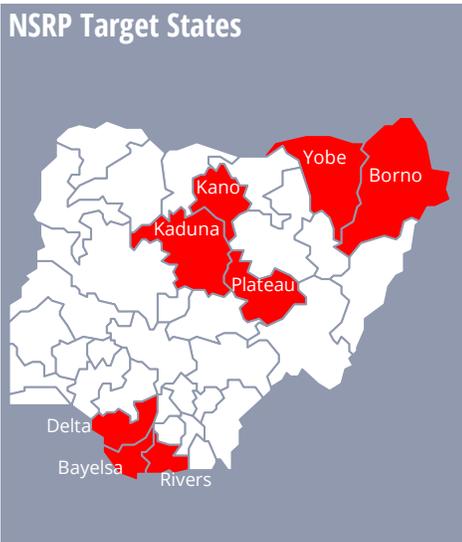


Violence Affecting Women and Girls in Select Nigerian States

Monthly Memo #18 - October 2015 Data



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

The total number of reports of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) received by the NSRP Observatory increased notably in October, rising to its highest recorded number of reports received thus far, following a slight decrease in reporting in September. Following 2015's continued trend, the number of reports of VAWG incidents has steadily increased since the project's inception in early 2014. For October 2015, the number of Peace Agents held steady at 68, with an increase in registration anticipated in the coming months following a workshop held in Borno state as well as more outreach efforts on the part of NSRP local and international partners. In the Niger Delta, flooding in Delta state led to at least ten reported deaths in October while child and spousal abuse accounted for the majority of reports from Bayelsa and Rivers states. As in prior

months, Plateau reported multiple incidents of beatings and neglect, particularly of young women and children, namely in the context of domestic and spousal abuse. In the northeast, at least five separate incidents of female suicide bombers detonating their explosives led to scores dead while rape and other forms of sexual assault characterized most reports from the north central states of Kano and Kaduna.

The following memo analyzes data for the focus states of Borno, Yobe, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau, Rivers, Bayelsa, and Delta for October 2015 (data coding and uploading lags by a month). The trend line below shows a significant increase in reported incidents of VAWG generated by NSRP Sources over the course of October, jumping from 35 in September to 62 in October.

VAWG Reports from NSRP Sources



Figure 1: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence Reported by NSRP Sources



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. For overall levels, we use Nigeria Watch data, which has a consistent methodology and an even distribution of coverage by time and location.

Trends in Overall Violence

To provide a more robust account of VAWG trends in the eight NSRP states, it is necessary to examine the overall trends of violence in those states. This section exclusively analyzes data collected by Nigeria Watch to construct a consistent narrative.

In October, the number of reported incidents as well as associated fatalities again began to rise again after falling since June. The levels of violence, especially in the northeast, began to increase again by mid-month, despite promises by the government to continue their crackdown and containment of JAS (also called “Boko Haram”) and to defeat the insurgency by the end of the year.

In the northeast, violence reported continues to surround the JAS fueled insurgency, although the nature of JAS attacks appeared to be shifting towards the use of bombs and improvised explosive devices, often deployed with suicide bombers, rather than direct assaults and ambushes on military and civilian targets. There were 17 reports of violence in Borno and three in Yobe. Borno had both the highest total reports of violence as well as the highest number of reports per capita. Nine of the reports from Borno detailed bombing attacks by suspected JAS insurgents. The death count for the combined bombings is estimated to be in the low 100s, although some estimates placed the causality figures as high as 150.

In Yobe, there was one suicide bombing by JAS insurgents while two other attacks targeted military installations and resulted in high numbers of both JAS and Nigerian military casualties.

