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NIGERIA ANNUAL REPORT 2021

The year 2021 was quite a year as many parts of the world saw a decline in the number of Covid-19 cases reported as we began to gain a better understanding of the pandemic. We achieved this through awareness raising and debunking myths around the pandemic, massive vaccination drives, and the implementation of both safety and preventive measures across the globe. The world is beginning to adapt to what seems to be the new normal as governments, businesses and sporting activities are gradually returning to conduct their usual affairs as the lockdowns have eased off across the globe through collective efforts.

In Nigeria, the many gaps in our procurement, justice, security, and health systems that were widened by the unanticipated emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic haven't been addressed despite our best efforts as a nation due to a lack of accountability in the system. On this premise, we have intensified our efforts in making governance work for people by supporting active citizens, responsible leaders, and accountable institutions. Through advocacy for collective decision-making with our CivActs work on Covid-19, peace and security, and inclusion;



As we continue our journey into 2022, I would like to thank our donors, programme beneficiaries, friends, supporters, and most importantly the entire AL team for their tireless and continued support without which we couldn't have made the strides we made in 2021

**Odeh Friday, Country Director -
Accountability Lab Nigeria**

encouraging narrative shifts, positive behaviours, and reforms through the work of Integrity Icons in the public service; giving people the knowledge and tools to help them push for better governance while closing the feedback loop to build trust with communities. With Covid-19 gradually fading away, we have outlined and worked towards what we think an effective post-pandemic CSO looks like as we position our organization in preparation for the new era.

Here are a few key achievements made in 2021 in line with our strategic goals:

1. Shifting norms and behaviours around issues of accountability to ensure that integrity becomes the expected behaviour within societies (campaigns):

We have been able to inspire the adoption of integrity as the expected behaviour while working on our Integrity Icon Nigeria campaign. The stories of our Icons shared on radio stations often inspire listeners to call into the radio shows to applaud the Icons' courage and character in standing for integrity and how they have made personal commitments to be persons of integrity in their environs. Their stories from our social media platforms have renewed the hopes of some Nigerians that integrity can become the new norm.

2. Equipping reformers for collective action inside and outside government with the knowledge and tools they need to push for better governance through training and learning:

We have had additional consolidation and rollout of our knowledge-building and innovation labs with public servants and young changemakers (accountapreneurs) with 100+ participants.

3. Influencing policies, processes, and practices around critical accountability issues, through growing coalitions and advocating for change (communities):

We have contributed to key sub-national policy changes such as the passage of the Disability Rights Bill in Kaduna State of Nigeria.



INTEGRITY ICON

In 2021 we worked with great care and perseverance to garner nominations of honest government officials from all regions of the country, despite the high level of insecurity, as well as to prioritize women of integrity. As a result, two of our Integrity Icon award winners were from the northern states of Kogi (North-central) and Adamawa (North-east); and three were from the southern states of Cross River (South-south), Imo (South-east) and Akwa Ibom (South-south). Three out of the five Integrity Icons awarded were women. Due to our improved programming, the 2021 campaign saw the highest number of nominations yet, with over 1100 persons nominated for the honour.

NUMBERS OF INTEGRITY ICON



6,249

votes



1,139

nominations



27

volunteers



451,157

social media views



1.1 mil

views and listens on
television and radio

OUR WINNERS

1. Musa Agono - Assistant Superintendent of Corps II (ASCI) of NSCDC, Kogi state command
2. Adigwe-Uzor Esther - Commandant and Zonal Head of Department for Critical National Assets and Infrastructure, NSCDC, Imo state
3. Barr. Emem Ette - Head of the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) response department, Akwa Ibom state
4. Com. Ibrahim M.I. Kirfi - Chairman, Amalgamated Union of Public Corporations, Civil Service Technical and Recreational Services Employees (AUPCTRE), Corporate Affairs Commission, Adamawa
5. Ekpo-ita, Gladys A - Scientific Officer I, Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC), Cross River state





CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

- Chief Superintendent of Police, CSP Francis Erhabor was nominated for the 2019 Integrity Icon award by community members of Uyo Itam in Akwa Ibom state. The award served to publicize his conduct and impact in operations at his police division. The resultant effect has been greater trust and cordiality between police officers and community members. He is reputed to have changed the practice of bribery within the D-division police station, boosted crime-fighting through citizen collaboration with the police and mentored community youth on soft and life skills. Several police officers from different parts of the country have continued to contact CSP Erhabor for tutelage on professional and civil policing.
- Dr. Igbole Magdalene - the Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Abuja was nominated by one of her students for the 2017 Integrity Icon Award for her stand on academic integrity in the university. Following her receipt of the award, she was promoted to Head of Department, where she has ensured strict adherence to standards and provided an effective feedback mechanism for students who are potential victims of sextortion. Her annual orientation session at the department in collaboration with Accountability Lab Nigeria builds the capacity of students and enlightens them on the need for integrity.



IMPACT

- Following a series of multi-stakeholder engagements and advocacy with the relevant government agencies and other stakeholders on prioritizing the inclusion of marginalized groups in governance processes, the Kaduna state house of assembly has enacted the Kaduna State Disabilities Law.
- Our work has been instrumental in building renewed hope and trust in focal communities as trained community members are now having regular periodic town hall meetings to address identified governance and community issues in their communities, and have committed to ensuring the processes are inclusive. For example, the communities in Obile and Assa (in Imo state) began consulting women on community issues, through our training. Also, a town hall centre for the women in Assa community has been renovated and one of the Community Frontline Activists has been appointed as a member of the Stakeholders' Committee in the community.

CIVIC ACTION TEAMS

In 2021, we conducted a natural resource governance project to strengthen and advocate for the inclusion of marginalized groups in oil-producing communities. This included multiple town hall meetings and citizen engagements in Uquo, Esit Eket, and Upene kang host communities in Akwa-Ibom state; Abudu, Ikobi, and Oben communities in Edo state; and Asaa, Mmahu, and Obile host communities in Imo state.



- The knowledge gained through our community self-advocacy on negotiation, conflict resolution, advocacy skills and strategy by ALNG helped a Community Frontline Activist in Dukpa Community, Nura Ibrahim, who mobilized youths and women leaders in his community and pushed for the successful completion of a road that had been abandoned for a long time.
- Through ALNG's training and advocacy program for community self-advocacy, we have recorded a certain level of impact that can be demonstrated through improved knowledge on the side of marginalized groups such as women and PWDs. For instance, through our training and advocacy tools, the PWDs have improved their relationship with the Kaduna state rehabilitation board which led to the Kaduna State Rehabilitation Board supporting PWDs in Kaduna South Local Government with laptops for improved documentation of their activities. There have also been improved engagements with the board leading to the ongoing renovation of three rehabilitation centres across the three senatorial zones in Kaduna state. Other initiatives include the launch of road construction as part of the constituency project in Angwan dodo, Gwagwalada Local Area Council which was spearheaded by Senator Philip Aduda following our engagements such as radio talk shows, community town hall meetings, and a film festival on the plight of the community members.



CIVIC ACTION TEAMS


We also sought to ensure proper representation and inclusion for marginalized groups in Nigeria including women, youths, and people with disabilities. We organized a series of town halls and multi-stakeholder meetings across Akwa Ibom, Kaduna, Edo Imo, and Abuja which featured Community Frontline Activists (CFAs); as well as partner civil society groups, government representatives, the media, and citizens. Here, we discussed the findings from the surveys carried out across identified communities in these three states. Some findings from the surveys include:

1. Lack of public trust for Government
2. Poor dissemination of information in the community-wide interest;
3. The inability of communities to engage with elected representatives;
4. The marginalized (mostly women and persons with disabilities) are not included in decision-making processes.


