Strengthening Civic Advocacy and Local Engagement-Countering Trafficking in Persons (SCALE CTIP)

Positive Youth Development Programme

Project Closeout and Assessment Report 2021/22

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Contents

Acknowledgement

Programming for young people has taken a new dimension in recent years. Increasingly, young people have asked to be included in their own development, hence Positive Youth Development (PYD) has become more relevant than ever. It is with a sense of fulfillment that we acknowledge the end of the SCALE CTIP Positive Youth Development (PYD) Programme 2021/22 with Palladium and USAID.

The entire LEAP Africa team is grateful to our funding partners for investing and strengthening local organizations through this partnership. We are grateful for the immerse support and collaboration we enjoyed throughout the implementation of the project. We extend our gratitude to the participants and constituents who were available during all the evaluation activities. This report will be incomplete without you.

To the board, management, and team at LEAP Africa, we are grateful for the synergy, support and hard work that went into the implementation of this project. The superstar team never disappoints! Most especially, we appreciate the core project team (Mercy Ogwuche, Joshua Olawuyi and Ebuka Ukunna who facilitated the implementation of the project and provided strategic support during the evaluation activities. Special thanks to the evaluation team – Terhemen Agabo and Pamela Uzoma who also supported data collection, analysis and report writing at different points.

We are hopeful that the report is useful to multiple stakeholders as they take lessons and insights to launch similar interventions across Africa, engage in policy dialogues and advocate on issues bordering on youth in Africa. We therefore employ readers to share widely in their networks and engage the content to strengthen their work.

Hope Obamwonyi, MERL Manager, LEAP Africa

Figure 1:Particpants from the south regional PYD residential training in Lagos State.

Abbreviation

CSO-Civil Society Organization

CTIP-Countering Trafficking in Persons

NACTAL-Network of Civil Society Organizations Against Child Trafficking, Abuse and Labor

NAPTIP-National Agency for Preventing Trafficking in Persons

NIS-Nigerian Immigration Service

PGA-Policy Gap Analysis

PYD-Positive Youth Development

PWD-Persons With Disability

SCALE-Strengthening Civic Advocacy and Local Engagement

TOC-Theory of Change

USAID-United States Agency for International Development

Executive Summary

Figure 3: Two Participants during the trust walk game (PYD Training class activity)

In 2021, LEAP Africa was commissioned to co-implement the Strengthening Civic Advocacy and Local Engagement -Countering Trafficking in Persons (SCALE CTIP) project. The SCALE CTIP- a one-year project is one of many projects under the Strengthening Civic Advocacy and Local Engagement (SCALE) project- a five-year project funded by the United States Agency for International Development and implemented by Palladium. The SCALE CTIP project targeted 54 civil societies working under the Countering Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) thematic focus. The civil societies were drawn from six states namely Akwa-Ibom, Bauchi, Borno, Edo, Lagos, and the Federal Capital Territory representing the Northern and Southern regions of Nigeria.

LEAP Africa designed the Positive Youth Development Programme to tackle the menace of trafficking in persons by supporting and enabling CSOs with requisite skills and knowledge. Several activities were held during the programme starting with a residential workshop on Positive Youth Development. Following the residential workshop, participants were onboarded on a virtual community of practice where they were allowed to share knowledge and collaborate. In addition, participants attended a virtual monthly expert coaching session for six months. During the programme, 11 CSOs received seed funding to support their CTIP interventions.

The following key outcomes were realized from the programme:

- Positive Youth Development is a useful framework in countering Trafficking in Persons (CTIP). This is evident in the data collected as the knowledge has been useful for participants in designing and implementing interventions. The improved capacity of participants in the use of PYD principles in CTIP interventions, has led to the design of innovative interventions in their communities which resulted in multiplied impact and reach within their various communities.

- Evidence shows that participants aggregate success rate for incorporating PYD in their intervention is 94%. There is positive indication that participants will continue to engage the framework after the programme.

- Participants have renewed perception of how to utilize the PYD framework in their work. The programme recorded a 2% improvement in participants ability to apply the principles they were taught. Interestingly, qualitative data revealed more significant improvement in the understanding and use of PYD in CTIP interventions. Participants also revealed that the programme has improved their understanding of youth engagement, thus improving their capacity to develop CTIP targeted interventions.

- The Policy Gap Analysis (PGA) has been useful for engagements with multiple stakeholders including government parastatals and ministries. The document addresses gaps and key areas that require attention from multi-sectoral stakeholders. It is useful to add that participants have benefited from the knowledge of existing policies within the context of their work and have echoed the need to keep themselves abreast of these policies and their implication for their work.

- 55 percent of the participants implemented CTIP intervention activities in their communities; creating awareness on human trafficking. Through the SCALE CTIP programme, participating CSOs witnessed improved capacity to design CTIP interventions which has resulted in the implementation of 20 CTIP interventions across various communities.

- The formation of state clusters by participants during the programme showed that participants and their organizations appreciate collaborative work and enjoy the support and resources that come from such collaborative platforms. Some support to these

clusters in form of check-in calls and technical support rendered from time to time, can keep these clusters vibrant. Thus, ensuring that participants and their organizations continue to implement CTIP interventions after the programme.

- 2 joint CTIP projects were carried out by participants during the programme. The projects had a total reach of 5000. This further shows that collaboration is beneficial for CSOs to effectively tackle the wicked problem.

- Participants found the expert sessions very helpful in deepening their knowledge of trafficking. Several participants remarked that the training made them more aware on the current trends in trafficking. Consequently, participants targeted their activities to address the current trends in trafficking. 90% of participants agreed that the Expert Coaching sessions enhanced their knowledge on trafficking and positive youth development.

- The evaluation findings revealed that participating organizations have attained commendable partnerships with Government Agencies such as NAPTIP, Nigerian Immigration Service and others during the programme. Owing to these partnerships, participants and their organizations have received support towards their activities.

- 2 radio CTIP sensitizations were held during the programme reaching an estimated number of 5000 listeners. This shows that participants adopted platforms for creating massive awareness on CTIP issues. Interestingly, Secondary constituents who benefited from sensitization activities organized by participants, also sensitized other individuals on human trafficking reaching over 6000 individuals.

- Funding remains a key issue for many CSOs as they design interventions to tackle trafficking in person. The provision of seed funds to selected participants during the programme, boosted the efforts and commitment of selected organizations in carrying out CTIP activities in their communities. It may be useful to find sustainable ways to fund interventions to enable continued existence of the organizations.

Unintended Outcomes

The data collected during the evaluation of the programme revealed some unintended positive consequences that were not enshrined in the design of the programme nor were actively emphasized by the project team.

