During the quarter, the top VAWG-related themes reported were child abuse, sexual violence and domestic abuse. In the northeast, reported violence was still focused on insurgency-related incidents. There were also reports on general crime, abductions, and alcohol and narcotic abuse. There were a total of 180 incidents of VAWG reported across all deployments of the online platform, 154 of were reported through the NSRP platform. All sources were used in the analysis of this report.

Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is one of the most reported themes outside of the Northeast. Many of the incidents of sexual violence have been perpetrated against girls under the age of 18. There were a total of 56 reported incidents of sexual violence during the quarter; 43 of which were classified secondly as child abuse.

All but one of the six incidents reported in Kaduna were of child sexual abuse. Three of the reports were of the abuse of girls under the age of 10. One incident detailed the rape of a nine year old girl by a teacher at a neighboring school. In Kano, there were 14 reports of sexual violence committed against children. In six of those cases the girls were under the age of ten. There was a report of a 12 year old girl who was abducted by two boys, aged 13 and 15, and held and raped for two days before being released. One case that was not about child abuse detailed a woman who was raped by the husband of her hairdresser when she entered their home. In Plateau, there was a case of a teenage girl who had been raped by her uncle who was the reverend of her church. In October, there was a report of one perpetrator raping and impregnating three different women.

Rivers state had the highest number of reported incidents of sexual violence, both against women and girls. A total of 21 incidents out of 29 were committed against young girls under the age of 18. There was one reported incident of a 16 year old girl who was allegedly raped by a police officer after she took her to his home. There were several cases of incest and household rape reported. One incident detailed a 15 year old girl was raped by her uncle over the course of six years. Another incident reported was a young girl who was sexually abused by her guardian who, when she became pregnant, was forced to get an abortion. There were multiple reports of girls between the ages of 14 and 17 being raped by multiple perpetrators. They were often taken from the street in the early hours of the morning. In Rivers, there was one report of a woman being forced into a relationship she did not want because her family was scared of the man, who was a suspected cultist. Additionally, there were two reports of rapes committed by neighbors.

There were four further reported incidents of women and girls being abducted and
raped in Rivers; in two of the cases the girls were raped by multiple perpetrators.

Child Abuse

Out of the 63 incidents of child abuse, 43 were classified as sexual violence. The other 20 reported incidents of child abuse focused on physical and mental abuse. These reports came from Kano, Plateau and Rivers. There were multiple reports of older women in households physically abusing younger women and girls. In Kano, there was a report of a five year old girl being hit by her stepmother, with the case later referred to court. There were reports across all three states of young girls being forced to do domestic work in their homes, often facing physical violence with little provocation. One report from Rivers detailed a girl of nine who was beaten on a daily basis by her guardian with brooms and other objects. Another told the story of a girl of eight who lives with her uncle and is forced to take care of the household and is beaten on a daily basis.

An issue that has been previously seen across all states, although only reported in Kano and Rivers this quarter, is that of girls being pulled from school and forced to hawk on the streets. The case in Kano took place in August and detailed a girl of 14 who was pulled from school by her mother. In Rivers, the reported incidents tell of a mother of three, who forced her children to hawk and periodically renames them and moves them around to avoid detection. Girls on the street are much more vulnerable to harm, particularly sexual abuse, and deprived of an education, leaving them at a disadvantage.

Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is a commonly reported issue across the regions were NRSP has focus states. There were 54 reports of domestic violence during the period of August, September and October. The highest number of reported incidents took place in Rivers, followed by Plateau state.

In Rivers, a man was reported to have beaten his wife for failing to give birth a male child. There were multiple reports of women miscarrying their pregnancies after being beaten by their husbands. In one case, a woman had reportedly lost two pregnancies due to physical abuse and was being forced by her husband to terminate her current pregnancy. The beatings reported through the Observatory service points are frequent and often severe, causing hospitalization and lasting injuries.

Spousal abandonment is a prevalent issue in both Rivers and Plateau states. There were multiple reported cases in October. In one incident, a woman and her four children were left at a church by her husband who disappeared with no trace. Also in October, a woman who recently gave birth was having health problems and failing to receive treatment. Another reported incident was of a woman who was thrown out of her house by her husband with their nine month old child.

Insurgency

In the Northeast, the trend in reporting continued to focus on incidents related to the JAS insurgency. Of the 14 incidents reported in the region, 13 were about JAS-related incidents, both attacks by JAS and military reprisals. There were three incidents reported of the military taking successful action against JAS, all three resulting in the rescue of women and children held by the insurgents.

