased to align with the increasing number of pupils.
- A monitoring system should be introduced for proper supervision of N-teach beneficiaries to ensure punctuality and reporting at their PPAs with a view to improving their commitment to work.
- Community participation and ownership.
- Deployment of N-power beneficiaries should cut across all LGAs and be based on need. This will prevent over-concentration of beneficiaries in the city and neglect of communities that need the services of these beneficiaries. In some of the facilities and schools in the city, for instance, it is common to find 15 to 20 beneficiaries in one school or facility whereas only 3 or 5 will be present in communities where they are sorely needed.
- More N-health beneficiaries with background in core medicine, pharmacy and nursing should be deployed to facilities in rural communities.
- Community leaders, and by extension the entire community, should be widely consulted and their involvement sought prior to the commencement of these types of programmes. This will ensure awareness raising about the programmes, in this regard, community leaders will be

motivated to assist in monitoring the programmes for smooth implementation.

## Federal Capital Territory

### Findings

#### N-Power

- Schools in FCT were delighted about the N-Teach programme, recognising that it had positively impacted their communities. In Abaji Area Council, for example, Head Teachers reported that the N-Teach programme has helped to bridge the gaps in education in their communities.
- Some beneficiaries are being owed over 5 months of unpaid stipends. However, beneficiaries in Kuje Area Council are being regularly paid.
- In Abaji Area Council, some schools lacked office space for beneficiaries.
- Non-existent communication lines between NSIO and the beneficiaries.
- Language barrier was reported to be a big issue because N-Teach beneficiaries in Gwagwalada Area Council have challenges in terms of establishing effective communication with pupils because majority of them could only speak Hausa or other local languages.
- There appears to be tension between school authorities and N-Teach beneficiaries. School authorities complained and reprimanded beneficiaries for not being regular at their PPAs, whereas beneficiaries complained that they are being overburdened with work.
- Primary Health Centres did not have updated lists of beneficiaries deployed to their facilities.
- Some beneficiaries complained of inadequate training and empowerment to prepare them for work prior to being deployed to their respective PPAs.
- Delay in delivery of devices to N-Teach beneficiaries impede their work.

#### Gombe State

In Gombe State, Knightingale Women Health initiative, the CBO recruited to conduct monitoring in the State, affirmed that the programme has caused increase in enrolment in schools and improved human resource capacity in facilities where N-Power beneficiaries were deployed. However, they noted that retention of enrolled pupils in schools, as well as insufficiency of food to accommodate the increasing number of pupils are significant challenges.

### Findings

#### HGSFP

#### Akko LGA

Beneficiaries were not posted to Government Secondary School in Tumu.



- Cooks interviewed in Central Primary School, Tumu, and Central Primary School, Pindiga, complained of the inflated prices of food items purchased from the LGA warehouse where they had been restricted to by the Desk Officer in the LGA. Some of them even reported that they had been threatened with their payments being withheld if attempts were made to buy from other sources.
- The Head Teachers celebrated increase in enrolment of pupils, however, they were concerned that the increase has unfortunately led to reduction in the quantity of food being served to each pupil.

### **N-Power**

#### **Kaltungo LGA**

- The Principal of the Government Comprehensive Day Secondary School, Kaltungo expressed his contentment with the programme, especially the commitment and passion displayed by the N-Teach beneficiaries posted to his school. He appreciated the impact the programme has had thus far in the school in terms of increase in numerical strength of skilled staff and students' active participation in learning.

- Most beneficiaries interviewed during monitoring were also full of praise for the programme. In fact, many claimed to have invested their stipends in small scale businesses and in farming.

- Concerns were raised about sustainability of the programme.

- N-Build beneficiaries at the SDGs Skills Acquisition Centres were all present during monitoring, some of whom were females who engaged in painting and masonry work. The Director of the centre commended the programme, particularly with regards to the supply of materials, tools and consumables for practical work.

- Beneficiaries at the SDGs Centre in Turemai complained that the challenges they face include: lack of materials and untimely supply of materials when made available.

- Some beneficiaries complained that they had applied for N-Build positions but were rather deployed to schools to teach, and that they experience some difficulties in performing their roles as ad hoc teachers.

- Health facilities were short staffed and therefore needed more N-Health beneficiaries deployed to boost their staff strength.

#### **Akko LGA**

- Virtually all the Health Centres visited were not operational, and the few that were open had no N-Health beneficiaries posted there.

- The Principal of Government Secondary School, Kashere, complained of the disproportionate distribution of N-Teach beneficiaries in schools.

- Some of the beneficiaries were not committed to their PPAs in the rural areas. They only submitted their letters but did not report for work.

### Recommendations

- Beneficiaries requested that their feeding allowance of N200 should be increased to match the energy expended during training. They also asked that safety gears should be provided.
- Secondary school leavers should be involved in the N-Power programme to serve non-academic purposes in schools as a form of work experience.

## Jigawa State

### Findings

#### N-Power

- Some beneficiaries reported that training provided was poorly conducted.
- Some beneficiaries struggled with transporting themselves to work due to distance and transportation cost.
- Beneficiaries complained of unpaid stipends. An extreme example is that of Aisha Yunusa, an N-Teach beneficiary posted to Sani Isiya Primary School, Gumel LGA. Aisha complained that she had been enrolled with the programme for over 22 months, as at the time of monitoring, she had never received any stipend.

## Kano State

### Findings

#### HGSFP

- Insufficient food supplied to cooks due to unforeseen interference of middlemen.
- Funds not promptly disbursed leading to delays in or inconsistent supply of food to pupils.
- Head teachers' "unconcerned attitude" about the programme's implementation in their schools since they were not involved in the planning process.
- Cooks do not adhere to menu provided.
- No feeding in Sabuwar Danjirima Primary School resulting in a large number of pupils dropping out of the school.
- The programme has been beneficial to many of the cooks. They desire its continuation.
- The programme has been attributed to the increase in enrolment in most schools across the State.
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- A major challenge reported was that students were leaving school immediately after meal. This led to an instruction that schools should only serve meals during short breaks (11 am-mid-day)
- Zenith Bank closed the account of all cooks, which forced cooks to open new accounts with First bank. This change in banks resulted in non-payment of many cooks in October. For instance, cooks in Rano LGA were not paid for some weeks in October. Of 7,073 cooks, only 4,552 were paid in October.
- Irregular disbursement of funds to cooks.
- Staff are ill-equipped to effectively monitor the programme.
- The number of cooks assigned to schools is not reflective of increase in enrolment across schools.
- In Rano Model School, none of the five beneficiaries posted to the school ever reported to work.
- The Rano Model School has only one cook with 384 pupils to feed daily.

### **N-Power**

- Beneficiaries of the programme are appreciative of the programme. Aisha Aliyu Isma'il was unemployed after the mandatory NYSC, but she is now a beneficiary of the programme. According to her, she now has a sense of responsibility and she is happy to give back to her community. Jibrin Adamu, another N-Teach beneficiary, said he has been teaching Mathematics in the school as a volunteer staff before the programme was introduced. He said he was encouraged because of the stipend even though he was yet to be paid since he was enrolled on the programme.

Non-payment of N-Teach beneficiaries for over three months. In fact, one of the beneficiaries interviewed in Abubakar Ila Special Primary School, Rano LGA, Jibrin Adamu, reported that he suspected non-payment of their stipends was the primary reason other N-Teach beneficiaries stopped reporting to their duty posts due to distances they need to cover to get to their respective PPAs.

- The enlistment of already employed individuals as beneficiaries of the programme, which one Head Teacher claimed might be responsible for the high degree of absenteeism/truancy among beneficiaries.

### **GEEP**

- Applicants are yet to receive feedback on their applications. According to Mallam Abdullahi Mohammed, GEEP Coordinator, potential beneficiaries have registered and completed all processes towards loan disbursement, but are yet to receive any response from NSIO, BOI and all others involved.

- Co-operative Societies in Rano LGA are said to have lost faith in the initiative as they suspect politicians in the state might have highjacked the programme; even though no evidence was provided in this regard.

