

tracka

Using civic advocacy to reach the
underserved community

By
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What we do?



Over the years, Nigerians in rural communities have had little or no idea of government projects in their communities.

Tracka was established by BudgIT to address critical issues related to government projects

WE TRACK

Roads



Health Centers



Schools



...and more



1.

Issues surrounding social and economic development in Nigeria.



2.

The non-inclusion of citizens in developmental projects



Poor execution of the few implemented projects.

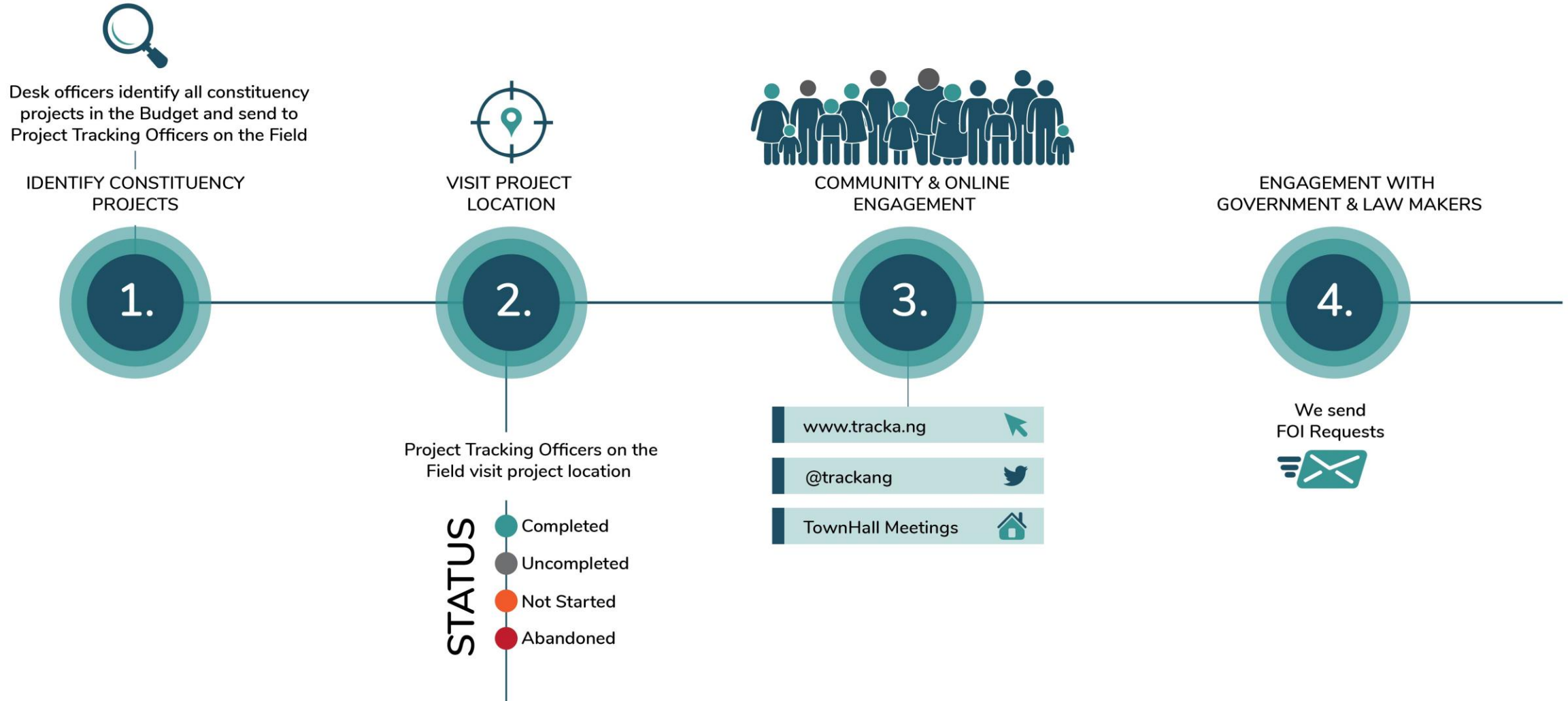
CONCEPT LTD.
CLIENT: FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WOMEN
AFFAIRS AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
PROJECT: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION
CASSAVA PROCESSING CENTRE
LOCATION: IDOFA IN IMEKO/AFON, OGUN W
SENATORIAL DISTRICT OGUN STATE



4.

Abandonment of projects

How we work?