The use of female suicide bombers, especially minors, is a tactic that is heavily used. Seven of the reported VAWG incidents this quarter detailed events where one or more women detonated explosives in crowded market places and bus stations. Five of those events took place in October. The bombings resulted in over 140 deaths. It is becoming an increasing trend in the states in the Northeast for suicide bombers to be identified as women and children.

The one report from Yobe this quarter involved the use of a 14 year old girl as the bomber. This incident caused an estimated six fatalities, including a pregnant woman.

Other Incidents

In August in Kaduna, the parents of a woman with a hearing disability would not give her consent to marry the man of her choice, who also had a disability.

In Rivers, there were several cases of
women getting beaten by strangers and vigilante mobs. A drunk man died while visiting his girlfriend; she was accused of killing the man and was set upon by a mob. In October, there were three reports of women over the age of 40 who were beaten on the street by unknown groups of men.

There were two incidents of forced marriage that took place in August, one in Kaduna and one in Plateau. In both cases the girls were under the age of 18. Their fathers accepted dowries and forced them to marry men not of their choice.

There were two reported cases of attempted abductions in Delta, in both cases the kidnappers were killed by police during the course of crime.

**Bayelsa State**

There were no reported incidents of VAWG reported in Bayelsa during the time period of August to October 2015 from any of the sources featured on the Observatory Platform.

**Borno State**

Borno had the third highest number of reports per capita and the forth highest overall. Throughout the Northeast, but especially in Borno, the JAS insurgency has driven reporting over the past quarter. There has been a concerning increase in the number of female suicide bombers thought to be affiliated with JAS.

Maiduguri

Maiduguri experienced several suicide bombings last quarter and witnessed the increase in female bombers carrying out such attacks. On October 1, a female suicide bomber who detonated her explosives in the middle of a market, killed 20 people and wounded dozens of others. Also on October 1, four female teenage suicide bombers were responsible for the 29 deaths that were the result of four bombs exploding in a residential area and near a mosque. Following a larger attack in the city, four female suicide bombers killed 7 people on October 24 in the Dala Yazaram neighborhood. On October 18, security forces prevented a female suicide bomber from killing scores of soldiers by shooting her when she attempted to enter a military barrack. Even though the bomb exploded before she was shot, no casualties were reported.

Despite the increase in female suicide bombers, male suicide bombers continue to be used in Maiduguri as well. Three died

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LGA level charts are provided for individual states where ten or more reports were received for the quarter. Where fewer than ten reports were received for a state, no chart is provided.
when two male suicide bombers blew themselves-up at a military check-point on August 25.

There was one case classified as child abuse reported on August 1, the six day old child of a woman who gave birth out of wedlock was poisoned and killed by the father.

**Damboa**

In what appears to be a growing preference for soft targets, Boko Haram suicide bombers detonated their explosives in a market which killed 50 people. There are some reports that the attacks were carried out by a female bomber. This bombing took place August 11.

**Bama**

The Nigerian military continued to experience success in liberating communities from JAS occupation last quarter. On September 15, military forces rescued a group of women and children along the border of Kumashe and Bama. A larger rescue operation was conducted on September 22 in the areas of Janguoriri and Bulatori in which 241 women and children were rescued and a reported JAS top commander, along with 42 other insurgents, were captured.

**Gubio**

In October, two female suicide bombers detonated their explosives in a mosque during morning prayers. It is believed that one was inside the mosque while the other was outside, thus enabling them to kill 15 inside the mosque as well as others who were gathered outside. The total amount of casualties is believed to be approximately 40 individuals.

**Gwoza**

At the end of October, the military conducted a raid on JAS camps in an anti-terrorism campaign. During the raid, 34 insurgents were killed and 338 women and children were reported to have been rescued.

**Kaga**

In September, JAS insurgents attacked two passenger busses and killed scores of people. Reports of the amount of casualties differ and range between three to at least 40 people.

**Delta State**

There were two cases of kidnapping and one case of general crime reported during the quarter in Delta state. The below reported incidents were captured through the Nigeria Watch deployment of the Observatory Platform.

**Ethiope—East**

On October 6, a kidnapper was killed in a shoot-out between his gang and policemen. After the incident, a female victim who was kidnapped by the gang was rescued by the police.

