

Violence Affecting Women and Girls in Select Nigerian States

Monthly Memo #25 - May 2016 Data



All three NSRP focus states in the Niger Delta had reports of VAWG during the month of May. The reports were primarily focused on domestic abuse, spousal abandonment, and child sexual abuse.

The following memo analyzes data for the focus states of Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa, and Delta for May 2016 (data coding and uploading lags by a month). The graph below shows the number of reports submitted through the NSRP VAWG Observatory Platform.

In the Northeast, the majority of the VAWG reports during May focused on Jama'atu Ahli Sunnah Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) insurgency and counter-insurgency efforts.

In the North Central region, as with other NSRP focus states, VAWG reports were primarily about child sexual abuse. Child sexual abuse is arising as a systemic problem across all the NSRP focus states.

There were 87 reported incidents of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) in May 2016 by NSRP sources. This continues the upward trend in reporting from NSRP sources, hitting a record high for the second month in a row. The Plateau service point reported the highest number of incidents for a second time. Reports in the Middle Belt were focused on domestic abuse and child abuse, with sexual abuse making up a large portion of the reports.

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.

VAWG Reports from NSRP Sources

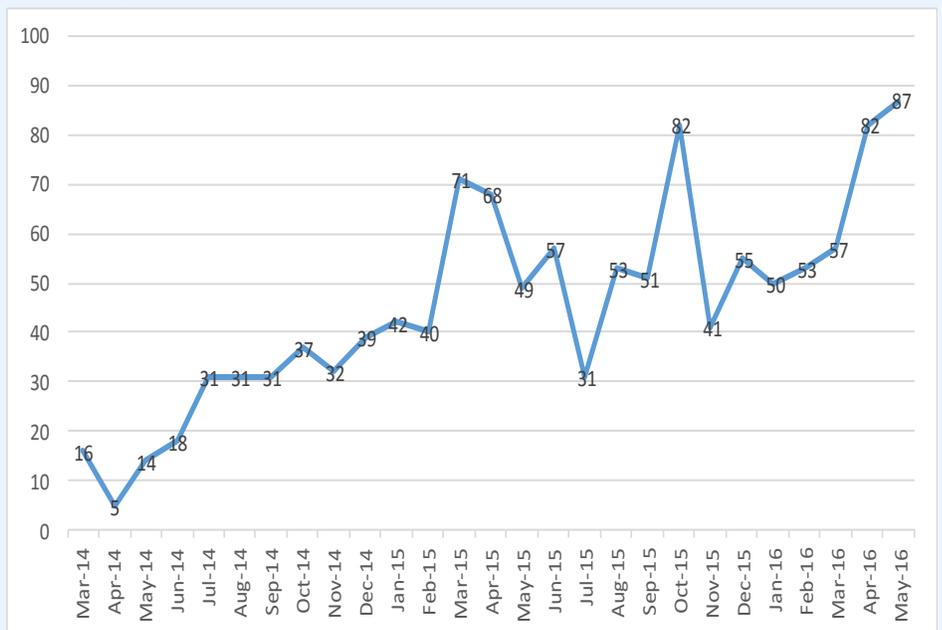


Figure 1: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence Reported by NSRP Sources



Objective 1

Trends in violence affecting women and girls are measured 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.

There were 52 incidents of violence reported by Nigeria Watch in May 2016, which is approximately the same number of incidents reported in April 2016. However, the total number of fatalities increased since April from 294 to 333, with the majority taking place in Borno and Delta states. A total of 48 out of 52 incidents involved shootings and killings while the other four incidents had to do with land competition and/or cattle rustling.

There were 29 incidents reported in the Niger Delta states of Delta, Bayelsa and Rivers. Of the six attacks in Bayelsa state, four had to do with insurgency/counter-insurgency violence, and three were incidents surrounding the sabotage or attempted sabotage of oil pipelines. In one such instance, ten militants who tried to vandalize oil pipelines in Brass LGA were killed by members of the Nigerian military. In another reported incident in Nembe LGA, six people attached to an oil company were attacked by militants, but there are disputes surrounding what exactly happened because another source reports that the attackers were sea pirates.

