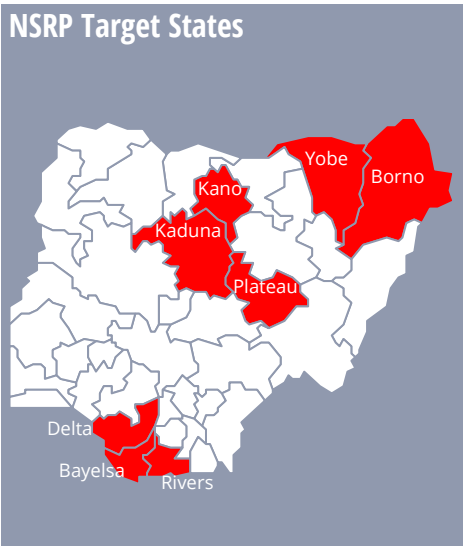


Violence Affecting Women and Girls in Select Nigerian States

Monthly Memo #16 - August 2015 Data



Total reports received by the NSRP Observatory rose in the month of August, following a slight dip in reporting during the month of July. The number of reports of VAWG-related incidents has continued to increase since early 2014, possibly reflecting an increased awareness of the issue as well as more of a willingness for survivors to report their cases without additional stigma or repercussions. Additionally, the continued registration of organizations as Peace Agents on the Observatory platform that focus on gender issues represents an increase in community-based resources for women and girls affected by violence. Since the project's inception, the number of Peace Agents nearly doubled from 38 to 67

organizations. As has been the case in previous months, reports of violence affecting women and girls in August in the Niger Delta and Plateau entailed mainly sexual and domestic violence, while those in the Northeast have been linked with insurgency and counter-insurgency violence, particularly incidents linked to JAS. This memo analyzes data for the focus states of Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa, and Delta for August 2015 (data coding and uploading lags by a month). The trend line below shows a rebound in reported incidents generated by NSRP Sources over the course of August, rising from 28 in July to 41 in August.

Scope and limitations: We recognize that the data collected is not a comprehensive tally of all incidents of violence, VAWG or otherwise. The data presented is representative of the patterns and trends. Findings are as indicated in the report below.

VAWG Reports from NSRP Sources

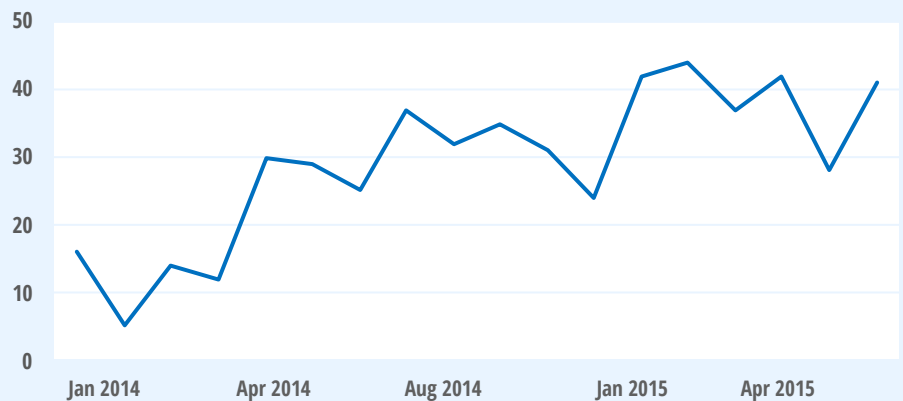


Figure 1: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence Reported by NSRP Sources



Objective 1

Measure trends in violence affecting women and girls as compared to overall levels of violence and fatalities in the eight NSRP focus states. For overall levels, we use Nigeria Watch data, which has a consistent methodology and an even distribution of coverage by time and location.

Trends in Overall Violence

To provide a more robust account of VAWG trends in the eight NSRP states, it is necessary to examine the overall trends of violence in those states. This section exclusively analyzes data collected by Nigeria Watch to construct a consistent narrative.