- **Formation of State Clusters by Participating organizations**

  While the programme emphasized collaboration among participants, the emphasized form of collaboration was through virtual interactions on the WhatsApp group and monthly Zoom peer learning sessions. However, a more effective and organic form of collaboration emerged with the formation of state clusters by participants. Findings from the Focus Group Discussions revealed that the formation of state clusters was birthed at the residential workshops held in Lagos and Abuja, to maintain relationships among participants whose organizations were in similar states. Months after the residential workshops, state clusters have remained an effective means of keeping in touch among programme participants in their states. The most notable use of a state cluster was seen in Akwa Ibom, where participants implemented 4 collaborative projects through the state cluster. While there were 3 state clusters formed during the programme, only the Akwa Ibom state cluster implemented a project.

- **Improved Working Relationships with Government Agencies and Programme Participants**

  Evidence also revealed that participants leveraged their participation in the programme to establish mutual beneficial relationships with Government Agencies working on preventing trafficking in persons in the country. Some of the organizations that participants visited include National Agency for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) and Boarder Communities Development Agencies (BCDA). These relationships led to collaborative activities, which educated the members of the public on the harmful effects of trafficking and how they can avoid falling into the schemes of traffickers.

From the key learnings, the following useful recommendations have been put forward:

➢ Collaboration among participants can be further strengthened through more structured peer learning activities, allowing them to learn from each other's unique success and strengths. The state cluster system can be adopted and further structured in a way that allows organizations and participants within the same geographical location to collaborate more.

➢ Further technical support should be extended to participants to enable them to become more sustainable.

➢ The provision of additional grants for participants after the programme will greatly help to sustain their interventions. Similarly, it might be useful to include fundraising in the capacity building component of the programme. This has the potential of ensuring participants can incorporate sustainable funding models into their organization. This will greatly reduce dependance on donor or external funding.

➢ It may be useful to expand the existing PYD curriculum to include modules on CTIP Laws in Nigeria. This is because although the PGA was useful in engaging stakeholders, participants echoed lack of adequate knowledge of existing laws guiding trafficking in persons. The suggested module will improve their knowledge of policies in place and how it can influence their organizations and its mandate.

Figure 4: Sign language interpreter communicating with the hearing-impaired participant during the PYD training

Introduction

Figure 5: Participants at the Youth Ambassadors 2-Day residential Training

The menace of trafficking in persons is a wicked problem that requires a systemic approach to tackle. Technological advancements have made it an even more complex problem to tackle as traffickers utilize the dark web to recruit and traffic their victims without leaving any traceable footprints. While several interventions currently exist, it is important to tailor strategies to target groups to ensure that trafficking in persons is reduced.

Nigeria is recognized as a major source and destination country in Africa for human trafficking with an estimated number of trafficked persons falling between 750,000 to 1 million (UNODC,2022). Nigeria is ranked 32 out of 167 countries with the highest number of slaves (Walk Free,2018). Despite the efforts of the federal and state governments in implementing strict laws to counter trafficking, Nigeria is considered a tier 2 country for trafficking; showing that there is more the government can do to tackle trafficking.

A dive into governments effort to curb trafficking reveals that the Federal government adopted the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act in 2003. This law introduced severe penalties for perpetrators of trafficking in persons. Following the amendment of the Act in 2015, more stringent penalties for the crime of trafficking were introduced. Some of the penalties in the amended act include a five-year sentence and 1 million naira fine to life sentence.

At the state level, the state of Edo which records the highest cases of trafficking, rolled out the Edo State anti-trafficking law to address sex and labor trafficking activities. The law sets penalties of five years and 1 million naira fine for persons convicted of sex and labor trafficking. Following the institution of anti-trafficking laws in the country, law enforcement agencies have prosecuted several cases involving the crime. For instance, a report from the US Department of State (US Department of State,2021) points that the federal and state authorities have only investigated 409 cases of trafficking out of which 49 suspects have been prosecuted and 36 convicted.

A more reason why trafficking is to be taken seriously in Nigeria is that a higher proportion of victims of human trafficking are the vulnerable population - youth and children. According to a report from the Human Trafficking Search, 58% of human trafficking victims between the year 2012 and 2014 were children, while 42% were adults. The rising number of youths as victims of human trafficking can be explained by the increasing economic hardships in the country. According to youth unemployment statistics, youth unemployment increased from 40.8 percent in the second quarter of 2020 to 53.40 percent in the second quarter of 2021(Statista, 2021). With rising poverty and unemployment, youths are at a higher risk of falling into the schemes of human traffickers.

In response to these challenges, designing specific interventions that responds to the needs of a context is important. Globally, young people are at the center stage of conversations because of the unique peculiarities of this demographic population. Furthermore, organizations in Countering Trafficking in Persons targeted at the youth require the skills and competence to execute impactful intervention.

Positive Youth Development (PYD) framework is not a novel concept; however, its understanding and application has been debated by many. While the concept has gained spotlight attention

recently, there seems to be a gap in how it can be localized in multiple contexts. When applied to countering trafficking in persons, the principles of PYD can ensure maximum positive and sustainable outcomes. LEAP Africa therefore proposed the PYD framework as an approach that can be used to achieve maximum impact in countering Trafficking in Persons (TIP).

About the Programme

The SCALE CTIP programme kicked off in September 2021. The project aimed to tackle the problem of trafficking which negatively affects a huge part of the Nigerian population - majorly the young population of the country. The overall goal of the project was **"to strengthen the capacity of CSOs countering trafficking in persons (CTIP) through positive youth development to enhance public accountability, transparency, and sustainable service delivery in Nigeria".**

The project has the following three objectives:

- Strengthen public accountability and intervention design through a policy gap analysis to deliver on impactful CTIP efforts.
- Build the capacity of CTIP CSOs to design holistic and effective youth development interventions using the Positive Youth Development Framework.
- Create a virtual community of practice for CTIP CSOs to engage in peer learning, network, share resources and collaborate with each other.

This report commences with a summary of the evidence for the prevalence of trafficking in Nigeria and is followed by a brief explanation of the project's theory of change, outcomes, and activities. The details the methodology employed for the evaluation and the limitation of the methodological approach is further outline. The findings from the evaluation are presented according to the outcomes stated in the Theory of Change (TOC). This section also presents a summary of unintended effects that emanated from the project. Finally, the report ends with actionable recommendations to improve programming and intervention.

Theory of Change (ToC)

The theory of change for the SCALE CTIP project states that **"If there is greater awareness of Trafficking in Person (TIP) issues among youth leaders and CSOs and their capacity is built using the Positive Youth Development Framework, then prevention, response and protection of Trafficked persons is more effective"**

108 participants from 54 CTIP CSOs in 3 regions in Nigeria are trained, equipped, and engaged in leadership and organizational sustainability as well as positive youth development for 9 months.

