



Violence Affecting Women and Girls in the Eight NSRP Target States

Monthly Memo #9 – January 2015 Data

March 6, 2015

■ ■ ■ Using the NSRP Sources filter, the project continues to provide crucial reports about Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) to increase awareness and enable preventative action.

As we launch into 2015, there are 50 self-identified Agents of Peace focusing on issues of gender in the NSRP states. The highest concentration of Agents of Peace is in Rivers with 17 listed organizations. By contrast, there no self-identified Agents of Peace currently listed in Yobe, although NSRP is assisting with addressing this gap by connecting with grantee CSOs focusing on gender issues. The annual trend of increasing overall violence in 2014 continued into January 2015, with an upsurge in incidents compared with last month. With retrospective incident reports also coming in from partner organizations this month, the systemic issues in key states relating to sexual assault and overall violence perpetrated against women and girls continues to become more prevalent.

This memo covers the month of January 2015 (data coding and uploading lags by a month) for the eight NSRP States: Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa, and Delta.

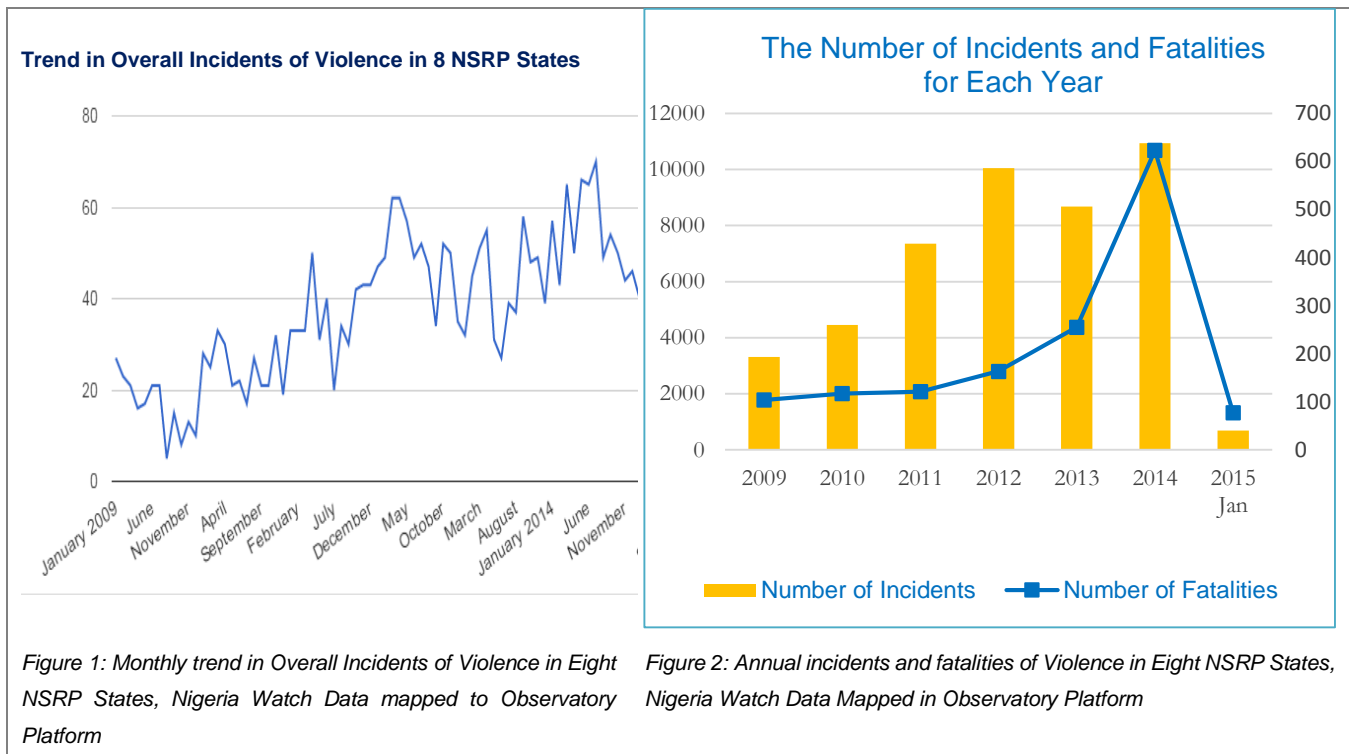
In keeping with the format of the previous monthly memos, this project seeks to accomplish **four general objectives**:

1. Measure trends in violence affecting women and girls 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.
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.
3. Increase awareness of these issues with the use of the Observatory platform and other deployments of the tool, including the P4P Digital Platform. For this we use Google Analytics to track traffic to the map application.
4. 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.

