

MANTRA REPORT

ON THE

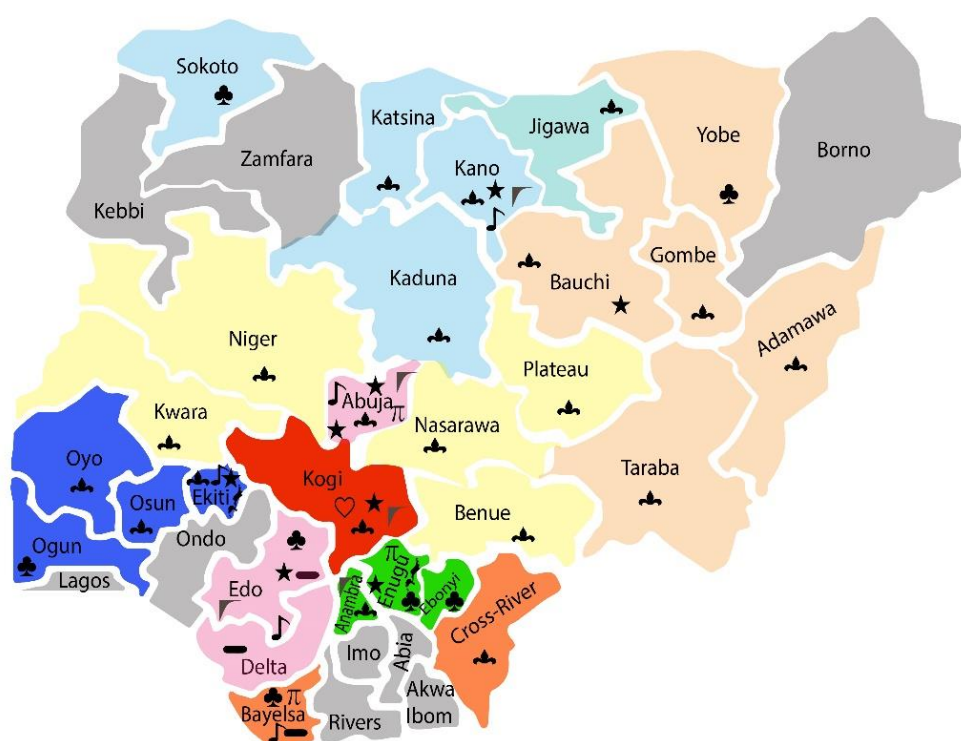
DISBURSEMENT OF THE RECOVERED

\$322.5 MILLION

ABACHA LOOT

DECEMBER 2019

ACORN MANTRA PROJECT GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE



ANE EJ/PARTNERS COVERAGE STATES

- NATIONAL ANE EJ, B/C & FCT
- NW - CHRICED KANO
- NE - FAWOYDI BAUCHI
- NC - CSJ ABUJA
- SW - NISD EKITI
- SE - CIRDDOC ENUGU
- SS - BANGOF BAYELSA
- NC - SERDEC KOGI
- YET TO REACH STATES
- ★ LOCATION OF PARTNERS IN THE REGION

MANTRA ACTIVITIES

- States where monitoring, advocacy and training took place (19 + FCT)
- Advocacy in states where monitoring exercise was not conducted
- Workshop/training in states where monitoring exercise was not conducted
- Stakeholders engagement/meeting
- Policy dialogue
- Town hall meeting for religious leaders
- Dissemination events
- Public lecture on anti-corruption

AS AT DECEMBER, 2019
 NO OF STATES REACHED = 28
 NO OF YET TO REACH STATES = 9
TOTAL STATES: 36 + FCT

Background

It is estimated that Nigeria loses about **40%** of its national wealth to corruption and corruption-related mismanagement. ^[1]

Nigeria lost about **\$40.9 billion** through illicit financial flows between 2001 and 2010. ^[2]



Switzerland authorities returned **\$322.5 million** to Nigeria

under the framework of an MOU specifying that the funds should be spent on the poor and vulnerable through social safety net programmes and monitored by civil society groups in the country