Strengthen public accountability and intervention design through a policy gap analysis to deliver on impactful CTIP efforts

Build the capacity of CTIP CSOs to design holistic and effective youth development interventions using the Positive Youth Development framework

Create a virtual platform for CTIP CSOs to engage in peer learning, network, share resources and collaborate with each other.

Participants are able and willing to learn in a conducive environment devoid of violence or pandemic outbreak

Participants have raised aspirations and increased awareness about their role in reducing trafficked persons

Participants can use skills, knowledge, and tools to engage in meaningful and more impactful interventions.

CTIP CSOs are willing to participate and engage.

Leaders of CTIP CSOs reflect on their journey, realign, and restructure their organizations for

CTIP CSOs are sustainable and carry out impactful and sustainable interventions thereby contributing to reduction in the incidents of trafficked persons

Participants recognize their roles in positive youth development which culminates in meaning, targeted and impactful

CTIP CSO's collaborate to carry out robust and targeted

Participants are equipped to sustain their organizations.

To strengthen the capacity of CSOs countering trafficking in persons through positive youth development, leadership, and organizational sustainability capacity building to enhance public accountability, transparency, and sustainable service delivery in Nigeria.

Activities	Assumptions	Intermediate Outcomes	Goal

Evaluation Design

A mixed method evaluation design was used for this evaluation study. The choice of a mixed method was necessitated by the need to understand what impact was achieved during the programme and how such change came about. The insights derived from quantitative analysis was built on the perception of the participants, hence, it would not be sufficient to explain the changes that took place during the programme. However, the use of qualitative data and insights aided by providing additional knowledge and depth to the achieved outcomes.
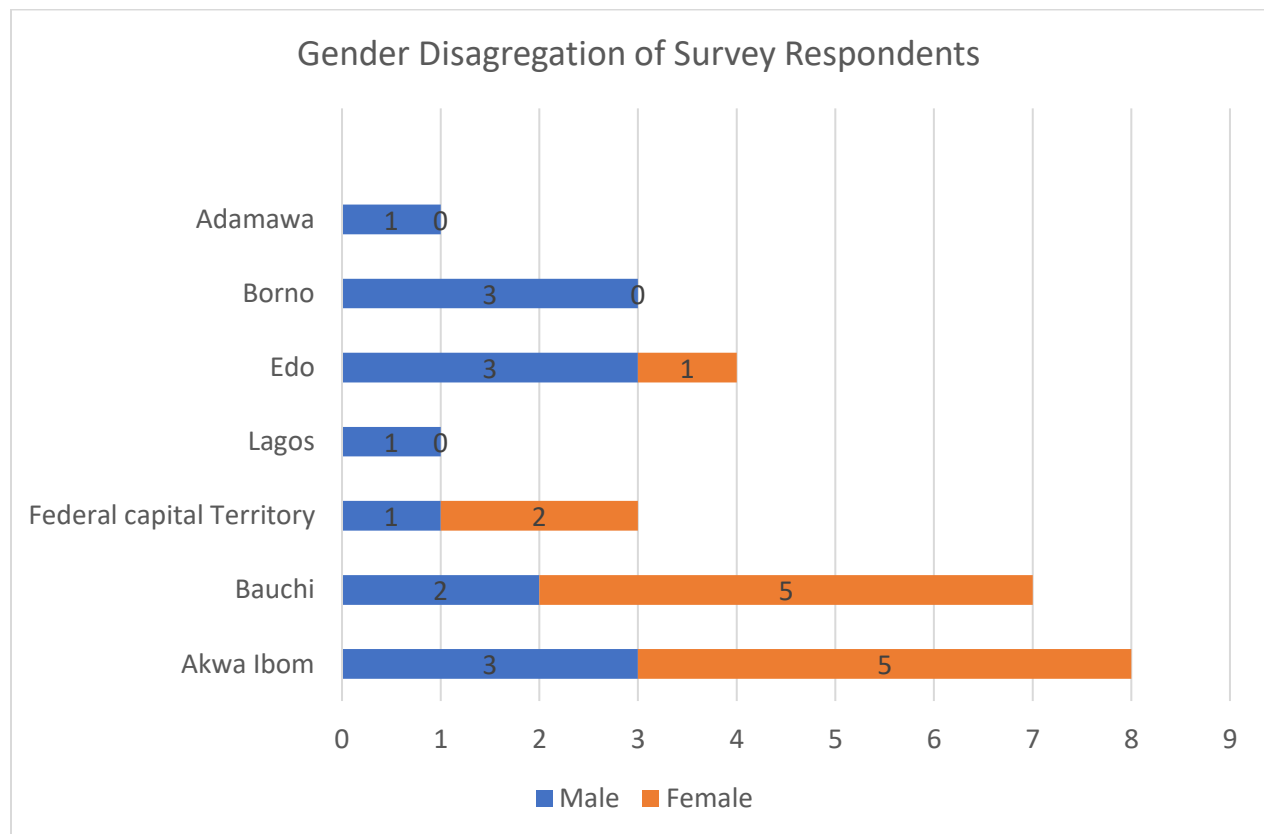
The quantitative branch of the evaluation sought to understand the changes that had taken place during the project from a quantitative perspective. This comprised of the assignment of scores to participants' responses to surveys at baseline and end line. The rationale is that the difference between the baseline and end line scores will determine the amount of change that had taken place during the project. In some instances, scores were only assigned to responses in the end line where they were not warranted at baseline. Furthermore, scores were at several instances, converted to percentages to interpret changes in percentages for easier comprehension.

The Scoring Methodology: is a five-pointer rubric for measuring participants' competencies and perceptions during the Programme. The rubric comprises a scale of 1-5 where 1 is the lowest score and 5 the highest. To measure change for a particular competency among participants, participants' responses to scenario-based questions fall between 1 to 5 for each question. A weighted average for all responses to each question is calculated as a final score showing where participants are at.

Data Collection Process and Research Ethics

The baseline, midterm, and end line survey were administered to all participants considering the small number of participants and the medium of administration (online via survey monkey, a data collection platform). While all 50 participants responded to the baseline survey only 29 valid responses were recorded from the end line survey. This figure was representative enough for the sample.

For the Focus Group Discussions/In-depth Interviews, nine participants were selected based on several criteria such as equal representation of North and South regions of Nigeria and the state of security in states where participants were located. Participants in Akwa Ibom, Bauchi and Federal Capital Territory were eventually visited for the purpose of conducting the Focus Group Discussion. During the field visits, the evaluation team also asked to conduct interviews with relevant stakeholders in the communities where the participating organization operated. This was informed by the need to triangulate the evidence gathered from the field visits.

