

Final Project Completion Report

Project title: Enhancing the Human Dignity of Survivors of Human Trafficking in Nigeria		DAC Sector (CKU):
Project number: CKU-18-A-06	Location of the project Abuja, Nigeria	Project period 2019 - 2021
CKU Member organisation EXIST, Denmark.	Contact person Karin Kjærsgaard	E-mail kk@exist-ngo.org
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Project's total budget: DKK: 928.564	Funded by CKU: DKK: 981,124	Own contribution + other contributions: DKK:
Total amount spent DKK: 981,124	From CKU fund: 981,124	From other sources: Nil DKK
Budget in Local currency: 51.645.704 NG	Spent in Local currency: 57,519,866 NG	

Please attach a final progress statement of your logical framework with an added assessment column showing the achievements of the project at output and outcome level. Has the logframe been adjusted please include the changes with 'track changes'. Baseline data should also appear from the final logframe.

1. Describe the most significant change (planned as well as unforeseen) the project has contributed to at *output and outcome level*.

E.g. Change in behaviour, relationship, actions, activities, policies or practices of an individual, group, community, organization or institution.

What significant change has the project brought about for who?

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to halting human trafficking and equipping survivors for self-sustained livelihoods. Specifically, the project was designed to ensure rehabilitation of 250 survivors by building the capacities of staff members in 10 safehouses in order for them to deliver improved rehabilitation services, mobilize survivors and advocate to prevent human trafficking in Nigeria. The project brought about attitudinal and behavioral changes among survivors enabling them to realize their identities and to determine their life-long goals through education and/or jobs. Both staff from the safehouses and the survivors had their capacities built to better

advocate for prevention of human trafficking hence taking project achievements beyond the primary target group and supporting a general and sustainable halt to human trafficking.

The overall objective of this project is to *contribute to halting human trafficking and equipping survivors for self-sustained livelihoods while the general outcome is that 250 survivors in 10 safehouses have undergone rehabilitation and are sustaining their own livelihoods by 2021, at the same time 100 survivors are in a process of acting as “ambassadors” in awareness raising and advocacy efforts.* The strategy used include:

1. Capacity building and competency development
2. Rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors
3. Advocacy and awareness building

These 3 strategies underlined the project’s overall framework and the implementation plan, which are:

i) assessments, ii) training of safehouse staff and survivors, iii) monitoring and evaluations, iv) networking and collaboration, v) documentation, and legislative/social advocacy.

We started with 10 safehouses and 30 staff but had to remove 1 safehouse, SEYP from the project because they failed to keep up with the project criteria like attending all 5 trainings, completing home work and being willing to accommodate face to face monitoring visits. We were then left with 9 safehouses and 27 staff members.

The Covid restrictions made it impossible for us to complete the project in 2020 so we requested an extension and completed the project in September 2021.

As expected

Outcome 1

250 survivors in 10 safehouses have undergone rehabilitation and are sustaining their own livelihoods by 2020 – while at the same time 100 survivors are in a process of acting as “ambassadors” in awareness raising and advocacy efforts

Output

- 306 survivors were rehabilitated in 9 Safehouses.
- 107 survivors are capable of sustaining their livelihood.
- 113 of the survivors are engaged in awareness raising and advocacy efforts as “ambassadors” and have carried out forty-three (43) awareness activities successfully.
- 120 survivors have acquired educational training, out of which 6 have completed their secondary school certificate examination with good grades and are looking for admission into the tertiary institution.

Outcome 2

30 staff members of the 10 safehouses are conducting effective rehabilitation for 250 survivors by 2020 - while at the same time training and mobilising survivors for awareness raising and advocacy efforts.

Outputs

2.1 27 staff members have been further enhanced in conducting effective rehabilitation, awareness and advocacy. Staff have also been made aware, through training, on the importance of deliberately monitoring the growth and recovery of their survivors through data management and record keeping. This has been made easy because of all the supporting documents the safehouses have been able to develop during the training and monitoring visits.

2.2. 9 safehouses have also developed a rehabilitation manual and other supporting documents to enhance their record keeping. It is worth mentioning that the developed rehabilitation manuals have

been compiled into one for effective rehabilitation in Nigeria. The very first of its kind in the country. The safehouses are also mobilizing local resources for their programs.

The project recorded a significant level of success and achieved her objectives as seen in the table below;

Indicators	Expected milestone at beginning of 2020	Achievement at end of project (2020)	Percentage	Target at End of project (2021)
Number of Survivors undergoing rehabilitation	250	305	122%	250
Number of Survivors integrated into families and society	50	107	214%	100
Number of Survivors with self-sustained livelihoods	100	107	114%	100
Number of survivors who are aware of their identity and skills, and who make plans to achieve life-long goals	175	298	170.3%	250
Number of survivors acquiring educational training and/or jobs	50	298	596%	100
Survivors and staff members involved in awareness raising or advocacy activities	48	113 Survivors and 27 Staff	452%	100 Survivors: 30 Staff
Number of awareness raising or advocacy activities conducted	20	38	380%	20
Number of girls supported in the project	-	263	-	-
Number of boys supported in the project	-	35	-	-
Number of staff conducting effective, training and mobilising survivors for awareness raising and advocacy efforts	30	27 completed 3 out of 5 trainings; plus 85 others via Stepped-down training	90%	30

The project was generally successful

- 9 safehouses are progressing in documentation in the areas of case management, data collection and management, financial reporting, program implementation, and planning.
- There has been a significant improvement in the provision of robust psychosocial support to the survivors. For example, the 9 safehouses have developed care plans that guide in the day-to-day running of psychosocial support and care for the survivors.

