



Rule of Law And Empowerment Initiative
also known as
PARTNERS WEST AFRICA NIGERIA

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



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ABOUT PWAN

The Rule of Law and Empowerment Initiative also known as Partners West Africa Nigeria (PWAN) is a non-governmental organization that is headquartered in Abuja Nigeria, with 5 branch offices in 5 States across Nigeria. PWAN is a member of the Partners Global network; 22 like-minded national organizations around the world, united by common approaches including participatory decision making, collaborative advocacy, consensus building and social entrepreneurship for democratic governance.

For 4 years, we have worked to enhance citizens' participation as well as improve security governance in Nigeria and West Africa. We have consistently done this by collaborating with various partners to create awareness through research analysis, training and community development. We have built platforms for inclusivity, working on a wide range of cross-cutting issues including capacity building, access to justice, and women's rights.

Our programs analyze the impacts of situations that exacerbate the violations of the rights of the poor and marginalized, women, and victims of discrimination. While the need for action is universal, no one model is uniformly applicable and all programs are customized to specific needs and conditions.

We seek to promote the participation, representation and protection of women and girls.

We achieve this by:

- (1) Engaging with the security sector on gender mainstreaming and interagency coordination.
- (2) Enhancing the efforts of accountability institutions to advocate for the safety and security of women.
- (3) Providing free legal aid services to victims of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.
- (4) Encouraging dialogue between women and security agencies in conflict-affected areas.

PWAN is a women-led and women-driven organization with the strategic objective of contributing to the implementation of the United Nations Resolution 1325 in Nigeria and West Africa broadly.

The senior management team is comprised of only women, as well as two-thirds of the board. Given this, there is a strategic focus on ensuring the inclusiveness of women-focused issues in our programming. PWAN's management has a combined experience of about 30 years in security and governance issues in both Nigeria and West Africa broadly, with special emphasis on judicial sector accountability, police accountability, citizens/security sector institutional engagement, and prioritizing the voices of women in governance and security.

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S TEXT

The year 2020 saw the world go into lockdown for several months because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This led to several organizations, including PWAN, responding and adapting to the situation in some ways. Firstly, we helped citizens become better informed by disseminating messages on how the disease spreads and safety measures for prevention. Secondly, we conducted a situational analysis to gain insight into the impact of the pandemic on women in six states. Our findings revealed that reported cases of SGBV in the Federal Capital Territory increased during the lockdown. In Lagos, reports of domestic violence spiked by 50%. In Onitsha, nurses feared contracting the virus from patients and respondents in Borno state recounted how as market women, they struggled to feed their children during the lockdown.

As an organisation, we adapted our work processes virtually; having 85% of our workforce being women, we combined our professional responsibilities with homeschooling, counsellors to members of our families and wider communities.

We witnessed exits of colleagues across management and operational levels. However, overall, we witnessed growth in personnel from 33 in 2019 to 45 in 2020 across Abuja, Kano and Borno offices.

Within our project portfolio, we completed the implementation of 6 projects and took on 8 new projects. Some of our key achievements for the year 2020 are as follows:

Gender equality: PWAN engaged in promoting gender equality and increasing the capacity of the security sector in providing gender-sensitive protection services directed at women and girls. Assessment/review of gender policies was done for the judiciary, Nigeria Police Force, and the Nigerian Armed Forces while a gender policy document was developed for the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corp. Training of security actors on UNSCR 1325 and the NAP 11 was done. PWAN also participated in the 16 days of activism to end SGBV against women.

Security and public safety: PWAN have continued to promote Security Sector Reform and Sustainable Criminal Justice Reform by ensuring the implementation of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) and the Administration of Criminal Justice Law (ACJL) in different states of the federation. PWAN with other justice actors has engaged the police with tools to govern police investigations and enhance accountability and respect for human rights.

Resiliency and support: PWAN with partner organizations helped build three CSOs capacity to adapt quickly and purposefully in the present shrinking civil space. With the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, this was done mostly virtually via webinars and online workshops. Women in some conflict areas were empowered through vocational skill acquisitions and children in these areas were granted scholarships.

Above all, PWAN continues to seek avenues for enhanced engagement and interactions of the public with security actors and increased participation of the citizens with government matters. PWAN will strive to always uphold these standards as we start a new decade and beyond.

FUNDERS

Our funders are the United States Department of State Bureau International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), United Kingdom Foreign Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO), Institute for International Education (IIE) MacArthur Foundation, UN Women, Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA), National Endowment for Democracy (NED), Partners Global, Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI) and United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS).



2020 IN REVIEW

Though 2020 was largely marred by the covid-19 pandemic, we worked extensively to execute our projects and incorporate other plans with the effects of COVID-19 in consideration. We positively impacted lives through research, collaborative advocacy, capacity building, dissemination of information and integrating the implementation of government policies, media rounds, awareness, town hall meetings and campaigns.

We formed new partnerships, strengthened existing ones, and enhanced our numerous projects.

PWAN secured funding for eight projects, namely: Reforming Pre-trial Detention, Beyond Voting: Inclusive Dialogue and Participation in Governance Activities (NED Phase III), Monitoring Pre-trial Detention through a Custody Monitor dashboard (CFLI), Gender Baseline Assessment in Strengthening Explosive Ordinance Threat-Mitigation Capacities of Security Service Providers in North East Nigeria (UNMAS), Security and Justice Reform Project (SJR), XGRANT, Influencing and Understanding Non-State Security Actors Within the Public Safety Security Dynamics (NERI), Engaging Children to Counter Violent Extremism (OSIWA II) and completed six projects: Greater Access to Defence and Justice, Beyond Voting (NED Phase II), Reform Kuje, Engaging Children to Counter Violent Extremism (OSIWA II), Understanding Non-State Security Actors Within the Public Safety and Security Dynamics (NERI) and XGRANT (IIE).