Gender Disagregation of Survey Respondents

State	Male	Female
Adamawa	1	0
Borno	3	0
Edo	3	1
Lagos	1	0
Federal capital Territory	1	2
Bauchi	2	5
Akwa Ibom	3	5

The evaluation team abided by laid down research ethics. The evaluation questions were screened according to the research ethics of the LEAP Africa team after which they were approved. Respondents were asked to give their consent and had the right to withdraw at any time they deemed so. Also, measures were put in place to protect the identity of respondents and to ensure confidentiality.

Limitation

It is possible that some of the responses from participants which are represented in the outcomes may have been over reported. This could be due to the tendency for participants to exaggerate their responses to elicit a favorable decision in subsequent projects.. However, much of this bias is mitigated by qualitative evidence, generated through in-depth interviews with stakeholders who can verify some information provided by the participants.

Figure 6: Participants in a group discussion at the North Regional PYD training in Abuja

Key Outcomes

Outcome 1: PGA Report is useful for understanding gaps and opportunities in CTIP using the Positive Youth Development Framework.

The PGA process provided an avenue for Government Agencies and CSOs tackling human trafficking to deliberate over the gaps in the policies and legal framework on human trafficking in Nigeria. The exercises led to the identification of several grey areas in the provisions and implementation of the policies and frameworks. The findings from the PGA were communicated in a validation meeting that gathered 35 stakeholders including government agencies and CSOs tackling trafficking across the country. The validation meeting also received feedback from the relevant stakeholders which appreciated as well as validated the findings from the PGA.

Feedback from the validation of the PGA indicated that the PGA was a useful document and helped to emphasize some important issues key to the successful achieving a reduction in the incidence of trafficking in the country. Six government agencies have received the PGA report which will be archived for consultative and reference purposes.

Outcome 2: Participants recognize their roles in positive youth development which culminates in meaningful, targeted, and impactful interventions.
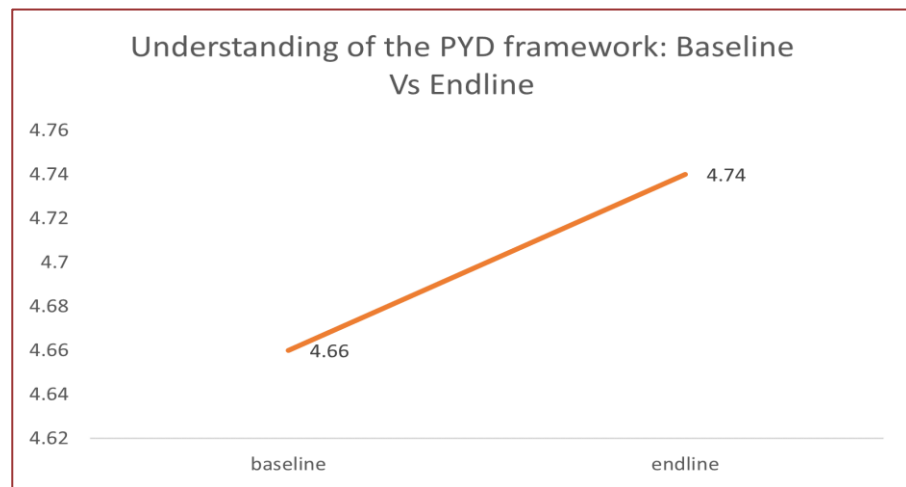

Figure 9: PYD Training Participants engaged in a class activity

Understanding the PYD Framework

Positive Youth Development (PYD) framework is not novel to global youth work. However, its understanding and application has been called to question by many. While the concept has gained spotlight attention recently, there seems to be a gap in how youth workers can localize the concept in the context of their work. The programme aimed at bridging the gap in understanding and application of the PYD framework in local CSOs focused on Countering Trafficking in Persons (CTIP). Hence, residential trainings were organized to build the capacity of participating CSOs from the six geopolitical zones in Nigeria. Two trainings were held in the North

and South (Lagos and Abuja) with key representatives of 29 CSOs focused on Trafficking in Persons (TIP).

A comparison of scores assigned to participants at baseline and end line show a slight improvement in the participants' capacity to use the PYD framework in designing CTIP interventions. There is

Understanding of the PYD framework: Baseline Vs Endline

A line chart showing understanding of the PYD framework from baseline to endline. The y-axis ranges from 4.62 to 4.76. The baseline value is 4.66 and the endline value is 4.74.

an improvement from 4.66 to 4.74 showing a change of 2 % in the perception of participants on their ability to apply PYD principles to project design.

However, findings from the Focus Group Discussions with participants revealed a much more significant improvement in the understanding and use of PYD in CTIP interventions. Participants also revealed that the programme has improved their understanding of youth engagement, thus improving their capacity to develop CTIP targeted interventions.

The improved capacity of participants in the use of PYD principles in CTIP interventions, has led to the design of innovative interventions in their communities which resulted in multiplied impact and reach in their various communities. These innovative activities target influential young people and train them on trafficking. In turn these young people go ahead to speak to others in their circle about trafficking. This approach to youth participation in CTIP activities appeared to be very effective in reaching young people in their numbers.

Similarly, A two-day CTIP training was organized for selected individuals from youth organizations across Nigeria. The selected individuals comprised youth who served other youth through the work of their organizations. The training introduced the 20 participants to the trends and scope of trafficking, Positive Youth Development, and leadership. Feedback from participants showed that the training had imparted them with significant understanding of trafficking and youth

engagement. Evidence also revealed that the participants resolved to create awareness on CTIP issues in their communities.

Improvement in Personal Effectiveness and Organization Structure[1]

Evidence from the evaluation revealed that the programme has enabled participants to reflect on their roles in bringing change to their community. Much of the avenue through which this change was made possible, include residential workshops and monthly expert sessions. During these sessions, participants received trainings on leadership, emotional intelligence, systems thinking and other topics. Participants feedback revealed that these sessions were impactful and helped them think more deliberately about making changes on a personal and individual basis.

On the other hand, the reflections of participants have strengthened their commitment to making the society a better place. This commitment has been demonstrated in the various intervention activities that have been implemented by participants and their organizations to curb human trafficking in communities (activities are discussed in much detail further in this section).

