

EVALUATION REPORT

*For the assessment of the impact of the DRL-funded project,
implemented by CHRICED in Nigeria*

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Acknowledgements

Acronyms

ASI	Anti-Slavery International
DRL	Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor
CHRICED	Centre for Human Rights and Civic Education
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
IDI	Depth Interview
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
KII	Key Informant Interview
PPE	Protective Equipment
COVID	CoronaVirus Disease
ToR	Terms of Reference
NAPTIP	National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons
UBEC	Universal Basic Education Commission
AI	Amnesty International
SUBEB	State Universal Basic Education Boards
OVC	Organisation of Vulnerable children
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation

Executive Summary

Introduction

Anti-Slavery International (ASI) was founded in 1839, it is known as the world's oldest human rights organisation as part of the original movement to abolish the transatlantic slave trade. For over a decade, ASI has executed various projects across selected countries in West Africa (Mali, Mauritania, Tanzania, Niger and Senegal) on descent-based slavery, child domestic work and forced child begging involving Quranic students. For effective and sustainable project outcomes, ASI has been working closely with local anti-slavery movements to address these issues through both national and regional initiatives, as well as engagement with regional and international human rights mechanisms. In Nigeria, ASI partnered with the Resource Centre for Human Rights and Civic Education (CHRICED) in 2018, to implement a research-based project that explored the different strategies possible in terms of reforming the Almajiri system by mapping out past and existing initiatives and by exploring the extent to which the lessons learned from Senegal could apply to Nigeria and vice versa. The research activities were conducted in three states, one from each of the geopolitical zones, namely Borno (North-east), Kano (North-west), and Nasarawa (North-central). The research generated insights and detailed action points, which was disseminated through a coordinated meeting by CHRICED. The dissemination meeting was held in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Nigeria. Relevant personnel from the media, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), public officials, academics and researchers were in attendance.

Methodology

As an attempt to review and assess the process of implementing the research piece and to determine the outcome(s) of the dissemination meeting executed by CHRICED, an evaluation study was initiated in March 2021. The essence of the evaluation was to understand the relevance of the research designs and how the dissemination efforts have led to any change in perception and/or the implementation of actions based on the research findings. The mixed-method approach was utilised. The qualitative data collection tool, In Depth Interview (IDI) guide, was administered to eighteen (18) persons amongst the media three (3) CSOs, three (3) public officials, two (2) academics, four staff (4) from the lead partner (4), one (1) staff from the implementing partner and the research consultant (1). In addition, the quantitative tool, questionnaire enabled as Google form, was shared with an estimated number of 40 persons (excluding those selected for IDI) to ascertain the impact of the dissemination efforts on knowledge, perception and their daily work activities. Twelve persons (11 media, 1 CSOs) responded to the forms. The qualitative data was coded and themed manually in a cohesive manner. Google spreadsheet was used to analyse quantitative data descriptively. Bond's principles were used to assess the appropriateness of the research design while a desk review guide was utilised to assess the overall relevance of the research piece.

Findings

The evaluation findings are highlighted below:

1. Relevance of the design and implementation of the research piece

- a. *To what extent were all necessary preparations taken before the research piece was produced?*
 To a great extent, the required preparations for a research project were put in place before the research activities commenced. The overall relevance score is 73%. This is slightly below the target (75%) set for this evaluation variable. One major factor that contributed to under-achievement of the target is the missing details on the expectations of the report or description of the standard of report that was acceptable to ASI in the ToR. Using the Bond principle checklist, the appropriateness of the methods utilised in the implementation of the research is of good standard (75%).

 - b. *To what extent were the right people involved in the research effort? How clear was the division of roles and responsibilities?*
 To some varying levels, ASI and CHRICED were both involved in the production of the research. Specifically, recruitment of the research consultant, most especially during the project-start up. At the period of the research start-up in 2018, the Project Lead from ASI traveled to Nigeria, for a meeting with CHRICED. It was further found that ASI had no predefined details of the extent of their involvement and roles on the project. In addition, the ToR agreed upon with the research assistant had limited information around the expectations of report format and page limitations. More so, CHRICED was not clear on the post-dissemination activities.

 - c. *How effective was the communication between partners throughout the research effort?*
 At the project initiation stage, communication between ASI and CHRICED was effective. A communication gap began to exist after the first draft of the research report was produced. Findings revealed some factors that beset the communication effectiveness, these are; (1) The Project Lead from ASI left the organization at a critical time; this led to an organisation capacity challenge for a while, thus it took ASI about six months to provide feedback on the first draft of the report (3) ASI did an extensive review of the research report because of its low quality.
2. *Effectiveness of the dissemination efforts in Nigeria.*
 - a. *Participants of the dissemination meeting: Were the right stakeholders engaged?* The stakeholders present at the research dissemination meeting were appropriate and relevant. There were 54 relevant personnel that participated in the dissemination meeting.
 - b. *Extent to which the dissemination efforts altered the perceptions and actions of targeted stakeholders*
 The findings from most stakeholders exposed to the research findings are categorised under; 1) Enlightened understanding of the Almajiri system; 2) Change in perception; and 3) Stakeholder actions.
 - i. *Enlightened understanding of the Almajiri system*
 The survey form was shared with 40 persons either in the media

organisation or a CSO. Of these, 12 valid responses were gathered. All reported that the research findings had enlightened them on the menace faced by the Almajiri children and how to address some of their concerns.

ii. **Change in perception**

It was found that most media officials interviewed were introduced to a new fact that changed their mindset towards the Almajiri system in Nigeria. These facts are; the estimates of the Almajiri children in Nigeria, factors supporting the Almajiri system and the challenges the Almajiri children are faced with on a daily basis.

iii. **Stakeholder actions**

Community awareness, advocacy and inclusion in project benefits had been some of the reported actions that have been taken by most CSOs interviewed. Media personnel got committed to reporting human angle stories of Almajiri children.

Recommendations applicable to ASI

1. **Clarity on roles and responsibilities:** It is critical for ASI to pre-define the extent to which they want to be involved in a project meant to be implemented by a partner at the project start-up stage. More so, the question of “what should be done at each project stage” is expected to be answered at the beginning of a project. Critical details such as the expectations of the report should be included in the ToR agreed with the consultant.
2. **Deepened involvement in the production of the research piece:** Leveraging on the backdrop of the first recommendation, the lesson is for ASI to get more involved in the decision-making roles.
3. **Development of communication plan:** It is recommended that a communication plan that will serve as a guiding document to inform “who is communicating”, “to whom” “when” and “how to communicate” is prepared before the project initiation stage.
4. It is pertinent to have the support of the government for a successful project. A high-level strategic advocacy is necessary with the public officials. This can be done through the local partners.
5. **Effective management of staff turnover:** It is recommended that the handover process should be strengthened by developing a detailed handover plan before any staff's exit. The handover plan should be detailed enough to have all tasks being managed, the status of each task, persons responsible to take over, relevant stakeholders on the project, project documents and communication plans.
6. **Expanded budget to accommodate travels and post-dissemination activities:** Having gathered common responses around budget constraints from most persons interviewed, it becomes a strategic effort to allow the budget allocated to research to be robust enough to accommodate travels to project locations as a quality measure of securing the project's process and outcome quality. This also promotes a sense of involvement in a project. Likewise, more budgets should be allocated to the advocacy and post-dissemination efforts for follow up and monitoring of actions being

implemented by stakeholders. This will promote a more strengthened relationship with stakeholders and commitment to carrying out targeted interventions based on the recommendations from the research.

Recommendations applicable to *CHRICED*

7. **Strengthened engagement with the lead partners:** It is recommended that CHRICED work more closely with the lead partner by consciously involving ASI as the project activity progresses and seeking ASI's opinion before executing any project decision, including financials.
8. **Deepened involvement in the reporting process with the research consultant and the lead partner.** It is pertinent for CHRICED to critically review and engage with the various versions of the research report to ensure ASI's (as the lead partner) comments are properly addressed.
9. **Improving on the dissemination efforts:** Promote a gender-balanced team, meeting participants or engagements. Likewise, more efforts should be made to have the physical presence of relevant public officials that can promptly influence decision-making around the research recommendations shared.
10. **Strengthened relationship with the public officials:** This is to emphasize the importance of engaging the public officials in a more strategic way. The collaboration and advocacy efforts with public officials should be heightened and more strategic to produce more results, as expected.
11. **Post-dissemination engagement and monitoring:** There exists a monitoring gap in the post-dissemination efforts. The follow-up efforts with the dissemination participants need to be improved upon. A monitoring plan for the post-dissemination effort should be developed and acted upon. This is to promote the implementation of the research recommendations. This gap was however attributed to the unclear roles of post-dissemination activities and inadequate funding.
12. **Disseminating research findings through infographic designs:** To promote the comprehension of the research findings and recommendations, infographic designs can be employed to convey the findings and recommendations in a quick-to-read format. This method will also promote the use of data for decision-making as public officials will be able to have access to the document with ease. This infographic document can be placed as a flex banner, hung on the office wall or somewhere suitable to enhance visibility.