**Okpe**

On September 3, the police exchanged fire with a gang who had kidnapped a woman, although she was able to escape before the shoot-out occurred. Three of the kidnappers were killed in the incident.

**Warri—South**

Two robbers were lynched by an angry mob in August after they attempted to snatch a lady’s handbag.
Kaduna State

Kaduna Reports by LGA

Over the quarter, reporting in Kaduna mainly detailed sexual violence and domestic abuse. The sexual violence was primarily categorized as child abuse as well. There were two reports of forced marriage. Violence against women and girls reported in Kaduna has followed a trend of being primarily committed by men who they know.

Kaduna N/S/E

In early August, a teacher was accused of raping one of his students. The victim was a nine year old girl and the incident is believed to have occurred while the student was walking to school. The teacher teaches at a secondary school as well and the community has taken measures to alert the officials there.

In mid-August, an incident regarding a girl's dowry escalated when the father of a woman accepted a second, and higher dowry after initially accepting a previous one which was lower. As a result, the woman threatened to commit suicide if the decision was not reversed.

On September 16, a woman was denied custody of her children and her late husband's inheritance by the husband's brother when she returned two years after she had fled to her home region. A 47 year old man was caught sexually violating his ten year old neighbor by the girl's sister. The girl was taken to the hospital for tests and examinations.

Chikun

There were several sexual assault and domestic abuse cases reported in the region between August and September. In early August, the NSCDC reported that a young girl almost committed suicide because the man who she claimed impregnated her denied the allegation. On September 3, a man denied being the father of an unborn child despite a woman's claims to the contrary. Another incident reported on that same day stated that after a woman was beaten by her husband, the couple were invited to attend mediation and counseling sessions. On September 5, a young woman was raped by a group of men while she was running errands at night.

Igabi

All reports from Igabi occurred in early August and were predominantly sexual assault cases. On August 6, the police were informed that a thirty-five year old man raped a five year old girl in an abandoned building. The man was reprimanded and sentenced. Two days later, a woman with a hearing disability was denied to marry a man who also had a disability. In mid-August a girl was raped by six young men at night while on her way to town.

Jaba

On September 30, a woman reported that when she left her children with their father after a divorce, the ex-husband started having sex with their seventeen year old child. The case is being pursued through the courts.
When the girl came to use the man, the man forced her to a room and raped her. On August 14, an eight year old girl was accused of having sexually assaulted a nine year old girl twice. The attacks happened when the girl came to use the man’s grinding mill.

On October 1, a 22 year old man was accused of attempting rape and sexually assaulting a five year old girl. The man is considered to be a repeat offender who worked as a security guard in Tarauni. The report stated that two boys, aged fifteen and thirteen, were being held by police because they kidnapped the girl and held her for two days.

In Sumaila on September 27, a woman who was three months pregnant died at the hospital after her husband beat her. A repeat offender who worked as a security guard in Kudu, a child abuse case involving a twelve year old girl, was interrupted by a passerby and subsequently fled the scene. A sexual assault case in Bichi was reported in early October that involved a five year old girl. The girl was allegedly raped and, following an intensive investigation, authorities found a twenty year old man to be responsible.

On August 18, a girl reported that instead of allowing her to go to school, her mother made the girl hawk on the streets in Fagge. The report from Nasarawa detailed an incident that involved a twelve year old girl. The report stated that two boys, aged fifteen and thirteen, were being held by police because they kidnapped the girl and held her for two days.

In Bebeji on October 25, a 48 year old attempted to rape an eight year old girl but was interrupted by a passerby and subsequently fled the scene. A sexual assault case in Bichi was reported in early October that involved a five year old girl. The girl was allegedly raped and, following an intensive investigation, authorities found a twenty year old man to be responsible.

On September 17 in Ungogo, it was reported that a seventy year old man was caught sexually assaulting a thirteen year old girl. The old man is considered to be a repeat offender but is often released from police custody shortly after his arrest.
Plateau had the second highest number of reports, both overall and per capita, this quarter. Domestic violence incidents were the highest reported category. Overall, 24 of the 27 reports during the quarter were reported in the Jos area. Domestic violence was followed by the sexual abuse of children in number of reports.

