



# Move2Act

**Accelerating Coordinated  
Advocacy for Improved Abortion  
Laws and Policies in Nigeria**

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[www.yncsd.org](http://www.yncsd.org)

# Background

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In Nigeria, restrictive abortion laws contribute significantly to the country's high maternal mortality rate, with unsafe abortion being a major cause. The Lagos State Government's disregard for the reinstatement of the evidence-based STOP Guidelines exemplified the political and social barriers to progress.

In response, the Move2Act Project, funded by Amplify Change, was launched to create a more supportive legal and policy environment. Implemented in the strategically selected states of Lagos and Imo, the project aimed to accelerate coordinated advocacy by uniting civil society, and government agencies.



# Methodology

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**Targeted Government Engagement:** The project team conducted sustained advocacy with Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), including Health, Justice, Women Affairs, and the National Human Rights Commission. This built crucial bridges with decision-makers in Lagos and Imo states.

**Value Clarification and Attitude Transformation (VCAT):** A cornerstone of the project was VCAT training for media representatives, MDAs, and CSOs. These workshops were designed to dismantle misconceptions and build a base of informed, supportive allies.



## Outcomes

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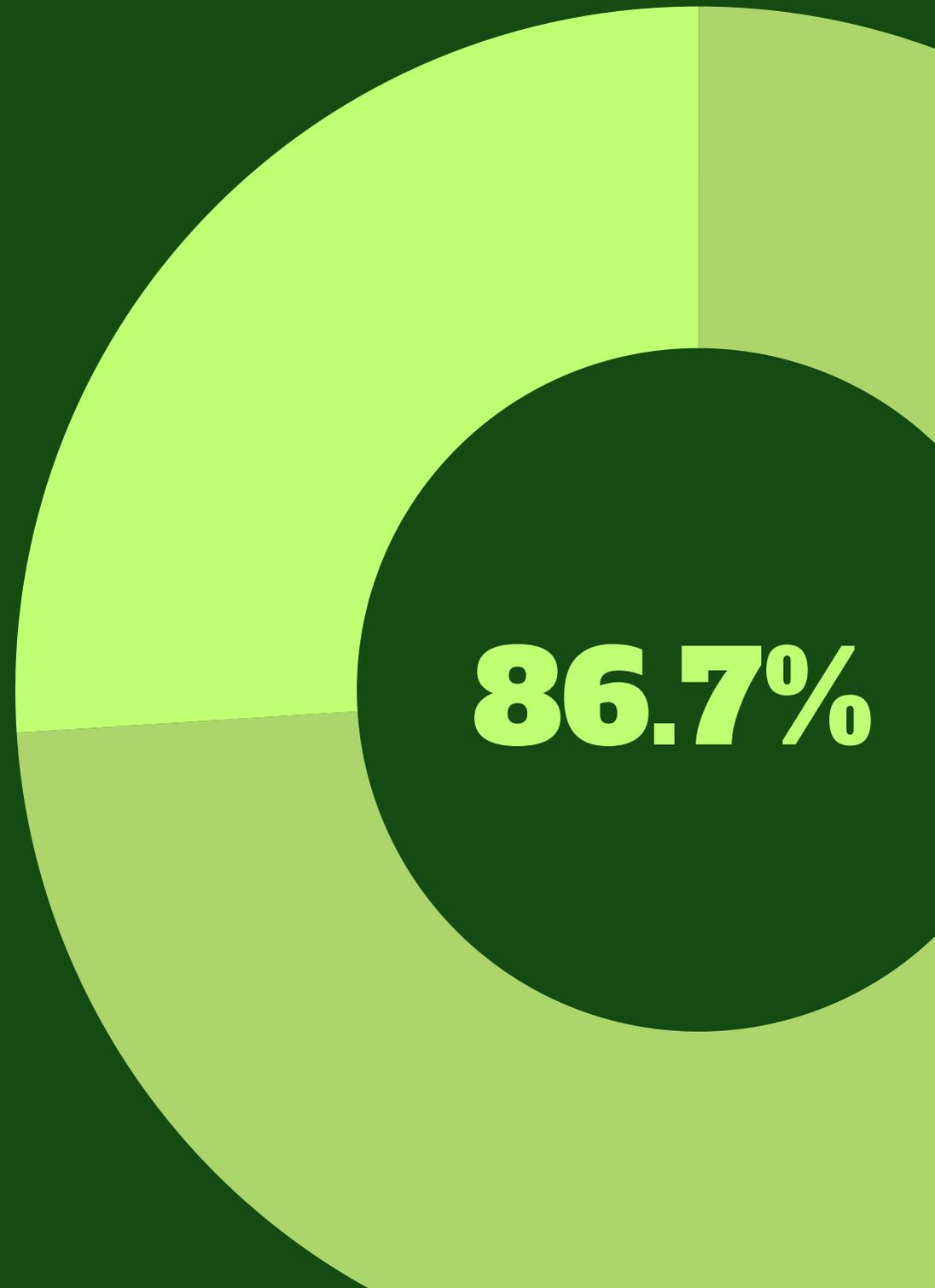
The pre and post workshop analysis from the VCAT training provided quantifiable evidence of its success.