BE AN ACTIVE CITIZEN

1

FIND OUT ABOUT CENTRAL GOVERNMENT PROJECTS IN YOUR CONSTITUENCY



- Visit BudGIT's Tracka Website - www.tracka.ng
- Select your state and find projects around you

2

VISIT PROJECT SITES



- Take pictures and share on social media platforms - Twitter & Facebook

3

Engage your representative at the house of Representatives



- Write an email, tweet at or send a letter to your representatives to demand information on government's projects in your area.

4

ENGAGE MINISTRY/AGENCY IN CHARGE OF PROJECT



- Know the agency in charge
- Write an email, tweet at or send a letter to the Ministry or Agency in Charge to inquire Status of the Project

5

REPORT PROJECT AND MONITOR PROGRESS UPDATE

- Report Issues on Tracka website-



www.tracka.ng



#AskQuestions
info@tracka.ng



Search projects in your area or state...

Post Project



DO YOU WANT US TO CONTACT THE RESPONSIBLE PUBLIC OFFICIAL FOR THIS PROJECT?

Yes No

Project Stages

- Site Visit
- Townhall meetings
- Letter writings
- Completion

YOUTH AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT KURA/MADOBI/GARUN MALAM FED CONSTITUENCY, KANO STATE.

Amount: N 21,000,000

Location: KURA, Kano

By: Wutana Dalla

Category: 2018 FG Constituency Projects

Date: 2 days ago



Report and follow project updates via SMS

SMS 8175 (comma) Your Message to 09069482679

See example below.

8175. Yaba road construction is ongoing.

Send To: 09069482679

SMS LIVE FEED

SMS Not Available



Tweets 8,585 Following 479 Followers 25.7K Likes 1,632

Follow

Tracka.ng

@TrackaNG

Tracka enables people collaborate, track and give feedback on public projects in their community. Tracka is a project by BudgIT.

Nigeria

tracka.ng

Joined May 2014

Tweet to Tracka.ng

19 Followers you know



3,931 Photos and videos



Tweets Tweets & replies Media

Tracka.ng Retweeted
West Africa Reporters @Afrikareport · 2h
Revealed: Kebbi Lawmaker N41 Million Constituency Project a Scam
@TrackaNG @APCNigeria
@BudgITng @enetsud @udoilo @OSIWA1 @Naijavote @ProfOsinbajo
@ppmonitorNG @UdemeNG @KBStGovt @nassnigeria @HouseNGR
#OsunDecides2018



Revealed: Kebbi Lawmaker N41 Million Constituency Project a Scam
Tracka, a non governmental organization working to ensure quality delivery in government project has uncovered how Mr. Muhammad Umar Jega, ...
westafricareporters.com

Who to follow · Refresh · View all

- BudgIT Nigeria** @Budg...
Follow
- Follow The Money** \$🔒...
Follow
- EiE Nigeria** @EiENigeria
Follow

Find people you know

Nigeria trends · Change

- Smalling**
14.5K Tweets
- Willian**
14.2K Tweets
- Chelsea**
114K Tweets
- Watford**
29.2K Tweets
- #CHECAR**



28 day summary with change over previous period

Tweets
424 ↑47.7%



Tweet impressions
2.54M ↑3.2%



Profile visits
36K ↓16.4%



Mentions
6,804 ↑21.1%



Followers
25.7K ↑2,980



Sep 2018 · 14 days so far...

TWEET HIGHLIGHTS

Top Tweet earned 31.7K impressions

Dear Gov @elrufai, this is a Primary School in Abadawa community, Lere LGA, Kaduna State. Despite the N74m provision to build a block of 12 classrooms. There are no classrooms for learning. Pupils are sent home whenever it rains. The pupils learn under the sun.

pic.twitter.com/JWXaKLRHEG



Top mention earned 2,390 engagements



RICHARD OFUNREIN

@richeecr8tivity · Sep 7

Attn: Gov. @AkinwunmiAmbode kindly find permanent solution to flood issues at Yaba axis. The road is totally messed up.

