Analysis of Forensic Accounting Investigation in the Recovery of Looted Funds in Nigeria

RESEARCH ARTICLE

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ABSTRACT

This study analysed the role of forensic accounting investigation (Wallace, 1991; Crumbley, 2003) in the recovery of looted funds in Nigeria, a country ranked 140th out of 180 on Transparency International's 2024 Corruption Perception Index with a score of 26 (Transparency International, 2024). The research design used ex-post-facto design with the population of 938 ICPC staff. Panel data were used between the periods of 2019 - 2022 obtained from the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and ICPC reports between 2019 and 2022. Descriptive statistics and trend analysis were employed to analyse the frequency and trend between the assets and cash recovery, which have shown volatility patterns (Udefuna et al., 2025; Akinninyi et al., 2025). The findings reveal that forensic accounting significantly enhances the detection and tracing of illicit financial flows, particularly through advanced digital forensics, transaction monitoring, and lifestyle audits (Ezejiofor & Okonkwo, 2025; Omeremu & Jacob, 2025). The results show a positive and significant effect of forensic investigation on the volume of looted recovered funds, such as the N364.5 billion and $326.5 million recovered in 2024 (EFCC, 2025). However, the study also identifies institutional bottlenecks, including weak inter-agency collaboration, judicial delays, and inadequate technological infrastructure, which undermine recovery effectiveness (Udefuna et al., 2025). The study concludes that forensic accounting is a critical tool for combating corruption and recommends strengthening forensic capacity, adopting advanced analytics, and improving coordination among enforcement agencies.

Methodology

Ex-post-facto design using panel data from EFCC and ICPC reports 2019-2022

Key Variables

Assets recovery, cash recovery, court convictions, and forensic investigation techniques

Main Finding

Forensic accounting significantly enhances detection and recovery of looted funds

Keywords: Accounting, Forensic, Investigation, Looted Funds, Recovery.

INTRODUCTION

Forensic accounting traces its roots to the early 1800s in Glasgow, Scotland, and gained early application in the United States during the early 1900s when the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) employed forensic accountants to prosecute high-profile criminals such as Al Capone. Despite these early uses, the field remained relatively obscure until the surge of corporate scandals, economic crimes, and stricter financial reporting regulations in the late 20th and early 21st centuries brought it into the limelight (Wallace, 1991; Crumbley, 2003). Forensic accounting originated in the United States of America and was deployed by agencies such as the FBI, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to detect fraud. The discipline's modern relevance surged following the Enron scandal in 2000, which exposed the limitations of conventional audit and accounting practices and led to legislative reforms such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

01

Early Development

Forensic accounting traces its roots to early 1800s Glasgow, Scotland, with early FBI applications against criminals like Al Capone in the early 1900s.

02

Modern Evolution

The field gained prominence after corporate scandals and the Enron case in 2000, leading to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

03

Current Application

Now recognized globally as a critical mechanism for combating corporate malfeasance and financial crimes.

Forensic accounting integrates financial expertise, investigative skills, and knowledge of legal procedures to uncover fraud and resolve financial disputes. It has evolved into a global discipline taught in higher institutions worldwide and recognised as a critical mechanism for combating corporate malfeasance. In Nigeria, however, forensic accounting remains relatively new despite its growing recognition as an effective tool for detecting and preventing fraud. Scandals such as the Cadbury Nigeria Plc case underscore the inadequacy of traditional auditing in curbing financial irregularities. The discipline is often mistakenly equated with financial auditing, but it goes further by combining investigative techniques, professional skepticism, and legal acumen. Recent data from the EFCC indicates a recovery of N364.5 billion and $326.5 million in 2024, demonstrating the tangible impact of such efforts (EFCC, 2025).

Forensic accounting has been extensively studied in developed economies; empirical research on its practical application and effectiveness in Nigeria remains limited. Few studies have specifically assessed its role in the investigation and recovery of looted public funds (Ezejiofor & Okonkwo, 2025; Omeremu & Jacob, 2025), despite the country's persistent governance challenges, including corruption, budget padding, contract inflation, and misappropriation of public resources. Transparency International (2024) ranked Nigeria 140th out of 180 countries with a score of 26, further highlighting the severity of corruption, which remains a key driver of Nigeria's economic underperformance. Understanding the role of forensic accounting in combating financial crimes has both academic and policy relevance. This study addresses the gap by examining the impact of forensic accounting practices on the recovery of looted funds in Nigeria, also considering asset recovery volatility patterns (Udefuna et al., 2025; Akinninyi et al., 2025).

