

**Good Practices/ Experience in the
Implementation of the UNICRI Project
*‘Combating And Preventing Of Trafficking Of
Minors And Young Women From Nigeria To
Italy ’***

***A Presentation At The International Conference on ‘The Role
of International Cooperation In Tackling Sexual Violence
Against Children Held in Rome, Italy on November 29, 2012***

**By Josiah Emerole
NAPTIP, Nigeria**

Outline

- Aim
 - Background
 - The Project
 - Beneficiaries
 - Implementation
 - Good Practices/Experience
 - Recommendations
 - Conclusion
- 

Aim

- The aim of this presentation is to share the good practices and experiences during the implementation of the project between 2008 and 2010



Background/Introduction

- The fight against trafficking in persons has in recent years gained much prominence in International, Regional and National discourse, and this has resulted in the adoption of various instruments and programmes aimed at addressing the problem.
- Successful reduction and eventual eradication of Trafficking in Persons must have all the elements of the 4Ps – PREVENTION, PROTECTION, PROSECUTION and PARTNERSHIP.
- The National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP) has added a fifth P, which is PUNISHMENT.

Background/Introduction

Contd

- It is in realization of this that we remain very grateful to the Italian Government for the sponsorship of the UNICRI project “ ***Combating And Preventing Of Trafficking Of Minors And Young Women From Nigeria To Italy***”, the two year programme which commenced in 2008 and ended in 2010.
- The project remains one of the great support and assistance from the Italian Government and it brought a lot of change in the way and manner in which the fight against human trafficking was being fought.

The Project

- This project was designed to implement the best practices resulting from the “Programme of Action against trafficking in minors and young women from Nigeria into Italy for the purpose of sexual exploitation” an 18-month pilot project funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and executed by UNICRI, in collaboration with UNODC Nigeria from September 2002 to April 2004. It was implemented directly by UNICRI and UNODC while NAPTIP played supervisory role to ensure that the purposes envisaged by the project were achieved.

Beneficiaries/ Target Group

4 Main Beneficiaries

- Young Women and Minors in Edo State
 - i. Victims of TIP
 - ii. Vulnerable People
 - The Public
 - 6 local NGOs in Edo State under the auspices of Edo State Coalition against Trafficking in Persons (ENCATIP)
 - NAPTIP (Upgrading of the National Monitoring Centre (NMC))
- 

ENCATIP Members

1. **African Women Empowerment Guild (AWEG);**
2. **Committee for the Support of the Dignity of Women (COSUDOW);**
3. **Girls Power Initiative (GPI) Edo State;**
4. **Idia Renaissance;**
5. **International Reproductive Rights Research Action Group (IRRRAG-Nigeria) Edo State;**
6. **Women Action Initiative (WAI)**

Implementation

Implementation had Four Components

- Empowerment/Education
- Awareness
- Institutional Assistance to NAPTIP
- Research



Women Empowerment/Education

At the end of the Project in 2010 the following had happened:

- A total of **111** beneficiaries were given micro-credit (**61** for the 1st tranche which was disbursed in December, 2008 and **50** for the 2nd tranche disbursed in October 2009).
- The micro credit funds were disbursed for the beneficiaries to operate different types of businesses including Mobile boutique tailoring, hairdressing, computer service, sale of foodstuff, Mobile Phone recharge card sales, Beverage shop, etc.

Women

Empowerment/Education Contd

- A total of **21** beneficiaries received education grants to continue their studies in tertiary institutions, complete secondary schools and prepare for examination.
 - **33** beneficiaries were undergoing skills acquisition in fashion design, hairdressing, video recording, interior decoration, catering and computer training.
 - In all a total of 165 victims and vulnerable young women benefited from the Empowerment programme in Edo State at the end of the project.
- 

Women Empowerment Contd

- By End of September 2012 the following had happened:
- Part of the Refunds have been used by the NGO's as revolving Loans and new beneficiaries have been added.
- Total beneficiaries now stand at 197.
- One of the Victims will by the 1st quater of 2013 graduate from the University. She is studing Public Administration at the Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba, Ondo State