While the rate of incidents has remained relatively constant, it appeared in June that the rate of fatalities was steadily decreasing from its peak in February. This trend was reversed in July with a significant jump in the number of fatalities, rising from 498 in June to 1166 in July. The high death toll was mainly isolated to Borno state where attacks by JAS are most frequent and most lethal. Although the reported incident count remained relatively high, only reducing from 69 in July to 56 in August, this month saw a large reduction in associated fatalities, dropping 55 percent from July 2015, with 528 deaths. On a state level, the number of incidents reported in Borno dropped from 26 in July to 17 in August. Fatalities in Borno dropped from 885 in July to 318 in August, returning to a fatality rate similar to that of April, May, and June 2015. Across the eight NSRP states, the marked reduction in fatalities correlates with a reduction in insurgency-related reports, from 34 in July to 20 in August. Of those 20 reported incidents, 16 took place in Borno state and four in Yobe state.

In Plateau state, violence between herdsmen and the local community of Barkin Ladi has increased from previous months, from only two incidents in July to six in August. The death toll has increased

Number of Incidents and Fatalities by Month

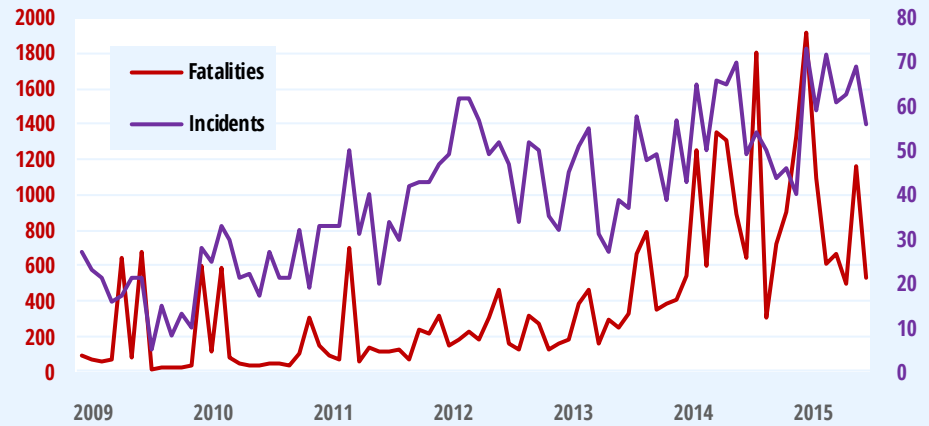


Figure 2: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch Data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of fatalities are measured against the axis on the left, the number of reported incidents is measured against the axis on the right of the graph. The graph shows that, although the number of incidents has been increasing steadily over the last six years, the number of fatalities spiked in September of 2014 and again in February of 2015. In 2012 there were a high number of less lethal incidents reported.

VAWG Incidents Trends

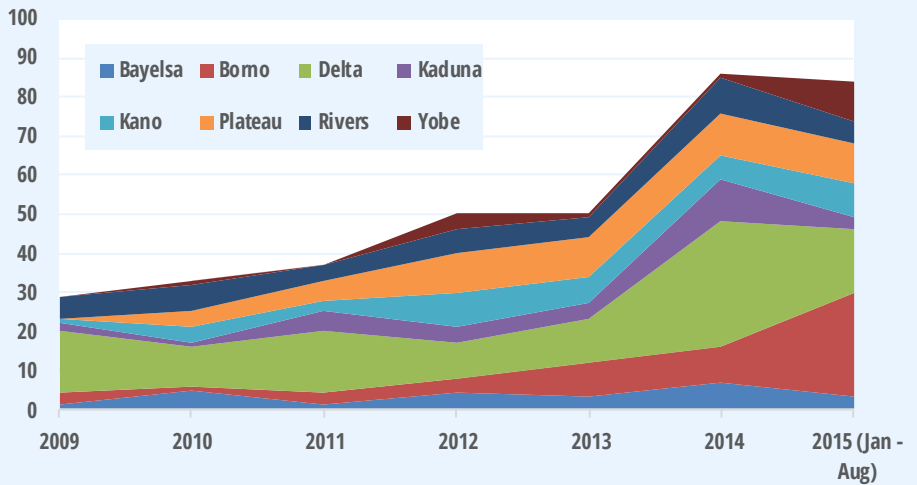


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents Reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x axis shows the timeline from 2009 to present. The color blocks show the data disaggregated by state. This graph shows that media reports collected by Nigeria Watch estimate more incidents of VAWG in Delta over the last six years than in other states and that across all eight NSRP states added together, the trend has been getting worse over time. Note that this graph captures trends in the number of incidents, not in the severity of those incidents.

