

Self-Assessment Guide



Assessment Manual



Assessment Tool



Assessment Reports



PRM Rapid Assessment  
Framework and Templates

## THE OVERVIEW

Helping  
Governments  
Perform Better



The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office of the UK Government has been supporting governance reform in Nigeria since the return of democratic rule in 1999. Three generations of programmes have worked to help improve performance so that governments can deliver better services to Nigerian citizens. Much work on governance reform has focused on performance assessments, and developing and implementing plans for improvement that can deliver these better services.

In 2006, against prevailing external expert driven assessments of governance capability, the State and Local Government Programme (SLGP) pioneered an innovative approach to self-assessment.

Governments themselves could assess their own performance - this has the potential to enable governments to establish reform agendas, appropriately house them, communicate them, and use them to drive reform. The first such approach to self-assessment was applied to work on financial management reform.

The State Partnership for Accountability, Responsiveness and Capability (SPARC) programme took this approach further. Self-assessment for governance reform work in policy and strategy development, monitoring and evaluation and public service management were designed to complement self-assessment for financial management reform. Taken together, these self-assessments were known as the State Evaluation and Assessment Tool.

The Partnership to Engage, Reform and Learn (PERL), has again taken self-assessment work to a new level.

The programme has worked with government partners to further enable them to more simply understand problems and address them in meaningful and practical ways, in a quicker learning loop. The State Evaluation and Assessment Tool was applied every three years, and comprised a very large set of indicators. The PERL programme has worked with partners to simplify the set of indicators, and apply them on an annual basis - learning is faster and simpler, and this works well in the Nigerian context, with the link to the annual planning and budgeting cycle.

Simpler Governance Assessments have been developed (Section A), along with a simpler quicker Public Financial Management Rapid Annual Assessment (Section B). This PERFORM suite packages these self-assessment manuals, tools and case study examples that can help state governments to prepare and undergo self-assessment on an annual basis. This PERFORM Overview is accompanied by a General Guide to Self-Assessments. The materials in Section A and Section B are:

## PERL General Guide to Self-Assessment with Government Partners

### A. Public Sector Reform Assessment

1. General Guide to Self-Assessment with Government Partners
2. PERL Governance Assessment Manual
3. Rapid Governance Assessment Tool
4. PERL Governance Assessment Reports

### B. Public Finance Assessment

1. PFM Rapid Annual Assessment Manual
2. PFM-RAA Framework (Annex to the Manual)
3. PFM-RAA MS Excel template tool
4. PFM-RAA MS Word template
5. Wazobia State Example - MS Excel Tool
6. Wazobia State Example - MS Word



These tools can support government partners to express their informed opinions about reform, supported by evidence from key government-sourced documents and processes. It is our hope that the tools are used in places beyond where PERL works, and adapted for local needs.

Our work with government partners has already demonstrated that elements of PERFORM are making a difference in some states. As a result of states being able to objectively assess their performance and set themselves SMART (Specific, Monitorable, Achievable, Relevant and Timebound) reform outcome targets, government partners in 2017 were already demonstrating more prudence and robustness in some elements of their financial management system when compared with 2016. And governments are being better able to make the necessary connections with improving services for Nigerian citizens.

I am delighted we are launching the PERFORM suite, and hope that we can together continue to help improve government performance to support a better life for the citizens of Nigeria. We would not have been able to launch this suite without the advice and support of many partners. These partners have included various State Governments in Nigeria, non-state actors, international development partners, and the PEFA<sup>1</sup> Secretariat.

We hope that together we can continue to support work with Nigerian Governments and show that we can PERFORM better for Nigerian citizens.

**Ifeanyi Peters Ugwuoke**  
**National Programme Manager**  
**PERL-ARC**

<sup>1</sup> Public Expenditure Financial Accountability (PEFA).



**Contact Address:**

📍 10 Bobo Street  
Maitama, Abuja, Nigeria

✉ [info@perlnigeria.net](mailto:info@perlnigeria.net)

🌐 [www.perlnigeria.net](http://www.perlnigeria.net)

Find us on Facebook

📘 [www.facebook.com/perlnigeria](https://www.facebook.com/perlnigeria)

