

**NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR INCLUSIVE
GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:
FOSTERING JOB CREATION AND EQUITY**

**REPORT OF THE JOINT PLANNING BOARD (JPB) AND THE
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (NCDP)
MEETINGS**

**23RD – 25TH APRIL, 2014
BAUCHI STATE.**

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THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENT PLANNING
(NCDP) MEETINGS**

**23RD – 25TH APRIL, 2014
ZARANDA HOTEL, BAUCHI, BAUCHI STATE**

**NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION, THE PRESIDENCY IN
COLLABORATION WITH GOVERNMENT OF BAUCHI STATE**

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- (XV) Country Assistance Framework: Achievements and Progress by Michael Harvey (Country Director USAID); and
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**COMMUNIQUE OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING (NCDP) MEETING HELD AT THE BANQUET HALL,
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, BAUCHI, BAUCHI STATE, 25th APRIL,
2014**

A. INTRODUCTION

The meeting of the 12th National Council on Development Planning (NCDP) jointly organised by the National Planning Commission (NPC) and the Bauchi State Government was held at the Banquet Hall, Government House, Bauchi, Bauchi State on Friday 25th April, 2014. The theme of the meeting was “**National Strategic Planning for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development: Fostering Job Creation and Equity**”. The Supervising Minister of the National Planning Commission, Ambassador Bashir Yuguda chaired the meeting, which was attended by **289 delegates** drawn from **18 States and the FCT**. The States in attendance include: **Anambra, Bauchi, Bayelsa, Benue, Borno, Edo, Gombe, Jigawa, Kano, Kaduna, Katsina, Nasarawa, Niger, Oyo, Plateau, Taraba, Yobe and Zamfara**. The meeting was declared open by the Governor, His Excellency, Dr Isa Yuguda, ably represented by the Deputy Governor of the State, Alhaji Sagir Aminu Saleh, who also welcomed participants to the State.

2. The meeting was attended by the Honourable Commissioners of Economic Planning and Development and Executive Secretaries of States Planning Commission. Also in attendance were representatives of the Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Centre for Management Development (CMD), Nigerian Institute for Social and Economic Research (NISER), representatives of the Private Sector, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Development Partners including the Director of USAID, Director UNDP, World Bank, African Development Bank and UNICEF.

B. OBJECTIVE

3. The key objective of the meeting was to articulate strategies for deepening the formulation and implementation of National Development Plans for fostering inclusive growth and development at the national and sub-national levels.

C. UPDATES ON KEY DECISIONS OF THE LAST JPB MEETING IN UYO AND TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS AT THE BAUCHI MEETING

4. Updates on key decisions of the last JPB Meeting in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State as well as 12 technical papers were presented by resource persons. The updates focused on the following areas:

- i. Establishment of State Planning Commissions;
- ii. Collaboration with the Nigerian Institute for Social and Economic Research [NISER];
- iii. Status of the First National Implementation Plan (1st NIP), execution and preparation for the development of the 2nd NIP;

- iv. States GDP Computation Project;
- v. Establishment of State Statistical Agencies; and
- vi. Passing of the Public Private Partnership Bill by the States.

5. The thematic areas of the technical papers presented were:

- i. Strategic Planning: Framework for Fostering Inclusive Growth and Job Creation;
- ii. Turning the National Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan (NIIMP) into Reality: Opportunities for Inclusive Growth;
- iii. State's Experience Sharing by Bauchi State on Evidence-Based Planning;
- iv. State's Experience Sharing by Oyo State on Urban Renewal;
- v. State's Experience Sharing by Kano State on Social Protection Policy;
- vi. Nigeria Industrial Revolution Plan (NIRP): Implications for Job Creation and Inclusive Growth;
- vii. Social Protection Policy as a Vehicle for Promoting Equity and Inclusion;
- viii. Addressing Youth Unemployment in Nigeria through Financial Support and Empowerment Programmes (FSEP): What Roles for the States and National Council on Development Planning;
- ix. Rebasing of Nigeria's GDP: Implications for Growth and Job Creation;
- x. Relevance of M&E Data in the Development and Delivery of Effective Job Creation Policies & Initiatives;
- xi. Capacity Building and Entrepreneurial Skills Development: Tools for Job Creation; and
- xii. Country Assistance Framework (CAF): Achievements and Progress;

