

Rebuilding Trust in Institutions

...restoring public trust in government institutions.

2019 Annual Report

C O N N E C T E D D E V E L O P M E N T

The CODE connecteddevelopment.org Team



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Amplifying Grassroots Voices

Lack of transparency, poor social accountability, information gap, weak social contracts; illiteracy; citizenry apathy and distrust in government, are entrenched governance challenges in Africa.

Connected Development (CODE) seeks to address these misnomers by amplifying voices of marginalised grassroots communities that are often denied access to basic human needs despite that funds are allocated for the implementation of development projects in these regions.

At CODE, we are bridging the information gap between citizens and the government, tackling financial leakages and bringing governance closer to the people at the grassroots. We do this by empowering citizens with the knowledge, skills and capacity to demand for the provision of quality public services in their communities.

CODE provides marginalised communities in Africa with the resources to amplify their voices by creating platforms for dialogue, enabling informed debate, and closing the feedback loop between citizens and the government.

Consequently, essential development projects, previously abandoned or which otherwise would not have been implemented, are being restarted and completed, accelerating social development in these regions, fighting inequality and promoting inclusive development.



At a Glance

Over the past seven years, CODE has showcased consistency and doggedness in amplifying the voices of the marginalized. In 2019 specifically, our team deployed innovative strategies and global best practices in empowering citizens, especially the grassroots dwellers to demand for improved services in healthcare, water, education and development infrastructures.

In 2019, we saved the Nigerian people and the government the sum of N477 million by blocking financial leakages in funded rural community projects. Our work gained global recognition when Follow The Money emerged winner of the 2019 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Mobilizer Award and also won the Council of Europe’s Democracy Innovation Award as the initiative advancing the cause of democracy.

We also aligned ourselves with building trust in government institutions where our advocacy influenced government policies for the acceleration of socio-economic development. A remarkable example of this was our call for the Nigerian Government to urgently tackle the growing number of out-of-school Children; shortly after, the government earmarked \$5million and a 5-year roadmap to address this menace. We are further building strategic alliances and have been recognised by Nigeria’s anti-graft agencies as one of the reliable NGOs to work with.

Follow The Money (FTM) continues to be the largest citizen-led socio-digital accountability movement in Africa. The movement evolved into a global movement with footprints in 7 African countries with a potential to expand to the 54 countries in Africa in the coming years. We are mobilising thousands of citizens to participate in inclusive governance, demand improved public service delivery and hold their government to account.

We are unrelenting in our quest to empower marginalised groups on their rights to basic human needs. Our team continues to rethink approaches, provide citizens with credible information on transparency and accountability and help build trust in the system.

These outcomes, awards and achievements indicate our zeal for working to reduce poverty, close the inequality gap and promote social justice.

To our invaluable team at Connected Development, iFollowTheMoney and our ever-supportive partners and donors that believe in our vision, 2020 is the year we raise higher bars.



Hamzat B. Lawal
 Chief Executive, CODE
 Founder, Follow The Money

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Our Vision

A world where everyone – even in the remote areas of the world – can hold their government accountable.



On a Mission

to empower marginalized communities.

BUILDING STRONGER INSTITUTIONS

Collaborating with strategic partners, policy makers and government institutions to deliver on improved public services.

EMPOWERING CITIZENS

We are building the capacity of citizens on how to hold their elected representatives and their governments accountable.

CREATING ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Providing platforms for dialogue, enabling informed debate between people and government and empowering citizens with access to information.

Testimonies

from the Communities

*Mostly communicated in local languages and translated in English

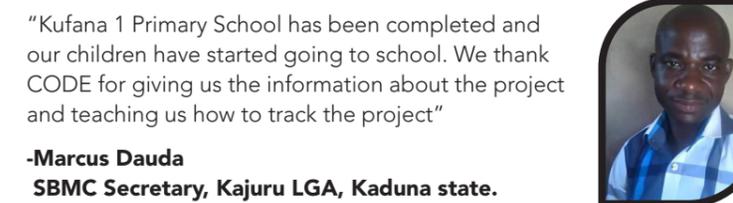
"People with disabilities have immense potential but are being looked down on in this part of the world; I must commend CODE for the recognition and inclusion of PWD in this platform (Youth Organizing for Leadership) and policy brief..."

-Ms. Uchenna
Rep. of Network for Women Living With Disability.



"I am grateful for the campaign calling for women to be included in the decision-making process of the community. My takeaway from this colloquium is how Oxfam and CODE are creating gender equity platforms to influence local extractive governance through the CDC's."

-Daniel Atebe
Community person, Ibeju, Lagos state.



"Kufana 1 Primary School has been completed and our children have started going to school. We thank CODE for giving us the information about the project and teaching us how to track the project"

-Marcus Dauda
SBMC Secretary, Kajuru LGA, Kaduna state.

Abbreviations

BOQ	Bills of Quantity
BRW	Basic Right Watch
CBA	Community Based Association
CBO	Community Based Organization
CDC	Community Development Charter
CISLAC	Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre
CODE	Connected Development
COE	Council of Europe
EFCC	Economic and Financial Crimes Commission
ES	Educational Secretary
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
FOI	Freedom of Information
FTM	Follow The Money
GAIN	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
HRC	Human Rights Commission
ICPC	Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission
INEC	Independent National Electoral Commission
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
LGA	Local Government Area
LGEA	Local Government Education Authority
MDAs	Ministries, Department and Agencies
MRA	Media Rights Agenda
NERC	Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission
NIPC	Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission
NPHCDA	National Primary Healthcare Development Agency
NUT	National Union of Teachers
OSIWA	Open Society Initiative For West Africa
OGP	Open Government Partnership
PERL	Partnership to Engage Reform and Learn
PHC	Primary Healthcare Center
PPDC	Public and Private Development Centre
PPM	Physical Project Monitoring
PTA	Parents Teachers Association
R2K	Rights To Know
RTI	Research Triangle Institute
SBMC	School Based Management Committees
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIP	Schools Improvement Project
SM	Social Mobilization
SMT	School Monitoring Team
SUBEB	State Universal Basic Education Board
TO	Technical Officer
UBEC	Universal Basic Education Commission
UN SDG	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene



Our 2019

Milestones



69
FTM
Campaigns



6
States



69
Rural
Communities



2,011,481
People

341 Fol Letters Sent 

51 Official Government Actions

\$3.5 million Public Funds Tracked

15 in Plateau, 48 in Yobe, 3 in Kano, 1 in Adamawa, 1 in Bauchi and 1 Kaduna. Across each of these states we organised 19 community outreaches (4 in Plateau, and 10 in Yobe State), 7 Town-hall meetings (1 Mega Town Hall in Plateau and 2 in Yobe), paid high-level courtesy visits to relevant government agencies and built the capacities of citizens by providing them with evidence-based data on capital projects in their communities.

Of the 69 Campaigns, 50 have been completed, 16 ongoing and 3 are yet to begin. In 2019, we impacted 2,011,481 rural lives across 6 States in 69 Communities.

Retro 2019



JANUARY

 Kicked-off Vote4WASH campaign ahead of Nigeria's General Election to get Political candidates to commit to prioritising WASH when elected into office.

APRIL

 Presented General Election findings to the public and made recommendations to INEC.

Kicked-off #KeepYourPromise campaign as an off-shoot of #Vote4WASH, to remind new public office holders of their commitment to WASH.

JULY

 FTM began tracking the construction of 2 solar mechanized boreholes and the installment of a hand-pumped borehole in GaniTSuru community so as to provide villagers with access to clean water.

 Collaborated with Nigerian Health Watch to monitor healthcare service delivery and increase accountability in the delivery of primary healthcare services in Kano State.

OCTOBER

 Hamzat Lawal named among "2019 100 Most Influential People in Digital Government"

FEBRUARY

 Emerged INEC accredited Election Observer for the 2019 Nigerian General Elections. Launched a Real-Time (Web-Based Map) Situation Technology, Uzabe, that observed and reported incidents of violence, misconduct and political apathy during the elections.

MAY

 Follow The Money emerged winner of the 2019 United Nations SDGs Mobilizer Award

AUGUST

 Flagged off campaign to lead a Youth-Inclusive Governance Movement in Nigeria, through the Follow The Money Campus Tour.

Conducted Need Assessment in 609 schools across Kaduna state.

NOVEMBER

 Follow The Money won 2019 Council of Europe's Democracy Innovation Award for outstanding initiative that is advancing the cause of democracy.

 Received an anti-corruption desk at the EFCC for the fight against corruption

MARCH

 Partnered FlexiSAF Foundation to petition Nigerian Federal Government on the alarming increase in the number of out-of-school children in the country, a call that got the reaction of the Government and ushered a 5-Year road-map for addressing the education crisis in the country.

JUNE

 Partnered ICPC on tracking N15b constituency projects. Urged Nigerian Government to increase Education Financing. Trained SBMCs in collaboration with SUBEB on Schools Improvement Project (SIP) in Kaduna.

SEPTEMBER

 Completed the Second year of the 3-Year Tracking of N569 Million UBE Spending in Kaduna State.

DECEMBER

 Advocated for the Taraba State Governor to sign WASH Bill into law.

GLOBAL RECOGNITION

To be seen... more importantly, to be recognised.



COUNCIL OF EUROPE Democracy Innovation Award



In November 2019, Follow The Money again won the 2019 Council of Europe's Democracy Innovation Award, competing against France and Poland.

The social accountability initiative was recognised as one of the leading ground-breaking initiatives in the world, that is promoting democratic principles, after its Communications Lead, Kewwe Oghide, made a presentation on how Follow The Money is working to rebuild trust in Nigerian institutions..

Follow The Money emerged winner from among 27 brilliant ideas across Europe and the World.

The Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, Marija Pejčinović Burić, said that Follow The Money has shown exemplary leadership in advancing democratic governance. She added that the internet, social media and artificial intelligence have all democratized access to information and given millions of people their voice. The challenge is to ensure that information contributes to democracy, which Follow The Money is doing.

The award was presented at the Council of Europe's World Forum for Democracy 2019, and received by Kewwe Oghide, in Strasbourg, France.

United Nations 2019 SDGs Mobilizer Award



Our home-grown initiative, Follow The Money, emerged winner of the 2019 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Mobilizer Award!

The award recognised Follow The Money as a leading initiative with demonstrated successes in mobilizing citizens or volunteers to act for the realization of the SDGs 2030 agenda.

Follow The Money was nominated among the top 21 initiatives from 142 countries showcasing how innovation, creativity and commitment

has led to impactful SDG Actions from over 2000 entries of amazing organizations & initiatives around the globe.

The award was received by CODE's Chief Executive, Hamzat Lawal, at the SDGs Global Festival of Action in Bonn, Germany





ACCESSING GOVERNMENT DATA



Advocating for democratic governance is about leveraging the Freedom of Information Act to access government data, simplify these data and budget into interesting infographics and cartoons so citizens can understand and be informed on how to ask the right questions and demand for improved services.

In our quest to access government data and funding information on community projects during the course of the year, we sent requests to 206 Government agencies across States in Nigeria in the health, education and WASH sectors.