Scope and limitations: We recognize that the data collected is not a comprehensive tally of all incidents of violence, VAWG or otherwise. However, to the extent that the data is representative of the patterns and trends, findings are as indicated in the report below.

Objective 1: Measure Trends in Violence Affecting Women and Girls as Compared to Overall Levels of Violence and Fatalities in the Eight NSRP States

From January to December 2014, overall reported incidents and fatalities have been higher than any year since 2009. This was predominately due to the insurgency/counterinsurgency escalation in the North. While numbers of VAWG-related fatalities remained low, the number of reported incidents increased in January 2015 from the previous month. Delta state had the highest number both in terms of the total number of overall incidents as well as reports per capita. Yobe state had the second highest numbers in both categories.



Reporting specifically on VAWG has followed the national trend, with the overall situation deteriorating during 2014 and January 2015. Delta state had the most reports overall as well as the most per capita for 2014, while Bayelsa state followed Delta for the highest number of reports per capita for that year. For the month of January 2015, Delta state had the highest number of reports per capita while Yobe state had the second highest number of reports. The stacked graph below shows VAWG reports collected from Nigeria Watch since 2009, with reports divided by each NSRP State.

It is interesting to compare the Nigeria Watch data to other data coming in from all Observatory Platform sources. According to Nigeria Watch, in January 2015, Rivers had the highest number of overall incidents whereas Bayelsa had the most reports per capita. Regarding VAWG, however, Borno had the most reports overall as well as reports per capita during the month. Yobe, tied for second with Delta and Rivers in overall reporting, was second in per capita reporting for the month of January.

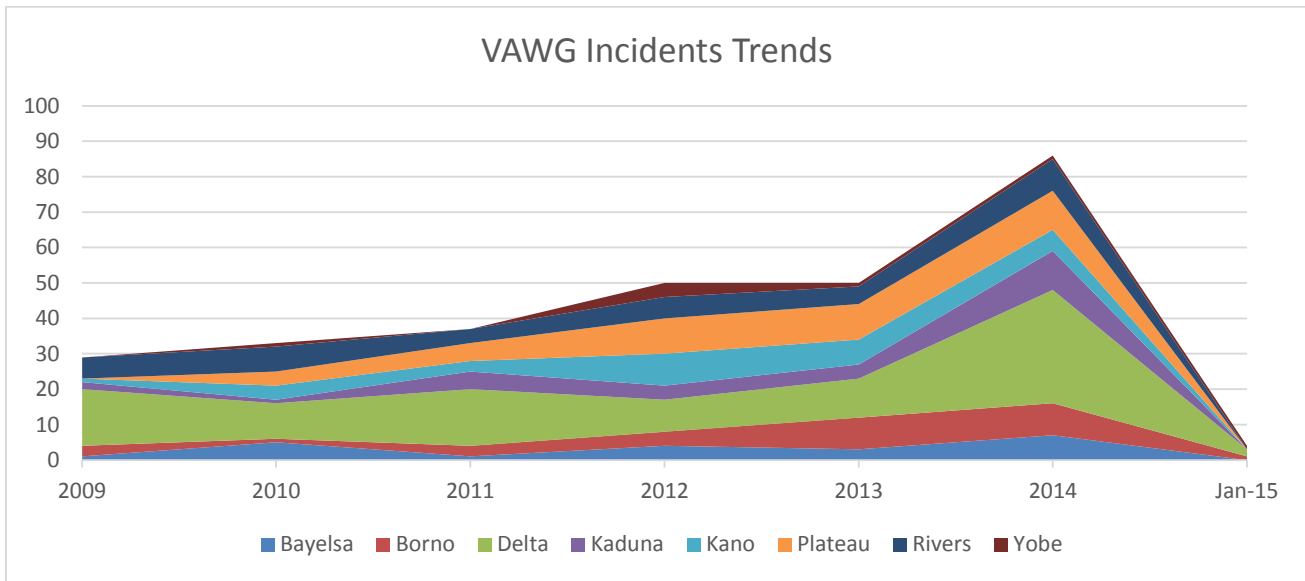


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing Trend in VAWG Incidents Reported by NSRP State, Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents)