Jos N/S/E

Reports of domestic violence in Jos were frequent and ranged across different kinds of abuse. While less widespread this quarter than in previous quarters, alcohol and drug abuse was reportedly involved in several domestic violence reports. In Jos North in October, a man hacked his 80 year old mother to death while he was under the influence of drugs. A man who has allegedly been a drug addict for the part eight years was reported to threaten his wife's life in public. It was also reported that he has neglected to pay his children's school fees. Other reports included descriptions of men coming home drunk and beating their wives.

Reports of men physically abusing their wives are the most common type of domestic violence reported in Jos. In September, there was a report made of a woman married for two years to a public security official who has been hitting her for the duration of their marriage. Another case that was reported details a man beating his wife and children with a cable, often driving them out of the house to sleep outside at night while his children are not enrolled in school. In October, a woman, who is one of four wives, reported that her husband beats her and forces her children to live in harsh conditions.

There was one report of forced marriage in Jos, a girl of 15 was forcefully married to a herdsman as his second wife. In September, a widow was thrown out of her late husband's house by his family. Her in-laws retained custody of her four children.

There were multiple reports of girls under the age of 18 being raped by both strangers and men that they know. There was one reported case of incest, where a girl was raped by her uncle with whom she lives. In October, an incident of a man raping and impregnating three different girls was reported.

Other LGAs

Two of the three reports outside of Jos took place in August. In Kanam, a pregnant woman and her grandmother strangled a five year old girl and attempted to dispose of the body. A 17 year old girl who had just finished secondary school in Langtang North was abducted by three boys and raped by at least one of them. She was threatened to keep her silent. The third report took place in September, in Wase, where a seven year old girl was raped by a man after he lured her into the bush. He was subsequently arrested.

Rivers State

Rivers state has consistently had the highest number of reports overall as well as per capita and continued this trend over the time period of August, September and October. Reporting in Rivers was primarily categorized as sexual violence and domestic abuse.

Port Harcourt

Forty-eight incidents of violence against women and girls were reported in Port Harcourt during the quarter. There were 12 reports of general crime and gender based human rights violations. There was one report of a woman being physically assaulted by her female neighbor. There were two reports that involved a woman trader being assaulted by customers. In one case, the trader was cut by a broken bottle. A woman was beaten by a group of truck drivers after she accused one of killing a person. In September, a group of suspected cult boys threatened to kill a woman who was selling food on the street.

In October, there was one report of a father abandoning his two daughters for no reason, he also refused to pay their school fees. There was another report of a man beating his wife and daughters, while also not caring for them financially. There were three cases of men beating their wives before sending them and their children from the home, abandoning them financially. There was one case of marital rape reported in October.

There were ten reports of child sexual abuse over the three month time period. There was one case of a 16 year old girl who was raped by a police officer who took her home when she was stranded. This incident was reported in August. Also in August, there was a report of a six year old girl being raped by the 15 year old son of her families landlord. In September, there was a report of a 14 year old girl who has been raped by her guardian for the past four years. The rapes have resulted in one pregnancy, which the guardian forced her to abort.

In October, it was reported that a 16 year old girl was raped by four men. There was
one reported case of a 17 year old girl being abducted, she was raped and dumped on the side of the road. There was also a report if a ten year old girl being sexual assaulted. She was severally injured.

Obio/Akpor

There were 36 incidents of VAWG reported in Obio/Akpor during the quarter. The reports were primarily domestic violence and child abuse cases. There were two reports of general crime, one was the beating a woman by an unknown assailant, while the other detailed a robbery. There was one case of abduction reported, a girl of 18 was taken and found ten days later in Abia state.

The child abuse incidents reported in this quarter were mainly sexual abuse cases, with nine cases of sexual abuse and four of physical abuse and abandonment. In August, there were two reports of rape, in one case it was 12 year old girl and the in the other the survivor was 14. In September, a 14 year old girl was raped by four men. The reports in October detailed girls under the age of 15 being raped by neighbors and people living close them. In one case, the girl was raped and then the man attempted to blackmail her into marriage.

There were 16 reports of domestic abuse. In two cases in August, women were beaten for reasons having to do with children. One for her inability to produce a male child and the other for having a child out of wedlock before her current marriage. In September, there was a report of a woman being beaten by her married boyfriend. She is pregnant with his child. In October, a woman, who was three months pregnant, was beaten by her husband. The beating resulted in her losing the pregnancy. There was another report of a woman who has been beaten her husband for the 12 years of their marriage. She has been put into the hospital several times. Another example from October is a report of a 25 year old woman who was beaten by the father of her child, she sustained serious injuries.

