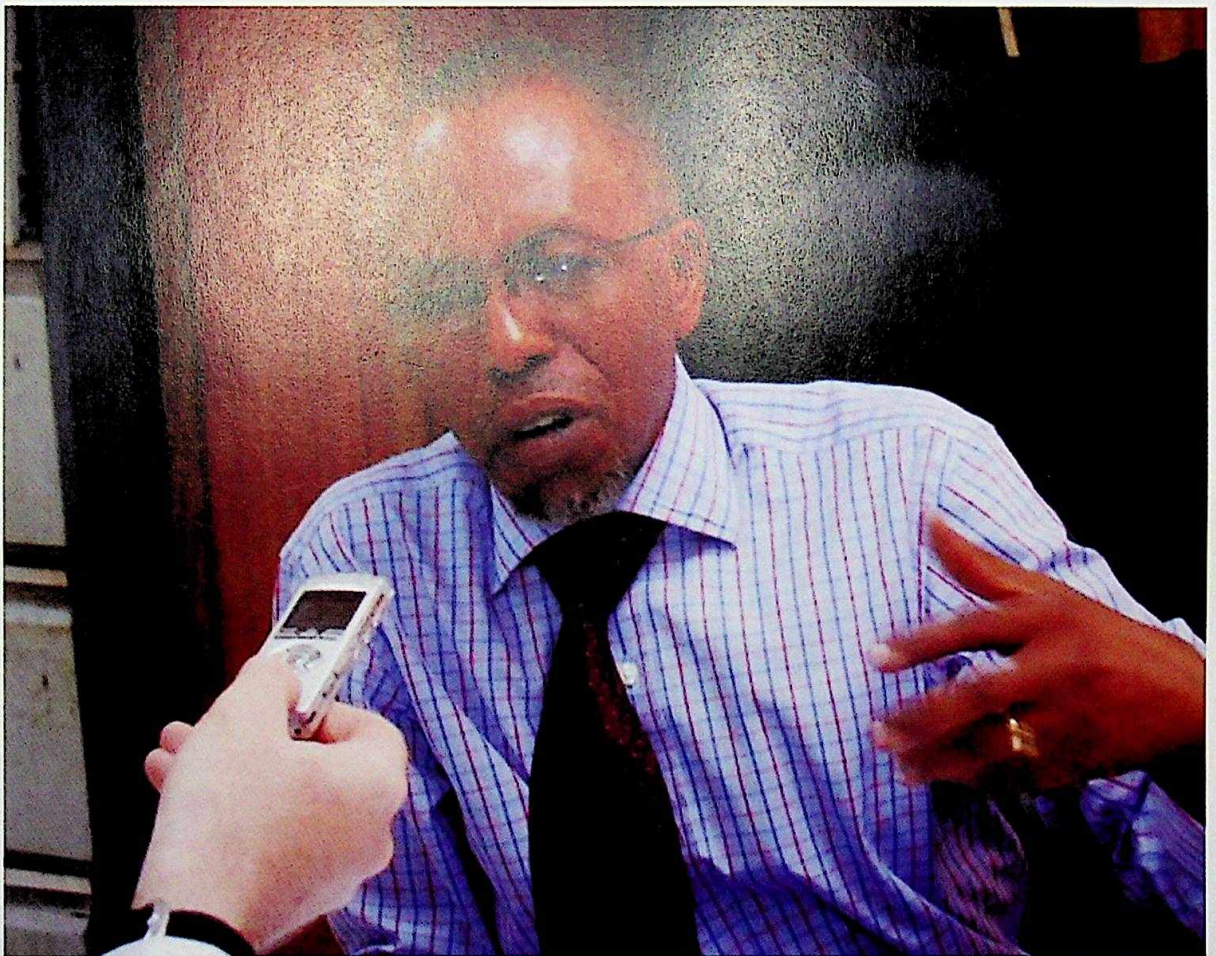


## Getting our priorities right: Emmanuel Oyegoke explains how self assessment has helped his ministry



*Emmanuel Oyegoke, Director of Economic Planning, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget Policy and Strategy, Lagos State, Nigeria, recounts his experience of the SPARC self assessment*

**Interviewer:** Good afternoon Mr Oyegoke. Thank you for agreeing to speak to me. First, could you tell me your perceptions of the SPARC self assessment process please?

**Emmanuel Oyegoke:** We used this self assessment as a basis to generate ideas used to formulate our work plans. So for us the tool was very effective. It was really about getting a better understanding of our processes and the ways we are working, in

“ The process resulted in a new change plan for the state, new ways of doing things, and new ways of articulating our projects and programmes. ”



order to identify ways of doing it better. We also aimed to identify specific activities that we are doing that we could do better.

**Interviewer:** And did you receive sufficient guidance during the process?

**Emmanuel Oyegoke:** Yes. From the beginning we had contact with the consultants and the DFID officials. As part of producing the work plan, for example, a number of questions were asked, and a number of dimensions considered to guide the thinking of those who had a real understanding of what the long-term goals were and what short-term resources were available. So the process resulted in a new change plan for the state, new ways of doing things, and new ways of articulating our projects and programmes in order to identify ways of doing them better.

We were also able to identify a number of priorities using the self assessment tools. And it's these priorities we are going to work on, together with DFID, using the work plans we've produced.

**Interviewer:** So you have begun implementing the priorities that you have identified?

**Emmanuel Oyegoke:** Yes we have. But beyond even that, this DFID/SPARC work is going to have other benefits in terms of deepening state reform initiatives already underway. This is because even before the SPARC self assessment, the Lagos Government had already begun reform initiatives in order to undertake certain activities. Fortunately for us, these fit with the ways of working that DFID/SPARC is bringing in.

**Interviewer:** Mr Oyegoke, thank you very much.

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The SPARC logo features the word "sparc" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. A thin, curved line arches over the letters "a" and "r", extending from the top of the "a" to the top of the "r".

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