The persistent cases of large-scale corruption and mismanagement of public funds in Nigeria demand innovative, evidence-based financial crime investigation techniques. Forensic accountants, equipped with specialised accounting, auditing, and investigative skills, are uniquely positioned to address these challenges by gathering admissible evidence for legal proceedings. However, the lack of empirical insight into their effectiveness within the Nigerian context, along with institutional challenges and political cycles affecting recovery (Udefuna et al., 2025), limits both practice and policy interventions, making this research critical for shaping anti-corruption strategies in the country.

PROBLEM STATEMENT AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Forensic accounting is a specialised area at the intersection of accounting, auditing, and investigative techniques, designed to uncover, prevent, and provide evidence for prosecuting financial crimes. Globally, its application has expanded in response to increasing incidences of fraud, corporate scandals, and the growing sophistication of financial manipulation (Wallace, 1991; Crumbley, 2003). In Nigeria, the problem of fraud, misappropriation of funds, and weak internal controls is particularly acute in the public sector, where corruption continues to undermine governance, fiscal transparency, and economic growth. Transparency International (2024) ranked Nigeria 140th out of 180 countries with a score of 26, highlighting the severe corruption challenge.

Core Problems

- Large-scale corruption and fraud
- Misappropriation of public funds
- Weak internal controls
- Inadequate asset recovery mechanisms

Research Gap

- Limited empirical evidence on forensic accounting effectiveness
- Lack of quantitative analysis on asset recovery
- Need for evidence-based anti-corruption policies

Tools such as the Beneish M-Score, a statistical model for detecting earnings management and fraudulent reporting, have proven useful in identifying organisations with a high likelihood of fraudulent activity. However, its probabilistic nature means it cannot guarantee accuracy, necessitating complementary approaches such as forensic accounting for a more robust fraud detection framework. Ezejiofor & Okonkwo (2025) and Omeremu & Jacob (2025) assessed the role of forensic accounting in fraud detection within Nigeria's public sector but did not quantify its actual effect on reducing fraud. While some studies reported significant contributions of forensic accounting to fraud detection, their reliance on non-parametric methods limits the generalizability of their results. Institutional challenges and political cycles also significantly affect the pace and success of asset recovery efforts (Udefuna et al., 2025).

Research Questions

1. What is the frequency of cash and asset recovery between 2019 - 2022 in Nigeria? Asset recovery patterns have shown volatility (Udefuna et al., 2025; Akinninyi et al., 2025), with the EFCC recovering N364.5 billion and $326.5 million in 2024 (EFCC, 2025).

2. What is the trend of court convictions and cases in court from the recovery of looted funds in Nigeria?

DEVELOPMENT OF FORENSIC ACCOUNTING

Forensic accounting has been described as the fastest-growing area of accounting today (Wallace, 1991; Crumbley, 2003). Although its recent prominence is tied to the wave of high-profile corporate scandals and the tightening of reporting and internal control regulations, the practice is far from new. Historical evidence traces its roots to early 19th-century Glasgow, Scotland. Despite this early emergence, the profession remained largely obscure until modern corporate governance failures underscored its importance to the business world.

The term forensic accounting is credited to Maurice F. Peloubet, who used it in 1946, though the underlying investigative practices existed much earlier. One notable early case was led by Frank J. Wilson, whose work contributed to the 1931 conviction of Alphonse "Scarface" Capone for tax evasion. By World War II, forensic accounting had proven its value, yet formalised procedures did not emerge until the 1980s, when significant academic contributions shaped the discipline.

Investigation Techniques

Combining financial expertise with investigative skills to uncover fraud and resolve financial disputes.

Legal Framework

Integration of legal procedures and evidence gathering for successful prosecutions of financial crimes.

Fraud Prevention

Preventive and detective mechanisms against fraud in corporate governance and risk management.

High-profile cases such as the Simpson trial further showcased its relevance, as forensic accountants assessed asset values that influenced civil suit outcomes. Institutional recognition followed, with the establishment of the American College of Forensic Examiners in 1992, the American Board of Forensic Accountants in 1997, and the launch of The Journal of Forensic Accounting, Auditing, Fraud and Taxation in 2000. A major turning point came in 2002 with the U.S. Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which created the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) to set auditing standards, investigate corporate misconduct, and enforce compliance. This regulatory shift intensified global interest in forensic accounting as a preventive and detective mechanism against fraud.

