

# DEVATOP CENTRE FOR AFRICA DEVELOPMENT

OUR STORY OUR FOCUS OUR APPROACH OUR IMPACT

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# ABOUT US

Devatop Centre for Africa Development is a leading youth-led anti-human trafficking and human rights organization in Nigeria, with focus on combating human trafficking, gender-based violence, irregular migration, and supporting survivors and at-risk youth.

DEVATOP is registered with Cooperate Affairs Commission Nigeria and has impacted over a million people through training, advocacy, community projects, sensitization, and assistance.

DEVATOP is leading a sustainable movement of young people against human trafficking and irregular migration across Nigeria, and stimulating leaders, policy makers, private sectors to tackle human trafficking.



## Vision

A nation without human trafficking and where young people are empowered for national development.

## Mission

To combat and prevent human trafficking, gender-based violence, & violence against children

## Objectives

To increase the level of participation of young people in combating human trafficking, irregular migration, and gender-based violence.  
To foster community action against human trafficking, irregular migration, and gender-based violence.  
To provide educational supports to children and girls who are at risk of human trafficking

## Our Story:

In 2013, Joseph Osuigwe Chidiebere was posted to do his one-year mandatory national youth service in Lugbe, a rural community in Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria. While teaching at the women rehabilitation centre operated by Society Against Prostitution and Child Labour, he was contemplating of doing a project on preventing human trafficking due to his interest in promoting human rights, but wasn't really sure if it will impact his host community. However, when he interacted with some of his students who were survivors of sexual exploitation, he was aggrieved by the rate at which young people fall victims to exploitation. This propelled him to initiate a personal community development project on eradication of human trafficking and other related matters.

He approached United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) and other non-government organizations who joined his to train over 2000 teenagers, women and educators in 5 communities on how to eradicate human trafficking. He also counseled some of the teenagers who have experienced different forms of exploitation. He often used 80 percent of his monthly allowance for his projects. Recognizing the role of education in preventing human trafficking, Mr. Osuigwe provided educational supports to 90 schools in 85 communities in Nigeria.

Inspired by the testimonies of beneficiaries and compelled by the urgent need to equip and engage young people to combat human trafficking, Joseph formed a team of young people to continue the anti-human trafficking project in 2014. They were faced with obstacles and challenges but at the same time were convinced that it is possible to have a nation without human trafficking and where young people are equipped for national development.

Their impact grew over time, and more young people began volunteering to build a nation without human trafficking, and subsequently Devatop Centre for Africa Development (DCAD) was officially incorporated with Nigerian Corporate Affairs Commission.



## APPROACHES:

**ADVOCACY**-Through advocacy we speak out for victims and vulnerable people, sensitize community members, and influence stakeholders and young people to join the movement to tackle human trafficking. We foster community actions and advocate for better policies in addressing these menaces.

**TRAINING**-Through training we build the capacity of young people and relevant stakeholders to be at the forefront of combating human trafficking and other human rights abuses.

**RESEARCH**- Through research we study and share findings with the aim of improving existing efforts, and stimulate more actions.

**ICT**- We use ICT tools including web and mobile application to spread information and encourage citizens to report and take actions to tackle human trafficking and gender- based violence.

**VICTIMS SUPPORT/EMPOWERMENT**- We provide educational and skills support to survivors and vulnerable community members, especially girls, women and children.

**VOLUNTEERISM**-We provide platforms for young people from diverse professions across the globe to volunteer and utilize time, talents, and creativity to tackle human trafficking, irregular migration and gender-based violence.

**POLICY:** We seek to improve anti-human trafficking and human rights policies and laws in Nigeria.



## Our Strategies

We foster synergies, collaboration, and complementarity and encourage alliance with organizations, companies, and public sector towards tackling human trafficking.

## Working With Other Organizations

-We are at our strongest when we collaborate, and we weaken our cause when we compete-

We are open to working with other organizations in building a world without human trafficking. We value the strength of working together.

We value the contributions that others make to combating human trafficking and other human rights abuses.

We value the strength we gain from learning from each other's successes and challenges.

As DEVATOP, we recognize that to combat and prevent human trafficking, we must work closely and effectively together with social, private and public sectors.

We are committed to informing others about the situation in our arena; our successes and challenges; and the lessons we learn about what works.

## Our Values:

### Integrity:

We ensure that our values and trust are not compromised while carrying out our activities.

We always make sure that we don't people's right nor do not align with making positive change. We also respect people's right and their privacies.

### Synergy:

We believe in the power of synergy, and try to get the other organizations and individuals in achieving a common goal.

### Trust:

We thrive to do the right things and not to compromise our standards, thereby sustaining the people's trust on us.

### Human Rights:

We promote and uphold human rights and ensure that no one is treated differently based on their ethnicity, origin, religions, color, and gender.

### Innovation:

We are committed to improving our approaches, and trying out new ways of doing our work. We believe in doing things differently and better.