@TrafficChiefNG @Gidi_Traffic

@TrackaNG pic.twitter.com/LNipp1TZv6



SEP 2018 SUMMARY

Tweets
243

Profile visits
19.4K

New followers
1,459

Tweet impressions
1.39M

Mentions
3,060

Constituency Projects in Nigeria: Prevailing Trends

1. Empowerment
Projects

2. Non Execution of
Projects

3. Underdelivery of
Projects

4. Use of Sub-standard
materials

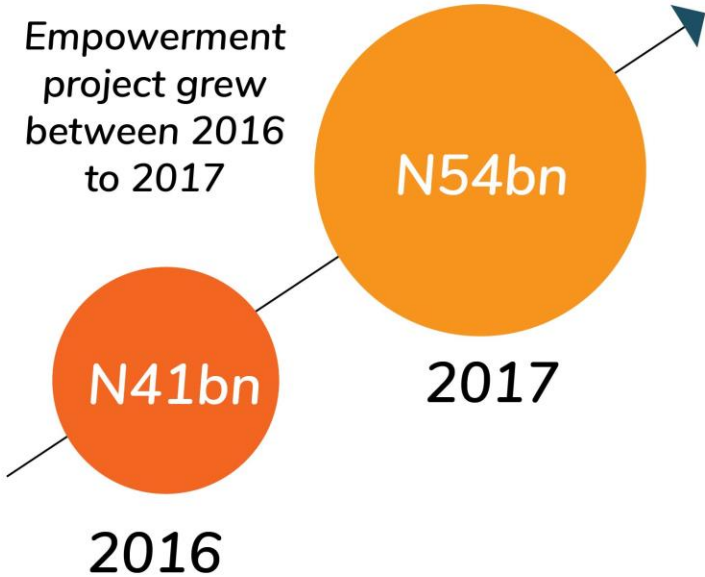
50%



of constituency projects are
empowerment projects

Tracking empowerment projects
is a difficult task to civil society:
beneficiaries are mainly party
loyalists and impact on
communities is difficult to
measure.