There were 18 Nigeria Watch reports on the

Number of Incidents and Fatalities by Month

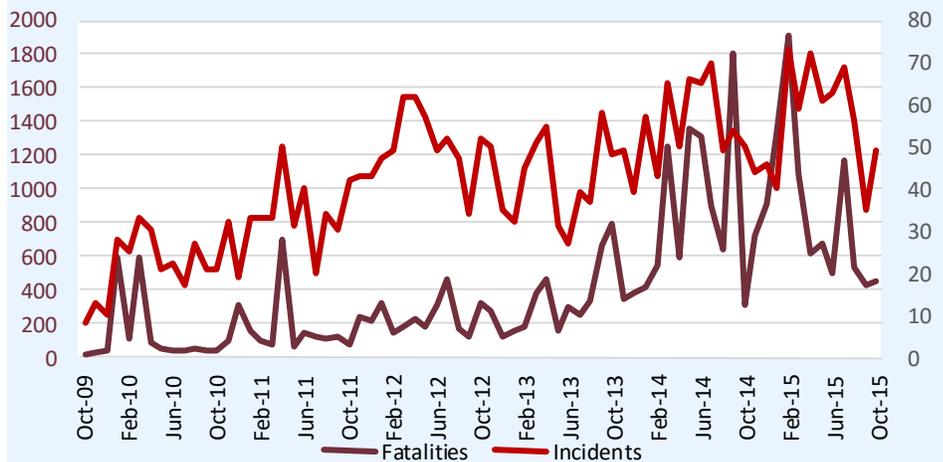


Figure 2: Monthly trend in Overall Incidents of Violence as well as Fatalities in Eight NSRP States, according to Nigeria Watch Data mapped to the Observatory Platform. The number of fatalities are measured against the axis on the left, the number of reported incidents is measured against the axis on the right of the graph. The graph shows that, although the number of incidents has been increasing steadily over the last six years, the number of fatalities spiked in September of 2014 and again in February of 2015. In 2012 there were a high number of less lethal incidents reported.

VAWG Incidents Trends

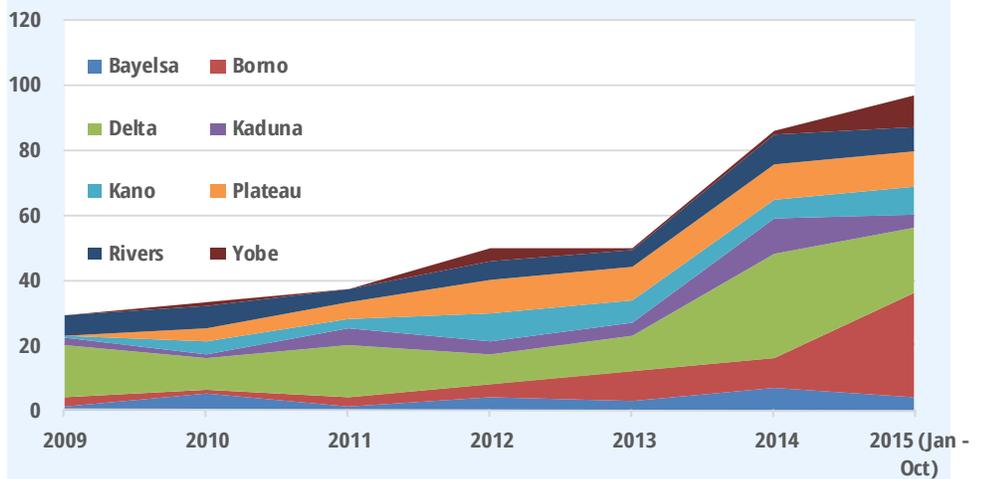


Figure 3: Stacked Area Chart showing trends in VAWG incidents Reported by NSRP State, according to Nigeria Watch data (larger area=more incidents). The y axis shows the cumulative, aggregate trends, while the x axis shows the timeline from 2009 to present. The color blocks show the data disaggregated by state. This graph shows that media reports collected by Nigeria Watch estimate more incidents of VAWG in Delta over the last six years than in other states and that across all eight NSRP states added together, the trend has been getting worse over time. Note that this graph captures trends in the number of incidents, not in the severity of those incidents.

Niger Delta. Due to the substantial flooding in the region, many of the incidents reported in Delta state detailed drownings. Other reports in Delta focused on general criminality and intercommunal violence between herdsman and farmer communities. The three reports in Bayelsa were categorized as general insecurity and criminality. Rivers reported the same trend

of criminality, as attempted robberies and gang activities led to violent clashes and death.

While Bayelsa has less overall reports than Rivers, it had the highest level of violence reported per capita in the Niger Delta.

Violence reported in Plateau over the course of October was categorized as inter-

communal violence and highlighted issues between herders and communities in Jos.

In Kano, reports of insecurity detailed violent clashes and deaths surrounding the issue of cattle rustling.

In Kaduna, there were only two reports from Nigeria Watch in October. One was a VAWG report and one detailed a confrontation between police and community members who drowned as they were fleeing.

Overall, in the first ten months of 2015, there were a total of 577 incidents and 8679 fatalities reported through Nigeria Watch.

