Introducing DFID at Work in Lagos

We are happy to present to you the first issue of DFID at Work in Lagos – a newsletter of key results and impacts of UK DFID programmes in Lagos State.

UK Department for International Development (DFID) is the arm of British government managing the British tax payer’s contribution to global development, including in Nigeria.

We hope you will find in this issue and subsequent ones useful information on how DFID is supporting development in Lagos State. Happy Reading!

Officials of Her Majesty’s Government visit Lagos

A team of senior officials of Her Majesty’s Government (HMG) visited Lagos recently to undertake a joint high level progress review of programmes implementation in the state.

The team explored opportunities for further strengthening of the strategic partnership between Nigeria and the UK and for the officials to have a deeper understanding of the infrastructure, business and social development priorities and challenges of Lagos and Nigeria as a whole.

The visit was also an opportunity for the team to better understand how the UK can be more helpful and relevant to development needs of Nigeria.

They visited sites and projects related to health, education, the Mega–city infrastructure development, private public partnerships on innovation, community policing and security as well as access to finance for the poor, all of which HMG has provided some support.

Lagos improves on fiscal discipline and budget management

Lagos State recorded a budget performance of 89% at the end of the 2012 fiscal year, up from a performance of 77% in 2011. This represents the best performance by the State in over 12 years.

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… Lagos improves on fiscal discipline

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In other words, the government expended approximately N9 of every N10 it planned to spend on behalf of the people of the State for the financial year.

It is worth noting that the State spent N68.9 billion (£275.6 million) more on MDG-related, developmental or growth-inducing capital projects in 2012 than it did in the preceding year. On per capita basis, Lagos may have spent approximately N22, 000 (£88) on each resident of the Metropolis in the whole of year 2012, up from an estimated N17, 000 (£69) in 2011.

There is also marked improvement in adherence to the budget calendar, with the 2013 State budget signed by the Governor on 1st January, 2013 – the earliest in recent years.

Since 2009, SPARC has been partnering with Lagos State government to improve its overall fiscal discipline (management of public funds). The programme has provided technical assistance on the State’s budget process and improved cash management practices. After three years of sustained efforts, initial results are beginning to show.

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**Do you know?**

That UK DFID is supporting governments and civil society to help reduce poverty, support good governance, improve service delivery and promote economic growth to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

DFID provides UK aid.

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**DFID Programmes in Lagos**

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For more information on how UK DFID is providing UK aid to support development in Lagos and Nigeria, visit [www.dfid.gov.uk/nigeria](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/nigeria)
Governor Fashola addresses participants at the Launching of the Lagos State Service Charters, supported by DFID-SPARC.

Pupils of Epe Primary School Badagary benefit from water and toilet facilities provided by DFID-ESSPIN.

Community drama at Ojota, Kosofe LGA presented by PATHS2 to sensitise women on danger signs in pregnancy.

Ms. Tia Raappana, DFID Governance Adviser (right) presents the HR Pilot Interim report to Mr. Adesegun Ogunlewe, Lagos State Head of Service.

Mrs Sola Oworu, Commissioner, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Wale Raji, Perm. Sec and GEMS3 State Manager during the Briefing on the OECD-Policy Framework for Investment, supported by UKaid.

Lagos Television (LTV) team in a group work developing strategy for conducting follow-up on SME stories, facilitated by DFID-ENABLE.
GEMS3 supporting Lagos State LGAs in promoting Gender Sensitive Budgeting

ways. The workshop was a follow-up to previous work carried out by GEMS3 in supporting the Office of the Auditor-General of LGAs to update the Lagos State LGA Accounting Manual and Audit Manual.

The current manuals now have a gender-focused budget section. In order to ground the manual in practice, there was the need to provide gender budgeting training to Lagos Council Treasurers.

The Gender budgeting workshop covered the concepts and rationale for gender budgeting as well as gave the participants an opportunity to practice hands-on with budgets from their personal and professional contexts. Action Plans were agreed and will be monitored.

DFID Boosts Lagos Health Care Delivery with N450 million worth of Health Commodities and Medical Equipment

The Department for International Development (DFID) through its Partnership for Transforming Health System Phase II (PATHS2) programme has supported Lagos State Government with health commodities and medical equipment worth N450 million, under PATHS2’s Sustainable Drug Revolving Fund (SDRF) Scheme.

143 public and six private health facilities will benefit from the SDRF in the first phase of the scheme.

Through the SDRF mechanism, the commodities were distributed at no cost and as a ‘seed stock’ to the facilities which will then sell at affordable prices to patients.

