

**WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR  
PEACEBUILDING - NIGERIA**

.....BUILDING RELATIONSHIP FOR PEACE

# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

***Strengthening Resilience for  
Sustainable Peace and Security:  
Advancing Localization in  
Peacebuilding Efforts in Nigeria.***



<https://wanepnigeria.org/>



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



United States Institute of Peace



Economic Community of West African States



# VISION & MISSION

## Vision:

A Nigeria characterized by just and peaceful coexistence among communities where dignity of the human person is paramount and where the people can meet their basic human needs and decide their own direction

## Mission:

To enable and facilitate the development of mechanisms for cooperation among civil society based peacebuilding practitioners and organizations in Nigeria by providing cooperative responses to violent conflicts; providing structure through which these practitioners and institutions can regularly share experiences and information on peacebuilding, conflict transformation, social, ethno-religious and political reconciliation and tolerance; and promoting cultural values as resources for peacebuilding

## Goal:

To build a sustainable peaceful coexistence amongst all the various sectors and groups of the Nigerian community; thereby creating an enabling environment for national growth and development

*WANEP-Nigeria is a national Network of the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, West Africa regional Network with headquarters at Accra-Ghana. It provides an organized platform for collaborative peacebuilding by indigenous Non Governmental Organisations for conflict transformation and development in Nigeria.*





# OBJECTIVE OF WANEP-NIGERIA



- Strengthen the peacebuilding capacities of organizations and practitioners to actively engage in the prevention and/or peaceful transformation of violent conflicts in Nigeria.
- Increase awareness and use of non-violent strategies as a proactive response to conflicts in order to avoid violence
- Promote principled and responsive leadership in the country within context that appreciates the culture of non-violence, advocates for just social, political structures and relationships
- Engender conflict prevention and peacebuilding issues in the country
- Harmonize and develop conflict prevention through peacebuilding activities by networking and coordination of WANEP members into viable networks and mechanisms

## OPERATING PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

- Belief in mutual respect for one another;
- Transparency and accountability;
- Gender equality and zero tolerance to discrimination (sex, tribe/ethnicity, race, HIV-AIDS status etc);
- Collegiality, teamwork and dedication to duty;
- Tolerance and respect for diversity;
- Justice for all;
- Quality delivery;
- Collaboration and consultation

***Established since 2001, WANEP-Nigeria is the largest peacebuilding Network in Nigeria with a membership spread of 120 Community Based on Non Governmental Organizations operating in the 36 States of Nigeria including the Federal Capital Territory (FCT)***



## BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Kolawole Olatosimi	Board Chairman
Barrister Margret Nwagbo	Director - Training and Capacity Building
Dr. Nsekpong Archibong Udoh	Director of Treasury and Finance
Mallam Yunusa Zakari Ya'u	Director of Communication
Mr. Kolawole Amusat	Member
Muhammed Golkos Wuyo	Member
Dr. Bridget Osakwe	National Network Coordinator and Secretary to the Board

## ZONAL COORDINATORS

Dr. Christiana Bolanle Omidiji	South West
Ms. Bridget Affiah	South South
Comrade Nelson Nnanna	South East
Hajiya Amina Bala Jibrin	North East
Dr. Muhammed Mustapha Yahaya	North West
Nathaniel Msen Awuapila	North Central

## STATE COORDINATORS

Bukola Adedeji	Ekiti State
Toyin Oshaniwa	Lagos State
Mojisola Akinsanya	Ogun State
Ayo Okelana	Osun State
Dr. Don Michael Adeniji	Oyo State

## WIPNET FOCAL PERSONS

Loretta Ahuokpsu	South South
Hope Nkeiruka	South East
Ijeoma Ladele	South West
Hannah Yakubu	North Central



# MANAGEMENT TEAM

Dr. Bridget Usifo Osakwe

Ms. Patience Obaulo

Mr. Austin Eneanya

Mr. Kevin Abonyi

Ms. Osariemen Amas-Edobor

National Network Coordinator

Head of Program

Finance Manager

Program Manager

Deputy Chief of Party



Ms. Patience Obaulo  
Head of Program



Mr. Austin Eneanya  
Finance Manager



Dr. Bridget Usifo Osakwe  
National Network Coordinator



Mr. Kevin Abonyi  
Program Manager



Ms. Osariemen Amas-Edobor  
Deputy Chief of Party

# WANEP NIGERIA: Who We Are and What We Do

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding Nigeria (WANEP-Nigeria) was established out of necessity to provide an organized platform for collaborative peacebuilding for social change and stable democracy in Nigeria by indigenous organizations working in the area of conflict transformation, peacebuilding and good governance. Its operational framework was designed along the visions of the regional network operating in West Africa, Chad and Cameroun with the ultimate goal of building sustainable peace for growth and development in the region.

WANEP Nigeria operations are structured along the geo-political constellation of Nigeria and targets grassroots ownership of peacebuilding initiatives through its member organizations in all the thirty six (36) states of Nigeria including the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). Membership of WANEP-Nigeria, pursuant to constitutional provisions is for organizations with 40% conflict transformation and peacebuilding initiatives. Some of these organizations however have other areas of competence other than peacebuilding. WANEP-Nigeria has over 200 member organizations spread across the six geo-political zones of the country.

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

- **Active Non-Violence and Peace Education:** Strives to institutionalize non-violence and peace education in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary institutions in Nigeria
- **Conflict Prevention:** Works towards the establishment of civil society early warning and response system in Nigeria, which is linked to ECOWAS conflict prevention mechanism at the regional level. It also works with relevant government and inter-governmental agencies towards Disaster Risk Reduction in the country.
- **Democracy and Good Governance:** Designed to strengthen governance capacities through developing and integrating conflict management systems at different levels of governance and also ensure transparency in decision making.
- **Women in Peace building (WIPNET):** Offer opportunity for the participation of women in peace building mechanisms through a coordinated network that facilitates advocacy, reconciliation and transformation skills.
- **Research, Documentation and Network Coordination:** Promotes cross-fertilization of resources and expertise among zones.





# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

**Mr. Kolawole Olatosimi**

Happy New Year Everybody!

While we wish everyone a happy and impactful New Year, we will not fail to equally commiserate with the families who lost loved ones in the outgoing year. The year 2024 was filled with intensified violence across the country and near-daily attacks by armed groups on communities. Early Warning report from the WANEP Nigeria National Early Warning System (NEWS) recorded over 100 incidences of rape primarily women and girls, over 1600 incidences of communal clashes, kidnaps and violent attacks by gunmen with suspected Boko Haram insurgents continued attacks on states in North East Nigeria.

With the myriads of security challenges witnessed in the country, we commend the efforts of the Board Members and the network members in ensuring the attainment of the organization's goal - **"To Build a sustainable peaceful co-existence amongst all the various sectors and groups of the Nigerian community, thereby creating an enabling environment for national growth and development"**. More so, I want to express my profound gratitude to the National Network Coordinator and the entire staff for their unwavering commitment to meeting set out organizational objectives, despite increasing rates of violence, health risks, dangerous road conditions, and financial constraints, I salute their courage and professionalism. I want to welcome to the WANEP fold the new staff that were recruited into key positions during the year with field officers in five states including Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Plateau and Nasarawa. They resumed with so much enthusiasm and this was visible in their work. The staff deserve commendation for the hard work and demonstrated bravery in the face of difficult times.

It is noteworthy to mention that last year WANEP celebrated its 25th Anniversary as a network. The steady progress the network has made in the past 25 years which has culminated into the workforce of one hundred and nineteen (119) officers in the fifteen (15) national offices in West Africa, was made possible under the visionary leadership of the founding Executive Directors Mr. Samuel Gbaydee I. Doe and Emmanuel Bombande. They set the building blocks on which the outgoing Executive Director Dr. Chukwuemeka Eze institutionalized the network.





. WANEP has embraced its role as a catalyst of change and will continue to chart the path ahead as a foremost peacebuilding network. Today, we are proud to inform you that WANEP has a new Executive Director. The first female executive director since the inception of the network in person of Ms. Levinia Addae Mensah. We pledge our support and commitment in promoting peace and security in the region. During the year, WANEP Nigeria continued work on the Peace Action for Rapid Transformative Nigerian Early Response (PARTNER) Project as the capacity of the consortium members were built by the prime organization Mercy Corps. The project activities contributed to WANEP's Strategic Objective One, enhancing citizens' capacity to leverage early warning systems in support of response mechanisms, through training sessions targeting community-based structures in Tier 2 states—Kano, Katsina, Benue, and Nasarawa. Indeed, the training equipped over 120 participants in the four states with the skills to effectively identify, monitor, and report early warning signals, incorporating gender-sensitive indicators as a strategic framework to bolster resilience and community preparedness while mitigating the risks of conflict escalation.

The success of the PARTNER project made it possible for USAID to award WANEP-Nigeria the prime recipient of the transition award for the PARTNER II project. A three-year award to be implemented by the consortium members including the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), Kaduna State Peace Commission (KSPC), Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA), Mambayya House, The Kukah Centre and the Benue State Commission for Peace and Reconciliation (BECPR). This is an exemplary achievement that further projects the organization as a foremost peacebuilding network in Nigeria.

In the outgoing year, meetings were held with the Board, zonal coordinators and network members to understand the conflict context in each state/ zone and projects implemented to mitigate conflict and promote peace by WANEP. In the North East zone, for the first time in seven years elections were held to elect a new zonal coordinator, state coordinators and other key officers. It is a new dawn for the North East zone as the network members welcomed the developments and receive the new zonal coordinator with open arms willing and ready to work with her toward building peace in the zone. In the South East Zone, WANEP through the Research & Action For Peace (RECAP) Project held Capacity-building training for civil society actors, women and youth groups on conflict prevention, violent extremism, crisis management and peacebuilding in Imo State. The network members expressed their gratitude to the network for this long awaited initiative to increase the technical competencies of members to contribute to effective peacebuilding in the zone.

Another laudable achievement was the ability to reach a large number of persons utilizing the social media and other virtual platforms in digital peacebuilding. Under the Women, Peace and Security program twitter chats were held to commemorate international celebrated days such as the International Women's Day and World Peace Day. Also, the virtual platforms were utilized in projecting the voices of women through the National Gender Talk series. The talk series were organized on varied topics such as "Investing In Women Accelerating Progress Towards the Actualization of UNSCR 1325 In Nigeria; Technology for Peace: Leveraging Digital Tools to Enhance Women's Participation in Peace and Unite To End Violence Against Women And Girls In Nigeria" recording over 70 persons in attendance in each series.

While WANEP-Nigeria was reaching these significant milestones, it continued to develop the ability of the secretariat personnel to enhance their abilities to effectively accomplish organisational goals. A number of training seminars on project management, grant and financial management, interest-based negotiation and mediation, do-no-harm, and conflict sensitivity were beneficial to the twenty-four (24) staff members. Also, as part of the capacity strengthening strategies on the PARTNER Project funded by USAID, five (5) WANEP staff members were engaged in a 3-months accompaniment program at Mercy Corps Nigeria (MCN), targeted at strengthening organizational capacities related to financial, compliance and operational systems within the Network. The secretariat's efforts to raise funds, establish and maintain ties with donor agencies were at their best due to increased capability. Several partners, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP), and Urgent Action Fund Africa (UAF), Global Affairs Canada, United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) to name a few, extended their programmes with WANEP in Nigeria. This is commendable as we continue to partner with these organizations towards promoting peace and human security.





With the new year before us and the increasing security challenges, as a network we need to have all hands-on deck towards actualizing our vision **“A Nigeria characterized by just and peaceful coexistence amongst communities where dignity of the human person is paramount and where the people can meet their basic human needs and decide their own direction”**. I have no doubt that if we synergize and partner, we will achieve significantly better results than if we were to operate individually in preventing, fostering and maintaining peace amongst/within communities in Nigeria.

Thank you



Barrister Margret Nwagbo  
Director - Training and  
Capacity Building



Dr. Nsekpang Archibong Udoh  
Director of Treasury and Finance



Mallam Yunusa Zakari Ya'u  
Director of Communication



Mr. Kolawole Olatosimi  
Board Chairman



Mr. Kolawole Amusat  
Member



Muhammed Golkos Wuyo  
Member



Dr. Bridget Osakwe  
National Network Coordinator  
and Secretary to the Board



# Message from the National Network Coordinator

**Dr. Briget Osakwe**

***Strengthening Resilience for Sustainable Peace and Security: Advancing Localization in Peacebuilding Efforts in Nigeria.***

We are delighted to welcome everyone to another year filled with great potential and prospects as we envision 2025. For us in WANEP Nigeria, the outgoing year was a challenging year engulfed with emerging security threats and the need to build community resilience to mitigate these security challenges became expedient. The year opened with a set of coordinated attacks on January 23, 2024 where thirty (30) persons were reported killed by armed gun men alleged to be herders at Kwahaslalek village in Mangu Local Government Area (LGA) of Plateau State. Victims who were cut up in the violence, mostly women and children, who had ran to the house of a community leader in the area on the previous night for safety following earlier unrest during the day in Mangu town where surrounded and killed by the gunmen.

This was a follow up from a previous attack that took place between December 23 and 25, 2023 where armed gun men had also carried out a series of violent coordinated attacks on twenty- three (23) local villages identified as Christian farming communities including Lisha community Kwahasnat, KambarIpelli, Mutfyan, Pushit etc in three local Government Areas (LGAs) - Barkin Ladi, Bokkos and Mangu of Plateau State. Preliminary reports by volunteers of the Nigerian Red Cross Society after an on-the-spot assessment indicate that over 213 individuals lost their lives because of these attacks[1].

In other zones across the country, there were reports of continuous spread of violent extremism, armed banditry, with emerging **Lakurawa group** creating its own space for wreaking havoc. The phenomenon of agro – pastoralist conflicts with its attendant aggravation of existing community conflicts, widening mistrust between citizens and security agencies continued to impact communities.





Gender Based Violence, inter-communal violence, ritual killings, mob justice and intimidation of citizens by the law enforcement agents to mention but a few also held their sway. It is noteworthy to mention that the successionist agitations in the South East zone with the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) equally threatened the peaceful co-existence of people in the region. The five states in the zone – Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, and Imo States bound by the stay-at-home orders on Mondays imposed by the IPOB had a negative effect on the socioeconomic activities of the region. Guided by its mantra of **“Building Relationships for Peace”**, WANEP Nigeria through her different program areas was able to synergize with varied stakeholders to build peace within communities.

Aligning with the organization’s vision and mission to foster social cohesion and conflict transformation at all levels of society. WANEP Nigeria in the outgoing year reaffirmed its dedication as a key member of the USAID-funded Peace Action for Rapid and Transformative Nigerian Early Response (PARTNER) consortium. This initiative brings together a diverse coalition of partners, including Mercy Corps Nigeria (MCN), the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), the Kaduna State Peace Commission (KSPC), the Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA), The Kukah Centre (TKC), Mambayya House, and other Independent State Peace Architectures. (ISPAs). These organizations collaborate at national, sub-national, and community levels to address critical peace and security challenges. The intervention focused on selected states in the North Central and North Western zones of the country including tier 1 states—Kaduna and Plateau—and tier 2 states—Kano, Katsina, Benue, and Nasarawa.

The project made notable progress by fostering collaboration among a wide range of stakeholders to achieve its three overarching objectives: early warning, early response (EWER), peacebuilding and social cohesion. The implementation of the project activities was guided by an inclusive approach that prioritized the participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and marginalized ethnic groups. A conflict-sensitive framework supported by data-driven insights further strengthened the effectiveness of the project’s activities.

These activities included continuous training on Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) for the forty – five (45) community based structures including Early Warning Monitoring and Reporting Groups (EWMRG) and Community – Based Reconciliation Committees (CBRC), interest-based negotiation, and mediation for community stakeholders in the tier-two states of Kano, Katsina, Benue, and Nasarawa. Additionally, the project supported community-driven peace action plans, which prioritized local efforts to enhance social cohesion among multi-ethnic and multi-religious groups. Other initiatives addressed the root causes of conflict, such as youth restiveness and drug abuse, and commemorated key peacebuilding events, including International Youth Day, International Women’s Day, and the 16 Days of Activism. The project also conducted women-centered dialogues and capacity-building sessions on gender-sensitive monitoring and reporting.

