



# 2023 ACTIVITY

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BLE ECONOMIC  
INCLUSION



THEME:

# PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND INCLUSION

Federal Ministry  
of Budget and  
Economic Planning

NESG

VIA

# Executive Summary

## Dear Stakeholders,

Nigeria has maintained a positive economic growth trajectory for twelve (12) consecutive quarters with a record of a 2.54 percent expansion in real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the third quarter of 2023. Political tensions have also reduced substantially following the successful transition into a new government in May 2023. However, critical reforms to address macroeconomic and sector-specific challenges remain non-negotiables for the country. The current state of socioeconomic indicators requires immediate action to address the structural issues hindering prosperity for all.

Nigeria's socioeconomic conditions have worsened as inflation continues to erode household disposable income, resulting in rising poverty and increased insecurity. Headline inflation rose to 27.33 percent in October 2023, the highest level in over 18 years, from 21.82 percent in January 2023. This was primarily driven by higher energy costs and exchange rate depreciation. Moreover, the suboptimal performance of the oil sector has heightened the country's fiscal and external vulnerability, further highlighting the imperatives of economic diversification. Total public debt stood at N87.38 trillion in June 2023, more than twice the N42.8 trillion recorded in the same period in 2022. External debt has also risen to \$43.16 billion in Q2 2023, up 7.63 percent from \$40.1 billion in Q2 2022.

The Nigerian economy is at a defining period, and the new government must take advantage of this opportunity to realign the country's growth strategy and make the necessary reforms to improve the well-being of its citizens and create a more equitable and sustainable future. The NESG Macroeconomic Outlook for 2023 highlighted comprehensive and system-driven economic reforms to change Nigeria's economic trajectory from a weak, non-inclusive and highly vulnerable narrative to one with the guiding principle of creating economic value and shared prosperity for all.

At the 29th Nigerian Economic Summit (NES #29), stakeholders also outlined the pathways to sustainable economic transformation and inclusion in Nigeria. National and global policymakers, business leaders, development partners, civil society leaders and scholars collectively articulated the priorities and strategies to unlock untapped potential, foster sustainable economic transformation, and promote collective prosperity. Nigeria's economic outlook in 2024 and beyond will be shaped by the political and policy environment and the commitment to implement the needed reforms to achieve equitable and sustainable economic development.

The policy reform imperatives for achieving a more inclusive and sustainable Nigerian economy have, to a large extent, influenced the NESG Secretariat's policy advocacy and intervention activities this year. As the year draws to a close, we are pleased to share a snapshot of some of our advocacy efforts and interventions you might have missed. Highlighted in this activity report are some of the many engagements in 2023.



**DIALOGUE PARTNER**

As a Dialogue Partner, the NESG drives Policy Change through Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) Platforms and Engagements. The NESG has several platforms to drive this objective, including Roundtables, Policy Commissions, and Communities of Practice(s).

### **Presidential Economic Dialogue**

In furtherance of our tradition of providing a platform for sharing insights and perspectives on the Nigerian economy, the Nigerian Economic Summit Group hosted a Presidential Dialogue series in the first quarter of the year. The dialogue series featured the Presidential Candidates of the country's three prominent political parties. The dialogue provided an opportunity to engage with the presidential candidates on the state of the economy and discuss their strategies for tackling the core issues plaguing the economy. This was meant to ensure that citizens are adequately informed of the policy direction of the incoming government and to set the tone for further discussions on the roadmap toward an inclusive and prosperous Nigeria.

### **The 29th Nigerian Economic Summit**

The 29th Nigerian Economic Summit, held on the 23rd and 24th of October, 2023, in Abuja, marked another successful edition of the NESG's flagship event—the Nigerian Economic Summit (NES). As the foremost Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) platform in Nigeria, the summit is organised annually in collaboration with the Federal Government of Nigeria through the Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning.

This year's summit was a momentous occasion as it received the honourable presence of His Excellency President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, who officially declared the Summit Open. The summit centred around the theme “Pathways to Sustainable Economic Transformation and Inclusion,” sparking insightful discussions and robust dialogues among key stakeholders from the public and private sectors.

At the Summit, discussions focused on the five sub-themes: Stimulating Economic Growth, Mobilising Finance for Sustainable Development, Harnessing Human Capital, Reforming Public Institutions, and Promoting National Cohesion and Inclusion.

- » The main objectives of NES#29 were to:
  - » inspire confidence in the Nigerian economy to drive job creation, economic growth and the fulfilment of Nigeria's economic potential on the global stage;
  - » collectively design and prioritise strategies to unlock untapped potential and foster sustainable economic transformation and inclusion for the nation;
  - » cultivate a people and technology-centred approach to addressing emerging trends, shaping a future of inclusive and sustainable economic growth for Nigeria;
  - » facilitate the implementation of reforms to promote investor confidence, attract FDI, and provide incentives for private sector participation in socioeconomic development; and
  - » facilitate discussions and actions towards attracting capital to support sustainable economic development initiatives.



The engagement of diverse perspectives, innovative solutions, and the commitment of influential leaders contributed to the success of the summit. During the two-day Summit, the discussions were dimensioned across eight (8) Plenary Sessions, fourteen (14) Break-out/ Interactive Sessions, two (2) Public Consultation/ Ministerial Roundtables, two (2) Breakfast Sessions, one (1) CEO Luncheon, five (5) Lunch Sessions, two (2) Dinner Sessions, and one (1) Side Event. The outcomes and recommendations from the discussions will undoubtedly play a pivotal role in shaping Nigeria's economic trajectory and fostering inclusivity. The full report of the Summit (Greenbook) will be published on the NESG website.

The NESG remains dedicated to its mission of providing a platform for constructive dialogue, collaboration, and policy advocacy, further solidifying its role as a catalyst for sustainable economic development in Nigeria.



A photograph of a modern office interior featuring a large, round, light-colored conference table. Several black leather office chairs with armrests are arranged around the table. The room has large windows in the background, offering a view of a city skyline with various skyscrapers. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent green overlay. The word "ROUNDTABLES" is centered in white, bold, uppercase letters.

# ROUNDTABLES

Roundtables are special-purpose public and private dialogue platforms established to champion a specific reform process. They are usually initiated by MOUs, specific stakeholder drives or Donor funding. The following are the Roundtables at the NESG:

### **Nigeria Triple Helix Roundtable (NTHR)**

The Nigeria Triple Helix Roundtable (NTHR) was established on 20th September 2019 as a permanent platform fostering collaboration between the government, academia, and industry to drive economic growth and national development. The initiative, a practical embodiment of the Triple-Helix model, aims to revitalise the Nigerian higher education system while facilitating a long-term tripartite partnership for holistic economic development. In 2023, the roundtable achieved significant milestones, including a consultative meeting with TETFund and the operationalisation of the Secretariat, led by Professor Bolanle Ogungbamila. Critical activities, such as reviewing Terms of Reference, MoUs, and a Draft Workplan, were undertaken. Rigorous technical assessments and policy reviews within the Triple Helix framework were conducted, and an ongoing research aims to identify gaps between academia and industry. The NTHR is actively shaping a collaborative agenda for innovation-led, knowledge-driven economic growth in Nigeria.

### **NGF-NESG Economic Roundtable (NNER)**

In the period under review, the NNER prepared the Brownbook, an excerpt of the NES #28 Greenbook, which is meant to serve as an engagement tool for subnational governments, particularly during the country's transition. The Roundtable is also actively working on developing an engagement strategy for the NGF's different categories of members, including Fresh Governors and Returning Governors.

### **The National Assembly Business Environment Roundtable (NASSBER)**

The National Assembly Business Environment Roundtable (NASSBER) provides collaborative solutions between the National Assembly, the civil society, and the organised private sector to build consensus in reforming Nigeria's business environment. NASSBER strives to accomplish this by broadening participation, engagement and the quality of output to the nation's legislative process. By ensuring the steady advancement of robust business environment legislation through the National Assembly, NASSBER has played a critical role in the reform of several key legislations aimed at improving Nigeria's business environment.



## Key activities in 2023

### A. Technical Support:

#### ***Legislative Agenda for the 10th Assembly***

In anticipation of the forthcoming 10th Assembly, NASSBER formulated a comprehensive legislative agenda. This Agenda is intricately designed to encapsulate the legislative imperatives essential for fostering advancements in key sectors of the Nigerian economy. The Agenda is strategically structured to encompass multifaceted areas critical to economic growth. Notable among these are Social Welfare, Human Capital Development, and Economic Diversification. The agenda also delineates key action steps, presenting a roadmap that seeks to advance the legislative efforts of the 10th Assembly towards achieving tangible and impactful outcomes.

NASSBER participated in the launch of the Legislative Agenda for the 10th House of Representatives and has begun an extensive review of the document to effectively provide support for the Green Chamber.

#### ***Technical Assistance Requests***

NASSBER has also received technical assistance requests from several committees in the National Assembly to deliver their mandates effectively.

#### ***Passage of Priority Bills***

As the 9th National Assembly approached its conclusion, significant legislative achievements were realised through the passage of some NASSBER priority bills. Noteworthy among these accomplishments are the Food Safety and Quality Bill and the Investment and Securities Bill. Additionally, the 9th National Assembly secured Presidential Assent for 14 Constitutional Amendments, marking a substantial stride in shaping and refining the legal framework governing various sectors of the economy. These enactments underscore NASSBER's commitment to improving the business environment.

#### ***Assent of Priority Bills***

In H1 '2023, the President signed the Data Protection Act and the Arbitration and Mediation Act into law. Both legislations were identified as priority legislations in the 9th Assembly.