Highlights of 2020



PROGRAMS

CITIZENS SECURITY:

From violent extremism and insurgency to kidnapping for ransom, attacks on oil infrastructure, sectarian violence, farmer-herder clashes and organized crime, Nigeria grapples with a host of complex security challenges. These threats typically involve irregular forces that are largely societally based. They are more prevalent and persistent in marginalized areas where communities feel high levels of distrust toward the government – mainly resulting from incidents built up over the years. At the core of this distrust is impunity, stemming from the incapacity of the security apparatus to mitigate insecurity challenges, whilst highlighting larger failures in governance. In the absence of citizen's faith

in the government to uphold its responsibilities, PWAN stepped in to ameliorate the relationship between the government and its people.

We have created and implemented projects to enhance citizen participation and improve security governance in Nigeria and West Africa broadly. The objective of the organization borders around ensuring that citizens are well informed and participate in decisions made by the government which affects their everyday lives. We have adopted a strategy of partnering with civil society organizations, ministries, departments, agencies and security personnel to curb issues that obstruct the delivery of justice and the security of citizens.

INTERVENTION MEASURES AND STRATEGIES

COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

In recent years, Nigeria has experienced an exponential rise in both the nature and extent of human rights violations, concurrent with spiraling insecurity and violence which has snowballed into terrorism. Most of these violations consistently play out in the theatre of the insurgency and the counter-terrorism operations of security forces, with limited opportunities for redress for victims/survivors. In this militarized situation, there is an almost non-existent state accountability hence vulnerable citizens have become victims of indiscriminate attacks by both the state actors and insurgents, who act without adherence to the International Humanitarian Laws and the rules of engagement, thereby creating a humanitarian crisis. The ripple effects of these attacks led by Boko Haram terrorists is evident across North-East Nigeria. The region has

been severely impacted by killings, food and nutrition insecurity, and gross violations of rights of civilians in armed conflicts. Communities, schools, churches, and markets have been destroyed constituting for the development of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps in the North East and other parts of the country.

Adamawa state, which is one the North-Eastern states affected mainly by farmers-herders clashes, has experienced casualties with thousands of persons killed and numerous communities displaced.

Nigeria has the highest number of out of school children in the world, currently estimated at 13 million, with 60% of stated figure resident in the North Eastern part of the country. (Vanguard Newspaper 2020)

This is largely attributed to the prolonged terrorism and in recent time's banditry attacks. It was on this premise that we began the Open Society Initiatives for West Africa (OSIWA) sponsored project - ENGAGING CHILDREN TO COUNTER VIOLENT EXTREMISM.

In 2019 PWAN established 2 learning centers in Kikan and Dong to cater to 120 children, in 2020, the number of children increased to 180 the children were taught art, numeracy and literacy education, in a fun and engaging way to improve learning. The communities provided already existing space to be used for these learning centers, the learning centers were in a depleted state, as part of PWAN's cooperate social responsibility, tables and

chairs were provided in 2019, PWAN took it further in 2020 to completely renovate the buildings and build working rest rooms for the children in both Kikan and Dong. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the learning centers could not function as they should, to cushion the effect of the lockdown, PWAN continued it's school feeding program for all 180 children every day, the children were also given take-home assignments to make sure that the learning process did not stop.

44 children were also selected as the best performing students and have been given a 3 year scholarship to formal schools in the next school year.

WOMEN, PEACE & SECURITY

In 2016 after a decade of concerted calls by women-led civil society efforts, the UN Security Council formed an Informal Expert Group (IEG) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). This project was created to strengthen more systematically the oversight and coordination of WPS implementation work.

Under the WPS project, PWAN liaises with different organizations to create quarterly reports that assess mainstream gender-sensitive strategies in the security sector by expanding into the criminal justice sector holistically.

The overall objective of this project is to assess the integration of gender equality measures in security sector institutions and to provide target recommendations to advance the role of women in these institutions, whilst building the capacities of security sector institutions to provide gender-sensitive protection strategies aimed at women and girls. This is geared towards engendering gender equality that allows for women's participation in decision-making bodies.

In the first quarter of 2020, PWAN leveraged existing relationships with the Judiciary in Bauchi, Benue states and the FCT to provide an avenue for constructive engagement on the gender assessment of the Judiciary. Similarly, PWAN collaborated strategically with the Office of the National Security

Adviser (ONSA) through the Office of the Coordinator Counterterrorism on the sensitization of security personnel on the protection of Women and Girls in conflict. In addition, we had an interaction with the Civil-Military Relation Office of the Nigeria Army, which assisted greatly towards the development of the messaging and sensitization of the security agencies. At the end of the quarterly project, PWAN successfully delivered Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials that comprised the following achievements:

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY ACHIEVEMENTS



In the second quarter, PWAN conducted a rapid assessment of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on women in Nigeria.

The assessment highlighted an increase in Sexual and Gender-Based Violence across the country when movement restrictions were put in place, as well as adverse effects of the pandemic on the economic health of women. In proffering recommendations, PWAN suggested that the Nigerian government include essential services to address SGBV in COVID-19 response plans, and ensure that violence survivors have access to hotlines, shelters and other protection services in the context of social distancing. The report also suggested a gender-sensitive approach to all palliative measures is instituted; to mitigate women's economic dependence on men which sometimes exacerbates domestic violence.

During the second quarter, physical activities were halted following the COVID-19 lockdown restrictions, this prompted PWAN to review its work plan, and improvise other methods to achieve results. The organization also accommodated some activities that were not previously outlined to highlight changes occasioned by the pandemic on project objectives.

