

TITLE OF YOUR PROJECT

Reducing the trauma of Gender Based Violence, Jos, Nigeria

ORGANISED CENTRE FOR EMPOWERMENT AND ADVOCACY IN NIGERIA (OCEAN).

OCEAN is a non-profit organization established in 2005 and is registered with the corporate affairs in 2007. After a series of exposure to the plight of young people during the NYSC, UNICEF, HIV/ AIDS and Reproductive Health Project. It was founded to help provide succour and serve as a platform for promoting gender concerns. Over the years the centre has grown from its work with young people to address other social and developmental concerns. OCEAN is working for gender equity through advocacy, capacity building, research and strategic alliances for empowerment of men and women, communities and institutions.

WHAT IS THE START DATE OF YOUR PROJECT

June 2018

TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDING

\$5,000

LOCATION

North Central Nigeria, Jos, Plateau State.

WHY THE PROJECT IS NEEDED

Although the number of reported conflict fatalities in Plateau state has fallen in 2016, the effects of displacement and violence continue to reverberate in the lives of women and girls. Continuing to monitor trends and incidents of VAWG, and how they are interrelated to other conflict drivers, is critical to understanding the effects of violence on the lives of women and girls and to better inform prevention and response efforts. Domestic abuse, rape and sexual assault accounted for most of the reported incidents of violence against women and girls in Plateau state between January 2015 and September 2016. This included domestic and sexual abuse by male family members – fathers, husbands, cousins and uncles – as well as by trusted authority figures, such as pastors and members of the security forces. The vulnerability of women and girls to Gender Based Violence (GBV) especially sexual violence in the northeast is deeply rooted in a culture where their levels of access to power and resources, as compared to men and boys are very minimal. Practices such as polygamy, early/child, at times forced marriage, Traditional Harmful Practices (THP) such as widowhood practices, among others are common. Consequently, Gender Based Violence (GBV) has emerged as one of the major manifestations of the conflict between Boko Haram, Fulani Herd men and the Federal Government of Nigeria, resulting into increased vulnerabilities of women and girls to abduction, rape, violence and exploitation. Plateau recorded 482 cases of violence against women and girls in the last two years, Christian Women for Excellence and Empowerment in Nigeria (CWEENS), majority of the victims are women and children. Gender based violence (GBV) is a serious violation of human rights and a complex problem all over the world. It is not specific to a particular country or region and women and men of all regions, religion or ethnicity can face

discrimination and the consequent gender based violence. While it can affect both men and women, women are the group that is most affected. Gender Based Violence refer to sexual harassment, assault, verbal and physical abuse, psychological and economic violence women are specifically vulnerable to given the lack of power they have in the society. The problem is compounded by harmful economical/cultural practices like female genital mutilation, forced early marriages, forced prostitution/transactional sex(where people give their body in exchange for sex) sexual harassment and sexual exploitation .Among the causes of GBV are poverty, traditional believes, some aspects of modernity and the socialization of girls and boys by the society makes victims accept it as norm GBV limits girl's access, participation, retention in education and difficulties in finding jobs later in life. Following years of natural disaster and communal clashes and armed conflicts in North East Nigeria and North Central Nigeria, several communities have suffered violence and have been displaced over the years. As a result, the boko haram attacks in the North East as well as the counter insurgency of the Nigerian government have led to a large number of displaced women and children who have suffered violence at the hands of the insurgents; some have been raped, while others are pregnant. 50% of the IDPs are children younger than 18 years old. Women and children make up 78% of the displaced population hence the need for sexuality education to offer reproductive health and sex education.

HOW THE PROJECT WORK TOWARDS THE CHANGE YOU HAVE DESCRIBED

A fact finding visit to the IDP camp suggest that adolescent girls and women are particularly vulnerable to sexual violence, harassment and exploitation (transactional sex), including school settings. Data shows that 10% of adolescent girls in low and middle income countries reported incidences of forced sexual intercourse or other sexual acts in the previous year. And a national survey in South Africa showed that almost 8% of all secondary school girls have experienced severe sexual assault or rape while at school. These studies also suggest that these can be prevented through awareness creation about sexual health and gender violence as well as strategic education and capacity building of both boys and girls. Which is part of what this project intends to do. Appropriate education provides an opportunity to learn about equality between men and women and non sexist education makes it possible to deal with traditional stereotypes concerning roles of women and men so as to fight prejudices and discrimination. This paper seeks to demonstrate the need for governments to reform their education systems to give girls and boys equal opportunities to participate and share benefits of education against general believe that GBV is more rampant in illiterate societies.

KEY TARGET FOR YOUR PROJECT

Women and Girls

HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU ANTICIPATE YOU WILL REACH OUT TO

200 women and girls

OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF YOUR PROJECT

The overall objective is to contribute to reducing trauma and pain as a result of sexual and gender violence in IDP camps through the provision of psycho-social support and succour to women and young people affected and displaced by violence.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES;

Strategic Objective 1: Increase access to a comprehensive and well-coordinated GBV response services including livelihood support for survivors.