#### ***Poll on MSMEs***

NASSBER conducted a poll on MSMEs to assess their views on the ease of doing business within the regulatory environment. The survey focused on the applicability of key legislations, including the Companies and Allied Matters Act, passed during the 9th Assembly. This initiative reflects NASSBER's commitment to

evidence-based decision-making and its proactive approach to refining policies. The aim is to create a more conducive business environment by understanding and addressing the challenges faced by MSMEs.

### ***Transition Documents***

In preparation for the commencement of the 10th Assembly, the NASSBER has diligently crafted transition documents to provide vital insights into the business environment. These documents are designed to furnish incoming members with a comprehensive understanding of the prevailing economic landscape, legislative priorities, and potential challenges. NASSBER's commitment to a seamless transition is reflected in the meticulous compilation of relevant data, forecasts, and policy considerations, with the overarching goal of empowering members to make informed decisions and contribute effectively to the legislative process. As we embark on this new legislative chapter, NASSBER remains steadfast in its dedication to supporting the 10th Assembly in navigating the complexities of governance and addressing the evolving needs of our nation.

### **B. Advocacy**

In its transitional phase, NASSBER has embarked on a compelling advocacy journey, marked by the initiation of the "Milestone project". This undertaking serves as a testament to NASSBER's noteworthy accomplishments over the past seven years, featuring prominent quotes from the esteemed NASSBER expert network as well as insightful awareness podcasts.

As part of our commitment to staying at the forefront of digital presence, the NASSBER website has undergone a comprehensive revamp. The revitalised website now boasts a dynamic blog section, where thought-provoking articles on the contemporary business environment are published bi-weekly. Simultaneously, our engagement on the NASSBER Twitter page has experienced a surge in both views and followership during this period.

NASSBER organised a series of podcasts with the primary objective of disseminating awareness regarding recent legislative developments, notably the Arbitration and Mediation Act of 2023 and critical topics on trade and innovation. Through this initiative, NASSBER aimed to foster a deeper understanding of these legislative changes while providing valuable perspectives from industry experts.

The NASSBER has played a pivotal role in narrowing the information gap between citizens and legislators through its innovative "Know Your Legislator" campaign. This strategic initiative, launched by NASSBER, has significantly contributed to fostering a more informed and engaged citizenry.

## C. Stakeholder Engagement

### ***Engagement with the 10th National Assembly***

NASSBER has undertaken a commendable approach by conducting courtesy visits to the esteemed leaders of the National Assembly and Chairpersons of various committees. These visits underscore NASSBER's commitment to fostering a harmonious and cooperative relationship with the legislative leadership, as well as ensuring a smooth transition and effective functioning of the upcoming parliamentary session.

### ***State Assemblies Business Environment Roundtable (SABER)***

The Secretariat met with the Conference of Speakers to deepen the working relationship of both parties. The meeting centred on signing an MoU, training the incoming legislators, and funding the event. NASSBER also intends to broaden its activities with the subnational legislature.

## D. Launch of the Ernest Shonekan Centre for Legislative Reforms and Economic Development

In Q1 2023, NASSBER began transitioning into the Ernest Shonekan Centre for Legislative Reforms and Economic Development. At NES#29, the Ernest Shonekan Centre was launched in a session titled "Legislative Innovations for Economic Development".

The Centre is strategically positioned to promote legislative and regulatory reforms for achieving economic competitiveness and improving the business environment. By adopting a crosscutting approach that synergises the three arms of government, the Centre achieves quality and effective legislative and regulatory reforms at national, subnational, and local government levels. The Centre provides a unique platform for which the ongoing initiatives (NASSBER, SABER and JUCAP), can promote reforms to critical sectors of our economy. The new Centre aims to provide better structure, organisation, coordination, and leadership to national and subnational efforts to improve Nigeria's business environment and investment climate.

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a silver pen, poised to write on a document. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The text 'POLICY COMMISSIONS' is centered in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

# **POLICY COMMISSIONS**



In its role as a dialogue partner, the NESG strategically functions within workgroups known as “Policy Commissions”, which comprise public and private sector experts who bring their insights to bear on strategic industry and crosscutting issues. Policy Commissions review government policies, conduct policy advocacy and facilitate the execution of programs and initiatives as dictated in the annual work plan, prepared by members, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, the NES recommendations and the NESG Macroeconomic Outlook. Policy Commissions also facilitate and fast-track the adoption of various Nigerian Economic Summit (NES) recommendations.

In recognition of 2023 as a transition year and a defining time for the Nigerian economy, the NESG hosted a 3-day Policy Commission Leadership retreat in February 2023 to brainstorm the way forward for the nation, focusing on sectors covered by the Policy Commissions. The event provided the needed momentum for policy commission activities in 2023 and the development of policy documents to engage the new government.

#### ***Development of Transition Packs and Policy Reform Traction Frameworks***

As a key outcome of the 3-day Policy Commission/Community of Practice Leadership retreat held in February 2023, Policy Commissions developed transition packs to onboard the ministers of the incoming government. A total of 14 transition packs were prepared across several sectors of the economy represented by each policy commission and community of practice. The ministerial transition packs also fed into the development of the Presidential Briefing document, based on the NESG’s Shared Prosperity Framework.

Policy Commissions also curated Policy Reform Traction Frameworks that highlight reform priorities for the new administration. The traction frameworks of the respective Policy Commissions articulated policy priorities for policymakers across the different sectors of the economy and across different time horizons: 90 days – 250 days (sprints), 3-year medium-distance runs, and five-year marathons. Policy Impact Statements were also framed from the traction framework.

#### ***Transition Technical Task Team (TTTT)***

Policy Commission leaders and members represented the NESG on the Transition Technical Task Team (TTTT) in its engagement with government MDAs to ensure the proper documentation of projects, programmes and policies to aid a seamless transition into the new government.

### ***Inauguration of the Steering Committee of Priority Sector Policy Commissions***

The Steering Committees of 4 priority Sector Policy Commissions - Health Policy Commission, Digital Economy Policy Commission, Energy Policy Commission, Trade, Investment and Competitiveness Policy Commission – were inaugurated on 23rd March, 2023. The Steering Committees are expected to strengthen the governance structure of respective Policy Commissions and improve their effectiveness.

### ***Ministerial Onboarding***

Following the appointment of new ministers by the current government administration, Policy Commissions have initiated the ministerial onboarding process. The ministerial transition packs, as well as opening memos are being deployed in the engagement process.

## **Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission**

The Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission (AFSPC) engages in advocacy concerning agriculture-specific issues to ensure the formulation, adoption, and implementation of appropriate policies regarding the agro-industrial development space and food and nutrition security as a whole. The overarching objective of the AFSPC is to facilitate the adoption of various NES recommendations to fast-track the economy's growth and development.



The Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission (AFSPC) was involved in the following activities in 2023:

### ***Stakeholder Engagements***

- » The Policy Commission submitted the report of the Nigeria Food Safety Workshop held on the 14th and 15th of December 2022 to the project partners (Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, the Food & Agriculture Export Alliance (FAEA), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the University of Missouri (UoM)) along with a draft food safety and quality roadmap on 18th January, 2023. The Facilitator of the Policy Commission also had a Guidance/Discussion meeting with the project partners on 25th January; the meeting was based on the next steps for implementing the Nigeria Food and Feed Safety policy.

- » The Policy Commission participated in the National Tomato Technical Stakeholders Meeting, organised by the National Horticultural Research Institute, NIHORT, in collaboration with the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) on Wednesday 22nd February 2023. The meeting aimed to seek all key stakeholders' commitment to improving the local marketing of tomatoes and other vegetables in Nigeria.
- » The Policy Commission hosted a meeting with the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) on 3rd May 2023. The meeting, tagged "NESG Nutrition Thematic Meeting", aimed to scale a child-centred agenda around nutrition with the primary focus on ending the scourge of malnutrition in Nigeria.
- » The Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission participated in a workshop aimed at validating the "scoping study report on the policy and legal landscape analysis for Front-Of-Pack Labelling (FOPL) and salt target setting in Nigeria". The validation/adoption was to ensure a well-articulated national position from all relevant stakeholders on how to address the current high sodium intake in Nigeria and the need to enforce FOPL as an enhancement to implement the reduction in salt intake policy. The validation workshop was held on 25th May 2023.
- » The Policy Commission participated in the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) 3.0 Strategy Document Launch on 6th July 2023. The new strategy document is themed "Nigeria Strategic Plan (2023-2027): Strengthening resilience and competitiveness of local actors to enhance food system transformation in Nigeria". The AGRA strategic document aims to meet its objectives through the business lines of Inclusive Markets and Trade, Sustainable farming and Seed Systems.
- » The Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission, in partnership with the Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) and E-health, paid advocacy visits to Dangote Salt Limited and Flour Mills of Nigeria on the 26th and 28th of September 2023, respectively. The visits aimed to frame the stated organisations regarding food fortification and workforce nutrition.
- » The Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission's Facilitator held a meeting with Mrs Ndidi, CEO of Sahel Consults, who is also a board member of the NESG. The meeting focused on the urgent need to develop a multi-sectoral food system approach in Nigeria. The process will help reduce food insecurity and ensure the effective implementation of policies in the agricultural space. The meeting was held on 5th May 2023. Sahel Consult indicated interest in partnering with the NESG at its conference held in September 2023.

