Terms of reference

External impact evaluation of the project

e-RIGHTS: Enhancing Digital Rights in Nigeria

December 2025

Full legal name:	AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES France
Acronym:	ASF France
Legal status:	Non-governmental organization / non-profit making
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Title of the project	e-Rights: Enhancing Digital Rights in Nigeria
Project partners	Space for Change (S4C) Centre for Technology and Development (CITAD)
Total project budget	789 414 €
Budget for the service	30 000€
Donors	European Union Delegation to Nigeria (95 %) Lille Avocats Solidarité (Endowment fund of the Lille Bar Association) UNESCO's Global Media Defence Fund (GMDF) Canadian Fund for Local Initiative (CFLI)
Duration of the project	36 months
Starting and ending dates of the project	1st February 2023 – 31st January 2026
Deadline for applications	4th January 2026 – 23h59 (UTC +1)

1. Introduction

Avocats Sans Frontières France/ Lawyers Without Borders France is an international solidarity association that contributes to the respect of human rights throughout the world. For close to two decades, ASF France has been working at the intersection of human rights and rule of law to improve access to justice and accountability in Nigeria. The Enhancing Digital Rights in Nigeria (e-RIGHTS) project funded by the European Union, Lille Avocats Solidarité, the UNESCO's Global Media Defence Fund (GMDF) and the Canadian Fund for Local Initiative (CFLI) is the latest initiative of ASF France in Nigeria which aimed at ensuring the full protection of individuals' rights while engaging online. This project, implemented in partnership with Centre for Technology and Development (CITAD) and Spaces for Change (S4C), directly addresses the needs of Nigerian youths, activists, journalists, online news platforms, bloggers, social media influencers, human rights defenders, and active citizens and other crucial voices in the digital space.

2. Project overview

2.1. Project objectives

The overall objective of the project is to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law in Nigeria

The specific objective is to strengthen digital rights in Nigeria for better protection of human rights defenders and population.

The expected results were:

Human rights defenders recognise and are able to deal with the digital threats they face
This outcome includes efficient use of the digital platform for activists to report violations, strengthen trust, accountability and transparency (Op1.1). This digital tool allows them to be more efficient in their work and to collaborate with each other. Supported by capacity building on digital rights, protection mechanisms, and online security tools (Op1.2), activists are able to deal with digital threats they face. Finally, to ensure that activists are better recognized, the project strengthens lawyers and judges on international legislation and EU standards in order to implement a free legal assistance program to victims of digital rights violations or threats (Op1.3).

An enabling environment for the enjoyment of digital rights is established in Nigeria
This second outcome benefits to all the population in two axes: improving Nigerian legislation on digital rights and raising awareness the population on their rights. To succeed, a long-lasting advocacy dynamic is created to strengthen digital rights in Nigeria (Op2.1) at national and international level. Main actors as national authorities and agencies, researchers, international organizations, representatives of digital companies and activists are involving in these advocacy activities of which the final aim will be to draw up a proposal for reform policy on digital rights. To support these actions, two symbolic cases of strategic litigation will be launched at the regional level (Op2.2) to promote Nigerian jurisprudence and policy change. Finally, communication and raising awareness contents are broadcasting to inform the population on digital rights (Op2.3) targeting mainly young people and women and mobilizing them as actors in their communities. This active participation of the beneficiaries themselves will promote ownership, the appropriation and understanding of the messages by the population.

The project was implemented in 4 states (FCT, Lagos, Imo, Kano)

2.2. Project Partners

Spaces for Change (S4C) is a non-profit organization working to infuse human rights into social and economic governance processes in Nigeria. Through digital crowdsourcing, research, policy analysis, advocacy, youth engagement, public interest litigation and community action, S4C aims to increase the participation of Nigerian youth, women and communities in the development of social and economic policy, and also help public authorities and corporate entities to put a human rights approach at the heart of their decision-making.

Centre for Technology and Development (CITAD) is a non-governmental and non-profit organization that is committed to the use of information and communication technologies for development and promotion of good governance. It sees technology as tool to promote sustainable development, good government and peaceful coexistence. It uses ICT to empower youth and women through access to information, skills and online mentoring opportunities. It utilizes such platforms such as social networking, web-to-text interface and tools such as Google alert to provide information that would promote peaceful coexistence. It uses Google alerts to source information about trends of discussion in various platforms, sites and online discussion lists and sites with a view to understanding treads, attitudes and positions such that it can develop appropriate responses to those that are similarly disseminated to either reinforce positive trends or counter and neutralize negative ones.

