

Violence Affecting Women and Girls in the Eight NSRP Target States

Monthly Memo #14 – June 2015 Data

August 13 2015

■ June 2015

For June 2015, the reports received by the NSRP Observatory increased again, following a slight dip in May 2015. Overall, the level of reported incidents of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) has been increasing since the beginning of the project last year. A second key success of the project is the increase number of organizations focused on gender issues who have registered as Peace Agents on the Observatory platform for scoping and networking; since July 2014, the number has nearly doubled from 38 to 66.

Reports of VAWG have increased over the last several years. In June, as in previous months, reports of violence affecting women and girls in the Niger Delta and North Central Region have mostly involved sexual and domestic violence, while those in the Northeast Region have been associated with insurgency and counter-insurgency violence.

This memo covers the month of June 2015 (data coding and uploading lags by a month) for the focus states of Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa, and Delta. The trend below shows a general increase in the number of reports generated by NSRP Sources over the course of the last year, despite some months where reporting dipped.

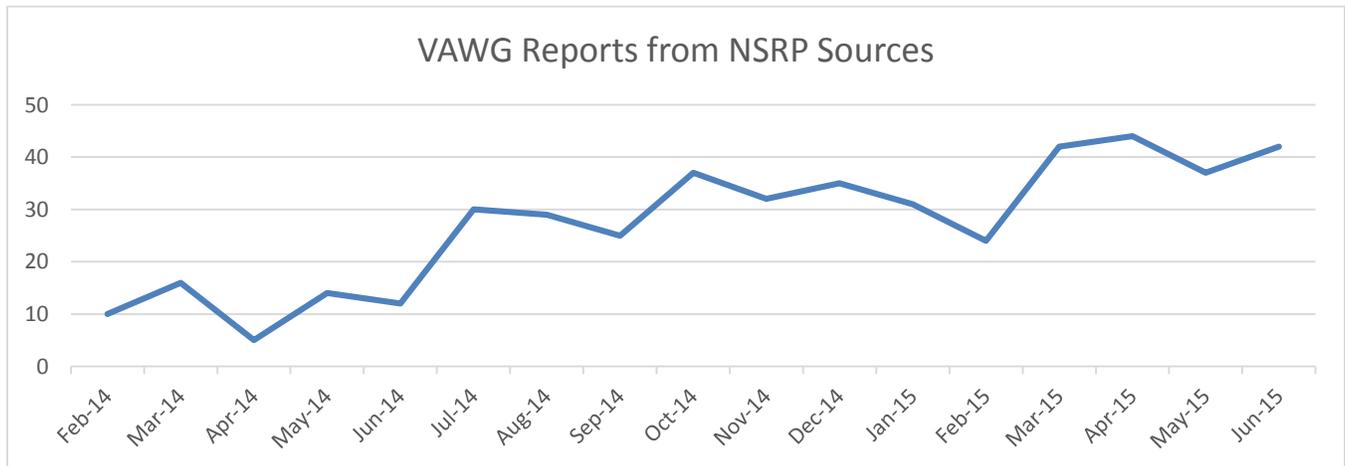


Figure 1: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence Reported by NSRP Sources

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

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 understand the trends in VAWG across the eight NSRP States, it is important analyze the data in the context of the overall levels and trends of violence in those states. Due to its consistency, this section will focus solely on overall data collected by Nigeria Watch.

Overall, the number of fatalities has been decreasing since the start of 2015. For June, there were a total of 498 fatalities across all eight states, which is a large decrease compared with May's 670 and February's 1915 fatalities, respectively. The highest number of fatalities in June was 312 in Borno, followed by 71 in Yobe and 36 in Kaduna. The high fatalities in the Northeast region can be directly linked to alleged Boko Haram activities in Borno and Yobe. Of the 63 overall incidents of violence, 20 reports fell under the sub-indicator of insurgency/counter-insurgency and took place mostly in Borno and Yobe. The second highest category was inter-communal tension or violence, and most of these incidents took place in Plateau state and resulted from tensions between Fulani herdsmen and local community members. The number of reported fatalities fell in Rivers from 43 over the past two months to 11 in June, and there was only one report of violence in Kano; however, those two persons died because of a natural disaster rather than homicide. So far, there have been 368 incidents of reported violence in 2015 and 6113 recorded fatalities.

