# Violence Affecting Women and Girls in Select Nigerian States

Monthly Memo #28 - August 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 48 incidents of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in August 2016 reported by NSRP sources. This is an increase from July 2016, a month with the fewest reported incidents in 2016, thus far. Trends in violence remain the same, as reports mainly involved child sexual abuse and domestic violence.

This month, reports of VAWG were largely concentrated in the North and Central regions. Kaduna, Kano and Plateau states reported 33 of the 48 total incidents for August 2016, with all but one incident being child abuse, sexual or domestic violence.

Niger Delta states reported the second highest frequency of VAWG incidents, the

majority occurring in Rivers state. Borno state reported significantly fewer incidents of VAWG this month, with the Jama'atu Ahli Sunnah Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) insurgency continuing to drive reporting. Delta state reported the only incidents of VAWG relating to cult activity or intercommunal violence for August 2016.

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

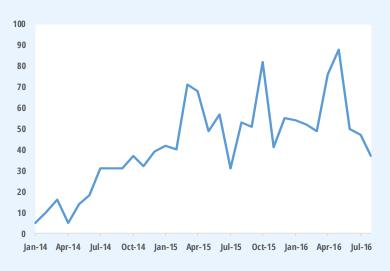


Figure 1: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence Reported by NSRP Sources—2014-2016











# 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.

In general, the number of overall incidents of reported violence and insecurity has been on the decline since May 2016. However, the frequency of both reported incidents and fatalities remained about the same from July to August 2016. In a departure from previous months, most incidents in August took place in Kaduna state, which saw a significant rise in intercommunal violence, with almost half of reported incidents involving conflicts between the Fulani herdsmen and local communities.

Continuing the trend from last month, more than one-third of overall reported incidents in August 2016 took place in Niger Delta states. Delta and Rivers reported a majority of August incidents, most of which were crime- and cult-related and many of which resulted in fatalities. There was a notable increase in militant activity this month in the Niger Delta, with groups such as the Niger Delta Avengers and the Niger Delta Greenland Justice Movement carrying out multiple small-scale insurgency operations.

## Trends in VAWG

Sexual violence remains a serious concern across the eight NSRP focus states. Almost half of all reported incidents of VAWG in August 2016 involved sexual violence, with reports coming from five of the eight focus states. As in previous months, most targets of sexual violence in August were children. While child abuse in general continues to be a prevalent human rights issue across the

Figure 2: Number of Incidents and Fatalities by Month

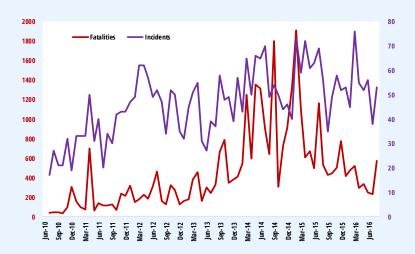


Figure 2: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch Data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of fatalities are measured against the axis on the left, while the number of reported incidents is measured against the axis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

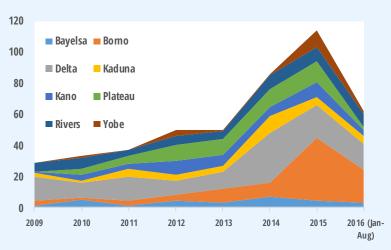


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents Reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y-axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x-axis shows the timeline from 2009 to present. The color blocks show the data disaggregated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

select states, fewer states reported incidents of child abuse this month, with all reports coming from Kaduna, Kano, Plateau, and Rivers. Domestic violence reports for August 2016 were also concentrated within

the same four focus states.

Of the Niger Delta states, the majority of VAWG incidents in August 2016 occurred in Rivers, which reported an equal number of domestic violence and sexual violence

incidents. All cases of sexual violence in Rivers this month were against children. Overall, Kaduna reported the highest number of VAWG incidents this month, accounting for one-third of the total incidents reported in August. Almost all reports from Kaduna involved sexual or domestic abuses, with the perpetrators most often being spouses or parents of the survivor.

This month, only Borno and Delta states reported incidents of VAWG that were not sexual or domestic in nature. Incidents in Borno related to the JAS insurgency, while incidents in Delta related to cult activity. Although the insurgency and cult activity resulted in several fatalities this month, VAWG-related fatalities in August 2016 were most often the result of sexual or domestic abuses. There were no crime-related incidents of VAWG reported this month in any of the focus states, a reversal of a previous trend.

### **August 2016 VAWG Incidents by State**

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

#### **Bayelsa**

Bayelsa state reported no incidents of VAWG for August 2016.

#### Borno

Borno state reported four incidents of VAWG for August 2016. Two incidents related to the JAS insurgency and reportedly involved sexual abuse, abductions and the deaths of women and girls. One incident involved sexual violence, in which a woman was gang raped, while another incident involved a peaceful demonstration staged by female internally displaced persons in protest of a food shortage.