### Recommendations

- There should be balanced payment between aggregators and cooks. Essentially, if aggregators are paid to supply for 3,000 pupils, cooks should also be paid to cater for the same number of pupils; not more, not less.
- More stringent supervision of activities of suppliers and N-Power beneficiaries. One of the Head Teachers consulted recommended that a supervisor should be assigned from the State or LGA to supervise the activities of N-power beneficiaries.
- Regular disbursement of funds to cooks.
- Head Teachers should be involved in the programme as a form of check on the implementation of the programme.
- The system should be strengthened to ensure that cooks adhere strictly to menu provided.
- The State government should support the FG by taking up the feeding of primary 4 to 6 pupils.
- Government should provide a form of incentive for CRC members as they have been very supportive in the successful implementation of the programme in the State.
- Logistics support should be provided to CRC members to enable them to continuously monitor the programme across Kano State.
- Number of cooks should be increased to reflect increase in school enrolment.
- More strict criteria should be introduced for the selection of N-Power beneficiaries to ensure only unemployed applicants benefit from the programme.
- Beneficiaries should be absorbed as permanent staff at their PPAs at the end of N-Power programme.
- N-Power beneficiaries should be given orientation or trained prior to being deployed to their respective PPAs. They should also be given orientation on their roles and responsibilities at their PPAs to avoid redundancy.
- Monthly clearance should be introduced for N-Power beneficiaries prior to payment to promote accountability and check absenteeism/truancy at work.
- The FG should sensitise citizens and Co-operative Societies on how to benefit from GEEP.
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## Katsina State

### Findings

#### HGSFP

- Head Teachers and Headmistresses of the schools visited affirmed that the programme had led to increased enrolment rate in their schools. They also added that some of their pupils who had previously dropped out were now returning to school.
- The programme was reported to have addressed part of the parents' burden because their children no longer return home for meals during their break time.
- Retention of pupils in school had improved to the extent that many pupils stayed back in school after feeding.
- The programme was, however, poorly coordinated in the State. For instance, information on the number of cooks who received funds and those who did not receive funds was unavailable, and there was no uniformity in the feeding menu used in schools across the State.
- The contractor responsible for the distribution of biscuits and drinks every Friday was accused of unhygienic handling of the “food items.”
- Some of the cooks served meals late, thereby interrupting classes.
- Children were served with dirty plates and without cutlery. This meant that pupils ate without washing their hands, and their hands remained unwashed after eating due to lack of potable water in the schools.
- Some cooks were reported to be delivering food with buckets they use at home. This is utterly unhygienic.
- In some schools, the quality and taste of the food served were said to be awful.
- The HGSFP Focal person and Head of the SBMC in Bakori Primary School collected ₦30,000 from each cook to purchase locally made cooking pots and coolers with a claim that he wanted to promote uniformity.
- Schools were unaware of the number of the pupils cooks were to feed, which prevented them from appropriately monitoring cooks to ensure that the right quantity of food was supplied.





A pupil eating food served in a black plastic bag in Katsina State.



Re-purposed paint bucket used to deliver food served to pupils in what appears to be dirty / unwashed plates- Katsina State

## N-Power

- Many beneficiaries never returned to their respective PPAs after initially reporting for duty. In fact, it was revealed that many beneficiaries applied solely to receive the monthly stipends and are therefore not fully committed to do the work assigned to them such that a large percentage of N-Teach beneficiaries were often unavailable to provide the services they were employed for.
- Some beneficiaries complained of unpaid stipends.
- Limited access to information due to Head Teachers' refusal to complete administered questionnaire until approval was given by the LGEA.
- Insufficient data to properly track the implementation of the programmes because monitors did not have letter of introduction and were consequently not given access to required information.
- There appears to be some other monitors who claimed that they were assigned to monitor the programmes like the CBOs. This caused confusion between the CBO third-party monitors and the community, to the extent that one of the Education Secretaries refused to acknowledge the Letter of Introduction submitted to him by the CBOs claiming that he had previously attended to some other monitors on same issues.

## Recommendations

- Advocacy and sensitization activities should be intensified in LGAs, to get stakeholders buy-in and also create awareness about the programmes initiated by the FG with emphasis on how such interventions can be beneficial to all.
- Third-party monitors should be accompanied by individuals from the communities in order to make encounters with stakeholders in the communities easier.
- ActionAid Nigeria should introduce the contracted CSOs, to the State Governors who would in turn introduce the CSOs to the appointed State Focal Officers to foster collaboration and information sharing.
- NGOs should be involved in the programme planning and design process because communities readily open up to them better than the Government.
- A uniform menu should be introduced and adhered to by cooks.
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## Kebbi State

### Findings

#### HGSFP

This programme was yet to commence as at the time of monitoring.

#### N-Power

- Beneficiaries consulted appreciated the FG for the programme and wanted the programme to be sustained. They also confirmed that their monthly stipends have always been paid regularly even though some N-Teach beneficiaries had initially stopped working due to delay in the payment of their stipends, but this was later resolved.
- Lack of existing database on beneficiaries made the monitoring almost impossible.
- Some employers reported that some beneficiaries only managed to report at their PPAs due to the long distance between their homes and PPAs.
- There were some reports that beneficiaries were not posted based on their disciplines.

#### GEEP

- About 2,000 recipients of loan under the programme have been recorded in the State.
- Loan repayment was reportedly low.
- The programme appears to have been influenced by politicians who make it difficult for people to access loans.
- Information about the programme is scarce.
- Many applicants were discouraged when no feedback was received about their applications.
- Absence of tools for proper monitoring of beneficiaries at the State level by the BOI.

### Recommendations

- Requirements for accessing GEEP funds should be made less tedious and less prone to political manipulations.
- More people should be enrolled for N-Power from the list of those who had applied.
- Beneficiaries should be posted to PPAs relevant to their disciplines.
- The FG should improve the payment system for N-Teach beneficiaries.
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## Kogi State

### Findings

#### N-Power

All “Batch A” beneficiaries consulted expressed satisfaction with the programme. They reported that they had been trained, most of them have received their devices, and are being paid regularly with a few exceptions. However, “Batch B” beneficiaries consulted reported that they are yet to be trained.

### Recommendations

List of N-Tech beneficiaries posted to schools should be shared with Local Government Education Secretaries at the LGAs.

## Kwara State

### Findings

Absence of logistical support to N-SIP units at the State and Local Government levels towards effective implementation and monitoring of the Programme.

#### HGSFP

The programme was yet to commence as at the time of monitoring. Mr. Babaijo Otepola Adeolu, Deputy Director Planning, Research and Strategy Department of the National Orientation Agency (NOA) stated that there was limited commitment on the part of the State Government to feed pupils.

#### N-Power

- List of N-Power beneficiaries provided by State Focal persons to CBO third-party monitors was disjointed and difficult to utilise for monitoring.
- Mr. Babaijo Otepola Adeolu also reported that the N-Tech component of the programme had not received the attention it deserves compared to the other components; there was no proper planning and implementation. He added that beneficiaries were sent to Minna for training without provision of accommodation and feeding; some beneficiaries had to sleep on bare floor.

#### GEEP

- Health Alive Foundation, the CSO for Kwara State, complained that they had been unable to identify beneficiaries and applicants due to the State Focal Officer's refusal to share information.
- Most Co-operative Societies approached claimed not to have heard about the programme.
- The BOI also failed to share information about GEEP beneficiaries, claiming information on the programme as well as its coordination were handled at the head office in Abuja.

### Recommendations

- The N-Power programme should capture People with Disabilities (PWD) and create special programmes to enable them benefit from the National Social Investment Programmes.
- Issues around relocation of N-Power beneficiaries, especially due to marriage should be effectively managed and resolved.
- NOA should be suitably equipped to support the implementation of N-SIP.
- Beneficiaries implored the FG to extend the N-Power programme because it is helpful to them and also beneficial to the communities.
- Training of beneficiaries should be done at the LGA level to reduce transportation and other costs on beneficiaries.
- Government should intensify monitoring of N-Power programme.
- The payment system for beneficiaries should be reviewed and revised to avert unnecessary delays.

### Nasarawa State

#### Findings

##### N-Power

No established structure for the NSIO at the State and LGA levels.

- Unavailability of a comprehensive list of beneficiaries in most of the LGAs.
- Head Teachers/Principals complained that some of the beneficiaries posted to their schools did not report for duty or they come when it is convenient for them.

Beneficiaries across all monitored LGAs complained of delay in payment of their stipends.

#### Recommendations

Beneficiaries' residence should determine the PPAs they will be posted to.

- Beneficiaries should be retained as permanent staff in their PPAs at the end of their programme tenure.

### Niger State

#### Findings

##### HGSFP

Pupils and Head Teachers consulted affirmed that the programme was being implemented; pupils reported that they were being fed.

- Community heads stated that they were aware of the programme, but that they were not involved during the planning stage of the programme. They reported that the programme had been helpful at motivating their children to attend and stay in school.
- Like the community heads, Head Teachers also claimed they were also not involved during the planning stage of the programme and were thus unaware of what quantity or type of food cooks were to provide.
- At Model Primary School, Edozhigi, the programme was extended to cover Early Childhood Care Development (ECCD) pupils and pupils in Primary 4 to 6. Head teachers reported that the ECCD pupils would always cry whenever food was served, and they were excluded.
- The existence of the SBMC in schools visited helped the schools' management to monitor the programme at the school level.
- It was observed that some of the cooks assigned to schools lived outside the communities where their assigned schools were located. For instance, three of the eight cooks assigned to Edozhigi Primary School are from Bida.
- The system for assigning cooks to schools was faulty as cooks appeared to be assigned randomly rather than based on need. During the monitoring visit, for example, it was discovered that Langbafu Primary School, Doko had a total of 642 pupils (primary 1 - 6) with 4 cooks, whereas Model Primary School, Edozhigi with 625 pupils (ECCD/Primary 1 - 6) had 8 cooks.

