

Description

This template contains the framework for communicating project status information to FIRE PROGRAMME. This template will enable you to keep stakeholders apprised of the status of your project.

Version Control

Version	Description	Author	Date
1.0	Initial version	DECI	
1.1	Amended version	Consulting	May 2014

PART 1: GUIDELINES OF THE REPORT

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Reporting guidelines

FIRE PROGRAMME Reports should focus on reflecting on the lessons learned during the project implementation, while documenting what was achieved with the money and time invested during the life of the project.

FIRE PROGRAMME understands that reporting can be a demanding, time-consuming exercise that if conducted for the benefit of the funding agency alone, might overlook aspects of project implementation of great relevance for the project team and their future work.

FIRE PROGRAMME encourages recipients to experience the benefits of developing reports for their own use, by identifying the main area(s) where the project team wants to focus their evaluation efforts to gain a deeper understanding of the project implementation for the benefit of the project team and the organization as a whole.

FIRE PROGRAMME requires two types of reports -financial and technical- to be submitted to the FIRE PROGRAMME secretariat:

- Progress report: FIRE will use this document for internal monitoring purposes (not for public distribution) focusing on processes and operational issues, providing context for project implementation and revised timeframes. Progress reports should be short, concise (maximum 20 pages long excluding guidelines, project factsheet information and content table). Findings documented as part of the progress report, as part of the progress reports will be used by the FIRE secretariat to promote the supported project. Only selected content from the technical report will be use for promotion purposes. Recipients are encouraged to define the ways they want to use the reports for their own benefits. Progress reports are reviewed and approved by the FIRE Steering Committee to be able to process disbursements as per the signed contract. No disbursements will be processed until progress reports are submitted, reviewed and approved.
- Final report: FIRE will use this document for public distribution. Recipients are encouraged to define the ways they want to use the reports for their own benefits. Is important that the project team defines uses and users in the progress report, so the final report can focus on that. FIRE secretariat will help to facilitate the use of the report findings, by identifying other opportunities aligned with your requirements. The final reporting is an opportunity to synthesize and assess the activities conducted as part of the grant, while reflecting on the project's management, limitations, and achievements during the project lifecycle. It should include a review of the findings included in the progress report. Short, concise (maximum 30 pages long excluding guidelines, project factsheet information and content table). Findings documented as part of the final report, as part of the progress reports will be used by the FIRE secretariat to promote the supported project. Final technical reports will be edited by AFRINIC Communications Unit to be made available for the general public for download on the FIRE PROGRAMME website.

Reports must be submitted by email to <u>fireprogram@afrinic.net</u> using the following **template**, as per the proposal originally approved for funding.

Please **do not modify the template** layout and use the structure provided to guide your reporting process. All the *Tips* coloured boxes at the beginning of every section in the template will be removed by AFRINIC from your reports before public distribution.

Please use only *Heading 2 and below* **for formatting your project report**, so when you update the Table of contents all requested information is easily located throughout the document. *Heading 1* has been used when designing this template, to define the sections requested by FIRE PROGRAMME.

FIRE PROGRAMME Grant Recipients are encouraged to share the progress of the project through <u>fireprogram@afrinic.net</u> mailing list, where current recipients are subscribed.

FIRE PROGRAMME encourages project teams to document project activities using other forms of information sharing, such as blogs, wikis, collaborative tools, social media feeds, etc. The reports should include a brief description of the communications strategy implemented by the project team. Please share the links for additional documentation efforts conducted as part of your technical reports.



Tips for effective reporting

Reports are a tool to learn from the project implementation, to describe the change experienced by the project team, project beneficiaries and partnering organizations, share information, promote accountability and transparency.

They provide evidence of the project development and implementation helping others to understand the rationale behind the project, the challenges faced, the processes and procedures involved, the solutions provided, the lessons learned, among other uses.

Other donors, sponsors and investors used them as a tool to allocated new funding to organizations, award prizes, etc. so is in your best interest to produce good quality reports.

- Project leader should inform all members of the project team about the reporting requirements so everyone can effectively contribute.
- Discuss with your project team what the theory of change behind your project is. What behaviours, processes, procedures, and relationships do you expect to change through your project implementation? What do you want to achieve through the project activities? What do you want to learn through the project implementation? Who is going to use the findings?
- Discuss with your project team who would be the future users and how they would use the findings throughout the project lifecycle. The uses identified should relate to the theory of change that you have discussed with your project team. The discussion about theory of change, users and uses, will be a very important input to your communication strategy: depending on who the user is and of what use will be the findings, a communication strategy can be developed. For example, if the users of the findings are policy makers and the use is to influence a change in the regulatory framework, which communication approach will work the best?
- Remind the reader of the context where the project plans to intervene. This baseline information will help the project team to identify the changes that can be attributed to the project intervention.
- Document the project cycle and its activities. It is recommended to keep a project diary about the activities conducted and all the financial records related to those activities on file, to be able to write a narrative of the project implementation.
- Compare project records with the approved proposal will allow you to track progress, keeping the project and its budget on track and making any necessary adjustments.
- Reflect on the lessons learned by the project team and identify the key messages that the project team would like to convey through the project reports, especially in the Overall Assessment section of the report.
- Reports should be self-explanatory, which mean that you should not exclude information, which has been already included in either the proposal, grant agreement or any previous report, as the reader probably might not have access to any additional documents.
- Share templates created for your project. Sometimes the most innovative aspects of a project reside in the processes and procedures used to implement the project activities. The templates your organization has created to collect data, analyze it, store it might hold the key of your project success.
- Be creative and use online resources to share the lessons learned through the project, document the







project lifecycle and that best serve the key messages you want to convey. For example:

- Provide online access to materials produced as part of the project for easy access;
- Create online photo gallery for your project activities.
- Keep attendance records to document an event and organize mailing lists to facilitate communication and encourage exchange of information.
- Design surveys that fit your project activities. Write clear and direct questions to avoid misunderstandings in the collection of responses. Identify the key people that should participate in the survey as the source of information.
- Capture interviews in short videos, structuring their script in a way that you can minimize the need for editing, to facilitate access and use.
- o Create info-graphics to explain your research findings (qualitative and/or quantitative).
- Generate diagrams to explain the project timeline and how milestones have been achieved during the life of the project.





PART 2: PROJECT INFORMATIONS



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Project factsheet information

Project title	CITIZENS JURY
Grant recipient	BEACONS DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
Dates covered by this report	MAY 13 – JUNE 30 TH
Report submission date	
Country where project was implemented	NIGERIA
Project leader name	OLUWASEUN FAKUADE
Team members (list)	LADI ADEJUMO, SAMUEL AKINLOTAN, CHUBA EZEKWESILI
Partner organizations	
Total budget	\$10,000
approved	Empowering Nigerians as active citizens to demand a more open, accountable and transparent governance by tracking capital projects/budget
Project summary	performance (crowd-sourced) through a repository of public data and information using technology (online/mobile app)





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Project Summary

Tips: It is recommended to **complete this section once you have finalized the text of the report**. It will be easier to go back through to build the summary based on the highlights of the report the project team just put together.

The Project Summary can be up to one page long.

It should include a brief justification; an outline of the project objectives to be achieved; the project real timeline and the main activities conducted.

