

**UNLOCKING
JUSTICE**
— & —
SERVICE DELIVERY
2018 Annual Report

WHO WE ARE

Transparency Information Technology Initiative (TransparencIT) is a civic technology organization working to control corruption and accelerate justice and service delivery by enhancing transparency and active participation in Nigeria using open data sets and tech tools to empower citizens with information on judicial proceedings and public services to demand social accountability, adherence to rule of law and institutional reforms.

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Our Core Values

- **Professionalism**
- **Accountability**
- **Innovation**
- **Teamwork**
- **Discipline**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“
TransparencIT, which started as project in 2016 was formally registered as incorporated trustee with Corporate Affairs Commission. The organization also secured her first grant from TrustAfrica to advance her cause of promoting justice delivery in Nigeria.

”

The year 2018 was a stepping stone and an interesting one – TransparencIT, which started as project in 2016 was formally registered as incorporated trustee with Corporate Affairs Commission. The organization also secured her first grant from TrustAfrica to advance her cause of promoting justice delivery in Nigeria. This progress evolved in line with our commitment and objectives to ensure an open justice system and efficient service delivery.

In 2018, TransparencIT had a retreat and developed a 5-year strategic action plan to guide its operations. It has similarly launched its first website with open database on corruption cases in Nigeria which continued to offer citizens the opportunity to track the cases and serve as source of data for researchers. This is in addition to our continued work to simplify public information to increase citizens knowledge and participation for improved service delivery.

The organization has tracked 737 corruption cases in 2018 and has reached 5.8 million people via public policy dialogues, radio programs and social media. It has also designed and shared 813 simplified infographics on corruption cases proceedings

and convictions; procedures of public service delivery; analysis on Presidential Executive Order on Preservation of Suspicious Assets, Corruption and Financial Crime Cases Trial Monitoring Committee (COTRIMCO), Transparency International’s Corruption Perception Index; assets recovered by anti-corruption agencies and many others.

Additionally, we have extended our partnership with Enough is Enough Nigeria and built new partnership with Kaduna State Media Corporation to widen our media engagement and the Governance Lab of New York University.

In achieving our core objective of open justice, we encounter challenges of access to information which is limited to some judiciaries and we are constrained by such limitation due to non-domestication of Freedom of Information Act in some States. Furthermore, the challenge of limited resources prevents us from sending personnel to all courts for tracking of proceedings. We, however, obtained information of some proceedings mainly from secondary sources.

The year has brought new lessons and insights which we aim to apply in 2019 and beyond.

OPEN JUSTICE

Tracking Corruption Cases in Nigeria

TransparencIT's Open Justice project aims to follow up on corruption cases that are ongoing in various courts to determine the status of the cases, length of trial and pattern of proceedings. The project seeks to reduce delays in trials and ensure full compliance with the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) 2015 in order to improve efficiency and ensure speedy conclusion of such cases.

In addition to tracking the cases and monitoring compliance, the project also sensitize and educate citizens on the provisions of ACJA and increase citizens participation in judicial processes by empowering them with information on judicial proceedings and upcoming corruption cases in a simplified and appealing format.

The project is being implemented at the national level, covering the prosecution of corruption cases at Federal and State High Courts, Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.

In the year 2018, TransparencIT has tracked 737 corruption cases in courts, out of which 103 convictions were secured by the anti-graft agencies representing 13.9% of total cases tracked, 9 cases were concluded without conviction, and 1 case was withdrawn. About 67% of the cases at Federal and FCT High Courts fall below average compliance with the Administration of Criminal Justice Act 2015, while 13% fall below average compliance with Administration of Criminal Justice Laws for States that have domesticated the legislation.



737

Court cases tracked.



103

Convictions were secured from the total cases tracked.



9

Cases were concluded without conviction



1

Case was withdrawn



OPEN JUSTICE

Observation Report from Monitoring Corruption Cases

TransparencIT has in 2018 documented its observations in tracking corruption cases including violations to Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) 2015 and developed a report with recommendations which was forwarded to the National Judicial Council (NJC). TransparencIT invited the NJC to review the recommendations and implement them for speedy disposal of corruption cases in courts.



