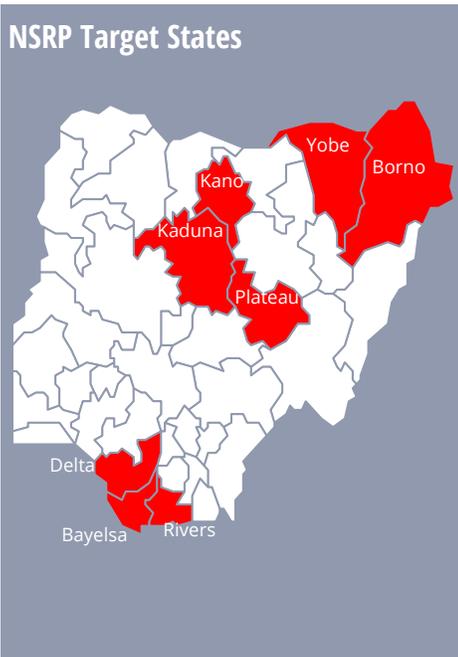


# Violence Affecting Women and Girls in Select Nigerian States

Monthly Memo #30 – October 2016 Data



There were 58 incidents of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) reported from NSRP Observatory sources in October 2016. This represents a positive increase in reporting this month, which further contributes to breaking the culture of silence around violence perpetrated against women and children. While child sexual abuse and domestic violence remain the most prominent trends in reporting, there was a significant increase in crime-related VAWG incidents observed this month.

reported two incidents for the month.

All incidents from the Northeast region in October related to the Jama'atu Ahli Sunnah Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) insurgency. Reporting in the North Central region, as in the Niger Delta, was driven mainly by domestic and child sexual violence, although there was a rise in generalized insecurity and crime affecting women and girls in October.

Rivers state reported the highest number of VAWG incidents for October 2016, accounting for more than one-third of all October incidents, and comprising the majority of incidents reported from the Niger Delta. Bayelsa and Delta states each

The following memo analyses data for the focus states of Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa, and Delta for October 2016. 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.*

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

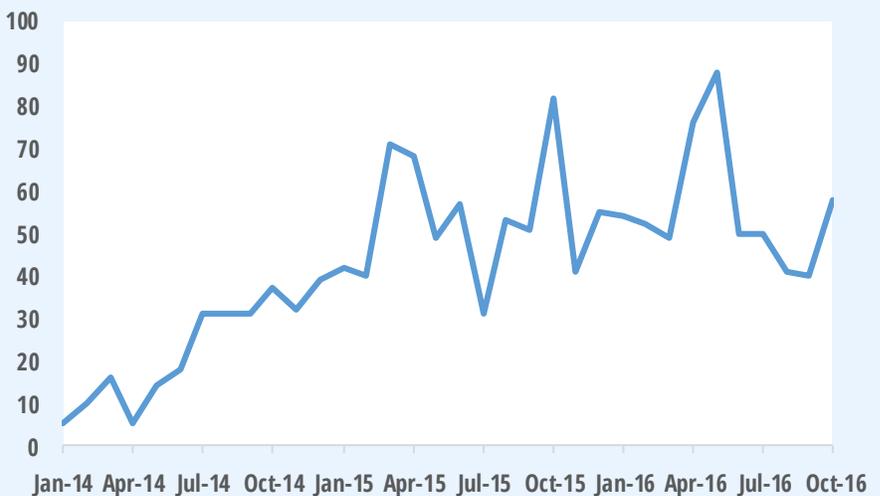


Figure 1: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence Reported by NSRP Sources—2014-2016



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

Incidents of violence and insecurity were reported with higher frequency by PeaceMap sources in October 2016, which had been dropping since the spike in the first quarter of 2016. Levels of incidents and fatalities both trended upward this month, with the majority of incidents taking place in Borno and Rivers states. This month, there was an increase in reported incidents attributed to the Jama'atu Ahli Sunnah Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) insurgency, several of which led to more than ten fatalities. The Niger Delta continued to see elevated militant activity, with groups such as the Niger Delta Avengers and the Niger Delta Greenland Justice Movement carrying out more attacks in October.

There was a rise in inter-communal violence in Kaduna state, related mainly to land competition and ethnic tensions. Clashes between Sunni and Shi'a sects were also reported with higher frequency in October. Other trends in reporting for October 2016 included an increase across the eight target states in crime, drug- and gang/cult-related incidents, particularly in Kaduna and Rivers states.

