

COMMUNIQUÉ

of the North West Stakeholder Road Show of the Nigeria

Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative

Kaduna, October 12-13, 2005

The Nigeria Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (NEITI) held a Stakeholder Road show involving about two hundred participants drawn from civil society organizations across the North West Zone from 12th – 13th October, 2005 at the Hamdala Hotel Kaduna, Kaduna State.

Speakers and discussants were drawn from the NEITI National Stakeholder Working Group (NSWG) and Secretariat, Women's Group, Non-Governmental Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, Government Agencies, the Ministry of Solid Minerals Development, the NNPC Group, DPR, Development Partners (DFID USAID & the World Bank) and the industry unions.

Several presentations were made in a participatory manner that allowed robust and productive discussions to take place. After extensive discussions and deliberations, the session reached consensus on the following:

- Participants welcomed the opportunity of the Road Show to learn about the operations of the extractive industry sector of our national economy and lauded the focus of the NEITI on the Solid Minerals sector alongside the Oil & Gas sector. This development will increase opportunities for revenue generation, employment creation and economic diversification in our country.
- Participants welcomed the repositioning of the Solid Minerals Sector for private sector led development in a manner that will compete with the oil and gas sector as a revenue earner and contributor to sustainable development of our economy.
- Participants welcomed the abolishment of discretionary licensing on the solid mineral sector and the revalidations and reprocessing of mining licenses, and financial incentives for participation of small scale miners in our rural communities.

- Participants called on the National Assembly to review the mineral act and speedily pass both the NEITI bill and Mineral Act into law.
- Participants expressed concern about the need to mainstream issues of intergenerational equity, distributional equity, community conflict prevention as well as environmental management issues in the on-going reforms in the sector.
- Participants welcomed the need for CSO groups to prepare themselves for initiating informed debates around the NEITI audit report by building capacity for intelligible interpretation and analysis.
- Participants suggested the abolishment of all forms of confidentiality clauses that still exist within all segments of the Extractive Industry.
- Participants called for increased inter-agency information sharing among government agencies and oil and mining companies.
- Participants called on CSO to become whistle blowers and called on government to introduce a whistle blowers protection Act.

- Participants requested for more programs like the NEITI Road Show to enable Nigerians learn more about their extractive industry.
- Participants commended the Federal Government for the initiative, and appreciated the hospitality of the government and people of Kaduna State.
- Participants welcomed the 2005 Oil Block bidding process and commended the transparent manner in which it was done.

SIGNED

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Dr. H Assisi Asobie

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Publish What You Pay Coalition

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Nigerian Mining & Geosciences Society (NMGS)