



DEVATOP 2025 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



Mission Statement

To build a nation free from human trafficking by equipping youth as agents of development.



Vision Statement

To work with local, national, and global partners in upholding human rights and social justice in Africa.



REFLECTIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

APPRECIATION TO OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS

2025 was indeed an immersive year. With changing systems across the continent, the year was filled with activities, successes, and challenges that shaped our growth and strengthened our impact. Our partners and donors are an important component of our 2025 story. We truly appreciate the voices, contributions, strategic collaborations and inputs from our stakeholders, government bodies, diplomatic missions and local partners.

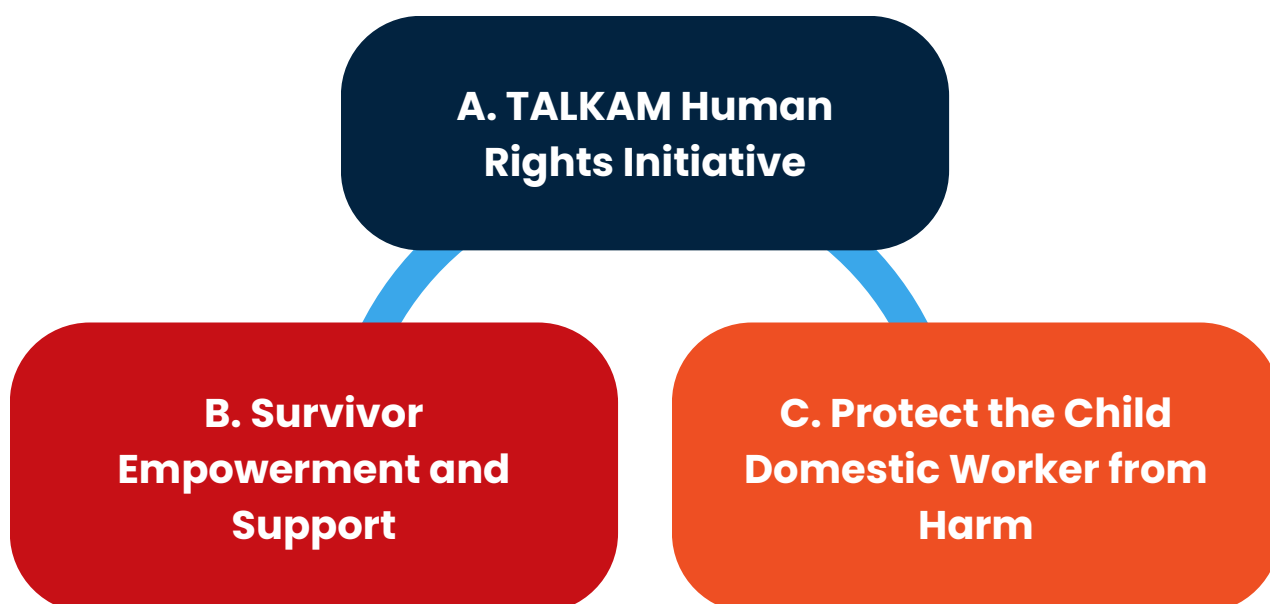


Embassy
of the Federal Republic of Germany
Abuja



PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED

Throughout 2025, Devatop Centre for Africa Development implemented three fully funded projects all aimed at addressing human rights issues, combating violations and empowering survivors and advocates. These projects had fully fledged activities that strengthened our civic-tech platform, TALKAM, advanced our case management systems, amplified our reporting mechanisms, and complemented our advocacy against human trafficking, child domestic work and environmental hazards. These projects include:



A. TALKAM Human Rights Initiative

Duration: January 2025 – December 2025

Locations: Abuja, Cross River (Calabar) and Lagos State

Funding Partner: Intercultural Innovation Hub (IIH)

The TALKAM Human Rights Initiative is a one-year project supported by the Intercultural Innovation Hub (IIH). The project contributed to strengthening our case management systems, and our civic-tech platform, TALKAM. It enhanced our reporting structures and digital advocacy for human rights. Through a combination of digital innovation, in-person capacity building, institutional advocacy, survivor-centered psychosocial support, and private sector engagement, the project strengthened overall human rights reporting and response systems in Nigeria while laying the foundation for regional scale-up for the civic-tech platform in West Africa. In addition, it amplified inter-sectoral support, projected digital education of human rights and enhanced our partnership with local partners and stakeholders who deliberated extensively during our case management forum to devise sustainable funding models for case management in Africa.



HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACTIVITIES OF THE TALKAM HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE

TALKAM HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES ENGAGEMENTS

As part of the TALKAM Human Rights Initiative, DEVATOP Centre for Africa Development conducted a two-day capacity building workshop for Human Rights Advocates in Lagos and Cross River States, where a total of 100 advocates were trained, with 50 participants in each state.

The training strengthened participants' understanding of human rights principles, advocacy ethics, and digital reporting while promoting the use of the TALKAM Human Rights App as a civic-tech tool for reporting and responding to human rights violations. Sessions covered human rights concepts, identification of violations using the Problem Tree Methodology, digital advocacy strategies, and practical demonstrations on the use of the TALKAM App. Participants also developed community action plans to drive grassroots awareness and encourage reporting of abuses. In addition, Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials were distributed to participants to support community sensitization and advocacy efforts, and participants began taking action by implementing awareness activities and engaging their communities using the knowledge and tools acquired during the training. As a result, participants demonstrated improved knowledge and advocacy skills, all trainees successfully onboarded and engaged with the TALKAM App, and a stronger network of community-based advocates was established to promote accountability and support survivors within their communities.

1. Talkam Human Rights Dialogue and Case Management Forum: Held in November 2025, Devatop Centre for Africa Development organised this activity to identify gaps and opportunities in case management systems across Africa. Through immersive sessions, panel discussions, group work, and a recommendations segment that produced a holistic policy brief addressing gaps in reporting and referral mechanisms, response systems, and human rights advancement, the forum contributed to practical solutions that reflect human rights case management realities across the continent.



2. Talkam Case Management Platform: From January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, the TALKAM digital human rights platform recorded 199 total cases, reflecting increased reporting, app usage, and community trust.

Summary of Key Impact



Case Status Overview



Case Categories Reported



Institutional & Partnership Growth



50+
new organizations onboarded onto TALKAM



13
organizations joined from 4 African countries

- The Gambia
- Liberia
- Ghana
- Sierra Leone

3. TALKAM Human Rights Board of Supporters Launch: The launch of the TALKAM Corporate Supporters Forum was one of our major highlights for fiscal year 2025. The forum was initiated as part of Devatop Centre for Africa Development's ongoing commitment to expanding partnerships that promote justice, dignity, and accountability across communities. The forum is designed to strengthen private sector participation in combating human trafficking, gender-based violence, and online exploitation through the use of technology-driven solutions. Through the forum, private organisations made in kind donations towards the reintegration of survivors, digital literacy, and vocational skills empowerment. The forum was designed to provide a space for corporate organisations to understand existing gaps in human rights protection, and identify areas where their Corporate Social Responsibility interventions could create measurable social change.



4. Training CSO partners on TALKAM Digital Case Management: Following the expansion of the Talkam Human Right digital case management platform to four west African countries, series of training, webinars and onboarding sessions were conducted on a monthly basis, to familiarise potential case management partners on the use of the Talkam case management dashboard. The session, facilitated by the case manager and supported by the ICT team, equipped focal persons from partner organisations with knowledge and skills required to receive, manage, and respond to human rights cases reported through the TALKAM Human Rights App.

B. Survivor Empowerment and Learning Forum

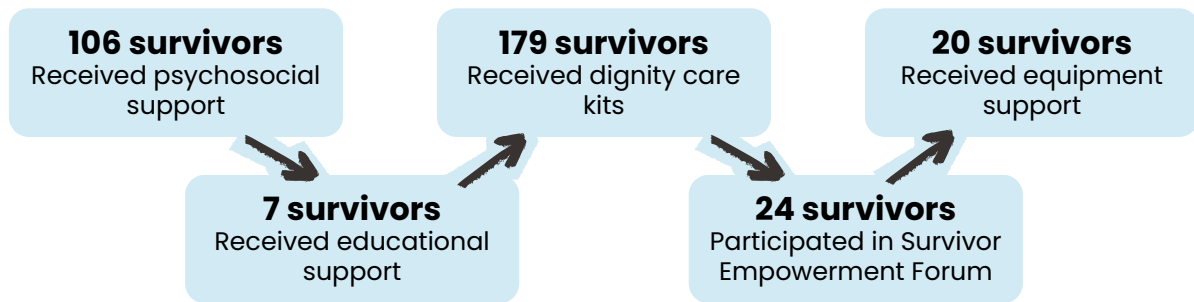
The Survivor Empowerment and Learning Forum was implemented with support from the Foreign Aid Bridge Fund through Panorama Global. Throughout its implementation phase, Devatop Centre for Africa Development delivered targeted interventions that measurably strengthened survivor wellbeing, increased community awareness, enhanced child protection outcomes, and expanded sustainable partnerships for human rights protection in Africa.



HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACTIVITIES OF THE SURVIVOR EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

1. Survivor Empowerment and Leadership Forum: In 2025, Devatop Centre for Africa Development remained committed to strengthening survivors' capacities and livelihoods, their recovery and reintegration socio-economically through the support of the Foreign Aid Bridge Fund. Devatop leveraged leadership forums, capacity-building initiatives, educational and economic empowerment activities and psychosocial support to empower over 300 survivors throughout the year. This empowerment impacted their psychosocial well-being, resulted in increased sources of livelihoods, deepened their knowledge of human rights and equipped them with advocacy skills.

Summary of Survivor Support & Empowerment



2. Online Course Launch: Furtherance to Devatop's dedication to equipping survivors and advocates, the organisation co-developed and co-launched the TALKAM online human rights courses with the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP). The courses were introduced on Talkam as a tool for strengthening public awareness, capacity building, and citizen participation in combating human trafficking, gender-based violence, sextortion, hate speech and violent crime. At the launch, government ministries, departments and agencies and civil society actors were walked through the navigation process to facilitate learning. In 2025, a total of six courses, with over 250 enrollees, were developed in addition to the existing ones.

Courses:



3. Survivor Empowerment: In collaboration with government institutions and civil society partners, including the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), Auxano Foundation for Empowerment and Development (AFED), and Media Coalition and Awareness to Halt Human Trafficking (MeCAHT), DEVATOP engaged survivors and vulnerable children at various levels and equipped them with varying forms of empowerment including educational, vocational and hygienic. DEVATOP reached a total of 179 survivors and vulnerable children in safe, coordinated, and ethical ways through the distribution of hygiene and dignity care kits and enrollment in schools. Beyond material support, the distribution processes reinforced survivor protection principles, facilitated reintegration and helped boost self-confidence in beneficiaries.



4. Clean Cooking: The clean-cooking climate-friendly activity was implemented to promote the adoption of safer and more environmentally sustainable household energy practices. At the one-day activity, DEVATOP distributed 18 clean cooking briquette stoves to households, reducing exposure to harmful emissions and supporting climate-smart behaviour.



C. 'PROTECT THE CHILD DOMESTIC WORKER FROM HARM':

Duration: January 2025 – December 2025

Locations: Lagos

Funding Partner: Freedom Fund (Grant from the US Department)

DEVATOP Centre For Africa Development implemented the "Protect Child Domestic Workers From Maltreatment" project to raise awareness on child rights, prevent abuse, and promote safer household practices through community engagement.

The project strengthened protection for child domestic workers (CDWs) by fostering stakeholder collaboration, encouraging the reportage of maltreatment, and improving community accountability. It also championed the provision of safe places and opportunities for CDWs to play and learn, while engaging government stakeholders to influence policy in favour of child domestic workers.

KEY ACTIVITIES FROM THE PROTECT THE CHILD DOMESTIC WORKER FROM HARM PROJECT

1. CDWs & GUARDIAN FORUM (Community Sensitization): This activity brought child domestic workers and guardians together to discuss child rights, safe-care practices, and the harmful effects of child domestic work. With a total of one hundred (100) CDWs and one hundred (80) guardians attending across four (4) communities, the forum promoted dialogue, awareness, and shared responsibility for protecting children from abuse and exploitation.



2. WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR (WDACL): DEVATOP commemorated the World Day Against Child Labour grandly, with the sole purpose to raise awareness about the persistence of child labour, particularly the exploitation of child domestic workers, while reaffirming children's rights to protection, education, dignity etc. The activity convened over ninety (90) participants drawn from government stakeholders, community leaders, CSOs and other relevant stakeholders, strengthened collective responsibility, promoted enforcement of child protection laws, and advanced collaborative actions to prevent child exploitation and safeguard children's wellbeing.