Trends in VAWG

With October representing the month with the highest number of NSRP reports since the beginning of the project, it is important to look at the geographic distribution of reporting. The four states of Kano, Kaduna, Plateau and Rivers, with operating services points, have had the most consistent level of reporting overall. In the other four states; Borno, Yobe, Bayelsa and Delta, the reports of VAWG have come primarily from major media sources and sporadically from other sources on the Observatory map platform. In December, a new Observatory service point will open in Borno state and it is expected that the number of firsthand and detailed reports will increase markedly, as has been the case in the other four locations.

This month's three VAWG reports from Delta state came from Nigeria Watch and focused on the that impact natural disasters have had on women.

As in prior months, incidents of VAWG in the northeast were highly correlated with violent incidents related to the insurgency and JAS attacks, which often target or use women and girls. As noted above, a continuing and increasing trend in Borno state in particular is the use of young women and girls, some as young as five, as suicide bombers. While kidnapping and abductions resulting from direct attacks by JAS on civilian population

centers has decreased, along with other direct attacks on military installations by insurgents, female suicide bombers are increasingly being used as weapons of war.

In the Niger Delta, VAWG is closely correlated with general criminality, including gang and cult violence. In Rivers, there has been an uptick in reporting of spousal and child abuse and also the abduction of young women who are gang raped and later dumped in remote locations. Disputes with female traders and hawkers also led to incidents of VAWG.

In Kano, multiple reports continued to be received detailing the sexual abuse and rape of children, often by much older men, occasionally their teachers or neighbors. In Kaduna, domestic violence and spousal abuse remained the most often reported incidents of VAWG, continuing the monthly trend for 2015.

In Plateau state, domestic violence, specifically child and spousal abuse, continued to be the most often reported incidents of VAWG. In October, several reports detailed drugs and alcohol use by the perpetrator in the violent beatings and maiming of spouses and children. Neglect, of both women and children, was also reported frequently.

Overall, when looking at all data sources to the platform for the month of October, the VAWG indicator category with the most reports was domestic abuse. It was closely followed by sexual violence. This is a reversal from September's trend, which listed sexual violence as the most reported category, followed by domestic abuse. In October, child abuse was the most often listed secondary indicator category.

October 2015 Incidents by State

Below is a breakdown of VAWG incidents reported in the month of October across all data sources by each NSRP target state.

Bayelsa

There was one incident of VAWG reported in Bayelsa in the month of October. A man was killed after being discovered with a woman by her husband. It is unclear whether the man was invited by the woman or if he followed her home and forced his way in.

Borno

In October, there were five reported incidents of female suicide bombers detonating their devices in Maiduguri and Gubio. In at least three cases, it was reported that the bombers were teenage girls or younger. Three incidents occurred in Maiduguri and, in one case, a soldier shot and killed the suspect after she detonated her explosive trying to enter an Army barracks, killing only herself. The fourth incident occurred in Gubio, in what appeared to be coordinated attacks between two young female bombers who detonated their devices during morning prayers at a mosque, killing dozens both inside and outside of the building. In total, it was estimated that over 70 lives were lost in October's suicide attacks.

The fifth incident of VAWG reported in Borno state was also insurgency/counter-insurgency related and occurred in Gwoza and detailed the rescue of over 300 women and children from a reported JAS camp by the Nigerian military.

Delta

Two of the three VAWG incidents reported in Delta during the month of October were linked to flooding. Both incidents were reported in Ndokwa East; one describing the death of an 11 year old girl who drowned on her way home from school and the second report detailing the deaths of eight people, including a pregnant woman, by drowning. The third report received from Ughelli South was of a sick baby who died whilst being transported to the hospital in a canoe, unable to reach help by road due to the floods.

Kaduna

There was one report of VAWG in Kaduna in October. A young woman was shot to death by her ex-husband, a police officer, when she returned to their house to collect her property. No further details were reported.

Kano

All five incidents of VAWG reported in Kano during October detailed accounts of child sexual abuse, including rape. Two incidents took place in Kano city. There was a report of an attempted rape and sexual assault of a five year old girl by a man who was teaching her school lessons. He reportedly had also touched other girls in the past although had not been charged. Another report described the sexual assault of a 13 year old on her way to school. The other three reports took place in Bebeji, Kumbotso, and Doguwa and also detailed incidents where men attacked and sexually abused girls, some reported to be as young as five years of age. One incident, in Doguwa, was reported as the gang rape of at least three young girls by a 20 year old male.

Plateau

As with previous reports, incidents of VAWG in Plateau state primarily were captured in the indicator categories of domestic abuse, sexual abuse and child abuse. There were a total of eight incidents reported in Plateau in October.

