

NIGERIA DIGITAL IDENTIFICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT (ID4D)

PROJECT SHEET

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PROJECT CONTEXT

Nigeria's existing foundational ID systems, including the national ID and civil registration (CR) systems, suffer from low coverage across the population. Only 18 percent of individuals have a National Identity Number (NIN) and only 43 percent of new births are registered in the CR. The gap in ID coverage disproportionately affects women and other marginalized and vulnerable groups. A number of challenges have held back previous efforts to improve the ID system in Nigeria and allow the population to access crucial rights and services, including:

- A fragmented ID landscape in Nigeria resulting in duplicative investment
- Insufficient enrollment points that were inaccessible to many people, particularly in rural areas
- Lack of mechanisms for enrolling undocumented persons
- No integration between the national ID system and the paper-based CR system
- Overly complex national ID program, including collection of unnecessary data and issuance of overly sophisticated credentials, slowing down progress towards coverage targets
- Inadequate legal framework and insufficient protections for data protection and privacy

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Against this backdrop, the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) created a shared vision to develop a foundational ID system that would be accessible to all persons in Nigeria and provide proof of identity that would allow them to more easily access services. This vision was reflected in the Strategic Roadmap for Digital Identification in Nigeria, which was endorsed as the official national ID strategy in 2018 by the Federal Executive Council, chaired by President Buhari, to ensure political commitment at the highest level of government.

The Nigeria Digital ID4D Project was conceived in collaboration between the World Bank, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), and European Investment Bank (EIB) to support the FGN to achieve strategic objectives for universal ID and CR systems implementing best practices. The project will support the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) to issue an ID to all persons in Nigeria, working with other key stakeholders to achieve this common goal. Through the foundational ID system, the project will close gender gaps in ID access and foster inclusion for marginalized groups.

COMPONENT 1:

Strengthening the Legal and Institutional Framework

National legal frameworks and capacity building to support inclusive identification, data protection and privacy, and use of ID to access services.

COMPONENT 2:

Establishing a Robust and Inclusive Foundational ID System

Includes establishing a central digital identification system; enrolling residents and Nigerians abroad; distributing a basic credential; bolstering civil registration; and strengthening cybersecurity.

COMPONENT 3:

Enabling Access to Services through IDs

Support linkages between strategically chosen public and private services and the foundational ID system to ensure the identification system enables access and inclusion.

COMPONENT 4:

Project Management and Stakeholder Engagement

Project management and support for conducting a supporting communications campaign and ensuring stakeholder engagement & grievance redress.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK & DATA PROTECTION

- National **ID legal framework** that removes eligibility barriers ensuring inclusion and non-discrimination
- National data protection **legislation** based on best practice
- Establishing data protection **commission**

“PILLARS OF INCLUSION”

Firm government commitment that NIN is **accessible to all**, including:

- Residents and **non-citizens**
- **Undocumented** persons
- Persons with **disabilities**
- Persons who are **unable** to provide biometric data

PRIVACY BY DESIGN

Global best practices on privacy integrated into technical design:

- Purpose limitation: only **minimal data** collected
- Harmonization of fragmented ID landscape to **reduce data duplication**
- Strong **authentication** of authorized users
- **Encryption** of all personal data

MARGINALIZED GROUPS

Extensive **research** and **consultations** with marginalized groups including:

- **Women**
- Persons with **disabilities**
- Pastoralists and **nomadic** groups
- **Refugees** and **IDPs** (in collaboration with UNHCR)

The project will support comprehensive reforms to the Nigerian identification landscape by: (1) strengthening the legal and institutional framework for ID, including data protection and privacy; (2) establishing a robust and inclusive foundational ID system, including civil registration; (3) enabling access to services through IDs; and (4) project management and stakeholder engagement. The project will increase coverage of the national ID in Nigeria from 40 million to 148 million persons by 2024.

The project will leverage the existing enrollment ecosystem and relevant institutions, such as National Population Commission (NPopC), Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), Nigeria Inter-Bank Settlement System (NIBSS), to multiply NIMC's enrollment capacity, unlocking the potential to enroll every individual in Nigeria. By breaking all ID stakeholders out of their silos and channeling their efforts to solve Nigeria's ID challenges collectively, the project will create a national public good for the benefit of all. The project will also develop a business model for the relevant stakeholders with incentives calibrated to bring enrollment closer to communities and ensure that the system reaches all people in Nigeria, including the vulnerable and hardest-to-reach populations, while remaining cost-effective and perceived as fair by all stakeholders. The project will implement global best practices to ensure that the systems safeguard enrollees' privacy and adequately protect personal data. To ensure sustainability of the foundational ID system, the project will support the development of continuous mechanisms for digitally registering births, improving access to birth registration while also allowing national ID numbers to be generated from birth. These mechanisms will in turn providing for the long-term integration of national ID and civil registration in Nigeria.

Throughout the entire project cycle, Nigeria ID4D Project will put a particular focus on inclusive and nondiscriminatory coverage of national IDs, on the protection of personal data and privacy, as well as ensuring that the IDs issued can be used by the population to benefit from their rights and access essential public and private services. The project will address and mitigate exclusion risks by incorporating grievance-redress and oversight mechanisms in NIMC's existing customer service department. Through strong public awareness campaign, outreach strategies, an inclusive and transparent communications plan, and continuous stakeholder engagement will further help manage other social risks.

