

*PERSPECTIVES ON PROBLEMS
AND MANAGEMENT
FAILURES IN NIGERIA PUBLIC
SECTOR*



PREAMBLE

- * Nigeria as one of the richest nations on earth.
- * History and current state of the economy are not in tune with the resources endowed.
- * Nigeria public sector comprises the three tiers of government and their parastatal institutions and enterprises.
- * Nigeria public sector has over the years been facing too many managerial failures and other man caused problems.

- * The country suffers the problem of cost overrun more than any other country in Africa.
- * More attention is given to initial funding of projects than to their completion and continuity.
- * Actual funding requirements for the sector's projects are generally lower than the budgeted figures.
- * Our focus in this presentation is on enumerating the problems and management failures retarding the sector's performance and proffering suggestions towards correcting the anomaly.

What are the Problems and Managerial Failures against the Sector's Performance?

- * Lack of patriotism
- * Corruption
- * Mismanagement
- * Cost overrun
- * Outdated rules and procedures

- * Moral laxity
- * Nepotism
- * Insufficient revenue mobilization efforts
- * Lack of sufficient respect and affection for one another
- * Survival of the fittest syndrome

The Need for a Reform

- * The journey so far with regard to our public sector management is a sad story.
- * This condition makes us to learn from the past and justifies the need for a reform.
- * The condition also pinpoints the areas where corrective actions are needed.
- * Reform means change for the better by removing what is bad, putting right what is wrong and introducing quality upgrading measures.

- * Factors necessitating reform include;
 - Non-performing structure
 - Outdated rules and procedures
 - Low productivity
 - Inefficiency
 - New philosophy and goals
- * The aforementioned factors are applicable to the Nigeria public sector hence the need for a reform.

The Right way Forward

- * Nation-wide campaign on patriotism and belief in the nation's corporate existence.
- * Reviewing existing financial regulations and accounting practices for improving accountability and reducing chances for fraudulent practices.
- * An all out war on corruption.
- * Instituting an intelligent system for monitoring bad behaviour and accumulation of wealth disproportionate to one's earning.
- * Moral awakening and reorientation to make public officers less selfish.

- * Realistic pay to public officers.
- * Sound planning, budgeting and execution with strict adherence to budgetary provisions.
- * Use of cost-effectiveness analysis in managing projects and programmes.
- * The question of choice between contract and direct labour.
- * The question of cost overrun in government projects, programmes and activities.

- * Productivity improvement strategies according to industry peculiarities.
- * Reduction in taste for foreign goods where local alternatives abound.
- * Equitable allocation of resources for even development. At each tier of government, there should be a council of elders representing all sections of the concerned tier. This council should be the watchdog aimed at making sure that every community benefits from government's developmental activities.

Thank you for the attention

