Violence Affecting Women and Girls in Select Nigerian States

Monthly Memo #31 - November 2016 Data



There were 45 incidents of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) reported from all sources on the NSRP Observatory platform in November 2016. This month saw several reports of female suicide bombers related to the Jama'atu Ahli Sunnah Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) insurgency, though sexual abuse and domestic violence continue to be the two most highly reported areas throughout the eight NSRP states.

Rivers state reported the most VAWG incidents cases this month with 23 incidents, followed by Plateau state with 12 reported incidents and Borno with five incidents. All three states have experienced hot spots of violence in recent months, with cult violence, criminality and militancy driving insecurity in Rivers state. In Plateau

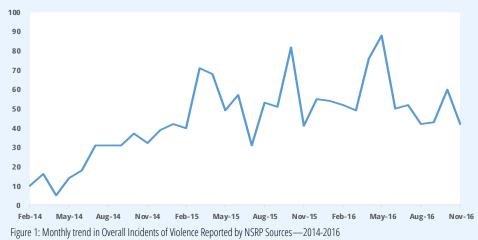
state, intercommunal tensions between herders and farmers have resulted in scores of fatalities, while in Borno state the JAS insurgency remains a major conflict driver.

A new quantitative data source for the Niger Delta was added to the online NSRP Observatory platform this month, from the Community Initiative for Enhanced Peace and Development (CIEPD). This data will be able to further enrich reporting on VAWG, and continue to break the culture of silence.

The following memo analyzes data for the focus states of Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa, and Delta for November 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.















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 VAWGspecific trends can be mapped and analysed.

November 2016 marked a rise in reported incidents of overall violence and insecurity across the eight NSRP states, including an increase of over 150 fatalities compared with reported fatalities in October 2016. The highest number of reported incidents in November took place in Borno and Rivers states, while the highest number of fatalities per capita were reported in Borno and Kaduna states.

The driver of the violence in Borno state which had a significant rise in reported lethal violence this month - remains the insurgency/counterinsurgency between Jama'atu Ahli Sunnah Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) and the Nigerian Armed Forces. In Chibok on the 25th November, one armed clash resulted in at least 42 reported fatalities. Kaduna state saw sustained high levels of lethal violence this month, linked to ongoing conflict between herder and farmer groups in southern and central parts of the state. In the Local Government Area (LGA) Kauru, two inter-communal incidents reported during November resulted in at least 44 fatalities.

In Kano, similar levels of violence were evident this month, with one incident resulting in a reported 22 fatalities during a clash between a Shi'a group and police in Dawakin Kudu LGA. Plateau state had a reduction in violent incidents reported in

Figure 2: Number of Incidents and Fatalities by Month

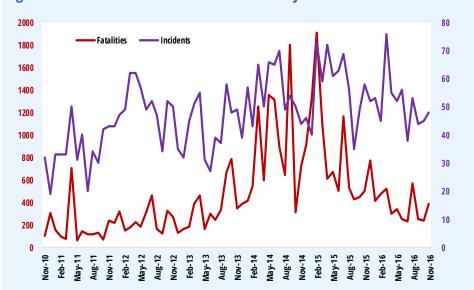


Figure 2: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch Data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of fatalities are measured against the axis on the left, while the number of reported incidents is measured against the axis 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 lethal violence dropping since February 2016.

Figure 3: VAWG Incidents Trends

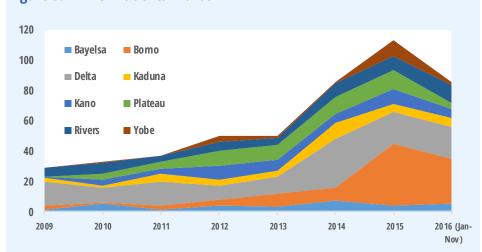


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents Reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y-axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x-axis shows the timeline from 2009 to present. The color blocks show the data disaggregated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

November, with one fatality related to criminality in Jos South LGA.

The NSRP states in the Niger Delta saw increased levels of conflict risk this month.

