

E-LOYA

August 2022

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS (FIDA) NIGERIA



Theme:

SECURING AND PROTECTING RIGHTS' AND FREEDOM FOR THE VULNERABLE

HIGHLIGHTS
OF A TENURE
OF QUANTUM
LEAPS

USHERING
IN THE NEW
FIDA NIGERIA
EXECUTIVE
TEAM

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FEATURING

LEADERSHIP
RETREATS AND
TRAINING -
PLANNING TO
EXCEL

ACTIVE
PARTICIPATION
OF WOMEN IN
POLITICS

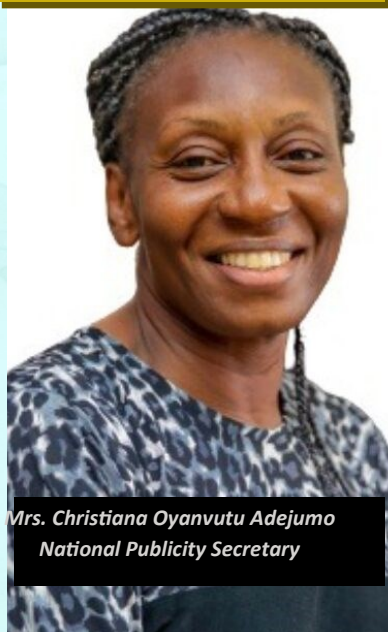
FIDA NIGERIA
IMPACT SHEET

EDUCATION
AS A RIGHT, THE
CHALLENGES
AGAINST ITS
ENJOYMENT

FIDA Nigeria Newsletter August 2022

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Mrs. Christiana Oyanvutu Adejumo
National Publicity Secretary

EDITOR'S NOTE

I give gratitude to God Almighty for coming on board with this Exco. As the new editor I welcome all of you to my column.

I hope we will all join hands to ensure the success of the new regime and wide acceptance of our E-loya publications.

Hitherto the publication had enjoyed wide readership having maintained a good standard. I pledge to maintain the stand-

"This edition focuses on Securing and Protecting Rights and Freedom for the vulnerable"

Brief About FIDA

Federacion Internacional de Abogadas (FIDA) was founded on the 4th day of August, 1944 in Mexico City, Mexico. Founding members were: Rosalind G. Bates from U.S.A., Esther Talamantes from Mexico, Luisa Maria Capo from Puerto Rico, Isabel Sierro Perez from Cuba and Alma Paredes from Salvador. The first convention took place in 1945 in Havana Cuba and the first President was Isabel Sierro Perez. FIDA has grown to have members in over 80 countries of the world. Federacion Internacional de Abogadas (Spanish) is translated as International Federation of Women Lawyers.

ard and improve upon it with your help.

This edition focuses on Securing and Protecting Rights and Freedom for the vulnerable.

In Nigeria for example, the Rights and freedom of the Vulnerable is far from the expected minimum goals sought to be achieve.

We hope that this theme would be adequately dealt with by our numerous contributors such that we will be enlightened as to facts and law that will help us improve on our actions so far handling cases where this right is trampled upon.



Amina Suzanah Agbaje
CVP FIDA Nigeria

COUNTRY VICE PRESIDENT NOTE

I heartily and most sincerely welcome you to this year's E-Loya which has over the years been an avenue to showcase the outstanding creativity and talents abound in FIDA Nigeria. It is the very first edition for this National Executive Committee and I must acknowledge and commend the theme for this year: "Securing and Protecting Rights and Freedom for the Vulnerable" as not only being timely but most importantly in line with the mandate of FIDA Nigeria.

We are in a crucial and despair state in our dear nation as the rights and freedom of persons have not been adequately catered for nor promoted. I am using this medium to call on the government and all stakeholders to ensure that persons especially the vulnerable are accorded the utmost respect and recognition they deserve. let us not forget that our strength lies in our collective interests and the need to carry everyone along.

This year's edition has put together a rich blend of educative articles, it also included a highlight on the tenure of quantum leaps. You will also see the activities that ushered in the current FIDA Nigeria Executive team, and the Leadership Retreat and Training held since the assumption of this tenure. Indeed, it is a publication one cannot afford to miss.

