

Grant Thornton Nigeria Audit Transparency Report 2022



Table of contents

- 1 Message from Leadership
- 2 The Grant Thornton Network
- 3 Grant Thornton Nigeria's Approach to Quality
- 4 Grant Thornton Nigeria People and Culture
- 5 The Grant Thornton Nigeria People
- 6 Our Audit Approach/Methodology
- 7 Quality monitoring
- 8 Public Interest Audit Clients
- 9 Legal and Governance Structure
- 10 Financial Information

1 Message from Leadership

Quality/Excellence is at the core of our practice.

This is embedded in the mindset of all our personnel through, inter alia, our **CLEARR** core values, subscribed to by all our people. **C L E A R R** stands for **Collaboration, Excellence, Agility, Respect, and Responsibility** respectively. Our rigorous recruitment exercises, training regimen, internal control and risk management policies, investment in technology, etc., are all geared towards sustaining our practice at the cutting edge of quality and in response to the dynamics of our operating environment.

Please find here our Transparency Report for 2022, which shows how quality is maintained in carrying out our audit work. The report describes our policies and procedures, systems, and processes for ensuring quality, the performances of key quality monitoring programs and reviews, and how we encourage a culture of quality firmwide.

The business world needs a high-performing profession more than ever, and we will continue our relentless focus on quality and continue to represent the needs of our clients. Our Assurance practice is built on quality audits.

We are committed to continuous audit quality review and improvement, as well as investment in technology. We are committed to continuous quality improvement required in the building blocks to achieve this goal.

To enhance the quality of our audit services, meet the evolving audit challenges in the digital age, and support our services throughout the firm, we consistently invest in innovation and new technology.

The relevance of technology in addressing the evolving audit challenges in this digital age cannot be over-emphasized. Technology is central to our audit quality. We train our personnel regularly on the use of technology tools for high-quality audits.

The 2022 Transparency Report unveils the ongoing progress we have made toward achieving quality by integrating our culture, values, people, procedures, and processes.



Dr. (Mrs.) Ngozi Ogwo
MP/CEO Grant Thornton Nigeria

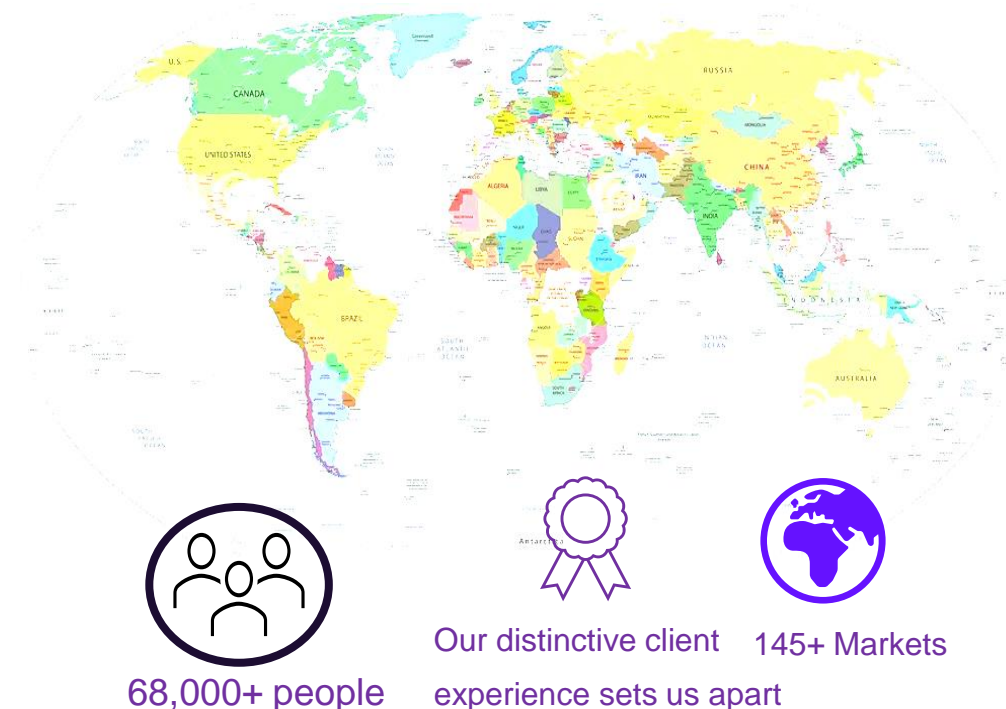
2 The Grant Thornton Network

We are a network of independent assurance, tax, and advisory firms, made up of 68,000 people in 147 markets.

