

# Renewing Nigeria's anti-corruption agenda

## Pathways for change and reflections on 25 years of policy

**Wednesday 19 March 2025 | 09:00 – 13:30 WAT**

Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Centre, Abuja FCT, Nigeria | and online via Zoom

Over the past 25 years, Nigeria has developed a broad set of anti-corruption frameworks and institutions. Yet corruption remains endemic at multiple levels of society, a reality that has corroded public trust in government, stunted economic growth, and weakened Nigeria's external standing. Corruption's resilience – despite the raft of legislation and government bodies created over the last quarter-century – continues to underscore the limitations of top-down policy and legislative responses.

Effective strategies require an understanding of the social drivers and enablers of corrupt practices, as well as the environments in which they occur. Over the last decade an increasing appetite for behavioural change approaches to anti-corruption has emerged in Nigeria, on which the Chatham House Africa Programme's Social Norms and Accountable Governance (SNAG) project has built a body of evidence and analysis since 2016. But work remains to maximise implementation and integration within wider anti-corruption frameworks.

This conference will take stock of progress in Nigeria's corruption landscape across the last 25 years and explore opportunities for a sustained renewal of the anti-corruption agenda. It will launch a new Chatham House research paper, part of the SNAG project, that makes a case for a networked approach to anti-corruption at multiple levels, from civil society and private sector through to government.

***This conference and the work of Chatham House's SNAG project are supported by the MacArthur Foundation.***



# Conference Agenda

- 08:15 – 09:00 Registration and refreshments
- 09:00 – 09:10 **Welcome and opening remarks**  
**Bronwen Maddox**, Director and Chief Executive, Chatham House
- 09:10 – 09:30 **Keynote address**  
**Dr Obiageli Ezekwesili**, Founder-Chairperson, School of Politics, Policy and Governance (SPPG); Minister of Education (2006-2007)
- 09:30 – 11:00 **Session 1 – Taking stock: 25 years of anti-corruption efforts in Nigeria**  
*Evaluating legal and criminal justice mechanisms*  
**Professor Etannibi Alemika**, Professor of Criminology and Sociology of Law, University of Jos  
*Tracing the impact and limits of anti-corruption research*  
**Dr Osasuyi Dirisu**, Executive Director, Policy Innovation Centre; Senior Fellow, Nigerian Economic Summit Group (NESG) *virtual*  
*Public perceptions of corruption*  
**Princess Aruoriwoh-Esmer Chifiero**, Anti-Corruption Coordinator, UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Nigeria  
*Reform efforts in the public service*  
**Hadiza Bala Usman**, Special Adviser to the President of Nigeria on Policy & Coordination  
*The role of Nigerian civil society in tackling corruption*  
**Odeh Friday**, Country Director, Accountability Lab Nigeria  
**Chair: Soji Apampa**, Co-Founder and CEO, Integrity Nigeria
- 11:00 – 11:45 Tea & coffee break
- 11:45 – 13:15 **Session 2 – Looking ahead: a participatory, multi-level approach to anti-corruption**  
*Unlocking the influence of anti-corruption reformers*  
**Dr Leena Koni Hoffmann**, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House; Lead Researcher, SNAG Project  
*Addressing barriers for collective citizen engagement*  
**Yemi Adamolekun**, Executive Director, Enough is Enough  
*Priorities for Nigeria's anti-corruption agencies*  
**Dr Abdullahi Usman Bello**, Chairman, Code of Conduct Bureau (CCB)  
*Linking change in Nigeria's public and private sectors*  
**Babatunde Irukera**, Former Executive Vice Chair, Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC)  
**Chair: Nabilah Usman**, Head of Programme, Radio Now
- 13:15 – 13:30 **Closing remarks**  
**Fergus Kell**, Project Manager & Research Analyst, Africa Programme, Chatham House  
**Dr Kole A. Shettima**, Co-Director, On Nigeria; Director, Nigeria Office, MacArthur Foundation
- 13:30 Lunch