



DEVATOP CENTRE FOR AFRICA DEVELOPMENT



# IMPACT REPORT

## PROTECTING CHILD DOMESTIC WORKERS FROM MALTREATMENT

Supported By:



# ABOUT THE PROJECT

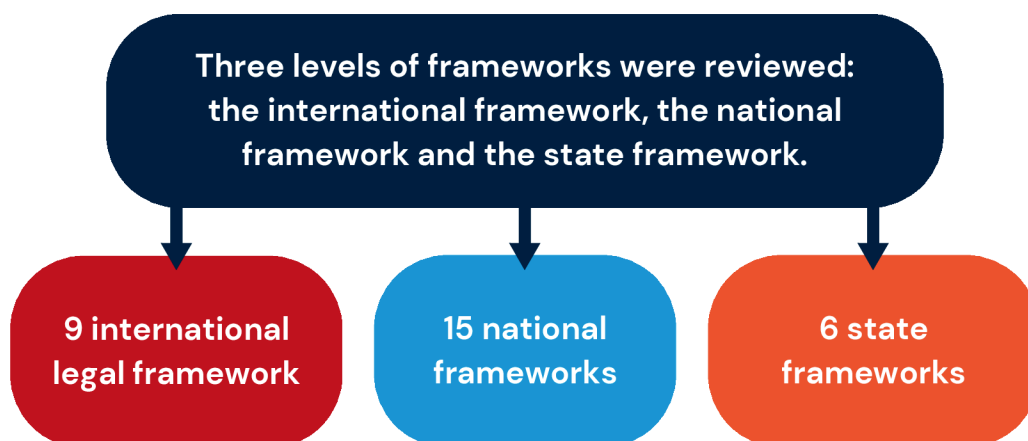
The "Protect Child Domestic Workers From Maltreatment Pilot Project in Nigeria," implemented by Devatop Centre for Africa Development, ran from October 1, 2023, to December 30, 2024. Supported by Freedom Fund with a grant from the US Department, the project targeted two communities, Ijegun-Egba in Amuwo Odofin Local Government Area and Iyana-Sashi in Ojo Local Government Area in Lagos State. Focused on addressing exploitation and abuse of CDWs, the initiative aimed to:

- Strengthen legal, regulatory, and financial frameworks for child protection.
- Enhance community awareness and foster behavioral change toward CDWs.

The project conducted an extensive review of 12 policies, identifying eight critical gaps and opportunities for reform to address exploitation of child domestic workers. Stakeholders engaged in policy dialogues, discussing systemic challenges and collaboratively developing actionable strategies to address these issues. Community-led advocacy played a pivotal role, with targeted dialogues empowering community members and influencers to champion state-wide discussions on the rights and welfare of child domestic workers in their communities. Innovative tools like the Game4Child Rights provided interactive education and engagement, while the TALKAM Human Rights App and Hotlines enhanced the reporting and management of child abuse cases, ensuring a more responsive and effective intervention system.

