

# OUR RIGHTS



# EVERY BODY'S RIGHTS



Aniedi Akpan



International  
Network of People  
who Use Drugs

## BACKGROUND

- 2 Technical Assistance from INPUD to National Drug User Networks (DHRAN)
- Supported by UNAIDS, the Robert Carr Fund and Love Alliance
- Aimed at promoting and advancing the Community-led decriminalization agenda regarding people who use drugs and work towards addressing the punitive Legal and Policy environments that lead to the denial or limitation of access to services.
- Build technical capacity of people who use drugs, to advocate for decriminalization and drug law reform for a more enabling environment for people who use drugs for access to health and social services, and well-being.

## PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THE ADVOCACY ROADMAP

- 4-days workshop
- Attended by 20 drug User activist, 1 representative from the Federal Ministry of Health.
- Technical capacity built on the Impact of Criminalization, Drug Use and Human Rights, Global AIDS strategy and the Political Declaration (10:10:10 societal enablers and 80-60-30 community-led responses).
- 5-year Advocacy roadmap for decriminalization developed by Drug User community activists



# WORKSHOP



## PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THE LEGAL ENVIRONMENT SCAN REPORT

Legal and policy environment scan related to the Global AIDS Targets, the Political declaration and International Commitments.

- Led and conducted by the Nigeria Drug User Community with support from YouthRise Nigeria.
- Introductory meeting with members of DHRAN/Drug User Community
- Stakeholders' briefing at the National Technical Working Group on Harm Reduction and Drug Demand Reduction.
- Desk Review
- 1 Key Informant Interview in each of the 6 geo-political zones
- Focal Group Discussions with 10 Drug User community members in 10 states of Gombe, Oyo, Abia, Imo, Anambra, Ebonyi, Plateau, FCT, Kano, Lagos

## SOME DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

- Political declaration on HIV/AIDS 2021
- Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026
- International guidelines on Human Rights and Drug Policy (2019)
- UNAIDS 2025 AIDS target
- Africa Union Plan of action on Drug Control (2019 – 2023)
- National Drug Control Masterplan, Nigeria (2021 – 2025)
- National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act Cap. N30 – 1989
- The Nigeria Constitution
- Other strategic National plans, Acts,

DHRAN  
ADVOCACY ROAD MAP

DRUG USE  
LEGAL ENVIRONMENT SCAN (LES)-  
NIGERIA

REPORT

DRUG AND HARM REDUCTION ADVOCACY NETWORK  
(DHRAN)  
NOVEMBER, 2022



# What it means for the Nigeria Drug user movement

## OUTPUTS

- Drug User community developed advocacy plan and activities for decriminalization of Drug Use and drug possession for personal use, Harm reduction service expansion/integration and stakeholder engagement.
- Identified legal and policy barriers to the achievement of the 10-10-10 and 80-60-30 targets by people who use drugs.
- Identified stakeholders for legal advocacy for decriminalisation of drug use and drug use possession for personal use.
- Identified opportunities for engagement with stakeholders on decriminalisation and Harm reduction service expansion/integration.



## IDENTIFIED ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

- **DECRIMINALIZATION** (Establishment of Threshold for Drug Possession for personal use)
- **INTEGRATED COMPREHENSIVE HARM REDUCTION SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS**
- **REPRESENTATION AT RELEVANT DECISION-MAKING SPACES AND FORUMS**

# SUCCESSES IN USING THE ADVOCACY ROADMAP/LEGAL POLICY SCAN



## SUCCESSSES

- Engagement in and advocacy for the Integration of viral hepatitis, OST and CLM into HIV for Drug Users in the development of the GF Country Grant proposal – (Priority 2 – Integrated HR)
- DHRAN membership of the International drug Policy Consortium (Priority 1 – Decriminalization).
- Institution of the Drug User Community dialogue – (Priority 1 - Decriminalization)
- Establishment of the Key Populations Hub (<http://www.keypopulationshub.com/>)

### Priority 3: Representation

- Inclusion in the Strategic Knowledge Management National Technical Working Group
- Setting up of Committees within the National Technical Working Group on Harm reduction on Decriminalisation, Socio-economic empowerment of people who use drugs and community distribution of Naloxone.
- Membership of the National Prevention Technical Working Group
- Inclusion in the National AIDS spending Assessment

## BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES

- Insufficient funds/resources to fund engagement with relevant stakeholders (National Assembly)
- Lack of understanding of Harm Reduction by relevant stakeholders
- Discrimination of people who use drugs and people who use drugs movement

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