We go beyond business as usual to deliver a different experience. More personal, agile, and proactive. We challenge conventions to find better solutions. So, our people, clients, and communities can positively shape tomorrow.

For more than 100 years, we have helped dynamic organizations realize their strategic ambitions. Whether you are looking to finance growth, manage risk and regulation, optimize your operations, or realize stakeholder value, we can help you. We can aid you in achieving business goals, whether they involve financing expansion, managing risk and regulations, enhancing operations, or maximizing stakeholder value.

"Grant Thornton" refers to the brand under which the Grant Thornton member firms provide assurance, tax, and advisory services to their clients and/or refers to one or more member firms, as the context requires. Grant Thornton International Limited (GTIL) and the member firms are not a worldwide partnership. GTIL and each member firm are separate legal entities. Services are delivered by the member firms. GTIL does not provide services to clients. GTIL and its member firms are not agents of one another, do not obligate one another, and are not liable for one another's acts or omissions.



2 The Grant Thornton Network

Grant Thornton International Ltd. (GTIL) acts as the coordinating entity for member firms in the network. Its focus is on areas such as strategy, risk, quality monitoring, and brand. It also provides certain support and resources to member firms. It is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales. It is a non-practicing international umbrella entity that does not provide services to clients. Services are delivered by Grant Thornton member firms around the world. GTIL and the member firms collectively are referred to as Grant Thornton.

Grant Thornton Nigeria is a member firm of Grant Thornton International Limited.



145+ Markets



68,000+ people



3 Grant Thornton Nigeria Approach to Quality

Quality monitoring at Grant Thornton Nigeria takes place at three levels through a global program called the Grant Thornton Assessment and Review (GTAR):

Engagement level: Partner and engagement quality reviewers are assigned to monitor quality on a real-time basis.

Member-firm level: As part of internal quality control reviews, member firms are required to review completed engagements on a schedule that ensures all partners are reviewed on a regular basis, typically once every three years.

Global level: Member firms are reviewed by the global quality team on a regular basis, typically once every three years.

GTAR is an important part of GTIL's global safeguarding responsibility. It has been effective in fostering high quality and identifying deficiencies in member firms processes. It has also been instrumental in supporting member firms to improve standards of quality and risk management. GTARs are coordinated by a member of the GTIL global quality team and include a team of independent and qualified partners and senior managers from member firms under the overall direction of the global quality leader. The GTIL global quality team, in collaboration with partners from member firms, also conducts reviews to evaluate the quality and suitability of firms interested in joining the network.

Quality is the foundation of all we do. It is a core element of our Go Beyond network strategy for 2025.

Grant Thornton Nigeria is committed to keeping quality at the center of everything we do.

3 Grant Thornton Nigeria Approach to Quality

Grant Thornton Nigeria goes further in its commitment to quality by having monthly Quality Management training to equip staff with the relevant knowledge, skills, and information to deliver quality, satisfactory assurance, and other services to clients.

At Grant Thornton Nigeria, we believe quality audits drive motives for investing in modern technology in delivering our services. This includes modernizing our global audit approach with LEAP. LEAP is the Grant Thornton global assurance technology platform. The proprietary, cloud-based tool launched in July 2022 for the global network and in April 2023 for Grant Thornton Nigeria and delivers greater value to clients, people, and member firms. Seamlessly operationalizing our global audit methodology, the platform empowers higher-quality audits, enables flexibility to perform an efficient and effective audit, and enhances both people's and clients' experiences.



4 Grant Thornton Nigeria People and Culture

It's not just what we do at Grant Thornton Nigeria that matters: we also pay attention to how we do it. Our Values are our core beliefs, guiding and unifying our actions and behaviors. Shared across every level and in every country, jurisdiction and territory in which we operate, they are the foundation of our unique culture.

CLEARR - Our CLEARR values underpin everything we do and serve as a declaration of who we intend to be and how we intend to achieve our ambition



4 Grant Thornton Nigeria People and Culture

Having the right culture starts with tone at the top: Tone at the top

Grant Thornton's global leadership, working with regional and member firm leadership, plays a critical role in establishing our commitment to quality and the highest standards of professional excellence.