These concerted efforts yielded evidence as behavioral changes were increasingly evident, with communities demonstrating a willingness to improve peace outcomes through initiatives such as inter-community exchange visits and self-led rehabilitation projects,





even without external support from the consortium partners. One of its most significant achievements has been the enhanced capacity of local partners. Thus, it is with delight, I announce that WANEP-Nigeria is now the prime recipient of the transition award for USAID-PARTNER II, a milestone that highlights the organization's leadership and underscores the global development community's commitment to localization and sustainability.

Still under the Conflict Prevention program, the secretariat was able to enhance reporting on WANEP's National Early Warning System (NEWS), as refresher training was held on identifying and reporting early warning signs for over sixty (60) community monitors. The services of additional community monitors were engaged to contribute to data collection within communities in Nigeria. A total of Fifty-two (52) weekly highlights, twelve (12) monthly bulletins and 6 situation tracking updates were shared with state and non-state actors across Nigeria with an increasing demand by more stakeholders to be part of the link serve.

During the year WANEP continued the project on "Localization of Women, Peace and Security Resolutions in Nigeria" in partnership with the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP). One key activity was the monitoring and evaluation of the Localization of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 in Bauchi and Gombe States. The outcome from interviews conducted revealed that the established Localization Steering Committees in Katagum and Toro LGAs in Bauchi State; Balanga and Kwami LGAs in Gombe State have been working with key stakeholders to implement the Local Action Plan (LAPs) on UNSCR 1325. In Gombe State, feedback reports have revealed that the Localization Steering Committee in Balanga LGA has been partnering with the state government in initiating peace dialogues between conflicting communities and providing support to women survivors of violence in Nyuor community.

In partnership with the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (FMWASD). WANEP Nigeria launch of the **"Guidelines for the Localization of Nigeria's National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and Related Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security"**. The Guidelines represents a significant milestone in Nigeria's efforts to promote gender equality and peacebuilding. By providing local actors, civil society organizations, and government authorities with practical tools and knowledge, the guidelines facilitate the effective implementation of UNSCR 1325 and the Nigeria National Action Plan (NAP) On Women, Peace, and Security at the grassroots level. The Localization Guideline has been used to empower over forty (40) young women and Civil Society Organizations to play active roles in shaping peace processes and promoting security within their communities. The FMWASD in recognition of WANEP relentless efforts in advancing the Women Peace and Security Agenda (WPS) nominated WANEP as a member of Technical Working Committee for the development of the third NAP on UNSCR 1325 in Nigeria.





Still within the Women, Peace and Security program, as an aftermath of the attacks that took place in Plateau State between December 24 2023 and January 23, 2024 WANEP Nigeria in collaboration with Urgent Action Fund -Africa, carry out an urgent intervention in the state. The project aimed at analysing the current security threats and violent occurrences in four Local Government Areas (LGA) of Plateau State namely – Barkin Ladi, Bokkos, Mangu and Wase. Identifying the root causes that have fuelled the cycle of unrest, its effects on women and foster understanding on the relevance of an inclusivity approach to build a foundation for lasting peace within communities in the state. Advocacy visits were held to garner the support of key stakeholders towards promoting peace in the state. Those visited included Secretary Plateau State Gender and Equal Opportunity Commission, the Deputy Commandant Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and the traditional leader of Mangu LGA HRH Daa Moses Dawop.

Trainings were held on Conflict Mitigation and Peace Dialogue for Stakeholders from Barkin Ladi, Bokkos, Mangu and Wase Local Government Areas (LGAs). Town hall Meeting was held with key stakeholders on Enhancing Community Policing in Plateau State. Over eighty (80) stakeholders had their capacity enhanced from the four affected LGAs in Plateau State. As part of the project activities, the policy brief titled **“Strengthening Peace Structures and Adopting Rights Based Approaches to Addressing the Conflict in Plateau State, Nigeria”** was published and disseminated to stakeholders.

In the active non -violence and peace education program, our attention was drawn to the **constant attacks on schools, abductions, and deaths of many school children in Nigeria** which led to the **Federal Executive Council’s approval of the memo for the Implementation of the Safe School Declaration (SSD) in Nigeria in 2019. With Nigeria’s adoption of a National Policy on the Safety and Security of Schools and the development of a Minimum Standard for Safe Schools** arouse the need to create awareness and expedite action. **WANEP Nigeria in partnership with Women Advocates Research and Documentation Centre (WARDC) during the year engaged educational stakeholders to demand accountability for the Safe School Declaration (SSD) through the adoption of a legal framework and development of a costed/financing road map for effective implementation of the SSD in Lagos State.**

To build a culture of peace the capacity of over fifty (50) young persons within the Lagos State Special Correctional Centre for Boys Oregun was built on active non-violence. Also a hundred (100) out of school street children were equipped with peacebuilding skills to enable them resolve disputes amongst their peers. Advocacy and lobbying of legislators of the Lagos State House of Assembly for the passage of the Peace Education bill for the introduction of Peace education in Primary and Post primary schools in Lagos State continued with the bill still on the floor of the House of Assembly. We expect that with the recent emergence of Honourable Mojisola Lasbat Meranda as the first female Speaker of the Lagos State House of Assembly, the bill will be passed by the legislators.





We will not fail to mention that with pledged support from our partner the United Nations Development Programmes' (UNDP) the project **Strengthening Local and State Level Peace Architecture for Peacebuilding And Prevention In Katsina And Kaduna States Of North-West Nigeria** was a success. Over a hundred and twenty (120) persons benefited from the economic livelihood programme in 2 selected LGAs of Kaita & Faskari in Katsina State and Kachia and Kaura LGAs in Kaduna State. WANEP Nigeria earned recognition and got the express commitment of the Katsina State Government to continue with the programme to alleviate the poverty of the people particularly targeting women and youth affected by violent conflicts and natural disasters.

Other highlights of the year included encouraging young women peacebuilding initiatives at community level. One of such initiatives was the school-based awareness creation program on girls' rights and gender based violence in three secondary schools in Imo State, Nigeria to commemorate the 16 days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence. **Empowering Change And Strengthening Commitments "Unite To End Violence Against Women And Girls sensitization programs were also held in Kaduna, Plateau, Nassarawa and Benue States to commemorate the day.** Bearing in mind the impact of Sports in promoting unity among the young persons in the community, WANEP- Nigeria continued its support to the Annual Interhouse sports of St Anthony Model Primary School Lagos. The program provides the platform for WANEP Nigeria to sensitize the pupils to embrace the culture of peace and always dismiss all forms of violence. I am happy to inform you that WANEP is gradually becoming a household name engaging with Schools to promote a culture of peace through sports in Lagos State.

An Exchange Learning Program between Life and Peace Institute (LPI) and the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) on the development of Nigeria's National Action Plan On The United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2250 was held in Abuja, Nigeria, Although exceptional strides have been made in developing the Youth, Peace and Security National Action Plans (NAPs) with Nigeria being the first country in Africa to develop a NAP on UNSCR 2250 in November 2021, countries in the Horn of Africa still working on initial implementation are willing to learn the process. The exchange program provided the platform to educate forty (40) civil society partners and state agencies from the Horn of Africa on the processes in the development of Nigeria's NAP on UNSCR 2250.

For all these laudable achievements, I express my sincere gratitude to the entire WANEP Nigeria staff as the ability to achieve our expected results despite mounting financial challenges and insecurity is indeed a reflection of the agility and commitment exhibited by the staff members. They worked tirelessly and swiftly to ensure that all planned projects were implemented with no extensions. Twenty persons were recruited during the year to fill different key positions within the network including field officers in the PARTNER Project States, Internal Audit specialist, Human Resource Manager, Operations Manager, Finance Officers, Security Officer, IT Officer Drivers, etc bringing the total number of staff across the country to thirty – seven (37). Indeed, a big family. Also, for all the good work behind the scene, I say a big thank you to our board. They have been on track keeping abreast of the activities conducted by the secretariat and providing the needed support to achieve our strategic objectives.





Great appreciation to our partners including the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP), Global Affairs Canada, Urgent Action Fund - Africa, Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, United States Institute for Peace (USIP), United States Department of State, United States Embassy in Nigeria, Mercy Corps- Nigeria, Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), School Based Management Committee (SBMC), the Lagos State House of Assembly, United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), for their financial and technical support. To our network members we remain grateful for your belief in the network and continued commitment in working towards building peace within communities in Nigeria. To our mother organization, WANEP Regional Office, we say a big thank you for always being available to give us the needed support and guidance.

In this new year as we thread the murky waters of life especially in Nigeria, we promise to intensify our peacebuilding efforts. We put out a solidarity call to action to all stakeholders, to build on existing partnerships in sustaining peace, security and development within communities in Nigeria in 2025.

I remain optimistic and hopeful even in the face of these adversities. There is indeed HOPE.

Thank you.



## PEACE ACTION FOR RAPID AND TRANSFORMATIVE NIGERIAN EARLY RESPONSE (PARTNER)

### Strengthening Local Resilience for Sustainable Peace: Advancing Localization in Peacebuilding Effort...

In line with Strategic Objective 1 (SO1) and other cross-cutting objectives, WANEP-Nigeria has reaffirmed its dedication as a key member of the USAID-funded Peace Action for Rapid and Transformative Nigerian Early Response (PARTNER) consortium. This initiative brings together a diverse coalition of partners, including Mercy Corps Nigeria (MCN), the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), the Kaduna State Peace Commission (KSPC), the Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA), The Kukah Centre (TKC), Mambayya House, and other Independent State Peace Architectures (ISPAs). These organizations collaborate at national, sub-national, and community levels to address critical peace and security challenges.

The PARTNER Activity is designed to enhance citizens' capacity to utilize early warning systems and response mechanisms to improve peace outcomes in selected Local Government Areas (LGAs) and communities across North Central and Northwest Nigeria. The intervention focuses on tier 1 states—Kaduna and Plateau—and tier 2 states—Kano, Katsina, Benue, and Nasarawa. These regions face severe challenges, including sectarian conflicts and overlapping security threats, which continue to undermine community stability and well-being.

During Fiscal Year 2024, the project made notable progress by fostering collaboration among a wide range of stakeholders to achieve its three overarching objectives: early warning, early response (EWER), peacebuilding and social cohesion. The implementation of these objectives was guided by an inclusive approach that prioritized the participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and marginalized ethnic groups. A conflict-sensitive framework supported by data-driven insights further strengthened the effectiveness of the project's activities.

At the heart of this initiative lies the goal of building the capacity of local partners in line with USAID's Local Capacity Strengthening Policy. By empowering communities to serve as first responders and primary architects of their peace processes, WANEP-Nigeria has successfully facilitated various activities aimed at achieving the project's objectives. These activities included continuous training on Early Warning and Early Response (EWER), interest-based negotiation, and mediation for community stakeholders in the tier-two states of Kano, Katsina, Benue, and Nasarawa. Additionally, the project supported community-driven peace action plans, which prioritized local efforts to enhance social cohesion among multi-ethnic and multi-religious groups.

Other initiatives addressed the root causes of conflict, such as youth restiveness and drug abuse, and commemorated key peacebuilding events, including International Youth Day, International Women's Day, and the 16 Days of Activism. The project also conducted women-centered dialogues and capacity-building sessions on gender-sensitive monitoring and reporting.





These concerted efforts have already yielded evidence of intermediate outcomes. Behavioral changes are increasingly evident, with communities demonstrating a willingness to improve peace outcomes through initiatives such as inter-community exchange visits and self-led rehabilitation projects, even without external support from the consortium.

The success of the PARTNER project extends beyond immediate peace outcomes. One of its most significant achievements is the enhanced capacity of local partners. WANEP-Nigeria has now become the prime recipient of the transition award for USAID-PARTNER II, a milestone that highlights the organization's leadership and underscores the global development community's commitment to localization and sustainability.

## 2024: PARTNER Activities

### **Pillar 1: Early Warning and Early Response**

#### **1. Early Warning Early Response Training for community-based structures (Kano, Katsina, Benue and Nasarawa states)**

As part of the PARTNER activity's efforts to contribute to the realization of WANEP's Strategic Objective One (SO-1), which underscores the critical role of enhancing citizens' capacity to leverage early warning systems in support of response mechanisms, WANEP Nigeria spearheaded a comprehensive initiative. This initiative, conducted under the auspices of the PARTNER consortium, involved a series of Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) training sessions targeting community-based structures in Tier 2 states—Kano, Katsina, Benue, and Nasarawa. The training aimed to equip participants with the skills to effectively identify, monitor, and report early warning signals, incorporating gender-sensitive indicators as a strategic framework to bolster resilience and community preparedness while mitigating the risks of conflict escalation.



**Pictured:** Members of Community-based structures in tier 2 states during the Early Warning training

**Photo Credit:** WANEP-Nigeria



**WANEP Nigeria led the training of 386 participants across Kano, Katsina, Benue and Nasarawa State.**

Conducted in February 2024 across 12 PARTNER intervention sites, the training was implemented in collaboration with Mambayya House and the Kukah Centre through the Independent State Peace Architectures (ISPA), with additional support from the Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA) and the Kaduna State Peace Commission (KSPC). The program focused on introducing participants to EWER concepts, refining their skills in indicator

monitoring, and ensuring prompt reporting through dedicated WhatsApp groups and the EWER reporting platform established by the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR).

The initiative successfully trained 386 participants, comprising 263 men, 123 women, and 15 individuals with disabilities. It also facilitated the establishment of coordinating teams within each PARTNER community and culminated in the collaborative development of Peace Action Plans (PAPs), thereby advancing localized conflict prevention and resolution efforts

## Pillar 2: Peacebuilding

### 1. Interest-Based Negotiation and Mediation (IBNM) Training: *Building Conflict Resolution Capacity and Fostering Peace (Kano, Katsina, Benue and Nasarawa states)*

Ensuring communities have the prerequisite skills to address conflicts peacefully as first line responders, communicate effectively, build trust, and strengthen community bonds, the PARTNER activity conducted a comprehensive Interest-based Negotiation training across 12 communities in the PARTNER tier 2 states between May and June 2024.

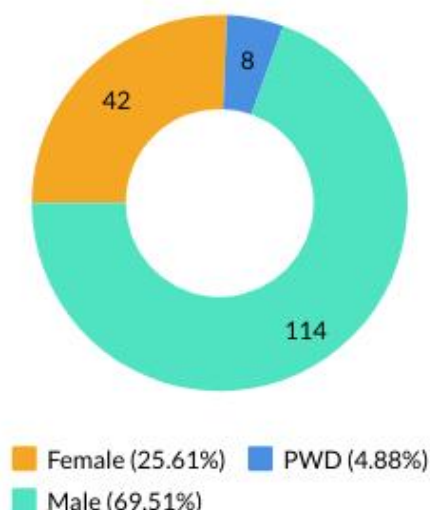


**Pictured:** CBRC Members and other stakeholders in tier 2 states during the IBNM training

**Photo Credit:** WANEP-Nigeria, ISPAs and Mambayya House



WANEP-Nigeria in collaboration with KSPC and PPBA conducted these training sessions which focused on concepts of mediation and negotiation as an effective tool for resolving conflicts, employing the practical application of IBNM, equipping participants with skills in understanding interests, exploring options, assessing legitimacy, making commitments, nurturing relationships, and effectively communicating to reach mutually acceptable solutions without employing kinetic strategies reaching a total of 156 participants. Also, to ensure sustained capacity of local partners, ToT was also conducted for the ISPAs and Mambayya house.



The PARTNER Activity's IBNM training program exemplifies the transformative power of equipping communities with essential conflict management and peacebuilding skills. By empowering individuals and fostering meaningful dialogue and collaboration, the program has established a robust framework for sustainable peace and resilience in tier-two states.

## IBNM training conducted cross 4 tier two states.

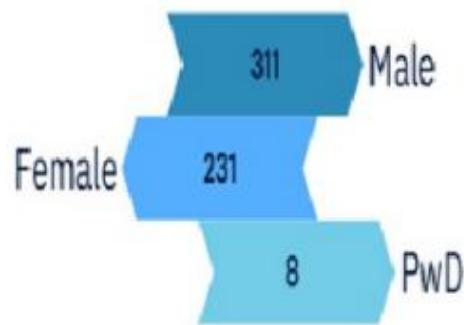
### 1. Resource Mapping and Prioritization for Conflict Prevention and Social Cohesion

Between March and May 2024, the PARTNER initiative, in collaboration with the Kaduna State Peace Commission (KSPC), Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA), and WANEP-Nigeria, employed a Resource Mapping and Prioritization approach to engage 542 members of the PARTNER community structures and other stakeholders across Plateau and Kaduna States. This strategic effort sought to identify and optimize resources to foster sustainable peace and social cohesion in conflict-affected areas by addressing localized socio-economic challenges that exacerbate conflict dynamics.



