

Workshop With Civil Society Organizations & Community Based Organizations

THEME: JUST AND EQUITABLE TRANSITION

JULY 2024

SUPPORTED BY:







Executive Summary

On Thursday, 28th May 2024, the Energy Transition Office in collaboration with the Ford Foundation and the National Council on Climate Change (NCCC) convened Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs), Government agencies and the private sector to discuss the impact of Climate Change, Nigeria's Energy Transition Plan and strategies for climate action.

Discussions highlighted the collective and individual responsibility to address the effects of climate change, the need for effective communication and synergy between government, Community Based Organisations, Civil Society Organisations, communities, and other stakeholders for a just and inclusive energy transition. Another critical need highlighted was the need for financing to implement projects at community level for climate action including ultimately drive the success of the Energy Transition Plan (ETP).

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Workshop Resolutions, Recommendations, and Observations:

The workshop highlighted several critical points for achieving a just and equitable energy transition in Nigeria:



A just transition prioritises the well-being of all members of society and leaves no one behind.



Adverse Impacts of Climate Change: Vulnerable communities are significantly affected by drainage collapses, flooding, forest fires, landslides, and drought-induced resource contention leading to conflicts.



Role of Civil Society and Community-based Organisation in Climate Action: CSOs and CBOs are crucial in tackling climate change impacts and creating awareness due to their proximity to grassroots communities.



Individual Responsibility: Individuals, as members of various communities, must take responsibility and act on climate issues.



Stakeholders Collaboration: Collaboration among the government, CBOs, CSOs, communities, policymakers, and other stakeholders is necessary for an inclusive clean energy transition.



Government and Private Sector Roles: The government should create an enabling environment for energy transition through policy changes and infrastructure development, while the private sector should invest in renewable energy (RE).



Capacity Building and Policy Engagement: CSOs and CBOs need to understand policy processes, build capacities, empower communities with climate action knowledge, monitor policies, and engage in localised action.



Incentives and Cost Barriers: The government should provide incentives like tax reliefs and reduced tariffs on RE imports. Policy initiatives are needed to support the transition to RE, especially in vulnerable communities.



Combating Misinformation and Building Trust: Effective communication is crucial to combat misinformation about climate change. Research is needed to understand community needs, gain trust, and map out policy terrains and points of resistance.



Use the ability of CSOs and CBOs to translate complex issues for marginalised groups and their deep understanding of local and national realities to advocate for frameworks that will make energy transition and climate action a success.

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Background

The Nigerian Energy Transition Plan has made significant strides across its five key sectors: buildings (cooking), transport, oil and gas, industry, and power. Notable achievements include the introduction of electric buses in the transport sector, policy changes such as the Electricity Act of 2023 empowering states, and the increased adoption of solar energy in the power sector, largely driven by the removal of subsidies.

However, the ETP's goals cannot be achieved by a select few in a nation of over 200 million people. With the 2030 target for universal energy access and the 2060 Net Zero emissions target approaching, it is crucial to ensure inclusivity and sustainable changes nationwide.

The workshop targeted Community-Based Organizations and Civil Society Organizations, which have direct access to both policymakers and grassroots communities, including vulnerable populations. These organizations are essential for achieving the ETP's goals by ensuring that no one is left behind.

The workshop addressed the challenges, opportunities, and recommendations to advance Nigeria's Net Zero and universal energy access targets. It emphasized the critical role of development players

and the vulnerable communities they represent, as well as the policymakers they engage with.

The session served as a forum for identifying sector opportunities and key players, facilitating knowledge sharing, idea exchange, and networking. The workshop featured three video montages, a talking drum artist, four presentations, and an open interactive session with participants asking questions and contributing insights. The engagements were

robust and insightful, with practical tips, thoughtprovoking questions, and valuable recommendations from both participants and presenters.

A diverse mix of expertise was present, with experienced professionals from various sectors including Community-Based Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, and government, leading to high-quality conversations and exchanges.

SUMMARY OF NIGERIAN ENERGY TRANSITION PLAN (ETP) PROGRESS:

Achievements:



Electric buses in transport



Electricity Act of 2023 empowering states



Increased solar energy adoption in power sector

Challenges:



Ensuring inclusivity & nationwide change for 200 million people



Meeting 2030 target for universal energy access



Achieving 2060 Net Zero emissions target

Key to Success:



Collaboration between Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), policymakers & vulnerable populations



Presentations & Discussions

Securing Nigeria's Future in a Changing Climate

- MR. MICHAEL IVENSO, NCCC



Mr. Michael Ivenso, Director of Energy, Transport and Infrastructure at the National Council on Climate Change (NCCC), began his presentation with the video of a building collapsing due to a landslide in Anambra State as evidence of the vulnerability of certain communities to climate change impacts. Using pictures, he highlighted various climate change-related issues, including a drainage collapse that disconnected communities, a Federal highway eroded by gully erosion, and a flooded community from 2016. He emphasised the plight of displaced families and the irony that such events often occur in the most vulnerable areas. Using more visuals, Mr. Ivenso showcased the effects of drought on cattle and goats, and people fetching dirty water, explaining that resource contention due to climate change often leads to conflicts. He stressed the importance of advocacy for these vulnerable populations and the role of first responders within communities.