YOUTH AMBASSADORS SPEAK

"

"I was not aware of how deep trafficking has gone, the training served as an eye opener and has made too aware of things that are happening within my community" YA 01

"My knowledge and commitment to positive youth development and trafficking in person were broaden" YA 02

"The programme has inspired me to become more observant and able to dictate potential victims in my community" YA 03

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[1] YA – Youth Ambassador

Findings revealed that there is an improvement in personal and organizational capacities of participants which led to some improvements in their organizations consequently. It can be determined that the training helped them improve their leadership and networking skills, knowledge on approaching human trafficking, and a greater understanding of maintaining equity in the workplace (see figure 1 below). Similarly, participants reported improved organizational capacity in managing programmes and engaging young people. These skills are critical for the effectiveness of organizations in countering human trafficking in their communities through the design and implementation of cutting edge CTIP interventions.
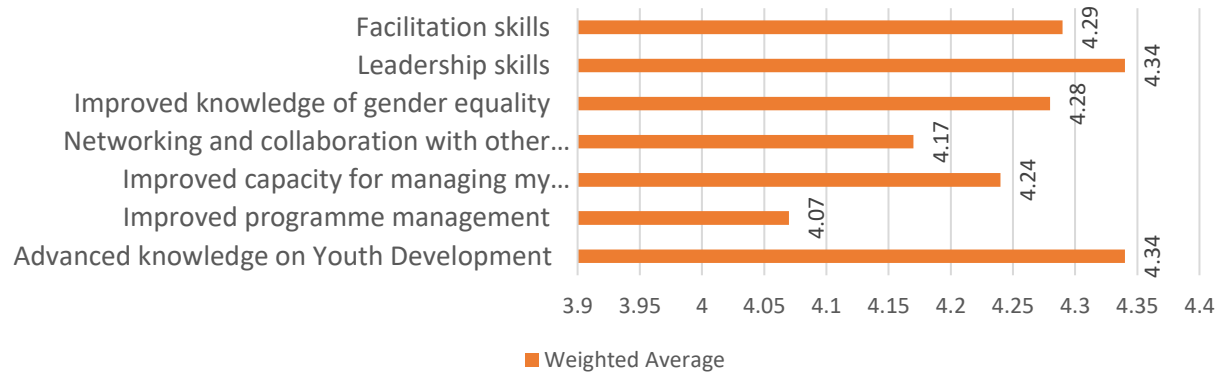
Furthermore, evidence from qualitative data suggests that participants have made some important changes in their organizations in a bid to make them function more effectively. Additionally, the programme enlightened participants on more sustainable methods of managing an organization. To this end, participants have adopted improved structures to position their organizations for improved effectiveness. Some of these changes include insuring gender equality in the work force of an organization, adopting improved project management skills, enforcing clear roles for team members, inclusion of people with disability in their teams. Some excerpts from discussions with participants are displayed below.

> **"**
>
> **Setting up goals and meeting them within a specified period, no procrastination. The whole daily running of our organization is remodeled" - Participant 01**
>
> **This programme makes it easy for us, on how to run a project successfully through the inclusion of stakeholders in a program designed to identify the victims of TIP (Trafficking in Persons)" - Participant 02**

Participants rate the effectiveness of the programme in achieving the following competencies:

Competency	Weighted Average
Facilitation skills	4.29
Leadership skills	4.34
Improved knowledge of gender equality	4.28
Networking and collaboration with other…	4.17
Improved capacity for managing my…	4.24
Improved programme management	4.07
Advanced knowledge on Youth Development	4.34

■ Weighted Average

These changes clearly show that participants have taken deliberate steps to position their organizations for better internal functioning, which is expected to lead to improved productivity and sustainability for the organizations. In a similar vein, most participating organizations held a step down for their teams upon the conclusion of the regional workshops held at the beginning of the programme. This singular activity helped to equip their team members with some of the knowledge gained from the residential workshops. Also, participants have continued to carry their team members along on other regular capacity building activities that they participated in throughout the duration of the programme. This internal knowledge sharing arrangement has equipped other team members with knowledge setting up the organizations for improved performance.

Incorporation of PYD into the life cycle of programme design and delivery

Quantitative evidence indicated that participants attained a score of 4.69 out of 5 (94%) in the level of incorporation of the PYD programme into the life cycle of program design and delivery. This shows that the programme was successful in aiding the adoption of innovative youth engagement ideas in the design and implementation of CTIP interventions.

Further evidence revealed that the programme enabled participants realize the need to make young people aware of trafficking activities in their communities, thereby preventing them from falling victims. Focus Group Discussions with some of the young people that have benefited from the intervention activities, revealed that these young persons have obtained a good understanding of trafficking and have become willing to report any suspected cases that they come across. Due to the successful implementation of projects by participants, there is a positive indication that participants will continue to engage PYD in their interventions well after the programme.

Similarly, evidence from qualitative data and desk review suggests that the SCALE CTIP programme recorded a significant contribution to the programme activities of participating organizations. While some participating organizations focused on trafficking as a core activity, others did not. However, with their participation in the SCALE CTIP programme, those organizations who did not have CTIP as a focal area, have adopted it as a focal thematic area. This is especially because the programme exposed participants to the prevalence of trafficking in the country and how trafficking is ruining the lives of young and promising individuals especially.

94% success rate of incorporating PYD in their interventions. There is positive indication that participants will continue to engage the framework after the programme.

> **55% of participants carried out CTIP intervention Programme reaching 6133 individuals across communities in six states.**

Activities implemented by Participating CSO's

Evidence provided by the endline survey and desk review of programme documents, revealed that 55% of participants carried out CTIP intervention programmes reaching 6133 individuals across communities in six states during the SCALE CTIP programme. A break down of the various activities that were implemented by participants can be broadly classified into:

➢ Awareness and sensitizations
➢ Advocacy and partnerships
➢ Rescue and rehabilitation of trafficked victims

Awareness and Sensitization Activities: Most activities carried out by participants in the SCALE CTIP programme were targeted towards creating awareness on the risk of trafficking to various individuals and groups in communities. Some of the targeted groups include schools, churches, youth centers, motor parks, and others.

Evidence further revealed that participants found increased motivation to carry out awareness activities during the programme, owing to the exposure to trends in domestic trafficking provided during the training. The exposure of participants to the state of domestic trafficking in Nigeria was quite new to several participants who otherwise assumed that trafficking entailed moving people outside the boarders of the country. However, the realization that persons were trafficked from one community to another within local government, states, made participants realize that trafficking was being perpetuated right under their noses. To this effect, participants have gone on intentional awareness and sensitization activities.

Advocacy and Partnerships: Participants also struck partnerships with Government agencies charged with the task of curbing trafficking. Findings revealed that a group of participants in Akwa Ibom, visited Government Agencies such as National Agency for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)and the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS). Similarly,

another group of participating CSOs in Federal Capital Territory have initiated partnership processes with NAPTIP and the Boarder Communities Development Agencies (BCDA).

Rescue and Rehabilitation of Trafficked Victims: Participants together with their organizations have been able to rescue individuals who were trafficked under different circumstances. A total of 8 individuals were rescued by participants and their respective organizations with support from government agencies working to prevent trafficking in persons.

"8 individuals were rescued by participants and their respective organizations with support from government agencies working to prevent trafficking in persons"

Findings also revealed that participants felt constrained by unspoken cultural dispositions that appeared to be interwoven with local trafficking in communities such as the Almajiri system of education, prevalent in some parts of Northern Nigeria. Participants operating in these communities admitted to being careful about the way they went about CTIP activities to avoid a backlash from these communities.