### Recommendations

- The HGSF programme should be sustained by the FG to enable many more pupils to stay in school to acquire basic education, generate wealth for farmers and create jobs for more cooks.
- The FG should increase funds provided for feeding so that the quantity of food would improve and be enough to cater for pupils from ECCD to Primary 6.
- Information should be provided to all schools on what to expect from cooks in terms of types of food as well as accompaniments. For instance, schools should be aware whether cooks are responsible for providing pupils with drinking water, cutlery and plates.
- Government should engage the available structures at the community level and in schools for routine monitoring of the programme.

### Ogun State

#### Findings

##### HGSFP

- Third-party Monitors were refused access by Head Teachers because there was no formal introduction from SUBEB.

- At the time of the visit, the NSIO was yet to issue Letter of Introduction to the CBOs.
- According to CBOs in the state, several hard-to-reach areas could not be visited due to limited funds available for the monitoring assignment.

### **N-Power**

Third-party Monitors in Abeokuta utilised the power of social media to reach out to N-Power beneficiaries for monitoring. This was very innovative because there was no official introduction to facilitate entry by the State Programme Managers.

### **GEEP**

- In Ogun State, the programme was implemented through the market union structure, 'Iya Oloja'. This meant that each market leader took responsibility for her members' access to loans. This strategy localised the programme to peculiarities of applicants in the State.
- Aggregator channels on the programme did not mobilise applications through co-operative societies; individuals were randomly grouped together into clusters for loan application.

### **Recommendations**

- Traditional leadership structures should be integrated into N-SIP to support its successful implementation in rural communities.
- CBOs should be encouraged and empowered not only to collect data but to also analyse and report data collected at their level.

### **Osun State**

#### **Findings**

##### **HGSFP**

- In Osogbo, cooks have only ₦20 to cook per child as ₦20 had been deducted for bread and ₦28 for chicken/meat/eggs/fish. Similarly, in Egbedore LGA, cooks were left with about ₦42 per pupil after ₦28 was deducted by the State Government for eggs, fish, meat and chicken.

No separate fund allocated to cooks except for the ₦70 allocated per pupil.

- Rations of meat/chicken provided to cooks are not commensurate with market value, and are often not fresh and good for human consumption when delivered to cooks.
- Some cooks were owed months of payments.
- Observance of proper hygiene was not fully adhered to in some schools as students were served food without cutlery and hand washing.

##### **GEEP**

- Beneficiaries of the programme were evasive when contacted via telephone. They denied receipt of any loan even when official documents indicated otherwise. This is perceived to be

due to their intention to default on their loan.

- Beneficiaries were difficult to track and when found appeared to have misused the loan or were defaulting on their payment.

### Recommendations

- There is an urgent need to investigate the deductions from funds disbursed to cooks and correct the situation.
- A strong monitoring system should be introduced to ensure that fresh and quality meat/fish/chicken are used for cooking.
- A functional complaints and redress mechanism should be put in place to encourage cooks to report, anonymously, cases of fraud, exploitation, harassment and other misconducts by officials.
- AAN should push for the implementation of personal allowance for cooks distinct from funds allocated to them for providing food for pupils.
- Headmasters/mistresses should be involved in clearing N-Teach beneficiaries before they are paid their monthly stipends. This will mitigate truancy and other forms of misconduct among beneficiaries.

### Oyo State

#### Findings

##### HGSFP

- Cooks in some schools were overburdened because they have many pupils to serve in their assigned schools. For instance, of the two cooks assigned to Community Primary School III, Ana-Ofun in Egbeda LGA, only one was left to supply food to all the pupils in Primary 1 – 3 with no additional funds allocated. The other cook had since abandoned the job.

- The physical count of pupils in some schools showed the numbers were much lower than the numbers allocated to cooks. Civil Society Network on HIV/AIDS in Nigeria (CiSHAN), the CSO managing monitoring in the State is investigating the case.

Meat (chicken and fish) was seldom served to pupils in their food.

- It was also observed that in Ogbomosho South LGA, cooks had to pay ₦1,500 each for Environmental Health Clearance (EHC) certificate at the LGA secretariat, which they obtained without undergoing any medical screening.

##### N-Power

- N-Build beneficiaries either had incomplete tool sets or their tool sets came mixed up with tools for other trades. For instance, the auto-mechanics had carpentry and electrical tools inside their toolbox.



- Most N-Agro beneficiaries consulted want farmlands or financial aid to support their small-scale agricultural enterprises.
- N-Agro beneficiaries in Ibadan had begun rearing and processing fish in their homes, with one of the beneficiaries selling her produce on the internet.

### **GEEP**

- GEEP is functional in Oyo State, however, a few bad agents have ruined the programme's reputation by using it to defraud unsuspecting applicants.
- A case of fraud involving an agent of DRTS was reported. The agent in question used GEEP as cover to defraud members of co-operative societies. The matter is under investigation by CiSHAN.
- Some beneficiaries reported that the process for accessing and repaying loans was stress-free. However, several others reported unpleasant experiences of blocked Bank Verification Number (BVN) even after paying through agents.

### **Recommendations**

- There is an urgent need to develop a savings scheme for “Batch B” N-Power beneficiaries and a platform to assist them establish small scale businesses at the end of their tenure on the programme.
  - A robust and functional complaints and redress mechanism should be introduced into GEEP programme. This will restore public confidence in the loan application and repayment processes.
- The cases of fraud should be thoroughly investigated, and a detailed report submitted to NSIO.

### **Plateau State**

#### **Findings**

##### **N-Power**

- Complaints were tendered by some beneficiaries in Jos North and East LGAs about the inadequacy of training conducted for them. Some in Dengi and Gumsher communities reported that they were not even trained before being posted to their PPAs.
- Provision of devices to N-Teach beneficiaries was fraught with some challenges because some beneficiaries complained that they did not receive their devices. For example, of the 17 beneficiaries posted to Kanam LGA only 2 confirmed receipt of devices as at the time of monitoring.
- The number of N-Teach beneficiaries posted to some schools was disproportionate to the number of pupils in those schools. For instance, in Mangu LGA only two N-Teach beneficiaries were posted to a school with 100 pupils.

## Sokoto State

### Findings

#### N-Power

Beneficiaries, especially the first batch, expressed gratitude to FGN for the programme and looked forward to getting permanent employment from the Government.

### Recommendations

- The programme should ensure beneficiaries are adequately trained before being posted so that they will be well-equipped to deliver as expected at their PPAs.
- Beneficiaries want Government to provide more capacity building/trainings to better prepare them for the labour market.

## Taraba State

### Findings

#### N-Power

- There was little or no involvement of stakeholders at the Local Government level.
- Non-existent platforms for communication between N-SIP officials and beneficiaries.
- Most beneficiaries in the State were civil servants already employed by Government. This was observed in Mutum Biyu B ward of Gassol LGA, Bali and Wukura LGAs. In Gassol LGA, an N-Power beneficiary was both the LGADesk Officer and State Supervisor.
- Beneficiaries in Taraba LGA refused to respond to questionnaire and interviews.
- Some N-power beneficiaries did not report to their PPAs.

## Yobe State

### Findings

#### N-Power

- Some schools listed as PPAs had never had beneficiaries posted to them, while some that had benefitted urgently needed more beneficiaries. The Head Teacher consulted in Royal Primary School reported that they had never received N-Teach beneficiaries in their school even though the school was listed as a beneficiary of the programme. On the other hand, Nayi Nawa Primary School had benefitted from the programme, however, with over 2,500 pupils and counting the Head Teacher implored the programme to send more N-Teach beneficiaries to assist them with the increasing enrolment figure. He commended the FG for the impact the programme has had so far on his school.
- Schools, for example, Nayi Primary School, complained that the N-Teach beneficiaries were irregular at reporting to work because they lived far off from the school, which resulted in high transportation cost for them.
- Healthcare facilities participating in the programme lacked basic infrastructure and equipment such as chairs and tables, and work space. Consequently, most of the N-Health

beneficiaries posted there were not reporting daily; they also complained that they were not being fully engaged.