Empowerment: End of Project vs. Present

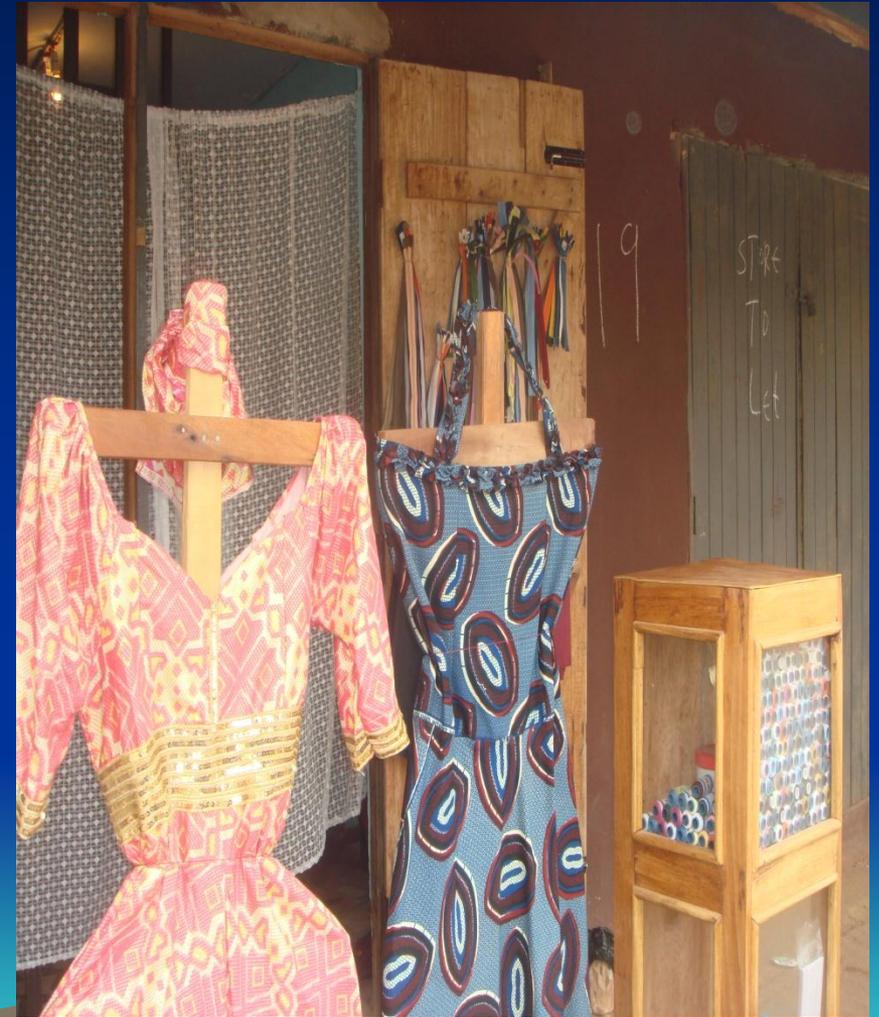
END OF PROJECT IN 2010

NGO	MICRO CREDIT	SKILLS	EDUCATION	TOTAL
AWEG	20	4	5	29
COSU DOW	21	5	2	28
GPI	20	8	6	34
IDIA	15	5	3	23
IRRR AG	20	6	2	28
WAI	15	5	3	23
TOTAL	111	33	21	165

AS AT SEPTEMBER 2012

NGO	MICRO CREDIT	SKILLS	EDUCATION	TOTAL
AWEG	20	4	5	29
COSU DOW	28	5	2	35
GPI	22	8	6	36
IDIA	28	5	3	35
IRRR AG	22	6	2	30
WAI	23	5	3	32
TOTAL	143	33	21	197

Women Empowerment



Beneficiaries



Awareness Creation

The campaigns was carried out from October 2009 to May 2010.

The campaigns targeted at school outreach, and peer education were conducted within this period in order to match with the school year curriculum.

The campaigns were carried out by the NGOs in pairs:

1. AWEG and GPI were responsible for the schools campaigns;
2. WAI and IRRRAG targeted traders, out-of-school children and parents,
3. IDIA Renaissance and COSUDOW targeted rural areas and the public.

Awareness Creation Contd

The following activities were carried out during this period:-

- IEC materials were developed and distributed;
- Production and airing of the Radio Drama and Jingle Messages.
- Three Ward level meetings held with over 300 women, men and youths reached
- 2 information units in the 2 rural senatorial districts were established.