The scheme has a package for free treatment for clients below 12 years, those aged 60 years and above, and the indigent clients.

Dr. Demola Yusuf, the Medical Director of Barbinton Hospital, lauded the initiative as an avenue to improve health care in the state. “We have been looking for ways to reduce the cost of treatment for the community, without necessarily resorting to self-help. This initiative has really come handy and we are proud to associate with it,” he said.

The next phase of the commodity support programme in Lagos will commence later this year, with items worth £1.2million.
EDUCATION: How Lagos is improving its public primary schools

Background
According to the 2011 Lagos Annual School Census (ASC), there are 1001 public primary schools in Lagos State with 395,187 pupils, 13,318 teachers and 11,950 classrooms. With limited resources, managing such a huge basic education system remains a challenge to the state government. More so, many years of neglect have left the sector with myriads of challenges.

However, the state has been addressing and resolving the challenges. In this regard, DFID through the Education Sector Support Programme in Nigeria (ESSPIN) is supporting the state to make necessary changes in the basic education system.

The Approach
ESSPIN recognises that there is need to make changes in the whole educational system. So it advocated and introduced in 100 schools an integrated approach – the School Improvement Programme (SIP) – which simultaneously addresses the challenges, rather than tackling them in isolation.

The SIP involves regular trainings for head–teachers and teachers; producing School Developmental Plans; improving school infrastructure; providing direct fund to schools; and making schools inclusive. All these are supports inside schools.

At the same time, it supports change outside schools such as improving community participation in schools; building capacity of education officials or managers; and improving government’s responsiveness to schools’ needs.

The Result
The state government has adopted the SIP model after noticing improvement in teaching and learning in the pilot 100 schools. After it initially scaled it up in additional 500 schools in 2012, the state is now rolling out the model in all 1001 public primary schools in the state.

The Impact
In the 600 schools that started the SIP model earlier, 85% of head teachers have been observed to be operating effectively, 71% of classroom teachers able to deliver competent lessons, while 82% of the schools are meeting the needs of all their pupils.

“I have had two trainings on literacy and numeracy. I have gained skills to arouse the interest of my pupils to learn and especially to help slow learners learn as well.”

Rebecca Odu, 50, Primary 2 Class Teacher, Central Primary School, Ikeja GRA, Lagos

“We spend less time writing on the chalkboard now and do less talking. The children don’t sleep in class again because they are always doing activities. And what they see and do, they remember.”

Miss Ajape Kafayat Omonwumi, a teacher at St Peter’s Blessed Primary School, Agege.
10,000 houses to be constructed by women for women

There is an ongoing initiative for the construction of 10,000 houses to be built by women and occupied by women in the next three years.

Growth and Employment in States (GEMS2) and Women in Construction and Technology (WCT) Abuja are facilitating the construction.

A pilot of the project which already started in March 2013 will upon completion by end of the year deliver 250 houses built by 400 women construction professionals and artisans.

The collaboration between GEMS2 and WCT, coordinated by Negucci Worldwide Limited, exemplifies a demand driven market uptake for affordable housing that GEMS2 champions through its Making Markets work For The Poor (M4P) approach. This approach seeks to promote growth in Nigeria’s construction and real estate sector in order to increase profits, employment opportunities, and incomes for those working in the sector.

According to Engr. Sheryl Brown, CEO Negucci Worldwide Limited, the houses will be built insulated concrete form (ICF), an input material that is made locally in Nigeria.

“The material is easy to use, lightweight and 600 times stronger than concrete, which makes building a lot faster such that 250 houses can be completed in about nine months,” she explained.

The foundation of the pilot housing project was laid by Ms Ama Inyingi Pepple, Minister of Land, Housing and Urban Development.

Upcoming events

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<td>April 10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>David Wand <a href="mailto:david.wand@imepevaluation.com">david.wand@imepevaluation.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>South West Governance Share Fair</td>
<td>May 15 &amp; 16</td>
<td>Chioma Giwa Amu <a href="mailto:chioma.giwa-amu@sparc-nigeria.com">chioma.giwa-amu@sparc-nigeria.com</a></td>
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<td>SuNMaP &amp; LSMoH celebration of World Malaria Day (April 25)</td>
<td>April 22 – 26</td>
<td>Dr. Abidemi okechukwu <a href="mailto:a.okechukwu@malariaconsortium.org">a.okechukwu@malariaconsortium.org</a></td>
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Give us your feedback

Thank you for taking time to read through DFID @ Work in Lagos. What do you think of this first issue? Please give us your feedback.

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