The project: Combatting traditional descent based slavery and forced child begging and reintegrating former slaves in four west African countries

Project Background

In 2018, Anti-Slavery International (ASI) implemented a project, *Eradicating slavery practices in four West African States*, specifically concerning Descent-Based Slavery in Mauritania & Niger and Forced Child Begging in Nigeria and Senegal. The project encompassed 3 components and expected results (1) the increased propensity of the legal policies and systems to identify and protect those to slavery; (2) the increased propensity of society at large to reject the traditions and norms that perpetuate slavery; and; (3) the increased ability of slavery affected persons and groups to resist or extricate themselves from slavery situations as a result of personal empowerment and socio-economic and cultural conditions at the community level which are more conducive to emancipation. The project was funded by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) of the US Department of State.

Forced child begging in Nigeria is most noticeable among children who are taken far from home for Qur'anic and Islamic education. These children are usually known as Almajiri. While there are many out of school and street children in Nigeria (13.2 million and 15 million¹), it is estimated that about 9.5 million² of them are Almajiri children. These Almajiri can be found in every part of Nigeria but mostly in the Northern states which have a large population of Muslims. While efforts have been ongoing to make people aware that Almajiri and begging are discouraged by Islamic values and laws, the reality is that most people continue to see begging as a legitimate practice. This perception has constantly undermined the efforts of governments and other entities at stopping or reducing forced child begging. Numerous efforts have been undertaken in the last two decades to reduce the issues arising from child begging but there is very little sign of success.

The social problem posed by such massive numbers of children living on the streets of the major cities of the North has resulted in an intense debate about what to do to address the situation. In response, former President Jonathan Goodluck launched in 2010 the Almajiri School Project (also known as National Framework for the Development and Integration of Almajiri Education into the Universal Basic Education Scheme). The federal government built 89 model Almajiri primary schools in the 19 northern states in the country. Following the completion of these projects, the federal government handed the schools over to their respective state governments, but most of these schools would never open their doors. Indeed, the majority never became operational because of insufficient funding and lack of adequate monitoring of the programme.

¹ T.Y. Akintunde, S. Chen, Q. Di *Ethics Med Public Health*. 2020 July-September; 14: 100544. Published online 2020 Jun 10. doi: 10.1016/j.jemep.2020.100544 PMID: PMC7284266

² *InsideOver*. InsideOver; 2019. Nigeria's Almajiri children: abused, abandoned and brainwashed. <https://www.insideover.com/society/nigerias-almajiri-children-abused-abandoned-and-brainwashed.html> [accessed May 13, 2021]

In Nigeria, ASI partnered with the Resource Centre for Human Rights and Civic Education (CHRICED) to implement the project activities. CHRICED is a Nigerian registered independent non-profit organisation based in Abuja, committed to a democratic Nigeria where participation, inclusion and transparency are guaranteed, and state and non-state actors actively collaborate towards accountable and responsive use of resources for the collective wellbeing of Nigerians, peace and stability. CHRICED uses civic action, advocacy and outreach to mobilize vulnerable and marginalized population sectors, including youth, women and people living with disabilities, to engage with governance processes, protect their rights and be responsible citizens. The research is intended to not just profile Almajiri child begging but to also understand what efforts have worked and which ones haven't worked out well. Under the auspices of the project, ASI sought to understand the nature and effectiveness of Almajiri interventions to reduce forced begging by religious students in Nigeria. Nigeria is home to the highest number of Quranic students.

ASI worked with CHRICED to recruit a research consultant to lead the research efforts from planning to production of the research report. The primary aim of the research was to explore the nature of past and ongoing State and non-State interventions on the Almajiri issue, including a critical examination of what has worked and what has not worked. The research also explored the extent to which lessons learned in Senegal could be applied to the Nigerian context. The secondary aims of the research were; (1) to increase understanding amongst key stakeholders of the depth of the problem; (2) and to identify insights and detailed action points regarding ways forward. The evidence generated through the research was used to provide the framework for sustained and effective advocacy targeted at the drivers of forced child begging. The research activities were carried out in three States, one from each of the geo-political zones in northern Nigeria. Specifically, the study locations were in Borno (North-east), Kano (North-west), and Nasarawa (North-central) States. Of all the 36 states in Nigeria, including the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), the selected States are reported to have the highest prevalence of the Almajiri children³.

The mixed-methods research was employed to deepen the level of understanding of past and existing Almajiri interventions, the challenges facing the Almajiri in contemporary Nigeria and how these children can best be supported. The quantitative data collection tool involved the administration of questionnaires while Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and In-depth Interview (IDI) guides were used as the qualitative data collection tools. Approximately, 150 stakeholders, of different categories, were interviewed in each state. Considering the sensitivity of the project, the research respondents were purposely selected across the rural, semi-urban and urban communities within each state⁴. The research activities were implemented within the period of 6 months in 2019.

Furthermore, CHRICED organized a dissemination meeting in the Federal Capital City, Abuja, Nigeria. On Tuesday, November 24, 2020, the research report was formally presented to the

³ Culled from the project proposal

⁴ Culled from project proposal

media, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and public officials. At the meeting, the research findings and actionable recommendations were presented to all highlighted stakeholders.

The project evaluation

Having closed out the DRL-funded project in December 2020, ASI sought to assess the processes of implementation, the outcomes of the project and provide practical recommendations and learning for future research and dissemination initiatives. The scope of the evaluation was focused on the process by which the research piece was designed and implemented, and the results obtained from the advocacy and dissemination efforts to alter perceptions of targeted stakeholders.

Evaluation Objective

The aim of conducting a final evaluation was to assess how the research findings have combated forced child begging of Almajiri children in Nigeria.

Research Questions

The evaluation was guided by the following two sets of questions:

1. Relevance of the design and implementation of the research piece

- a. To what extent were all necessary preparations taken before the research piece was produced?
- b. To what extent were the right people involved in the research effort? How clear was the division of roles and responsibilities?
- c. How effective was the communication between partners throughout the research effort?
- d. How could the research process be improved?

2. Effectiveness of the dissemination efforts in Nigeria

- a. Did the implementing organization engage with the right stakeholders?
- b. To what extent have dissemination efforts altered the perceptions and actions of targeted stakeholders?
- c. How can the results of the dissemination efforts be enhanced, if at all?

Table 1: Project logical framework

Goal	National populations, governments and CSOs better understand and support measures to eradicate forced child begging in Nigeria		
Objective	Understand the nature and effectiveness of interventions to reduce forced begging by religious students:		
Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcome
a. Financial resources b. Human resources c. Time resource	a. Undertake research on the nature and effectiveness of State and non-State interventions in Nigeria and Senegal to reduce of forced begging by religious students b. Organize a national roundtable in Nigeria to disseminate research findings	Strong and up-to-date comparative research developed and published on effective interventions to reduce forced begging by religious students in Nigeria and Senegal -Research findings inform	Stakeholders and duty bearers adopt effective interventions to reduce of forced begging by religious pupils in Senegal and Nigeria

	<p>and recommendations to 45 State officials and other relevant regional stakeholders</p> <p>c Produce 3 policy briefings to disseminate the findings and recommendations to distinct strategic audiences</p> <p>d Undertake national, regional & international advocacy on forced-child begging to present the research report, exchange learning & promote adoption of recommendations.</p> <p>e Engage in learning exchanges and joint advocacy to strategic regional mechanisms</p>	<p>key national, regional and international advocacy messages</p> <p>- Key stakeholders and duty bearers at the national and regional levels are targeted with strategic advocacy messages based upon research findings and recommendations</p>	
Assumptions		External factors	
<p>People emerging from slavery participate meaningfully in project activities - Duty bearers and key stakeholders are supportive of improving the situation of people emerging from slavery - Local, national and international decision makers are open to changes to address slavery - Targeted members of the legal system, the media and the decision makers actively engage with project activities - Sector policy scenario is conducive to the effective implementation of human rights NGOs and CSOs program activities - Negligible impact of staff turnover on implementation - Communication channels within & between partner CSOs are kept open - Contractors complete work to the agreed time and standard</p>		<p>Government policy towards civil society & issue of slavery - Political volatility, civil unrest, such as during general elections in Nigeria - Other stakeholders' initiatives influence the policy environment - Wider economic scenario - A natural disaster, severe weather event or health pandemic, such as COVID</p>	

Evaluation methods and approaches

This evaluation study employed a mixed-methods research design that provides both breadth (via quantitative data) and depth (via qualitative data) to answer the evaluation questions. This approach was appropriate for the evaluation because it enhances data robustness and provides a platform to add a voice to study participants and ensure that evaluation findings are rooted in participants' experiences⁵.

