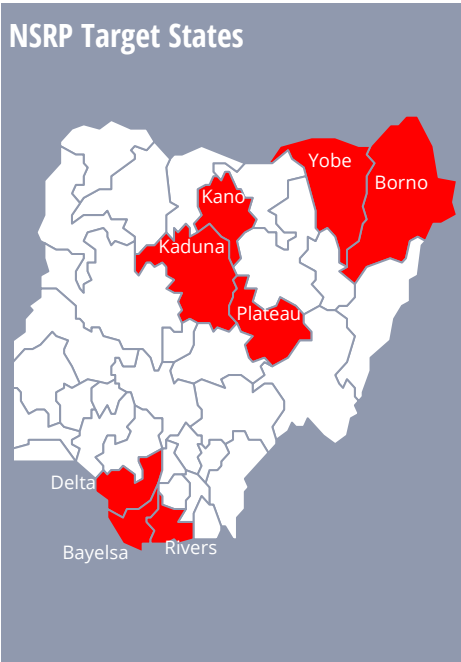


# Violence Affecting Women and Girls in Select Nigerian States

Monthly Memo #36 – April 2017 Data



There were 26 incidents of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) reported from all NSRP observatory sources in April 2017. Consistent with previous months, the Jama'atu Ahli Sunnah Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) insurgency and counterinsurgency activities in the Northeast continued to be a primary source of VAWG, comprising the majority of reported incidents in April. Reports related to domestic violence and inter-communal violence also continued to be salient issues.

The following memo analyses data for the NSRP focus states of Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa and Delta for April 2017.

Rivers state reported the highest number of VAWG-related incidents this month, with 11 incidents, followed by Borno with eight incidents, Plateau state with three incidents, Delta state with two incidents and Kano and Yobe states with one incident each.

*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.*

**Figure 1: VAWG Reports from NSRP Sources**

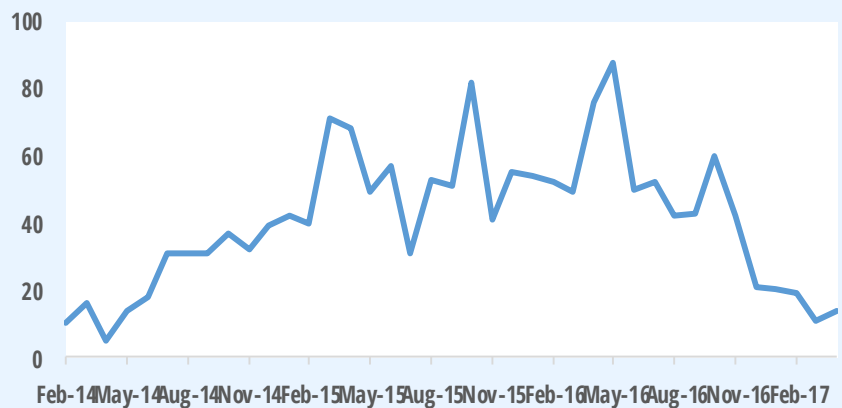


Figure 1: Monthly trend in Incidents of Violence Affecting Women and Girls Reported by NSRP Sources—2014 - April 2017



## 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 focus states provide a contextual backdrop against which VAWG-specific trends can be mapped and analysed.

General insecurity remained the most prevalent conflict risk factor this month across the eight NSRP target states. As in previous months, Borno state recorded the highest number of incidents and fatalities per capita. Borno saw a significant increase in reported fatalities in April, with 321 fatalities reported compared with 52 fatalities in March and 225 fatalities in February 2017. The primary driver of instability in Borno continues to be the JAS insurgency and counterinsurgency activities conducted by the Nigerian armed forces. In one case reported on the 12th of April, an estimated 57 JAS members were killed by counterinsurgency forces in Abadam Local Government Area (LGA). In a separate incident on the 8<sup>th</sup> of April, a suspected JAS attack on private and commercial vehicles traveling in Maiduguri reportedly caused 40 fatalities. The trend of JAS using suicide bombers continued in April as well. In one incident reported on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April, five people were killed and 11 were wounded in multiple suicide bombings in Jere LGA. In another incident on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April, two suspected JAS suicide bombers were shot and killed by security forces while attempting to enter the University of Maiduguri.