- The project has changed mindsets, attitude and behaviour of the 9 safehouses towards holistic and effective victim – centred, trauma – informed rehabilitation and reintegration. They no longer depend completely on “spiritual” support alone in rendering help to mentally disturbed victim. For example before now every mental health issue was tagged as a spiritual problem but now the safehouse staff understand that some of the manifestations like abnormal behaviours in the survivors can also be as a result of poor mental health and traumas experienced and not just “demon possession”. Hence their appreciation for mental health training and equipping.
- All programs carried out by the safehouses are centred on the best interest of the survivors and their inputs are included.
- The 9 safehouses are also aware that in providing comprehensive care and services, each survivor’s needs are specific and not all size fits all.
- The safehouses also reported that the training has helped them to set up sustainable businesses such as poultry farm, bakery etc. They also said their poultry products such as meat and eggs are eaten all year round.
- The 9 safehouses are also very aware of the importance of documentation and monitoring and making conscious efforts towards this. For example during an experience sharing and learning encounter a counsellor told James, the M&E MeCAHT staff, that her work is a bit easier now as she has a book to document all that transpired in her last counselling session hence she knows where she stopped with she survivor and where to start from.

How has the project contributed to the change achieved?

The 5 Trainings: We had a relevant curriculum, which was designed from the areas of gaps that were identified by the safehouse managers themselves during a partnership workshop in November 2017, and areas we observed as gaps in service delivery to survivors in Nigeria. Qualified resource persons who are professional practitioners as well as able to train others were brought to deliver the trainings. The curriculum did not give room to long and boring lectures but it had very concise and inspirational sessions which also recognised the prior learning and embedded knowledge of the safehouse managers since most of them have been working in this field with between 2 – 25 years of experience under their belts. The trainings also encouraged the celebration of successes no matter how little and even of mistakes, taking it as a learning curve for growth and improvement.

The training course methodology was interactive and encouraged knowledge and experience sharing thereby helping participants acquire new skills, critically examine their practices through discussions, group work, class presentation, question & answers, assignments/homework and case studies.

In the course format most modules were repeated for emphasis throughout all 5 trainings but also covered different sub topics that emerged as gaps as the trainings progressed. Variety of speakers and modules were included to sustain attention and interest from participants. Participants got to learn from each other’s field of work in order to acquire a better understanding and appreciation.

During the first training a set of core values were agreed on as a group, which helped the project to contribute to this change. The values were:

1. Excellence: We believe in striving for the highest quality and efficacy in service delivery and standard practice; and by utilizing available resources in the most judicious way possible towards the best outcome for survivors.
2. Accountability: We believe it takes responsibility, integrity and transparency to honour our commitment to our survivors and stakeholders, which will in turn foster a culture of reliability, growth and continuous improvement.
3. Ubuntu: “I AM because WE ARE”. We greatly value the principle of the African philosophy of

Ubuntu because at its core it promotes unity, collaboration, mutual strengthening, and collective development. We believe that only together can we accomplish our goals of ending human trafficking and other social ills of our day.

The atmosphere during the project was generally complementary instead of competitive. The safehouses wanted each other to do well and saw their success as a joint privilege. In the past the relationships were marked by negative competition for the limited funding pools, which also made the safehouses unwilling to share their good practices for fear of the other safehouse succeeding and gaining recognition to attract funding.

Monitoring & Evaluation: The M&E by the MeCAHT Project Manager emerged as one of the best parts of the project. He monitored the project on monthly basis virtually and carried out on site visit before every training. This helped to verify that safehouses are making use of what they learnt from the different trainings. These visits accorded opportunities for coaching, learning, experience sharing and mentoring to further enhance the capacity building of the safehouses. Reports were also sent by the safehouses to the project staff. In addition, the external evaluator's mid – project report was produced which also helped in the monitoring process. The external evaluation was done at mid-term and at the end of the project. The findings and recommendations of the mid-term external evaluation helped us to improve on the project for instance, we saw that the homework the Safehouses were given had to be well monitored by a clearly defined set of criteria.

What other factors if any in the context have contributed to the change?

Other factors that contributed to this change were:

- It was encouraging for the participants to have a local organization with real experience in rehabilitation implementing the project.
- The connections of MeCAHT with other key organizations both locally and internationally added credibility to the project and contributing to the change.
- The role of EXIST as Danish partner, with experience with working with Nigerian girls greatly contributed to the change.
- Availability of funds from CKU was key as participants did not have to worry about raising money to come for trainings.

Describe any significant challenges if any in the context (including risk factors), which have influenced the project negatively?

