

# NEWSLETTER

WANEP - NIGERIA  
www.wanepnigeria.org

Oct- Dec, 2023

## Editor's Note

Dear friends,

This quarter has been quite busy for us at WANEP-Nigeria. As we bid farewell to the year 2023, we are delighted to share with you highlights of the noteworthy endeavors undertaken by our team during the months of October to December. A pivotal moment unfolded in Abuja as the PARTNER program engaged in a strategic meeting with WANEP's Board of Directors (BOD) and Board of Trustees (BOT). Notably, this gathering resulted in the emergence of a new Board Chairman, signaling a significant milestone in our collaborative efforts.

Underscoring our commitment to capacity building, the PARTNER program conducted a series of trainings for staff. These included comprehensive training modules on Project Management, Grant Management, and Do No Harm principles. The impact of these sessions resonates within the organization, enhancing skills and fortifying our collective capabilities.

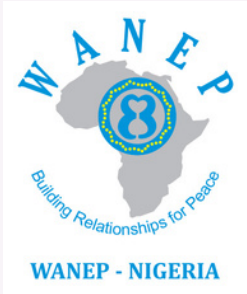
Embracing advocacy and social responsibility, WANEP-Nigeria actively participated in the 16 Days of Activism to stop Gender-Based Violence. Through a spectrum of activities both offline and online, including impactful engagements on social media, the team contributed significantly to the campaign's objectives. These endeavors underscore the dedication of our collective efforts towards building a more peaceful and just society. As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past months, we eagerly look ahead to the opportunities and challenges that the new year may bring.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our shared vision.

Aveseh Asough  
Communications Officer







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## GOODWILL MESSAGE

Dear WANEP- Nigeria ,

I extend my warmest greetings to all members and staff of WANEP-Nigeria. My heartfelt congratulations go to you for the outstanding achievements in the year 2023. The unwavering commitment demonstrated by you all shows WANEP-Nigeria's dedication to the development of peace-building architectures in Nigeria, as well as the enhancement of the capacity of relevant stakeholders in the communities where we operate.

I am confident that 2024 will bring further success for WANEP-Nigeria. And we will continue to set exemplary standards in West Africa, with our members leading the way in their respective states. They do not only speak about peace-building but also set commendable examples of how peace builders should conduct themselves. My sincere appreciation also goes to our partners and donors for their invaluable support. We are grateful and eagerly anticipate continued support from you. Each one of us plays a crucial role in ensuring peace in all our communities in Nigeria and beyond.

In conclusion, dear members and staff of WANEP- Nigeria, let us persist in our selfless and dedicated efforts to ensuring peace in our great nation

I wish us all a joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Warm regards,

Kolawole Olatosimi Adenola  
Board Chairman, WANEP-Nigeria



**Happy Cheers to you, your families and your friends.**





### Q4/FY23 QRM-Kaduna

The Quarterly Review Meeting for this quarter held in Kaduna for three days, at the Butterfly Hotel in Kabala Doki area between October 22nd to 24th, 2023.



### PARTNER Strategic Meeting with WANEP-Nigeria BoD and BoT

The Peace Action for Rapid and Transformative Nigerian Early Response Program (PARTNER) held a Strategic Stakeholders forum with the Board of Directors of WANEP, Nigeria on Tuesday, 10th October, 2023 at the Hotel 2020, Abuja, Nigeria. The high profile event aimed to among other things, orientate the WANEP - Nigeria's Board of Directors /Board of Trustees and the General Assembly on PARTNER's activities and Transition plan. In attendance were key staff from USAID - Nigeria, Mercy Corps, Nigeria, staff and members of BoD, WANEP - Nigeria.



### Peace Education

WANEP- Nigeria on October 4, 2023 conducted a Peace Education Training in Lagos at the Unity Junior and Senior Secondary Schools in Ajegunle, Ajeromi-Ifelodun LGA under Education District, Lagos State. The training session was attended by a total of 51 students across both schools. The students were very receptive to learning about peaceful coexistence, and pledged to be peer mediators and peace ambassadors.