Figure 10: A facilitator during the PYD training in Abuja

Mentorship and Support

There is evidence that the programme provided support for the growth and effectiveness of participating organizations. This support has chiefly been extended to participants through the monthly virtual expert coaching sessions. The monthly virtual expert sessions gave participants an opportunity to learn from an expert as well as ask questions once every month. Since the inception of the programme, six sessions covering topics on leadership, trafficking and positive youth development have been held. Feedback received from participants showed that the sessions have been an enabler to the capacity development of participants especially as relating to their capacity in delivering interventions around the CTIP theme.

Findings revealed that 96% of participants say that they find the monthly expert sessions useful in enhancing their knowledge on PYD and trafficking. Reoccurring feedback from participants on the monthly expert sessions was that they learnt that Nigeria is also a destination country for trafficking and that there are several incidences of local trafficking as against the popularity of cross-country trafficking.

This knowledge has been useful in enabling participants design interventions geared towards countering trafficking incidences in their communities and surrounding communities. These activities were quite successful as the rescue of 8 trafficked victims have been carried out by participants, their organizations and government agencies preventing trafficking in persons.

96% of participants say that they find the monthly expert sessions useful in enhancing their knowledge on PYD and trafficking.

… Nigeria is also a destination country for trafficking and that there are several incidences of local trafficking as against the popularity of cross-country trafficking.

Figure 12: Participants in a Focus Group Discussion with the evaluation team

Seed Grant

Another form of support offered to participants of the SCALE CTIP programme was the disbursement of seed grants to selected participants. Findings revealed that the provision of seed grants to selected participants, provided extra motivation for participants. The proceeds of the seed grants were used to finance some intervention activities by the participants and their organizations. While the provision of seed grants was not enshrined in the original programme design, a need arose in the middle of the project to support participants as an incentive to encourage them design and implement more CTIP interventions in their communities. 11 organizations qualified for the seed grant according to a set criterion set by the project management which included level of commitment and participation in the programme.

Findings from the Focus Group Discussions revealed that participants were encouraged by the seed grant and went ahead to implement some CTIP interventions in their communities. The activities implemented using the seed grant include:

- ➢ Radio Programme creating awareness on Trafficking in Persons in Campaign
- ➢ Advocacy visits to Government Agencies working to prevent trafficking

Outcome 3: CTIP CSO's collaborate to carry out robust and targeted interventions

Evaluation findings revealed that not much collaborative projects were carried out by the participants. Qualitative data and desk review showed only one case of a joint project carried out by four participating organizations in Akwa Ibom. However, at the time of preparing this report, another joint project by three other organizations in the Federal Capital Territory is yet to be completed.

The collaborative project carried out by the Akwa Ibom cluster of S participants comprised of series of advocacy and partnerships visits to:

➢ Government Agencies (including NAPTIP, NIS)
➢ Other development organizations working to counter human trafficking (such as NACTAL)
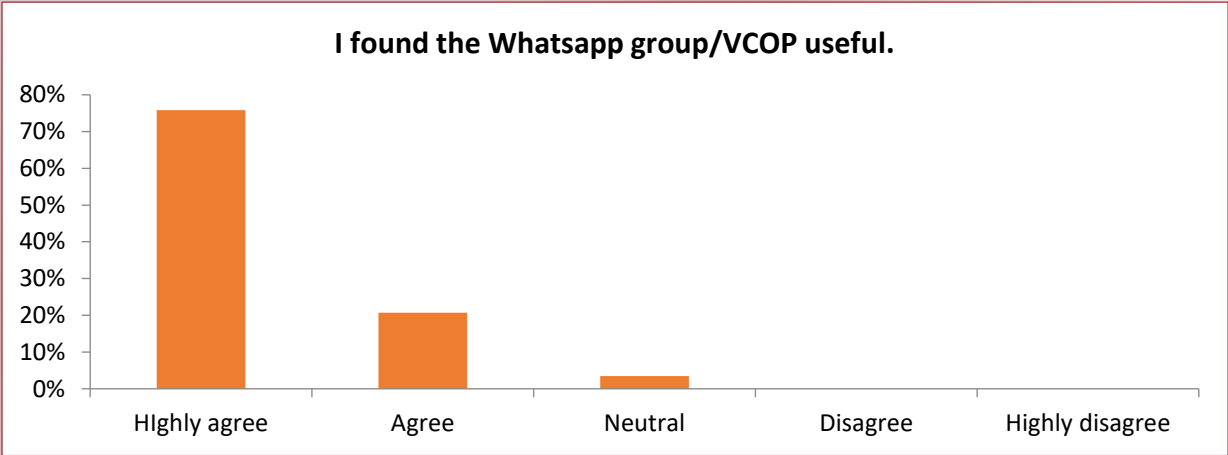➢ Two private media organizations

Focus Group Discussions revealed that these visits provided an avenue whereby participants were able to receive support for carrying out CTIP activities. For instance, the participants were offered some sensitization materials by the NAPTIP office in Akwa Ibom state. These materials will be useful in awareness creation on the human trafficking activities thus positioning members of the public to report suspicious activities, consequently reducing trafficking incidences in the state. Similarly, participants were offered two slots to speak on air. This opportunity was granted by a radio station in Uyo. Participants used the opportunity to sensitize members of the public on human trafficking. The adoption of media as a means of sensitization appeared to be an effective means of reaching thousands with awareness on the scourge of trafficking in their communities, thus preparing them to report suspicious cases of trafficking to the relevant authority. On the other hand, the use of the media as a platform for sensitization is cost effective as it saves manpower and considerable financial resources for civil society organizations.

A possible explanation for the low record of collaborative activities among programme participants' points to a lack of sufficient incentive for collaboration. Especially because several

participating organizations maintained a busy programme schedule. Hence, they count the cost of time lost to organizational activity in lieu of a collaborative activity.

Virtual Community of Practice (VCoP)

Participants survey showed that 96% of participants found the VCOP platform useful for peer learning. The Virtual Community of Practice (VCOP) - a WhatsApp group that hosted all programme participants in one place - allowed them to interact with each other and to share knowledge. Findings from the Focus Group Discussions showed that participants asked each other questions on the platform and received answers from each other on matters relating to organizational activities and personal development. This shows that the platform was useful as a medium for knowledge exchange.

I found the Whatsapp group/VCOP useful.

