Violence Affecting Women and Girls in Select Nigerian States

Monthly Memo #27 - July 2016 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.

There were 37 incidents of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in July 2016 reported by NSRP sources. This reverses the upward trend in incidents seen in the last few months, with levels the lowest they have been since mid-2015. As with previous months, July reports were heavily concerned with child sexual abuse, domestic and gender-based violence. Sexual violence remains a pervasive problem across all of the NSRP focus states.

In the Niger Delta states, the main reported themes of VAWG incidents were sexual violence and crime. Rivers state reported the highest number of incidents of any target state for July 2016.

In the Northeast, the majority of the VAWG

reports during July focused on the Jama'atu Ahli Sunnah Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) insurgency and counter-insurgency efforts, a continuing trend in the region.

In the North Central region, VAWG reports were primarily related to child sexual abuse and domestic violence. Incidents of VAWG relating to general criminality, as well as some detailing alcohol or narcotics abuse, were also reported.

The following memo analyses data for the focus states of Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa, and Delta for July 2016. The graph below (Fig. 1) shows the number of reports submitted through the NSRP VAWG Observatory Platform since mid -2014.

Figure 1: VAWG Reports from NSRP Sources



Figure 1: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence Reported by NSRP Sources—2014-2016











Objective 1

Trends in Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) are measured in comparison to overall levels of violence and fatalities in the eight NSRP focus states. Overall levels are measured based on Nigeria Watch data, which has a consistent methodology and an even distribution of coverage by time and location.

Trends in Overall Violence

Broader trends in violence and insecurity in the eight NSRP states provide a contextual backdrop against which VAWG-specific incidents can be mapped and analysed.

July 2016 saw fewer overall incidents of violence and insecurity than previous months. The overall number of both reported incidents and fatalities has been on the decline since May 2016 (Fig. 2). The majority of incidents in July took place in Borno state due to ongoing JAS-related activity. While several deaths were the result of JAS attacks, most reported fatalities were the deaths of JAS themselves during clashes with government forces as part of counterinsurgency efforts.

About one-third of all reported incidents for July occurred in the Niger Delta states of Bayelsa, Delta, and Rivers. Delta state saw a higher number of overall incidents, most of which were gang- and crime-related, while Rivers state saw a higher number of reported fatalities as a result of group grievance and cult-related violence.

Trends in VAWG

Sexual violence remains a serious concern across the eight NSRP focus states. Over half of the reported VAWG incidents for July 2016 involved sexual abuse. There were at least three fatalities, two of which were children, in connection with sexual crimes. Almost two-thirds of the sexual abuse incidents reported for July were against children. Child abuse continues to be a prevalent human rights issue among the select states, with nearly every state reporting at least one incident of child abuse for July.



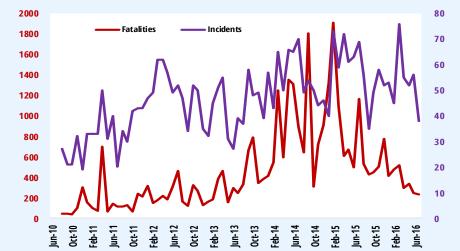


Figure 2: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch Data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of fatalities are measured against the axis on the left, while the number of reported incidents is measured against the axis on the right. 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 2014 and again in February 2015.

Figure 3: VAWG Incidents Trends

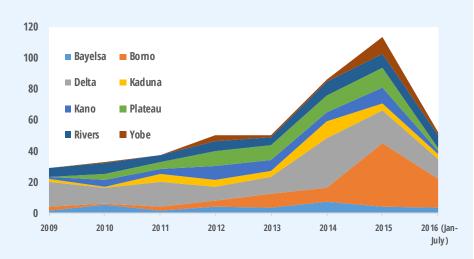


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents Reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y-axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x-axis shows the timeline from 2009 to present. The color blocks show the data disaggregated by state. This graph shows that media reports collected by Nigeria Watch separated by year. Since 2016 only accounts for seven months thus far, there is a steep drop on the right hand side of the graph which will normalize as more months are added. Note that this graph captures trends in the number of incidents, not in the severity of those incidents.

