

PROJECT REPORT

MITIGATING DRUG INDUCED SEX SLAVERY AMONG INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPs)



FRIDAY 23 DECEMBER, 2022 AFRICAN COUNCIL ON NARCOTICS (ACON)

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project addressed the alarming issues of drug-induced sex slavery among Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Maiduguri, in Northern Nigeria. It focused on creating awareness, providing support services, and implementing preventive measures to safeguard victims. This report outlines the project's objectives, activities, outcomes, challenges faced, and recommendations for future initiatives.

The project's primary objectives were:

- To raise awareness about the risks of drug-induced sex slavery among IDPs.
- To provide psychological, legal, and rehabilitative support to victims of sex slavery.
- To collaborate with relevant stakeholders and authorities to prevent and combat drug-induced sex slavery.
- To enhance the capacity of local organizations to address the problem effectively.

2. ACTIVITIES

The following activities were executed for the successful completion of the project:

- Awareness Campaigns. We conducted a three-day workshop and community dialogues to educate IDPs about the risks and signs of druginduced sex slavery, distributed informational materials and engaged with local media for wider reach.
- We established short-term safe shelters where victims could access psychological counseling, medical assistance, legal aid, and vocational

- training. Our effective collaboration with other local NGOs and health centers helped to provide comprehensive support services.
- The project team worked closely with law enforcement agencies to identify and disrupt trafficking networks. A 2-day training session was conducted for law enforcement personnel to recognize signs of sex slavery and respond effectively.

3. RESULTS

Following the successful implementation of this project, the outcomes are as follows:

- Enhanced awareness among IDPs regarding the perils of drug-induced sex slavery.
- Delivery of support services to 210 victims, facilitating their recovery and successful reintegration into society.
- Reinforced the capabilities of 3 local organizations, empowering them to tackle the concern autonomously.
- Elevated coordination and information exchange among stakeholders engaged in the battle against sex trafficking.

4. CHALLENGES FACED

- Stigma and Shame. Victims often hesitated to come forward due to societal stigma and shame associated with sex slavery.
- Limited funding and resources posed challenges in providing more comprehensive support services.
- Lack of Legal Awareness. Many victims were unaware of their legal rights,
 hindering efforts to seek justice.

 Trafficking networks proved to be intricate and resilient, requiring continuous efforts to dismantle them.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

Our council recommends the following:

- Continued awareness campaigns to reach a wider audience, emphasizing advocacy, science-based prevention and early intervention.
- Strengthened collaboration among government agencies, NGOs, law enforcement, and community groups.
- Additional funding to enhance support services and ensure sustainable project continuation.
- Provision of legal literacy programs for IDPs, empowering them to assert their rights and seek justice.
- Establishment of a comprehensive data collection system to monitor progress and identify trends for informed decision-making.

6. CONCLUSION

The "Mitigating Drug-Induced Sex Slavery among Internally Displaced Persons" project played a vital role in addressing a complex and serious malaise. Through awareness, support services, and preventive measures, the project contributed to reducing vulnerabilities and enhancing the resilience of IDPs. Continued efforts and collaboration are essential to sustain the positive outcomes achieved and to further mitigate the menace of drug-induced sex slavery among vulnerable populations.

7. PRAYER

We pray it meets the pleasure and consideration of the Amanayabo of Town-Brass Kingdom, HRM King Alfred Papapreye Diete-Spiff to have the programme replicated in other areas with a prevalence of such social concerns.

Rekpene Bassey

Clipe Surry

Iyanu Obafemi

President

Project Manager