Anti-Corruption Agencies: Delivering preventive corruption strategies

RAISING AWARENESS OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF CORRUPTION AND ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY

The Federal Ministry of Justice Nigeria

Civil society Round-Table on the review of the Draft National Strategy on Anti-Corruption

Venue: LABI KWALI HALL, SHERATON HOTEL AND TOWERS, ABUJA, NIGERIA
Date: Wednesday 14 December 2011

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Name: Mr. Barnabas Gaji, Director Monitoring and Evaluation Department (CMED). Independent Corrupt Practices and Other related Offence Commission (ICPC)
Profile: Mr. Gaji heads the Anti-Corruption Transparency Unit (ACTU) Secretariat in the ICPC. He believes that the ACTU is a mechanism for checking and flagging issues of malpractices in MDAs
The story so far:
The ACTU Standing Order and Operating Guideline was developed in collaboration with J4A. It was created to establish a standard structure and organized process for capturing and transferring reports on tendencies of corrupt practices in public offices. With the support of J4A the guidelines were reviewed and operationalized in the various units of MDAs.
According to Mr. Gaji, “the templates developed will ensure the efficiency of ACTU. These templates have helped in reviewing the operations and expansion of the activities of the units. Also this serves as a check list and a tool for monitoring their performance”.
He also stated that “the support from J4A has helped so much that we are already receiving reports from other units. For example the SURE-P committee where they now have better awareness of the functions and purpose of ACTU, has identified lapses in its activities and operations that needs to be addressed. We have also received report of maladministration from the University of Calabar and it is currently being investigated”.

“Thanks to J4A, the number of ACTU has increased to 293 in MDAs across the country. We now have better capacity to coordinate and administer the functions of ACTU in MDAs towards corruption prevention”

What happens next?
The ACTU Secretariat in the ICPC regional states will need to be trained on how to use the ACTU Standing Order templates. ICPC is relying on J4A to help deliver this training.

Name: Banwo Kolawole, Senior Programme Officer
Profile: Kolawole is a Senior Programme Officer at the Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC)
The story so far:
The United Nations Convention Against Corruption is the first legally binding anti-corruption instrument which has been ratified by Nigeria. It s a mechanism for promoting transparency and accountability and strengthening Nigeria’s integrity system.
With the support of J4A, CSOs were given the opportunity to participate in the UNCAC review process under the leadership of Zero Corruption Coalition. The review is to assess the extent to which the Nigerian government is adhering to the provisions of UNCAC.
According to Kolawole, “The CSO UNCAC review will help improve government’s self assessment and also help the international community to interrogate government’s position on corrupt practices This will improve government’s response in the fight against corruption.”

In addition to providing reference material for anti-corruption activists and campaigners, the report is an invaluable resource and material for researchers and academics interested in the subject of corruption in Nigeria.

What happens next?
CSOs will continue the advocacy process to push Nigeria to comply with the provisions of UNCAC. J4A will also continue to monitor the results from the advocacy work undertaken by the CSOs.

“...We have also received report of maladministration from the University of Calabar and it is currently being investigated”

Through J4A CSOs were given the opportunity to make their voices heard towards an effective implementation of the provisions of UNCAC and other anti-corruption initiatives in Nigeria.”
Oluwajo Babatunde
We aim to:

- Increase public support for, and trust in anti-corruption agencies
- Improve the collaboration amongst civil society organisations, media organisations and the public to prevent corruption
- Reduce the number of public officials involved in corruption and financial crime

Why:

- 73% of Nigerians believe corruption has increased over the last three years (Global Corruption Barometer 2015)
- Many Nigerians believe that ACAs have not met public expectations (Public Perceptions of Anti-Corruption Agencies’ - study by the Convention on Business Integrity 2008)
- Civil society plays a critical role in confronting corruption especially high-profile cases

Getting Results

### Facts and Figures

| Number of ACAs adopting and implementing corruption prevention strategies |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Strategies                  | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| Adopted                     | 0    | 3    | 3    | 3    |
| Implemented                 | 0    | 1    | 3    | 3    |

Highlights to date:

- Advocacy training for 43 media practitioners and CSOs
- ICPC ACTU develops work plan for increased MDA compliance to ACTU guidelines
- New ACTU Standing Order and Operating Guidelines adopted by ICPC
- Supported CSO groups to partner with ICPC to train ACTU heads of MDA
- Research on corruption gender impact assessment and gender policy development for ACAs commenced
- The oil revenue tracking social media website recorded a total number of 901,251 accounts with 1,650 followers and 673 contributors

Our anti-corruption agency partners include:

- EFCC (Economic and Financial Crimes Commission)
- ICPC (Independent Corrupt Practices Commission)
- CCB & T (Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal)
- NIFU (Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit)
- SCUGL (Special Control Unit on Money Laundering)

How we are achieving impact

**Network of ACAs, CSOs and Media**

- CCS (Coalition of Civil Societies)
- CSOs
- CSOs on anti-corruption
- Media
- CSOs on oil revenue transparency
- International Centre for Investigative Reporting
- Nigerian Best Forum website (May 18, 2013)
- "ICPC, J4A move to prevent corruption in public service." Nigerian Best Forum website (May 18, 2013)

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**ICPC**

- Anti-Corruption and Transparency Units (ACTUs) (located in all government ministries, departments and agencies)
- Other Law Enforcement and Intelligence Agencies
  - National Drug Law Enforcement Agency
  - State Security Service
  - Nigeria Police Force

**Civil Society**

- NACAM*: Network of ACAs, CSOs and Media
  - End Impunity Nigeria network
  - Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CSLAC)
  - Zero Corruption Coalition (ZCC)
  - Y’Adau Foundation / Enough is Enough
  - Media Rights Agenda
  - Public and Private Development Centre

**Anti-Corruption Agencies (ACAs)**

- Support for the revision of ACTU Standing Order and Operating Guidelines
- Support to ICPC on the finalisation of the National Ethics and Integrity Policy and Scorecard
- Orientation and deployment trainings for 35 newly designated heads of ACTU
- Support to the ICPC in finalizing the National anti-corruption policy document
- Support to the development of code of conduct for ACAs

### How they experienced/learned

- ICPC discovered the gaps in the current ACTU standing Order and Operating Guidelines
- New heads learnt how to set up and manage MDAs ACTU units
- MDA staff have resource on the principles of ethics and codes of conducts
- Increased understanding of the benefits of an effective internal accountability and prevention system

### What they did as a result

- New ACTU Standing Order and Operating Guideline deployed
- Draft National Ethics and Integrity Policy submitted to the ICPC chairman for consideration
- Trained new heads of ACTU deployed to head pilot ACTU units
- ACAs developing new codes of conduct and ethics
- Network of CSOs on anti-corruption for engagement ACAs on corruption prevention mechanisms
- Increased focus on oil revenue transparency issues by J4A supported media
- "I love the website. It is now my go to website for oil and gas news because it ties everything together and is so easy to read... All the content I need from the website." Amanda, London Free Press, Industry, World Bank.

### What they said

- "I must say that the infographics offered a visually compelling way to understand how much unseen oil theft threatens the economy and environment of crude oil-sourced Nigeria. Thank you for helping out." Lukas Opalensky, AP video journalist.
- "I love the website. It is now my go to website for oil and gas news because it ties everything together and is so easy to read... All the content I need from the website." Amanda, London Free Press, Industry, World Bank.