Mr. Ivenso mentioned that NCCC and partners like National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) had secured funding to map Nigeria's vulnerability, particularly focusing on critical infrastructure and agriculture. He pointed out the difficulty in calculating agricultural losses and their impact on food prices and availability. He urged the audience to take collective and individual responsibility for their immediate environment, stressing the economic dimension of climate change. He explained the health impacts of GHGs and fossil fuels, drawing parallels between human body temperature and global temperature increases. Mr. Ivenso discussed the need for alternative energy sources and the health risks of charcoal cooking, citing high maternal and child mortality rates. He called for fiscal incentives to make renewable energy (RE) more accessible, such as reducing import tariffs and removing VAT. He emphasised the importance of regularly updating regulatory frameworks around power and holding the government accountable. He charged CSOs and CBOs with the responsibility of advocating for communities to the government and ensuring policy implementation.

The presentation was concluded by appreciating SEforAll for its role in driving climate action and referenced the Petti program as a model for datadriven interventions. He urged all participants to join hands, ask questions, be vigilant, and hold the government accountable.

Overview of Nigerian ETP

- ABDULRASHEED WAKIL, ENERGY TRANSITION OFFICE



Mr. Abdulrasheed Wakil, of the ETO, provided an overview of Nigeria's Energy Transition Plan (ETP) aimed at achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050. The ETP, executed by the Energy Transition Office (ETO), targets low-carbon development in buildings, transport, industry, oil and gas, and power sectors. Key objectives include transitioning to electric or bio-gas cooking (98% emissions reduction), adopting electric vehicles (97% reduction), decarbonizing cement and ammonia production (97% reduction), improving electrification and reducing flaring in oil and gas (87% reduction), and shifting to solar power (100% reduction).

A key graph compared the Business-As-Usual trajectory, predicting 374 metric tonnes of CO2 by 2060, with the Net Zero pathway, achieving zero

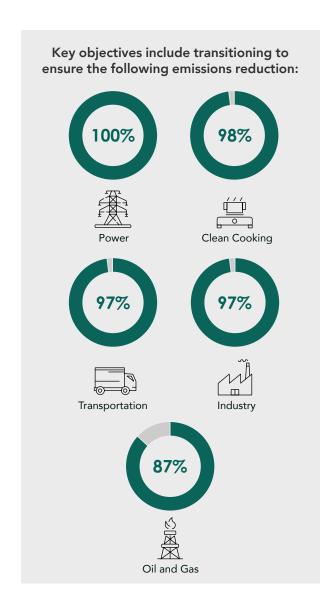
emissions by 2060. ETP aims for universal energy access by 2030 and Net Zero by 2060. ETO seeks to secure \$10 billion annually by COP28, attract manufacturers for local production, provide technical assistance, and support a conducive investment environment.

Recent policy changes include subsidy removal, attracting \$46.7 billion in clean energy investments from G7 nations, FX rate harmonization, and the Electricity Act 2023 enabling state-level renewable energy initiatives. Future plans involve deploying 100 electric buses and fostering private sector investment through supportive government policies.



Nigeria's Energy Transition Plan is ambitious, aiming for Net Zero emissions by 2060. We are committed to transitioning to clean energy sources across all sectors, from electric vehicles to solar power. This plan will not only reduce our emissions but also create new jobs and industries.





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Communication Strategies for engaging Communities and Policy Makers On Climate Action, Energy Transition and achieving a Just and Equitable future

- IBILOLA ESSIEN, ENERGY TRANSITION OFFICE



This session commenced with an ancient genre of the Yoruba culture called 'ewi'. Ewi is a traditional Yoruba form of rhythmic storytelling. The Ewi using a talking drum artist conveyed the urgency climate action and the need to transition energy systems

Ibilola used the ewi to highlight the importance of clear communication and drive home the need for effective communication in communities. She stressed the need to understand what communities truly desire and how they prefer to receive information. She stated that cultural methods offer a treasure trove of communication wisdom citing examples of town criers who have been trusted sources of information in many communities in Nigeria.

She shared the acronym R.A.F.PC as broad communication strategies when engaging with communities and policy makers.

R: Research and understand the target's needs and communication preferences. This includes cultural nuances and power dynamics within communities and governments.

A: Active Listening - Truly listening to others builds trust and exposes underlying concerns. She provided an example of how listening to a community led to the development of a clean cooking solution that could handle large meals, a common need. Perspectives – recognizing that different people see things differently is essential for crafting effective messages.