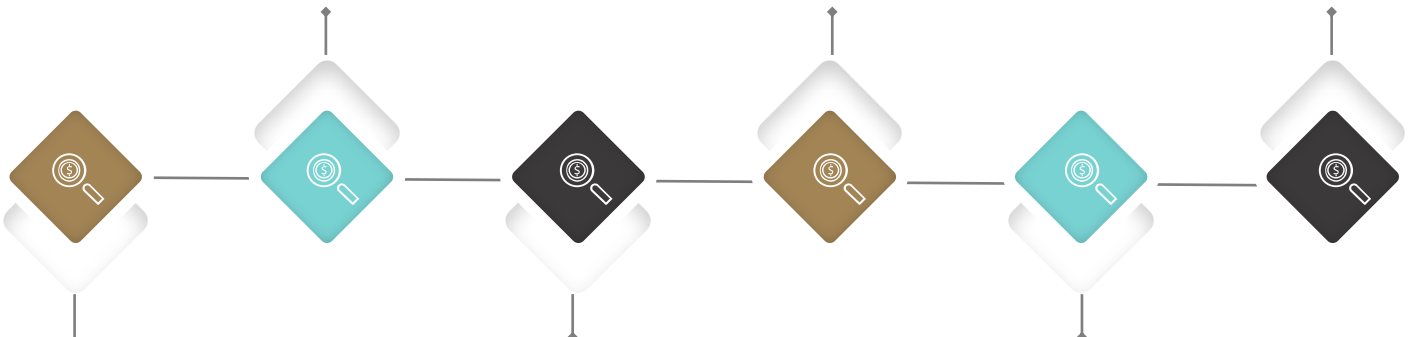
December 2017

Base stipend of **₦5,000** (Monthly) is paid to eligible beneficiaries but 10,000 is disbursed every 2 months out of which 80% is expected to be from the \$322.5 million Abacha loot, whilst 20% would be from a World Bank facility

August 2018

MANTRA has done its first and second monitoring of the **\$322.5 million** Abacha loot

Oct 2018 – Oct 2019



1999-2017

Switzerland Government returned over **\$700 million** to Nigeria

However there had been limited accountability and transparency in terms of what these monies were used for

January 2018

Nigeria signed an MOU with CSOs to monitor the use of the **\$322.5 million**

To ensure transparent and judicious use of the recovered Abacha funds in line with its stated purpose, the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Justice (FMOJ) signed an MOU with the Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANE EJ)

April 2018

ANE EJ established the Monitoring of Recovered Assets in Nigeria through Transparency and Accountability (**MANTRA**) Project

with funding from UKAID under the Anti-Corruption in Nigeria (ACORN) programme

Objectives

1 Targeting payments to specified beneficiaries

2 Reporting on grievances and feedback from beneficiaries

3 Reporting on total funds disbursed

4 Reporting on whether the funds disbursed reached the intended beneficiaries

MANTRA network reaches

73,998 beneficiaries in **4,540** communities

97 L.G.As and 20 States

134 CSO, 1,456 field monitors engaged cumulatively

MANTRA MODEL

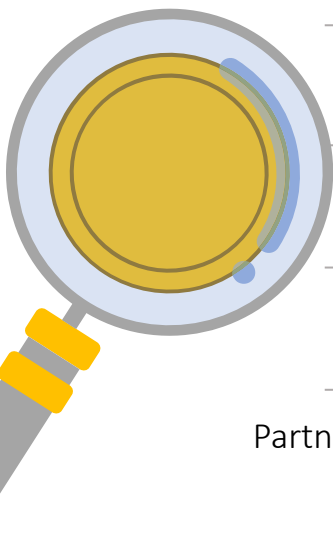
1 Local CSOs and citizens' capacity building to monitor disbursement of the looted assets

2 Trace and verification of data generated in the programme

3 Beneficiary experience survey on the programme

4 Engagement with the programme's Grievance Redress Mechanism

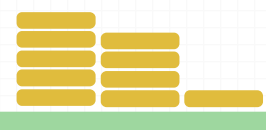
5 Partnership with government institutions on the monitoring process



[1] Amanda Wheat, "West Africa: The BP Oil Spill Spells Disaster for Region" MediaGlobal (18 June 2010).