2.3. Beneficiaries

This project involved direct and indirect beneficiaries:

Direct beneficiaries:

- Activists
- Lawyers and judges
- Victims of digital violations and threats
- Authorities, experts and digital activists
- Experts on digital rights from national authorities, activists, lawyers, researchers and academia
- Institutions and agencies of government and private sector
- Students
- Social media influencers

Indirect beneficiaries:

- Members of our partner organisations and Nigerian internet users.

2.4. Issues and activities

All the activities are covered by the impact evaluation:

O1: Human rights defenders recognise and are able to deal with the digital threats they face

A.1.1: Develop the "Closing Civic Spaces" digital platform for activists to report violations, strengthen trust, accountability and transparency in Nigeria

The "the Closing Civic Spaces" digital platform launched by Spaces for Change (https://closingspaces.org/) has been improved for a better protection of the West African human rights defenders. It allows the report of digital rights violations cases according to several categories: freedom of expression, freedom of association, press freedom, digital closure and surveillance, anti-money laundering/counter financing of terrorism, political restrictions and restrictive laws. This digital platform is used by activists working on the defence of human rights (such as NGOs, human rights defenders, journalists, lawyers, and so on) and reaches different objectives:

- Reporting human rights violation on the digital sphere;
- Networking all actors working for the defence of human rights on a single platform;
- Promoting exchanges between actors in order to coordinate their joint actions;
- Informing and empowering activists to take the necessary steps to defend themselves and play their role in society;
- Enabling the establishment of a secure exchange platform;
- Strengthening trust, accountability and transparency in the public sector by denouncing abuses;

A.1.2: Face-to-face and online capacity building for activists on digital rights, protection mechanisms, and online security tools

The e-rights project built capacity and equipped activists in these areas to strengthen them to better recognize and deal with digital threats they face in their work. To achieve this, the project implemented:

A.1.2.1: Training of activists on digital rights, protection mechanisms, and online security tools.

The main objective is to share knowledge activists could use to secure themselves online and thus be more protected and effective in their actions. This training built the capacity of activists in:

- National, regional and international human rights laws regarding digital rights,

- Existing protection mechanisms at national and international level,

- Providing participants with tools and tips on online security.

Two-day training sessions on digital rights, protection mechanisms, and online security tools were organised, one in Lagos and one in Kano, for 120 participants, including activists. At the end of the training, beneficiaries were able to know their rights and to assert them.

A.1.2.2: Online training for activists on digital rights, protection mechanisms, and online security tools as a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)

Following the introduction of a face-to-face training for activists, the project set up an online training, in the format of a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC). The MOOC serves as a continuous learning course for the activists and also as a sustainability strategy for continuity of the training beyond the project lifespan. This training is hosted on its independent learning platform, **www.erightslearning.com** is available free of charge to all its members and other activists.

Through this training, the competencies of more than 251 activists' have been strengthened on digital rights and digital security and protection mechanisms to better deal with threats they face in their work.

A.1.3: Training for lawyers and Judges on International legislation and EU standards in the online space

The objective of the training is to provide lawyers and judges with a deeper knowledge of digital rights legislation and best practises in respect of HR of individuals and by extension enhance respect for

human rights in the online sphere. In 2023, 2024 and 2025, six training courses (two per year) were held to build the capacity of more than 100 lawyers and judges.

The trainings were delivered by experienced ASF France Lawyers/experts from France together with local facilitators from each partner organisations and the e-RIGHTS Project Manager, ensuring high-quality instruction, EU standards and norms and local context.

Sessions covered during the trainings include:

- Relevant national, regional, and international digital rights legislation and EU standards.

- Addressing technical issues like data privacy, internet shutdowns, deep fake technologies, artificial intelligence and combating hate speech.

A.1.4: Legal assistance for victims of digital rights violations or threats

The project provided free legal assistance to, at least, 16 victims of digital rights violations. The beneficiaries included human rights defenders, activists, journalists and other digital users.

The objective of the legal assistance component of eRights project is to enhance access to justice for victims of digital rights violation in Nigeria. Inadequate legal representation and lack of awareness on digital rights have been major factors contributing to the lack of access to justice for victims of online threats, harassment, cyberbullying, illegal access to private information or surveillance of online activities in Nigeria. In addition, most of these victims do not know that their rights are being violated and so do not come forward and take legal action against the perpetrators. Many Human Rights Defenders' and journalists cannot afford the exorbitant costs of legal representation.

