

Communiqué of the North – West Zone Stakeholder Roadshow/Town Hall Meeting of the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Held in Kaduna, Kaduna State, 27th May 2010.

The Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) held a stakeholder Road show/Town Hall meeting involving about three hundred stakeholders drawn from across the North-West geo-political Zone in Kaduna on 27th May 2010. Speakers, discussants and participants were drawn from the NEITI National Stakeholder Working Group (NSWG) and Secretariat, Women Groups, Non-Governmental Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, Government Agencies, Traditional Rulers, Development Partners, the Media and the Extractive Industry Unions.

Participants welcomed the implementation of Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in Nigeria and commended the Roadshow/Town Hall meeting as an important opportunity for Nigerians to understand and discuss the operations of these sectors and the work of the NEITI.

After extensive discussions and deliberations, consensus was reached on the following:

1. The need for continuous engagements with civil society through roadshows/townhall meetings especially at the grassroots and also the need for NEITI to broaden the composition of the civil society invited to its Roadshow/ Town Hall Meetings.
2. The need for citizens, especially civil society to strategize and engage the National Assembly to ensure the passage of the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) and Freedom of Information Bill (FOI) into law as a matter of urgency.
3. **The necessity for the government to begin to diversify and focus on the solid minerals sector especially coal which can contribute to the federation account, and also contribute immensely to the energy needs of the country.**

4. The imperative of inter-agency cooperation and collaboration which should be enhanced, including agencies within the extractive industry sector in the area of information sharing.
5. The need for credible electoral reforms to ensure good governance in the extractive industry as well as in all other sectors of the economy.
6. The urgent need to build modern refineries, refurbish existing ones to refine crude oil locally in order to have sufficient petroleum products, reduce costs and generate employment.
7. The initiative to develop a holistic National Strategy to Combat Corruption and the role of NEITI and the Technical Unit on Governance and Anti-Corruption Reforms (TUGAR) in the process was agreed upon.
8. The need for the NEITI communications strategy to be implemented in a form that the message can be easily accessible to all Nigerians. Participants expressed deep satisfaction on the drama sketch as an effective communication strategy.
9. The need for an informed, committed and globalized media that is able to invest and build capacities in specialized areas for improved reporting skills in the respective areas of expertise.
10. NEITI was commended for the initiative, and the hospitality of the government and people of Kaduna State was appreciated.

SIGNED

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Chairman NSWG/NEITI

Alhaji Jafaru A. Paki
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Representative CSO

Malam Haruna Y Sa'eed
Executive Secretary, NEITI

Representative CSO