My appreciation goes to the editorial team who have put together this beautiful piece of literature and our consistent readers and subscribers, we are indeed most grateful and I urge us all to maintain this standard even as we strive unto perfection. Once again, I say thank you.

LONG LIVE FIDA NIGERIA!!!

ABOUT FIDA NIGERIA

In 1964, Ms (Lady) Aduke Alakija introduced the Federacion Internacional de Abogadas (FIDA) in Nigeria.

FIDA Nigeria is a voluntary association of women called to the practice of law in Nigeria with over 4,000 members in 43 branches across the 36 states of the Federation.

With a mandate to promote, protect and preserve the rights, interests, and wellbeing of women and children through the use of a legal framework to ensure that they live free from all forms of discrimination, violence, and abuse in society, and to also pursue a just, peaceful and equitable Nigerian society where women and children's rights, interests are guaranteed, including the freedom to choose and live their future

Objectives

To establish friendly international relations on the basis of equality and mutual respect for all peoples.

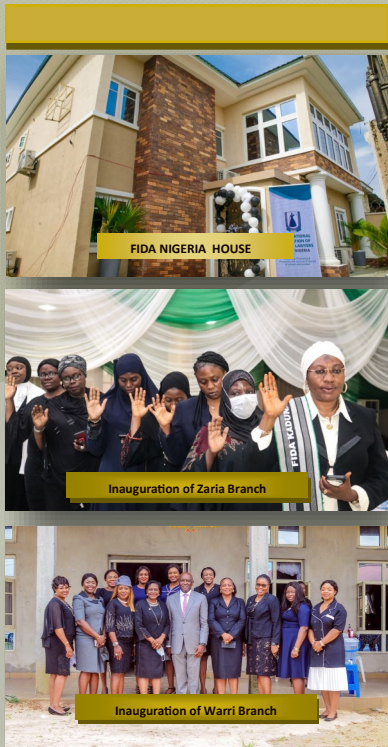
To promote the principles and aims of the United Nations in their legal and social aspects

To promote the study of comparative Law

To enhance, promote, protect and preserve the rights and welfare of women and children, realizing that on their wellbeing depends the happiness of the home and strength of the society.

To proffer advice to the government in all cases of disregard relating to women and children.

Highlights of a Tenure of Quantum Leaps



One of the biggest leaps which included innovations and resulted in great accomplishment was the bold step taken towards fundraising to acquire and furnish a duplex in a prime location to serve as the FIDA National Secretariat and be known as the FIDA Nigeria House.

Another leap was the Inauguration of new FIDA Branches particularly multiple branches within a state

This was necessitated by FIDA's drive to bring its services closer to the grassroots due to high demands from communities, partners and members alike with the resultant

effect of a greatly increased membership base

We celebrate today the inauguration of the underlisted new branches:

Bauchi, Zamfara, Warri, Gwagwada, Zaria, Ikorodu, Badagry, Katsina, and Eket.

Another leap was the Launch of FIDA Nigeria Data Collection Website enabling accessibility and modern data collation of all matters handled by FIDA Branches

Furthermore, was the Review of the FIDA Nigeria five-year Strategic Plan 2015 – 2020 and the production of

“FIDA Nigeria conceptualized and successfully implemented a Self-funded Paralegal Training Project focussed on supporting her branches across the federation to organize training for paralegals.”

the revised Strategic Plan for the period 2021 – 2026.

Additionally, FIDA supported women/ children's wards in government owned hospitals were adopted by key FIDA branches namely- FIDA Anambra, FIDA Kogi and FIDA Cross-Rivers

Most importantly, FIDA Nigeria conceptualized and successfully implemented a Self-funded Paralegal Training Project focussed on supporting her branches across the federation to organize training for paralegals. Following which a total of 29 states branches carried out training in at least 110 communities in 55 local government areas. These paralegals were trained as first-hand responders to cases of SGBV and harmful practices that affect the rights and wellbeing of women and children in Nigeria, thereby greatly improving access to justice





THE FIDA NIGERIA AGC

FIDA Nigeria commenced her Annual General Conference on the 24th of November 2021 in Abuja, with the theme “Addressing Gender Issues: New Tools”. This theme geared discussions around gender issues especially as it relates to violence against women. Furthermore, it addressed the lingering challenges women face in their daily lives and career.

