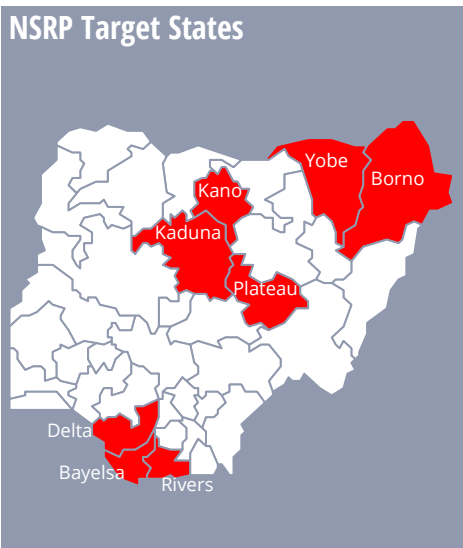


Violence Affecting Women and Girls in Select Nigerian States

Monthly Memo #20 - December 2015 Data



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.

In December 2015, the NSRP Observatory Platform received 47 reported incidents of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). This is an increase from the dip in reporting in November. It also continues the upward trend in reporting since the VAWG Observatory Platform was established in May 2014.

December represented the first month that included reports from the Borno Observatory service point. In the Northeast, VAWG reporting remains focused on violence around the JAS insurgency and the growing use of women and girls as suicide bombers. With the added service point in Borno, it is expected that reporting will give a clearer picture of VAWG, which will allow for deeper analysis of patterns and trends. In the Middle Belt, North Central and Niger Delta regions, reporting is dominated by

incidents of sexual violence, child abuse and domestic violence.

The Platform continues to fill the gaps in the existing data and information regarding incidents of violence against women and girls. It has provided a detailed view of the conflict environment faced by women and girls in the eight NSRP focus states.

The following memo analyzes data for the focus states of Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa, and Delta for December 2015 (data coding and uploading lags by a month). The graph below shows the number of reports submitted through the Observatory Platform. The numbers from previous months have increased as incidents from prior months continue to be received and are uploaded to the Observatory Platform.

VAWG Reports from NSRP Sources

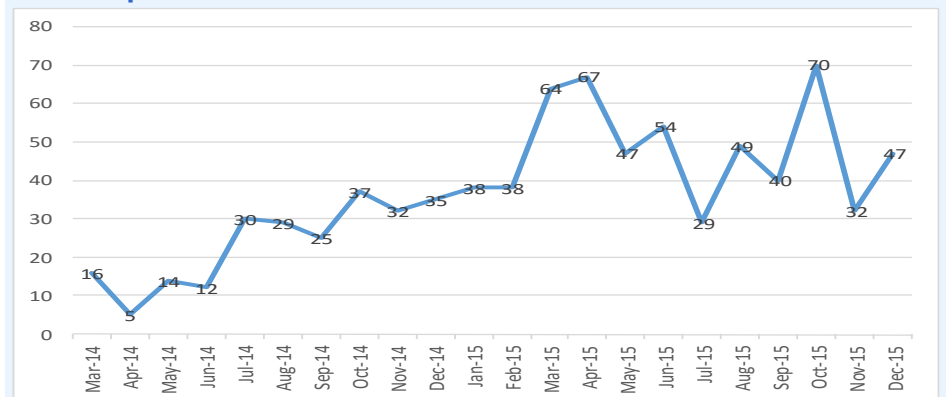


Figure 1: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence Reported by NSRP Sources



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

In order to provide a comparative analysis and background to general VAWG trends in the eight NSRP states, it is necessary to examine the overall trends of violence and insecurity in those states. This section exclusively analyzes data collected by Nigeria Watch to construct a consistent backdrop of overall violence and insecurity in the eight states against which VAWG-specific incidents can be mapped and analyzed.

According to the data, the month of December saw an increase in political tensions in the Niger Delta, specifically surrounding the gubernatorial elections in Bayelsa state and continued political tensions in Rivers. Reported incidents of JAS activities, and fatalities linked to the insurgency and counterinsurgency operations, continued to dominate in the Northeast. The Middle Belt and North Central states, specifically Kaduna and Plateau, reported incidents and fatalities due to ethnic and religious tensions, as well as inter- and intra- communal tensions.

There were 28 incidents reported in the Niger Delta during the month of December. The highest number of fatalities were reported in Rivers state and were attributed to gang and cult-related violence, as it was reported that these groups overtook 17 communities in two weeks and killed up to 50 individuals. Other incidents that resulted in fatalities in the state were politically motivated attacks on officials, such as the assassination of House of Representative for Obio-Akpor, as well as increased levels of abductions and general crime.

