



## **WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING (WANEP) NIGERIA:**

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP-Nigeria) was established out of necessity to provide an organized platform for collaborative peacebuilding in Nigeria by indigenous organizations working in the area of conflict prevention, transformation and peacebuilding. Its operational framework is designed along the visions of the regional network operating in West Africa, Chad and Cameroun with the overarching goal of building sustainable peace and development in the region. Prior to its establishment and registration in 2001 and 2003 respectively, the regional coordinating secretariat of WANEP at Accra-Ghana, had been working with a loose network of independent Non-Governmental and Community Based Organizations in Nigeria to respond to the complex web of conflicts that have permeated and continues to challenge the national fabric and existence of the country. These organizations with diverse interest in human rights, conflict transformation and good governance, have been committed to respond to conflicts in Nigeria and thus provided the bridge for WANEP's initial intervention programs in Nigeria. WANEP-Nigeria, like other country based WANEP structures in the West Africa Sub region, operates through a membership scheme that provides technical support and builds the peacebuilding capacity of its member organizations to intervene effectively at the grassroots level in various communities of the country.

Intervention programs of the Network are divided into five basic thematic areas: Women in Peacebuilding, Active Non-Violence and Peace Education; Conflict Prevention; Democracy and Good Governance; Research and Documentation.

### ***Gender Policy:***

The implementation of organizational projects and programs aims to promote gender inclusion/participation in line with WANEP's policy of mainstreaming gender in all its programs and activities. The balanced participation of women in peacebuilding is strategic to WANEP's overall vision of preventive peacebuilding and sustainable development within the country and the sub region at large as a result of the recognised critical role women play in peace and human security. The recognition of this strength and commitment to expand their inherent opportunity has motivated WANEP to engender its peacebuilding work through the creation of a 'space' for women to effectively participate in conflict transformation and development within communities. Thus, WANEP stresses gender equity and balance in its intervention strategies and program implementation.

The mainstreaming of gender has ensured the empowerment of critical mass of women and women organisations that participate in decision making processes both at the grassroots and policy making level. The Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET), an outcome of the Women in peacebuilding program of WANEP-Nigeria currently has over 2,000 women professionals, and community leaders working in diverse fields of women empowerment and peacebuilding.

Also in terms of employment, WANEP offers equal opportunity to both male and female professionals. The recognition and the critical role of women to its operations also led to the ratification by the AGM for the inclusion of six (6) WIPNET focal points as part of the zonal administrators and mandatory participants to the AGM. In addition a gender policy has been developed by the network which guides its program intervention across the six geo political zones of Nigeria.

### ***Women, Peace and Security Achievements January to December 2019:***

***The Women in Peacebuilding Network Program (WIPNET):*** offer opportunity for the participation of women in peacebuilding mechanisms through a coordinated network that facilitates advocacy, reconciliation and transformation. Achievements in this area include;

Since 2002, WANEP-Nigeria has been implementing gender based peacebuilding intervention in communities through the Women in Peacebuilding program. Over the years it has been improved to provide a credible platform for women to address social injustices as well as play critical roles in the balanced inclusion of women in policy changes at all levels of the society. The credibility of WIPNET has led to its participation in the development of a national gender policy framework for Nigeria in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs. It has also led to the inclusion of WANEP as the only civil society member in the Inter- Ministerial Task Force on Gender and Peacekeeping.

In 2019, WANEP Nigeria implemented the following activities;

### **A. Enhancing Participation of Women in Peacebuilding through the Localization Strategy**

#### **1. 2- Day Localization Workshops on Implementing the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 in Nigeria**

In order to ensure the effective implementation of UNSCR 1325 at the local level, WANEP-Nigeria in partnership with Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) organized 2-day localization workshops on implementing the UNSCR 1325 in Bauchi and Gombe States. The localization workshops convened representatives from the State and local governments; civil society; traditional and religious leaders; security sector; and the media to learn and discuss the relevance of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and other Women, Peace and Security (WPS) resolutions to their state and local communities.

