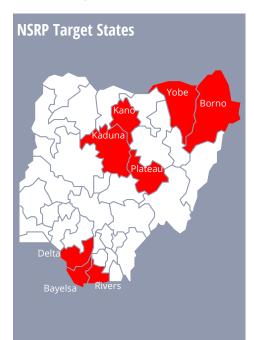
# Violence Affecting Women and Girls in Select Nigerian States

Monthly Memo #33 - January 2017 Data



There were 28 incidents of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) reported from all NSRP Observatory sources in January 2017. Fighting continued between the Jama'atu Ahli Sunnah Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) group and the Nigerian Armed Forces in Borno state in January, resulting in a high number of conflict fatalities, reports of female suicide bombers, and abductions of women and children. However, consistent with previous months, sexual violence and domestic abuse continued to be the two most salient issues reported throughout the eight NSRP states for the month of January.

Kano state reported the highest number of VAWG incidents this month with seven reports, followed by Borno state with six incidents and Delta and Kaduna with five incidents each. Ten of the 28 total incidents resulted in fatalities. NSRP Observatory sources also observed two incidents of violence affecting boys.

The following memo analyzes data for the focus states of Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa and Delta for January 2017. The graph below (Fig. 1) shows the number of reports submitted through the NSRP VAWG Observatory Platform since the beginning of 2014.

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.













# 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 focus states provide a contextual backdrop against which VAWGspecific trends can be mapped and analyzed.

Across the eight NSRP focus states, general insecurity and collective violence remained major risk factors for the month of January. Borno state continued to experience elevated levels of overall violence related to the JAS insurgency and counter-insurgency activities, and reported the highest number of insecurity-related incidents and fatalities. Borno reported 312 fatalities, a significant increase from the 96 fatalities reported in December. Nearly half of these fatalities were a result of one major incident on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January, in which more than 130 people were killed when a camp for Internally Displaced Persons was reportedly bombed mistakenly by the Nigerian air force. There were also multiple reports of suicide bombings during the month. In one report from the 16th of January, two suicide bombers detonated explosives inside a mosque and at the University of Maiduguri, killing seven people. One of the bombers was seven years old.

In the Niger Delta region, Delta state reported incidents of inter-communal conflict between herder and farmer communities and land-based conflicts, as well as incidents of kidnapping, armed robbery and crime. On the 7<sup>th</sup> of January, a dispute boundary hetween communities in Udu Local Government Area (LGA) led to one fatality. Bayelsa state reported multiple incidents relating to militancy and Joint Task Force (JTF) operations, as well as a clash between cult

Figure 2: Number of Incidents and Fatalities by Quarter

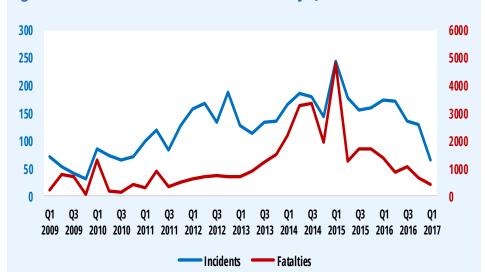


Figure 2: Quarterly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch and ACLED data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of fatalities are measured against the axis on the right, while the number of reported incidents is measured against the axis on the left. The graph shows that, although violence has is still higher than in 2009, levels of lethal violence have been dropping since Q2 2015.

Figure 3: VAWG Incidents Trends

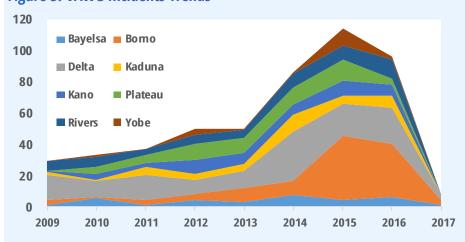


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents Reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y-axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x-axis shows the timeline from 2009 to 2016. The color blocks show the data disaggregated by state. This graph shows that media reports collected by Nigeria Watch separated by year. Since 2017 only includes one month so far, there is a 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.

groups and vigilante/mob justice. Rivers state reported several incidents criminality, including armed robbery, political violence and cult violence. While Delta reported the highest number of insecurity-related incidents during the month, Rivers reported the highest number of fatalities.

