

Debate to Action Training

# Understanding Development

October 2008

**The training program was organized by the Community Research and Development Centre (CREDC) in partnership with the Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria (ERA/FoEN)**



The report was written by:

**Etiosa Uyigue  
Agharese Edevbaro**

**© CREDC 2008**

***Secretariat***

Community Research and Development Centre  
90 Uselu-Lagos Road, Opposite Zenith Bank  
P. O. Box 11011, Benin 300001, Edo State  
Nigeria

**Tel:** +234 (0) 52 878788

**eFax:** 1 309 401 0921

**Email:** [info@credcentre.org](mailto:info@credcentre.org); [credcsecretariat@yahoo.com](mailto:credcsecretariat@yahoo.com)

**Website:** [www.credcentre.org](http://www.credcentre.org)

## **Program Outline**

<b>Session One</b>	<b>4</b>
Introduction	4
Overview of the DTA Program	4
What is sustainable development?	4
Overview of the MDGs	5
MDGs in Nigeria (NEEDS)	6
Facilitation Techniques	6
Brainstorming	6
<b>Session Two</b>	<b>8</b>
Proposal Writing	8
Format for writing proposal	8
Writing Project/Conference Reports	9
Appendix One: List of Participants	10
Appendix Two: MDGs Targets and Indicators	11

## **SESSION ONE**

**Facilitators: Agharese Edevbaro and Etiosa Uyigie**

### **Introduction**

The program held on the 9th October 2008 at the Ken Saro-Wiwa Gallery at the office of the Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria (ERA/FoEN). Attendees were representatives from various NGOs and faith-based organizations from Benin City. The programme was organized to build capacity on the participants to effectively participate in development issues and embark on development projects. The main idea behind the training programme was to bring representatives from different organizations together to learn about development issues, share their experiences and to be trained to become trainers themselves.

After all the participants introduced themselves, the facilitator Ms Edevbaro gave the ground rules that should be adhered to during the training. The ground rules include the following:

- Put all mobile phones on vibration or put them off
- Minimize movement during the training
- There should be no side talk
- Answering question or making contribution should be done one at a time

### **Overview of the DTA Program**

Etiosa Uyigie gave an overview of the Debate to Action (DTA) Program. According to him, the DTA Programme is a capacity building programme aimed at youth organizations in Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia and countries in East-West Africa and the UK. The DTA Program is being embarked upon by the British Council and the World Bank in partnership with governments of participating countries and the civil society. It is designed to bring representatives from youth organizations to learn about development issues, share their experiences and become trainers themselves. The participants will in turn design and implement training plans to share the knowledge and insight gained during the training with others members of their organization. In this way, the DTA program aims to strengthen the development knowledge in their organizations and their network.

### **What is Sustainable Development?**

The facilitator divided the class into three groups. Each group was asked to define sustainable Development. The three groups defined sustainable development as follows:

#### **Group One**

*“Sustainable development is a process or pattern of development in such a way that the social, economic and environmental gains of that development is maintained or replicated in future with minimum adverse impact to the wellbeing or standard of living of the people”.*

#### **Group Two**

*“Sustainable development also means a dynamic mechanism that is put in place that guarantees continuous growth that matches with the corresponding social economic or environmental challenges”.*

### Group Three

*Sustainable development is a systematic and progressive management and use of all available resources, human, capital and environmental to improve the socio-economic life of people in this generation while also retaining the availability and supply of these resources for future generation to achieve their full potential*

The facilitator defined sustainable development as:

*“A process of growth that is holistic and enduring, that must be planned in a participatory manner to attain, maximize and enhance opportunity for the present generation without compromising the future generation”*



**DTA Training in Session**

### **Overview of the MDGs**

The facilitator gave an overview of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). He said that the MDGs are eight (8) goals that were set by world leaders during United Nations Summit in September 2000 to be achieved in a fifteen year period. The goals are drawn from the actions and targets contained in the Millennium Declaration which was adopted by 189 countries and ratified by 147 countries. The MDGs have 21 quantifiable targets and are measurable with 60 indicators (see Appendix 2). The eight goals are:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal basic education
3. Promote gender equality and empowerment of women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malarial and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development.

## **MDGs in Nigeria**

The National Economic Empowerment Development Strategy (NEEDS) is a document that was developed in Nigeria to enhance the achievement of the MDGs. The NEEDS document emphasized the participatory approach to development, it more focused, realistic and reform based. It has scope and coordination. The elements of the NEEDS document are as follows:

- Wealth Creation
- Employment generation
- Poverty reduction
- Value re-orientation

## **Facilitation Techniques**

Facilitation means to make it easy for a process or activity to happen. Thus a facilitator is someone who guides a group of people to discuss issues.

