

**Centre for Human Rights, Health, Ethnic
Harmony and Livelihood Development (CHHELD)
a.k.a Harmony Centre**



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

This annual report showcases our achievements, resilience, and commitment to delivering value. Join us as we reflect on past milestones and look ahead to an even brighter future.





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is with great pride that I present this executive summary, highlighting the impactful strides CHHELD has made in 2024 towards advancing health, governance, financial accountability, and advocacy in Rivers State and beyond. Our unwavering commitment to driving meaningful change has fostered collaborations with key stakeholders, strengthened our advocacy efforts, and expanded our outreach across various thematic areas.

Mission Accomplishments: In 2024, CHHELD continued to make significant strides towards achieving our mission of *achieving peace through partnerships and support to the weak*. Through dedicated efforts and collaborative initiatives, we reached over 3,000 beneficiaries, positively impacting our immediate community and fostering sustainable positive change.

Impactful Programs: Our programs and projects in 2024 addressed critical issues such as health, gender equality, social inclusion, environmental pollution, tackling multiple taxation, combating consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages, etc. In course of the year, CHHELD played a pivotal role in commemorating the 2024 World Tuberculosis Day in Rivers State. Partnering with the Rivers State Ministry of Health and the Civil Society for the Eradication of Tuberculosis in Nigeria (TB NETWORK), we facilitated awareness campaigns and hosted, reinforcing our collective commitment to eradicating TB.

Additionally, our dedication to menstrual health advocacy saw us securing legislative support in Khana Local Government Area. Through strategic advocacy, we engaged the Khana Legislative House and the Secretary of Khana LGA to push for a bye-law establishing reusable eco-friendly pad banks in 10 public secondary schools. Strengthening this initiative, we engaged the Rivers State Ministry of Education to promote sustainable menstrual health solutions.

Governance and Legislative Contributions: In fostering inclusivity and democratic participation, CHHELD actively participated in the South-South Zonal Legislative Interactive Session organized by the National Assembly Joint Committee on Electoral Matters in partnership with UN Women. This platform provided a voice for women, youth, and political stakeholders to engage in discussions that will inform electoral reforms and promote transparency in governance.

Furthermore, CHHELD was well-represented at the Financial Accountability Retreat for Sub-Nationals and Civil Society Organizations. This retreat, organized by the Fiscal Responsibility Commission and facilitated by OrderPaper, enabled engagement with key anti-corruption agencies and policymakers on strengthening financial accountability at sub-national levels.

Capacity Strengthening and Partnerships: CHHELD continues to prioritize capacity-building for emerging CSOs. Our participation in the Organizational Capacity Strengthening hybrid session, hosted by the Agents for Citizen-Driven Transformation (ACT) program, focused on strategic development, communication, and advocacy—equipping organizations with the necessary tools for sustainable impact.

Our commitment to financial transparency and equitable governance was reinforced through participation in the Tax Justice and Governance Learning Session in collaboration with OXFAM and CISLAC. This session provided insights into global and local tax policies, emphasizing civil society's role in ensuring tax justice and accountability.



In our pursuit of transformative change, we have partnered with Rise Up to champion menstrual health advocacy in Rivers State. This partnership aims to address menstrual health management challenges while advocating for policy reforms that support adolescent girls.

Recognition: CHHELD's invaluable contributions were recognized with a certificate of partnership from the European Union's ACT program, marking a significant milestone in our journey of impactful collaboration.

Challenges and Resilience: While navigating the challenges posed by scarcity of funds, change of program staff and lack of some equipment and tools for project implementation, CHHELD demonstrated resilience and adaptability. Our ability to pivot and address unforeseen obstacles underscored our commitment to the communities we serve.

Gratitude and Acknowledgments: We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our staff, donors, supporters, volunteers, and partners who have played an integral role in our journey. Your unwavering commitment empowers CHHELD to continue making a meaningful impact on the lives of those in need.

Looking Forward: Reflecting on our achievements, CHHELD remains dedicated to creating positive change through advocacy, community engagement, and strategic partnerships. We look forward to building on our successes, fostering stronger collaborations, championing initiatives that will create a more equitable and sustainable future in the society.