Primary-source quantitative and qualitative data were supported with implementation information obtained through a document review. Together, these data better informed results and led to more nuanced recommendations by balancing a practical assessment of progress toward project outcomes.

Quantitative data was collected through a survey converted to Google form for virtual administration. These primary-source quantitative data reflect the information of media and

⁵ Jennifer Wisdom, Ph.D., (George Washington University) (jpwisdom@gwu.edu) and John W Creswell, Ph.D. (University of Nebraska, Lincoln).

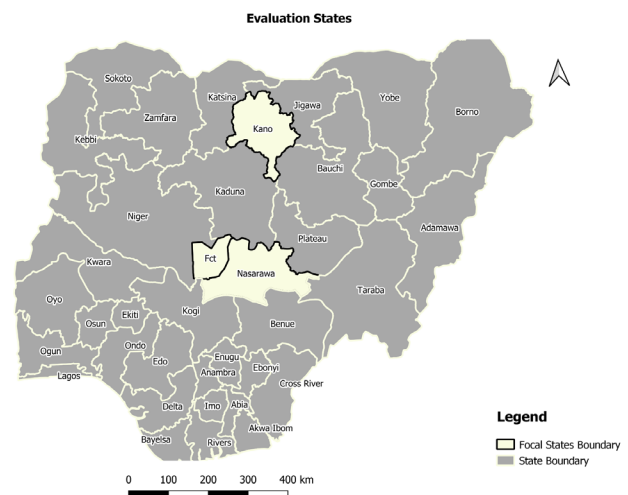
CSOs present during the dissemination meeting. The qualitative data was from a purposive sample of all categories of dissemination participants. Together, these data types better informed results and led to more nuanced recommendations by balancing a practical assessment of progress toward project outcomes.

Evaluation locations

This study was conducted across three States in Nigeria, each situated in the North east (Borno), Northwest (Kano) and North central (Abuja) zones of Nigeria. Northern Nigeria has suffered low school enrolment rate especially at the primary education sector⁶. The recurring attack from Boko Haram and other extremists' religious sects undermines efforts at improving education in the region⁷.

Borno state has an estimated population of 5,860,183⁸ out of which 788,615 are at the age of primary school attendees with 578,746 of those children out of school. Subsequently, the total population of children at the level of junior secondary age is set at 323,090 with 224,067 of that population out of school.

Kano is reported as the most populous state in Nigeria with an estimated population of 13,076,892 and was created in 1967. Kano has an estimated 1,822,366 number of primary age children and data shows 729,285 of those children are out of school. The population of children at junior secondary school age is 754,115 and 333,736 of those children are out of junior secondary school.



The FCT was created in 1976, it is located north of the confluence of the Benue and Niger River with an estimated population set at 3,278,000 while the total population of primary age children in Abuja as reported by the Nigeria Demographic Health Survey (2008) is 249,176 with 24,171 of those children are out of school.

Evaluation participants

The selection of respondents was purposive on the premise of “presence at the dissemination meeting” or “access to research findings post-dissemination”. There were 30 study participants⁹ grouped into six (6) categories, these are:

1. The media stakeholders
2. the Civil Society Organization (CSOs)
3. The Public Officials

⁶ <https://www.eajournals.org/wp-content/uploads/Effect-of-Boko-Haram-on-School-Attendance-in-Northern-Nigeria.pdf>

⁷ <https://www.eajournals.org/wp-content/uploads/Effect-of-Boko-Haram-on-School-Attendance-in-Northern-Nigeria.pdf>

⁸ National Bureau of Statistics, 2006 (<https://nigerianstat.gov.ng/download/474>)

⁹ Sample of evaluation participants is in Annex 10

4. Project team at Anti-Slavery International
5. Project Lead, CHRICED
6. The researchers
 - a. The research consultant
 - b. Academics

Evaluation tools

The evaluation tools¹⁰ were designed from the scope of work and the outputs of the desk review. The tools were validated by the evaluation team of ASI and the Project Lead at CHRICED.

1. **Desk review checklist:** [The Bond Evidence checklist](#) was adapted as the desk review guide to reflect on the quality of the research findings.
2. **Questionnaire (Google form):** An open-ended questionnaire was designed to capture the individual opinion and perception of the research piece and any change that has occurred as a result of their involvement in the dissemination meeting.
3. **Key Informant Interview (KII) guide:** This tool was designed to be respondent-specific, and it was used to provide insights around:
 - a. The process of designing and conducting the research piece, dissemination of research findings and
 - b. The change that has occurred in terms of perceptions and actions of targeted stakeholders on forced begging.
 - c. To explore the experiences of advocacies, efforts and actions undertaken by relevant stakeholders that reflect the recommendations of the research report.

Data collection

The evaluation consultant worked with CHRICED to identify relevant persons to be interviewed per category of participants. Data collection commenced on March 5 through April 30, 2021. Most interviews in Abuja were virtual while physical interviews were held in Kano state. All project documents were reviewed by the evaluation consultant. To ensure qualitative data accuracy, audio recordings were taken when respondents consented.

Demographics of the respondents

In this evaluation study, there were six (6) categories of respondents. The four (4) media personnel, 2 females and 2 males, interviewed, had relevant experience reporting stories of vulnerable groups, including the Almajiri children. These four were present during the dissemination meeting organized by CHRICED to present the research findings and actionable recommendations. Three (3) CSOs were interviewed, each of them committed to promoting the wellbeing of children in different forms. Two of these were present during the dissemination meeting, while one had access to the research findings post-dissemination meeting. There were three public officials who participated in the evaluation study; these are the duty-bearers in the Human Rights Commission, Kano, Hisbah Board, and the Quaranic and Islamiyya School Management Board. These respondents were not present

¹⁰ All evaluation tools are found in Annexes 1-7

during the dissemination meeting but had access to the research findings through the policy briefs produced by CHRICED.

The research consultant who championed the course of the research activities was interviewed with two additional academics working as Faculty staff in Nigerian Universities. The opinion and thoughts of implementing partners, ASI, and CHRICED, were captured through this study. Four (4) project staff from ASI and one (1) project staff from CHRICED were interviewed.

Ethical considerations

All study participants were duly informed on the purpose of the research and the reasons they are being selected as one of the respondents. More so, participation was voluntary with an assurance of confidentiality.

COVID 19

All COVID-19 preventive procedures were adhered to during the evaluation study. Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) such as face masks and hand sanitizers were utilized consistently. In situations of physical interviews, a physical distance of 2 meters was observed.

Data Management

Analysis: Data analysis was guided by ASI's results framework and evaluation questions. The qualitative data was analyzed manually by themes to organize, analyze and find insights from the qualitative discussions. The quantitative data was analyzed using the Google spreadsheet to conduct descriptive analysis.

Study Limitations

This evaluation study has four substantial limitations; these are:

1. The extent to which an intervention contributed to a subsequent action was not clear. The extent to which the actions of other stakeholders are directly attributable to the report was not measurable as there could be some other interventions the participant might have been exposed to. To reduce the effect of this, the data collection tools were designed to be specific on the research intervention and the dissemination meeting.
2. The research and dissemination effort being assessed was implemented a while ago, (Research was in 2018/2019, and dissemination was in November 2020). Hence, it was quite challenging for some research participants to share their thoughts on how the research findings had an impact on their perception and/or their day-to-day work. Though it was a little difficult to manage, the design of the research instruments took care of lapses in memory recall by the probing of some questions that can serve as checks on the responses provided.
3. Most participants were represented from Kano and Abuja. However, most persons interviewed had their work tentacles spread across Borno and more northern states such as Kaduna, Nasarawa, Adamawa and Yobe states.

4. It was quite challenging to hold interview sessions with public officials. It was either they had pressing priorities or they had little or no interest in being involved in the evaluation. The impact of this was an extension of the project timeline.

Findings

Relevance of the design and implementation of the research piece

The relevance of the research piece was weighed from the lens of four research questions, thus findings are presented based on each research question under this theme. The targeted respondents under this theme are the funding and implementing partners. It can be deduced from the findings that the adopted research design that was implemented for the intervention under review was suitable and appropriate. At the start-up stage, project documents with detailed direction of the research course were prepared by ASI and shared with CHRICED. These documents guided the implementing partner, CHRICED, to execute their tasks, especially, in the aspect of recruitment, coordination of the dissemination meeting and the advocacy efforts.