January Incidents by NSRP State

Below is a breakdown of issues reported in the month of January by each NSRP target state (all sources)

Borno State: In January, VAWG reports came from Maiduguri, Kukawa and Baga LGAs. Kukawa and Maiduguri remained the main areas of incidents, however, insurgency related casualties of women and children were also reported in Baga.

Abductions of women and girls was highest in Kukawa, where it was reported that approximately 300 women and children were rounded up and imprisoned by Boko Haram on January 3. Several reports suggested that women and children were largely targeted during sustained attacks against civilians in Baga. Heightened risks of female suicide bombings remained a concern after a bomb attack occurred on January 10 in Maiduguri. The attack involved a ten-year-old female suicide bomber under the direction of Boko Haram who killed 20 people and injured 18 others.

Yobe State: For the month of January, VAWG incidents were reported in Gujba and Potiskum. Unknown numbers of women and children were abducted following a Boko Haram attack on civilians in Gujba that killed 25 people. There were also two separate suicide bombing incidents involving young women which occurred in Potiskum. One pair of female suicide bombers

killed three others and wounded 26 in one attack on a market place. The other pair of female bombers, both believed to be between the ages of 15 and 17, killed 39 civilians.

Kano State: January saw seven reports emerge in Kano, relating to sexual assault and domestic violence. Incidents of rape of young girls accounted for 85% of the reports for the month. With the age of the victims ranging from 5 to 17 years old, the targeting of young girls by older male perpetrators elucidates a worrying trend for the state in sexual violence. One report also related to the physical and psychological abuse of a pregnant wife by her husband resulting in the loss of her unborn child.

Kaduna State: Like Kano state, Kaduna has ongoing issues relating to sexual abuse of minors and domestic violence. While no incidents were reported specifically for January 2015, 16 new retrospective incidents were provided by a partner organization. Of these new reports which occurred throughout 2014, 68% of the incidents related to sexual abuse or rape of young girls and women. The targeting of vulnerable female victims including young girls in market places and a disabled beggar is emblematic of wider regional patterns of gender-based violence.

Plateau State: Four incidents were reported in Plateau for January, all relating to domestic violence and rape. In the two reported incidents of domestic violence, one husband beat his pregnant wife in the street, while another husband came home drunk and used a machete to attack his wife. Reports of sexual violence related to two girls being raped by security forces, and one girl raped by her step-father.

Delta State: VAWG incidents were reported in Oshimili South, Aniocha North, Ika South, and Warri South LGAs in January. Two cases of direct sexual violence were reported. In Oshimili South, a 72-year-old man was arrested for sexually assaulting a 15-year-old girl. In Warri South, a young girl was also reported to have been sexually assaulted. In Aniocha North, a pregnant woman was killed by her husband and his brother. In Ika South, 12 people including 3 pregnant women were killed during a cult supremacy clash. Lastly, in Warri South, cultists attacked a market with machetes, injuring women and children in the process.

Rivers State: There were four VAWG incidents reported in Rivers State in January. In Asari-Toru LGA, a man and woman were attacked and robbed by Deebam cultists. In Okrika LGA, a party chairman and his wife were attacked and their political offices destroyed. In Obio-Akpor LGA, an 8 year old girl was raped by her 42 year old next door neighbor, and a women was kicked out of her house by her husband who refused to grant her a formal divorce.

Bayelsa State: No incidents or fatalities were reported for VAWG for January 2015 in Bayelsa.

