The Research Goals & Methods
Research goals

The study attempts to determine:

– how the public engage in the discussions of the national budget because public awareness of the available data is unclear
– the degree of awareness of open data
– potential of open data to drive good governance
– identify the intermediaries in the flow of budget information
– identify challenges to effective use of such open budget data.
Methodology

A range of approaches, including:

• Institutional survey (ongoing)
  – incl. respondents from the Budget Office and Ministry of Finance; to map the supply side processes

• Stakeholder survey (ongoing)
  – survey & in-depth interview: journalists, Key persons in NGOs, online networkers, professionals, visible budget analysts

• Media analysis (concluded)
  – newspapers (from 2009 – 2013)
  – online social networks (around the 2013 budget)
The Major Approach to Media Analysis

- Analysis of content published in Newspapers in Nigeria
  - 6 Nigerian national Newspapers selected using the criteria of circulation, readership status, and geographical location
  - all newspaper editions from December of the preceding year to May of the following year (6 months)
  - extracting news items on the annual budgets of Nigeria from 2009 to 2013 (5 years)

- Analysis of discourse around key search phrases on Online Social Networking sites — *Facebook & Twitter*
  - extracting discourse on the 2012 & 2013 annual budgets of Nigeria
The Major Approach to Stakeholder Survey

- Demand side questionnaire
- Supply side questionnaire

To elicit information:
- about the respondent
- the respondents’ organisation with a special interest on female participation
- Open data issues
- the Budget of Nigeria
- potential to use the online budget of Nigeria
- users of the online budget data.
Open Data Issues & Evidence from Media Analysis
Preferred format for published Open data:

- 63% PDF
- 20% Excel
- 3% MySQL
- 3% Oracle
- 10% Uncertain
- 0% Oracle file
Asked to provide information based on FoI -

- Provided the required information
- 37% Yes
- 63% No
Perceived Impact of Open Data

A. on increasing government efficiency and effectiveness
B. on increasing transparency and accountability in the country
C. on environmental sustainability in the country
D. on increasing the inclusion of marginalised groups in policy making and accessing government services
E. in noticeable positive impact on the economy
F. entrepreneurs successfully using open data to build new businesses in the country
G. academic institutions in the country opening up their data
H. businesses in the country opening up their own data
I. civil society in the country opening up their own data

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### Assumed or established sources for the news items from Newspaper Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOURCE</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top Government Officials</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Assembly</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-governmental sources</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Spokespersons</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister of Finance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Office</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Finance Officials</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Twitter:** Criticism of sectoral allocations in the budget

- Our great country spent only 3.2% of its national budget on health at the federal level in 2010. Of this, 83% was spent on paying salaries!

- A country that spends 5% of its budget on education and 30% on security is doomed. But common sense isn't so common.

- Shocking: 23 per cent of National Budget Spent on Salaries/Allowances of 18,000 Top Government Officials...

**Facebook:** Distrust of govt., to implement the budget

Prompter – Announcement of 2013 budget presentation by Dr Okonjo-Iweala, Minister of Finance attracted 210 Likes

Comments:

- **Budget is well planned, it requires sincere implementation & God's approval.**

- dis may be budget of hope, if implemented

- Well presented. This is paper work. Nigerians are expecting the action part of it.
For discussion -

• If we could have it, what should be the preferred format for open data and why?
• What are the anticipated overlaps or differences between Open Data and FoI practice in Nigeria?
• What type of impact do we expect from increased awareness of Open Data in Nigeria?
• How can the media be used to institutionalise open data in Nigeria?
Use of The Budget of Nigeria
Have you ever looked through the budget of Nigeria?

Yes 65%

No 35%
How do you make use of the budget information?

- Extract details that concern my organisation: 31%
- Repackage the budget information for circulation in print: 19%
- Repackage the budget information for publication on a website: 4%
- Other: 46%
Do you carry out your own analysis of the budget?

Yes [22] 79%
No [6] 21%
For Discussion......

• What would citizens like to see in the budget that will motivate them to engage more with it?
• What can be done with the budget data in order to promote good governance?
Users & Re-packagers of the Online Budget Data of Nigeria
What factors are impeding against the use of the online budget data by the populace?

- a) The format of the document (7%)
- b) Legal constraints (2%)
- c) Lack of awareness of what to do with the data (32%)
- d) Illiteracy (32%)
- e) Apathy (20%)
- Other (7%)
Ease of locating information in the online budget document -

- Extremely easy: 8%
- Very easy: 38%
- Not too easy: 46%
- Not easy at all: 8%
Source of funding for budget data re-packaging initiatives?

a) Founders of the initiative 0%
b) Government of Nigeria 0%
c) Nigerian NGOs 0%
d) Nigerian CSOs 0%
e) International organizations/agencies 100%
f) Individual donations 0%
What tools do you use in the processing stages to analyze the data?

- a) Calculator 17%
- b) GIS 17%
- c) Programming Language 0%
- d) Spreadsheet 33%
- e) Statistical tool 33%
- Other 0%
What tools do you use to visualize the budget data?

- a) Design software 50%
- b) GIS 25%
- c) Programming Language 0%
- d) Spread sheet 25%
- e) Statistical tool 0%
- Other 0
For Discussion -

• What factors are impeding against the use of the online budget data by the populace & how can this be overcome?

• How can we source for more and better funding to act as a driving force for open data re-packaging initiatives in Nigeria?

• What tools are readily available for analyzing and visualizing budget data?
Potentials to Use the Online Budget Data
Challenges or Impediments to Accessing the Budget from the Internet

Chart showing:
- No [25]
- Yes [18]
Challenges of Access that were identified

- Poor internet connection
- It is not updated regularly
- Non-availability of internet facility
- Not everybody has access to computer
- Apathy, we don't really go out to look for information.
- Threat to the privacy of internet freedom because of corruption and idea of not wanting the electorates to know what they are doing.
- Website maintenance might be a challenge if not taken seriously.
- Inability to provide comprehensive budget breakdown.
- Poor content available.
- Poor bandwidth
- The uploaded format could give problem
- The host site could sometimes disappoint.
- The government is corrupt and will not fully post anything reliable on the net.
- Maybe lack of adequate management of the portal.
- Electricity; unsteady supply of power make accessibility difficult
- Hacking into the website
Impact of Online Budget Data on Government Efficiency and Effectiveness

- High [14]
- Very high [2]
- Extremely high [1]
- Not at all [3]
- Very Low [3]
- Low [6]
Impact of Online Budget on Accountability and Transparency

- High [11]
- Very High [2]
- Extremely High [1]
- Not at all [4]
- Very Low [2]
- Low [10]
Impact of Online Budget on the Economy

- Very Low [3]
- Not at all [5]
- Extremely high [1]
- Very high [3]
- Low [10]

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For discussion …

• What best format could increase stakeholders’ potentials for using the online Budget data?
• How can we stimulate increased access to the online budget data by the citizens at the grassroots, and not necessarily only by the professionals?
• How best can we use the online budget to monitor government and drive transparency and accountability?