



PARTNERS WEST AFRICA NIGERIA
Rule Of Law And Empowerment Initiative



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2018**

PWAN The 2018 Report

MISSION:

Rule of Law and Empowerment Initiative, also known as Partners West Africa Nigeria (PWAN), is a non-governmental organization established with a mission to enhance citizens' participation and improve security governance in Nigeria and West Africa.

VISION / VALUES:

We envision the growth of robust good governance practices and accountable institutions in Nigeria and West Africa broadly, and we seek to achieve these while holding firm to our values, namely; integrity, inclusiveness, impact, and professionalism.

This report presents our work in 2018, including but not limited to our successes, impact, challenges, concerns, and financial undertakings.

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Kemi Okenyodo

Executive Director, Partners West Africa-Nigeria: Rule of Law Empowerment Initiative

The Rule of Law and Empowerment Initiative, also known as Partners West Africa Nigeria (PWAN), was fully operational for three years in 2018. In line with our mandate to improve and enhance the participation of citizens in Nigeria's governance space, PWAN was able to make significant contributions to ensure a free, fair, and credible electoral process during the recently concluded 2019 general elections.

Our interventions focused on increasing citizens' participation in

democratic governance, promotion of inter-agency collaboration between Election Security Management stakeholders, and capacity building for security agencies. Following up on this, PWAN commenced implementation of its Beyond Voting project, an intervention borne out of the limited representation of women in elective and appointive positions in the country.

PWAN carried out a nationwide mapping to ascertain the push and pull factors that limit women's participation in the governance process. Key findings of the mapping were published in our Accountability Brief titled 'Increasing Women's Participation in Politics and Governance,' and a detailed monograph will be released later in the year.

Important discussions on women's participation in governance were facilitated to understand the impeding factors, and to brainstorm on strategies for improved involvement of women. PWAN utilized a multifaceted approach of engaging with local communities across the six geopolitical zones; supporting

citizens' participation by organizing debates for candidates, and facilitating conversations on social media through the use of infographics, including use of relevant data on the subject. We also formed partnerships with other civil society organisations such as Women Advocate Research and Documentation Centre (WARDC), Women's Rights Advancement and Protection Alternative (WRAPA) and Voices of Ogun Women to mention a few.

To promote inter-agency collaboration and improve coordination of policing providers, PWAN facilitated the Inter Consultative Committee on Election Security (ICCES) meetings ahead of the July 2018 Gubernatorial elections in Ekiti State, with support from the Nigeria Policing Program. The ICCES provides an avenue for stakeholders responsible for managing election security to jointly plan and coordinate. In Ekiti, the organization was also able to build capacity of 400 citizen observers to monitor human rights infractions by security agencies during the gubernatorial elections. Findings from the observation

process were analysed and consolidated into an infographics monograph available on the organization's website.

Additionally, as a result of the organization's previous engagements on security governance issues, PWAN was requested by the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA) to conduct capacity building sessions for security agencies ahead of the 2019 elections. The 2-day training sessions themed 'Pathways to Credible Elections' provided capacity building for 156 participants from the various security agencies, across the South West and North West geopolitical zones.

Meanwhile, our Rule of Law Program area was also active with interventions being implemented with the aim of contributing to sustainable criminal justice reform in country. In this regard, PWAN focused its intervention on promoting effective implementation of criminal justice legislations, specifically the Administration of Criminal Justice Act/Law (ACJA/L), reducing pre-trial detention and promoting speedy dispensation of criminal cases.

Across various projects, and by utilizing methodologies of court observation, case monitoring, collaborative advocacy, and stakeholder management, the organization is promoting adoption and/or implementation of the law in FCT, Bauchi, Lagos, Ondo, Oyo, and Plateau states.

PWAN remains committed to keeping the citizens informed and educated on governance and security related issues, while facilitating important thematic conversations, by working collaboratively with various relevant stakeholders across the spectrum towards improving integrity, and strengthening institutions that play a role in safeguarding society.

Over the next five years, based on a strategic review of the organization's mandate, we intend to deepen our interventions in the areas of Women, Peace and Security, Civil Society Strengthening, and improving Access to Justice across the country.

OVERVIEW OF OUR PROGRAMMING STRATEGY

In our mission to enhance citizens' participation and improve security governance in Nigeria and West Africa, PWAN has adopted a strategy of working with both local and international partners. Specifically, we are working with ministries, departments, and agencies in the Justice and security sectors, as well as CSOs, to address challenges hampering justice delivery and citizen security, while also focusing on encouraging citizens' involvement in discussing the issues that affect them.

To implement this strategy, PWAN relies on the following core competencies:

- Continuous knowledge generation and serving as a learning platform by ensuring that our interventions are knowledge-driven; based on empirical studies, learning from on-going assessments, being leaders in our

field, and contributing to policy advocacy, formulation, monitoring and evaluation.

- Building the capacity of Government and its agencies, particularly within the criminal justice system, to strengthen their accountability practices and processes. This we do through the adaptation of the Anti-corruption methodology and Security Governance Accountability and Performance frameworks.
- Providing timely, relevant and accessible education and training to stakeholders within the public safety and security sector. Among the topics we cover are human rights, protection of vulnerable groups, communications, and stakeholders'

management.

- Extending access to cost saving opportunities: PWAN draws from the expertise and knowledge of its membership of the Partners Global Network to develop programs and services.
- Keeping citizens educated and informed on security and governance related issues and ensuring that they make input through dialogues or use of technologies in discourse that affect them.
- Providing capacity building information to CSOs to assist them in diversification of their streams of income with the aim of growing or strengthening their financial sustainability platforms.