- Officials of the Health Care Centres visited in Gujiba and Bun-yadi LGAs complained that the beneficiaries posted to them were untrained and inexperienced as health workers, and some studied courses that are unrelated to health. They also complained that some of the beneficiaries were not punctual because they lived at locations that are far off from their facilities.
- Schools in Gujiba complained that they had insufficient numbers of beneficiaries.
- In Buni Yadi, it was observed that some N-Teach beneficiaries were still engaged in activities they were involved in prior to enrolling with the programme, such as schooling and running personal businesses, which made them uncommitted to their work.
- Some of the N-teach beneficiaries were still having issues with completing their enrolment and are yet to be paid their stipends.
- In Tarmuwa LGA, Health Officers in facilities visited complained of insufficiency in the number of beneficiaries posted to them. They also reported that the beneficiaries they had were uncommitted and unserious about their work.
- There were no agricultural establishments to attach N-Agro beneficiaries to in the State. Some of the N-Agro beneficiaries met during monitoring were posted to the State's Secretariat.

### Recommendations

- Beneficiaries, especially N-Health beneficiaries, should be trained before being deployed to their PPAs.
- Accommodation should be provided to beneficiaries where possible to aid punctuality and regular attendance at their PPAs.

### HGSFP/ GEEP

There was limited information on the coordination and implementation of GEEP and HGSFP in the State.

## Zamfara State

### Findings

#### N-Power

- Regular monitoring by State officials has ensured effectiveness and accountability of N-SIP in the state.
- Beneficiaries reported that they had not been trained prior to being posted to their PPAs. The consequence was that many beneficiaries struggled to deliver in key result areas at their PPAs.

- Delay in payment of monthly stipends was also reported. In Banaga Sule Model School, one of the 15 N-Teach beneficiaries consulted, Yusuf Sani, has not been paid from December 2016 to April 2017.
- N-Power beneficiaries alleged that officials of the N-Power office harass, intimidate and compel them to pay bribes. There is evidence of telephonic conversations in this regard.
- There was a profile mix-up in Talatar Mafara LGA. Some of the N-Health applicants were placed in N-Teach and vice versa.
- Some beneficiaries did not report at their PPAs.
- Shinkafi Model Primary School had 20 N-Teach beneficiaries; only one of them was going to teach regularly.

### HGSFP

- Most of the cooks met expressed pleasure at being gainfully engaged.
- Cooks in Talafar Mafara LGA said they had no issues with disbursement of funds and that they fed the children as expected.
- One of the cooks in Kaura Namoda LGA complained that she feeds 150 children instead of 85.
- Another complained of feeding 180 children instead of 85.
- In Maru LGA, Hussaain Idris, an imposter, was reported to have visited Banaga Sule Model Primary School claiming to be the PRO of the N-SIP. He was arrested with the support of the Programme Manager.

### GEEP

- GEEP has no office in Zamfara. Applicants are uncertain about the outcome of their applications
- There are reports of some recipients of the loan (about 24) who have repaid. This was confirmed by the Focal Person in the State. However, the team was unable to meet with any of the beneficiaries
- All the persons met on GEEP noted that they filled the forms but are yet to receive any disbursement or any communication on the application
- GEEP is practically non-existent in Talatar Mafara LGA
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FORD  
FOUNDATION



# RESPONSES

FROM  
NATIONAL SOCIAL INVESTMENT  
OFFICE (NSIO) AND  
CLUSTER HEADS



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### Highlights and Responses from National Social Investment Office (NSIO)

As part of experience sharing, AAN held quarterly feedback sessions with NSIO, CSOs and other stakeholders to discuss findings, challenges and successes recorded during monitoring. This process helped NSIO to immediately address issues of fraudulent practices, improper programme implementation and also helped to also address some of the recommendations made by the TPMs to improve the programme.

NSIO while addressing the challenges raised by TPMs stated that one major factor that plagued the programme is the level of illiteracy among the poor and the vulnerable. Considering Nigeria's vast land mass and diversity, coverage is a big challenge faced by the NSIO, even though all hands are on deck to see that the gaps are bridged, NSIO relies on TPMs and other stakeholders' reports to address issues to ensure that more people are lifted out of poverty; more children are enrolled in schools and the poverty index is being reduced.

The politicisation of the programme was also a challenge, because politicians tried to truncate the process by appointing their cronies to lead the implementation of the programmes in some states. NSIO stressed the importance of having strong institutions at all levels to ensure the sustainability of the Social Investment Programmes.

NSIO stated that TPMs are crucial to the effective implementation of N-SIP. However, CSOs are encouraged to see the monitoring of the programmes as part of their social justice responsibilities to ensure that the programmes positively affect the lives of the intended beneficiaries.

### Responses from NSIO

- The appointment of State Focal Persons was a big issue especially the states governed by opposition parties. NSIO shared Terms of Reference with States Governments highlighting the criteria for the selection of focal persons. So, the challenge is to ensure that State Focal Persons are effectively coordinating the programmes.

- Nigeria as a Federation demands the representation of different interests and diversity. Implementation of the next phase of N-SIP will reflect States' peculiarities.

- NSIO reiterated that its mandate does not include building of classrooms and that this responsibility lies with the State and the Federal Governments. However, some of the findings on dilapidated school buildings and inadequate furniture have been shared with SUBEB and other relevant authorities.

- The NSIO is collaborating with NOA in some States and also using traditional (print & electronics) and social media to create more awareness and get buy-in of more stakeholders for the successful implementation of the programme. This will also address many of the concerns on lack of awareness as reported by the TPMs.

### Responses From Cluster Heads

The N-SIP Cluster Heads provided insight into the various programmes and also responded to the issues, concerns and challenges raised by the TPMs.

### Job Creation (N-Power)

- Beneficiaries' deployments are done in the States, and NSIO expects that states should take responsibility to train beneficiaries before deployment.
- On N-Teach, NSIO will be working with State actors and other relevant agencies to train beneficiaries in order to enhance their professionalism as teachers. However, the tablets given to the beneficiaries contained training modules that fit different components of N-Power.
- The N-Power was designed to get beneficiaries into the programmes that suit their capacities and strengths which also correlates with the training they received. Part of the exit plans for N-Power Programmes is to allow beneficiaries enrol for 6 months freelancing or entrepreneurship programmes through the scheme.
- On civil servants reported to be N-Power beneficiaries, those found wanting have been delisted from the programme and measures have been put in place to forestall re-occurrence.
- Addressing absenteeism, NSIO suspends erring beneficiaries for three months and require them to get letter of attestation stating improvement in commitment towards work from relevant authorities, otherwise they will be kicked out of the programme.

### Home Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP)

- As regards the demand for budget increase for HGSFP, NSIO has collaborated with NBS to conduct a survey on the number of pupils enrolled in public primary schools in the last two years all over the country. This will help the NSIO to adequately budget for the next phase of the HGSFP.
- In ensuring the transparency of the programme, especially on school data, the NSIO team also visited schools across the country to ascertain reports on increase in school enrolment and are currently working with SBMC to capture these numbers. Some reports stated that children are coming into the schools because of the food but are not enrolled into the schools, as such this does not reflect an increase in enrolment in the schools.
- The HGSFP was designed to have the Programme Manager for each state and the criteria is to have representatives of health personnel, members of the community and a technocrat that will drive the process and deliver on the progress of the programme. However, State peculiarities did not afford the programme to follow intended design
- NSIO set up a feedback mechanism for the beneficiaries especially cooks, although some cooks are reporting but some State actors frustrate this effort.
- NSIO implores State Focal Persons to ensure effective implementation of the programme.
- NSIO encourages TPMs to include schools, names of the teachers, communities when reporting peculiar issues for necessary actions to be taken.
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- State Governments should consider cooks' proximity to schools when deploying them to reduce cost of transportation, this will ensure that the budgeted 70 Naira meal per pupil does not reduce the quality and quantity of the food.
- As part of CSOs' engagement with the policy bearers, they should advocate for access to potable water and hand washing points for the pupils.
- NSIO is aware of the challenge that some cooks are being swindled because they cannot personally do banking transactions. However, there are plans to conduct training for the cooks on the banking process and access to funds.
- The CSOs through advocacy should engage State actors on addressing some of the challenges emanating from the implementation of the N-SIP in their States.