Indicators

Appropriateness

*Going by the Bond principles' checklist, the principle or indicator on **appropriateness** was used to track the relevance of the project design. The appropriateness score was used to justify the nature and purpose of intervention, data collection methods, samples, skills of the research team to deliver quality work and the systematic way of analyzing data. Upon the review of the project documents and the findings from the primary sources, the overall **appropriate score for this project is 75%**. This meets the "good standard" defined by Bond.*

Relevance of design and implementation piece:

*The desk review checklist was also used to determine the performance of the project based on the recruitment process, quality of ToR, research plan, methods applied, the data collection tools and inclusiveness of relevant stakeholders at all stages. The overall **relevance score is 73%**. This is slightly below the target (75%) set for this evaluation variable.*

Preparing for the research piece: Extent to which all necessary preparations were taken before the research piece was produced

The review of all relevant project documents, such as, the project proposal, logical and results framework, recruitment process of the consultant and the terms of reference (ToR) agreed upon with the research consultant, revealed that all necessary preparations were taken before the production of the research piece.

The call for a research consultant was open to all persons interested through Job hunt websites. Consequent to the review of all applicants' resumes, CHRICED reported to have given the opportunity to the most suitable researcher. The selected research consultant has a robust profile, gathered for over two decades, in research, project management, data analysis, and monitoring and evaluation.

However, this study found that the quality of the ToR prepared was low. This is because the ToR agreed upon was not explicit on some pertinent details such as the reporting format, page limitation, report style and the font size.

ASI and CHRICED's involvement in the research production process: How clear was the division of roles and responsibilities?

Given the type of research that was conducted, both ASI and CHRICED were involved in the recruitment of the research consultant, most especially at the project-start up. At the period of the research start-up in 2018, the Project Manager from ASI traveled to Nigeria, for a meeting with CHRICED. During the meeting, the recruitment of the research consultant was established through the review of the applicant's profile, resume, and oral interview. The output of ASI's presence in Nigeria was the ToR that was designed for the selected consultant. In addition, the research plan was agreed upon and approved for field work.

However, it was found that ASI's position in the recruitment process was more from the advisory angle while CHRICED was more involved in decision-making (selecting the candidate). ASI posits that their involvement in the research production was not defined prior to their engagement with CHRICED, thus the boundary of their roles was not clear enough and that if it was, their involvement would have gone beyond advisory functions.

"... the Project Manager, let's just say, provided advice and guidance rather than really being involved in the recruitment, from like one advisory capacity rather than really being part of the decision-making team" -- ASI project Team

To some extent, the roles and activities to be conducted by CHRICED were articulated in the project proposal and the logic model prepared by ASI. Examples of the clear roles of CHRICED include the recruitment of the research consultant and organization of the dissemination meeting. The unclear role of CHRICED was around the post-dissemination activities. CHRICED believed that the measures to take to foster actions and change in perceptions were not clearly defined in the project concept. Likewise, during the period of report, the research consultant became unclear of the expectations of ASI.

"CHRICED was the coordinator of the research project including the recruitment of the Lead Researcher, organising planning meetings and supervising the research to ensure it is in line with the agreed milestones"... Project Lead, CHRICED

In summary, ASI's role in the development of the research piece was not defined in the ToR executed with the research consultant. Thus, the extent to which ASI should be involved in the production of the research piece was not known.

CHRICED, to some extent, was clear of their deliverables. But the post-dissemination activities were bleak in the ToR.

The research consultant was not clear about the reporting expectations from ASI. It was also found that the quality of report expected from the consultant was not stated in the ToR. However, those expectations were shared on repeated occasions when we fed back to the consultant and CHRICED after receiving the initial version, but they were not taken into consideration and all subsequent versions failed to address the core of ASI concerns.

Communication between ASI and CHRICED during the research production: How effective was it?

The communication between ASI and CHRICED at the project kick-off can be described as engaging. After the physical inception meeting in Abuja, subsequent engagements of ASI with CHRICED and the research was virtual, mostly through emails, Whatsapp calls or messages. During the data collection period, ASI was mostly checking up with CHRICED and the research consultant to understand the progress made in the field.

However, a gap in communication began to emerge after the first draft of the research report was produced. This study revealed some factors that beset the communication effectiveness, these are; (1) The Project Lead from ASI left the organization at a critical time; this led to an organisation capacity challenge for a while, thus it took ASI about six months to provide feedback on the first draft of the report, (2) The desk review outputs also showed that the undertone of the comments ASI team made on the report draft produced by the consultant were too blunt (3) ASI did an extensive review of the research report, involved 3-4 persons to review the report collaboratively because of its low quality and the lengthiness of the report. Furthermore, ASI reported that the research consultant did not incorporate all the feedback and comments made by ASI. On the contrary, the research consultant reported to have incorporated all comments to the best of his knowledge. At this point in time, however, the consultant was reported to have been paid the entirety of his consultancy fees. CHRICED attributed this act to the retracted period of ASI, moreso, the contract period between CHRICED and the consultant had expired. After lots of unproductive engagements between ASI, CHRICED and the consultant, ASI came to the conclusion that the only option to finalise the report before project completion was to use its own resources and budget to recruit a new consultant to restructure and rework the whole report. It is also worthy of note that the research consultant was not comfortable with the disposition of ASI, CHRICED and ultimately, the recruitment of another consultant to finalise the report.

"I wrote the first report after the data collection, and it was 144 pages, but a reduced page was requested by ASI through CHRICED. I was reluctant and later compressed the report, but I made it clear that the whole essence of the research may be lost in the other pages that were not accepted. I later realised that money was paid to another researcher to write a final report using my own findings."

The Research Consultant

Notably, ASI owned to the point that the breach in communication was, to some extent, due to the personnel turnover. The MEL Manager, in charge of overseeing the piece of research

at ASI had left the organization at a critical stage of the project, and the Africa Programme Coordinator left on sabbatical leave a few weeks later. This posed a challenge of organization capacity to continue with the pace of communication. However, when a new ASI staff was engaged early in 2020, the frequency of communication with CHRICED improved, and more importantly, the issues around the research draft were eventually resolved.

“...but I have to say that from the moment we had the Africa coordinator, she was managing the relationship, the partnership with CHRICED, so we had that more support internally and it also made a big difference because she was there and doing the follow up and had to turn to really nurture the partnership with CHRICED, so for me I have really seen the difference and I have seen how the partnership and the communication got better” ... ASI Team

Effectiveness of the dissemination efforts in Nigeria

The dissemination efforts organised by CHRICED in Nigeria were assessed on the basis of “involving the right stakeholders”, “change in perception” and “actions on recommendation”. Selected persons present during the dissemination meeting or exposed to the research findings through email, hard copy or policy briefs were interviewed.

The stakeholders present at the research dissemination meeting were appropriate and relevant. However, the physical presence of public officials would have made the dissemination efforts more significant. However, CHRICED shared the research findings with the public officials by sending the hard copy to the respective work stations. In addition, the public officials were reached through the policy briefs.

Indicator data:

of relevant stakeholders involved in the research dissemination

54 participants

- 14 females, 40 males
- 30 media personnel
- 19 CSOs
- 5 Academics

of actions taken by relevant stakeholders that reflect the recommendations of the research report

Survey responses (Table 1)

6 actions from CSOs

2 actions from media

1 action from a public official

Qualitative responses (Table 3)

The type of actions included awareness of the research findings, targeting Almajiri as

project beneficiaries, reference document for advocacy, and policy reformation

Participants of the dissemination meeting: Were the right stakeholders engaged?

There was robust coverage of the public presentation by Nigeria's national media including newspapers, television stations, radio, and online blogs. The public presentation of the report was also attended by the representative of the Executive Secretary of the National Human Rights Commission, who expressed readiness to work with CHRICED to explore some of the sustainable solutions suggested in the report. Other government agencies and institutions like the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) and the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme, sent in their messages of good will, just as they also declared readiness to work with CHRICED to actualize the objectives of the report.

Aside from the media, other organizations, which participated at the public presentation include; the Nigeria Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs, the Nigeria Union of Journalists, and Amnesty International (AI) among others. Stakeholders from across the states, who were not present at the public presentation of the report, received hard copies, which were mailed to their various offices. Those reached with hard copies of the report in Kano, Borno and Nasarawa State; include the Executive Governors, Attorney-Generals and Commissioners of Justice in the States, the State Universal Basic Education Boards (SUBEBs), Sharia Commissions, and the traditional rulers in the target states. The Attorney-General in Nasarawa state acknowledged the report by commending the efforts deployed to produce the research piece. He further stated that the research findings were shared at a critical point where decisions about the Almajiri children are to be made in the state.

CHRICED Secretariat also extensively shared a soft copy of the report through online versions that were circulated via emails. The hard and soft copies circulated were accompanied by cover letters, which articulated the objectives of the research project as well as providing an overview of how the findings of the research report would contribute to finding sustainable solutions to the problem of forced child begging in Northern Nigeria. Copies of the report were also presented to top directors and producers in some of Nigeria's biggest media networks. This presentation has paved the way for CHRICED to be invited to talk shows on these media platforms, which have an audience reach running into tens of millions.