- One of the safehouses (CWEENS) had a major issue with their management because of change in ownership and inadequate funding. They are afraid their safehouse has shut down. This made it hard for them to plan for the future after this project. The staff are however very happy with the gained knowledge and are in the process of deciding the way forward and how they can keep using their acquired skills and knowledge. We battled to have this safehouse implement as much homework as the other safehouses due to this issue and knowing that we are not able to help much since the project itself is wrapping up.
- We had a total last minute surprise and shock from the hotel we had been using for the trainings. They decided to increase all charges by nearly 3 times what we budgeted. The new management claimed that the inflation in the country forced them to take that step but we felt they just wanted to leave us with no option but to pay them more hence their last minute hike in price. We had to move the training to another hotel without much preparation for that, which added some stress on the training. We are glad that in the end we still completed the 5th training.
- The project was designed with the assumption to support the 10 safehouses for 2 years but we have seen that because this was the first ever intervention that brought safehouses together

in a forum for capacity training and improved victim support services, ending the project will mean a gap in how the forum is run. The 9 safehouses unanimously requested for an extension of the project. MeCAHT and EXIST have deliberated on this and we plan to continue phase 2 of the project in a way that it will both keep building the capacities of the 9 safehouses, while also involving 9 other safehouses, which were part of our initial mapping exercise of safehouses in Nigeria. The 9 safehouses who have gone through our project will be involved in mentoring the other 9 safehouses that will be selected. The phase 2 of the project will also enhance the human dignity of more survivors for self-sustained livelihoods. MeCAHT and EXIST are in the process of designing this new project and we hope to implement next year so as to sustain momentum. Until then, we will stay in touch with the 9 safehouses.

If relevant, please account for any significant adjustments made to the implementation strategy/plan along the way. Including the reason for adjustments and the effect of the change?

- The pandemic has limited the number of advocacy outreaches designed to be carried out during the project period. This is largely due to the process involved in getting permits to carry out these public programs.
- The pandemic and the lockdown made it difficult for us to have suitable training dates for all the safehouses. After several cancellations we had to run the 4th training with 8 safehouses because we did not want to further lose the momentum that has been built among the safehouses. Wholistic Outreach is one of the well thriving safehouses in the program and it is run by the Redeemed Church. They had a very important church meeting with their top leadership so our agreed date did not suit them. The other safehouse, SEYP was the one we sadly had to remove from the program due to their inability to allow onsite M&E, poor performance in refusal to carry out assignments and the director’s inability to attend the trainings.
- The COVID-19 restrictions made it impossible for our partner, Karin and the CKU staff to join us at the 4th training as was scheduled. It was the first time we had the training without Karin but we kept close contacts for updates, debriefing via whatsapp calls and sent daily reports to her.

We adjusted the budget to include onsite-monitoring visits, and the closing ceremony, which was done. We revised the budget to accommodate the use of extra funds for the last phase of the training, to hold a high-level advocacy event to mark the closing ceremony with key stakeholders in the trafficking sector and to launch the rehabilitation manual. We also improved on our media publicity and advocacy, which showcased the project and its outputs to the public.

2. Target groups

To what extent have you managed to reach the target group(s) described in the application?

To a large extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To some extent	<input type="checkbox"/>

To a limited extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not at all	<input type="checkbox"/>

Target Groups

250 survivors, 9 Safehouses, 27 staff and 100 survivor advocates.

Objective: Contribute to halting human trafficking and equipping survivors for self-sustained livelihoods.

Original indicator:

250 survivors in 10 Safehouses have undergone rehabilitation and are sustaining their own livelihoods by 2020 – while at the same time 100 survivors are in a process of acting as “ambassadors” in awareness raising and advocacy efforts

Achieved Output 1:

306 of the survivors were rehabilitated in 9 safehouses. 107 survivors are capable of sustaining their livelihood while 113 of the survivors are engaged in awareness raising and advocacy efforts as “ambassadors, 120 survivors have acquired educational training, out of which 6 have completed their secondary school certificate examination with good grades.

Original indicator 2:

30 staff members of the 10 Safehouses are conducting effective rehabilitation for 250 survivors by 2020 - while at the same time training and mobilizing survivors for awareness raising and advocacy efforts.

Achieved 2:

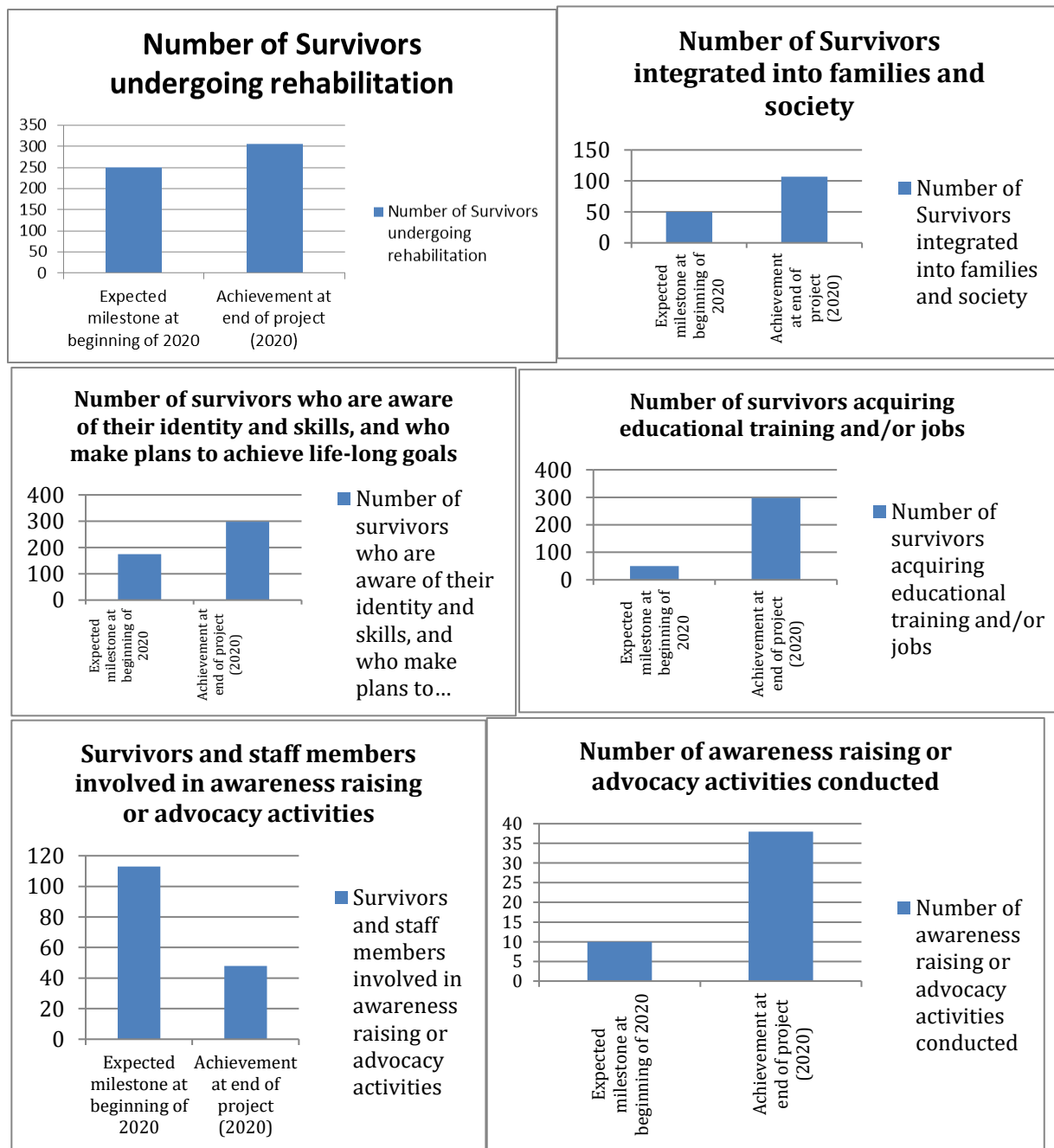
27 (90%) staff members completed the training on effective rehabilitation, awareness and advocacy and are keeping records. Safehouses have also developed a rehabilitation manual and other support documents to enhance their record keeping. They are also mobilizing local resources for their programs. (see annex for documents)

The impact of a project is best seen many years after the project has ended. However, there are some ‘positive signs’ or ‘signs of transformation’ which can be attributable to the project. Some of these signs are:

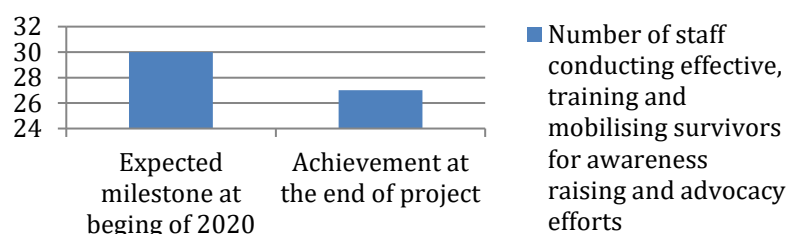
- a) There is a commitment to behavioural change of the safehouses towards proper documentation and record keeping.
- b) The survivors are involved in the development of their care plans and this made it easy for the implementation.
- c) The involvement of survivors in advocacy has drastically improved as the survivors played crucial roles in events.
- d) The safehouses have grown more confident in the use of the Individual Care Plans, which they reported that they are able to monitor the growth, desires, rights and the needs of the survivors.
- e) There has been proper communication and feedback among the staff and also with the survivors.
- f) There is also improved fundraising strategies and local resource mobilization by the safehouses. The mind-set of always looking for foreign donation has changed and now the safehouses have learnt to look inward and around them for local resources to sustain their work. They have reported stories of survivors earning a livelihood through baking, selling clothes, fashion design and production of shoes, beading, bags, soaps, make up and making hair products.
- g) The safehouses now place emphasis on their facility care and maintenance.

If you have not reached or have exceeded the planned target group, please describe the reason why?