The project through the legal assistance (consultation, information, raise awareness, advice, referrals or representation in court) address the aforementioned challenges of lack of access to justice by engaging support lawyers to handle cases of victims at no cost to the victims and/or families.

A.1.5: Training for journalists on Strategic Litigation Against Public Participation (SLAPP).

This training is requested directly by the journalists who were trained at the beginning of the eRIGHTS project. Journalists in Nigeria are increasingly being targeted and prosecuted for reports written and posted online, particularly against powerful individuals and organisations both private and within the government, a phenomenon now tagged SLAPP – Strategic Litigation Against Public Participation. SLAPP is a direct threat to the freedom of journalists to express themselves freely and to publish or disseminate information, particularly through digital platforms. It is a tactics now deployed by governments and non-state actors to attack press freedom and can manifest through prosecution for criminal defamation or libel. In November and December 2025, two trainings were organized for 2 days in Lagos state and the FCT for journalists from Lagos, Imo, Kano and the FCT. 25 trainees will be trained in each training making a total of 50 trainees.

O2: An enabling environment for the enjoyment of digital rights is established in Nigeria

A.2.1: Creating a situation room between authorities, experts and digital activists to strengthen digital rights in Nigeria

The Situation Room created on eRIGHTS brought together key stakeholders from the policy, regulatory and enforcement on digital rights to agree on short and long-term strategies to improve respect of digital rights in Nigeria.

The situation rooms included key government agencies such as the Federal Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Communication, Ministry of sciences and technologies, NITDA and other relevant agencies), experts on digital rights and technology (academics, researchers, business leaders, IT engineers) and activists (HRD, journalists, NGO's representants, lawyers, bloggers or influencers). The convening provided an opportunity to discuss about promoting the rights in the digital sphere, harnessing opportunities and addressing challenges related to new technologies.

The two situation rooms were held in May and September 2025.

A.2.2: Establishment of an expert group to draft a digital reform policy guide

Digital rights are a new and evolving topic, which the States have not yet taken into consideration. This is particularly the case in Nigeria, which has legislation in terms of human rights, but not protective enough for the digital rights of the population and activists. Hence, the objective of this activity was to produce a digital reform policy guide that would serve as a guideline for the Nigerian government to put in place effective digital rights legislation, based on international standards and European Union norms. The activity was carried out in two steps, the creation and strengthening of a group of experts (a multi stakeholder expert group) in the field, followed by the organisation of workshops to draft the digital reform policy guide.

A.2.2.1 - Training for the technical expert group on international standards and EU norms

To equip the technical expert group with the necessary knowledge and skills, an intensive training program was held in Abuja, on October 17th and 18th, 2023, led by a French lawyer and expert in technology law from ASF France specializing in international digital rights standards.

The expert group brings together over 26 individuals with a wealth of experience and diverse perspectives. Government officials, NGO representatives, business leaders, technology experts, academics, researchers, and journalists all contribute their valuable insights, ensuring the training reflects the needs of all stakeholders. Participants gained a thorough understanding of international and EU norms concerning freedom of expression, privacy, and access to information, allowing them to identify areas where Nigerian legislation falls short and develop actionable recommendations for improvement.

A.2.2.2 - Organisation of technical working meetings to draft a digital reform policy guide

A technical working group composed of the same beneficiaries trained in the activity A.2.2.1, was set up with the aim of drafting a digital reform policy guide. 7 workshops including 4 face-to-face meetings in Abuja and 3 remote meetings of the technical working group was organized on the project. The workshops addressed the different issues related to digital rights such as but not limited to data protection, open data, freedom of expression and online privacy & surveillance. These working sessions were opportunities to address each of the issues identified, to analyse the existing legal texts referring to them, to present what is done on these issues at international and European Union level and to propose recommendations on the paths to follow.

Through collaborative efforts, the expert group complected the development of a comprehensive digital rights reform policy guide. This guide offers the Nigerian government clear and actionable recommendations for strengthening digital rights protections. By empowering diverse stakeholders with knowledge and tools, the project lays the groundwork for sustainable reform, ensuring a more secure and empowering digital environment for all Nigerians.