FIDA seeks to encourage all stakeholders to harness new

tools that can be employed in the quest to ending violence against women and children.

The FIDA Nigeria Annual General Conference (AGC) kick-started with a welcome cocktail held at Sentosa Parks & Garden, Apo, FCT Abuja on the 24th of November 2021. The cocktail began at about 6 pm. FIDANs from over 38 branches in attendance were warmly welcomed to Abuja by the host branch FIDA Abuja, represented by the Chairperson,

Theme “Addressing Gender Issues: New Tools”



Rekia Racheal Adejo-Andrew. The evening was relaxing with refreshments and dance.



Cocktail Party



On Thursday, 25th of November 2021; the official opening ceremony of the AGC commenced with an opening remark delivered by the Country Vice President, Rhoda Prevail Tyoden. She declared that “the tools for addressing gender equality and women’s empowerment” have to be pursued relentlessly for a just and equal society, as this has been acknowledged as an important objective for many decades.

In attendance were Hon. Justices, Senior Advocates of Nigeria, Heads of Parastatals, Officials from the Nigerian Police - Force

Gender Officer, NAPTIP, Country Representatives of FIDA, Donors/Partners, The NBA Secretary, Civil Society Organizations, FIDA International Officers, FIDA Nigeria Board of Trustees, National Executive Committee & National Executive Council

The Opening ceremony was followed by a Plenary Session Stakeholders Hub with the topic: Charting New Means of Ensuring Implementation of Gender-Based Laws with discussants from the Ministry of

Women Affairs, NAPTIP, WRAPA, Nigeria Police Force (Gender Desk) Concluding with a plenary session.

In the evening members attended a delightful event called a "Night out with the CVP"

It was colourful, with lots to eat and drink, entertaining and filled with fun and laughter as members toasted to the CVP and to FIDA Nigeria

Theme "Addressing Gender Issues: New Tools"



Opening Ceremony



On the 26th of November 2021, FIDA Nigeria began her activities with an Advocacy Walk to the Office of the

Attorney General of the Federation in commemoration of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

The walk was led by the Country Vice President, with representatives of all branches in attendance. The representative of the AGF warmly received FIDA's message delivered by the CVP promising to attend to the request. The National Publicity Secretary, Eliana Martins, gave the vote of thanks on behalf of FIDA.



Walk Against GBV



The afternoon session for the day had four focus areas for discussion with plenaries.

- Using mediation as a tool in handling Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) anchored by Rosemary Chikwendi
- Honing litigation skills for efficiency in handling Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) anchored by Ogechi Abu
- Leveraging technology for efficiency in handling Sexual and Gender-based Violence, speaker Jude Ifesemen
- FIDA and the Protection of Women's Rights: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow (an integral discourse). Speaker Chimdy Onyedim-Etuwewe



Plenary session



Novelty match

followed with the Jummat prayer.

A novelty football match between Y.C Maikyau Strikers Vs FIDA Nigeria Babes at the King Turf Arena (Panorama Gardens Al-Fayyum street, Wuse Zone 3 Abuja). FIDA Babes emerged victorious bringing the trophy home with the score 4-1

Later that evening was a variety night where fidans dressed in

their cultural attires entertained and were also entertained by a cultural troupe from Jos Plateau State



Cultural Night

Theme “Addressing Gender Issues: New Tools”

On Saturday, 27th of November, 2021; the day’s activity began with physical exercise to help members keep fit.



Members keeping fit



Photos of newly elected executives

This was followed by the AGM proper where reports were presented and adopted showcasing the quantum leaps in FIDA in the past three years of operations. The executive committee led by Rhoda Prevail Tyoden took a bow as their tenure ended with accolades. Elections were held afterwards to constitute the new executive committee. The day ended with an award night/dinner held at M&M Event center Abuja. Awards were presented to outstanding and deserving individuals and branches. While the newly elected National Executive took their oath of office and

were formally inaugurated.



FIDA executives at the Dinner and Award Night



Award Presentation at the Dinner Night





USHERING IN THE NEW FIDA NIG EXECUTIVE TEAM

The Executive Committee of the International Federation of Women in Lawyers (FIDA) Nigeria, led by Rhoda Prevail Tyoden on Saturday, 27th of November 2021, took a bow as their tenure ended with great accolades.