The facilitator gave the various skills needed to facilitate a discussion to include:

- A facilitator should stay on the topic, that is, he or she should not deviate from the topic being discuss
- A facilitator should ask open ended questions (questions that will arouse or generate discussions)
- He/she should allow expression of views from all
- He/she should have the ability to listen to everybody

## **Brainstorming**

Brainstorming is a technique used to generate ideas and explore different angles of a topic. It enhance the generation of ideas on any particular issue. The process involves giving an opportunity for different opinions.

The class was divided into three groups and each group was asked to brainstorm in the obstacles to achieving the MDGs in Nigeria. The group came up with points listed below:

### ***Group One***

1. Lack of access to information and ignorance
2. Poor policy implementation or insincerity on the part of the government officials
3. Lack of confidence in government policies
4. Socio-cultural factors
5. Lack of intra and inter-sectoral collaboration
6. Absence of effective legal framework
7. Lack of coordination among the funding organization

### ***Group Two***

1. Insincerity on the part of the policy makers
2. Inadequate energy
3. Corruption (diversion of funds)
4. No adequate awareness of certain programmes
5. Lack of technical know-how on the part of those who are to implement policies
6. Stigmatizations
7. Religious and traditional beliefs (norms and values or custom).
8. Top-bottom approach instead of bottom-top approach.
9. Neglect of social responsibilities on the part of the citizens

10. Absence of continuity in policies and programmes especially when there is a change in government
11. Lack of stringent and proper monitoring of implementation process.

***Group Three***

1. Lack of access to energy
2. Insecurity
3. Wrong people in administration
4. Lack of consultation.
5. Funding constraint
6. Lack of information flow
7. Diversity of religion
8. Barrier of culture and religious interpretation
9. Lack of legal framework for holding government accountable
10. Non development of human resources

## SESSION TWO

### Proposal Writing

The facilitator gave the steps to be followed while writing a proposal. The steps are given below:

- Look for a stable topic that is brief as possible and reflects the project you intend to embark on.
- Speak plain and simple English, you should make it easy-to-understand document
- Give the statement of intent, i.e. the problem you are trying to solve. Here you analyze the problem you want to solve.
- State the objectives of the project
- Give the details of the Methodology
- Give the time frame i.e. the time the project will start and when it will end. You will also require giving the time for the different activities during the project.
- The personnel that will be involved in the project
- Give budget statement as detailed as possible

### Format for Writing Proposal

The facilitator gave format for writing proposal as seen below (proposal formats are not restricted to the one given below):

**Background:** You should give a brief description based on facts on the problem you are trying to solve.

**Goal:** State briefly the goal of the project. That is what you intend to achieved at the end of the project. .

**Specific objectives:** The specific objectives are the brief statements of what you intend to achieve from the different activities carried out to achieve the goal of the project

**Methodology:** Give details of how you are going to carryout your objectives along side with tangible outputs. State the number of people that will benefit from it.

**Timeline:** When writing a proposal, you should give the time the project will begin and when it will end. You should also give the time the different activities in the project will hold. When designing the proposal, the activities should be planned in a way that there is no gap in between. You should state the amount you are requesting from you potential funders.

**Budget:** The budget should contain the following items

- Personnel
- Materials
- Traveling
- Communication

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** State how you intend to monitor your progress during the course of executing the project in the proposal



**Group Photograph of Participants**

### **Writing Conference/Project Report**

The facilitator gave the following steps for writing conference and project reports.

- The report must have a title. The title should be as brief as possible and should reflect the ideas conveyed in the entire report
- Give a background information to the report and state the objectives of the report
- For reports of research projects, give the methodology of the research
- Use simple language when writing the body of the report

