



**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR
TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT**



Doing Research in Nigeria:

Bridging the research gap and improving development policies

RESEARCH TEAM



Abiodun Egbetokun
(Principal Investigator)



Adedayo Olofinyehun



Aderonke Ayo-Lawal



Maruf Sanni



Omolayo Oluwatope



Utieyineshola Yusuf

- Context
- Main actors and responsibilities
 - Study sample
 - Methodology
- Main findings
 - Production
 - Diffusion
 - Uptake
- Levers of change

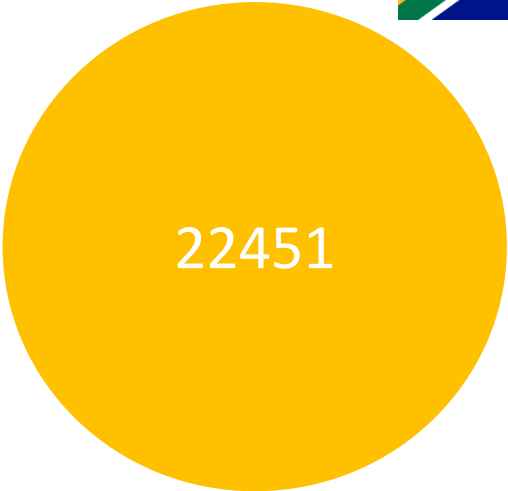
NIGERIA



SOUTH AFRICA



NUMBER OF SOCIAL
SCIENCE PUBLICATIONS



NUMBER OF
UNIVERSITIES

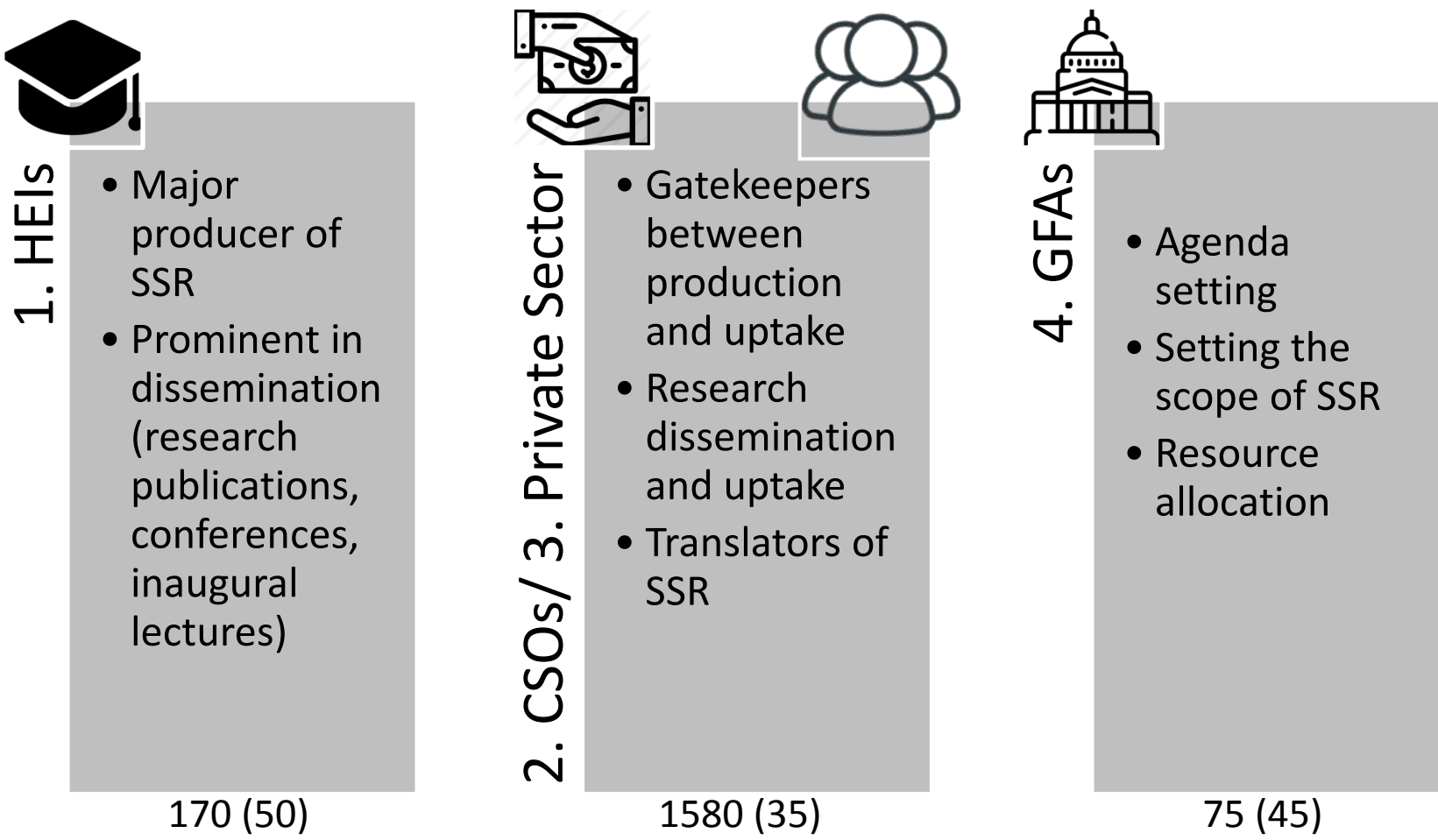


POPULATION



MIXED METHODS

- Desk research
- Interviews
- Basic bibliometrics
- Surveys



MAIN FINDINGS

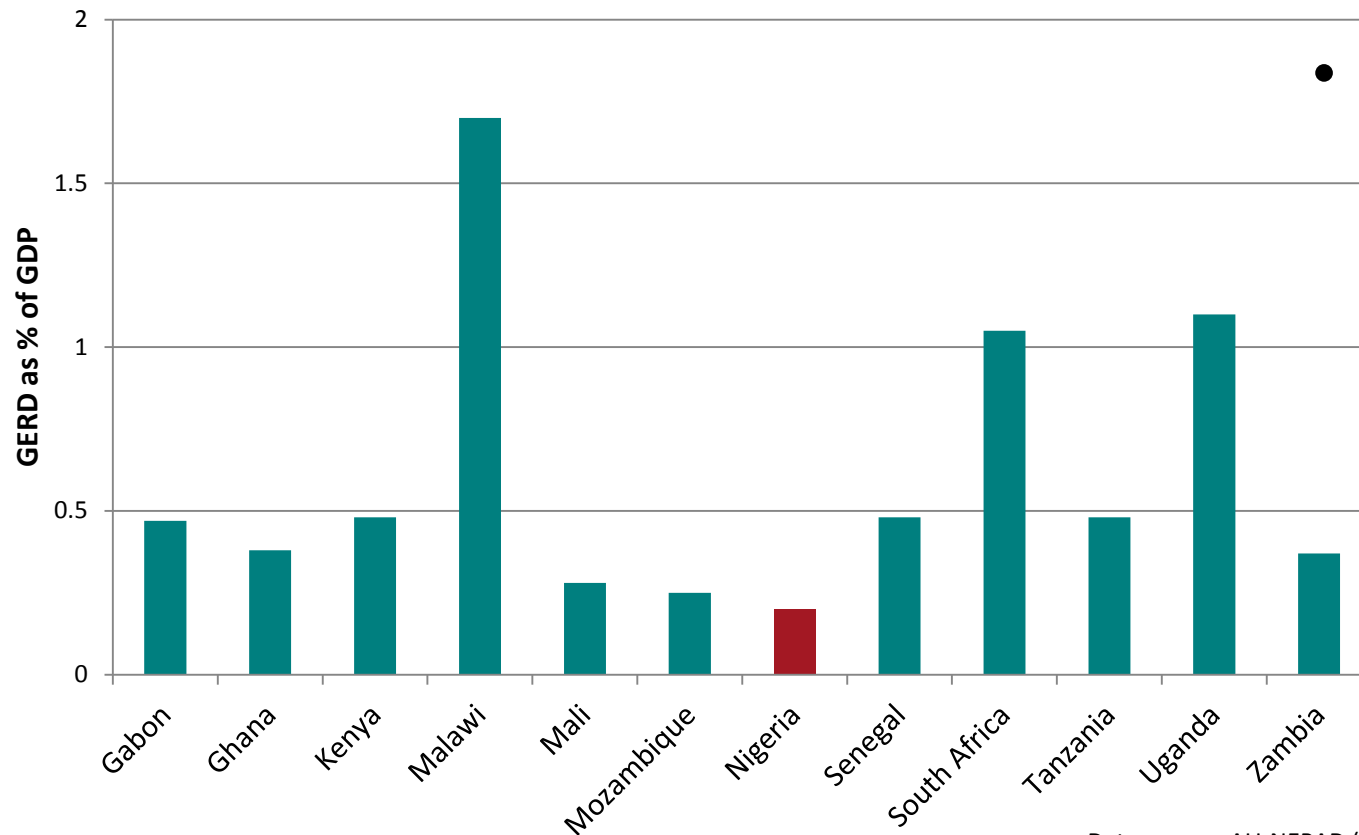
PRODUCTION - PEOPLE



- Share of social science researchers (2009): btw 10 and 50%
- Number of social science researchers (2009): approximately 6,400 - 32,000
- Share of PhDs: approximately 30%, most in universities
- Male-female ratio: 4-1

MAIN FINDINGS

PRODUCTION - FUNDING



Data source: AU-NEPAD (2010)

- Approx.
 - 96% from government
 - 65% to universities
 - 10% to SSR

- Max. \$31k annually per SS researcher → SSR very poorly funded
- Significant but under-reported foreign funding, often with locally irrelevant agenda

MAIN FINDINGS

PRODUCTION – RESEARCH SUPPORT

- Strong peer review culture → 98% of SSR publications are peer-reviewed
- Poor infrastructure: power, secondary data, anti-plagiarism software
- Much distractions: only 30% time spent on research



- Poor systemic coordination: No clear policy or coordinating organisation
- Weak incentives for (quality) research: researcher job market not fashionable; publish or perish; promotion/tenure focus on quantity; sparse formal ethical committees