Delta state had 14 fatalities related to violent clashes over land. Land-related clashed also accounted for an overall spike

Number of Incidents and Fatalities by Month

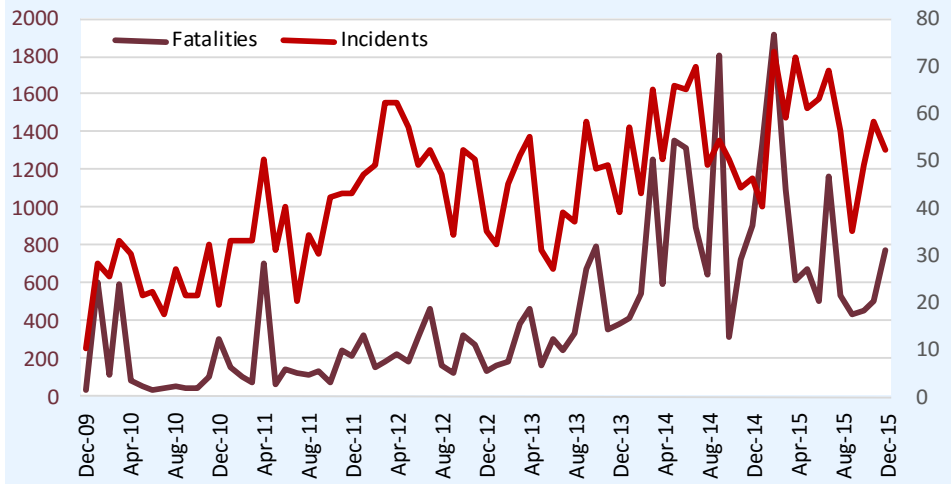


Figure 2: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch Data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of fatalities are measured against the axis on the left, the number of reported incidents is measured against the axis on 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

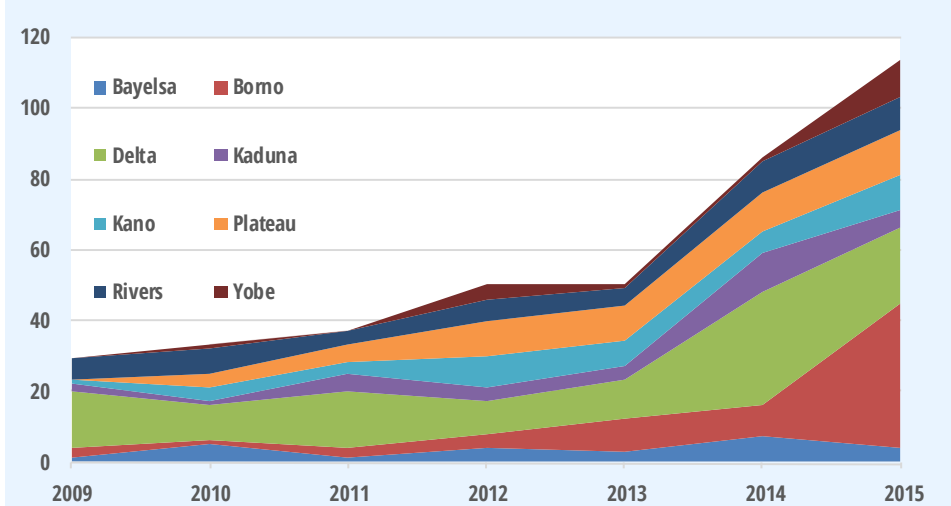


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents Reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x axis shows the timeline from 2009 to present. The color blocks show the data disaggregated 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.

in the reported incidents of inter-communal violence during the month. The remaining incidents reported in Delta state by Nigeria Watch in December were mostly criminal in nature, such as gang violence and robberies.

The violence in Bayelsa reported by Nigeria Watch detailed heightened violence in

connection with the gubernatorial election. In total, 13 deaths were attributed to political tensions across the state as gunmen and hired thugs threatened to obstruct the election processes. In addition, it was reported that the Vice Chairman of the APC was killed by an unknown gunman which, although the official reason remains

unclear, was suspected to be the result of deepening tensions between and among rival political parties.

Violence reported in the Northeast remained tied primarily to JAS activities, including both attacks perpetrated by the group as well as counterinsurgency operations conducted by the Nigerian military and, in some cases, the Cameroonian military. In total, 17 incidents were reported in Borno, resulting in 362 fatalities. In contrast, only one insurgency/counterinsurgency related incident was reported in Yobe, which resulted in five deaths.

