

The Adullam Development Research Centre – Profile

The **Adullam Development Research Centre (ADRC)** was initially known as the Development Strategy Centre and was registered in Nigeria with the Corporate Affairs Commission in 2012. To be able to more effectively fulfil its mandate, it changed its status and name in 2024, becoming a Company Limited by Guarantee and structured as a not-for-profit organization. The Centre is a socioeconomic research, policy reforms, advocacy and training think tank, established with the primary mission of conducting research and advocacy to improve the public policy space and improve knowledge base in developing countries. In pursuit of this mandate, it trains and mentors young scholars while anchoring research that provides evidence for policy and stakeholders' engagement.

The programmes and activities of the Centre are organised around two broad themes namely macroeconomics and public policy and microeconomics and social governance. Within the broad theme of macroeconomics and public policy, the centre focuses on economic and social aggregates including public finance, international financial and capital flows, trade and regional integration, monetary policy, interest rate, exchange rate, and structural reforms. The thrust of this broad thematic area is the analysis of aggregates and implications of broad economic policies on wellbeing of various economic agents as well as the interactions they engender among those agents. Research and advocacy in the microeconomics and social governance theme focus on microeconomic issues of households, firms and institutions, dealing with such subject matters as poverty and inequality, income distribution, labour market, agent behaviour, sectoral strategies, firm dynamics, intra and inter-household relationship, consumption, evolution of micro indicators and how these feed into the bigger economic picture.

The Centre has a pool of Researchers and Associate Fellows. Most of these are drawn from Universities, Research Centres and Professional Groups within and outside its catchment area. This explains its relatively high achievement in just a little above a decade of its existence and operation. The Centre is manned by some of the best and most experienced minds in the socio-economic research and consulting space in Africa. It has some of the most advanced public finance management, governance and development policy researchers who have been involved in both research, direct public sector administration, training and advocacy. A number of its researchers are allied with regional and global bodies like the African Economic Research Consortium (Nairobi, Kenya), the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (Dakar, Senegal), the International Development Research Council (Ottawa Canada), the Economic Modelling Group of the Free University of Belgium (Brussels, Belgium) and the University of Pretoria, South Africa among several others.

The ADRC has distinguished itself as a leading Nigerian economic research organization and think tank. The Centre's strength derives from the competencies and capabilities of the Fellows therein as well as previous and ongoing projects they have been involved in, both corporately and privately. Some of these include:

1. Members of the team have worked for virtually all Development Institutions - the World Bank, UNDP, African Development Bank, UNICEF, UNU-WIDER, United Kingdom Department for International Development (UK DFID now FCDO), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the German International Development

Cooperation (GIZ), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and several others.

2. In 2024, the Adullam Development Research Centre successfully implemented a State-wide baseline assessment of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector in Enugu State of Nigeria. The Centre is still drawing up the implementation details for an overhaul of the WASH Sector for the current administration's interventions on behalf of the Governor and Executive Council of Enugu State. Under the arrangement, it is monitoring, on behalf of the State, what promises to be one of the most comprehensive WASH interventions in any State of Nigeria. The assessment involved a detailed enumeration of 432 Autonomous Communities of Enugu State in Nigeria.
3. Alongside other non-government actors, the Adullam Development Research Centre (ADRC) was part of the team that implemented Nigeria's Sub-National Budget Transparency Survey (SNBTS) project. This project was coordinated by the Civil Resource Development and Documentation Centre (CIRDDOC) with financial support from the UK-FCDO. As a nation-wide project, the Adullam Development Research Centre and her team of researchers covered States within the South East Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria. This project has also been contributed to shaping the public financial management systems of Nigerian States.
4. The Adullam Development Research Centre implemented the Children and the Law project in Enugu State in 2022 fiscal year. This project, which was supported through the European Union's Agents for Citizen-driven Transformation (EU-ACT) programme was implemented to help improve the implementation of the Child Rights Law of Enugu State. Through the project, the Centre collected data on the implementation of the Child's Rights Law in Enugu State.
5. Before the formal establishment of the Adullam Development Research Centre, members of ADRC's current team led the conceptualization and implementation of the Business Environment and Competitiveness across Nigerian States (BECANS) project. The BECANS was in collaboration with the Central Bank of Nigeria, National Planning Commission, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria, Nigerian Economic Summit Group and Nigerian Association of Small and Medium Enterprises. The project designed standardized questionnaires and reporting templates for capturing business environment from the 36 States of Nigeria and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).
6. Dr. Agu led the survey of MSME clusters in Nigeria on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Trade and Investment. That project was conducted using a consortium involving two other firms and covered the country. Challenges with continuity in Government did not allow the outcomes of that survey to be utilized as intended to design and implement an MSME clustering framework for the country.
7. In 2009/2010, the same team (of ADRC researchers) conducted another landmark study and survey of the Nigeria's migration and remittances matters on behalf of the World Bank. This study generated national data on migration and remittance in Nigeria, which has helped been relied upon to estimate Nigeria's remittances figures in recent years.

8. ADRC today has a robust network for collecting and regularly capturing state-level data from public and private sectors. The Centre has a long list of some of the most qualified personnel across the country that have been trained and participated in large-scale, country-wide data collection, management and reporting projects.
9. Beyond its work on desk research, empirical surveys, scientific assessments and development support, the Centre has also supported a range of States in Nigeria, including Enugu, Anambra, Kogi, Adamawa, Sokoto, Ebonyi, Abia, among others in policy assessments, design and implementation. This has generated deep appreciation of the structural constraints facing policy design and implementation in Nigeria. It has also helped our capacity for innovating solutions to these challenges, designing incentives and control systems that minimize distortionary behaviour by economic agents.

We are confident that these competencies and networks built over the years will be highly valuable for any organization for which we work.

The Adullam Development Research Centre, Enugu operates through a network of experts called Fellows. Our Fellows are affiliates who work as team members under the coordination and supervision of the Centre. Currently, we have more than 50 Fellows who hold at least a Masters Degree in Economics, Political Science, Sociology, Business Administration, Accounting, Banking and Finance, Agricultural Economics and Development Studies. Most of our Fellows have other professional certification in the relevant social science and management disciplines.

ADRC Fellows are among the best-ranked professionals in Nigeria. Many of them are accomplished university researchers, top-class consultants, scholars and private sector operators. Our Fellows include at least 10 Professors, 20 PhDs and 30 M.Sc. holders from the disciplines named earlier.

ADRC has its secretariat in Enugu. The Centre has a Board of Directors and a Managing Partner. The Managing Partner is the Chief Research Officer of the Institute. There is a Research Coordinator who supervises the Research Team/Project Leaders. Research teams get logistical, managerial and administrative support from the Secretariat in Enugu.

ADRC has acquired tremendous political and intellectual capital by networking with a variety of organizations in Government, Private Sector and Civil Society at all levels in Nigeria and beyond. We have cordial relations with all the 36 State Governments and the FCT. We have worked actively with National Planning Commission and Central Bank of Nigeria, the Federal Ministry of Trade and Investment among several other public and private institutions. We have contacts and cordial relations with the national and many State chapters of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN), Nigerian Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME) and National Association of Small Scale Industrialists (NASSI). As has always been the case, we expect these institutional relationships to serve us well in mobilizing and eliciting the cooperation and participation of these bodies in the current project with the African Development Bank. Our network of field survey teams and monitors in the States will readily help in generating and organizing the requisite MSME data in an efficient and effective manner.

The secretariat is well staffed, well equipped and well-motivated. We insist on professional excellence and integrity in all our assignments.

For further enquiries:

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