Elections which were held to constitute the new executive committee was seamless and ushered in the new set of Executive members to run the organization for a single term of three years from 2021 to 2024.

The new set of officers comprise Amina Suzanah Agbaje (Mrs.) the new Country Vice President/National President, the Deputy Country Vice President Evelyn Membere – Asimiea, National Secretary Eliana Martins, Assistant National Secretary Beatrice Abongye Awah, National Treasurer Chineze Obianyo, National Financial Secretary Olubunmi Niyi-Arajuwa, National Publicity Secretary/ Editor Mrs Christiana Oyanvutu Adejumo, Asst. National Pub. Sec/ Asst Editor Nachamada Shaltha.

They were formally inaugurated following their oath of office

August 2022



Newly Elected Executive Taking Oath of Office



Group Photo of Newly Elected Officers



2022 - 2024



AMINA SUZANAH AGBAJE
Country Vice President



EVELYN MEMBERE-ASIMEA
DCVP



Eliana Martins
National Secretary



BEATRICE ABONGYE AWAH
Assistant National Secretary



OLUBUNMI NIYI-ARAJUWA
Financial Secretary



MRS CHRISTIANA OYANVUTU
ADEJUMO
National PRO



NACHAMADA SHALTHA
Asst National PRO



RHODA PREVAIL TYODEN
Ex-Officio



CHINEZE OBIANYO
National Treasurer

FIDA NIGERIA CURRENT AND PAST EXECUTIVE

2019—2021



Rhoda Prevail Tyoden
CVP/National President



Amina Suzanah Agbaje
Deputy CVP



Evelyn Membere-Asimea
National Secretary



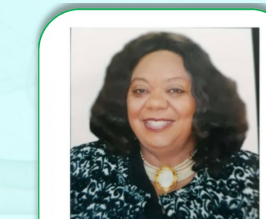
Rita Ilevbare
Assistant National Secretary



Olubunmi Arajuwa
National Treasurer



Eliana Martins
National Publicity Secretary



Elizabeth Akah
Assistant National Publicity



Inime Chinwenwo Aguma
Ex-Officio



Maria Edeko
National Financial Secretary

LEADERSHIP RETREATS AND TRAINING - PLANNING TO EXCEL

"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." a quote from the speech of John F. Kennedy FIDA Nigeria in appreciation of this fundamental truth as outlined in the above quote conducted an Intensive Leadership Training aimed at building the capacity of her Branch executive officers to familiarize them with FIDA Nigeria's preferred leadership disposition to achieving her mandate, her current 5-Year Strategic Plan, key Policies including the necessary tools/information for effective engagement, and project implementation at different levels ensuring effectiveness and success

This training which held on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th March 2022 was carried out simultaneously across all regions, Northern, Southern, Western and the Eastern Regions.

It had in attendance prominent resource persons and notable elders of the FIDA Nigeria family

The training included key aspects such as pre-training assessment exercise to as-

certain the mind and level of preparedness of participants during the training. Training topics included Leadership, Team Building, Mediation, Counselling and Advocacy Skills, Functions of each Office and their Synergy, Organizational Effectiveness, Branch Annual Work Plan/Report Writing and so forth.

Group exercises and presentations were also carried out at the end of each session; participants also conducted personal and branch swot analysis to identify and discuss the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats peculiar to them while also proffering solutions to the challenges.

In bringing the intensive yet highly success training to a close, participants responded to a post-training assessment to ascertain their level of assimilation of all that was taught at the workshop.

The resultant effect was high commendations and promises by all to serve more passionately and diligently



Northern Zone



Western Zone



Southern Zone



Education As a Right, The Challenges Against Its Enjoyment - BY ADEJOKE LAYI-BABATUNDE

INTRODUCTION:

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". This wise quote from one of the most influential leaders of our time, late President Nelson Mandela sums it all up.

Education is indeed a weapon, a tool, and an instrument for change in any society. It is certainly a Catalyst... Whether male or female, Education like knowledge is power and allows for self-actualization, preservation; improvement, good character, and learning which in turn paves the way for a better society.