NOTABLE SUCCESSES IN 2018

Our quest to improve security governance and encourage citizens' participation in issues that affect them has propelled PWAN to noteworthy successes within our first three years of operation. With a small but

passionate and increasing workforce, our interventions in two main program areas (namely; Rule of Law and Citizen Security) have established our organization as a dedicated enabler of positive change. Below are some of the successes recorded:

- PWAN organized a training on Election Security Management, themed 'Pathway to Credible Elections,' for security officials from across the States in the North West and South West in Kano and Oyo States with support and collaboration



Participants at the 'Pathway to Credible Elections' Training

from the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA). The event trained 180 officers from the Nigerian Police Force (NPF), Civil Defence (NSCDC), Immigration Service (NIS), Customs Service, Prisons Service (NPS), Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Military, Department of State Security (DSS) and the Nigerian Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA).

Through our #AccessNG project supported by the US Embassy Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL), PWAN advocated for the adoption of the ACJA in Plateau, which was subsequently passed by the State House of Assembly and assented to by the Executive Governor of Plateau State on 25th September 2018. PWAN continues to work with the Plateau State House of Assembly to ensure effective implementation of the Law.

PWAN was invited by the FCT Judiciary to be a part of the inauguration of justice panels to de-clog Courts of criminal and civil cases. The Chief Judge in his address noted that over 300 cases have been identified for alternative dispute resolution (ADR) to ensure speedy resolution of cases. The intention of the panels within the realm of

criminal justice is to shake up the system holistically by taking drastic measures such as blocking the holes where innocent persons are kept behind bars without justifiable reasons. The criminal justice panel focuses on non-bailable offences especially at High Court level.

The Public Defenders' Office (PDO), which was established in June 2017 to provide pro bono legal aid services, legal education, advice and representation to less privileged persons resident in Kano State, has received a total of 449 cases since it commenced activities. This year, the office has recorded a number of notable cases one of which is that of Sadiya Abubakar, a case of assault resolved through mediation. Another is a case of rape and sodomy perpetrated against young boys and girls in Yaryasa community of Tudun Wada Local Government Area of Kano State. The PDO has so far completed 257 cases which include Pre-trial detention cases, Enforcement of Fundamental Human Rights and Mediation. The PDO has so far completed 257 cases which include Pre-trial detention cases, Enforcement of Fundamental Human Rights and Mediation.

PWAN organized a round table meetings to reinstate the quarterly meetings between security

sector actors in Nigeria, their oversight bodies and civil society organizations with the purpose of strengthening effective dialogue and coordination among the internal and external accountability mechanism of the security actors and CSOs.

Court observations in FCT, Lagos and Ondo States where 65 Court Observers have been deployed since 2017 to observe court rooms and proceedings continued in furtherance of the 'Enhancing Transparency and Accountability in the Judicial Sector' project with support from the MacArthur Foundation. The project aims to enhance integrity in the country's judicial system through court observation; promote implementation of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act/Law in courts across the FCT, Lagos and Ondo States; enhance citizen participation in judicial processes and improve access to information on judicial proceedings with regards to compliance of the ACJA/ACJL. We aim to achieve this by strengthening the social accountability of the judicial sector.

As a result of our activities in the 'Enhancing Transparency and Accountability in the Judicial Sector' project and our role in implementation of the

ACJA/ACJL, PWAN continues to be a member of the ACJMC Monitoring Sub Committee on the ACJA. PWAN also serves as the Secretariat of the sub-committee. .

Through the #AccessNG project, PWAN organized a training on the ACJL, which was passed in 2016 in Oyo State, for Prosecutors from the Police and Ministry of Justice, Court and Prison Staff in the State. PWAN has been invited by the Oyo State judiciary to train judges and magistrates on their roles and responsibilities as provided for in the ACJL.



The Honorable Attorney General of Oyo State, Honorable Oluseun Abimbola at the ACJL Training for Prosecutors in Ibadan.

PWAN with support from the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) organized a one day validation workshop in furtherance of the “Beyond Voting: Increasing Women’s Participation in the Political Process” project which aims to contribute to building women communities that are more conscious and participatory in the electoral process; encourage more women to engage with the process; and also to advocate for

review of political practices that limits the participation of women. The validation workshop was organized to review the researchers' mapping and comparative analysis across the six geopolitical zones in order to increase women's political participation and also amplify women's voice in the political process.

As part of the above stated project, PWAN organized town hall awareness and sensitization events for

women in Karu Community in the FCT; Gombe Town in Gombe State; Abeokuta in Ogun State; and Okirika community in Rivers State on the active roles they can play in the electoral process and good governance. These activities were organized in collaboration with relevant government agencies and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) at federal and state level; and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) at local and community levels including the National

Orientation Agency (NOA), Women Advocates Research and Documentation Centre (WARDC), Voices of Ogun Women (VOW), Mbula Foundation, Crystal Justice, Speakers Corners Trust (SCTN), among others.

Looking forward into 2019, PWAN would continue to conceptualise and implement impactful projects with support from our partners. With support from the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA), we will be implementing a new project

titled 'Engaging children to counter violent extremism in Nigeria.' The project aims to significantly improve the quality of life and learning of children ages 4 - 12, through art, numeracy, and literacy education in an informal, fun, and engaging learning environment. This will be done in collaboration with Mavis Computel - an educational technology company responsible for the development of the Mavis Talking Books™ and Mavis Education Model™ which is designed to give high quality basic education to users in a language that they understand,

and improve learning outcomes in a short time

With the successes of the Public Defenders' Office (PDO) in providing pro bono legal aid services, legal education, advice and representation to less privileged persons resident in Kano State, PWAN will be setting up its Public Defenders Unit (PDU) in Abuja to assist indigent residents of the FCT and environs by providing legal services including handling of pre-trial detention cases, enforcement of fundamental human rights, contribute to the implementation of Force Order 20, handling of matrimonial cases and mediation.

HIGHLIGHT

PDO Mediation Resolves Assault Case

Established in June 2017 to provide pro bono legal aid services, legal education, advice and representation to less privileged persons resident in Kano State, the Public Defenders' Office (PDO), has recorded a number of successes, one of which is a case of assault involving Sadiya Abubakar, a resident of Badawa Local Government Area, and her neighbours.