The research data shows that the presence of the media personnel at the dissemination meeting was significant to the spread and reach of the research findings. All media personnel interviewed had written stories around the research findings either through the print, radio or TV media¹¹. The CSOs reported to have had enlightened knowledge on the situations surrounding the Almajiri children and most importantly, the research findings had revealed ways they can better work with the Almajiri children.

¹¹ Evidence of media reports in Annex 11

In addition to the research consultant that was interviewed, two academics were included as the evaluation participants. These were part of the research production process and dissemination meeting. Their experience in research, data management and support of data-driven policies are quite extensive and utilized as a support system during the research process.

Extent to which the dissemination efforts altered the perceptions and actions of targeted stakeholders

All respondents were asked to highlight how the research findings had facilitated any change in their perception, knowledge and actions taken to promote the well-being of the Almajiri children in Nigeria after being exposed to the research findings. The findings from most stakeholders exposed to the research findings are categorized under; 1) Enlightened understanding of the Almajiri system; 2) Change in perception; and 3) Stakeholder actions.

1. Enlightened understanding of the Almajiri system

Twelve of 40 participants working in a CSO or media organization present at the dissemination meeting or who had access to the research findings after the dissemination meeting responded to the survey that elicited information on the impact of the dissemination meeting on their knowledge, perception and the work they do. All attested to have had an improved knowledge of the Almajiri system. The stakeholders interviewed reportedly had improved understanding of the Almajiri system. For some CSOs, the research findings corroborated their existing knowledge of what the Almajiri system is in Nigeria.

“It (the research findings) made us understand the gravity of the problem, and gave us awareness to improve our programme on OVC-targeted areas mostly in the North.”
Male and Female staff, Caritas Foundation

“Now it has helped us to know as a donor organisation that it's an area we should focus more on to facilitate child's rights for northern children”.
Male staff, Donor organization, Abuja, Kano

2. Change in perception

Findings from the data gathered from this study shows that the research dissemination meeting had its effect on the participants, especially the media and CSOs personnel. It was found that most media officials interviewed were introduced to a new fact that changed their mindset towards the Almajiri system in Nigeria.

“... the people in the Southern part of the country perceive the Almajiris as children that do not deserve public empathy, but after the dissemination of the findings, I know some people who now realize that it is not the children's fault, it's because of the conflict issue in the North and the poor economic development in that region. Male staff, Journalist for Democratic Right

“Yes! It did change my perception about the Almajiri system. Formally, I used to feel that their parents just send them out, I never knew that they even have scholars who they work for, like you know, they go to Islamic schools and then some of the Islamic scholars send them out not necessary their parents because it is surprising to me that somebody could leave her children on the care of someone else and the person will have the right to send them out go begging. ... For me, I would like to speak to some of these Islamic scholars to know why they really do that, I know that they have their reasons but you know and maybe their parents too”

Media personnel, Abuja

The change in perception has enabled media personnel to strengthen the awareness of the menace the Almajiri children are faced with in Nigeria. The awareness was raised through the TV, radio and online blogging platforms. The media personnel all referred to the dissemination meeting as enlightening and most got insights on the stories that can be brought to the fore.

“...first of all, it was very enlightening for me, because they were a lot of facts in the report which I didn't know about before For me personally, it encouraged me to do more reports ... and then bring out issues of human rights concerning these children. Before now, I didn't have such zeal to do reports about Almajiri children but after their findings, I didn't have a copy of the book, after reading, I have done a feature story on this, I have spoken some persons like child right at some NGO who talk about child right, just trying to buttress and expose more of what these children go through on daily basis:

Media personnel, Abuja_____

3. Stakeholder actions

The research findings shared during the dissemination meeting had caused some stakeholders to implement interventions and actions to promote the welfare of the Almajiri children in the north. Some CSOs had used the research findings to conduct advocacies to get the buy-in of policy makers and elites in the society while some became intentional at targeting Almajiri children as their project beneficiaries. In addition, media personnel had reported more stories of the Almajiri children after being exposed to the research findings.

“I attended a regional committee of some northern elites on the Almajiri issues, it was at the committee level, I made reference to the research findings for advocacy”

Male staff, Almajiri Child's Right Initiative

“In our OVC programs for Northern Nigeria, we now have an understanding to include Almajiri children in our beneficiaries. Now in Adamawa and Borno States our team specifically look out for Almajiri children to add as our beneficiaries, although they are not as many as they are in States like Kano and Kaduna but,

we still look out for them and most especially the Internally-displaced children due to the Boko Haram Insurgency. “Also in Cross-river State, we have incorporated the IDP children into our OVC programs to provide education for them.”... Male and Female staff, Caritas Foundation, Abuja

To some extent there was some clear change of perception, some of the stakeholders who collected the data are my students in the ‘Law and Legal Issue’ Department, studying Masters in Development Studies, and they came reporting that the research is influencing policy change in Kano.

- *The government started registering all Almajiri schools before the schools were allowed to admit the Almajiri boys.*
- *The government insisted that any Almajiri school that will receive the Almajiris must register with the government. Initially the schools were on their own without any registration under the Government.”*

Faculty staff, Bayero University Kano, Nigeria

Table 2: Stakeholder actions by category (responses from Google form)

s/n	Type of actions	Type of respondent	Recurring
1	Advocacy and enlightenment campaign	CSO	2
2	Community mobilization	CSO	1
3	Enlightening Teachers of Almajiri and their parents not to send the youngest boy into Almajiranci.	CSO	1
4	I have reported the event and also reporting similar event to combat the menace	Media	1
5	Letting the people know the impact of sending children to the street in the name of begging or Almajiri which leads to the current security challenges.	CSO	2
6	A recommitment to the larger aspirations of Universal Basic Education (UBE) and it's more specialised Almajiri Education Program (2010), while incorporating lessons from earlier missteps, Development of further infrastructure and welfare facilities to support educational programming in areas where children have been neglected	Public official	1
7	The actions are in the areas of combating the old Almajiri system and inculcating the need for wider coverage of the 2010 Almajiri education system.		1

Table 3: Stakeholder actions by category (responses from in depth interviews)

s/n	Category of stakeholder	Type of action	Means of verification/Quotes
1	Media	Reports more stories on Almajiri children	Annex 11
2	CSOs	Almajiri children are intentionally targeted as project beneficiaries in Borno and Adamawa states	Quote from transcript
		Reference document for advocacy	<i>"I had made reference to the document to discuss the past interventions for the Almajiri children..."</i> <i>Almajiri Child's Right Initiative</i>
4	Public Officials	Public awareness	<i>...For Awareness our Hisbah Buses go to their respective Local Islammiya Schools to meet their Local Malams to create awareness on the repatriation process. we have visited radio stations to make several announcements on the matter and some radio Journalists.</i> <i>Hisbah Board, Kano</i>
5	Implementing partner	Employment of Quranic Mallams	<i>Policy makers tweaked key processes at the heart of the abuse of Almajiri children. Kano State for instance employed Quranic Mallams for the Almajiri integrated schools, while Borno is taking similar action</i> <i>Project Lead, CHRICED</i>

Conclusion

This evaluation study was aimed at assessing how the research findings have combated forced child begging of Almajiri children in Nigeria. The evaluation criteria were based on relevance of the research design and the effectiveness of the dissemination efforts by the implementing partners in Nigeria. Summarily, findings suggest that the research design was appropriate and to a great extent, all necessary documents were prepared before the project start-up. However, the roles and expectations from the research consultant, as it relates to the research report, were not clearly defined in the ToR. In addition, the communication between ASI, CHRICED and the research consultant was not effective during the period of drafting the research report. In addition, the research findings were shared with relevant stakeholders, most especially, the media organizations, who undertook some actions toward raising more awareness of the research findings to a larger audience.