as well, from eight deaths in July to 29 deaths in August. In Delta, Bayelsa, and Rivers states, following a spike in reports in the lead up to, and aftermath of, the general election, reports of insecurity have decreased to pre-election rates of 18

incidents across the three states, slightly less than the 20 incidents of insecurity reported in February. The fatality rate has also dropped to 33 deaths, only two more than the 31 deaths reported in February. There were two reported incidents from

Kano and Kaduna for the month of August. These incidents included a flood that killed two people and destroyed homes and farms in Kaduna and a sexual assault and murder of a newlywed in Kano. Overall, there have been 493 incidents of reported violence in 2015 and 7807 observed fatalities in the first eight months of 2015.

Trends in VAWG

Despite the historical trend of VAWG incidents being the most frequent in Borno and Delta states since the project began, over the past two months, the number of VAWG incidents in both states has been comparatively low. In August, the one report of VAWG in Delta state detailed the rescue of a female kidnapping victim. In Borno, there were two reported incidents of VAWG: one involved domestic violence and child abuse and the other was related to the JAS insurgency.

Since most of the data for this project comes either from direct reporting/observation or from media coverage of the events, it can be difficult to gather incidents through direct reporting/observation in highly insecure environments such as Borno. Thus, it is unclear whether the apparent decrease in VAWG incidents Borno is reflective of a decrease in VAWG-related violence or a decrease of reports. In Yobe state, the reports of VAWG incidents this month seem to counter previous trends of increasing VAWG incidents. There was one VAWG incident reported in Yobe during August which was related to the insurgency. Continuing last month's trend, the number of VAWG incidents in Plateau was also high for the month. In fact, Plateau and Rivers state reported the most VAWG incidents in August of 2015. Most of these incidents entailed sexual or domestic violence.

When using all data sources, the most frequently reported VAWG incident category was sexual violence, followed closely by child abuse. The Northeast region, including

Borno and Yobe states, continues to be primarily affected by insurgency and counter-insurgency violence, especially involving suspected JAS insurgents. The other regions tend to report sexual and domestic violence most often. The victims of VAWG across all states are predominantly females under the age of 18.

August 2015 Incidents by State

Below is a breakdown of issues reported in the month of August across all data sources by each NSRP target state.

Bayelsa

There were no VAWG incidents reported in Bayelsa in August.

Borno

There were two incidents of VAWG reported in Borno this month. In early August, a man in Maiduguri allegedly poisoned and killed his six-day-old son because of a domestic dispute over infidelity with his girlfriend. There was also a report of insurgency violence in mid-August. A female suicide bomber, allegedly acting on behalf of Boko Haram detonated a bomb near a market in Damboa, killing 50 people.

Delta

In early August, a kidnapper in Ethiope East was shot and killed by police and his female captive was rescued.

Kaduna

As in July, sexual violence continued to be a predominant trend in Kaduna. One incident of VAWG reported in August involved a 35-year-old man allegedly abducting and raping a five-year-old girl in an empty building in Igabi. A second incident of sexual violence occurred in Kaduna South, where a 9-year-old girl was reportedly raped by a teacher.

Kano

As in previous months, the incidents of VAWG in Kano state all involved both child abuse and sexual violence. There was a reported incident of a husband raping his wife in Doguwa, and an incident in Kano that involved the rape of six, seven, and nine year old girls from the same family by an unknown man in mid-August. There were also two incidents of abductions with the subsequent rape of the victims. In early August, a 30-year-old man abducted a 14-year-old girl from her house in Doguwa. When she was freed, she was reported to be pregnant. Later in the month, a 12-year-old girl was abducted from her Nasarawa primary school and raped by two teenage boys. Incidents of domestic abuse and child abuse were also reported. A pregnant woman in Kumbotso reported that her husband kept her locked in their house and beat her frequently. A 14-year-old girl from Fagge reported that her mother forced her to hawk goods instead of attending school.

