MONITORING OF RECOVERED ASSETS THROUGH TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MANTRA

BACKGROUND

The Monitoring of Recovered Assets through Transparency and Accountability (MANTRA) model is a civil society initiative to monitor the utilization of recovered assets ensuring it is used for its Stated purpose in line with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG). MANTRA was established in 2018 by the Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ).

The MANTRA model reviews processes, systems, services and data generated thereby ensuring recovered funds benefit the citizens through a process that cannot be exploited for personal or political gain.

The MANTRA model is designed to identify corrupt practice and promote systems strengthening to aid the prevention of corruption in the use of the recovered funds.

The MANTRA model is line with global recommendation, treaties and practice such as the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), Global Forum on Asset Recovery (GFAR), and open contracting principles and practices.

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OBJECTIVES

1. Increase Civil Society Organization (CSO) involvement in monitoring the use of recovered assets

2. To strengthen transparency and accountability in public processes for the utilization of recovered assets

3. To monitor the effectiveness of services rendered in the utilization process

4. To ensure value for money in the use of the recovered funds

STRATEGIES

- Partnership with Government for transparent and accountability
- CSO capacity building for monitoring recovered asset utilization
- Monitoring and oversight of service delivery, procurement processes, systems and funding
- Identification of required institutional reforms
- Stakeholder engagement, validation and buy-in for institutional reform
- Assessment of progress on institutional reforms

EXAMPLES OF OUTCOMES CONTRIBUTED TO BY THE MANTRA MODEL

Monitoring of the 322.5 million Abacha loot with following changes and institutional reforms recorded:

- Identification of progress made on funds disbursed and challenges
- Identification of corrupt acts
- Improved intersector collaboration by the responsible agency to investigate and prosecute acts of corruption identified
- Increased disaggregation of program data to include communities of beneficiary
- Increased access to 3rd party project information on the utilization of the funds by the public

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