The abstract of the project written when FIRE PROGRAMME initially approved the project and the objectives listed in the Grants Agreement signed by AFRINIC and your organization should be useful inputs when preparing this section of the report.

Please write the project summary here...

- i. Provision of an enriched platform (mobile and online) for citizens to access government budget detailing expenditure per community (state/federal)
- ii. citizens register/login via emails and subsequently track performance of budgets using pictures, videos as evidences to give updates/monitor progress
- iii. citizens can work as clusters across communities taking advantage of the online pool unique to each community
- iv. aggregated data (pictures, videos, interviews with other citizen clusters) are sent to online database via email or SMS to generate a cache of data per community or state which is eventually processed for use by stakeholders.
- v. traditional media, multimedia, social media and online platform are used to drive sensitization, usage and collation of data
- vi. crunched data are analyzed and collated in usable forms (infographs, forms) specified for each community
- vii. prepared data are shared for use with democratic stakeholders for further engagement (Local, state and federal authorities, elected officials/representatives, Federal Government, social activists, civil society organizations, International organizations)
- viii. finalized budget performance are collated in an annual report (digital/traditional media) which are then released to stakeholders (citizens, CSOs, NGOs, social activists, leaders, government, International organizations) for use





Background and Justification

The background summarizes the main features of the project and describes the project's objectives and general purpose. It should include:

- Name of the recipient
- Project location
- Rationale of the project
- Project history
- List of relevant studies and basic data
- Issues to be resolved
- Activities to be carried out

RECIPIENT : BEACONS DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

LOCATION : NIGERIA

RATIONALE

The necessity of empowering Nigerians to become active citizens by providing them with vital and accurate information about the budget and how it affects them at all levels. Furthermore, empowering Nigerians thus enlightened, to constructively demand a more open, accountable and transparent system of governance by tracking budget performance (crowd-sourced) through a repository of public data and information using technology (online/mobile app).

During BEACONS CGMAP survey across various communities; it was commonplace to see that

- citizens do not understand how the budget work,
- citizens do not totally understand the job description or roles of their leaders as regards their community development at the Local government level,
- citizens do not have an idea if there were allocations from the Federal government to the Local governments,
- citizens have never made a demand for fiscally accountable and transparent spending from their leaders nor do they know how to,
- citizens do not know the import and essence of the Freedom of Information bill,
- citizens do not know how powerful their voices can be when used appropriately,
- citizens do not know how to make demands using channels of engagement,







- citizens had less expectations from their leaders and as such treated as "gods" those ones who offered any little project to relieve them off any suffrage,
- citizens do not know how much their leaders earn or what comes to them,
- citizens do not know what accrue to their communities or the local governments serving them as monthly allocations from the Federal Government.

PROJECT HISTORY

The Citizens CONNECT/JURY platform was conceptualized as an offshoot of the CITIZENS MEDIA GOVERNANCE ADVOCACY PROJECT (CGMAP), the latter being the result of a concerted effort of the Beacons Foundation to find a solution to the perennial, inefficient use of budgetary allocations as well as persistent failure of annual budgets at all levels of Government.

Mobile technology which is becoming increasingly ubiquitous across various societal segments was adopted as a vehicle to drive behavioral change among citizens towards budget issues and performance.

The project was first implemented on a full-scale in Ekiti State, South-West Nigeria in July/August 2013 but its initial pilots had been run in Lagos State, also in South-West of the country as well as Abuja, Nigeria's Capital Territory earlier in the 2013. A full report of these activities can be found at www.beacons-ng.org/resources/reports.

LIST OF RELEVANT STUDIES AND BASIC DATA

Increased internet usage in Africa is a serious reason for strategic FDI in mobile networks and ecommerce.

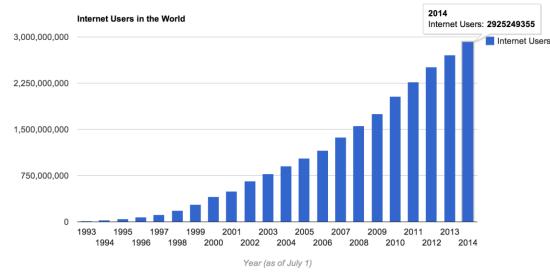
Internet usage has leveraged communication in Africa where they never existed before; and connected people without borders or inhibitions. Nigeria is not left alone in this development. About 40% of the World's population has an internet connection. In 1995, it was less than 1%. Of this 40% remarkable proportion, Nigeria shares a 2.3% putting it in position 8 globally.





Around 40% of the world population has an internet connection today (view all on a page). In 1995, it was less than 1%. The number of internet users has increased tenfold from 1999 to 2013.

The **first billion** was reached in 2005. The **second billion** in 2010. The **third billion** will be reached by the end of 2014. The chart and table below show the number of global internet users per year since 1993:



List of Countries by Internet Usage (2014)

Show 10 \$ entries

Rank	Country	\$	Internet Users 🛛 🍦	1 Year Growth %	1 Year User Growth	Total Country Population	1 Yr Population Change (%)	Penetration (% of Pop. with Internet)	Country's share of World Population	Country's share of World Internet Users
1	<u>China</u>		641,601,070	4%	24,021,070	1,393,783,836	0.59%	46.03%	19.24%	21.97%
2	United States		279,834,232	7%	17,754,869	322,583,006	0.79%	86.75%	4.45%	9.58%
3	<u>India</u>		243,198,922	14%	29,859,598	1,267,401,849	1.22%	19.19%	17.50%	8.33%
4	<u>Japan</u>		109,252,912	8%	7,668,535	126,999,808	-0.11%	86.03%	1.75%	3.74%
5	<u>Brazil</u>		107,822,831	7%	6,884,333	202,033,670	0.83%	53.37%	2.79%	3.69%
6	<u>Russia</u>		84,437,793	10%	7,494,536	142,467,651	-0.26%	59.27%	1.97%	2.89%
7	Germany		71,727,551	2%	1,525,829	82,652,256	-0.09%	86.78%	1.14%	2.46%
8	<u>Nigeria</u>		67,101,452	16%	9,365,590	178,516,904	2.82%	37.59%	2.46%	2.30%
9	United Kingdon	1	57,075,826	3%	1,574,653	63,489,234	0.56%	89.90%	0.88%	1.95%
10	France		55,429,382	3%	1,521,369	64,641,279	0.54%	85.75%	0.89%	1.90%

Search:



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0



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Users Population Penetration Year **Internet Users** World Population (July 1) Growth Growth (% of Pop. with Internet) 2014* 2,925,249,355 7.9% 1.14% 40.4% 7,243,784,121 37.9% 2013 2,712,239,573 8.0% 7,162,119,430 1.16% 2012 35.5% 2,511,615,523 10.5% 7,080,072,420 1.17% 2011 2,272,463,038 11.7% 6,997,998,760 1.18% 32.5% 2010 2,034,259,368 29.4% 16.1% 6,916,183,480 1.19% 25.6% 2009 1,752,333,178 12.2% 6,834,721,930 1.20% 23.1% 2008 1,562,067,594 13.8% 6,753,649,230 1.21% 2007 1,373,040,542 18.6% 6,673,105,940 1.21% 20.6% 2006 1,157,500,065 12.4% 1.21% 17.6% 6,593,227,980 2005 1.22% 15.8% 1,029,717,906 13.1% 6,514,094,610 2004 910,060,180 16.9% 6,435,705,600 1.22% 14.1% 2003 778,555,680 12.2% 17.5% 6,357,991,750 1.23% 2002 662,663,600 32.4% 6,280,853,820 1.24% 10.6% 8.1% 2001 500,609,240 21.1% 6,204,147,030 1.25% 2000 413, 425, 190 6.7% 47.2% 6,127,700,430 1.26% 1999 280,866,670 49.4% 1.27% 4.6% 6,051,478,010 3.1% 1998 188,023,930 55.7% 5,975,303,660 1.30% 2.0% 1997 120,758,310 56.0% 5,898,688,340 1.33% 1.3% 1996 77,433,860 72.7% 5,821,016,750 1.38% 1995 44,838,900 76.2% 5,741,822,410 0.8% 1.43% 1994 25,454,590 79.7% 5,661,086,350 1.47% 0.4% 0.3% 1993 14,161,570 5,578,865,110

http://evaluationandcommunicationinpractice.ca (as accessed on 3/7/2013)

* estimate for July 1, 2014

Source: Internet Live Stats (elaboration of data by International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and United Nations Population Division)







Nigeria

<u></u>									
Year (July 1)	Internet Users**	User Growth	New Users	Country Population	Population Change	Penetration (% of Pop. with Internet)	Country's Share of World Population	Country's Share of World Internet Users	Global Rank
2014*	67,101,452	16%	9,365,590	178,516,904	2.82%	37.59%	2.46%	2.30%	8
2013*	57,735,862	4%	2,229,563	173,615,345	2.83%	33.26%	2.42%	2.13%	8
2012	55,506,299	19%	8,826,250	168,833,776	2.83%	32.88%	2.38%	2.20%	8
2011	46,680,049	22%	8,350,181	164,192,925	2.81%	28.43%	2.35%	2.04%	10
2010	38,329,867	23%	7,253,663	159,707,780	2.78%	24.00%	2.31%	1.87%	10
2009	31,076,204	30%	7,094,603	155,381,020	2.76%	20.00%	2.27%	1.76%	10
2008	23,981,601	141%	14,017,018	151,208,080	2.73%	15.86%	2.24%	1.53%	15
2007	9,964,584	25%	2,017,720	147,187,353	2.70%	6.77%	2.21%	0.73%	19
2006	7,946,863	60%	2,992,743	143,314,909	2.67%	5.55%	2.17%	0.68%	19
2005	4,954,121	183%	3,204,983	139,585,891	2.64%	3.55%	2.14%	0.48%	19
2004	1,749,138	136%	1,008,744	135,999,250	2.60%	1 .29 %	2.11%	0.19%	20
2003	740,394	79%	326,278	132,550,146	2.57%	0.56%	2.08%	0.10%	20
2002	414,116	266%	300,836	129,224,641	2.56%	0.32%	2.06%	0.06%	20
2001	113,280	44%	34,540	126,004,992	2.55%	0.09%	2.03%	0.02%	20
2000	78,740	60%	29,563	122,876,727	2.54%	0.06%	2.01%	0.02%	20

* estimate

** Internet User = individual who can access the Internet at home, via any device type and connection. More details.

Source: Internet Live Stats (www.InternetLiveStats.com)

Elaboration of data by International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Bank, and United Nations Population Division.

According to Ogunlesi, "there are 50,386,760 African users of the Facebook mobile app, from this sizable population, 5,357,500 are Nigerians (the 3rd largest in Africa and 36th Worldwide after Egypt and South Africa)". Employing technology for social justice and change is a great motivation considering the dynamics of discussion in Nigeria since the 2011 elections. A lot of traction is generated on political and social issues on social media, most importantly more vigorously on Twitter (as this was the tool used to drive the #occupynigeria protest in 2012). Also, "in 2011, there were 32 non-smart phones for every 1 smart phone; by 2015 it is anticipated that there will be 5.6 non-smart phones for every smart phone" (Source - Informa Telecoms and Media).





An overview of the latest user numbers in the largest Facebook markets across Africa.

Ghana

1465 560 Morocco 5 250 340 Algeria 4 322 820 Tunisia 3 436 720 Egypt 13 010 580 LARGEST MARKET IN AFRICA 20TH WORLDWIDE Size similar to Australia, Taiwan, Malaysia and Japan Kenva 1886 560 DRC 891 140 South Africa 5 534 160 2ND LARGEST IN AFRICA 32ND WORLDWIDE Size similar to Saudi Arabia, Romania and Ecuador Nigeria 5 357 500 3RD LARGEST IN AFRICA 36TH WORLDWIDE Size similar to Ecuador, Morocco and Belgium

Image Courtesy: www.socialbakers.com

SA

Our motivation for the deployment of online and mobile apps stems from Nigeria's active social media front. A *FactBound* survey found that 70% of social media users in Nigeria were between 18 and 33.







This has resulted in a leap in sharing information, the expression of diverse opinion, the converse of association and an interesting shift in democratic exchanges between citizens and democratically elected leaders. Also, an estimated 75% of Nigeria's population are under 35 years; and about 50% below 18. Empowering this bracket with decisive information will prove pivotal in shaping the outcomes of political discussions.

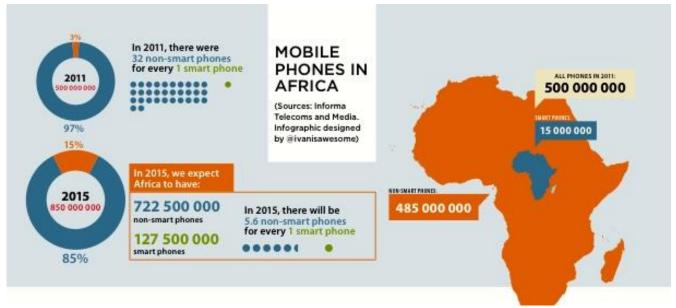


Image Courtesy: www.socialbakers.com

ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED

Capital Budget Tracking - To provide citizens with accessible data information on the capital budget which allows them track its performance and consequently empower them to make demands.

Budget Literacy - Citizen empowerment is the foundational basis for engagement with elected leaders/government. Citizen's engagement and wide consultations will help to prioritize government policies, and assure that budgeted capital expenditure are met in an open and transparent format, undoubtedly with the required robust oversight institutions and mechanisms. An empowered citizenry - using budgets, data information, etc - is critical to the success of Nigeria's democracy.





ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT

Pre-development: The pre-development stage of the project is one of the most critical stages as it directly follows the conceptualization of the App. Mock-ups of the App were created and shown to select target groups for input. The objective at this stage was to get valuable feedback from prospective users of the App as well to ensure that it is a proper fit for the problem it aims to solve.

Development: The App and online development is the next stage following incorporation of feedback from prospective users. This feedback is also built-in and other steps such as graphic design of the packages, and the technology build of the packages then taken.

Beta Test: This involves the random testing of developed apps and online platform to detect possible loopholes and flaws where applicable of the package. This would involve deployment on all mobile phones of all kinds and testing on all browsers as required. The app will be available on mobile platforms and PCs to access allocated budget for communities, and be able to use this data (budget information) to track its performance across the communities. The mobile phone platforms include iOS, Android, Symbian and Blackberry respectively.