D. KEY RESOLUTIONS

6. The key resolutions reached at the meetings were as follows:

- i. NPC to constitute Supervising/Monitoring and Mentoring teams to visit States on quarterly basis to fast-track implementation of decisions reached at the JPB/NCDP meetings;
- ii. States that were yet to establish State Planning Commissions (SPCs) were encouraged to do so;
- iii. The 12 States where the needs assessment survey of SPCs/State Statistical Agencies (SSAs) had been concluded were encouraged to implement the recommendations highlighted in the survey, especially on the issue of infrastructure and capacity building;
- iv. The SPCs of the 12 additional States not covered in the survey should work closely with the CMD for effective conduct of the needs assessment survey of SPCs/States Statistical Agencies and capacity building;
- v. The States that were yet to establish Statistical Bureau and Agencies were urged to do so, as a matter of urgency;
- vi. NPC was encouraged to commence the process of developing the 2nd NIP (2014-2017) and its implementation to facilitate job creation and inclusive growth. In this regard, SPCs should work closely with the NPC towards the successful development of the 2nd NIP;
- vii. States and Federal MDAs that are yet to develop their Sector Strategic Plans should expeditiously do so, in order to feed into the National Strategic Plan (2nd NIP), while leveraging on NPC's support in this regard;

- viii. States and Federal MDAs should build capacity of the Planning, Research and Statistics officers as they are critical to the development and implementation of national and sectoral strategic plans;
- ix. States and Federal MDAs should ensure that their annual budgets were consistent with the projects and programmes contained in the Medium Term Strategic Plans/Sectoral Strategic Plans;
- x. On the challenges of inadequate power supply and high interest rate associated with the recent rebasing of the Nigerian economy, Council recommended the establishment of Development Finance Institutions to address them
- xi. The NPC should work closely with the State Governments in communicating development aspirations, plans and programmes of governments at all levels to facilitate the actualization of the NV 20:2020 and the State Strategic Plans/programmes;
- xii. NBS should embark on massive enlightenment of Nigerians to clear misconceptions about the rebasing of the GDP;
- xiii. The States GDP computation should be revised to ensure that it fully captures the basic developmental issues as necessitated by the current rebasing of the nation's GDP. This revision will affect States where GDP had been computed;
- xiv. The **14 States** that were yet to pay the **N14.1million** contribution for the States GDP Computation Project were encouraged to do so. The States are: **Abia, Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Bayelsa, Benue, Edo, Imo, Kaduna, Kebbi, Katsina, Kwara, Nasarawa, Plateau and Zamfara;**

- xv. States were encouraged to partner with NISER, the Universities and other research agencies in the establishment of research institutes as this will complement States' Statistical Bureaux as well as provide guidance to the Departments of PRS on research matters;
- xvi. Education sector curricula at all levels, should be restructured to meet the skills need of industries so as to achieve the aspirations of the NIRP;
- xvii. The Industrial Training Fund (ITF) should be restructured towards skills development and service delivery to meet current needs of the manufacturing sector;
- xviii. The Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as the main hub of growth should be recognized and revitalized to provide adequate business skills required for the development of the manufacturing sector as enshrined in the NIRP.
- xix. The Council welcomed the recent privatization of the power sector and advocated for the simplification of the process for the SME's to access loanable funds at low interest rates.
- xx. Federal Government was urged to fast track the finalization of the draft National Social Protection Policy and the States that were yet to develop theirs, were encouraged to set the machinery in motion to do so;
- xxi. There was a need to strengthen both human and institutional capacities at the national and sub-national levels to enhance effective policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of strategic plans;
- xxii. NPC was urged to fast-track the completion, validation and implementation of the NIIMP. The NIIMP should be embraced by the States and Local Governments to ensure a well coordinated infrastructural development at all levels;