In Gombe State, the workshop which identified key priority areas for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 at the local level was held on January 28- 29, 2019. As part of action to be taken in localizing women, peace and security resolution; it was agreed that mediation trainings be held for women to assist them in mitigating the farmer-herder conflict including holding political parties accountable to their commitment to prevent electoral violence in the state. At the end of the workshop participants made commitments to step down the training and continue in the push towards ensuring Local Action Plans are developed within local government areas for the advancement of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. A Localization Steering Committee was established at the end of the workshop to ensure developed action plan is implemented by all participants. Presently, Gombe State has a State Action Plan (SAP) and two Local Action Plans (LAPs) in two Local Government Areas.



**Group work session at the workshop in Gombe**

In Bauchi State, the localization workshop was implemented from January 31<sup>st</sup>- February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. During the training, a draft action plan was prepared by participants as a roadmap to developing the SAP on UNSCR 1325 and a Technical Working Group was appointed to complete work on the document and present to the Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Development. The State Permanent Secretary and Deputy Director Bauchi State Ministry of Women's Affairs committed to taking the plan forward, and ensuring its finalization and adoption. Participants at the workshop made concrete personal and organizational commitments to promote peace in their homes, workplace, religious institutions and communities.



Group picture of participants at the Bauchi localization workshop

## 2. *2-Day Media Workshop on Amplifying Women’s Voices for Peace and Implementing the UNSCR 1325 In Nigeria*

One of the challenges that have been identified in the effective implementation of the UNSCR 1325 since its adoption in Nigeria is low level of awareness, and even though one of the main pillars of the resolution is promotion, awareness on the resolutions remains low. In view of this, the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding in partnership with Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) and with support from Global Affairs Canada organized 2- day media workshop on Amplifying Women’s voices for Peace and Implementing the UNSCR 1325 on February 4-5, 2019 in Abuja. The main objective of the workshop was to raise the awareness on the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda amongst national and local journalists and media practitioners’. It also aims to increase their capacity to report on the implementation of the WPS agenda in an engaging way while contributing to its implementation. One key outcome of the workshop was availability of a crop of media experts who are knowledgeable on the National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCR 1325 and able to engage in identifying possible strategies to report on Women Peace and Security issues in Nigeria. A media strategy document was presented which include participants’ commitment, thereby, providing a roadmap for participants to advance the concerns and activities of women within their communities as well as raise basic awareness of UNSCR 1325 among the general public.



Group Picture of Participants at the Media Workshop



Award Presentation to Outstanding Media Experts

## 3. **Live Twitter Chat to commemorate the International Women Day 2019.**

On March 8, 2019 WANEP – Nigeria organized a live twitter chat to commemorate the International Women Day. Key messages developed on theme: “Balance for Better” to promote gender equality in peace processes. The messages were aimed at promoting gender equality, a greater awareness of discrimination and a celebration of women's achievements in Nigeria. One of the message tweeted noted; “It’s a time to reflect on the progress made by women and look for ways to promote gender equality at all levels”. Over Thirty (30) persons join in the conversation during the live twitter chat giving their views on the situation in Nigeria.

#### 4. Launch of Working Group on Women, Youth, Peace and Security in West Africa and the Sahel (WGWYPS-WAS) NIGERIA

Also, WANEP-Nigeria on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 launched the programme titled: “The working group on Women, Youth, Peace and Security in West Africa and the Sahel (WGWYPS-WAS) in Lagos State. The programme which held at the WANEP-Nigeria secretariat Lagos coincided with the commemoration of the International Women’s Day. In attendance were members of staff WANEP-Nigeria and South West Network members clad in T-shirts with the inscription “Working Group for Peace”. The programme was launched with campaign hash tag: #workinggroupng4peace on social Media. Prior to the launching of the programme in Lagos State, the UNOWAS already launched the Nigerian working group in December of 2016. The campaign aims to strategically sensitize Nigerians on the need for peaceful elections and transition and contribute to the dissemination of the Nigeria National Action Plan (NAP) on the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 (2017 – 2020). Advocate for the inclusion and support for the rights of women, children, the aged, young persons, men and persons living with disability as well as actively promote full participation of women and youth in formal and informal peace initiatives.