Deployment: This is the official launch of the mobile apps and online package to stakeholders. This is expected to take place at a scheduled location involving citizens, social activists, civil societies, non-governmental organizations, government officials, legislative arm of government, international organizations and other democratic groups. Deployment would also help us get instant feedback to access the performance of the application.

Advertisement: Advertisement is one of the most crucial parts of this project. The target of the Jasi App Project is to have at least 14 million users before the 2015 general elections in Nigeria. This would have empowered citizen's reach an engaging level never seen before. Advertisement platforms include traditional media, radio jingles, prints/newspapers, new media (social media), billboards,



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documentaries, TV adverts and technological platforms. An aggressive advertising plan is required to ensure the objective of the application is achieved.

Research/Feedback: Feedback on the application is expected to be instant and continuous. Feedback will help us measure the level of impact of the platform, and show how decisively the platform has empowered stakeholders to act. Feedback will ensure researches can crunch data in a way that is simple and comprehensive to an average data user. Feedback is crunched, produced as infographs, packaged and resent to increase more participation with users in a dynamic way. Part of crunching data from users feedback is the usage by stakeholders in engaging with government and elected leaders.

Usage: Crowd-sourced users data are updated on the database to provide comprehensive data capture on budget performance across local governments and communities in Nigeria. These collated data are processed, analyzed and reproduced in comprehensible formats to be used further by stakeholders. The usage of crunched and processed data from feedback ensures that informed and empowered stakeholders (active citizens) can now utilize data in an engaging way with elected leaders, government bodies in a wide-reaching way.





Project objectives

Tips: Please include here the **original objectives** as listed on the Grant Agreement.

If any objectives were modified, added or removed during the reported period this should be explained/justified.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- i. **Citizens Enlightenment/Empowerment:** Enlighten the masses on governmental policies and how they are affected and the democratic channels they can utilize to demand good governance thus inspiring and encouraging citizen participation in democratic processes
- ii. **Open governance**: (transparent and accountable budgeting practices) positively impact growth, efficiency, and track performance. Open governance assures more open, transparent and accountable leadership. It also assures responsible spending, ensures fiscal prudence, opens government to development, increases access to aids (where needed), help citizens participation and feedback, assures government focus on priority spending and meeting the ultimate goal of growth.
- iii. Stifle Corruption: It is an app to stifle corrupt practice. Open government allows for perusal in the use of public funds, which ultimately help check the abuse where necessary. Severally, government makes policies through budgets (sometimes exorbitantly) for projects across Nigerian communities that are seldom implemented. This owes in part to corruption and lack of demand from citizens.
- iv. **Feedback:** Capture and report on executed projects, in line with budget estimations, extent of Execution, sustainability as regards the object of such expenditures.
- v. **Open Data:** allowing more access to data from the government.





Users and uses

Tips: Discuss with your project team who would be the future users and how they would use the findings throughout the project lifecycle. The uses identified should relate to the theory of change that you have discussed with your project team. The discussion about theory of change, users and uses, will be a very important input to your communication strategy: depending on who the user is and of what use will be the findings, a communication strategy can be developed. For example, if the users of the findings are policy makers and the use is to influence a change in the regulatory framework, which communication approach will work the best?

Who are the main stakeholders and how can they affect the project?

Who will be the user of these findings?

What are the more relevant things the project team wants to learn about or evaluate through the lifecycle of this project?

Please write about the users and uses here...

USERS :

citizens, social activists - The citizens are affected because they are directly impacted by the use or abuse of public funds as stipulated in the budget. As such, information dissemination from the budget across communities helps stakeholders in the democratic process prepare and demand effectively as required.

Civil societies, Non-governmental organizations, Government officials, Legislative arm of government, International organizations. – The civil society/





PART 3: THE PROJECT



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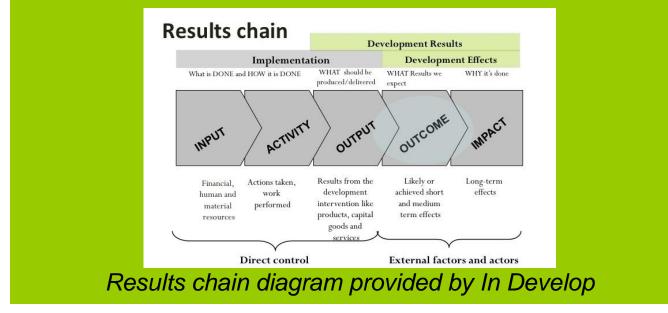


Project

• Understanding the chain that leads to results

Tips: This is the most important section of the report. Here, the reader will **understand the processes and operational issues** of your project and how the contribute to the achievement of the objectives and the theory of change behind the project implementation.

Is possible that the project team's understanding of the development problems to be addressed with this project will have evolved or **changed** from those described when the project was originally submitted and approved. If that is the case, please share what motivated the change and what course of action has the project team identified.



Narrative - project planning

Please write a narrative description about the project planning.

• Please write a brief description about the problem statement you develop on your approved proposal.

Africa is blessed with resources, which when judiciously utilized can result in the transformation of the communities. Unfortunately, most of the resources in these states are misappropriated, expropriated and the corrupt cases resulting from this abuse mostly come without repercussions. These repercussions would have served as deterrent to others in the







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http://evaluationandcommunicationinpractice.ca (as accessed on 3/7/2013)

future.

Most of the misused/misappropriated funds in the budget come through the loophole of capital expenditure in the budget. Citizen inattention, or mostly apathy, in Africa to capital budget process – appropriation, implementation/spending – has in no small measure resulted in capital flight in Africa. As a result, African states are worse: crumbling/non-existent infrastructure, extreme poverty, amongst other failing development indices.

In Nigeria alone, capital flight between 1979 and 2007 was reported to be \$400bn. (Ribadu report). This huge fund, if utilized in Nigeria would have resulted in no small measure in the transformation of the communities therein. Citizen collective action is thus required in monitoring the utilization of public funds (capital expenditure) as planned in the budget. Empowering Nigerians as with the required tools to becomes active citizens who demand a more open, accountable and transparent governance by tracking budget performance (crowd-sourced) through a repository of public data and information using technology (online/mobile app) is thus a necessity which must be achieved.

• Describe the identified stakeholders and their potential involvement during the planning?

- i. Citizens: Citizens are at the core of this project. Being a platform run on a crowd-source model, the data regarding extent, quality and quantity of work done on any government project depends on citizens. The following steps were taken during the planning phase of the project with the objective of getting input from citizens as well as sampling their opinions:
- ii. Social Activists: These are influencers and opinion-leaders with significant following on various online platforms such as the social media channels. They have a key role to play in the project in terms of disseminating information as well as providing continuous education to their followers. The following steps were taken during the planning phase in order to cultivate the involvement of social activists:
- iii. Non-governmental Organizations: NGOs which have financial propriety and anti-corruption as their objectives are also stakeholders in the project. NGOs such as BudgIT are examples. The following steps were taken to cultivate the involvement of the NGOs during the planning phase of the project:
- iv. Government Officials: Government officials at various levels have to deal with budgetary issues and feedback may be a challenge to them especially when relying on second-hand information to determine the stage of completion of allocated projects with various communities. By seeing what the people at the community levels have to say about the projects earmarked for their respective communities, government officials will be able to obtain first-hand information and develop appropriate follow-up strategies.





