

Report on the Launch of the One Humanitarian – One Poverty Response System (OHOPRS) by Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction



Submitted by:

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1. Executive Summary

This report details the official launch of the **One Humanitarian – One Poverty Response System (OHOPRS)** by Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction (FMHAPR). Unveiled in a high-level workshop at the UN House, Abuja, the OHOPRS represents a paradigm shift from fragmented emergency interventions to a unified, data-driven national framework. The initiative, supported by the United Nations and other key partners, aims to integrate humanitarian action, social protection, and poverty reduction under a single coordinated architecture. A critical partner in this process has been the development Research Projects Centre (dRPC), whose long-standing relationship with the Ministry and strategic media and financial support have been instrumental in the system's development and launch.

2. Background and Rationale

Dr. Bernard M. Doro, Nigeria's Minister for Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction, has articulated a clear and urgent vision for the One Humanitarian–One Poverty Response System (OHOPRS), describing it as "Nigeria's blueprint for lifting our people from poverty to prosperity." Distinguishing this initiative from past efforts, the Minister stated categorically that "we have been managing poverty, not ending it. It is time for a paradigm shift." At its core, OHOPRS is designed not as another isolated programme but as "a national operating system" that integrates all existing interventions into one coherent framework. The Minister highlighted the critical problem of fragmentation, noting that while "Nigeria does not lack interventions; what we lack is a system that brings everything together for measurable impact." To solve this, OHOPRS will establish "one system, one register and one pathway, a single source of truth that ensures no duplication and no exclusion," thereby moving the nation from merely managing poverty to actively creating "a clear exit pathway from poverty to productivity and long-term growth."

Emphasising the high stakes of this reform, Minister Doro framed poverty reduction as a fundamental pillar of national security, warning that "if we do not unify now, we are choosing to perish." This call for unity extends to all levels of government and society, with the Minister demanding "collective commitment... from all MDAs, state and local governments, development partners, the private sector, and civil society to align with the national system." The urgency is underscored by President Tinubu's uncompromising directive: "He wants 50 million Nigerians out of poverty by 2030. He wants us to implement real-time digital accountability." Minister, expressing a personal connection because he comes from a crisis prone state (Plateau State), has framed OHOPRS interventions as more than food aid, stating that "this intervention is not simply about food on the table today. It is about restoring dignity, rebuilding livelihoods, and ensuring lasting economic opportunity." The ultimate goal, he concluded, is "to break the cycle of repeated humanitarian dependency," moving beyond from crisis response to sustainable prosperity.

For years, Nigeria's humanitarian and social protection programs operated in silos, leading to duplicative efforts, inefficient use of resources, and limited long-term impact. The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Olubunmi Olusanya, noted that many programs functioned in isolation, with benefits not clearly visible to stakeholders. The OHOPRS was developed to address these systemic inefficiencies, moving the focus from short-term survival to sustainable self-reliance.

The goal is to create a structured pathway for lifting millions out of poverty, aligning with the national target of moving 50 million people out of poverty by 2030.

3. The One Humanitarian – One Poverty Response System (OHOPRS)

The OHOPRS is not a standalone program but a **national operating system** designed to overhaul how Nigeria delivers aid and reduces poverty. As articulated by Minister Bernard M. Doro, it is a major policy shift from disjointed assistance to coordinated, outcome-driven action. The core features of the OHOPRS framework include:

- **One System:** A unified national platform that harmonizes all humanitarian, social protection, and poverty reduction interventions across federal, state, and local levels.
- **One Register:** A **Unified National Beneficiary Register** that is being strengthened and revalidated. A key development, as reported by *Leadership*, is that **over 12 million National Identification Numbers (NINs)** are now being linked to the social register to ensure transparency, accountability, and eliminate duplication. Registration is carried out at LGA levels in collaboration with community leaders and NIMC.
- **One Pathway:** A lifecycle-based intervention tracking system that provides a clear, measurable **Poverty Exit Pathway** for individuals and households, moving them from emergency relief towards resilience and inclusive growth.

Minister Doro emphasized the shift in philosophy: ***“We are moving from helping Nigerians survive to enabling them to thrive.”***

4. The Official Launch and UN Support

The OHOPRS was formally unveiled at a high-level National Technical Workshop held at the UN House in Abuja from March 24-27, 2026. The workshop concluded with a communiqué endorsing the framework as a data-driven platform to eliminate duplication and enhance efficiency.

The United Nations, through its acting Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, Ms. Elsie Attafuah, reaffirmed its commitment. The UN’s role is to support the government in building a system that bridges humanitarian response with poverty reduction, ensuring that action builds resilience and unlocks opportunities.

A communiqué issued at the end of the workshop emphasized that the initiative will provide a structured pathway for individuals and households to exit poverty sustainably.

5. The Critical Role of the development Research Projects Centre (dRPC)

The dRPC has been a pivotal and long-standing partner of the Ministry, with its involvement predating Minister Bernard Doro’s tenure. The dRPC’s interest in the Ministry stems from a strategic understanding that it is a pivotal ministry in the Nigerian space, which requires **better propaganda and education** (used here to mean strategic communication and public awareness).

The dRPC has transitioned from a past partner to a crucial enabler for the OHOPRS launch, providing immense support through:

- **Media Support:** Recognizing the need for improved public communication, the dRPC has provided significant resources to amplify the Ministry's message. This includes capacity-building workshops for the Ministry's media unit to ensure the effective dissemination of information on complex reforms such as the OHOPRS.
- **Financial Support for Take-off:** Crucially, the dRPC provided direct financial support to facilitate the initial takeoff of the OHOPRS initiative, covering critical startup costs that enabled the national workshop and early implementation activities.

Prior to the OHOPRS, the Ministry and dRPC had successfully collaborated on several support projects funded by the dRPC, including the aforementioned media capacity building. This track record of effective partnership laid the groundwork for the dRPC's enhanced role in this flagship national reform. Their contribution has been essential not only for logistics but for strategically framing the OHOPRS as a major national priority.

6. Conclusion and Way Forward

The launch of the OHOPRS marks a defining moment in Nigeria's approach to humanitarian and poverty reduction efforts. By adopting a unified system anchored in a single, verifiable register (linked to NINs) and a clear exit pathway, the government aims to deliver a measurable, sustainable impact.

The success of this ambitious reform will depend on continued collaboration among all stakeholders. The sustained financial, technical, and media support from partners like the **dRPC**, whose strategic focus on improving the ministry's public education capacity has proven invaluable, will be critical. Other technical partners, such as ECEWS, are also key, strengthening the data ecosystems that power the Unified National Register.

Moving forward, the Ministry will need to maintain momentum by securing sustainable financing, deepening data governance, and ensuring robust coordination across all levels of government, with the UN, dRPC, and other partners remaining essential pillars of support.



1 Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction, Mr. Bernard Doro