Financial Fraud

Financial fraud in Nigeria has often been highlighted through high-profile cases in the banking sector. Nigeria's challenges with corruption are significant, ranking 140th out of 180 countries with a score of 26 according to Transparency International (2024), underscoring the critical need for effective financial crime countermeasures. demonstrated through real case studies that the application of forensic accounting extends beyond banking to other sectors, such as manufacturing, where it can be used to investigate variances and suspected fraudulent activities. His work reinforces the view that forensic accounting is relevant in any setting where fraud is a possibility. Financial fraud, as defined by, typically has a significant adverse impact on a company's valuation. While efforts to combat fraud continue, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) reported significant asset recovery, with N364.5 billion and $326.5 million recovered in 2024 (EFCC, 2025). However, asset recovery often exhibits volatility patterns (Udefuna et al., 2025; Akinninyi et al., 2025).

They further identified common employee-related financial crimes such as cash theft or "skimming," inventory theft, falsifying revenue reports, processing fraudulent invoices, identity theft, money laundering, intellectual property theft, credit card fraud, overstated expense claims, and payroll fraud. Similarly, conceptualise corporate crime as the deliberate misleading or misappropriation of property or rights with the intention of depriving another party, regardless of whether the perpetrator gains direct benefit from the act. Despite its importance, institutional challenges and political cycles often affect the efficiency of asset recovery in Nigeria (Udefuna et al., 2025). The effectiveness of forensic accounting in the Nigerian public sector has been examined by Ezejiofor & Okonkwo (2025) and Omeremu & Jacob (2025), who found varying degrees of impact depending on the specific context and implementation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study adopted an ex-post facto research design, relying exclusively on secondary data spanning the period 2019 to 2022. The population comprised professionals with specialised expertise in forensic accounting, including forensic accountants, fraud investigators, and internal auditors, particularly those serving in the anti-corruption units of organisations such as the EFCC, ICPC, and other government agencies. Given Nigeria's challenges with corruption, as evidenced by its ranking 140th out of 180 countries with a score of 26 by Transparency International (2024), the role of these units is crucial. Due to the sensitive nature of interactions between government entities and fraud perpetrators, convenience and purposive sampling techniques were employed to identify suitable data sources and participants. The effectiveness of forensic accounting in the Nigerian public sector has been a subject of various studies, highlighting its importance in combating financial crimes (Ezejiofor & Okonkwo, 2025; Omeremu & Jacob, 2025).

Data were obtained from reputable institutions such as the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), and relevant government ministries. Recent data from the EFCC indicates significant asset recovery, with N364.5 billion and $326.5 million recovered in 2024 alone (EFCC, 2025). The method of data analysis employed was descriptive and trend analysis, particularly focusing on understanding cash and asset recovery patterns. However, such recovery patterns often exhibit volatility, influenced by various factors (Udefuna et al., 2025; Akinninyi et al., 2025), including institutional challenges and political cycles (Udefuna et al., 2025).

Research Design

- Ex-post facto design
- Secondary data from 2019-2022
- Population of forensic accounting professionals in anti-corruption units
- Convenience and purposive sampling

Data Sources

EFCC, ICPC, CBN reports and relevant government ministry records

Analysis Method

Descriptive statistics and trend analysis for cash and asset recovery patterns, acknowledging volatility and contextual factors.

RESULTS

Descriptive Analysis of Looted Recovery Funds

Statistic	Assets (bn)	Cash (bn)
Mean	113.25125	26.17375
Standard Error	39.26627743	16.32081135
Median	78.856	16.052
Standard Deviation	78.53255487	32.6416227
Sample Variance	6167.362174	1065.475532
Kurtosis	3.515630376	0.652084929
Skewness	1.871792919	1.233948412
Range	164.161	70.047
Minimum	65.566	1.272
Maximum	229.727	71.319
Sum	453.005	104.695
Count	4	4

The descriptive statistics reveal that the mean value of recovered assets was ₦113.25 billion, while the mean cash holding was ₦26.17 billion between the periods under study, indicating that, on average, ICPC possessed significantly larger asset recovery compared to cash recovery. The median values further showed assets at ₦78.86 billion and cash at ₦16.05 billion. Since both median values are lower than their respective means, the distributions are positively skewed, suggesting that a few agencies with exceptionally high asset and cash values influenced the averages.