Secretariat Members during the campaign

#### Enhancing Participation of Women in Peace and Security in Nigeria Project

##### 5. Training of Trainers on Peace and Confidence Building for Women Leaders in 3 States in the Niger – Delta

With support from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), WANEP – Nigeria organized a peace and confidence building training for women leaders in three states of the Niger Delta region namely: Edo, Delta and Rivers States respectively. The trainings convened women leaders of local social groups, representatives from government institutions; State Ministry of Women Affairs, State House of Assemblies and local governments, traditional leaders, Civil Society Organizations and the media. The training aimed to enhance participants understanding on UNSCR 1325 which recognizes the disproportionate impacts of conflict on women and also calls for women's participation in formal peacebuilding processes and governance. It also aimed to strengthen capacities of participants in mainstreaming gender in peacebuilding processes in their states. A total of 95 women leaders in the three project states had their capacities built on advocacy, leadership, community mobilization, negotiation and mediation skills. Beneficiaries of the training made commitments to educate members of their groups and communities. Also, they developed action plans to ensure implementation of the UNSCR 1325 including forming peacebuilding networks to further advance peacebuilding initiatives in their communities. The Training of Trainers Workshop was held in Edo State on April 15-19, 2019; Delta State on May 13-17, 2019 and in Rivers State on May 27- 31, 2019.



Group Picture of Participants.



Cross Section of Participants at the Edo Workshop



Group picture of participants at the peace and confidence building training in Delta State.



Group picture of participants at the peace and confidence building training in Rivers State

## 6. Production and Transmission of Community Radio to Promote Women's participation in Peacebuilding

### a. 2-Day Workshop on Projecting Women's Voices For Peace For Radio Programme Anchors

As part of the ongoing project on "Enhancing Women's participation in Peace and Human Security in Nigeria", WANEP- Nigeria held a workshop for representatives of media agencies on promoting UNSCR 1325 and other women issues in a weekly radio program titled "Women's Voices for Peace". The workshop which convened seven anchors that will present the radio programme in seven states across Nigeria – Bauchi, Bornu, Edo, Delta, Gombe, Lagos and Rivers was held on August 22-23, 2019. The workshop created the platform to reflect on the unique role of women in peace and security in Nigeria. One significant outcome of the program was the development of standard procedures for the presentation of Women Voices for Peace radio program in the seven States.



**Group Picture of Participants**



**Cross Section of Participants**

**b. Commencement of Women Voices for Peace Radio Program in Seven States in Nigeria:**

The radio program titled ‘**Women Voices for Peace**’ aims to create awareness and enhancing understanding of the UNSCR 1325 in Nigeria. **Presently, the radio programme is aired seven days of the week in English, Pidgin English, Hausa and Fulani Languages in Bauchi, Bornu, Delta, Edo, Gombe, Lagos, Rivers States.** Varied stakeholders from the civil society, academia, legislature judiciary etc both male and female who have good knowledge and experience of the issues are invited to educate the populace on the need to involve women in decision making and peace processes.

Where there are topical issues in the society, the anchors utilize the radio program to enable women speak on how they are affected by these issues. Also, internationally celebrated dates such as the International Day of Peace September 21 is commemorated on the radio programs with outlined themes set by the United Nations. Topics such as Violence, Tolerance and Peacebuilding in Nigeria; 16 days of Activism Campaign: From Awareness to Action, Wife Battering in Nigeria; Community Women and Peacebuilding: Challenges and Prospects; Weapons Control and Women’s Security in Nigeria etc are some of the topics that have been discussed on the radio programmes.

Find below the link to the audio recordings of the radio programmes; <https://youtu.be/sC9S2SYArr0>; [https://youtu.be/Q\\_qVWYSzml4](https://youtu.be/Q_qVWYSzml4); <https://youtu.be/HhrRuY9S-U>; <https://youtu.be/Z-Uh97HlzPc>; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opWAZGwxcRc>; etc. A Press Statement was also released to the media on the relevance of the radio program to the promotion of UNSCR 1325.