Based on reports by Nigeria Watch in December, a new trend emerged not seen in prior reports. Specifically, rather than JAS offenses against government and civilian targets resulting in the most fatalities, military offenses against JAS generated the highest numbers of deaths in December. In almost all cases, these were deaths of insurgents and military personnel.

Incident reports detailed that the high fatality numbers related to military offenses against JAS in Borno were the result of efforts to take back land and free hostages, both by Nigerian as well as other military forces. The incident reports also revealed that about 200 women and children were reported rescued when the military drove out JAS fighters during one operation.

In six incident reports that detailed counterinsurgency operations, there were a total of 184 fatalities which were believed to be mostly JAS fighters, with some military casualties as well. In incident reports of JAS offensives, the total reported number of fatalities was 178. Most of the attacks were committed by fighters who rode into villages on motorbikes and burned houses, although, as in previous months, suicide attacks

continued to feature prominently, especially the use of female and children bombers against civilian targets.

The only incident report from Yobe in December detailed that 210 people were rescued when the military fought JAS fighters, also killing five insurgents.

In the North Central states, most fatalities were reported in Kaduna from a single incident that was attributed to religious tensions which escalated to direct conflict between the military and members of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria, resulting in a reported 252 fatalities. There were two other incidents reported over religious tensions as well, with lower associated fatalities. Three other fatalities in the state resulted from cattle rustling and a protest. In Kano, 11 cattle rustlers died when they exchanged gunfire with the military and police.

In the Middle Belt Region, incident reports indicated that there were 23 fatalities in Plateau in three separate attacks that were orchestrated by gunmen, one believed to be criminal in nature while the other two were the possible result of inter-communal tensions over herding rights. At least 17 women and four children were reported to have died out of the 23 recorded fatalities.

Over the course of 2015, there were 687 incidents resulting in 9951 fatalities reported through Nigeria Watch in the eight NSRP focus states.

Trends in VAWG

The levels of reporting of VAWG across the states increased between November and December. The highest amount of incident reports were recorded in the Niger Delta and North Central states while the highest fatality rates were focalized in the Northeast, specifically Borno.

Similar to previous months, states that have NSRP service points established have the most consistent number of reported incidents of VAWG, along with the most detailed reporting. Due to the establishment of a new service point in Borno, the reports gathered from the state are no longer solely reliant on Nigeria Watch and news sources, but also on reporting from NSRP Peace Clubs and community-based organizations. According to the December VAWG incident reports, the ten reports from Borno and Yobe resulted in a total of 123 fatalities.

The high December fatality numbers in Borno were due to JAS fighters clashing with military forces conducting counterinsurgency operations, as the government attempted to regain control over lost territories. Reports from the region continue to indicate JAS using female and child suicide bombers. The four suicide bombings in Borno in December were reported to have been carried out by teenage girls.

The VAWG incidents reported in the North Central states in December primarily concerned domestic violence, the sexual assault of minors, and gender-based human rights violations. In total, Kaduna had five incident reports while Kano had 17 reports, all of which were categorized primarily as sexual violence. However, with no JAS incidents reported in the state during the examined time period, it appears that fears of the group continuing to expand and widen its attacks in Kano did not correlate with reporting received through the Observatory, at least for during the month of December.

The 22 VAWG incident reports from the Niger Delta were primarily categorized as domestic violence, abductions, child abuse, gender-based human rights violations, riots, and

tensions between political parties. There were no incident reports from Delta in December.

The majority of reports came from Rivers and two incidents were reported in Bayelsa. While Rivers recorded the most human rights-related reports, Bayelsa incidents were categorized as gender-based political violence and indicate that women were targeted or involved.

December 2015 Incidents by State

Below is a breakdown across all data sources by each NSRP target state.

Bayelsa

All incidents reported in Bayelsa occurred during or in the aftermath of the December gubernatorial elections. On December 5, a woman died after two groups of rival political supporters clashed at rallies. A day later, a group of women participated in a demonstration in Southern Ijaw over voting irregularities; there were no related injuries or fatalities reported.

Borno

The majority of VAWG reporting in Borno over the course of December surrounded insurgency and counterinsurgency activities.

In December, three suicide bombings and one attempted suicide bombing were reported, all of which are believed to have been carried out by girls under the age of 18. The primary targets of the suicide attacks were markets and a petrol station

and it appeared that all attacks were carried out by girls in pairs of two or groups of three. The total fatality count from all the attacks is estimated to be 36.

Two other related incidents in the state surrounded counterinsurgency operations and an attack by JAS fighters in Biu on December 18. The attack in Biu, at the home of the Army commander in charge of operations in the area, was believed to be in retaliation for strategic gains made by the Nigerian military against the insurgency in the area. An estimated 14 fatalities were reported in the attack, including women and children.

