

REPORT OF THE PAWED-WEE ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION COALITION ADVOCACY VISIT TO EDO STATE MINISTRY OF WEALTH CREATION, COOPERATIVE AND EMPLOYMENT 16TH DECEMBER 2021



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Introduction

The Partnership for Advancing Women Economic Development (PAWED) is a Nigerian CSO advocacy and communications coalition that advance evidence, policies and programs that further women's economic empowerment vanguard organizations such as Women's Empowerment Collectives. The PAWED project works at the national level and in selected states in each of the 6 geopolitical zones to increase the salience of in Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) amongst policy makers in Nigeria. The Edo state pawed advocacy coalition as an advocacy partner conduct advocacy around the annual budgets in Edo State and follow up with the government MDAs on promises made to increase WEE in the 2022 budget. The overarching goal of the Pawed advocacy coalition in Edo state is to expand the decisional space for WEE programming in the state by catalysing state governments to increase commitment to WEE programming through evidence-based advocacy.

Objective

- The Objective of the advocacy visit was to advocate for increased investment in the number of intervention and budgetary allocation to women's economic empowerment interventions in 2022 budget in the state and
- To increase the knowledge of effective policies, programs and strategies to advance women's economic empowerment within the ministry of wealth creation, cooperative and employment with a primary focus on women's empowerment collectives
- To solicit for increased sensitization of men on the need to reduce socio cultural issues/practices that hinders women involvement in ownership of assets

Advocacy targets

Name	Designation
Joel U. Edionwe	The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Wealth Creation, Cooperative and Employment
Okun Alaba,	Director of Cooperatives
Omonbude S. Oyedoh,	Director of Employment/MSMEs Development
Efeomo Enoma,	Head of Business Premises
Odeh Lucky	Commercial Officer



PAWED WEE advocacy coalition team member

Name	Designation	CSO/WECS
Bliss Ojeruse	Executive Director	Saving Hands Development Initiative
Patience Edevure Silas	Program officer	Willi Johnson Foundation
Abiola Daisy Igaga	Executive Director	Take A Cue Development initiative
Ehikhamen Faith Ejemen	Executive Director	Josemaria Escriva Foundation
Osariemen Edoseghe	Program Officer	Photographer
Idufueko Itohan Pearl	Program Officer	WOVAL
Obazu bridget	Executive Director	AHWRCDI
Jennifer Oboh Oviawe	Regional officer	Lapo Edo Region
Vivian O.Evbotokhai	Program lead	Lapo-Pawed
Patrick Omosigho	Account officer	Lapo-Pawed
Dr Iro Aghedo	Consultant	dRPC-Pawed
Precious Diagboya	Consultant	dRPC-Pawed



Pre-advocacy activities

Prior to conducting the advocacy visit a planning meeting was held to strategize, discuss and harmonize the advocacy issues and identify the advocacy target. Also, letter was Sent to the identify advocacy targets. The aim of the planning meeting was to generate evidence of gaps in government WEE intervention performance, develop advocacy messages to catalyse improved performance, and to conduct advocacy visit to strategic advocacy targets who will advance salience of WEE.

Overview of the advocacy visit

The PAWED WEE Advocacy Coalition in Edo state was led by faith Ejemen executive director Jose Maria Escriva Foundation. A total number of sixteen participant were present during the advocacy visit. Five advocacy targets from the ministry of wealth creation, cooperative and employment and twelve from the Pawed WEE advocacy coalition in Edo state. Presentation of the advocacy ask was done by faith Ejemen executive director Jose Maria Escriva Foundation and the focal lead Pawed advocacy coalition on behalf of the Pawed WEE advocacy coalition in Edo state.



Advocacy asks/issues raised by PAWED advocacy coalition

- To increased the number of projects intervention and budgetary allocation to women's economic empowerment interventions in the 2022 proposed budget in the state.
- To increase the knowledge of government official on effective policies, programs and strategies to advance women's economic empowerment within the ministry of social development and gender issues with a primary focus on women's empowerment collectives
- Development of effective monitoring and evaluation framework to monitor WEE projects across MDAs
- Need for inter- ministerial, inter- departmental, inter-agency and inter-MDAs collaboration for effective implementation of WEE and to prevent duplication of efforts
- To solicit for increased sensitization of women on available WEE programmes for uptake.
- To solicit for increased sensitization of men on the need to reduce socio cultural issues/practices that hinders women involvement in ownership of assets.

Feedback/response from the advocacy targets



Responding to issues raised by the PAWED WEE Advocacy Coalition in Edo state the permanent secretary Ministry of wealth creation, cooperative and employment Mr Joel U. Edionwe appraised the pawed advocacy coalition for taking issues of women economic empowerment in the state very serious. He noted that there are already projects and programmes geared towards women's economic empowerment as well as general programmes that women benefit from.

The programmes encourage and enhance gender inclusion and reduce cultural barriers hindering the empowerment of Women. However, documentation/data collation, coordination as well as proper monitoring and evaluation in this regard has been very poor. He however also, noted that there is a need to have a coordination unit and build a framework for monitoring and evaluation of women beneficiaries of projects and programmes to ascertain with specifics the impact of WEE related and other programmes.

Outcomes

- The Permanent Secretary, Mr. Joel U. Edionwe expressed commitment to established M & E framework within the ministry for monitoring and evaluation of women benefiting from WEE related programmes and general empowerment programmes



Next step

Follow up on the establishment of M&E framework and coordinating unit for WEE monitoring and evaluation within the ministry of wealth creation, cooperative and employment in Edo state

Media link

- [AIT News: Edo Women Empowerment-CSOs ask for more policies, programs for females](#)
- [Daily Trust: The Partnership for Women and Economic Development \(PAWED\) has charged the Edo State Government to increase funding for women's economic empowerment in the state](#)