CIVACTS BY NUMBERS IN 2021


1,579
participants


5
problems solved


4
bulletins


9
CFAs trained


1.5 mil
reached through traditional and social media engagement



Impact

We had a very impactful and diverse cohort of film fellows in 2021. Participants were very instrumental in filming our top 5 Integrity icons for the year in their workplaces and communities across Nigeria. In addition to this, they participated in the development of Vox pop interviews reflecting accountability issues in their various locations. These “Street vibes” videos advocate for equality, inclusion, accountability, and integrity:

1. [Joy Ataboh video on Integrity](#)
2. [Raphael Ukwubiwe video on Gender Equality](#)
3. [Babalola Victor video on Accountability](#)
4. [Nsikan Umoh video on Gender Equity](#)



FILM FELLOWSHIP

In 2021 we equipped nine young aspiring filmmakers with the critical filming and messaging skills needed to document accountability-related issues. Through a series of training sessions in Abuja spearheaded by StoryMi Academy's Sophie Bouillon, with directorial guidance from Gloria Ugolee of Gladew streamline pictures, we imparted the participants with new learnings to share realities on the national state of accountability and create heroes and intergenerational messages through storytelling. Lessons in 2021 were more practically driven than previous iterations of the fellowship; by the end of the sessions, fellows had collaborated to develop sample videos of their own in the streets of Abuja.



9

film fellows
trained

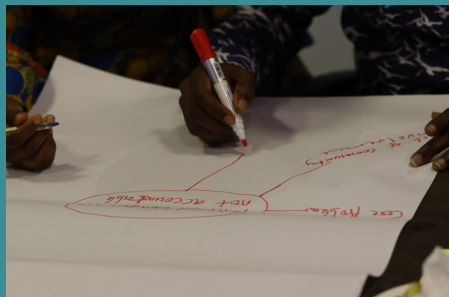
One thing that stood out for me was learning new ways to shoot documentaries. Sophie helped us understand the differences between shooting fiction and documentary, not forgetting the hands-on experience which was really helpful in putting all I learned to good use.

Ataboh Joy Unekwu-Ojo



Impact

- Moses Albert, a 2021 Accountapreneur in Edo state and SDG16 Innovation challenge winner, has established the iCare club (a safe space for victims of child sexual and gender-based violence) across 4 schools with 121 members. This has culminated in 2 SGBV cases reported and the perpetrators have been taken to court. He also trained 20 teachers on child sexual abuse and how they can report it in the Umelu community of Ikpobaokha Local Government Area of Edo state.
- Nurudeen Temilola Yusuf, another Accountapreneur has had success with his own project. The Police Duty Solicitor's Scheme, a project geared towards reducing the excessive use of pre-trial detention by providing free legal advice to suspects at police stations, has so far assisted 12 Magistrates and participated in 214 cases, and secured the release of at least 400 detainees from 24 police stations in Lagos state.



ACCOUNTABILITY INCUBATOR

The Accountability Incubator in 2021 featured ten dynamic young Nigerians whose social development innovations focused primarily on COVID-19 pandemic-related issues. These young Accountapreneurs sought to effect change in 3 ways: seeking inclusion for marginalized groups, providing access to education for the underprivileged, and holding the government accountable. Through a series of physical and virtual trainings as well as network-building friend-raiser events, we equipped them to further develop their ideas.



The Accountability Incubator program has left an indelible mark in my life

Deborah Aku



In 2021, we also saw inspiring success stories from older beneficiaries of the campaign. 2019 Accountapreneur Charles Omofofomwam's iTakeActions innovation was accepted into the GovLab program supported by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and also selected as a finalist in the 2021 CIVICUS Nelson Mandela-Graca Machel Innovation Awards. 2019 Accountapreneur Funke Adeoye was invited to the One Young World summit in Munich where she shared lessons from her work providing legal aid to indigent prisoners at the European Commission Peace Scholars Workshop. Her organization Hope Behind Bars received a grant of \$10,650 from Funds for Global Human Rights. The funds would help strengthen the work of young lawyers in Nigeria.



ACCOUNTABILITY INCUBATOR BY NUMBERS IN 2021



10

participants



6

trainings
2 physical, 4 virtual



4

friendraiser
events



74

friendraiser
participants



Accountability incubator has changed the way I run my NGO, my perspective on NGO's and has encouraged me to go above and beyond to ensure that I create lasting impact in the society, as they have in my life

Obode Anne Omonigbo

Impact

In 2021, we adopted a collaborative model rather than the previous competitive model for creating the top 3 music videos, thereby producing 3 collaborations:

- Aye Ole: promoting human rights, freedom of choice, and equality for women.
- No pity: advocating for integrity, addressing issues of poverty and youth inclusion.
- Tebe: calling for unity and patriotism among young Nigerians.