- v. Legislative Arm of Government: Being the arm saddled with the task of scrutinizing the Executive Arm's proposed budgets, the ability of the Legislators to determine the level of implementation of the budget is critical. This project enables them to have a finger on the pulse of the people who are directly impacted with the budget.
- vi. International Organizations: These include organizations having financial probity and development as their core objectives. Donor agencies pushing for increased accountability in governance are key stakeholders as this project dovetails with their objectives.

• Describe the risks identified and the mitigation plan associated?

The above overview summarizes the key points in our PESTEL Analysis. However, a more worded analysis is provided below:

POLITICAL:

- OPEN DATA: Data Stifling

While the Jasi App is not a political tool, its effect on politics cannot be ignored as it is actually an avenue for the citizens to present an independent/objective scorecard for elected officials on an ongoing basis using the capital budget as premise. Given these undertones, it is not surprising that Non-Governmental Organizations have been attracting scrutiny recently. This could limit the willingness of relevant institutions to effectively work with NGOs thus hindering operations and efficacy. On our part, the willingness of politicians to open up to processes through which public funds are released and utilized in Nigeria has been frustrating with little progress made so far

ECONOMIC:

- Sustainability
- Persistent economic challenges translate to curtailing of citizens' ability to easily afford dataenabled phones or smartphones. Even when they can afford such phones, being able to consistently afford Internet data plan is another issue for consideration. By extension, they will be limited in the ability to fully optimize the various functionalities of the App and provide rich data.
- Advertising is a critical activity in creating and sustaining awareness about jasi App. However, costs of advertising and publicity via traditional media channels such as television, radio and newspapers are considerably high and increasingly prohibitive. This will likely constitute an impediment in reaching a wider spectrum; from younger to the older citizens segments across localities as they are less savvy about social media channels thus have negligible representation within those channels.







- Unforeseen future fluctuations in currency exchanges could also affect the day to day activities of the organization as regards the successful implementation of the platform.

SOCIAL/CULTURE

- Religious and ethnic sentiments have been discerned as ready tools in Nigeria's sociocultural and political landscape. Thus, often times, cultural opinions get influenced by the ethnic/religious tainted arguments of political characters who are shown by their constituencies as having shortfalls in budget implementation and project execution. Also, lies easily becomes social norms and also become easily entrenched in the culture of the people. Cultural title holders, traditional rulers benefiting from a political largesse/individual can easily sway opinions in a community, thus resulting in countering the effectiveness and usage of the platform.

TECHNOLOGICAL

- Report-based feedback provide opportunities for enriching platforms like jasi to undergo continuous modification that are specifically tailored to meet the needs they are designed. As such, continuous upgrading, modifications and research funding are critical aspects of any technology-driven platform such as the Jasi app. Consequently, failure to access funds for these will likely constitute a major impediment to the achievement of set goals and management of operational objectives. Maintaining the apps could be an herculean task if accessing funds becomes a challenge.

- As the App relies on mobile platforms, the de-emphasis and even, eventual decommissioning of some platforms could provide challenges in terms of maintenance. This is apparent in the recent moves of Nokia towards its own adaptation of the Android platform.

LEGISLATION

- Recently reported news of the a new bill before the Federal Legislature which has the objective of requiring NGOs to disclose funding to the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission may in fact be an attempt to stifle the activities of NGOs which are geared towards stimulating citizens to demand accountability. Legislation in Nigeria is particularly unfriendly to the Civil Society Organizations whose efforts within the past years have been towards ensuring a more open, transparent and accountable leadership.

• Insert the main milestones of the project.

Milestones





• Please use the table below to report about the project planning.

PARAMETERS	INDICATORS How do you measure project progress, linked to your objectives and the information reported on the Implementation and Dissemination sections of this report?	CHECKING SOURCES Where do you find the information to document the indicators	RISKS Identified above	TIMELINE Dates when the listed activity should be developed	ASSESSMENT Assessment indicating how the activity should be conducted
IMPACT Likely or achieved long- term effects					
OUTCOME Likely or achieved short and medium term effects. Focus on the changes facilitated by the project for its beneficiaries Outcomes tend to be under the influence of the project team but not under direct control					
Short term: Long term:					



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OUTPUTS Result and/or deliverable produced as a direct result of the project activity Outputs are under direct control of the project team			
PROJECT ACTIVITIES Actions taken, work performed			
INPUTS Financial, human and material resources	\$5,000 INTERNET CREATIVE DESIGNS ADVERTS		





Narrative – Project implementation

Please write a narrative description about the project implementation. Please use this section of the report to provide context to the work conducted. For example:

1. Are the obtained results aligned with planned objectives? If not, explain why.

The results obtained thus far are aligned with planned objectives as stated above.

2. Are the results acceptable both in terms of the quantity and their quality?

The results of our inputs are acceptable in terms of the quantity and quality of outputs obtained. The web platform, and the app platforms all met the standards we set during the planning stage. This came as a result of the timelines

3. Elaborate on the strategy to measure acceptable quantity and quality?

4. To which percentage has project plan been achieved to date?

At the time of writing this report, the Jasi App platform has reached 40% completion.

5. Describe the involvement of project beneficiaries, during all phases of project implementation.

It is important to note that the development of the Jasi App platform is currently at 40% completion therefore involvement of beneficiaries presently spans the pre-development to pre-launch stages.

Considerable effort was invested in incorporating input of the beneficiaries into the project implementation. At the pre-development phase of the project, there were wide consultations with NGOs that have a budget transparency focus in order to fine-tune the concept and gain further insight into the availability of critical data as well as best practices in the budget implementation process.

By using the mock-ups created of the App, it was easy for various beneficiaries to have a graphic







idea of the App and its functions. This enabled them to make critical input which was assessed by the project team with necessary feedback transmitted to our team of developers.

6. Describe any gender, ethnic and generation gap issues that have impacted positively or negatively your project implementation.

It was anticipated that the older population might pose a challenge in terms of uptake considering the fact that they are less savvy about phone applications and in some cases, averse to learning. This was confirmed by staff and volunteer in the course of initial discussions with that segment of the citizenry. The negative effect of this is a potential reduction in the number of users and this is better appreciated when their experience and influence within the community is considered.

7. Please take the time to reflect about activities that you struggle to implement during the period reported, along with processes and methods originally planned that might need adjustment to achieve your project objectives.

We had originally planned to meet with and gain the commitment of at least 10 entertainment industry celebrities. However, consistent cancellations and rescheduling compelled us to scale the number down to 5. Whereas, we projected a wider circle of influence with the larger number, the adjustment became mandatory. The creative solution we adopted to tackle this issue was to shift focus to designing more entertaining and engaging yet compelling advert campaigns directed at achieving our objectives with just 5 celebrities.