Sadiya Abubakar was involved in an argument with her neighbours. The argument led to a fight. During the altercation, she suffered a miscarriage. She reported the case to the police and her neighbours were arrested. They were detained and also requested to settle any medical bill incurred by Sadiya.

The police prepared formal charges against Sadiya's neighbours. The situation between Sadiya and her neighbours was tense. That was when the matter came to the attention of the PDO during a pro-bono awareness program organized at the police station in Sadiya's community in Badawa Local Government Area.



One of the mediation sessions in pictures

The PDO arranged mediation between Sadiya and her neighbours. The process also involved Sadiya's father, the guardian to the neighbours, the religious guide to the neighbours, and the police while the PDO served as professional mediators. At the end of the mediation, based on the good relationship they had enjoyed for long, Sadiya agreed to withdraw the complaint against her neighbours. The neighbours apologized and signed a peace bond to live peacefully. The police dropped the charges against Sadiya's neighbours, released them, and terminated the complaint. Everyone left the police station happy and satisfied.



One of the mediation sessions in pictures

PROGRAMME AREAS

Rule of Law
Citizen Security &
Fee for Service



Rule of Law

The Rule of Law program area is focused on improving integrity and strengthening institutions that play a role in safeguarding the rule of law through a cooperative advocacy approach, including engagement with all key stakeholders in this program area. The following projects are currently being implemented under the program area:

Enhancing Transparency and Accountability in the Judicial Sector

PWAN continued the implementation of the 'Enhancing Transparency and Accountability in the Judicial Sector' project, which is funded by the MacArthur Foundation

and aimed at observing the level of compliance of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, (ACJ Act) 2015 and Administration of Criminal Justice Law, 2011 and 2015 in courts across the FCT, Lagos and Ondo states respectively. The project seeks to enhance integrity in the Nigerian Judicial system through court observation; and also to promote implementation of the ACJ Act/Law in FCT, Lagos and Ondo States; and enhance citizen's participation in judicial processes through daily observation of court processes, case monitoring and user satisfaction survey. A total of 65 court rooms are being observed in the three states (FCT - 20, Lagos - 25, and Ondo - 20). Since March 2018, the project

has recorded the following achievements and findings:

- Continuous observation of courts in Abuja, Lagos and Ondo states.
- Public release of court observation findings in FCT and Ondo for the first quarter in March 2018 and for Lagos in July 2018. The final public release of findings for the year in the three focal states were held in FCT on 21st November 2018, Ondo State on 27th November 2018, and Lagos State on 29th November 2018.



Participants at Lagos Release of Findings

- Collation and analyses of court observations, case monitoring and criminal justice survey data from the three quarters of the year, which revealed important facts about the implementation of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act/Law in the three focal states. Infographics were also developed using the analysed court observations and case monitoring data.

- Presentation of findings from the first and second quarter to the Administration of Criminal Justice Monitoring Committee (ACJMC) in Abuja.

- Through the observations, it was revealed that the provision of the ACJA which mandates the IG of Police to send quarterly reports of arrest to the CJ had not been adhered to. Based on our findings, the Honourable CJ therefore requested that the representative of the IG present

at the meeting, inform the IG, and ask that all reports be sent in as soon as possible. This directive from the CJ further ensures the effective implementation of the ACJA, which the project aims to observe.

- One major finding from the court observations and case monitoring data is the level of compliance to the speedy trial provisions of the laws, especially section 382 (1) of the ACJA, section 352 (1) of the Ondo State ACJL, and section 252 (2) of the Lagos State ACJL, which stipulates 15 working days for filed cases to be assigned to a court for trial. Analysis revealed that the FCT is the only state complying with this provision, with an average of 15 days between filing and assignment. Ondo and Lagos states contravened this provision with an average of 19 and 30 days respectively. It was also revealed across the three

states, that magistrate courts are more in compliance with this provision than the high courts;

- Criminal justice legislation across the states makes provisions for day to day adjournment in criminal cases as a mechanism to promote speedy dispensation of cases. The observations, surveys, and monitoring of cases has revealed that criminal cases are not being adjourned on a daily basis in the three states. In the FCT, members of the judiciary surveyed stated that the average duration for adjournment is 15 days to one month, while respondents in Lagos stated one to three months. This shows that day to day adjournments are generally still a challenge in most trial courts.

- Further findings from the case monitoring across the states indicates the need to

provide for probation, and suspended sentencing /community service in compliance with sections 341-348 of the ACJL Lagos, and sections 453 to 468 of the ACJA. There is a need to effectively institute these innovative measures as alternatives to prison sentencing in both high courts and magistrate courts, which would encourage speedy trial, and reduce incidences of pre-trial detention.

- Findings from criminal justice surveys across the states indicate that confessional statements are still mostly presented in court without accompanying video recordings of the statements contrary to the relevant provisions of the ACJA/L.

- The annual court vacation caused the observation to stall for a few months. The reassignment of Judges to new courts also required some reassignment of observers. The change of leadership in the Judiciary in Lagos caused a delay in the commencement of observation in the state.

- PWAN is currently observing the de-clogging of criminal cases panel instituted by the FCT Judiciary, aimed at reducing the backlog of criminal cases in the territory. The panel, which rotates around all the courts of the FCT, is one of the mechanisms introduced by the FCT Chief Judge to improve speedy trial, and ensure adherence to the ACJA. There are some notable issues from the observation of this panel, such as unnecessary interlocutory applications by counsel on both sides, which means that criminal

cases keeps lingering for a longer period of time. Also highlighted is the need for the bench to enforce all fines for non-appearance of parties or counsel as provided by the law to reduce frivolous adjournments and ensure speedy trial.

Greater Access to Defence and Justice (GADJET)

The Greater Access to Defence and Justice (GADJET) project is funded by the US Embassy Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (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 Defender's Office (PDO).