Our youngest Voice2Rep artist for the year, Glory Oladipo, was featured on National Television via the Weekend Show on Africa Independent Television, where she encouraged young people to avoid social vices and embrace integrity, especially in the music industry.

The Convention Of Business Integrity, in partnership with Accountability Lab Nigeria, supported the finalists to produce more songs put together as an album to promote business integrity within the business sector in Nigeria.

The Voice2Rep coalition platform has been one of the formidable platforms of popular voices advocating for positive change in Nigeria. The Voice2Rep project has built a network of mentors, and other relevant stakeholders in the music industry into a community of socially conscious musicians addressing collective critical challenges as it relates to good governance, equality, accountability, and participation through their songs receiving airplay across radio stations and stage performances across music events reaching over 5 million people in Nigeria.



VOICE2REP

Our Voice2Rep campaign in 2021 led to the discovery of 10 young talented artists passionate about music and changing society for the better. Together they developed #GenWoke, a socially conscious Voice2Rep album on business integrity and human rights, which was the major campaign theme for the year. Following the previous year's theme of women's rights, we increased our selection base for women, further instituting gender inclusion in the campaign for future iterations. The campaign also marked our first collaboration with TASCK and a return to physical concerts following the easing of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

V2R BY NUMBERS IN 2021



260

entries



10

participants



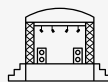
13

songs



3

Videos



5

concerts



2700

concert attendees



4

school/community
outreaches

INTEGRITY INNOVATION LAB

The Integrity Innovation Lab (IIL) is an interactive, solutions-oriented, and highly contextualized program for civil servants at all levels, to support the development of a culture of integrity within government. AL Nigeria implemented the Integrity Innovation Labs in Abuja. The IIL was attended by 203 public servants and icons. The participants worked in teams to brainstorm and generate fifty-three (53) ideas to improve accountability processes in Nigeria, some of which include: automation of public service processes; effective induction, and regular training to equip public servants with the right skills and knowledge, re-designing strategies in real-time to enhance the modus operandi of public institutions amongst others.

OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

AL Nigeria supported ongoing engagement in the OGP second National Action Plan (NAP) implementation process, to improve the participation of young people, women, and people with disabilities in governance processes and the passage of the Kaduna State Disability Act. As the co-chair for the Inclusion working group, we focused on supporting the ability, opportunity, and dignity of people with disabilities based on their identity through the OGP process. AL Nigeria also hosted a stakeholder meeting, with key groups working on Inclusion and diversity issues, with the aim to advocate for PWD accessibility in public building and employment for persons with disabilities which led to collaborations to implement activities beyond the commitments of the National Action Plan. All these targeted campaigns have led to supporting the National Commission of Persons with Disabilities on the Accessibility Minimum Standard, an advocacy tool for PWDs accessibility in public buildings. The 9 film fellows coordinated the production of 17 street vibes videos (short films) around fiscal governance, integrity, accountability, and inclusion issues in Nigeria as it affects marginalized groups, reaching a cumulative of 500,000 people, with over 10,000 views.



OGP TRAINING BY NUMBERS IN 2021



1

stakeholders
meeting
hosted



27

participants



2

billboard and
jingle messaging
developed



1.3mil

reached with
messaging



LOOKING TOWARDS 2022

In 2022 there are a number of outcomes we are working to achieve including:

- Improved perception of AL campaigns as the lead to changing behaviours and social norms;
- Improved system strengthening focused knowledge-building programs, and number of policies and solutions driven by inclusion in communities;
- Beneficiaries and Nigerians perceive AL Nigeria campaigns as an impactful behavioural change program;
- The program focus on Procurement, Justice, Security, and Elections;
- Participants in AL training programs create impact through community systems strengthening and building accountability in communities;
- PWDs and women actively participating in AL programs;
- Improved social media engagement.



BUDGET



\$692,415

total grants



\$715,179

total budget 2021



10

staff



12

volunteers