



## Message from the Editor

It is with mixed feeling that I write this piece. As unprepared as I am, I guess I must put down something and this is the only reason for writing this piece. I welcome all our readers, contributors and partners to this very special edition of the e-magazine, a posthumous edition in celebration of one of our own, late Dominic Ogankpa. Dominic was PACT Nigeria USAID ADVANCE Knowledge Resource & Capacity Building Coordinator before his death. He was buried on October 30, 2007 in his home town at Umuahia, Abia State in South East Nigeria.

Dominic started and sustained the laudable idea of the Pact e-magazine to provide a space for Pact Nigeria partners to share activities and exchange views on similar topics. In realization of this fact, this edition features Dominic as a Pact team member as well as tributes from colleagues and Pact Nigeria's partners.

Since the last publication by Dominic, a lot has transpired on the Nigerian political scene. The most outstanding of such events has been the removal of Nigeria's substantive female speaker of the House of Representatives as well as the upturning of the elections of the Kebbi, Kogi and Rivers states governors. This action is of course a vindication of the reports of our election observers nationwide that the April elections were froth with a lot of irregularities.

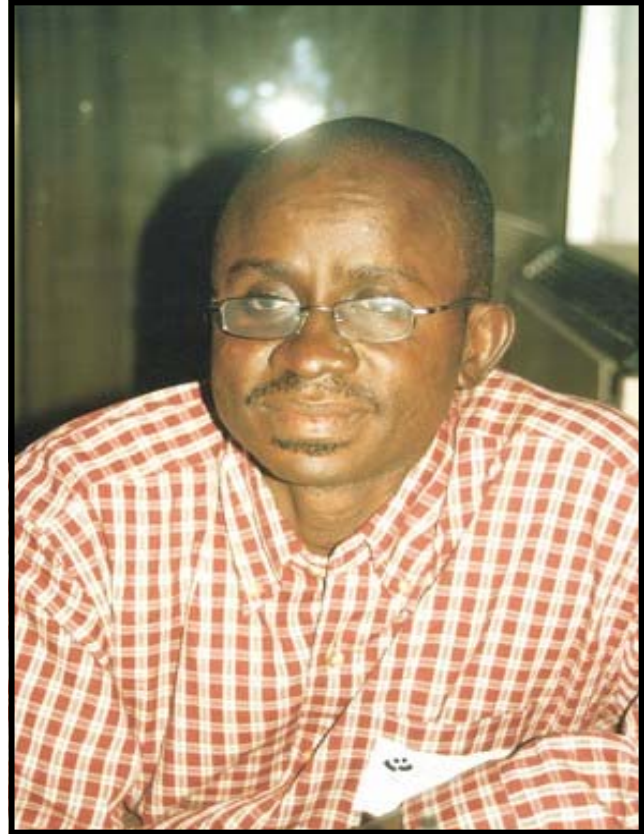
In addition to these developments, a few governors have been apprehended for gross misappropriation of funds while still a few others are still struggling to obtain court injunctions to prevent the Nigerian Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) from prosecuting them.

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## WE REMEMBER DOMINIC



Dominic Nnamdi Ogankpa, PACT Nigeria's Knowledge Resource & Capacity Building Coordinator and editor ADVANCE VOICES before his death was an unsung hero of Nigeria – the kind of hero that we never hear about on the television or read about in the newspapers. In celebrating his life, we must celebrate the lives of all those who are the true champions of a better future for Nigeria. In fact, the best way to honor the memory of our dear colleague is to publicize the example of his commitment and dedication in order to inspire others.

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## PACT Africa Regional and HQ Support to Pact Nigeria

### Regional Support

The Pact Africa Regional Director, Liz Loughran, recently visited Pact Nigeria from the Pact Africa Regional Office (ResNet) in Nairobi, Kenya, East Africa between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007. The purpose of the trip was to provide Africa ResNet leadership and advisory support to Pact Nigeria for the current leadership transition.

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## PACT NIGERIA

*Conti'd from pg1* **Message from the Editor**

Given all the above, it is obvious that Pact Nigeria, through its ADVANCE project, has contributed to the opening up of democratic space for citizens to participate more actively in the art of governance. Even if we cannot lay claim to everything that is happening on the Nigerian scene, we cannot but claim some credit for the opening of space for increased participation both in the election process and review as well as increased peoples' participation in the budget process.

Our budget advocacy and transparency projects have worked hard to sensitize the Nigerian populace, through project partners, on the need for transparency and accountability in government business, especially in public funds disbursement.

This year, budget defense is attracting more space and energy than it ever did in the history of Nigeria. We are hopeful that this expansion of democratic space for expanded discuss on the issue of budget will make for increased transparency and accountability in public expenditure, seal waste and drain pipes and free more resources for provision of democratic dividend to the common man and woman on the streets, especially the poor and excluded.

*Augusta Akparanta Emenogu  
December 2007*

### Pact Nigeria and partners facilitate take-off of CSO liaison office

**I**n the month of October this year, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) in collaboration with the Civil Society Liaison Office and PACT Nigeria organized a one day work plan session for members of the Civil Society Liaison Office and CSO Groups.