In other to continue addressing the gaps in the provision of legal aid in Kano State for indigents and to continue to promote the work the PDO has been doing since it was established in 2017, PWAN conducted seven (7) awareness programmes 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 communities of Kano State in the year 2018.

It is important to note that the PDO has received a total of 449 cases, concluded 257 and has recorded some notable successes. The PDO has also carried out the following activities:

- **Expert level convening:** This was organized in collaboration with the Kano State Ministry of Justice to consolidate legal aid approaches and provisioning in Kano State. Using the Kenyan and Sierra Leonean legal aid approach as a guide, the convening proffered a way forward on legal aid services through traditional, religious, and common law lenses. It also identified sustainability approach to legal aid services for Kano. The convening drew experts from the justice and legal aid sectors in Kano, Lagos and Ondo states. Delegates from Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda were also in attendance as were members of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Legal Aid Council of Nigeria (LACON), National Legal Aid Services Kenya, Legal Aid Forum Rwanda, Tanzania Network of Legal Aid Providers, and National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). Others were the Network of University Legal Aid Institutions (NULAI), Nigeria Prisons Service (NPS), Kano Emirate Council, Kano State Hisbah Board as well as civil society organisations providing legal aid services in Kano State.

- **Training of 240 Law students of the Bayero University Kano on 'The Practice of Public Interest Lawyering and Legal Aid Services in Kano State'** to increase the amount of pro-bono legal support offered by trained lawyers: This was done in collaboration with NULAI, and the student were asked to identify a minimum of three prevalent public interest issues in their environment, which

can be addressed through public interest lawyering and the following issues were identified; drug abuse, child's rights violation, political violence, sexual harassment, and domestic violence. At the end of the training students developed a proposal to carry out awareness on the issues identified in communities where they are most prevalent.

- Organised three inter-agency meetings attended by the Nigeria Police Force, Hisbah Board, National Human Rights Commission, Nigeria Prisons Service, Democratic Action Group and Legal Aid Council.

Promoting Civil Society Participation in Anti-Corruption Efforts in Nigeria (ACCESS Nigeria)

In order to advance anti-corruption efforts in Nigeria in a sustainable manner at all levels of government, Partners Global and implementing partners (Partners West Africa Nigeria, CLEEN Foundation, Public Private Development Centre, and BudgIT; and strategic partner New-Rule LLC) through the ACCESS Nigeria project will:

1. Strengthen national structures for combating corruption;
2. Increase citizen access to government information as a tool to fight corruption in security and justice institutions;
3. Leverage citizen participation and technology to advance state and local level anti-corruption efforts in each geopolitical zone; and
4. Pilot context-specific behavioural-based approaches to anti-corruption in local communities to shift deeply-held attitudes and practices of corruption. PWAN will lead with on-the-ground coordination of implementing partners.

The following activities have been carried out by PWAN:

- In Plateau, PWAN's review of the Administration of Criminal Justice Bill exposed some unconstitutional and anti-human rights provisions in the bill. As a result, the Speaker of the State House of Assembly expressed the willingness of the House committee on judicial reforms to work with PWAN on further developments as regards the ACJL Plateau. The bill was subsequently passed by the State House, and assented to by the Executive Governor.

- In Bauchi, as a result of PWAN's advocacy, we have established contact with relevant stakeholders and as such setting up the monitoring committee would be easy once the Governor assents to the Bill. The bill has been passed by the State House of Assembly and is awaiting assent by the Executive Governor.

- In Oyo, training on the ACJL in 2016 for prosecutors from the Police and Ministry of Justice and Prison staff. PWAN was able to disaggregate the roles of each actor, and provide capacity building for effective implementation.

- Meeting to establish a cadre of trained Transparency and Accountability Practitioners (TAPs) who can facilitate pilot interventions with local governments to foster accountability, integrity and resilience in order to abstain from corruption. PWAN's intervention in this area is focused in Ebonyi (Izzi and Afikpo South LGAs), Adamawa (Numan and Demsa LGAs) and FCT (Bwari and AMAC Area Councils). Participants ranged from directors, admin staff, finance and planning staff of the various local governments.

- Recruitment for the Facilitating Accountability, Integrity, and Resiliency (FAIR) capacity building program which aims to introduce or enhance the knowledge and skills needed to become a trained Transparency and Accountability Practitioner (TAP).

Kuje Pretrial Detention Amelioration Program (KP-DAP).

PWAN, in collaboration with Partners Global, Network of University Legal Aid Institutions (NULAI), and New-Rule LLC, will deliver the Kuje Pre-trial Detention Amelioration Program (KP-DAP). A 24-month project that

will develop a sustainable, systemic approach to processing cases in pre-trial detention, the overarching goal of KP-DAP is to pilot a virtual cycle of detainee registration, representation, and processing at Kuje Prison in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), which will model and bolster Nigerian rule of law and respect for international human rights. The project will combine effective case management, legal aid, monitoring and evaluation, and inter-agency coordination to ensure that the proper tools and local partners are engaged to efficiently process all persons charged with a crime.

The following activities have been carried out:

* Engagement of a Communications Consultant to determine the following;

- Methods community and traditional leaders communicate information.
- Map media organizations that could be used to disseminate awareness raising messages and materials.
- Map listenership and viewership of radio and TV.

* Establishment of the Kuje Prison Coordination Committee (KPCC) to serve as a forum for exchanging ideas and brainstorming creative solutions to challenges to reducing pre-trial delays in Kuje prison. The first meeting held on the 8th October 2018.

HIGHLIGHT

PDO Helps Community Combat Child Molestation.

Yaryasa, a community in Tudun Wada Local Government Area of Kano State, had recorded a number of cases of rape and sodomy perpetrated against young girls and boys in the area. It was even alleged that such a crime led to the death of one Abubakar Idris. In search of a solution, Mallam Salisu, a teacher in the community who had heard about the Public Defenders' Office (PDO) on the radio, approached the team for help.

Following Mallam Salisu's request for help in tackling the menace facing his community, the PDO team visited Yaryasa. There they held an enlightenment session and legal clinic to create awareness on the dangers of committing such crimes and the punishment that awaits any perpetrator.