- » The Policy Commission, in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, the Food & Agriculture Export Alliance (FAEA), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the University of Missouri (UoM), held the Nigerian Food and Feed Safety Expertise Coordination Workshop from the 7th to 9th of November, 2023. The three-day workshop gathered relevant and competent authorities from the private and public sectors to discuss the Food Safety and Quality Roadmap for Nigeria and build partnerships to further deliver a sustainable, robust, and resilient food safety and quality framework for implementation at federal and subnational levels.
- » The Policy Commission Leaders attended the stakeholder validation workshop on the Revised National Policy on Food Safety and Implementation Plan for onward approval by the Honourable Minister. The validation workshop is crucial in the finalisation of the review of the 2014 National Policy on Food Safety & its Implementation Strategy. The workshop was held on 14th November, 2023.

### Policy Dialogues/Events

#### ***Food and Feed Safety Expertise Coordination Workshop***

- » The Policy Commission, in partnership with NASSBER, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Food and Agriculture Export Alliance FAES and the University of Missouri, hosted a three-day workshop to launch four Technical Working Groups (TWGs) to set out the implementation of a modernised Food Safety and Quality system in Nigeria. The workshop was held from 7th November to 9, 2023.

#### ***Green Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)***

- » The Agriculture and Food Security Policy Commission, in collaboration with the Green Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), engaged in an advocacy program to increase large-scale food fortification and workforce nutrition in Nigeria. The project was based on third-party advocacy, which involved the NESG and two other organisations (Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) and E-Health Africa). To promote large-scale food fortification and workforce nutrition in Nigeria, the partners held the following event:
- » A webinar on “Developing an Integrated Food Fortification Compliance Framework to address Micronutrient Deficiencies”. The webinar was held on 23rd June, 2023.
- » A webinar on ‘Enforcing Workforce Nutrition Compliance for Improved Health and Well-being in the Nigerian Workplace’. The webinar was held on 20th July, 2023.



### ***Policy Dialogues on Agriculture at NES#29***

- » The Policy Commission hosted an interactive panel session themed “Beyond Hunger: Empowering Nigeria’s Food Security Agenda” at the 29th Economic Summit (NES 29). The interactive discussion was based on strategies to boost food production in Nigeria while maintaining environmental balance, economic profitability, and social equity; analysis of the key factors affecting food security and identification of effective programs and policies to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition in the short run through improved agricultural growth and food availability; and presentation on the effect of supply chain disruption on food security and evaluation of different approaches to achieve a resilient food supply chain system through suitable infrastructures and intermodal transportation. The interactive session was held on 23rd October 2023.
- » The Policy Commission also hosted an agriculture-focused roundtable themed “Nourishing Change: Building Resilient Food Systems” at NES 29. The roundtable discussions were focused on presenting a robust analysis of the current state of the sector, including key challenges and opportunities; articulating clear and concrete recommendations on mitigating the food system challenges in each thematic area; and creating shared ownership for transforming the agriculture and nutrition landscapes in Nigeria. The roundtable discussion was held on 24th October 2023.

### **Energy Policy Commission**

The Energy Policy Commission (EPC) is a veritable public-private dialogue platform aimed at addressing and removing bottlenecks, identifying viable opportunities and developing effective frameworks to expand and scale the energy industry across the renewable energy, oil and condensates as well as power and gas sub-sectors. The overarching mandate of the EPC is to facilitate the adoption of various energy-related Nigerian Economic Summit recommendations to fast-track economic growth and development.

The Energy Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities in 2023:



### ***Stakeholder Engagements***

- » The Policy Commission attended an engagement session with the Health Policy Commission to provide insights on its White Paper on Enhancing Local Production of Medicines and Vaccines on Thursday, 16th March 2023.
- » The Policy Commission, on 23rd March 2023, attended the Nigerian Petroleum Downstream, Industry and African Refiners and Distributors Association (ARDA) Virtual Workshop themed Deregulation of the Nigerian Downstream Sector: The Day After. At the event, discussions on the institutionalisation of the professionalisation of the midstream and downstream petroleum sectors were held.

### **Policy Dialogues/Events**

- » The Policy Commission hosted a sectoral roundtable on “Igniting Growth: Energy and Nigeria’s Global Race” at the 29th Nigerian Economic Summit on Tuesday, 24th October 2023. The roundtable discussions were aimed at challenging existing assumptions, reimagining more effective strategies, and contributing to specific problem-solving tasks in relation to Gas Transition in Fueling Sustainable Energy, Fossil Market and its Contribution to Sustainable Energy Growth, Regulation in Power Sector Investment Transformation, Private Sector Engagement in Driving Clean and Renewable Energy; and Carbon Financing in Achieving Sustainable Energy.

### **Research Activities**

- » The Policy Commission, in collaboration with Loughborough University, conducted Research and developed a report on the “Review of Electrical Infrastructure Growth in Nigeria, Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire (Africa)”. The study sought to review the current dynamics and future direction of electricity production and distribution, as well as the utilisation viability of electricity for cooking, over the coming ten (10) years for the three selected ECOWAS States.
- » In the second quarter of the year, the Energy Policy Commission secured a grant to conduct research on Carbon Trading and Energy Transition Plan in Nigeria. The project will be carried out in collaboration with the Sustainability Policy Commission. In light of this, the Policy Commission had several engagements with the Sustainability Policy Commission to discuss private sector engagement towards a successful Energy Transition in Nigeria.
- » The Policy Commission, in collaboration with the Sustainability Policy Commission, also carried out a survey to assess stakeholders’ understanding of the carbon market and carbon finance, the challenges and roles of stakeholders, and the required incentives for the successful implementation of Nigeria’s Energy Transition Plan (NETP).

**Report:** *The EPC developed a report on a “Review of Electrical Infrastructure Growth in Nigeria, Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire (Africa)”. The study sought to review the current dynamics and future direction of electricity production and distribution, as well as the utilisation viability of electricity for cooking, over the coming ten (10) years for the three selected ECOWAS States.*

### **Health Policy Commission**

The Health Policy Commission (HPC) has the mandate to stimulate the country's response towards building responsive and resilient health systems to achieve Universal Health Coverage in Nigeria. The overarching objective of the Policy Commission is to facilitate the adoption of the various NES recommendations as it relates to fostering equality in access to health and ensuring quality health services.

Public-Private Dialogues and Policy Advocacy initiatives of the Health Policy Commission in 2023 include the following:



### **Stakeholder Engagements**

- » The HPC, represented by Dr Jesupelumi Adenihun, attended a focused group discussion on “Advocating for Women’s Leadership in the Healthcare Sector: Experiences and Strategies for Growth” on Thursday, 27th April 2023. The current realities of advocacy in women’s leadership, women’s leadership in the healthcare sector, and actionable strategies that will advance women’s leadership in the healthcare sector nationwide were discussed at the event.
- » On Wednesday, 13th September 2023, the Policy Commission met with the Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC) to discuss Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the Health sector in readiness for the HPC Pre-Summit event themed “PPP for Healthcare - Getting the Policy Environment Right”.
- » On Monday, 13th November 2023, the Health Policy Commission had an exploratory meeting with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to explore possible areas of collaboration.
- » To raise awareness on the Paper titled “Attracting Funding for the Nigerian Health Sector: A Guide for Investors, Promoters & Analysts Outlining the Opportunity, Financing Options & Challenges,” a podcast episode was recorded on NESG Radio, where the lead contributor, Dr Ola Brown, provided further insights on the paper.

### **Call for Proposals and General Assembly**

- » In Q1’2023, the HPC called for proposals on Health Systems Strengthening and received 34 proposals. The Development Research and Projects Center (dRPC) independently reviewed the proposals, and five (5) top proposals were selected for presentation at the HPC General Assembly held on Friday, 31st March 2023.

### ***Engagement with UNICEF***

- » In line with the NESG's collaboration with the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to scale a Child-Centred Agenda around Health, Education, Nutrition and Child Protection, the Health Policy Commission considers strengthening the birth registration system in Nigeria to be a priority area. On 27th April 2023, the Policy Commission hosted a team from UNICEF to align on possible collaborations for UNICEF's agenda on the implementation of UNICEF's key advocacy agenda, which includes Child Health encompassing Food and nutrition, Child Protection, which promotes legal identity and universal digital childbirth registration, and Child Education. At the meeting, the HPC and the UNICEF team deliberated on the robustness of priorities to improve and harmonise the legislative environment to administer viable civil registration and identity management systems, outlined the key value proposition to the President, and defined the policy and legislative directives the President needs to issue to give force to this priority area.

### ***Engagement with other Policy Commissions***

- » The HPC engaged with other Policy Commissions on its White Paper on Enhancing Local Production of Medicines and Vaccines on Thursday, 16th March 2023, to get their opinions and insights.
- » The Policy Commission also had a meeting with the Trade Thematic Group of the NESG Trade Investment and Competitiveness Policy Commission and the Manufacturing and Mining Policy Commission on Wednesday, 21st and Friday, 23rd June, respectively. The meeting was aimed at brainstorming on specific sector-related issues to help improve Pharma production and trade in Nigeria.
- » The Policy Commission Leadership had a meeting with the leadership of the Infrastructure Policy Commission on Tuesday, 12th September 2023, to discuss PPPs and its regulations.

### ***Policy Dialogues/Events***

- » On Friday, 24th March 2023, the HPC hosted a Roundtable themed "Healthcare Financing for Universal Health Coverage in Nigeria: Realities, Impediments and Recommendations" as part of its research and advocacy efforts for improved universal health coverage in Nigeria. The roundtable identified impediments to raising revenue and efficient public financial management within the health sector, mapped out a role for private sector investment, proposed models for public and private partnerships within the health sector, and provided recommendations to remedy the poor funding to healthcare in Nigeria.



