

## The Nigeria Sexual Offender Register

...speak up, speak out, prevent abuse!

The national outcry over sexual violence and assault on the body of women, men and children in spaces where they traditionally should be considered safe, has been the subject of public conversations in recent years. For example, trafficking in persons for sexual and domestic slavery, which is perpetuated by hitherto trusted family and community members, sexual exploitation and abuse of minors, rape of women, girls and boys with impunity in the home, school and places of worship. These violations of the bodily integrity of persons continue to occur locally, nationally and transborder in all social spaces. This can be seen from the content of media reports, court judgments, police reports, national and global movements such as the #EndWarOnNigerianWomen, #MeToo and #TimesUp. If sex offence transcends borders, then it will require collaboration across locations and sectors. If it is occurring in social spaces then the law will be necessary but not enough to checkmate this menace.

This is why NAPTIP working with a Multi Agency team has developed the digital sex offender register to name and shame sexual offenders and to deter potential offenders. This is in line with the provisions of sections 1(4) and the Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Act 2015, Alongside the sex offender register is a database of service providersprofessionals and care givers who citizens reporting sexual violence, survivors and even perpetrators can approach for advice and support

## What is the Sexual Offender Register?

The Sexual offender register is a documentation of reported, tried or convicted cases of sex violations or abuses as defined by the VAPP Act, 2015. The register is accessible to members of the public and security agencies. It has data on those convicted, available directly on the website while other categories (such as those reported, arraigned or tried but not convicted) can be accessed based on demand. Any conduct which violates, humiliates or degrades the sexual integrity of any person is termed sexual abuse or violation. This includes sexual assault, exploitation or harassment and intimidation as defined in part IV interpretations section 46 of the VAPP Act, 2015.













The register will serve as a tool to name and shame those convicted or reported to have engaged in sexual abuse or exploitation. Would - be employers especially those working with vulnerable citizens, such as children, young adults and persons with disabilities, are encouraged to carry out background checks for the applicants.

## What is a Service Provider Register?

The service provider register is a database which will exist side by side with the sexual offender register. The service provider register is a collation of governmental, nongovernment,

faith-based, voluntary and charitable associations/ institutions or individuals providing shelter, homes, counseling, legal, financial, vocational, educational, psycho social, medical

or other assistance to victims and survivors of all forms of domestic and sex related violence, as captured in the VAPP Act, that are working nationwide in Nigeria. Service providers are registered with appropriate government agencies under the provision of VAPP Act 2015, or any similar law also applicable in the service provider's area of coverage or state of jurisdiction. Service providers must have demonstrated capacity and can show evidence of service provision.

The database is a simple, easy to use electronic based reporting template, which also serves as a communication loop between service providers,



the public, NAPTIP and security agencies.

- Members of the public can confirm the status of an organisation as a service provider.
- Search for and reach registered service providers to communicate cases that may require their intervention.
- The service provider database is viewed on NAPTIP website.

We encourage you to register your organisation or nominate one via www.naptip.gov. ng. Please note that before an organisation is added to the database, due diligence will be conducted to ensure that the organisation qualifies as a service provider.

For more information, visit: www.naptip.gov.ng. To report incidences, call: 0800CALL NAPTIP (charges apply) 07030000203 (toll free) www.naptip.gov.ng Email: Reportsexoffence@Naptip.gov.ng

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