- xxiii. States were encouraged to learn from those that have passed the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Bill into law for adaptation and passage of same in their respective domain;
- xxiv. The public-private dialogue should be institutionalized at the State and Local Government levels to maximize the benefits of PPPs, especially in actualizing infrastructural development;
- xxv. There was need to establish a viable M&E system in the States to track progress in the implementation of policies, programmes and projects across the States;
- xxvi. The Country Assistance Framework (CAF) as articulated by the donors and stakeholders was recognized as a veritable tool for coordinating development assistance at the national and sub-national levels. In this regard, the States should ensure that programmes captured in the Framework were in line with their development priorities; and
- xxvii. Noting the growing insecurity in the country, especially the activities of Boko Haram insurgence in the North East part of the Country, the Council urged all stakeholders to set in motion necessary machinery to address it.

7. The next JPB/NCDP meetings are expected to hold in Oyo State on a date to be confirmed.

E. APPRECIATION

8. The delegates expressed their appreciation to the Government and the good people of Bauchi State for the hospitality and support extended to them during their stay in the Pearl of Tourism State.

(JOINT PLANNING BOARD)

1.0 Preambles

1.1 The meeting of the Joint Planning Board (JPB) jointly organised by the National Planning Commission (NPC) and the Bauchi State Government was held at the Zaranda Hotel, Bauchi, Bauchi State. The theme of the meeting was “**National Strategic Planning for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development: Fostering Job Creation and Equity**”. The Secretary to the National Planning Commission, Ntufam Fidelis Ugbo, *Esq* chaired the meeting which was attended by **278 delegates** drawn from **18 States** and the **FCT**.

2.0 Participants at the Session

2.1 Delegates from the Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Centre for Management Development (CMD), Nigeria Institute for Social & Economic Research (NISER), Directors of Planning Research & Statistics (PRS) Departments in the States’ Planning Commissions/State Ministries of Budget and Economic Planning, representatives of the Private Sector, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Development Partners including the Country Director of USAID, Director UNDP, World Bank, African Development Bank and UNICEF attended the meeting. The States in attendance included: Anambra, Bauchi, Bayelsa, Benue, Borno, Edo, Gombe, Jigawa, Kano, Katsina, Nasarawa, Niger, Oyo, Plateau, Taraba, Yobe, Zamfara and FCT. The breakdown of the attendance is as follows:

○ Secretary to the Commission	1
○ NPC (including NISER, CMD and NBS)	65
○ Commissioners	9
○ State Permanent Secretaries	8
○ Directors of State Planning Commissions	30
○ Federal MDA	68
○ States MDAs	61
○ Development partners	6
○ CSOs	4
○ <u>Media</u>	<u>37</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>289</u>

3.0 Objectives of the JPB Meeting

The JPB meeting was organized to:

- i. provide a veritable opportunity for all stakeholders to brainstorm on issues of strategic planning, while leveraging on Public Private Partnership (PPP) as a financing model for the delivery of the National Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan (NIIMP) 2014 – 2043;
- ii. sensitize delegates on the relevance of geospatial data to the delivery of the National Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan;
- iii. broaden delegates understanding of the role of research and effective monitoring and evaluation tools as key ingredients for performance measurement towards sustainable economic growth and development;
- iv. serve as a platform for officials of the Federal and State MDAs as well as the Organized Private Sector (OPS) to appraise their strategic roles in the implementation of the National and State

development plans as well as the Government's Transformation Agenda; and

- v. sensitize stakeholders on the imperatives of using reliable and timely statistical data for effective project formulation and implementation to enhance evidence-based decision making.

4.0 Opening of Proceedings

4.1 The meeting commenced at 10:50am with the recitation of the national anthem which was followed by an opening prayer. The Secretary to the National Planning Commission, Ntufam (Barr.) Fidel Ugbo chaired the meeting.

5.0 Welcome Remarks:

5.1 The Permanent Secretary, Bauchi State Planning Commission, Mohammed Aminu Ibrahim, in his address, welcomed participants to the 12th Joint Planning Board Meeting at the Pearl of Tourism State. He appealed to participants to contribute maximally in all deliberations during the technical sessions, to ensure the attainment of the objective of the meeting. He further encouraged participants to enjoy the peaceful atmosphere in the State as they engage in the deliberations.