**If your Mama or
your Aunty or
Sister say make you
go abroad go make
money, ask say
if that side good
why she no go
herself**

**Your
body
no be for
sale!**

**you sef deserve
a good future**

Hotlines: 08062932409, 08033942652, 08073042499,
07028633793, 052-885868, 07080601802



Edo state NGO coalition Against Trafficking in Persons ENCATIP

AWEG –
Africa women
empowerment guild

COSUDOW –
committee for the
support of the dignity
of women

G.P.I. –
Girls power
initiative

IDIA
RENAISSANCE

IRRRAG –
International
reproductive right
research action group

WAI –
women action
initiative
international



Trafficking in Persons is a **CRIME** against Humanity
 Stop the sale of our precious jewels

They too deserve a good and responsible family life

Hotline: 08062933409, 08039942652, 08073042699,
 07028633793, 052-885868, 07080601802

SAY NO TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, COMPLETE YOUR EDUCATION



Edo State NGO Coalition Against Trafficking in Persons (ENCATIP)

- AWEG - African Women Empowerment Guild.
- COSUDOW - Committee for the Support of the Dignity of Women .
- GPL - Girls Power Initiative.
- IDIA Renaissance.
- IRRRAG - International Reproductive Rights Research Action Group.
- WAI - Women Action Initiative International.

08062933410

Awareness creation



Institutional Assistance

- The NAPTIP's National Monitoring Centre (NMC) was upgraded with the SIDDA 2000. The NMC was donated by the Italian Government through UNICRI during the first phase of the project.
- Presently we have over 1800 cases with over 2000 entries of suspected traffickers and victims, NMC officers are fully trained on the use of the system and Zonal officers also trained on the old features of the system.

Good Practices / Experience

PARTNERSHIP.

- **Between Nigeria and Italy**
- **Amongst civil society organizations. For the first time NGO's working on trafficking issues came together to implement a project without problems. This also helped in the deployment of resources and energy. There was no need for them to work at cross purposes.**
- **This project also led to the in kind donation of the SIDDA 2000 to NAPTIP and brought NAPTIP and the Anti Mafia Bureau closer in the fight against human trafficking. This got to a climax in December 2010 when the Head of the Anti Mafia visited Nigeria and signed an MOU with NAPTIP on how the two organisations would work together to stop trafficking in persons.**
- **There is no doubt that our anti-trafficking policies and projects**

Having A say

- The beneficiaries (Victims and Vulnerable) were made to have a say in whatever activities they were to engage in and in the amount of micro credits they needed to carry out their trade. This was after a three day life skills training that were given to them after the selection process. No trade was imposed on any of the beneficiaries.



Mixing Awareness with Empowerment

- For the first time, Awareness on the issue of trafficking in persons was going on with the empowerment of the people. The people saw that it was not all about talking; there was assistance to people following. This was a response to the issue of poverty being a major contributor to the volume of human trafficking in Nigeria.



Keeping An Eye

- It was a good practice that even though the Coalition of NGO's had signed an MOU with UNICRI on the Empowerment and Awareness component of the project, Nigerian Government through NAPTIP monitored the implementation. This went a long way to ensure that nobody treated the project with levity.



All Inclusive Assistance

- The project had assistance for both victims as well as vulnerable ones. With it the beneficiaries who would have been tempted to become victims were kept busy and no longer interested in following anyone anywhere while others also went back to school.



Secrecy of Beneficiaries

- Because of the fear of stigmatization, the identity of the victims who were benefiting was not given out. Even those who live around them or close to their business premises were not allowed to know the history of the beneficiaries.



Grants Instead of Loans

- **Even though many of the beneficiaries are paying back the loans which are now revolving, it was discovered that majority of those defaulting in payment are the Victims and some actually disappeared after sometime because of the debt while the vulnerable ones are faithful in the repayment. The lesson here is that it will be better to assist victims by way of Grants while vulnerable people are given loans. NGO's can then be empowered to equip them and monitor them for at least one year.**

Recommendations

- **Upgrading the SIDDA software to the latest futures and software solution adopted for National Antimafia Bureau system and EUROJUST.**
- **A new phase of this assisted project be considered with more responsibility to NAPTIP as Focal Agency in Nigeria**
- **The project be extended to other TIP endemic States in Nigeria.**
- **Assistance should be given to NAPTIP to enable the Agency rehabilitate the thousands of rescued victims awaiting full rehabilitation.**

Conclusion

- The Project reduced the number of people that would have been trafficked or re-trafficked in Edo State.
- The project also discovered the gap in Information Technology at NAP TIP and tried to fix it for better performance.
- It is my belief that the project was a huge success and we look forward to further assistance in the years ahead.

• ***THANK
YOU***