All three states in the Niger Delta reported incidents of VAWG for July 2016. Rivers state reported the highest number of incidents, accounting for almost one-third of VAWG incidents this month overall. Five of the

eight focus states reported gender-based violence, with one notable incident having been allegedly perpetrated by public security forces. Domestic violence reports were concentrated in Rivers and Plateau

states, while alcohol and drug-related abuses were reported in Kaduna and Plateau.

Fatalities in July 2016 as a result of VAWG and not related to sexual violence were either the result of armed crime-related incidents or JAS insurgencies.

July 2016 VAWG Incidents by State

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

Bayelsa

Bayelsa state reported two incidents of VAWG for July 2016; one was fatal, in which one woman killed another woman over a land dispute; the other was an incident in which a man raped a young girl.

Borno

Borno state reported eleven incidents of VAWG for July 2016. Five reports related to JAS activity, two involved terrorist attacks carried out by female suicide bombers, and three related to counter-insurgency operations that led to the rescue of almost one hundred abducted women and children. The other six reports were all incidents of sexual and gender-based violence, two of which victimized children and all but one of which occurred in the Maiduguri LGA.

Delta

Delta state reported three incidents of VAWG for July 2016: one large protest

staged by hundreds of women involved no fatalities, while two other crime-related incidents were both fatal. The first of these involved the finding of a dead female student with a white substance leaking from her mouth; the second involved a female armed robber who was killed by an antirobbery squad.

Kaduna

Kaduna state reported two incidents of VAWG for July 2016, one in which a woman was killed by a stray bullet fired at a vehicle by the Department of State Security, and the other in which a woman reported alcohol-related domestic abuse by her husband.

Kano

Kano state reported eight incidents of VAWG for July 2016, all were either sexual abuse cases, gender-based violence or child abuse. Six reports were of women or girls that were raped, with the ages of survivors ranging from five to twenty years old. In one incident, a nine-year-old was gang raped and a twenty-year-old was raped and then murdered. One reported incident involved vigilante activity in which a woman was beaten after being accused of witchcraft.

Plateau

Plateau state reported seven incidents of VAWG for July 2016, all were either gender-based or domestic violence taking place in Jos North LGA, with the exception of one incident in Jos East. Two of the incidents involved child abuse and one involved alcohol or narcotics. One incident allegedly

involved abuse on the part of public security forces, who reportedly beat a woman and stripped her naked at her place of work while responding to a domestic violence claim.

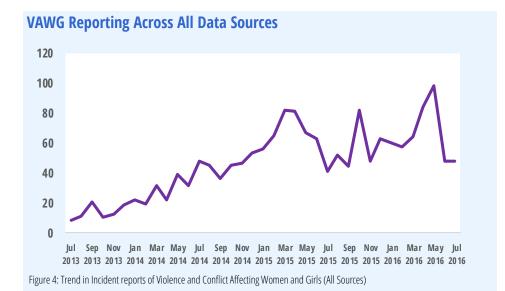
Rivers

Rivers state reported thirteen incidents of VAWG for July 2016, the highest number reported by a focus state this month. Eight reports were of sexual violence; five of those eight reports concerned sexual violence against children, one of which resulted in the death of a ten-year-old girl who was raped and later died from medical complications. There were three reports of domestic violence, all of which related to ongoing and serious physical violence. There was also one report of child neglect and one report of unlawful arrest.

Yobe

Yobe state reported one incident of VAWG for July 2016, detailing child abuse involving a young orphan girl mistreated by her caretakers.

Objective 2



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.

Consistent with last month, there were 48 incidents of VAWG reported across the eight NSRP focus states by all sources that contribute to the online Observatory Platform (this includes data from the NSRP Observatories as well as VAWG-related data from Nigeria Watch). Though there has been a drop in the past two months in reported incidents, the overall upward trend in VAWG issues since the beginning of the project in 2014, highlights the progress that has made in beginning to bridge the information gap that existed in the VAWG reporting. Bringing light to VAWG in communities across the eight NSRP focus states allows organizations working in those areas to begin addressing the violence that exists and allows them to continue talking about the issues.

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 was 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 online source (i.e. the PIND P4P Peace Map).

It is important to continue to encourage both local partners and international actors to utilize the online tools.