A.2.3: Advocacy at national and international (ACHPR) level to urge the Nigerian government to strengthen digital rights legislation based on international standards and EU norms

The project engaged in extensive advocacy to encourage the Nigerian government to act on digital rights. This advocacy was holistic and involved all relevant stakeholders. Activists and stakeholders were also involved to help make an impact and highlight the urgent need for reform.

A.2.3.1: National level: Advocacy meetings and national Conference on Digital Rights

The e-RIGHTS project held more than 40 bilateral meetings with senior government authorities, regulators and civil society actors at national and state levels in Nigeria. These meetings addressed key concerns such as social media over-regulation, data privacy, internet restrictions and shutdowns, freedom of expression, and unlawful digital surveillance. Stakeholders reaffirmed their commitment strengthen digital rights protections. As part of the national advocacy, the project submitted a memorandum during the Senate's public hearing on the cybercrime bill on 22 November 2023, and its recommendation on Section 24 was adopted. CITAD was charged to lead the advocacy component, preparing targeted actions toward Members of Parliament.

In addition of the advocacy meetings, in January 2026, a National Conference on Digital rights will be organised in Abuja, to expose the conclusions of the drafted digital reform policy guide. This activity

will be the culmination of all the advocacy work undertaken in the project and will conclude in the publication of the conference proceedings.

A.2.3.2: National level: Legislative advocacy

Under this activity, the project engaged with parliamentarians using the policy guide developed by the expert group for legislative reforms on digital rights. This activity will ensure the work of the technical expert group in A2.2.2 translates to national legislation. Technical advocacy and working meetings were held with the relevant committees of the national legislature at the House of Representatives and Senate level to inspire legislative reforms in digital rights.

In November 2025, the project, alongside PIN organised a residential retreat with legislators to review key digital rights bills, including the Digital Rights and Freedom Bill, the AI Bill and amendments to data protection and cybercrime laws. Organized with civil society partners, this two-day retreat in Lagos for 30 legislators,senior aides and selected CSOs was implemented to strengthen their technical capacity to debate and shape these bills. (16 Legislators were physically report)

A.2.3.3: International level: Participation to the ACHPR ordinary sessions and organisation of side-events

The e-RIGHTS project organized and hosted three high-level digital rights panels during side events at the ACHPR 81st and 85th Ordinary Sessions in Banjul, gathering over 200 participants from across Africa. The first session in 2024, conducted in English and French, examined major issues such as press freedom, state surveillance, online censorship and shrinking digital civic space. The second session in 2025 focused on AI and Human Rights in Africa: Navigating the Future of Governance and Development The third session, organised in a hotel in Banjul during the 85th Ordinary Session, included an event on Freedom of Expression and Digital Surveillance in Africa.

Delegates also attended the ACHPR opening sessions to reinforce advocacy on Nigeria's digital rights situation. The panels generated actionable recommendations, including recognizing internet access as a human right and addressing state-imposed restrictions on expression. These recommendations were integrated into the NGO forum's outcomes and submitted to the ACHPR for follow-up at the regional level. The events strengthened regional visibility of digital rights challenges in Nigeria and Africa and triggered multiple requests for future collaboration. The events were also a mean to promote and valorise the results and tools of the e-Rights project such as the digital learning platform, the Digital Rights Reform Policy Guide (DRRPG) and the "Closing Civic Spaces" digital platform.

A.2.4: Use of strategic litigation on for digital rights violations.

The eRIGHTS project is pursuing two strategic digital rights cases before the ECOWAS Court to strengthen regional accountability for violations. The first case concerns a journalist targeted for his online activism during the #endbadgovernance protests, whose rights to freedom of expression, assembly, and movement were threatened; the project is providing him with full legal support. The second case involves another journalist arrested by the DSS for reporting on sensitive operations and now suffering from trauma, with the project offering legal and psychosocial support as she considers pursuing action. These cases highlight increasing risks faced by journalists and activists, including censorship, intimidation and reprisals for online expression.

A.2.5: Raising people's awareness on digital rights

In addition to advocacy, the project also aims to raise awareness, inform and mobilise the Nigerian population, and more specifically young people and women.

A.2.5.1: Raising awareness of young people and women in schools on digital rights

Until October 2025, the project conducted digital rights awareness sessions in 43 schools across Lagos, Imo, Kano, and Abuja (far exceeding the target of 20) and reached 4,723 students instead of the planned 1,750. These interactive sessions taught students about digital rights, online risks, and responsible digital citizenship through open discussions. Themes covered included online safety, privacy, cybersecurity, online GBV, cyberbullying, freedom of expression, and identifying fake news.