In the North Central Region, Kano and Kaduna states reported several incidents related to general insecurity, including abductions and armed robberies, and intercommunal conflicts. In Kaduna, insecurity was largely driven by conflicts between herder and farmer communities. On the 17<sup>th</sup> January, for example, five students in

Jema'a LGA were shot and killed in a clash between herder and farmer communities. In Kano state, two of the three insecurityrelated incidents involved armed robberies.

#### Trends in VAWG

There were 28 incidents of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) reported by all NSRP Observatory sources throughout the month of January 2017, an increase from last month. Kano state reported the greatest number of VAWG incidents this month with seven reported incidents, followed by Borno state with six incidents and Delta and Kaduna states with five incidents. Plateau state reported three incidents of VAWG during the month, while Rivers reported one incident. According to data from ACLED and Nigeria Watch, thirtyfour fatalities were reported in incidents involving women and girls this month, with the majority occurring in Borno state. While attacks involving JAS-related suicide bombers accounted for the majority of fatalities, sexual abuse, child abuse and domestic violence continued to comprise the majority of reported VAWG incidents.

Child abuse, both sexual and non-sexual, remains a prevalent issue across all NSRP states. Incidents involving child abuse were centered in Kano and Kaduna states. Most of these incidents involved rape and sexual abuse, but there were also reports of physical abuse and child labour.

Women and girls were also affected by incidents of crime, abduction, ritual killings, protests, and financial neglect in January 2017.

# January 2017 VAWG Incidents by State

Below is a breakdown across all data sources for each NSRP target state for January 2017.

#### **Borno**

A total of six VAWG incidents were reported in Borno state in January 2017. All but one of these reports involved the ongoing JAS

insurgency and counter-insurgency activities. Two reports this month detailed the abductions of several women and children by suspected JAS members. Three VAWG reports from Borno this month also IAS-related female bombers. In one incident from the 4th January in Gwoza LGA, three female suicide bombers were killed while attempting to enter a Nigerian military camp. In a separate report from the 8<sup>th</sup> of January, two female suicide bombers were killed in multiple attacks in Maiduguri LGA. Borno only reported one incident that was unrelated to JAS this month. In this report, an underage girl was reportedly raped and drugged by her neighbor in Jere LGA.

#### Delta

Five incidents of VAWG were reported this month in Delta state. Many of these reports related to issues involving crime and insecurity. In one report from the 5th of January, a pregnant woman and her twoyear-old child were abducted in Aniocha North LGA. In another incident from the 18<sup>th</sup> of January in Aniocha South LGA, a businesswoman was beaten to death. Warri South LGA reported two VAWG incidents this month. In one case, a woman was reportedly shot and killed in her apartment by her husband following a disagreement. In another incident, five siblings between the ages of two and eight were reportedly killed for ritual purposes. In Ughelli South LGA, women participated in protests against the increase in rape and inter-communal violence in the region.

#### Kaduna

Five VAWG incidents were reported in Kaduna state this month. Three of these cases occurred in Kaduna North LGA, and two were reported in Chikun LGA. Both reports from Chikun LGA involved the rape of underage girls. In one incident, an 11-year-old girl was raped by her 45-year-old neighbor, and in the other report a four-year-old girl was raped by a 17-year-old boy. One report from Kaduna North LGA also concerned child labour, where a father reportedly offered his 9-year-old daughter as a domestic slave to a woman for 2,000 Naira a month. The woman refused the

offer and reported the incident to an NSRP agent.

#### Kano

A total of seven VAWG incidents were observed in Kano state throughout the month of January. All of these reports detailed either domestic abuse or sexual violence. Three of the seven incidents reported in Kano state occurred in Bichi LGA and involved rape of female minors or domestic abuse. In one incident from the 11th of January, a 13-year-old girl was raped by a 75-year-old man who had lured her with promises of money. The girl became pregnant after this incident. The two domestic abuse reports this month concerned teenage mothers. In one reports, a 17-year-old girl was thrown out of her home by her 32-year-old husband six months after giving birth, over allegations of infidelity. The other incidents in Kano state this month involved sexual abuse of minors. In one incident, a six-year-old girl was sexually abused by a 16-year-old boy while running an errand in Tudun Wada IGA.

#### Plateau

Three VAWG incidents were reported in Plateau state in January 2017, all of which were cases of domestic abuse or financial neglect. Of the three reported incidents, two cases involved women reporting physical abuse by their husband. In one of the cases, the woman also claimed that the husband denied her access to her son. The third reported incident this month occurred in Wase LGA, where a woman reported that she had been financially neglected by her husband.