Thank you for your continued support.

BRIGGS IBIBOBO

Chairperson, Board of Trustee, CHHELD

ABOUT CHHELD

The Centre for Human Rights, Health, Ethnic Harmony and Livelihood Development (CHHELD) is a non-profit, non-political and non-governmental organization established in the Year 2015 but duly registered on the 28th day of November, 2018 with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC). We are a research-based organization geared towards providing succor in areas such as Human Rights, Health (access to primary health care), Peace and Conflict Resolutions and Poverty Alleviation. Our core target beneficiaries are the Less Privileged, People living with Disability, Host Communities of the extractive sector and the Nigerian populace at large.

Address:

Our head office (Harmony Centre) is located at Bank of Industry – Rivers State University (BOI-RSU) Innovation Hub, Faculty of Management Sciences, Rivers State University, Nkpolu, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria. We also have focal persons'/field offices in all the states of the federation including the FCT.

Our Vision:

We envision a world where all races coexist healthily and care for each other leaving no one behind.

Our Mission:

To achieve peace through partnerships and support to the weak.

GOAL:

To promote human rights, demand for participatory and responsive governance at all levels.

Core Thematic Areas:



2024 HIGHLIGHTS



Community Outreach:

CHHELD Commemorates 2024 World Tuberculosis Day in Rivers State

In Rivers State, the 2024 world TB Day celebration commenced on 19th March 2024 with sensitization campaigns. The grand finale with the theme, **“Yes, we can end TB, get involved”** was held on 25th March, 2024 at Rumuwoji playground in Diobu area of Port Harcourt with a novelty football match between Rivers Team and TB team. The Rivers Team won TB team by 3-0. The purpose is to enhance collaboration in ensuring that TB is eradicated out of Rivers State. This activity was conducted with Rivers State Ministry of Health in conjunction with the Civil Society for the Eradication of Tuberculosis in Nigeria (TB NETWORK).

Other activities include integrated community sensitization/treatment on malaria, HIV, and TB. Some community health workers and health centres were rewarded by the State Government for their excellent performance towards ending TB in Rivers State. [Read more](#)

Project Close-out Ceremony:

CHHELD Receives a Certificate of Recognition for her Invaluable Partnership with the EU-ACT

The Agents for Citizen-Driven Transformation (ACT) programme is a 5-years (2019-2024) project, implemented by the British Council and funded by the European Union. The close-out ceremony held in Port Harcourt, on 26th March 2024, bringing together the implementing partners, MDAs, CSOs, and other stakeholders, to share success of the ACT program in Rivers State, creating platform for more collaborations



The impact of the capacity building workshops, coaching and mentorship sessions of the EU-ACT program on CHHELD was also highlighted by David Prince. He mentioned that, with the grant received from the EU, the organization recorded a great impact through the project [Read more](#)

Partnership Alert

CHHELD ready to partner with Rise Up, to champion Menstrual Health Advocacy in Rivers State

We are thrilled to have officially engaged Rise Up in the month of May 2024, for a project that pioneers menstrual health advocacy, environmental sustainability, and advocacy for transformative policy change in Khana Local Government Area of Rivers State, addressing the challenges faced by adolescent girls. We communicated some intriguing issues in the local communities of Khana. This collaboration seeks to address the critical aspect of menstrual health management, ensuring that girls have access to safe and dignified menstrual hygiene resources without stigma.



Menstrual hygiene management is a significant challenge for many adolescent girls, particularly in under-resourced communities. Lack of access to sanitary products, inadequate menstrual education, and societal stigmas can lead to poor health outcomes, increased school absenteeism, and diminished self-esteem. CHHELD has been committed to addressing these issues through various initiatives, and this partnership represents a transformative milestone in expanding the impact, ensuring that more girls have the resources they need to thrive, and make significant strides towards gender equality. [Read more](#)



Women Participation in Governance and Politics:

CHHELD Attends South-South Zonal Legislative Session

Port Harcourt City hosted a significant South-South Zonal Legislative Interactive Session by the National Assembly Joint Committee on Electoral Matters, in partnership with the UN Women. The event took place from 18th to 19th July 2024 with the theme **“Legislation, Women and Elections in Difficult Terrain: (Beating the Odds)”**. This interactive session provided an opportunity for women, young people, professionals, political parties, and other election stakeholders from the south-south region to be in the same room with legislators, to discuss issues related to electoral processes, particularly focusing on women and fostering a more democratic society amidst challenging conditions.

