



PACKING PROJECT

Protection of migrants and Asylum seekers, in particular women and Children from Nigeria and victims of humans traffiCKING

Localisation: Nigeria, Libya, France

Partners: Girls Power Initiatives (Nigeria), French Institute for Research in Africa—IFRA (Nigeria), Mercy Wings Organization (Libya), National Centre for Scientific Research—CNRS (France), les Amis du Bus des Femmes (France)

Project duration: 2 years (2017-2018)

Budget: 496 000 euros

Primary funder: European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights of the European Commission



CONTEXT

NGOs and the media report the growing number of children (mainly girls) and women migrating from Nigeria to Europe. Influenced by the distorted idea they have of young Nigerian girls' life in Europe -who appear on social networks with material assets- and under the pressure of their communities and their families, they get into the hands of criminals who recruit and exploit them. During transit, they face undignified living conditions. They cross Niger and Libya, then the Mediterranean Sea. They are forced into prostitution and exposed to violence in these places of passage. In Libya, it is extremely frequent for them to be sent in places of deprivation of liberty where they are victims of mistreatment, rape, repeated violence... When they arrive in Europe, most of them are already victims of a criminal network who exploits them from their country of origin and will continue through coercive strategies, keeping them in a situation of exploitation.

In France and in Europe, the victims do not ask for protection and/or do not denounce the persons who exploit them because they are afraid of reprisals against them or their families. The lack of information on these networks make the identification and the comprehension of the protection needed by the victims difficult.

OBJECTive of the project

PACKING project aims at preventing and eradicating human rights violations against migrants and asylum seekers, especially children and women coming from Nigeria, and at risk or victims of trafficking in human beings.

In order to prevent and sensitize to human trafficking, to provide assistance to victims and to give information on the mechanisms of recruitment of the victims in Nigeria and their power abroad to improve the protection of the victims provided in France and in Europe, the PACKING project is implemented in three countries:

- Nigeria, country of origin of victims
- Libya, country of transit of victims
- France, country of destination of victims



ACTIVITIES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Result 1: *Migrants or potential migrants, especially children and women from Nigeria, understand the risks linked to migration and the difference with trafficking, know where to find help and are supported in case of voluntary repatriation*

- Nigeria: **Prevention through peer education activities** for in-school children in rural/remote areas in Nigeria on the risks linked to migration and the situation of victims of trafficking
- Nigeria: Creation and diffusion of a **Facebook campaign** regarding migration and trafficking, targeting girls living in Edo state, especially in rural areas
- Libya: Elaboration of **brochures** in English, French and Arabic for migrants in Libya, especially for Nigerian children and women, to inform them about their rights and the risks related to their migration
- Libya: Assistance to children and women in Libya who are requesting a **voluntary repatriation** to Nigeria in collaboration with the Nigerian Embassy and IOM

Result 2: *The civil society and the local authorities in Nigeria and Libya have a better understanding of the situation of migrants and the risks of trafficking and facilitate the prevention of the risks and their protection in case of abuse (thanks to financial support to third parties)*

- Nigeria: **Awareness campaigns for community members** through film screening and radio programs in Edo Central Senatorial district in Nigeria
- Libya: **Awareness sessions to Human rights associations and the civil society** regarding the situation of migrants and especially children and women coming from Nigeria and victims of trafficking
- Nigeria - Libya - France: **Support to projects** to prevent child trafficking in Nigeria and to assist migrants in Libya through financial support to third parties (creation of short videos regarding the situation of children coming from Nigeria to support the awareness campaign and the Facebook campaign, projects to reduce the vulnerability of children to trafficking in Nigeria...)

Result 3: *The stakeholders contributing to the trafficking of human beings of Nigerian children and women, their roles and their interactions are better identified in order to improve the protection provided to victims in Europe (through asylum particularly) in contributing to a better evaluation of the risks of persecution in case of return*

- Nigeria - France: **Research** on the neo-traditional temples, the women's groups and the cultist groups in Edo State and their links to criminal networks involved in trafficking of human beings
- France: **Dissemination conference** on the results of the research with participants from the local authorities and the civil society in Europe and Nigeria

PARTNERS



AU NIGÉRIA

Girl's Power Initiative (GPI) :

Nigerian NGO founded in 1993 to face up obstacles encountered by girls in Nigeria and to empower them.

French Institute for Research in Africa (IFRA) :

French non-profit research institute established since 1990 in Nigeria to promote social science research in Nigeria and the subregion.



EN LIBYE

Mercy Wings

Organisation (MWO) :

Libyan NGO set up in 2013, MWO fights against human trafficking and dignity of migrants mainly through awareness-raising activities. MWO is allowed to intervene in Libyan detention centers.



EN FRANCE

Les Amis du bus des Femmes : community-based NGO working for and with sex workers. The association also works on how to struggle human trafficking.

National Center of scientific research (CNRS) :

public research organisation.



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