## Appendix 1: List of Participants

S/N	NAME	SEX	ORGANISATION & ADDRESS	PHONE & EMAIL
1	Etiosa Uyigwe	M	Community Research and Development Centre, 90 Uselu-Lagos Road, Benin City	07037405619 etiosa@credcentre.org
2	Agharese Edevbaro	F	Community Research and Development Centre, 90 Uselu-Lagos Road, Benin City	08037532272 ese@credcentre.org
3	Matthew Agho	M	Community Research and Development Centre, 90 Uselu-Lagos Road, Benin City	08070718092 gentiniy2@yahoo.com
4	Ose Golden Okungbowa	M	Community Research and Development Centre, 90 Uselu-Lagos Road, Benin City	08038490387 osegolden@yahoo.com
5	Mariann Bassey	F	Environmental Right Action / Friends of the Earth Nigeria	07034495940 mariann@eraction.org
6	Omoyemen Odigie-Emmanuel	F	Environmental Right Action / Friends of the Earth Nigeria	08029427846 talejoc@yahoo.co.uk
7	Ogbemudia O. Godfrey	M	CGM Isiohor Districts	08063505709 godfrey2070@yahoo.co.uk
8	Aigbirior Sarah	F	CGM Isiohor Districts	07033928739 sarahaigbirior@yahoo.com
9	Azubuikwe Samuel	M	COVER, Benin	08026684721 samonaz2000@yahoo.com
10	Dotun-Davids I.O	F	COVER, Benin	08034368980
11	Rita I. Osarogiagbon	F	Environmental Right Action / Friends of the Earth Nigeria	08034553503
12	Odigie Omorede	M	CGM Isiohor Districts	08058812807 ex_omorede@yahoo.com

## Appendix Two: MDGs Targets and Indicators

### Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

#### Indicators

**Target 1a: Reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day**

- 1.1 Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day
- 1.2 Poverty gap ratio
- 1.3 Share of poorest quintile in national consumption

**Target 1b: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people**

- 1.4 Growth rate of GDP per person employed
- 1.5 Employment-to-population ratio
- 1.6 Proportion of employed people living below \$1 (PPP) per day
- 1.7 Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment

**Target 1c: Reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger**

- 1.8 Prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age
- 1.9 Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption

### Goal 2: Achieve Universal Basic Education

**Target 2a: Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling**

- 2.1 Net enrolment ratio in primary education
- 2.2 Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary
- 2.3 Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds, women and men

### Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

**Target 3a: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015**

- 3.1 Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education
- 3.2 Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector
- 3.3 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament

### Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality

**Target 4a: Reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five**

- 4.1 Under-five mortality rate
- 4.2 Infant mortality rate
- 4.3 Proportion of 1 year-old children immunised against measles

### Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health

**Target 5a: Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio**

- 5.1 Maternal mortality ratio
- 5.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel

**Target 5b: Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health**

- 5.3 Contraceptive prevalence rate
- 5.4 Adolescent birth rate
- 5.5 Antenatal care coverage (at least one visit and at least four visits)

5.6 Unmet need for family planning

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases

**Target 6a: Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS**

- 6.1 HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 years
- 6.2 Condom use at last high-risk sex
- 6.3 Proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS
- 6.4 Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years

**Target 6b: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it**

- 6.5 Proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs

**Target 6c: Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases**

- 6.6 Incidence and death rates associated with malaria
- 6.7 Proportion of children under 5 sleeping under insecticide-treated bednets
- 6.8 Proportion of children under 5 with fever who are treated with appropriate anti-malarial drugs
- 6.9 Incidence, prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis
- 6.10 Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course

Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

**Target 7a: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes; reverse loss of environmental resources**

**Target 7b: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss**

- 7.1 Proportion of land area covered by forest
- 7.2 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, total, per capita and per \$1 GDP (PPP)
- 7.3 Consumption of ozone-depleting substances
- 7.4 Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits
- 7.5 Proportion of total water resources used
- 7.6 Proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected
- 7.7 Proportion of species threatened with extinction

**Target 7c: Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water**

- 7.8 Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source
- 7.9 Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility

**Target 7d: Achieve significant improvement in lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, by 2020**

- 7.10 Proportion of urban population living in slums

Goal 8: Develop Global Partnership for Development

**Target 8a: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system**

Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction –

both nationally and internationally

**Target 8b: Address the special needs of the least developed countries**

Includes: tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction

**Target 8c: Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing States (through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly)**

**Target 8d: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term**

**Official development assistance (ODA)**

- 8.1 Net ODA, total and to the least developed countries, as percentage of OECD/DAC donors' gross national income
- 8.2 Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation)
- 8.3 Proportion of bilateral official development assistance of OECD/DAC donors that is untied
- 8.4 ODA received in landlocked developing countries as a proportion of their gross national incomes
- 8.5 ODA received in small island developing States as a proportion of their gross national incomes

**Market access**

- 8.6 Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty
- 8.7 Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries
- 8.8 Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product
- 8.9 Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity

**Debt sustainability**

- 8.10 Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision points and number that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative)
- 8.11 Debt relief committed under HIPC and MDRI Initiatives
- 8.12 Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services

**Target 8e: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries**

- 8.13 Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis

**Target 8f: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications**

- 8.14 Telephone lines per 100 population
- 8.15 Cellular subscribers per 100 population
- 8.16 Internet users per 100 population