The outcome of these discussions will be part of the input, insights, recommendations, and basis for reforming the Electoral Act 2022, contributing to shaping a more inclusive and transparent electoral framework. [Read more](#)

CSO Engagement:

CHHELD attends Financial Accountability Retreat for Sub-Nationals and Civil Society Organizations

Financial Accountability Retreat for Sub-Nationals and Civil Societies held on 2nd – 3rd September, 2024 with stakeholders from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), media houses, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), the National Orientation Agency (NOA), the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC), and other Ministries Departments & Agencies (MDAs).



The 6 states across the zone were represented during this epoch-making retreat with the theme **“Strengthening Financial Accountability at Sub-National Levels”**. This event is organized by the Fiscal Responsibility Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and facilitated by [Read more](#)



Organizational Strengthening:

CHHELD attends hybrid session on Organizational Capacity Strengthening for Emerging CSOs in Rivers State

Organizational Capacity Strengthening for Emerging CSOs in Rivers State was organized by Agents for Citizen Driven Transformation (ACT) in partnership with the European Union/British Council. This hybrid meeting held on 18th November 2024, focusing on three crucial areas: Organizational Strategy Development, Communication, and Advocacy

The key points discussed include: identifying organizational strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT analysis), setting short term and long term goals that aligns with the mission and vision of the organization, developing a result-based management framework to monitor progress effectively, importance of transparency, leveraging digital platforms (social media, email marketing etc) to amplify organizational initiatives, and communication strategies for managing reputational [risks](#).

CSO Engagement:

CHHELD participates in Tax Justice and Governance Learning Session

The Tax Justice and Governance Platform held a learning session in collaboration with OXFAM and CISLAC on the 20th of November, 2024. The meeting was organized to discuss pertinent issues related to tax justice and governance. Mr Amaechi Kelechi (Rivers State Tax Justice & Governance forum coordinator) welcomed attendees and highlighted the importance of the session in addressing issues of tax justice, good governance, and to enhance members' capacity in advocating for transparent and equitable governance structures.



The presentation sessions covered the following areas:

- Trends in global and local tax policies
- The role of civil society in promoting transparency and accountability
- The need for a coordinated approach to advocate for tax [justice](#)



Sustainable Menstrual Health Advocacy:

ALAM-H Project Gain Legislative Support in Khana LGA

CHHELD held a pivotal advocacy visit with members of the Khana Legislative House, to deliberate on the necessity of legislative action in tackling menstrual health challenges among schoolgirls in Khana LGA. CHHELD sought for commitment of the Khana LGA Legislators to enact a bye-law within the next 12 months, allocating a monthly budget to support the establishment and sustainability of reusable eco-friendly pad banks in 10 public secondary schools within the LGA.

The activity aligns with the Advocacy for Legislative Action on Menstrual Health (ALAM-H) project, with support from Rise Up. This initiative aims to improve menstrual hygiene management, reduce school absenteeism, and create economic opportunities for local women through pad production training. The meeting was attended by members of the Khana Legislative House and CHHELD representatives, including the Committee Chairman on Health and Development: Hon. Rita Obani – Representing the good people of ward 5. [Read more](#)

Sustainable Menstrual Health Advocacy:

CHHELD Leads Advocacy for Eco-friendly Menstrual Health Solutions in Khana LGA

CHHELD successfully conducted an advocacy visit to the Secretary of Khana Local Government Area: Dr Henry Kpunne on the 2nd day of December 2025, to seek support for the enactment of a bye law with a monthly budget allocation, for the establishment of reusable eco-friendly menstrual hygiene pad banks in 10 public secondary schools in Khana LGA.