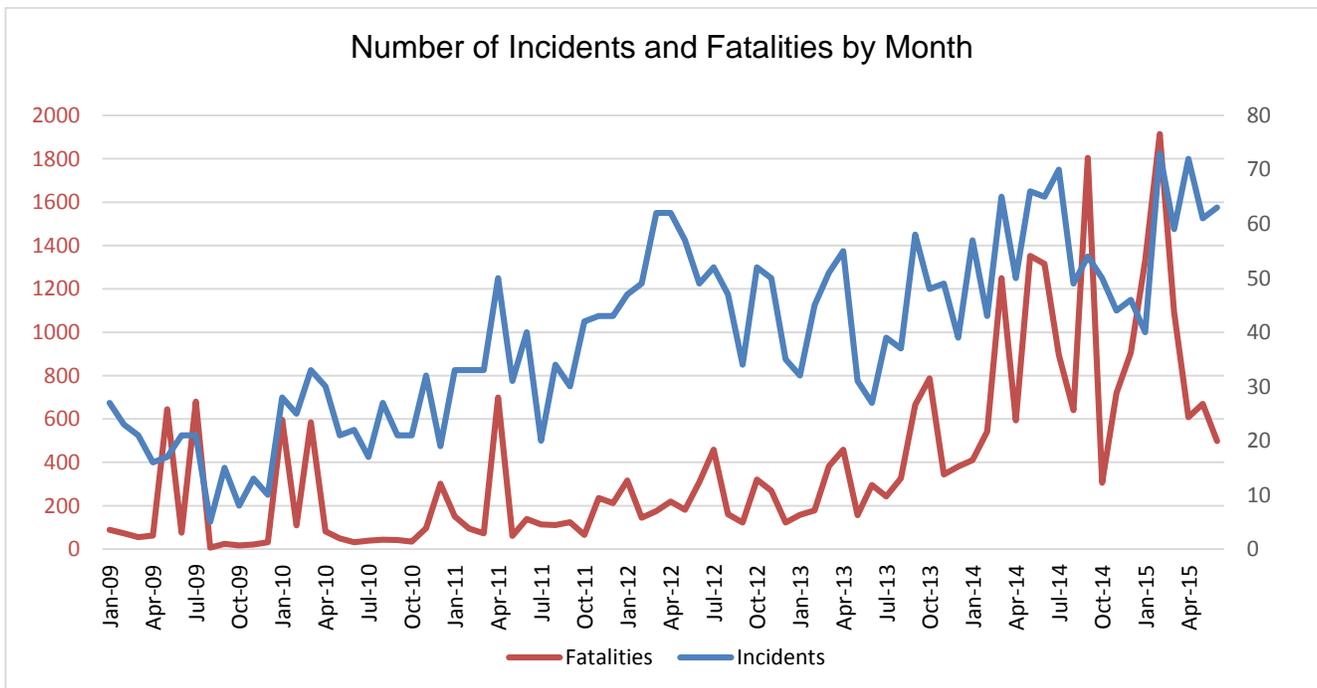


Figure 2: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch Data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of fatalities are measured against the axis on the left, the number of reported incidents is measured off the axis on the 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 2014 before dropping in 2015. In 2012 there were a high number of less lethal incidents reported.

Trends in VAWG

Using only Nigeria Watch data, Borno and Delta states have had the most reported incidents of VAWG, year on year, since 2009. Since the monitoring of VAWG began, Yobe, in particular, has continued to increase as well, peaking between 2011 and 2012, and then rising again in 2014.

When using all of the sources for a qualitative assessment of violence patterns, the most commonly reported VAWG incident was sexual violence, followed closely by child abuse and then by VAWG-related shootings and killings. The Northeast region continues to be dominated by reports of VAWG specific to the on-going insurgency and counter-insurgency efforts. The other regions tend to have trends of sexual and domestic violence, and the majority of victims tend to be young girls.