The event held at the Protea Hotel, Abuja. Formally introducing the session and its objectives, Human Rights Activist Clement Nwankwo stated that the most important opportunity obvious in the creation of a Civil Society Liaison office was the opportunity for an interface between the office and civil society organizations.

He employed CSOs to work towards its effectiveness in the developmental process. He advised officials at the office not to consider themselves as gate keepers but a vehicle for sustaining linkages for coordination and collaboration.

In his own contribution, Pact Deputy Country Representative, Mr. Ahmed Mohammed, implored the Nigerian Government to support this process.

Graham Gass, representative of DFID, said the agency had high expectations from the office, advising that the session be thorough and that it should consider how best to sustain the quality of staff, its financing among other things.

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### PACT SUPPORTS CIVIL SOCIETY MONITORING OF GOVERNMENT REFORMS

Recently, Pact Nigeria provided space for civil society groups, the media and other stakeholders to come together to dialogue on the best ways of monitoring government reforms. The event, which took place at Nigeria's capital city of Abuja brought Pact partners and other stakeholders in the reform process together. It also attracted some government functionaries, including the Finance commissioner in South West Ogun State.



Participants at the walking the Talk workshop

The need to hold the event, aptly titled "Walking the Talk" was informed by the fact that civil society groups had mounted pressure on government to pass bills to address the issue of corruption in public spending by supporting the relevant bills and it was clear that it was now time to shift gear to mobilizing for effective implementation and monitoring of the said reforms.

Nigerian civil society needed to shift gears and move on to the very important second phase of its advocacy, which is civic monitoring of legal reforms. However, civil society capacity is low in this area understandably because of the very short history of legislative advocacy in the country.

With this background, Pact held the Conference and Training Workshop on How to Hold Government to "Walking the Talk": Civil Society Monitoring of Government Implementation of Legal Reforms, therefore, took



Cross section of participants at the workshop of key anti-corruption laws.

place in September 18th & 19th in Abuja.

The meeting was aimed at building the capacity of Nigeria Civil Society to effectively monitor the implementation

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## PACT NIGERIA

Cont'd from pg1

### PACT Africa Regional and HQ Support to Pact Nigeria

During the visit, Liz provided both leadership and advisory support in the areas of leadership transition; leadership recruitment; program review and oversight; identification of ResNet and HQ support needs for Pact Nigeria through February 2008. She also linked up Pact Nigeria to appropriate professional staff (program and fi-



Liz Loughran, Pact Africa Regional Director

nance/administration) at the regional office and headquarters for necessary actions on some of the identified support needs for immediate follow up actions.

Pact Nigeria CSO partners also benefited from Liz's visit. For instance, at one of Pact Nigeria's event entitled "Walk – the- Talk: Monitoring Government's Implementation of Legal Reforms workshop for key national level CSOs on September 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup>, held in Abuja, Liz addressed the participants (made up of mostly Pact Nigeria partners and other CSOs) and shared information with them on ResNet's program activities. She also went on a visit to Lagos from September 23 – 25 and was accompanied by Ahmed Mohammed, Pact Nigeria's Acting Country Representative. While in Lagos, she met with some Lagos-based partners (Media Rights Agenda [MRA] and Aids Alliance Nigeria [AAN] in their respective offices. She equally attended a partner's (CISLAC), event which was held in Lagos during that time.

Liz touched base with our main donor – USAID Nigeria. Accompanied by Eve Thompson, the then Pact Nigeria Country Representative (out-going) and Ahmed Mohammed, Pact Nigeria's Deputy Country Representative (would- be Pact Nigeria Acting Country/ Representative), she paid a courtesy visit to USAID Nigeria Mission Director, Sharon L Cromer on September 19th.

In another separate visit to USAID on September 26th , Liz, Ahmed and Lawrence Ogwuche (Pact Nigeria Senior Finance & Administrative Officer) met with USAID Nigeria D&G team and made a brief review of the ADVANCE program. The D&G team comprised Adamu Igoche (Acting Team Leader) Bose Eitokpah (CTO, ADVANCE Program) and Chom Bagu (Conflict Program Manager). A courtesy visit was also made by Liz and Ahmed to the USAID Nigeria's monitoring and evaluation contractor – Monitoring and Evaluation Management System (MEMS), Abuja where

they met with Patricia Rainey (the Chief of Party).

Furthermore, towards understanding the donor community in Nigeria, Liz accompanied by Ahmed visited and shared information about Pact and ResNet with DFID Abuja; OSIWA, Abuja; and Ford Foundation, Lagos.

#### Headquarters Support

As a follow up to the identified Pact headquarters support needs to Pact Nigeria for the transition period by Liz, Dan Spealman (Pact HQ Senior Program Manager, Civil Society Leader Award) visited Pact Nigeria from October 16<sup>th</sup> through 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007 and provided program support on monitoring, evaluation and reporting as well as general program management review. He edited, finalized and helped to submit Pact Nigeria's FY 07 annual performance report, quarter four FY 07 and FY 07 report Stakeholders' Evaluation Review meeting's (SER) report, which were prepared by Pact Nigeria team. While the Acting Country Representative was unavoidably absent for some days, Dan backstopped for him and helped to submit these reports to USAID Nigeria.