Members of the Yaryasa community at the awareness and legal clinic



Citizen Security

As the country and region faces increasingly difficult security challenges that require meaningful monitoring and citizens' engagement, we are using creative strategies to engage citizens through cutting-edge technology and participatory methods that reach the large and multi-faceted Nigerian audience. Applying these approaches to the security sector is a priority area for us as demonstrated by the projects profiled below:

Beyond Voting: Increasing Women's Participation in the Political Process

With support from the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), PWAN is currently implementing the 'Beyond Voting: Increasing Women's Participation in the Political Process' project advocating for the full participation of women in the entire political process beyond just participating as voters. The intervention began with a mapping of the six geopolitical zones with Anambra, Gombe, Ogun, Plateau, Rivers and Sokoto as the focal states. The findings from the mapping revealed the following issues as the main reasons why women do not actively participate in politics;

- I. Highly Monetized political process
- II. Godfathers and party patrons syndrome
- III. Societal prejudice
- IV. Closed democratic space
- V. Absence of mentorship etc.

In other to ascertain the number of women participation in the political process following the mapping, a desk research was conducted to gauge the number of women participating in the elections before the primaries. Through this method, it was determined that at least 79 women were contesting for elective positions, out of which six (6) of them were presidential candidates. However there were more aspirants that couldn't be profiled online.

Based on the final list released by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) just before the elections, it was observed that there were six (6) women Presidential candidates, 234 women contesting for the Senate, 543 women contesting for House of Representatives and 1,872

women contesting for States Houses of Assembly. Also, there were 78 female Governorship candidates and 278 female Deputy Governorship candidates, with a low representation in the North East and North West. While the number of women contesting could be regarded as high, the percentage compared to that of men remained low.

In responding to the findings of the mapping and also in contributing to the goal of increasing women's participation in the political processes through various advocacy and sensitization exercises at the local, state and national levels, PWAN conducted a series of awareness programs across four focal states, namely; Rivers, Gombe, Ogun, and the FCT. PWAN also engaged with influencers from the communities to sensitize them on the importance of including women in the political process. The various meetings witnessed a huge turnout of political party representatives, traditional council members, religious leaders, security sector officials, etc.

The awareness and town hall sensitization reached a total of 421 citizens directly, representing 39 persons in Gombe; 104 in Rivers; 170 in Ogun, and 108 in the FCT. Radio jingles were also developed and aired on a number of radio stations across the country with the aim of reaching and sensitizing more Nigerians.

the IEC materials were shared at different events organised by PWAN in Kano, Borno, and Lagos States. Meanwhile, on Twitter, for all tweets pertaining to the project, PWAN had a total of 8,558 impressions, 93 likes and 99 retweets. A total number of 71 e-copies of the policy brief was downloaded via the PWAN website, and 600 copies of the hard copy were distributed.

Judiciary Systems Mapping and Assessment: Protection, Empowerment and Resilience Building of Women in North East Nigeria

PWAN, with support from Search for Common Ground, is



Participants at the Awareness program done in Abuja

These include Anambra State Broadcasting Service, Awka, which covers about 177 communities in Anambra and also extends to neighbouring states like Delta and some parts of Enugu State; Vision FM in Sokoto, which is received in Gombe as well; Wazobia FM in Port Harcourt (Rivers State); and Paramount FM in Abeokuta (Ogun State).

More so, we also developed a policy brief and IEC materials on the participation of women in politics, and more than 400 copies of

conducting an assessment of the Formal and Informal Judiciary Systems in Borno (Jere and Mafa LGAs) and Yobe (Bade LGA) States. The assessment will focus on capacity building of formal and informal systems to respond to cases of Gender Based Violence

(GBV) and other gaps in the capacity of the systems to respond to women and girls' needs. The early stages of research revealed the following findings:

- Gender-based violence was generally seen to be high and on the increase in the study LGAs, even though it was difficult to classify them by category. Although there are various forms of GBV, rape cases are the most commonly reported. Even when reported, the delays in reporting ensures that perpetrators cannot be prosecuted, for lack of evidence.
- In Yobe State, the study found that the cases involve minors, and are under-reported. In Borno State, although there could be under-reporting of cases, the NHRC records as high as 30–35 cases monthly, mostly economic violence and rape.
- Traditional and religious leaders and families are the main informal institutions used to settle cases of GBV and forgiveness is the most common approach used for arbitration.
- The informal channel of handling GBV mostly follows the following: Victim – siblings – ward head – village head. However, most cases/report mostly end at the village head level.
- Groups commonly mentioned as perpetrators are Boko Haram, security officials, camp officials, Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) and tricycle operators, etc.
- Sometimes a survivor who is a student is withdrawn from school; for the older survivors, the stigma attached to SGBV prevents them from returning to their places of work/ sources of livelihood.
- GBV cases are being addressed by non-governmental organisations with support from donor agencies. For example, Save the Children and Community Policing Partnership run interventions funded by some INGOs and implemented by Women in New Nigeria (WINN) and Herwa Community Development Initiative. The Nilewa Centre, recently equipped by British Council in partnership with the state government provides some level of forensic investigations, counselling of victims in cases of rape among other things.

The assessment will be utilized in developing capacity building interventions for formal and informal systems to respond to cases of GBV and women and girls' needs.

Justice and Security Dialogue in the Sahel and Maghreb Mid line Survey

PWAN conducted a mid-line survey in September 2018 as a follow up of the baseline conducted in July 2017 in collaboration with

NOI-Polls to address the deficiencies in the relationship between security providers and citizens and to strengthen civilian security forces to be more effective, accountable, and responsive. The project aims to promote trust building and joint problem solving between the police and communities, and also resolve the most important security challenges within the communities. The mid-line survey was also conducted to ascertain if there are any significant changes that occurred since the baseline was conducted in 2017.

