ON NIGERIA: MEDIA AND JOURNALISM PORTFOLIO

INTRODUCTION

The goal of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's On Nigeria program is to reduce corruption by supporting Nigerian-led efforts to promote an atmosphere of accountability, transparency, and good governance in the country. A thriving Nigeria—with its rich natural resources, young and growing population, and continental leadership—is one of the most important goals for the world today. Yet corruption, impunity, and lack of accountability have posed major governance challenges in the country, with far-reaching impacts on development and Nigerians' well-being.

Through targeted support, we aim to bolster the momentum around Nigerian-led efforts to strengthen accountability and reduce corruption. Our multifaceted strategy has the following complementary areas of focus:

- Reducing corruption in two sectors, education and electricity, to demonstrate tangible results that citizens can see when accountability and transparency are strengthened;
- Strengthening the criminal justice system through implementation and enforcement of the Administration of Criminal
 Justice Act and complementary laws and policies; and
- Supporting media and journalism to expose corruption and share information about anti-corruption efforts and success stories.





MacArthur has been making grants in Nigeria since 1989 and opened an office in Ibadan in 1994 before moving to Abuja in 2000, which is staffed by Nigerians and serves as the hub for the Foundation's work in the country.

MEDIA AND JOURNALISM PORTFOLIO

Journalists, media organizations, and citizens are playing an increasingly active and important watchdog role in Nigeria. A strong, independent media is an instrument of transparency and accountability and a critical lever for combating corruption at all levels, from acts of grand corruption to the petty corruption that Nigerians experience in their everyday lives.

On Nigeria's media and journalism work supports robust media capable of uncovering and documenting instances of corruption as well as anti-corruption solutions and success stories. We seek to strengthen independent, investigative, and datadriven journalism, both in general and specifically on corruption-related topics. We are pursuing this work through both English- and local-language media organizations to support civic engagement across the diverse populations and regions of Nigeria.

ON NIGERIA

On Nigeria also works with civil society organizations that are best suited to make use of communication networks to increase civic participation and provide a platform for citizens to voice their opinions. The organizations we support take advantage of digital technologies and media reports to inform, mobilize, and coordinate communities with anti-corruption messaging, infographics, and video content in English and in local languages. A related portfolio supports media and entertainment organizations to raise awareness of corruption through their programming.

With this support, we aim to contribute to a culture of investigation and transparency that holds authorities accountable and empowers and amplifies independent voices to monitor, detect, and report on issues of corruption.

REPRESENTATIVE GRANTS

- Moving Image (Kano): Raising awareness among Hausaspeaking Nigerians about corruption and galvanizing them to support an environment of accountability.
- Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Center (Abuja): Promoting legislative accountability by amplifying investigative reports in Nigeria.
- Daily Trust Foundation (Abuja): Strengthening investigative and data-driven journalism as tools for reducing corruption and enhancing accountability.

MORE INFORMATION

www.macfound.org/onnigeria

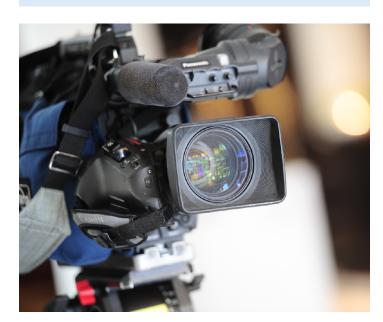
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ABOUT THE JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T. MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people, effective institutions, and influential networks building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. MacArthur is placing a few big bets that truly significant progress is possible on some of the world's most pressing social challenges, including over-incarceration, global climate change, nuclear risk, corruption in Nigeria, and significantly increasing financial capital for the social sector. In addition to the MacArthur Fellows Program, the Foundation continues its historic commitments to the role of journalism in a responsible and responsive democracy, as well as the strength and vitality of our headquarters city, Chicago. Organizations supported by the Foundation work in about 50 countries. In addition to Chicago, MacArthur has offices in India, Mexico, and Nigeria.

In the United States, private foundations are charitable organizations that provide grants to organizations or individuals, helping those in need or working to solve societal problems. Private foundations act independently of any private business and of the United States government; they receive no government support.

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