### Anthony Model Nursery honored WANEP-Nigeria

Anthony Model Nursery / Primary School Anthony Village Lagos honored WANEP-Nigeria at their 31st Annual Inter house Sport Athletic competition, which held on November 29, 2023. The pupils competed under the law of the Amateur Athletic Federation of Nigeria in Various track and field events. Four houses identified by colours Blue Purple, Green and Yellow competed in the event. One of the houses was named as WANEP House to honor the organization for a continuous support to them in Peace Education. All the pupils participated by the rules and exhibited a high level of sportsmanship. At the end of the program, Yellow House (WANEP House) got the first position



### Program Management Training (PM@MC)-Abuja

Understanding the entire framework of Program Management is key to effective program implementation. In this regard, Mercy Corps, Nigeria organized an intensive 5-Day Training for staff of the PARTNER consortium in Abuja. The Training covered all important aspects of Project Management.





### Research Dissemination Workshop and Stakeholder Meeting

The University of Lagos Centre for Housing and Sustainable Development in collaboration with the University of Sheffield, Nigeria UK Housing Society, WANEP-Nigeria and other stakeholders organised a research dissemination Workshop and stakeholders meeting on Migration, Urbanisation and Conflict in African Cities. The one day program aimed to present the research findings to stakeholders, receive feedback and co - create recommendations for peaceful African Urban Futures. The Head of Programs, WANEP-Nigeria, Ms Patience Ikpeh-Obaulo made a presentation on the "Overarching Conflict Situation in Jos, Plateau State and Lokoja, Kogi State, Nigeria"

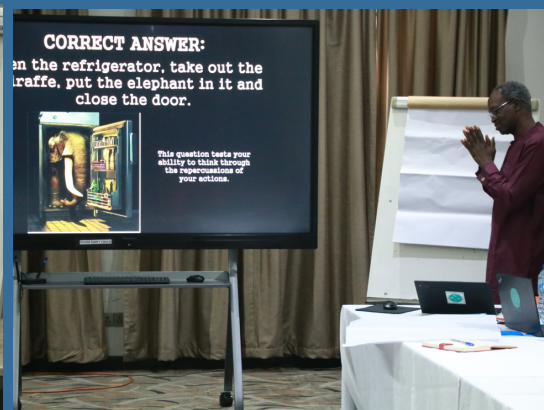






## GRANT AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT TRAINING

In alignment with WANEP's strategic objective 4(SO4) to strengthen its institutional capacity, a five-day Grant and Financial management training was conducted by Mercy Corps, Nigeria for key WANEP-Nigeria staff which held from the 23rd to 28th of October, 2023 in Lagos. The training was aimed at strengthening WANEP's transformation from a project to vision-based institution for efficient delivery of its organizational goals.





**PARTNER Activity: Stakeholders Mapping and Validation in Kano, Katsina, Benue and Nasarawa States**



The selection, nomination, and validation of members of the community-based structures was carried out across tier two states of the PARTNER Activity. In Katsina State, the exercise was conducted in Makera and Ungwan Dangaje in Dutsin Ma LGA, and Birchi and Kurfi towns in Kurfi LGAs.

The stakeholders validated the religious leaders, elders, and traditional leaders and unanimously agreed that political leaders and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) should be included as they are influential in decision-making processes in the community.

In Kano, the exercise was carried out in Panshekera and Kumbotso communities in Kumbotso, and Kura LGAs. The participants were males, females, youths, and PWDs.

The stakeholders pledged their commitment to foster and contribute to peaceful coexistence in the community. A total number of 173 participants were in attendance and 60 persons were selected for both the Early Warning Monitoring and Reporting Groups and Community Based Reconciliation Committees. The two groups that were formed have 8 members in the EVMRG and 7 members in the CBRC respectively.

In Nasarawa State, Awe LGA had Tsohon Tunga and Sabon Tunga communities while in Benue State, Makurdi LGA had Agan and North Bank communities.





## Resource Mapping & Needs Assessment

Staff from WANEP-Nigeria and PPBA supporting Mercy Corps carried out a PARTNER Activity Resource Mapping and Needs Assessment which took place in Plateau and Kaduna States, on various dates within this quarter.



## Inauguration of stakeholders into the community-based structures.



The PARTNER consortium, led by WANEP-Nigeria, officially inaugurated the validated community representatives into community-based structures. These structures comprise the Early Warning Monitoring and Reporting Group (EWMRG) and the Community-Based Reconciliation Committee (CBRC). Implemented in 12 communities across Kano, Katsina, Nasarawa, and Benue State. This initiative reflects PARTNER's deliberate commitment to establishing peace structures that strengthen linkages between early warning systems and responsive mechanisms.



