



Project Information Document/ Identification/Concept Stage (PID)

Concept Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 02-Feb-2022 | Report No: PIDC254084

BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)	Environmental and Social Risk Classification	Project Name
P177941		Low	M&E Support for NFWP
Region	Country	Date PID Prepared	Estimated Date of Approval
AFRICA WEST	Nigeria	02-Feb-2022	
Financing Instrument	Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency	
Investment Project Financing	Diadem Consult	Diadem Consult	

PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)

SUMMARY

Total Project Cost	2.48
Total Financing	2.48
Financing Gap	0.00

DETAILS

Non-World Bank Group Financing

Trust Funds	2.48
Miscellaneous 1	2.48

B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

Nigeria is central to the World Bank's mission of eliminating global poverty. A multi-ethnic and diverse federation of 36 autonomous states, Nigeria is Africa's largest country (over 200 million people) and largest economy (nominal gross domestic product (GDP) of around USD405 billion in 2020). With an abundance of resources and a young and dynamic society, it has the potential to be a giant on the global stage. But with over 40 percent of its population (over 80 million people) in poverty, Nigeria is also among the countries with the largest number of people living below the poverty line. Economic growth, at -1.8 percent in 2020, has been below the rate of population growth since 2016, when Nigeria experienced its first recession in two decades. Fragility, conflict, and insecurity afflict many parts of the country, in particular the northeast.

Insufficient capacity constrains the public sector, and on many human development indicators, Nigeria ranks amongst the lowest in the world. To realize its considerable potential, and to fulfill the government's ambition to lift 100 million Nigerians out of poverty by 2030, Nigeria must make tangible progress on multiple fronts, at both the federal and sub-national levels.

Nigeria's poor human capital outcomes reflect the low levels of public expenditure and weaknesses in service delivery. In terms of the Human Capital Index (HCI), Nigeria, in 2020, was the seventh lowest in the world—168th out of 174 countries. A baby born in Nigeria today will, if the levels, quality and coverage of human capital investments and service delivery remain unchanged, enter the labor force 18 years from now only 36 percent as productive as she would be if she were to enjoy the benefits of a complete quality education and full health. Human development outcomes are particularly low among girls and young women in Nigeria. Girls have fewer educational opportunities, more limited access to credit and productive resources, and poorer labor market outcomes even when gaps in human capital are considered.

Nigeria is 139th out of 156 countries on the World Economic Forum's 2020 Global Gender Gap Index. Women's disadvantaged position and lack of decision-making power in the social, economic, and political spheres is reflected in policies, laws, and resource allocation that thwart progress towards gender equality in the country. More than 70 percent of women live below the poverty line, and maternal mortality ratio is among the highest in the world at 576 per 100,000. Female enrollment in school lags behind boys and represents one third to one quarter of classroom participants depending on the state; and two-thirds of the 10.5 million out-of-school children, are girls. The wide diversity and distinct socio-economic, cultural and political contexts across Nigerian geopolitical regions and states results in different gender-related vulnerabilities. While gender inequitable norms prevail throughout the country, these vary by region and interact with other structural, community, and individual factors exposing women, girls and boys to some forms of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) more than others. Child marriage, acceptance of wife beating, and the restricted movement of women and girls are more pronounced in the north, and the prevalence of sexual violence, conflict-related GBV and SEA is higher than in the South. In the south, female genital mutilation (FGM), intimate partner violence, physical violence by any perpetrator, trafficking, and harmful widowhood practices are more prevalent.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

Investments in improving the livelihoods of women in Nigeria have the potential to boost inclusive growth. There is growing global evidence that shows that ensuring economic opportunities for women is an important entry point for addressing gender inequality and ensuring better education, health, and nutrition outcomes for families. Gender equality has been linked to a more equal income distribution, higher diversification of output and export products, higher profitability of firms, and healthier financial assets. The ratio of female-to-male labor force participation in Nigeria has been rising, with now almost three women participating in the labor force for every four men (International Labor Organization estimate; ratio higher according to National Bureau of Statistics), up from just about 50 percent in the 1990s. This presents a unique opportunity for the Nigerian economy as investments to improve economic productivity of women



could have a significant effect on overall economic growth. The International Monetary Fund estimates that growth in Nigeria could be higher by more than 1.25 percentage points annually, on average, if gender inequality was decreased to levels of countries at similar levels of development in the region.

