



DEVATOP CENTER  
FOR AFRICA  
DEVELOPMENT



# 2018 2019

Annual Report

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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



**Joseph Chidiebere Osuigwe**

Executive Director/ Founder  
Devatop Center For Africa Development

I am glad to present the 2018 – 2019 Annual Report. During this reporting year, we sustained our existing projects despite our financial challenge.

I will say that during this reporting year, we used the limited available resources to impact lives through our project.

One of the things that has helped us was **synergy and partnership with other organizations**. More than 70% of our work this year wouldn't have been possible without collaboration with other organizations.

FY.19 gave us an opportunity to persevere during the challenges. It gave us the opportunity to utilize little resources to make a great impact.

I am optimistic and certain that we will record greater impact next year.

# ABOUT

## DEVATOP CENTRE FOR AFRICA DEVELOPMENT:

Devatop Center for Africa Development is youth-led anti-human trafficking and human rights organization in Nigeria that focuses on combating human trafficking, gender-based violence, irregular migration and supporting survivors and at-risk youths. DEVATOP, for the past 6 years has implemented over 15 human rights projects addressing human trafficking, child labour and gender-based violence. These projects benefited vulnerable women, girls, children and other vulnerable groups in 20 states in Nigeria.

DEVATOP vision is built on ensuring a nation without human trafficking, gender-based violence thereby promoting human rights. Hence, Devatop provided technical support to enable the Edo state government to develop policies and plans on trafficking in persons, which led to the establishment of the Technical Working Group (TWG) on Human Trafficking in Edo state.

## ESSENTIAL SERVICES



**Combating Human Trafficking**



**Empowerment of vulnerable persons**



**Ending Gender-based violence**



**Eradicating Child labour**

Having identified some of the largest root causes of trafficking, gender-based violence, child labour and abuse as poverty, lack of education, demand for cheap labour, lack of human rights for vulnerable groups, lack of legitimate economic opportunities to mention but a few, Devatop empowers victims and vulnerable groups to be self-reliance, and create economic opportunities themselves, supports the implementation of legal support for the marginalized group through advocacy to policymakers.

# PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 1:

## Anti-Human Trafficking Advocate

In tackling the problem of Trafficking, Devatop Center for Africa Development implemented a project called Anti-Human Trafficking Advocacy Project. The project is funded by Accion Contra La Trata Spain with the focus on raising advocates for community engagement through training and campaign. The advocates were trained to carry out community engagements to create awareness among youth, women, and children. This is because of the increased number of persons trafficked from Nigeria to Spain yearly.

Through this project, we conducted an in-person training to raise 20 anti-human trafficking advocates across Edo Delta, Imo Lagos, Adamawa and the Nasarawa State as advocates who carried out community engagements in their states.

After the training, 11 participants were able to carry out awareness campaigns in their states reaching 754 community members.





## PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 1:

### Devatop's Participation at U.S International Human Trafficking Conference, University Of Toledo, Ohio State, Usa.

Our founder, Mr. Joseph Osuigwe represented our organization at the 2018 International Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference in U.S. A. He was one of the over 40 international research presenters at 2018 International Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference at the University of Toledo, Ohio, USA. The conference was attended by over 1000 participants from different countries.

While at the conference on 21st September and 22nd September 2018, he presented one of his papers titled “Engaging Private Sectors in Combating Human Trafficking in Nigeria: Results, Challenges, and Recommendation”

In his paper, he stated, “Trafficking in Persons is now the fastest-growing business of organized crime, that involves the exploitation of men, women, and children within their own countries and across international borders. Human traffickers or perpetrators often see young people, especially women, girls, and children as commodities that can generate 100 times the amount spent on recruiting them. Human trafficking remains a great threat to our economic development, advancement, and human capital. It saps the very potential of our nation by frustrating the aspiration of our young people”.



## PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 1:

### Devatop's Participation at U.S International Human Trafficking Conference, University Of Toledo, Ohio State, Usa.

He narrated how he and Kristi Koci(DEVATOP intern from Italy) conducted a survey among 50 companies and businesses in Abuja, Lagos, and Nasarawa State, which showed that private sectors in Nigeria have not been involved in combating trafficking, even though some demonstrated interest to get involved if the Federal government makes demand from them. According to him, little or nothing has been demanded from private sectors in tackling human trafficking in Nigeria.

Responding to questions and comments by participants, Joseph Osuigwe said that lack of political will is among the causes why private sectors in Nigeria have not been fully organized and engaged in tackling human trafficking. He further stated that private sectors can participate in promoting the fight against human trafficking by adopting it as their corporate social responsibility.