Dan participated actively in the joint review team (of Pact Nigeria, MEMS and USAID Nigeria) that reviewed ADVANCE program's results framework, Program Performance Management Plan (PMP) including all the indicators and their performance data tables. He also supported the initial review of the Pact Nigeria FY 08 work plan to track progress being made and to identify activities, whose timelines could be adjusted.

Finally, Dan identified possible support needs for his second visit being planned for early December, 2007.



#### Meet our Team

**LATE DOMINIC NNAMDI OGANKPA**

*Knowledge Resource & Capacity Building Coordinator*

Dominic Ogankpa studied Sociology at the University of Jos in Northern Nigeria. His speciality was advocacy, civic engagement in budgets and human rights. He had a long history of

activism. During his life time, he focused on democracy and governance issues in Nigeria. He was a devoted catholic.

A very detribalised Nigeria, very few people knew the exact hometown of Dominic probably because he did not emphasize or play this up. Instead, he related to everyone the same way irrespective of where they came from. This attitude can be traced to the fact that though he was originally from the south eastern part of the country, he completed his university education in northern Nigeria while his father and most probably he himself at onetime or the other lived in Nigeria's former capital, Lagos.

A quiet, very knowledgeable but unassuming gentleman, most people were shocked to hear, during the wake held by Pact Nigeria, that Dominic was also an ardent footballer.

In addition to his dear wife, Dominic left to mourn him, his two sons, Praise and Destiny, both still very much under five years. In his leisure time, Dominic loved to listen to Jazz. He loved and lived life to the fullest. One of his passions was playing tennis.

He would be remembered for his calm demeanour and his wealth of knowledge and connection with quite a number of activists. Good bye Dominic. Sleep on until the resurrection mourn.

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## WE REMEMBER DOMINIC

**Tribute to Dominic Ogankpa***By Eve Thompson*

Dominic Ogankpa was an unsung hero of Nigeria – the kind of hero that we never hear about in the television news or in print media. In celebrating his life, we must celebrate the lives of all those who are the true champions of a better future for Nigeria. In fact, the best way to honor the memory of our dear colleague is to publicize the example of his commitment and dedication in order to inspire others. I am thus honored to participate in that process through this special edition of *Advance Voices*.

Dominic and I were colleagues for nearly 11 months. In that time he responded readily and enthusiastically to the call to initiate this newsletter, become its editor and to spearhead Pact Nigeria's efforts to make available more and better knowledge resources to our partners. Indeed, this newsletter is part of Dominic's impressive legacy. The pages of every issue reflected his passion for pursuing a more accountable, more transparent and less corrupt Nigeria. In producing each issue he always strove to make the next one better than the last. And he succeeded beyond measure.

For all of the staff at Pact Nigeria, Dominic was a source of information and of networks. He used his vast network of similarly dedicated Nigerians to identify new opportunities and new ways of implementing the Pact mandate. His quiet demeanor belied his wealth of contacts from whom he commanded great respect and admiration.

Dominic was never selfish with the knowledge he possessed. It was there and accessible to us all. He was equally committed to self-improvement, where he regularly sought out opportunities to reach new heights in his profession.

But I was most struck by Dominic's graciousness which was demonstrated most profoundly at the end of his life when he sought to spare his colleagues the burden of his suffering. However, he had not anticipated how much more of a burden the impact of his loss would be for all of us. The loss of Dominic Ogankpa is a tremendous loss for Nigerian civil society and Nigeria itself.

Without the Dominics of this world, Nigeria's future is bleak. Were Nigeria to be flooded with Dominics on the other hand, this country would know no limits.

***Mercy Anene***

Oh God! Dominic! This is unbelievable; all the same may your gentle soul, through our precious blood of Jesus Christ rest in peace. Amen.

It's so sad to hear. God give your family and us all the grace to bear.  
Adieu

***Jumaih Danuk****CISHAN.*

## TRIBUTE TO A GREAT MAN

I knew Dominic for only a short while but then it doesn't take forever to know a great person. Dominic to me symbolized the picture of a gentleman, ever courteous, ever nice, maintaining a dignified mien that only comes naturally.

In Life he touched so many and I pray that in death, his legacies would linger in the minds of his friends, colleagues, his family and those who knew him best.

Adieu Sir Gallant

***Soji, Ime, Yemisi, Yinka, Teju and Seun****The Convention on Business Integrity*

I recall the meeting with Dominic for the very first time during the Stakeholders' Review Meeting a few months back. He did strike me as a patient person as he took his time to respond to my enquiring mails before the program. He also struck me as one who carried on his work with a deep sense of conviction.

I know that his family, friends and colleagues will miss him dearly. We at The Convention on Business Integrity join our colleagues in Pact to mourn this irreplaceable loss. We pray strength for everyone that knew him closely and pray that all the comfort and provisions that will keep his family will come to them.

For everyone that he has left behind, Dominic has not only left us with the New Nigeria Project, he has left us to ponder on the true worth of life and living.