- » The Health Policy Commission hosted a pre-summit event on “PPP for Healthcare - Getting the Policy Environment Right” on Thursday, 28th September 2023. The event was aimed at discussing the PPP landscape in the Nigerian health sector, the policy environment for PPPs in healthcare, and assessing the value of PPPs for healthcare provision and economic development in Nigeria.
- » The Policy Commission hosted a Design Workshop on Private Sector Investments in Healthcare at the 29th Nigerian Economic Summit on 24th October 2023. The workshop brought key stakeholders together to discuss the private sector’s role in healthcare delivery and design a road map for effective and sustainable PPPs.

### **Research Activities**

- » The Health as a Business Thematic Group launched its paper on “Attracting Funding for the Nigerian Health Sector: A Guide for Investors, Promoters & Analysts Outlining the Opportunity, Financing Options & Challenges” on Tuesday, 29th August 2023. The paper focused on healthcare financing, examining major business opportunities in the Nigerian healthcare sector, challenges faced by investors, and solutions for overcoming these challenges to encourage investment and better health for the population.
- » The Research Sub-Committee of the Policy Commission is currently developing the second edition of the White Paper on Enhancing the Local Manufacturing of Medicines and Vaccines.
- » The Research Sub-Committee worked on a preliminary Landscape Report on PPPs for Health in preparation for the HPC Pre-Summit event. The Policy Commission is currently further developing the landscape report. The paper will conduct a situational analysis of PPPs in Nigeria, examine the role of the private sector, establish an understanding of needs-based PPPs for Health, and make recommendations for possible policy roadmaps in the adoption of PPPs to achieve Universal Healthcare Coverage (UHC) in Nigeria.
- » The Policy Commission is also developing a diagnostic report on Healthcare Financing for Universal Health Coverage in Nigeria: Realities, Impediments, and Recommendations. The paper will examine the current state of health financing in Nigeria through the lens of the four essential functions of health financing, including revenue mobilisation, pooling of revenues, strategic purchasing and benefits packages. It also seeks to proffer recommendations to remedy the challenges identified with health financing in Nigeria to facilitate progress towards UHC.

**Paper Launch:** The HPC launched and published a paper on “Attracting Funding for the Nigerian Health Sector: A Guide for Investors, Promoters & Analysts Outlining the Opportunity, Financing Options & Challenges”. The paper focuses on healthcare financing, examining key business opportunities in the Nigerian healthcare sector, challenges faced by investors, and solutions for overcoming these challenges to encourage investment and better health for the population.

### Manufacturing and Mining Policy Commission

The Manufacturing & Mining Policy Commission (MMPC) acts as a public-private policy dialogue platform for the manufacturing and mining sectors with a view to fast-tracking manufacturing and mining growth of the economy, driving advocacy that focuses on specific issues to ensure the formulation, adoption, implementation of appropriate policies. MMPC also champions the Nigerian Economic Summit (NES) recommendations to spark the intended sectoral growth and development needed in the economy. The Manufacturing and Mining Policy Commission's engagements in 2023 include the following:



#### Stakeholder Engagements

- » The MMPC attended the engagement session with the Health Policy Commission on its White Paper on Enhancing Local Production of Medicines and Vaccines on Thursday, 16th March 2023. The PC also met with the Health Policy Commission on Friday, 22nd June 2023, to provide expert input on enhancing the local manufacturing of medicines and vaccines in Nigeria.
- » On Wednesday, 2nd August 2023, the Policy Commission Leaders paid a courtesy visit to the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) to discuss sectoral reforms designed to champion mineral-resource and a knowledge-driven and competitive industrialised economy in line with the African Mining Vision (AMV), geared towards making Nigeria's economy open and globally competitive.

#### Policy Dialogues/Events

- » The Manufacturing and Mining Policy Commission hosted a sectoral roundtable on “Manufacturing for Prosperity: Roadmap to Industrial Growth” at the 29th Nigerian Economic Summit on Tuesday, 24th October, 2023. The roundtable was aimed at getting stakeholders' thoughts and opinions on Fiscal Policy for Industrialisation, National Trade and Investment Policy and Strategy, Monetary Policy for Competitiveness, Infrastructure and Logistics and Circularity.

### **Research Activities**

- » On 14th February 2023, the Manufacturing and Mining Policy Commission had a report launch/ dissemination meeting for the Diagnostic Report on Nigeria's Mining Sector Governance Landscape and Prospects.
- » In Q1'2023, the MMPC reviewed the mining sector reform plan. This reform agenda was aimed at eliminating the bottlenecks in the mining sector.
- » The Policy Commission carried out a survey to assess stakeholders' views on the impact of the Nigerian Fiscal Policy Regime on the Manufacturing Sector.

Diagnostic Report on Nigeria's Mining Sector Governance Landscape and Prospects: The Mining Thematic Group, with funding from the Ford Foundation, launched a diagnostic report on 14th February 2023 titled "Nigeria's Mining Governance, Landscape and Prospects". The report assessed the status, strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for improvement in Nigeria's mining sector. The report also included a scenario analysis to understand and quantify the economic impact of policymakers' actions or inactions on the sector's contribution to selecting socioeconomic variables such as revenue generation and poverty reduction.

### **Digital Economy Policy Commission**

The Digital Economic Policy Commission (DEPC) is charged with enabling Digital Transformation, Digital Government, Digital Trade and Innovation to develop a Digital Economy across all sectors for inclusive and sustainable socioeconomic development. DEPC aims to achieve its objective by actively promoting sectoral private-public collaboration, policy development and implementation, and adopting various digital economy-related recommendations from the Nigerian Economic Summit (NES).

The Policy Commission in 2023 was engaged in the following activities:



### **Stakeholder Engagements**

- » On 31st January 2023, the Policy Commission attended a Stakeholder Engagement on the State-Level Implementation of Inclusive Digital Transformation in Lagos. The event aimed to understand and review existing policies, as well as conduct a state-level readiness assessment critical to the implementation of an inclusive digital transformation framework for Lagos State.
- » The Digital Economy Policy Commission, in partnership with the Policy Innovation Centre and the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, hosted a Digital Access Project (DAP) event on 30th

March 2023, with the theme “Building a Digital Future: Inaugurating the Digital Economy Community of Practice (DECoP) in Nigeria”. At the event, the Honourable Minister of the Federal Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy (FMDCE) signed a compact with the NESG and inaugurated the Digital Economy Community of Practice (DECoP).

- » In July 2023, the NESG was nominated to serve on the Technical Working Group for the National Data Strategy Implementation, hosted by the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA). The NESG is represented on the TWG by the Thematic Lead, e-governance, Policies & Regulations Thematic Group of the Digital Economy Policy Commission.
- » The NESG, represented by the Thematic Lead, e-governance, Policies & Regulations Thematic Group on Tuesday, 18th July, attended the Inauguration of the Technical Working Group and a Workshop on the Implementation of the National Data Strategy (NDS). The TWG will be entrusted with the responsibility of developing the Data Management Model (DGM), a high-level framework designed to facilitate the sector-specific implementation of the NDS.

***Inauguration of the Digital Economy Community of Practice (DECoP):*** The Digital Economy Policy Commission (DEPC), in collaboration with the Policy Innovation Centre (PIC) and in partnership with the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), inaugurated the Digital Economy Community of Practice (DECoP) on 30th March 2023 to drive inclusive growth and sustainable development for stakeholders in the Nigerian digital ecosystem. The DECoP, as an alliance of stakeholders in the digital economy, will be nested in the Digital Economy Policy Commission (DEPC) of the NESG, with technical support from the PIC.

### Financial Market and Financial Inclusion Policy Commission (FMFIPC)

The Financial Markets and Financial Inclusion Policy Commission (FMFIPC) continually works to facilitate the adoption of various financial sector-specific NES recommendations to improve Nigeria's financial system and position the sector to support the growth and development of the Nigerian economy.

In the period under review, the Financial Market and Financial Inclusion Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities:



#### ***Stakeholder Engagements***

##### ***Call for Proposals and General Assembly***

- » The Financial Markets and Financial Inclusion Policy Commission made a call for papers on the Nigerian Financial System: Priorities for Shared Prosperity and received six proposals.
- » The Policy Commission held its first General Assembly for the year on Tuesday, 6th June 2023. Submitted proposals were presented at the General Assembly. The presentations were geared at getting stakeholders' thoughts on priorities for the new government to focus on in achieving Shared Prosperity in the Nigerian Financial Sector.

##### ***Policy Dialogues/Events***

- » On Tuesday, 24th October 2023, the Policy Commission hosted a sectorial roundtable on Financing Economic Transformation at the 29th Nigerian Economic Summit. The roundtable discussed the Debt Capital Markets for Foreign and Domestic Finance Mobilisation, Strengthening the Equity Capital Market for Finance Mobilisation, Regulatory Imperatives for Forex Liquidity, Strengthening the Infrastructure Development Financing Atmosphere, and Advancing Financial Inclusion with Consumer Credits.