#### **Rivers**

Rivers state reported one VAWG incident in January 2017. In this report, protesters in Ikwerre LGA called for government intervention after the army reportedly occupied their land and prohibited them from farming. After attempting to return to their land, female community members were allegedly subjected to violence by some army personnel.

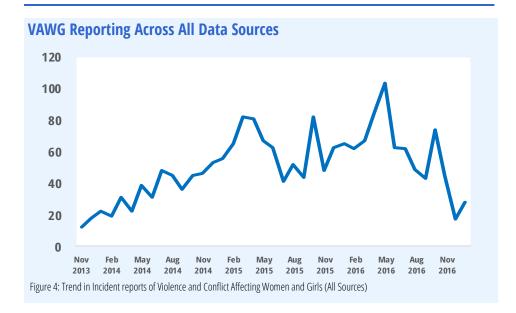
# **Violence Affecting Boys**

While the culture of silence around sexual violence and abuse of girls still remains a salient issue in NSRP states, reported data on abuse of boys is often even more limited. Despite young boys often being as vulnerable to sexual abuse, particularly by those in positions of authority, the cultural norms around heterosexuality have the potential to further isolate male survivors from speaking out. A lack of reporting on abuse against boys can also risk perpetuating myths around boys not being vulnerable to violence, including sexual violence.

This month saw two reported incidents from NSRP Observatory data sources related to violence affecting boys. In one casein Bayelsa state, a seven-year-old boy was tortured to death by his father and step-mother over allegations of witchcraft. In the other incident, a 15-year old boy left home due to abuse by his step-mother.

To increase awareness of violence against boys, observatories are encouraged to continue to disaggregate gender information where possible in their reporting.

### **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.

There were 28 incidents of VAWG reported in January 2017 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 and ACLED). Though reporting numbers have decreased in the past year, the overall upward trajectory in reporting number since the project began in 2014 highlights the progress that has made in beginning to bridge the information gap that exists in VAWG reporting.

Bringing light to VAWG in communities across the eight NSRP focus states allows organisations working in those areas to begin addressing the violence that exists and allows them to continue talking about

the issues. The increased reporting on incidents related to violence against boys reinforces the important contribution the observatories make towards breaking the culture of silence and shame which often pervades sexual violence and abuse.

# **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**

Dec 2015	328	July 2016	815
Jan 2016	1129	Aug 2016	675
Feb 2016	991	Sept 2016	684
Mar 2016	1154	Oct 2016	1210
Apr 2016	621	Nov 2016	852
May 2016	1367	Dec 2016	727
June 2016	1010	Jan 2017	1550

# **Page Views through NSRP**

Feb 2016	121	Aug 2016	184
Mar 2016	107	Sept 2016	139
Apr 2016	83	Oct 2016	249
May 2016	144	Nov 2016	227
June 2016	131	Dec 2016	163
July 2016	153	Jan 2017	279

# **Objective 4**

# **Locations of Incidents, Agents**



Figure 5: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States – January 2017

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	<b>Borno</b> 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)			Interfaith Forum of Muslim and Christian Women`s Association
		Women in New Nigeria (WINN)			(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			
	Uvwie	Lite –Africa		Kaduna South	African Ethics and Theatre Reformation (AETRI)
		Community Peace Development			Aid Foundation
		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	Kano	Center for Documentation	Akuku 1 Bonny	Abua/Odual	Academy for Cultural Rights and
		Development Research and Project Centre (DRPC)		Akuku Toru	Human Development Female Development Initiative
		Federation of Muslim Women			(FEMLEAD)
		Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)			Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)
		Intergender Development Initiative Right Based Awareness Coalition		Bonny	Coalition of NGOS in Bonny for Human Rights and Sustainable Development
		(RIBAC)			
		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	Kebetkache Women Development	
		Development Initiative		Ikwarra	Ikwerre Women Forum
Plateau	Jos	Christian Women for Excellence & Empowerment in Nigerian Society (CWEENS)		INWEITE	inwerre women orum
		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			Women in Peace and Security Network
			Yobe	Yobe	African Center for Peace and Development Nigeria
		Youth Alive In Christ (YAC)			opment Mgenu
		Wiscod			
	Jos South	Country Women Association of Nigeria			