EDUCATION AS A RIGHT

Education is not a privilege. Edu-

cation as a right of every human means that; it is legally guaranteed for all without discrimination and states are entrusted with preserving and protecting this right for every child.

The Universal Declaration on Human Rights, adopted in 1948, proclaims in Article 26: 'everyone has the right to education.

The right to education has also been reaffirmed in other treaties covering specific groups (women and girls, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees, Indigenous Peoples, etc.) and contexts (education during armed conflicts).

However, the UNESCO report indicates that 258 million children and youth worldwide are still out

of school for social, economic, and cultural reasons. Mr. Peter Hawkins the UNICEF Representative in Nigeria during the 2022 International Day of Education stated that "10.5 million children are out of school in Nigeria, which is the highest rate in the world. The figure indicates that one-third of Nigerian children are not in school, and one in five out-of-school children in the world is a Nigerian." UNICEF report revealed that some children are more likely to be affected than others - girls, children with disabilities, children from the poorest households, in street situations, or affected by displacement or emergencies, and

children in geographically distant areas are all disproportionately affected by the education crisis.

CHALLENGES TO THE ENJOYMENT OF THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION IN NIGERIA

• Gender Discrimination

It is a fact that there is inequality in educational chances and accomplishments (a disparity in opportunities) between males and females in Nigeria. And this inequality is founded on several factors which include family background, socioeconomic factors, and so on.

The division of members by societies into two classes while ascribing them with different roles is referred to as Gender.

This division is the conception of gender inequality.

Culturally, males are respected as being special to females. Iloegbunam in his publication; "Rights of women as panacea for repositioning women education in Nigeria." notes that: One of the ironies of history is the fact that despite the roles women play both at home and the society, they have remained unnoticed and even belittled. This is borne out of the wrong notion that women's education ends in the kitchen, childbearing and caring. Therefore, women are believed only to be seen and not heard.

Research conducted by Omoregie and Ihensekhien observed that this discrimination against women "has grossly affected female enrolment in education, especially in the Northern region of Nigeria."

• Children With Disability

Due to inadequate good health care, a vast proportion of children with disabilities in the world live in developing countries. A 2017 World Bank Study indicated that the literacy gap between CWDs and

their able-bodied counterparts has been on the increase over the last 3 decades. This effect is based on various circumstances which include marginalization, segregation, and discrimination. In Nigeria, CWDs face several challenges in actualizing their right to education. The first challenge is the unfavorable cultural notion that exists about disability as well as several other challenges. Disability is viewed as a curse amongst many cultures in Nigeria. Other negative cultural perceptions exist about disability. Name tagging people with disability creates harsh barriers to them from a cultural, social,

and economic perspective; this imposed limitation that isolates them from the culture and the society (Eskay et al., 2012). Nigerian Child's Right Act 2003 has provided substantial stands for the rights of a child. Section 16 (1) of the Act ensures that any child in need of protective measures shall be entitled to a measure of protection adequate to their needs in furtherance of their active involvement in the community. However, section 16 of this provision restricts the enjoyment of the rights of children with disabilities to the availability of resources and at the discretion

time for education.

Poverty is one of the greatest threats to increased quality education in any given country. The National Policy on Education (1981) prescribes a hundred percent transition rate from primary to secondary schools, but we are yet to achieve this as a nation. And in States where primary education is technically free, extra charges for uniforms, textbooks and transport fares to schools forge financial barriers for many parents. Many poor parents claim that the indirect costs are a challenge to sending their children to school. 45% of our girls are married off before the age of 18 years increasing the number of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

Education As a Right, The Challenges Against Its Enjoyment

of their caregivers.

The public educational institutions are designed for able-bodied children without consideration to CWDs. This leaves CWDs perpetually dependent on others for support, hence demoralizing their confidence.

• Insecurity

From report made available by UNICEF; In 2021, there were 25 attacks on schools. 1,440 children were abducted, and 16 children killed. In March 2021, no fewer than 618 schools were closed in six northern states (Sokoto, Zamfara, Kano, Katsina, Niger, and

Yobe) over the fear of attack and abduction of pupils and members of staff. The closure of schools in these states significantly contributed to learning losses for over two months." Insecurity is now a bane to uninterrupted education in the northern part of Nigeria.