Best Practices

ASI best practices

1. Development of relevant documents (Proposal, Logical framework, Monitoring Evaluation and Learning plan)
2. ASI's presence in Nigeria at project start-up
3. Receptive to the concerns of CHRICED during project implementation
4. Professional management of the reporting output by contracting another consultant to finalize the research report
5. Project evaluation

CHRICED best practices

6. Adherence to project scope
7. Development of comprehensive policy briefs
8. Leveraged on existing partnerships with relevant media organizations

Recommendations and lessons learned

Action points applicable to ASI

1. **Clarity on roles and responsibilities:** Based on the responses from ASI, CHRICED, and the research consultant and project document reviews, it was deduced that some challenges encountered during the production of the research piece emanated from lack of predefined roles, responsibilities and reporting expectations in the ToR agreed upon. This challenge, to a large extent, affected the effectiveness of communication and quality of report produced. On this basis;
 - a. It is critical for ASI to pre-define the extent to which they want to be involved in a project meant to be implemented by a partner at the project start-up stage. The defined involvement and roles should be documented in the ToR shared with the implementing partner and agreed upon. Roles of "who is recruiting", "who approves the recruitment process", "who designs the ToR", "who will execute the ToR", and "who will supervise the research" should be clearly defined and documented.
 - b. More so, critical details such as the expectations of the report should be included in the ToR agreed with the consultant. The question of "what should be done at each project stage" is expected to be answered at the beginning of a project.
 - c. If there is going to be a change in project scope or expectations whilst the project has begun, it is important that all concerned parties are carried along by organizing a meeting to promote mutual understanding and agreement on the changes made.
2. **Deepened involvement in the production of the research piece:** Leveraging on the backdrop of the first recommendation, it was also clear from the data gathered through this evaluation study that the involvement of ASI should go beyond the supervisory role by also influencing decision-making at all stages of the research production. The lesson gleaned from the evaluation data is the improved understanding on how ASI can get more involved in the decision-making roles. This

facilitates the definition and designation of roles and responsibilities on a project. Nonetheless, it is expedient that lead partners allow implementing partners to have a sense of ownership of the project from start-up to project close-out stage.

3. **Development of communication plan:** Findings from this evaluation study revealed that there was no communication plan between ASI and CHRICED. It is recommended that a communication plan that will serve as a guiding document to inform “who is communicating”, “to whom” “when” and “how to communicate” is prepared before the project initiation stage.
 - a. An important learning to consider whilst reviewing a report is to utilise words that will convey the clear message of concern or instruction in an acceptable and respectful way. During the desk review, it was found that the undertone of the comments made by the ASI team on the first draft of the report was disturbing. This was confirmed by the research consultant who was not comfortable with the disposition of the report review process.
4. The buy-in and commitment of the government on any project is critical to the success of it. It is recommended that a high-level strategic advocacy is made with the public officials. This can be done through the local partners. The purpose of the research project must be shared with them; their opinion on the research objectives should be sought and considered, where applicable. There should be a periodic report of the research progress shared with the public officials before its completion. This act will promote a sense of ownership, thus more support and opportunities to act on the research findings and recommendations.
5. **Effective management of staff turnover:** One of the determining factors of the communication gap was the exit of the Lead Project at ASI at a critical time. It is recommended that the handover process should be strengthened by developing a detailed handover plan before any staff's exit. The handover plan should be detailed enough to have all tasks being managed, the status of each task, persons responsible to take over, relevant stakeholders on the project, project documents and communication plans.
6. **Expanded budget to accommodate travels and post-dissemination activities:** Having gathered common responses around budget constraints from most persons interviewed, it becomes a strategic effort to allow the budget allocated to a research project to be robust enough to accommodate travels to project locations as a quality measure to secure the project's process quality. This promotes a sense of involvement in a project. Likewise, more budgets should be allocated to the post-dissemination efforts for follow up and monitoring of actions being implemented by stakeholders. This will promote a more strengthened relationship with stakeholders and commitment to carrying our targeted interventions based on the recommendations from the research.

Action points applicable to CHRICED

7. **Strengthened engagement with the lead partners:** It is recommended that CHRICED should work more closely with the lead partner by consciously involving ASI as the

project activity progresses and seeking ASI's opinion before executing any project decision, including financials.

8. Deepened involvement in the reporting process with the research consultant and the lead partner. It is pertinent for CHRICED to critically review and engage with the various versions of the research report to ensure ASI's (as the lead partner) comments are properly addressed.
 - a. Maintain effective and ongoing communication with the researcher
 - b. Validate all financial variances and authorizations with the lead partner before executions
9. **Improving on the dissemination efforts:** Going by the participants at the dissemination meeting, it was found that there was no gender-balance. It is recommended that CHRICED should be intentional in having a gender-balanced audience. Likewise, more efforts should be made to have the physical presence of relevant public officials that can promptly influence decision-making around the research recommendations shared. A stakeholder mapping analysis can be done prior to the engagement. All identified stakeholders can be engaged with high-level advocacy strategies that will endear them to the objectives of the project.
10. **Post-dissemination engagement and monitoring:** There exists a monitoring gap in the post-dissemination efforts. There were little or no follow-up efforts with the dissemination participants to ensure the research recommendations were acted upon. This gap was however attributed to the unclear roles of post-dissemination activities and inadequate funding.
11. **Strengthened relationship with the public officials:** The collaboration and advocacy efforts with public officials should be heightened and more strategic to produce more results, as expected.
12. Because the culture of reading is poor in most developing countries, there is a need to adopt another method of accessing research findings with ease and on time. To promote the comprehension of the research findings and recommendations, infographic designs can be employed to convey the findings and recommendations in a quick-to-read format. This method will also promote the use of data for decision-making as public officials will be able to have access to the document with ease.

Annexes

Annex 1: Desk review guide/checklist

Combatting Traditional Descent Based Slavery and Forced Child Begging and Reintegrating Former Slaves in four West African countries: Nigeria data collection tool

Anti Slavery International (ASI) and The Resource Centre for Human Rights & Civic Education (CHRICED)

Desk review checklist to ascertain research relevance

Highest possible score under relevance is 45

Highest possible score under Appropriateness is 16

0-15 - Poor performance

16-25 : Fair performance

26- 35: Good performance

36 - 45: Very good performance

Relevance score = 33/45 (73) = Good performance (Evaluation target)

Appropriateness score = 12/16 (75%) = Good standard (Bond Principle)

s/n	Review variables	Planned score	Actual score	Result
1	The recruitment process	5	5	5/5
a	<i>Open recruitment process</i>	1	1	
b	<i>Availability of recruitment criteria</i>	1	1	
c	<i>Selected candidates were all interviewed</i>	1	1	
d	<i>Final selected candidate performed best</i>	1	1	
e	<i>At least, 2 references with professional and or academic background</i>	1	1	
2	ToR (one answer is applicable)	5	4	3/5
a	<i>The ToR was comprehensive enough to provide deliverable clarity and roles</i>	5	-	
b	<i>The ToR detailed on the deliverables</i>	3	3	
c	<i>The ToR was partially detailed on the deliverables</i>	3	-	
3	Candidates Profile	5	5	5/5
a	<i>At least, 5 years of experience in research</i>	5	5	

b	<i>Candidate has relevant (child's rights) experiences in conducting researches (at least 2)</i>	3	-	
4	The research plan (one answer is applicable)	5	3	3/5
a	<i>A detailed research plan was prepared before data collection</i>	5	-	
b	<i>A scanty research plan was prepared before data collection</i>	3	3	
c	<i>There was no research plan</i>	0	-	
5	Clarity of roles (one answer is applicable)	5	3	3/5
a	<i>Roles of both partners were defined and clear to both partners</i>	5	-	
b	<i>Roles of both partners were not clearly defined</i>	3	3	
6	Data collection tools (one answer is applicable)	5	3	3/5
a	<i>The data collection tools were piloted and was used to update the research tools</i>	5	-	
b	<i>The data collection tools were piloted, no evidence</i>	3	3	
7	The research respondents (one answer is applicable)	5	5	5/5
a	<i>All research respondents were relevant to the study</i>	5	5	
b	<i>Some research respondents were relevant to the study</i>	3	-	
c	<i>Some research respondents were not relevant to the study</i>	0	-	
8	Communication between ASI and CHRICED (one answer is applicable)	5	3	3/5
a	<i>Effective communication through-out the project timeline</i>	5	-	
b	<i>Effective communication at some point in the project timeline</i>	3	3	
c	<i>Poor communication during project timeline</i>	0	-	
9	Inclusiveness of stakeholders (one answer is applicable)	5	3	3/5
a	<i>Relevant stakeholders were involved in the research piece at the planning stage through the advocacy stage</i>	5	-	
b	<i>Relevant stakeholders were involved in the research piece at the planning stage through dissemination</i>	3	3	
c	<i>Relevant stakeholders were involved in the research piece at the planning stage through the post-dissemination stage</i>	4	-	
10	Appropriateness	16	12	16/12

a	<i>Are the data collection methods relevant to the purpose of the enquiry and do they generate reliable data?</i>	4	3	
b	<i>Is the size and composition of the sample in proportion to the conclusions sought by the enquiry?</i>	4	3	
c	<i>Does the team have the skills and characteristics to deliver high quality data collection and analysis?</i>	4	3	
d	<i>Are the data analysed in a systematic way that leads to convincing conclusions?</i>	4	3	

Annex 2: Semi-structured interview guide for ASI/CHRICED and the research consultant

Combatting Traditional Descent Based Slavery and Forced Child Begging and Reintegrating Former Slaves in four West African countries: Nigeria data collection tool

Anti Slavery International (ASI) and The Resource Centre for Human Rights & Civic Education (CHRICED)

Semi-Structured Interview Guide for ASI, CHRICED and the Research Consultant

Tool Number: ASI/CHRICED/001

Interview Date:

Sn	Names of Respondents	Sex	Designation	Organization	Tel No	Email address

Interview Type: (e.g. in-person; Tel; Zoom)

Interview Method: (IDI; KII; Group Interview; FGD; Story Telling (for Case Studies))

Interviewer:

Note-taker:

Interview location:

Introduction -

Thank you very much for accepting our invitation to participate in this interview. I am the evaluation consultant hired to assess the project, eradication of slavery practices and it encompasses work in four West African countries, Nigeria in this context.