MAIN FINDINGS

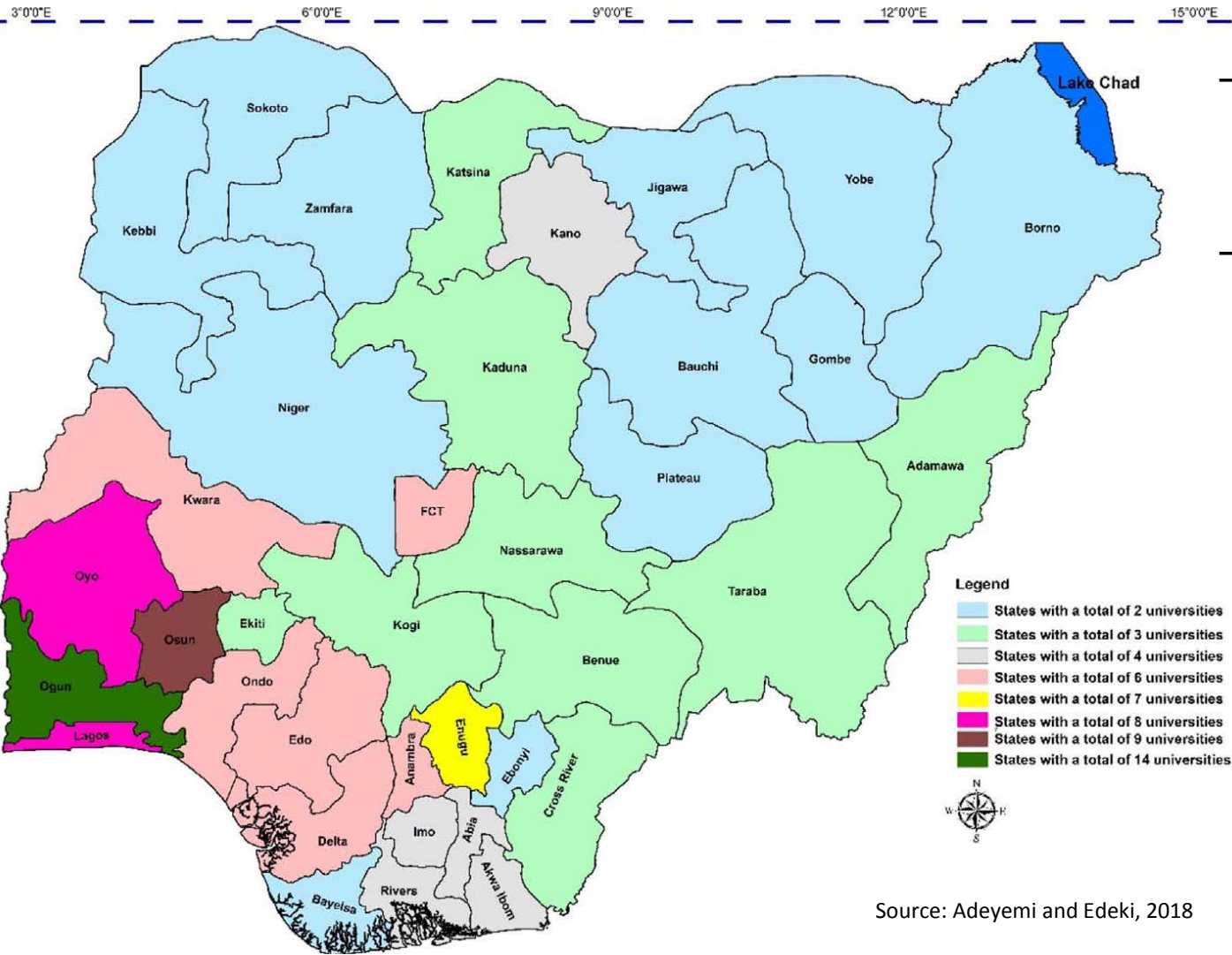
DIFFUSION – DIVERSITY & COLLABORATION

– Research is well dispersed: universities Herfindahl index 0.016

– Collaboration is commonplace

– Co-authorship across disciplines locally and internationally

Total universities in each of the states in Nigeria



Source: Adeyemi and Edeki, 2018

MAIN FINDINGS

DIFFUSION – RESEARCH COMMUNICATION

- Major means of dissemination
 - journals
 - conferences
 - debates
 - news media
 - public hearings by state and national legislatures
 - private consultancies
- Few local journals are visible (e.g. on Scimago and AJOL)



MAIN FINDINGS

UPTAKE – DEMAND FOR RESEARCH

- Political freedom for researchers
- Disconnect between researchers and policymakers in the research process, especially research design
- Policymakers open to expert input...
- ...but weak demand for evidence in policymaking
- Elected policymakers with research background are few and far between (6.2% and 9.85% at central and decentralized levels)



LEVERS OF CHANGE

ACTIONS FOR SSR IMPROVEMENT

	GFA's	HEIs	CSOs	PS	Donors
Create strong and coordinated regulatory frameworks for SSR	✓	✓			