The survey shed light on the issues of crime, violence, and community relationship/trust with the Nigeria Police Force in Jos North and revealed some of its main drivers. A total of 578 female and male respondents were surveyed. Some of the key findings are as follows:

1. Respondents were asked if they feel safe walking in their community at night and 46% of them opined that they do not feel safe to walk in their community at night without the fear of becoming a victim of an attack. This is an increase compared to 34% of the respondents who were surveyed in September 2017.

2. One of the reasons for the survey was to understand the trust level citizens have in the Nigeria Police and less than half of the respondents (48%) said they do not trust the police to prevent the incidence of crime. This is an increase from 3% of respondents in 2017. In comparison to the survey of 2017, there was a decrease of

almost 15% to 34% of those who are of the opinion that the police are not doing enough to curb the challenges of crime, violence, and insecurity in Jos North.

3. In terms of community and police relationship, respondents were asked if only security actors should be involved in making important decisions that concerns community safety and about 58% of respondents do not agree that only members of the security services should be involved in making important decisions that concern community safety. Instead, community members should be able to take part in every decision making process which was also the same as the baseline in 2017.

4. Respondents were asked if the crime rate in the community of Jos North has changed for the better in the past year since the baseline was conducted and about 45% of respondents disagreed that crime rate in their community has changed for the better in the past year.

PWAN recommended that the Government, community members, and civil society organizations would need to come together to find ways to improve on curbing the issues of crime that has bedevilled the state, particularly Jos North Local Government Area. We are looking forward to conducting the end-line survey in the year 2019.

Promoting Informed Dialogue on Security II (PRIDES II)

The Promoting Informed Dialogue on Security project (PRIDES) was implemented under the Security Justice Reform Program (SJR) with support from the UK Government through its Conflict, Security and Stability Fund (CSSF). The project aimed at facilitating a holistic planning of security sector reform processes in the North East of Nigeria, with a view to identifying good practices that can be replicated in other parts of the country.

As a result of the success of the first phase of the project, PWAN was granted funding for a second phase with the expectation of proffering interventions based on two very important aspects of the first phase of the project that were identified as crucial to the success of security sector reform. The organization facilitated inclusive discussions on the role of Non-State Security Actors (NSSAs) in Community Policing and Election Security; and also on prioritizing the voices of women through organizing round table discussions with security agencies on the National Action Plan.

In furtherance of the project, the following activities were carried out:

Workshop on the Role of Non-State Security Actors in Community Policing and Election Security: The first activity of

the second phase of the PRIDES project, was conducted on the 30th and 31st of January 2018. The workshop on the Role of Non-State Security Actors in Community Policing and Election Security was organized in collaboration with Nigeria Civil Society Situation Room to commence the process of interactions of the possible role of non-state security and hybrid security actors in community policing and election security management.

The two-day dialogue had in attendance 74 participants on the first day, and 61 participants on the second day drawn from security agencies such as the Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), the Nigeria Navy and the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA); Government agencies such as the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and the Office of the Vice President; representative of the Security and Justice Reform Programme (SJR) and Members of the Civil Society Situation Room.

Prioritizing the voices of women in security using the Second Generation National Action Plan (2017-2020) on United Nations Resolution 1325: The workshop, which held on the 23rd of February 2018, had 97 participants in attendance from an initial planning of 60 persons. Participants were drawn

from civil society, government and security agencies from the six (6) geopolitical zones, with a focus on female participants especially within the security sector.

The objective of the convening was to promote the inclusion of women in peace and security through the Second Generation National Action Plan (2017-2020).

The convening was able to ensure female representation from formal security agencies such as the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corp (NSCDC), Nigeria Police Force (NPF), Nigeria Air Force (NAF) and the Nigeria Army (NA), as well as informal security providers such as the Vigilante Group of Nigeria (VGN) and the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF). Also in attendance were women from the civil society, representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) and media.

Worthy of note during the workshop was the call for assistance in re-organising the Gender Unit in the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS). There was also an invitation by the Nigeria Army, based on engagement at PWAN convening, to attend the launch of panel of enquiry to probe allegations made against military personnel. Moreover, a policy brief was also developed based on outcomes of the

activity.

Additionally, the activity brought to the limelight the following observations and recommendations with regards to the subject matter;

- 1 The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, which is spearheading implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP), needs to review its strategy towards achieving the set goals of the NAP. It was observed there is lack of ownership for the NAP. There is a need for all officers within the ministry to be properly informed on the NAP and its contents.
- Closely related to this, is the lack of sensitization and awareness around the NAP as some participants indicated that they were only made aware of its existence during the convening. They requested for copies to ensure a step down in their zones, states and local governments for there to be effective implementation. While this was observed, some states in the North such as Borno and Gombe have gone a long way in adopting their zonal action plans and are in the process of finalizing in their respective states.



Cross section of security personnel at the Training

- There is a need to create awareness on activities of Civil Society Organizations and Community Based Organizations that work on issues of women's role and participation in the national security architecture within the different states. This was clearly seen in some of the information highlighted during the workshop on the Second Generation National

Action plan, such as the existence of State Action Plans in some states, as well as the role of some CSOs such as the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) in defending women who are victims of sexual violence within IDP camps.

Election Security Management: Pathway to Credible Electoral Process in Nigeria

The Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA), in collaboration with Partners West Africa Nigeria (PWAN) hosted a two-day training workshop themed 'Election Security Management: Pathway to Credible Electoral Process in Nigeria' between 17th and 18th of December, 2018 in Kano and Oyo States. The two-day training focused on improving Election Security Management in Nigeria and attracted election security stakeholders from across Nigerian security agencies including the Armed Forces, intelligence and para-military agencies.

In attendance at the training were officers of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF), Nigerian Army (NA), the Nigerian Air Force (NAF), and personnel of the Department of State Security (DSS). Other security agencies represented at the training were the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) as well as the Nigerian Prisons Service (NPS). The participants comprised of professional who have gathered experience over time on their respective jobs.