80%	
70%	
60%	
50%	
40%	
30%	
20%	
10%	
0%	HIghly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Highly disagree

96% of participants found the Virtual Community of Practice useful for peer learning

Stories From Participants

Case 1: Sensitizing Hearing-impaired Persons on Human Trafficking

Located in the city of Bauchi, Women Trafficking and Child Labor Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF) has been in existence for over 25 years. One of the focal areas of the organization is community sensitization on human trafficking. The organization enrolled in the SCALE CTIP programme for 2021/2022 where they were challenged to become more inclusive in their outreaches. In response to this challenge the organization implemented a sensitization activity to a community of hearing impaired in Bauchi state. This activity was led by their team member who is also hearing impaired and actively represents the organization on the SCALE PYD programme. According to the Bauchi state coordinator of the organization- "**we felt that we should start reaching out to deaf people**".

This outreach was led by Rachel-a team member with hearing impairment. During the outreach she was able to communicate with the audience by use of sign language as their major means of communication. This story will certainly not be the last effort the organization will make in reaching out to persons with disabilities in a bid to sensitize communities on trafficking.

Recounting her experience at the outreach, Rachel says "I am very happy to talk to them about trafficking, I told them that if they see anything that looks suspicious, they should stay away and they should be careful of the opportunities that people send to them so they will avoid been trafficked".

Figure 13: The hearing-impaired participant paying rapt attention during the PYD residential training in Abuja.

Case 2: Raising Awareness on Human trafficking through Collaboration

Figure 14Akwa-Ibom Cluster at Premium FM for the sensitization program.

A collaboration among four Akwa-Ibom based organizations participating in the SCALE CTIP programme has enabled them create awareness to over 5000 individuals in the state. The participants leveraged radio to create awareness on trafficking in persons within the state. It is interesting to equally note that the cluster engaged government parastatals and received positive responses in form of resources and support. The cluster received sensitization materials from NAPTIP in Akwa Ibom which have been used for various CTIP awareness creation activities.

The team also had representatives of NAPTIP, and the Nigerian Immigration service join them to speak on a radio awareness creation programme on human trafficking. It is estimated that over 5000 individuals were reached via the radio programme. As a next plan, the team plans to create more awareness on human trafficking using the print media.

> "We will be reaching another print media to see how we can publish what we are doing for people to read" – Cluster Lead

Key Learnings

- Positive Youth Development is a useful framework in countering Trafficking in Persons (CTIP). This is evident in the data collected as the knowledge has been useful for participants in designing and implementing interventions. The improved capacity of participants in the use of PYD principles in CTIP interventions, has led to the design of innovative interventions in their communities which resulted in multiplied impact and reach within their various communities.

- Evidence shows that participants aggregate success rate for incorporating PYD in their intervention is 94%. There is positive indication that participants will continue to engage the framework after the programme.

- Participants have renewed perception of how to utilize the PYD framework in their work. The programme recorded a 2% improvement in participants ability to apply the principles they were taught. Interestingly, qualitative data revealed more significant improvement in the understanding and use of PYD in CTIP interventions. Participants also revealed that the programme has improved their understanding of youth engagement, thus improving their capacity to develop CTIP targeted interventions.

- The Policy Gap Analysis (PGA) has been useful for engagements with multiple stakeholders including government parastatals and ministries. The document addresses gaps and key areas that require attention from multi-sectoral stakeholders. It is useful to

add that participants have benefited from the knowledge of existing policies within the context of their work and have echoed the need to keep themselves abreast of these policies and their implication for their work.

➢ 55 percent of the participants implemented CTIP intervention activities in their communities; creating awareness on human trafficking. Through the SCALE CTIP programme, participating CSOs witnessed improved capacity to design CTIP interventions which has resulted in the implementation of 20 CTIP interventions across various communities.

➢ The formation of state clusters by participants during the programme showed that participants and their organizations appreciate collaborative work and enjoy the support and resources that come from such collaborative platforms. Some support to these clusters in form of check-in calls and technical support rendered from time to time, can keep these clusters vibrant. Thus, ensuring that participants and their organizations continue to implement CTIP interventions after the programme.

➢ 2 joint CTIP projects were carried out by participants during the programme. The projects had a total reach of 5000. This further shows that collaboration is beneficial for CSOs to effectively tackle the wicked problem.

➢ Participants found the expert sessions very helpful in deepening their knowledge of trafficking. Several participants remarked that the training made them more aware on the current trends in trafficking. Consequently, participants targeted their activities to address the current trends in trafficking. 90% of participants agreed that the Expert Coaching sessions enhanced their knowledge on trafficking and positive youth development.

➢ The evaluation findings revealed that participating organizations have attained commendable partnerships with Government Agencies such as NAPTIP, Nigerian Immigration Service and others during the programme. Owing to these partnerships, participants and their organizations have received support towards their activities.

➢ 2 radio CTIP sensitizations were held during the programme reaching an estimated number of 5000 listeners. This shows that participants adopted platforms for creating

massive awareness on CTIP issues. Interestingly, Secondary constituents who benefited from sensitization activities organized by participants, also sensitized other individuals on human trafficking reaching over 6000 individuals.

➢ Funding remains a key issue for many CSOs as they design programming intervention to counter trafficking in persons. The provision of seed funds to selected participants during the programme, boosted the efforts and commitment of selected organizations in carrying out CTIP activities in their communities. It might be useful for the CSOs to adopt sustainable practices that would fund interventions and sustain their organizations.

Unintended Outcomes

The data collected during the evaluation of the programme revealed some unintended positive consequences that were not enshrined in the design of the programme nor were actively emphasized by the project team.

- **Formation of State Clusters by Participating organizations**

  While the programme emphasized collaboration among participants, the emphasized form of collaboration was through virtual interactions on the WhatsApp group and monthly Zoom peer learning sessions. However, a more effective and organic form of collaboration emerged with the formation of state clusters by participants. Findings from the Focus Group Discussions revealed that the formation of state clusters was birthed at the residential workshops held in Lagos and Abuja, to maintain relationships among participants whose organizations were in similar states. Months after the residential workshops, state clusters have remained an effective means of keeping in touch among programme participants in their states. The most notable use of a state cluster was seen in Akwa Ibom, where participants implemented 4 collaborative projects through the state cluster. While there were 3 state clusters formed during the programme, only the Akwa Ibom state cluster implemented a project.

- **Improved Working Relationships with Government Agencies and Programme Participants**

Evidence also revealed that participants leveraged their participation in the programme to establish mutual beneficial relationships with Government Agencies working on preventing trafficking in persons in the country. Some of the organizations that participants visited include National Agency for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) and Boarder Communities Development Agencies (BCDA). These relationships led to collaborative activities, which educated the members of the public on the harmful effects of trafficking and how they can avoid falling into the schemes of traffickers.

Recommendation and Conclusion

From the key learnings, the following useful recommendations have been put forward:

➢ Collaboration among participants can be further strengthened through more structured peer learning activities, allowing them to learn from each other's unique success and strengths. The state cluster system can be adopted and further structured in a way that allows organizations and participants within the same geographical location to collaborate more.