The schedule of the radio programme are as follows;

SN	RADIO STATION	DAY/TIME OF PROGRAMME
1	TREASURE 98.5FM (FRCN PH)- RIVERS STATE	SUNDAYS - 2PM-3PM
2	RIZE 106.7 FM DELTA STATE	MONDAYS- 5PM-6PM
3	WOMEN RADIO 91.7FM. LAGOS STATE	TUESDAYS -3PM-4PM
4	VISION 92.7 FM GOMBE STATE	WEDNESDAYS- 3PM-4PM
5	EDO STATE BROADCASTING CORPORATION - EDO STATE 95.7 FM	THURSDAYS- 12PM-1PM
6	ALBARKA 97.5 FM BAUCHI STATE	FRIDAY- 3:30PM- 4: 30PM
7	RADIO NIGERIA PEACE 102.5 FM- BORNO STATE	SATURDAYS- 3PM-4PM



Radio program in session in Peace 102.5 FM- Borno State



Edo State Broadcasting 95.7FM

**7. Study on the “The Intersections between Corruption, Human Rights and Women, Peace and Security: Nigeria Case Study” and “The Current Realities on Issues of Women Peace and Security and the Implementation of NAP on UNSCR 1325 In North East Nigeria”.**

A consultant was engaged for a period of 60 days in July and August 2019 to conduct the two researches on “The Intersections between Corruption, Human Rights and Women, Peace and Security: Nigeria Case Study” and “Research on The Current Realities on Issues of Women Peace and Security and the Implementation of NAP on UNSCR 1325 In North East Nigeria”. The goal of the research was to ascertain the implementation of Nigeria’s reviewed NAP on UNSCR 1325 and status of SAPs in the North Eastern States of Nigeria. The research team comprised of the consultant and 6 research assistants from the six states that make up the North East zones – Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe. The Research Assistants were selected based on their knowledge and culture of the people and the terrain; fluency in the local language; availability and experience in the selected states. The data collection was done through two approaches: Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) in the six states of the NE zones. In each state, a minimum of 3 FGDs and 6 KII were held; the KIIs cutting across different strata of stakeholders and institutions.

One major finding of the two researches was the low participation of women in peacebuilding In the North East inspite of the fact that they are most affected by conflict. From the first research, it is clear that the government needs to put in place laws and policies to protect Women and Girls from Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) in the six states of the North East. The Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Act of 2015 should be domesticated for states to put measures in place to stop SGBV. The second research calls for the training of women and girls on counter radicalization to change the narrative to suppress extremism once it emerges in the families and communities.

**8. 1- day Interactive Round Table meeting with Critical Stakeholders on Women, Peace and Security**

In order to allow women contribute and play meaningful roles within local and state peacebuilding structures, WANEP- Nigeria with its local partners organized a 1-day Interactive Round –Table Meeting with Critical Stakeholders on Women, Peace and Security in three project states in the Niger Delta – Delta, Edo and Rivers States. Participants at the meeting include government representatives, traditional and religious leaders, security operatives, civil society organizations and the media. The objective was to strengthen understanding of the National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 among local government authorities, local women activists and leaders, youth activists and leaders, civil society, and marginalized groups in the States. It also discussed the relevance of building recognition, acceptance and support for women groups engaging in peace processes within local communities.

The meeting succeeded in strengthening capacities of over 80 key stakeholders in the three states on UNSCR 1325 and its implementation. Commitments were made by key stakeholders to engage trained women who are members of the Women, Peace and Security Network (WPSN) in advancing the implementation of the State Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 in Delta and Rivers States. In Edo State, a technical committee was inaugurated to use the strategies identified by the participants to develop a draft State Action Plan on UNSCR 1325. The interactive roundtable meeting also recorded pledged support of the Rivers states Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development to localize the UNSCR 1325 in the state. Additionally, existing female peace structures were identified in the states in order to ensure they are further strengthened.



Group picture of stakeholders in Delta State.