[2] Report of the High-Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa, Commissioned by the Africa Union/ECW Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (2015)

METHODOLOGY



Mixed methods

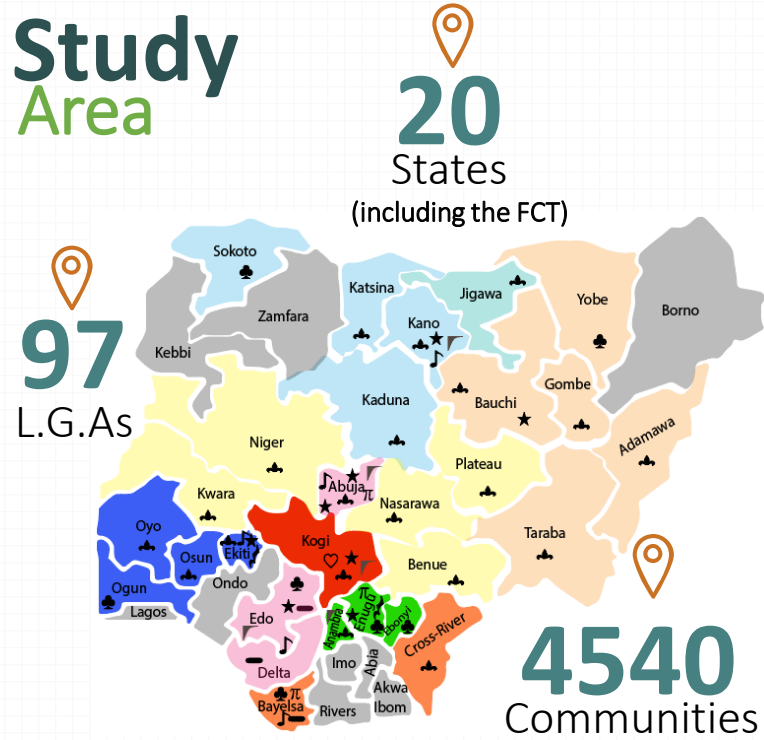
Quantitative method

- Beneficiary experience survey^[3]
- Verification of data generated

Qualitative method

- Review of documents
- Audit of financial records
- Review of processes in the upstream^[4] and downstream^[5] sectors of the programme

Study Area



Sample size



Beneficiary Total population (June 2019)

N=350,515

Survey Sample size
n = 73,998 (21%)

295
Documents reviewed

89
Officials interviewed

Data collection methods

1 auditor and 1456 trained field monitors

Administered data collection tools (Questionnaire, data verification and key informant interviews)



Limitations



Hard to reach areas were reached not in a representative manner



Supplementary reconciliation of records after the survey



Repetitions and wrong nomenclature of L.G.As and communities made verification at community level not clear in some locations

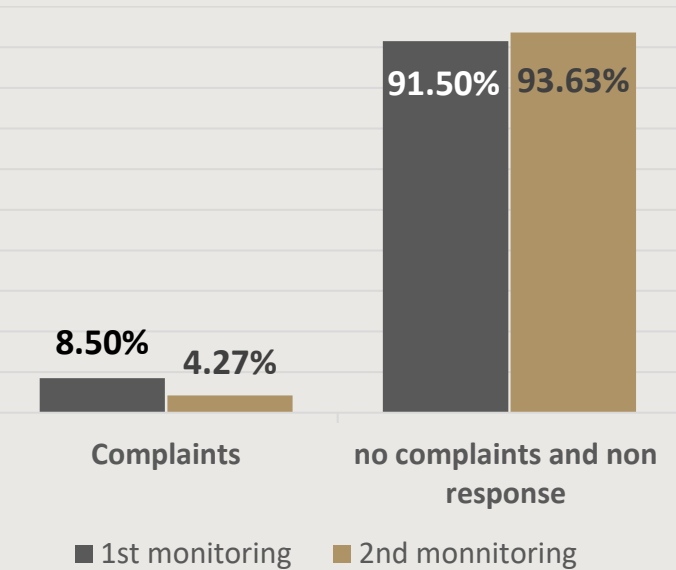


Lack of unified reporting format by all L.G.As, State and payment operators posed a challenge of harmonizing data