**Pictured:** Resource Mapping Session with community members

Community stakeholders actively participated in mapping boundaries, cataloguing resources, and analysing the interplay between resource distribution and conflict triggers. This participatory approach facilitated the identification of shared needs and collective opportunities, laying the groundwork for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs).



A total of 542 participants were engaged at the resource mapping activity

The process highlighted social cohesion priorities, including constructing and renovating community centres, schools, health facilities, and religious landmarks, while identifying potential conflict zones such as disputed territories, areas of environmental degradation, and underserved regions. Visual representations of these findings enabled stakeholders to better comprehend their community's strengths and vulnerabilities, guiding the development of joint Community Action Plans (CAPs) that emphasized collaborative problem-solving for conflict prevention and transformation. Key priorities that emerged from the communities include water sources, streetlights, a youth centre and school expansion. A seven-member community management committee was established to coordinate with key partners on implementing these QIPs, adhering to principles of transparency, inclusivity, and the Do No Harm framework



**Pictured:** Community stakeholders involved in Resource Mapping Session facilitated by the PARTNER Consortium

**Photo Credit:** PPBA



## Pillar 3: Social Cohesion:

### 1. Community Security Dialogue

A rapid conflict assessment conducted at the inception of the PARTNER Activity revealed significant mistrust between community members and security actors. To address this, one of the key outputs under Objective 3 focuses on fostering improved community-security interactions.

In bridging the gap between early warning reporting and response in the community level while also advocating for a safer, more resilient, and more engaged community, WANEP Nigeria led the PARTNER activity in organizing community security dialogues across the 35 intervention sites in Kaduna and Plateau state.

Effective early warning and early response (EWER) systems are crucial for violence prevention in Nigeria. Still, challenges such as trust deficits between communities and security agencies, logistical constraints, and inadequate communication mechanisms undermine their impact. To address these gaps, the PARTNER activity, in collaboration with Plateau and Kaduna peace agencies and WANEP-Nigeria, facilitated community-security dialogues in pilot communities. These dialogues, held from June- August, 2024, brought together 964 participants, including 102 security agency representatives, fostering trust-based engagement and co-developing community-security action plans.



Key issues identified included mistrust due to slow security responses and past situations where citizens have been unfairly treated or harmed by security people, as well as the security agencies, fear of reprisals, poor communication, and limited inclusion of women in peacebuilding efforts.

Being a platform to discuss challenges often faced by community members and security, Security agencies often face challenges such as mistrust, poor communication, resource constraints, cultural insensitivity, political interference, community vigilantism, and reluctance to share information, all of which hinder effective collaboration with community members. On the other hand, Community members often face issues with security agencies such as harassment, corruption, excessive force, delayed response, biased policing, rights violations, poor communication, and fear of retaliation, undermining trust and cooperation.



**Pictured:** Community and Security stakeholders during dialogue sessions in Kaduna and Plateau States

**Photo Credit:** KSPC and PPBA

Recommendations from the activity emphasized structured reporting using the "5Ws & H" framework, gender-inclusive strategies, advocacy for better resources, and sensitization to counter misinformation. This initiative represents a significant milestone in building collaborative, trust-driven solutions to local security challenges, starting with the development of community action plans including joint patrols and periodical security meetings with community members.

### 1. Community-Led Social Cohesion Promoting Activities

Aiming to enhance social cohesion, the PARTNER program fosters positive perceptions, attitudes, and trust among communities. Through targeted initiatives, it seeks to establish or restore relationships between conflicting groups, be it ethnic or religious factions, or between communities and government entities. Recognizing the potential of international celebration days as catalysts for The PARTNER consortium, in partnership with community-based structures across Tier 1 and Tier 2 states, initiated a series of strategic activities aimed at establishing a robust foundation for enduring social cohesion through grassroots initiatives.



Leveraging tailored Peace Action Plans (PAPs), the consortium empowered local structures to lead context-specific interventions, promoting sustainable, community-driven responses to conflict and insecurity. These initiatives were meticulously designed to strengthen intercommunal relationships, addressing deeply rooted socio-economic and cultural challenges through participatory and pragmatic approaches.

Illustrative of this effort were exchange programs, such as joint sanitation exercises and intercommunity learning exchanges, which provided platforms for collaborative problem-solving while fostering mutual understanding and trust among diverse groups. Furthermore, targeted sensitization campaigns addressed pressing issues—including drug and substance abuse, farmer-herder conflicts, and gender-based violence—that critically undermine social cohesion, thereby reinforcing the consortium’s commitment to building resilient and harmonious communities.



**Pictured:** Cross-section of Community Initiatives

**Photo Credit:** Community-based Structures

The sessions were designed not merely to disseminate information but to catalyze attitudinal shifts by encouraging dialogue and amplifying marginalized voices. Each initiative demonstrated the consortium’s commitment to fostering a culture of peace, resilience, and inclusivity, emphasizing the role of grassroots actors in mitigating conflict and driving long-term transformation within their communities.

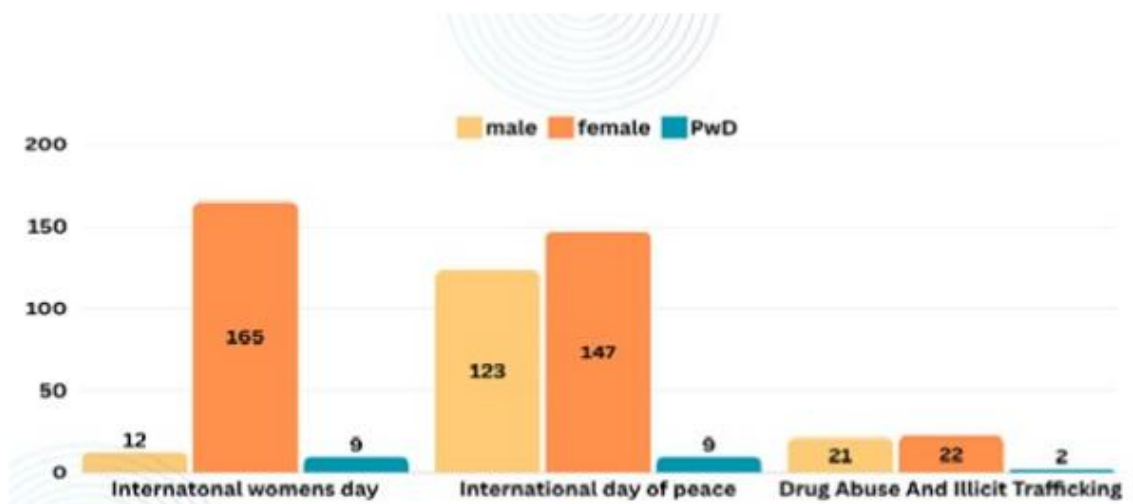


**Pictured:** Community-led social cohesion Initiatives

**Photo Credit:** PPBA

Additionally, the PARTNER consortium, in close collaboration with community stakeholders, implemented a suite of strategically impactful programs to commemorate pivotal international observances, including International Women's Day (IWD), International Youth Day (IYD), the International Day of Peace (IDP), and the International Day Against Drug Abuse. These initiatives were thoughtfully aligned with the overarching global themes of each observance, exemplifying a deliberate and sophisticated approach to addressing urgent societal challenges while promoting inclusivity, strengthening community resilience, and advancing the principles of peacebuilding across its intervention sites.





*Disaggregated data of International Day of Celebrations*

◆ In commemoration of International Women’s Day (IWD) 2024, the PARTNER activity, WANEP-Nigeria in collaboration with the Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA), conducted an advocacy visit to the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development in Plateau State. The visit aimed to raise awareness of the PARTNER program and explore partnership opportunities to address gender equity and women's rights challenges, particularly sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Following this, on March 8, 2024, the program commemorated IWD in Plateau and Kaduna States, focusing on the global theme “*Count Her In - Invest in Women to Accelerate Progress.*”

The event featured dialogue sessions with community women, representatives of community structures (CBRCs & EWMRGs), civil society organizations (CSOs), and the Ministry of Women’s Affairs, addressing challenges such as limited education, gender-based violence (GBV), lack of economic empowerment, marginalization in leadership, and gender stereotypes. Participants also proposed strategies to promote gender inclusion in peacebuilding, including increasing awareness, empowering women through education and economic resources, and pushing for policy reforms. These discussions led to the development of community-specific gender action plans to tackle gender-related issues and promote social cohesion within the communities.

◆ On June 26, 2024, the PARTNER initiative commemorated the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking under the theme “The Evidence is Clear: Invest in Prevention” through a series of impactful community engagements in Angwan Rukuba, Plateau State, and Samaru, Kaduna State.

The observance mobilized diverse stakeholders to confront the pervasive challenge of substance abuse and its profound implications for social cohesion. Activities ranged from public awareness campaigns, including roadshows, to vocational training sessions targeting at-risk youth—pragmatic interventions aimed at offering sustainable alternatives to the destructive cycle of drug dependency.

In Plateau State, the Angwan Rukuba community-based structure convened a town hall meeting to address the eradication of drug sales and public smoking, attracting 43 participants, including local leaders and security personnel. This dialogue culminated in actionable commitments, such as the establishment of a community task force, enforcement of curfews, and expanded awareness efforts through rallies. Notably, local gin and drug vendors pledged to cease operations, signaling a significant step toward community-led accountability and reform.

In Kaduna State, the Samaru community, in collaboration with the NDLEA, the Red Cross, and the ABU Drug-Free Club, launched a multifaceted campaign featuring rallies, distribution of educational materials, and a radio session on ABU FM. Outreach efforts extended to a local secondary school, where students were sensitized on the dangers of drug abuse and the influence of peer pressure. These initiatives not only facilitated knowledge-sharing but also equipped participants with advocacy tools to combat substance abuse, fostering healthier, more resilient communities across the region.



**Pictured:** PARTNER Community based structures commemorating International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

**Photo Credit:** Community Based Structures

◆ On International Youth Day 2024, attention was directed toward empowering young people as pivotal agents of transformative change. Under the theme emphasizing the convergence of technology and conflict prevention, the consortium facilitated a range of activities, including digital literacy training, the promotion of innovative approaches to local conflict resolution, and demonstrations of advanced technologies such as the PARTNER situation room. These initiatives sought to channel the dynamism and creativity of youth toward fostering sustainable peace and driving community development.



In light of disruptions caused by the nationwide #EndBadGovernance protests, the PARTNER consortium, spearheaded by WANEP-Nigeria, transitioned to a virtual format for its International Youth Day event on August 12. Themed *“From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development”* and contextualized as *“Youths Utilizing Digital Technology for Conflict Prevention,”* the event prioritized equipping young participants with critical digital skills, including the use of the PARTNER-EWER app for conflict detection and response.

With over 100 participants representing six states, the program featured rich panel discussions on leveraging digital technologies for peacebuilding, combating misinformation, and enhancing social cohesion. Esteemed speakers drawn from the PARTNER community based structures underscored the imperative of responsible digital engagement to mitigate misuse and the spread of misinformation.

The event celebrated success stories, advocated for greater integration of ICT in peacebuilding efforts, and showcased the PARTNER-EWER system as a pioneering tool for sustainable conflict prevention, reinforcing the role of youth as architects of a more peaceful and cohesive society.



**Pictured:** Snapshot of Virtual commemoration of International Youth Day 2024  
**Photo Credit:** WANEP-Nigeria

◆ The International Day of Peace, observed annually on September 21, serves as a global platform to advance peace and confront the root causes of conflict. In 2024, the PARTNER consortium commemorated this occasion through a series of grassroots initiatives across intervention sites in Plateau, Kaduna, Katsina, Kano, Nasarawa, and Benue states. Collaborating with key partners such as WANEP-Nigeria and state peace commissions, these efforts were guided by the theme, *“Cultivating a Culture of Peace,”* underscoring that peace is not merely the absence of conflict but an active process of fostering dialogue, mutual understanding, and collective action.

The consortium implemented interfaith dialogues, town hall meetings, and peace marches, each strategically designed to address the specific conflict dynamics of the regions served. These activities transcended symbolic celebration, embedding principles of dialogue, respect, and cooperation as foundational pillars of community resilience.

At the community level, locally-driven initiatives were executed through Peace Action Plans (PAPs), directly engaging 1,206 participants, including men, women, and persons with disabilities. Highlights included town hall forums, interfaith discussions, public lectures, and road walks addressing critical issues such as drug abuse, youth restiveness, cultism, and intercommunal tensions. In Kaduna and Plateau, the focus extended to the rehabilitation and reintegration of marginalized groups, including individuals affected by substance abuse, while initiatives in Benue, Nasarawa, and Kano prioritized youth engagement, vocational training, and the strengthening of early warning systems to mitigate conflict.



***Pictured:*** PARTNER community-based structures commemorating the International Day of Peace 2024

**Photo credit:** ISPA Benue and KSPC



The events underscored the importance of inclusive peacebuilding, leveraging the roles of women, religious leaders, and traditional councils to foster unity. By addressing root causes of insecurity and promoting community-driven solutions, these activities reinforced commitments to sustainable peace and demonstrated the transformative potential of local initiatives in advancing social cohesion and conflict resolution.



**Pictured:** PARTNER community-based structures commemorating the International Day of Peace 2024

**Photo credit:** ISPA Nasarawa, PPBA and Mambayya House

Collectively, these observances demonstrated the consortium's commitment to a holistic and participatory approach to community resilience, fostering a culture of equity, innovation, and peace. By aligning grassroots actions with global agendas, the PARTNER consortium not only amplified the impact of these international observances but also embedded them deeply within the fabric of the communities they serve.

These commemorations fostered dialogue, awareness, and community action in line with global peacebuilding and social development objectives.

#### **Transition:**

In November 2024, WANEP-Nigeria achieved a significant milestone by signing a transition award with USAID after participating in a series of rigorous capacity-strengthening activities facilitated by Mercy Corps Nigeria under the USAID PARTNER I Activity. These trainings, coupled with achieving full USAID compliance, culminated in WANEP-Nigeria being awarded a direct grant by USAID to implement the next phase of the initiative, now titled the PARTNER II Project

This new phase builds upon the successes of the initial PARTNER activity, implemented in collaboration with Mercy Corps as the prime awardee from October 2021 to September 2024. The PARTNER II Project, which will span from November 2024 to November 2027, continues the collaboration with an established consortium of key partners. These include the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), the Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA), the Kaduna State Peace Commission (KSPC), the Benue State Peace and Conflict Resolution Commission (BSPCR), Mambayya House, and the Kukah Centre, alongside independent state peace architectures within the intervention states.



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The overarching goal of PARTNER II is to foster collaboration among Nigerian communities, government entities, security agencies, and civil society actors to enhance the effectiveness, local ownership, and sustainability of an inclusive Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) system for improved violence prevention. The program is structured around three strategic objectives:

1. **Strengthening Conflict EWER Systems:** Facilitating partnerships among key stakeholders to establish and sustain robust EWER mechanisms aimed at fostering peace, tolerance, and mitigating threats such as banditry and criminality in vulnerable areas.
2. **Promoting Community-Based Peacebuilding Efforts:** Engaging a diverse range of stakeholders in initiatives that emphasize communication, dialogue, dispute resolution, and advocacy to advance peace and reconciliation within communities.
3. **Enhancing Trust and Social Cohesion:** Building confidence and trust among community members and between communities and security forces through targeted social cohesion initiatives.

Through these objectives, the PARTNER II Project seeks to create durable frameworks for violence prevention and reconciliation, fostering resilience and harmony across its areas of operation.