Cross section of participants in Edo State



Stakeholders at Rivers State Interactive Roundtable Meeting

## 9. Review and Experience Sharing Meeting with Women on Promoting Peace

In the last quarter of 2019, WANEP-Nigeria in collaboration with local partners organized a review and experience sharing meeting with trained women leaders in Delta and Rivers State. The women leaders discussed their activities and role in promoting peace and human security in their states since the peace and confidence building training earlier organized by WANEP-Nigeria. They also shared best practices of women involved in peacebuilding within communities in Nigeria. The meeting provided a platform to document experiences of women's involvement in peacebuilding. Some of the experiences shared by the participants included step down trainings of the peace and confidence building workshop for members of their social groups. This increased the number of women in the peacebuilding network in Ossissa, Delta State to 50 women. Also, this has facilitated increased advocacy initiatives in Ossissa community for the inclusion of women in traditional councils. Some of the women waded into conflict such as land and marital disputes to promote peace. The women leaders also organized community town hall meeting which



included community leaders, women, men and youth to promote women’s role in peacebuilding. More so, some of the women mobilized members of their communities to protest prevailing farmer-herder conflict in their communities.



Group Picture of Participants in Ossissa, Delta State



Participants in Ogoni, Rivers State

### 10. Engaging Women to Build a Culture of Peace through Story Telling

WANEPA -Nigeria organized a Storytelling for Peace Forum in Uneme Nekhua, Akoko Edo LGA of Edo State on December 31, 2019. The forum provided the platform for women to tell their stories of peacebuilding while highlighting the challenges faced at community level. The program also provided the space for critical stakeholders to understand the relevant role of women in peacebuilding and build synergies for change and development. Over a hundred community women were in attendance at the program. They promised to make it an annual event to enable them reflect on their peacebuilding efforts and challenges at community level. Some of the lessons from the women’s stories included living in peace requires heeding to simple instructions, loving, sharing and appreciate whatever one have been given by God; Peaceful coexistence eliminates anger and stubbornness from people living in the society; Whoever wants to stay at peace, should not cheat his fellow human being etc.



Uneme women during the storytelling for peace programme

### 11. Press Statement on WANEPA – Nigeria Call for Greater Empowerment of the Girl Child in Nigeria

Annually on 11 October, the world commemorates the **International Day of the Girl Child**, to amplify their voices and stand up for their rights. This year under the theme “**Girl Force:**

**Unscripted and Unstoppable**”, the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding Nigeria (WANEP- Nigeria) on behalf of its over 250 member organizations, spread across the six geo political zones expresses deep concern over issues still besieging the girl child in Nigeria. Today issues like early marriage, female genital mutilation, education inequality, gender-based violence, low self-esteem, human trafficking, poor health and sanitation are some of the numerous problems that continue to pose challenges for girls. Also, of great concern is the increasing number of out of school children in the country which hinders the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 on education.

For girls to be unscripted and unstoppable, they need to break boundaries and barriers posed by stereotypes, exclusion and conflict including those directed at children with disabilities and those living in marginalized communities. We commend the interventions of the Federal and State Governments as well as the efforts of the international community towards alleviating the plights of girls in Nigeria. However, we appeal to the state and non-state actors to synergize and implement strategies that are child friendly and focused at restoring peace to conflict prone areas in the country. WANEP- Nigeria used this platform to call for the protection and empowerment of girls as they are the women of tomorrow. The statement was published by the New Telegraph Newspaper and can be assessed through the link - <https://www.newtelegraphng.com/2019/10/groups-calls-for-empowerment-of-the-girl-child-in-nigeria/>

## 12. Campaign to commemorate the International Day of the Girl Child 2019

This year, under the theme, **“GirlForce: Unscripted and unstoppable”**, WANEP- Nigeria celebrate achievements by girls across the globe since the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. It is noteworthy that in nearly 25 years, more girls move from dreams to actualizing their potentials. More girls are knowledgeable are gaining the skills they need to excel in the future world of work. There is need to continue to educate girls that they can break boundaries and barriers posed by stereotypes and exclusion, including those directed at children with disabilities and those living in marginalized communities. The Campaign which was organized in the WANEP – Nigeria Secretariat drew attention to the many challenges still besieging the girl child in Nigeria.