There were only ten incidents reported in Delta state, but these incidents collectively resulted in 71 fatalities. Many of the

Number of Incidents and Fatalities by Month

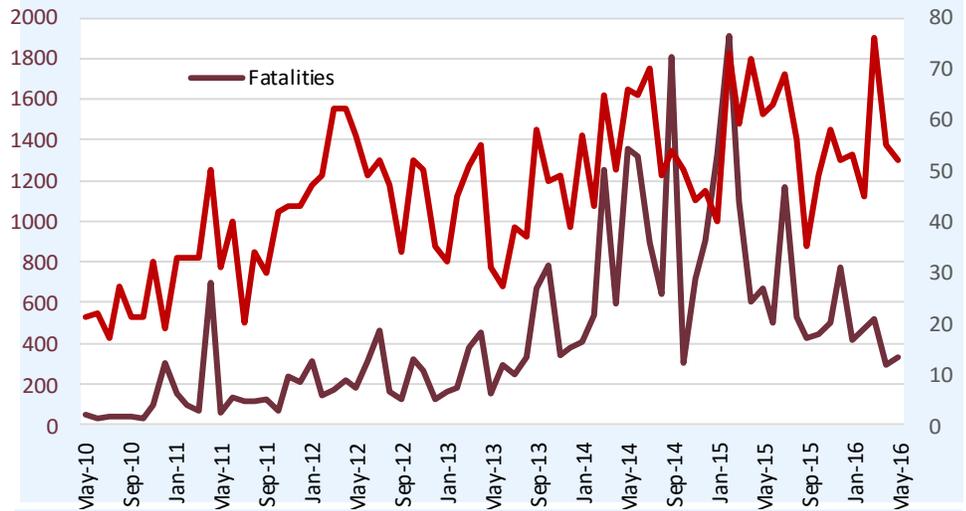


Figure 2: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch Data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of fatalities is measured against the axis on the left and the number of reported incidents is measured against the axis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

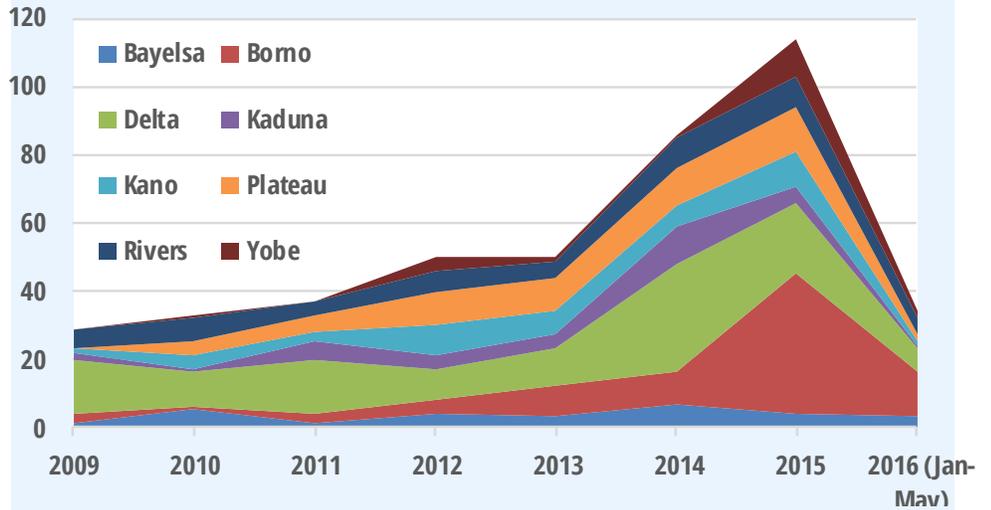


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents Reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y-axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x-axis shows the timeline from 2009 to present. The color blocks show the data disaggregated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

incidents had to do with intercommunal tension or violence, but the most violent incident, in which 50 people were killed, involved inadequate training. Fifty soldiers went into the creeks to search for a new militant group, but they drowned while pursuing the militants due to lack of familiarity with the terrain and insufficient

amphibious equipment. In another incident that resulted in six fatalities, civilians and policemen died during a clash between security operatives and pro-Biafran protesters after protesters attacked police deployed to monitor the protest.

Of the 13 incidents reported from Rivers state, many involved gang violence and crime and were specifically cult-related incidents. In one incident in late May, cultists stormed a community and started shooting sporadically at civilians, killing eight people. In another report, five policemen were killed in a gun battle with cultists. Rivers state had the highest number of incidents out of any state in the Niger Delta in May.

In the North Central Region of Nigeria, there were a total of three incidents reported in April, all taking place in Kaduna state with Kano state reporting no incidents of violence. There were a total of five fatalities in Kaduna. In one incident, two people were killed in an attack by herdsmen who also burned down many community houses and destroyed property. In another incident, the district head of Fadan Kirshi was killed along with his 20-year-old nephew by Fulani gunmen. The five total reported incidents of violence is one more incident than was reported last month in the North Central region. Last month there were two incidents reported in Kano, so this indicates a month-on-month downward trend of reported violence in this particular state.