Objective 2: BENEFICIARIES GRIEVANCES

BENEFICIARIES WITH COMPLAINTS

There were less respondents with complaints by the end of the first year



BENEFICIARIES WITH COMPLAINTS WHO REGISTERED THEIR COMPLAINTS

SURVEY FINDINGS

43%

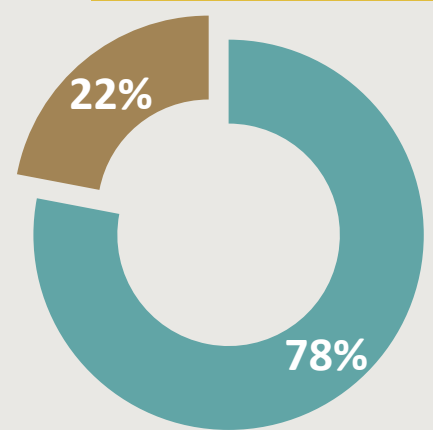
Total beneficiaries with complaints who had registered their complaints



Description	Timeline			
	Aug Sept 2018	Oct 2019	January 2019	May-June 2019 monitoring
Request for increase in base stipend	✓			✓
Third party deductions	✓	✓	✓	✓
ID card-related challenges	✓	✓	✓	✓
Delayed payments	✓			✓
Irregular or late payments	✓			✓
Tedious payment process	-			✓
Distance to payment point	✓			✓

Table 1: Most common type of complaints reported in each monitoring cycle

RESPONDENTS WITH COMPLAINTS WHO REGISTERED COMPLAINTS WHICH WERE NOT SOLVED



[3] August/September 2018 and May/June 2019 payment round
[4] Upstream (CBN, NCTO)
[5] Downstream (Payment Operators, SCTO, LGA)

Findings on Objective 3:

TOTAL FUNDS DISBURSED (JULY 31ST 2019)

10%

Abacha loot disbursed

₦12,655,432,000

Abacha loot disbursed by NCTO to payment service providers (PSP)

NCTO



PSP

Abacha loot disbursed by CBN to NCTO



\$32,827,475.00
(₦10,366,211,743.70)

70%

Abacha loot in total funds disbursed



₦12,465,216,000

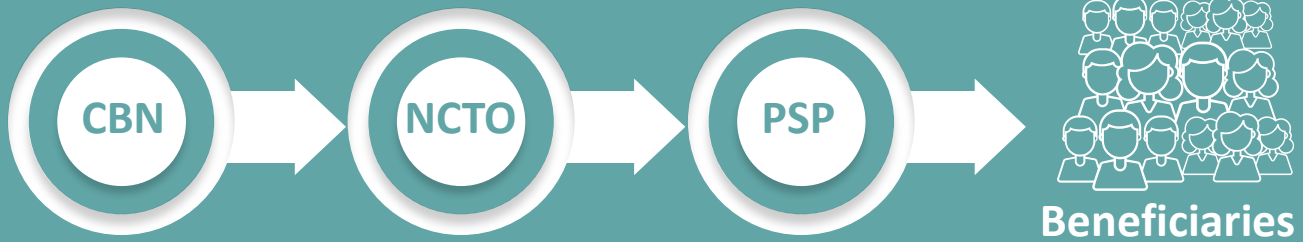
Abacha loot disbursed by PSP to beneficiaries

Less than 80% of the base stipends disbursed to beneficiaries in the programme was from the Abacha repatriated funds as at July 31st 2019

Data obtained in December 2019

Item/Description	December 2019
Total beneficiaries	834,948
Total beneficiaries paid	703,506
Total amount released from NCTO to Payment Service Operators (IDA and repatriated Abacha loot)	₦38,136,345,000
Total amount released from NCTO to Payment Service Providers from Abacha account (repatriated Abacha loot)	₦24,658,072,000
Total amount paid to beneficiaries from repatriated Abacha loot	₦23,742,580,000
Percentage of repatriated Abacha loot in total amount released from NCTO to PSP (IDA and Abacha repatriated funds)	72.5%