Secretariat members during the campaign

### 13. Commemoration of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence 2019

WANEP – Nigeria commemorated the 16 days of Activism against Gender Based Violence 2019 with the theme “Generation Equality: Stands Against Rape”. As part of the activities implemented by WANEP Nigeria was the use of one of the episode of the radio program to draw the attention of the populace to issues of gender based violence. Starting from November 25 to December 10, 2019, the topics discussed on the “Women Voices for Peace Radio Program” centred on `Projecting Women’s Voices Against Rape’; “International and National Laws Protecting `Women and Girls from Sexual Violence’”; `Blast from the Past- Experience Sharing by Survivors of Rape” etc. Feedback reports from the seven radio stations revealed that a large number of women called in to the radio programs to make contributions on gender based violence issues affecting them in their homes and workplaces.

Also, a talk session was held with pupils of Anthony Model Primary School, Anthony Village, Lagos State on December 6, 2019 as part of activities to commemorate the 16 days campaign. The main objective of the sensitization was to enlighten the pupils on the harmful effects of rape on women and girls and arouse the consciousness of boys on their role allies to end this menace in the society. The pupils were encouraged to always speak out whenever they were being molested by anybody either family members or strangers. They were encouraged to confide in their teachers in school and never agree to any form of threat by the perpetrators. The sensitization exercise was timely as the pupils were to go on vacation the next day and some would be visiting extended families to celebrate the festive season.



*Pupils at Anthony Model Pry School Kosofe LGA, Lagos State*

### B. Justice and Security Dialogue (JSD)

The JSD project is part of a larger project implemented by United States Institutes of Peace (USIP) in communities in six countries in Maghreb and Sahel regions, with the aim of promoting trust-building and collaborative problem-solving between Security services and the target communities. JSD adopts an integrated approach to support both the supply and demand-side of security reform. The participation and inclusion of the demand-side groups ( such as communities and other civil society groups) and supply-side groups (such as policy makers, police and government) as important stakeholders in the intervention enhanced synergy and eschew the blame game that often occurs amongst uncoordinated stakeholders.

The JSD process requires an organic unfolding of informal meeting, intra and inter-groups dialogue sessions, and other activities as determined by the participants every step of the way. The organic nature of the process provided a new approach in engaging communities to work collaboratively to resolve community issues and transform relationships with security services. It provided an inclusive platform for all community members and groups in Jos North to engage with Police and be heard.

The JSD project in Jos North provided a new approach for the project partner's organisation in program design and implementation. WANEP and Centre for Peace Advancement in Nigeria (CEPAN) with the support of United States of Peace (USIP) implemented Justice and Security Dialogue programs in Jos North.

### **1. Strengthening the Skills of Justice and Security Dialogue Stakeholders on Gender Based Violence (GBV)**

Training on the use of JSD Gender Based Violence (GBV) tool kits for Police, Community Leaders, Women Group, Social welfare and Health officials was held at Crispan Luxury Apartment Hotel, Rayfield Jos. Participants were drawn from the civil society group working on gender based violence, social welfare, ministry of health, divisional police attached to stations in Jos North local government of Plateau State and other stakeholders. The participants brainstorm on issues of GBV and how to network for efficient and effective response to sexual violence.

The training workshop aimed to educate community members/ stakeholders on sexual violence, their role and available response mechanism. Also, how the Gender Tool Kit developed by WANEP and CEPAN with support from USIP could serve as a guide to all stakeholders on their response to SGBV. The participants discussed their experiences with victims and perpetrators of GBV and their experience with other service providers such as the police, judiciary and the community. Participants suggested a coordinated response to GBV, through support to the gender crime desk of the Nigerian Police force which will provide an organize community base response to sexual based violence.

JSD Stakeholders in its effort to improve response to GBV and especially sexual violence which was becoming rampant in Jos North LGA decided to support the Gender Desk unit in Nassarawa police station with some equipment (Desktop Computer, Officer Furniture/fittings and Stationeries)to ease their work.JSD provided 20 Toll –free telephones lines, with one line dedicated as hotline stationed at Gender Crime Desk at the Nassarawa Gwong Police Division to improve effective and coordinated response to rape victims/survivors.