A culture based on quality, accountability, objectivity, independence, integrity and ethics is essential in an organization that carries out audits and other services on which stakeholders rely.

At Grant Thornton Nigeria we promote a culture in which consultation is encouraged and recognized as a strength. We communicate our commitment to clients, stakeholders, and the public to earn their trust.

Our values lie at the heart of the way we do things. To do the right thing, the right way, at the right time, always. These drive our daily behaviors, guide our decisions, and shape our character. They form the foundation of a resilient culture ready to meet challenges with integrity, so we never lose sight of our principal responsibility to protect the public interest.

Outlined in Grant Thornton's global Code of Conduct ("the Code") are the responsibilities all Grant Thornton personnel have to each other, the public and our clients. It shows how our values inspire our greatest aspirations and guide all of our behaviors and actions. It defines what it means to work at and be part of Grant Thornton, as well as our individual and collective responsibilities.

Everyone at Grant Thornton Nigeria is held accountable for behaving consistently with the Code and is required to confirm their compliance. We are committed to holding ourselves accountable for behaving in a way that is consistent with the Code.

Individuals are encouraged to speak up if they see something that makes them uncomfortable or is not in compliance with the Code, or our Values.

4 Grant Thornton Nigeria People and Culture

Other Leaders

Other leaders responsible for quality include the following:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| • Ethics and independence leader | Dr. Ngozi Ogwo |
| • Advisory quality monitoring leader | Orji Okpechi |
| • Head, Audit and Assurance | Victor Osifo |
| • Tax quality monitoring leader | Nkwachi Abuka |
| • Assurance quality monitoring leader | Uchenna Okigbo |
| • Compliance and quality management leader | Lateef Emiola |

5 The Grant Thornton Nigeria People

A global network of 68,000 people in member firms in 147 markets with a common goal — to help you realize your ambitions. In alignment with our overarching business strategy, Go Beyond, our people strategy has been formulated to provide comprehensive support. Going Beyond business as usual, so you can too. We don't predict the future. We help you shape it. We invest in listening, building relationships, and understanding your concerns to deliver an experience that's more personal, agile, and proactive. We work at the pace that matters. Yours!

That's why we celebrate fresh thinking and diverse perspectives to find better solutions.

This process starts with the recruitment of talented hands. Which begins with shortlisting qualified individuals for a well-structured Aptitude Test. Next is the Oral Interview for candidates that passed the test, then letters given to those who meet the criteria.

The moment you are in, you are encouraged to grow and build your career in ways you can never have imagined. We help to better you every day. The work environment here is friendly, offering great exposure to challenging assignments.

Like our open-door policy – if you have a problem and need guidance, you can walk into a partner's office, and they would assist you.

There's a genuine interest in people and a sense of belonging that makes you want to wake up every day and come to work. Like a family. If anything happens to you, everyone is genuinely concerned.

We work at
the pace
that
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Yours!

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6 Our Audit Approach/Methodology

Grant Thornton member firms apply the same audit methodology globally. The methodology is designed to assist audit teams in performing audit that is directed toward identifying risks and responding to such risks. It guides the audit team to tailor and develop an appropriate audit response. It helps the audit team to identify the effects of new developments in the entity's industry and the impact on financial statements. The methodology enables the audit team to link risks to assertions or the financial statements as a whole and relate identified risks to weaknesses in internal controls. The methodology incorporates quality control processes, with specific procedures required for certain risks and additional quality reviews needed for PIEs.

**Grant
Thornton
member
firms apply
the same
audit
methodology globally.**

The global network has established standards, service delivery systems, controls and risk management systems to provide the necessary framework to meet professional standards. Member firms are provided with support and resources to help maintain quality, including:

- an audit methodology, with supporting software
- policies and procedures contained in audit manuals that are benchmarked against international auditing, quality control, independence and ethics standards.
- protocols that enable member firms to consult with the global auditing standards team and, if necessary, with audit specialists in other member firms
- protocols that enable member firms to consult with an International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) help desk
- a comprehensive intranet service that includes up-to-date information for member firms on auditing, financial reporting, ethics and independence standards, and guidance on applying them effectively.

