

**NATIONWIDE CAPACITY- BUILDING TRAINING FOR COUNSELLORS
OF THE NATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY ON
STANDARD POLICY AND PRACTICE GUIDELINES AT NDLEA
ACADEMY, JOS**



Brig. Gen. Mohamed Buba Marwa (Rtd.), CON, OFR

Chairman/Chief Executive Officer, NDLEA, Nigeria.

In a major step toward standardizing addiction care across the country, the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), through its Directorate of Counseling, Treatment, and Rehabilitation (DCTR), has flagged off a six-day intensive training program for one hundred (100) counselors drawn from across all its formations.



Participants and trainers in a group photograph, at the NDLEA Academy, Jos

The capacity-building exercise, which commenced on 10th August, 2026, at the NDLEA Academy in Jos, represents the first Agency-funded training program dedicated specifically to its counseling workforce in several years. Approved directly by the Chairman/Chief Executive Officer, the decision has been widely commended by the participants as highlighting the leadership's visionary commitment to strengthening the rehabilitation pillar of the Agency's mandate.

According to the Director of Counselling, Treatment and Rehabilitation, the training is essential for enhancing staff morale, strengthening professional competence, and expanding clinical skills to effectively respond to the emerging and increasing challenges of psychoactive substance use, including the complex co-occurring mental health conditions associated with substance use disorders.

Core Objectives of the Training

- **To harmonize Operational Protocols:** Establish uniform practice guidelines across all State Command rehabilitation facilities to ensure consistent, high-quality service delivery.
- **To elevate Clinical Proficiency:** Train counselors in modern, evidence-based therapeutic techniques to effectively handle contemporary addiction challenges.

- **To align with Global Benchmarks:** Elevate internal rehabilitation practices to meet national and international quality-of-care standards.
- **To strengthen Ethics & Quality Control:** Reinforce client confidentiality, uphold patient rights, and mitigate operational risks through robust ethical frameworks.
- **To standardize Data Management:** Implement unified record-keeping and monitoring systems to generate empirical data for future policy formulation and research.
- **To foster Ongoing Professional Development:** Build an institutional culture of continuous learning, peer review, and structured clinical supervision.
- **To improve Patient Outcomes:** Maximize treatment success rates while eliminating inconsistencies across NDLEA treatment facilities nationwide.

This initiative underscores the Agency's dedication to building a resilient and skilled counseling professional capable of responding effectively to the nation's drug demand reduction needs. It is expected to significantly enhance the quality of care within the Agency's facilities and reinforce the integrity of Nigeria's drug rehabilitation efforts.

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