God Bless his gentle soul and grant him peace eternal.

***Comrade Edem Edem****ABGREMO Family*

We in ABGREMO (the entire Board, Management, Staff and Members/Volunteers), mourn with you on the sudden death of your beloved staff, husband and father.

We first came in contact with Comrade Dominic early 2002 when he championed the course to liberate the Bakassi people from the gross violation of their fundamental right to self determination, violated by the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Shortly after that we stayed together in PACT and just now he is gone.

We in ABGREMO will miss you and we pray God to give you rest.

Adieu. Dominic  
Adieu a great motivator.

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## PACT NIGERIA

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### WE REMEMBER DOMINIC

**Onyinye Ugonna**

*Program Officer*

*Zero Corruption Coalition*

It was very shocking to hear of Dominic's death. As I write this I can't believe he is dead. I would never forget the way he teased me about my driving. He was a nice ,funny and jovial man. I pray to God to give his family and PACT Nigeria the grace to bear this great loss. Dominic may your gentle soul rest in peace Amen!

**Ms. IDIGBOR, N. Comfort**

*CADA Nigeria.*

*Secretary*

No amount of Words can describe truly the MAN DOMINIC and the Vacuum he has left in the CSO World. But for record purposes we at CADA Nigeria would say that we have lost an Asset.

May His Gentle Soul Rest in Peace and May God Bless His Family

**Dominic, A Life Well Lived!**

**Ekanem Bassey**

*Program Coordinator,*

*Pact Nigeria*

I feel enriched for having known Dominic Nnamdi Ogankpa. I remember him as a knowledgeable colleague, passionate advocate and witty friend.

My first impression of Dominic as a very quiet and unassuming person was right but he was also a lot more. After several interactions with Dominic, I was amazed by his deep passions and convictions, especially for social equality and a better Nigeria. This was reflected in his interests, his career path and in his very humane treatment of others.

If the phrase "knowledge is power" is true, then Dominic was a very powerful man for he had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. He was always reading various books all the time. His position in Pact was aptly titled "Knowledge Resources and Capacity Building Programme Coordinator. He always informed our work with his deep knowledge on various issues, aside from his scope of work.

He was also very witty, always bringing life and humor into our seemingly endless meetings. It was always amazing to me that nothing could get him down. He always had a positive attitude towards life and that was ever so helpful in times of stress. He was very easy going; I don't recall ever having an unpleasant encounter with him.

Is it better not to have met Dominic than to lose him so soon? This is a question I keep asking myself. I cherish those two years of having Dom around and I have benefited from his many legacies. He gave his all in life and set a minimum standard for me. He has taught me that you do not have to be at a top level to contribute to humanity but that one must do one's bit in one's corner.

I miss Dominic terribly and I have to keep reminding myself that he is gone but I guess it is natural to mourn and feel sad. In sadness for his death but with appreciation for his life, I celebrate the life of Dominic Ogankpa as a life well lived and worth remembering, a great Nigerian, who worked for and loved humanity. Adieu my friend, as I take consolation in the fact that your gentle soul must surely be resting with God.

**Ahmed Mohammed**

*Acting Country Representative, PACT NIGERIA.*

I was the first Pact Nigeria staff to meet Dominic prior to his recruitment at Pact Nigeria. I met him in December 2006 as one of the participants at the Strategic planning event of Media Rights Agenda (then our potential partner) that was supported by Pact Nigeria. During the deliberations at that event, I singularly noticed Dominic's collection of knowledge, expertise, exposure and contacts on some vital development issues including budget advocacy.

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### PACT SUPPORTS CIVIL SOCIETY MONITORING OF GOVERNMENT REFORMS

Former Pact Nigeria Country Representative , Eve Thompson, delivered an opening remark which guided participants on the objectives of the event. There were presentations as well as break out session during which groups worked on various accepts of the reforms

The group work focused on identifying major stakeholders, most effective framework for monitoring the reforms, how groups would use outcome from such reforms among others.



A facilitator facilitating a session during the workshop

At the end of the event, it was agreed that civil society groups needed to engage more intimately with such reforms as the Fiscal Responsibility and Public Procurement acts as well as continue to push for the passage of the Freedom of Information Bill (FOI). These three legislatives if effectively implemented are expected to stem corruption in public expenditure, reduce waste and free resources for development, especially as it affects the excluded and vulnerable segments of the society. They are also expected to ensure transparency and accountability in governance as well as increase democratic dividend to the Nigeria citizenry.

**RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE  
PACT ADVANCE STAKEHOLDER REVIEW MEETING HELD  
25 & 26 JULY 2007**

**(i) On Lessons learnt:**

**Q:** *How does Pact intend to translate the lessons learnt so far into best practices?*

**A:** Pact/ADVANCE is already exploring systems for glean- ing lessons learned from partner experiences and then capturing the best practices directly from those experi- ences in a *Best Practice* series of publications. Currently we have identified at least three best practice case studies – one from the Media Rights Agenda/Freedom of Infor- mation Coalition’s work in Freedom of Information legis- lative advocacy and another from the Mandate Protection experience in Bauchi State. Another important best prac- tice is Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation’s (WOTCLEF) approach to leveraging exist- ing networks such as the National Youth Service Corps to spread their message.