• Poverty

Poverty occurs when the citizens lack access to basic needs in life such as shelter, food, and clothes. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) released its report which shows that 82.9 million representing 40.1 percent of Nigerians are poor. Poor minds have no

SOLUTIONS TO THE CHALLENGES RAISED AND CONCLUSION

1. The relegation of the role of women to childbearing and domestic chores does not fit the modern practice in the civilized world. All effort to put a stop to the trend must be engaged. Child labour must be discouraged.
2. There should be implementation of laws to help children with disability access quality education better.
3. The government at all levels should declare a state of emergency on insecurity. Edu-

cation will be difficult to propagate in an insecure society.

4. Government should take up the responsibilities of catering for the textbooks, and school uniforms needs of students to compensate for free education. Also, more classrooms should be built to reduce overcrowding among students.

5. Adopting Technology to spreading quality education is recommended. The recent pandemic has revealed the great potential that lies in the virtual class. Tech-

nology can complement the physical classroom teachings. Infact, with the COVID 19 pandemic that engulfed the world in 2022 when Life as well as Schooling moved online, it's very certain that we must embrace the benefits of leveraging on Technology.

It is also advisable that School Curriculum must be revised to accommodate the changes that have taken place in our world this Century and Teachers, Counsellors, Care givers must be trained continuously so that they are able to give their best. Their Financial Situation should be looked into

Education As a Right, The Challenges Against Its Enjoyment

also. It is one of the reasons why ASUU has been on strike and our" Leaders of tomorrow "are left Confused and uncared for increasing Crime rate in the society. Education is key to the development of any nation and striving towards making quality education available is a sure way of securing and empowering the future of the country. The Government, Ministry of Education, NGOs, CSOs, First Ladies of States, Ministry of Budget, National assembly et al must rise up to this Occasion and Salvage EDUCATION.

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FIRST QUARTER NEC MEETING

The Country Vice/National President FIDA Nigeria Amina Suzanah Agbaje on Thursday 10th day of March 2022 presided over her tenures first virtual meeting of the National Executive Council (NEC) FIDA Nigeria at the FIDA House Abuja.

The CVP in her remarks excitedly welcomed all Council Members to the virtual meeting giving a brief remark; thereafter she went on

with the business of the day, tackling key administrative, operational, projects and financial matters.

The meeting similarly addressed the Gender Bills & Occupy NASS to push for a review of the gender bills that were rejected at the National Assembly

The CVP thanked all who were a part of the mass protests at the national and state assemblies

At the meeting FIDA Nigeria Bye-Election was held, ably coordinated by the National Electoral Committee headed by Ezinwa Okorafor, and other most Distinguished

Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ), Self-discovery Empowerment Foundation, Medical Women Association of Nigeria Bauchi and Attah Sisters Helping Hands Foundation visited the Bauchi Custodial Centre.

Legal Clinics were held where cases of inmates were taken, psychosocial support and medical aid was also given particularly for the female inmates.

The First Lady of Bauchi State (Dr) Aisha Bala Mohammed, Founder of Al-Muhibbah Foundation, being most passionate about support to the less privileged in our society was present with a large entourage which included the Deputy Governor's wife Hajiya Aishatu Alhaji Baba Tela and wife of the SSG Hajiya Habiba Ibrahim Kasim.

Words of encouragement and prayers were offered while necessary items such as toiletries and other materials were donated.

We ensured the release of some inmates by the payment of fines, fulfilment of bail conditions and so forth

At the end of the outreach, inmates expressed immense gratitude for the interventions while airing out on some

National Executive Council Meetings

members namely Hon. Inime Aguma Secretary, Hon. Olivia Dazyam and Chief Mrs. Victoria Awomolo SAN (members), who conducted the bye-election for the vacant position of National Assistant Publicity Secretary.

Election was conducted and Nanchamada Shaltha emerged as FIDA Nigeria Assistant Publicity Secretary/Assistant Editor with the Oath of Office administered thereafter

CVP appreciated all who participated

SECOND QUARTER NEC MEETING

Day 1: FIDA Nigeria as part of her 2nd Quarter National Executive Council Meeting Activities which held in Bauchi was hosted by her Bauchi State Branch, ably led by the Chairperson Fatima Abubakar.