6.0 Chairman's Opening Address

6.1 The Secretary to the National Planning Commission (NPC), Ntufam Fidel Ugbo (Esq), in his opening remarks, stated that the meeting was convened to emphasize the significance of strategic planning as a framework for policy formulation and implementation for Nigeria's transformation as well as to

strengthen the understanding and working relationship between the States and the Federal government for the effective delivery of their collective mandates. He, therefore, charged participants to make good use of their time to deliberate on issues of national importance, bearing in mind the current development in planning globally. He underscored the importance of re-basing the nation's GDP which, he noted, will open up investment for the economy thereby creating employment for the citizens of Nigeria. He intimated that the deliberations and outcomes of the meeting will serve as input for the National Council on Development Planning (NCDP) that will commence after the JPB meeting.

7.0 UPDATES ON THE RESOLUTIONS OF LAST JPB/NCDP MEETINGS

7.1 The updates on the resolutions reached at the last JPB meeting were presented to participants, following which discussions were held and conclusions taken as follows:

a. States that have Established States Planning Commissions

- Between 2013 and 2014, 12 States had established fully functional State Planning Commissions (SPCs). The States are **Abia, Adamawa, Bauchi, Benue, Ekiti, Enugu, Kwara, Nasarawa, Niger, Plateau, Taraba and Zamfara.**

Decisions:

- States were encouraged to speed up action on the establishment of their States' Planning Commissions with the support of the NPC;

- NPC to constitute Supervising/Monitoring Team to visit States on quarterly basis to fast-track implementation of decisions reached at the JPB/NCDP meetings; and
- b. States' Collaboration with the Nigeria Institute for Social & Economic Research (NISER)**
- In 2013, only two (2) States showed interest in collaborative research work with NISER. They are Lagos and Taraba States.
 - In Taraba State, NISER held a training workshop on *Research Methodology and Report Writing* for 38 Officers and allied Staff of the State's Planning Commission.
 - In Lagos State, NISER held several interactive sessions on collaboration with the State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, leading to the development of MoU in specific areas of interest.
- c. Establishment of State Research Institute (SRI)**
- No State has established SRI since 2013.

Decisions:

- States were encouraged to partner with NISER in the establishment of qualitative research institutes in their respective States as this would complement States' Statistical Bureau as well as provide guidance to DPRS on research matters; and
 - States were encouraged to leverage on the existing research units in various Universities across the country to enhance research capabilities and generate qualitative data for evidence-based decision making.
- d. States that have Passed their Public Private Partnership (PPP) Bill into Law**
- Three States have passed the PPP bill into law. The States are Lagos, Cross River and Oyo.

Decisions:

- States were encouraged to partner with those that have passed the PPP Bill into law for adaptation and passage of same in their respective States; and
- NPC to establish monitoring teams to ensure that States enact the PPP law.

e. State Gross Domestic Product (SGDP) Computation Project

- Computation of States' GDP in Nigeria was being implemented in 3 phases.
 - The first phase of 7 pilot States cuts across the six geopolitical zones. The results for the 7 pilot States are ready, namely: Lagos (South West), Kano (North West), Cross River (South South), Rivers (South South), Anambra (South East), Gombe (North East) and Niger (North Central).
 - The second phase comprising 15 States and FCT were being considered.
 - The third (3) phase would involve the 14 remaining States;
 - It should be noted that members of the JPB and NCDP have supported the NPC and NBS towards the realization of this objective.
 - The States GDP computation exercise was expected to take account of the rebased figures and the peculiarities of the new structure of their respective States' economies, especially for the pilot States.
 - Significant progress has been made in the implementation of the project over the last 18 months.
 - The results have been validated in 2 States (Anambra and Cross River) with the remaining to be undertaken soon.
 - The Second Phase of the computation commenced in March 2014 with 21 States and FCT which had paid their financial contribution to the SGDP Project.

- The NBS was currently working closely with the 15 States' Statistical Agencies/Bureaux and FCT towards actualizing the task.

7.2 Needs Assessment Survey of States' Statistical Agencies and Planning Commissions

- The pilot phase which involved 12 States for the survey covered the six geopolitical zones of the country and FCT and had been concluded, results released and forwarded to the respective State Governments.