As seen above and below, we exceeded our planned target group except for the number of staff and survivors carrying out awareness raising and advocacy. This figure dropped because there were fluctuations due to survivors who graduated from safehouse programs and were reintegrated into the society thereby no longer lived at the safehouses. The staff of the safehouses has had their capacities enhanced in conducting effective rehabilitation, awareness and advocacy. They have also been made aware, through training, on the importance of deliberately monitoring the growth and recovery of their survivors through data management and record keeping. 9 safehouses have also developed a rehabilitation manual and other support document to enhance their record keeping. They have also mobilized local resources towards rehabilitation of 305 survivors of human trafficking, with 107 of the survivors capable of sustaining their livelihoods while 109 of the survivors engaged in awareness raising and advocacy efforts as “ambassadors.”



Number of staff conducting effective, training and mobilising survivors for...



Comments

All our project objectives were achieved above 100% except for the number of staff that completed the training which is 27 (90%) because of the safehouse that was removed from the program. However, it is also worthy to note that we had 85 staff from the 9 (nine) safehouses trained as well, through the various step down trainings carried out by the safehouses to the other staff that were not part of the project.

Specify the target group reached below according to men, women, boys and girls:

Estimated number of persons reached in the ultimate target group	325
Estimated number of persons reached in the primary target group	298
Estimated number of persons reached in the secondary target group	120

If relevant:

Number of local groups established/capacitated e.g. VSLAs, committees, self-help groups, associations, cooperatives. Please state type and number of groups.	<i>Example: 10 VSLA's 1 cooperative 1 child committee (Delete example and fill in)</i>
Number of churches and or congregations capacitated. Please state type and number.	

There were 3 zonal groups that were created to enable the safehouses strengthen relationship amongst themselves and share knowledge and exchange experiences. Survivors from the safehouses in the zonal groups could also visit other safehouses within their zones and spend the holidays there as a change of environment which proved helpful for their mental wellbeing.

In what way has the groups/organizations/institutions been capacitated?

The groups were capacitated through ongoing information, knowledge and experience sharing. They documented their meetings and outcomes and shared with the larger group during the trainings.

Please describe in what way the project has contributed to improved gender equality for the target groups.

- The project put gender at the centre of all its capacity building activities. Trained staff adopted

gender-sensitive approaches while providing adequate psychosocial care for survivors as well as in the maintenance of their facilities. As much as it is within the general goal of this project, women and girls were not subjected to experiences of social exclusion, such as restricting their participation from any capacity building activities of interest that may be considered as skills/jobs for males only due to social norms in the society.

- The project mobilized the primary target group to continuously work towards legislative and policy lobbying and advocacy to ensure that budgetary allocations are appropriated to eradicate the root causes of gender inequality and cultural biases to women and children as a mitigation strategy for achieving gender equality.

3. Advocacy

To what extent has the project empowered right-holders to engage with duty bearers and hold them to account?

“Ambassadors”

The project implementing team were aware that ultimately putting a stop to human trafficking is an uphill battle that involves overcoming many obstacles – social, economic, political etc. Accordingly, as many “ambassadors” as possible are desired, and advocacy efforts are considered essential and integrated parts of the project in the light of long-term and sustainability considerations. During the formal training of staff members, they were being equipped with knowledge and skills for using community-based social accountability mechanisms (such as advocacy campaigns and participation in relevant multi-stakeholder networks that monitor service delivery in the anti-human trafficking sector) to catalyse engagement in policy development with political actors in order to sustain impacts at all levels. Subsequently, the training course participants were able to pass on this knowledge, the skills and the attitude to other staff members – and to the survivors of human trafficking; the residents of the safehouses. This was planned to mobilise a maximum of capacities to influence duty bearers and other decision makers through advocacy efforts at the local neighbourhood level – and ultimately all the way up to national and global level through the MeCAHT networks. 107 survivors were trained as “ambassadors” and were involved in planning 10 advocacy events during the project period. The project also had training sessions by two Ambassadors, Amb. Jesper Kamp, the former Danish Ambassador to Nigeria and former EU Gender Champion in Nigeria, and Amb. Asalina Mamuno (rtd) Nigeria’s former Ambassador to Poland. The staff and survivors were able to ask them questions and shared their dreams for the future. Such meetings served as a motivation to the target group to aspire high in the attainment of their dreams and influence in society. Two other staff of the British High Commission in Abuja, Nigeria were the other resource people who taught on practical advocacy campaigns.

To a large extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To some extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
To a limited extent	<input type="checkbox"/>

If relevant, please describe any advocacy initiative initiated by the target groups and the changes achieved as a result of these efforts.

Advocacy visits to school have received a great welcome and some school authorities have set up a human trafficking prevention clubs

To what extent has the project influenced norms and practices among religious leaders and/or involved religious leaders as change agents?

Religious leaders have further understood the dynamics of human trafficking and how the victims should no longer be referred to as “sinners” or “criminals” but to treat them with the compassion of our Lord and to seek ways to support them in their rehabilitation.

Religious leaders have also started seeking for training in the area of rendering psychosocial support and we received 4 invitations by top religious leaders for such training during the life cycle of this project.