**Q:** *What is Pact’s plan to translate lessons learnt into fu- ture program?*

**A:** Pact/ADVANCE is continuously reflecting on its current internal administrative and external programmatic prac- tices and how to improve upon both. Towards that end, we have formally initiated a one-day “reflection” session with the idea of holding one per month in which the Pact ADVANCE staff will review current practices and what aspects of those can be strengthened. Partners are wel- come to participate in these sessions.

**(ii) Opportunities:**

**Q:** *What were the responses of civil society/government agencies to the line projects of Pact?*

**A:** Responses to Pact/ADVANCE programming have been mostly favorable. There has been particular praise for the Pact approach of building capacity by supporting Nigerian civil society to strengthen their advocacy roles and prac- tices as opposed to us occupying space that is legitimately theirs. In that regard, as an international NGO, Pact pre- fers to play a supporting role, rather than a competing one. To this end, Pact only deals indirectly with the Nigerian Government agencies through supporting our partners to engage directly with them.

So there has been very little input or feedback coming directly from government agencies to Pact. We would however, certainly appreciate our partners notifying us of any government feedback that they receive about their work. We also committed at the Stakeholder Review meeting to liaise more regularly with the National Planning Commission.

**Q:** *How easy has it been to tap into identified opportunities?*

**A:** There are many opportunities to intervene for the ad- vancement of public good in Nigeria. In the anti- corruption sector alone, we have already identified several and have not had too much difficulty finding credible and competent partners, whose interventions we now support.

The principal challenge has been mobilizing the resources to support all of the opportunities deemed worthy of pursuing once they have been identified.

**Q:** *What criteria do you have in deciding project priority areas?*

**A:** Pact/ADVANCE is first and foremost guided by the over- all mandate of our Cooperative Agreement with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The three objectives of the ADVANCE program pursuant to that agreement are:

- i. Strengthening Civil Society Organization (CSO) capac- ity for effective program and financial management;
- ii. Increasing CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key government transparency and accountability related policy reforms and civic participation, including elec- toral processes (during the 2007 elections); and
- iii. Strengthening public-private CSO partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives.

Pact/ADVANCE prioritizes focus areas according to how closely aligned they are to these key objectives.

**Q:** *What mechanisms can Pact put in place to assist part- ners’ organizations benefit from each others’ projects or activities?*

**A:** Pact/ADVANCE works to ensure coordination and col- laboration among partners as much as possible. Recently for example, we convened a meeting of all potential partners en- gaged in NEITI related advocacy and capacity-building to ensure that their projects would be as integrated and collabora- tive as possible. They were extremely appreciative of the fact that we were encouraging them to work together.

In addition, we began in December 2006 to publish a newslet- ter in which we publish news and information relating to part- ner events and activities. We will also begin featuring the “success stories” of partners as reported in our quarterly re- ports on the Pact Nigeria website. There are also “links” on our website to partners’ websites to enable visitors to the site to review more of partners’ activities. There is also a list- serve, which enables partners to speak directly to one another. Pact/ADVANCE also plans to develop, produce and distribute a *Best Practice* series of publications.

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## PACT NIGERIA

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**WE REMEMBER DOMINIC**

Since Pact Nigeria was seriously looking to fill one of its program job opening positions – *Program Coordinator for Budget Advocacy* and the position, among others already advertised, I immediately contacted Dominic at the end of the workshop to find out whether he was aware of the advertisement. His response was no and I informed him about the advert and told him to even check our website. Dominic humbly thanked me for the information and said he would give it a try. He did and he was one of the few short-listed for interview for the position, after rigorous screening at various stages. He was also the last to be interviewed.

During the interview, Dominic was able to display the collection of knowledge, expertise, exposure and contacts I noticed in him to the interview panelists (which I was among). As one of the panelists, I drilled him very well. At the end of the entire interview, Dominic was selected by the panel as the most qualified candidate for the position. It was after the decision of the panel that I informed the panel where, when and how I identified Dominic as a potential candidate and informed him about the advertisement. The panel appreciated my identification. But I was also appreciative that Dominic was able to demonstrate what I noticed in him.

Dominic joined Pact Nigerian team and displayed his wealth of knowledge, expertise, exposure and contacts not only in budget advocacy work that he initially handled but also in the new area that he was later reassigned (Knowledge Resource Management and Capacity Building) as his contributions towards meeting the mandate of the ADVANCE program in particular and the development of Nigeria in general.

In addition, Dominic was very respectful, humble, jovial, and passionate. He mixed freely with all his colleagues.

It is really a pity and painful to miss Dominic now. But that is the will of Allah that nobody can question. Dominic's family will surely miss him. We will indeed also miss him in Pact Nigeria and the Nigeria civil society community as we continue the fight for the inclusion of citizens in the decision making process that affect their lives in order to ensure good governance and eliminate corruption in our nation for the improved well-being of Nigerians.

Although you are gone but we will continue to remember you as long as we see this *ADVANCE VOICES* that you contributed immensely to establish.