In the Middle Belt state of Plateau, there were just two incidents of violence reported by Nigeria Watch this month. This is an increase of one incident since April. Both incidents in Plateau had to do with land competition and/or cattle rustling. In one of the two incidents, a herdsman was killed by suspected cattle rustlers while more than 30 of his cattle were taken away. In the other incident, a 35-year-old was killed by cattle rustlers; six people have been arrested under suspect of his murder.

In the Northeast, there were 16 reported incidents of violence in Borno and two in Yobe, with the 16 incidents in Borno

constituting the highest number of incidents in a state this month. Both incidents in Yobe involved domestic violence. In one incident, an 8-month-old baby was killed by his 25-year-old mother. The boy was then buried in front of the woman's room. The other incident involved a 28-year-old man under the influence of drugs killing his father, mother and two sisters with a machete.

All 16 incidents in Borno state involved shootings and killings, and many were terrorism-related activities, specifically involving Boko Haram, or armed clashes between various groups. There were 17 incidents of reported violence in April 2016, so May saw a slight decrease in overall trends of violence in Borno. In one incident, 11 members of Boko Haram were killed by Nigerian Army troops while the troops were on a mission to clear the terrorists from the Northeast. In the deadliest incident in Borno this month, 58 Boko Haram militants were killed during a raid on their camp. The raid was executed by a Multinational Joint Task Force of approximately 1000 people. However, about 60 civilians also died during the attack, including Nigerian women and children. In addition, three Cameroonian women and 28 children were rescued and freed.

In another incident in Borno, 13 Boko Haram militants were killed in an operation carried out by soldiers with the objective of reclaiming lost territories. A similar incident occurred approximately two weeks later in which 15 members of Boko Haram were killed during a clash with Nigerian Army troops.

At the end of May, an incident occurred in Borno in which five people, including a woman and her baby, were killed by an IED buried by Boko Haram near a military checkpoint. On May 4, six insurgents, not

necessarily part of Boko Haram, were killed by members of a Task Force Battalion with the help of local vigilantes. The Army was able to arrest nine insurgents and rescue 472 abductees during the operation.

There were also some incidences of suicide bombers reported in Borno in May. In one such reported event, a male Boko Haram suicide bomber detonated a bomb near a mosque at the end of morning prayers targeting those leaving the mosque, but the bomber ended up killing only himself. In another suicide bombing attack, the bomber detonated an explosive at the entrance to the state secretariat and killed three people. However, another source reports that there were four civilian casualties and the two policemen guarding the checkpoint were also killed.

During the first five months of 2016, there were 281 incidents of violence resulting in 2033 fatalities reported across the eight NSRP focus states.

Trends in VAWG

In May there were 103 reported incidents of VAWG across the eight NSRP target states. This is both an increase since April when there were 89 reported incidents of VAWG as well as an overall project record high.

In the Niger Delta states, there were 46 total reported incidents of VAWG for May 2016. There were three reports in Bayelsa state, three in Delta and 40 in Rivers. The 40 incidents reported in Rivers constitute the highest number of incidents in that state reported on a monthly basis. In Rivers, the majority of incidents took place in LGA's Port Harcourt and Obio/Akpor. As a whole the incidents are classified primarily as domestic violence, spousal abandonment, child abuse

and sexual violence against children.

In the Northeast states, there were a total of eight reported incidents of VAWG. The incidents consist primarily of shootings and are largely related to JAS insecurity and counter-insurgency operations.

In the North Central region of Nigeria, there were a total of seven reported incidents of VAWG. There were three reported incidents in Kano and four in Kaduna. In Kano and Kaduna, the majority of events had to do with sexual violence against children. However, unlike a previous trend which has seen more reports in Kano than Kaduna, this month saw a reversal of this trend, as there was one more incident in Kaduna than Kano.

Plateau saw the highest number of events of any state for May 2016, with 42 reported incidents. The majority took place in either Riyom or Jos and consisted of either domestic violence or child abuse and sexual violence against children, as well as women struggling with displacement and/or poverty after the death of a male family member.

May 2016 Incidents by State

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

Bayelsa

There were three reported cases of VAWG from Bayelsa in May. In one report, where

the details of the case are disputed, claims that either six people and a women were ambushed and killed by militants or six sea pirates were killed while feeling. In Yenagoa, an unidentified gunmen shot and killed a senior officer and a female bystander. The third incident occurred in Ekeremor where a 19-year-old boy raped a 16-year-old girl.