Funds distribution Pathway



Reporting on the success of the funds reaching its intended beneficiaries

The beneficiary ID cards were reviewed against beneficiaries that were seen to answer the question

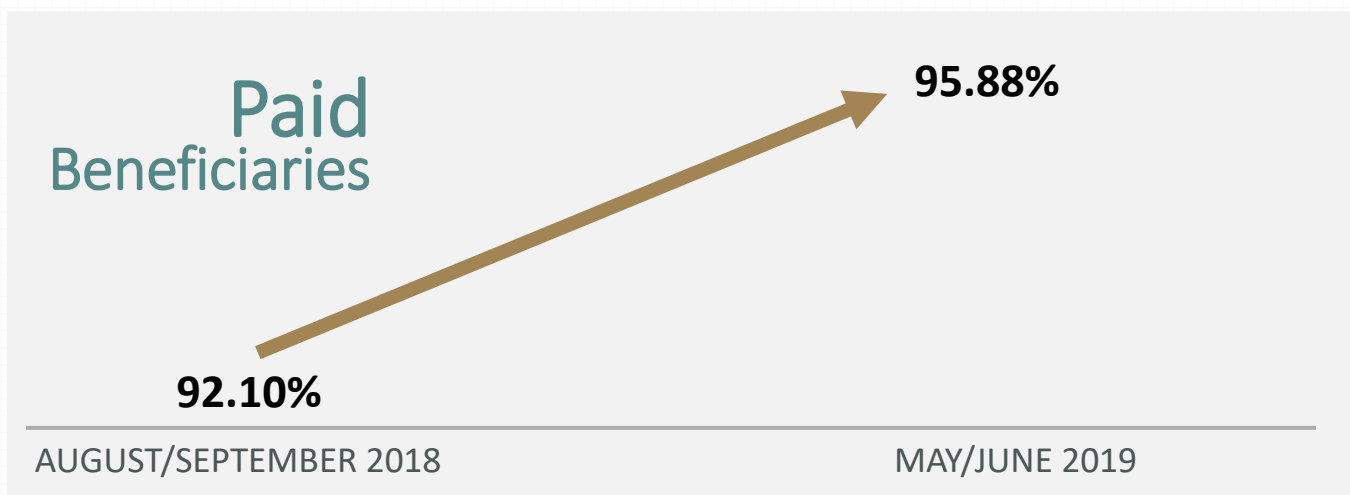
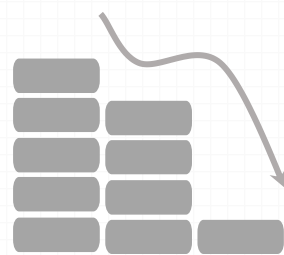
is it the right beneficiary?

 **97%**



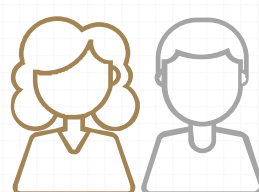
Respondents who experienced **deductions** from their funds by external parties

4.9%



Respondents who identified the **registered** Beneficiaries as persons who collects the funds

84%



Only 2 states had significant response and (non response rate) for other persons collecting funds on their behalf

SDG target 16.4 by 2030

significantly reduce

illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen recovery and return of stolen assets, and combat all forms of organized crime.

