

Nigeria delisted from the Financial Action Task Force grey listing



Key factors leading to Nigeria's FATF delisting:

- **NFIU improved intelligence gathering and sharing**
- **Passage of two bills: Money Laundering Prohibition and Terrorism Prevention Amendment Bills**

One of J4A's objectives is to improve the coordination and cooperation amongst anti-corruption agencies in Nigeria. J4A is supporting the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU) to deliver on its mandate as a provider of financial intelligence to a wide range of law enforcement agencies in Nigeria.

J4A supported the development of NFIU's five-year strategic plan and designed a training program geared towards improving operations, sharing intelligence and planning action. The NFIU has improved its workings with other anti-corruption agencies and law enforcement agencies and increased the number and quality of information exchanges, locally and internationally. The number of intelligence packages has increased from 87 (in 2010) to 371 (in 2013).

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an international policy, legislative and regulatory body on illegal financial practices. The work sought to address FATF's inclusion of Nigeria on its grey list—as a country with significant flaws in anti-money laundering and counter terrorism financing regimes.

The NFIU's improved intelligence gathering and dissemination activities and the passage of two key bills: the Money Laundering Prohibition Amendment Bill and the Terrorism Prevention Amendment Bill (both supported by J4A) led to Nigeria's delisting from the FATF grey list of jurisdictions in October 2013. This is important for the country as it will provide an environment that will be conducive for foreign investment.

In this issue:

PAGE 2 Model customary courts in Enugu; Clearing House for ATPs

PAGE 3 Enugu Model Police stations; Mediation and legal services for the poor

PAGE 4 Replicating the family support unit

Improving the efficiency and service delivery in model customary courts in Enugu

As part of a J4A initiative aimed at increasing access to justice in Enugu state, model customary courts were created. At the beginning of the project, an assessment survey revealed that the inspectorate unit was not functional and that inspections were ill-defined; there was limited capacity and no training curriculum; processes and procedures were unclear and the complaint system was not working. The survey also revealed that the infrastructure of the courts was severely dilapidated.

Four model courts in Ozalla, Obollo Afor, Maryland and Ogui have been refurbished. J4A provided training for the inspectorate unit and a vehicle for inspection visits. Time standards, inspection policies and case management practices were introduced in the courts. A complaints system was reintroduced to enable the tracking of user satisfaction and increase public participation in court oversight.

In order to increase public awareness about court activities and proceedings, a Customary Court of Appeal Newsletter is now published and disseminated to the community, as a result of J4A support.



Court of Appeal, Enugu State

Following the J4A intervention, the Customary Court of Appeal adopted the training curriculum for all customary courts in Enugu state. To date, 420 chairmen and customary court staff have been trained and all customary courts are following the new procedures introduced through J4A assistance.

“The Customary Court of Appeal will forever remain grateful to the Justice for All Programme and pray that this partnership will continue yielding positive results in the administration of justice in customary courts of Enugu state.”

President of the Customary Court of Appeal
Hon. Justice V.N. Nebo

Awaiting Trial prisoners benefit from clearing house in FCT

J4A under its initiative to speed up criminal justice for awaiting trial prisoners (ATPs) has partnered with the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Office of the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria (LACoN) to provide free legal assistance for awaiting trial prisoners in the FCT. The project is managed by the Prisoners Rehabilitation And Welfare Action (PRAWA).

The ‘Clearing House’ connects ATPs who do not have a lawyer with a lawyer who will provide services free of charge (*pro bono*). The Clearing House began operation in July 2013 and in its first three months processed 476 cases. Results are encouraging with 140 of the cases already finalised and bail secured for 215 of the cases that are still ongoing. Therefore, in only six months of operation 355 long-term ATPs have been supported in their quest to be released from custody.

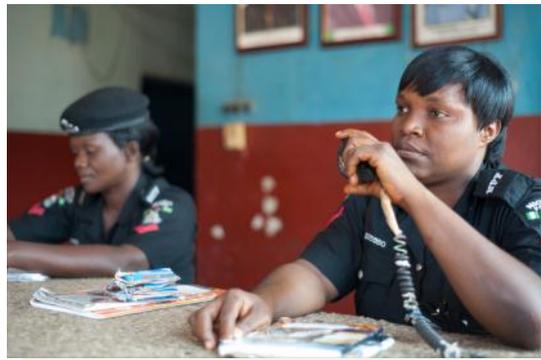
Often cases are thrown out of court because there is insufficient evidence for prosecution. So far the cases have been mainly channelled through paralegals and LACoN lawyers. Negotiations are underway to involve private practitioners, including a partnership with the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA).