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**RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE  
PACT ADVANCE STAKEHOLDER REVIEW MEETING HELD  
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**(iii) Challenges:**

**Q: Do partners have enough space to take initiatives outside their agreed mandate?**

A: No. Just as Pact has to strictly adhere to its own Cooperative Agreement, so too do the partners have to strictly adhere to their Sub-Agreements with Pact/ADVANCE. There is however, scope to be as creative as possible while staying within the clearly defined constraints of your respective Sub-Agreements.

**Q: How does Pact define its challenges?**

A: Pact experiences most of the challenges typically associated with not-for-profit work. Our budgets are always tight and our choices of program priorities are limited by donor priorities. It is also difficult to raise "unrestricted" funds and therefore difficult to build a program based on our own informed understanding of prevailing realities, which require intervention. It is similarly a challenge to orientate partner organizations on the strict reporting requirements and to ensure partner adherence to these. In that regard, Pact encourages civil society in Nigeria to own guidelines that would assist the civil society community to police itself and to maintain the high level of integrity necessary to be regarded as credible and worthy of support. Because of the challenges of getting partners to comply with reporting deadlines and other requirements, Pact often falls short of meeting its own deadlines with its donor.

**Q: How have the obstacles/challenges been managed?**

A: Pact endeavors to diversify its funding portfolio and also to seek more creative ways of mobilizing unrestricted funding. We are also looking for case studies on fund mobilization that we can share with our partners. We have sought to organize capacity-building training for partners on reporting requirements.

**(iv) Successes:**

**Q: Is the success Pact/ADVANCE has achieved to date solely attributable to PACT's efforts or was there any outside collaboration?**

A: Pact's success is entirely attributable to the collective efforts of USAID, Pact/ADVANCE staff and the staff of all of its partners. Outside consultants have also supported our efforts.

**Q: What are the criteria or yardstick used to measure the success of the project?**

A: Pact/ADVANCE uses a results framework against which to measure its success and a standard USAID Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system to monitor advances towards the attainment of our strategic goals. The results framework is posted on this website under "Results Framework." We are also currently reviewing the best way to systematically glean the level of impact on the participants in our partners' programs. A periodic questionnaire sent out by all of our partners to a sampling of participants in their activities in the "post-activity phase" may be the best approach. We invite partners to submit suggestions regarding what should feature as part of these questionnaires.

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## PACT NIGERIA

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### Pact Nigeria and partners facilitate take-off of CSO liaison office

Deputy Senate President, Senator Ike Ekweremadu, lauded the initiative of establishing a civil society liaison office. He expressed interest in the coordination and collaboration of efforts to stabilize the office. He commended National Assembly Management, the NDI and other stakeholders, who had worked assiduously towards its takeoff.

Senator Ike Ekweremadu said that his expectation and the expectations of the general public was to witness a dynamic relationship between the stakeholders in developing an engaging and productive relationship between CSOs and the Nigerian Parliament through the Liaison Office.

He equally appealed that credible and intellectually capable CSO groups be identified to engage with the National Assembly, especially in such areas as Public Hearing and Bill Formulation.

Another concern for the leadership of the senate was how to protect the jobs of the CSLO Staff because of the delicate nature of such duties and the likelihood of their experiencing a conflict of interest in carrying out their functions.

The Deputy Senate President advised that while the civil society liaison office develops a CSO database, it should be done in accordance with best practices.

Participants appealed to Senator Ekweremadu to sustain the momentum of the office through support from the Senate. They suggested that a CSO Desk Officer be employed to work with the current staff of the CSO Liaison Office, who were also staff of the National Assembly.

Other issues that came up include connecting the CSO Office to serve as a bridge between civil society and government; ensuring improved CSO access to the legislative processes as well as increasing CSO understanding of legislative processes.

This was in realization that the CSO Liaison Office was best suited to list CSOs for its database; facilitate the collaborative work for greater synergy; serve as an informative resource and dissemination system for CSOs; share periodically information from CSOs to related Committees

Other suggested duties of the office include relating to and considering CSO groups as partners. Participants said the CSO liaison office should be open and willing to work with a CSO Officer in the near future.

Other recommendations as to how best to make the CSO liaison office efficient include incorporating the recommendations of the meeting into the final documents for the office. Participants said the National Assembly Management should accommodate a CSO Representative to work with staff of the CSO Liaison Office. Finally, it was suggested that there should be a press release in the National dailies publicizing the outcome of the work plan session and also the establishment / creation of the CSO Liaison Office. The CSO Liaison Office is seen as a welcome development and all stakeholders are encouraged to support the office.

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### WE REMEMBER DOMINIC

**Babatunde Oluajo,**  
Head, Democracy and Governance Project,  
Civil Liberties Organization (CLO).

The news of Dom's death is still a rather tragic and rude shock. I can still visualize the last time we went out for drinks in Abuja.

For somebody I have known since our days in the students movement days in Jos to our meeting again in the Civil society world and our various forms of collaboration both formal and informal, Dom is going to be terribly missed.

Dom's amiable personality and his easy going disposition is an attribute that readily endears him to most people. I pray God to grant his family the fortitude to bear this tragic loss.