# EARLY WARNING

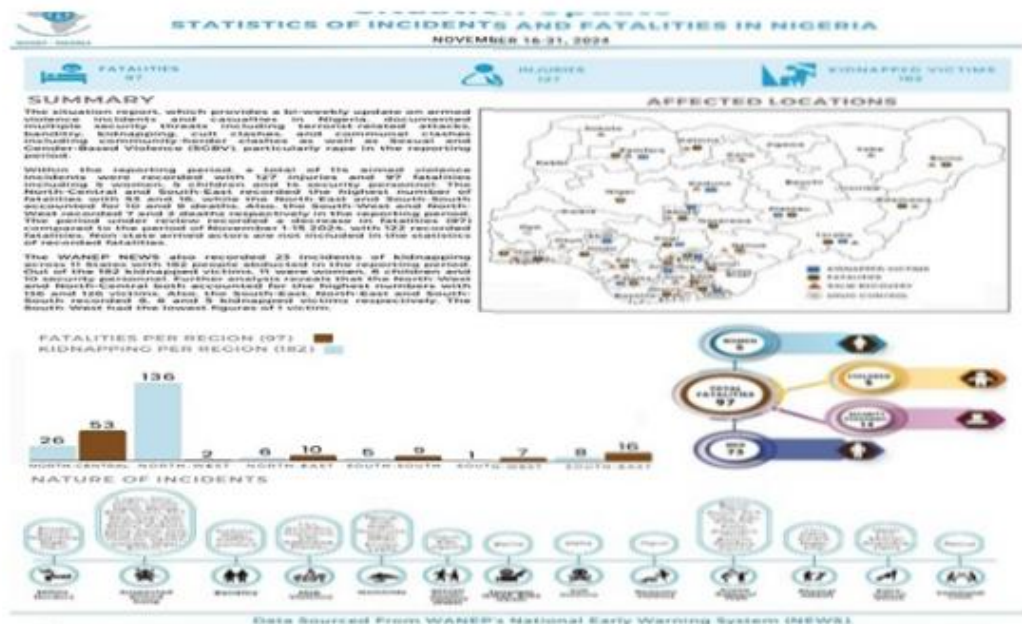
## Increasing WANEP Visibility and Awareness through NEWS Outputs:

### 1.1 Production and dissemination of analytical early warning outputs

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) consistently generates evidence-based data through its National Early Warning System (NEWS), producing a range of Early Warning outputs that highlight human security threats and their impact on development and social cohesion. These outputs, including policy briefs, situation tracking reports, weekly highlights, monthly bulletins, and incident reports, provide essential insights for stakeholders addressing security challenges. They also offer policy recommendations for security services, policymakers, development agencies, and other relevant actors, guiding interventions and mitigation strategies across Nigeria and the wider West African region.

WANEP's Early Warning outputs contribute critical information to regional and continental frameworks, including the ECOWAS Early Warning and Response Network (ECOWARN) and the African Union's Continental Early Warning System (CEWS), supporting collective efforts to strengthen peace and security.

As part of its ongoing innovation, WANEP's Early Warning Unit introduced a bi-weekly infographic, the "Situation Update." This one-page document provides a concise, data-driven summary of armed violence incidents and casualties in Nigeria, offering a timely overview of the country's security landscape. Targeted at policymakers and key stakeholders, the Situation Update enables informed decision-making and fosters prompt responses to emerging threats, thereby contributing to peace, stability, and social cohesion in Nigeria.



## Highlights of Early Warning Outputs in the Reporting Year of 2024

- NEWS Quick Update :
  - a. End-Bad-Governance protest in Nigeria:  
<https://wanepnigeria.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Quick-News-Update.pdf>
- NEWS Situation Tracking
  - b. Nationwide Protests in Nigeria:  
<https://wanepnigeria.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/ongoing-EndBad-Governance-Protest-.pdf>
- NEWS Situation Tracking
  - c. flood Disaster in Borno State  
<https://wanepnigeria.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/flood-disaster-in-borno.pdf>

### **1.2: Strengthening Capacities for Conflict Mitigation**

In the reporting year, WANEP sustained her efforts at capacity strengthening for various stakeholders in early warning, conflict mitigation and prevention. The national network (WANEP-Nigeria) was also opportune to benefit from the series of trainings undertaken by the regional office in Accra, Ghana. These include;



#### ***Strengthening Early Warning Mechanism (S.E.W.M.) for West and Central Africa.***

The project is supported by the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund (USA) and aims to strengthen regional early warning mechanisms, contributing to decentralized policy and practice responses to both existing and emerging threats to peace and security in West Africa. This training is a key component of WANEP's Alert and Response Mechanism (W.A.R.M.), which seeks to enhance decentralized capacities for monitoring and analysis. Through this initiative, WANEP aims to build a sustainable resource pool to support the operational and institutional needs of relevant state and non-state actors, including National Conflict and Crisis Response Mechanisms (NCCRMs), across West Africa and beyond. Furthermore, the training focuses on enhancing the capacity of community monitors in utilizing the upgraded functionalities of WANEP's National Early Warning System (NEWS), which facilitates reporting to ECOWARN and the African Union's Continental Early Warning System (CEWS), in line with its existing partnerships.





### ***Capacity Building Training Workshop for Community Monitors***

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding - Nigeria (WANEP-Nigeria) conducted a virtual training session aimed at building the capacity of new Community Monitors across Nigeria. The training focused on equipping participants with the essential skills and knowledge needed for effective data collection, analysis, and reporting into WANEP's National Early Warning System (NEWS). Through this initiative, WANEP-Nigeria sought to enhance the overall capabilities of the community monitors by deepening their understanding of the WANEP's Alert and Response Mechanism (W.A.R.M.). The training provided valuable insights into the role of community monitors within the Early Warning framework, empowering them to perform their duties with greater efficiency and accuracy.

By strengthening the expertise of the monitors, the training plays a crucial role in bolstering WANEP's Early Warning framework, enabling more timely and effective responses to emerging security threats and contributing to the overall stability and peacebuilding efforts in Nigeria.

# WOMEN PEACE AND SECURITY ACTIVITIES

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) -Nigeria carried out the following activities to promote the Women, Peace and Security Agenda from January to December 2024. Activities were implemented working with partners which included the Global Affairs Canada, Global Network of Women Peacebuilder (GNWP); Urgent Action Fund-Africa and USAID. Also, WANEP Nigeria, published a Policy Brief on “Strengthening Peace Structures and Adopting Right – Based Approach to Addressing the Conflict in Plateau State Nigeria’. The National Network continued with the National Gender Talk series as a platform to engage the public in discussing key issues that pertain to women. The activities implemented during the year included:

## WOMEN-LED RESOURCE MAPPING AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT FORUM

The Peace Action for Rapid and Transformative Nigerian Early Response (PARTNER) initiative hosted a women-led resource mapping and needs assessment forum on January 17 and 19, 2024, in Plateau and Kaduna States. Engaging 87 women from Jos North and Kaduna South LGAs, the forum created an inclusive space for participants to explore the links between resources and conflict, identify community needs, and develop gender-sensitive Community Action Plans (CAPs).

Discussions highlighted systemic gender biases, youth unemployment, educational limitations, and the prevalence of domestic violence. In Jos North, participants prioritized healthcare, water access, and community center development, while those in Kaduna South emphasized education, especially for girls. A similar forum in Barakallahu, Kaduna State, brought attention to drug abuse prevention and the need for improved community infrastructure.

The initiative demonstrated PARTNER’s commitment to fostering equity, amplifying women’s voices in decision-making, and addressing community needs through sustainable, collaborative interventions.



Cross section of participant at the program



Participants during a group work



## TWITTER CHAT TO COMMEMORATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: 11th March 2024.

Twitter chat celebrated International Women's Day, focusing on gender equality and women's rights. The chat yielded diverse outcomes: heightened awareness of global women's issues, fostering a supportive community, and sharing valuable knowledge and personal stories. Networking opportunities arose, facilitating connections among like-minded individuals and potential collaborators. Participants engaged in challenging discussions, deepening their understanding of gender equality issues. A concluding call to action urged support for women's rights organizations and individual advocacy. The chat's significant engagement increased visibility for important women's issues, extending beyond the participants. The 2024 International Women's Day Twitter chat effectively served as a platform for raising awareness, fostering discussion, and inspiring action towards gender equality and women's empowerment through social media.



Flier of the Twitter Chat

## LAUNCH OF GUIDELINES FOR THE LOCALIZATION OF NIGERIA'S NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON UNSCR 1325 AND RELATED RESOLUTIONS ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY (WPS) (March 8th 2024)

The launch of the Localization Guidelines for United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 in Nigeria was a significant event that emphasized the country's dedication to promoting women's involvement in peace and security efforts. Through practical tools and knowledge provided in the guidelines, women at the grassroots level were empowered to actively participate in building peace within their communities. The event also highlighted the government's commitment to supporting vulnerable women through various initiatives, including economic empowerment programs. Overall, the outcomes of the event underscored increased collaboration among stakeholders and raised awareness about the importance of women's roles in peacebuilding and advocacy against violence.







**The launch of the Localization Guidelines on UNSCR 1325**

## **TWO-DAY WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG WOMEN + LEADERS FOR PEACE ON THE LOCALIZATION OF WPS AND YPS STRATEGY IN NIGERIA (March 8th-9th 2024)**

The workshop on the localization of UNSCR 1325 and the empowerment of young women in peacebuilding achieved significant outcomes and milestones. Throughout the event, participants engaged in robust discussions, sharing success stories, and committing to furthering peacebuilding efforts in their communities. It marked a crucial step towards promoting gender equality and inclusive peacebuilding initiatives at the grassroots level. By empowering young women with knowledge and skills, the workshop has paved the way for sustainable peace and security in Nigeria. Moving forward, it is imperative to continue supporting and amplifying the voices of young women in peacebuilding, as they play a pivotal role in creating a more peaceful and equitable society.



**A participant at the workshop**



**Group Picture of the participant at the program**



## ONE-DAY DIALOGUE SESSION TO COMMEMORATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024 IN KADUNA AND PLATEAU STATES. 8th March 2024.

WANEP-Nigeria's International Women's Day 2024 events in Plateau and Kaduna States were pivotal for advancing women's roles in peacebuilding. Through discussions, participants addressed challenges and opportunities, recommending strategies for amplifying women's voices, including grassroots advocacy and tailored policy reforms. The events heightened awareness of women's crucial role in fostering sustainable peace, with participants openly discussing barriers hindering their involvement and exploring opportunities for engagement. Empowerment and solidarity were fostered through networking and shared experiences, expected to have a lasting impact on peacebuilding efforts in both states, contributing to more inclusive and resilient peace processes. The events marked a significant step towards building a community of empowered women peacebuilders, forging alliances to advance their shared goals. Moving forward, these initiatives will continue to amplify women's voices in decision-making processes, serving as a catalyst for positive change and laying a solid foundation for future action and collaboration in advancing inclusive and sustainable peace frameworks.



**Participants at the program to commemorate the day**

## ADVOCACY VISIT TO THE PLATEAU STATE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AFFAIRS: 6th March 2024

On March 6, 2023, an advocacy visit was conducted to the Ministry of Women Affairs. The discussion focused on gender-based violence (GBV), with the ministry stressing the urgency of addressing this issue and the potential impact of targeted interventions. He highlighted the importance of collaboration, suggesting that NGOs should engage with the ministry before implementing activities, rather than merely inviting them as participants. While expressing appreciation for WANEP's support and requesting continued collaboration in the future.

Overall, the outcomes of the meeting suggest a collaborative approach toward addressing GBV, with an emphasis on strategic interventions and sustained partnerships between stakeholders.





**Advocacy Visit to the Plateau State Ministry of Education**

## **NATIONAL GENDER TALK SERIES #2: INVESTING IN WOMEN ACCELERATING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ACTUALIZATION OF UNSCR 1325 IN NIGERIA: 27th March 2024:**

The activity underscores the significance of investing in women to advance gender equality and peacebuilding efforts in Nigeria, aligning with UNSCR 1325. Through WANEP Nigeria's Gender Talk Series, key insights were shared by speakers who highlighted the urgent need for active participation and investment in women's empowerment initiatives. Challenges such as gender inequality and gender-based violence (GBV) were discussed, alongside successful empowerment initiatives in communities. Examples showcased the transformative impact of women's engagement in peacebuilding. The activity concludes with a set of recommendations aimed at fostering collaboration, mentorship, resource mobilization, data collection, and context-specific programs to empower women and promote sustainable peace. These recommendations stress the importance of women's representation in decision-making bodies and raising awareness about gender equality and women's rights. Overall, the outcomes of the activity emphasize the critical importance of investing in women to achieve lasting peace and development in Nigeria, echoing WANEP Nigeria's commitment to promoting peace in communities.

### **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024**

#### **NATIONAL GENDER TALK SERIES #2**

##### **Theme:**

**Investing In Women: Accelerating Progress  
Towards the Actualization of UNSCR 1325 in  
Nigeria**

**March 27, 2024**

**11:00AM WAT**



**Dr. Rachael Misan Ruppee**

Executive Director, Development  
Initiative For Impact Community (DIC)  
Oyo State



**Grace Jere James-Li**

Women Playing Substantive Role /  
Researcher at a Peace Community  
Stakeholder - Plateau State



**Hajia Bata Jibrin**

Executive Director,  
Tattalinga Women's  
Development Initiative  
Bauchi State

**#InspireInclusion, #CountHerIn**

Webstream  
Austrian  
Development  
Cooperation



Sweden  
Sverige





## MIGRATION, URBANIZATION, AND CONFLICT IN AFRICAN CITIES (MUCA) , (16th April 2024)

The MUCA Close-out Event highlighted several key outcomes aimed at promoting sustainable peace and development in African cities by addressing urbanization and migration challenges. One significant outcome is the formulation of inclusive urban policies that cater to the needs of both migrants and residents, thereby reducing potential sources of conflict. These policies are to be adopted at local, state, and federal levels based on evidence-based recommendations to enhance the management of migration and urbanization. The event also emphasized the importance of enhanced collaboration and networking. Strengthened partnerships among academic institutions, government agencies, civil society, and community-based organizations are crucial.

The empowerment of women and youth to actively participate in peacebuilding and conflict resolution processes is also a priority. Improved data collection and utilization were discussed, with the establishment of a harmonized data collection system across various government agencies to ensure accurate data on migration and urbanization. This data will be used to inform policy decisions and improve resource allocation for conflict prevention and management. Gender inclusivity is another key outcome, with efforts to ensure greater inclusion of women in mediation and conflict resolution panels, and to support women's leadership and participation in urban governance.



Flier of the event for the Close out of the MUCA program



## FEAST OF PEACE

Women of Bible Faith/Rafin Pa PARTNER structures in Jos North, Plateau State organized a joint sallah and easter celebration tagged 'Feast of Peace' on April 15, 2024. The feast, which brought together women from varied ethnic and religious backgrounds, was targeted at promoting community peace by encouraging inclusivity and dialogue among women. The event also served as an avenue to create awareness on progress made thus far on the PARTNER program particularly as it relates to building relationships to strengthen future community engagement. As part of their commitment to strengthen the ideals of peace, the community women of Bible Faith/Rafin Pa collaboratively pledged to create platforms for young girls to engage in peace-related activities through mentoring and coaching.



Add your text *The Feast of Peace organised by Bible Faith/Rafin Pa womenhere*

## JOS NORTH COMMUNITY EXCHANGE LEARNING VISIT:

The Bible Faith/ Rafin Pa women hosted a community exchange learning session with the women of Ubyel/Febuna on April 19, 2024. The event, held at SDA Primary School in Bible Faith Laranto, Jos North LGA, was pivotal to deepening community dialogue and collaboration. Representatives from both communities shared their experiences, hurdles, and triumphs in peace promotion. Through this exchange visit, women from both communities gained valuable insights and strategies for effective peace-building efforts. Additionally, the visit promoted cultural understanding for both communities, allowing individuals embrace and celebrate their cultural diversity. The exchange visit, facilitated by diverse engagements within the PARTNER activity proved transformative, providing representatives with the knowledge, skills, and relationship needed to advance peace efforts.

Besides, sustained collaboration and support is essential to nurturing lasting positive change and cultivating a peaceful and harmonious society.





**Cross section of participants at the program**

## **2-DAY NATIONAL YOUTH FORUM ON INTERGENERATIONAL PEACEBUILDING**

### **(Mentoring the Next Generation of Women Peacebuilders)**

In line with United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) 2250 and 1325, which underscore the vital roles of youth and women in peace and security, the Young Women Forum meeting was a significant event focused on fostering mentorship, leadership, and collaboration among future female leaders. The forum's theme, "Mentoring the Next Generation of Women Peacebuilders," highlighted its mission to support young women in becoming influential advocates for peace.

Organized by WANEP-Nigeria with support from the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) and the Government of Canada, the forum brought together 115 participants, including young women and male champions from across the country, in a two-day virtual meeting. This event provided a dynamic platform for sharing ideas, networking, and developing effective peacebuilding strategies.

Twelve mentors from Nigeria's six geopolitical zones, along with young women leaders and male champions engaged in grassroots initiatives, ensured a diverse exchange of perspectives and experiences. This diversity enriched the collective understanding of peacebuilding challenges and opportunities in Nigeria.