Empowerment
project grew
between 2016
to 2017



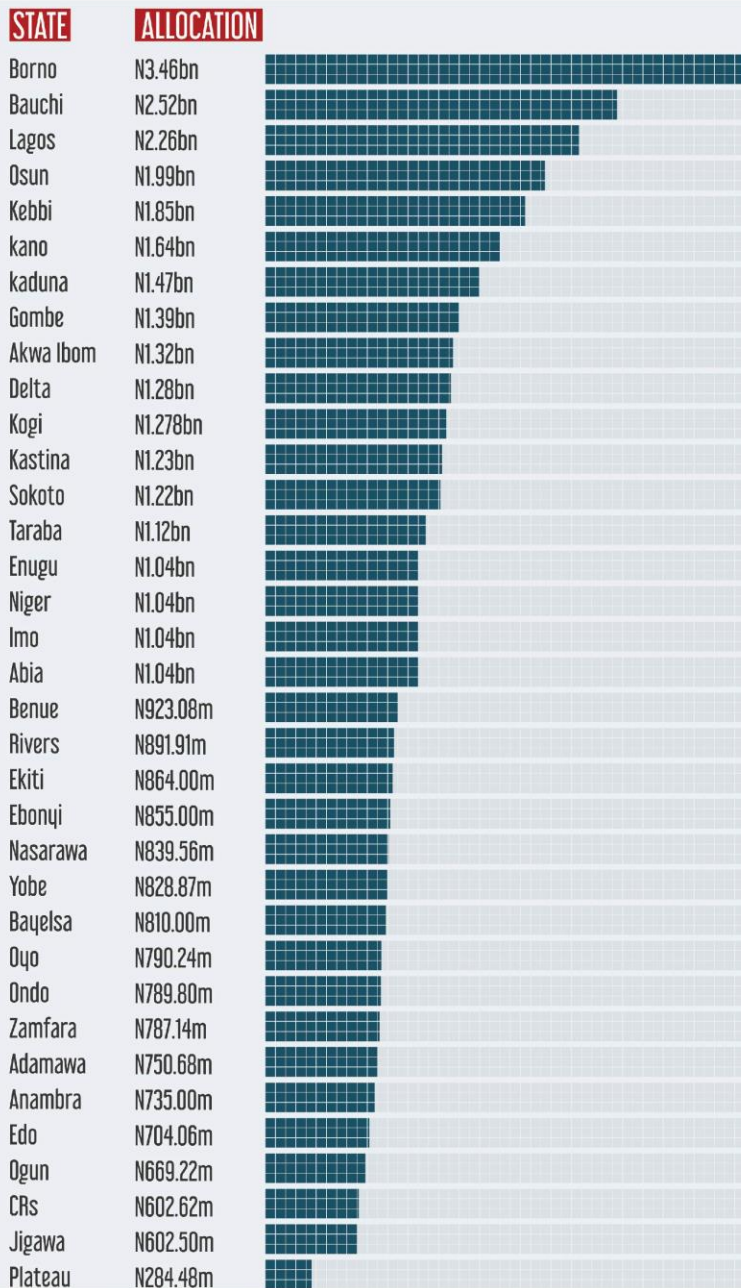
1. Empowerment Projects

2. Non Execution of Projects

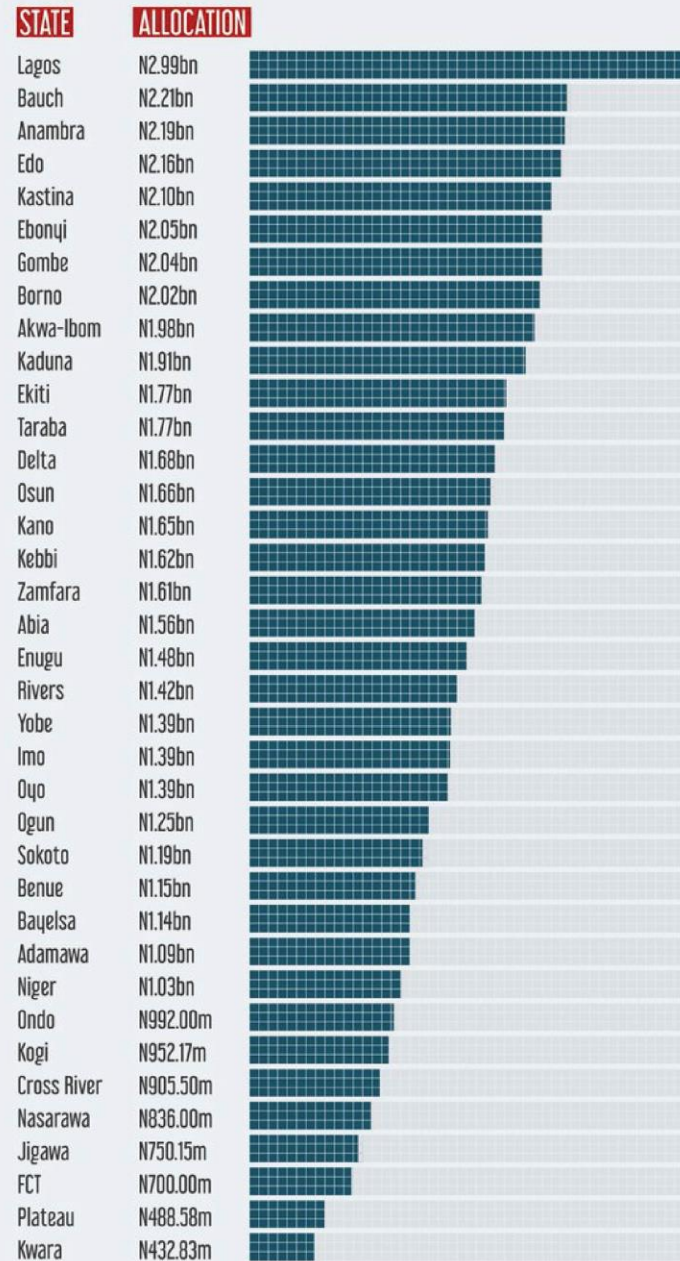
3. Underdelivery of Projects

4. Use of Sub-standard materials

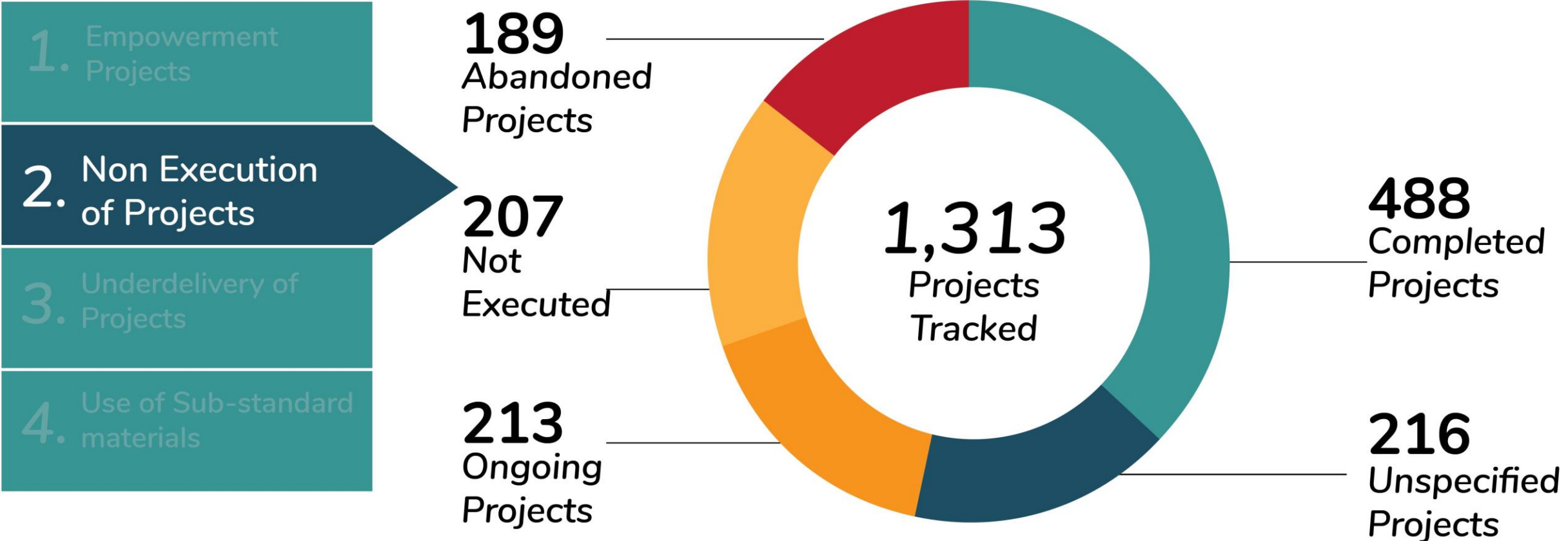
2016 EMPOWERMENT PROJECTS



2017 EMPOWERMENT PROJECTS



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N20m

BOREHOLE CONSTRUCTED
ON AN EXISTING WELL

For example, a motorised borehole with 5.5KVA generator in Kebbi North Senatorial district, by Kebbi state Senator Yahaya Abdullahi gulped N20 million. The contractor used an existing well, constructed a shabby tank and installed a submersible pump in the well instead of the motorised borehole.



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On several occasions, where projects were delivered (whether fully or partially), PTOs and community members both report that some were executed with inferior products, consequently resulting in endangerment of lives, developmental setbacks and further expenditure, due to extra repair and remediation costs for the government.



Community leaders across focus states were of the opinion that this practice stems from contractors aiming to maximise profit by cutting costs, and they are emboldened to do so because often, there are no sanctions from the law, when consequences occur and complaints arise.

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Constituency Projects in Nigeria: Prevailing Trends

4. Use of Sub-standard materials

5. Unspecified project locations

6. Contract Inflation

7. Lack of Constituency Awareness

- ▶ We observed that the locations of about 216 projects described in the budgetary line items amounting to N1.8 billion remained unspecified, a situation that persists, since the inception of Tracka.
- ▶ For effective project tracking, it is imperative that project locations are detailed in the budget.