Objective 2: Breaking the Culture of Silence by Increasing the Level of Reporting on Issues of Violence Affecting Women and Girls

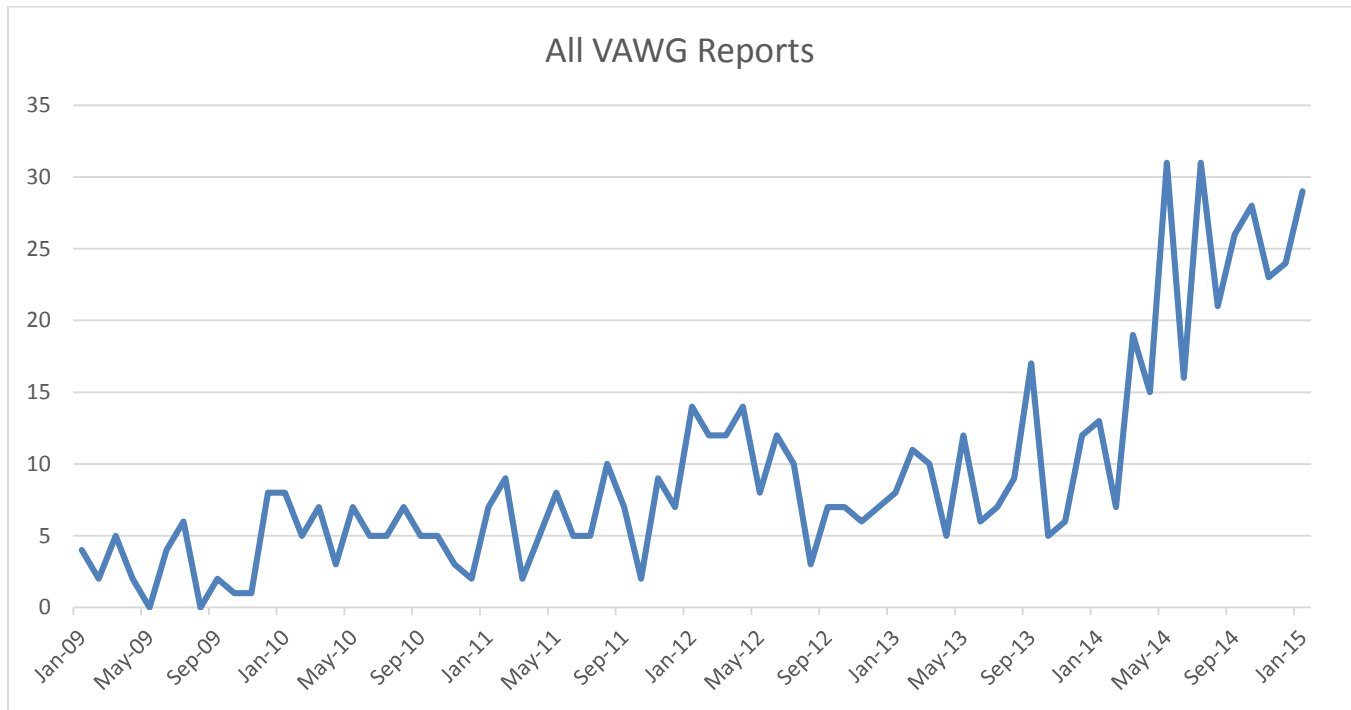


Figure 4: Trend in Reports of Violence and Conflict Affecting Women and Girls (All Sources)

As outlined in *Figure 4* above, the incident reporting surrounding violence affecting women and girls has risen steadily over the past six years. As the reporting process in Kano and Kaduna continues to be streamlined in 2015, and as the Peace Clubs become more active, we expect to receive more reports. In the other six states, there are varying degrees of reporting coverage which, until the new service points come online for the Middle Belt and the Niger Delta in February, are largely based on reporting from other sources, including the media. While a comparatively moderate level of media (print and radio) reporting exists in the Niger Delta on VAWG incidents, relying on media sources for the northern states is difficult, making direct reporting vital. In these instances, the solicitation of data from NSRP partners on the ground is exceptionally useful. While these organizations may not be specifically focused on VAWG, they often have access to information that is relevant and useful for the Observatory. This proved to be an important element of gathering data and mapping peace agents in Borno state.