Also leveraging on Fol, CODE partnered with

other transparency initiatives such as the Public and Private Development Centre (PPDC), Basic Right Watch (BRW), Rights To Know(R2K), BudGIT, and Media Rights Agenda (MRA), to rate government agencies that are compliant with Nigeria's Fol Act. Criteria include; proactive disclosure, level of disclosure, Timeliness (responsiveness), FOI Training, FOI Desk Officer and FOI Annual Report.

Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) was assessed the most compliant, followed by the Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC) and the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC).



STRATEGIC ALLIANCES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Part of our plan for 2019 was to create synergy between our work and other initiatives including government agencies for benefits that will advance the cause of good governance, transparency and accountability. Nigeria's leading anti-graft agencies EFCC and ICPC partnered Civil Society Organisations, including CODE, to track constituency projects especially in the Local Government Areas (LGAs) to combat corruption in the country. Every year, hundreds of millions of naira is

budgeted for constituency projects, yet, people at the grassroots especially, are not beneficiaries. ICPC and EFCC will be seeking CODE's expertise in tracking government funds and the acceleration of social development in grassroots communities.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AND CAPACITY BUILDING

CODE trained 90 Government officials across Kaduna, Plateau, Adamawa and Yobe on effective data management, data process as well as monitoring and evaluation. This strategy opened up for collaboration with government agencies that may, ordinarily, be reluctant to provide information on development projects. Through strategic partnerships with local government officials, state agencies and community groups, we accessed comprehensive project details and bills of quantities which aided our monitoring exercise across all project sites.

We expanded our social mobilization enterprise and consolidated the capacity of 200 community champions comprising of youth leaders, community based organisations, volunteers, local media

organisations and School Based Monitoring Committee members on budget tracking mechanisms, data mining and social accountability across Kaduna, Yobe, Adamawa, Borno, Plateau and Kano States. This strategy aligns with our sustainability plan for sub-national governments and citizens to take ownership of the Follow The Money project tracking model.



LEVERAGING ON COMMUNITY SUPPORT

In administering our 2019 campaigns and advocating for improved quality service delivery across communities, we have been consistent in adjusting our work processes to comply with prevailing local peculiarities and security challenges in host communities. Regularly, we ensure the involvement of indigenes or residents of host communities in our team.

This has assisted us to technically manage social (group) dynamics without interfering with local political and existing party dynamics. The reason for this is to avoid political infiltration, colouration or interpretation of our activities especially from political opposition and existing party structures. Again, having community members (community reporters) in our team helps us

manage the security and safety of our team during preliminary visits, community outreaches and town hall meetings. Ensuring the security and safety of our team is critical to our success even as Nigeria is contending with rural banditry, kidnapping and terrorism.



Influencing Government Policies and Accelerating Social Change

The power of a collective voice to spur social change

Yobe State

Our monitoring work in 2 Local Government Areas led to a policy review to allocate 2% of the SUBEB/UBEB intervention to monitoring, evaluation and supervision from the 2018 intervention for effective service delivery.



Kaduna State

We worked with the State Education Team led by the state Ministry of Education to draft the new education policy, quality assurance and sector strategic plan for 2019-2029.

Developed and validated the Kaduna State Education Sector Implementation Plan (SIP) from 2020-2022, by supporting the Ministry of Education.

Reviewed and made recommendations to the Education, Health and Water budget lines in the draft 2020 Budget which resulted in some inexplicable items to be expunged from the final approved health budget.

After conducting the Needs Assessment on 609 Schools in the State, we urged the State Govt to prioritize building water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructures in schools as this has a significant impact on the enrolment of children.



Kano State:



We urged the Government to recruit more female teachers, especially in rural primary schools; recruitment of 1500 female teachers to address shortage.

In collaboration with SUBEB, Follow the Money Kano flagged off the 2019 community level enrollment drive campaign to support girl-child education and take girls off the street (hawkers).

Kano State Ministry of Health announced plans to build Type C PHCs in all the 484 Political wards across the state and mega general hospitals in 5 emirates of the state, after we pressured them about the poor conditions of healthcare in the State.



Joining The World To #Act4SDGs



...in sync with all our follow the money local and international chapters.



20-30 SEPTEMBER
GLOBAL TO WEEK
#ACT4SDGs

Day 1

#FTMChallenge - Mobilizing Citizens on Social Accountability

Day 2

#FTMCampusTour - Advocating Inclusive Governance in the Academic Space

Day 3

Tweetathon - Tweet chat by FTM Chapter Leads Across Africa Leading Conversations

Day 4

Primary School Outreach - Sensitizing students on SDGs.

Day 5

Follow The Money Radio

Leading a Youth-Inclusive Governance Movement in Nigeria.



Follow The Money Campus Tour

Follow The Money empowered 3073 Young Nigerian Students across State Universities on good governance and how to engage with their elected government representatives and demand for improved public service delivery.

The strategy for the Campus Tour was to advocate for a youth-inclusive governance where, from the academic space, young people can be involved in governance across different areas including basic education, standard healthcare advocacy, anti-corruption, improved public service delivery and the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goal 16—peace, justice and strong institutions.




Follow The Money Challenge

One of our sustainability plans is to spur a citizen-led movement- where people independently identify government projects in their communities, adopt the Follow The Money methodology and follow up with their government officials till the project is completed with functional facilities.

To this end, the launch of #FTMChallenge recorded over 306 entries, 123 shortlisted to run campaigns for 12 weeks. 10 finalists emerged and 3 citizens from Osun, Akwa Ibom and Yobe State, were awarded the Follow The Money Medal of Honour for their commitment to improving public service delivery in their localities.



Meet our 2019 FTMMoH Winners!