Thanks to the approval of a new addendum, by the end of the project, 10 new awareness-raising sessions on digital rights for schoolchildren and students will be held, amplifying the impact of education on protection in the digital space.

A.2.5.2: Inter-school competition at federal level and at national level to promote digital creativity

From September 2024 to February 2025, the e-RIGHTS project successfully organized inter-school competitions on digital rights for secondary schools across four project states—Abuja, Lagos, Imo and Kano. The competition themed "Say No to Cyberbullying," challenged students to produce engaging and thought-provoking videos, , addressing the dangers of cyberbullying, its societal impact, and practical strategies for prevention and response.

In May 2025, the national inter-school competition was hosted in Abuja, bringing together the winners from each project state to compete for the grand prize. This national finale served as a culmination of the students' efforts, further amplifying the message of digital rights advocacy and solidifying the project's impact on the younger generation.

A.2.5.3: Information videos by Nigerian influencers on cybersecurity, digital education and freedom of expression posted on social media

In order to sensitise the maximum population, actions had also been undertaken using new technologies, of which social media are an integral part. On this activity, 9 influencers video had been produced and shared on social medias to promote digital rights in Nigeria.

A.2.5.4: Online communication campaign and competition to promote digital rights

In addition to the production of regular publications on social medias, the project launched two extensive digital rights competitions among Nigerian women during the 16 days of activism 2024 and 2025. These competitions involved Nigerian women producing awareness-raising videos on the theme of "Women facing threats on online, a digital rights violation".

Moreover, to scale up public awareness on digital rights issues, the project organised 6 radio and 2 television sensitization programmes.

A.2.5.5: Raising people's awareness on digital rights

In addition to organising workshops, side events and raising people's awareness activities, the e-Rights project partners promoted digital rights at events open to the public. This activity has the dual objective of raising awareness among the public about the complex issue of digital rights and advocating for better protection of freedoms in the digital space. As a result, the partners organised a panel session at the 7th Privacy Symposium Africa; regionally recognized platform, convening legal experts, policymakers, data privacy professionals, industry leaders, and civil society, in Lagos in November 2025.

3. Organisation of the impact evaluation

3.1. Context

The e-Rights project's impact evaluation was designed as a continuation of the external midterm evaluation that took place in November 2024. It aims to produce an objective analysis of the results achieved—or not—by the consortium over the long term, the effects generated by the actions carried out at various levels (individual, societal, and structural), and among the different groups targeted (direct and indirect beneficiaries). It also assesses the sustainability of these effects and their potential to endure even after the project has ended.

This impact evaluation helps examine the actual capacity for action of ASF France and its partners, the limits of their intervention, and possible areas for improvement, while highlighting their contribution to the observed changes regarding the strengthening of the positive role of civil society, particularly regarding the digital rights in Nigeria. As such, it contributes more broadly to the consortium's ongoing reflection and capitalization efforts, aimed at improving responses to the needs and demands of beneficiaries, especially the most vulnerable, within its projects.

3.2. Objectives

This impact evaluation is contractual and was planned from the project design phase. It must provide all stakeholders and financial partners with an external opinion on the implementation of the programme, the achievement of results, its successes and weaknesses, its impact on capacity building for journalists, judges, lawyers and human rights defenders, on the legal defence of digital rights, on improving relations between civil society and the authorities, on structural reforms and on raising awareness of the defence of rights in the digital space.