## SHIFTING KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES (VCAT IMPACT)

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Understanding of abortion as a safe procedure when performed by trained providers increased from 60% to 86.7%.

VCAT OUTCOMES



## VCAT OUTCOMES

Awareness that legal restrictions do not reduce abortion rates rose from 55% to 80%.



# SIGNIFICANT ATTITUDE SHIFTS

Support for legal abortion  
in critical scenarios saw  
dramatic increases:



WHEN A WOMAN'S LIFE  
IS AT RISK

IN CASES OF RAPE  
OR INCEST



IN CASES OF FETAL  
ABNORMALITY

# SIGNIFICANT ATTITUDE SHIFTS

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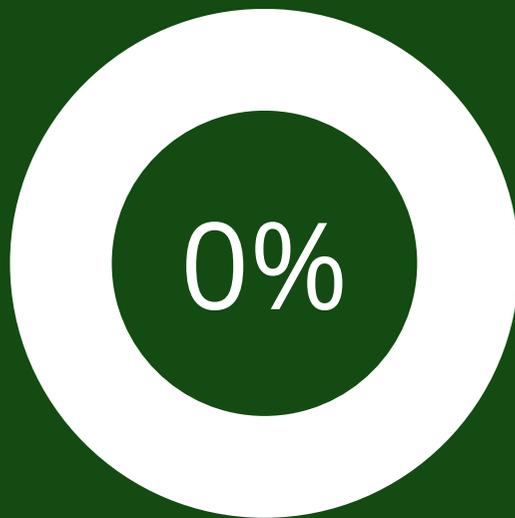


**IF A WOMAN SIMPLY  
DOES NOT WANT THE  
BABY**

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**VCAT showed that accurate information in a  
nonjudgmental setting shifted participants' views on  
safe abortion from negative to positive.**

# ADOPTION OF NON- JUDGMENTAL APPROACHES



**From 26% to 0%:**  
participants who felt their  
role was to persuade a  
woman to the "correct"  
choice.

**69.6% → 93.3%:**  
participants committed to  
helping women make  
their own choice without  
pressure.





# Building a Coordinated Advocacy Movement

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**The project successfully fostered collaboration among diverse stakeholders across 9 MDAs and 10 CSOs in Lagos and Imo state.**

In Lagos, despite a challenging political climate, persistent engagement kept the issue of the STOP Guidelines on the agenda and built a resilient network of advocates.

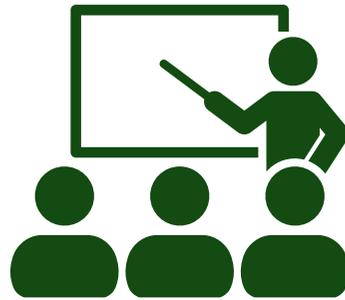
**OUTCOMES NO.2**

# Recommendations



## **Sustained Engagement**

Continue deep, relational work with government MDAs, allocating more time to navigate bureaucratic systems.



## **Scale VCAT Training**

Expand transformative workshops to reach more policymakers, healthcare providers, media professionals and community leaders.



## **Strengthen the Movement**

Continue to support the key stakeholders to ensure advocacy efforts remain coordinated and powerful.



*Thank you to our  
amazing partner*



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