The winners of the 2019 Follow The Money Medal of Honour Challenge are;



Muhammed Kime

from Yobe state tracked the construction of a block of two classrooms, office and store in Brabra Primary School, Damaturu LGA worth 7,501,245,60 Million Naira. Funds allocated for this project would have been siphoned due to duplication of the project in the same school.

Ukeme Anwan

from Akwa Ibom State tracked the construction of health posts in Edem Urua, Ibiono Ibom. The project has been completed and commissioned awaiting the provision of health facilities and drugs.



Kehinde Akinsola

from Kwara State advocated for the Renovation of Aliyahudeen Primary School, Ogidi, Ilorin West worth 10,000,000 Million Naira and raised the awareness of the community members to demand for the project implementation.



Let's end the avoidable annual deaths of nearly **60,000** children under-5 from dirty water and poor sanitation.



#Vote4WASH Campaign



More than any other goal, the Sustainable Development Goal 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation, is one of the most interconnected goals. Undoubtedly, increasing access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) aids economic development, poverty reduction, education (particularly for girls), health and many more.

CODE and WaterAid activated the #Vote4WASH campaign to mainstream water, sanitation and hygiene in the #NigeriaDecides2019 election processes and in our civic engagements at the sub-national level.

We mobilized 36 House of Assembly, National Assembly and Gubernatorial candidates across the project states to sign pledge cards committing to prioritize WASH service delivery when elected into office. The Lagos State Governor, His Excellency Governor Jide Sanwo-Olu pledged to prioritize WASH delivery in the state and called on CODE to hold him to account.

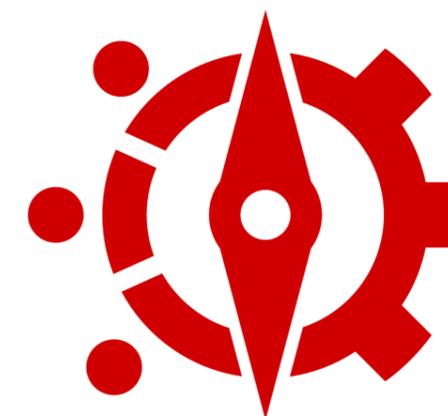
Follow The Money

TOLL-FREE NUMBER:
0800 0000FTM

POWERED BY:
CODE OSIWA

Empowering marginalised communities

Our FTM Toll Free Line 08000000386 and weekly SMS are reaching more people living in hard-to-reach communities. We are providing accessible communication and feedback channels especially in network challenged communities. We have recorded a significant increase in the number of village residents engaging with us on issues of public service delivery.



JOIN US!

We are building the largest social Accountability Movement in Africa

Sign Up: www.ifollowthemoney.org

- Essential in making service delivery equitable and sustainable
- Curates the activities of our community champions, campaign reports
- Over 5,000 activists, data wranglers signed up.

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene ISSUES IN NIGERIA



Half of all schools in the urban area are without access to basic toilets or clean water



87,000
Children under five

die every year from diarrhoea, intestinal worm infections, cholera, hepatitis, typhoid and other preventable sanitation-related illnesses.



Women and girls are mostly marginalised when accessing safe and portable water

More than
1/2



of PHC do not have access to clean water and sanitation facilities in Nigeria

57%

of health care facilities in Nigeria do not have hand hygiene facilities at points of care, with water and soap in toilets.



SDG 6: WASH Sustainable Water for ALL

Improving Nigeria's Urban E-WASH Service Delivery through Multidimensional Engagement and Mobilization is a USAID-funded project that seeks to "support civic advocacy and WASH stakeholder engagement, coordinate with government and other WASH service providers (including private sector) to improve the delivery of WASH services.

Through multi-stakeholder engagements across each of the project states, we recorded massive commitments for improved URBAN WASH policy review.

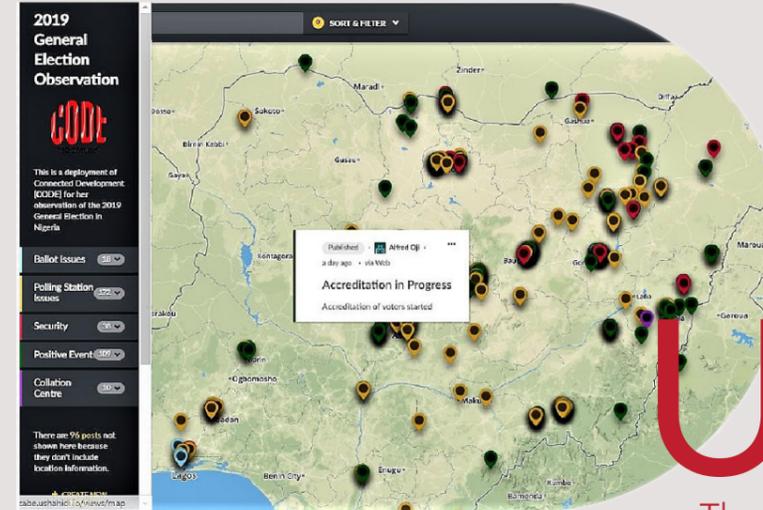
Niger State: CODE urged the State Government to accelerate the implementation of the revised Niger State WASH sector policy, which will improve water, sanitation and hygiene services in the State.

Taraba State : CODE pressured the State Government to erase bottlenecks and accelerate the second reading and other processes of the WASH bill, so that the residents of Taraba can have access to adequate safe water and basic sanitation; provided at an affordable cost in a sustainable manner in order to promote their health, dignity, economic well-being and improved livelihood.

Delta State: We urged the State Government to implement policies that will ensure the consistent provision of clean and safe water and improve sanitation facilities for its residents.



The Executive Governor of Taraba State, Darius Ishaku, signed the WASH Bill into Law on the 19th December, 2019.