8. How have the activities been monitored?

The project team has employed a variety of methods to monitor activities undertaken. These include Surveys,

9. Describe archiving strategy.

Emails, skype and Trello app

Input	Project activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Timeline	Status	Assessment
Financial, human and material resources	Actions taken, work performed	Result and/or deliverable produced as a direct result of the project	Likely or achieved short and medium term effects. Focus on the changes	Dates were the listed activity was developed	Indicate when the activity started, on- going or completed(describe the status in terms	Assessment indicating how the activity has been conducted Describe

Please use the table below to report about project implementation...



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		activity Outputs are under direct control of the project team	facilitated by the project for its beneficiaries Outcomes tend to be under the influence of the project team but not under direct control Short term: Long term:		of percentage)	technologies implemented, methods and techniques used and any challenges that have been identified
\$5,000	App Platform Building	Functional App platform, ready for testing	Short Term: Acquisition of deep insight about budget, its key components, the budgeting process as well as implementation. Long Term: Enhanced levels of participation and influence over the budget and budgeting process,as citizens.		The App Platform has reached 40% completion. Internal testing has commenced while feedback is being channeled to the developers to facilitate progress and completion.	The development of the App Platform has been carried out on three 2 operating systems; iOS and Android as well as a regular web platform.
32 Hours/ 3 Resource Persons	In-house training programme	Staff and Volunteers Capacity Building Training Programmes.	Short Term: Effectively engage App Users at the onset Long Term: Increase App User-base exponentially	7/6/14 9/6/14 12/6/14 29/6/14	Four (4) Training programmes completed, with an additional two (2) scheduled to hold before official launch of the App Platform.	Training sessions were interactive and highly participatory. App Mock-ups were created to aid visualization for attendees.
4 Beacons Staff/14 Days/Approx 28 Hours	One-on-one meetings	Consolidation of support-base among key influencers	Short Term: Impart knowledge of the Jasi App and its benefits to them and their communities. Long Term: Acquisition of	9/6/14 - 14/6/14 23/6/14 - 28/6/14	Ten (10) individual and four (4) group meetings held. Additional five (5) scheduled to hold before official launch of App Platform.	Meetings were held informally to accommodate time constraints on the individuals.



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			additional users via influence of the individuals.		
SI	Phone calls, Skype Calls & ‴witter Aessaging.	Consolidation of critical support- base among selected celebrities in entertainment industry	Short Term: Impart knowledge of the Jasi App and its benefits to the citizenry. Long Term: Leverage their popularity to grow the Jasi App User- base exponentially.	Four virtual meetings held, resulting in support from four entertainment industry celebrities.	The meetings were brief and required highlighting of the benefits of the Jasi App. The approached celebrities are also well-known for their positive stand on good governance.



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Indicators

Tips: Indicators help to measure project's progress.

Indicators help the objectives that were set by the project team to be affordable, tangible, and measurable.

They help to verify the success and rewrite the course in case we are not achieving it.

An indicator could be quantitative (percentage, amount) or qualitative (perception, opinion).

The FIRE secretariat suggests the SMART approach to indicators:

- S Specific
- M Measurable
- A Achievable (acceptable, applicable, appropriate, attainable or agreed upon)
- *R Relevant (reliable, realistic)*
- T Time-bound





Please use the table below to share your project indicators...

Baseline	Indicators	Progress	Assessment	Course of action
Refers to the initial situation when the projects haven't started yet, and the results and effects are not visible over the beneficiary population.	when the haven't started the results and re not visible beneficiary project progress, linked the information reported on the Implementation and Dissemination haven't started. The information reported on the Implementation and Dissemination haven't started the information reported on the Implementation and Dissemination haven't started. The moment the report is presented. The moment the report is presented the quality dimensions. The moment of the report is presented the quality dimensions the quality dimension the term of the presented the quality dimension the qual		What is the project team planning to do next is very important to document, especially if changes to the original plan have to be implemented for the success of the project.	
Low level of awareness among the citizenry regarding budget matters.	Increased public awareness about government budget and expenditure	At this time, before the Beta Test commences, the awareness is still limited to the interactions with small groups within our user segments.	Surveys administered to small populations within the user segments will be used to assess the success of this indicator.	Sensitization meetings will continue as presently ongoing with small groups within target user segments as well as solicitation of support from stakeholders.
General apathy among citizens regarding budgetary matters.	Increased citizens' participation in budgetary matters	At this time, prior to the launch of the Jasi App, the information to stimulate desired participation is unavailable.	Surveys as well as one- on-one interviews with small groups within user segments.	Sensitization meetings will continue as presently ongoing with small groups within target user segments as well as solicitation of support from stakeholders.
Information stifling and low access to critical and accurate information.	Increased access to information relating to government capital projects and expenditures	Relevant features have been built into the Jasi App while the budget information has been collated for inputting.	Surveys issued to small population s within User segments.	Collation of relevant data from governmental and non-governmental sources will continue in order to ensure sufficiency of rich data.
Nil downloads pre-launch	Number of Jasi App downloads	Jasi App platform currently undergoing internal testing therefore not available for download to Users.	In-App Reporting tools.	Pre-launch programme will continue as scheduled to ensure adequate user-base when App is officially launched
Nil downloads pre-launch	Volume of data uploaded via Jasi App by citizens	Jasi App platform currently undergoing internal testing therefore data upload not available for Users.	In-App Reporting tools.	Planned release of App will proceed as scheduled albeit with slight lag to accommodate delay in release date.



Project outputs, communication and dissemination activities

Tips: Take into account that the reader of your report has not being involved in project implementation, so readers do not have any further knowledge besides the information you are providing here.

This section of the report will allow you document the communication and dissemination efforts that the project team has conducted, which might be part of a specific communication strategy design as part of the project, or in place for the organization as a whole. When possible, please provide information about strategies in place and the rationale behind them.

Lessons can be learned from many aspects of project implementation, covering a wide variety of aspects such as technical, social, cultural and economic. Taking the rationale behind the project and its objectives can serve as a framework to draw your conclusions. Lessons can be identified by project partners, beneficiaries and general staff from the organization. A project diary and other activity records can serve as a tool to reflect during project team meetings and immediately after project activities are conducted.

Outputs are immediate, visible, concrete developmental change that is the tangible consequence of project activities, under direct control of the project team.

Example of possible outputs to report are:

- New products and Services (software, online platforms, applications);
- Information sharing and dissemination (publications, conferences, multimedia, social media);
- Knowledge creation (new knowledge embodied in forms other than publications or reports, such as new technologies, new methodologies, new curricula, new policies);
- Training (short-term training, internships or fellowships, training seminars and workshops) and
- Research Capacity (research skills; research management capacity and capacity to link research to utilization of research results).

Please use the table below to report about project dissemination...