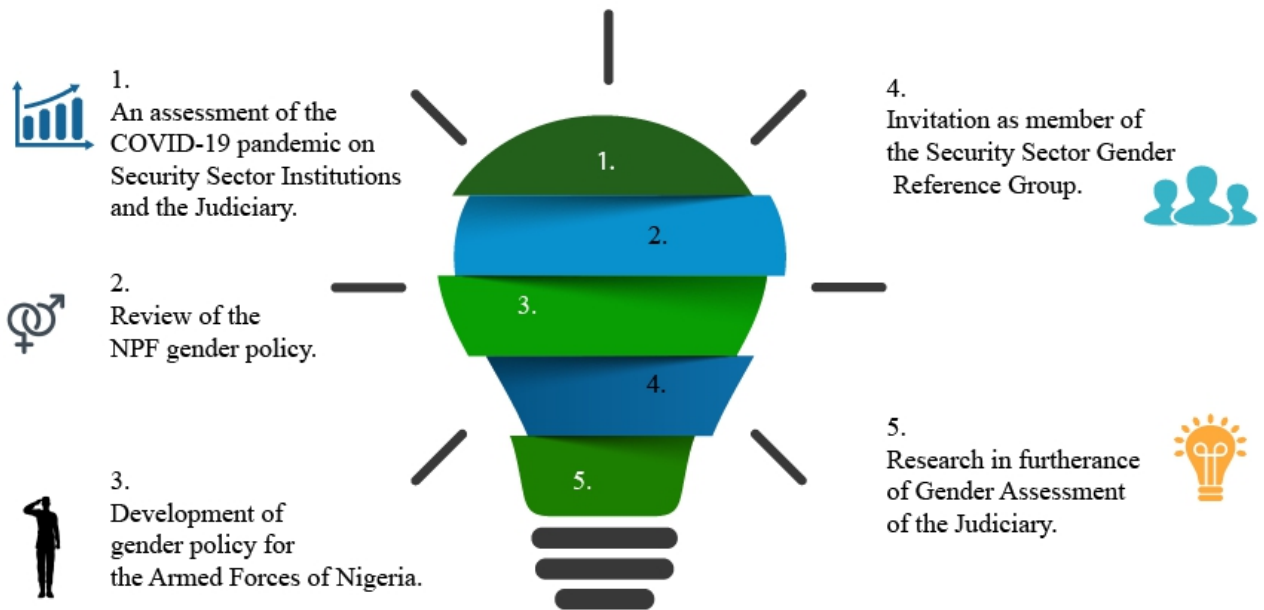
For this project, PWAN collaborated with Security Sector Institutions such as the NSCDC and Defence

Headquarters to continue virtual engagement on the project, due to lockdown restrictions.

In May 2020, there was a spike in reports of domestic violence, rape and defilement linked with COVID-19 restrictions. These incidents heralded the development of operational guidelines for enforcement of COVID-19 regulations as published by the NPF.

The purpose of introducing the operational guidelines was to help adequately coordinate and reshape the conduct of NPF personnel and other law enforcement agencies on the frontline of operations in the enforcement of the COVID-19 prevention orders. Additionally, the Inspector General of Police ordered the strengthening of the Gender-Desk Units and the Juvenile Welfare Centers (JWCs) across the country and the deployment of investigative assets to deal with gender-related offences as recommended by PWAN.

ACHIEVEMENTS



BEYOND VOTING: INCLUSIVE DIALOGUE AND PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE ACTIVITIES

Increasing Women's Participation in the political process is a project aimed at building a community of women who are actively involved in Nigeria's political process. This project has been supported by National Endowment for Democracy (NED) since 2018. The shrinking space for women in the political process requires continuous engagement with various stakeholders to pull their elements together and build an inclusive governance system where women can contribute their quota in national development.

PWAN conducted assessments across the six geo-political zones of Nigeria to identify the factors that restrain women from participating in governance. Our findings include lack of funding, patriarchal culture, absence of institutional and electoral reforms, and lack of mentorship by women politicians.

The assessments entailed town hall sensitizations and strategic engagements with civil society organizations, women groups, market women, traditional leaders and other stakeholders in the public and private sectors. These engagements resulted in the appointment of 30% of women into the Ogun State Cabinet in January 2020, amongst others.

The project team assessed the six (6)

geopolitical zone of Nigeria to understand the pull and push factors that have hindered the participation and representation of women in governance in 2018. The findings from the research strengthen some general narratives such as monetary incentives, the prevalence and reinforcement of the patriarchy and other cultural practices, lack of institutional reforms in political parties, electoral laws and the constitution. In addition, the lack of mentorship by women politicians has continued to malign the progress made by women for the sustainability of Nigeria's democracy.

On that basis, PWAN held its first Political Leadership and Mentorship Program for Young Women across the country. The boot camp was for two days. Fifteen (15) young women were trained towards shaping the political landscape in the future. At the end of the two-day (2) training, PWAN held its thematic convening to discuss issues affecting women's participation in politics in Nigeria. Currently, these fifteen (15) young women are undergoing mentorship under renowned women leaders who have contributed to women's participation in politics in one way or the other.

PWAN in its collaborative approach with the Women Advocate and Research Centre (WARDC) and Voice of Ogun Women (VOW), created a social charter that sets prerequisites to ensure meaningful and significant participation of women in governance and

decision making. The social charter was presented and signed by the 2019 gubernatorial candidates during the debate jointly organized by PWAN, WARDC and VOW in Ogun State.

The social charter was used as a baseline to create a scorecard that is mainly focused on women and development issues. The scorecard was administered in four states, namely: Taraba, Ebonyi, Gombe, and Ogun state with one observer in each state to monitor its progress every quarter. The observers were to, among other things, assess the performance of elected and appointed women with regards to bills and motions passed on Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Gender), Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Health) and Sustainable Development Goal 3

(Education) as it relates to women.

The monitoring started in October 2019 and ended in March 2020.

Due to the COVID-19 lockdown, there was also a public release of findings via radio in the states of focus (Ogun, Taraba, Gombe and Ebonyi state) and the scorecards were developed in infographics format and disseminated.