### Infrastructure Policy Commission (IPC)

The Infrastructure Policy Commission (IPC) is structured to address infrastructure-specific issues and recommendations of the annual Nigerian Economic Summit to ensure the formulation, adoption and implementation by the relevant government agencies. The IPC currently works through six thematic groups led by subject and sector experts in Roads, Rail, Aviation, Ports and inland Waterways, Water and Sanitation, and Housing and Urban Development. The Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities in 2023:





### ***Ministerial Engagement***

- » The Water and Sanitation thematic group lead, Mr Gabriel Ekanem, and the CEO-designate, Dr Tayo Aduloju, paid a courtesy visit to the newly elected Minister of Water Resources and Sanitation. The purpose of the visit was to brief the Minister about the NESG Water and Sanitation thematic group and to explain the key challenges facing the water and sanitation sector and the policy recommendations to curb these challenges. The meeting was held on Wednesday, 20th September, 2023.

### ***Stakeholder Engagements***

- » The Policy Commission leaders held a meeting with the Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE) team in January on the transition pack development and how to restructure the Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) framework. Subsequently, the Policy Commission Leaders held a follow-up meeting on 31st March 2023 with the Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE) on the need to have a PPP Framework and review twelve pipeline projects to be presented to the new government.
- » The Policy Commission leaders also held a meeting with the Health Policy Commission to ensure alignment in their perspectives on the role of the Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC) and Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE) in the future of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in Nigeria. The meeting was held on 12th September 2023.
- » The Water and Sanitation thematic group lead, Mr Gabriel Ekanem, attended a private sector roundtable hosted by WaterAid and the Resilient Water Accelerator (RWA). The Roundtable brought together key corporations from the private sector, multilateral agencies, public sector institutions, and commercial and development financial institutions to consider commercially viable solutions to enhancing resilience to Climate Change, Livelihoods and Sustainable Development. The workshop was held on 8th November 2023.

### ***Policy Dialogues/Events***

- » The Ports and Inland Waterways thematic group hosted a pre-summit event on 21st September 2023, themed "Sailing to Success: Harnessing Nigeria's Maritime Potential". The presummit event was held in relevance to the overarching theme of the Nigerian Economic Summit 2023, themed "Pathways to Sustainable Economics and Transformation and Inclusion." The event aligned with the summit's goals by recognising the maritime sector's pivotal role in achieving sustainable economic growth and inclusive development.
- » As a follow-up to the discussions at the pre-summit meeting, the Port and Inland Waterways thematic group also held a dinner session at NES #29 to continue the conversation on the topic

“Sailing to Success: Harnessing Nigeria’s Maritime Potential”. The dinner session aimed to discuss Port Competitiveness and the Quest for Hub Status, Constraints to Port Efficiency, Challenges of Intermodal Transportation, Exploring Innovative Financial Solutions for Funding Inland Waterways Development, the Challenges of Multiple Agencies in Slowing Down Port Operations, and Port Security Challenges in Nigerian Ports.

### Tourism, Hospitality, Entertainment, Creatives and Sports Industries (THECS) Policy Commission

The overarching objective of the Tourism, Hospitality, Entertainment, Creatives and Sports Industries (THECS) Policy Commission is to facilitate the adoption of various THECS-related NES recommendations to fast-track the growth and development of the economy. The Policy Commission’s series of engagements in 2023 include:



#### ***Stakeholder Engagements***

- » The CETG team held a meeting with members of the presidency on the Creative Industry Bill on 7th March 2023.
- » Thematic Leads and the Facilitator of the Policy Commission held a meeting with Mr Frank Aigbogun, the Vice-Chair of the Steering Committee and a Board Member at the NESG, geared towards showcasing the initiatives of each thematic group over the years via the Business Day Newspaper.
- » On the 6th – 8th of September 2023, the Tourism and Hospitality Thematic Group (THITG) of the NESG, in partnership with the Pyne Hospitality Company, held the PYNE-NESG AFRICA TOURISM CONFERENCE 2023 with the theme: “Tourism in Africa: Catalyst for Accelerated Economic Empowerment.” The conference’s main goals were to address some of the barriers to intra-African travel in the African tourism sector and to share best practices for boosting visitor numbers to the continent while preserving its natural resources, cultural heritage, and historical significance.
- » The Creative Economy Thematic Group (CETG) had a meeting on 8th September 2023 to brief the Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Arts, Culture and Creative Economy (FMACCE), on initiatives for collaboration between the FMACCE and the NESG for the reform of the Creative Sector in Nigeria and related matters.
- » On 21st November 2023, the Creative Economy Thematic Group (CETG) made a Presentation on the Policy Roadmap for the Creative Economy at the Art, Culture and Creative Economy Roundtable hosted by the Vice President of Nigeria in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Arts Culture and the Creative Economy (FMACCE).

- » On 22nd November 2023, the Creative Economy Thematic Group held a meeting at the Federal Ministry of Arts, Culture and Creative Economy. The meeting was held to discuss the concept note for hosting an Inter-Ministerial Technical Sessions on the Governance Framework Development for Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy. This is a key first step towards drafting the needed policy to govern the Creative Economy in Nigeria.

### ***Policy Dialogues/Events***

#### **CETG General Assembly**

- » On the 4th of July 2023, the NESG's Creative Economy Thematic Group (CETG), under the auspices of the Tourism, Hospitality, Entertainment, Creatives & Sports Industries (THECS) Policy Commission, convened stakeholders from both the public and private sectors, including non-governmental organisations and multilateral agencies, to discuss Nigeria's creative economy governance issues for industry optimisation. The stakeholders included, particularly, many Presidents of the Professional Associations of the diverse segments of the Creative Economy in Nigeria. The consensus by industry stakeholders at the general assembly includes the need for the Development of a National Policy on the Creative Economy, the Establishment of a Creative Economy Development Agency as an overarching Regulator of the Creative Economy sector while the Ministry remains the Policy owner, the FEC approval of the draft National Policy on Intellectual Property etc.

#### **Inspiring Creativity Policy Dialogue at NES#29**

- » On 24th October 2023, the thematic group held a roundtable at NES#29 with the theme: "INSPIRING CREATIVITY: ROADMAP TO \$100BN BY 2030" focused on Strategic Investments in Creative Industries: Binding constraints, opportunities and capabilities; High-Value Capacity Building; Governance Framework for building a globally competitive creative economy; Leveraging Digital Platforms for Domestic and International Market Access; and Transforming Credit: Leveraging Intellectual Property Financing.

### **Sustainability Policy Commission**

The overarching objective of the Sustainability Policy Commission (SPC) is to facilitate the adoption of the annual NES recommendations to bridge the gap in sustainability and support the embedding of the green, blue and circular economies in Nigeria. The Sustainability Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities in 2023:

#### ***Stakeholder Engagements***



- » The Sustainability PC held its General Assembly for the year on Friday, 19th May 2023, to present the work plan for the year to its members. It was also an opportunity to operationalise the activities of its thematic groups for the year.
- » The Policy Commission also held a series of meetings on the research project on “Carbon Trading and Energy Transition Plan in Nigeria”, to be carried out in collaboration with the Energy Policy Commission.

### ***Policy Dialogues/Events***

- » The SPC held a presummit event on 19th September 2023, titled “Waste to Wealth: The Plastics Value Chain”. The event sought to promote a Green economy, emphasising the economic opportunities, job creation, wealth generation, and innovation associated with effective plastic waste management.
- » The Policy Commission also hosted a pre-summit event themed “Blue Economy: Private Sector’s Vital Role” on 3rd October, 2023. The event was aimed at encouraging increased participation of private sector stakeholders in driving Nigeria’s Blue Economy goals and highlighting policy solutions for challenges identified as hindering private sector involvement in Nigeria’s Blue Economy development.

### **Governance and Institutions Policy Commission (GIPC)**

The overarching objective of the Governance and Institutions Policy Commission (GIPC) is to facilitate the overhaul of Public Institutions, strengthen partnerships and measure government performance with a view to fast-track economic growth and development. The Governance and Institutions Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities during the review period:



- » The Policy Commission held its Steering Committee Meeting on 3rd May 2023. At the meeting, the Committee and the PC Leaders came to the agreement that the implementation of the Nigerian Public Performance Index would be one of the most important next steps in the reformation process of the Public Sector.
- » The GIPC continued work on the Nigerian Public Performance Index, which is expected to be one of the most important next steps in the reformation process of the Public Sector.

### Education Policy Commission (EdPC)

The Education Policy Commission was newly operationalised in the period under review. The Policy Commission is dedicated to fostering innovative, effective educational policies and sustaining economic growth. Its mission is to drive transformative change in education by developing and advocating for progressive policies that enhance access, quality, and inclusivity in Nigeria's education sector.



The overarching objective of the Policy Commission is to facilitate the adoption of the various NES recommendations that relate to improving education and human capital to promote growth and development.

The Policy Commission is dedicated to spearheading transformative reforms in the Nigerian education sector and is organised around three core thematic areas, each with a specific focus on reshaping and improving different aspects of education in the country.

The Education Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities during the review period:

- » The Education Policy Commission was operationalised with the recruitment of a leadership team.
- » The Policy Commission hosted a pre-summit event on "Refocusing Education for Workforce Readiness" on Friday, 29th September 2023. The Pre-Summit was aimed at identifying the skills gap and how to incorporate TVET training in the current education system across all levels of education, and the conditions within which corporates in Nigeria will increase private sector investment in Nigeria's education value chain.

### Trade, Investment and Competitiveness Policy Commission (TICPC)

The Trade, Investment, and Competitiveness Policy Commission (TICPC) comprises arbiters of specialised competency in trade, investment, competitiveness, tax, and fiscal policy. The Policy Commission is saddled with the mandate to holistically address brewing concerns on the Nigerian business environment, focusing on progressively realising an enabling environment for enhanced economic activities and seamless regulation.