0

Project outputs	Status	Assessment	Dissemination efforts
Output No. 1 (use the same names as per the listed outputs in the table above, see Project	Please select the option that better describes the status into the development of this output:	Descriptions should be clear and ideally contain operational terms where needed. Please describe	Please specify what dissemination efforts were made, with special attention to those intending to reach target



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implementation)		the quality dimensions.	groups by gender, age, ethnic and socio-economic profiles to impact marginalized and disadvantaged groups.
Functional App platform, ready for testing	Currently at 40% completion	The development of the App Platform has been carried out on three 2 operating systems; iOS and Android as well as a regular web platform.	Actual information dissemination for the Jasi App will take place post-testing.
Staff and Volunteers Capacity Building Training Programmes.	Six (6) scheduled with Four (4) held. Remaining to hold before App Platform official launch.	Training sessions were interactive and highly participatory. App Mock-ups were created to aid visualization for attendees.	information dissemination for these training sessions were done via phone calls.
Consolidation of support-base among key influencers	Ten (10) out of 15 individual meetings held. All Five (4) group meetings completed.	Meetings were held informally to accommodate time constraints on the individuals.	We reached out these individuals and groups via social media as well as phone calls when necessary.
Consolidation of critical support- base among selected celebrities in entertainment industry	All Four meetings held.	The meetings were brief and required highlighting of the benefits of the Jasi App. The approached celebrities are also well-known for their positive stand on good governance.	The major means on communication with these individuals was social media and phone calls when available.





Project outcomes

Tips: This section should be completed **ONLY** for the final report.

FIRE PROGRAMME expects you to report about the **outcomes** of the project as defined in the table below, based on the project implementation section of this report. Project team is encouraged to discuss the questions provided below to guide the reflection:

Can you identify and describe the relationships between the activities implemented and the social, economic, cultural and/or political benefits of your project implementation?

Outcomes can be defined as:

- Medium-term effects
- · Effect of a series of achieved outputs
- Should capture the changes for the beneficiaries
- Take place during the life of project/strategy
- Influence but not direct control

Please write about the project outcomes here...

- 1. Two test deployments have been carried out at Bootcamp events with over 13,000 downloads. The test deployment, conducted at two university institutions in Nigeria (Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife and The University of Lagos) showed us the importance of considerable appreciation of app functions and glitches being currently sorted out also highlighted. These test deployment allowed us further understand the import of civic enlightenment as part of the feedback loop. Pending full deployment, and even with this limited deployment of the Jasi App; there has been an appreciable increase in the understanding of how the Nigerian budget works by the test population of the target user base. The effect of this is the heightening of awareness and ability of the said population to engage in discourse relating to the budget especially as it affects them.
- 2. There has been palpable interest occasioned by the availability of actual details of monies allocated and released to their constituencies by the government. Having this critical information has enabled them to organize themselves in groups to monitor progress, if any of the designated projects.
- 3. Two jingles have been produced and are subsequently pending release in the adapted pidgin language of Nigeria to sensitize citizens further on app. It will start airing in May 2015.





- 4. The platform has galvanized community leaders and interest groups to set up committees that will meet and interface with the political leaders at their level for fact-finding and reporting of issues relating to ongoing/latent projects. These are in Lagos and Kaduna states respectively in Nigeria
- 5. We have pending government support (interviews) to help propmote, validate and authenticate our app. The recent political terrain in Nigeria provides us with immense opportunities to meet with three (3) ministers, two (2) governors and the President-elect of the nation, as they are part of the advisory members for our organization. They are Dr. Kayode Fayemi, Mallam Bolaji Abdullahi, Dr Obiageli Ezekwesili. These core three people were important members of civil society before their technocrat activities enable the shaping of strategy, policy and reform with past governments in Nigeria. The Governors are Mallam Nasir Elrufai (Governor of Kaduna State) and Mr Ambode (Governor of Lagos state). It is our hope that the immense public canvass that will emanate from this public officers will further enlighten on the use of the app and highlight its importance in monitoring community based capital projects highlighted n the budget.
- 6. Exposure to the features of the platform has spurred community leaders to request for additional education that will deepen their understanding of budgetary matters as it affects them and channels of communications with local government. Apart from the continued education and interface with 36 communities in Ekiti State Nigeria, these new communities are in Northern city of Kaduna State, Nigeria.





Project management and sustainability

Tips: Please comment on the general project **administration**, **staffing**, **procurement**, etc. specially those aspects contributing to the fulfilment of the project objectives as well as those that have delay project implementation.

Indicate **how the project team has strengthened its capacity** and work towards sustainability with the support provided by FIRE? (new equipment, training, improved administrative skills, lessons learned from the project). Has the organization increased its research or administrative skills of the team involved? Has the project allowed for a particular contribution to capacity building of women or marginalized social groups? Special attention should be paid to the expected or unexpected impact on marginalized social groups.

Have you done **anything different** to provide administrative support for this project **besides your "business as usual"** processes and procedures? Has the project inspired change inside your organization?

Sustainability is to be examined not only in terms of staff retention and financial stability of the organization supporting the project but about the communities' appropriation of benefits perceived from project implementation.

The FIRE Secretariat is very interest to learn if this project has generated opportunities for future development (new funding from partnerships, sponsorships, investment or other funding mechanisms), please provide details.

Please explain if the FIRE grant has helped to consolidate your organization and how. If any of the project activities will continue after the end of the FIRE grant, please describe how your organization is planning to support future developments.

Please write about project management and sustainability here...

The core project team comprises of the Project Team Lead, Oluwaseun Fakuade and other team members, Olatunji Ladi Adejumo, Samuel Akinlotan as well as Chuba Ezekwesili. In other to save costs, no additional staff was employed, rather volunteers were solicited on basis of their capability to carry out specific tasks such as information dissemination about the Jasi App platform.

In order to ensure that each member of the team is fully equipped for the project, training programmes have been organized to facilitate the transmission of learnings from the AFRINIC Training programme held in June. Key concepts such as PESTEL Analysis, Design of Communications Strategy, Design and Analysis of Surveys as well as Report Writing were learnt during the training programmes in order to increase capacity to effectively manage and report the project.

Due to paucity of funds, additional equipment were not procured, instead the team elected to channel







available financial resources towards payments for the building of the Jasi App platform as well as adverts to disseminate information about the platform.

The objectives of the Jasi App platform ensure benefits for the generality of the citizens of Nigeria without prejudice to any. However, the project team noted that some segments of the population who may have desired to contribute by using the platform may be disadvantaged due to their limited familiarity with smartphones and mobile applications. In order to bridge this gap, suggestions were made and indeed, accepted in some cases by individuals within this disadvantaged population to permit other citizens (their children for example), to download and operate the Jasi App on their phones. Thus, they simply direct their children/wards to input the data they desire and enter their comments.

While the Jasi App platform is still in completion stages, the project team has been tremendously encouraged by the feedback gotten from meetings(formal and informal) with various populations within the user segments. Suggestions and constructive criticisms have been steady with most aggregated, analyzed by the team and fed back to the development team for input. The feedback has provided a basis for optimism about the platform's continued relevance in the active citizenship/public accountability space.

While opportunities for further funding are yet to materialize at this time, the project has already included sponsorship solicitation from corporate bodies. To this end, the platform has been made even more attractive with the adoption of the 'Edutainment' model for its adverts. The incorporation of popular celebrity figures will ensure continued interest from the youth segment of the citizenry while the increasing number of users provide the incentive for corporate bodies who are targeting youths.

The Jasi App was conceptualized, designed and built around the notion of change. It is be driven by change and as such, its potential to touch and indeed change the lives of Nigerians has been a motivating force within the Beacons Development Foundation.





Impact

Tips: This section should be completed ONLY for the final report.

This section of the report does not refer to the project activities, but about the "bigger picture". It will be desirable if the project team can reflect on the impact that the project has contributed to as part of other actions implemented by your organization and/or your partners.