₦113.25bn

Mean Assets Recovery

Average value of recovered assets during study period

₦26.17bn

Mean Cash Recovery

Average cash holdings recovered from looted funds

1.87

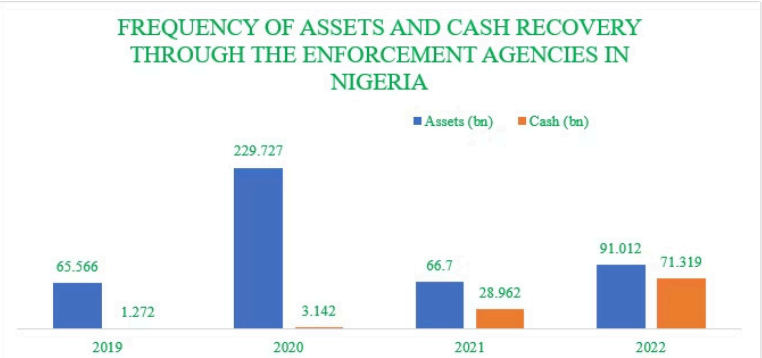
Assets Skewness

Positive skewness indicating few high-value cases

The measures of dispersion also confirm substantial variability in asset recovery patterns (Udefuna et al., 2025; Akinninyi et al., 2025). For assets, the standard deviation was ₦78.53 billion with a variance of 6,167.36, whereas for cash the standard deviation was ₦32.64 billion with a variance of 1,065.48. These results highlight wide disparities in sizes and financial positions. The skewness values of 1.87 for assets and 1.23 for cash confirm positive skewness, implying that most fraud cases held relatively lower values, while a few maintained disproportionately high figures. Furthermore, the kurtosis values revealed that assets (3.52) were leptokurtic, reflecting a sharper peak and the presence of more extreme outliers compared to a normal distribution, while cash (0.65) was platykurtic, indicating a flatter distribution with fewer extreme values. These implies that the sampled agencies maintain substantial but unevenly distributed asset recovery cases, with the presence of a few large recovery exerting significant influence on the recovery of looted funds in Nigeria, often influenced by institutional challenges and political cycles affecting recovery (Udefuna et al., 2025).

TESTING OF RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Research Question 1: What is the frequency of cash and asset recovery between 2019 - 2022 in Nigeria?



The analysis reveals significant fluctuations in asset recovery over the four-year period. In 2019, assets recovered amounted to ₦65.57bn, rising sharply to ₦229.73bn in 2020, which represents the peak of the period under review. However, this growth was not sustained, as asset recovery declined drastically to ₦66.70bn in 2021, almost reverting to the 2019 level. By 2022, assets increased moderately to ₦91.01bn, indicating a partial recovery but remaining substantially below the 2020 peak. This pattern suggests that asset recovery was highly volatile, characterized by a sharp spike in 2020 followed by instability in subsequent years (Udefuna et al., 2025; Akinninyi et al., 2025).

In contrast, cash recovery followed a relatively consistent upward trajectory. Beginning from a low value of ₦1.27bn in 2019, it increased slightly to ₦3.14bn in 2020, before experiencing a remarkable surge to ₦28.96bn in 2021. The growth continued in 2022, reaching ₦71.32bn, the highest value in the four-year period. Unlike assets, cash recovery displayed progressive improvement, particularly between 2021 and 2022, reflecting enhanced liquidity recoveries.

1 2019-2020: Initial Period

Assets recovered: ₦65.57bn to ₦229.73bn (peak). Cash recovery: ₦1.27bn to ₦3.14bn (modest growth)

2 2021-2022: Recovery Phase

Assets declined to ₦66.70bn then recovered to ₦91.01bn. Cash recovery surged to ₦28.96bn then ₦71.32bn

Comparatively, while assets peaked early (2020) and subsequently exhibited fluctuations, cash recovery showed steady growth, with notable acceleration in the latter years. This contrasting trend may indicate a structural shift in recovery patterns, from the prioritization of immovable or tangible assets during the earlier period (2019-2020) towards an increased emphasis on liquid assets in the later years (2021-2022). Such a shift could reflect evolving enforcement strategies, adjustments in asset recovery frameworks, or changes in the typology of financial crimes being addressed (Udefuna et al., 2025).