### **Government Enterprise and Empowerment Programme (GEEP)**

- NSIO intends to sensitize the public on the gains of the programme and conduct training with TPMs to effectively monitor the implementation of the programme.
- NSIO will share information of aggregators and beneficiaries on the programme in each state to enable TPMs track beneficiaries of the programme.
- NSIO will ensure an improved implementation process to enable effective disbursement and repayment process

# CONCLUSION

RECOMMENDATIONS  
LESSONS LEARNT



## Conclusion

Findings obtained from third-party monitoring for the period under review indicate that the programmes are effective and relevant in spite of the challenges encountered by TPMs in the states. The programmes are effective because their expected outcomes have been achieved even if retention in HGSFP is still beclouded in doubt. The programmes are also relevant because they have met the urgent needs of beneficiaries. The National Social Investment Programmes also are, no doubt, aligned with the international and national expectations of social protection interventions, and have contributed towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## Effectiveness

The right targets were being serviced in all cases, with the exception of instances in some states where it was reported that civil servants, who are already in gainful employment, were also beneficiaries of N-Power. Another exception is the fact that in many states, farmers were completely excluded from the HGSF programme. The treatment of some targets was also often below par. For instance, pupils would come to school expecting to be fed but only to be left disappointed when food was not provided because someone, somewhere, failed to perform their function. Similarly, due to someone's dereliction of duty, cooks and N-Power beneficiaries were owed months of unpaid stipend. These situations have occurred due to poor coordinating and monitoring systems, which must be improved upon if the N-SIP programme is truly to be considered 'successful'.

Most expected outcomes have been achieved: feeding of pupils in primary 1 to 3 reportedly resulted in increased enrolment in schools, however, retention cannot be said to have been conclusively achieved as dropouts were recorded in some states once there was no feeding. For instance, in Ungogo and Danbata LGAs in Kano state, the Head Teacher reported that the number of pupils decreased when feeding stopped for a week in November but picked up again when feeding commenced. This scenario was reported in other locations as well. This may point to the fact that feeding pupils is not a sufficient motivation for changing the attitude of pupils and their parents towards the important role of education, even when provided free-of-charge. However, going by the trend, it is strongly hoped that retention may be achieved if and when feeding becomes consistent or becomes a permanent feature of children's schooling in Nigeria.

Small business owners, through the GEEP programme, gained access to micro-credit finance to expand their businesses. Graduates were trained and linked to paid employment while non-graduates were equipped with skills to be self-employable through the N-Power programmes.

Feedback obtained from qualitative survey of beneficiaries and the wider community confirm the achievement of the Programme's outcomes, with most imploring the Federal Government to continue with the Programme. Also, outcomes achieved are solely attributable to the Programme with no influence from external factors or competing projects, except for the Abia state feeding programme which is targeted at pupils in primary 4 to 6 but rather than compete with, it complements the HGSFP in that state.

Of all the programmes implemented in the period monitored, GEEP was the programme implemented in the least number of states. It is also the programme with the least awareness,

as well as the programme with many potential beneficiaries that are unable to benefit from or enrol on it due to poor access to information and tedious protocols, as reported by some beneficiaries.

### Relevance

Since social protection programmes have been identified as effective at reducing poverty and vulnerabilities in the society, if well implemented, the programmes' objectives are consistent with international and national development priorities, and are aligned to a great extent with the urgent needs of beneficiaries. However, the programmes are silent on a key subset of the population, people with disabilities (PWDs). It is obvious that not much has been reported about their involvement with the programmes and efforts that have been put in place to make their participation in the programmes free from undue difficulties. The programmes, importantly, contribute towards achieving the sustainable development goals; global goals developed to foster equality, inclusion and a more prosperous world for all.

### Sustainability

The lack of a sustainability strategy indicates that sustaining results is 'highly unlikely' unless a strategy is developed. A smart strategy is imperative, that which is reflective of the socio-political dynamics and peculiarities of Nigeria's presidential system, especially the changes and continuities in politics and government and the attendant fallouts and pitfalls, a fluid dynamic, which otherwise could hamper the success of a well-developed programme. Current good practice prioritises the development of an exit strategy from the outset during programme design. However, there is no indication that N-SIP has a sustainability strategy, or where it does, it has not been properly communicated as most beneficiaries consulted were unsure of their fate after the programme with a resounding request for the Federal Government to consider extending the programme for another phase. However, extension only delays the inevitable. Others have suggested the Federal Government retains beneficiaries in their PPAs, absorbs them into the civil service, or provides seed funds for the entrepreneurial ones to start small businesses, as reported in Kano State, for instance.

There is also an over-centralisation of the N-SIP structure with most of the control situated at the Federal level, which has made coordinating and monitoring programmes difficult.

### Recommendations

#### General recommendations

- 1 **Community participation in monitoring:** A system should be created to enable beneficiaries across the programmes, as well as the wider-community, anonymously, report or give feedback on programme implementation in their locality, particularly reporting unscrupulous practices. This would serve as a means of getting direct, on-the-ground, information about the programmes, but also give stakeholders a sense of ownership, particularly if they see that their feedback has been used towards programme improvement. It is important that in creating the system people in rural communities as well as the diversity in literacy levels among stakeholders is considered. By extension, head teachers and managers at beneficiaries' places of placement should be empowered to supervise and provide report on beneficiaries deployed to work with them, and thus contribute to monitoring.

**Background checks:** Whenever minors are involved there must be a heightened alert system

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to ensure maximum protection of children. Due to the sensitivity inherent in providing food for children in the absence of their parents, the importance of preventing illness due to food provided and generally ensuring that minors are in the care of trustworthy individuals, it is crucial that thorough background checks are performed on direct and indirect beneficiaries who will be in contact with children under the auspices of N-SIP. This includes cooks, N-Teach beneficiaries and all others.

- 3 **Awareness creation:** Awareness about the programmes should be enhanced, especially in the face of complaints of unawareness by potential beneficiaries of GEEP. Considering the diversity of beneficiaries' literacy level, educational attainment as well as technological savviness, awareness creation should be increased and sustained. This should be done through an integrated communication platform that incorporates the traditional, the new media and mobile channels. Specifically, this approach will dictate the use of a mix of mass and social media platforms with grassroots community structures like town-hall meetings, town criers and so on. This would contribute towards increasing the number of applicants, and eventually the number of beneficiaries enrolled on the different programmes, especially getting more teachers for schools in the light of the increase in the rate of school enrolment resulting from the HGSFP.
- 4 **Orientation and training:** Although training is part of the NSIP's activities, it is currently conducted once at the beginning for newly enrolled beneficiaries. This is inadequate. It is therefore recommended that trainings should be more frequent in order to keep beneficiaries' knowledge updated and serve as opportunities for learning, experience sharing and obtaining feedback. Following complaints received from states, the relevance of training contents and materials, conditions under which trainings are provided and duration of training, as well as communication about trainings should also be improved. For instance, beneficiaries in Bauchi State reported that a two-day training is insufficient for beneficiaries, while beneficiaries from Benue and other states recommended that refreshments and transport allowance should be included in the training package. Finally, trainings should be provided by local government clusters rather than having one central training per state. This way the problem of overcrowding of venues during training would be eliminated. Furthermore, step-down training may be considered as this may enhance greater knowledge sharing and dissemination and sustainability.
- 5 **Coordination and monitoring:** Coordination of NSIP should be decentralised by contact offices in Local Governments so that beneficiaries can get support and information whenever they require it. This would, therefore, reduce difficulties beneficiaries face in terms of transportation cost(s) and its associated risks. Alternatively, offline or on-the-phone support can be created in place of having contact offices in all participating Local Governments. Officials should also be adequately equipped to carry out frequent and periodic monitoring of all beneficiaries in all locations where the programmes are implemented. However, the activities of officials should also be closely monitored to ensure they are carrying out their function as required and not abusing their offices. In this digital age a whole lot can be done with the deployment of digital technology relevant to tracking. Thus, the use of Information Technology (IT) is strongly recommended.

- 6 **Third-Party Monitoring (TPM):** In addition to monitoring carried out by N-SIP officials, TPM should be performed quarterly to ensure stakeholders are carrying out their functions, be it officials, cooks, aggregators or N-Power beneficiaries, but, more importantly, to assess whether the outcomes of programme implementation are being achieved.
- 7 **Allowance across States and programmes:** the NSIO should consider paying allowances to beneficiaries – cooks and those enrolled in N-Power, on a State-by-State basis. This is because paying a flat rate appears to be premised on the assumption that there are uniform conditions across the States in terms of cost of living. However, in reality, this is not the case. Rent, cost of food and transportation, cost of healthcare and others are more reasonable in some sStates than others. Paying on a State-by-State basis would therefore, reduce challenges beneficiaries reported in terms of transportation and rent with a view to improving their living standards; it would also improve their ability to save and start small businesses at the end of their terms.
- 8 **Forms of Identification:** Identification should be issued free-of-charge to beneficiaries, especially N-Teach beneficiaries and cooks for easy identification of those who are involved with the programmes. This should also be applied to NSIP officials to help weed out unsavoury characters. The form of identification should be IT driven to stave off impostors and other criminally-minded elements.