F: Framing in a way that cuts through information overload and resonates with the audience is key. She used the example of contrasting media portrayals of Donald Trump's inauguration to illustrate framing.

PC: Persuasive Communication - this is developing the ability to influence decision-makers and stakeholders. This requires understanding their priorities and effectively presenting their messages.



She further added the following about engaging with communities and policy makers:

- 1. Engage with empathy and reverence.
- 2. Don't make assumptions about the needs of communities or the knowledge of policy makers. Both communities and policymakers have valuable insights, and approaching them with respect is essential for successful collaboration.
- 3. Recognize the intelligence of policymakers and their nuanced understanding of community needs.
- 4. Beyond titles and authority figures, identify influential, though possibly 'nameless and faceless,' persons in organizations.

Strategies for Effective Advocacy and Community Mobilization on Climate Change - MS. BENNY EJIOFOR, NCCC CLIMATE INVESTMENT DIRECTORATE

Key Points from Presentation by Ms. Benny Ejiofor

Building on Ms. Essien's insightful presentation on communication, Ms. Ejiofor took the stage at the climate change workshop and emphasized the need to translate awareness into action. Effective climate change advocacy, she explained, goes beyond understanding the message; it requires a strategic approach informed by research.

She unpacked the concept of advocacy, defining it as the active promotion of ideas to create or change policies and influence decisions that affect people's lives. In the context of climate change, advocacy aims to inspire action and engagement, motivating organizations to participate in initiatives that address this critical challenge.

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To be successful, climate advocacy requires a well-defined plan. Research is essential to map out the policy landscape, identify key players, and understand the political climate and potential areas of resistance. Ms. Ejiofor acknowledged that resistance is inevitable, but it can also present an opportunity to gain traction and capitalize on windows of opportunity.

She painted a stark picture of the potential consequences of inaction, highlighting the devastating impacts of climate change such as drought, biodiversity loss, ecosystem disruption, flooding, rising sea levels, and increased frequency of extreme weather events. These impacts, she warned, threaten not only human health and food security but also the very fabric of our planet's ecosystems.

Ms. Ejiofor emphasized the critical role of community mobilization in effective climate action. Local efforts, she argued, are indispensable for raising awareness and creating tangible change. Building social cohesion and resilience within communities empowers vulnerable populations and marginalized groups, fostering a collective voice for change.

Advocacy, Ms. Ejiofor explained, is a powerful tool for influencing policy and regulations. By pressuring governments and decision-makers, communities can



hold them accountable and ensure climate-friendly policies are implemented. However, she reiterated the importance of research and knowledge, urging participants to continually monitor policies and stay informed about the environmental challenges faced by different communities. Cultural sensitivity was another key point. Ms. Ejiofor provided an example of a Kenyan community where efforts to install wind turbines initially faced resistance due to cultural considerations. However, through open dialogue and

understanding, the project eventually found success. This anecdote underscored the importance of tailoring advocacy messages and strategies to resonate with specific audiences.

Ms. Ejiofor challenged participants to develop a core message that could be adapted and delivered to diverse audiences, from policymakers to children. Social media, radio, theater productions, and community meetings were all identified as potential channels for disseminating this message, along with visual aids to enhance communication.

She concluded her presentation with a call to action and urged participants to not only understand policy processes but also to build the capacity of communities and empower them through targeted training on climate change issues. Building alliances between NGOs and government agencies was seen as crucial for connecting local efforts to regional and global movements. Monitoring progress, advocating through petitions and rallies, and raising public awareness were identified as key strategies for achieving lasting change. Ms. Ejiofor's message resonated strongly, reminding participants that effective communication and a commitment to action are essential weapons in the fight against climate change.



Interactive Session Summary



The interactive session, led by moderator Ms. Jummai Vandu, allowed the audience to directly ask the panelists questions without any initial panel discussion. This facilitated a more engaging and responsive discussion. The panelists included:

- Mr. Michael Ivenso (NCCC)
- Ms. Ibilola Essien (ETO)
- Mr. Kenneth Akpan (OXFAM)
- Mr. Abdulrasheed Wakil (ETO)

Mr. Kunle Yusuf observed the importance of the workshop in creating awareness of the ETP and emphasized the need for collaboration between government, CSOs, and development partners for effective climate action. This was followed with a question-and-answer session summarized below:

a. Technical Committee and NCCC Relationship:
Teni George-Okoli sought clarification on the
evolving technical committee set up by President
Tinubu and its relationship with NCCC. Mr.
Michael explained that the committee aims to

