



CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME JOHN EBIKESEYE MUTU
NATIONALITY Nigerian
LANGUAGES English

EXPERTISE

John's experience spans roles in programme management, technical facilitation, legislative and governance reform, public policy, advocacy and strategic advisory. His leadership in programme implementation, developing legislative agendas, constitutional reforms, service delivery, facilitating high-level governance dialogues collaborating with diverse stakeholders, including government officials, development partners, civil society, and multilateral bodies and advising on parliamentary reforms, showcases his technical and political skills. John is currently working with various actors to support the National and State Assemblies to amend the constitution to deepen subnational governance, enhance the autonomy of state legislatures, judiciary and local governments. His expertise in navigating complex political landscapes and driving policy change makes him an asset in addressing health, public policy and governance challenges.

QUALIFICATIONS

MPhil in Conflict, Peace & Strategic Studies, Nile University, 2023
Master's degree in international relations & strategic studies, Edo State University Ekpoma, 2003
Bachelor's degree in Geography, Ahmadu Bello University, 1999

EMPLOYMENT / SELECTED ASSIGNMENTS

Dates: 2023 – Sept 2024 **Location:** Nigeria **Employer:** Palladium

Position: National Team Leader/Chief of Party, Partnership to Engage, Reform, & Learn – Engaged Citizens' Pillar (PERL-ECP), FCDO (about £45 Million 8 year project)

- Provided strategic oversight and coordinated implementation across multiple Nigerian states.
- Facilitated partnerships between government, civil society, and other actors to drive governance reforms centred on increasing citizen voice, engagement and influence.
- Under John's leadership, strengthened state legislatures and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), while promoting evidence-based policymaking.
- Successfully led the ECP Pillar to record A+ in the FCDO ARs in 2023.
- Successfully managed the Programme closure for PERL-ECP
- Successfully led the advocacy for amendment of the 1999 Constitution to provide financial and administrative autonomy for state legislatures and judiciary
- Leading the advocacy for reform of local governments including constitutional amendment which led to the landmark Supreme Court judgment
- Leading efforts to pass the Federal Audit Bill at the National Assembly
- Provided strategic leadership for the agenda setting for political parties and candidates in Kaduna, Kano, Jigawa and Federal
- Led the team that developed the Legislative Agenda of the 6th and 7th Delta State House of Assembly

Dates: 2020 – Apr 2023 **Location:** Nigeria **Employer:** Palladium

Position: Deputy National Team Leader - Technical Support, Partnership to Engage, Reform, & Learn – Engaged Citizens' Pillar (PERL-ECP), FCDO

- Provided technical guidance and quality assurance for programme implementation across all components including inclusive and participatory governance.
- Led the technical team that reviewed the Legislative Agenda of the 9th House of Representatives
- Provided leadership and guidance for the design and implementation of annual workplans.
- Provided strategic technical support for the passage of the implementation of people leaving with disability law in Jigawa
- Designed and managed capacity building for state legislatures, civil society, and other stakeholders.
- Coordinated with development partners and built synergies with complementary governance programmes.
- Ensured application of best practices and lessons learned in legislative strengthening and citizen engagement.
- Supported development of evidence-based policies, legislative agenda and implementation frameworks.
- Supported PERL teams to facilitate technical working groups in various service delivery areas such as health, education, water, etc. across the FCDO geographic footprints.

Dates: 2016 - 2020 **Location:** Nigeria **Employer:** Palladium

Position: Parliamentary & Private Sector Engagement Adviser & Federal Partnership Facilitator, Partnership to Engage, Reform, & Learn – Engaged Citizens' Pillar (PERL-ECP), FCDO

- Provided strategic guidance on strengthening parliamentary oversight.
- Facilitated capacity building of parliamentary committees on scrutiny of bills, budgets & audits.
- Advised on private sector engagement strategies to promote corporate accountability.
- Brokered partnerships between government, private sector and civil society on governance reforms.
- Led efforts to enhance the independence of state legislatures through constitution amendment.
- Led the advocacy local government autonomy.
- Promoted synergies between PERL components for integrated governance programming.