Over the last three decades, the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) has shown an increasing commitment to support gender equality. The country ratified the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1985 and the Women’s Rights Protocol of the African Charter in 2004. In 2011, the Legal Aid Act was reviewed and expanded to cover crimes against human body and sexual offences. The government also approved a Federal Executive memo that directed all Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to appoint gender focal persons within the directorate cadre. In 1995, the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (FMWASD) was created to provide an institutional home to address women’s issues in Nigeria. The 1999 Nigerian Constitution Chapter IV Section 42 (1), (a) and (b); (2); and (3) proposes nondiscrimination based on gender, religion, ethnicity, age, or circumstances of birth. The first National Women Policy was drafted in 2000, followed by the National Gender Policy in 2006, and the reviewed National Gender Policy (2021-20216), with a goal to make gender equality a driver of growth and good governance. The policy is anchored in four pillars: policy and legislation; systems and structures; processes, procedures, and mechanisms; and services, goods, and products.

The National Gender Policy (2021-2016) recognizes that women’s contribution to the economy remains largely undocumented and makes a national commitment to redressing long-term systemic discrimination against women, identifying and overcoming the limitations to gender equality as integral to guaranteeing well-being and productivity of all Nigerians, and ultimately creating a society that values gender balance and equity.

The current government has sustained previous momentum and has shown a strong commitment to improve the living conditions of Nigerian women, particularly through the Nigeria for Women Project (NFWP - P161364). President Buhari created the Government Enterprise and Empowerment Program (GEEP) and the Nigeria Women Empowerment Fund (NAWEF), both initiatives aimed at improving women’s economic participation and access to finance.[6] The Government of Nigeria has also established the World Bank supported NFWP with an objective to support women’s improved livelihood opportunities in targeted communities of Nigeria. NFWP proposes to demonstrate the impact of a multi-dimensional and a medium to long-term approach to overcome the main institutional and market failures limiting women’s economic outcomes in Nigeria. While the NFWP is a Federal Program, it is being implemented in six States (Abia, Taraba, Ogun, Niger, Kebbi, and Akwa Ibom) and three LGAs per State based on agreed set of criteria.

Gender gaps in economic activities across Nigeria are largely explained by four main institutional and market failures—discriminatory social norms, information and knowledge asymmetries, non-competitive markets, and limited gender-inclusiveness in formal and informal institutions. The analysis of existing data and research indicates that discriminatory social norms limit women’s access to economic opportunities, productive assets, and knowledge. Nigeria is among the 10 percent of countries worldwide that exhibit the highest levels of gender discrimination according to the OECD’s Social Institutions and Gender Index, with an



assessment of 'high' or 'very high' in all of the evaluated categories (discriminatory family code, restricted physical integrity, son bias, restricted resources and assets, and restricted civil liberties). Given the strong link between social norms and women's economic participation and access to productive assets (especially land), addressing discriminatory practices impeding gender equality requires a systematic and tailored approach to the Nigerian context.

Asymmetries of knowledge and information negatively affect access to economic opportunities, improved inputs, and practices, also explaining why women remain stuck in low-productivity sectors along key agricultural commodity value chains, particularly pertinent for Nigeria. Women engaged as small-scale producers in certain commodity value chains such as rice, tomatoes, maize, catfish, and cassava are unable to produce to high-quality standards and reach economies of scale due to lack of access to quality inputs (seeds, fertilizers), mechanization, and knowledge of good agricultural practices. A World Bank study found that the returns of the harvest value for all crops (subsistence and cash crops) combined in male-managed plots are five times higher than their female counterparts. Female processors of agricultural goods engaged in groundnut, potato, cassava, and wheat value chains face productivity challenges as they are forced to rely on more traditional manual methods of processing, which are time consuming and physically strenuous. They are often unaware or have limited access to affordable small-scale machinery that can reduce processing time and enable them to earn more. Retailing, which employs most trading women, is a sector where market entry barriers such as reaching economies of scale, poor storage facilities, and lack of market information severely constrain women's ability to access and benefit from economic growth and expand income beyond subsistence levels.

Nonfunctional markets severely constrain women's economic outcomes and ability to earn a sustained income. As small producers and asset holders, Nigerian women have greater difficulty reaching economies of scale, which affects their competitiveness. As a result, they have limited bargaining power with suppliers and buyers, restricting their ability to earn profits or grow their businesses.