### Trends in VAWG

There was a notable increase this month in reports related to insecurity, including lethal violence, which impacted women and girls. Reports in the eight states related predominately to sexual assault, domestic

Figure 2: Number of Incidents and Fatalities by Month

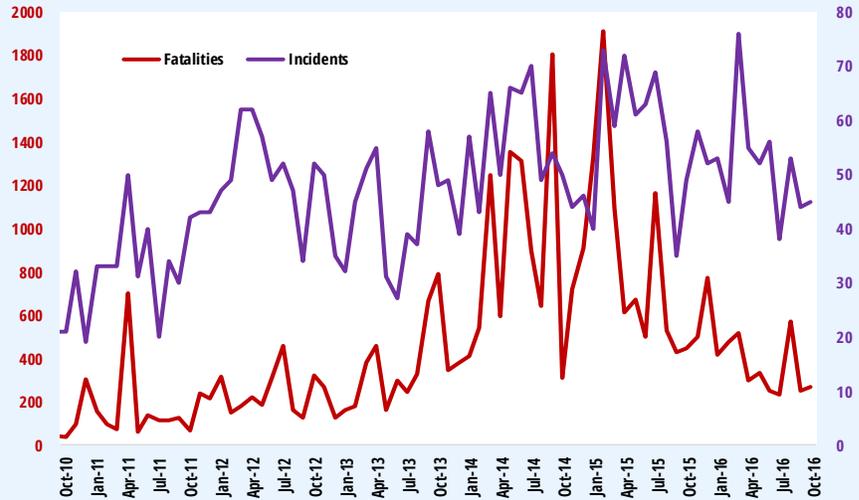


Figure 2: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch Data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of fatalities are measured against the axis on the left, while the number of reported incidents is measured against the axis on the right. The graph shows that, although violence has been increasing steadily over the last six years, this trend is slowing, with levels of violence dropping since February 2016.

Figure 3: VAWG Incidents Trends

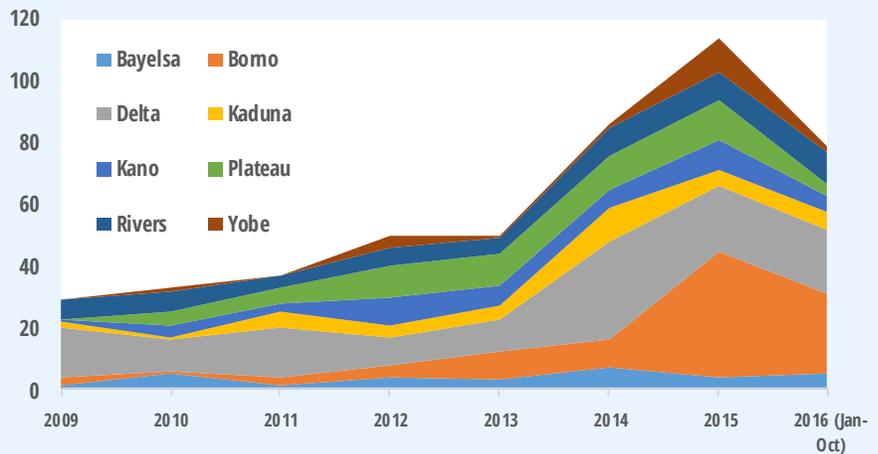


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents Reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y-axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x-axis shows the timeline from 2009 to present. The color blocks show the data disaggregated by state. This graph shows that media reports collected by Nigeria Watch separated by year. Note that this graph captures trends in the number of incidents, not in the severity of those incidents.

violence, child abuse, and crime-related VAWG for October 2016.

About one-third of all VAWG reports this month were incidents of sexual violence, with the majority of cases being child sexual

abuse. There were eight pregnancies reported this month as a result of sexual crimes; more than twice the number of pregnancies reported last month. Child abuse, both sexual and non-sexual, continues to be a prevalent human rights

issue in the focus states. A reversal of a previous trend, reports of child abuse were concentrated in Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, and Rivers this month, whereas in previous months reports had come from all eight of the NSRP focus states.

Domestic violence also remains a salient issue across all states. In previous months, reported domestic incidents have most often been physical in nature. However, this month there was an increase in reported incidents of abandonment and neglect, both of women and children.