He advised that the Nigerian government and other countries should as a matter of urgency, make anti-human trafficking a national priority and stimulate private sectors to take action to end human trafficking.





# PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 1:

## U.S International Visitors Leadership Program



Our founder, Mr. Joseph Osuigwe was selected by the U.S Embassy to participate in the U.S Exchange program, known as International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) in Washington DC and Austin, during which he explored the best practices, innovative approaches, and policies in tackling human trafficking in the United States.

During his meetings with the U.S Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S Department of States-Office to Combat Human Trafficking, he was amazed at the level of importance the U.S government attached to ending human trafficking. He observed that the U.S government has demonstrated a strong political will to combat human trafficking, and stimulating virtually all the federal agencies to take strategic actions against human trafficking through the Presidential Inter-agency Taskforce Against Human Trafficking (PITF), which comprises: the U.S Department of State, Department of Treasury, Department of Defense, Department of Justice, Department of Interior, Department of Agriculture, Department of Labour, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Transportation, Department of Homeland Security, and Department of Education.

He had an inspiring discussion with civil society organizations (CSOs) in Washington DC and Austin, Texas. Each of his meetings with different CSOs offered a piece of unique information and experience to me. During his visit to the Polaris Project, he toured their building observing the flow of information of the U.S National Human Trafficking Hotline which they have been operating for more than three years.



## PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 2:

### Development of TALKAM

With the knowledge that our Executive Director gathered from U.S International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP), he founded TALKAM Project with the aim of leveraging both modern technology and local communication approach to tackle human rights abuses. TALKAM includes a Mobile Application ([www.talkam.org](http://www.talkam.org)) for reporting abuses, a weekly radio program to educate citizens, and case management.

The TALKAM App was developed as a pilot project with the hope of upgrading it. TALKAM, a pidgin English word meaning “**Speak Out**”.

### About TALKAM

TALKAM is a sustainable human rights-based innovative project that stimulates young people to utilize ICT tools (their smartphones and our TALKAM mobile reporting application) to observe and report human rights abuses in their communities and schools.

The mobile application ([www.talkam.org](http://www.talkam.org)) is a user-friendly reporting application that can be used by young people and any community member to anonymously report potential or suspected incidences of human rights abuse.

TALKAM Project involves capacity building, awareness, radio program, media campaign, and monitoring of human rights abuses in Nigeria.

Through support from International Centre for Investigative Reporting (ICIR) and Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR), we implemented TALKAM Human Rights Radio Program, which was aired on Human Rights Radio 101.1 FM Abuja, reaching over 600,000 listeners. The radio program was used to educate citizens and stimulate them toward countering human trafficking and gender-based violence.



# TALKAM HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT - 1

In 2019, with support from Seed of Change and McGinnity Family Foundation, we trained 35 civil society organizations, young people, and women as Human Rights Advocates. The first edition of the training which was held on 10th and 11th July 2019 in Abuja, was aimed at building the capacity of stakeholders in human rights advocacy and engaging them in campaigning against human rights abuses, monitoring, reporting, and providing referral services to victims. After the training, participants were required to implement step-down projects within the next four months and as well document human rights abuses in their local areas.

Participants drawn from six states (Rivers, Kaduna, Lagos, FCT, Kano, and Nasarawa) were trained on overview of human rights, an overview of human trafficking, an overview of gender-based violence, observing/reporting of human rights abuses, and becoming a human rights advocate. They were taught how to use the recently developed human rights reporting application, TALKAM ([www.talkam.org](http://www.talkam.org)).

As part of the activity of TALKAM Human Rights Project supported by A Seed Of Change, McGinnity Family Foundation and The Pollination Project; on DE VATOP Centre for Africa Development and U.S Embassy Abuja organized a workshop for 100 civil society organizations, youth, and women on human trafficking and gender-based violence.

The aim of the workshop was to highlight the current trends of human trafficking and stimulate action among participants.



# Get to Know TALKAM Human Rights Project:

## TALKAM Human Rights Reporting App

A mobile and web app ([www.talkam.org](http://www.talkam.org)) for citizens to report human rights abuses.

## TALKAM Hotline Line/Whatsapp and SMS

An alternative platform for citizens to report human rights abuses.

## TALKAM Human Rights Advocacy Training

A platform to train and mentor people as human rights advocates and engage them to take strategic actions against human rights abuses and report cases in their communities.

## TALKAM Human Rights Radio Program

A platform to educate citizens and stimulate them to monitor and report human rights abuses. More than 900,000 citizens are sensitized every week.

## TALKAM Human Rights Case Management

This involves analyzing reported cases, referring, and engaging relevant agencies to respond, and ensuring that victims are supported.