PWAN in partnership with Isu Media and BudgIT organized a workshop for thirteen (13) participants who are also members of the Africa Young Special Advisers Initiative (AYSAL). They were trained in leadership and management, media, and communication (including public speaking), and gender budgeting.

GENDER BASELINE ASSESSMENT IN STRENGTHENING EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE THREAT-MITIGATION CAPACITIES OF SECURITY SERVICE PROVIDERS IN NORTH EAST NIGERIA (UNMAS)

In recent years, Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) have consistently been recorded as causing the most civilian deaths and injuries of all explosive weapon types around the world. Particularly in the Northeastern part of Nigerian where the Boko Haram insurgency remains prevalent. Despite the efforts of the Nigerian military and the multinational task force to counter activities of the Boko Haram sect, many areas formerly occupied by Boko Haram remain insecure and unsafe for the inhabitants of the communities. The attacks on civilians have been catastrophic as the insurgent groups resort to using explosives in crowded places such as markets, religious centres and social gatherings. These endless atrocities occasioned this project.

This year, we conducted a Gender Baseline Assessment in Strengthening Explosive Ordnance Threat-Mitigation Capacities of Security Service Providers in Northeast Nigeria.

Before this, we had completed a gender assessment of the Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps

(NSCDC) and Nigeria Army in Bauchi, Benue states, and the FCT to contribute to enhancing the capacities of the security sector to provide gender-sensitive protection strategies aimed at women and girls.

Findings from the gender assessment revealed that institutional policies framed or adopted at the headquarters of these security institutions (federal level) tend to foster and reinforce discriminatory practices at the state level formations. There is also limited adoption of gender policy at the institutional level, and unavailability or inaccessibility of gender statistics.

To improve the level of gender representation and participation in the security sector, our study recommended, amongst others, the need for the conduct of bespoke capacity building for the personnel of these state security institutions to improve their level of awareness, increase gender knowledge advocacy, and implement a targeted gender-sensitive recruitment strategy.

RESILIENCY+

The Global civic space is grappling with lots of turbulence this period with the government's recent clampdown on the operations of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) by trying to regulate her operations through autocratic legislation and laws focused mainly on CSO's working in Democracy, Human Rights and Transparency. This has severely affected many CSOs' as they struggle to remain resilient amidst all the uncertainties.

Partners Global (PG) in collaboration with coaches/facilitators have implemented the second component of the Illuminating New Solutions and Programmatic Innovations for Resilient Spaces (INSPIRE) project called "Preparedness and Responsiveness" under which the Resiliency+ (R+) process falls. The component builds CSOs capacity using the R+ framework that enables them to respond to growing restrictions on democratic freedoms of association, assembly, expression as well as to adapt swiftly to shocks or impacts to survive and thrive in uncertain environments.

Under this project, PWAN serves as the local facilitator that supports and mentors' smaller organizations in Nigeria to be more resilient in the shrinking civic space using the R+ model.

The R+ project helps CSOs identify the external threats and internal vulnerabilities impeding them from implementing resilient operations. The model provides criteria for assessing the resiliency of civil society organizations including external threats awareness, and internal vulnerabilities awareness. Organizations have been supported in developing a 'resiliency roadmap' which provides strategies for addressing the vulnerabilities identified. Three (3) beneficiary organizations Women Environmental Programme (WEP), Youth Alliance Foundation (YAF), and Alliances for Africa (AFA) were selected for the first phase of the process in Nigeria. Having gone through the Resiliency+ process for a period of six (6) months, the organisations were able to identify/address their external threats and internal vulnerabilities which gives room for them to become more resilient in the face of uncertainties.

The second phase of the project has also started in Nigeria with three (3) new beneficiary organisations currently undergoing the process.

ENHANCING WOMEN POLITICAL REPRESENTATION IN NIGERIA (IRIAD)

Since the recognition of the rights of women to vote and participate in the political system, women have faced other multiple challenges as candidates, voters, and election practitioners. These challenges range from economic power to violence, education, lack of political skills etc. Nigeria has the lowest number of female parliamentarians in sub-Saharan Africa and as of February 2019 ranks 180 in the world. Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)s had also decried the dismal results in the number of women elected after the 2019 elections despite its efforts to improve women's participation with the development of a gender policy that endorses 35% women's representation.

Various reports highlight the yawning gap

between the actualization of the global and national benchmark of 35% women political representation in elected positions and decision-making roles at the political party level. This is despite the decades of considerable advocacy on addressing women's rights to representation and decision-making since the 1995 adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action at the Fourth Conference on Women. These are some of the challenges that precipitated the development and implementation of this project.

Our objectives were to:

- Promote women political representation by increasing the number of women elected into public offices

- Promote women's political representation by increasing the number of women elected to public offices.
- Increase understanding of what electorates want from women candidates to elect them.
- Change narratives of women's electability.

- Raise civic consciousness in support of women representation.

We visited the six municipalities of the FCT to collect data and review the analysis of the data. At the end of the project, we produced a research report, infographics, and a policy brief.

RULE OF LAW

The Rule of Law is a principle of governance in which all persons, institutions, and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced, and independently adjudicated. Under this program area, PWAN seeks to improve integrity and strengthen institutions that play

a role in safeguarding the society and its governance structures, through a cooperative advocacy approach with all key stakeholders. We aim to create a more stable society, by ensuring that the civil society sector and justice system are effective, sustainable, and accessible.