Structural and operational limitations in the financial sector also prevent women from having sustained access to finance. According to FINDEX data, only 27 percent of women in Nigeria have a bank account . Financial institutions are also polarized, having a missing middle, as the banking sector is made up of highly capitalized banks in one extreme and microfinance institutions with limited capitalization on the other extreme. These large banks avoid sectors like agriculture to cater to the commercial sector especially oil companies, whereas microfinance institutions are too few and poorly capitalized to make a revolutionary impact on microenterprises and small and medium enterprises. This, together with high operational and transactional costs caused, in turn, by dealing with many small clients in rural areas, creates little incentive for financial institutions to expand their services beyond select urban areas. Women in rural areas also prefer family, friends, and community-saving schemes above commercial and microfinance banks, due to the perception of low risks associated with using 'dependable' sources of finance and their inability to produce excessive documentation that is often a pre-requisite for accessing loans from the latter. These structural issues have, in turn, incentivized the emergence of informal and often unregulated savings and lending groups in rural areas of Nigeria.



Gender-based violence (GBV) like in other jurisdictions, remains a challenge in Nigeria significantly constraining women’s autonomy and life chances. The 2018 Demographic Health Survey indicates that nationally 31 percent of women between the ages of 15 and 49 have experienced some form of physical or sexual violence and 14 percent experienced physical violence within the 12 months before the survey, up from 28 percent and 11 percent, respectively, in the 2013 DHS. Fifty-five (55) percent of women who experienced violence never sought help or told anyone about the violence. Besides interpersonal and sexual violence, child marriage and female genital mutilation are the other harmful cultural practices prevalent across Nigeria. Conflict in the northeast has further contributed to a steep rise in targeted violence against women and children by Boko Haram increasingly for abduction and violence. Women are increasingly being used as instruments of war, including suicide bombing and forced marriages, making them vulnerable to stigmatization and rejection from their families and communities.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is partnering with the World Bank to support the implementation of the NFWP through the Trust Fund “Support for Women's Social and Economic Empowerment through the NFWP” which is funding this small IPF operation. This operation is critical to improvement of the entire M&E system under NFWP to ensure the highest quality of data collection, analysis, and evidence-based decision making on NFWP implementation. This operation will enable NFWP to make use of cutting edge M&E data collection methodologies and tools and to implement a robust Responsive Feedback Mechanism which will ensure that NFWP decisions on course correction are made in an agile and timely fashion.

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Relationship to CPF

The Project is strategically aligned with the WBG’s FY20-FY25 Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for Nigeria. The CPF, which builds on the 2020 Systematic Country Diagnostics (SCD) for Nigeria, prioritizes addressing the most binding constraints Nigerian girls and women face, through ongoing and future operations across sectors. This Project is designed to improve the effectiveness of the Nigeria for Women Project (NFWP) and inform future phases of NFWP, including by providing technical assistance on implementation. NFWP staff at the federal, state and LGA levels have limited understanding and capacities to conduct M&E, therefore this operation will be used to support and strengthen the existing NFWP M&E system through: (i) Augmenting the capacities of the NFWP staff to monitor processes, develop relevant data collection tools and frameworks for collection of quantitative and qualitative data, organize regular learning forums to take stock on issues and make corrective efforts in the short to medium term; and (ii) developing and scaling the Responsive Feedback Mechanism (RFM) and Iterative Beneficiary Monitoring (IBM) for agile, evidence-based decision making.

C. Project Development Objective(s)

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The development objective is to provide overall monitoring and evaluation and learning support to NFWP to improve the quality of M&E and the Project Management Information System (PMIS).



Key Results

- NFWP has a revised and improved M&E strategy and framework and PMIS
- NFWP IBM and RFM systems are both operational in all States
- NFWP M&E and PMIS staff capacity is built to effectively implement NFWP M&E
- NFWP learning is captured regularly in knowledge products

D. Preliminary Description

Activities/Components

The Project will support the: (i) review and revision of the Project M&E Strategy and Framework to improve quality and accuracy of M&E data and analysis and provide key data points in support of the impact evaluation; (ii) capacity building of project staff at the Federal, State, LGA, and Ward levels on M&E; (iii) development and integration of additional M&E instruments, including the Responsive Feedback Mechanism (RFM) and Iterative Beneficiary Monitoring (IBM); (iv) FPCU and SPCUs on the delivery of high quality knowledge products which adequately capture and document the results of NFWP implementation for a wide range of audiences; and (v) coordination with the impact evaluation management firm to ensure that monitoring data captures key impact related measures as necessary.