The counterinsurgency operation conducted on December 6 by the Nigerian Army and the Air Force against the insurgent's strong hold located in the Sambisa forest resulted in the rescue of women as well as children, although the precise number of freed hostages was not given.

The three other incident reports from Borno concerned human rights violations against women and girls and sexual violence. The first incident detailed the case of a young girl being forced by her step mother to marry a man who was 74 years old. The second report concerned the rape of an 11 year old girl, while a report on December 18 related that a man threw acid on his wife when she didn't prepare his meal on time.

Delta

There were no incidents of VAWG reported in Delta during the month of December.

Kaduna

There were five incidents of VAWG reported in Kaduna in December. The amount of incident reports this month decreased slightly from 11 incidents reported in November.

The reports were captured in the domestic abuse, gender-based human rights violations, and sexual violence indicator categories.

Sexual violence incidents took place in Chikun, Kaduna North, and Kaduna South. In Chikun, the parents of a four year old girl reported to police that a neighbor had raped her. Another parent of a girl in Kaduna North also reported that she had been raped. In Kaduna South, a woman thought to be employing sex workers allegedly had been starving and beating a 14 year old girl.

A domestic abuse case was cited in Kaduna North where a wife who was seven months pregnant was being beaten by her husband on a regular basis.

Finally, a gender-based human rights incident report from Kaduna South related that a man apologized to his wife and her family after he withdrew all the money from her bank account that had been given to her by her mother. He agreed to sign a document in which he promised to pay back the amount owed.

Kano

There were 17 incidents of VAWG reported in December in Kano. All reports involved the sexual abuse of girls and indicated that

the majority of the girls were under the age of 13. The reports were not localized to one area but rather were spread across different locations in the state.

While two of the incident reports did not provide the age of the survivors, in the cases where it was noted, the average age of the 16 girls who were sexually abused was nine years. The incident that involved the youngest girl (four years old) occurred in Nasarawa and was perpetrated by a 31 year old man who sexually harassed her. Another incident of sexual abuse involving a five year old girl was reportedly committed by a 15 year old boy in Ungogo on December 10.

Plateau

There was a considerable decrease in VAWG reported incidents in Plateau during December, with a total of five recorded. Only one domestic violence incident was reported, which was low for Plateau state, given prior trends. The other four reports were captured in the sexual violence, shooting/killings, and forced marriage indicator categories.

Jos South had the only domestic violence incident report as well as a shooting incident. In the domestic violence report, a husband was accused of mistreating and abusing his wife. The shooting incident report stated that a gunman attacked two villages and killed 22 people. The victims of the attack were reported to be 15 women, four children and two men.

The other three incidents were reported from various other LGAs in Plateau. Barkin Ladi reported the second sexual violence incident on December 21 when two girls were reported to have been attacked by at least five boys. A report from Riyom detailed an attack by a gunman on a village that killed two men and two women on December 27. In Wase, it was reported that a girl in secondary school was forced to marry a man against her will.

Rivers

There were twenty incidents of VAWG reported in Rivers state in December. Domestic abuse and gender-based human rights violations were the categories with the highest number of reports in Rivers state overall. Sexual violence affecting women and girls followed closely thereafter.

The most domestic abuse incidents were reported in Obio/Akpor, as four out of the eight cases came from that area. Almost all of the incident reports involved spousal abuse where husbands beat and abused their wives.

Similar to November incident reports, the majority of incidents in Rivers were reported in Port Harcourt. There were four cases of gender-based human rights violations. One incident detailed a woman who was beaten by an unknown man after she refused to allow her son to carry the man's water. In another incident, a woman was badly beaten after she demanded that a man repay his debt, and the last two reports

from Port Harcourt cited spousal abandonment.

There were also four sexual violence incidents reported in Port Harcourt, one involving a girl who was raped by her boyfriend's friends, while another report related that a two year old girl was raped by a 16 year old. Two further incident reports, one a robbery case, and the other entailing child abuse, stated that a woman was forced by her taxi driver to withdraw all her money from her banking account while the child abuse incident reported that a drug addict beat his wife and failed to provide for his son.

Two further VAWG incident reports were recorded in Rivers State, one a domestic violence incident which stated that a woman was beaten by her husband and his family members because they accused her of being a witch. The second report was a shooting-related incident in which a woman and her two year old son were shot dead when gunmen attempted to abduct a member of the local government.