In Delta state, the spike in lethal violence and reported incidents was driven by militant activities as well as general crime and insecurity. In one incident reported on the 24th November, a clash between militants and the government Joint Task Force in Burutu LGA resulted in at least 16 fatalities. Rivers state violence dropped slightly compared with the previous month, however it continues to have one of the highest per capita levels of violence of NSRP states. Insecurity in Rivers in November related to militancy activity, as well as cult violence, political tensions, and criminality.

Several incidents related to targeted violence of women and girls, including the murder of a female staff member of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) in Obio-Akpor LGA on the 8th November. The increase in lethal violence in Bayelsa related to piracy, criminality and militancy activities related to oil infrastructure.

Trends in VAWG

Consistent with previous months, the majority of VAWG reported incidents in November 2016 related to domestic abuse and sexual violence. This included a number of underage sexual assault cases, perpetrated by family members or people known to the victim. Kano state reported three cases of rape in November, with one incident resulting in pregnancy.

Rivers state had the highest overall number of reported VAWG incidents for the month, chiefly related to the sexual assault or domestic abuse of women and girls, including three fatalities. With the state continuing to experience high levels of overall conflict risk, the impact of insecurity on women and girls was also evident in the VAWG data. In one incident in Ahoada West LGA, two young girls were reportedly raped and murdered by member of a cult group. These was also a report of attempted human trafficking in Port Harcourt LGA.

The ongoing insecurity in the North East saw several VAWG incidents in November related to the JAS insurgency. At least three incidents in Borno state involved the use of female suicide bombers, including two women who detonated their devices at a

football arena in Maiduguri, killing six people.

November 2016 VAWG Incidents by State

Below is a breakdown across all data sources for each NSRP target state which recorded incidents for November 2016.

Borno

There were five reported incidents of VAWG in Borno state in November 2016. Four of these incidences were related to the IAS insurgency. In one report from Gwoza LGA, soldiers shot and killed five IAS members, including three suicide bombers, one of whom was female. Another counterinsurgency operation resulted in the deaths of three female JAS suicide bombers, whose Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) subsequently exploded. Six JAS members were killed by the Nigerian Army in another incident, and the operation reportedly resulted in the rescue of 38 women and children. The other incident involved a female suicide bomber who killed herself along with three other people at a football arena in Maiduguri.

Kano

Seven incidents of VAWG were reported in Kano in November 2016. Three were incidents related to child sexual assault, one resulting in the survivor becoming pregnant. All but one of the remaining three incidents were cases of domestic violence. In one incident, a sixteen-year-old girl reported to the religious police authority, the State Hisbah Board, that she had been physically abused by her mother. As this incident report shows, the Hisbah play an important role in Kano for receiving and investigating reports of VAWG. The other two incidents involved the beating of women due to marriage disputes.

Plateau

In November 2016, there were twelve reported incidents of VAWG in Plateau

state. The majority of these incidents were related to domestic violence. One case in Jos South LGA, involved a 31 year-old woman who was physically abused by her husband, who also reportedly took over her business and banished her from their home with her children. Another incident reported in Jos North the continued harassment of a 40 year-old domestic violence survivor by her estranged husband.

Other reported VAWG cases from November involved sexual assault of girls and women, three of which were under the age of ten. One reported case from Jos North involved the rape of a five-year-old girl by an older man, which was withdrawn due to the influence within the community by the perpetrator. Another incident involved the rape of a 24-year-old woman by a man she had met through social media.

Rivers

A total of 22 incidents of VAWG were reported in Rivers state in November 2016. Half of these involved sexual violence; with most survivors aged under 18, and at least one incident resulting in pregnancy. In one reported case, two young girls in Ahoada West were raped and murdered by members of a cult group. In another incident in Ahoada East a 12 year-old girl was held and raped for two days by an older man. In another incident, a 15 year-old girl was raped at school, but the school reportedly suppressed the information until the girl spoke out to an NSRP Observatory peace agent.

Domestic violence was also a key trend in the reported data this month. In one incident a woman was beaten by her husband and burnt with a hot iron in Obio Akpor LGA. In another case, a survivor's husband reportedly kidnapped two of her sons after she was forced to leave the house because of physical abuse in Port Harcourt. Other incidents from Rivers included the reported murder of women from the Niger Delta Development

Violence Affecting Boys

Commission by her boyfriend over a domestic dispute, and the attempted human trafficking of a three year-old girl in Port Harcourt.