Through this analysis, the evaluation will also measure the project's indirect impact by examining the structural changes generated by the consortium's actions among the final beneficiaries—namely the populations of Nigeria and local and central authorities. The impact evaluation must be conducted at least four months after the end of the project to assess medium- and long-term effects (May to July 2026).
Using the methodological tools proposed by the impact evaluation team, it should aim to:
- Analyse the impact of the project on capacity building for human rights defenders, journalists, bloggers, lawyers and judges, asking in particular: What were the short- and long-term effects of the trainings on their professional practices? Did the MOOC effectively build the capacity of individuals who could not attend in-person sessions?
- Analyse the impact of the project on citizen participation and access to information, asking in particular whether human rights defenders have adopted and meaningfully used the "Closing Civic Space" platform and whether this tool is relevant and effective. Have schoolchildren integrated key concepts of their digital rights through awareness-raising activities? Was the communication campaign, especially the components involving influencers, successful?
- Analyse the impact of the project on Nigerian legislation, asking in particular: whether the advocacy strategy, despite its late implementation, was relevant and effective in influencing legislative actors. Have legislators become more aware of the need to legislate on digital rights through a human-rights-based approach? Has the project had, or is it likely to have, a lasting impact on Nigerian regulations and legal frameworks?
- Analyse the impact of the project on changes related to the protection of people's rights in the digital space, asking in particular: to what extent the project contributed to strengthening freedom of expression for journalists and bloggers? Did legal assistance, especially in cases brought before the ECOWAS Court of Justice, have an impact on the behaviour or practices of Nigerian authorities? Will human rights defenders be more likely to assert their rights in court? Have interventions during regional events, particularly at the ACHPR, helped promote digital rights in the region?
- Analyse the impact of the project on collective and multi-stakeholder dynamics, asking in particular whether the project created the conditions for a shared recognition of the importance of digital rights among direct and indirect beneficiaries.

- Analyse the impact of the project on to know whether Nigerian authorities and human rights defenders have established spaces for sustainable dialogue, whether digital rights have become a more prominent public issue, and whether citizens, particularly human rights defenders, are paying increased attention to their rights in the digital space.
- Analyse all direct and indirect cumulative impacts of the project on strengthening digital rights as a means to improve the protection of human rights and citizens in the digital sphere.
- Formulate recommendations on approaches and methodologies to be prioritised for complementary and/or future projects led by e-Rights partners and Nigerian stakeholders, to strengthen the positive role of civil society in strengthening digital rights in Nigeria.

3.3. Methodology

a) <u>Drawing up an overall assessment of the e-Rights project</u>

The consultant will have to draw up a global and objective assessment of the project's actions since its inception. This stage should provide the consultant with precise and detailed knowledge of the project, its development and its context. To this end, the consultant must in particular:

- Gather and consult all the information and documents relating to the project being evaluated and study the logical framework of the intervention (purpose, specific objectives, outputs, monitoring indicators and critical hypotheses) in order to gain a good understanding of it. The documents to be consulted will be available from the project manager.
- Conduct interviews with people who are or have been involved in the design, management and supervision of the project.
- Identify key evaluation questions, scope limitations, and data gaps, and propose ways to address them using appropriate qualitative and quantitative methods.
- Reconstruct the baseline situation where possible, to contextualize observed changes and map the project's theory of change to understand causal pathways and underlying assumptions.

At the end of this phase, the consultant(s) will have a good understanding of the project and will be able to assess the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of each activity. The consultant(s) will have their initial observations, the adjusted methodology and theory of change validated by the project team during a meeting.

b) <u>Conducting an evaluative analysis</u>

Based on available findings and information, the impact evaluation team must assess the project's performance and sustainability both retrospectively and prospectively.

- **Retrospectively**, the aim is to identify what key stakeholders in Nigeria (civil society, authorities, media) gained from the implementation of the e-Rights project during execution and more than four months after its completion.
- **Prospectively**, the aim is to define ways to sustain project actions, identify potential future challenges and determine areas where civil society requires support to address these challenges.

The consultant will be responsible for conducting a thorough impact analysis of the e-Rights project, focusing on both immediate outcomes and early signals of longer-term effects. This analysis should identify and assess changes observed among direct and indirect beneficiaries, including human rights defenders, journalists, influencers, justice-sector actors, and civil society partners. The consultant is expected to examine how the project contributed to these changes, using a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. This includes:

- Reviewing project documentation, monitoring data, and reports.
- Conducting interviews and focus groups with key stakeholders.
- Triangulating information from multiple sources to ensure reliability and validity.

The consultant will assess the adoption and use of project tools, changes in knowledge, practices, and behaviours, as well as the emergence of multi-stakeholder dynamics and institutional dialogue. Particular attention should be given to understanding the factors that facilitated or hindered observed changes, and to identifying unintended or indirect effects. The consultant will also provide evidence-

based conclusions on the project's contributions to immediate outcomes, conditions for sustainability, and potential longer-term impact, and formulate practical recommendations for reinforcing the impact of future or complementary initiatives in the field of digital rights in Nigeria. The results should be presented in a clear and structured manner, supported by concrete examples and documented evidence.