By mentoring and empowering young women peacebuilders, the Young Women Forum aims to create a sustainable and inclusive peacebuilding movement, positioning young women at the forefront of shaping the future of peace and security in the country.



**Group picture of participants**



**Participants chat at the virtual youth forum**

## **SELECTION OF COMMUNITY-BASED GENDER FOCAL PERSONS IN BENUE, NASSARAWA, AND KATSINA STATE 5th, 7th, & 27th -28th June 2024**

The Selection, Validation, and Documentation of Community-based Gender Focal Persons took place in Benue, Nassarawa, & Katsina State. This initiative, carried out by the PARTNER Consortium comprising IPCR, WANEP-Nigeria MCN, and the Katsina Peace Architecture, aimed to sensitize community women on the necessity of identifying gendered threats, such as various forms of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and the importance of gender inclusivity in peace processes.

A total of 84 participants (42 from Dutsinma and 42 from Kurfi, all female) attended the sessions, learning about Women, Peace, and Security (WPS), the significance of Gender Indicator Monitoring (GIM), and the roles and responsibilities of Gender Focal Persons (GFPs). Participants engaged in community-specific breakout sessions to select their GFPs and Assistant GFPs, resulting in 10 GFPs being chosen and validated through public affirmation by each community. Community persons to ensure that the quote “see something say something” is their watchword, as it is important to report signals as they are occurring within their communities.





**Group picture of** Community-based Gender Focal Persons

## **EMPOWERING WOMEN IN KWATA ZAWAN: BUILDING PEACE AND RESILIENCE.**

On June 25, 2024, the PARTNER activity held an event titled "Empowering Women in Kwata Zawan: Building Peace and Resilience." The event aimed to raise awareness of women's rights, enhance economic independence, and emphasize the importance of collective action. It highlighted women's crucial role in maintaining peace and security within their communities.

Key outcomes included increased awareness about women's rights, a desire for economic independence, and a better understanding of collective action. There was a positive shift in perceptions of women's leadership potential and strengthened structures for reporting and addressing gender-based violence (GBV). Participants resolved to organize awareness sessions on sexual harassment for teenagers, advocate for the punishment of sexual exploiters, and seek women's representation in traditional councils.

Plans were made to establish a women's platform through town hall meetings and sensitize the community about GBV reporting. Mothers were encouraged to create safe spaces for their children and train them in self-care and household chores.

With 54 female participants, the event was a success in empowering women and promoting a supportive and safe community environment, emphasizing their roles in community development and leadership.



Participants at the Women Forum

## MIGRATION, URBANIZATION AND CONFLICT IN AFRICA: CAN CITIES PLAY A DEVELOPMENT ROLE? ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION JUNE 29, 2024

The 1- day Virtual Conference aimed to assess the impact of migration and urbanization in relation to conflict in major cities in Africa. The discussants noted the need for collaboration between the city authorities and civil society organizations to promote development and peace. The relevance of Early Warning and Early Response Structures and introduction of Peace Education in formal educational institutions was emphasized as key recommendations from the program.

**THE LAGOS STUDIES ASSOCIATION**  
UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS  
CENTRE FOR HOUSING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Highlights of LSA 2024**  
**Migration, Urbanization and Conflict in Africa:  
Can Cities play a Development Role?**  
**Round Table Discussion**

**Part I**  
**Chair**  
Taibat Lawanson (University of Lagos) [tlawanson@unilag.edu.ng](mailto:tlawanson@unilag.edu.ng)  
**Discussants**  
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Esther Thontteh (University of Lagos) [ethontteh@unilag.edu.ng](mailto:ethontteh@unilag.edu.ng)

**Part II**  
**Chair**  
Taibat Lawanson (University of Lagos) [tlawanson@unilag.edu.ng](mailto:tlawanson@unilag.edu.ng)  
**Discussants**  
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Patience Ikpeh Obaulo (WANEP) [pikpehobaulo@wanep.org](mailto:pikpehobaulo@wanep.org)  
Rebecca Roberts (Technical University) [rebeccaenoroberts@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccaenoroberts@gmail.com)

**June 25-29, 2024**

Flier of the program



## WOMEN SENSITIZATION ON THE IMPORTANCE OF OBEYING THE LAW

On **July 7th, 2024**, the first engagement by trained Gender Focal persons took place at Nariya LEA Primary School, with 22 female and 3 male participants from the Nariya and Rigasa communities. The event aimed to educate women on their role in peacebuilding and the importance of cooperating with law enforcement.

A representative of the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of Nariya emphasized the need for women to support law enforcement by not obstructing police duties, such as preventing arrests or interfering with investigations. This message resonated with the participants, who expressed that they were previously unaware that such actions were illegal.

The women appreciated the initiative by PARTNER and pledged to spread the message within their communities, further contributing to strengthening cooperation between citizens and security agencies.



Participants at the Gender Focal training at Rigasa, Kaduna State

## ADVOCACY VISITS TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN PLATEAU STATE

On **July 22, 2024** the **WANEP Nigeria Program** team paid **Advocacy Visits to key stakeholders** in Plateau State to discuss strategies to promote an inclusive approach to peacebuilding in Plateau State. The visit was necessitated due to the recent attack by herdsmen on farming communities in four Local Government Areas in the state namely – Barkin Ladi, Bokkos, Mangu and Wase.

Stakeholders were encouraged to adopt a holistic approach to peacebuilding. Women should be seen as partners and not excluded from issues of peace and security particularly at community level. Offices visited included the Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA), Plateau State Gender and Equal Opportunities Commission and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC).



Advocacy Visit to the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) Plateau State Command



Advocacy Visit to the District Head of Mangu District in Mangu LGA

## 1-DAY CONFLICT MITIGATION AND PEACE DIALOGUE WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN PLATEAU STATE

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding WANEP-Nigeria in partnership with the Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA) organized a 1-Day Conflict Mitigation and Peace Dialogue with Key stakeholders drawn from Barkin Ladi, Bokkos, Mangu and Wase LGAs, CSOs, security agencies, media etc.

The strategic engagement was aimed at enabling community stakeholders identify the issues and explore local solutions to promote peace.

Discussions revealed the need for Justice and security dialogues between the community members and security agencies to promote peaceful coexistence.





**Cross section of participants during the conflict mitigation and peace dialogue**

## **1-DAY TOWN HALL MEETING WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS ON ENHANCING COMMUNITY POLICING IN PLATEAU STATE.**

The 1-day town hall meeting aimed to sensitize stakeholders on the importance of inclusion and strengthening community policing structures to promote peace and security in Plateau State. The event highlighted the significant role women can play alongside men in conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The meeting brought together a diverse group of participants, including religious leaders, farmers, herders, community and traditional leaders, women and youth groups, security agencies and civil society organizations (CSOs). The event commenced with a courtesy visit to the Palace of His Royal Highness, The Chief of Mangu District, Daa Moses Dawop. The royal father emphasized the palace's commitment to inclusiveness in decision-making, acknowledging the indispensable role of women in community peace efforts



**Group picture of participants at the meeting**

## **SELECTION OF COMMUNITY-BASED GENDER FOCAL PERSONS IN KANO STATE**

The Selection, Validation, and Documentation of Community-based Gender Focal Persons occurred in 4 communities in Kano state (Kumbotso and Panshekara in Kumbotso LGA) & (Kosawa and Kura in Kura LGA). This initiative, carried out by the PARTNER Consortium comprising IPCR, WANEP-Nigeria MCN, and Mamabayya, aimed to sensitize community women on the need to identify gendered threats, such as various forms of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and the importance of gender inclusivity in peace processes.

70 participants (35 from each LGA, all female) attended the sessions. Participants engaged in community-specific breakout sessions to select their GFPs resulting in 6 GFPs being chosen and validated through public affirmation by each community.





Group Picture of Participants at the programs

## 2-DAY TRAINING OF GENDER FOCAL PERSONS IN KATSINA & KANO STATE

The training sessions for Gender Focal Persons (GFPs) were held on the following dates: Katsina on July 26th-27th, 2024, and Kano on July 29th-30th, 2024. A total of 70 participants attended 35 from each location including representatives from the Ministry of Women Affairs, traditional leaders, local government focal persons, and security agencies. The focus was on understanding gender concepts, the Women, Peace & Security (WPS) framework, and gender-sensitive indicators.

Participants developed skills in data collection and reporting and learned about Gender Indicator Monitoring (GIM). They created community action plans to address local gender issues and drafted sample gender indicator reports. The training aimed to monitor gender dynamics and progress in gender inclusion, aligning with UNSCR 1325 and Nigeria's National Gender Policy. It covered Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the pillars of Participation, Protection, Prevention, and Relief & Recovery. Additionally, participants were connected to the Early Warning Situation Room for technical reporting via SMS, phone calls, or the EWER platform. The sessions significantly enhanced the GFPs' capacity to monitor and report on gender-sensitive indicators, promoting gender inclusivity in peace processes and demonstrating a strong commitment to advancing gender equality and peace. The strong commitment from all attendees, particularly those from the Ministry of Women Affairs, traditional leaders, and local government and security agencies, highlighted a collective effort to advance gender equality and peace. The training provided essential skills and fostered a sense of responsibility towards promoting gender-sensitive peacebuilding initiatives.



Group picture of participants at the training workshop



**THEME:** Technology for Peace: Leveraging Digital Tools to Enhance Women's Participation in Peace-Building

The panelists collectively emphasized the vital role of digital tools in modern peacebuilding efforts, particularly for women. They highlighted the power of social media and apps in amplifying voices and bringing attention to critical issues such as gender-based violence, while also warning against the dangers of misinformation. The discussion stressed the importance of ensuring privacy and safety for women engaging online, especially in conflict zones. The panelists advocated for digital literacy as a key component of peace education, noting that women's unique perspectives often bring valuable insights into conflict resolution. They also called for the creation of secure online spaces for advocacy, where younger women can share their experiences without fear of harassment or discrimination. Overall, the discussions underscored the need for collaborative efforts across sectors and the critical role of technology in fostering women's participation in peacebuilding.

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## 2-DAY TRAINING OF GENDER FOCAL PERSONS IN NASSARAWA, BENUE KADUNA & PLATEAU STATE

The training sessions for Gender Focal Persons (GFPs) were held in four states: Nassarawa (August 16th-17th, 2024), Benue (August 19th-20th, 2024), Kaduna (August 26th-27th, 2024), and Plateau (August 29th-30th, 2024). The sessions focused on gender concepts, the Women, Peace & Security (WPS) framework, and gender-sensitive indicators. Participants, including 143 individuals (131 women and 12 men) from various sectors such as the Ministry of Women Affairs, traditional leaders, and security agencies, were trained in data collection, reporting, and Gender Indicator Monitoring (GIM). They also developed community action plans to address local gender issues and created sample gender indicator reports.

The training aimed to monitor gender dynamics, aligning with UNSCR 1325 and Nigeria's National Gender Policy, and covered topics like Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the WPS pillars of Participation, Protection, Prevention, and Relief & Recovery. Participants were also connected to the Early Warning Situation Room for technical reporting. This initiative enhanced the GFPs' capacity to monitor and report on gender-sensitive indicators, promoting gender inclusivity in peace processes and demonstrating a collective commitment to advancing gender equality at the community level.



Group picture of Participants

## SENSITIZATION OF WOMEN ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN BIRCHI COMMUNITY OF KURFI LGA AND U/DANGAJE OF DUTSINMA LGA KATSINA STATE:

The Initiative in Birchi community of Kurfi LGA, U/Dangaje of Dutsinma LGA in Katsina State, which served as a step-down process from trained GFPs aimed to raise awareness on the prevalence, impact, and prevention of GBV in these areas. The program sought to equip women with the knowledge and tools to recognize, report, and combat violence, particularly in domestic settings, and empower them to advocate for their rights and well-being within their communities.



The sensitization program focused on educating participants about the different forms of GBV, including physical, emotional, and economic abuse, and the cultural and societal factors that contribute to its persistence. Key objectives included fostering an understanding of women's legal rights, encouraging reporting of GBV cases to relevant authorities, and building support networks among women to address GBV collaboratively.



Group picture of Participants

### **GBV STEP-DOWN TRAINING CARRIED OUT IN ZANGO KATAF TO STUDENTS IN 3 ISLAMIC SCHOOLS TO SENSITIZE SCHOOL CHILDREN BY KADUNA GFPS**

On 16 September 2024, trained Gender Focal Persons (GFPs) in Zango Kataf conducted three step-down training sessions for about 50 female students from three Islamic schools. The objective of these trainings was to sensitize the students on key gender issues, particularly Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and empower them with the knowledge to recognize and report such cases.

The sessions focused on raising students' awareness of their rights, how to identify harmful practices, and the importance of seeking help from trusted adults or authorities. By the end of the training, the students demonstrated a better understanding of GBV, becoming more aware of the tools available to combat it within their communities and schools. These efforts also promoted a safer, more supportive learning environment for young girls in the region.



Cross section of participants at the step down training

## WOMEN UNITING FOR PEACE:

On September 18th, 2024, the "Women Uniting for Peace: Strengthening Community Bonds Through Collective Action" event brought together 57 participants, including 50 women and 7 men. Key discussions centered around the urgent need to address drug and alcohol abuse, with participants committing to map areas where illicit substances are sold and present these findings to the traditional council to advocate for the closure of these locations.

The group also proposed setting up periodic platforms to engage youth involved in substance abuse, offering a supportive space to encourage positive change.

Additionally, the issue of human trafficking was raised, leading to the proposal of an awareness campaign aimed at educating parents on the risks of entrusting their children to strangers. The participants emphasized the importance of building stronger ties with local government officials to secure support for women-led peace initiatives.

The participants highlighted the need to provide economic alternatives for vulnerable women, particularly those in IDP camps, to reduce exploitation and encourage sustainable livelihoods.



Group picture of participants at the program



Cross section of participants

## Commemoration of 16 days of activism 2024

### 4TH NATIONAL GENDER TALK SERIES 2024: UNITE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN NIGERIA

On November 27, 2024, WANEP-Nigeria hosted its 4th National Gender Talk Series in alignment with the global 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (GBV). The event brought together approximately 40 participants, including policymakers, legal practitioners, community leaders, and development partners, to foster dialogue and collaboration in addressing the pervasive issue of GBV.





Discussions during the forum focused on strengthening gender-sensitive policies, enhancing survivor support systems, and implementing grassroots interventions to tackle the root causes of GBV. Stakeholders shared practical strategies, from legal advocacy and economic empowerment programs to youth engagement and culturally sensitive awareness campaigns.

The event underscored WANEP's unwavering commitment to sustainable peace and equality, culminating in actionable recommendations to enhance partnerships, empower survivors, and promote a culture of respect and inclusivity across communities.



## School-Based Awareness Creation On Girls' Rights And Gender Based Violence In Imo State

As part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, the Young Women leaders for Peace as initiative of WANEP Nigeria in collaboration with Serene Society Initiative, organized a school-based awareness creation program on girls' rights and gender based violence in three secondary schools in Imo State, Nigeria. The program aimed to educate and sensitize students, particularly girls, on their rights and the importance of promoting gender equality. The program was held in the following schools: Comprehensive Secondary School Ngugu Ikeduru on November 29, 2024; Urban Secondary School Aboh Mbaize on 5th of December, 2024 and Assumption Secondary School Umuariam Obowo on the 10th of December, 2024. Over 500 students participated in the program, which included interactive sessions, discussions, and presentations on girls' rights, gender-based violence, and the importance of promoting gender equality.



Cross section of students during the training

## EMPOWERING CHANGE AND STRENGTHENING COMMITMENTS "UNITE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS."

WANEP, in collaboration with the Kaduna State Peace Commission and Mercy Corps Nigeria, organized a significant event on December 2, 2024, in Kaduna State to commemorate the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. With the theme *"Empowering Change and Strengthening Commitments: UNiTE to End Violence Against Women and Girls,"* the program brought together over 86 participants to engage in discussions aimed at addressing gender-based violence (GBV) and fostering safer environments for women and girls. The event highlighted the progress toward gender equality and the importance of sustained advocacy. A panel discussion on *"Enhancing a Safe Space and Peaceful Environment for Women and Girls"* created an interactive platform for participants to share experiences, gain deeper insights, and explore strategies for ensuring safer spaces. This collaborative initiative underscored the importance of partnership and community action in the fight against GBV, leaving participants inspired and equipped to contribute meaningfully to creating a violence-free society.