UZABE

The Web-Based Election Monitoring Tool

Geared towards ensuring transparency and accountability during the forthcoming general elections, CODE launched a Real-Time (Web-Based Map) Situation Technology, Uzabe, that observed and reported the 2019 Nigerian presidential and gubernatorial elections in real time.

As an accredited observer for the election, CODE deployed over 5000 observers across various polling units in the 6 geopolitical zones and the FCT; who, through Uzabe, sent reports from independent observations of the election, providing real-time updates on security intelligence for strengthening mitigation and emergency response during cases of violence, and the overall conduct of the election process.

Uzabe recorded issues of electoral violence, voter suppression, security personnel and party agents influencing ballots of voters, vote buying, underage voting and destruction of voting materials in Lagos, Bayelsa, Rivers, Kogi, Taraba, Bauchi, Borno and Yobe, leading to death of civilians.

Uzabe situation room provided emergency incidents to security agents including the Nigerian police, ensuring minimal violence due to military deployments across the country. Uzabe platform helped mobilise security in some polling units to erase the tendency of violence.

CODE's electoral process recommendations were presented to Nigeria's electoral body, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

Over **3,887** reports from on-the-ground observers and online social sentiment analysts.

From these reports, Uzabe established **453 election** incidents across **33 States** in Nigeria.

YOUTH CENTRED PUBLIC SERVICES

Leading Young People to Demand Government Accountability

#YOUTH4GRPS



Across Nigeria in November 2019, CODE mobilized over 2000 youth to demand government accountability by reviewing allocations for youths development in State Budgets and the need for a gender-responsive structured component in public service delivery.

It organised mega town hall meetings in the 6 geo-political zones, with an average of 500 young people dissecting gaps in the budget and demanding that their elected representatives do better to provide upgraded education infrastructures, address alarming increase of substance abuse and provide the ease of doing business for entrepreneurs, among other demands.

Through our advocacy in Kaduna State, the Kaduna State House of Assembly held its first public hearing on the State's 2020 budget and paid a high level Advocacy visit to the Commis-

sioner of Planning & Budget Commission to present findings from the Mega Town hall meeting in Kaduna which also reached 110,408 people via social media. Our team also visited the Ministry of Human Services and Social Development and was received by the Commissioner, Haj Hafsat Muhammad Bab.

We began an advocacy on social media to demand for Lagos State Government to open its books on the State's 2019 budget and in less than one week the budget was accessible in the public space.

*Use the hashtag #Youth4GRPS on twitter, facebook and instagram to see more.

Conflict & Fragility:

Strengthening Oil & Gas Structures



CODE in partnership with OXFAM is advocating for gender inclusion in Community Development Committees of Host Communities. Community members from Mkpanak in Akwa Ibom, ObodoUgwa in Delta and Okunraye in Lagos States were gathered to discuss issues limiting women from decision-making processes and to sensitize attendees on the implications of a gender inclusive extractive industry on socio-economic development.

The resolution was to ensure that during the next CDC election, women are given leadership roles so that their voices are also heard.

Meanwhile, CODE is petitioning anti-graft agencies to prosecute companies violating regulatory laws and operating in secrecy and in a manner that violates the rights of livelihood of a marginalised subset. We are advocating for the passage of the Petroleum Industry Governance Bill to strengthen the regulatory framework of the sector and are meeting with policy makers to address these concerns.

Log on to www.connecteddevelopment.org/petition to sign our petition.

Prosecute Companies Violating Oil and Gas Laws in Nigeria

Calling on the Anti-Graft Agencies, the Attorney-General of the Federation and the Presidency to prosecute Oil & Gas Organisations operating illegally and costing the nation enviromental & socio-economic damages.

Tracking UBE Spending Project in Kaduna State



 **Follow The Money**



BENEFICIARIES:



- 80 School Monitoring Teams and SUBEB/LGEA officials
- 200 community stakeholders
- Over 200,000 community dwellers

MEDIA CHANNELS:

-  Follow The Money Radio Kaduna
-  Television Broadcast
-  Newspaper
-  Town hall meetings
-  Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, Blogs)

Follow The Money, completed the second year of its 3-year project, Tracking UBE Spending in Kaduna State supported by the John D and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation under its ON Nigeria project

In the 2 years, Follow The Money tracked 569 million Naira Universal Basic Education funds earmarked for the construction and rehabilitation of facilities in 23 basic schools in Kaduna State, and enhanced open government in basic education spending.

The project monitored the implementation of school projects in Kudan, Kajuru, Zangon Kataf and Jema'a Local Government Areas (LGA) of the State, and strengthened the capacity of School Monitoring Teams (SMTs) to effectively provide oversight on basic education spending in the state. Through this, we impacted over 200,000 rural lives, and significantly reduced the number of out-of-school children in the focal LGAs.

We also conducted a Needs Assessment of 609 schools for evidence-based UBE action planning in the State. The report showed that a considerable increase in the enrolment of children in schools was as a result of the School Feeding Programme, however, 563 schools of the 609 do not have access to ICT materials or computers in accordance with basic education curriculum. It also revealed that the schools lacked water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructures.

We were received by the then Acting Governor of Kaduna State, Dr Hadiza Balarabe, during an advocacy meeting where CODE's Chief Executive, Hamzat Lawal, presented the Needs Assessment report to her Excellency. Dr Balarabe commended the Organisation's efforts in improving service delivery and working with the State Universal Basic Education Board to increase school enrolments and she assured the team that the State will review the recommendations made by Follow The Money.