The line-up of activities commenced on Tuesday, the 21st of June 2022 with an outreach to the Bauchi State Correctional Centre where FIDA working in collaboration with her partners namely, Al-Muhibbah Foundation, Nigerian

of the challenges they faced with the legal processes/ system, the available infrastructure and inadequate facilities of the prison service.

The National Executive Team made a special appearance by



attending the Specialized Capacity Building Workshop for Judges, Judicial & Legal Officers on Countering Trafficking in Persons (Northern Nigeria) which was organized by FIDA Nigeria in Bauchi State under the Palladium's Scale Project.

The FIDA National Officers

and members of Executive were also on hand to support the occasion as they welcomed delegates from over twenty-eight states of Nigeria to Bauchi.



Pictures from the cocktail



National Executive Council Meetings

stressed that this project was key and highly important as its objectives include 1. To Improve capacity strengthening for local civil society organizations on advancing SGBV & CEFM service delivery effectiveness.

2. To Contribute to the evidence base and enhance coordination of SGBV, CEFM Service Delivery Effectiveness in Nigeria. The project is implemented in Bauchi, Katsina, Ebonyi, Delta, Osun and FCT.

participants were urged to apply the knowledge gained from the

training to mitigate Trafficking in Persons which has become a worrisome trend in the country and impacts society very negatively. FIDA Nigeria NEC Meeting Delegates were warmly hosted to a beautiful Welcome Cocktail by the



host branch FIDA Bauchi. The NBA Bauchi Chairman Jibrin Sa'id Jibrin

Day 2

The Formal Opening Ceremony of the FIDA Nigeria Second Quarter National Executive Council Meeting held on the 22nd of June 28, 2022, at Command Guest House, Bauchi State.

The Country Vice President (CVP) FIDA Nigeria Amina Suzanah Agbaje appreciated all partners, stakeholders and friends of Fida Bauchi particularly H.E the Wife of the Governor of Bauchi State Hajia Aisha Bala Muhammad for the key role she played to-

wards the establishment of the state branch and and the state government for their continuous support which the branch has enjoyed.

Special guests included: the Secretary to the State Government Alh Hashimu Ibrahim SSA Political; representative of the Speaker Bauchi State House of Assembly Hon Musa Wakili Nakwada; the Representative of the Chief Judge of Bauchi State Hon. Justice Fatima Jibrin.

The Representative of the Attorney General and Commissioner

for Justice Bauchi State Shawanatu Yusuf; the Representative of the Emir Alh Usaini Jibo Dan Saran Bauchi; UNFPA Coordinator Bauchi State Mrs Ladi Alabi, Commissioner of Police Bauchi State Command Umar Sanda Mamman; the Chairman NBA Bauchi Branch Jibrin Sa'id Jibrin also, the Representative of the Commandant of Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps Bauchi state Nurudeen Abdulahi.

The Event was declared opened by the Representative of the Chief Judge Hon. Justice Fatima Jibrin.

National Executive Council Meetings

A Keynote Address was delivered on "Bauchi State Child Protection Bill: The Need to Pass the Law" presented by Dr. Umar Alkali a UNICEF consultant and Assoc. Prof. Faculty of Law, University of Maiduguri.

Goodwill Messages were received from well-wishers and partners amongst which were the NBA, Royal Father and the SSG Representative Alh. Hashimu Yakubu who assured FIDA of support from the state executive



Cross Section of participants



Group Photos of Executives and Delegates

Following the Opening Ceremony, the meeting progressed to it's business sessions on Continuing Legal Education for Fidans with presentations by different FIDA Executive at the State and National levels.