The gap in data from the state of Yobe improved in January, with two incidents and fatalities affecting women and girls reported for the first time since June 2014. While the security situation in the state has likely contributed to some of the challenges of gathering and organizing data, it is hoped that new initiatives to reach out to local partners will continue to be successful in filling this gap. A focus on collecting data in these northern states will be crucial to tracking the worrying emergent trend of Boko Haram's training and deployment of young girls as suicide bombers.

As the Niger Delta service point comes online in Rivers state, it will be similarly important to ensure that data from other states in the Niger Delta, including Bayelsa and Delta states, are reported as well. Delta has consistently had some of the highest levels of VAWG incidents and the ability to work with local partners to gather data at a more granular level will allow for the isolation of specific trends that will better inform strategies aimed at mitigation and response.

Objective 3: Increased Public Awareness of the Issue of Violence Affecting Women and Girls

The current methodology used for measuring public awareness is via web-based analytics. As FFP does not have access to Google Analytics for NSRP’s website at present, measurement of the P4P website is being used as an alternative source given its shared VAWG data. We have developed a new application that tracks traffic to all deployments of the map (P4P Peace Map, NSRP Observatory, and the Global Partnership of Children and Youth in Peacebuilding. Aggregate traffic to these three maps is higher than illustrated in the graphic below, totaling 684 pageviews in January. Longer term trends using Google Analytics of the P4P Peace Map alone, show a slight decrease since the May launch of the Observatory, and a rise in December and January. Over the next few months, a focus on gathering information through other local level initiatives of the Platform, the Peace Clubs, and the work of local CSO partners will be an effective method for further increasing awareness on the ground.

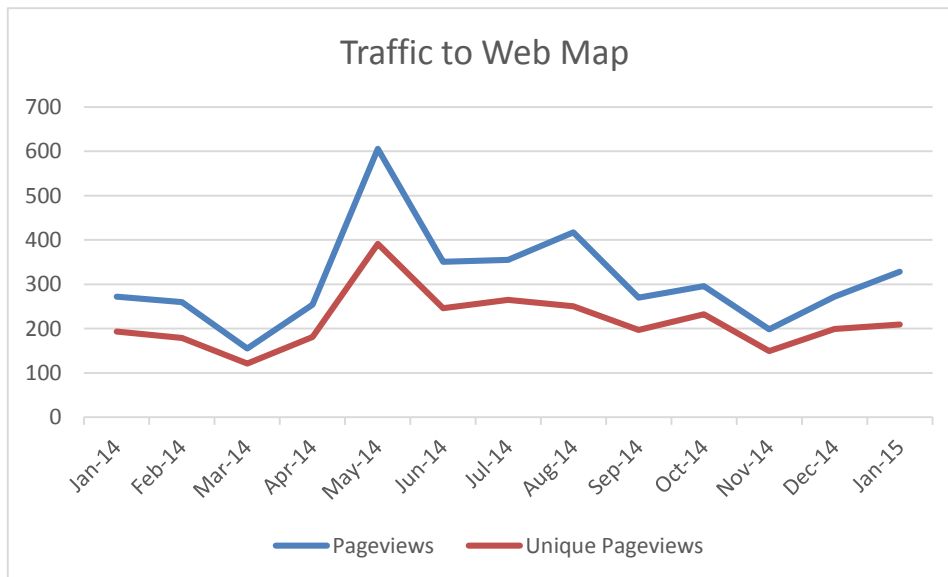


Figure 5: Monthly Traffic to Peace Map (Google Analytics)

Objective 4: Facilitate and Support Opportunities for Preventative Response

This project fills a critical gap in the mapping and data aggregation of gender-based violence in the NSRP states. Unique from any other platforms currently available, our integrated platform maps VAWG incidents, compares trends, and identifies specific Agents of Peace for each of the focus states.

Since the project’s inception, through training workshops and the mapping of NSRP partners, we continue to increase the number of Agents of Peace. These local organizations are first responders on the ground with a focus on gender violence.