Dates: 2010 - 2016 **Location:** Nigeria **Employer:** Palladium

Position: National Parliamentary Adviser, State Accountability & Voice Initiative Nigeria (SAVI), FCDO

- Advised on strengthening legislative oversight, accountability and responsiveness of legislatures.
- Supported efforts to improve public engagement in the legislative process.
- Promoted adoption of best practices in legislative administration, process and procedures.
- Facilitated partnerships between legislatures, civil society and media for enhanced accountability.

Dates: 2008 - 2010 **Location:** Nigeria **Employer:** Etisalat Nigeria

Position: Government Relations Coordinator, Northern Region of Nigeria

- Provided political/business intelligence and political economy analysis for the organisation
- Manage relations between the company, the regulator (NCC), National Assembly and the Presidency
- Promoted effective business environment and partnership with government agencies

Appointments:

- Consultant to the Senate Committee on Constitution Review in the 8th Assembly

- Consultant to the Senate Committee on Constitution Review in the 9th Assembly
- Consultant to the Senate Committee on Constitution Review in the 10th Assembly
- Technical Adviser to the House of Representatives Committee on Legislative Agenda in the 9th Assembly
- Technical Adviser to the House of Representatives Committee on Rules and Business in the 10th Assembly
- Technical Adviser to the Senate Committee on Planning and Economic Development in the 9th Assembly
- Technical Adviser to the Office of the Auditor-General of the Federation on the Federal Audit Bill
- Technical Adviser to the Conference of Speakers of State Houses of Assembly
- Technical Adviser to the Forum of Clerks of State Legislatures
- Technical Adviser to the Nigerian Majority Leaders Forum
- Technical Adviser to the Nigerian Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE)
- Member, Transition Committee of the Delta State Governor (2023)
- Moderator Executive-Legislative Dialogue by the Secretary to the Government of the Federation
- Moderator Ministerial Performance Review by the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

Citizen Engagement Experience

- Technical support to the Lagos State House of Assembly Citizen Engagements - ECP
- Technical support to the Ekiti and Osun Citizen Charter of Demand - ECP
- Technical support to the Delta State citizen Budget - APRC
- Technical support to the Kaduna State and LG Citizen Charter of Demand - ECP
- Lead Facilitator for the Retreat for LG Chairmen in Yobe state on Budget engagement – DAI - EU PFM
- Lead Facilitator for the Retreat for Members of Yobe State House on Budget engagement – DAI -EU PFM
- Technical support to PACE on Institutional assessment of ALGON – DAI PACE
- Facilitated several retreats for CS groups and State Houses of Assembly on Budget (Delta, Ogun, Anambra, Enugu, Kaduna, Yobe, Borno, Plateau, Kogi, Bayelsa, Kano, Taraba, Akwa Ibom, etc.
- Technical support to the Federal Government on Performance Management and citizen engagement on the Federal Budget – PERL

Consultancy Experience:

- Senate Committee on Constitution Review, Nigeria
- Westminster Foundation for Democracy – Research Team Lead for the Cost of Politics in Nigeria – 2025
- PropCom+ - Research Team Lead on the Implications of Local Government Autonomy on the Agriculture Sector in Nigeria
- PACE – Local Government Autonomy, Climate Change, Legislative Autonomy, etc.
- Lafiya – Strengthening LGA systems for effective healthcare delivery
- Nigerian Institute for Social Economic Research (NISER)
- UN Women – National Consultant on the Special Seats Bill for Women
- Palladium International - TWP

International Leadership Trainings:

- International Law Institute, Washington DC – 2016 and 2017
- London School of Economics (LSE) - 2018
- Cambridge University, UK – 2021
- School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS) University of London - 2022
- McGill University, Montreal Canada- 2024
- Manchester Metropolitan University, UK – 2025
- Moller Institute, Churchill College, Cambridge University, UK - 2025