- ▶ Failure to provide these locations is antithetical to democracy, depriving communities, civil society organisations and auditing bodies of information and opportunities to monitor and ensure proper implementation of the government's obligations to the people.

Constituency Projects in Nigeria: Prevailing Trends

4. Use of Sub-standard materials

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7. Lack of Constituency Awareness



Realities on the field indicate that inflated costs and pricing of government projects is one of the leading causes of corruption in Nigeria.



Residents told us overwhelmingly that contractors often happen to be the beneficiaries of developmental projects, rather than the citizens.

Constituency Projects in Nigeria: Prevailing Trends

N38m School with no furniture

Students still using their old classroom

Use of Sub-standard materials

5. Unspecified project locations

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Constituency Projects in Nigeria: Prevailing Trends

4. Use of Sub-standard materials

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7. Lack of Constituency Awareness



In many of the 643 communities visited more than once, we observed that citizens in rural areas have no idea of constituency projects to be constructed on their streets, much less how these projects are funded.



In the most common instances, citizens believed that available projects were gifts from their Representatives, and personally funded.



This points to an urgent need to create more awareness for citizens, to enable them engage their representatives and seek delivery of public service.



When viewed as a gift, members of the constituency are less likely to demand higher standards, and are accepting of whatever has been offered to them, even though these are actually being paid for through their tax contributions.