This initiative is part of the Advocacy for Legislative Action on Menstrual Health (ALAM-H) project with support from Rise Up, which seeks to combat menstrual hygiene challenges faced by female students. The ALAM-H project will ensure that female students have access to sustainable menstrual products. Also, vulnerable women in the community will be trained on eco-friendly pad-making skills using locally sourced materials, thereby creating economic opportunities while addressing menstrual hygiene concerns [Read more](#)



Sustainable Menstrual Health Advocacy:

CHHELD Engages Rivers State Ministry of Education to Promote Sustainable Menstrual Health in Khana LGA

In a significant move towards addressing menstrual health challenges faced by young females in public secondary schools, CHHELD has secured a strategic partnership with the Rivers State Ministry of Education. This high-level meeting was held on 3rd December 2024, at the Ministry's office to discuss CHHELD's menstrual health advocacy project, which is set to benefit young female students in 10 public secondary schools across Khana Local Government Area.

The meeting was attended by representatives from CHHELD, alongside key officials from the Secondary Education Department. This focused on CHHELD's ongoing intervention to pioneer menstrual health advocacy and environmental sustainability in Khana LGA of Rivers State, addressing challenges faced by adolescent girls. [Read more](#)

CSO Engagement

CHHELD attends Tax-to-Service Write-Shop in Port Harcourt

The Tax-to-Service write-Shop highlighted the annual event's focus on addressing tax issues, particularly those affecting small and nano businesses. It emphasized the Tax Justice Platform's principle of "fair and progressive taxation," advocating for a tax system where large businesses pay more taxes than small ones. It stressed that big businesses, which generate higher profits, should bear a larger share of the tax burden, as small businesses are crucial to the nation's economy and must not be taxed to the point of suffocation. This event took place on 17th December 2024.



Participants shared insights from a recent meeting with Cisco Reforms, where key issues such as the 5% extraction tax and taxes on locally manufactured goods were discussed. They noted that such taxes negatively impact the economy, highlighting the need for reforms. They also addressed the financial autonomy of local government councils, emphasizing the importance of holding them accountable for taxes and levies [collected](#).

Workshop

CHHELD partner with NYSC on Menstrual Health and Hygiene Workshop in Cross River State

The Centre for Human Rights, Health, Ethnic Harmony and Livelihood Development (CHHELD), in partnership with the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), organized a Menstrual Health and Hygiene Workshop for over 200 female students at Treasure Child School, Akamkpa LGA, Cross River State. This initiative was designed to raise awareness about menstrual hygiene, address period poverty, promote Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) prevention, debunk myths and misconceptions, and advocate for sustainable menstrual health practices.



The workshop featured interactive sessions on menstruation, proper hygiene practices, and environmental impact of menstrual product disposal. The female students actively participated, asking insightful questions and sharing personal experiences related to menstrual health, period poverty and stigma surrounding [menstruation](#).



KEY PARTNERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS IN 2024

In 2024, CHHELD has embraced transformative collaborations that shape our impactful journey. Grounded in shared values, these partnerships have strengthened our mission, expanded our reach, and driven meaningful progress. Together, we have planted the seeds of change and nurtured a future built on collective success.

Partners and organizations CHHELD formed alliances with in 2024.

1	Civil Society for the eradication of Tuberculosis in Nigeria (TB-Network)
2	The European Union Agents for Citizen-Driven Transformation (EU-ACT)
3	The National Assembly Joint Committee on Electoral Matters
4	Fiscal Responsibility Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
5	European Union
6	British Council
7	National Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Tax Coalition (NSSBTC)
8	Gender and Menstrual Justice Network
9	Rivers State Tax Justice and Governance platform (RSTJGP)
10	Afrihealth Optonet Association
11	Rise Up
12	Youth Model African Union
13	National Youth Service Corps

AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT OF 2024

Link to our audited financial report 2024

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ow0_98iOEKxFVdbGJqw8QGypWnKC2f56/view?usp=sharing

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