Participant at the program on GBV in Kaduna State



## BREAK THE SILENCE: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND AWARENESS:

WANEP, in collaboration with the Kaduna State Peace Commission and Mercy Corps Nigeria, organized an event on December 3, 2024, in the Samaru community, Sabon Gari LGA of Kaduna State, to mark the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. The event, themed *“Empowering Change and Strengthening Commitments: UNiTE to End Violence Against Women and Girls,”* brought together over 86 participants to discuss strategies for preventing GBV and creating safer environments for women and girls. The program emphasized the role of community-based initiatives, advocacy, and collaborative partnerships in tackling GBV. Participants gained a deeper understanding of the challenges and impacts of GBV and committed to fostering peace and respect within their communities. Key recommendations from the event included the need for localized awareness campaigns, stronger community partnerships, and the implementation of policies to prevent GBV and support survivors. The event underscored the importance of collective responsibility in driving sustainable change and addressing GBV at the grassroots level.



**Group picture of Participants at the program in Kaduna State**

## BIBLE-FAITH RAFINPA WOMEN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE: HEALTHY CONVERSATIONS AMONG WOMEN OF BIBLE FAITH/RAFINPA ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS

WANEP-Nigeria, in collaboration with the Plateau State Peacebuilding Agency (PPBA) and Mercy Corps Nigeria, organized an event on December 3, 2024, in Rafinpa/Bible Faith community of Jos, Plateau State, with over 53 participants in attendance. The event aimed to raise awareness of unhealthy relationships and provide insights into building healthier relationships within the community.

The discussions began with an exploration of unhealthy relationships, followed by sessions on building and deepening understanding of healthy relationships. Participants actively engaged in sharing their perspectives and learned valuable strategies to foster respect and positive dynamics in their relationships. The event concluded with a general discussion,



where attendees shared experiences and suggestions for improving relationships in their communities. The event successfully provided participants with important tools to recognize and address unhealthy relationships. Moving forward, similar sessions should be held in other communities to further promote healthy relationship practices and contribute to community well-being.



Participants in communities from plateau State discussing issues on Violence Against Women and girls

## BUKURU/GYEL SECONDARY SCHOOL SENSITIZATION: CREATING AWARENESS AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

As part of the activities to commemorate the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, the Gender Focal Persons in the Gyel community of Jos South LGA, under the PARTNER project, organized a sensitization and awareness engagement titled **“Creating Awareness Among Secondary School Students on Violence Against Women and Girls.”** The event, held on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at Government Secondary School Gyel, brought together 50 female students from five selected schools in the Bukuru/Gyel community. The event focused on early reporting of GBV, creating safe spaces for women and girls, and addressing harmful cultural practices. The need for societal change and early intervention was emphasized, while local principals highlighted the importance of engaging both boys and girls in promoting peace and reducing violence. The program reinforced the community’s commitment to fostering inclusivity and combating GBV through education and collaboration. The engagement aimed to educate students about the various forms of violence perpetrated against women and girls and how to identify them. Emphasis was placed on the importance of reporting any form of gender-based violence observed or experienced, particularly violence against young girls. Students were provided with clear steps for safely reporting such cases and were guided on how to prevent the stigmatization of victims, which often deters others from speaking out. Dedicated helplines were shared with the students to facilitate reporting..





**Cross section of participants at the program**

## **EMPOWERING CHANGE AND STRENGTHENING COMMITMENTS "UNITE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS."**

On December 5th, 2024, WANEP, in collaboration with the Plateau State Peacebuilding Agency (PPBA) and Mercy Corps Nigeria, organized an event in Plateau State, aimed at addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV). The event, attended by over 53 participants, began with a keynote speech centered on the theme "Towards Beijing +30: UNiTE to End Violence Against Women and Girls," focusing on understanding the prevalence, impact, and root causes of GBV in Nigeria. A key part of the event was a panel discussion on strengthening legal and policy frameworks through community-driven solutions to end GBV. The discussion highlighted best practices in prevention, addressing societal barriers, and the role of community-based structures in tackling GBV. During the Q&A session, participants actively engaged with panelists, offering insights and raising concerns about GBV prevention in their communities. The event concluded with a group work session where participants developed actionable community strategies to combat GBV, emphasizing prevention, protection, and advocacy. These strategies are expected to be implemented in local communities, with a focus on creating safer environments for women and girls. This event provided valuable discussions and concrete strategies for tackling GBV, reinforcing the importance of community involvement in ending violence against women and girls.



**Participants at the empowering program on GBV in Plateau State**



## BREAKING BARRIERS: COMMUNITY ACTION TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS.

On December 5th, 2024, WANEP, in collaboration with ISPA and Mercy Corps Nigeria, organized an event in Markurdi, Benue State, titled "Breaking Barriers: Community Action to End Violence Against Women and Girls," with over 100 participants. The event focused on addressing the prevalence, impact, and root causes of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Nigeria, emphasizing societal and cultural barriers. A panel discussion highlighted the importance of strengthening legal frameworks and the role of community structures in GBV prevention. Participants worked in groups to develop actionable community strategies for combating GBV, focusing on prevention, protection, and advocacy. The event successfully fostered collaboration and practical solutions for addressing GBV at the community level.



Participants at the program in Benue State

## COMMUNITY WALK AGAINST GBV: PROMOTING AWARENESS AND ACTION IN KWATA ZAWAN

On December 7, 2024, Vou Chuwak Davou, the Gender Focal Person (GFP), and the PARTNER team led a community walk in Kwata Zawan, engaging 52 women and 8 men on the dangers of Gender-Based Violence (GBV). The event emphasized recognizing the signs of GBV and the importance of early reporting. The Gwom Kwata of Zawan praised the team's efforts and highlighted drug abuse as a major driver of GBV in the community. The Gender Focal Persons committed to supporting schoolgirls with counseling and resources. The walk was a significant step toward addressing GBV, fostering peace, and promoting social cohesion in the community. Recommendations included involving boys in GBV interventions and strengthening partnerships with local schools.



Participants at the community walk program



## SECONDARY SCHOOL SENSITIZATION: UNITE TO END GBV: EDUCATING AND MOBILIZING THE YOUTH KAKURI

On 7th December 2024, Government Secondary School (GSS) Kakuri hosted an impactful event to mark the global 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV). The program focused on raising awareness, empowering students, and fostering a culture of respect and peace within the school and community. The event highlighted the importance of Early Warning and Early Response (EWER), peacebuilding, and social cohesion. These foundational pillars emphasized creating a violence-free environment, particularly in youth-centered spaces like schools. A session on gender and GBV explored the various forms of violence, their impacts, and the critical role of youth in prevention efforts. Students actively engaged in the discussion, sharing concerns about inappropriate behaviors they had encountered and receiving guidance on recognizing and reporting such issues. The event successfully mobilized 52 students and stakeholders, creating a platform for education, empowerment, and collaboration. By reviving the Peace Club and fostering partnerships, the program laid the foundation for a sustained culture of peace and mutual respect within the school and its community.



**Cross section of participants at the event**

### **PUBLICATIONS OF POLICY BRIEF ON “STRENGTHENING PEACE STRUCTURES AND ADOPTING RIGHT – BASED APPROACHED TO ADDRESSING THE CONFLICT IN PLATEAU STATE NIGERIA’**

Between December 23 and 25, 2023, many people, including several children and women, were mercilessly hacked to death in what unfolded as a conflict between farmers and herders. Armed Gun men suspected to be herdsmen carried out a series of violent coordinated attacks on twenty- three (23) local villages identified as Christian farming communities including Lisha community Kwahasnat, KambarIpelli, Mutfyan, Pushit etc in three local Government Areas (LGAs) - Barkin Ladi, Bokkos and Mangu of Plateau State. It was against this background that the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding WANEP-Nigeria with funds from Urgent Action Fund Africa initiated the Project Engaging stakeholders in Conflict Mitigation and Peacebuilding in Plateau State.

The project targeted four conflict prone Local Government Areas (LGAs) included Barkin – Ladi, Bokkos, Mangu and Wase. The project was structured to allow community stakeholders to drive the process by identifying conflict issues in their local communities and exploring local solutions to them. It is expected that when women and men partner on issues of peace and security their unique views and perspectives are reflective in ensuring a holistic approach to peacebuilding.

As part of the project activities, the policy brief titled “Strengthening Peace Structures and Adopting Rights Based Approaches to Addressing the Conflict in Plateau State, Nigeria” was produced and disseminated to stakeholders.



# PEACE EDUCATION ACTIVITY REPORT 2024

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) -Nigeria Active Non- Violence & Peace Education Department implemented the following activities from January-December 2024 for the promotion of peace to address the rising involvement of children in violent conflict and the abuse of drugs. These activities were executed in collaboration with the Lagos State Ministry of Education, Kosofe LGA School Based Management Committee (SBMC), Lagos State Universal Basic Education Board (LASUBEB), Women Advocates Research and Documentation Centre (WARD C), Prince Children Foundation and the United Nations Democratic Fund (UNDEF). The activities included;

## **1- Day School and Community Outreach for the Implementation of the Safe School Declaration (SSD) Policies in Nigeria.**

As part of the project “Effective Implementation of Safe School Policies in Nigeria”, the Women Advocates, Research and Documentation Centre (WARDC) in collaboration with the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) Nigeria organized the School Based Outreach Campaign for young persons to join the 1 million signatures to demand the implementation of the Safe School Declaration (SSD) in Nigeria. The program which had over one hundred persons (100) in attendance including pupils from primary schools in Lagos State, teachers, officers of the School Based Management Committee (SBMC), representatives of media houses and other key stakeholders was held at the Language Hall in Maryland, Lagos State on May 21, 2024.

The program succeeded in Increasing public awareness of SSD as school administrators, teachers and pupils signed the 1 million social media campaign and promised to create the aware in their schools for more signatures to hold the government accountable to make the schools safe.



**Participants at the community outreach for the Implementation of the Safe School Declaration (SSD) Policies in Nigeria.**

### - **1-Day Roundtable Meeting with Educational Stakeholders on A Legal Framework on Safe School Declaration Policies**

The Women Advocate Research and Documentation Centre (WARDC) with support from the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) and in partnership with the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, Nigeria (WANEP-Nigeria) organised a 1-Day Roundtable Meeting with Educational Stakeholders On A Legal Framework on Safe School Declaration (SSD) Policies. The meeting aimed to explore the development of a legal framework for safe school declaration policies in Nigeria. The workshop which was very participatory provided the avenue for participants to air their views on how schools can be made safe and secure. There was a call for synergy by all critical stakeholders and buttressed on the need for the communal ownership of schools and greater interest by the community. At the end of the meeting, twenty – five persons were sensitized on SSD policies and support requested for the drafting of a legal framework on SSD in Lagos State.



**Group Picture of Participants**



**Cross Section of participants at the meeting**

### **Universal Children Day Celebration: The Government is My Friend- Children view.**

The Universal Children Day Celebration was an outdoor fun fair with children organized by Prince Children Foundation in Collaboration with WANEP Nigeria. The event was held on May 27 , 2024. The children were asked to air their views on the theme of the event **“The Government is My Friend’**. They noted that children have a voice and should be allowed to speak out on how they are affected by government policies and programs. To be a friend to the government their concerns, needs and views should be taken into consideration. As part of the program, the police gave a brief talk on crime prevention. **Seventy (70) children were sensitized on the role of the Nigerian government through the Nigerian Police in crime prevention and peacebuilding in the society.** ([https://youtu.be/BxaerqUdP2A?si=9iM\\_YrQA-HGsplh8](https://youtu.be/BxaerqUdP2A?si=9iM_YrQA-HGsplh8))





**Flier and Program of the event**

## Capacity Building on Prevention of Conflict, Peacebuilding, Crisis Management and Violent Extremism

The Research and Action for Peace (RECAP) Project is funded by the European Union, is implemented by the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) in 18 countries of West Africa and the Lower Chad Basin. In line with the principles of effective peacebuilding and conflict management, 3-day training workshop on Conflict Prevention, Violent Extremism, Crisis Management, and Peacebuilding were held in three States in Nigeria.

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the role for civil society, including regional, national and community practitioners and researchers in effective peacebuilding, crisis management and prevention of conflict and violent extremism in West Africa and the Lake Chad Basin to enable more informed decision making by policy makers. During the year, the training workshops were held in Abuja, FCT for the North Central zone on June 21- 23, 2024. In the South South zone, the training workshop was held in Uyo, Akwa-Ibom State on August 20 – 22, 2024 and for the South East zone it was held in Owerri, Imo State Stae October 3=5, 2024.

The workshops brought together diverse group of stakeholders to discuss on conflict context, network, enhance their skills, and forge strong relationships in each of the three states. Over sixty -five (65) persons benefited from the trainings in the three states. As part of the project, trainings will be held in the South West, North East and North West geopolitical zones in 2025.





**Group Picture of Participants at the Abuja RECAP training**

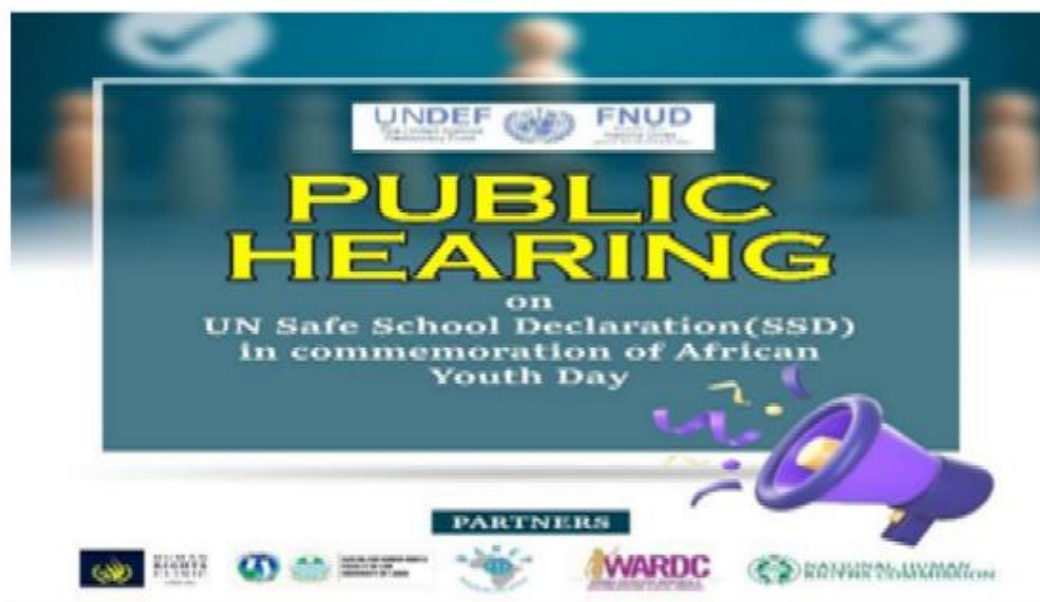


**Participants holding side discussions**

## **Public Hearing on the Safe School Declaration (SSD) in Commemoration of the African Youth Day 2024**

In continuation of the Safe School Declaration (SSD) Project, WANEP Nigeria in collaboration with National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), Women Advocate Research and Documentation Centre (WARDC) with support from the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) held a public hearing on the need to collaborate with relevant stakeholders to work towards the promotion of safety and security of schools, and ensure violence free atmosphere. The public hearing created awareness on the vulnerabilities of schools and the need for legal frameworks and government resources to support systems that will make schools more secure. During the program the need for an adequate legal framework for the Safe Schools Declaration (SSD) was emphasized and the need for national and state financing plans for SSD. Over sixty persons were in attendance at the event including policymakers, educational authorities, security agencies, students, traditional leaders, Civil Society Organizations and the media.





**Flier of the event**

## **1-Day Sensitization Program On “Cultivating A Culture Of Peace” At The Lagos State Special Correctional Centre For Boys Oregun**

WANEP Nigeria in collaboration with the School Based Management Committee (SBMC), held 1- day sensitization program at the Lagos State Special Correctional Centre for Boys Oregun on September 24, 2024. The Program was held to commemorate the International Day of Peace with the theme “Cultivating A Culture of Peace”. The Boys were educated on the need to shun violence but rather embrace nonviolent approaches in their relationship with others. They were equipped with peer mediation skills to enable resolve disputes within and outside the correctional centre upon release. At the end of the training, the boys pledged to stop fighting and bullying others rather embrace peace in all their relationship as this will enable them to live better lives while keeping out of trouble. In attendance at the program were fifty- five (55) boys.