Major Highlights:

1. Tax-funded Government Projects Called Donations



Location: Lagos



PTOs tracking the 2017 FG constituency projects report that Representatives within the National Assembly labeled public projects as “donations.”



In Surulere Federal Constituency 1 (Lagos state), we observed that the provision of ambulances budgeted at a value of N51m were, upon purchase and delivery to the respective hospitals, labeled as “donations” from Surulere Representative, Femi Gbajabiamila.

Major Highlights:

1. Tax-funded Government Projects Called Donations



Location: Kebbi State



Similarly, in Kebbi South Senatorial District (Kebbi State), the Federal Government budget provided for the supply of hospital boats in Yauri, at a cost of N175m.



The boats were instead labeled “Donated by Senator Bala Na Allah,” who is the Representative for the area.



We reiterate that constituency projects should not be labeled as donations by community representatives in the National Assembly; this comes off as a malicious attempt at deliberately misinforming their constituents, for selfish political interests.



Major Highlights:

2. Conversion of Public Project to Personal Property

- ▶ By law, constituency projects are nominated by the Representative, for the benefit of indigenes at grassroots level. It is also a means for citizens to feel the impact of governance in their community.
- ▶ A line item in the Federal Government Budget detailed the construction of 71 boreholes in the 71 Wards across Kebbi Senatorial District, valued at N710m.
- ▶ Borehole construction commenced in December in selected wards. However, in Zuru Ward, the borehole was constructed within the personal property of a serving Senator.
- ▶ This automatically deprives citizens of the opportunity of accessing potable water. This was a case where governance directly failed to alleviate the suffering of a community.

Major Highlights:

3. Wide Disparities in Project Value



Location: Osun, Bauchi, Enugu, Edo, Delta and Lagos States



We report varying amounts were allocated to key states in the National Assembly; Osun, Bauchi, Enugu, Edo, Delta, and Lagos got the highest sums in the 2017 Federal Government budget for constituency projects.



In one instance, the sum of N1b was budgeted for the construction of schools in Kwara central senatorial district in Kwara State, while N200m was allocated to Isoko Federal constituency in Delta for the maintenance of solar streetlights.



Similarly, in Edo state, N500m was allocated to the 'Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Otuo-Afuze Road, with a sour to Anchorage Road, Otuo, in Owan East LGA.' Although N259m was released in relation to this project, at the time this report was filed, community members cited the level of work undertaken as not reflecting the amount disbursed.



In Osun state, most projects were empowerment projects, which are particularly difficult to track, as there is no physical, auditable result.

Recommendations

- ▶ **Open Data of Contract Details:** This must be prioritised, to ensure citizen participation in contract awards via the provision of accurate details of all contracts (contractors' name, government budget benchmark, terms of the agreement, bill of quantity, etc), placed in the public domain. Updated contract information also has the added benefit of enabling government to control incompetence and contract fraud more effectively.
- ▶ **Citizen engagement:** Representatives should routinely engage their constituents in the budget-making process, to ensure their needs are captured in annual fiscal plans, in a timely fashion. The fundamental purpose of constituency projects is to ensure rural communities feel the impact of the federal government; therefore their priorities should be reflected in the budget.

Recommendations

- ▶ **Project specification should be more detailed:** Project locations should be spelt out, for easy access by citizens and organisations. As noted, in several cases, budget line items identified project titles, specifications and monetary amounts, but failed to establish the actual project location. Unclear locations and other such details mean certain projects are extremely prone to misappropriation of funds and corruption.
- ▶ **Ownership of Contract Award:** It appears that lawmakers at the National Assembly are of the belief that they are personally responsible for their constituency projects and thus award and project implementation must be coordinated/micromanaged through their offices. We cite this as improper practice; contract award and project implementation must be coordinated through the relevant federal ministries, as noted within the budget.
- ▶ **Mislabeling of Projects:** We recommend that public officials desist from tagging supplied materials and projects with their names for personal glory and political clout; citizens should be aware of the actual sponsor of the project—the Federal Government, as enabled by taxpayers.

We submit that the sum of these few examples from many should be a wake-up call to the devastating effects of Representatives shirking their constitutional responsibilities to the people. Should citizens remain discouraged from exerting their right to demand a delivery of capital projects, Nigeria would have effectively mortgaged her future and perpetuated the suffering that threatens a vast majority of her people.

Thank you for listening!