
Identity Management & the Challenges of Development

A Case Study of Cross River State

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Summary

- Sustainable development in Nigeria must happen at the grassroots level closest to where the people are.
- This means local and state government level
- Accurate and up to date data is essential in the planning, implementation, monitoring and sustenance of developmental initiatives
- Most governmental initiatives could benefit from a proper system of identification
- Examples at CRS include provision of social services, collection of IGR, proper workforce management, conduct of civic elections, adoption of e-governance, e-health to name but a few
- Lack of a proper ID infrastructure imposes significant additional costs and challenges to the state



Developmental Challenges

- Although Nigeria currently boasts of foreign reserves in the region of \$60 Billion, 70% of Nigerians earn less than \$1 per day.
- A major challenge of Nigerian governments is in planning programmes and allocating resources in such a manner that the majority of its citizens benefit
- For this reason the majority of government initiatives will benefit from availability of accurate data for planning to support policy making
- Ultimately data based infrastructure is one that can help government properly identify its constituents and serve them better
- ID Management infrastructure fits that bill



Symptoms of Challenges

- Inefficient Systems
 - **Ghost employees**
 - **Bloated bureaucracies**
- Revenue Loss
 - **In accurate tax-payer's database**
 - **Historical collections data**
 - **Excessive evasion**
- Challenges in Policy Frameworks
 - **Ensuring Projects are tied to development initiatives**
 - **Monitoring and Evaluation of Project Outcomes**
- Difficulties with implementing new initiatives
 - **New initiatives like e-governance and e-payments are hampered**
- High crime rates



Hardest Hit Areas

- The challenges have a severe impact on vulnerable groups including:
 - **The extremely poor**
 - **The infirmed**
 - **The very young**
 - **The very old**
 - **Expectant mothers**
 - **Other vulnerable groups such as those leaving with:**
 - HIV/Aids
 - VVF
 - Lepers
 - Mental or psychiatric disorders
- Challenges manifested in
 - **High adult illiteracy rates**
 - **High maternal mortality rates**
 - **High infant mortality rates**
 - **High unemployment rates**



Current Situation

- Maternal mortality 2000/100000
- Infant mortality 120/1000
- Under-five mortality 245/1000



Priority Areas for the State

To improve human development, people at the community level need basic access to :

- **affordable health care**
- **quality education**
- **clean water**
- **affordable housing and transportation**

Effective programs will target the areas of greatest need. Cross River is embarking on key programs that rely on a proper system of identification to achieve meaningful outcomes. Programs include:

- **social safety net program comprising free health care for expectant mothers and children under the age of five**
- **conditional cash transfers to poor households**
- **comprehensive tax payers database and unique identification of tax payers**
- **improved payroll processes to remove ghost and reduce misclassified employees**



How ID Management Can Assist

A proper ID management infrastructure will provide support for the following:

- Increased IGR through the following:
 - **Unique identification of tax payers**
 - **Creation of a proper tax payers database**
 - **Tracking of tax payments and payment history**
- Reduced cost and wastage through:
 - **Elimination of ghost employees at State & LG levels**
 - **Background checks for new employees**
 - **Implementation of sound vendor management**
- Proper targeting of services and programs
 - **Free health care programs for at risk groups**
 - **Conditional cash transfers for poor and vulnerable groups**
- Proper management of state resources
 - **Improve measurement & tracking program outcomes**
- Adequate background checks to reduce impunity while in service



Steps the State Government is taking

The **social safety net** scheme will protect the most vulnerable indigenes and residents of Cross River State including pregnant women, children under the age of five and those living in extreme poverty.

- The State Government plans to establish a perpetual civil registry system using biometrics for identification and tracking of beneficiaries
- Establish uniform criteria for determining eligibility for benefits:
 - Indigenes & Residents
 - Ages of children
- Establish an M&E framework for the scheme to ensure that services are actually provided and that the impact is felt
- Establishment of secure means of identifying each beneficiary to minimize abuse of the system
- Setup of Information systems to track delivery of benefits and support efficient administration, management and accounting of benefits



Key Components of ID Management

- Registration System
 - Hardware & Software
 - Secured Identity Document
- Central Data Center
 - Infrastructure – Network, Power, Cooling, Fire Protection
 - Data Processing – Servers, Storage
 - On-line & Backup Storage
 - Systems & Network Management
- Applications
 - Identity Management
 - Benefits Administration
 - Monitoring & Evaluation
 - Document Management



Expected Benefits

- **An estimated 720,000 expectant mothers, children, abjectly poor and other vulnerable individuals will benefit from the social safety net program**
- **Expecting to see significant improvements in key development indicators over the next 3 years**
- **Anticipates a significant increase in Internally Generated Revenues (IGR) once the automation of tax database is complete**
- **Expecting to see a significant drop in the payroll and pensions bill of the state and local government once staff have unique identities**



Targets: Free Health Care

- 50% reduction in infant and child mortality rate by year 2011.
- 50% reduction in maternal mortality rate.
- To achieve 40% increase in the usage of government health facility by our target population 2010.
- Every pregnant woman in Cross River State will have access to a health facility within one kilometre from her residence by the year 2011.



Targets: Cash Transfer

- To create employment for 200,000 unemployed persons by the 2011 through self employment and income generating activities.
- To increase monthly household income to N5,000.00 for CCT beneficiaries by 2011.
- To achieve self sufficiency in low level manpower (artisan level).
- 40% increase in primary school enrolment by the 2011.



Thank you

The Government of Cross River State