A majority of incidents of VAWG in October that were not sexual or domestic in nature were crime-related, involving either drugs, robberies, or murders. This reverses the previous trend of lower incidents of crime being reported in the eight focus states. Borno state reported three incidents relating to the JAS insurgency, both perpetrated by female suicide bombers and each resulting in approximately ten fatalities.

## October 2016 VAWG Incidents by State

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

### Bayelsa

Two incidents of VAWG were reported in Bayelsa state in October 2016. One involved the death of a five-year-old girl during a clash between police and cultists; and one in which a woman and her boyfriend were burned to death due to a power supply issue in Yenagoa LGA.

### Borno

Five incidents of VAWG were reported in Borno state in October 2016, all of which related to the JAS insurgency. One report involved a counter-insurgency operation in which two suspected female suicide bombers were shot dead as they attempted to detonate devices in Maiduguri. Other reports involved insurgency attacks carried out by female suicide bombers, reportedly

JAS agents. The incidents resulted in ten and eight fatalities respectively.

### Delta

In Delta state, two incidents of VAWG in October 2016 were reported. One involved the murder of a pregnant woman by her husband; and another in which a 24-year-old man broke into a young woman's room and beat her to death.

### Kaduna

Nine incidents of VAWG were reported in Kaduna state in October 2016. Three were incidents of child sexual violence, two of which resulted in the survivor becoming pregnant; in one case by her own father. The remaining six incidents were all cases of domestic violence. In three cases, a woman reported being physically abused by her husband, while in three incidents, child abuse was reported.

### Kano

In Kano state there were 14 incidents of VAWG reported in October 2016. All but three incidents were related to child sexual abuse. Of these incidents, eight of the survivors were aged 13 years or younger, while four survivors became pregnant and one was reportedly infected with HIV. Other incidents in Kano this month included one case in which a man was killed in the presence of his wife; one case in which the body of a 19-year-old woman was found after she had been missing for four days; and one case in which a 17-year-old girl was thrown out of her husband's house by her father-in-law, after four months of marriage.

### Plateau

In Plateau state nine incidents of VAWG were reported in October 2016, five of which related to domestic violence. In three domestic cases, women reported to have been survivors of abuse for many years. In one incident, it was reported that a 50-year-old woman was found dead, having been killed and buried by her uncle. Other reports included forced marriage; one involved a policeman who was murdered in

the presence of his wife and children; and two were cases of sexual violence - one involving a child.

### Rivers

There were 32 incidents of VAWG reported in Rivers state in October 2016. Nine reports were incidents of child sexual violence, in most cases involving children under the age of 13. One case involved a 15-year-old girl being drugged then sexually assaulted. Another case involved a survivor who reportedly had down syndrome and was abused by five boys. At least two reported perpetrators of sexual abuse this month were identified as family members. There were eight incidents in which a woman reported being physically abused by her husband. There were six incidents in which women reported that their husband had abandoned them, in most cases resulting in child neglect. In one incident, a woman reported being denied access to her children by her husband, while in another case, a widow reported being denied her inheritance by her husband's family.

Six reports related to broader insecurity and crime within the state. This included two incidents in which women were killed by unidentified gunmen, and three cases in which women were physically beaten by neighbors or strangers. The remaining incident was a case in which a 19-year-old woman was drugged, raped, robbed, and abandoned.

## 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.

This month saw three reported incidents related to boys. In Kaduna, a man

abandoned his wife and eight-month-old baby boy. In Kano, a man was killed in the presence of his wife and two-year-old son, while in Rivers it was reported that a man had a son with a woman whom he then abandoned, refusing the mother and child financial assistance.

There were also at least three incidents of violence and sexual abuse against children reported this month wherein the gender of the survivors was not specified. To increase awareness of violence against boys, Observatories are encouraged to disaggregate gender information where possible in their reporting.