### Programme Specific Recommendations

#### Home-Grown School Feeding Programme

- 1 **Assessment of cooks and location for food preparation prior to recruitment:** There should be a means of assessing the cooking experience and ability of cooks prior to their engagement on the programme. This could be done through requesting for and following up with references provided, for instance. Once recruited, regular monitoring of cooks should be conducted. Additionally, be it in school premises or in the cooks' residences, the programme must have in place a mechanism for regular inspection of the specific environment where food preparation is carried out for suitability, quality assurance and hygiene purposes. The locations, whether in schools or outside schools, should be documented in the cooks' file and must not be changed unless a formal approval is given for the location to be changed.
- 2 **Improve quality and quantity of meals served:** there should be a minimum standard for meals and accompaniments across the programmes, with no exceptions. Meals should be provided daily; should be nutritionally balanced and of quantities that would sustain children aged 4 to 8, with adequate quantities and quality of animal protein, fruits and vegetables. Drinking water should compulsorily accompany meals, which should be served in hot-proof plates with cutlery provided. Cooks who do not comply with the terms of their recruitment should be warned, monitored for improvement, and subsequently ejected from the programme if no improvement is made.
- 3 **Increase in Payment:** Across states, a key complaint by cooks was the inadequacy of money being paid to them for meals. They, along with other stakeholders, have requested that payments should be increased. For example, in Adamawa state the N70 provided per child is said to be insufficient. Also, payment to cooks should reflect state peculiarities in terms

of cost of food items and be consistent and uniform across cooks in that state or local government. The idea that within the same local government cooks are being paid different amounts is unjustified. Finally, payment should be made just before school resumes and at the end of one month for the subsequent month so that food supply will not be delayed, and it should be paid directly and timeously, into the cooks' bank accounts.

- 4 **Selection of cooks:** Cooks should be recruited from communities or local governments where schools they will provide meal service to are located. It is only where no one from that community applies to be a cook that cooks can be selected from neighbouring communities. This will reduce communities' grievances that strangers outside their communities are cooking for their children and will also address the problem of the distance being covered by cooks, which often leads to delays and inconsistent meal service in some States.
- 5 **Provision of water and appropriate cooking spaces:** Stakeholders across the federation have recommended that boreholes should be sunk in school premises, as well as the construction of kitchens or creation of suitable spaces for cooking in schools. These recommendations are due to the reported anxiety expressed by parents, teachers, and other stakeholders about meals preparation not being supervised. This concern has forced schools in some states to require cooks to prepare meals within school premises where they can be supervised. However, doing this brought to the fore challenges such as inadequacy or outright lack of appropriate cooking spaces and lack of potable water.
- 6 **Number of cooks per school:** There should be a minimum number of cooks per school at any time, which would be based on the total number of pupils to be fed per school and not on any other criteria, if adequate meal provision is to be achieved. This will prevent cooks from being overwhelmed and will also be able to provide quality meals; it would also contribute to reducing delays and inconsistencies in meal provision.
- 7 **Patronage of farmers:** In almost all locations, farmers have been left out of the value chain. Cooks buy directly from the market in some locations or directly from programme officials in other states. If the programme is to be implemented as designed, it should be made compulsory that produce/items used must be bought directly from farmers. It is only in instances where farmers do not have the produce, or it is not enough that other sources of purchasing should be considered. However, beneficiaries in Gombe State recommended that cooks should be allowed to purchase food items from the open market so that they can get the best prices and make better choices while also assessing quality. More importantly, a list of participating farmers, the produce they stock, and their corresponding prices should be made available to cooks so they can decide which of the farmers they will want to patronise.
- 8 **Incentives:** In addition to providing meals, items such as books, school bags, school uniform and stationery should be provided every session through the programme. This will act as additional incentives for children to want to come to school, and for parents to want to send their children back to school. Local farmers should be supported with agricultural and other incentives to improve their farming business and in the long-run increase their yields and farming practice. In addition, cooks who are consistently exceptional should also be honoured to motivate others.

- 9 **Stakeholders' involvement:** Stakeholders, especially head teachers or proprietors, should supervise cooks. This can be done by giving schools a check list of things to look out for during meal time and how to report non-compliance on the part of the cooks. For instance, the check list could include details on how cooks should present themselves during meal service – with their aprons and cooks' cap, the conditions in which food should be presented and served, and importantly, items that must accompany food; drinking water and fruits.
- 10 **An alternative strategy to engaging cooks:** Rather than have cooks procure food items, they should be provided with food items and then paid for cooking and serving meals. This would contribute to eliminating complaints by cooks about high cost of food and standardise food items across states in terms of type and quality. It would also make tracing and addressing cases of poor-quality food items easier.
- 11 **Extend feeding to other classes:** Schools in some states, Adamawa for instance, have recommended that feeding of pupils should be extended to primary 4 to 6, while in other states the recommendation is that the lower classes, for example nursery, should be included in the programme because they feel left out and would often cry whenever food is served and they are left out.
- 12 **Cooking and serving utensils should be provided:** Across most of the states, a recurring challenge reported was lack of utensils for cooks, and plates for serving pupils. Consequently, all necessary items required for cooking and serving meals should be provided. In Ogun state, for instance, cooks reported that money was deducted from their payment for utensils which were never provided. This case should be investigated, and appropriate redress should be made, if any infraction is uncovered. Those found culpable should be disciplined accordingly to serve as deterrent to others.

### Job Creation (N-Power)

- 1 **Increase beneficiaries' stipends:** A key feedback from virtually all the states is the inadequacy of the monthly stipend being paid to beneficiaries on the N-Power programme. The recommendation is that the stipends given to those enrolled on the programme should be increased from what it is currently to cushion the effects of the current economic reality. This will ensure more commitment and reduce absenteeism which has been attributed to inadequate stipends.

**Uniform enrolment and stipends disbursement:** Enrolment of beneficiaries on the programme and disbursement of monthly stipends should be done at the same time to prevent beneficiaries using delayed enrolment or unpaid stipends as excuse to be absent from their primary places of assignment.
- 2
- 3 **Introduce clearance as a monitoring tool:** Beneficiaries should be required to submit signed monthly clearance forms from their PPAs as an additional step for monitoring and ensure value for money. Submission of clearance forms can be required before monthly stipends are remitted to track and document beneficiaries who consistently report to work and those who are habitually absent. This would send an unequivocal message to beneficiaries to take the



programme seriously. Requiring submission of clearance forms could also be used to give PPAs a strong sense of involvement in supervising beneficiaries; sometimes, many head teachers complain the programme has not given them the authority to make beneficiaries accountable at their PPAs. However, the downside of this recommendation is that, if not carefully and properly designed, the likelihood is that some unscrupulous supervisors in PPAs may cash-in on it as an opportunity to exploit the beneficiaries. Again, the deployment of information technology is necessary to resolve some of the extant issues inherent in the manual or analogue approach.

4 **Posting to places of primary assignment:** Posting of beneficiaries should be based on needs by places of primary assignments and information contained in beneficiaries' applications, such as states or local government a beneficiary resides in order to reduce housing and transport costs, as well as languages spoken. Many of the N-Teach beneficiaries posted to schools in Zamfara state are non-Hausa speakers whereas majority of the pupils they teach do not understand English Language. This would have been avoided if beneficiaries were posted based on information captured in their applications. However, where this is not possible then beneficiaries should be advised and posted to the next best location with appropriate review of their stipends to reflect living costs. Beneficiaries should also be posted across local governments in a state and not concentrated primarily at the headquarters.

5 **Retain beneficiaries in places of placement:** At the end of beneficiaries' term at their placements, where possible, and with consideration given to exceptionally performing beneficiaries, such should be given the opportunity to have permanent employment in their PPAs.

6 **Extend beneficiaries contract:** Contracts of graduating beneficiaries should be extended, particularly N-Teach beneficiaries, because they have become invaluable to schools and removing them would potentially revert schools to the status- quo before the programme started when there were not enough teachers.

7 **Develop a post-graduation plan for beneficiaries to sustain the gains of the programmes:** A post-graduation plan should be developed for beneficiaries to prevent them from falling back into the unemployment bracket. This could be in form of soft loans for beneficiaries who are interested in starting small scale businesses or as earlier stated retaining them in their places of primary assignment or absorbing them into the civil service.

8 **Beneficiaries' selection process:** Interviews, whether face-to-face or via online platforms, should be conducted for prospective applicants and information obtained used to guide selection, enrolment and especially postings. This would prevent situations where nepotism and other disreputable methods are used to sneak in gainfully employed people into the programme, such as people already working in the civil service as reported in Taraba state.

9 **Working tools:** Beneficiaries who reported that they were yet to receive devices should be given theirs, and subsequently, the device and other materials should be provided to all beneficiaries at the same time.