Yobe

Only one incident was reported in Yobe on December 10. In a counterinsurgency operation, 210 individuals were reported rescued from a JAS camp, including women and children although exact numbers were not cited.

Objective 2

VAWG Reporting Across All Data Sources



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.

There were 57 reported incidents of VAWG across all sources in December while there were 47 from the VAWG Observatory Platform alone. The graph above shows incidents of VAWG from the beginning of 2009 through to the end of 2015, across all data sources, including the VAWG Observatory Platform. Reporting across all sources hit a high of 82 reports in three different months during 2015, the last being in October. This graph detailing all reported VAWG incidents will shift change slightly from month to month as reports from

previous months are incorporated onto the platform as they are received, causing an increase from the numbers reported in prior months.

As related in previous bulletins, the most detailed and nuanced incident data comes from the NSRP Observatory Platform, which fills a vital gap in data landscape on the reporting of VAWG across the eight states. To date, no other data source is able to provide the granularity and consistency of ground-sourced information that lends itself to pattern and trend line analysis. This, in turn, allows for better analysis overall of the surrounding conflict landscape that contributes to the perpetuation of VAWG and also an improved understanding of how to create effective interventions.

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.

In order to measure awareness of the project and the issues of VAWG that exist in the eight NSRP states, a web-based application has been created to track all visits to the VAWG Observatory Platform. It is also able to track which deployment of the platform was used to access the map; for example, whether through the NSRP website itself or through another source.

The map was viewed a total of 328 times in December, with 121 views coming through the NSRP deployment of the web platform alone, just over a third of the total. The percentage of views coming from the NSRP deployment continues to increase monthly.

Page Views Through All Platforms

May 2015	553	Sep 2015	326
Jun 2015	470	Oct 2015	702
Jul 2015	291	Nov 2015	403
Aug 2015	223	Dec 2015	328

Page Views through NSRP

Jun 2015	78
Jul 2015	71
Aug 2015	88
Sep 2015	73
Oct 2015	195
Nov 2015	160
Dec 2015	121

Objective 4

Locations of Incidents, Agents

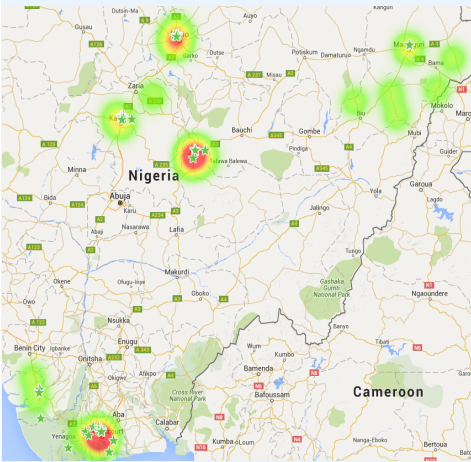


Figure 5: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States – December 2015 (Screenshot of Observatory Platform)

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.

As of December 2015, are 72 self-identified Peace Agents with a focus on gender mapped on the Observatory Platform. The number of agents who have identified a focus on gender has more than doubled since the beginning of the project.

There are an additional 25 Peace Agents registered with Observatory after the workshop in Borno in December. Four of

whom self-identified gender as a primary focus. One of the key aspects of the workshops and the service points is that they bring in local organizations working across sectors. By engaging with organizations that act beyond the scope of gender, the OBSTEC is able to provide a wider spectrum of resources to their communities. This also allows for the potential of interventions that have a wider impact.

Cross sector communication and cooperation helps facilitate raising awareness of VAWG issues. To effectively break the culture of silence it is important to reach out to people working outside of gender issues.

Below is the list of Peace Agents currently focusing on gender in the eight NSRP states.

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	Chikun	Zamani Foundation
	Yenagoa	National Orientation Agency		Kaduna North	Interfaith Mediation Centre
		Peacemaker International			Global Initiative for Women and Children
Borno	Maiduguri	Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)			International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA)
		Healthcare Development Focus Initiative (HECADF)			Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative
		National Council of Women Societies (NCWS)			Interfaith Forum of Muslim and Christian Women`s Association (Women`s Interfaith Council)
		Women in New Nigeria (WINN)			Legal Awareness for Nigerian Women (LEADS Nigeria)
		University of Maiduguri Muslim Women Association (UMMWA)			Pan African Leadership League
		Peace FM Radio			Women for Peace in Nigeria (WOPIN)
		WINN Youth Empowerment			Women in Need (A Women Empowerment Foundation)
		FIDA International Federation of Women Lawyers			Youth CAN, Kaduna
		KPPS			
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)
		Development Support Care Empowerment Foundation (DSCAEF)			

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

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