## TALKAM Human Rights Dialogue

This is a platform to engage stakeholders, policymakers, and citizens to discuss salient issues about human rights.

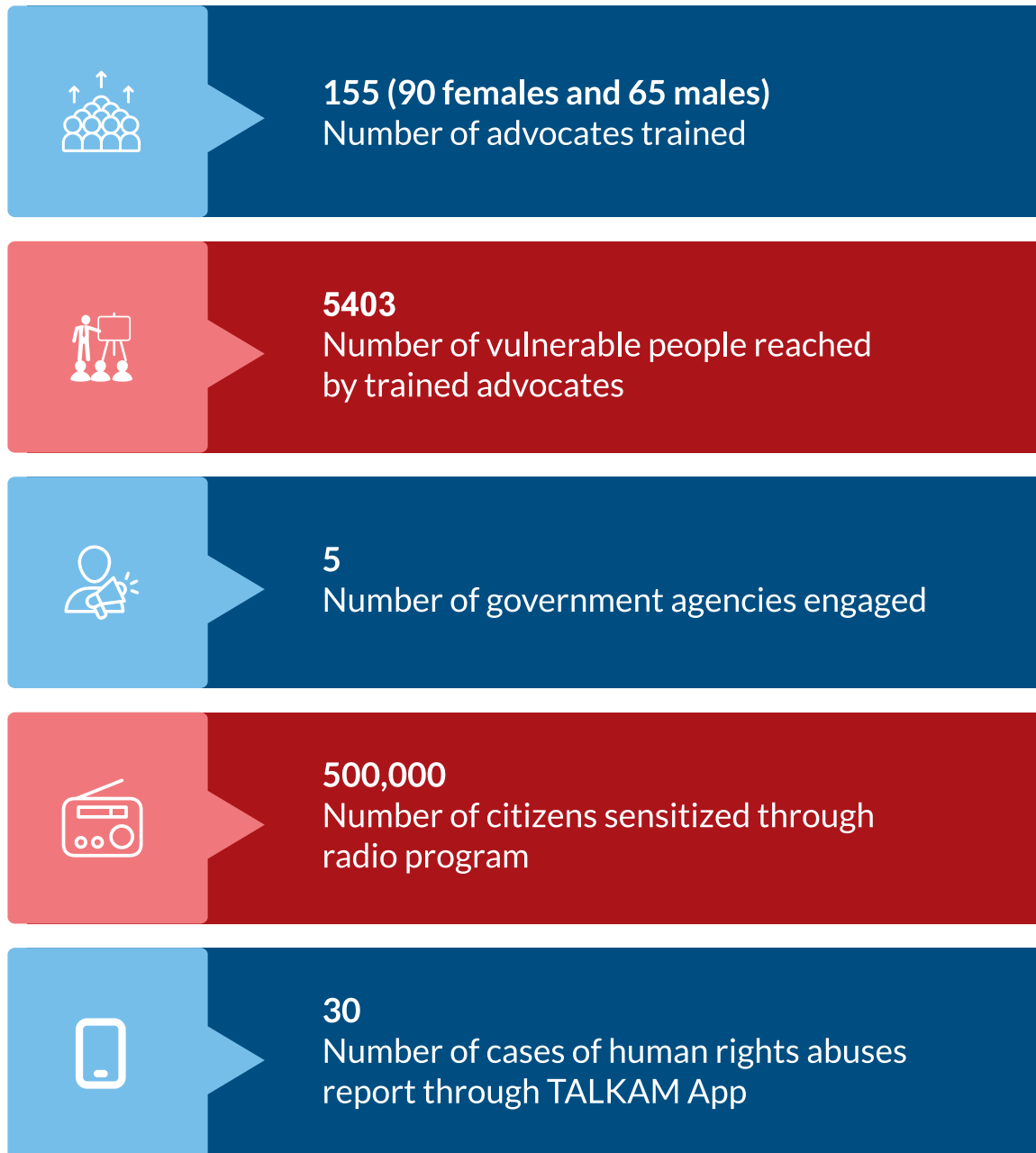
## TALKAM Human Rights Community/School Awareness

This involves the use of fact-based messages and audiovisuals to sensitize community members and students about human trafficking, gender-based violence, child abuse, etc.

## TALKAM Human Rights Social Media Campaign

This involves the use of fact-based messages and audiovisuals to sensitize social media users and stimulate them to report suspected cases.

## TALKAM Data:





## OUR FUNDERS:



**INSTITUTE FOR  
WAR & PEACE REPORTING**



## CONTACT US



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