Etche

There were four reported incidents in Etche, two domestic violence reports and two sexual violence reports. The domestic violence reports were in September and both detailed a wife being beaten by her husband after arguments. Both sexual violence events took place in October and were committed by motorcycle drivers. The first was a 20 year old woman who was raped by a motorcycle driver who was to carry her home. The second was of a 15 year old girl who was raped in the bush by the driver.

Oyigbo

There were three reports of domestic violence and one of sexual violence in Oyigbo during this time period. A 14 year old girl was raped by her neighbor. In one case of domestic violence, a girl was beaten by her father when she was unable to collect her brother from where he was staying. The two other reports were of girls around nine years of age being beaten by guardians with sticks and brooms.

Ilwerre

A young woman died in August at the teaching hospital at her university, she was denied care for six hours, which led to her death. In October, a school girl reported the attempted rape of her friend by their classmates, there was no follow up action taken by the school. There was one report of domestic violence in October that detailed a woman who had recently given birth having health complications, her husband refused to provide resources for her care.

Other LGAs

In Bonny, a 24 year old woman was beaten by a man she identified as her boyfriend. In August, in Abua/Odual, it was a reported that a man was consistently beating up his pregnant wife. In October, a man in Okrika got drunk and went to visit a lady friend, he later died at her home. She was beaten by a mob who suspected her of killing him.
Yobe State

Similar to Borno, the main incident reported in Yobe during the time period of August, September and October was connected to the JAS insurgency. This report was captured by using Nigeria Watch data.

Damaturu

On August 25, there were two explosions killing an estimated six people, including a pregnant woman. One of the suicide bombers was reportedly a girl of about 14.
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.

Over the course of the quarter, FFP produced three memos measuring trends of VAWG across the eight NSRP focus states. States where there have been service points set up continue to produce the most salient and relevant data. Reporting in Borno has continued to be captured in the national and international media and will now be enhanced by ground-sourced data from a service point set up in Maiduguri in December 2015.

Yobe, Delta and Bayelsa consistently have the least amount of incident reports focusing on VAWG. Without service points in these states, there continues to be a gap in data focusing on VAWG. At present, those gaps are filled by reporting from other deployments on the Observatory Map, such as Nigeria Watch and ACLED, as well as supplemental research provided by FFP and other NSRP partners, mostly culled from media sources. While the level of granularity and detail from these reports is not a match for ground-sourced information, other options for expanding resources for information from these three states should be explored to try to achieve more balance among the eight states.

Objective 2

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

Over the course of the quarter, the number of incidents reported through the NSRP sources filter increased. This could be an indication of lessening stigma around VAWG reporting in the states where NSRP has an OBSTEC and service point set up. Specifically, there has been an increase in the reporting of child abuse. In recent workshops, members of the observatory discussed how child abuse, especially sexual abuse, has been less acceptable than abuse of adult women. The difference in reporting child abuse and the abuse of an adult woman was discussed in workshops. A survivor of child abuse is an innocent victim, whereas adult women are often perceived to be deserving of their attack or abuse. How this difference will continue to impact reporting will need to be watched.

Objective 3

Increase awareness of these issues with the use of the Observatory platform and other deployments of the tool.

A web application that was executed in May 2015 and upgraded in September allows FFP and NSRP to track the number of visits to the Observatory Platform Map as well as individual visits through the NSRP deployment of the platform. In the months since the application has been functional, there has been an increase in visits to the website. It has gone from roughly 70 pages visit per month in June to 190 in October.

Objective 4

Facilitate and Support Opportunities for Preventative Response

As local organizations focusing on gender continue to register as Peace Agents on the Observatory Platform the opportunities for
partnership expand. With 68 Peace Agents who have self-identified on the platform, the opportunity to enhance and support preventative response is growing. The number of Peace Agents is expected to grow as the service point in Borno comes online and begins reporting and working with the OBSTEC.

Further outreach in states that do not have Observatory service points is needed to increase visibility of VAWG issues in those states.

Imagments to the Platform

In September, the platform was upgraded to include an alert feature. This feature tracks when reported incidents and fatalities spikes in each LGA. It will send alerts to all Peace Agents who have registered on the Observatory platform in the state which has the alert. There has been improved functionality including a clearing feature on the heat map as well as general user friendliness.

Green stars represent Gender-Focused Interventions registered on the Observatory platform.