Follow The Money Sustainability Dividends in Nigeria:

Ondo State:  **Open Sunshine**

Yobe State:  **Spotlight NG for Transparency and Accountability Initiative**

Borno State:  **Center for Advocacy Transparency and Accountability Initiative (CATAI)**



In April, CODE and FlexiSAF Foundation petitioned the Nigerian Government to declare a State of Emergency on the Education Sector because of the alarming increase in the number of out of school children. A few months later, the Government mapped out a 5-year Strategy and \$5million dollars to tackle the issue.



Follow The Money 2019 Annual Convening

Every year, CODE gathers all State Chapter Leads from across Nigeria to a retreat where the team rubs minds on State achievements, progress made and key learnings. It is usually an opportunity to harvest outcomes, milestones, share learnings and plan for the next year. The 2019 Annual Convening gathered key feedback, reviewed work processes, highlighted challenges and lessons learnt, championed knowledge sharing and peer review sessions.

The meeting had interesting and invaluable sessions with donors, representatives and partners. Dr Kole Shettima of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Former Nigerian Presidential Aspirant, Dr Kingsley Moghalu, Project Coordinator, Dean Initiative, Mr Semiye Michael, and other thought leaders.

In April, CODE and FlexiSAF Foundation petitioned the Nigerian Government to declare a State of Emergency on the Education Sector because of the alarming increase in the number of out of school children. A few months later, the Government mapped out a 5-year Strategy and \$5million dollars to tackle the issue.



Follow The Money now wears a new Look!



Follow The Money, unveiled and launched its new brand identity in line with its mission to track government funds and international aid funding.

The new identity articulates Follow The Money's focus to promote transparency and accountability in governance as well as mobilize citizens by building their capacities on how to track and monitor government projects and international aid funding. The logo encompasses what Follow The Money

stands for- citizens mobilization, transparency, social accountability and public service delivery. The logo also embodies our value system and the Follow The Money processes. The keywords associated with the logo are citizens, mobilization, tracking, government, transparency, accountability, projects and construction. The logo represents a tracking instrument that follows through with the implementation of public services in rural communities.

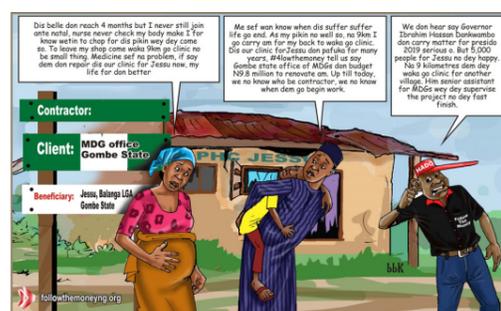


www.ifollowthemoney.org

Old Logo



New Logo



Media Reach



We thank our media partners for their unwavering support and for amplifying stories of the people at the grassroots through their various platforms. These media houses include; Nigerian Info 95.10 FM in FCT Abuja, Liberty FM 91.7 in Kaduna, Sahel FM 89.5, Damaturu, Jay FM 101.9, Channels Television, AIT, NTA, STV, TVC, Nigeria Info, Cool FM, Wazobia FM, WE FM, Liberty FM Kaduna, Kaneem FM Maiduguri, Hot FM Asaba, Arewa Radio Kano, Freedom FM Kano, BBC Hausa, Aminchi FM radio stations, amongst others.

Follow The Money Radio show spanned different media platforms across the country, where we engaged with citizens and policy makers, using the radio as a tool for change. We reached over **19,800,000** million people through the mainstream media.



4.593 million
Impressions



1.195 million
Reach

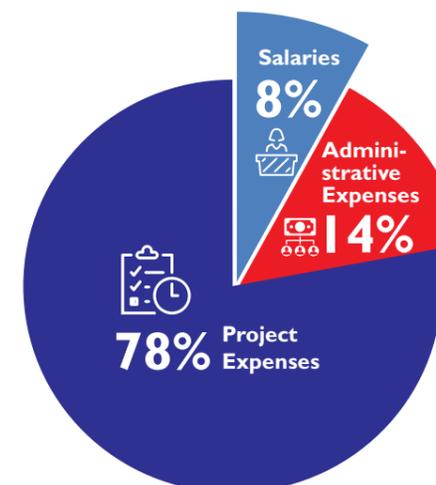


909,038
Registered Impressions



NFIU Chairman and CODE Chief Executive at a Meeting.

CODE's 2019 Financial Summary



Description of Expenses	Amount in NGN	Amount in USD
Salaries	23,565,733.00	76,761.35
Administrative Expenses	41,483,739.44	135,126.19
FTM Expenses	229,311,750.85	746,943.81
Total Expenses	294,361,223.29	958,831.35
Total Income	265,981,746.85	866,390.05

Difference is as a result of activities carried forward from previous year



Challenges

and Way Forward

1. Disproportionate focus on the North as opposed to the South: Generally, Follow the money campaigns are more predominant in the northern region indicating a major gap in campaign activities across the southern and eastern regions of the country. This is mostly due to financial constraint.

2. Funding Gaps for Building the Capacity of Chapters: Building a national and international movement requires a considerable amount of funds allocated for training and retraining States/Team leads with a systematic approach to providing both technical and financial support to the new chapters emerging. This has been a challenge as we have worked based on limited resources.

3. Slow Pace in Adopting a User-Friendly Platform for iFollowTheMoney: The current FollowTheMoney platform has been tagged low in user-friendliness, hence the gaps in having those who sign up not willing to return and engage on the platform. We are currently in talks with various IT Companies on the development of another user-friendly platform that meet the needs and demands of our audience.

4. Citizens' Disinterest in Social Accountability: There is a gap in engaging with more citizens especially those who have not heard about or are interested in social accountability. We have seen that our audiences are the same regular people who are recycled year in year out. There is an opportunity to change this narrative moving into the next phase with a more deliberate engagement style to get more citizens actively involved in holding their governments to account at all levels. In the next phase of our work, we would be deliberately engaging people across demography of gender, age and class.