2030

16.4



Glossary

CBN – Central Bank of Nigeria

NCTO – National Cash Transfer Office

CSOs – Civil Society Organisations

PSPs – Payment Service Providers

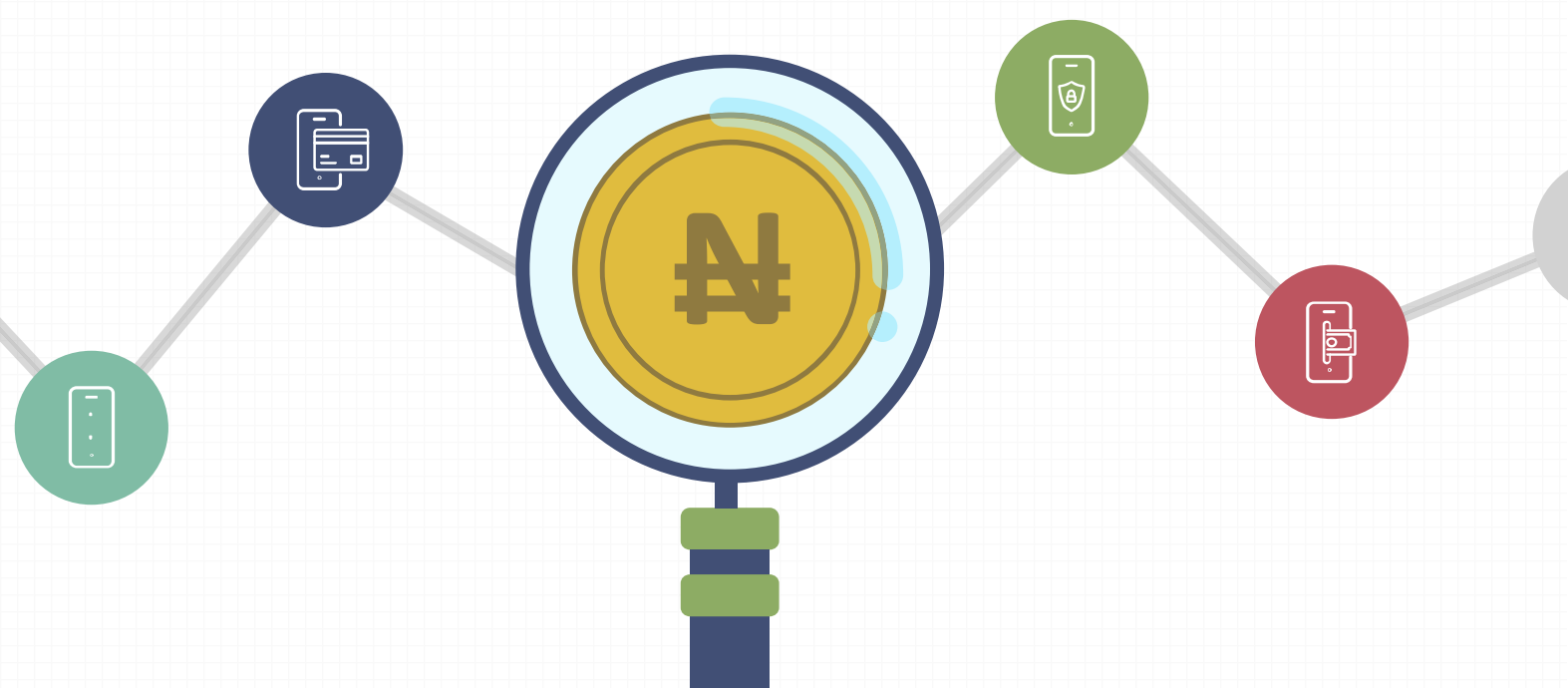
Link to MANTRA Resources

<https://www.aneej.org/nigerian-csos-gfar-welcome-mou-321m-abacha-loot-repatriation/>

<https://www.aneej.org/aneej-mantra-anchors-with-logical-frameworks/>

<https://www.aneej.org/how-the-national-social-register-is-built/>

<https://www.aneej.org/covid-19-humanitarian-affairs-minister-possibly-misquoted-on-322-5million-going-to-poor-nigerians-aneej-clarifies/>



ABOUT ANEEJ

The Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ) is a non-government organization in Nigeria, West Africa. ANEEJ has been in operations since 1995 and aims to “amplify the voice of the weak, the less privileged and the marginalized groups in the society including women, youths, and people living with disabilities in order to increase their participation in the democratic decision-making process”. ANEEJ is the host of the Monitoring of Recovered Assets through Transparency and Accountability (MANTRA) project

CONTACT US

Phone: +234 906 688 3269

Email: info@aneej.org

Website: www.aneej.org, www.mantra-acorn.com

twitter: [@aneejnigeria](https://twitter.com/aneejnigeria)

MANTRA Partners