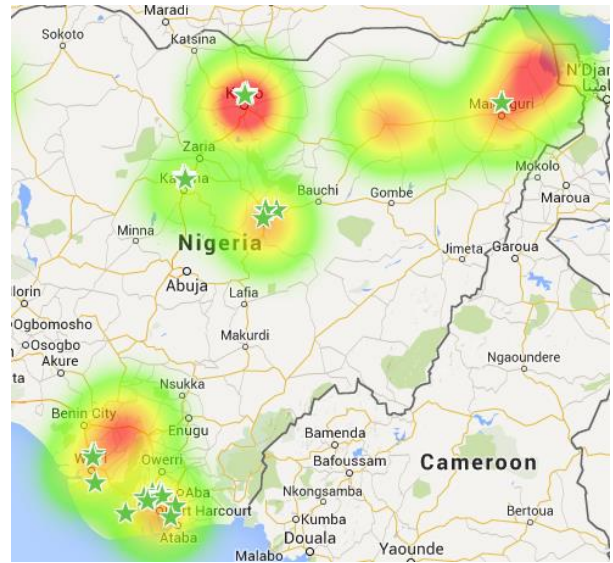


Figure 6: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States – January 2015 (Screenshot of Observatory Platform)

The heat map shows the relative distribution of VAWG reports in the month of January 2015. The green stars show the location of self-identified Peace Agents focused on gender. In the table below is a full list of gender-focused organizations and initiatives in the eight NSRP states. We recommend including some level or representation from all or a few of these organizations whenever possible and appropriate in NSRP VAWG workshops and activities. To that end, it would also be highly beneficial to be in contact with these organizations in order to solicit their assistance in the possible sharing of data.

As identified in prior reports, Yobe state remains underrepresented in terms of reporting as well as having no identified Peace Agents. However, outreach efforts are underway to solicit assistance and data from NSRP partners in the state so we anticipate a change in this status in next month’s bulletin.

Organizations and Initiatives Self-Identified as Peace Agents with a Focus on Gender

State	LGA	Organization
Bayelsa	Ekeremor	Ekeremor Women Forum
Bayelsa	Yenagoa	National Orientation Agency
Borno	Maiduguri	Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)
Borno	Maiduguri	Healthcare Development Focus Initiative (HECADF)
Borno	Maiduguri	National Council of Women Societies (NCWS)
Borno	Maiduguri	Women in New Nigeria (WINN)
Borno	Maiduguri	University of Maiduguri Muslim Women Association (UMMWA)
Delta	Uvwie	Lite –Africa
Delta	Uvwie	Community Peace Development Initiative (CPDI)
Delta	Uvwie	Development Support Care Empowerment Foundation (DSCAEF)
Delta	Udu	Ideal Women Advancement Initiative
Kaduna	Kaduna North	Women for Peace in Nigeria (WOPIN)

Kaduna	Kaduna North	Global Initiative for Women and Children
Kaduna	Kaduna North	PAN AFRICAN LEADERSHIP LEAGUE
Kaduna	Kaduna South	African Ethics and Theatre Reformation (AETRI)
Kaduna	Kaduna North	"Youth CAN, Kaduna"
Kaduna	Kaduna North	Interfaith Mediation Centre
Kaduna	Kaduna South	Aid Foundation
Kano	Kano	Development Research and Project Centre (DRPC)
Kano	Kano	Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)
Kano	Kano	INTERGENDER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
Kano	Kano	Women Advancement Initiative
Kano	Kano	Women Support Development Sustainable Association formerly Women Development Network(WODEN)
Kano	Kano	"Women, Widows and Orphan Development Initiative."
Kano	Kano	Center for Documentation
Plateau	Jos North	JUSTICE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE COMMISSION (JDPC)
Plateau	Jos North	Manna Resource Development Centre
Plateau	Jos North	Federation of Muslim Women in Nigeria
Plateau	Jos North	Justice Development Peace and Caritas
Plateau	Jos North	National Youth Network on HIV/AIDS
Plateau	Jos North	Youth Alive In Christ (YAC)
Plateau	Jos North	CHRISTIAN RURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (CRUDAN)
Plateau	Jos South	COUNTRY WOMEN ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA
Plateau	Jos East	Jos University Teaching Hospital
Plateau	Jos	Inclusive Friends
Plateau	Jos North	Wiscod
Plateau	Jos North	National Human Rights Commission
Plateau	Jos	Christian Women for Excellence & Empowerment in Nigerian Society (CWEENS)
Rivers	Abua/Odual	Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)
Rivers	Abua/Odual	Academy for Cultural Rights and Human Development
Rivers	Akuku Toru	Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)
Rivers	Emohua	Kebetkache Women Development
Rivers	Etche	Women in Peace and Security Network
Rivers	Gokana	Kebetkache Women Development
Rivers	Ikwerre	Ikwerre Women Forum
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Center for Creative Arts Education
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Lokiakia Community Development Centre
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Women In Action for Positive Development and Gender Enhancement Centre (WAPDAGEC)
Rivers	Port Harcourt	"Civil Liberties Organization, Rivers State branch"
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Gender Advocacy and Empowerment Initiative (GANET)