### **2. Justice and Security Dialogue Training on Responding to Gender Based Violence: Local and National Legal Framework**

JSD Stakeholders organised training for community Leaders/members on responding to GBV: local and national legal framework in Jos North Local Government council multi-purpose hall. The training held on June 2019 with participants drawn from the social welfare, ministry of health, divisional police attached to the gender crime desk and other stakeholders to brainstorm on issues of GBV and network for efficient and effective response to sexual violence. The training aimed to educate community members/ stakeholders on available laws to help victims of gender base violence. Participants working to supporting victims of GBV in their communities narrated their challenges with local and national

legal framework on GBV, and seek professional advice on how to handle some of the challenges whenever they are faced them.

Gender based offences and penalties were highlighted for participants to understand the aspect of the laws on GBV and the punishment attached to each, the process of utilizing the law to improve justice in communities. The stakeholders were informed of the helpline on Gender-Based Violence in Jos North and environs, posters were distributed to stakeholders for knowledge and information sharing in their communities that will assist them seek help for victims of gender crime. Also, about the radio program on gender-based violence ‘**Let’s talk GBV**’ on Unity FM Jos, were JSD stakeholders educate, sensitize and guide the audience on issues of gender-based violence. “**Let’s Talk GBV**” is a weekly live Radio program airing in Hausa and English.



### **3. JSD Stakeholders Jos North Sensitization for Community Leaders (women and men) on Responding to Gender-Based Violence.**

JSD stakeholders organised a program on responding to gender-based violence at Jos North Local Government. The program held on June 28<sup>th</sup> with theme: Effective Response to Sexual Violence aimed at encouraging women to speak out on GBV and emphasizing that the services of Police, FIDA, Human Rights and Social Service Department is free, except in cases where medical test will be needed to ascertain the level of the violence. Participants of the program agreed to go back to their community and step down the information received during the program because the number of rape cases is on increase in Plateau state

Similar sensitization for Men were held on June 29<sup>th</sup>, the participants were men in leadership position from various communities of Jos North. It aimed at sensitizing and discussing with community stakeholders on the menace of GBV, the laws available in Plateau State protecting women, children and even men against GBV, and available response mechanisms available for effective response to victims of GBV in Jos North. Participants identified some problems in their communities that they believe are the reason for high prevalence of GBV in their communities.

The representatives concluded by advising men to get involved in the awareness creation because men are viewed as the principal actors in GBV and have huge roles in sensitizing the community on the implications of GBV.

### **4. Partnership Dialogue on Gender Sensitivity and Support for Gender Crime Desk**

The gender crime desk is aimed at improving survivors experience with the police by increasing instance of reporting through toll- free hot-lines, effective case management and specialized care which will lead to higher prosecution rates and reduced the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence in Jos North. The workshop drew participants from civil society groups working on issues of gender based crime, social welfare departments, Ministry of Health, doctors/nurses from government

hospitals, Divisional Police Officers (DPO) attached to police division in Jos North Local government area, lower court Judges, teachers, women group, Market women and representatives of National Union of transport Workers.

Participants among other things, recommended a coordinated response to sexual violence through support for Gender-Crime Desk of the Nigeria Police Force. Effective Response to Sexual Violence in Jos North LGA – “a Tool book for service providers” was developed as a large response to support the Gender Crime Desk of Plateau State Police Command to effectively coordinate response to sexual violence. Immediately after the launch, the desk was manned by four specialized trained Police officers who are dedicated to SGBV, the desk has increased the capacity of the police to rapidly and appropriately respond and investigate reported cases of SGBV.



### C. Women Peace and Security Achievements January to September 2020

WANEP-Nigeria has carried out the following activities on women, peace and security from January to September, 2020.

- **2-Day Strategic Planning Meeting to Enhance Women Participation in Peace and Human Security in the Niger-Delta:** The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding with support from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation organized 2-Day Strategic Planning Meeting to Enhance Women Participation in Peace and Human Security in the Niger-Delta on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2020. The meeting aimed to strengthen the understanding of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and Nigerian NAP 1325 among critical stakeholders, build recognition, acceptance and support for women groups using their new capacities to address peace and security needs within their communities and also aims to analyze and deliberate on the sustainability structures for Women Groups at the local and state levels.