All incidents in Plateau were reported to have occurred in or around Jos North, South and East. In one case in Jos North, it was reported that a man with four wives and multiple children was routinely abusing his spouses and denying his children access to food and shelter. In another incident in Jos South, it was reported that a female domestic worker was being brutalized by her female employer. In Jos East, it was reported that three girls had become pregnant after being raped on separate occasions by the same male perpetrator. Finally, in two cases involving drugs and alcohol abuse, a older woman was killed and a young wife badly beaten by intoxicated family members.

Rivers

There were 50 incidents of VAWG reported in Rivers, and all but one came from NSRP sources. The indicator category with the most reports was domestic abuse. There were also many reports of sexual violence, including rape. The majority of incidents were reported in Port Harcourt, with a substantial number also reported in Obio/Akpor.

As in prior reports and in keeping with the trend in overall violence in Rivers state, VAWG incidents were also linked with criminal and gang violence. In one incident in Port Harcourt, a 17 year old girl was abducted by a group of young men and raped multiple times before being

abandoned on the side of the road. In another, a female trader was beaten and cut with a glass bottle after asking for money owed to her by a patron. Also in Port Harcourt, a woman was killed after being trailed by armed robbers to a bank where she was attempting to deposit a large sum of money. Three police officers were also killed in the incident. In Okio-Akpor, a twelve year old girl was reportedly raped and beaten multiple times by a neighbor while a 49 year old woman was attacked by a mob of men for unknown reasons and beaten severely before being abandoned.

Child abuse was also widely reported, including the rape of a four year old in Obio-Akpor while a motorcycle driver was reportedly sought in Etche after raping and abandoning a young female passenger in a remote location. Incidents of marital rape also were reported during the month of October, with one woman reporting that her husband regularly beat her and forced himself on her against her will. Finally, spousal abandonment figured prominently in reports from Rivers this month, with at least two incidents detailing the abandonment of young wives and mothers by their spouses.

Yobe

There were no incidents of VAWG reported in Yobe during the month of October.

Objective 2

All VAWG Reports

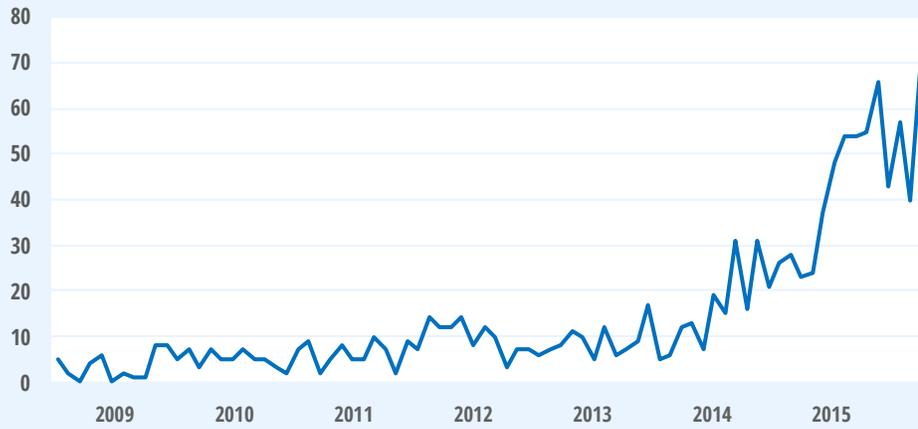


Figure 4: Trend in Incident reports of Violence and Conflict Affecting Women and Girls (All Sources)

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.

Figure 4 shows the total number of VAWG incidents reported across the eight NSRP focus states by all sources. The graph shows a break down by month starting in January 2009. This month shows record highs with a total of 74 incidents of VAWG reported.

The levels of reporting on VAWG have fluctuated in the last few months although there continues to be an upward trend. As timely reports come in, more and more reports from previous months are being received as well. This hopefully indicates stronger reliance on the reporting mechanisms and support that the

Observatory Platform provides.

The most comprehensive and detailed data on VAWG continues to come from NSRP partners through the Observatory Service points. While other data sources provide sporadic reports on VAWG, the most detailed reports, allowing for the deepest incident and trend analysis, continue to come from primary sources.

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.

The Observatory Platform has a web-based application which is able to track traffic to the NSRP deployment of the Peace Map as a way to measure public awareness. The analytics application is also able track overall visits to the site. This upgrade was applied to the NSRP deployment of the Observatory Map at the end of September.

The map was viewed a total of 702 times in October. This is the highest number of views since January. The NSRP deployment logged 195 views, a huge leap from September's 73 page views. This more than doubles the previous high of 88.