Kaduna

The Kaduna state observatory reported four incidents this month, relating to cases that had occurred in earlier months of 2016. Three reports related to the sexual assault of girls by persons know to the survivors. One incident related to domestic violence, with the survivor's husband physically being abusive.

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 NSRP reported incidents related to boys, representing an increase in reporting levels.

Kaduna

In Kaduna, it was reported that a disabled boy was killed by police in Kaduna South LGA during an attempt to arrest youths involved in an altercation in the area.

Plateau

In Barkin Ladi LGA, one incident involved the sexual assault by of six boys aged between eight and 12 years-old, with the two male perpetrators arrested by police. In another incident six boys aged between eight and 11 years-old were rescued from human traffickers in Jos North.

Objective 2

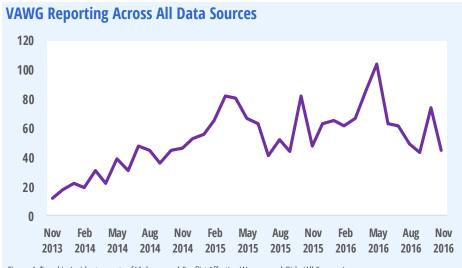


Figure 4: Trend in Incident reports of Violence and Conflict Affecting Women and Girls (All Sources)

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.

There were 45 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). Though some fluctuations may occur month-to-month for incident reports, 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 existed in the VAWG reporting.

A new data source for the Niger Delta states was added to the online NSRP Observatory platform this month, integrating crowd sourced information from the CIEPD's Conflict Watch Centre. This data will be able to further enrich reporting on VAWG,

triangulated against other existing sources in the Observatory platform such as NSRP and Nigeria Watch. This has resulted in higher number of VAWG incidents for the period of July to October 2016 (see Figure 4).

Bringing light to 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 this month 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

Nov 2015	403	June 2016	1010
Dec 2015	328	July 2016	815
Jan 2016	1129	Aug 2016	675
Feb 2016	991	Sept 2016	684
Mar 2016	1154	Oct 2016	1210
Apr 2016	621	Nov 2016	852
May 2016	1367		

Page Views through NSRP

Nov 2015	160	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
May 2016	144	Nov 2016	227

Objective 4

Locations of Incidents, Agents



Figure 5: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States — November 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	dorno Maiduguri	Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)			Children International Federation of Women
		Healthcare Development Focus			Lawyers (FIDA)
		Initiative (HECADF)			Empowering Women for Excellence
		National Council of Women Societies			Initiative
		(NCWS)			Interfaith Forum of Muslim and Christian Women`s Association
		Women in New Nigeria (WINN)			(Women`s Interfaith Council)
		University of Maiduguri Muslim Women Association (UMMWA)			Legal Awareness for Nigerian Women (LEADS Nigeria)
		Peace FM Radio			Pan African Leadership League
		WINN Youth Empowerment			Women for Peace in Nigeria (WOPIN)
		FIDA International Federation of Women Lawyers			Women in Need (A Women Empowerment Foundation)
		KPPS			Youth CAN, Kaduna
Delta	Udu	Ideal Women Advancement Initiative			
	Uvwie	Lite –Africa		Kaduna South	African Ethics and Theatre 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
		Federation of Muslim Women			(FEMLEAD)
		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)			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 Development Initiative		Gokana	Kebetkache Women Development
Plateau	los	Christian Women for Excellence &		Ikwerre	Ikwerre Women Forum
	,00	Empowerment in Nigerian Society (CWEENS)			
		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)
		(CRUDÁN)			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
		National Youth Network on HIV/AIDS			Enhancement Centre (WAPDAGEC)
		The Nigeria Working Group			Women in Peace and Security Network
			Yobe		African Center for Peace and Development Nigeria
		Youth Alive In Christ (YAC)			ортнени мівена
		Wiscod			
	Jos South	Country Women Association of Nigeria			