In the period under review, the Trade, Investment and Competitiveness Policy Commission was engaged in the following activities:

### ***Stakeholder Engagements***

- » The Policy Commission leaders attended the engagement session with the Health Policy Commission on its White Paper on Enhancing Local Production of Medicines and Vaccines on Thursday, 16th March 2023.
- » The Policy Commission leaders also participated in the Regional Public-Private Dialogue on Unlocking Investment for Sustainable Development in ECOWAS, which was held on May 11-12, 2023. The meeting was held in Lome, Togo, and Investment Promotion Agencies (IPA), and other investment experts in the ECOWAS Member States were in attendance. The meeting aimed to provide a public-private dialogue opportunity for policymakers of Member States' Ministries of Investment, Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) and Private Sector Stakeholders to determine areas of focus for investment policy reform to unlock Investment flow to support economic resilience and growth.
- » On 6th July 2023, the Policy Commission Leaders attended the 12th Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment Meeting of The Enlarged National Focal Point (ENFP). The meeting aimed to provide an update on the Protocol on Trade in Services – ECOWAS; draft Consolidated Offer; Nigeria's Request to other AfCFTA State Parties on Trade in Services and AfCFTA Regulatory Audit Report; update the draft protocol on digital trade and Guided Trade Initiative (GTI); and address the outstanding issue on Rules of Origin on Textiles and Apparels Sector and Automobile Sector.
- » The Steering Committee was inaugurated on 23rd March 2023, and the Policy Commission held its General Assembly on Wednesday, 23rd August 2023. At the General Assembly, discussions were made on key government policy changes and the policy commission's position on;
  - Nigeria Trade Policy
  - Nigeria Investment Policy
  - Tax Reforms
  - AfCFTA
  - Investment attraction amidst the devaluation and subsidy removal
  - And other related reforms and policy changes by the government.
  - Strategies to engage the newly elected ministers were also discussed.



### **Trade Policy of Nigeria (TPN) - 2023-2027**

The Trade Policy of Nigeria (TPN) - 2023-2027 was passed by the 9th National Assembly and approved by the Federal Executive Council (FEC) on 10th May, 2023. The passage of the National Trade Policy was a result of concerted policy advocacy efforts by the TICPC. The TICPC led the preparation of the initial draft of the Trade Policy of Nigeria (TPN) - 2023-2027. The Policy Commission engaged with the Nigerian Office of Trade Negotiation (NOTN) and the National Action Committee on Africa Continental Free Trade Area to fast-track the development of the National Trade Policy. The Commission also supported the TPN at all stages, including finalisation and stakeholder validation.

### **Investment Policy of Nigeria (IPN) - 2023-2027**

The Investment Policy of Nigeria (IPN) - 2023-2027 was passed by the 9th National Assembly and approved by the Federal Executive Council (FEC) on 10th May, 2023. The Policy Commission facilitated the passage of Nigeria's Investment Policy by participating in the policy's zero drafting process and key Stakeholders' Meetings. The Policy Commission participated in the Stakeholders' Engagement on the Development of the Nigeria Investment Policy (NINP) held between 31st March and 1st April 2022, which was aimed at reviewing the draft Policy and collating quick interventions from stakeholders.

### **The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement**

The TICPC supported the development of the Nigerian AfCFTA Implementation Strategy. The Policy Commission also provided support for the negotiations of Phase II of AfCFTA. The Phase is about cooperation on investment, competition policy, intellectual property rights, and customs operations. The Policy Commission contributed to Nigeria's list of commitments on trade in goods and the finalisation of trade in services regarding:

- » Liberalisation commitments
- » Exemption lists
- » □ Sensitive products
- » Special products



# COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

As part of the Group's repositioning of the Policy Commissions in 2019, three (3) stand-alone platforms were created for marginalised groups, including the Micro Small Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Gender-related issues and Youth. These platforms allow these groups to come together as communities of practice to champion and promote advocacy based on their thematic focus areas.

### Community of Practice (CoP) on MSMEs

The Community of Practice on Micro and Small Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) is a Working Group of Public, Private and Development Sector players committed to developing Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Nigeria. The Community of Practice on MSMEs was engaged in the following activities during the review period:

#### ***Stakeholder Engagement***

- » The CoP attended the engagement session with the Health Policy Commission on its White Paper on Enhancing Local Production of Medicines and Vaccines on Thursday, 16th March 2023.
- » The MSME CoP held a General Assembly on Thursday, 11th May 2023, to present the CoP's overall work plan for the year to its members. It was also an opportunity to operationalise the activities of its thematic groups for the year.
- » The CoP held a stakeholder engagement session on Access to Finance for NMSMEs on Friday, 30th June, 2023. The meeting was a brainstorming session on required policy reforms regarding access to finance for NMSMEs.
- » On Thursday, 27th July 2023, the MSME CoP held a stakeholder engagement session on Tax Harmonisation and Streamlining for Nano, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (NMSMEs). The meeting was a design thinking workshop on required policy reforms to improve taxation for NMSMEs.
- » The CoP held a stakeholder engagement session on Access to Market for NMSMEs on Thursday, 31st August 2023. The meeting was a brainstorming session on required policy reforms regarding access to markets for NMSMEs and the domestication of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).
- » The leadership of the MSME CoP held a meeting with the Digital Economy Policy Commission leaders on possible areas of collaboration. A workshop on required digital policy reforms to improve MSME productivity in Nigeria, particularly in the areas of access to finance, access to markets and taxation, was proposed at the meeting.

### Research Activities

- » The CoP reviewed existing policies regarding access to finance, access to markets and taxation of Nano, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
- » The CoP also prepared a draft tax reform agenda for NMSMEs based on the report of the Design thinking workshop on Tax Harmonisation and Streamlining.

**Tax Reform Agenda for NMSMEs:** *The Community of Practice on MSMEs developed a tax reform agenda for NMSMEs to advocate for the streamlining and harmonisation of taxes. The tax reform agenda was developed from the report of the stakeholder engagement on Tax Harmonisation and Streamlining for Nano, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (NMSMEs), where public and private sector stakeholders articulated the required policy reforms to improve taxation for NMSMEs.*

**Engagement with the Presidential Fiscal Policy and Tax Reforms Committee:** *The Community of Practice on MSMEs has shared the proposed tax reform agenda for NMSMEs developed with the Presidential Fiscal Policy and Tax Reforms Committee. The Community of Practice intends to further engage with the Committee to advocate for the adoption and implementation of the NMSME tax reform agenda.*

### Community of Practice on Youth

The Community of Practice (CoP) on youth exists as a platform housed within the NESG that actively brings together young people who are passionate about shaping the future of our nation. The Nation and Africa at large are facing enormous challenges that require young people's ability to provide youth-led solutions. The CoP will, therefore, bring together youths from diverse backgrounds, expertise, education, income, heritage and identity united by a drive to see change at the national and sub-national levels. This is based on the belief that young people are central to building solutions, policymaking, and creating lasting change; hence, the Community of Practice is harnessing our brilliance into a collective force for good.

The Community of Practice on Youth was engaged in the following activities during the review period:

- » The COP was operationalised through the recruitment of a leadership team to coordinate its activities. The leadership team is currently comprised of a facilitator and 3 Thematic Leads.
- » The Community of Practice collaborated with the Nigerian Youth Parliament to facilitate the review of the National Youth Policy. The CoP was tasked with moderating the engagement session, selecting the youth policy/law to be discussed, compiling and arranging resolutions in a policy document, and thereafter becoming an advocacy partner for subsequent engagement on the document.
- » The CoPYouth was invited by The Next Economy for the National Close-out Event, where The thematic lead participated in a panel discussion on Youth Employment: Challenges, Opportunities and Collaborations between Government and Private Sector.



# INTERVENER



As an intervener, the NESG drives Policy Change through Interventions, Monitoring, Influential Evaluation and Reporting. Through its various interventions, the NESG seeks to:

- » Expand technical assistance for supporting reform implementation
- » Drive change by dedicating research or human resources to drive policy changes
- » Set up joint working groups with the public sector
- » Support capacity development to empower public and private sector institutions to implement policy reform recommendations.

### Transition Technical Task Team

The NESG was accepted as the Private Sector Adviser to the Presidential Transition Council (PTC) and invited to serve as a member of the Transition Technical Task Team (TTTT). The TTTT was responsible for facilitating a seamless transition of administration from the Buhari-led government to the Tinubu-led administration. The NESG played a crucial role in developing briefing notes for the nine priority areas of President Muhammadu Buhari's administration, covering various sectors. These Briefs offer valuable insights to the new administration, highlighting sector-specific nuances, pressing issues, quick wins, and areas of alignment with the incoming Administration's Agenda. The briefs also include recommendations to enhance sector outcomes. Additionally, the NESG supported the creation of a Compendium of Policies, Programmes, and Projects implemented from 2019 to 2023 and a Policy Status Update. Former President Muhammadu Buhari handed over all three documents to His Excellency President Bola Ahmed Tinubu on 25th May. Finally, the NESG collaborated with the TTTT to develop the final report of the PTC and the TTTT, along with Guidelines for Onboarding New Political Appointees, marking the conclusion of the PTC's activities. The NESG has since begun forging connections with recently elected and appointed public leaders and officials to strategically position the group for policy engagement and advocacy efforts. This proactive approach aimed to establish strong relationships that facilitate effective collaboration and influence positive policy outcomes.