Adieu Dom.

**Samuel Eshun**  
IT Consultant  
Pact Nigeria

Dominic was a man with so much wisdom, knowledge, friendship and graciousness, a responsible family man and a patriotic Nigerian, whose love for the betterment of the polity meant so much to him. His legacy will never be forgotten because of the impact it has

made on the various parts he touched. So, it is of great interest that I write this tribute to honor a boss, a friend and a colleague through this episode of the Advance Voices.

I worked with Dominic for about a year, especially through the production of the Advance Voices. For that period, I came to see him as an embodiment of knowledge that Pact Nigeria and its staff would very much miss. Sometimes, I try to tell myself that he is still very much around and this is true because with such legacy as the Advance Voices, he is still around. With the enthusiasm I see him put in the production of every edition of the Advance Voices to make each edition better than the next, I would say he succeeded in that aspect. His openness and love for people made him a very fun person to be with I am so sure my other colleagues in Pact would agree to that.

The loss of Dominic is a big blow to me and to every body in Pact Nigeria, his family and the entire civil society movement in Nigeria.

**Augusta Akparanta-Emenogu**

I remember the last time I saw you at Kings Hospital, Kubwa. I was shocked at how frail you had grown. I tried to counsel and encourage you to hold on to God and you assured me that all you were doing was reading the bible. And for the rest of that day, I was downcast and could not do much. I prayed that the good Lord would heal you and I kept asking after you from your colleagues at Pact.

Continued on page9

## PACT NIGERIA

### WE REMEMBER DOMINIC

*Cont'd from pg8*

They kept assuring and re-assuring me that you were getting better.

I was, therefore, overwhelmed to receive Ekanem Bassey's message that you had passed on. This piece of information left me very numb and brought into focus the fact that we are all dust and that unto dust will we all return.

When I finally met your two sons, Destiny and Praise, I was angry with fate for this deceptive trick of luring you away from your family and I offered a word of prayer that your dear wife will eventually find cause to praise God and that your last son, Destiny, who was most oblivious of all the burial arrangements, would be assisted to realize his own destiny.

The wake organized for you by your colleagues at Pact Nigeria also reminded me of the first time I found out that you were from my state. From that day, I started calling you brother and that broke

some of the ice in our working relationship. I regret now that I did not find the time to learn a little bit more about you.

You were always so quiet but deep, saying so little but meaning and holding back so much. I thank God for the opportunity to have worked even though for a short while with you. I trust and believe Him to see your family through this trying period.

The world is but a stage. Dominic, you came and played own your part and too soon your time was up. Sleep well in the bosom of our lord. May the good Lord whom you embraced even as you bowed out keep you safe and sound until the resurrection morning!

*Continued on page10*

### PHOTO REEL



A cross section of participants during the 'Walk the Talk' training workshop



Pact Africa Regional Director, Liz Loughran, addressing participants at a dinner for potential donors



A cross section of participants during the 'Walk the Talk' training workshop



Chioma Atuluku of WANGONET & former Pact Nigeria Country Rep Eve Thompson, signing a Subgrant Agreement after the 'WTT Workshop'

*Continued on page11*

## PACT NIGERIA

Cont'd from pg9 **WE REMEMBER DOMINIC**

**Susan Okojoku**  
Secretary/ Finance Assistant  
Pact Nigeria

Dominic Ogankpa was a gentle, warm, fun loving, religious, hard-working boss and colleague. His death is a great loss to all who knew him but we are consoled knowing God is in control and loves him more. We also know that each of us will undertake this journey at God's appointed time.

We thank God for giving us the great opportunity of working with him. He will be fondly remembered by all of us. May God give us all the grace to bear this great loss and may his soul rest in the bosom of our lord Jesus Christ Amen.

Adieu Dom.

**Domini Madugu**  
Accountant  
Pact Nigeria

Gone too soon...  
I miss you so much... Everyday I come to the office, and I look forward to you coming in too.

I have known you for about two years and it feels like a life time. You are pleasant, supple and soft hearted.

Simplicity is you.

Adieu my friend till we meet to part no more.

**Lawrence Ogwuche**  
SFAO  
Pact Nigeria

Dominic we're on top of the league. Wish you were here. Gunners for Life.

**Noble Ezedebe**  
Admin Assistant,  
Pact Nigeria.

Dominic was an embodiment of knowledge, very versatile and well informed in his field. He was an ardent reader and this informed my resolution that should I be invited to the popular national TV show "Who wants to be a Millionaire", I would not hesitate to include his name as one of the "phone a friend" contacts when asked a difficult question.

Dominic was a jolly good fellow, who enjoyed his brief life on earth. His contribution to the development world can never be overemphasized. Though we cannot communicate with him physically, Dominic lives forever because his works and bequest remain for us to emulate.

To his family, friends, Pact Nigeria, Pact world, USAID, CSOs and the entire Nigeria I would say, we have lost a gem of inestimable value.

Adieu Dominic.