Increasing access to security in Enugu through Model Police Stations

J4A is working with the Enugu police command to establish model police stations at the Enugu central police station, Kwunanaw and Abakpa. The model police stations aim to deliver community based policing, improve services, accountability and responsiveness, and ensure citizen's participation in community policing matters.

Specific projects include training on neighbourhood policing, intelligence led policing and support to the voluntary policing sector (VPS). The project has resulted in the establishment of a detainee management system, a community safety partnership and the reactivation of the family support unit, which is now working closely with social welfare on family related investigations, such as rape and child abuse.

Local teams have been trained to monitor the implementation and replication of the activities in other divisions and stations. The Commissioner of Police has requested additional support to replicate community safety partnerships, divisional investigation units, management teams and the establishment of a sexual assault referral centre in Enugu state.



Model police station, Enugu

“The Model Police Station is a wonderful development, the work on the intelligence gathering unit is great and the category of cases in terms of cases under investigation, those won and lost and those under prosecution can now be easily ascertained.”

Mr Ike Mba
DPO Central Police Station

Increasing access to mediation and legal services for the poor in Enugu State

With J4A support there is now a cadre of 22 community paralegals and 150 village mediators providing mediation, legal assistance and human rights awareness to community members in Enugu state. Before the programme, there was little awareness about human rights and a lack of affordable and accessible justice for the poor and vulnerable.

Over 2,000 community members, mostly women of Ugwogo, Eha-Amufu, Nara, Nkerefi and Nomeh, have now received training in basic human rights.

One trainee said: **“The training has helped me have a better understanding of the concepts of mediation, paralegalism, the legal system in Nigeria, the differences between criminal/civil laws and their procedures, the legal framework for village mediation programme, the difference between negotiation, arbitration, litigation and mediation.”**

“Secondly, I now understand human rights and mediation, diversion and referral of cases, protocols and roles and also monitoring and evaluation/reporting better. Incidentally, I belong to a number of social groups/associations in my community. Based on this training, I will be able to sensitise them about the importance of paralegalism and its importance.”



Community paralegals working with women in Enugu

Out of 85 mediation cases, 78 have been successfully handled, which were on land, marital and family matters. J4A has partnered with the State Ministry of Justice to incorporate the village paralegal and mediation programme into the activities of the Citizens Rights & Mediation group to expand the programme to other local government areas.

Replicating Family Support Units in Adeniji Adele and Ilupeju police stations

The establishment of a Family Support Unit (FSU) is an important part of J4A's work in the model police stations in Lagos state. The project started with the Isokoko police station and is now being replicated in Adeniji Adele and Ilupeju police stations. In both sites, J4A organised workshops to develop the skills of officers to respond to domestic and gender based violence (GBV).

Although implementation is at an early stage in Ilupeju, Adeniji Adele has progressed in its operations. Referrals from the police station FSUs to the J4A supported Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) and other social welfare organisations has continued to grow on a daily basis, particularly with the most sensitive of cases.

The Women's Right and Health Project funded through a J4A grant is also working to complement the efforts of the SARC and the FSU by ensuring an increase in the level of reporting incidences of GBV in two LCDAs.

The Divisional Police Officer, Monday Agbonika, disclosed that as a result of the J4A intervention he was able to develop a vision of what he wanted to achieve to address domestic and gender based violence. He partnered with community members, civil society, business owners and other donor organisations to support the initiative.



Divisional Police Officer, Monday Agbonika with community members



Vehicle donated by the Ford Foundation as a result of police outreach to the community, CSOs and donor partners

The initiative has received numerous donations to support the efforts from different organisations and community members and the Ford Foundation has donated a vehicle to the family support unit in Adeniji Adele. This addresses the challenge of transporting victims from the police station to the SARC where they can receive medical attention.

Follow Us

Website: www.j4a-nigeria.org

Sign up to receive our newsletter by email.

Facebook: [facebook.com/Justice for All \(J4A\) Nigeria](https://facebook.com/Justice for All (J4A) Nigeria)

Twitter: (search) @J4ANigeria

Contact Us

We welcome your feedback and contributions.

Email: info@j4a-nigeria.org

J4A Programme Offices

Abuja

Tel: 07098121548-49

Enugu

Tel: 042290962

Kano

Tel: 064969112

Lagos

Tel: 018418479