7.3 Survey findings: The key message from the survey was that there were skills/manpower and infrastructure deficit which must be addressed to facilitate the production of States' GDP at the State's level. States should address these gaps while leveraging on NPC's technical support.

- The Second Phase of the exercise anchored by the CMD covered 12 additional States that have made their contribution to the project and this would commence in the 1st week of May, 2014. The States are: Akwa Ibom, Bauchi, Bayelsa, Benue, Ebonyi, Imo, Jigawa, Nasarawa, Ondo, Oyo, Yobe and Zamfara.
- Only **22** States and FCT have so far made financial contributions towards the project. The States included: Abia, Anambra, Akwa Ibom, Bauchi, Borno, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Ekiti, Enugu, FCT, Gombe, Jigawa, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Lagos, Niger, Ondo, Oyo, Rivers, Taraba and Zamfara.
- The following **14** States are **yet to pay** their N14.1million financial contribution for the SGDP computation project. The States are: **Adamawa, Bayelsa, Benue, Edo, Imo, Kaduna, Kogi, kwara, Nasarawa, Ogun, Osun, Plateau, Sokoto and Yobe.**
- **Steps Taken:** Several reminders have been forwarded to the States' Hon. Commissioners in charge in the past one year urging for prompt payment.

- NPC solicited the support of the Hon. Commissioners and Permanent Secretaries of States' Planning Commissions towards actualizing this objective.

Decisions:

- The meeting urged the defaulting States to urgently pay their contributions in view of the immense benefits accruable to them from the exercise;
- The 12 States where the needs assessment survey had been concluded were encouraged to implement the recommendations highlighted in the study; and
- States are encouraged to invest more on capacity building and infrastructural development.

f. Status of 1st NIP Implementation and Preparation for the 2nd NIP

- The tenure of the 1st NIP covering 2010-2013 has formally ended with the review of the Plan conducted in collaboration with the representatives of Federal, States and Private Sector;
- The report on the review provided an update on the progress made in implementation against set milestones and targets in the Plan. Also key success factors and challenges were identified; and
- The report on the review was to be presented to FEC by the Hon. Minister, NPC shortly after the meeting.

7.3 Preparation of the 2nd NIP

- Arrangements were being concluded for the development of the 2nd NIP (2014 -2017);

- The 2nd NIP was expected to draw lessons from the 1st NIP review, to be participatory and inclusive in approach, while sub-national Governments were expected to cooperate with NPC in formulating the process.

Decisions:

- States and Federal MDAs should respond promptly to the requests for information by NPC for the development of the 2nd NIP and other Medium Term Strategic Plans as well as subsequent plan reviews;
- The Permanent Secretaries should work very closely with the NPC to ensure that all submissions from their States were received on time;
- States and Federal MDAs should expedite action to draw up their Sector and Strategic plans that would feed into the national strategic plan (2nd NIP);
- States and Federal MDAs should build capacity of the Planning, Research and Statistics officers as they are critical to the development and implementation of national and sectoral strategic plans;
- States and Federal MDAs should ensure that their annual budgets were consistent with the projects and programmes contained in the medium strategic plans/sectoral strategic plans
- Development partners should also support the process of developing the 2nd NIP, as well as align their interventions with the Federal Government's national aspirations.

Decisions:

- The States' GDP computation should be revised to ensure that it fully capture the basic developmental issues as necessitated by the current rebasing of the nation's GDP. This revision would affect States where the GDP had been previously computed.

g. Establishment of State Statistical Agencies (SSAs)

- The number of States that have established their Statistical Bureaux rose from Thirteen (13) in 2013 to Sixteen (16) in 2014, while 19 States have passed the Bills into law.

Decisions:

The meeting urged States that were yet to establish their Statistical Bureau/Agencies to do so as a matter of urgency.