**Sensitization program with the boys at the correctional centre..**



## Engaging with Schools to Promote a Culture of Peace in Sports.

WANEP-Nigeria in partnership with School-Based Management Committee (SBMC) Kosofe LGA, supported the Annual Inter House Sports Festival Competition of Anthony Model Nursery/Primary School, Anthony Village, Lagos State held on November 28, 2024. WANEP- Nigeria being the patron of Yellow House encouraged the pupils to embrace the culture of peace and dismiss all forms of violence. Yellow House which is named WANEP House participated actively in all the activities and emerged the overall best house in the competition. The event was attended by officials from the Lagos State Universal Basic Education Board (LASUBEB), teachers, parents and guardians of the pupils. At the end of the inter house competition, WANEP House emerged the overall best house for the year, 2024.



*Photos of pupils of WANEP House participating actively in the sporting events*

## Exchange Program between Life and Peace Institute (LPI) and the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) on the development of Nigeria's National Action Plan On The United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2250

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) in partnership with the Life and Peace Institute (LPI) held 1- day exchange meeting with key stakeholders to discuss Nigeria's National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCR 2250. The exchange meeting provided the platform for civil society partners from the Horn of Africa to understand the process in the development of Nigeria's NAP on UNSCR 2250 .

Although notable strides have been made in developing the Youth, Peace and Security National Action Plans (NAPs) with Nigeria being the first country in Africa to develop a NAP on UNSCR 2250 in November 2021, countries in the Horn of Africa still working on initial implementation are willing to learn the process. To bridge this gap, the exchange meeting leveraged on the knowledge of state and non- state actors involved in the NAP development in Nigeria to enhance the capacity of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) from the Horn of Africa, fostering knowledge sharing, and collaboration towards advancing the YPS Agenda. Also, the program created the platform for experience-sharing as a step to support the development of NAPs in the Horn of Africa, particularly in Ethiopia, which has recently initiated the process of drafting its own National Action Plan.





Other activities conducted during the exchange program included advocacy visits to key ministries and organizations. Amongst those visited were the Federal Ministry of Youth and Social Development, The Kukah Centre, the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) and the Centre for Sustainable Development and Education in Africa (CSDEA). Also, informal discussions were held with the traditional leader and council members of Dutse Alhaji community in Abuja, Nigeria. Discussions centred on effective community engagement on Early Warning, good practices and challenges. The exchange program was held from December 2- 5, 2024.



**Cross Section of Participants at the xchange meeting**



**Group Picture of Exchange Fellow at IPCR**

## Engaging with Street Children in Peacebuilding to Promote National Unity.

WANEP-Nigeria in collaboration with Prince Children Foundation Nigeria and Alice Goodwill Foundation organized a sensitization program/Christmas funfair party for street children on December 24, 2024. The event was attended by over 70 street children, parents and community members. The Christmas party provided the platform to educate the children on the need to shun violence and misuse of drugs but rather embrace peaceful living always. It was noted that next year the tech hub established for the children will introduce the use of digital peacebuilding with the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in conducting its trainings. The children were very excited and WANEP Nigeria was appreciated for the support towards the success of the event.





## OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS DURING THE YEAR

### ***THE COMMEMORATION OF 25TH ANNIVERSARY AND 2024 PARTNERS' FORUM AND PARTICIPATORY REVIEW AND ANALYSIS PROCESSES (PRAPS).***

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) held its 25th Anniversary and Partners Forum and Participatory Review and Analysis Processes on March 13- 15, 2024 at Labadi Beach Hotel, Accra Ghana. The program was attended by representatives of civil society organizations, representatives of the fifteen (15) WANEP National Networks, military officers, traditional leaders, academia and media agencies.

The event began with the welcome address by the Executive Director WANEP Dr. Chukwuemeka Eze. He appreciated the participants for coming to celebrate the network's 25th anniversary. He noted the steady progress the network has made in the past 25 years which has culminated into the workforce of one hundred and nine (109) officers in the fifteen (15) national offices. This was made possible under the visionary leadership of the founding Executive Directors Mr. Samuel Gbaydee I Doe and Emmanuel Bombande. They set the building blocks on which the present executive director institutionalized the network. In his words Dr. Chukwuemeka noted that "It does not matter where you go in life; what matters is who you have beside you". We have embraced our role as catalyst of change and will continue to chart the path ahead as a foremost network.



The Board Chair – Mr. Kolawole Olatosimi and the Head of Programs Ms. Patience Ikpeh Obaulo at the program



Cross section pf Participants at the program.



**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**IT/Cert. No. 15438 of 14th July, 2003.**  
**Financial Statements for the year**  
**ended 31st December, 2023**

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**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Financial Statements for the year**  
**ended 31st December, 2023.**  
**Financial Highlights**

	2023	2022
	N	N
<b>Gross income</b>	<b>778,660,961</b>	<b>368,974,088</b>
<b>Programme expense</b>	<b>(574,931,172)</b>	<b>(407,720,090)</b>
<b>Total administrative expenses and others</b>	<b>(165,781,804)</b>	<b>(70,648,025)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit of income over expenditure</b>	<b>(37,947,984)</b>	<b>(109,394,027)</b>
<b>Total fixed assets (Net Book Value)</b>	<b>31,296,002</b>	<b>3,392,4</b>
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>	<b>112,347,904</b>	<b>123,339,742</b>
<b>Accumulated fund</b>	<b>155,174,201</b>	<b>128,213,813</b>



# **West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria** **Financial Statements for the year** **ended 31st December, 2023.**

## **Board of Directors and other officials**

### **Board of Directors and other officials**

Dr.Abiola Akiyode-Afolabi	Board Chair
Barrister Margaret Nwagbo	Director-Training and Capacity Building
Dr.Nsekpong Udoh	Director Treasury and Finance
Mallam Y Z Ya'u	Director of Communication
Mr. Kolawole Olatosimi	Member
Mallam Mohammed Wuyo	Member
Bridget Osakwe	National Network Coordinator and Secretary to the Board

### **Zonal Coordinators**

Emem Okon	South South
Kola Amusat	South West
Nathaniel Awuapila	North Central
Mustapha Muhammad	North West
Chibundu Uchegbu	South East
Mohammed Aliyu Wayas	North East



**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December, 2023.**  
**Board of Directors and other officials (Cont'd)**

**Management**

Ms. Bridget Osakwe	-	National Network Coordinator
Ms. Patience Obaulo	-	Head of Programs
Mr. Austin Eneanya	-	Finance Manager
Ms. Vivian Anyaegbu	-	Admin Manager
Mr. Kevin Abonyi	-	Programme Manager
Ms. Osariemen Amas-Edobor	-	Programme Manager

<b>Bankers:</b>	-	Ecobank Plc
		Guaranty Trust Bank Plc
		Zenith Bank Plc

<b>Registered office:</b>	-	27, Adeniji Street, Adeniji Estate, Off Wempco Road, Ogba -Lagos.
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# **West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria** **Financial Statements for the year** **ended 31st December, 2023**

## **General Background, Vision, Mission and Objectives**

### **General Background**

The WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING – NIGERIA (WANEP) is a regional non-profit making organisation with the mandate to enable and facilitate the development of mechanisms for cooperation among civil society-based peacebuilding practitioners and organisations. That is by promoting cooperative prevention and responses to violent conflicts, providing the structures through which these experiences and information on issues of peacebuilding, conflict prevention and transformation, social, religious and political reconciliation and promoting West African's social and cultural values as resources for peacebuilding.

### **Vision**

A Nigeria characterised by just and peaceful coexistence among communities where dignity of the human person is paramount and where the people can meet their human needs and decide their own direction.

### **Mission**

To enable and facilitate the development of mechanisms for cooperation among civil society based peacebuilding practitioners and organisations in Nigeria by providing cooperative responses to violent conflicts, providing structure through which these practitioners and institutions can regularly share experience and information on peace building, conflict transformation, social ethnic-religious and political reconciliation and tolerance and promoting cultural values as resources for peacebuilding.

### **Goal**

To build a sustainable peaceful co-existence amongst all the various sectors and groups of the Nigerian community, for an enabling environment towards national growth and development.



## **Objectives**

WANEP – NIGERIA seeks to:

- Create a critical mass of women with enhanced voice and capacity for conflict management, political participation and enhancing their livelihood;
- Community based conflict early warning/response system with direct links to ECOWAS and AU early warning systems and policy makers;
- Promote the culture of peace and tolerance through peace education at primary and secondary level and radicalization prevention among youths;
- Support small scale farmers to adapt their practices to the realities of climate change toward enhanced livelihood and mitigating the tension between pastoralist and farmers;
- Support government actors and communities to prevent and address the risk of outbreak of violence in elections;
- Build the capacity and resilience of vulnerable communities to engage their government to mitigate natural disaster;
- Community based dialogue and mediation to promote peace and security.





# **West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria** **Report of the Directors for the year** **ended 31stDecember, 2023**

The directors have pleasure in submitting their report together with the WANEP – NIGERIA audited financial statements for the year ended 31stDecember, 2023.

## **Operating Result**

	<b>N 2022</b>
Changes in Net Asset	40,382,065
Net Asset at the beginning of the year	114,792,136
	-----
Net Asset at the end of the year	155,174,201
	=====

## **Legal Form**

The WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING – NIGERIA was incorporated on 14th July, 2003 and commenced operation on the 15th July, 2003.

## **Principal Activities**

The WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING – NIGERIA is created with the goal of capacity building in conflict prevention, collaborative peacebuilding, response, mitigation, advocacy and good governance in order to create an enabling environment through sustainable peace as prerequisite for growth and development.

## **Directors**

The names of the directors of WANEP – Nigeria are shown on page 3.

## **Donations and Contributions to Charitable Organisations**

The Network made donations during the year 2023 as corporate social responsibility to the development and improvement to our host communities.

## **Fixed Assets**

Movement in fixed assets during the period are as shown in Note 1 on page 16 of the accounts. In the opinion of the directors/trustees, the market value is not less than the value shown in the accounts.



## **West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria** **Report of the Directors (Cont'd)**

### **7. Events after the reporting period**

There are no post reporting period events which could have had material effect on the financial position of WANEP – Nigeria as at 31st December, 2023 which have not been adequately provided for or disclosed in these accounts.

### **8. Employment and Employees**

#### **i. Employments of Physically Challenged**

WANEP- Nigeria maintains a policy of giving fair consideration to the application for employment made by disabled persons with due regard to their abilities and aptitude. WANEP- Nigeria's policy prohibits discrimination against disabled persons in the recruitment, training and career development of its employees. In the event of members of staff becoming disabled, efforts will be made to ensure that their employment continues and appropriate training arranged to ensure that they fit into WANEP- Nigeria's working environment.

#### **ii. Health, Safety at Work and Welfare of Employees**

WANEP- Nigeria enforces strict health and safety rules and practices at the work environment, which are reviewed and tested regularly. The COVID-19 pandemic also presented an opportunity for WANEP- Nigeria to enhance its health and safety protocols in all its operating locations.

Fire prevention and fire-fighting equipment are installed in strategic locations within WANEP- Nigeria's premises, while occasional fire drills are conducted to create awareness amongst staff.

#### **iii Employees Involvement and Training**

WANEP-Nigeria ensures, through various fora, that employees are informed on matters concerning them. Formal and informal channels are also employed in communication with employees with an appropriate two-way feedback mechanism.

In accordance with the Network's policy of continuous development, training facilities are provided in well-equipped training centres. These are complemented by on-the-job training.





## **West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria** **Report of the Directors (Cont'd).**

### **9. Board of Directors' Responsibilities in relation to Financial Statements**

The following statements which should be read in conjunction with the report of the auditors set out on page 10 is made with a view to distinguishing the respective responsibilities of the board of management and of the auditors in relation to the financial statements.

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING – NIGERIA as at the end of the financial year.

These responsibilities include ensuring that:

- i Adequate internal control procedures are instituted to safeguard assets and prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities;
- ii Proper accounting books and records are kept and maintained;
- iii Applicable accounting policies are followed;
- iv Suitable accounting policies are used and consistently applied;
- v The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that WANEP – Nigeria will continue to be in existence.

10

### **Auditors**

The auditors, Messrs Layi Lawal & Co. (Chartered Accountants), having satisfied the relevant corporate governance rules on their tenor in office, have indicated their willingness to continue in office as auditors in accordance with section 401(2) of the Company and Allied Matters Act, 2020

By Order of the Board of Directors

Secretary  
Lagos,  
Nigeria.



# ***Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of West African Network for Peacebuilding- Nigeria Report of the Auditors on the Financial Statements***

## **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of **West African Network for Peacebuilding- Nigeria** (the Company), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December, 2023, and the statement of Activities, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising significant accounting policies and other

explanatory information, as set out on pages 16 to 25

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December, 2023, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) and in the manner required by the Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA), 2020 and the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria Act, 2011.

## **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Nigeria and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## **Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Statements**

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with IFRSs and in the manner required by the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2020 and the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria Act, 2011, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.





## ***Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of West African Network for Peacebuilding- Nigeria***

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control

v Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control system.

v Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.

v Conclude on the appropriateness of directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.

v Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

v We communicate with the Board of Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

v We also provide Board of Directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards



## ***Independent Auditor's Report to the Shareholders of Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements***

In accordance with the requirement of fifth Schedule of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2020, we confirm that:

- i) We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit;
- ii) in our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Company, so far as appears from our examination of those books; and
- iii) the Company's Statement of financial position and statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income are in agreement with the books of account.

Lagos, Nigeria

-----, 2024

.....  
**LAYI LAWAL ACA**

**FRCN/2023/PRO/ICAN/004/789674**

**MANAGING PARTNER**

***for: LAYI LAWAL & CO.***

**(CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS)**



**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Audited report for the year ended 31st December, 2023**

**Statement of Activities**

	<u>2023</u> =N=	<u>2022</u> =N=
<b>Operating Support and revenue:</b>		
Grants Received	765,354,882	367,797,554
Other Income:		
Annual Dues	110,000.00	85,000
Registrations	22,110	110,000
Interest Received	10,000	208,381
Others Revenue	13,163,969	773,153
	13,306,079	1,176,534
	=====	=====
<b>Total Operating revenue</b>	<b>778,660,961</b>	<b>368,974,088</b>
	=====	=====
<b>Program expenses</b>		
Strengthening Local and State level Peace Architecture for Peacebuilding and Prevention	66,186,701	20,795,370
PARTNER	143,545,552	29,439,617
Justice, Security and Dialogue	210,439,799	172,128,270
Regional	140,421,620	113,041,283
GNWP	12,772,500	34,768,650
Maryland University	1,485,000	17,711,500
NORAD	-	8,281,300
Urgent Action Fund - AFRICA	80,000	10,009,10
Toastan	-	1,545,000
	=====	=====
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>574,931,172</b>	<b>407,720,090</b>
Management and Administrative expenses	151,891,822	70,648,025
Resource Development	13,889,982	-
<b>Total Operating expenses</b>	<b>740,712,977</b>	<b>478,368,115</b>
	=====	=====
Change in Net Assets from operations	37,947,984	(109,394,027)
Net foreign exchange gain	2,434,081	-
Change in Net Assets	40,382,065	(109,394,027)
	=====	=====
Net Asset at the beginning of the year	114,792,136	237,607,840
	=====	=====
Net Asset at the end of the year	<u>155,174,201</u>	<u>128,213,813</u>

**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**For the year ended 31st December, 2023**

**Statement of Financial Position**

	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>
<b><u>Assets:</u></b>	<b><u>=N=</u></b>	<b><u>=N=</u></b>
Property, Plant and Equipment	31,296,001	3,392,443
Intangible Assets	4,428,850	
Accounts Receivable	10,089,795	2,681,628
Prepayment	2,850,000	-
Cash and Cash Equivalents	112,347,904	123,339,742
Total Assets	<b>161,012,551</b>	129,413,813
<b><u>Liabilities:</u></b>		
Accounts Payable and accrued liabilities	5,500,000	1,200,000
Other Liabilities	338,350	-
Total liabilities	<b>5,838,350</b>	1,200,000
<b><u>Net Assets:</u></b>		
Unrestricted Grants	155,174,201	128,213,813
	=====	=====
<b>Net Assets and liabilities</b>	<b>161,012,551</b>	129,413,813
	=====	=====

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on .....2024 and signed on its behalf:

by:

Name .....

Trustee.....

Name .....

.....