Participants at the beginning of the training indicated a low level of knowledge on Election Security Coordination in Nigeria and Elections, Conflict, and Security. There was, however, a greater understanding of Election Security Management at the end of the training.

It was observed that of the 156 participants trained from the various agencies, only four (4) were women. PWAN recommended that it is necessary and important to ensure a gender balance in

subsequent programs, and also stress the importance of this to security agencies.

Study tour by Women in Security to understand Nigeria's National Action Plan UNSCR 1325

PWAN received a Malian delegation on a study visit focused on the Second Generation National Action Plan (NAP) on implementation of UNSCR 1325. The visit, which was facilitated by UN Women, provided a platform for knowledge sharing on the subject matter. Delegates were interested in understanding how the National Action Plan was developed, and some of the practical ways implementation has been carried out so far. The team was also interested in understanding the role of civil society organizations such as P W A N in promoting implementation of the action plan. Participants were drawn from the formal institutions (security sector and government), and civil society in Mali.



Fee for Service

The Fee for Service program area aims to improve financial sustainability of Civil Society

Organizations by gaining alternative revenue generation skills. PWAN has been able to carry out the following activities under the program area:

PWAN is part of a consortium working with the Nigeria Policing Programme (NPP). The programme is aimed at increasing accountable policing services in Nigeria. Through the program, PWAN has been able to achieve the following:

- Training and deployment of 400 observers to monitor Human Rights Infractions by security agencies

in the July 2018 Ekiti Gubernatorial Elections, in collaboration with the Justice Development Peace Initiative (JDPI) Ekiti. PWAN also analyzed, documented and disseminated reports of findings using infographics

- Organize Inter-consultative Committee meeting on Election Security (ICCES) in the state capital and selected local government headquarters - The meetings at Ado Ekiti, the state capital, held on 27th June, 2018 and 11th July, 2018 with top officials of Nigeria Police Force (NPF), Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Nigeria Security Civil Defence Corp (NSCDC), Nigeria Prison Service (NPS), Department of State Security Service (DSS), Nigeria Custom Services (NCS), Nigeria Immigration Services (NIS), Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) and National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) in attendance.

- Organize a workshop to review and have broader stakeholder consultations on the Borno State Policing Plan

- Public Enlightenment on how to access the services of the Eminent Persons Forum, Community Safety Partnerships, and the Police Community Relations Committee in Kano state.

- Public Enlightenment on police professional standards and complaint access points, through call in radio programs involving

the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in Kano State.

Quarterly meetings for security agencies, oversight bodies, and CSOs on accountable policing.

Organisational Successes After Three Years

1. PWAN has become a relevant stakeholder in criminal justice issues in Nigeria, three years after its inception. In 2017, PWAN was made a member of the FCT ACJMC sub-committee on

monitoring and in 2018 participated at the launch of Declogging Panel constituted by the Chief Judge of the FCT High Court. In 2018 organizations working on similar issues such as the Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption, PACAC, and Rule of Law and Anti-corruption project of the British Council, collaborated with PWAN to implement interventions. In the case of the former, the intervention trained PWAN court observers on monitoring anti-corruption cases at the Federal High Court in FCT.

2. As a result of PWAN's

engagement on citizens' participation in security issues, in 2018 PWAN was contacted by the Office of National Security Adviser to coordinate facilitation of training for security officials on election security management. This is the first time that the Government at the national level would be engaging an NGO to train all security actors on election security management. PWAN was able to build the capacity of 156 participants from the various security agencies, and also promote step down training throughout all the agencies.

PUBLICATIONS

Nine (9) publications were published across our program areas in the last one year:

- I. Policy Brief - Consolidating Legal Aid Approaches in Kano State - May 2018.
- ii. Photo Book - Conflict Transition in the North East – June 2018
- iii. Policy Brief - Prioritizing the Voices of Women in Security Using The Second Generation National Action Plan (2017-2020) – June 2018
- iv. Policy Brief - Non-State Security Actors In Community Policing And Election Security – June 2018
- v. Observation of Human Rights Infractions in the Ekiti Governorship Elections – July 2018
- vi. Legal Aid Directory – September 2018
- vii. Social Accountability in the Judicial Sector 2016 - 2017 – September 2018
- viii. Enhancing Transparency and Accountability in the Judicial Sector: Statement of Release for Court Observation in FCT, Lagos and Ondo State. - November 2018.
- ix. Policy Brief - ‘Increasing Women’s Participation in Politics and Governance - November 2018

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Nigeria is still in her formative years as a developing country, and is yet to answer several critical developmental questions necessary for the advancement of the country and strengthening of her democratic institutions. This is well exemplified in the challenges experienced in the year 2019, which include:

i. The Suspension of the Chief Justice of Nigeria and His Trial at the Code of Conduct Tribunal

On 14 January 2019, the Chief Justice of Nigeria, Walter Onnoghen was scheduled to be arraigned before the CCT on a six count charge for his alleged false declaration of assets contrary to section 15 of the CCBTA. This and his subsequent suspension from office and appointment of an acting Chief Justice of Nigeria has raised a critical National discourse which would hopefully address this grey area in the 1999 Constitution of The Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended).

ii. Election Security

The build up to the 2019 general elections has witnessed an array of threats by political gladiators, their parties and supporters, the prevalence of hate speech, fake news and the subsequent postponement of the general elections a few

hours before the elections have created a certain degree of uncertainty in the minds of the citizenry on the electoral process.

iii. Regional Insecurity and secessionist agitations.

The security situations in the geopolitical zones of the country have their peculiar security challenges. The North East is plagued by the Boko Haram insurgents, the middle belt have also had several incidents of farmer- herder clashes which has resulted in the loss of life and property. The IPOB agitations in the South-East, the OPC and Badoo cult group in the south west. The ripple effect of these regional security challenges are felt on a national scale with great socio-economic and political implications.

iv. Disparity in the procedural and substantive law of crime.