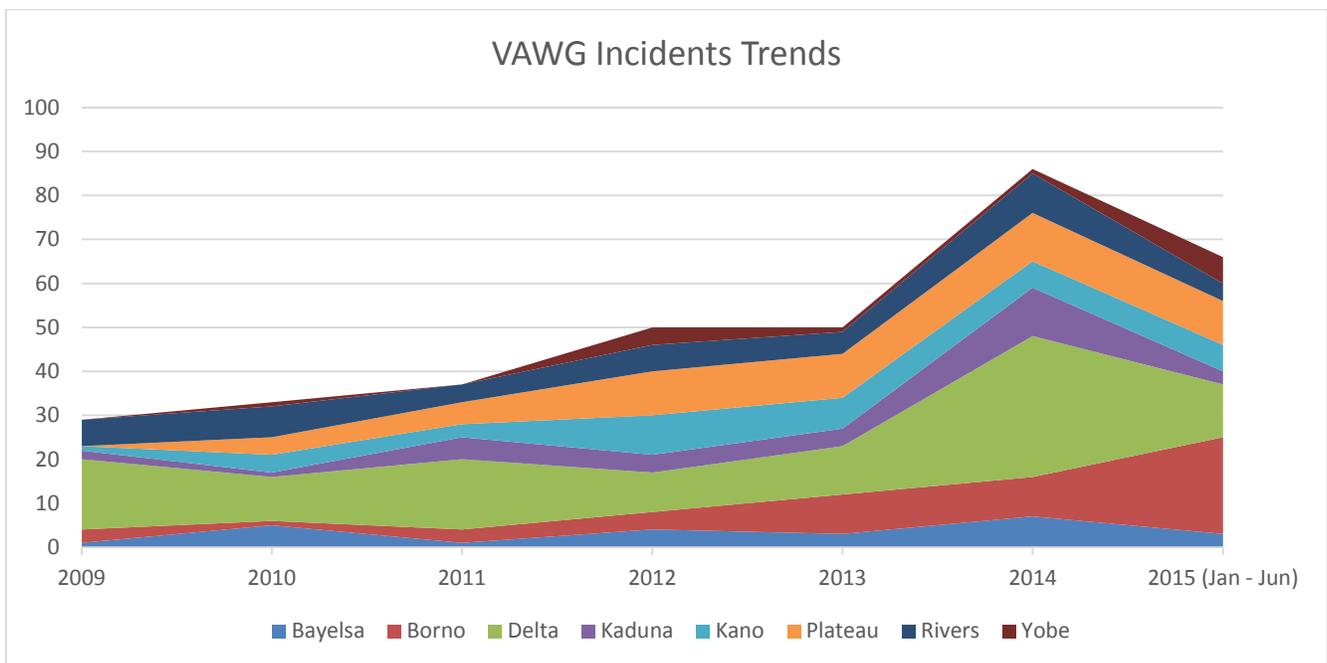


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents Reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x axis shows the timeline from 2009 to present. The color blocks show the data disaggregated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

June 2015 Incidents by State

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

Bayelsa: In Bayelsa, the common factor in VAWG was abductions. The wife of a former governor was abducted in Yenagoa and kidnappers killed a young man who attempted to stop them from taking three women.

Borno: Every report received, with the exception of one, involved suspected or declared female Boko Haram suicide bombers. Overall, there were at least 59 people killed (including the suicide bombers themselves) and at least 54 injured by these attacks. There were also three cases of suicide bombers detonating accidentally before they reached their targets. The report that did not include female suicide bombers still involved a bagged improvised explosive device (IED) supposedly abandoned by Boko Haram that detonated when members of the Joint Task Force (JTF) examined it. In this incident, 63 people, both male and female onlookers and JTF members, died in this explosion.

Delta: The only reported VAWG incident for June in Delta involved the deaths of a 16-year-old girl and two others at the hands of cultists.