3. STAKEHOLDERS' ADVOCACY DISCUSSION: DEVATOP organised the stakeholders' advocacy discussion to raise awareness about the prevalence and risks of child domestic work and its impact on children's rights and wellbeing. The event engaged government stakeholders, community leaders, CSOs, and other relevant stakeholders to deepen their understanding of the issue and its root causes. The discussion also promoted collaboration and advocacy for stronger child protection measures by identifying policy and enforcement gaps and encouraging coordinated action. Through this engagement, DEVATOP worked to secure stakeholder commitment to improve laws, accountability, and practical solutions to prevent abuse and protect child domestic workers.



4. WORLD PRESS CONFERENCE: The world press conference was designed to raise awareness about abuses and forms of exploitation child domestic workers face. It engaged the media, policy-makers, and the public in highlighting the urgent need for legal protections, community accountability, and reporting mechanisms to safeguard these children. The event also reinforced the project's goals of promoting child rights, preventing maltreatment, and encouraging positive interventions by stakeholders. Through the conference, DEVATOP emphasised the shared responsibility of families, communities, and authorities to ensure the safety, well-being, and fair treatment of child domestic workers.



5. RADIO PROGRAMS: Throughout fiscal year 2025, DEVATOP actively engaged with communities through its audience-participatory radio program organised to raise public awareness about the implications and harms of exploitative child domestic work, and advocate for better protection and rights for child domestic workers. The program informed listeners about how exploitative domestic work affects children's wellbeing, education, and rights, stimulated community dialogue on ending such exploitation, and encouraged reporting and collective action to protect children from abuse and maltreatment in domestic settings.



6. DEVATOP Joins National Steering Committee on Child Labour: In July 2025, Devatop Centre for Africa Development (DEVATOP), together with Freedom Fund partners, engaged the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment to present findings from the Protect Child Domestic Workers Project. The advocacy highlighted key gaps in protecting child domestic workers, including weak enforcement, low awareness, and monitoring challenges.

As a direct result of this engagement, DEVATOP was officially invited to join the National Steering Committee (NSC) on Child Labour, a national platform co-led by the Ministry and the International Labour Organization (ILO). During its first meeting at the ILO/UN House in Abuja, the Committee reviewed progress and challenges in implementing Nigeria's National Policy and Action Plan on Child Labour.

This milestone positions DEVATOP at the centre of national decision-making on child labour, strengthening its ability to influence policy, advocate for stronger protections, and ensure the realities of vulnerable child domestic workers are reflected in national strategies.

7. MAJOR PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS: ADVOCACIES AND STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS: Devatop Centre for Africa Development carried out a series of advocacy visits and strategic engagements to key government institutions, civil society bodies, United Nations development agencies and diplomatic missions. They included the European Union Delegation in Nigeria, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the German Embassy, FIAP, the Ireland embassy etc. Key government stakeholders include the Ajangbadi Police Station, Lagos, the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment, the Lagos State Law Reform Enforcement Commission, the National Human Rights Commission, among others, while some of the civil society organisations include the Network of Civil Society organization against Child Trafficking, Abuse and Labour (NACTAL), West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI), West Africa Coalition Against Trafficking in persons and Smuggling of migrants (WACTIPSOM), Slum to School, etc.

Beyond advocacy visits, Devatop engaged strategically with these institutions and in shared commitment to combating human rights abuses and exploitation, partnered on various activities. A major highlight was the Talkam human rights dialogue and case management forum held on November 27, 2025 with significant support from the German Embassy.



Pictures of Advocacy Visits to Different Organisations

1. MoU SIGNING: National Human Rights Commission: In a significant milestone for institutional collaboration, Devatop Centre for Africa Development formally signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), reinforcing a shared commitment to advancing human rights protection in Nigeria.

The MoU signing marked more than a formal agreement, it demonstrated the impact and credibility of the TALKAM Human Rights Initiative as a practical digital solution for case reporting and management. Through this partnership, the NHRC expressed commitment to leveraging the TALKAM App to strengthen nationwide case reportage, promote digital literacy, and enhance coordinated, survivor-centered case management. This strategic collaboration represents a major step toward institutionalizing technology-driven human rights protection across Nigeria.



Influencing Policy and Systems: National Steering Committee Inclusion.