Research Question 2: What is the trend of court convictions assets recovery from the looted funds in Nigeria

The trend analysis of recovered assets shows a highly uneven distribution across categories. Buildings constituted the most dominant category with 690 units, representing the largest share of recoveries. This suggests that immovable assets, particularly real estate, are the most prevalent or the most easily traceable among the sampled items. Lands (103) and clothing, bags, and accessories (95) followed as the next significant categories, indicating the relevance of both tangible property and consumable goods within the asset profile.

Jewelry accounted for 80 items, which, while lower than lands and clothing, still reflects a considerable concentration of high-value personal effects. Vehicles (67) also represented a moderate proportion of the recoveries, highlighting their importance as both movable assets and stores of value. On the other hand, businesses (34), electronics (19), and farms (8) had the lowest counts, implying that such categories are either less frequently seized/reported or constitute a smaller proportion of total asset recoveries.

Notably, the relatively low figure for businesses and farms may indicate difficulties in valuation or ownership transfer, while the small number of electronics suggests their perishability or ease of concealment. The data reflect a concentration of asset recovery in immovable properties (buildings and lands), followed by high-value personal assets (clothing, jewelry, and vehicles), while productive ventures (businesses and farms) appear underrepresented. This trend underscores a bias towards tangible and luxury assets in asset recovery processes, while sustainable or income-generating assets remain limited (Udefuna et al., 2025; Akinninyi et al., 2025). This bias may be influenced by institutional challenges and political cycles affecting recovery efforts (Udefuna et al., 2025).

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The frequency distribution of asset recovery between 2019 and 2022 in Nigeria exhibited marked volatility. Recoveries rose from ₦65.57bn in 2019 to a peak of ₦229.73bn in 2020, before declining sharply to ₦66.70bn in 2021 and recovering moderately to ₦91.01bn in 2022. This inconsistency directly reflects inherent challenges in asset identification, seizure, and liquidation, which are often subject to complex legal processes, market fluctuations, and policy shocks. This pattern is consistent with **Udefuna et al. (2025)** and **Akinninyi et al. (2025)**, who attribute such fluctuations to political cycles and monitoring gaps, often exacerbated by weak institutional coordination and inconsistent forensic accounting capacity building for physical asset tracking. These challenges are particularly pertinent given Nigeria's corruption ranking of 140th out of 180 countries with a score of 26 in 2024 (**Transparency International, 2024**), highlighting the urgent need for robust recovery mechanisms. Recently, the EFCC reported a recovery of N364.5 billion and $326.5 million in 2024 (**EFCC, 2025**), underscoring the ongoing efforts in asset recovery.

In stark contrast, cash recovery showed a steady upward trajectory: from ₦1.27bn in 2019, to ₦3.14bn in 2020, then surging to ₦28.96bn in 2021 and ₦71.32bn in 2022. This consistent growth demonstrates strengthened financial intelligence systems and liquidity-focused enforcement, aligning with **Ezejiofor & Okonkwo (2025)** and **Omeremu & Jacob (2025)**. Evidence from ICPC data further suggests that enhanced forensic investigation techniques, such as data mining, digital forensics, and transaction analysis, directly contributed to these outcomes, proving highly effective for cash recovery due to the liquid nature of financial assets. This evolution in forensic accounting practices, highlighted by **Wallace (1991)** and **Crumbley (2003)** in their work on forensic accounting development and growth, reflects a crucial shift in combating financial crime. The contrasting trends indicate a structural shift from immovable assets toward liquid assets, reflecting evolving financial crime patterns and anti-money laundering reforms. While **Ezejiofor & Okonkwo (2025)** and **Omeremu & Jacob (2025)** highlight this sophistication, the findings partly challenge the emphasis on real estate as the dominant channel for illicit wealth, suggesting a successful adaptation of forensic accounting practices to target financial flows.

Asset Recovery Volatility

Marked inconsistency (₦65.57bn to ₦229.73bn to ₦66.70bn to ₦91.01bn) reflects policy shocks, weak institutional coordination (**Udefuna et al., 2025**), and complex legal processes for physical assets, often lacking consistent forensic accounting focus (**Akinninyi et al., 2025**).

Cash Recovery Growth

Steady upward trajectory (₦1.27bn to ₦71.32bn) suggests strengthened financial intelligence systems, anti-money laundering reforms, and the effective application of forensic accounting techniques (**Ezejiofor & Okonkwo, 2025; Omeremu & Jacob, 2025**) like data mining and transaction analysis.