## Key Achievements

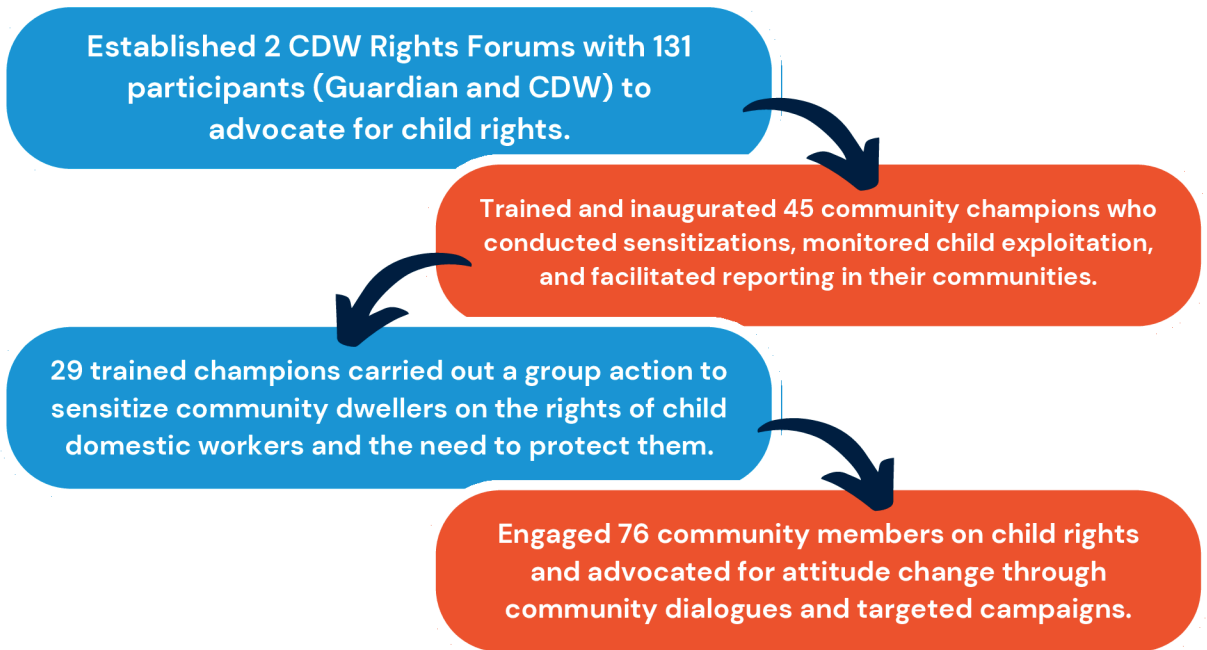
### Advocacy and Policy Reforms



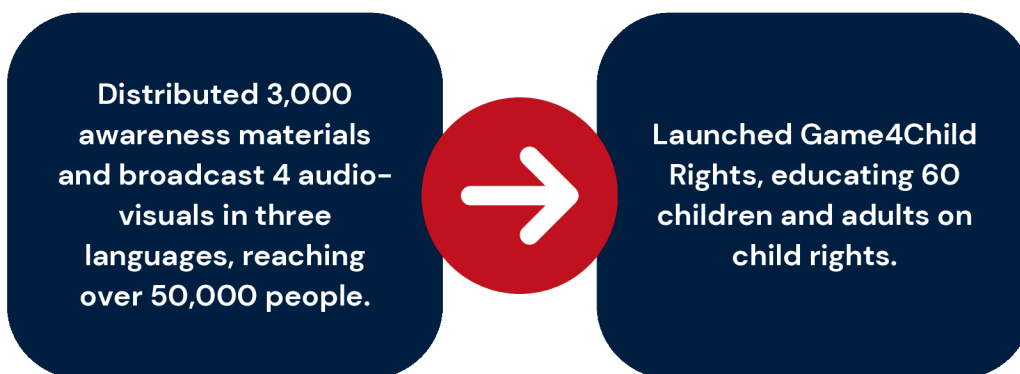
After the review of these legal frameworks, Seven (7) critical gaps were identified as major barriers to effectively addressing child domestic exploitation,

- Hosted 2 policy dialogues where 30 stakeholders developed 24 actionable plans, leading to 5 actions taken to address policy gaps.
- As part of the event, a 5 man panel was hosted to discuss crucial topics as it relates to CDW

## Community Empowerment



## Awareness and Advocacy



## Empowering Child Domestic Workers and Guardians

- Trained 68 child domestic workers on their rights and equipped them with tools to report exploitation.
- Provided support to 68 child domestic workers to improve their welfare.
- Trained 63 guardians on safeguarding and child protection practices.

## Technological Innovation

- Deployed the TALKAM Human Rights App, enabling effective documentation and response to child abuse cases.

## Key Findings from the Project

- Cultural norms, economic hardship, and religious beliefs are significant factors driving parents to send their children into child domestic work. These factors also justify abuse and exploitation as a forms of discipline or training, perpetuating the cycle of exploitation. check this out
- Gender analysis reveals that for every one(1) male child domestic worker (CDW), there are three(3) female CDWs. Females are placed into domestic work at three times the rate of males; this implies that females are more exposed to exploitation than male
- Stakeholders expressed differing views on acknowledging the existence of child domestic workers (CDWs). Legal bodies opined that CDW should not be recognized as a form of work and thus should not be discussed, while other stakeholders acknowledged both its existence and the exploitation associated with it.

## Success Stories

There is a significant increase in knowledge gain among CDW and guidance of CDWs on the best practices of Child domestic work.