### Nigeria Agenda 2050 (NA 2050)

The NESG supported the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget, and National Policy (FMFBNP) with the development, final review and design of the Nigeria Agenda 2050. The Nigeria Agenda 2050 represents a long-term visioning document developed to replace the Nigeria Vision 20:2020, which expired in December 2020. NA 2050 is a comprehensive economic transformation plan aimed at addressing Nigeria's developmental challenges and elevating the country to upper-middle-income status. The plan was officially approved by the Federal Executive Council on 15th March 2023.

## The Policy Innovation Centre

The Policy Innovation Centre (PIC) in Nigeria is the first national-level body of its kind to apply behavioural insights and other innovative policy tools in Africa. The PIC is a dedicated not-for-profit initiative within the NESG with the mandate to implement innovative policy tools, including behavioural insights, to improve policies and programmes in Nigeria. It applies behavioural and social sciences lessons, including testing interventions to find evidence to inform better policies and decision-making. The PIC was involved in the following activities in 2023:



### A. Projects

#### ***'Harnessing Behavioural Insight to Improve Transparency in Nigeria' (2021-2024)***

The PIC is implementing a 3-year Mac-Arthur Foundation-funded grant titled 'Harnessing Behavioural Insight to Improve Transparency in Nigeria'. This project aims to support an ecosystem of state and non-state actors with the capacity and capability to drive behaviorally informed anticorruption reforms across sectors in Nigeria. This project also seeks to strengthen the capacity of transparency, governance, and accountability organisations in Nigeria through a learning series and the implementation of hands-on behavioural interventions. The PIC has trained over 100 representatives of accountability and transparency organisations in development and government sectors.

The PIC developed and tested anticorruption behavioural interventions in collaboration with trained stakeholders. The PIC also implemented a BI-led intervention in Lagos and Nasarawa states to assess the contextual drivers of voter apathy and vote-selling behaviour in Nigeria's 2023 general elections.

#### ***The Behavioural Insights Network Transparency & Accountability (BiNTA) Fellowship***

A 6-month Fellowship has been designed by the PIC with the support of the MacArthur Foundation to strengthen the capacity of anticorruption change makers to leverage behavioural insights in disrupting the socially normative status of corruption in Nigeria. Thirty carefully screened and selected individuals from various sectors committed to driving highly effective anticorruption initiatives have been admitted for the Fellowship.

#### ***Development of Online Learning Management System (LMS)***

The PIC developed an online LMS that will be readily accessible to actors, policymakers, and decision-makers at various levels in the public and private sectors. A rich assortment of interactive learning content on behavioural insights for transparency and accountability has been created and curated.

### Sustainable and Inclusive Digital Transformation Project (2022-2023)

The PIC completed the FCDO-funded project aimed at supporting the continuous growth of an enabling regulatory environment for inclusive digital transformation in implementing states while adhering to the Mutual Agreement Framework's digital transformation principle (MAF). The project advanced the National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy 2020-2030 implementation. The PIC also hosted dialogues and co-creation workshops with stakeholders in Nigeria's digital economy and is currently working in five states: Lagos, Edo, Kaduna, Jigawa, and Kano. The project came to a close with the launch of the Digital Economy Community of Practice on 31st March 2023.

### ***'Assessment of the context and behavioural drivers of learning poverty and outcomes for "At-Risk (in and out of school) Children," in Nigeria' (2022)***

The PIC conducted research to explore the context and behavioural drivers of learning and school deprivation on "At-Risk Out of School Children/At-Risk In-School Children". Through this assessment, the PIC evaluated the in-school learning environment and mapped existing programs/policies to explore sustainable strategies for skills development, livelihood and school reintegration for out-of-school children.

### ***Pre and post-election agenda for Nigeria within domestic, regional, and international ecosystems***

The PIC received a grant from the Open Society Foundation to assess the government's pre-election activities, programs and policies in the political/governance and economic sectors using a human-rights-based approach. The project aimed to generate lessons and insights to set a post-election policy agenda for the new government.

### ***Behavioural Economics for Financial Product Design***

The PIC supported the Sustainable and Inclusive Digital Financial Services (SIDFS) initiative at the Lagos Business School (LBS), which was launched in 2015 as a research and advocacy initiative dedicated to enhancing financial inclusion in Nigeria and ensuring financial product designs are customer-centred. The PIC support involved building the capacity of the initiative on the use of behavioural economics and psychology in delivering value propositions to meet consumer needs and address financial inclusion.

### ***Edo Digital Policy Project***

The PIC, with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), implemented the Edo Digital Policy Project to support the development of a harmonised policy framework to drive sustainable and inclusive digital growth in Edo state. The project is aimed at building on the existing digital capability initiatives of the state government by providing technical support for co-creating cross-agency digital policy strategies.

### ***Intervention Design to Increase NIN Ownership for Rural Women in the Agric Value Chain as a Precursor for DFS Adoption and Usage***

The PIC partnered with the Inclusion-for-All Project within Africa Practice to design an intervention that addresses the low uptake of digital identity and digital financial services among women farmers and traders. The diagnostic research involved randomised evaluation and qualitative interviews deployed in Edo State while conducting a state-wide digital readiness survey. The PIC conducted a baseline study to assess critical indicators such as NIN enrolment, ownership of bank accounts, knowledge, attitude, and practices relating to ID ownership, savings, and financial inclusion. The objective was to explore the social, normative, and structural determinants (facilitators and barriers) of demand for national identity and formal financial services (DFS) by rural women within the agriculture value chain.

### ***Women's Health Project***

The PIC is implementing the BMGF-supported women's health advocacy project. The project is a scoping investment to guide the eventual design of the Women's Health Network Hub in Nigeria and explore the potential of a more nuanced and targeted women's health narrative and network. It is expected that the project will explore the potential for mobilising diverse stakeholders – including new voices and champions – under a joint women's health advocacy approach, identify critical success factors for the Hub within Nigeria's socio-political environment, assess alternative strategies, and make recommendations for national and subnational ecosystems. The project is being implemented at the national and sub-national levels (Lagos, Kaduna, and Kano states). It commenced in September 2023 and will be implemented for six months, ending in March 2024.

## **B. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)**

### ***Gender and Development Certificate Course***

In October 2023, the PIC organised a Gender and Development certificate course in collaboration with an expert faculty as well as the Centre for Gender and Social Policy Studies (CGSPS), Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife. The Gender and Development certificate course is a bi-annual program which creates a platform for training on Gender and Inclusion for participants across development organisations, donor agencies, the private sector and the government.

### ***Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)***

The PIC is currently mainstreaming GESI considerations into all aspects of the centre's activities. This involves ensuring that GESI is integrated into all project design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation for government, development and private sector organisations to ensure that policies and programs are designed and implemented to promote Gender Equality and Social Inclusion.

### **Gender and Inclusion Summit**

The Purple Book, a policy document containing action plans and recommendations for advancing gender equality and inclusion across sectors in Nigeria based on discussions at the Gender and Inclusion Summit held in 2022, was released in April 2023. The Gender and Inclusion Summit 2023 (GS-23), with the theme “Building Bridges: Advancing Gender and Inclusion through the Intersection of Trade and Health”, was held on November 28th and 29th, 2023. The Summit explored strategies to expand gender-inclusive economic opportunities, bridge gaps to access to healthcare and advance gender equality.

***The Behavioural Insights Network Transparency & Accountability (BiNTA) Fellowship:*** *The PIC has designed a 6-month Fellowship with the support of the MacArthur Foundation to strengthen the capacity of anticorruption change makers to leverage behavioural insights in disrupting the socially normative status of corruption in Nigeria. Thirty carefully screened and selected individuals from various sectors committed to driving highly effective anticorruption initiatives have been admitted for the Fellowship.*



**WATCHDOG**



In its role as a Watchdog, the NESG drives policy change through Research and Evidence-Based Engagement.

### Research Division

The NESG Research and Development Department collates and analyses social and economic data on the Nigerian economy to generate objective and credible reports to support evidence-based policy advocacy.

Outputs of the NESG research are used to champion policymaking and review by influencing economic and social policies toward sustainable growth and development of a modern, globally competitive Nigerian economy. The Thematic areas of our research publications include

- » Economic competitiveness
- » Foreign aid and investment
- » Inclusive growth, equitable and informal sector
- » Infrastructure, energy and power
- » Institutions and growth
- » Private sector and business environment
- » Regional integration and trade

The Research Division published forty-eight (48) reports during the review period:

Macroeconomic Outlook Report – 1

Mini-Reports - 5

Economic Alerts and Updates – 11

Occasional Papers – 4

Blog Posts - 5

Half-Year State of the Economy Report– 1

NRFP – 5 Research Reports, 14 Policy Briefs

NES 29 Technical Report - 1

Economic and Policy Review Journal - 1

## A. Internal Research Engagement in 2023

**a) Macroeconomic Outlook:** The research department launched the 2023 Macroeconomic Outlook with the theme “Nigeria in Transition: Recipes for Shared Prosperity” on 18th January 2023. Also, based on the thrust for achieving Shared prosperity, five (5) Mini-reports were published, including:

1. Achieving Shared Prosperity in Nigeria - Four Critical Themes
2. Building a Stairway for Shared Prosperity for all Nigerians
3. Market Reforms for Shared Prosperity in Nigeria - Lesson from China Growth Miracle
4. Education: An Imperative Tool for Achieving Shared Prosperity in Nigeria
5. Social Protection and Shared Prosperity in Nigeria

### b) Reports:

**Occasional Report:** During the course of the year, four (4) Occasional papers were published. To provide evidence and advocate for the gradual phasing of the Higher Denomination Notes (HDNs), two (2) reports were produced on the currency shortage experienced in the country. They include “Naira Redesign Policy: Caught in The Web” and “Cash Crunch and Macroeconomic Stability: A Scenario-Based Outlook for 2023”. Also, “Understanding the Nigerian Economy: Critical Issues for the Attention of Incoming Administration” was published before the 2023 general election. The last report, “Understanding Fuel Subsidy Removal and its Economic and Social Impact”, was published after President Tinubu pronounced an end to fuel subsidy.