- 10 **Monitoring N-Teach:** Established bodies such as the Universal Basic Education Board (UBEB) should be involved in the training and monitoring of N-Teach beneficiaries. This would lend credibility to the programme and give requisite skillset to the beneficiaries.
- 11 Beneficiaries with an established track record for inconsistent reporting at their places of placement should be removed and replaced with other interested applicants, whereas those who have performed exceptionally well should be rewarded to encourage them and other beneficiaries. Also, beneficiaries should be entitled to at least one day off per month to take care of personal matters.
- 12 Information Technology driven “clock-in & clock-out” system can be helpful in elimination of absenteeism and truancy among the N-Power beneficiaries.

### Government Enterprise Empowerment Programme

- 1 **Loan disbursement and repayment:** Tailor the assessment of loan applications to business types or individual peculiarities rather than having a one-size-fits-all approach. Significantly, States should be involved in the selection process or where that is impossible, they should be given access to the database of beneficiaries in their States.
- 2 **Orientation on loan management:** As part of loan application process beneficiaries should be given orientation on the process to give them insights into the process and know what to expect and what is required of them. This will enable informed decision-making and avert issues related to abandonment, defaulting on repayment, exploitation, and minimise difficulty faced with the application process as complained of in some states.
- 3 **Interest on loans:** Interest on loans obtained through NSIP should be removed or made less prohibitive, and the loan repayment period should be extended to about a year.
- 4 **Eliminate middle men (aggregators and channels):** Aggregators and channels appear to have been more disruptive than helpful as beneficiaries have recommended their exclusion from the loan application process so that interested cooperatives can apply and repay directly to the banks.
- 5 **Awareness:** Awareness about NSIP, especially GEEP, should be intensified so that more micro, small and medium scale business owners become aware of the opportunity inherent in the programme; are informed about its requirements in order to apply for and gain access to the much needed loans. Most beneficiaries interviewed in Anka and Kaura-Namoda LGAs in Zamfara State were unaware that the funds received were loans that must be repaid. Community heads should be well-informed about the programme as their support can be used to further enhance the programme's visibility.

### Lessons learnt

- 1 **Coordination structures and systems:** Creating systems and structures for coordination does not always ensure their optimum use and performance due to human attitudes and behaviours, and not necessarily the inappropriateness or inadequacy of the systems. It is, therefore, judicious that routine and periodic review of coordination structures and systems

- 2 **Contingencies (Crises, natural disasters and the rest):** In some states, Benue and Plateau for instance, elections and communal clashes and other security issues, and the resultant unrest and closure of participating organisations, affected programme implementation and activities of third-party monitors. Beneficiaries deployed to affected communities were left to fend for themselves. The point, therefore, is that when designing projects, consideration must be given to contingencies and plans made accordingly, especially when the localities the programme is to be implemented has a history of these kinds of occurrences.
- 3 **Achieving a balance between control, coordination and transparency:** Centralisation of decision-making and coordination with the intent of having greater control of programme could partly lead to unanticipated outcomes. Beneficiaries could not receive on-the-spot assistance from Desk Officers in local governments and had to travel to the states whenever they have complaints or need assistance. This resulted in complaints about incurring high cost of transportation and some GEEP beneficiaries also abandoning their loan applications due to the stress inherent in the process. Community structures, community heads, parents, teachers, were not involved in decision making. Having their inputs factored into the design of the programmes would have highlighted the need to give schools roles in the supervision of cooks and N-Teach beneficiaries too. This would have reduced issues about some beneficiaries not working but getting paid, as well as complaints from the community about people from outside of their communities cooking for their children.
- 4 Although the Federal Government budgeted N500,000,000,000 for the implementation of N-SIP the reality is that successive administrations are bound by a maximum of eight years in office if re-elected for second term. Thus, a new administration might decide to discontinue N-SIP, which as history has shown is a possibility. Consequently, the sustainability of N-SIP and results that will be obtained are not guaranteed. In future, it would be better to design projects based on tenures for administrations, four years, which is long enough to assess impact should the administration is not returned for another four years. This way, results and sustainability strategy are ensured and implemented within the project timeframe. On the other hand, N-SIP should be institutionalised by way of legislation such that, as different administrations come and go, the programmes are sustained to impact positively on the masses.

**ANNEX**

**1. Civil Society Organisations Contracted as Third Party Monitors for NSIP**

	STATES	FULL NAME OF CSO
<b>NDDC STATES</b>		
1	Abia	Grassroots Community Development Initiative (GRACODEV)
2	Akwa Ibom	African Human Development Centre (AHDC)
3	Bayelsa	Kindling Hope Across Nation Initiative (KHAN)
4	Cross River	Child Care and Adult Protection Initiative (CCAPI)
5	Delta	African Centre for Leadership, Strategy and Development (Centre LSD)
6	Edo	African Women Empowerment Guild (AWEG)
7	Imo	Youth Empowerment Organisation
8	Ondo	Kids and Teens Resource Centre
9	Rivers	Kebetkache Women Development and Resource Centre
<b>OTHER STATES PLUS THE FCT</b>		
10	Adamawa	First Step Action for Child Initiative
11	Anambra	Rural Women Foundation (RWF)
12	Bauchi	Fahimta Women and Youth Development Initiative (FAWOYDI)
13	Benue	Benue NGO Network (BENGONET) Rural Development Initiative
14	Borno	Kanem Borno Human Development Association (KABHUDA), Maiduguri
15	Ebonyi	Participatory Development Alternatives (PDA)
16	Enugu	Community Life Advancement (CLAP)
17	Enugu	Knightingale Women Health Initiative (KWHI)
18	Gombe	Village Community Development Initiative (VIDEV)
19	Jigawa	Arewa Research & Development Project
19	Kaduna	

20	Kano	Development Research and Projects Centre
21	Katsina	Women Economic Empowerment Organisation (WEEO)
22	Kebbi	Active Support for Rural People Initiative (ASURPI)
23	Kogo	Global Hope for Women and Children Foundation (GLOHWOC)
24	Kwara	Health Alive Foundation (HAF
25	Lagos	)Africa Health Incorporated (AHI)
26	Nasarawa	Centre for Family Health Initiative (CFHI)
27	Niger	Elohim Foundation
28	Ogun	Justice Development and Peace Centre (JDPC)
29	Osun	Peniel Global Foundation
30	Oyo	Civil Society for HIV/AIDS in Nigeria CISHAN Christian Rural and Urban Development Association of Nigeria (CRUDAN)
31	Plateau	Rural Women and Youth Development
32	Sokoto	Centre for Initiative and Development (CFID)
33	Taraba	MaiGoje Foundation
34	Yobe	Centre for Community Excellence (CENCEX)
35	Zamfara	Change Managers International Network (CMIN)
36	FCT	

## 2. List of Independent Monitors Zonal Coordinators and Citizens' Groups

Zonal Coordinators		Citizens' Groups
1.	Aondona Tor (North Central Zone)	Civil Society Action Coalition on Education for All (CSACEFA)
2.	Mariam Garba (North East)	Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT)
3.	Ibrahim Ngaski (North West)	GEEP Advocacy Platform (GAP)
4.	Dr Lydia Umar (North West)	Small Scale Women Farmers Organisation of Nigeria (SWOFON)
5.	Victoria Eze (South East)	National Association of Nigerian Traders (NANTS)
6.	Dr Adebayo Adebukola (South West)	Country Women Association of Nigeria (COWAN)
7.	Ikede Uzezi (South South)	Nigerian Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ)

**3. List of some beneficiaries and reported issues**

STATE	NAME	CONTACT MOBILE	BENEFICIARY TYPE	ISSUES	LGA (Where reported)
Katsina	Musa Muhammed	08060346262	N-Teach	No Device	
	Fatima Salmanu A/Salam	08063348910	N-Teach	No Device	
	Ibrahim Bala	08061 138842	N-Teach	No Device	
	Binta Garba		N-Teach	No Device	
	Muhammed Danrumfa	08035823807	N-Teach	No Device	
	Hauwa Sule Hashim	07031534983		No payment since August 2018	
	Firdausi Suleiman	08103367549	N-Teach	No payment since August 2018	
Lagos	Oshodi Sadiat	08023355185	N-Teach	Owed 9 months of stipends	Lagos Island

	Saka Ganiyat Toyin	08167086131		A beneficiary from Kwara State, posted to St. Joseph Catholic School Lagos State	
	Shobayo Ajoke	08060815023		Owed 17 months of stipends	Lagos Island
Ogun	Ekundayo James Oluwaniyi 2017/ 00000485719		N-Agro	Owed august and September stipends	Ipokia Lga
Kogi	Olorunfemi Temitope	08123764330	N-Teach	Yet to report at PPA	Yagba East
	Omojuwolo Seun Stephen	08052148918	N-Teach	Yet to report at PPA	Yagba East
	Olorunkemi Rose Martins	08131882808	N-Teach	Yet to report at PPA	Yagba East
	Salaudeen Ayodeji Hakeem	08067254241	N-Teach	Yet to report at PPA	Yagba East
	Blessing Kunle Julius	07066050555	N-Teach	Yet to report at PPA	Yagba East