To a large extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To some extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
To a limited extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not at all	<input type="checkbox"/>

If relevant, please describe what norms and practices have been influenced and/or how religious leaders have been involved as change agents?

Major norms and practices which have been influenced are:

- Reduced stigmatization
- Religious leaders recognising that their generosity should not just rest within their members but they should also extend it to safehouses. A few churches have offered to support safehouses during the project

Has the partner organization/target groups engaged in national or international networks in order to better influence a certain advocacy issue?

Yes

No

MeCAHT joined NACTAL, a local umbrella organization that works with both local and international networks to improve rehabilitation in Nigeria.

If yes, please describe what networks have the partner organization/target groups have aligned with and the outcome of the cooperation.

- Through NACTAL membership, safehouses in our forum including ours received support towards renovation and furnishing of their safehouses by Atipsom, a EU funded programme.
- International Organization for Migration started providing trainings from safehouses and requested for the results of our mapping exercise to help them with that.
- NAPTIP (National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking In Persons and other related crimes) started giving some stipends towards victim support.

4. Sustainable development goals (SDGs)

To what extent has the project incorporated/included the SDGs?

In line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs, 1, 4, 5, 8, and 16), especially quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, this project provided training on skills

acquisition for business ownership and self-reliance, for self sustained livelihoods of the survivors. The safehouses were also able to provide formal and non-formal education to interested survivors. The project also contributed to the 16th SDG, in that it built Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through a resilient and engaged staff and survivors of the 9 safehouses who served as influencers and change advocates within churches, schools and community at large.

To a large extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
To some extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To a limited extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not at all	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe *what* goal(s) you have worked with and *how* (e.g. result-framework, operationalization information or advocacy)?

5. Freedom of religion and belief

To what extent has the project contributed to improved freedom of religion and belief?

To a large extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
To some extent	<input type="checkbox"/>
To a limited extent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Not at all	<input type="checkbox"/>

If relevant, please describe how the project has contributed to improved freedom of religion and belief.

The project operated from a Biblical worldview, without excluding people of other faiths. There was no pressure or compulsion to proselyte the target group to conform to Christian norms but all the freedom to witness the love of Jesus. One of the resource persons was a Muslim and she was warmly received by the safehouse staff who prayed blessings over her after her session. She was so touched and moved to tears. The principle of no discrimination was imbibed throughout the project.

6. Partnership and capacity building of the partner organization

Capacity building may concern the partner's legitimacy, organizational capacity, institutional sustainability and professional skills/competences.

Describe how the project has strengthened your partnership.

- The project strengthens MeCAHT's capacity to work closely with each stakeholder of the target group and ensure that rehabilitation and reintegration services provided are more effective and resource efficient. MeCAHT's role in anti-human trafficking media campaigns received a boost with its capacity to undertake legislative, policy and social advocacy honed through the training. Three SDGs, 5.2, 8.7, and 16.2, targeting human rights violation were addressed as a priority for

the safehouses.

- MeCAHT is a member of Network of Civil Society Organisations Against Child Trafficking Abuse and Labour (NACTAL). Cooperating with this network has increased knowledge and capacity of other grass root anti-trafficking NGOs in Nigeria. Taking an inter-sectorial approach, MeCAHT benefitted from the network in order to establish an effective means of cooperation with non-state actors in the sector, to explore and identify resource persons (specialists) and to access existing good practices, which have been compiled in a anti-human trafficking rehabilitation and reintegration manual.

Describe how the intervention has strengthened the capacity of the partner organization?

EXIST has experience of working with Nigerian victims of human trafficking who visit and benefit from the activities of the Night Light Café in Copenhagen. EXIST brought in expertise of working in the sector within the Danish contexts; an expertise that will be further developed through the participation and cooperation within the framework of the present project. In regard to EXIST's target group, the project inspired hope and motivated key actors in Denmark to continue supporting initiatives that will help Nigerian victims so that they will exit from the precarious sexual exploitative activities and seek decent and legitimate means of living. The project also gathered the necessary resource to use as a motivational factor for struggling victims, including female migrants facing violence or without legal immigration status in Denmark to consider returning to Nigeria, when realising the benefits of a well-organised rehabilitation and reintegration programme in Nigeria.

If relevant, describe how the project has contributed to engage the partner in strategic cooperation with other (private, public or civil society) actors/networks.

The project has contributed in strengthening the relationship with EU's Atipsom, IOM, Danish Embassy, Austrian Embassy and the British High Commission. The project further strengthened the partnership with the Nigerian government through NAPTIP and the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development and local media houses.

7. Sustainability

To what extent and how will the changes brought about by the project continue after its completion?

The project was organisationally driven; participating organisations were just guided towards carrying out their programs in a way that meets global standards. With all the learning's and inputs from the trainings, organisations better understood the place of record keeping and proper documentation and have agreed to continue as they see it as being very useful. This will ensure ownership and sustainability.

