

dRPC emerges as one of the 2019 global think tanks

development Research and Projects Centre (dRPC), has emerged as one of the global think tanks under the Think Tank and Civil Societies Program's Global Think Tank database of the University of Pennsylvania. The recognition appeared in the 2019 Global Think Tank Index Report edited by James G. McGann of the University of Pennsylvania. Eight (8) other organizations from Nigeria were also recognized in the report put together by peers and experts in the development industry worldwide.

Before beginning the 2019 nomination and selection process, the team conducted extensive research in order to update and verify the Think Tank and Civil Societies Program's (TTCSP) Global Think Tank Database. Through this process many additional think tanks were identified for possible inclusion in this year's study.



The peers and experts who participated in the indexing process were encouraged to employ the following criteria when considering nominations and rankings. The 2019 GGTTI Nomination and Ranking Criteria include, but are not limited to, the following criteria:

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- The quality and commitment of the think tank's leadership (chief executive and governing body). This involves effectively managing the mission and programs of the think tank, mobilizing the financial and human resources necessary to fulfil the mission and monitoring the quality, independence and impact of the think tank;
- The quality and reputation of the think tank's staff. Ability to assemble a critical mass of highly skilled, experienced and productive scholars and analysts who are recognized as either emerging or established experts in their respective area of research;
- The quality and reputation of the research and analysis produced. The ability to produce high quality, rigorous, policy-oriented research that is accessible to policy makers, media and the public;
- Ability to recruit and retain elite scholars and analysts;
- Academic performance and reputation. This involves the academic rigor associated with the research conducted. This includes formal accreditation of a think tank's scholars and analysts, the number and type of scholarly publications produced such as: books, journals and conference papers and the number of presentations delivered at scholarly and other professional meetings, and the number and type of citations of the think tanks scholars' research in scholarly publications produced by other scholars;
- The quality, number, and reach of its publications;
- The impact of a think-tank's research and programs on policy makers and other policy actors. Policy recommendations considered or actually adopted by policy makers, civil society or policy actors;
- Reputation with policymakers (name recognition associated with specific issues or programs, number of briefings and official appointments, number of policy briefs and white papers produced, legislative testimony delivered);
- A demonstrated commitment to producing independent research and analysis. This involves standards and policies for producing rigorous evidence-based research and analysis that is posted and monitored by the organization, research teams and individual researchers. This includes disclosure of conflict of interest (financial, institutional or personal) and a commitment to non-partisanship and established professional standards for research in the social sciences;
- Access to key institutions. The ability to reach and connect with key audiences and personnel such as government officials (elected and appointed), civil society, traditional and new media, and academia;
- Ability to convene key policy actors and to develop effective networks and partnerships with other think tanks and policy actors;
- Overall output of the organization (policy proposals, web visits, briefings, publications, interviews, conferences, staff nominated to official posts);
- Utilization of research, policy proposals, and other products. The effective transmission and utilization of policy briefs, reports, policy recommendations and other products by policymakers and the policy community, the number of current and former staff serving in advisory roles to policymakers, advisory commissions, etc., awards given to scholars for scholarly achievement or public service;
- Usefulness of organization's information in public engagement, advocacy work, preparing legislation or testimony, preparing academic papers or presentations, conducting research or teaching;
- Ability to use electronic, print and new media to communicate research and reach key audiences;
- Media reputation (number of media appearances, interviews, and citations);
- Ability to use the Internet including social media tools, to engage with policymakers, journalists and the public;
- Website and Digital presence. The quality, accessibility, effective maintenance of the organization's web presence, as well as, the quality and level of digital traffic and engagement (quality, accessibility, and navigability of website, number of website visitors, page views, time spent on pages, "likes" or followers);

The development Research and Projects Centre, dRPC was formed by some University Academics from Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria in 1994. Since then, dRPC has consistently designed, managed and developed projects where it has trained, mentored, provided seed funds to CSOs and numerous MDAs at the national and state levels, supporting both groups for effective participation in policy dialogue, project incubation design, gender audits, sustainability planning, and community action research.