The evaluation is focused solely on the components of the project targeting Nigeria, for which the implementing partner is CHRICED. The work in Nigeria includes researching interventions to reduce forced child begging and disseminating findings with key stakeholders.

Before I begin, I want to let you know that any information or examples we discuss during this interview will not be attributed directly to any specific person except where they showcase good practice and with the express permission of the respondent's organization. Please feel free not to respond to any of our questions or to stop the interview at any time. The interview will take about 45 minutes. With your permission, I would like to record this conversation to enable us to capture your views correctly. I will also like to take photographs of the interview session for the purposes of the report. Please do you have any questions for me?

Please do we have your consent to proceed? If Yes – Proceed; If No – End the Interview

Questions

- i. Relevance of the design and implementation of the research piece**
 - a. Briefly describe your understanding in the anti-slavery project implemented by CHRICED/
 - b. Briefly describe your involvement in the production of the research piece?
 - c. Briefly describe the steps involved in the production of the research piece?
Probe for specific steps in the:
 - a. ToR developed (request for ToR to be shared)
 - b. recruiting the researcher
 - c. designing the research plan
 - d. the methods utilised in carrying out the research piece
 - e. data collection
 - f. supervision of field work
 - g. data analysis

- h. collaboration with other researchers/CSOs
 - i. role of other researchers/CSOs partnered with
 - d. How would you describe the communication between partners through-out the research effort?
- ii. Effectiveness of the dissemination efforts in Nigeria**
 - a. What is your opinion on the type of stakeholders engaged during the dissemination efforts in Nigeria?
 - a. appropriateness of stakeholders
 - b. What would you describe as the change that has occurred as a result of the research findings and recommendations shared with stakeholders?
 - a. probe for change in perception among stakeholders and
 - b. efforts/actions carried out by stakeholders present at the dissemination meeting towards combating forced begging among children
 - c. What is the plan to have the efforts sustained?
- iii. Challenges**
 - a. What in your view and experience, are the challenges with the production of the research piece?
 - b. What in your view and experience, are the challenges with the implementation of the dissemination efforts?
 - c. How can these challenges be addressed?
- iv. Lessons Learned –**
 - a. What are the key lessons learned with regards to the implementation of the research piece
 - b. What are the key lessons learned with regards to the conduct of the results dissemination?
- v. Recommendations**
 - a. In practical terms, briefly describe how the research process can be improved?
 - i. What was done well?
 - ii. What should be done differently?
 - b. In practical terms, how can the results of the dissemination efforts be enhanced, if at all?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND INSIGHTS

Annex 3: Semi-Structured Interview Guide for Media Personnel
Combatting Traditional Descent Based Slavery and Forced Child Begging and Reintegrating Former Slaves in four
West African countries: Nigeria data collection tool

Anti Slavery International (ASI) and The Resource Centre for Human Rights & Civic Education (CHRICED)

Semi-Structured Interview Guide for Media Personnel

Tool Number: ASI/CHRICED/002

Interview Date:

Sn	Names of Respondents	Sex	Designation	Organization	Tel No	Email address

Interview Type: (e.g. in-person; Tel; Zoom)

Interview Method: (IDI; KII; Group Interview; FGD; Story Telling (for Case Studies))

Interviewer:

Note-taker:

Interview location:

Introduction -

Thank you very much for accepting our invitation to participate in this interview. I am the evaluation consultant hired to assess the project, eradication of slavery practices and it encompasses work in four West African countries, Nigeria in this context.

The evaluation is focused solely on the components of the project targeting Nigeria, for which the implementing partner is CHRICED. The work in Nigeria includes researching interventions to reduce forced child begging and disseminating findings with key stakeholders.

Before I begin, I want to let you know that any information or examples we discuss during this interview will not be attributed directly to any specific person except where they showcase good practice and with the express permission of the respondent's organization. Please feel free not to respond to any of our questions or to stop the interview at any time. The interview will take about 45 minutes. With your permission, I would like to record this conversation to enable us to capture your views correctly. I will also like to take photographs of the interview session for the purposes of the report. Please do you have any questions for me?

Please do we have your consent to proceed? If Yes – Proceed; If No – End the Interview

Questions

1. **Relevance of the design and implementation of the research piece**
 - a. How have you been involved in the anti-slavery project implemented by CHRICED?
Probe:
 - i. Briefly describe how you were involved during the dissemination of research findings meeting?
2. **Effectiveness of the dissemination efforts in Nigeria**
 - a. How has the knowledge of the research findings contributed to your work?
 - b. In the past one year, what efforts/actions have you carried out as a result of your presence at the research dissemination meeting?
Probe:
 - i. media reports on forced begging through the Almajiri system
 - ii. Awareness or sensitization efforts to combat forced begging through the Almajiri system
 1. What is the plan to have the efforts sustained?
 - c. What would you describe as the change that has occurred as a result of the research findings and recommendations shared with stakeholders?
 - i. probe for change in perception among media personnel present at the dissemination meeting towards combating forced begging among children
3. **Challenges**
 - a. As a media personnel, what in your view and experience, are the challenges involved in the implementation of the research recommendations?
 - b. How can these challenges be addressed?
4. **Lessons Learned –**
 - a. What are the key lessons learned whilst trying to implement actions that will combat forced begging through the Almajiri system
5. **Recommendations**
 - a. In practical terms, briefly describe how the dissemination efforts could be improved to promote implementation of recommendations
 - i. What went well?
 - ii. What can be done differently?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND INSIGHTS.

INTERVIEWER NOTES

Include any comments, impressions or important information about the person interviewed or interview process.

Annex 4: Semi-Structured Interview Guide for CSO/Partners

Combatting Traditional Descent Based Slavery and Forced Child Begging and Reintegrating Former Slaves in four West African countries: Nigeria data collection tool

Anti Slavery International (ASI) and The Resource Centre for Human Rights & Civic Education (CHRICED)

Semi-Structured Interview Guide for CSOs/partners

Tool Number: ASI/CHRICED/003

Interview Date:

Sn	Names of Respondents	Sex	Designation	Organization	Tel No	Email address

Interview Type: (e.g. in-person; Tel; Zoom)

Interview Method: (IDI; KII; Group Interview; FGD; Story Telling (for Case Studies))

Interviewer:

Note-taker:

Interview location:

Introduction -

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Please do we have your consent to proceed? If Yes – Proceed; If No – End the Interview

Questions

1. Relevance of the design and implementation of the research piece

- a. How have you been involved in the anti-slavery project implemented by CHRICED?

Probe:

- i. Briefly describe how you were involved during the dissemination of research findings meeting?

2. Effectiveness of the dissemination efforts in Nigeria

- a. How has the knowledge of the research findings contributed to your work?

- b. In the past one year, what efforts/actions have you carried out as a result of your presence at the research dissemination meeting?

Probe:

- i. advocacy efforts targeted at combating begging through the Almajiri system

- ii. Awareness or sensitization efforts to combat forced begging through the Almajiri system

1. What is the plan to have the efforts sustained?

- c. What would you describe as the change that has occurred as a result of the research findings and recommendations shared with stakeholders?

probe for change in perception among CSOs present at the dissemination meeting towards combating forced begging among children

3. Challenges

- a. What in your view and experience, are the challenges involved in the implementation of the research recommendations?

- b. How can these challenges be addressed?

4. Lessons Learned -

- a. What are the key lessons learned whilst trying to implement actions that will combat forced begging through the Almajiri system

5. Recommendations

- a. In practical terms, briefly describe how the dissemination efforts could be improved to promote implementation of recommendations

- i. What worked well?

- ii. What should be done differently?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND INSIGHTS.

INTERVIEWER NOTES

Include any comments, impressions or important information about the person interviewed or interview process.

Combatting Traditional Descent Based Slavery and Forced Child Begging and Reintegrating Former Slaves in four West African countries: Nigeria data collection tool

Anti Slavery International (ASI) and The Resource Centre for Human Rights & Civic Education (CHRICED)

Semi-Structured Interview Guide for Public officials

Tool Number: ASI/CHRICED/004

Interview Date:

Sn	Names of Respondents	Sex	Designation	Organization	Tel No	Email address

Interview Type: (e.g. in-person; Tel; Zoom)

Interview Method: (IDI; KII; Group Interview; FGD; Story Telling (for Case Studies))

Interviewer:

Note-taker:

Interview location:

Introduction -

Thank you very much for accepting our invitation to participate in this interview. I am the evaluation consultant hired to assess the project, eradication of slavery practices and it encompasses work in four West African countries, Nigeria in this context.