Borno

All five VAWG reports were related to either JAS insecurity or counter-insurgency operations. Four reports were captured as shootings and occurred in Bama LGA and one in Biu LGA. The first shooting was reported on May 4 where 13 JAS fighters were killed by solders in an operation to reclaim lost territories and also rescued 28 children and 34 women. On May 10, two reported incidents related that 58 JAS fighters were killed in a joint military task force operation, while in a separate incident a female JAS fighter beheaded a women. Lastly, three men, a woman and a baby were killed in an IED attack which is believed to have been planted by JAS fighters. The last report was captured as an abduction in Maiduguri where a woman was abducted by the JAS insurgency but was able to escape.

Delta

There were three reports of VAWG in the Delta State in May. A woman in Ughelli North was killed one week after her marriage by herdsmen, the latest in a series

of killings by herdsmen across the country. In Warri South, a pregnant woman was the victim of an attempted robbery; her attacker was later killed by a mob. The third incident was reported in Osoko South, where the decomposing body of a pregnant woman was found in the bush path between two communities that have engaged in violent and deadly clashes over the last few years.

Kaduna

In Kaduna there were two reports of women engaged in custody battles amid divorce proceedings, one of them violent. Additionally, there were two reports of sexual violence against children. In Chikun, a two year-old was raped by her father, and in Kaduna North a girl was raped by a store owner when she was sent there on an errand. Her parents reported the incident and the owner was caught after fleeing.

Kano

Kano's three reported cases this month all involved children. In Rimin Gado, a 20 month-old baby was abused by his step-mother, receiving injuries so severe that he required surgery after. In Nasarawa, there were two counts of sexual violence against young girls. An 11-year old girl was raped by an older security guard when she was on the street of the house he was guarding. The report indicated that this was not the first time this had happened, and he had invited her into the house and raped her on multiple occasions. Another teenage girl was gang-raped by six men on her way home from visiting relatives.

Plateau

Plateau state saw 42 counts of VAWG, the highest number of incidents of any state in May. They were mostly concentrated in Riyom and Jos. Almost all of the cases in Riyom concerned women struggling with poverty and displacement after a husband, father, or male relative died, leaving behind children and no resources to care for them. Many of them were left homeless after their houses were burnt down. In one instance, a girl was raped by security guards in Riyom after her house was burnt down.

In Jos, there were four counts of domestic violence, including husbands who beat their wives, took money from them, refused to let them work, kicked them out of the house, or wouldn't let them see their children. In one case, a husband threatened to kill his wife after she bought a car in her name. Jos also saw many counts of child abuse and sexual violence against children, including three cases of girls raped by male family members and another three abused by their parents or guardians; one ten year-old died after her father beat her. A boy in Jos was also neglected by his father, who refused to pay for a surgery the boy needed.

In Barkin Ladi, a woman was displaced and is currently on the run with her children, and a 13 year old girl was denied an education by her father, who called it a waste of money. In Bokkos, a woman suffered regular beatings by her husband who claimed that she did not cook meals, while another was denied her inheritance and divorced.

Rivers

With 40 reported VAWG reports, Rivers has the second highest number of VAWG incidents in May, after Plateau. The majority of the incidents were reported in LGA's Port Harcourt and Obio/Akpor. Half of the incidents in Obio/Akpor LGA were captured as domestic violence while the remainder were reported as child sexual violence, gender-based violence, and vigilante violence. Three reports of the domestic violence incidents were of spousal abandonment which rendered women and their children without any form of financial support. The remaining reported incidents related that husbands had beaten their wives repeatedly. Regarding the reports concerning sexual violence, the youngest victim of sexual abuse was a five-year-old girl who was raped by a 14-year-old boy.

The majority of incidents reported from the capital city Port Harcourt were child abuse cases and sexual violence against children. There were also two reports of domestic violence in Port Harcourt. The first report stated that a man threw his wife and their four children out of their house. The second report related that a woman is demanding divorce from her husband as he beat and assaulted her on a regular basis.

The remaining nine reported incidents were reported from six different LGAs in Rivers and were captured as human rights violations and insecurity. Two reports from Abua/Odual and Okrika were captured as sexual violence against children. One case related that a girl admitted that she had been raped by her guardian since she was 13 years old, while in the second incident

report a 15-year-old girl was raped by an unknown person. Four domestic violence reports from Oyiibo and Tai were marital abuse and one was spousal abandonment.