Cont'd from pg7  
**RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE  
PACT ADVANCE STAKEHOLDER REVIEW MEETING HELD  
25 & 26 JULY 2007**

**Q: How does Pact success compare with that of other organizations doing similar work?**

A: Pact is the only organization in the USAID grant portfolio undertaking civil society strengthening work. So it is difficult to ascertain how it compares with other organizations. However, as discussed earlier, one distinct advantage is that it is supportive rather than competitive.

**Q: What partner's geo-location and thematic issue recorded the highest success?**

A: It is difficult to point to any one location or issue that has recorded the highest degree of success. Many of our partners have recorded successes in many locations and on many issues. Please refer to the section on this website, where partner successes are specifically posted as well as to our monthly newsletter.

(v) **Assessment of Pact/ADVANCE:**

**Q: Is Pact consistent with the commitment in their annual work plan with their partner?**

A: Pact's requirements of their partners are almost entirely guided by the work plan. The only circumstance under which we may not follow the work plan is where the prevailing political situation prevents us from following it. For instance, where we had committed to supporting advocacy related to Freedom of Information Act implementation, we were prevented from supporting this activity since the FOI bill was not passed. Similarly, we may support an activity that was not in our work plan because of a compelling need to do so. Our support to ACE NGO in monitoring the election registration process and organizing a Citizen's Tribunal in addition to supporting a partner reflection session on elections are all examples of the need to build enough flexibility into the work plan to enable it to be as responsive to fluid political developments as possible.

**Q: Did Pact carry out an M&E exercise in carrying out its assessment of partners and projects?**

A: Pact begins its partner M&E exercise with OCAT, an Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool developed by Pact to establish organizational and advocacy capacity baselines for each of its partners at the point at which the relationship with partners begins. Pact also negotiates a results framework and timeline with each grantee. Together, these tools enable Pact to monitor and evaluate both the organizational and programmatic progress of each grantee.

## PACT NIGERIA

Cont'd from pg9

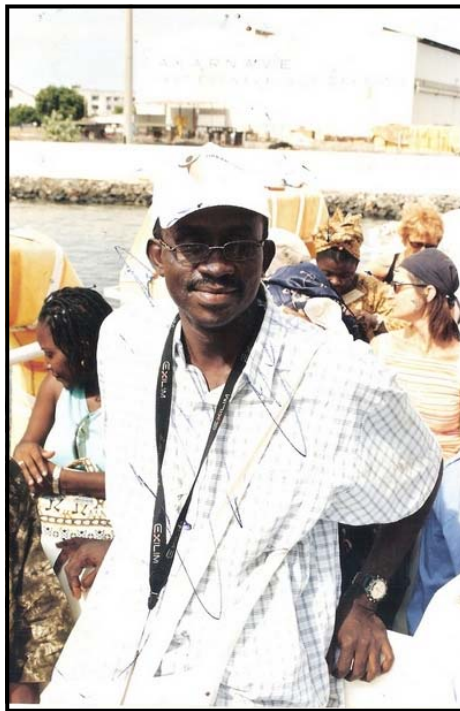
### PHOTO REEL



Dominic, Son and Wife.



Dominic: Feeling very optimistic about life?



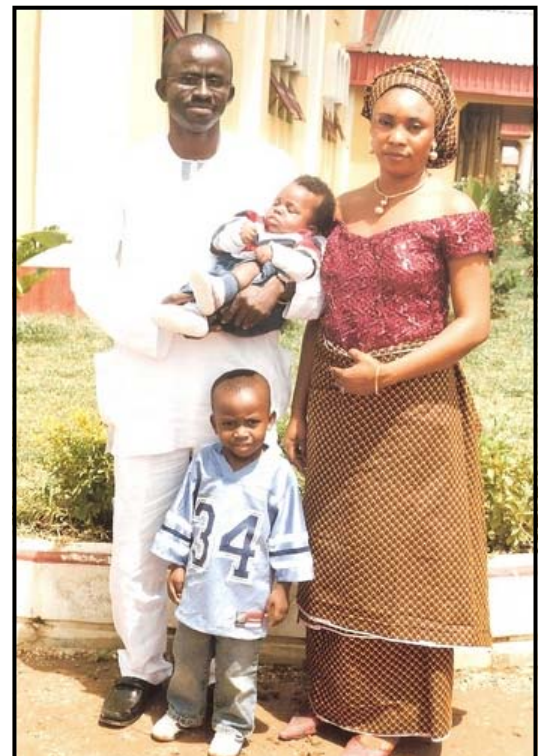
A beautiful view: Dominic seemed to be saying



Dominic also celebrated with us at Pact Nigeria



An integral part of our plans– Dominic was



A loving family man.

## PACT NIGERIA

Cont'd from pg11

### PHOTO REEL



Participants in a session of the Walk the Talk training workshop held in September in Abuja.



Edem Edem of AGBREMO & former Pact Nigeria Country Rep, Eve Thompson, signing a Subgrant Agreement after the 'WTT Workshop'



A facilitator facilitating a session of the Walk the Talk training workshop held in September in Abuja.



Godwin Ojo of ERA & former Pact Nigeria country rep, Eve Thompson, signing a Subgrant Agreement after the 'WTT Workshop'

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