6 Our Audit Approach/Methodology

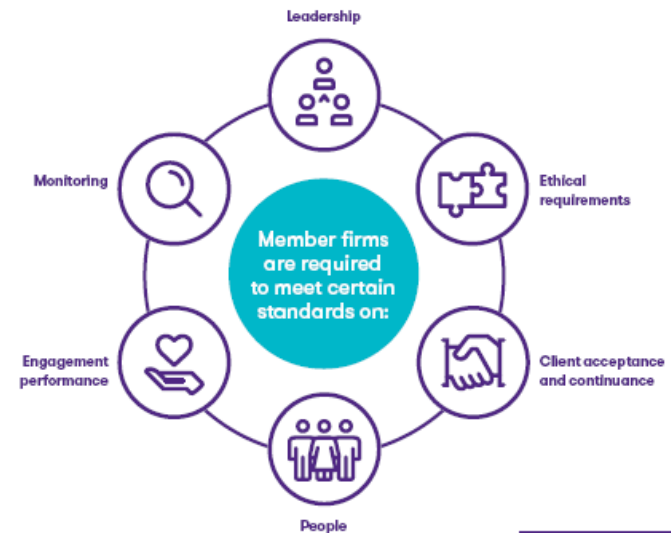
Global audit methodology and technology

Grant Thornton uses a global audit methodology and a suite of tools referred to as **Leading Effective Audit Practice (LEAP)**

The LEAP methodology is localized by each member firm for local jurisdictional and regulatory requirements. Having a global methodology enables member firms to provide high-quality audits and apply a consistent methodology to multinational organizations.

The LEAP methodology is clearly linked with the International Standards on Auditing (ISA) and starts with a top-down risk assessment to enable a well-focused and effective audit. The risk assessment starts with obtaining an understanding of the entity and its environment, including internal control. This understanding enables the auditor to do an appropriate top-down risk assessment focused at the account level and design a relevant response to the identified risk for each client. Each response is tailored for the specific risks of each client. The Global audit tool has the following functionality:

- specific guidance to assist auditors with the application of the audit methodology.
- flexibility and scalability to perform audits of all types and sizes.
- enables auditors to perform high-quality audits more efficiently.
- provides a secure environment to track changes to documentation and securely store workpapers.



6 Our Audit Approach/Methodology

The LEAP methodology provides the engagement team with increased visibility around quality by performing real-time review and monitoring of engagements and facilitating continuous improvement for engagements.

It enables the efficient and effective execution of audits for entities of various sizes through a dependable cloud-based platform that offers a user-friendly interface that is straightforward to operate and easy to understand.

Using the LEAP eases administrative tasks, minimizing the time dedicated to tasks that do not contribute value. It aligns with Grant Thornton's dedication to consistently improving audit quality, showcasing to clients that the network's firms operate smoothly across international boundaries, resulting in enhanced insights.

LEAP is cloud based and operates entirely online. This enables engagement teams to collaborate on the same file from different locations. This real-time access allows for immediate updates to files and the ability to review, edit, and share data while working together across various teams and geographic locations. LEAP stands as a frontrunner in Grant Thornton's digital transformation journey, demonstrating our network's ongoing dedication to maintaining quality, consistency, and enhancing the overall experience for both our people and clients.

Audit evidence and conclusions are accumulated, documented and filed within the proprietary documentation software tool used by all member firms. This is reviewed for quality control and archived within 40 days following completion of the audit engagement. Global learning programmes were developed to support auditor's understanding of LEAP: the ISA proficiency series, methodology proficiency series, tool proficiency series and Audit 360 simulation. The ISA proficiency series, which is a prerequisite to other learning, includes various online modules focused primarily on the professional standards, and it is the foundation for all the other learning.

6 Our Audit Approach/Methodology

Client acceptance and continuance

Achieving professional excellence means accepting and retaining clients who share Grant Thornton's values of quality and integrity. Grant Thornton's global client acceptance and continuance procedures are designed to support member firms' acceptance of appropriate clients. Member firms are required to comply with global policies and procedures relating to client acceptance and continuance.

Member firms that want to accept certain large or high-risk clients must seek approval from a global Key Assurance Assignment (KAA) committee, which considers whether these engagements represent an acceptable risk to the global network. This committee is chaired by GTIL's global head of quality and consists of partners from nine different member firms. The committee members represent a geographically diverse set of member firms. The committee only reviews assurance acceptance and continuance submissions from member firms that meet one or more risk criteria. These criteria cover a variety of potential key risks, including the size of the potential assurance client, the amount of fees expected to be generated from the assignment, potential reputational issues and the member firm's recent experience with listed entities or with a particular industry.