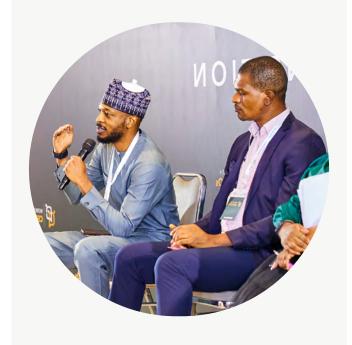
- empower climate change discourse on a national scale and ensure the transition does not adversely impact Nigerians.
- b. Gas as a Transition Fuel: Mr. Abdulrasheed agreed that gas is a short to medium-term transition fuel but stressed the importance of electricity as the long-term solution for decarbonization. The panel moderator noted Nigeria's potential as a gas exporter in Africa, comparing it with leading gas exporters like Spain and Indonesia. Additionally, Mr. Kenneth highlighted the negative impacts of gas flaring on communities and called for Community-Based Organizations and Civil Society Organizations to push for its end.
- c. Deployment of Gas Stoves: Cecilia from HEDA Resource Center inquired about the distribution and costs of deploying 2 million gas stoves annually until 2030. Mr. Abdul confirmed ongoing preparatory work and emphasized the need for patience as the ETP targets 2060. Mr. Michael and Mr. Kenneth discussed the importance of CSOs maintaining independence from government funding to effectively hold the government accountable.

- d. Climate Change Education: Ms. Essien stressed the importance of climate change education for young people and suggested a mass training initiative to address misinformation. Mr. K. Opaluwa emphasized the need for continuous engagement with NCCC beyond workshops. Ms. Essien and Mr. Michael discussed creating a working group and dedicated communication channels for stakeholders.
- e. Popularity and Integration of ETP: Olumide Idowu noted that the ETP lacked popularity even at the government level and advised a review of the relationship between Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and the ETP. The Panel Moderator responded that the NCCC had launched an NDC implementation framework and ongoing alignment work to coordinate and report climate action in Nigeria. Ms. Essien discussed ETP's work with various states and expressed a need for better collaboration, while Mr. Abdul introduced the open-source Integrated Energy Planning Tool loaded with clean cooking data. Mr. Michael mentioned the SEforAll tool developed by the Ministry of Power to assist with geo-referencing and support requests from states like Lagos, Enugu, and Ogun.
- Biogas Production and Agriculture: Danladi Garba Isaac discussed the impact of renewable energy on agriculture and biogas production. He highlighted the potential of biogas production for organic fertilizer and inquired about measures for mass production and affordability. Mr. Michael



mentioned ongoing efforts to convert agricultural waste to energy and the need for funding to support such projects.

- Energy Options for Rural Women: Mr. Tine Agernor asked about alternative energy sources for rural women and the disposal of replaced generators. Mr. Kenneth and Mr. Abdul emphasized sustainability and recycling, with Mr. Michael discussing discounted distribution of cook stoves and fiscal incentives for renewable energy.
- h. Sustainability and Economic Viability: Maryam Ibrahim stressed the need for economic viability and inclusivity in the transition. Mr. Michael responded that NCCC prioritizes inclusivity and highlighted the organization's diverse employment practices.





Lessons Learned



Challenges

- Disinformation and misinformation about energy transition and climate change are prevalent, especially among school children who are the future leaders inheriting the Earth.
- The cost of alternative energy remains a significant barrier to access for many low-income households.
- Access to international funding, such as carbon credit incentives, can be challenging for African organizations.

Recommendations

- Unify voices among stakeholders to create a consistent message across different audiences to combat misinformation.
- Climate education should be integrated more into school curricula.
- Commitment from Community-Based Organizations and Civil Society Organizations to engage with schools regularly for climate education.
- Government should incentivise transition efforts by reducing tariffs and granting tax reliefs for companies engaged in renewable energy (RE) activities.
- Efforts to reduce statutory bottlenecks and facilitate access to carbon credit and other financing opportunities for African organizations.
- Incentivise local investors to reduce reliance solely on foreign investors.

Key Takeaways

- Collective and individual responsibility for the environment of communities, including churches, offices, and markets.
- The economic dimension of climate change disproportionately affects the most vulnerable in society.
- Effective communication, including nonverbal cues, is crucial for disseminating correct information.
- Addressing climate change through local initiatives and indigenous solutions is vital.
- The urgent need for synergy among government, Community-Based Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, communities, and other stakeholders for inclusive clean energy transition.
- Capacity building, research, and active listening are essential for effective climate action.
- Adequate financing, including involvement from local investors, is critical for the success of Energy Transition Plan (ETP).

Action Points

- Establish a working group to facilitate communication among Energy Transition Office (ETO), National Council on Climate Change (NCCC), Civil Society Organizations, Community-Based Organizations, and stakeholders in the energy space.
- Conduct mass training of Community-Based
 Organizations and Civil Society Organizations
 on climate change before engaging with schools
 for children's education.
- Organize efforts to influence public policy and raise awareness through petitions, rallies, and community awareness drives.