Kaduna: In June, all of the reports involved domestic and sexual violence. The domestic violence reports involved a woman who beat her husband to death for keeping late nights and a pregnant woman beating her young sister-in-law. The reports of sexual violence included a father who raped his daughter, an 18-year-old girl collaborating with a man in the hotel in which they both work to traffic underage girls for sex, and gunmen who raped and killed five women.

Kano: As in past months, the reports of VAWG were based in sexual and domestic violence. Two reports involved older men raping and defiling young girls. The other reports involved domestic violence; in one, a man beat his wife and gave her a divorce when she asked for clothes for their children, and in the other, a man beat his wife to death for unstated reasons.

Plateau: The majority of reports in Plateau for June involved domestic or sexual violence. There were seven cases of sexual violence and twelve of domestic violence. The only domestic violence case that did not include husbands abusing spouses and children was a report of a woman beating her maid to death. Other reports of VAWG involved two reports of killings; in one, two protesting women were shot dead by members of the Special Task Force (STF), and in the other, a husband and wife and their baby were killed by unknown assailants. There was also a report of a 13-year-old girl being forced to drop out of school to marry a man she did not want to marry and a report of a man who humiliated and tortured his wife because she bore him four girls.

Rivers: For June, all of the VAWG reports involved sexual and domestic violence. There were many reports of older men raping or defiling girls and one case of a pedophile defiling a baby girl. In two of the cases, girls were abducted and raped. There were five reports of domestic violence, the most notable of which involved a girl beating her mother to death for the mother's constant beatings for failing to prepare dinner.

Yobe: All three incidents of violence affecting women and girls this month were products of the insurgency and counter-insurgency efforts in the state. Two of the reports regarded the same incident of a young girl self-detonating in a crowded market. The reports agreed that at least 30 people were injured but diverged over the number of fatalities. The other incident reported that Boko Haram used women and girls as human shields when soldiers encountered the insurgents.

Objective 2:

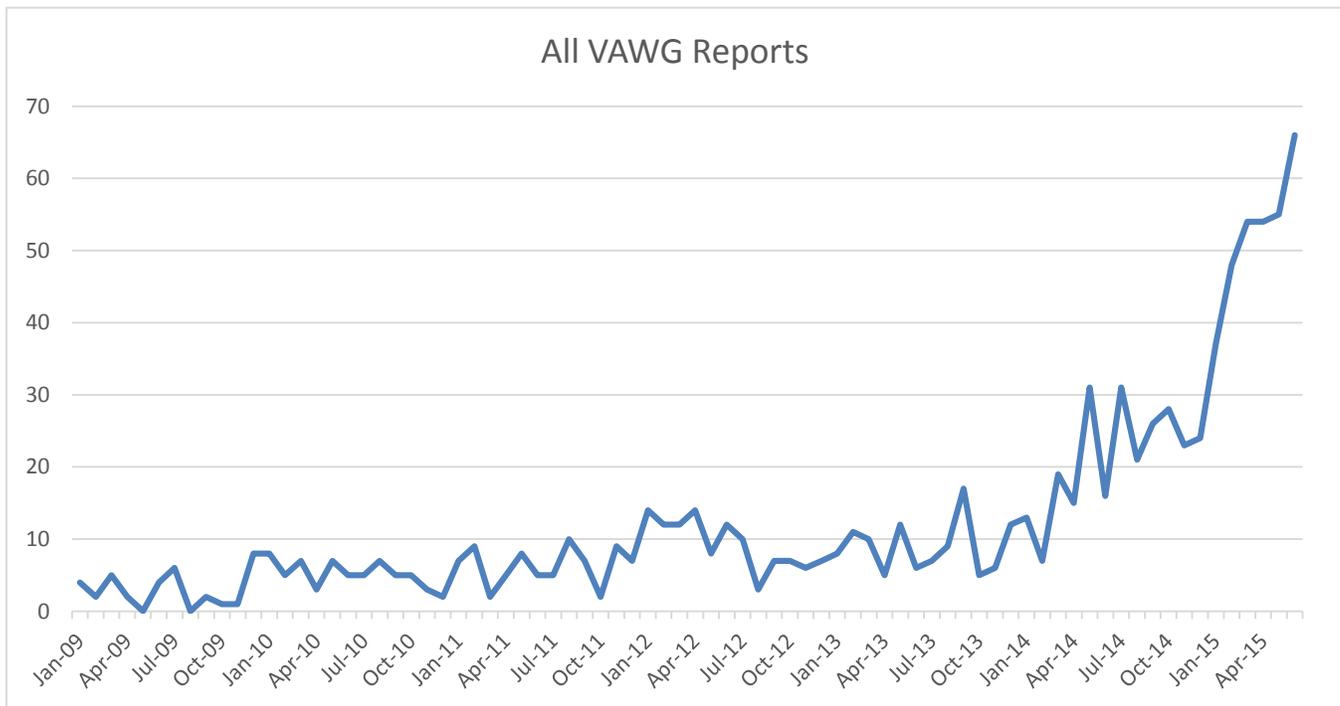


Figure 4: Trend in Incident reports of Violence and Conflict Affecting Women and Girls (All Sources)

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, starting from January 2009. The overall reports of violence increased from 61 in May to 63 in June, while the number of VAWG reports between May and June increased from 55 to 66. There appears to be growing awareness of the issue and shows increasing impact and outreach by local partners and OBSTECs in Kano, Kaduna, Plateau and Rivers. We continue to rely on a moderate level of media reporting that exists, particularly for states where there are not direct service points. For instance, Borno, Yobe, Delta and Bayelsa did not report any cases of VAWG from NSRP Sources in June, although there were incidents reported in those states from other sources, which were integrated onto the Observatory platform.

As noted in prior months, direct reporting gathered from NSRP partners' remains the most relevant and detailed data we receive. The Rivers Observatory service point continues to provide significant data for the state; however, this month, the number of reports received from Plateau far exceeded the number of reports from Rivers.

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 Peace Map as a way to measure public awareness. The Peace Map is used by several projects operating in Nigeria and can be accessed through various deployments of the page. 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. Moving forward we will be able to track overall visits the Peace Map and visits originating through the NSRP website, allowing us to measure the visibility of the project. As an M&E tool, this application will be able to highlight when public outreach and awareness campaigns are needed. As a multiplier effect, integrating VAWG data from NSRP sources on all Peace Map deployments accomplishes more toward this objective than if it were visible on the NSRP website alone.

	January 2015	February 2015	March 2015	April 2015	May 2015	June 2015
Page views through all Platforms	684	523	678	281	553	470

	May 2015	June 2015
Page Views through NSRP	30 *platform update allowing this was executed near the end of May, data will be more complete next month.	78

Objective 4:

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 reported in prior months, the Observatory, especially through information gathered by the Peace Clubs and local organizations in Kano, Kaduna, Plateau and Rivers, continues to fill in missing data when it comes to the aggregation of gender-based violence reports in the NSRP states. We also continue to grow the number of self-identified Peace Agents focusing on gender and gender issues in the eight NSRP states.

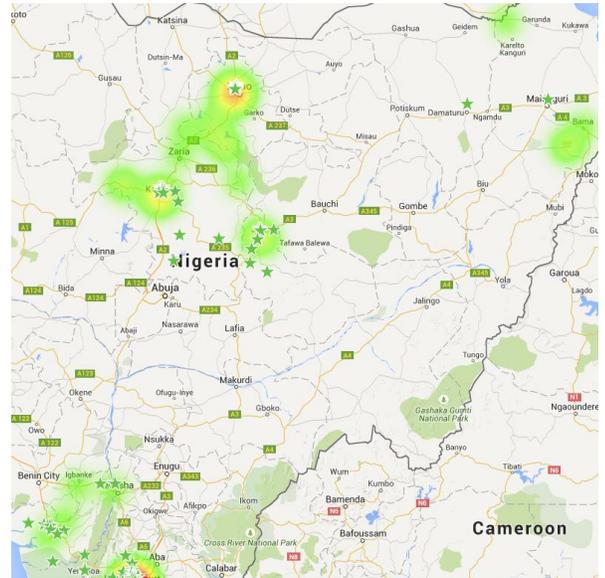


Figure 5: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States – May 2015 (Screenshot of Observatory Platform)