This committee may impose conditions on member firms prior to accepting a new client, such as the appointment of an engagement quality control reviewer from another member firm.

TBeam

A Grant Thornton trial balance and workpaper generation tool that is used for financial statements preparation, allowing audit teams to automatically update lead sheets for changes to the trial balance, perform analytical procedures, evaluate misstatements and create standard and custom workpapers.

The audit teams also use a data extraction and analysis tool, IDEA, to analyse the general ledger and large amounts of financial data and generate reports.

6 Our Audit Approach/Methodology

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) support

A GTIL IFRS team is responsible for promoting high-quality consistent application of IFRS throughout the network. An IFRS interpretations group, a financial instrument working group and an insurance working group (made up of IFRS experts from member firms), provide advice, guidance and support to the team. The team promotes consistency across all member firms by:

- offering face-to-face training programmes and e-learning resources
- operating an IFRS help desk service.
- providing an IFRS checklist and an IFRS interim reports checklist.
- publishing extensive technical, interpretive guidance, newsletters and other tools. and resources, internally and externally.



7 Quality Monitoring

Grant Thornton member firms are required to abide by a system of quality control that encompasses, at a minimum, the standards issued by the standard-setting boards of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), including:

- International Standards on Quality Management 1
- International Standard on Auditing 220 (revised): Quality Management for an Audit of Financial Statements
- IESBA Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.

Each member firm's system of quality control is designed to provide global and national management with reasonable assurance that audit engagements are conducted in accordance with applicable professional standards and global policies and procedures. Member firms must have an effective internal inspection programme in place that meets the requirements of ISQM.

To facilitate the adoption of such practices among member firms, member firms are provided with templates that include guidelines, work programmes, forms and examples of reports that have all been benchmarked to ISQM.

Internal inspection

We have various methods of monitoring our system of quality control and engagement quality, including real-time involvement of national office personnel on select audit engagements, self-assessment reviews of issuer audit engagements prior to archiving, and internal inspections of assurance engagements and the system of quality control. In addition, we have periodic meetings throughout the year to proactively assess audit practice risks, engagement-level risks, and environmental factors, such as market demand and talent needs. We also undergo inspections by various regulators. These activities provide an in-depth assessment of whether the firm's system of quality control and individual engagements are adhering to the standards promulgated by the various standard-setting bodies that oversee our profession, as well as compliance with the Grant Thornton International firm policies and procedures. The results of these reviews and actions also provide inputs into the quality aspect of our periodic partner performance evaluation.

7 Quality Monitoring

Also, Grant Thornton International internal inspection program - the Internal Quality Review (IQR), is an internal review undertaken by a selected member from the GTIL global quality team, audit professionals outside the geography under review. This review is performed every two years; it involves complete testing of quality control policies and processes and selected audit engagements. In addition to determining compliance with relevant rules, regulations and standards, the IQR assesses the effectiveness of firm policies, tools, and learning and identifies opportunities to improve engagement performance.

Individual engagements are selected for inspection using a risk-based approach. Review procedures typically occur between April and September. Findings from engagement inspections and testing of the various components of quality control, are captured and evaluated throughout the process. Identified opportunities for improvement are communicated to the Head of Audit and Assurance practice.

External inspection

The Grant Thornton Assessment and Review (GTAR) is a key part of the GTIL global quality framework. It has been the primary mechanism for reviewing member firm quality for many years and has been effective in identifying deficiencies in member firm processes and supporting member firms to improve standards of quality and risk management. Each member firm is obligated to submit to review of its quality control system at least once every three years, however the frequency of review is subject to deficiencies identified in the last review.

The GTAR monitors compliance with professional standards and global audit policies. The inspection process includes an evaluation of the member firm's assurance policies, benchmarking these against the international organization. The team reviews financial statements, audit reports, engagement work papers and files, and interviews partners and staff.

Global monitoring helps to reinforce the requirement that member firms have an effective process for ensuring that the right people are using the right tools and apply the methodology in the right ways. The GTAR process not only includes the assurance engagements, but also extends to the tax and advisory engagements as well.

7 Quality Monitoring

A dedicated team is responsible for managing this programme. GTARs are coordinated by a member of the GTIL global quality team and include a team of independent and suitably qualified partners and experienced managers from member firms under the overall direction of the global quality head.