Rivers	Port Harcourt	Gender and Development Action (GADA)
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Kebetkache Women Development
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Rimwof Project
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Palmbits IPWC
Rivers	Bonny	Coalition of NGOS in Bonny for Human Rights and Sustainable Development
Rivers	Port Harcourt	Medical Women's Association of Nigeria (MWAN)

Conclusion and Recommendations

While each month the data collection and analysis functionality continues to improve, there are still areas where efforts could be increased and strengthened. Specific recommendations broken out by general objective for the next month are as follows:

- **Objective 1:** *Continue to measure trends in violence affecting women and girls as compared to overall levels of violence and fatalities.*

While overall efforts to improve data collection across the eight focus states improve every month, further networking with organizations is crucial to the long term growth of the project. This can be achieved by connecting with new organizations listed as Peace Agents and other agencies identified by the OBSTEC in each state. Through enriching the data collection with new reporting sources, this will provide a more powerful platform to spread awareness of VAWG and explore mitigation strategies. Beginning in February 2015, local CSO partners on the ground in Plateau and Rivers states will begin working directly with Peace Clubs as well as the OBSTEC to improve the quantity and quality of data gathered for the Observatory. We expect this will greatly improve data collection efforts and also lead to the ability to dig more deeply into the data to isolate trends and corroborate patterns across the eight states. This may enable further exploration into the correlation between pre-election tensions and gender-based violence.

- **Objectives 2 and 3:** *Break the culture of silence and increase the level of reporting and awareness on issues of violence affecting women and girls.*

Greater outreach remains critical for areas which have limited or no current service points. This can be achieved through identifying and connecting with local CSOs as well as the OBSTEC, especially in states such as Yobe who has no online service points. Further engagement with media outlets to promote awareness of gender based violence is an effective vehicle for break the culture of silence. Such outlets may include broadcast radio programs or talk shows, as previously discussed in October 2014 meetings.

To better capture the extent of traffic to all map deployments, including NSRP's we have developed a web application for administrative use on the site. This way we will not be constrained to use Google Analytics on the P4P Peace Map alone as a proxy for increased awareness.

To increase user-friendliness of the NSRP site, we recommend applying an upgrade which will allow the NSRP website to load more quickly and for the map itself to appear on a full page, rather than boxed by the iFrame as currently configured.

- Objective 4: 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 OBSTEC in their targeted interventions for the mitigation of violence affecting women and girls. EVA and the new CSO partners in Plateau and Rives are critical in working closely with OBSTEC members in this area through the facilitation of structured workshops and meetings to use the data for the identification of priority concerns and develop plans of action. With dramatically increasing levels of violence occurring and expected to continue in the north of the country, likely compounded by election tensions and the ongoing insurgency, it is more critical than ever to ensure that women and girls have the information needed to seek aid. Both Yobe and Borno states have been the epicenters of violence in the north and, particularly in Borno, also have many women and girls who now find themselves as IDPs due to the insurgency. This makes them particularly vulnerable to gender-based violence and specific efforts to reach these populations should be considered. During the coming months, OBSTEC will play a crucial role as will local peace agents and partners on the ground. Overall, the value of multi-stakeholder collaboration and information sharing cannot be underscored enough during this critical time.