Plateau

VAWG incidents in Plateau included several incidents of child abuse and a murder, but mainly involved domestic and sexual violence. There were five incidents of rape reported. In mid-August, a man raped an 11-year-old girl in Jos North. A few days later, a girl ran away from her uncle, a reverend in Jos South, because she reported that he had been raping her. Several reports this month included victims who were beaten prior to being raped. In mid-August, a girl was beaten and raped by a boy in Jos North. In another incident, a woman in Jos South sustained injuries after a man pressed on her face and proceeded to rape her. An incident of rape was reported in mid-August in which a 17-year-old girl was abducted in Langtang North by three boys and raped by one of them. Domestic violence was also reported this month. In mid-August, a woman from Jos South sustained injuries when fighting in self-defense against her

abusive husband who had beat her for three years. A woman was kicked out of their home in Jos North by a man who beat her twice and impregnated her. Another incident of domestic abuse entailed a husband in Jos North beating his wife repeatedly and removing two of her teeth in the process. He was also accused of neglecting his two daughters. An act of forced child marriage was reported when it was revealed that a 15-year-old girl was forced to become the second wife of a herdsman in Jos South. Finally, it was reported that an 18-year-old girl and her grandmother strangled and killed a five-year-old in Kanam.

Rivers

The VAWG incidents reported in Rivers involved sexual and domestic violence as well as complaints of the inadequacies and neglect of the state to provide services. There were four incidents of rape and sexual violence reported this month. In

early August, a 35-year-old man abducted a 12-year-old girl to an empty house in Obio/Akpor and raped her. A 15-year-old sexually assaulted a six-year-old girl in Port Harcourt. Also in Port Harcourt, a 14-year-old was raped by an older man and a 16-year-old girl was allegedly raped by a police officer. It was reported that the officer initially offered assistance by taking her to his house and offering her food, where he raped her. There were also five accounts of domestic violence. In mid-August, a husband in Obio/Akpor accused his wife of insubordination and beat her. Another husband in Port Harcourt forced his wife out of the house when it was discovered that he had a child with another woman while they were married. In mid-August, a woman in Port Harcourt was beaten by her female neighbor and the neighbor's family. When the victim's husband interrogated the neighbors about his wife's injuries, the neighbors beat him as well. Days later in Port Harcourt, it was reported that a known cultist was forcing a woman to be in a

relationship with him. A two-year-old in Port Harcourt was found with bruises on her neck, which were reportedly inflicted by the family's housemaid. Beyond domestic violence, there were also grievances with the state. A group of women from the Niger Delta Women for Peace and Development protested the release of an official who had been jailed on corruption charges in Port Harcourt. The inadequacy of state services was reflected in an incident reported in late August in which a female university student in Ikwerre died because a hospital didn't provide her with medical treatment.

Yobe

The sole incident of VAWG in Yobe in August took place in Damaturu pertained to insurgency-related violence. Two explosions were detonated the same day, one of them by a female suicide bomber with alleged links to JAS and the other by a male. The explosions killed six people, including a pregnant woman and a baby.

Objective 2

All VAWG Reports



Figure 4: Trend in Incident reports of Violence and Conflict Affecting Women and Girls (All Sources)

Break the culture of silence and increase the level of reporting on issues of violence affecting women and girls. To measure the level of reporting, we aggregate all sources, including the NSRP Sources filter on the Observatory platform.

Figure 4 reflects the total number of VAWG reports across all sources each month, beginning in January 2009. This month, there was an increase in VAWG reports, which rose from 40 incidents in July to 51 in August. In reported violence incidents overall, only examining Nigeria Watch data, there was a decrease from 69 incidents in July to 56 in August. As evidenced by the increase in the number of VAWG incidents reported in August, it appears that NSRP partners are effectively increasing

awareness of VAWG in their communities and through collaboration and outreach efforts. Increased awareness helps to achieve one of this initiative's primary goals: reducing social stigma surrounding VAWG. As indicated in previous reports, the most substantial and informative data we receive comes from direct reporting collected by NSRP partners. These service points in particular provide detailed reports of incidents within each state, as well as at the LGA and community level, allowing for a more complete understanding and analysis of violence trends, as well as areas needing to be targeted for response. As in July, the number of reports received from Plateau and Rivers were nearly equal those received in August.