Figure 5 shows a heat map highlighting the distribution of VAWG Reports during the month of April. The Peace Agents that have registered to be shown on the map, are identified by green stars. The table below is a list of gender-focused organizations in the eight NSRP states. There are currently 65 organizations focused on gender that appear on the Peace Map. Eight new organizations have been identified over the past month. A relatively new feature on the map allows registered users to endorse one another as a means of validation and verification. As this functionality is more widely utilized, it will aid in facilitating effective collaboration for preventative response and violence mitigation.

We continue to recommend including representation from these organizations, when possible, in NSRP workshops and activities.

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

State	LGA	Organization
Bayelsa	Ekeremor	Ekeremor Women Forum
Bayelsa	Yenagoa	National Orientation Agency
Borno	Maiduguri	Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)
Borno	Maiduguri	Healthcare Development Focus Initiative (HECADF)
Borno	Maiduguri	National Council of Women Societies (NCWS)
Borno	Maiduguri	Women in New Nigeria (WINN)
Borno	Maiduguri	University of Maiduguri Muslim Women Association (UMMWA)
Delta	Uvwie	Lite –Africa
Delta	Uvwie	Community Peace Development Initiative (CPDI)
Delta	Uvwie	Development Support Care Empowerment Foundation (DSCAEF)
Delta	Udu	Ideal Women Advancement Initiative
Kaduna	Kaduna North	Women for Peace in Nigeria (WOPIN)
Kaduna	Kaduna North	Global Initiative for Women and Children
Kaduna	Kaduna North	PAN AFRICAN LEADERSHIP LEAGUE
Kaduna	Kaduna South	African Ethics and Theatre Reformation (AETRI)
Kaduna	Kaduna North	"Youth CAN, Kaduna"
Kaduna	Kaduna North	Interfaith Mediation Centre
Kaduna	Kaduna North	Legal Awareness for Nigerian Women (LEADS Nigeria)
Kaduna	Kaduna North	Women in Need (A Women Empowerment Foundation)
Kaduna	Kaduna North	International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA)
Kaduna	Kaduna North	Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative
Kaduna	Kaduna North	Interfaith Forum of Muslim and Christian Women`s Association (Women`s Interfaith Council)
Kaduna	Kaduna South	Gender Awareness Trust (GAT)
Kaduna	Kaduna South	African Ethics and Theatre Reformation (AETRI)
Kaduna	Kaduna South	Aid Foundation
Kaduna	Chikun	Zamani Foundation
Kano	Kano	Development Research and Project Centre (DRPC)
Kano	Kano	Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)
Kano	Kano	INTERGENDER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
Kano	Kano	Women Advancement Initiative
Kano	Kano	Women Support Development Sustainable Association formerly Women Development Network(WODEN)
Kano	Kano	"Women, Widows and Orphan Development Initiative."
Kano	Kano	Center for Documentation
Plateau	Jos North	JUSTICE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE COMMISSION (JDPC)
Plateau	Jos North	Manna Resource Development Centre