INTERVENTION MEASURES AND STRATEGIES

PROMOTING CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN ANTI-CORRUPTION EFFORTS IN NIGERIA (ACCESS NIGERIA)

To advance anti-corruption efforts in Nigeria sustainably at all levels of government, we teamed up with Partners Global, CLEEN Foundation, Public-Private Development Centre, and BudgIT- strategic partner New-Rule LLC to execute the ACCESS Nigeria project. One of the approaches we used to achieve the above objective was assessing Local Government service deliveries in some Local Governments in the FCT and Adamawa state. Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC) and Bwari Area Councils in the FCT were assessed from November 2019 – February 2020. The assessment is focused on three (3) areas; Education, Health, and Environmental Sanitation. In AMAC, 85 Local Education Authorities (LEAs) and 45 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) were assessed while in Bwari, 72 LEAs and 48 PHCs were assessed. These findings showcased the current state of the

facilities and communities as well as the level of efficiency and effectiveness of the Area Councils' delivery of services to citizens and. Also, we assessed service delivery in Numan and Demsa LGAs. The assessment focused on four areas: Education, Health, Security, and Socio-economic welfare. In Numan, 52 LEAs, 32 PHCs, and 27 communities were assessed while in Demsa, 91 LEAs, 46 PHCs, and 53 communities were assessed.

During the release of these findings, the relevant parties in charge of the provisions of these services were present and promised to deliver these services to the citizens in their different area councils. Towards advancing anti-corruption efforts in Nigeria, we reviewed the (ACJL) of Bauchi to have a harmonized and comprehensive reviewed ACJA, inaugurated and trained Justice Sector Reform Team (JSRT) in Plateau state and developed a training manual for the state's command on the provisions of the ACJL. We were able to achieve these by partnering with relevant stakeholders in the Justice sector.

ENHANCING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE JUDICIAL SECTOR

The Administration of Criminal Justice System of Nigeria is a system of criminal justice mainly concerned with the enforcement of the criminal law for peace, order, social and economic development of the Nigerian society. It deals with the arrest, investigation, charges, trial, conviction, sentencing and punishment of criminal offenders in Nigeria. The system which is accusatorial in nature consists of the intricate interplay of major governmental institutions –including the police, the Judiciary - Federal and States, the Private and Public Bar, the Legal Aid Council, and the Correctional Service.

However, the efficiency of the system has over the years been hampered by the problem of chronic delay largely occasioned by inappropriate use of procedures, corruption, lack of facilities and lack of co-ordination and co-operation amongst the various institutions involved in the administration of the system resulting to the abuse of the rights of the criminal defendants, the victims, and the rights of the society at large to justice. This

MacArthur funded project was created to observe/enhance the integrity in Nigeria's judicial system through court observation as well as promoting the implementation of the ACJA/L.

PWAN collaborated with the judiciary to have citizen observers placed in selected courts to assess the court processes, the compliance to the Administration of Criminal Justice Act in the FCT and the ACJL in Ondo and Lagos States.

The court observation creates awareness in the process of court rulings to the public. This helps in the speedy dispensation of justice and to ascertain the timeline for arraignment using our three (3) focal states as case studies. It also enabled us to monitor court processes and spot where the delays lie.

The Chief Justices' have used the information in the findings to reform certain aspects of the Judiciary in their various states.

GREATER ACCESS TO DEFENCE AND JUSTICE (GADJET)

The GADJET project is funded by the INL and implemented in collaboration with Partners Global and the Democratic Action Group. The project is aimed at creating sustainable improvements to the criminal justice system in Kano by establishing a Public Defenders Office (PDO). To continue addressing the gaps in the provision of legal aid in Kano State for indigents and promote the ongoing work the PDO has been doing since it was established in 2017, several actions have been implemented. PWAN conducted various awareness programs including radio programs, case management system improvement efforts, monthly prison visits,

town hall awareness, law clinics and street lawyering in collaboration with the students of Faculty of Law, Bayero University Kano, at Gadan Tamburawa, Brigade, Dala, Fagge, Yanmata, Badawa and Janguza, Gayawa communities of Kano state. It is important to note that the PDO has received a total of 794 cases. Out of this total, 450 cases have been concluded and 344 cases are ongoing. The PDO has also recorded some notable success in Kano state by improving the lives of citizens especially those who have been detained and could not afford the services of a lawyer.

MONITORING PRE-TRIAL DETENTION IN THE NIGERIA POLICE FORCE THROUGH A CUSTODY MONITOR DASHBOARD

Nigeria as a country is blessed with significant natural and human resources. Nonetheless, the justice system is unable to meet the needs of the populace. This challenge is particularly pronounced in terms of access to justice for vulnerable populations. Nigeria's pre-trial detainees are generally indigent and not able to pay for the "three B's"—Bribe, Bail, and Barrister—leaving them to languish in prison for extensive periods. Pre-trial detention of suspects within the NPF is not given adequate attention due to a lack of information on the statistics of persons in the police custody and the offence that was committed. As of April 2019, the Nigerian Prisons Service reports that out of a total countrywide prison population of 73,241 detainees, 68% (49,759 persons) are currently awaiting trial.

PWAN, with the support of the CFLI, has improved policing services, enhanced accountability, and contributed to the evidence-based decision-making process in the policing agencies especially the NPF.

This year, we implemented the project at the State Criminal Investigations and Intelligence Department (State CIID), detention facilities in the FCT, Enugu and Jigawa States. This was achieved by training police officers on detainee data collection and set up the custody monitor dashboard which helped to build the capacity of police officers on data collection and dashboard population. We also trained staff of the Ministry of Justice on the use of the custody monitor dashboard. PWAN presented IT equipment and software to all the commissioners of police in the states to use for accomplishing the project objectives. Finally, we developed a prototype dashboard to measure, monitor, and govern the use of detention practices in police stations as well as built mechanisms that would ensure a significant reduction in the length of time suspects spend in police detention.

INSTITUTIONALIZING AND SUSTAINING THE GAINS OF REFORMS IN THE NIGERIA POLICE FORCE

Over the years, the discussion around the review of the police legislation has been focused on the Police Act based on the assumption that once the Police Act which provides the legal framework for the organization and its operations have been reviewed, work could commence on the review of the regulations which operationalizes the Act. The review of the Police Act without the review of the Regulations could result in minimal changes in the activities and operations of the Nigeria Police Force. This project was funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth office (FCO), UK.