8.0 TECHNICAL LEVEL PRESENTATIONS

8.1 A total of 11 technical papers were presented by resource persons. The thematic areas of the presentations were as follows:

- vii. Strategic Planning: Framework for fostering Inclusive Growth and Job Creation by Dr. Tunde Lawal Director (Macro)/NPC;
- viii. Turning the National Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan into Reality: Opportunities for Inclusive Growth by Alhaji D. M. Shehu, *mini* Director (Infrastructure) NPC;
- ix. State's Experience Sharing on Evidence-Based Planning: by Aminu Hammayo Secretary to the State Government, Bauchi State;
- x. State's Experience Sharing on Urban Renewal: by Hon. Commissioner for Planning, Oyo State;

- xi. Nigeria Industrial Revolution Plan (NIRP): Implications for Job Creation and Inclusive Growth by the representative of Hon. Minister, FMIT & Investment;
- xii. Social Protection Policy as a Vehicle for Promoting Equity and Inclusion by Mr. George Nwalupue Director (Social Development)/NPC;
- xiii. Addressing Youth Unemployment in Nigeria through Financial Support and Empowerment Programmes (FSEP): What Roles for the States and National Council on Development Planning by Prof. A. A. Taiwo Director-General (NISER);
- xiv. Rebasings of Nigeria's GDP: Implications for Growth and Job Creation by Statistician-General of the Federation Dr. Yemi Kale (NBS);
- xv. Relevance of M&E Data in the Development and Delivery of Effective Job Creation Policies & Initiatives by Dr. Zakari Lawal Director (M&E)/NPC;
- xvi. Capacity Building and Entrepreneurial Skills Development: Tools for Job Creation by Dr. Kabir Usman Director-General (CMD);
- xvii. Country Assistance Framework: Achievements and Progress by Michael Harvey (Country Director USAID); and
- xviii. State's Experience sharing on Social Protection Policy by Honourable Commissioner Kano State Planning Commission;

9.0 OBSERVATIONS

The papers presented were subjected to in-depth discussion by participants. The key issues and observations arising therefrom are summarised in the subsequent paragraphs:

a. Need for Social Protection Policy at all levels of Government

The absence of social protection policy across the country has led to:

- Income inequality and exclusion, particularly for the vulnerable groups (women and children);
- Increased rate of crimes and insecurity witnessed across the country.

Furthermore, lack of incentives to encourage youth participation in acquiring technical and vocational skills has hindered government's efforts to tackle youth unemployment.

b. Inadequate Human and Institutional Capacity

- i. There existed weak capacity within the MDAs to drive the implementation of the PPP, NIIMP and NIRP;
- ii. Existence of capacity gaps in the areas of strategic planning, policy formulation, monitoring and evaluation of projects and programmes at the Federal and sub-national level for effective implementation of development plans.
- iii. There existed weak capacity in conducting effective research for policy planning and formulation, particularly at the sub-national level

c. Dearth of Infrastructure to Support Growth and Development

- i. There were institutional failures and high unemployment across the country as a result of dearth of critical infrastructure.
- ii. Lack of robust institutional framework to explore PPP as alternative funding option for the development of physical infrastructure;
- iii. Timely preparation of PPP projects was critical for a successful implementation of the NIIMP; and

- iv. Significant capacity and infrastructure gaps which existed at the sub-national level needed to be bridged if NIIMP target are to be achieved.

d. Non Institutionalization of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework

- i. While there existed a coordinated approach to M&E at the Federal level, the situation at the sub-national level was different as a result of non-institutionalization of M&E system in most States;
- ii. There was lack of M&E mechanism in most States for effective tracking of State SURE-P activities as witnessed at the Federal level.
- iii. Establishment of M&E Division in DPRS at the State level was imperative for effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of plans, policies and projects at the sub-national levels as witnessed at the national level.
- iv. Development of operational M&E manual was critical for the institutionalization of the M&E system both at the national and sub-national levels.
- v. The NIRP require monitoring and evaluation system for effective implementation at both National and Sub-national levels.
- vi. Absence of Geographic Information System (GIS) and Geospatial data instrument within the States as evident at sub-national level to generate reliable and qualitative data;

e. Rebasing of Nigeria's GDP: Implications for Growth and Job Creation

- The objective of rebasing was to give investors proper information and carrying out real time monitoring, which was purely technical and statistical in nature;
- There was a misconception about the rebasing of the GDP;
- Rebasing does not guarantee that the country has grown or will grow, but to have the right statistic for policymaking.
- GDP was not a measure of quality of life, but that of economic aggregate activities.