#### Delta

Delta state reported three incidents of VAWG for August 2016, with all three resulting in fatalities. One report involved an inter-communal conflict in which a woman was killed over a land dispute.

Another report detailed cult-related violence, in which a fatal clash between rival cult groups was reportedly triggered by a fight between two women. The remaining report involved the death of an 18-year-old girl who was allegedly killed and mutilated for ritualistic purposes.

#### Kaduna

Kaduna state reported 16 incidents of VAWG for August 2016, the highest of any of the eight NSRP focus states. Fifteen of the sixteen reported incidents were either child abuse, sexual or domestic violence. Six were incidents of child sexual abuse, one of which resulted in the death of the victim, who was nine. Four were incidents of child abuse not sexual in nature. All four of these incidents were perpetrated by parents or step-parents of the child, and one resulted in the death of the victim, who was seven. Three incidents were cases in which a woman was either beaten or abandoned by her husband. In one case a woman was beaten by a stranger, allegedly because she was pregnant. Kaduna reported one abduction this month, a baby girl, and one protest that was reportedly peaceful.

#### Kano

Kano state reported nine incidents of VAWG for August 2016, all of which were cases of sexual or domestic violence. Four were incidents of child sexual violence, while one was an incident of child abuse that was not sexual, in which a four-day-old baby was reportedly dropped and allowed to bleed to death. Of the remaining incidents, two reports involved sexual violence against 21-year-old women who both were subsequently killed by their abusers, while the other two reports were of domestic spousal abuse.

#### **Plateau**

Plateau state reported eight incidents of VAWG for August 2016. As with Kano state, every incident report from Plateau detailed sexual or domestic violence. Four were incidents of child sexual violence, and four were incidents of domestic violence. One of the domestic violence incidents reported

physical abuse, while the other three incidents reported that a woman was denied either access to her children or her right to inheritance or property.

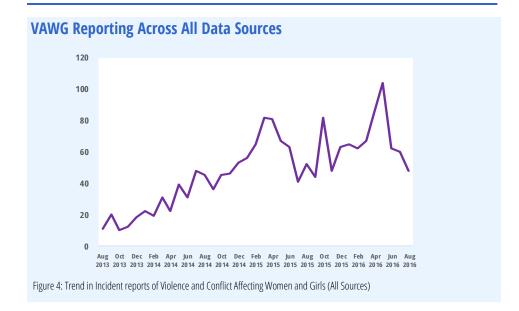
#### **Rivers**

Rivers state reported eight incidents of VAWG for August 2016. As with Kano and Plateau states, all incidents reported this month from Rivers were cases of sexual or domestic violence. Of the four reported incidents of domestic violence, three were incidents in which a woman reported physical abuse by her husband, while one was an incident in which a woman reported abuse by her neighbor. Four reported incidents involved child sexual violence. Two of the reported survivors were raped by older men, while the other two survivors – ages four and five – were raped by 14- and 15-year-old boys, respectively.

#### Yobe

Yobe state reported no incidents of VAWG for August 2016.

# **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 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). 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**

Nov-15	403	Apr-16	621
Dec-15	328	May-16	1367
Jan-16	1129	Jun-16	1010
Feb-16	991	Jul-16	815
Mar-16	1154	Διισ-16	675

# **Page Views through NSRP**

Aug-15	88
Sep-15	73
Oct-15	195
Nov-15	160
Dec-15	121
Jan-16	215
Feb-16	121
Mar-16	107
Apr-16	83
May-16	144
Jun-16	131
Jul-16	153
Aug-16	184

# **Objective 4**

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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)  National Council of Women Societies			Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative
			(NCWS)			Interfaith Forum of Muslim and
			Women in New Nigeria (WINN)			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			,
			WINN Youth Empowerment			Pan African Leadership League
			FIDA International Federation of			Women for Peace in Nigeria (WOPIN)
			Women Lawyers			Women in Need (A Women Empowerment Foundation)
			KPPS			Youth CAN, Kaduna
Delta	Udu	Ideal Women Advancement Initiative	<i>"</i> 1	Karalina a Canada	African Ethics and Theatre	
		Uvwie l	Lite -Africa	Kaduna South		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	Rivers	Abua/Odual	Academy for Cultural Rights and
		Development Research and Project Centre (DRPC)			Human Development  Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)
		Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)		Akuku Toru	Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)
		Intergender Development Initiative		Bonny	Coalition of NGOS in Bonny for
		Right Based Awareness Coalition (RIBAC)		Боппу	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	Goka	Gokana	Kebetkache Women Development
		Development Initiative		.,	Have was Western Few years
Plateau	Jos	Christian Women for Excellence & Empowerment in Nigerian Society (CWEENS)		lkwerre	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)
		(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	etwork on HIV/AIDS		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
		Ye			African Center for Peace and Development Nigeria
	Youth Alive In Christ (YAC)			орттепт мідена	
		Wiscod			
	Jos South	Country Women Association of Nigeria			