Create demand for high-quality research	✓				✓
Overhaul incentives and assessment system to reward quality in production	✓	✓			
Connect research agenda to local development challenges and priorities	✓				✓
Demand clear uptake plans as part of research grants	✓				✓
Support gathering, curating and disseminating secondary data	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Increase local funding – for research, infrastructure and research support	✓			✓	

for your attention!



QUALITY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

STRUCTURAL BARRIERS / LEVERS OF CHANGE

Limited domestic funding



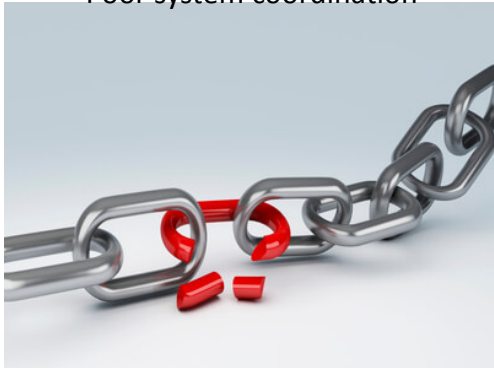
Increase local funding – for research, infrastructure and research support

Publish or Perish syndrome



Overhaul incentives and assessment system to reward quality in production

Poor system coordination



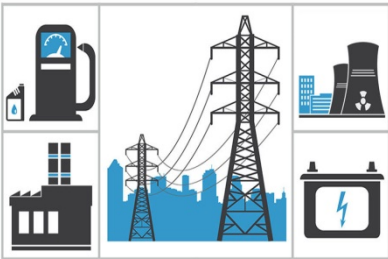
Create strong and coordinated regulatory frameworks for SSR

Poor demand for quality SSR



Create demand for high-quality research

Poor infrastructure



Support gathering, curating and disseminating secondary data