



CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME TOBECHUKWU JOHNPAUL NNELI

NATIONALITY Nigerian

LANGUAGES English (mother tongue)

EXPERTISE

- Experienced researcher, working with ODI for 4 years
- In depth knowledge of undertaking field research for FCDO programmes
- Skills in Political Economy Analysis, Project Management, Effective Policy Communication
- Research Interests are Digitalisation and State-society relations, Public Sector Reforms, Evidence Uptake in Policy Making, Nationalism and Diversity Management, Social Investment Programmes, and Environmental Sustainability.

EDUCATION

University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

Master of Public Policy **2019**

- Africa Initiative for Governance Scholar (0.07% acceptance rate)
- Co-Chair, Scholarships and Access Committee, Oxford University Africa Society
- Member, Oxford Global Leadership Initiative (Class of 2019)
- MPP project on *Improving Research Communications for Effective Policy Making by the Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER)*

University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

MSc. Political Science (Comparative Politics) **2017**

- VEN Foundation Postgraduate Scholar (2016/2017)
- Junior Research Fellow, Institut Français de Recherche en Afrique (IFRA), Nigeria
- Dissertation on *Ethno-nationalist Agitations for Self-Determination and the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) Movement in South-Eastern Nigeria*

University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria

BSc. Political Science and Public Administration – *First Class Honours* **2014**

- Community Service Director, Rotaract Club, University of Benin
- Dissertation on *the Implications of Political Party Defection on Sustainable Democracy in Nigeria: A Case Study of the Fourth Republic*

EMPLOYMENT

Overseas Development Institute (ODI), London, United Kingdom

Research Associate, Politics and Governance Programme **07/2021 – Present**

- Support the implementation of ODI and partners' (MIGNEX and PLANE) programmes in Nigeria.

- Oversee the development of ODI programmes in Nigeria by initiating and managing relationship with funders and research partners; and contributing to proposal development and submission in core thematic areas (digitalisation and governance, political economy of conflict, vaccine politics etc.)

Research and Evidence Manager, PERL-LEAP, Nigeria

10/2019 – 10/2021

- Managed and advised on all LEAP research projects ensuring timely and high-quality delivery.
- Managed communication and relationship with PERL field staff, consultants, and partners.
- Led Research Workstream's input to work planning and review processes within LEAP and PERL.
- Acted as the secretariat for LEAP's Research Workstream and PERL Research Advisory Panel.

Graduate Intern, Research and Policy in Development (RAPID) Programme

07/2019 – 09/2019

- Conducted research on the MPP project. Jointly supervised by University of Oxford and ODI.

Bayelsa State Oil and Environmental Commission (BSOEC), Adams House, London

Junior Technical Advisor

09/2019 – 11/2019

- Conducted desk research and a review of background documentation for the commission.
- Supported the BSOEC Expert Working Group (EWG) by coding existing data curated by the secretariat in line with the report framework adopted by the commission.
- Produced short analytical pieces of work on artisanal refining, oil spills, gas flaring, legacy, and divestment challenges in Bayelsa state.
- Documented international norms on clean up and remediation practices in other jurisdictions.
- Supported stakeholder outreach by the BSOEC Secretariat and final report drafting process.

Ibadan School of Government and Public Policy (ISGPP), Ibadan, Nigeria

Research and Programme Manager, Public Policy Secretariat

09/2017 – 08/2018

- Co-ordinated provision of technical support to the ISGPP Public Policy Group.
- Organised the ISGPP monthly policy dialogues and managed post-dialogue conversations with government, pressmen, partners, and donor agencies.
- Conceived and supervised the successful commencement of the ISGPP Junior Research Fellowship.
- Supervised the successful institutionalisation and launch of the ISGPP Book Readers Club.
- Team Lead, conducting focus group discussions to understand the Ease of Doing Business in Lagos State, executed for Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF), Nigeria.
- Project Support Staff, Case studies on select governance reforms (Ease of Doing Business, Land Governance and Target Delivery through Social Card) in the Southwest region of Nigeria, executed for the Department for International Development's PERL-LEAP Programme

Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER), Ibadan, Nigeria

Intern, Public Sector Group, Social and Governance Policy Research Department

01/2017 – 08/2017

- Prepared draft research proposals on Youth participation in elections in Africa; and Effects of Separatist Movements on National Security in Nigeria's Fourth Republic
- Analysed data and reported findings for departmental study on Legislative Effectiveness in Nigeria
- Team member, UNICEF project on Social Protection Policies in Southwest, Nigeria
- Team Lead, Fieldwork on Social Protection Policies in Edo State, executed for UNICEF (Akure Office)

Enugu State Independent Electoral Commission (ENSIEC), Enugu, Nigeria

Technical Assistant, Public Affairs Department

08/2014 – 07/2015

- Responsible for writing draft monthly departmental reports
- Seconded to the National Electoral Commission during the build-up to 2015 Nigerian general elections
- Presiding Officer, Afia-Nine V/Sqr polling unit 8, Enugu State; 2015 Nigerian general elections

OTHER EXPERIENCE

1. Co-Chair, Scholarships and Access Committee, Oxford University Africa Society 10/ 2018 – 06/2019

- Recruited 45 volunteer-mentors from Oxford University to support Africans applying to the University.
- Organised mentorship and application fee waiver for 116 African applicants to University of Oxford 62.5% of whom received offers from the University during the 2018/2019 admission cycle.

2. Team Lead, Tutor-volunteer project, Covenant Children Home, Ibadan, Nigeria 03/2016 – 08/2018

- Co-initiated the project and recruited volunteers to teach at the orphanage on a weekly basis.
- Taught French Language and facilitated the “Motivation Series” programme at the orphanage.

Initiated a project that provided school bags and education materials for 21 children at the orphanage.

3. Project Coordinator, Improving Male-Child Education in Achalla Community, Nigeria 02/2017- 12/2017

- Collected data on male-child enrolment and drop-out rate from schools within the community.
- Partnered with Awka-north local government authorities and stakeholders from the community to organise a story-telling conference on the importance of education for 174 secondary school students from the community.
- Managed an online platform that provided free career guidance and counselling services; for students from the community, who seek admission into tertiary institutions.

4. President, Peer Educator Trainers (PET) CDS Group, Enugu-North LGA, Nigeria 01/2015- 07/2015

- Trained 47 Peer Educators on reproductive health at Day Secondary School, Enugu
- Led the PET CDS group to conduct weekly training on reproductive health issues for in-school youths in Enugu and organised monthly public sensitization programmes on HIV/AIDS within the metropolis.

5. Community Service Director, Rotaract Club, University of Benin, Nigeria 06/2011- 07/2012

- Led the club’s public sensitization events on topics like the dangers of using GSM phones while driving.
- Oversaw the club’s charity projects such as: donation of writing materials to 500 pupils in Community Primary School, Ekosodin; donation of walking aids to 3 disabled University of Benin students and donation of treated mosquito nets and medications to the University of Benin, Health Centre.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Nneli, T. J. (2020), “Peace without Justice: Nigeria’s Amnesty Programme in the Niger Delta,” St Antony’s International Review, St Antony’s College, University of Oxford, Vol. 15.2.

2. Nneli T. J. and Idachaba, E.U. (2018), “Re-Invented Abroad: Agitation for Self-Determination by the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) Movement in South-Eastern Nigeria,” Journal of African-Centered Solutions in Peace and Security, Vol. 3, pp. 39 – 59

3. Nneli, T. J. (2018), "An Institution in Search of Identity: The Local Government System in Nigeria," African Journal of Politics and Administration, Vol. 1.1, pp. 81 -92.

4. Nneli, T. J. and Ubani, C. (2017). "Governance, Development and New Sacred Urban Spaces in Nigeria: a Case Study of the Gospel Faith Mission International Town, Ojoo, Ibadan," IFRA-Nigeria Working Paper, NO 42

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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| 1. Research Fellow, Public Policy Group, Ibadan School of Government and Public Policy | 09/2018 |
| 2. Fellow, YALI West Africa Regional Leadership Center | 07/2018 |
| 3. Fellow, CANVASSITY Pan-African Youth Democracy Fellowship | 09/2017 |
| 4. Association of African Universities 2017 Graduate Internship Grant | 03/2017 |