### Openness:

We don't hide or cover our works, but we are committed to making our activities, projects, and relationships transparent. We are open for dialogue with public sectors, social sector, private sector and individuals regarding what we have done and what we want to do.

# Projects/Programmes

## Anti-Human Trafficking Advocacy Project:



This project focuses on training young people (across different sectors) as anti-human trafficking advocates, and empowering them with resources to carry out human trafficking community projects, monitor and report incidences of trafficking. Since 2015, more than 1200 across 6 states have been trained, and they have reached over 200,000 community members.

## HumasNot4Trade Campaign:



This focuses on educating people about dangers of irregular migration and trafficking in persons. It is a use of social change communication method to change the mindset of Nigerians towards embarking on illegal travelling outside Nigeria, and as well as make them realize how valuable and priceless they are. The initiative aims at promoting the dignity of humans, and to making young people to overcome the traps and tricks of traffickers, who often come to them with promises of non-existing better life, job and scholarship. More than 10,400 young people, educators, and children in Abuja, Lagos, and Nasarawa have been sensitized, and also 200 internally displaced children and girls have been impacted.

## TALKAM-Using ICT to tackle human trafficking([www.talkam.org](http://www.talkam.org)):



...If you see am, talkam

[www.talkam.org](http://www.talkam.org)

- TALKAM is an initiative that focuses on utilizing information and communication technology tools to monitor, track, report and respond to human trafficking incidences. It involves development and deploying human rights abuse reporting application (known as TALKAM), and use of weekly radio and T.V programs to engage citizens in tackling human trafficking and other human rights abuses. TALKAM collects information about human trafficking in various states, analyzes them, and provides up-to-date information about different human trafficking activities affecting the community at large. It offers a variety of information for development experts, human rights activists, law enforcement agents, government agencies and citizens. TALKAM App will be launched on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2018.



## The Academy for prevention of Human Trafficking and Other Related Matters(TAPHOM)



This is an innovative approach for preventing human trafficking and other human rights abuses through training, advocacy, research, community projects and publications. Between 2015 and 2016, we executed the project in Abuja and Lagos, during which 120 youth, educators, law enforcement officials, journalists, and CSOs from six states were trained and empowered to carry out anti-human trafficking projects in their various communities. Within nine months, the trained advocates were able to directly educate 6000 people in Lagos, FCT, Plateau, Kaduna, Katsina, and through media and community outreaches about 300,000 people were sensitized. They also reported three cases, and on the cases was about a 17-year-old girl who was trafficked from Abuja to Kano for forced marriage. Our organization engaged NAPTIP to rescue and reunite her family.

The goal of this project is that each of the 775 local government areas in Nigeria will have at least 5 trained anti-human trafficking advocates who are at the forefront of combating human trafficking and reporting incidences in their local areas.

### Victims Support Services(VSS):



After rescuing three victims, we initiated VSS to ensure that victims are empowered and re-integrated into the society. Through VSS, we make contributions to provide financial and educational support to victims of human trafficking. This include:

Opening a restaurant business for Ogechi, a victim that we jointly assisted to escape her captors. Her story was very pathetic. After she was trafficked from Anambra State to Republic of Mali, she was sold three times before she finally escaped. Also, her trafficker was finally trapped and captured in a joint action with Nigerian Police. She (the trafficker) is currently in prison, and her case has been heard in court thrice. We have empowered her(survivor) with small grant to start a restaurant business.

## Volunteers Against Human Trafficking:



- We have trained and empowered our volunteers to carry out projects to educate community members or reach out to schools. More than 40, 000 people have been impacted by our volunteer-based projects. As of June, 2018, we have over 270 volunteers across Nigeria, and in Italy, France, Spain, USA, Germany, and South Africa, and some of them have executed anti-human trafficking projects in various states.

**Internship:** We have platform for international students and volunteers to come to Nigeria, engage in anti-human trafficking projects and contribute their skills to combating human trafficking in Nigeria. In 2018, we hosted interns and volunteers from Italy, Spain, London and Germany.

### News Project Ideas:

#### Legislative Forum For Combating Human Trafficking in Persons:

This project will enhance sustained learning of human trafficking among lawmakers across states, and between state lawmakers and their federal counterparts, thereby creative effective measures to tackle human trafficking in their various states. This forum will ensure that human trafficking is a priority in their states, and stimulate action among political leaders. Also, through the forum, legislators will domestic and improve Trafficking in Persons Prohibition Act, and ensure its implementation. This project will increase participation of political leaders and political parties in

#### Private Sector Forum Against Trafficking in Persons:

Human Trafficking- Results, Challenges and Recommendation”, DEVATOP realized the need to collaborate with National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) and business leaders to initiate a platform to educate private sector and engage them to adopt anti-human trafficking as their corporate social responsibilities.





[www.talkam.org](http://www.talkam.org)

# ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING & HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE REPORTING MOBILE APPLICATION

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