## Objective 2

### VAWG Reporting Across All Data Sources

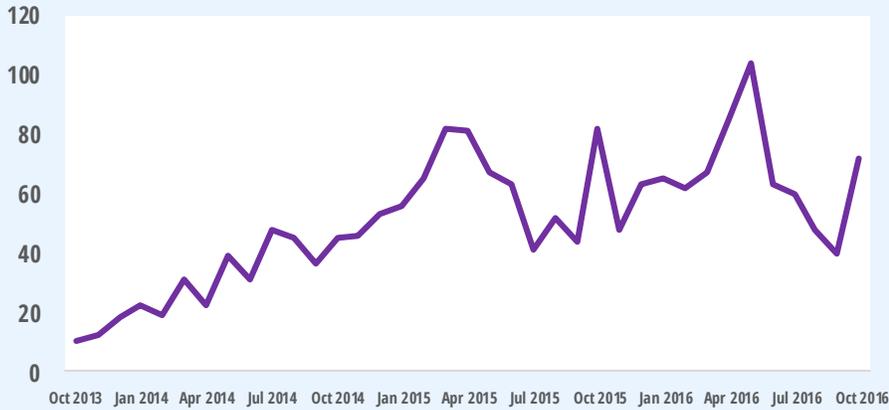


Figure 4: Trend in Incident reports of Violence and Conflict Affecting Women and Girls (All Sources)

*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 72 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 and ACLED). 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. The increased reporting this month reinforces the important contribution the observatories make towards VAWG issues, as well as issues related to the abuse of boys.

## 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).

In October, page views increased significantly (see box below), which is a positive sign that data is being used by practitioners within Nigeria as well as around the world to analyse the impacts of conflict and violence on women and girls.

It is important to continue to encourage both local partners and international actors to utilize the online tools.

### Page Views Through All Platforms

Nov 2015	403	May 2016	1367
Dec 2015	328	June 2016	1010
Jan 2016	1129	July 2016	815
Feb 2016	991	Aug 2016	675
Mar 2016	1154	Sept 2016	684
Apr 2016	621	Oct 2016	1210

### Page Views through NSRP

Nov 2015	160	May 2016	144
Dec 2015	121	June 2016	131
Jan 2016	215	July 2016	153
Feb 2016	121	Aug 2016	184
Mar 2016	107	Sept 2016	139
Apr 2016	83	Oct 2016	249

## Objective 4

### Locations of Incidents, Agents

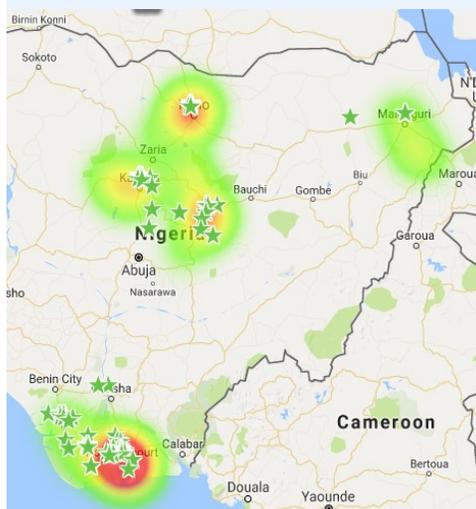


Figure 5: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States – October 2016

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 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>	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
		Women, Widows and Orphan Development Initiative		<i>Ikwerre</i>	Ikwerre Women Forum
					<i>Obio/Akpor</i>
<b>Plateau</b>	<i>Jos</i>	Christian Women for Excellence & Empowerment in Nigerian Society (CWEENS)	<i>Port Harcourt</i>	Center for Creative Arts Education	
		Inclusive Friends		Civil Liberties Organization, Rivers State Branch	
	<i>Jos East</i>	Jos University Teaching Hospital		Gender Advocacy and Empowerment Initiative (GANET)	
	<i>Jos North</i>	Centre for the Advocacy of Justice and Rights (CAJR)		Gender and Development Action (GADA)	
		Christian Rural and Rural Development Association of Nigeria (CRUDAN)		Kebetkache Women Development	
		Fahariya Adolescent Development Network		Lokiakia Community Development Centre	
		Federation of Muslim Women in Nigeria		Medical Women's Association of Nigeria (MWAN)	
		International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) Plateau State Chapter		Palmbits IPWC	
		Justice Development and Peace Commission (JDPC)		Partners for Peace	
		Justice Development Peace and Caritas		Rimwof Project	
		Manna Resource Development Centre		Women In Action for Positive Development and Gender Enhancement Centre (WAPDAGEC)	
		National Human Rights Commission		Women in Peace and Security Network	
		National Youth Network on HIV/AIDS		African Center for Peace and Development Nigeria	
		The Nigeria Working Group			
		Youth Alive In Christ (YAC)	<b>Yobe</b>		
Wiscod					
<i>Jos South</i>	Country Women Association of Nigeria				