Objective 3

Increase awareness of these issues with the use of the Observatory platform and other deployments of the tool, including the P4P Digital Platform.

A web-based application has been deployed to track traffic to the NSRP Observatory Map as a way to measure public awareness. The analytics application is able to track which deployment of the platform is used to access the map as well as overall visits. This upgrade was applied to the NSRP deployment of the Observatory map during the second half of May. NSRP is currently in the process of revising the link to the Observatory webpage which will likely drive more traffic and page views in the future.

Page Views Through All Platforms

Jan 2015	684	May 2015	553
Feb 2015	523	Jun 2015	470
Mar 2015	678	Jul 2015	291
Apr 2015	281	Aug 2015	223

Page Views through NSRP

May 2015	30
*platform update allowing this was executed near the end of May, data will be more complete next month.	
Jun 2015	78
Jul 2015	71
Aug 2015	88

Objective 4

Locations of Incidents, Agents

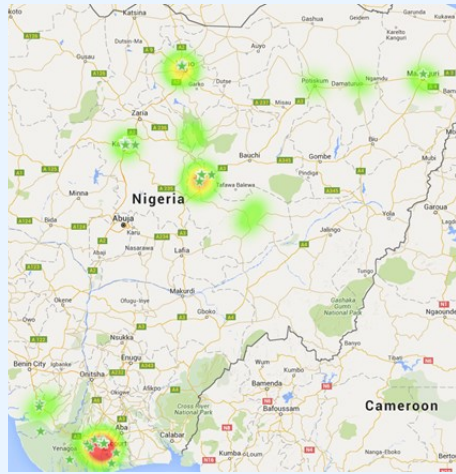


Figure 5: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States – August 2015 (Screenshot of Observatory Platform)

Facilitate and Support Opportunities for Preventative Response. If this project accomplishes the first three general objectives, NSRP will be in a good position to support the efforts of the Observatory Steering Committee (OBSTEC) in their targeted interventions for the mitigation of violence affecting women and girls. To this end, the Observatory Platform identifies local Peace Agents focused on issues related to gender and highlights opportunities for engagement by OBSTEC to collaborate and facilitate as appropriate.

One of the more innovative and successful elements of this project is its ability to not only provide meaningful data and analysis of the incidents of VAWG across the eight target states, but also to provide local resources in terms of Peace Agents. Peace Agents are self-identified local actors (NGOs

or CBOs) who register with the project and are then mapped on the Observatory Map as a possible resource for women and girls affected by VAWG.

Figure 5 is a heat map taken from the Observatory Platform, illustrating the distribution of VAWG Reports according to state in August. Self-Identified Peace Agents are marked by green stars on the map. In addition to registering, Agents are able to endorse one another through the map, acting as a means of validation and verification. Currently, there are 68 organizations that focus specifically on gender issues. As organizations continue to identify themselves on the Observatory Platform, the opportunity for multi-stakeholder engagement, collaboration, and preventative action increases markedly.

Organizations and Initiatives Self-Identified as Peace Agents with a Focus on Gender

State	LGA	Organization	State	LGA	Organization
Bayelsa	Ekeremor	Ekeremor Women Forum	Kaduna	Kaduna North	Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative
	Yenagoa	National Orientation Agency			Interfaith Forum of Muslim and Christian Women`s Association (Women`s Interfaith Council)
		Peacemaker International			Legal Awareness for Nigerian Women (LEADS Nigeria)
Borno	Maiduguri	Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)			Pan African Leadership League
		Healthcare Development Focus Initiative (HECADF)			Women for Peace in Nigeria (WOPIN)
		National Council of Women Societies (NCWS)			Women in Need (A Women Empowerment Foundation)
		Women in New Nigeria (WINN)			Youth CAN, Kaduna
		University of Maiduguri Muslim Women Association (UMMWA)			
Delta	Udu	Ideal Women Advancement Initiative		Kaduna South	African Ethics and Theatre Reformation (AETRI)
	Uvwie	Lite -Africa			Aid Foundation
		Community Peace Development Initiative (CPDI)			Gender Awareness Trust (GAT)
Kaduna	Chikun	Development Support Care Empowerment Foundation (DSCAEF)	Kano	Kano	Center for Documentation
		Zamani Foundation			Development Research and Project Centre (DRPC)
		Interfaith Mediation Centre			Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)
		Global Initiative for Women and Children			Intergender Development Initiative
	Kaduna North	International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA)			Right Based Awareness Coalition (RIBAC)