PWAN recognizes the progress made by other implementing partners concerning engagement with lawmakers and the NPF on the contents of the Police Bill but seeks to complement these efforts by engaging with

other relevant parties to work together to review the Police Regulations. PWAN also seeks to contribute to a more positive attitude by the Executive and the President towards the review of the Police Regulations, through constructive participation of executive agencies, senior members of the NPF, and sustained public discourse on police reform using the Force Order 237.

Achievements

a) Collaborated with BBC Media Action to hold themed discussions on the police regulations, and Force Order 237 via TV and Radio, including call-in programs which would include representatives of Chief Superintendents of Police and Police Community Relations Committees in our focal states to get feedback from citizens

- b) Conducted virtual engagement via social media e.g., tweet meets, blogposts/ zoom webinars, podcasts, etc.
- c) Developed a policy brief for virtual dissemination on social media and the organization's website and networks that

targets policy and lawmakers. The policy brief and fact sheets targeted the Executive and Oversight agencies and included insights from the radio themed discussions, a review of the regulations by the interagency technical working group, and NPF.

REFORMING PRE-TRIAL DETENTION IN NIGERIA (RPDN)

Nigeria's criminal justice system faces a multitude of general challenges that drive the pre-trial detention rate. These include slow and inefficient court administration, inflexible court procedures, institutional preference for siloed approaches, and improper use of detention warrants. Existing case management systems are primarily manual, with slow-moving and time-consuming tracking and record-keeping processes. Increasing these issues may be the lack of incorporation of information management systems to facilitate information sharing and coordination across justice sector actors and agencies. Pervasive corruption complicates potential solutions. Most citizens have little hope in accessing justice to uphold their rights promptly. Vulnerable, poor populations are even more likely to experience prolonged detention, as they are unable to pay for the three B's—Bribe, Bail and Barrister.

PWAN works with the Judges and Magistrates, the Nigeria Correctional Service (NCS), the NPF, prosecuting agencies, CSOs and the Administration of Criminal Justice Monitoring Committee (ACJMC), to advance efforts that will prepare justice actors for pre-trial systems integration.

With the help of the Court observation App, PWAN has been able to monitor courts and ensure the effective implementation of the ACJA/L. Before we deployed the App, we conducted pieces of training for the Law Clinic students of UNIABUJA and Nile University, the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) and PWAN's court observers. The data gathered from the App so far have been used to strengthen court processes where necessary. This project is supported by (INL)

PRACTITIONERS' SURVEY TO IDENTIFY THE LEVEL OF AWARENESS OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE LAW (ACJL) BY VARIOUS JUSTICE SECTOR AGENCIES IN THE RULE OF LAW AND ANTI-CORRUPTION (ROLAC) FOCAL STATES.

The objective of this project was to conduct an assessment and a practitioners' survey to identify the level of awareness and extent of implementing provisions of the ACJL in Abuja F.C.T, Lagos, Edo, and Anambra states; and to set the baseline on the level of awareness and implementation of the ACJL in Adamawa and Kano states. The outcome of the survey provided information on the level of awareness and application of the ACJL in the

FCT; Lagos; Edo and Anambra states for comparison with the survey conducted June 2019. A baseline was established on awareness and implementation of the ACJL in Adamawa and Kano, following passage of the law in 2018 and 2019, respectively. Data from the survey in these locations have informed decisions made on prioritized activities to improve awareness and promote compliance with key provisions of the ACJL.

MEDIA ENGAGEMENT - ACCESS TO JUSTICE (SHARIA YANCIN KAI)

In collaboration with the Jigawa Ministry of Justice, PWAN organized a weekly radio program to create awareness on the responsibilities of the Jigawa Ministry of Justice and justice actors in the dispensation of justice and the ACJL. This was delivered through a Hausa language radio program, airing on weekly basis on four radio stations across Jigawa and Kano States. This program commenced in December 2020, the first episode was virtual, and it was recorded with Jigawa state Attorney General Dr Musa Adamu Aliyu, Ibrahim M. G. Sagagi Esq.,

PWAN staff and Zainab Baba Santali from Ministry of Justice, Jigawa. The Public Relations Officer of the Jigawa Ministry of Justice was also on board. It was discussed that lack of accurate and frequent information on the responsibilities of Police, the Ministry of Justice and Courts in dispensing justice is one of the reasons why people find it difficult to access justice.

This program aimed to serve as an avenue to educate the public on the roles the justice sector actors' play in the administration of justice.

WASTE FOR JUSTICE (W4J)

There have been several calls for decongestion of the Correctional Centres in Nigeria because of overcrowding and a large number of awaiting trial inmates. Some inmates are alleged to have committed serious offences, others are tried for misdemeanors and sentenced to fines in place of imprisonment. However, due to economic hardships and other social challenges, they are unable to pay these fines resulting to longer stays in detention after conviction.

rehabilitation of offenders, PWAN's Public Defenders Unit in collaboration with Chanja Datti Ltd. designed the Waste for Justice Initiative (W4J) to promote speedy resolution of cases and reduce pre-trial detention in Nigeria.

W4J is an innovative way of assisting indigent persons with legal fees raised from donated waste which we collect, sort, recycle, and convert to cash.

In the promotion of the ACJA and the Nigeria Correctional Services Act on reformation and

To date, the W4J team is still accepting all waste products for this project.

TRAININGS



PWAN's STAFF RETREAT

From November 19th -22nd 2020, PWAN held its first annual retreat with staff members present from 3 Offices (Abuja, Kano, and Borno) states. It was facilitated by the Board Chairman, Dr Hussaini Abdu and assisted by Jumai Lawan Musa- Director of Program, Quality and Innovation at Plan International Nigeria. The retreat aimed to build team spirit among colleagues and discuss the strategies for the growth of the organization.