Component 1: Review and revise NFWP M&E Strategy and Framework (\$480,000)

This component will support the development of a robust and functional M&E system that integrates into the NFWP PMIS, based on the existing NFWP M&E system. This includes: (i) review of project documents including the annual targets and indicators, theory of change, and existing project monitoring tools; (ii) support for the improvement of the NFWP M&E strategy and comprehensive M&E framework and prepare roadmap for their implementation; (iii) development of additional M&E instruments and relevant tools for quantitative and qualitative data collection and integrate into the existing PMIS; (iv) review and revision the PMIS in consultation with the PMIS firm and the Project MIS specialist; (v) supporting the analysis and preparation of reports for the NFWP's Mid Term Review (MTR); and (vi) development of additional data collection tools as necessary.

Component 2: Develop improved Iterative Beneficiary Monitoring (IBM) system and a Responsive Feedback Mechanism (RFM) and launch across all NFWP States (\$1m)

This component will support the development of an improved Iterative Beneficiary Monitoring (IBM) system and Responsive Feedback Mechanism (RFM), based on existing NFWP pilots for RFM and IBM. In doing so, the implementing agency will: (i) Lead the revision of IBM and RFM with clearly defined objectives, vision of success and key performance indicators (KPIs); (ii) develop and submit a detailed implementation work plan, assessment methodology and tools; (iii); hold consultations with all stakeholders to obtain feedback on the design of the RFM and IBM, make necessary adjustments based on feedback as required; (iv) conduct Training of the trainers on RFM and IBM for NFWP implementers and key stakeholders; (v) implement RFM

and IBM in alignment with and informing the NFWP PMIS; (vi) produce regular data analysis as per the implementation of the M&E instruments to inform implementation of activities under NFWP; (vii) establish or contract a phone-based data collection system for quarterly phone surveys across the States for IBM; (viii) establish a dashboard as input towards decision support and analytics system for project management and implementation based on RFM which enables speedy analysis and dissemination of findings; (ix) provide technical assistance and support to the NFWP team to analyze RFM and IBM results and effect required changes during project implementation; and (x) support quarterly check-ins to review and advise on RFM and IBM data capture, findings and analysis.

Component 3: Capacity building and implementation support on M&E (\$1m)

This component will build the capacity of members of the NFWP and all stakeholders driving the women economic empowerment agenda as needed to monitor processes, use relevant data collection tools and frameworks for collection of quantitative and qualitative data. This will include: (i) providing FPCU & SPCU teams with training on M&E best practices, tools, and methodologies; (ii) building capacity of FPCU and SPCUs to manage and utilize data captured through specific M&E tools (e.g. RFM and IBM) to troubleshoot issues, modify implementation modalities, reflect on project design and make changes in near real time; (iii) support NFWP to develop knowledge products, including progress reports, thematic and case studies, to collate a body of evidence from the project; (iv) supporting NFWP to organize regular learning events and forums to share lessons learned and to inform subsequent NFWP activities, which should include high-level policy forums and workshops at the State, national, regional, and international levels; and (v) ongoing capacity building and support on all aspects of M&E until the end of the Phase 1 of NFWP.

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Environmental and Social Standards Relevance

E. Relevant Standards

ESS Standards		Relevance
ESS 1	Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	Relevant
ESS 10	Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure	Relevant
ESS 2	Labor and Working Conditions	Relevant
ESS 3	Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management	Not Currently Relevant
ESS 4	Community Health and Safety	Relevant
ESS 5	Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement	Not Currently Relevant
ESS 6	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	Not Currently Relevant
ESS 7	Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically	Not Currently Relevant

Underserved Traditional Local Communities

ESS 8	Cultural Heritage	Not Currently Relevant
ESS 9	Financial Intermediaries	Not Currently Relevant

Legal Operational Policies

Safeguard Policies	Triggered	Explanation (Optional)
Projects on International Waterways OP 7.50	No	N/A
Projects in Disputed Areas OP 7.60	No	N/A

Summary of Screening of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

The M&E activities supported by the Grant is rated Low for environment and social. The only issue relevant is the potential spread of COVID-19 if the firm does not comply with guidelines provided by the WHO and the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) while organizing physical meetings with participating states and representations at the LGAs and Ward levels. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan will include aspects of the COVID-19 constraint and the requirements. The Environmental and Social Commitment Plan will also itemize key actions the firm will comply with during implementation.

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