When a GTAR is completed, GTIL issues a report based on the review findings. A member firm's quality control system is evaluated as satisfactory (pass) or adverse (fail). Firms that have a satisfactory report may still require improvements in their quality control system and these reports may include matters to address.

Target Review

The GTIL also conducts target reviews on member firms from time to time. The target review is carried out by the GTAR team but for target firms within the Grant Thornton International member firms. A selected engagement file is requested and reviewed for quality compliance and adherence to GTIL policies and procedures.

At the end of the exercise an internal report is issued to the member firm on findings from the target review performed with recommendations for improvement.

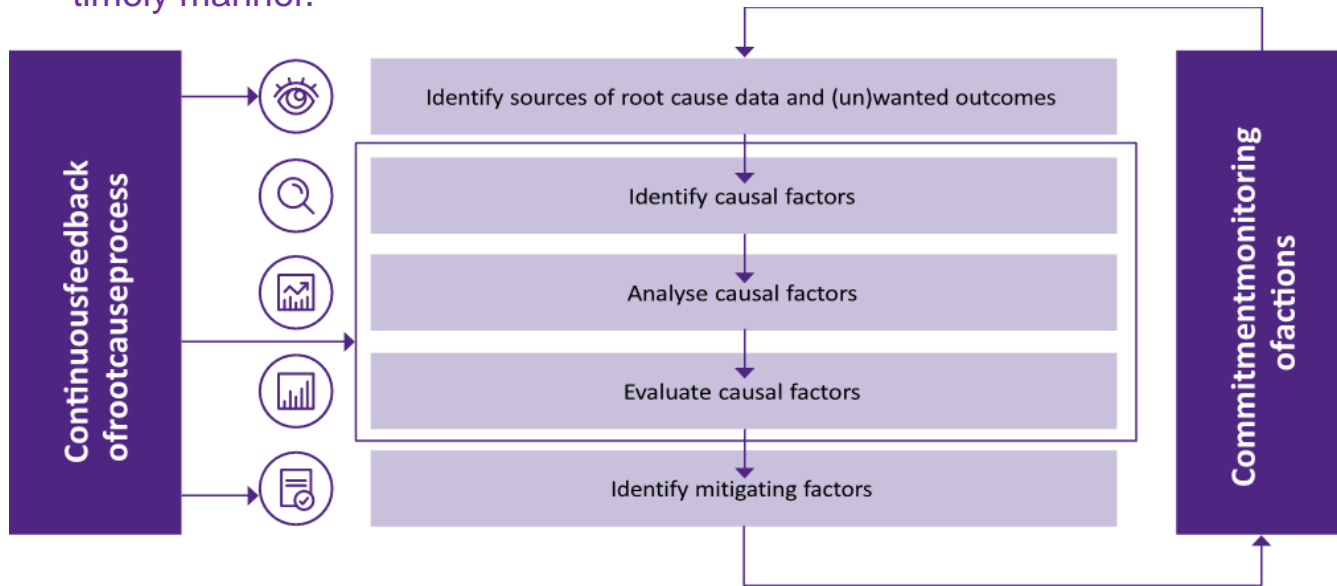


7 Quality Monitoring

Root Cause Analysis (RCA)

RCA is a process for identifying the causes of problems or events to prevent them from recurring in future. Due to regulatory expectations and the need to continually improve on quality, GTIL introduced a global policy on RCA and issued a template for firms to carry out the RCA.

It is critical that firms with any deficiencies in their engagements take time to understand the root causes of these issues and address them in a timely manner.



Remediation

When the GTAR identifies a deficiency, the member firm must address the deficiency within a reasonable period by developing an action plan to address the findings and submitting appropriate documentation. In some instances, further visits to the member firm or remote assessments take place to follow up on the firm's progress toward implementing the required actions.

The global quality monitoring team closely monitors the progress of the member firms in addressing the deficiencies noted during the review.

8 Public Limited Audit Clients

During the period under review, Grant Thornton Nigeria audited the following public companies:

NCR Nigeria PLC

11 PLC (formerly known as Mobil Plc)

NIPCO PLC

9 Legal and Governance Structure

Legal Structure of Grant Thornton Nigeria

Grant Thornton Nigeria is a partnership incorporated in Nigeria. It is wholly owned by its members, who are commonly referred to as partners. At the end of the financial year (September) 2022, there were 9 partners.