DIGITAL ENGAGEMENTS

As Nigeria joined the world in observing a total lockdown in the face of the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus within the country, we transitioned our daily physical operations to a remote working system. Whilst this meant we could no longer hold physical meetings; we however occupied the digital space with 5 strategic webinars:

- ▶ Webinar on redefining correctional services in Nigeria and ensuring a decline in recidivism.
- ▶ Webinar on work-life balance for women.
- ▶ Webinar on Safe reopening of Schools after the COVID-19
- ▶ Webinar on protecting the rights of children against SGBV in Kano State.

- ▶ COVID-19 and the justice system (Tweet meet)
- ▶ Podcast on the measures being put in place by the Nigeria Correctional Service towards protecting inmates against COVID-19 at the custodial centres
- ▶ Spotighting notable women in Nigeria's history (International Women's Day)
- ▶ Creating awareness on SGBV and celebrating women who fought against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Nigeria's history (16 Days of activism)
- ▶ Women Empowerment Talk show (Podcast on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence)
- ▶ 20th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325 (International Women's Day)

We had other digital campaigns:

ADVOCACY MATERIALS

PWAN created IEC materials to create awareness, sensitize the populace and enlist a crop of digital and traditional advocates that consistently speak on issues relating to citizens security and rule of law such as:

1. Report and summary of gender assessment of the security sector in Nigeria.
2. Assessment and summary of gender in the judicial sector of Nigeria
3. Assessment of AMAC and Bwari Area Council service delivery on education, health and environmental sanitation.
4. FCT courts sentencing guidelines.
5. Narrative reports on the assessment of Numan and Demsa Local governments.
6. Fact sheets: gender discriminatory practices in the Nigerian Police Force and protecting the rights of children against GBV in Kano state.
7. Policy briefs: political party administration and governance in Nigeria - levels of gender mainstreaming and factors affecting women participation, Police

- Accountability - A comparative analysis of Nigeria and the United States of America, The review of the Administration of Criminal Justice Law of Bauchi State and A review and analysis of Nigeria's national security strategy 2019.
8. Training manual for police officers on the ACJA.
 9. Rapid assessment of COVID-19 pandemic on Nigerian women.
 10. Reform Kuje Newsletter – volume 4.
 11. PWAN's first political mentorship and Bootcamp photobook.
 12. An assessment of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on members of the Security Sector Institutions (SSIS).
 13. An Assessment of COVID-19 on the Judiciary.
 14. Snapshot study to assess the physical, economic and social impact of COVID-19 pandemic on women in Nigeria.
 15. Psycho-social Assessment – Engaging Children to Counter Violent Extremism.
 16. The impacts of COVID-19 on Nigerian women
 17. Laws protecting children against gender-based violence (SGBV) in kano state.
 18. Training Manual for Divisional Station Officers, Crime Inspectors, Investigating Police Officers and prosecutors of the Plateau State Police Command on the Provisions of the administration of Criminal Justice Law 2018.
 19. Report and summary of gender assessment of the security sector in Nigeria.
 20. Kididdiga: Protecting the rights of children against SGBV in Kano State

RULE OF LAW AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

1

CORPORATE INFORMATION

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| RC NO | CAC/IT/NO86627 |
| TIN | 19761763-0001 |
| Board of Trustees | <div> <div>Dr. Hussein Abdu</div> <div>Hon. Justice Olufunlola Adekeye JSC. (Rtd) CFR</div> <div>Julia Roig</div> <div>Aissatou Fall</div> <div>Ordinary Ahmad Isah</div> <div>'Kemi Okenyodo</div> </div> <div> <div>Chairman</div> <div>Vice Chairperson</div> <div>Member</div> <div>Member</div> <div>Member</div> <div>Secretary/Executive Director</div> </div> |
| OFFICE: | 46 Mike Akhigbe Way Jabi, Abuja. |
| Auditors | Bidemi Aiyesoro & Co (Chartered Accountants) 7 Oshifila Street Anifowoshe Ikeja Lagos. |
| Bankers | Fidelity Bank Plc Guaranty Trust Bank Plc United Bank for Africa Plc Infinity Trust Mortgage |

RULE OF LAW AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE FIVE-YEARS FINANCIAL SUMMARY NON - IFRS STATEMENT

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| | 31-12-2020 N | 31-12-2019 N | 31-12-2018 N | 31-12-2017 N | 31-12-2016 N |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Financial Position | | | | | |
| Non-Current Assets | 19,143,846 | 20,373,991 | 19,207,390 | 9,850,240 | 1,322,700 |
| Current Assets | 208,736,341 | 262,979,681 | 147,283,456 | 103,819,453 | 19,667,340 |
| | <u>227,880,187</u> | <u>283,353,672</u> | <u>166,490,846</u> | <u>113,669,693</u> | <u>20,990,040</u> |
| Current Liabilities | 69,760,374 | 136,303,154 | 62,887,348 | 60,179,506 | 10,330,414 |
| Accumulated Funds | 158,119,813 | 147,050,518 | 103,603,498 | 53,490,187 | 10,659,625 |
| | <u>227,880,187</u> | <u>283,353,672</u> | <u>166,490,846</u> | <u>113,669,693</u> | <u>20,990,040</u> |