Page Views Through All Platforms

Mar 2015	678	Jul 2015	291
Apr 2015	281	Aug 2015	223
May 2015	553	Sep 2015	326
Jun 2015	470	Oct 2015	702

Page Views through NSRP

Jun 2015	78
Jul 2015	71
Aug 2015	88
Sep 2015	73
Oct 2015	195

Objective 4

Locations of Incidents, Agents

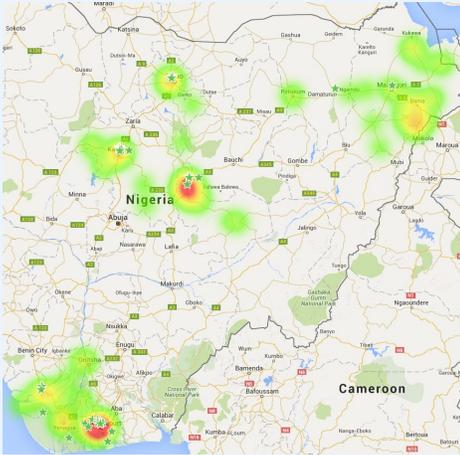


Figure 5: Heat Map of VAWG Incidents and Location of Gender-Focused Peace Agents in Eight NSRP States – October 2015 (Screenshot of Observatory Platform)

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.

Locating and identifying local actors working on gender issues continues to be a very important aspect of this project. In October, the number of Peace Agents identified on the Observatory Platform was steady at 68.

This number is expected to go up in coming months, as a workshop to set up a new observatory service point was held in December. There is also continued outreach efforts by NSRP local partners and international partners.

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	Kaduna North	Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative
	Yenagoa	National Orientation Agency			Interfaith Forum of Muslim and Christian Women`s Association (Women`s Interfaith Council)
		Peacemaker International			Legal Awareness for Nigerian Women (LEADS Nigeria)
Borno	Maiduguri	Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)			Pan African Leadership League
		Healthcare Development Focus Initiative (HECADF)			Women for Peace in Nigeria (WOPIN)
		National Council of Women Societies (NCWS)			Women in Need (A Women Empowerment Foundation)
		Women in New Nigeria (WINN)			Youth CAN, Kaduna
		University of Maiduguri Muslim Women Association (UMMWA)			
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)
Kaduna	Chikun	Development Support Care Empowerment Foundation (DSCAEF)	Kano	Kano	Center for Documentation
	Kaduna North	Zamani Foundation			Development Research and Project Centre (DRPC)
		Interfaith Mediation Centre			Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN)
		Global Initiative for Women and Children			Intergender Development Initiative
	International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA)			Right Based Awareness Coalition (RIBAC)	

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

State	LGA	Organization	State	LGA	Organization	
Plateau	Jos	Women Advancement Initiative	Rivers	Abua/Odual	Academy for Cultural Rights and Human Development	
		Women Support Development Sustainable Association formerly Women Development Network (WODEN)				Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)
		Women, Widows and Orphan Development Initiative			Akuku Toru	Female Development Initiative (FEMLEAD)
		Christian Women for Excellence & Empowerment in Nigerian Society (CWEENS)			Bonny	Coalition of NGOS in Bonny for Human Rights and Sustainable Development
		Inclusive Friends			Emohua	Kebetkache Women Development
		Jos University Teaching Hospital			Etche	Women in Peace and Security Network
		Centre for the Advocacy of Justice and Rights (CAJR)			Gokana	Kebetkache Women Development
		Christian Rural and Rural Development Association of Nigeria (CRUDAN)			Ikwerre	Ikwerre Women Forum
		Fahariya Adolescent Development Network			Obio/Akpor	Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law
		Federation of Muslim Women in Nigeria			Port Harcourt	Center for Creative Arts Education
		International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) Plateau State Chapter				Civil Liberties Organization, Rivers State Branch
		Justice Development and Peace Commission (JDPC)				Gender Advocacy and Empowerment Initiative (GANET)
		Justice Development Peace and Caritas				Gender and Development Action (GADA)
		Manna Resource Development Centre				Kebetkache Women Development
		National Human Rights Commission				Lokiakia Community Development Centre
		National Youth Network on HIV/AIDS				Medical Women's Association of Nigeria (MWAN)
		The Nigeria Working Group				Palmbits IPWC
	Youth Alive In Christ (YAC)			Partners for Peace		
	Wiscod			Rimwof Project		
	Jos South	Country Women Association of Nigeria			Women In Action for Positive Development and Gender Enhancement Centre (WAPDAGEC)	
				Women in Peace and Security Network		