f. Weak Linkage between Research, Policy and Plan Formulation

- i. There existed a weak linkage between research outcomes and policy formulation and planning in Nigeria, especially at the sub-national level;
- ii. While Statistical Bureau and CMD were existent at the State level as a replica of the status at the Federal level, State research institutes were absent;
- iii. Inadequate funding for research work, particularly at the State level has hindered evidenced-based policy making at all levels of government;
- iv. Lack of synergy between States and NISER in collaborative research has widened the capacity gap experienced at sub-national level in conducting effective research for policy planning and formulation.
- v. It was observed that no State has established research Institute (SRI) as recommended during the last JPB/NCDP meeting in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State in 2013.

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Arising from the observations above, the following recommendations were made:

a. Deepening Participation at JPB Meetings

- i. need for Permanent Secretaries for State Planning Commission/Ministries to endeavour to attend future meetings of JPB to enhance robust contributions. Recommendations from JPB meetings are to feed into States Budgetary and Planning processes.

b. Development and Operationalization of Strategic Plan

- i. There should be a very close relationship between the sector strategic plans and the annual budgets. Both of them must align with the priorities of the National Strategic Plan such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Transformation Agenda (TA) and Nigeria Vision 20: 2020 (NV20:2020);
- ii. States that are yet to establish their Planning Commission are urged to do so in order to deepen the process of planning in their respective states;
- iii. Effective budget and plan implementation are contingent upon planning and budget working closely together;
- iv. NPC should work closely with the State Governments in communicating development aspirations, plans and programmes of governments at all levels to facilitate the actualization of the NV 20:2020 and the State strategic plans/programmes;
- v. MDAs at all levels are expected to plan and prepare ahead of time for projects that are suitable for PPP to ensure that all processes were duly followed in good time;
- vi. States that have not passed their PPP Bill into law were urged to expedite action and adapt the PPP Bill passed by their counterparts to facilitate the process of passage at their respective State Assemblies so as to explore the opportunities of PPP mechanisms;

- vii. need to intensify advocacy for the support of the political class to ensure full implementation of JPB/NCDP decisions;
- viii. States Planning Commissions should work closely with the NPC towards the successful production of the 2nd NIP spanning from 2014 – 2017;
- ix. need for a close relationship between the sector strategic plans and annual budgets. The annual budgets must derive from both the medium term and long term development agenda. In this regard, all levels of Government are urged to key into this process.

c. Development of Social Protection Policy at all Levels of Government

- i need to establish social protection policy and sustainable systems to address inequality in the country as witnessed in South Africa, Kenya among others;
- ii need for the NEC to adopt the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) as a form of financial support for unemployed youth in Nigeria;
- iii need for NEC to embark on establishing technical and vocational training, public works and science and technology centres towards addressing youth unemployment; and
- iv need to establish a coordination mechanism under the leadership of NPC for social protection initiatives in the country as well as the production of periodic report on progress made nationally;
- v need for the universities to review their curriculum to address industrial needs through the provision of the desired vocational skills to meet today's challenges.

d Strengthening of Human and Institutional Capacity Building

- a. need for research staff of DPRS to undertake internship at relevant Think-Tanks, including NISER to deepen their capacity in conducting research;
- b. need to strengthen both human and institutional capacities at the national and sub-national levels to enhance effective policy formulation, implementation and monitoring of strategic plans.
- c. Education sector curriculum should be restructured to meet the skills need of industries so as to achieve the aspirations of the NIRP;
- d. need to bridge capacity gap, particularly at the sub-national level so as to sustain the State GDP computation over time.
- e. The Industrial Training Fund (ITF) should be restructured towards skills development and delivery to meet current needs of the manufacturing sector;
- f. The Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as the main hub of growth, should be recognized and revitalized to provide adequate business skills required for the development of the manufacturing sector as enshrined in the NIRP

d. Strategy for Bridging Infrastructure Gaps

- i. NPC should draw the attention of Government to the need to develop critical infrastructure to stimulate economic development and employment generation;
- ii. NPC should expeditiously fast track the completion and validation of the NIIMP. The States were also encouraged to follow suit;