GALLERY



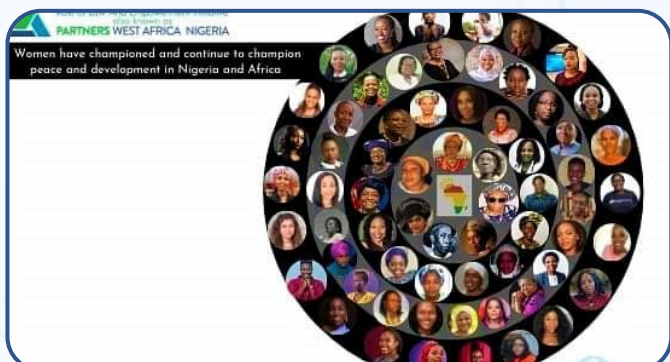
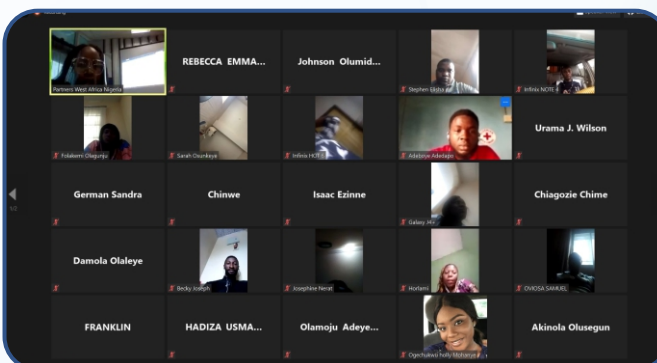
CHALLENGES FACED BY PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs) DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



1. DIFFICULTY IN IMPLEMENTING THE BASIC HYGIENE MEASURES
2. INABILITY TO PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING BECAUSE THEY REQUIRE CARE AND SUPPORT FROM OTHERS.
3. PRE-EXISTING/SEVERE HEALTH CONDITIONS

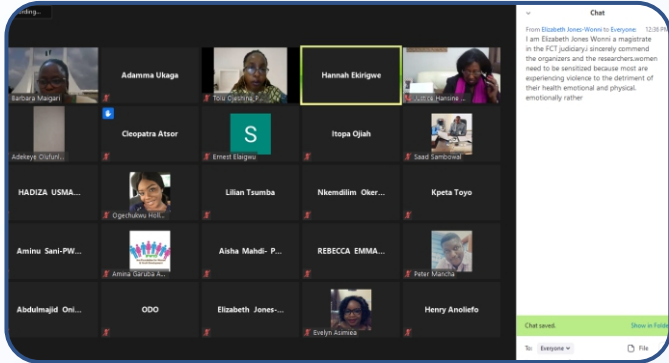
Part of the Low And Environment Initiative
PARTNERS WEST AFRICA, NIGERIA

WITH ALL THESE CHALLENGES, COUPLED WITH THE HIGHER COST OF LIVING WITH DISABILITY, THIS CALLS FOR URGENT MORAL, ECONOMIC AND HEALTH PRACTICES TO HELP PWDs ESPECIALLY DURING THIS LOCK DOWN PERIOD. PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO PWDs AS HEALTH KITS AND OTHER PALLIATIVES ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED.



Women have championed and continue to champion peace and development in Nigeria and Africa





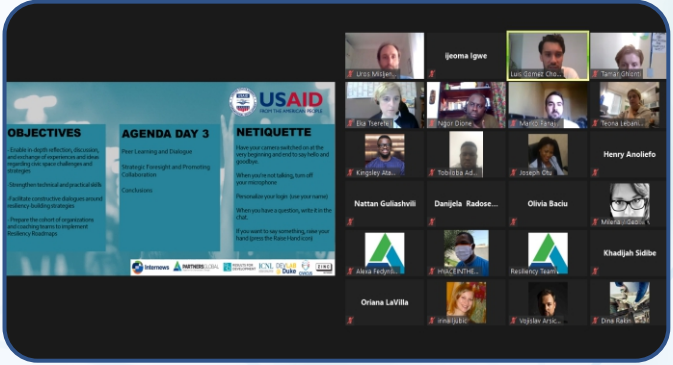
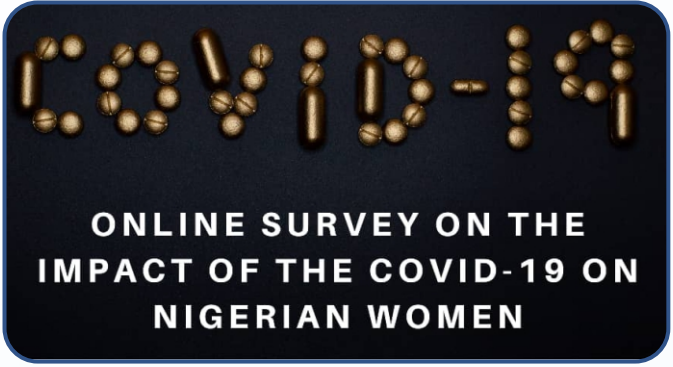
WASTE FOR JUSTICE

PROMOTING ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT (SDG16 & SDG14)

WE ARE USING RECYCLABLE WASTE AS CURRENCY TO SUPPORT INDIGENT PRE-TRIAL DETAINEES.

For more information, kindly visit our website at www.partnersnigeria.org or call: 08182589100, 09012592990

GALLERY



GALLERY

MEDIA FOOT PRINT



Radio



Television



Prints



Online

OUR PARTNERS

YIAGA, WRAPA, FIDA, NBA, COURTS, NPF, NSCDC, Isu-media, NULAI, NEW RULE LCC, StatiSense, Africa Young Female Appointees Initiative (AYFAI)

**NULAI
NIGERIA**

Network of University Legal Aid Institutions

StatiSense

Data | Infographics | Analytics | Training



WHO WE ARE



Our Mission

Our mission is to enhance citizen's participation and improve security governance in Nigeria and West Africa.

We envision the growth of robust good governance and accountable institutions in Nigeria and West Africa.



Our Vision



Our Core Beliefs


PWAN operates on the following principles:


- To exemplify integrity, inclusiveness, impact, and professionalism.
- To be a continuous knowledge generation and learning platform.
- To provide timely, relevant and accessible education and training.

Contact Us

Find out more by visiting our website:

EMAIL US: info@partnersnigeria.org

@partnersnigeria 

@partnersnigeria 

Partners West Africa Nigeria 