## DO NO HARM Trainings



Development workers have a duty to ensure Conflict Sensitivity in the communities where they carry out interventions. This is because their work could either escalate or mitigate Conflict. In line with this, the PARTNER Activity organized a series of Do No Harm and Conflict Sensitivity Training for CSOs, in Jos Plateau and Kaduna states with WANEP, Nigeria key staff and Network members in attendance. Training took place in Kaduna and Plateau between 22nd and 30th November, 2023, organized by Mercy Corps, Nigeria.





## 16 Days Of Activism

WANEP-Nigeria's commitment to inclusive peacebuilding is evident in its involvement in the 16 Days of Activism campaign, highlighting the necessity for united efforts in eliminating violence against women and girls. The 16 Days of Activism initiative significantly contributes to advancing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by advocating for gender equality, reducing inequalities, and promoting peace, justice, and robust institutions. The WANEP-Nigeria maiden edition of the Gender Talks Series focused on this year's theme: "Preventing and Addressing Violence Against Women And Girls In Nigeria. Over thirty (30) persons attended the program virtually on November 22, 2023.

**WANEP-Nigeria**  
Joins the campaign to commemorate  
**16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2023**  
Theme: **UNITE! Invest to Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls in Nigeria**  
Date: 25th Nov - 10th Dec 2023

**NATIONAL GENDER TALK SERIES #1**  
TOPIC: **PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN NIGERIA.**  
DATE: Nov. 22nd 2023  
TIME: 11:00 AM

**Priscilla Usiobafo**  
Executive Director, Brainsmart Initiative for Youth and Women (BIW) Edo State

**Farouk Muhammed**  
WPE focal officer, Osun State Ministry of Women Affairs and Secretary, HAFORHO Network Osun State

wanep-nigeria@wanep.org



## Community women commemorate 16 Days Of Activism

The USAID-funded PARTNER initiative facilitated town hall meetings organized by women from the community-based structures in the Rafin Pa/Bible Faith communities of Jos North LGA, Plateau State. Themed "EMPOWERING WOMEN: Unveiling Strength, Inspiring Change," the event, attended by 46 women, encouraged discussions and shared experiences, empowering participants and underscoring the importance of collective action against gender-based violence. The gathering also emphasized the significance of comprehending legal frameworks, sustained community engagement, and collaboration with various stakeholders to drive positive transformations.



You can contribute to our newsletter by sending in your short articles, Poems, Jokes, short stories and cartoons to be featured in our next edition:  
[aasough@wanep.org](mailto:aasough@wanep.org)



## Women with Disability and PARTNER



WANEP-Nigeria in collaboration with the Women with Disability Self Reliance Foundation (WWDSRF) organized a 3-day training workshop in Kakuri, Kaduna South LGA, Kaduna State, drawing participants from various Local Government Areas (LGAs) and ethnicities. A total of 33 participants who were persons with disabilities (Women and Girls) were empowered with skills to actively report issues affecting them and their communities, with key objectives including improving accessibility to knowledge and reporting services, fostering social and systemic change to reduce stigma and discrimination, and enhancing the capacity of women and girls with disabilities to provide legal advice and mediation.

Follow-up actions and recommendations emerged, including the integration of Early Warning Early Response (EWER) framework with inclusive strategies, fostering community engagement initiatives for women's safety, and actively challenging societal misconceptions. Individual commitments underscored the importance of dismantling harmful stereotypes, acquiring contact information for security agencies, and sensitizing communities on gender-based violence.

### Key observations included

Recognition of the significance of reporting mechanisms, their commitment to proactive roles, increased awareness of legal frameworks, and a broadened understanding of disabilities. Several individuals expressed their commitment to disseminating knowledge, reporting potential conflict indicators, and emphasizing the importance of reporting incidents of violence.