Structural Shift Pattern

Movement from immovable assets toward liquid assets, reflecting evolving financial crime patterns and enforcement approaches, driven by the efficacy of modern forensic accounting (**Wallace, 1991; Crumbley, 2003**) in tracing financial flows.

The disaggregated trend of asset recovery in Nigeria reveals a strong dominance of immovable properties, with buildings (690 units) and lands (103) forming the bulk of recoveries. This underscores the role of real estate in laundering illicit wealth, consistent with previous findings which identified high-value immovable assets as common concealment channels. Movable and luxury assets, clothing, bags, and accessories (95), jewelry (80), and vehicles (67), also featured prominently, reflecting corruption's link to conspicuous consumption.

By contrast, productive assets such as businesses (34), electronics (19), and farms (8) were marginal, likely due to challenges in valuation, ownership transfer, or sustainability. This trend supports the idea that corrupt officials favor luxury assets over income-generating ventures. However, it contrasts with some research which noted that illicit funds are often laundered through front companies. Nigeria's pattern may thus reflect distinctive enforcement practices or reporting biases.

CONCLUSION AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The study concluded that asset recovery in Nigeria between 2019 and 2022 was marked by significant volatility (Udefuna et al., 2025; Akinninyi et al., 2025), largely influenced by policy shocks, weak institutional coordination, and political cycles (Udefuna et al., 2025). While immovable assets, particularly buildings and lands, dominated recoveries, their inconsistency highlights systemic inefficiencies in sustaining recovery momentum. In contrast, cash recoveries demonstrated a steady and robust upward trajectory, reflecting improvements in financial intelligence systems, anti-money laundering reforms, and liquidity-focused enforcement strategies (Ezejiofor & Okonkwo, 2025; Omeremu & Jacob, 2025).

Disaggregated analysis further shows that illicit wealth is predominantly concealed in immovable properties and luxury assets rather than productive ventures, underscoring a preference for conspicuous consumption over long-term investments. The findings therefore point to a structural shift in recovery patterns, with increasing emphasis on liquid assets, aligning with evolving financial crime strategies in Nigeria. This shift also highlights the increasing effectiveness of forensic accounting practices in targeting financial flows (Wallace, 1991; Crumbley, 2003).

Based on these findings, the following policy recommendations are crucial for enhancing asset recovery efforts:

01

Harmonized Recovery Framework

Establish a **harmonized asset recovery framework** with clearly defined roles among agencies (EFCC, ICPC, NFIU, and judiciary). This directly addresses the study's finding that asset recovery volatility (₦65.57bn to ₦229.73bn to ₦66.70bn to ₦91.01bn) reflects **coordination failures** and policy shocks (Udefuna et al., 2025), aiming to reduce future inconsistencies.

02

National Database Creation

Create an **open-access national asset recovery database** to transparently track recovered assets. This will enhance accountability, reduce reporting biases, and provide crucial data for evidence-based policy formulation, especially given the observed inconsistencies in asset recovery patterns.

03

Dedicated Immovable Asset Tracing Units

Establish **dedicated forensic accounting units** focused on immovable asset tracing and recovery. This recommendation directly addresses the finding that immovable properties (690 buildings, 103 lands) dominate recoveries yet face systemic inefficiencies due to complex legal processes and market fluctuations.

04

Scale Up Financial Intelligence Systems

Scale up successful **financial intelligence systems and anti-money laundering frameworks** that have demonstrated consistent growth in cash recovery (from ₦1.27bn to ₦71.32bn). This leverages the observed effectiveness of liquidity-focused enforcement strategies (Ezejiofor & Okonkwo, 2025; Omeremu & Jacob, 2025).

05

Advanced Forensic Accounting Techniques

Implement and expand **advanced forensic accounting techniques** like data mining, digital forensics, and transaction analysis, particularly for liquid asset recovery. The study confirms their high effectiveness (Wallace, 1991; Crumbley, 2003), as evidenced by ICPC data and successful cash recovery trends.

06

Standardize Forensic Accounting Practices

Standardize **forensic accounting practices** and capacity building across key agencies (EFCC and ICPC). This directly addresses the institutional coordination challenges and varying capacities identified, ensuring a more consistent and effective approach to asset recovery nationwide (Ezejiofor & Okonkwo, 2025; Omeremu & Jacob, 2025).

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CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The author declares no conflict of interest

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