➢ Further technical support should be extended to participants to enable them to become more sustainable.

➢ The provision of additional grants for participants after the programme will greatly help to sustain their interventions. Similarly, it might be useful to include fundraising in the capacity building component of the programme. This has the potential of ensuring participants can incorporate sustainable funding models into their organization. This will greatly reduce dependance on donor or external funding.

➢ It may be useful to expand the existing PYD curriculum to include modules on CTIP Laws in Nigeria. This is because although the PGA was useful in engaging stakeholders, participants echoed lack of adequate knowledge of existing laws guiding trafficking in persons. The suggested module will improve their knowledge of policies in place and how it can influence their organizations and its mandate.

In conclusion, evidence from the evaluation suggests that the components of the SCALE CTIP Positive Youth Development Programme has improved the personal and organizational capacities of participants in delivering CTIP interventions. This is evident from the key outcomes achieved from the support and capacity building interventions introduced. Considering that human trafficking is a complex phenomenon, hence, it is useful that personnel within the space are adequately equipped to carry out impactful and sustainable interventions. This may require multisectoral partnerships and sponsorships. All hands, hearts and hands must be utilized to curb the menace of human trafficking in Nigeria.

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Appendix 1: Evaluation team profile

Hope Obamwonyi is a researcher with an interest in gender, security, and politics of development in Africa. She has a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Ibadan and a master's degree in Diplomacy and Strategic Studies from the University of Lagos where she graduated with a distinction. Hope serves in LEAP Africa as a Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL) Manager.

Terhemen Agabo has a background in development economics with over three years of experience in the international development sector. He currently works as a monitoring Evaluation Research and Learning Officer at LEAP Africa. Before joining LEAP Africa worked on development research projects for organizations such as the French Development Agency (AFD), French Institute for Research in Africa (IFRA) and Tony Elumelu Foundation (TEF). He holds a Bachelor of Economics degree from the University of Ilorin, Nigeria, and a master's degree in development economics from the University of Sussex, United Kingdom.

Pamela Uzoma is a development practitioner and a researcher with over 3 years' experience in data analysis, impact evaluation, and action research. She obtained my BSc. in international relations from Afe Babalola University with a second-class upper division and master's degree in the same course from Covenant University. As a Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (M.E.R.L) officer, she manages and coordinates the implementation of data collection, analysis and evaluation of programmes and research projects. She is very passionate about youth development and gender issues as it relates to women and young people.

Evi Etemire a MERL Associate at LEAP Africa. She is highly passionate on monitoring and evaluating projects aimed at driving development in Africa and is a strong proponent of social change. Evi possesses a keen interest in data analytics and research of which she has continually engaged in opportunities to hone this skill on various platforms. Through these opportunities, she has been able to effectively contribute towards the achievements of goal-oriented projects through data driven and sustainable solutions.

Appendix 2: Participant Endline Data Collection Tool

Dear participant,

We want to thank you for your participation in the SCALE CTIP programme. The programme is about to come to an end, and we would like to hear from you to learn about the impact the programme has had on you and your activities. We would also like to learn of your experience during the programme. Please respond as honestly as you can to the following questions.

Do you consent to participate in this survey?

    Yes

    No

Section 1: Participants/Organizations' information

1. What is your name?
2. How old are you?
   - 18-24
   - 25-34
   - 35-44
   - 45-54
   - Above 54
3. Gender
   Male

   Female

   Prefer not to say

4. What is the name of your organization?
5. Role in your organization
6. Contact phone number
7. Contact Email address
8. State where your organization is located

Section 2: Personal and organizational Competence

On a scale of 1to 5 where 1=poor and 5= excellent. Rate how well the programme helped you achieve the following competencies

S/N		1	2	3	4	5
a.	Advanced knowledge on youth development					
b.	Improved programme management skills					
c.	Improved capacity for managing my organization					

S/N		Highly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Highly Disagree
d.	Networking and collaboration with other development practitioners					
e.	Improved knowledge on gender equality					
f.	Leadership skills					
g.	Facilitation skills					

Choose the option that best describes your situation

S/N		Highly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Highly Disagree
10	I see myself as someone that can bring change to my community?					
11	I always stand up to an opportunity to lead in my circles.					
12	I see myself as someone who always makes useful suggestions to improve the effectiveness of my organization					
13	My organization is open to change and growth					
14	Improved knowledge on gender equality					

Section 3: Understanding and Application of the PYD Framework

S/N		Highly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Highly Disagree
15	I see the Positive Youth Development framework as an effective tool for preventing trafficking of youth.					
16	I believe that I have developed the capacity to use the Positive Youth Development concept in implementing programme activities.7					
17	I believe that the positive engagement of youth will lead to					

	a reduction in the number of youths that are trafficked.					
18	My organization has implemented some youth centered programmes focused on trafficking.					
19	My organization will continue to engage young people in a positive way to protect them from trafficking and other vices.					
20	If given the change, my organization will be happy to recommend the Positive Youth Development approach to other organizations in our network.					

Section 4: Virtual Community of Practice/Expert Sessions

22. I was on the VCOP WhatsApp group
    - Yes
    - No
23. Through the activities and interactions on the Virtual Community of Practice (VCOP)/ WhatsApp group my capacity to implement anti trafficking activities has improved
    Highly Agree
    Agree
    Neutral
    Disagree
    Highly Disagree
24. My organization collaborated with other organizations in the SCALE CTIP programme to carry out projects?
    -Yes
    -No
25. Collaborating with other organizations helps my organizations achieve more impact in the society.
    Highly Agree
    Agree
    Neutral
    Disagree
    Highly Disagree

26. My organization often collaborates with other organizations to carry out activities on tackling trafficking.
    Highly Agree
    Agree
    Neutral
    Disagree
    Highly Disagree
27. My organization collaborated with other organizations during the SCALE CTIP programme to carry out projects.
    Highly Agree
    Agree
    Neutral
    Disagree
    Highly Disagree
28. I found the WhatsApp group/VCOP useful.
    Highly Agree
    Agree
    Neutral
    Disagree
    Highly Disagree
29. The online WhatsApp group/VCOP enabled my interaction and collaboration with representatives of other organizations?
    Highly Agree
    Agree
    Neutral
    Disagree
    Highly Disagree
30. I attended the monthly expert coaching sessions.
    Yes
    No
31. I found the Monthly Expert session useful.
    Highly Agree
    Agree
    Neutral
    Disagree
    Highly Disagree

32. How can we make the VCOP WhatsApp group better? _____
33. Please narrate how the programme activities (Training workshops, expert sessions, etc.) on the SCALE CTIP have helped you improve the structure of your organization.

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