Grant Thornton Nigeria has its registered office at 20 Kwame Nkrumah Crescent, Asokoro, Abuja, Nigeria. It also has offices in Lagos and Port Harcourt respectively.

Governance Structure of Grant Thornton Nigeria

Grant Thornton Nigeria is primarily structured as business units within Service Lines (SL). Our primary service lines include Assurance, Tax, and Advisory services. In addition, the firm operates within a structure along industry lines.

The Executive Board led by the Managing Partner/Chief Executive Officer (MP/CEO) runs Grant Thornton Nigeria. Each member of the Executive Board has responsibility and accountability for a specific aspect of our business.

The partners also meet regularly to cover other business. In addition, business unit partners meet on a monthly or more frequent basis. The executive board takes responsibility for establishing systems of internal quality management and for reviewing and evaluating their effectiveness.

The day-to-day responsibility for the implementation of these systems and ongoing monitoring of risk and the effectiveness of the quality management system rests with dedicated functional area managers, senior partners in the individual Service Line and Internal Firm Services.

9 Legal and Governance Structure

The systems, which have been in place throughout the Financial Year, include the following:

- The executive board is responsible for the risk management systems. The managing partner, who is a member of the executive board, together with other quality leaders have oversight of the risk management process and the risk and quality function.
- Our risk and quality functions, document risks and the responses to them, support the risk assessment process annually and report to managers, the risk and quality partner and the executive board on how effectively the firm managed risk during the year.
- The GT network carries out periodic reviews of performance and quality, independently. An internal audit team reviews the effectiveness of operational systems and controls and reports to the executive board.
- We take client acceptance procedures extremely seriously, and we do not automatically take on new clients or an engagement from an existing client. Understanding properly whom we are working with, and the nature and purpose of the work requested are central to protecting our reputation for quality. We have procedures to assess the risk associated with new clients, which include reviewing their business activities and reputation to ensure they are compatible with our values. We also establish upfront whether we comply with independence requirements and address any potential conflicts of interest.
- With our independent relationship check done for new clients, we strongly ensure our values and integrity are well checked to avoid any conflict.
- We regularly review existing client relationships to ensure that they remain consistent with our values and to address any independence issues that may arise from the longstanding nature of those relationships.

10 Financial Information

Partner Remuneration

Partners at Grant Thornton Nigeria are remunerated based on the firm’s performance. The firm’s Recognition and Accountability Framework is implemented to reward partners who consistently exhibit exemplary quality on engagements.

Transparency is maintained among the partners regarding the total income allocated to everyone.

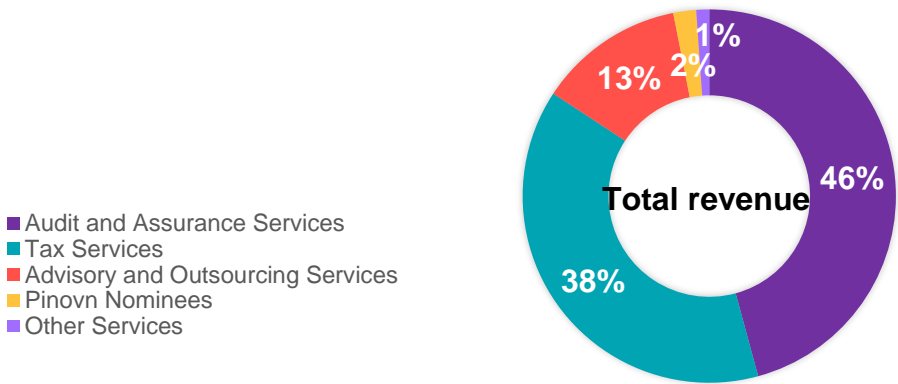
Revenues for the year ended 30 September 2022

The Grant Thornton Nigeria recorded total revenues of ₦1.2 billion for the financial year ended 30 September 2022, up from ₦1.1 billion in 2021. This represents a growth of 9.1%.

Information relating to Grant Thornton Nigeria’s revenue is presented in the table below.

Service Line	2022 revenues (in ₦m's)	2021 revenues (in ₦m's)	% Growth
Audit and Assurance Services	550	459	19.7%
Tax Services	462	416	11.0%
Advisory and Outsourcing Services	152	201	-24.5%
Pinovn Nominees	24	-	-
Other Services	13	8	66.7%
Total revenue	1201	1085	10.7%

Service Line Contribution to Total Revenue in 2022





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