5. Inadequate Documentation of Impact and Success Stories: Inability to properly harness grassroots stories and successes after the campaign is concluded. This is first attributed to the constraints in funds to engage competent consultants and manpower to visit these communities and document the difference from before our involvement and after-- assessing how the community has improved as well as document associate effects of our advocacy and also assess the sustainability of our work. Concerted efforts through adequate budgeting for monitoring and evaluation as well as documentation will be adopted.

6. Gender Inclusion: As evidenced in the level of participation of women in Follow The Money Activities such as the FTM challenge, CODE needs to decipher ways to improve gender inclusion in it's programming and community engagement work process in a way that it becomes imbibed in all staff at the headquarters and chapter level. Beyond the policy, a gender analysis of our process as well as target beneficiaries and members can help inform a gender-targeted action such as an all-female fellowship on Follow The Money, or a gender-integrated approach that requires a total overhaul of our work process, including budgeting to improve gender inclusion. This integration is also applicable to persons with disabilities.

7. Insecurity: CODE already partners with state security agents to ensure the security of staff when on the field. However, operational security policy is still required. Although a few courses have been sent to staff to participate in, feedback from other donors suggest CODE needs a policy as well as an implemented practice in place to ensure the safety and security of all staff.

Lessons Learnt

1. Continuous support of state chapters will ensure sustainability and boost interest of state actors and non-state actors:

State chapter members understand the terrain and cultures of their state, they are able to quickly gain response from state MDAs and the trust and engagement of community members.

2. Building the capacity of state MDAs on accountability and transparency measures:

The capacity building of state MDAs has created a collaborative relationship between the state actors and the CODE team. This has enabled prompt responses on data for tracking as well as the inclusion of CODE and other CSOs in policymaking as witnessed in Kaduna State.

3. FTM Challenge boosts the interests of citizens and improves engagement:

The challenge introduced in 2019 has catalyzed citizens interest and engagement in tracking government spending more than before. It can be linked to the competitiveness attached to the challenge as well as the incentives and experience participants garner during the process.

4. FTM Programme Alignment with other Governance Programmes within CODE improves efficiency.

Governance projects that may not necessarily be linked to Follow The Money have through the Community Engagement Department ensured an alignment of all projects linking

CODE's overarching goal of empowering citizens with information.

5. Balancing Focus on Projects with Core of Staff Wellbeing:

CODE has learned the importance of improving staff wellbeing instead of putting all focus on project implementation and outcomes. Measures such as reviewing policies and investing in HR to ensure the wellbeing of staff as well as continuous talent management through effective leadership will be strengthened.

6. Working with Established Community Governance Systems:

Community governance systems such as School Based Management Committees (SBMCs), youth groups help ensure the sustainability of our work and limits cost.

7. Media strong tool for advocacy:

Amplifying the voices of communities through media platforms have led to quicker responses from the government. Continuous collaboration with media practitioners is needed to highlight transparency and accountability issues in Nigeria.