Group Picture of all Participants

- **1-Day Zonal Consultative Meeting to Enhance Women’s Participation in Countering Violent Extremism in the North East:** The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding with support from

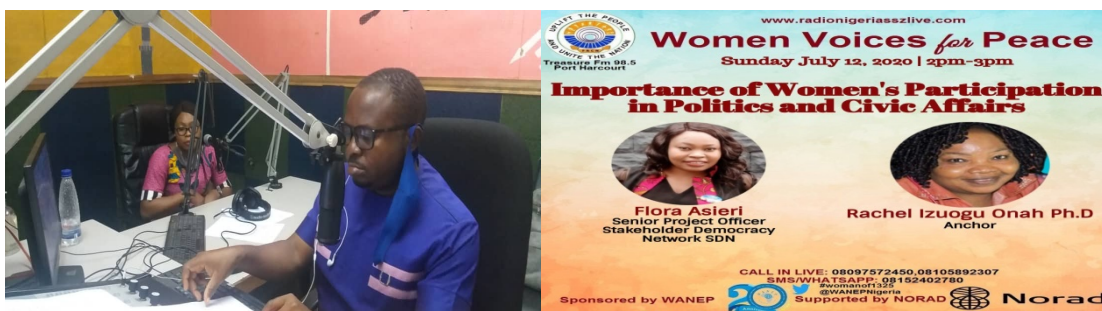
the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation organized 1-Day Zonal Consultative Meeting to Enhance Women’s Participation in Countering Violent Extremism in the North East on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2020. The meeting aimed to assess the outcomes of the study on the current realities on issues of Women, Peace and Security and implementation of Nigeria’s National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCR 1325 in the North East.



Group Picture of all Participants

- **Production and Transmission of Community Radio to Promote Women’s Participation in Peacebuilding:**

WANEP-Nigeria continued with the broadcast of the radio programme titled “Women Voices for Peace” on seven radio stations in seven states in Nigeria to promote women’s unique role in peace and security in Nigeria. General feedbacks received from listeners have revealed increased knowledge on the relevance of women’s participation in peacebuilding. Listeners have called out to key government agencies to take into cognizance the views and concerns of women in designing programs and development of policies at state and local levels.



- **Let Talk COVID- 19 and Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Radio Programme on Women Radio 91.7FM Lagos State funded by Urgent Action Fund-Africa.**

The community radio program titled “Let’s Talk COVID- 19 and SGBV” commenced on July 7 2020. It airs for an hour on Tuesdays at 6pm on Women Radio 91.7 FM Lagos State. The program provided the platform for women to listen and air their views on Sexual and Gender based violence issues to foster prompt mobilization of professional service providers and officials to respond to the situation. Also, through the radio program the populace have been sensitized on existing policies and laws such as the Lagos State Protection Against Domestic Violence Law (2007), the Violence Against Person’s Prohibition Act 2015 etc and linked with appropriate agencies to seek redress.



- **The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding ( WANEP) Nigeria with support from Urgent Action Fund -Africa organized a Webinar titled "Rethinking Strategies to End Violence Against Women and Girls" on August 18, 2020.**

The webinar brought together gender and human rights experts, the head of the Domestic Violence Response Team, shelter administrator, women rights activists, representative of the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, representatives of Civil Society Organizations and the media who are stakeholders on Gender Based Violence. The aim of the webinar was to proffer effective strategies to end Violence against Women and Girls in Nigeria.



- **COVID -19 Interventions In Lagos State**

WANEP- Nigeria in collaboration with the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation ( NORAD) and the School Based Management Committee ( SBMC) organized a Sensitization forum on Enhancing Participation of Women in Peacebuilding and COVID -19 for women in Agboyi Ketu Riverine Community on September 8, 2020. The meeting aimed to create awareness on what women can do to promote peace at community level and educate them on COVID-19 to prevent the spread of the virus. Food palliative were presented to the women as a way of alleviating the economic hardship faced by the community.



*Cross Section Of Guests at the Program*

*Women Receiving Food Palliatives*