Participants at a Public Policy Dialogue on Corruption Cases and Administration of Criminal Justice Act Compliance.

OPEN JUSTICE

Tracking Corruption Cases in Nigeria

Public Policy Dialogues on Corruption Cases and Compliance to ACJA

Within the year under review, we have organized two Public Policy Dialogues (PPD) on Corruption Cases and Compliance to Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) in Kano and Lagos States. The PPD drew participants from various stakeholder-organizations and civil society groups who identified challenges and causes of delays in trials of corruption cases from their perspective and experience, evaluated roles of stakeholders and developed a recommended framework for improving the efficiency of court processes, for citizens to monitor corruption cases and for stakeholders to reduce delays in trials and improve efficiency.

Kano State

The Public Policy Dialogue on Corruption Cases in Kano was held at K-Suites Hotel. The dialogue was conducted in two panel sessions with relevant stakeholders. The first panel discussed the challenges in the prosecution of corruption cases in Nigeria. The discussants in the panel

were drawn from the Kano State Public Complaints and Anti-Corruption Commission; the State Ministry of Justice; Code of Conduct Bureau; Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Commission; Economic and Financial Crimes Commission as well as the Nigerian Police Force. The second session was on the processes involved in the trial of corruption cases in compliance with ACJA. Stakeholders on the panel involved representatives from the Nigerian Bar Association, Civil Society, Federal High Court, Kano Division, and the State Public Prosecution Department.

Lagos State.

In Lagos State, the Public Policy Dialogue which was held at Civic Hive drew discussants from various organizations including Nigerian Bar Association; the State Ministry of Justice; Nigeria Police Force; anti-graft agencies and other legal practitioners representing law firms handling corruption cases.



2

Public Policy Dialogues on Corruption Cases in Kano & Lagos States held



5

Technical sessions conducted



120

Stakeholders participated



2

Recommended frameworks for improving efficiency of courts developed

OPEN JUSTICE

Participants At Our PPD



SERVICE WATCH

Empowering Citizens With Information on Public Services

The Service Watch project launched in the last quarter of 2018 with the aim of enhancing service delivery by checking malpractices of front-line service providers and empowering citizens with information on where and how to access public services as a weapon against corruption.

Under this project, we have simplified into infographics information on procedures of reporting corruption to anti-corruption agencies, paying taxes, obtaining drivers' licence and international passport. These infographics have been shared with the public and have helped solved some issues of poor service delivery, especially with Road Safety (FRSC) organization.

15

Infographics shared on public services

07

Service delivery issues resolved with Road Safety

04

Public service institutions visited and engaged on quality service delivery.

03

Partnerships on tackling poor service delivery established



MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS Online and Offline



Over **4** million impressions were created online through our corruption cases monitoring activities.



Over **1** million citizens were reached via our weekly radio program "corruption cases monitor".



Over **810** infographics on court proceedings & other reports were shared on our platforms reaching millions



Over **63** data request were received and responded to in 2018.

In the year under review, TransparencIT has reached over 5.8 million people through online and offline activities. The organization's tweets and posts have gained over 4 million impressions online, engaged 526 people directly offline, and over 1 million listeners via radio programs based on partnership with Kaduna State Media Corporation.

TransparencIT radio program, launched in the last quarter of 2018, titled 'Corruption Cases Monitor' which aired weekly created awareness, stimulated citizens' interest and participation in the judicial processes, especially in following up high profile cases as evidenced by the increasing number of call-ins during the radio programme, number of hits on our website and visitors we engaged in productive discussion at our office.

TECHNICAL PARTNERSHIPS & Collaborations

The Governance Lab, New York University, US

In 2018, the Governance of Lab of New York University collaborated with TransparencIT and incorporated its open justice project as a case study and module in a self-paced Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Open Justice. The course is designed to aid people developing open justice projects to advance their work and strategies for using technology, especially data, to increase efficiency, improve equity, fight corruption and enhance legitimacy in the justice sector.

Enough is Enough (EiE) Nigeria

As a result of the attitudes of counsels, through delay tactics in the trial of corruption cases, by means of filing frivolous applications and raising irrelevant objections, TransparencIT in collaboration with Enough is Enough (EiE) Nigeria published details of some high-

profile corruption cases lingering in the docket of judiciary.