Another great challenge is the disparity in laws of crime in the southern and northern region of the country. For instance in the North, adultery is a crime, but not in the south; also the Child Rights Act which criminalizes marriage or sexual relations with a girl below 18

years is not operative nation, this Act has been domesticated by more states in the South and middle belt than the Northern part of the country. Procedurally the ACJA seeks to create a unified criminal procedure code in the country, which would also put an end to the hardships occasioned by the Criminal Procedure Act (CPA) in the South and the Criminal Procedure Code (CPC) in the North. For instance, the ACJA provides for the day to day adjournment of criminal trial to ensure a speedy dispensation of criminal justice, it also addresses issues like coerced and involuntary confessions, court congestion, delays in trial, detention of awaiting trial suspects and accused persons standing trial without legal representation. When fully implemented, the ACJA/L would ensure efficient criminal justice institutions, speedy dispensation of criminal justice while protecting the rights of the defendant, victim, and the state.

At their root, these challenges are indicators that Nigeria is a work in progress and each challenge overcome is one step closer to the Nigeria we desire.

By the Numbers

(Selected Programme Data)

In the last one year, while implementing our projects, PWAN has carried out a number of activities and held several events resulting in interactions with thousands of citizens. The following are some numbers from four notable projects:

Consultancy on National Policing Program - Fee for Service

1 st round table meeting to reinstate the quarterly meetings between Nigerian security sector actors, their oversight bodies and CSOs	30
2 nd round table meeting to reinstate the quarterly meetings between Nigerian security sector actors, their oversight bodies and CSOs	12
Inter-consultative Committee meeting on Election Security (ICCES) in the Ekiti state capital, Ado-Ekiti and selected local government headquarters	100
Convening on review of human rights infraction template for Ekiti Elections in Ekiti	16
Training of observers in Ekiti state to monitor Human Rights Infractions in the 2018 gubernatorial elections in collaboration with JDPI Ekiti state.	400
Bi-annual reviews of the Kano State Policing Plan.	25
Advocacy for boarder consultation on Borno State Policing Plan (Biu- Borno)	6
Workshop with Biu stakeholders for boarder consultation on Borno State Policing Plan	29
Media Engagement Kano December 2018	6
Total number of persons directly engaged through the project	879

Beyond Voting: Increasing Women's Participation in the Political Process

Validation Workshop on Beyond Voting: Increasing Women's Participation in the Electoral Process.	21
Public Release of Findings on the Mapping of women's participation in politics Beyond Voting	43
Townhall Awareness and Sensitization for women in Karu Community, FCT	100
Townhall Awareness and Sensitization for women in AMAC, FCT	42
Townhall Awareness and Sensitization for women in Gombe Town, Gombe	38
Townhall Awareness and Sensitization for women in Rivers State	74
Ogun Women Decide Governorship Debate and Townhall Awareness and Sensitization for women in Ogun State	117
Development of Jingles, and IEC Materials to promote active political participation of women.	500
Total number of persons directly engaged through the project	935

Enhancing Transparency and Accountability in the Judicial Sector

1 st Quarter Release of findings, Abuja	35
1 st Quarter Release of findings, Ondo	31
2 nd Quarter Release of findings, Lagos	55
2 nd Quarter Release of findings, Abuja	33
3 rd Quarter Release of findings, Abuja	42
3 rd Quarter Release of findings, Ondo	43
3 rd Quarter Release of findings, Lagos	50
Total number of persons directly engaged through the project	289

Greater Access to Defense and Justice (GADJET)

Expert Convening on Consolidating Legal Aid Approaches in Kano State	60
PDO Advisory Board Meeting in Kano	16
Awareness and Legal Clinic Sensitization Program at Makwarari / Shahuchi Police Station	156
Awareness and Legal Clinic Sensitization Program at Tarauni LGA	129
Awareness and Legal Clinic Sensitization Program at Latin Wakili	135
Awareness raising activity in Gada Tamburawa,	55
Awareness raising activity in Brigade	69
Awareness raising activity in Dala	152
Awareness raising activity in Fagge	79
Awareness activity at Yanmata	140
Awareness raising activity in Badawa	35
Awareness Activity at Janguza	150
Training of 240 Law students of the Bayero University Kano	240
Pro-bono week initiative at Dala, Badawa, Hockey, Tofa, Gwale and Munjibiri communities	73
Interagency meetings attended by the Nigeria Police Force, Hisbah Board, National Human Rights Commission, Nigeria Prisons Service, Democratic Action Group and Legal Aid Council	50
Total number of persons directly engaged through GADJET	1539

Financial Report

RULE OF LAW AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE CORPORATE INFORMATION

GOVERNING BOARD:

1. Dr Hussaini Abdu - Chairperson
2. Justice Olufunlola Adekeye (RTD) - Vice Chairperson
3. Ms Julia Roig - Member
4. Ordinary Ahmad Isah - Member
5. Ms Aissatou Fall - Member
6. Ms 'Kemi Okenyodo - Member/ Secretary

OFFICE:

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Abuja, Nigeria.

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Bidemi Aiyesoro & Co
(Chartered Accountants)
7 Oshifila Street, Anifowoshe
Ikeja-Lagos.

BANKERS:

Diamond Bank Plc
Fidelity Bank Plc
Guaranty Trust Bank Plc
United Bank for Africa Plc
Infinity Trust Mortgage

RULE OF LAW AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE 3 YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	31-12-2018	31-12-2017	31-12-2016
	₦	₦	₦
Financial Position			
Non-Current Assets	19,207,390	9,850,240	1,322,700
Current Assets	147,283,456	103,819,453	19,667,340
	<u>166,490,846</u>	<u>113,669,693</u>	<u>20,990,040</u>
Current Liabilities	62,887,348	60,179,506	10,330,414
Accumulated Funds	103,603,498	53,490,187	10,659,625
	<u>166,490,846</u>	<u>113,669,693</u>	<u>20,990,040</u>

PARTNERS



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