



MANTRA PROJECT

ACHIEVEMENTS AND LESSONS LEARNT

MAY 2019



ABOUT THE MANTRA PROJECT

MANTRA is a project designed to address issues of corruption within the broader objectives of the Anti-Corruption in Nigeria (ACORN) program of the British Government's Department for International Development (DFID) which aims to strengthen the anticorruption regime in Nigeria. The MANTRA project aims to ensure that assets recovered are disbursed or invested in programmes in line with the country agreements on the recovered assets. The project is also designed to address the lack of clear policy framework for the recovery and management of looted assets in Nigeria

Asset Recovery Problems (Nigeria)

Lack of clear policy framework for the management of looted assets recovered

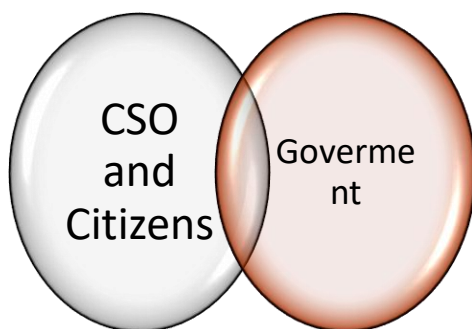
The re-looting of recovered assets by corrupt public officials

Low public awareness and advocacy on the recovery and use of looted assets

MANTRA Project Achievements

- **526** citizens tracked 30,778 enrollees in the disbursement of the \$322.5 million recovered loot which the Switzerland Government returned to Nigeria
- **Building consensus** with Local CSO, Citizens and the sub National Government (Bayelsa State) on the use of the recovered loot as stated in the MOU agreement for its return
- **Asset Recovery Management Unit** with frameworks and guidelines established at federal level with project support
- **Proceeds Of Crime (POC) bill** passed by the House of representatives and Senate

Partnership



MANTRA Strategies

Asset Recovery Knowledge Management

Key Stakeholder Engagement





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MANTRA Project Lessons Learnt

Enabling Environment

- CSO should create an enabling environment for positive change (MANTRA is not antagonistic)

Partnership

- Working in partnership with Stakeholders to create sustainable solution

Evidence Generation

- Ensuring timely adequate information is provided in the public domain

Addressing Social Norms on looted assets

- Addressing social norms on looted assets is important

MANTRA Project Next Steps

- MANTRA selected for the monitoring of the Abacha 3 recovered funds
- MANTRA to validate a sample of beneficiaries of looted assets in the next monitoring exercise
- MANTRA to ensure the assent of the POC bill
- MANTRA will continue to ensure the sub National level comply with agreements on utilization of recovered funds
- MANTRA will continue to work with local groups and citizens for improved anticorruption regime in Nigeria