Gallery

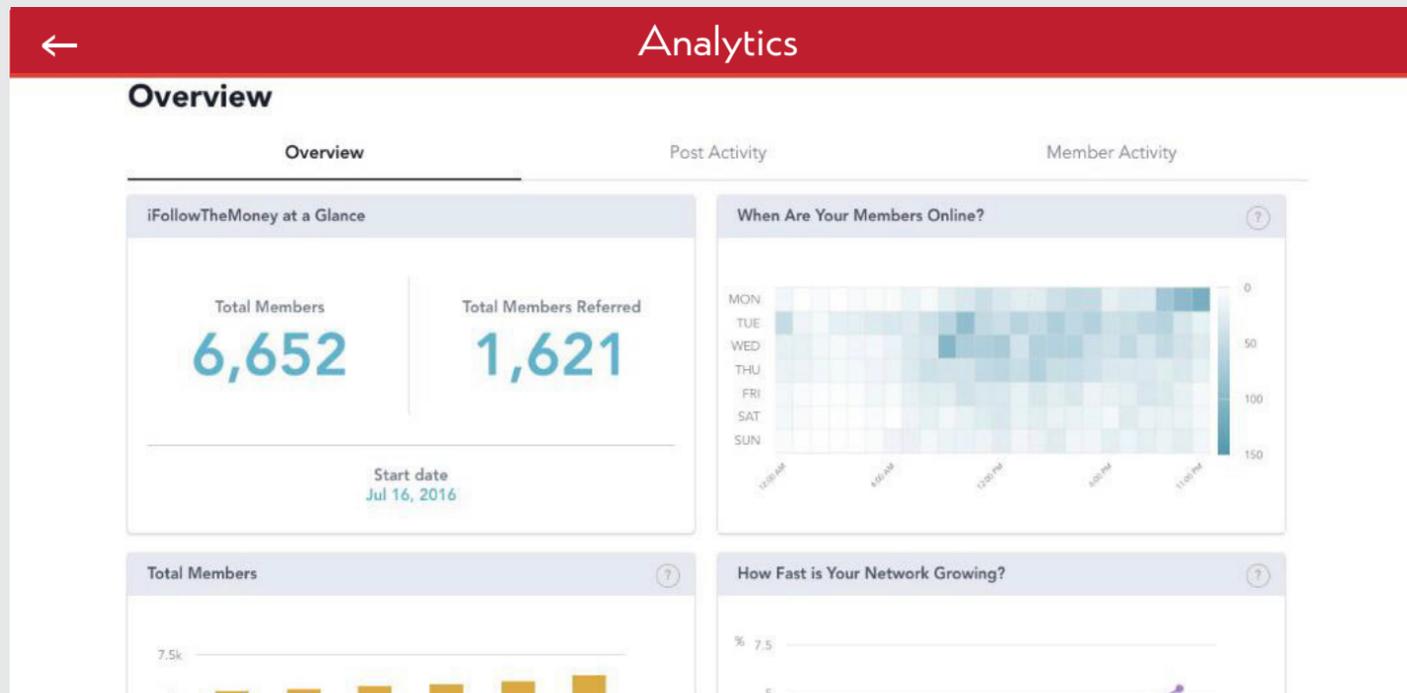
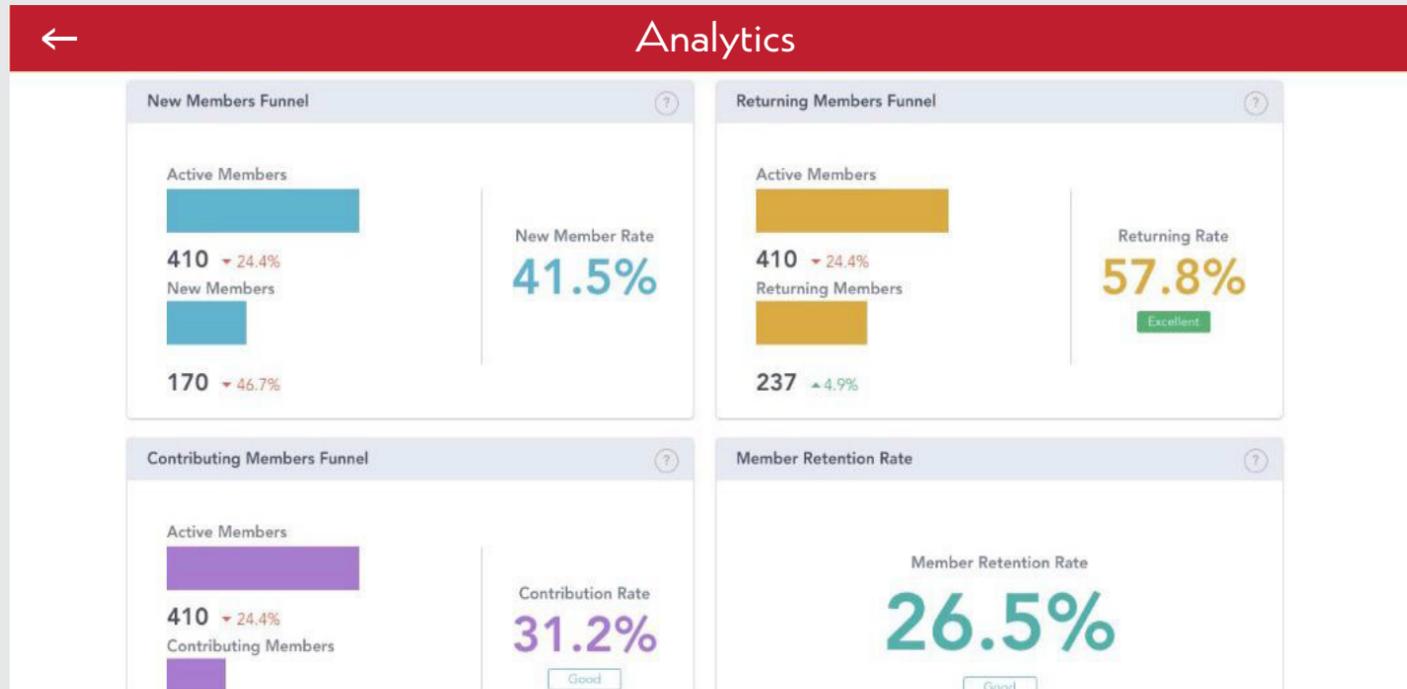


We have over 8000 photos on Flickr from telling stories from the grassroots.
www.flickr.com/photos/connecteddevelopment/

2019

FollowThe Money Analytics

www.ifollowthemoney.org



Dangote, Amina Mohammed, Hamzat Lawal selected as most influential Africans



CODE's Chief Executive, Hamzat Lawal and the Organisation's Board Members during a board meeting in December, 2019. The advice and contribution of the Board have been invaluable to the activities and impact of Connected Development in the past few years.

Our Partners

Our Donors are our Partners who have been supportive of the CODE vision. We thank them for their unswerving commitment to the movement and with the resources that they provide us with, we are able to empower more communities with access to information.



Luminate, founded by The Omidyar Group has continued to support and mentor us. They fund our operational costs and support our quarterly Follow The Money campaigns across the country.



The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation funds the Tracking UBE Spending Project in Kaduna State. The project has strengthened the capacity of SBMC to provide oversight on SUBEB spending and enhanced sub-national government commitment towards OGP on accountability, service delivery, and increased citizens engagements.



The Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) funds Follow The Money Project in Northern Nigeria, which involves advancing economic governance and promoting transparency and accountability at the sub-national levels of government in Nigeria.



Oxfam Nigeria funded the Conflict and Fragility campaign which aimed at ensuring that commodity traders operate in an accountable, transparent and conflict & human rights sensitive manner while making sure that there exists a mutually beneficial relationship between oil firms and host communities.



The United States Agency for International Development funds CODE's EWASH campaigns through RTI in providing and strengthening access to WASH policy and regulatory frameworks in Taraba, Niger and Delta states while empowering citizens to increase demand of services.



ActionAid Nigeria supports our campaign on building the capacity of young people to demand and track youth and gender responsive budgets at sub-national level to enhance service delivery in 7 states.



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Central Area, Abuja Nigeria.



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FTM Country Chapters:

Nigeria, Liberia, The Gambia, Kenya, Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Malawi