1. Provision of material assistance: an individual form of assistance that aims at supporting vulnerable women and girls unable to access services, the assistance is called material support because it refers only to items and cash. These include;

- Material support (women and girls): These include shelter & materials - food and non food items like rice, soap, fertilizer and so on
- Dignity kits distribution: These include dignity kits, sanitary towels (disposable and re-washable), hygiene kits.

2. Provision of health care and medical services to GBV survivors: Provision of clinical management of rape for survivors of GBV. This includes all the medical assessments and investigations, treatment, provision of PEP, emergency contraception and antibiotics for STI treatment. It also includes all other response medical services provided for GBV survivors and vulnerable women, men, girls and boys.

3. Provision of Case Management support for GBV survivors: GBV Case Management is a collaborative, multi-sectoral process which assesses, plans, implements, coordinates, monitors and evaluates available resources, options and services to meet an individual survivor's needs and to promote quality, effective outcomes. It is useful for survivors with complex needs who access services from a range of service providers.

4. Provision of mental health and psychosocial support to GBV survivors and vulnerable women, men, girls and boys:

Mental Health and Psychosocial support (GBV survivors, vulnerable women, men, girls and boys): Services and assistance aimed at addressing the harmful emotional, psychological and social effects of gender based violence

- **Counselling** refers to level 3 of the MHPSS Guidelines. It is face-to-face communication through a dynamic process of interaction between two or more people during which the counsellor, who has received professional training, helps the client to identify and process symptoms s/he is experiencing and to take decisions to help alleviate her/his suffering. It involves active listening to people talking about their problems; giving them comfort in an atmosphere of empathy and helping them to work out what to do about their problems, with a focus on empowerment of the client

- **Psychosocial and Recreational Activities:** Community self-help and resilience strategies to support survivors and those vulnerable to GBV, such as through women's groups/recreational activities. This includes Level 2 MHPSS support and aims at activating and rebuilding social networks.

5. Provision of safety and security services to GBV survivors and women, men, boys and girls at risk of violence: Service and/or a place (either formal or informal) where women and girls feel physically and emotionally safe. "Safe" in this context refers to the absence of trauma, excessive stress, violence (or fear of violence) or abuse. Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS) is a space where women and girls feel comfortable to come and to express themselves without fear of judgment or harm, where they can build their social networks,

receive support from their peers and have fun. WGSS also provide a place where women can access confidential services, discuss issues and concerns with other women and professional staff. Safe spaces also provide an entry point for women and girls to access referrals to other safe and non-stigmatizing GBV response services.

6. Provision of legal aid services to survivors of GBV and women and girls at risk of violence: Legal services: Provision of services to GBV survivors, coordinating, advocating and facilitating access for GBV survivors to justice and legal aid services that are provided by actors/agencies with expertise in this area. Legal services are an essential part of the survivor-centred approach and should be part of a safe, non-stigmatizing multi-sector response to GBV. Legal aid services staffed by appropriately trained personnel should be accessible to GBV survivors and integrated into the general GBV referral system. Survivors should not accrue any legal costs or costs related to transportation and accommodation to access legal services.

Strategic Objective 2: Increase awareness and enhance systems for the prevention of GBV including SEA through mitigating risk factor and strengthening community protection strategies.

1. Provision of vocational skills and livelihood support to women and girls at risk of GBV:

▪ **Livelihood:** Comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living. Programs supporting the livelihood opportunities of displaced people should seek to increase participants' self-sufficiency through improved access to resources and economic opportunities that help them sustain a dignified means of living.

2. Facilitate GBV prevention and response through awareness raising initiatives:

Awareness raising activities conducted with the affected community to increase their knowledge of GBV. Such activities must be conducted in a culturally appropriate, sensitive manner to deliver awareness

Expected Results

- 200 Women and girls knowledgeable Confident and skilful on measures to counter GBV
- Women empowered to take informed decisions on their sexuality and Gender Based Violence (GBV)
- Harmonious relationship among community and the IDP girls
- Increased knowledge on sexuality education and GBV
- Enhanced knowledge and social learning of the public
- Creation of safe space for survivors of gender based violence to access physco social support and basic skills for their livelihood.
- 200 hundred women trained and their capacity strengthened to help build their resilience and self esteem.
- New evidence on GBV generated and major gaps in knowledge/ attitudes/ behaviour synthesized, which is used for evidence-based advocacy and policy engagement with key stakeholders.

Budget

S/No	Activities	Amount (USD)
1	1. Training 200 women on sexual and reproductive health 2. Training of 200 women on GBV 3. Confidence building and resilience Training	555.6 416.7 933.9
2	Distribution of food and non food items to GBV survivors	1111.1
3	Psychosocial support for 200 persons	416.7
4	Baseline survey	694.4
5	Pro-bono services for women in need of legal services	277.8
6	Project Officer	333.3
5	Transportation	305.5
	Total	5,000.00