The rights of child domestic workers are now being respected with 7 CDWs enrolled in school while 5 are now enrolled in vocational training.

Community members can now readily identify child domestic workers facing exploitation and take steps to support and protect them.

Community dwellers have volunteered themselves as watchdogs in the community as a result of impact from the community sensitisation and community dialogues. They have fully embraced the project and are willing to become advocates for the rights of CDWs.

Community dwellers are now aware of the project as a result of the Sensitization and influencers engagement. Influencers used their platforms to speak against CDW exploitation. Platforms like schools, hospitals, group meetings, religious gatherings now serve as a medium to sensitize more community dwellers.

## Quick Facts (Infographic Summary)



7 policy gaps identified in addressing child domestic exploitation



2 community forums established to promote child rights



131 (F-111, M-20) CDWs and Guardian have attended the forum



68 (F-51, M-17) CDWs trained on child rights and supported



63 (F-60, M-3) Guardian trained on child right, child safeguarding and protection



45 (F-32, M-13) child rights community influencers trained and deployed to communities



Approximately 350 community members sensitized by community influencers



76 (F- 43, M-33) community dwellers participated in community dialogue



5 cases of child abuse reported, and two cases resolved.



24 actionable plans developed during policy dialogue



3000 materials distributed



4 audio-visuals produced, reaching 50,000+ people

## What Stakeholders and Beneficiaries Are Saying:

'Now that I know better from this CDW forum, I will make sure my CDW enjoys all her rights as a child' - **CDW Guardian.**

'I will look at my wrong doings to my CDW and correct myself/change'. - **CDW Guardian**

'This is a very educating awareness/training and will help educate people who exploit their child domestic workers' - **CDW Guardian.**

'This program has made me know my right better as a Child domestic worker' - **CDW**

'After the second sensitization program, I have seen positive changes in the way my guardian treats me, she now respects my right' - **CDW**

'I look forward to attending more of this program because it gives me opportunity to learn more, share my experience and meet other child domestic workers' - **CDW**

'I really love the work this NGO (Devatop) is doing in this community especially through their sensitization and community walk- community dwellers are now very conscious of the treat they give to their child domestic workers knowing that I have endorse this project in this community' - **Traditional ruler Isashi community**

'The program was worth it, with this, I have a better insight into policies to protect children and CDWs' - **Influencer.**

'Devatop is doing a great work' - **Nactal (Stakeholder)**

'One significance of this project is that it is addressing a form of exploitation that is usually carried out indoors. It is good that Devatop is engaging in community sensitization as a form of grassroots awareness' - **Numerous Stakeholders**

"The app has transformed how we manage child rights cases, making processes faster and more transparent." - **Stakeholders**

"This project gave me the confidence to report cases of child abuse in my community. I am also comfortable with the fact that there will not land myself into trouble when I report because I can use the Talkam App" - **Community dwellers**

## Project Stakeholders:

- Ministry of Labour and Empowerment, Ministry of Justice,
- National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons(NAPTIP),
- Ministry of Health,
- SOS Children Village,
- Ministry of Youth and Social Development,
- Ministry of Education (Child Guidance and Special counselling,
- Lagos State Global Sustainable Development Goals,
- Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps,
- Lagos State of Neighbourhood Safety Agency,
- Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence,
- Ministry of Information and Strategy,
- Lagos State Legal Aid Council,
- National Human Rights Commission,
- Child Protection Network,
- National Orientation Agency,
- National Association of Social Workers,
- Association of Orphans and Vulnerable Children,
- NASFAT Nigeria,
- Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN),
- Police (Juvenile Welfare Centre),
- Network Against Trafficking, Abuse and Labour (NACTAL),
- Radio Lagos FM (Eko F.M),
- Ministry of Local Government Community Affairs and Road (MLGCA & RD),
- Youth Empowerment Foundation, Human Development Int. Foundation, Women's Rights and Health Project (WRAHP).

# Picture Gallery

## Community Dialogue Program (Ijegun-Egba) 27/11/2024



## Community Dialogue Program (Iyana-Isashi) 26/11/2024



## 2024 World Day Against Child Labor



## Guardian/CDWS Sensitization: Iyana-Isashi Community (12/11/2024)





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