The consortium has identified four phases for implementing the impact evaluation:
- Methodological scoping of the impact analysis process (defining impact/qualifying effects/determining impact criticality)
- Reading of project documents (project documents, reports, minutes, mid-term evaluation, monitoring tools), data collection and interviews with beneficiaries, partners, EU Delegation, the "pôle expertise" (French volunteer lawyers supporting the project), ASF France team and other stakeholders (parliamentarians, public authorities, National Union of Journalists, Nigerian Bar Association, etc.).
- Interim restitution with the e-Rights consortium
- Final restitution after validation of the final report by the e-Rights consortium and the EU Delegation

The evaluation team may propose additional elements for approval by the e-Rights consortium.

3.4. Duration of the assessment

The duration will be proposed by the evaluation team in its bid. However, the impact evaluation must begin in **May 2026**, approximately four months after the end of the project, to allow sufficient time to assess medium-term effects and identify potential long-term impacts. The final version must be sent to ASF France before **20 July 2026.**
Interviews must be conducted in person in Nigeria with beneficiaries and local partners, and/or remotely with consortium members based in France, in accordance with the methodology proposed by the evaluation team.

3.5. Deliverables

- An inception report including the strategy/methodology of the impact evaluation, which will be presented, reviewed and validated by the consortium before the evaluation begins in the field.
- A presentation of the evaluation's initial results to the e-Rights consortium before the final report.
- A provisional final report produced at the end of the impact evaluation. It will be submitted to the e-Rights consortium, which may provide comments. The consortium will submit remarks and observations within two weeks after receiving the provisional report.
- The final report, incorporating these observations, must be delivered within 15 days of receiving comments. If certain remarks reflect differences in judgment not shared by the consultant(s), they may be annexed to the final report and commented on by the consultant(s). The report must clearly and unambiguously include the changes brought about by the project; the level of achievement of the results in relation to the indicators in the project's logical framework; concrete recommendations, to reinforce the sustainability and impact of the actions carried out, including possible courses of action for a new project proposal.
- A four-page summary, easily readable and educational, for distribution to the general public.

Both the provisional and final reports must be submitted in electronic format. The final report will remain the property of the consortium members, who will be responsible for its distribution.

4. PRACTICALITIES

4.1. The skills required to carry out the impact evaluation

- 7 years' professional experience in monitoring and evaluation and/or impact evaluation, particularly in the cooperation and development sector.

- Knowledge and technical expertise in the justice and human rights sector.
- Significant project evaluation experience in Nigeria.
- Adequate language skills. The report must be written in English.
- Experience in preparing and conducting surveys (qualitative, quantitative, etc.) is essential.
- Experience of project evaluation in the field of digital rights would be an asset.

4.2. The evaluation budget

The maximum budget for the evaluation is €30,000 including VAT.

4.3. Consultant selection process

Candidates (structures or independent individuals) interested in carrying out this evaluation must provide the following documents by **4th January 2026** at the latest to office.nigeria@avocatssansfrontieres-france.org and coordination@avocatssansfrontieres-france.org
- A note explaining the terms of reference and presenting the methodology used, including evaluative questions.
- The consultant's references and experience over the last 10 years.
- Detailed CV and copies of the consultant's performance evaluations from the last two years for other similar evaluations.
- Provisional timetable.
- A financial offer including the overall budget (excluding tax and including all taxes) and detailed prices (fees, daily allowances, transport, etc.).

The tenders received in accordance with the above will be analysed according to the following criteria:

For the Technical Proposal, the following criteria will be considered:
- Specific experience of the Consultant applicable to the assignment
- Appropriateness of the proposed methodology and work plan to the Terms of Reference
- Qualifications and competence of the Consultant for the assignment.

Table - Allocation of points for the evaluation of Technical Proposals

Assessment criteria	Points
References and specific experience of the firm and consultant(s) applicable to the assignment	30
Appropriateness of the proposed methodology and work plan to the Terms of Reference	50
Qualifications and skills of the Consultant(s)	20
Total	100

The minimum technical qualification score (Nt) required is: 80

For the Financial Proposal, the following criteria will be considered:
- Total amount of the bid – 60 points
- Relevance and budgetary consistency - 40 points

The minimum financial qualification score required is: 80

The weightings attributed respectively to the Technical Proposal (T) and the Financial Proposal (F) are:
- The technical proposal accounts for 75% of the score.
- The financial proposal accounts for 25% of the score.