The North Central region also reported incidents of insecurity throughout the month of April, primarily relating to conflicts between herder and farmer communities. In one case reported on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, 12 people were killed in clashes between

Figure 2: Number of Incidents and Fatalities by Quarter

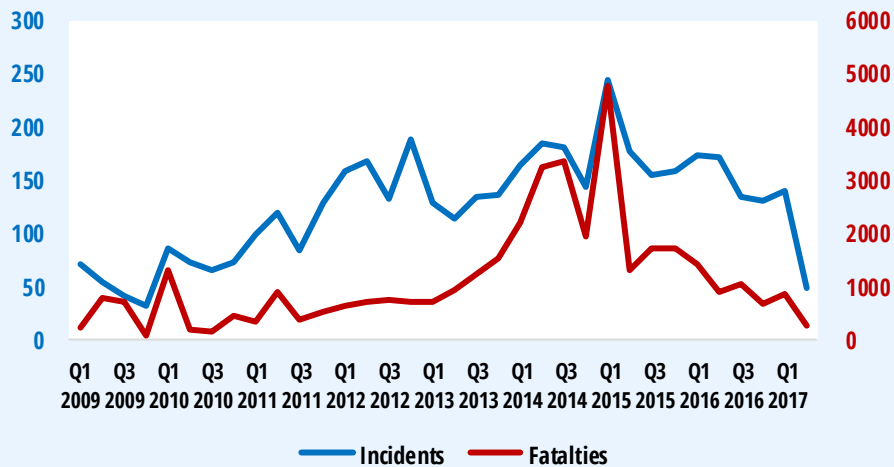


Figure 2: Quarterly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch and ACLED data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of reported incidents is measured against the axis on the left, while the number of reported fatalities is measured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

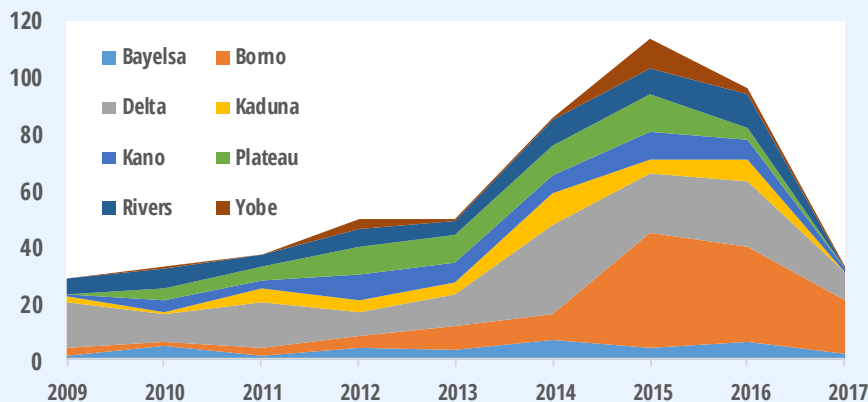


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y-axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x-axis shows the timeline from 2009 to 2017. The color blocks show the data disaggregated by state. Since 2017 only includes four months 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.

herder and farmer communities in Jema'a LGA in Kaduna state. Kaduna also reported multiple incidents of protests and demonstrations in April. Two protests – held on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of April in Kaduna North LGA – related to the detention of Sheikh Ibrahim Zakzaky, leader of the Islamic Movement in Nigeria. Other protests related

to grievances around the cost of electricity and the appropriation of land.

The Niger Delta states reported incidents of militancy, cult violence, and inter-communal violence this month, as well as cases of crime and protests. Consistent with the

previous month, Delta state reported the highest number of incidents and fatalities in April, followed by Rivers and Bayelsa states. In one incident reported in Bayelsa on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, clashes between militant groups in Southern Ijaw LGA left eight people dead. In another incident reported in Rivers on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April, clashes between the Iceland and Degbam cult groups in Ikwerre LGA resulted in two fatalities.