These publications were featured in a reputable national daily; 'ThisDay Newspaper' in order to initiate and generate conversation around the creation of special court for speedy trial of corruption cases. It was also intended to create awareness and facilitate the elimination of delay tactics employed by counsels of Politically Exposed Persons. Our collaboration and partnership has made members of the public and other stakeholders to stay up-to-date on such cases whose counsel employ delay tactics to prolong them thereby making the public to forget about the cases and the prosecuting bodies to loose interest and move on to other upcoming high-profile cases.



In 2018, TransparencIT had four productive partnerships with The Governance Lab of New York University, US, Enough Is Enough Nigeria, Open Government Partnership (OGP) Local, Kaduna and Connected Development to further its advocacy on open justice and quality service delivery.

TECHNICAL PARTNERSHIPS

Website of Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Open Justice by The GovLab in which TransparenIT project was incorporated as a case study and module.

The screenshot shows the GovLab website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a search bar and the GovLab logo. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb "Projects > Open Justice" is visible. The main heading is "Open Justice". A descriptive paragraph states: "A comprehensive 10-module course in Spanish and English to train public officials on how to use new technologies to improve the judicial system." On the left side, there are four filter categories: "GOVERNANCE AREA" with "National Governance" selected; "INSTITUTION TYPE" with "Public Sector / Courts" selected; "INNOVATIVE CAPABILITY" with "Open Data", "Crowdsourcing", and "Expert Networks" selected; and "PRODUCT CATEGORY" with "Training", "Coaching & Mentoring", and "Strategy" selected. On the right side, under the heading "BACKGROUND", there is a paragraph of text: "Open justice is a growing movement to use new technologies, including big data, digital platforms, blockchain and more, to improve our legal system by making the workings of our legal institutions easier to understand and scrutinize. The term describes the use of new technology to foster data transparency, courtroom openness, and public engagement in order to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and legitimacy of the courts and promote better public policy. Because of these new technologies and tools, the opportunity for more diverse people to make improvements to the judicial system has never been greater."

■ <http://www.thegovlab.org/project-open-justice.html>

TECHNICAL PARTNERSHIPS & Collaborations

Open Government Partnership

Due to our advocacy on transparency and accountability in governance, our organization has become part of the Technical Working Group (TWG) in the Implementation of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Local, Kaduna. We are working with other stakeholders for full implementation of open contracting data standards in public sector procurement in Kaduna State.

Connected Development (CODE)

TransparenclT has strengthened an existing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Connected Development (CODE), a non-governmental organization in the civic tech space

working towards empowering marginalized communities. CODE is an organization which we share mutual interests in open governance, ensuring effective implementation of public data dissemination and good service delivery to citizens.

In 2018, we received the Executive Director of CODE, Hamzat Lawal in our office and discussed areas of mutual interest for amplifying good governance and promoting service delivery.



INFOGRAPH

ADVERTISEMENT



NIGERIA'S NEVER ENDING CORRUPTION CASES

High profile Nigerians have adopted the tactic of hiring good lawyers to stall corruption cases in court. The Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Walter Onnoghen on September 18, 2017 directed all heads of courts to designate a special court to try corruption cases in their jurisdiction. It is hoped that the special courts will be established immediately to hasten the trial of high profile corruption cases.

A sample of cases involving former government officials show some have been on trial for **11 years!**