## Participatory Community Livelihood Validation and Selection in Katsina and Kaduna State

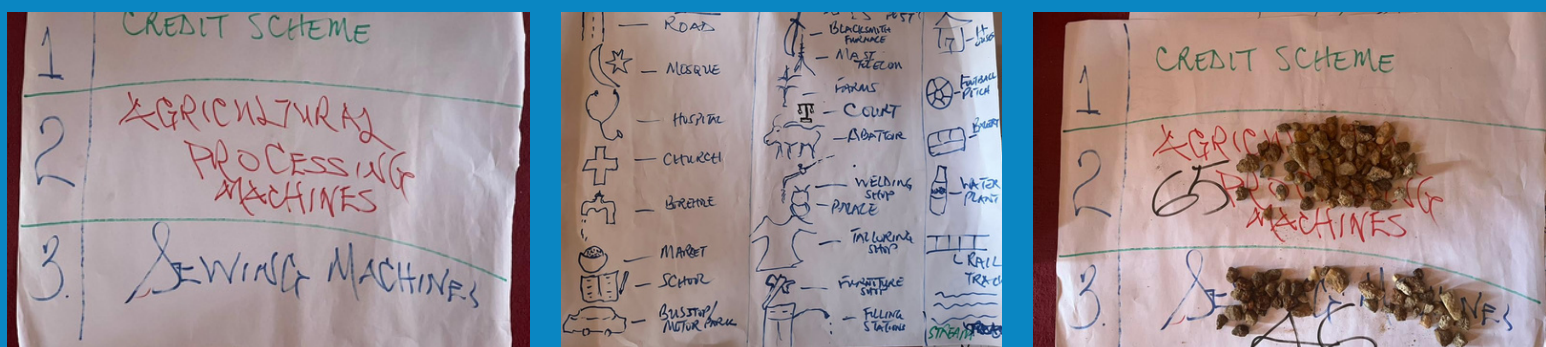


In response to the volatile conditions in the target states and the existing opportunities within, the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP-Nigeria), with support from UNDP, seeks to foster sustainable livelihoods in local communities. The initiative aims to achieve this through economic empowerment, leveraging existing networks to enhance community understanding of transhumance patterns. This strategic approach aims to prevent, mitigate, and resolve rising tensions that could escalate into violent conflicts.

Objectives of the activity include: Prioritizing community needs through the enhancement of capacity within selected community-based cooperatives to provide technical and resource support to target beneficiaries; Conducting a participatory Livelihood Resource Mapping Dialogue based on the findings of the Livelihood Needs Assessment; Selecting and organizing target beneficiaries at the project sites in alignment with the outcomes of the Livelihood Needs Assessment.

Consequently, the project is designed to address the multifaceted challenges confronting communities in the North-West region. The goal of the project is to reinforce non-military responses to conflicts by bolstering existing infrastructures for peace, creating safe spaces for inclusive community dialogue, and fortifying the resilience of conflict-affected communities through improved access to sustainable livelihoods.

Special emphasis was placed on the participation of marginalized groups, including youth, women, Persons with Disabilities (PWD), and ethnic minorities. This approach ensures that the development initiatives align with the specific needs and aspirations of the community. By engaging a broad spectrum of stakeholders, the project aims to foster inclusivity, sustainability, and community ownership.





## Birthday celebrants



Bridget Osakwe  
OCT 9



Manji Danjuma Mangrock  
OCT 16



Aveseh Asough  
Oct 25



Emmanuel Ami-Okhani  
DEC 20

## ABOUT US

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) was established in 1998 as a regional Civil Society Organization focused on conflict prevention and peacebuilding in West Africa. With its headquarters in Accra, Ghana, WANEP has formed strong national networks in the 15 ECOWAS Member States, comprising over 750 member organizations in the region.

WANEP aims to foster collaborative relationships among peacebuilding organizations to prevent and resolve conflicts. Its expertise lies in facilitating structural and social reforms by providing a platform for concerted efforts among West African societies.

In Nigeria, WANEP-Nigeria was established and registered in 2001 and 2003, respectively, serving as an organized platform for indigenous Non-Governmental Organizations to collaborate on peacebuilding, conflict transformation, and development. Operating through a network membership structure, WANEP-Nigeria provides technical support to its members across all 36 states of Nigeria and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT-Abuja), while encouraging the development of context-specific intervention strategies.

The network's key focus areas include Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET), Early Warning and Response, Active Non-violence and Peace Education, Democracy and Good Governance, and Research and Documentation.



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