## Trends in VAWG

There were 26 incidents of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) reported across all NSRP Observatory sources throughout the month of April 2017. Rivers accounted for over one-third of VAWG-related incidents, reporting 11 incidents in April. Borno reported eight incidents this month. Plateau state reported three incidents in April and Delta state reported two incidents, while Kano and Yobe states each reported one VAWG-related incident.

According to data from Nigeria Watch, 16 VAWG-related fatalities were recorded in April, with the majority of these occurring in Borno state and involving female JAS-related suicide bombers. In addition to insecurity, domestic violence remains a salient issue across the eight NSRP target states.

## April 2017 VAWG Incidents by State

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

### Borno

Eight VAWG-related incidents were reported in Borno state this month, all of which related to the JAS insurgency and counterinsurgency activities. Seven of these reports involved female suicide bombers, while one incident reported the abduction of 13 women in Nganzai LGA by JAS members. In one incident reported on the 8<sup>th</sup> of April, two female suicide bombers detonated their packs near a mosque in Maiduguri LGA, injuring five people. In another incident reported in Jere LGA, a

female suicide bomber attempted to detonate her pack inside a wedding venue but was stopped before entering the venue.

### Delta

Two VAWG-related incidents were reported in Delta state in April, and both cases were related to insecurity. In one case, a woman was abducted on her farm, with her son beheaded during an attempt to rescue her in Ethiope East LGA. In the other case, a dispute over a girlfriend led to the death of one person and several buildings being destroyed.

### Kano

Kano state reported one incident of VAWG during the month of April. In this case, a 50-year-old woman was stabbed to death by her 30-year old son in Kano Municipal LGA.

### Plateau

Three VAWG-related incidents were reported in Plateau state in April. Two of these incidents were cases of sexual violence, one involving a 20 year-old woman and the other involving an 11 year-old girl.

### Rivers

Rivers state reported 11 VAWG-related incidents during April. Five cases involved financial abandonment or inheritance issues and four incidents involved domestic violence. Other incidents involved child abuse, human trafficking, and sexual violence.

### Yobe

Yobe state reported one VAWG-related incident during the month. In this case, reported in Damaturu LGA, a dispute over a girlfriend resulted in the deaths of four policemen and one soldier.

## Violence Affecting Boys

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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.

Although no incidents of violence against boys were reported in April, observatories are encouraged to continue to disaggregate gender information where possible in their reporting to encourage greater awareness of violence against boys.

## 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 26 incidents of VAWG reported in April 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 to light 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

Jan 2016	1129	Sept 2016	684
Feb 2016	991	Oct 2016	1210
Mar 2016	1154	Nov 2016	852
Apr 2016	621	Dec 2016	727
May 2016	1367	Jan 2017	1550
June 2016	1010	Feb 2017	1635
July 2016	815	Mar 2017	1960
Aug 2016	675	Apr 2017	1145

### Page Views through NSRP

Jan 2016	215	Sept 2016	139
Feb 2016	121	Oct 2016	249
Mar 2016	107	Nov 2016	227
Apr 2016	83	Dec 2016	163
May 2016	144	Jan 2017	279
June 2016	131	Feb 2017	198
July 2016	153	Mar 2017	175
Aug 2016	184	Apr 2017	147

## Objective 4

### Locations of Incidents, Agents

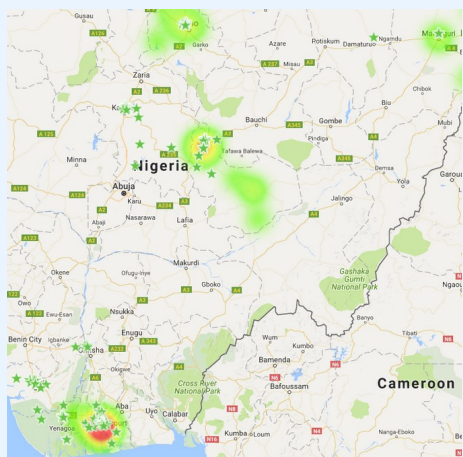


Figure 5: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States - April 2017

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