**Blog posts:** A total of five (5) blog posts were published on the NESG Website for Citizen Engagement. To simplify the implication of fuel subsidy removal on the economy, the research department wrote several briefing posts, including “Navigating the complexity of fuel subsidy removal”, “The Real Impact of Ending Nigeria’s Fuel Subsidy Programme”, “Cost and Benefits of Fuel Subsidy in Nigeria”, “Costs and Benefits of Fuel Subsidy in Nigeria”, “Understanding what subsidy programmes entail”. Furthermore, one blog post, “Explaining the Recent Foreign Exchange Policy in Nigeria to a 5-year Old” was published immediately after the CBN announced the Unification of all segments of the Foreign Exchange windows in June 2023.

**State of the Economy Report:** To make plain the status of the Nigerian economy in the first half of the year (H1’2023), the Research department published a State of the Economy report titled “Fixing the Cracked Walls: Hard Choices, Better Future”, a comprehensive report that captured the Nigeria’s economy in H1’2023, the policy actions for the new administration, outlook drivers and short-term policy recommendations.

**NES 29 Scenario Technical Report:** For the 29th Annual Nigerian Economic Summit (Oct 2023), the Research department wrote and published a technical report titled, “Charting Nigeria’s Path to a US\$4 Trillion Economy by 2035: A Pathway Analysis for Sustainable Economic Transformation and Inclusion - NES29 Perspective”, a scenario analysis report presented at the Opening Plenary by the NESG Vice-Chair.

**Economic Alerts & Updates:** The Research and Development department published eleven (11) Economic Alerts, including four (4) GDP alerts, three (3) Capital Importation Alert, three (3) Trade Alert and an Unemployment alert for Q1’2023.

**Economic and Policy Review Journal (EPR):** The first edition of the Economic and Policy Review (EPR) Journal, Volume 21: Number 1 for H1’2023, with the theme “Priorities for Shared Prosperity in Nigeria”, was published in June 2023. The second edition of the EPR Journal, Volume 21: Number 2 for H2’2023, with the theme “Pathways to Robust Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development in Nigeria”, will be published in December 2023.

**Non-residential Fellowship Programme:** The First Cohort of the NRFP is in its final year. Five (5) research reports and Fourteen (14) policy briefs were published in 2023. In addition, four (4) Senior Fellows contributed three (3) articles to the NESG EPR H2-2023, which is scheduled to be published in December 2023.

## B. Collaborative research engagements in 2023

The Department also intensified efforts to meet the deliverables across various collaborative research engagements.

### ***The African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Collaborations***

The AERC approved the two (2) technical proposals presented by the NESG concerning the project on COVID-19 and Human Capital Development. The two (2) projects were “Health Financing and Human Capital Development in Nigeria: A Multi-Level Analysis” and “FDI and Human Capital Development in Nigeria: They were presented at the AERC Final Review Workshop in Dakar, Senegal, in March 2023. In June 2023, the Research Department facilitated two (2) in-country dissemination workshops held at the Summit House in Lagos and presented two (2) policy briefs titled “Building a Robust Workforce: Why Does FDI Motive Matter” and “Crisis of Low Health Insurance Absorption: What Drivers Are Culprits?”

***International Development Research Centre (IDRC)***

The MOU on the collaborative research themed “Investing for Impact in Nigeria: A Deep Dive into Agriculture, Education and Health sectors” was signed and completed in 2023. As one of the project deliverables, the Research department produced a Technical report and two (2) policy briefs titled “Unlocking Nigeria’s Pension Funds for Impact Investing” and “Empowering Women for Inclusive Development: The Role of Impact Investing”.

***Impact Investors Foundation (IIF), NESG & Nigerian National Advisory Board for Impact Investing (NABII)***

The NESG collaborative research with NABII & IIF was also completed in the course of the year. The Research department published a comprehensive report titled “Policy Document on Mainstreaming Impact Investing in Nigeria”.

***World Economic Forum (WEF) & NESG***

The Research and Development Department signed a partnership agreement with the World Economic Forum in Q1-2022 to administer the Executive Opinion Survey for the 2022 & 2023 editions of the Global Competitiveness Index. The 2023 Survey project has been completed.

***Ogun State Development Plan***

The Research Department signed the MOU and delivered a comprehensive report, “Ogun State Economic Development Plan and Strategy (2023-2027)”, to the Ogun State Government in the third quarter of 2023.

***The Ford Foundation Funded Research***

The Diagnostic Report on Nigeria’s Mining Sector Governance Landscape and Prospects was completed and launched on 14th February 2023.

***Non-Residential Fellowship Programme (NRFP):*** The NRFP commenced in November 2021. Given that the Fellowship is a two-year programme, the formal closing of the first cohort of the NRFP was held on 30th November 2023. The Cohort featured six (6) clusters and twenty-one (21) Senior Fellows. All reports and policy briefs - a total of Nineteen papers - have been published.

**Closeout of the First Cohort of the Non-Residential Fellowship Programme (NRFP):** *The NRFP was created as a knowledge hub on development issues and policies, which aims to encourage collaboration and idea-sharing among experts and to ensure that research findings are applied in practice. The first cohort of the NRFP was launched on 30th November 2021, and the formal closing of the two-year Fellowship programme was held on 30th November 2023. The cohort made notable contributions towards sustainable economic development in Nigeria and is set to continue this impactful research work in its alumni community. The Cohort featured six (6) clusters and twenty-one (21) Senior Fellows who made remarkable research contributions, including cluster research reports, policy dialogues with stakeholders, individual policy briefs and articles for the NESG Economic and Policy Review Journal. The Cohort developed a total of 19 research reports and policy briefs, which have been published.*



# CONNECTOR

## NESG RADIO

The NESG Radio is a weekly syndicated podcast that keeps Nigerians informed through curated localised content on economic policies and issues across sectors of the Nigerian economy. The NESG podcast helps to effectively communicate the activities of the Group to a younger audience and extend research-based advocacy in a distillable localised format to all Nigerians. The radio had guests from the private sector, public sector, civil societies, and donor communities speak on issues of national interest. In 2023, NESG Radio recorded 23 episodes. To listen, please visit <https://nesgroup.org/podcast>.

***23 Episodes recorded on the NESG Radio in 2023***



# POLICY COMMISSION LEADERS



**Ms. Gloria Ekpo**  
Facilitator, AFSPC



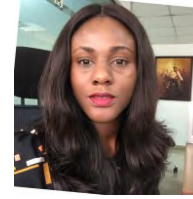
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Thematic Group Lead,  
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**Mr Dianabasi Akpaninyang**  
TGL, Input and Distribution



**Mr. Imoh Igbo-Osagie**  
Thematic Group Lead, Post-  
harvest Mgt



**Mrs. Oluwatomi Eromosele**  
Thematic Group Lead, Agricultural  
Financing



**Hasana Aliyu**  
Facilitator, CoP on Youth



**David Omata**  
Thematic Lead, Climate  
Change & Environmental  
Sustainability



**Nicholas Alifa**  
Thematic Lead, Food Systems



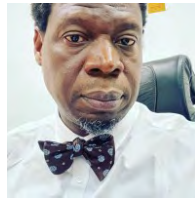
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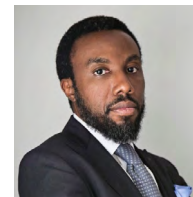
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Thematic Group Lead, Gas



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**Mr Niyi Ajao**  
Thematic Group Lead,  
Financial Inclusion



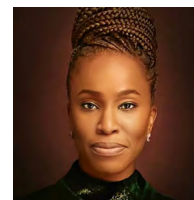
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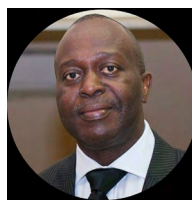
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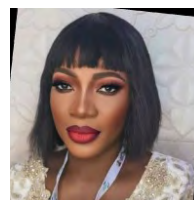
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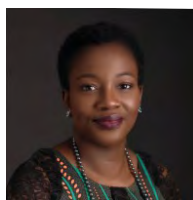
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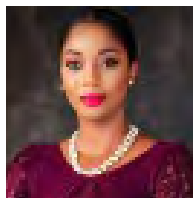
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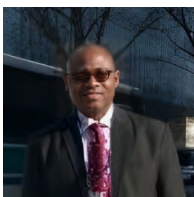
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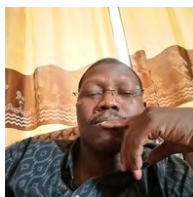
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**Prof. Jonathan Aremu**  
Facilitator, TICPC



## THE POLICY COMMISSION STRUCTURE



## 3 ROUNDTABLES

National Assembly Business Environment Roundtable (NASSBER)

NGF-NESG Economic Roundtable (NNER)

Nigerian Triple Helix Roundtable



## ABOUT NESG

The NESG is an independent, non-partisan, non-sectarian organization, committed to fostering open and continuous dialogue on Nigeria's economic development. The NESG strives to forge a mutual understanding between leaders of thought so as to explore, discover and support initiatives directed at improving Nigeria's economic policies, institutions, and management.

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