The evaluation is focused solely on the components of the project targeting Nigeria, for which the implementing partner is CHRICED. The work in Nigeria includes researching interventions to reduce forced child begging and disseminating findings with key stakeholders.

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Please do we have your consent to proceed? If Yes - Proceed; If No - End the Interview

Questions

1. Relevance of the design and implementation of the research piece

- a. How have you been involved in the anti-slavery project implemented by CHRICED?

Probe:

- i. Briefly describe how you were involved during the dissemination of research findings meeting?

2. Effectiveness of the dissemination efforts in Nigeria

- a. How has the knowledge of the research findings contributed to your work?

- b. In the past one year, what efforts/actions have you carried out as a result of your presence at the research dissemination meeting?

Probe:

- i. Policy change targeted at combating begging through the Almajiri system
ii. Awareness or sensitization efforts to combat forced begging through the Almajiri system
iii. Press briefs etc

1.

- c. What would you describe as the change that has occurred as a result of the research findings and recommendations shared with stakeholders?

- i. Policy change targeted at combating begging through the Almajiri system
ii. change in perceptions and beliefs towards the Almajiri system in Nigeria
1. What is the plan to have the change(s) sustained?

3. Challenges

- a. What in your view and experience, are the challenges involved in the implementation of the research recommendations?
b. How can these challenges be addressed?

4. Lessons Learned –

- a. What are the key lessons learned whilst trying to implement actions that will combat forced begging through the Almajiri system

5. Recommendations

- a. In practical terms, briefly describe how the dissemination efforts could be improved to promote implementation of recommendations
i. What worked well?
ii. What should be done differently?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND INSIGHTS.

INTERVIEWER NOTES

Include any comments, impressions or important information about the person interviewed or interview process.

Combatting Traditional Descent Based Slavery and Forced Child Begging and Reintegrating Former Slaves in four West African countries: Nigeria data collection tool

Anti Slavery International (ASI) and The Resource Centre for Human Rights & Civic Education (CHRICED)

Semi-Structured Interview Guide for Academics/researchers

Tool Number: ASI/CHRICED/005

Interview Date:

Sn	Names of Respondents	Sex	Designation	Organization	Tel No	Email address

Interview Type: (e.g. in-person; Tel; Zoom)

Interview Method: (IDI; KII; Group Interview; FGD; Story Telling (for Case Studies))

Interviewer:

Note-taker:

Interview location:

Introduction -

Thank you very much for accepting our invitation to participate in this interview. I am the evaluation consultant hired to assess the project, eradication of slavery practices and it encompasses work in four West African countries, Nigeria in this context.

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Please do we have your consent to proceed? If Yes - Proceed; If No - End the Interview

Questions

1. Relevance of the design and implementation of the research piece

- a. Briefly describe your involvement in the production of the research piece?
- b. Briefly describe the steps involved in the production of the research piece?

Probe

- i. the methods utilised in carrying out the research piece
- ii. data analysis

2. Effectiveness of the dissemination efforts in Nigeria

- a. What would you describe as the change that has occurred as a result of the research findings and recommendations shared with stakeholders?
 - i. probe for change in perception towards combating forced begging among children

3. Challenges

- a. What in your view and experience, are the challenges with the production of the research piece?
- b. What in your view and experience, are the challenges with the implementation of the dissemination efforts?
- c. How can these challenges be addressed?

4. Lessons Learned -

- a. What are the key lessons learned with regards to the implementation of the research piece?
- b. What are the key lessons learned with regards to the conduct of the results dissemination?

5. Recommendations

- a. In practical terms, briefly describe how the research process can be improved?
- b. In practical terms, how can the results of the dissemination efforts be enhanced, if at all?
 - i. What worked well?
 - ii. What should be done differently?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND INSIGHTS.

INTERVIEWER NOTES

Include any comments, impressions or important information about the person interviewed or interview process.

Annex 7: Questionnaire for Media Personnel/CSOs

[Google form shared with CSOs and Media](#)

Annex 8: Project logical framework

Objective			
National populations, governments and CSOs better understand and support measures to eradicate forced child begging in Nigeria			
Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcome
<p>a .Financial resources b. Human resources c. Time resource</p>	<p>Understand the nature and effectiveness of interventions to reduce forced begging by religious students:</p> <p>a. Undertake research on the nature and effectiveness of State and non-State interventions in Nigeria and Senegal to reduce of forced begging by religious students b Organize a national roundtable in Nigeria to disseminate research findings and recommendations to 45 State officials and other relevant regional stakeholders c Produce 3 policy briefings to disseminate the findings and recommendations to distinct strategic audiences d Undertake national, regional & international advocacy on forced child begging to present the research report, exchange learning & promote adoption of recommendations. e Engage in learning exchanges and joint advocacy to strategic regional mechanisms</p>	<p>Strong and up-to-date comparative research developed and published on effective interventions to reduce forced begging by religious students in Nigeria and Senegal</p> <p>-Research findings inform key national, regional and international advocacy messages</p> <p>- Key stakeholders and duty bearers at the national and regional levels are targeted with strategic advocacy messages based upon research findings and recommendations</p>	<p>Stakeholders and duty bearers adopt effective interventions to reduce of forced begging by religious pupils in Senegal and Nigeria</p>
Assumptions			External factors
<p>People emerging from slavery participate meaningfully in project activities - Duty bearers and key stakeholders are supportive of improving the situation of people emerging from slavery - Local, national and international decision makers are open to changes to address slavery - Targeted members of the legal system, the media and the decision makers actively engage with project activities - Sector policy scenario is conducive to the effective implementation of human rights NGOs and CSOs program activities - Negligible impact of staff turnover on implementation - Communication channels within & between partner CSOs are kept open – Contractors complete work to the agreed time and standard</p>			<p>Government policy towards civil society & issue of slavery - Political volatility, civil unrest, such as during general elections in Nigeria - Other stakeholders’ initiatives influence the policy environment - Wider economic scenario - A natural disaster, severe weather event or health pandemic,</p>

	such as COVID
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Annex 9: Project’s results framework

[Results framework](#)

Annex 10: Data collection matrix

Evaluation tool	Targeted stakeholders	Sample size	Data source
Questionnaire (Google form)	Media personnel exposed to the research findings	1	Primary
	CSOs exposed to the research findings	11	
Semi-structured interview guide	CHRICED project staff members	1	
	ASI project focal persons	4	
	The research consultant	1	
	Public officials exposed to the research findings	3	
	Academics/researchers/scholars exposed to the research findings	2	
	Leaders of CSO coalitions exposed to the research findings	3	
	Media experts/leaders exposed to the research findings	4	

Desk review guide	Documents reviewed: Terms of Reference for the Lead Consultant CV Research plan Research report Logical framework Monitoring plan Policy briefs Dissemination report		Secondary
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Annex 11: Media links to reports (actions)

1. <https://guardian.ng/news/centre-urges-northern-govs-to-curb-forced-child-begging/>
2. <https://www.blueprint.ng%2Fngo-tasks-fg-govs-on-plights-of-almajirai/>
3. <https://www.leadership.ng%2Fout-of-school-children-threat-to-nigerias-future/>
4. [NATIONAL: Abandoned children will return to haunt society, warn activists - Naija Times](#)
5. <https://www.nigeriansketch.com-almajiri-too-are-children-of-nigeria-their-rights-ought-to-be-protected/>
6. <https://www.guardian.ng%2Fnews%2Fchriced-decries-hoarding-of-covid-19-palliatives/>
7. <https://nnn.ng/ngo-charges-northern-governors-on-child-begging/>
8. <https://globalsentinelng.com/2020/11/24/chriced-makes-case-for-almajiri-children-of-nigeria/>
9. <https://platinumpost.ng/2020/11/24/northern-states-attacking-rights-of-almajiri-children-chriced/>
10. <https://nigeriansketch.com/almajiri-too-are-children-of-nigeria-their-rights-ought-to-be-protected/>
11. <https://www.blueprint.ng/rights-group-tasks-fg-governors-on-plights-of-almajiri/>
12. <https://www.dailynews24.ng/2020/11/25/almajirai-right-ought-to-be-protected-human-rights-activist/>
13. [Centre urges northern governors to act ‘permanently’ on Almajiris null | Dailytrust](#)
14. [Almajiri: A festering wound in the era of COVID-19 - The Nation Nigeria \(thenationonlineng.net\)](#)
15. [‘Out-of-School Children Threat To Nigeria’s Future’ \(leadership.ng\)](#)