The project reflects a realisation of the need to think beyond the immediate timeframe and budget of the project to ensure long-term impact and sustainability of the interventions. This applies to halting human trafficking as such – and to ensuring a long-term sustainability impact on the primary target group. Accordingly, a number of sustainability initiatives in this respect were either directly part and parcel of the project - or spin-offs. They comprise the following main issues:

Retreat-type training set-up
Space for reflection

The retreat-type training set-up was suggested for a number of reasons. First of all it provided the crucial mental and physical “open” space for profoundly taking in the reflections on issues presented and discussed. In this regard it is considered crucial leaving behind for a couple of days all

other daily chores and the restrictions of the normal working hours. This is exactly what the retreat provided in a unique manner, as provision of qualified advice and support was not restricted to a set number of skills, but rather hinged on a combination of knowledge, skills and attitude. In addition to reflection, checklists were drawn up, back home action plans and meeting with colleagues in a stress free atmosphere all took place etc. This gave rise to the safehouse managers creating strategies that they were able to carry out on their own when they returned to their safehouses after the trainings.

Informal networking

Additionally, but closely linked, the creation and/or nourishment of networks is considered essential for sharing of information, lessons learned, encouragement - and e.g. coordination of concerted actions to support the halt of human trafficking. Facilitating proper networking, however, is difficult to put into a formal training schedule. Informal mingling and information sharing is just as important. Hence the need for the “24 hour per day”, “away from home” retreat-type training set-up.

“Step down Trainings”

Knowledge, skills and attitude

To ensure the “institutional memory” of the issues presented and discussed during the capacity building exercises such as the formal training sessions, those trained were able to pass on their knowledge, skills, and attitude to other staff members through in-house step down training after the initial training sessions. On the one hand to spread the word to as many staff members as possible, as this obviously increases the likelihood of improving the general support to the survivors of human trafficking in the safehouses – and outside for that matter, in any other social gatherings where staff members got a chance to increase the awareness about human trafficking and its implications amongst the general public. On the other hand, passing on knowledge, skills and attitudes also restricted the loss that staff members potentially leaving for other job opportunities may present.

Documentation

Background info and documentation on general human trafficking issues, lessons learned from the activities at the safehouses and data on the past and future destinies of safehouse-residents (stories, signs, progress reports etc.) were collected and collated. Relevant parts of this combined with any other key information were compiled in a “rehabilitation manual” that is now in use.

Psycho-social Support

Socially, the intervention encouraged organisations to promote and support the survivors in establishing and maintaining social structures potentially reaching beyond the timely constraints of the project. This includes the introduction of psycho-social group support systems that enabled the survivors to rebound and stabilise following the human trafficking shocks by mutually benefitting from each other’s resilience building, living in a common safehouse, benefiting from a common group and individual rehabilitation exercises and counselling services.

Local sponsorships and/or income generation

Sponsorships and employment opportunities

To increase the local and long-term contributions to running and other costs at the safehouses, the project was able to train the safehouse managers to advocate and source for funding to enable the them to maintain their facilities and sustain rehabilitation and reintegration services. This happened in the form of direct contributions from local businesses or local churches and individuals. Establishing openness and willingness to provide job opportunities for the survivors of human trafficking amongst some businesses also formed part of the long-term sustainability efforts.

Income generation

Economically, the intervention promoted market-based approaches in the transfer of long-term

income generation capacities to benefiting survivors participating in the rehabilitation process. This includes setting up various types of small-scale businesses like farming, hairdressing, fashion design, bakery and shoe making. In the long term, the survivors are intended to continue e.g. this type of income-generating activities on their own. Meanwhile at the safehouses, setting up small-scale farming activities are meant to provide avenue for gaining hands-on experiences – while at the same time contributing to the self-sufficiency of the safehouses in terms of livelihood.

Describe the areas within the intervention in which it is considered difficult to achieve sustainability.

8. Public Anchorage

How has the Danish organisation worked with public anchorage of the project/through the project?

The project is in partnership with EXIST, which has an outstanding history of credible public anchorage in Denmark and Nigeria. The bilateral nature of our partnership helps to prevent human trafficking in a more effective way, such as the empowerment of women, girls, boys and men through sustainable skill acquisition and community awareness and literacy programmes, because it is a global crime that needs diverse partnerships and multi-sectorial approach to curb. Between the two countries where MeCAHT and EXIST operate, the problem of human trafficking thrives on the market forces of demand coming from Denmark for girls and supply of girls from Nigeria. The public anchorage of EXIST, the Danish organization becomes crucial and can be strengthened during the project through the involvement of volunteers at the night light café, the EXIST board and other key actors in Denmark like the foreign affairs ministry.

Describe how the project has been anchored in the Danish public. E.g. through volunteers or information efforts.

Has the public anchorage of the organisation and development activities been strengthened through the project implementation? If yes, please describe how and why.

9. Evaluation and learning

How has results and lessons learned been monitored/gathered and documented during project implementation and finalisation?

MeCAHT conducted participatory monitoring processes and mid-term and final evaluations during the project implementation to enhance project quality, ensure project relevance, effectiveness, resource-efficiency and sustainability. The project management team monitored activities on a monthly and quarterly basis using a monitoring template that was developed in collaboration with representatives of safehouses and survivors. The monitoring was done by means of visiting the safehouses and any other places where related activities took place.