ACCUSED PERSON	ALLEGED OFFENCE	YEAR OF FIRST ARRAIGNMENT/ LENGTH OF TRIAL (YEARS)
 JOSHUA DARIYE Governor, Plateau State (1999-2007)	N1.16bn Diversion of Ecological Funds	2007 11yrs
 JOLLY NYAME Governor, Taraba State (1999 - 2007)	N1.64bn Money Laundering	2007 11yrs
 ORJI UZOR KALU Governor, Abia State (1999 - 2007)	N3.2bn Money Laundering	2007 11yrs
 IBRAHIM TURAKI Governor, Jigawa State (1999 - 2007)	N36bn Money Laundering	2007 11yrs
 RASHEED LADOJA Governor, Oyo State (2003 - 2007)	N4.7bn Money Laundering	2008 10yrs
 ATTAHIRU BAFARAWA Governor, Sokoto State (1999 - 2007)	N15bn Money Laundering	2009 9yrs
 ABDULLAHI ADAMU Governor, Nasarawa State (1999 - 2007)	N15bn Money Laundering	2010 8yrs
 GBENGA DANIEL Governor, Ogun State (2003 - 2011)	N211.3mn Money Laundering	2011 7yrs
 DANJUMA GOJE Governor, Gombe State (2003 - 2011)	N25bn Money Laundering	2011 7yrs
 CHRISTOPHER ALAO-AKALA Governor, Oyo State (2007 - 2011)	N11.5bn Money Laundering	2011 7yrs
 ADEYEMI IKUFORJI Speaker, Lagos State House of Assembly (2011 - 2015)	N553mn Scam	2012 6yrs
 FAROUK LAWAN Member, House of Representatives (1999 - 2015)	\$620k Bribery	2013 5yrs

Source: TransparencIT Nigeria

TECHNICAL PARTNERSHIPS

List of high-profile corruption cases lingering in Courts published in ThisDay Newspaper of May 6, 2018 to galvanize citizens support to demand judicial accountability.

From the list, two former Governors of Plateau and Taraba States, Sen. Joshua Dariye and Jolly T. Nyame were convicted of corruption offences after eleven (11) years of trial.

TECHNICAL PARTNERSHIPS

Connected Development (CODE) visit to
TransparencIT Office in Kaduna



From left: Kingsley Uche (CODE Project Officer), Fatima Mohammed (TransparencIT Program Officer), Saied Tafida (TransparencIT Development Officer), Zaliha Abdulhamid (CODE Chapter Lead, Kaduna), Hamzat Lawal (CEO of CODE), Joy Una (CODE Staff) Fahad Sani Abdallah (TransparencIT Programs Manager)

TRAINING, SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

Capacity Building

Training on the Use of Corruption Case Monitoring Template for the Monitoring of High-Profile Cases

TransparencIT, being a stakeholder in tracking and monitoring of corruption cases in Nigeria attended a training on the Use of Corruption Cases Monitoring Template which was organized by the Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption (PACAC) with the support of the Nigerian Anti-Corruption Fund of MacArthur, Ford and OSIWA in collaboration with the EU Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Project on Nigeria which is being implemented by the British Council. The training provided a platform for TransparencIT to share its experiences towards building a comprehensive Corruption Cases Monitoring Template.

Invitation to Training on Monitoring and Evaluation in Basic Education Governance

Connected Development (CODE) with

support from MacArthur, organised a training and extended invitation to TransparencIT to attend the third round of training for increasing capacity on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E).

Seminar on Understanding the Interface Between Cryptocurrency and Money Laundering

TransparencIT attended the aforementioned seminar organised by the Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption (PACAC) for developing a policy and technical guide on effective legislations, regulations and mechanisms for the criminal justice and the legislature to tackle risks and challenges associated with virtual currencies.



TRAINING, SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

Capacity Building

5

Training/seminars were attended.

8

Staff were trained.

Workshop on the UK Unexplained Wealth Order (UWO)

Our organization participated in a roundtable which was done to sensitize stakeholders on UWO which enables the UK government to probe questionable wealth and confiscate assets whose funding are illegitimate. The workshop was organized by PACAC in collaboration with UK National Crime Agency and DFID.

International Conference on Combating Illicit Financial Flows and Enhancing Asset recovery to Foster Sustainable Development

The Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption invited TransparencyT to a 2-day international conference on combating illicit financial flows and enhancing asset recovery to foster sustainable development. The conference canvassed for specific strategies to

prevent corruption, diminish illicit financial flows, evaluate the role of middlemen and facilitators and how they can be held accountable.

What is Next

The year 2018 has presented us with opportunities to learn and benefit from training and partnerships with other stakeholders. We have learnt the art of advocacy and impacting lives and these will form the core part of our 2019 activities in line with our strategic action plan.



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