Page Views Through All Platforms

Oct 2015	702	Mar 2016	1154
Nov 2015	403	Apr 2016	621
Dec 2015	328	May 2016	1367
Jan 2016	1129	June 2016	1010
Feb 2016	991	July 2016	815

Page Views through NSRP

Aug 2015	88
Sep 2015	73
Oct 2015	195
Nov 2015	160
Dec 2015	121
Jan 2016	215
Feb 2016	121
Mar 2016	107
Apr 2016	83
May 2016	144
June 2016	131
July 2016	153

Objective 4



Figure 5: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States – July 2016

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 unique and important feature of the online platform is its ability to track both incidents of conflict as well local actors working to build peace in the NSRP focus states across Nigeria through self-identified Peace Agents. With each organization registering itself, they are able to receive notifications from the online platform about spikes in conflict.

There are 73 self-identified Peace Agents working on gender in the NSRP focus states. Overall, the online platform encourages organizations across all sectors of development and peace building to register themselves on Peace Agents on the map. As more and more organizations register on the map, the easier it is to understand what resources exist in a community; both for outside funders and those already operating within a community. It enhances the potential for collaboration.

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
Borno	Maiduguri	Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)			Children
		Healthcare Development Focus			International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA)
	Initiative (HECADF)			Empowering Women for Excellence	
		National Council of Women Societies			Initiative
		(NCWS) Women in New Nigeria (WINN)			Interfaith Forum of Muslim and Christian Women`s Association (Women`s Interfaith Council)
		University of Maiduguri Muslim Women Association (UMMWA)			Legal Awareness for Nigerian Women (LEADS Nigeria)
		Peace FM Radio			Pan African Leadership League
		WINN Youth Empowerment			Women for Peace in Nigeria (WOPIN)
		FIDA International Federation of Women Lawyers			Women in Need (A Women Empowerment Foundation)
		KPPS			Youth CAN, Kaduna
Delta	Udu	Ideal Women Advancement Initiative		Kaduna South	African Ethics and Theatre
	Uvwie	Lite –Africa		Radana Soath	Reformation (AETRI)
		Community Peace Development Initiative (CPDI)			Aid Foundation
		` ,			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	Kano	Center for Documentation	Rivers	Abua/Odual	Academy for Cultural Rights and
		Development Research and Project Centre (DRPC)			Human Development Female Development Initiative
		Federation of Muslim Women			(FEMLEAD)
		Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)		Akuku Toru	Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)
		Intergender Development Initiative Right Based Awareness Coalition		Bonny	Coalition of NGOS in Bonny for
		(RIBAC)			Human Rights and Sustainable Development
		Women Advancement Initiative		Emohua	Kebetkache Women Development
		Women Support Development Sustainable Association formerly Women Development Network (WODEN)		Etche	Women in Peace and Security Network
		Women, Widows and Orphan	Gokana Ikwerre	Gokana	Kebetkache Women Development
		Development Initiative		llavorro	Ikwerre Women Forum
Plateau	Jos	Christian Women for Excellence & Empowerment in Nigerian Society (CWEENS)		ikweire	ikwerre women Forum
		Inclusive Friends		Obio/Akpor	Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law
	Jos East	Jos University Teaching Hospital		Port Harcourt	Center for Creative Arts Education
	Jos North	Centre for the Advocacy of Justice and Rights (CAJR)			Civil Liberties Organization, Rivers State Branch
		Christian Rural and Rural Development Association of Nigeria			Gender Advocacy and Empowerment Initiative (GANET)
		(CRUDÁN)			Gender and Development Action (GADA)
		Fahariya Adolescent Development Network			Kebetkache Women Development
		Federation of Muslim Women in Nigeria			Lokiakia Community Development Centre
		International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) Plateau State Chapter			Medical Women's Association of Nigeria (MWAN)
		Justice Development and Peace Commission (JDPC)			Palmbits IPWC
		Justice Development Peace and Caritas			Partners for Peace
		Manna Resource Development Centre			Rimwof Project
		National Human Rights Commission			Women In Action for Positive Development and Gender
		National Youth Network on HIV/AIDS			Enhancement Centre (WAPDAGEC)
The Nigeria Working Group Youth Alive In Christ (YAC)		The Nigeria Working Group			Women in Peace and Security Network
		Yobe		African Center for Peace and Devel-	
				opment Nigeria	
		Wiscod			
	Jos South	Country Women Association of Nigeria			