Describe the most significant lessons you have learned as part of project implementation and how these lessons can improve potential future projects?

1. We learnt that the constant follow up, home work and on site monitoring visits:
 - Helped the safehouses grow more confident in the use of the Individual Care Plans, which they reported that they are able to monitor the growth, desires, rights and the needs of the survivors. They noted that those were things they used to do but without documentation but now they have well developed working documents as a result of this project.
 - Enabled safehouses report that the project has helped promote proper communication and feedback among the staff and also with the survivors.

- Qualitative knowledge when properly communicated to safehouses can improve their efficiency and effectiveness towards service delivery.
 - Showed there is improved fundraising strategies and local resource mobilization by the safehouses. The mindset of always looking for foreign donation has changed and now the safehouses have learnt to look inward and around them for local resource to sustain their work. They have reported stories of survivors earning a livelihood through baking, selling clothes, fashion design and production of shoes, beading, bags, soaps, make up and making hair products.
 - We learnt that eventhough the psychosocial support aspect of the safehouses has been improved, there is need for more focus on the caregivers to receive such support themselves. One safehouse set up a new counselling unit. Others have continued to make counselling a priority and have further seen the need for them as care givers to receive mental health support. They have booked sessions with Saadatu Adamu, the resource person who has been teaching on mental health during the project.
 - The safehouses now place emphasis on their facility care and maintenance. They openly share about how they have improved their safehouses as a result of this project and the continuous onsite visits during the monitoring and evaluation.
2. Working with the media as allies helps to keep the project objective in the public domain.
 3. Use of participatory methodology of learning enhances ownership and sustainability of the project.
 4. Promoting shared lessons and good practices helps to improve the capacity of the safehouses.
 5. On site monitoring, learning and supervision is very important, more especially where project implementation involves practical approach.

Has the project been subject to an internal review or external evaluation? If yes, what were the main findings of the review/evaluation? (Please attach the internal review/external evaluation). Kindly see full report of external evaluation of the project in the annexes

The project was subject to an external mid term and end of project evaluation and below are the findings:

Finding #1: The purpose of the project was in line with MeCAHT's ARC approach, it was also in line with government's approach towards combating human trafficking, and it built upon MeCAHT's previous achievements.

Finding #2: Building the capacity/competence of safehouse staff is vital to effective safehouse operations and achievement of rehab goals and objectives.

Finding #3: The capacity development through training of safehouse/shelter staff improved their capacity and competence.

Finding #4: The trainings adopted the right content and methodologies.

Finding #5: The project has achieved most of the outputs that will contribute to the achievement of the project's purpose and goal.

Finding #6: Post- safehouse support is short and exposes survivors to vulnerability of another kind.

Finding #7: Many key factors/best practices contributed to the achievement of the project objectives.

Finding #8: The project activities were well-aligned, produced the outputs and achieved the expected outcomes.

Finding #9: The project adopted several strategies to coordinate and establish linkages.

Finding #10: The project made significant improvements in the processes and procedures of rehabilitation programmes of safehouses, and has left lasting legacies, with no unintended outcomes.

Finding #11: Many survivors have acquired means of livelihoods and have been re-integrated with their families and the society; some are already acting as Ambassadors campaigning against human trafficking.

Finding #12: Project implementation adopted 'low-cost/low-profile', and relied on volunteers to save cost.

Finding #13: Many of the intervention activities required only "once-and-for-all" set up of systems that can last beyond the project period.

Finding #14: The safehouses showed ownership and adapted strategies to suit their peculiarities.

Finding #15: The project left behind many legacies.

For self-administering organisations: If your project is below 24 months and you have **not** submitted a status report. Please describe: *What monitoring activities have been carried out by the Danish organisation since the start of the intervention, including regular reporting/ communication and any monitoring visit?*

10. Financial control

Were the project funds spent according to the plan?

Yes, the project funds were spent according to plan but with a revision on the budget.

List deviations between actual and budgeted use of project funds and account for the deviations.

The budget was adjusted and revised to allow for the budget reserve to be used and extra funds to be used in the last phase of the training, considering the need to host a high level advocacy closing ceremony with key stakeholders in the trafficking sector to launch the rehabilitation manual and to allow survivors of trafficking to address the key actors in one room. The media organizations were in attendance as well as government institutions like NAPTIP, Director of National Commission for Refugees and Migrants, international agencies like IOM, EU-Atipsom, relevant CSOs with NACTAL, the umbrella network, foreign embassies and religious organizations.

If yes, please justify the need for a budget amendment and fill out the second spread sheet "Request for budget revision" in the template for financial quarterly reports

For self-administering organisations: If your project is below 24 months and you have **not** submitted a status report. Please describe: *Has the Danish organisation conducted a financial supervision of the local partner in the reporting period? What were the main findings and how have they been followed up?*

11th November 2021

Abuja, Nigeria

.....
(Date and place)

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*(Stamp and signature for the
CKU Member Organisation)*

.....
(Stamp and signature for CKU)