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2. TALKAM REGIONAL EXPANSION: In 2025, the TALKAM Human Rights Initiative significantly advanced its regional footprint across West Africa, reinforcing its vision of a coordinated, technology-driven response to human rights violations. As part of this strategic expansion, Devatop Centre for Africa Development successfully trained and onboarded over 40 frontline case management organisations across Ghana, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, and Liberia onto the TALKAM App.

This expansion strengthens cross-border collaboration, enhances digital case documentation, and improves survivor-centered referral pathways across the region. Notable partner organisations onboarded include:



**Human Rights
Defenders
Network**
Sierra Leone



**Right To Be
Free**
Ghana



**Smiles Africa International
Youth Development
Initiative (SAIYDI)**
Nigeria

- **Youth in Action for Development, Democracy and Human Rights (YADDHR-SL)** – Sierra Leone
- **Onyx Community and Development Foundation** – Nigeria

TALKAM continues to position itself as a scalable African innovation for real-time reporting, survivor support, and institutional collaboration in advancing human rights protection.

1. Restoring Access to Education: Victoria's Story

Through the "Protect Child Domestic Workers Project," DEVATOP Centre for Africa Development supported the reintegration of a child domestic worker (CDW), here referred to as "Victoria," into formal education.

When Victoria was identified by the Community Liaison Assistant in Okoko community, she was 12 years old and had been denied access to schooling by her guardian. The guardian's justification was that Victoria was needed to assist in the guardian's restaurant.

Following DEVATOP's community sensitization on children's rights and child safeguarding, the guardian gained a better understanding of the child's right to education and protection. As a result, Victoria was enrolled in school. She also participated in the Child Mentorship Clinic, where she received psychosocial support and life-skills training.

Today, Victoria is enrolled and regularly attending school and progressing academically demonstrating the impact of community-level awareness and engagement in transforming harmful practices.

2. Disrupting Exploitation Through Community Reporting: Destiny's Story.

A significant protection outcome under the project was achieved through the TALKAM App, DEVATOP's reporting and referral platform.

The case involved Destiny, a 17-year-old child domestic worker whose situation raised concerns of abuse, neglect, restriction of family contact, and possible trafficking. The case was reported by a DEVATOP-trained community influencer who had participated in DEVATOP's child safeguarding and community advocacy training.

Upon investigation, it was discovered that Destiny had been brought from Niger State by a relative under the guise of a holiday visit, but was later placed with a guardian and prevented from returning home or communicating with her mother. She was also inappropriately enrolled in a primary school despite being of secondary school age.

DEVATOP referred the case to the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP). The child was safely removed from the situation, reunited with her mother, and the employer invited for interrogation. The case is currently undergoing legal proceedings.

This outcome highlights the effectiveness of trained community influencers and digital reporting tools in identifying and responding to exploitation.

3. Restoring Hope and Dignity: Jennifer's Journey to Resilience

Jennifer, a 24-year-old young woman, became the sole breadwinner and guardian of her six younger siblings after the tragic loss of their mother and the abandonment of their father. With no stable income and overwhelming responsibility, Jennifer struggled daily to provide food and shelter for her family.

Faced with extreme vulnerability and economic hardship, she was forced to involve her younger siblings, aged 18, 15, 12, 8, and 3, in child domestic work to help sustain the household. This exposed them to significant risks, including exploitation, abuse, and human trafficking.

Through timely intervention and case response by Devatop Centre for Africa Development (DEVATOP) under the TALKAM Human Rights Initiative, Jennifer's case was identified and addressed with urgency and compassion.

Following a comprehensive assessment, Four of the children were withdrawn from child domestic work and enrolled back in school. They were provided with essential educational materials to support their learning and reduce the risk of returning to exploitative labor. Jennifer and one sibling were empowered with hairdressing equipment and vocational support, enabling them to establish a small income-generating activity.

Today, Jennifer is building resilience as an entrepreneur, using her skills in hairdressing to generate sustainable income for the family. Her siblings are now safely enrolled in school, with renewed hope for a better future.

This intervention not only restored the children's right to education but also strengthened the family's economic stability, significantly reducing their vulnerability to trafficking, exploitation, and other forms of abuse.

Jennifer's story is a powerful testament to how timely digital case reporting and survivor-centered support can transform lives, protect children, and rebuild hope where it once seemed lost.



DEVATOP CENTRE FOR
AFRICA DEVELOPMENT



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