Plateau	Jos North	Federation of Muslim Women in Nigeria
Plateau	Jos North	Justice Development Peace and Caritas
Plateau	Jos North	National Youth Network on HIV/AIDS
Plateau	Jos North	Youth Alive In Christ (YAC)
Plateau	Jos North	CHRISTIAN RURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (CRUDAN)
Plateau	Jos South	COUNTRY WOMEN ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA
Plateau	Jos East	Jos University Teaching Hospital
Plateau	Jos	Inclusive Friends
Plateau	Jos North	Wiscod
Plateau	Jos North	National Human Rights Commission
Plateau	Jos	Christian Women for Excellence & Empowerment in Nigerian Society (CWEENS)
Plateau	Jos North	The Nigeria Working Group
Plateau	Jos North	Centre for the Advocacy of Justice and Rights (CAJR)
Rivers	Abua/Odual	Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)
Rivers	Abua/Odual	Academy for Cultural Rights and Human Development
Rivers	Akuku Toru	Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)
Rivers	Emohua	Kebetkache Women Development
Rivers	Etche	Women in Peace and Security Network
Rivers	Gokana	Kebetkache Women Development
Rivers	Ikwerre	Ikwerre Women Forum
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Center for Creative Arts Education
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Lokiakia Community Development Centre
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Women In Action for Positive Development and Gender Enhancement Centre (WAPDAGEC)
Rivers	Port Harcourt	"Civil Liberties Organization, Rivers State branch"
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Gender Advocacy and Empowerment Initiative (GANET)
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Gender and Development Action (GADA)
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Kebetkache Women Development
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Rimwof Project
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Palmbits IPWC
Rivers	Bonny	Coalition of NGOS in Bonny for Human Rights and Sustainable Development
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Medical Women's Association of Nigeria (MWAN)

Conclusion and Recommendations

Each month data collection, analysis and mapping functions continue to improve. The dashboard has been to make it more user friendly and easier to track risk trends (toggling between # of incidents and # of fatalities) in select counties and regions. The Peace Map has improved ability to have incidents broken out by source or total combined incidents thereby reducing duplicates across sources. We have continued to make it friendlier for users to register their peace initiatives online for inclusion on the map to better facilitate scoping and networking. Other upgrades to the platform for June include that users can download a table of incidents including the numbers of fatalities for each. What follows below are some specific conclusions and recommendations as directly related to the four overall project objectives.

Objective 1: *Continue to measure trends in violence affecting women and girls as compared to overall levels of violence and fatalities.*

While the overall levels of violence and fatalities have decreased in June, VAWG-related incidents have risen, with Delta and Borno states reporting the most VAWG-related incidents from all sources from 2009 to present. Yobe, as mentioned above, has also seen a rise in the number of incidents since tracking began in 2009, with a spike in 2014, mostly related to insurgency and counter-insurgency violence. As in prior months, direct observation data remains the most relevant and salient for trend analysis. Data received from the Observatory service points in Kano, Kaduna, Plateau and Rivers remains the most plentiful and detailed, allowing for a more nuanced analysis of patterns and types of violence by state. As the nature of VAWG-related incidents has been observed to be somewhat characteristic of the type of overall violence and killings by state or region (i.e. cult-related violence in the Niger Delta, insurgency-related violence in the Northeast), it would be highly valuable to have more reports from the other states in order to perform a more specific analysis of trends.

Objective 2: *Break the culture of silence and increase the level of reporting and awareness on issues of violence affecting women and girls.*

As noted above, after a slight dip in reporting in May, June reporting from NSRP sources rose again, hopefully indicating less overall stigma and fear about reporting and bringing to light issues of VAWG in the eight focus states.

Objective 3: *Increased awareness through increased reports*

As we are able to track visits to the Peace Map through the NSRP webpage, it will be important to direct traffic there, an effort all Observatory partners should play a role in. As the numbers of reports received in March, April and June have demonstrated, shown, however, we are meeting the objective of increased reporting in many of the states, particularly in the Niger Delta and Middle Belt.

Objective 4: *Facilitate and Support Opportunities for Preventative Response.*

The value of multi-stakeholder collaboration is highlighted in this project through the use of the map and the continued direct participation of OBSTEC members and local partner organizations. In addition, each month we receive new applications from local organizations who request to be part of the Peace Map and ensure that their organization is



listed as one dealing with VAWG and available for local response. Both NSRP and FFP have started featuring reports on their respective websites and FFP has used social media to announce the release of new reports on social media which has gained the attention of new audiences in Washington, DC and New York. Additionally, FFP plans to hold a roundtable event in early autumn to showcase some of the findings from the project as well as to use the opportunity to introduce other stakeholders currently interested in VAWG in Nigeria to the project. Now well into its second year and showing signs of growing success, we believe that in introducing new stakeholders to the project, there will be more opportunities to collaborate to support preventative response in the future.