- iii. The NIIMP should be embraced by the States and Local Governments to ensure a well-coordinated infrastructural development at all levels;
- iv. The public-private dialogue should be institutionalized at the State and Local Government levels to maximize the benefits of PPPs, especially in actualizing infrastructural development;
- v. The NIRP should be strategically packaged with the capability of expanding the industrial sector, through job creation by adding value to local raw materials. States were encouraged to key into the NIRP to revitalize the industrial sector;
- vi. need for States to ensure that the PPP Bill was passed into law with a view to leveraging on the opportunities it portends in the development of infrastructure;
- vii. States' Planning Commissions/relevant Ministries should be empowered to appropriately coordinate the development and implementation of Infrastructure Master Plan and PPP as well as Monitoring and Evaluation at the sub-national level;

e. Institutionalization of Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

- i. M&E should be institutionalized at all levels to ensure that decisions reached at the JPB/NCDP meetings were effectively implemented across the States. This was to ensure cost effective policy strategy;
- ii. States were advised to key into the recently established National Evaluation Association to deepen the role of monitoring and evaluation in the implementation of policies, programmes and projects at the sub-national level;
- iii. need to establish a viable M&E system in the States to track progress of policy, programmes and projects across the States, particularly SURE-P intervention programmes;

- iv. M&E diagnostic survey should be cascaded to the States to ascertain the state of the existing M&E system in various States;
- v. States with functional M&E system should work closely with NPC for the refinement of their Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) as witnessed at the national level
- vi. States were enjoined to work in collaboration with the NPC to develop M&E Manual for effective implementation of the M&E system at the national and sub-national levels of Government;
- vii. NPC should encourage State Agencies/institutions responsible for the coordination of the States' monitoring and evaluation process

h. Improving Data Quality for Evidence-Based Decision Making

- i. States were expected to embrace and support the State GDP computation project to enable the production of quality data that were critical for national development;
- ii. need for States to implement recommendations arising from the Needs Assessment Survey of States' Statistical Agencies and Planning Commissions;
- iii. States that were yet to establish their Statistical Bureau were encouraged to do so without any further delay; and
- iv. The following **14 States** that were yet to pay their **N14.1million** contribution were enjoined to pay their outstanding contributions towards the States GDP Computation Project. The States are :**Adamawa, Bayelsa, Benue, Edo, Imo, Kaduna, Kogi, kwara, Nasarawa, Ogun, Osun, Plateau, Sokoto and Yobe**

i. Evolving Strong Linkage between Research and Policy Formulation

- i. State Governments should establish SRIs to complement their Statistical Agency in generating data for evidence-based decision making;
- ii. States were encouraged to leverage on the existing research units in various Universities across the country to enhance their research capabilities and generate qualitative data for evidence-based decision making.
- iii. need for States' Planning Commissions (SPCs) and SRI to encourage DPRS to conduct research for effective policy planning and formulation;
- iv. need for strong political support and resource allocation for research at all levels of Government, particularly at the State level;
- v. State Governments to consider the Concept Notes that NISER has developed to deepen capacity and collaboration in conducting research;
- vi. NPC and NISER to provide technical support to State Governments on research-related matters.

j. Rebasing of the GDP and Implications for Growth and Job Creation

- i. need for massive enlightenment of Nigeria to clear misconceptions about the rebasing of the GDP.
- ii. Policy design should be reviewed to formalize the informal sector of the economy.
- iii. The capacity for real time updating of GDP should be developed.

k. Quality of Presentation

- i. Participants commended the quality of papers presented and the resource persons in bringing out topical national issues that were capable of improving good governance and effective service delivery to the citizenry.

G. CONCLUSION

12. The recommendations/resolutions at this Meeting shall be presented to the National Council on Development Planning for consideration and endorsement.

Dated this 24th April, 2014

The next JPB meeting would take place in Ibadan, Oyo State, in October, 2014.