**National Network  
Coordinator**





**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Cashflow Statement for the year**  
**ended 31st December, 2023**

	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>=N=</b>	<b>=N=</b>
Change in Net Asset	40,382,065	(109,394,027)
Adjustments:		
Depreciation & Amortization	12,605,052	1,739,195
Unrealised Gain on Foreign exchange	(13,306,078)	-----
	-----	
	39,681,039	(107,654,832)
<i>Movements in assets and liabilities:</i>		
Increase/(decrease) in prepayments and other receivables	(10,258,167)	2,680,461
(Increase)/decrease in provisions and other payables	4,638,350.40	200,000
	-----	-----
<b>Cash generated from operating activities</b>	<b>(5,619,817)</b>	<b>2,880,461</b>
	-----	-----
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>34,061,223</b>	<b>(104,774,372)</b>
	=====	=====
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of properties, plant and equipment	(45,053,060)	(2,894,000)
	-----	-----
<b>Net cash (used in)/by investing activities</b>	<b>(45,053,060)</b>	<b>(2,894,000)</b>
	=====	=====
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from issue of equity instruments	-	-
	-----	-----
<b>Net cash generated from financing activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	=====	=====
<b>NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<b>(10,991,837)</b>	<b>(107,668,371)</b>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AS AT 1 JANUARY, 2023</b>	<b>123,339,741</b>	<b>231,008,113</b>
	=====	=====
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 2023</b>	<b>112,347,904</b>	<b>123,339,742</b>
	=====	=====

**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Statement of Accounting Policies adopted which**  
**have been applied consistently throughout the current and preceding years.**

The following are the principal accounting policies which have been consistently applied throughout the current and preceding years:

**1. Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Management uses its judgment in developing and applying an accounting policy that results in information that is relevant to the decision-making needs of users so that the financial statements:

- Represent faithfully the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the entity;
- Reflect the economic substance of transactions, other events and conditions and not merely the legal form;
- Are neutral, that is, free from bias;
- Are prudent; and

Are complete in all material respects in compliance with the budgetary notes of the donor.

**2. Reporting Period and Comparative Information**

The reporting period of these financial statements is for twelve-month period ended 31st December, 2023. Information covers comparative twelve-month period ended 31st December, 2022.

**3. Functional and presentation currency**

Items are included in these financial statements using the currency that best reflects the primary economic environment in which the entity operates ("functional currency"). These financial statements are presented in Nigerian Naira ("presentation currency"), which is WANEP-Nigeria functional currency.

**Basis of presentation**

Presents information regarding its financial position and activities according to these classes of net assets:

***Unrestricted net assets*** are available to support all activities without restrictions and include those net assets whose use is not restricted by donors even though their use may be limited in other respects, such as by contract or board designation.

***Temporarily restricted net assets*** -represent contributions whose use is limited to donor-imposed stipulations that expire by the passage of time or other restrictions and for which the applicable restriction has not been met as of the end of the current reporting period.

***Use of estimates*** – The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates. Significant estimates included in these financial statements relate primarily to functional expense allocation in line with the detailed.





**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Statement of Accounting Policies adopted which**  
**have been applied consistently throughout the current and preceding years.**

**Grants Received**

4. These are donations and grants from various donors in the form of cash and cash equivalents which are given for the purpose of achieving the objectives of programmes execution for which the grants are provided. They are received on different programmes which are concurrently executed within a period but the donations are not presented as separate components of net assets.

Undertakings to provide funding by donors in any form, is not contractual. Therefore, subscriptions from individuals and corporate organisations who share the aspirations of WANEP-Nigeria's objectives are not contractual, and are thus classified as part of donations.

Donations are measured as the exact amount of the cash and cash equivalents transferred to WANEP-Nigeria by donors. Other than subscriptions, donations are recognised on the approval by donors of proposal for programmes to be pursued by WANEP-Nigeria and the receipt of associated funding for such programmes, and are spread over the periods in which WANEP-Nigeria recognises the expenses related to the programmes.

WANEP-Nigeria's principal activity is the prosecution of programmes to realise the objectives therein, based on the donations received. Therefore, donations are presented gross in the statement of income and expenditure without the netting of their related expenses incurred on the programmes. Such expenses are separately presented in the statement of statement of activities.

**Property, plant and equipment**

***5.1 Recognition and measurement***

On initial recognition, items of property, plant and equipment are recognized at cost, which includes the purchase price as well as any costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

When parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property, plant and equipment.

Gains or losses on disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment are determined by comparing the proceeds from disposal with the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment, and are recognized as profit or loss in the statement of comprehensive income.

***5.2 Subsequent measurement***

After initial recognition, items of property, plant and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Subsequent expenditure is capitalized only when it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the expenditure will flow to the group. Ongoing repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

***5.3 Depreciation***

Items of property, plant and equipment are depreciated from the date they are available for use.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of items of property, plant and equipment less their estimated residual values using a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. Depreciation is generally recognized in profit or loss, unless the amount is included in the carrying amount of another asset. Leased assets are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives.



**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Statement of Accounting Policies adopted which**  
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unless it is reasonably certain that the Company will obtain ownership by the end of the lease term in which case the assets are depreciated over the useful life.

The estimated useful lives for the current and comparative years of significant items of property, plant and equipment are as follows:

<b>Item of PPE</b>	<b>Depreciation rate</b>
Furniture and fittin	25%
Office Equipment	25%
Plant and machinery	25%
Motor vehicles	25%
Library books	25%

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reassessed at each reporting date.

The carrying value of property, plant and equipment is derecognized upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected to arise from the continued use of the asset. Any gain or loss (determined by comparing net disposal proceeds with carrying amount) arising on derecognition of the asset is included in the income statement in the year the item is de-recognized.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of the asset's fair value less cost to sell and value in use. No property, plant and equipment was impaired as at 31st December 2023.

#### **Intangible assets**

Separately acquired intangible assets

On initial recognition, intangible assets acquired separately (e.g. software) are measured at cost. The cost of a separately acquired intangible asset comprises its purchase price, including import duties and non-refundable purchase taxes, after deducting trade discounts and rebates and any other directly attributable cost of preparing.

After initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortization and impairment losses. Subsequent expenditure is capitalized only when it increases the future economic benefits embodied in the specific asset to which it relates. All other expenditure is recognized in profit or loss as incurred.





## **West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria** **Statement of Accounting Policies (Cont'd)**

### **Account Receivables**

7. Receivables are indebtedness to the WANEP- Nigeria arising from advances to its staff. Receivables are recognised only when WANEP- Nigeria becomes a party to contracts or statutory framework giving rise to them. Other receivables are measured at amortised cost as they are advances to staff by WANEP-Nigeria. WANEP-Nigeria collects these advances from staff at specified payment dates and they are solely repayment of principal and interests.

Loss allowance is recognised for impairment for expected credit loss. Expected credit loss is the weighted average of credit losses with the respective risks of a default occurring at different weights. The loss allowance is measured using lifetime expected credit loss if the credit risk on other receivables has increased significantly since its initial recognition. Where there is no significant increase in credit risk since an initial recognition, loss allowance is measured at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses.

To ascertain expected credit loss, the carrying amount of other receivables at the reporting date is multiplied by the probability of default and the exposure at default. Probability of default is the risk likelihood that the carrying amount as at a reporting date would be lost as a result of the credit risk involved. The index of probability or probability co-efficient is arrived at by factoring the risk triggers – which are reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort at the reporting date- to which the credit assessment system of WANEP-Nigeria assigns risk percentages at various bands. Exposure at default is the amount of the carrying amount or credit advanced at a reporting date not covered by collateral.

### **8. Provisions**

Provisions are liabilities of uncertain timing or amount.

Provisions are recognised when the company has legal or constructive obligation at a reporting date as a result of past event where the organisation is more likely than not, will be required to transfer economic benefits in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be reliably estimated.

Provisions are initially measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at a reporting date. When the effect of the time value of money is material, provisions are measured at the present value of the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation. Subsequently, the organisation charges against provisions only those expenditures for which the provisions were originally recognised. The organisation reviews provisions at each reporting date and adjust them to reflect the current best estimate of the amount that would be required to settle the obligation at that reporting date.

### **9. Foreign Currency Transactions**

Foreign currency transactions are transactions carried out by WANEP-Nigeria that are denominated in or requires settlement in currency other than the Nigeria naira which is the functional currency. These transactions are associated with the income, expenses, assets, liabilities and components of equity which serve as the bases for the transactions.





## **West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria** **Statement of Accounting Policies (Cont'd)**

### **10. Employee Benefits**

In line with the provision of the Pension Reform Act 2004, the WANEP-Nigeria instituted a defined contribution Pension Scheme for the management and non-management staff. Staff contributions to the scheme are funded through payroll deduction while the WANEP-Nigeria's contribution is charged to expense account. WANEP-Nigeria contributes 13% for management and non-management staff respectively. While the employees contribute 5%.

### **11. Related Party Transactions**

Related party transactions are transfers of resources, services or obligations between the WANEP-Nigeria and related parties, regardless of whether price is charged.

A related party is a person or a close member of that person's family or an entity related to WANEP-Nigeria when that person or entity is a member of the key management personnel of WANEP-Nigeria or has control over WANEP-Nigeria or has significant influence over or significant voting power in WANEP-Nigeria.

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of WANEP-Nigeria, directly or indirectly, including, any director of WANEP-Nigeria.

Where there are related party transactions, WANEP-Nigeria discloses the nature of the related party relationship as well as information about the transactions, outstanding balances and commitments. WANEP-Nigeria also discloses the total compensation paid to key management personnel at all times.

### **12. Program Expenses**

Cost of programmes is the collection of expenses incurred in the prosecution of programmes on which donations have been received. They are financed from donations made in their regard.

Cost of programmes is recognised as the set of expenses incurred in a year towards the realisation of the objectives of the programmes. They are measured as the amounts expended or contracted for the expense items concerned.

It is presented gross in the statement of income and expenditure and deducted from donation income to arrive at gross surplus from donation income over cost of programmes executed in a period.

### **13. Prepayments**

Prepayments are money and resources paid by the organisation to other parties in advance of the use of services or for the supply of goods.

Prepayments are recognised only when the organisation becomes a party to contracts or statutory framework giving rise to them.

At initial recognition, they are measured at the amount of cash or cash equivalents paid or the fair value of the consideration given to establish the rights to the prepayments at the time of the transactions. Subsequently, prepayments classified as current assets are measured at the undiscounted amount of cash, cash equivalents or benefits given the counterparty.





**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Notes on the Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 2023**

**Note 1.b: Intangible Assets schedule**

Intangible Assets		
<u>Computer Software</u>	2023	2022
<u>Cost</u>	=N=	=N=
At start of the year	-	-
Additions during the year	4,377,850.00	-
As at year ended	4,377,850.00	-
<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>		
At start of the year	-	-
Charge for the year	1,094,463.00	-
At end of the year	1,094,463.00	-
Carrying amount at year end	3,283,387	-

**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Notes on the Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 2023**  
**Note 1a: Fixed Assets schedule**

<u>Description</u>	<u>2023</u>			<u>Cost</u>			<u>Depreciation</u>			<u>Net Book Value</u>		
	<u>B/F</u>	<u>Addition</u>	<u>Disposal</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>B/F</u>	<u>Addition</u>	<u>Disposal</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>
Plant & machinery	2,089,965	7,869,073	-	9,959,038	2,089,955	1,967,268	-	4,057,223	5,901,815			
Motor vehicles	5,892,000	10,074,000	-	15,966,000	5,891,990	2,518,500	-	8,410,490	7,555,510			
Furniture & fittings	3,722,623	3,488,350	-	7,210,973	3,260,028	1,229,683	-	4,489,711	2,721,263			
Library books	51,200	-	-	51,200	51,190	-	-	51,190	10			
Office equipment	5,757,325	3,817,350	-	9,574,675	5,488,065	1,044,088	-	6,532,153	3,042,523			
Computer/Laptops	12,214,460	15,426,438	-	27,640,898	9,553,902	4,751,051	-	14,304,953	13,335,945			
	29,727,573	40,675,211	-	70,402,784	26,335,130	11,510,589	-	37,845,719	32,557,065			



**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 2023**

**Statement of Functional Expenses**

EXPENSES	Strengthening Local and State level Peace Architecture for Peacebuilding and Prevention	Justice and Security Dialogue	Maryland University	GNWP	PARTNER	Urgent Action Fund	TOTAL
	WANEP						
<b>Direct Program Related</b>	<b>66,186,701</b>	<b>210,439,799</b>	<b>1,485,000</b>	<b>12,772,500</b>	<b>143,545,552</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>574,931,172</b>
<b>Management and General</b>							
AGM Expenses	181,536	352,647	4,073	35,032			1,183,200
Professional Fees - Audit	843,865	2,080,009	18,933	162,844			5,500,000
Bank Charges	120,984	254,893	2,714	23,349			788,602
Janitors / Cleaning	115,220	223,823	2,585	22,235			750,970
Consultancy/Accountancy Fees	25,699	49,923	577	18,382			167,500
Electricity & Lighting	51,935	78,015	1,165	10,022	50,000		338,500
Fuel / Lubricants	772,795	796,240	17,339	149,132	15,100		3,943,340
General Insurance	767	1,891	17	148			5,000
Legal & Other Professional Fee	36,823	90,764	826	7,106			240,000
Licences & Permits Fees	6,229	15,355	140	1,202			40,600
Newspaper & Periodicals	13,164	25,572	295	2,540			85,800
Other General & Admin Exp	461,796	1,057,725	10,361	89,116	80,550		3,009,850
Printing and Photocopying	241,442	469,019	131,526	46,593			1,573,650
Office rent	254,435	627,155	5,709	49,100			1,658,334
Telephone Expenses	10,541	26,981	236	2,034			69,700
Travels - Local	536,362	1,220,772	12,034	103,505	101,300		3,495,850
Office Repairs and Maintenance	667,735	2,688,909	14,962	128,857	50,500		5,445,617
Personnel Cost	18,963,000	36,837,027	425,464	3,659,420	27,581,920		123,595,307
	<b>23,304,329</b>	<b>46,896,721</b>	<b>648,977</b>	<b>4,510,619</b>	<b>27,889,370</b>		<b>151,891,818</b>
<b>Resource Development</b>	<b>2,131,114</b>	<b>5,250,38</b>	<b>47,815</b>	<b>411,256</b>	<b>2,576</b>		<b>13,889,982</b>

**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Notes on the Accounts(Cont'd)**

	2023	2022
2 (a) Cash and Cash Equivalents Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, balances with banks and short term, highly liquid investment that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with original maturity periods of three months or less, and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.		
Cash and cash equivalents as at 31 December consisted of the following:		
Cash on Hand	30,200	-
Deposits in Banks	112,317,704	123,339,742
	<u>112,347,904</u>	<u>123,339,742</u>
3	=====	=====
<u>Accounts Receivable</u>		
Prepayment (Rent)	2,850,000	1,062,500
Receivables (Staff)	10,089,795	1,619,168
	<u>12,939,795</u>	<u>2,681,628</u>
	=====	=====
4 <u>Accounts Payables</u>		
Audit Fees	5,500,000	750,000
Accrued expenses	338,350	450,000
	<u>5,838,350</u>	<u>1,200,000</u>
	=====	=====
5 Accumulated fund brought forward	128,213,813	237,607,840
Add: Prior year adjustment	(13,421,677)	(109,394,027)
Surplus fund for the year	40,382,065	-
	<u>155,174,201</u>	<u>128,213,813</u>
Accumulated fund carried forward	=====	=====



**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Nigeria**  
**Five Year Financial Summary**

	<b>2023 N</b>	<b>2022 N</b>	<b>2021 N</b>	<b>2020 N</b>	<b>2019 N</b>
Non-Current Assets	35,724,852	3,392,443	2,237,638	3,505,170	4,138,829
Net Current Assets/(liabilities)	119,449,349	124,821,370	235,370,202	131,670,525	43,954,727
	-----				
	155,174,201	128,213,813	237,607,840	135,175,695	48,093,556
	=====				
<i>Represented by:</i>					
Accumulated fund	155,174,201	128,213,813	237,607,840	135,175,695	48,093,556
	=====				
Total income	778,660,961	368,974,088	438,124,197	233,283,962	232,160,502
Less: Expenditure	740,712,977	478,368,115	371,297,757	146,201,803	209,127,505
	=====				
Surplus/(Deficit) for the yr.	(109,394,027)	(109,394,027)	102,432,145	87,082,159	23,032,998
	=====				

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024



WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING  
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