The three insecurity cases were reported from LGA's Asari-Toru, Ikwerre and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni. The two cases from Asari-Toru LGA and Ikwerre LGA were captured as abductions. In one report a woman was kidnapped and never found while in the second report stated that a woman was rescued from her captors after military forces engaged the kidnappers in a gun battle. The third report was captured as gang violence in which seven people were killed. In what is believed to have been a clash between two rival **cults**, a couple was beheaded and other victims were burnt beyond recognition.

Yobe

There were three reported incidents in Yobe in May. Two reports were captured as shootings in LGAs Potiskum and Damaturu. The first report stated that a 28-year-old man killed his father, mother and two sisters while under the influence of drugs. The second incident related that a 25-year-old mother killed her 8-month-old baby. The last report from Yobe was reported from Potiskum, which stated that a woman escaped her home after her husband became a JAS member and wanted the woman and child to join as well.

Objective 2

VAWG Reporting Across All Data Sources

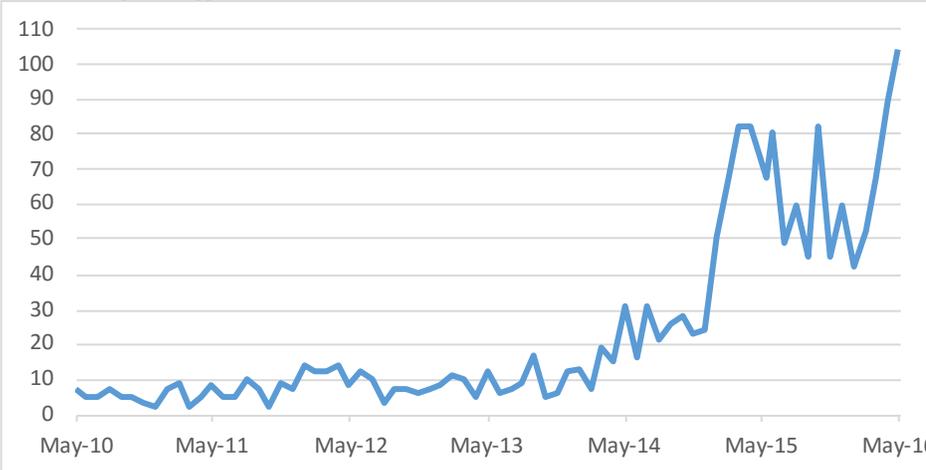


Figure 4: Trend in Incident reports of Violence and Conflict Affecting Women and Girls (All Sources)

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 103 incidents of VAWG reported across the eight NSRP focus states by all the sources that contribute to the online Observatory Platform. This represents a project record.

For the second month in a row, there have been record numbers of reports received through the NSRP Observatory Platform and service points. The overall trend in the increased reporting of VAWG issues since the beginning of the project in April 2014 highlights the substantial information gap that existed in VAWG issues. 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 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.

It is important to continue to encourage both local partners and international actors to utilize the online tools. The online platform was recently updated to improve the speed at which it operates. Hopefully making it more user-friendly.

Page Views Through All Platforms

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

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

Objective 4

Locations of Incidents, Agents

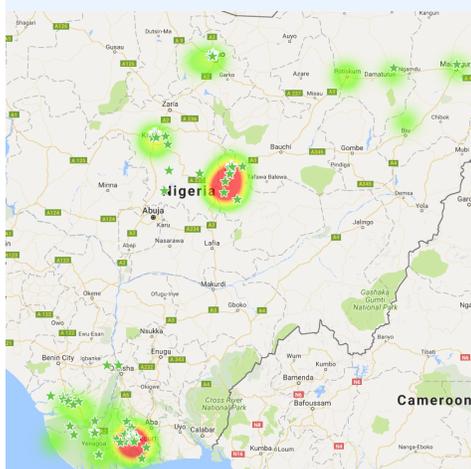


Figure 5: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States – May 2016 (Screenshot of Observatory Platform)

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.

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. They are 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. After July 2016 workshops, which were held in the North Central and Northeast states, we expect to have more registered Peace Agents uploaded to the Map by the next reporting period.

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
Kano	<i>Kano</i>	Center for Documentation	Rivers	<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>	Kebetkache 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>	Kebetkache Women Development
Plateau	<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		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 Enhancement Centre (WAPDAGEC)	
National Youth Network on HIV/AIDS		Women in Peace and Security Network			
<i>Jos South</i>	The Nigeria Working Group	Yobe	African Center for Peace and Development Nigeria		
	Youth Alive In Christ (YAC)				
	Wiscod				
	Country Women Association of Nigeria				