Hannah Remi Olowosoke	0806671 2581	N-Teach	Yet to report at PPA	Yagba East					
Moses Luke	07065219422	N-Teach	Yet to report at PPA	Yagba East					
Olaitan Abiodun Temitope	08172926412	N-Teach	Yet to report at PPA	Yagba East					
Shaibu Benjamine A.	08168451421		Unable to login to the portal. Name wrongly spelt on deployment letter						
Ameh Enema	08051 338348		Unable to login to the portal. Name wrongly spelt on deployment letter						
Abu Mercy	07057284973		Unable to login to the portal. Name wrongly spelt on deployment letter						
Rekiya Hussein(i)(I.D. No. 1807)	08064074053		Yet to receive device						



	Rekiyatu Suberu Yusuf	08037737783			Yet to receive device. Owed 24 months of stipends.	LGEA Oro
Oyo	Adegoke Kehinde Oluremi	08052317347	N-Teach		Owed December 2016 and January 2017 stipends	
Nasarawa	Adedij Bukola Elizabeth	08078246357	N-Teach		Owed December 2016 and January 2017 stipends	
	Lawal Radeyo	08030658029	N-Teach		Owed December 2016 and January 2017 stipends	
	Olayinka Ogunremi Rhoda	07038428446	N-Teach		Owed December 2016, January and February 2017 stipends	
	Taiwo Tawakalitu Omownmi		N-Teach		Owed 5 months stipends No device	Ads Agunpopo
	Adigun Rebecca Odunola		N-Teach		Owed December 2016 stipend	Ads Agunpopo

Rasaki Mujidat Olabisi		N-Teach	Owed 1 month's stipend	Ads Agunpopo
Raheem Morufat Romoke		N-Teach	Owed 1 month stipend	Ads Agunpopo
Tijani Bilikisu Aderonke		N-Teach	Owed 5 months stipends No device	Ads Agunpopo
Hamzat Aminat Omowumi (La Pry Sch1, I, li, lii)		N-Teach	Owed 5 months' stipends No device	
Omolade Hairat Tunrayo (La Pry Sch1, I, li, lii)		N-Teach	Owed 1 month's stipend	
Akinsowon Biliqees Adeboyin (La Pry Sch1, I, li, lii)	Not Given	N-Teach	Owed 4 months stipends No device	
Oladigbolu Afeez Adekunle (La Pry Sch1, I, li, lii)	Not Given	N-Teach	Owed 4 months' stipends No device	



Kwara	Shaba Muhammed	07037377495	JSS Rifun	Owed stipends from December 2016 - April 2017	Patigi
	Ballikisu Issa	07033812358	LGEA Nuru Islam Tsaduro, Patigi	December 2016 - April 2017 stipends	Patigi
	Abubakar Lare Aishat	07034375065	LGEA Jahadadin Lade	Unpaid stipends from programme inception. However, she received an alert for N60,000 in December 2017 and another alert for N150,000 in March 2018. Months paid for were not specified in the two alerts. She has not received any other payment after those two alerts.	Patigi
	MohammedNdaji Adamu	07069742560	LGEA School Ella Edozhig	Owed since August 2018.	Patigi
	Yabagi Umar	07033823454	LGEA Gbadokin	Owed from December 2016 - March 2017	Patigi

Abubakar Hawahu	08166962539	LGEA Muyideen Wayata	Owed December 2016 – April 2017	Patigi
Mohammed Shehu Abdulkadir	07032741945	LGEA Secondary School Gboke	Unpaid programme since inception	Edu
Azeez Saidat Tunrayo	08163737123	General Hospital Ilorin	Owed from August– September 2018	Ilorin West
Abdulahi Fausat Oladimeji	09037871723	General Hospital Ilorin	Owed from August– September 2018	Ilorin West
Babatunde Joseph Tosin	07037427863	Jamaat Secondary School	Owed programme since inception	Irepodun
Shehu Baliqees	07030363187	Basic Health Centre	Owed from August– September 2018	Ilorin West
Mustapha Aishat Bukola	08068496012	Basic Health Centre	Owed from August– September 2018	Ilorin West
Shola Odedele	09032326720	Basic Health Centre	Owed from August– September 2018	Ilorin West

Ogungbemi Abiodun Stephen	08139594369	GDSS, Oko Erin	Owed from August-October 2018	Ilorin West
Mr Mohammed Ndaliman		Lafiagi Secondary School	Owed from December 2016 - May 2017	Edu
Abdullahi Dada Zainab		Lafiagi Secondary School	No device	Edu
Yinusa Habib	08073462663	C&S College, Ilorin	Owed for December 2016, January 2017 and September 2017.	
Yusuf Abdulhakeem	07061573250	GDSS Kulende	No device	
Saheed Aroyehun	08160589931	GDSS Kulende	Owed for January and February 2017	
Ibrahim Idayat	07066481011	Olokuta JSS	Owed for January-March 2017	
Zakariyah Ramota	08137441733(SMS)	Kwara State School for Special Needs	Owed from January-April 2017	

Omoniyi Ibukun	07081553175	Adventist JSS	Owed from January– March 2017	
Oladimeji Latifat		PHC Tanke	Unpaid since January 2017	
Dika Joy		General Hospital Offa	Owed from January– March 2017	
Yinusa Aminat		Etsu Abdulahi Primary School Tsaragi Edu LGA	Owed December 2016 – May 2017	from
Owolabi Janet . M	08036020434	Arandun Grammar School	Owed December 2017 – May 2018	Irepodun
Fagbile Odunayo	08164180889	Ansaru-ud- deen LGEA School, Ijagbo	Owed five months of stipends	Oyun
Olorunshola Nike	08060319030	Ansaru-ud- deen LGEA School, Ijagbo	Owed three months of stipends	Oyun

Adeshina Olayinka Deji	08094033169	Ijagbo	Owed from November 2017 – October 2018	Oyun
Akanwale Adewumi	08138135040	Ansarul Islam Secondary School Omu Aran	Owed from November 2017 – October 2018	Irepodun
Adio Oluleye	08030424324	Ansarul Islam Secondary School Omu Aran	Owed from November 2017 – October 2018	Irepodun
Ajayi Juliana	08067110182	Government Christian College Omu Aran	Owed from November 2017 – October 2018	Irepodun
Jimoh Muritala	08039529685	BAPTIST LGEA	Owed for January and February 2017	Ilorin West
Oyedemi Philip Sunday	09092663467	ILORIN GRAMMER SCHOOL	Owed for September and October 2018	Ilorin West
Rukkaiyattu Umar	08100469121		Owed six months' stipends	Hong

Adamawa



Bauchi	Ahmad Ladan Lere	08144777093	N-Teach	Owed from December 2016 to March 2017	Ganjuwa
	Nusaiba Ahmad Kariya	08036555643	N-Health	Owed from December 2016 to March 2018	
	Na'ima Muhammad	Not Given	N-Teach	Owed eight months' stipends	
	Hassan Ahmad	Not Given	N-Teach	Owed for August and September 2018	

## ACTIONAID NIGERIA EnCEP-SIP PROJECT TEAM

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION	LOCATION
	Ene Obi	Country Director	Abuja
	Tasallah Chibok	Director, Programmes	Abuja
	Funmilayo Oyefusi	Director, Organisational Effectiveness	Abuja
	Suwaiba Yakubu Jubrin	Head of Programmes	Abuja
	Andrew Mamedu	Head, Resource Mobilisation and Innovation	Abuja
	Adewale Adeduntan	Social Mobilisation Manager	Abuja
	Ekanem Okon	Manager, EnCE- SIP Project	Abuja
	Michael Oyinlola	Consultant, Monitoring & Evaluation	Abuja
	Olusegun Adetunde	Consultant, Monitoring & Evaluation	Lagos
	Vivian Efem-Bassey	Consultant, Monitoring & Evaluation	Lagos
	Kemi Akinmusire	Consultant, Finance	Abuja
	Rachel Ogunlana	Consultant, Communications	Abuja
	Favour Jacob	Consultant, Admin Support	Abuja

## ACTIONAID NIGERIA COMMUNICATIONS TEAM


S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION	LOCATION
	Nihinlola Ayanda	Communications Coordinator	Abuja
	Peace Eneja	Social Media Assistant	Abuja
	Victory Idogho	Graphics Designer	Abuja





ActionAid is a global movement of people working together to further human rights for all and defeat poverty. We prioritise works with the poor and excluded, promoting values and commitment in civil society, institutions and governments with the aim of achieving structural changes to eradicate injustices and poverty in the world.

ActionAid Nigeria is powered by the belief that a Nigeria without poverty and injustice is possible.

# act!onaid

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