Impact refers to the influence the project may had on the way people does things through the use or adoption of the project outputs; changes in the context the project was implemented; changes in the community the project has been working with; and/or changes inside the organizations that have participated in the implementation or the relationships established through the project's implementation.

Impact is often impossible to measure in the short term and is rarely attributable to a single activity. Impact can be linked to a vision or long-term development goal that your organization might be working towards.

It can be identified as a logical consequence of achieving a combination of outputs and outcomes.

Impact is usually measurable after the project life and is outside the direct control of the project team and the organization.

Accountability Matrix: BEACONS has been greatly impacted by the detailing of the activities involved in the day to day event running of the app development. This varied greatly from arciving (TRELLO and email events between partners and developers) to detailed financial accounting of all expenses and procurement within the past months. This is important for us because even volunteer members who are not core part of the development process in the Jasi App project are aware of the detailing that comes with the accountability matrix. It has also further strengthened our resolve that one cannot preach the practice of transparent accountability without practicing it.

User Experience: Paying attention to user experience details was another learning impact for us during the test deployment. Accountability being the overall goal of the Jasi App, all activities involved in its building, testing and deployment were geared towards achieving a great user experience that would encourage usage. An impact assessment would only be possible where users actually have great experience and use the app on a continuous error-free basis.

Collaborations: Working on this project made us realize the huge challenges in:

1. scaling up the project in Nigeria and hence the need for future partnership with other





organizations; as well as

2. bridging the civic education gap in Nigeria. Using technology to enhance e-governance is an essential part for African societies but the greatest hurdle after access is citizens understanding of basic budgeting processes. Citizens surveyed during deployment showed varied understanding of budgetary processes, from simple to complex. This has spurred us to map out areas of collaborative strategies in civic education with already existing platforms.

Heightened Civic Enlightenment: At the community level, it may be premature to conduct an in-depth impact assessment given the demography and duration for which the app has been deployed. However, one of the key markers of the impact within the user population is an attitudinal change towards the acquisition and understanding of budget information. In other words, citizens apathy has been on the decrease and this has dovetailed with the change in government (incoming) which made anti-corruption one of its campaign promises.

Given the promissory support from Governor-elects and incoming ministers, the deployment of full app will lead to more projected understanding of budget function and feedback. It is projected that the impact of the Jasi App will continue increase in the coming months with the heightened level of scrutiny being already given to public funds coupled with the reduction in oil-based revenues.

Overall Assessment

Tips: This section of the report is extremely valuable for the FIRE secretariat as it provides evidence about the role and relevance of FIRE contributions in the AFRICA region.

Tips: Briefly provide **your own views** on the value and importance of the project relative to the proposed innovation, investment of time, effort and funding involved. Include the strengths and weaknesses of the project and the steps taken to strengthen the credibility and reliability.

This is your opportunity to conduct a **team reflection about the value of the project for the organization**. The following questions might help you to prepare a substantive overall assessment.

- To what extend the project meet its objectives?
- What were the most important findings and outputs of the project? What will be done with them?



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- What contribution to development did the project make?
- Were certain aspects of project design, management and implementation particularly important to the degree of success of the project?
- To what extend the project help build up the research capacity of your institution or of the individuals involved?
- What lessons can be derived that would be useful in improving future performance?

Please write the project overall assessment here...

The average Nigerian views the budget (National, State, Local Government)as an arcane process, devoid of input from citizens and meant solely for the elites within government circles. This notion has built apathy towards budgeting and implementation among Nigerian citizens thus paving the way for budgetary allocations based mainly on political considerations followed by a near-total lack of implementation. Reversing this damaging trend is the challenge that the Jasi App team set out to tackle.

At this stage, our assessment is based on feedback gotten from interaction with various citizens segments. We address the contribution of the Jasi App to development with our observations in the field where citizens indicated surprise at financial allocations and projects earmarked for their states within a given timeframe. They also indicated desire to obtain more information and eagerly participate in the process of vetting budget performance but for lack of proper channels to do so. We make bold to say that Jasi App provides that desired channel and they showed a willingness to make use of the platform the App offers.

Simplicity and ease of use are two attributes that received special consideration throughout the design and building phases. The project team ensured that feedback from rudimentary users was sought consistently to ensure that anyone will be able to download and navigate the App's features with ease. These two attributes are considered critical to the success of the App and the project as a whole.

The Jasi App project is fundamentally involves research and enlightenment albeit crowd-sourced. In order to develop the concept, extensive research needed to be conducted among the various citizens segments. This necessitated training staff and volunteers in the basic field research methods with which they could elicit information from people. Furthermore, trainings on conducting simple focus groups were part of the earlier described in-house programmes. Fundamental analysis including SWOT and PESTEL (and its variants) were taught in order to help in continuos environmental scanning especially given the fluid nature of the Nigeria polity. In all, the core team as well as auxiliary







staff such as volunteers are better equipped for subsequent projects as well as supporting other organizations with their field and theoretical knowledge in other projects.



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PART 4: RECOMMENDATIONS



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Recommendations

Tips: Include any recommendations in this section that you and your project team, the organizations supporting the project and the community you worked with, would like to make to other practitioners or researchers on the field facing similar problems or implementing similar solutions.

Please take a minute to share recommendations with the FIRE secretariat that might help to improve the support provided.

Please write the project recommendations here...





- 1. Funding: The real work begins in scaling and publicizing the usage of projects/applications after full deployment. These are most times highly capital intensive in nature and may generally become the stumbling block for which many laudable projects are aborted prematurely. As such, as much as can be helped; grant organizations need to help by encouraging venture capital investment or support organizations in helping project teams in scaling where and when necessary. Also, many projects with similar structures may have similar challenges. It will be better if grant organizations can help project teams surmount incoming/unforeseen challenges by highlighting some of the problems that may arise in the future in the course of project deployment/implementation.
- 2. **Technology is only a minor percentage of the solution**: Change typically entails alteration of a prevailing mindset and the change being driven by the Jasi App is no different. The dominant mindset of tolerating the pilfering of the people's commonwealth when the public official is from the citizens' locality needs to be corrected via civic education first. Mobilizing citizens to track projects requires their buy-in and this can only happen when they cease to see the corrupt official as being 'right'. This civic education process is one in which African states/societies need more; and it requires considerable time and resource investment.
- 3. Local Developers: Where possible, it is best to employ local developers to build the application. In our experience, while outsource destinations such India and Pakistan may provide attractive cost alternatives, there may be a trade-off in terms of delays, contractual terms and execution, leading to avoidable hitches in conclusion and deployment. These constraints when weighed against the delays and hitches are not worth the additional costs of designing and building locally.





PART 5: BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bibliography

Tips: Include complete bibliographic references to all sources (printed, on-line, quotes, etc)



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used to prepare the different sections of this report. The APA style guide offers examples about how to reference a variety of sources. <u>http://www.apastyle.org/learn/quick-guide-on-references.aspx(as accessed on 3/7/2013)</u>.

Please write the project bibliography here...

- CITIZENS GOVERNANCE MEDIA ADVOCACY PROJECT, An initiative of BEACONS DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION – One Year Report <u>www.beaconsng.org/resources/reports.</u>
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- 6. Image Courtesy: <u>www.socialbakers.com</u>