Organizations and Initiatives Self-Identified as Peace Agents with a Focus on Gender (Continued)

State	LGA	Organization	State	LGA	Organization		
Plateau	Jos	Women Advancement Initiative	Rivers	Abua/Odual	Academy for Cultural Rights and Human Development		
		Women Support Development Sustainable Association formerly Women Development Network (WODEN)				Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)	
		Women, Widows and Orphan Development Initiative			Akuku Toru	Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)	
		Christian Women for Excellence & Empowerment in Nigerian Society (CWEENS)			Bonny	Coalition of NGOS in Bonny for Human Rights and Sustainable Development	
		Inclusive Friends			Emohua	Kebetkache Women Development	
		Jos University Teaching Hospital			Etche	Women in Peace and Security Network	
		Jos East		Centre for the Advocacy of Justice and Rights (CAJR)		Gokana	Kebetkache Women Development
		Jos North		Christian Rural and Rural Development Association of Nigeria (CRUDAN)		Ikwerre	Ikwerre Women Forum
				Fahariya Adolescent Development Network		Obio/Akpor	Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law
				Federation of Muslim Women in Nigeria		Port Harcourt	Center for Creative Arts Education
		International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) Plateau State Chapter			Civil Liberties Organization, Rivers State Branch		
		Justice Development and Peace Commission (JDPC)			Gender Advocacy and Empowerment Initiative (GANET)		
		Justice Development Peace and Caritas			Gender and Development Action (GADA)		
		Manna Resource Development Centre			Kebetkache Women Development		
		National Human Rights Commission			Lokiakia Community Development Centre		
		National Youth Network on HIV/AIDS			Medical Women's Association of Nigeria (MWAN)		
		The Nigeria Working Group			Palmbits IPWC		
		Youth Alive In Christ (YAC)			Partners for Peace		
		Wiscod			Rimwof Project		
		Jos South	Country Women Association of Nigeria			Women In Action for Positive Development and Gender Enhancement Centre (WAPDAGEC)	
					Women in Peace and Security Network		

Conclusions and Recommendations

Objective 1

Continue to measure trends in violence affecting women and girls as compared to overall levels of violence and fatalities.

August saw an increase in both VAWG and overall incident reports in comparison to July. In a reversal of last month's trend, NSRP sources reported more incidents than Nigeria Watch in August. Reporting was down from an all-time high in April although this was generally true across all sources following an end to the election period.

Objective 2

Break the culture of silence and increase the level of reporting and awareness on issues of violence affecting women and girls.

In spite of the slight decrease in the number of VAWG reports in July and August as compared to the previous months, the engagement of NSRP's partners remains

high. Indications of this engagement can be seen by the significant increase in the number of organizations registering who are devoted to gender issues. As engagement and awareness increase, it is hoped that the stigma surrounding VAWG issues will decrease in turn. In addition, the level of reporting and the level of detail currently being provided in reports received through the NSRP sources filter also demonstrates the outreach by partners and engagement by the OBSTECs and those involved in the project.

Objective 3

Increased awareness through increased reports

NSRP is currently in the process of revising and updating the link to the Observatory webpage, which will likely drive more traffic and page views in the future. As noted in prior reports, data from states where Observatory service points are located continues to provide the highest number of

detailed incidents per month. In those areas where insecurity has hindered reporting, as well as those states that are currently without service points, the ability to generate detailed incident reports is hindered and more outreach or other opportunities for data solicitation and gathering should be explored.

Objective 4

Facilitate and Support Opportunities for Preventative Response

Nearly doubling the number of Peace Agents identified as focusing on gender issues through the Observatory platform is an illustration of the efficacy of collaboration and outreach efforts. As the strength of the partnerships between NSRP and local communities continues to increase and more organizations become stakeholders in the project, preventative response to VAWG and other violent incidents will be possible.