The following topics were discussed to build the capacity of participants:

- Overview of the leadership training by Beatrice Awah, Assis-

tant National Secretary

- Mediation, Counselling and Advocacy by Hon. Ruqayya Ibrahim Kewa, FIDA Bauchi PRO

- Operational Plan & SWOT (Personal and Branch) by Sa-fiya Musa Salihu, FIDA Bauchi Treasurer

- Effective Mechanisms for conflict resolution between members & branches by Elizabeth Okotie, FIDA Gombe

- The specifics of effective communication skills by Nachamada Shaltha, Assistant National Publicity Secretary

- Overview of SOP on Case Management; case database and uploading cases by Evelyn Asimiea, DCVP

- Overview of SOP on Multiple Branches within a State by Eliana Martins, National Secretary

- Overview of SOP on Finance by Chineze Obianyo Fin Sec

- Overview of on-going Projects and implementation by Fikih Obaro, Programme Manager

- Navigating Branch Portals & Use of social media platforms by Truman Tyoden, Communications/IT Officer 2

The sessions were interactive

A surprise presentation of a birthday cake and gift was made to the Program Manager FIDA Nigeria Mr. Fikih Obaro, as the house sang him a birthday song.



Some Past Chairpersons
cutting the Birthday Cake



Photo sessions with Fidan
and Executive

In the evening, the First Lady of Bauchi State, Dr. Aishatu Bala Mohammed at the Banquet Hall, Government House Bauchi State, played host to the FIDA Nigeria Cultural Night on Wednesday 22nd of June 2022.

It was indeed a colorful night as delegates flooded the venue in their beautiful traditional outfits representing the different regions of Nigeria.

The audience were enlightened on the rich cultural heritage of the Bauchi people, tribes, languages, foods etc. While the cultural troupe entertained in their differ-

Day 3:

The business meeting of the National Executive Council anchored by the Country Vice President held on Thursday the 23rd of June 2022.



Cross Section of Delegates at
Business Meeting



National Executive Council Meetings

ent regalia showcasing different tribal dance steps. It proved very colourful and entertaining.

Featured that night were also dance performances from FIDANs in three segments representing the North, west and southern region

Guests were also treated to lovely delicacies from the state



CVP Alongside FIDANs during
a photo session



Cross Section of Members at
The Cultural Night



Executive Members at the
Cultural



Aduke Alakija
Founder/ Pioneer CVP

FEATURING FIDA NIGERIA CVPS THROUGH THE YEARS

1. Founder/ Pioneer CVP Aduke Alakija - 1964
2. Mrs. Titilola Ibiroonke - 1982-1984
3. Mrs. Stella Ugboma - 1984-1988
4. Mrs. Stella Omiyi - 1989-1991
5. Mrs. Marlies Allan - 1991-1993
6. Mrs. Tessa Ikimi - 1993-1997

We acknowledge their sacrifice and service and celebrate their accomplishments



Amina Suzana Agbaje
Current CVP FIDA Nigeria

7. Mrs. Mercy Agbamuche - 1997-2000
8. Mrs. Veronica Odunuga - 2001-2003
9. Mrs. Elsie Thompson - 2003-2006
10. Mrs. Ezinwa Okoroafor - 2006-2012
11. Dr. Hauwa Shekarau - 2012 -2015
12. Hon. Mrs Inime Ifeyinwa Aguma - 2015-2019
13. Ms. Rhoda Prevail Tyoden - 2019-2021
14. Amina Suzana Agbaje - 2021 - to date

Active Participation of Women in Politics

By Rhoda Prevail Tyoden

Rhoda Prevail Tyoden, Past National President of the International Federation of Women Layers, FIDA, Nigeria Chapter speaks on the case for women in politics and public offices, Accountability and other related matters in an interview with Taiwo Adeleye of Women Radio.

Why is there a need to push Towards Inclusive Governance in Nigeria (TGIN)?

ANSWER— Statistics of women participation in politics depends on what you are looking at. I believe that there are different variables that make up politics, from being a party member, voting at elections, vying and contesting for an elective position to being elected to elective position and also getting appointed into a public office etc

Women all over Nigeria participate in politics, they are into campaigns, they come out en masse to vote. In all these, you can say that they participate but when it comes to vying for elective positions and appointment to public offices, they are grossly underrepresented. Under the current dispensation, women are said to be representing 4.7% of the total elective position, which is not right for true democracy. It is a situation of 50%

of the population not being their when decisions that affect them is being taken which is contrary to the principle of equity and an egalitarian society.

Question: What are your thoughts on the statement made by the Senate President Ahmad Lawan on the International Women's Day?

ANSWER — It is good that the constitution is being amended, this is long overdue. The Senate President has spoken and as a distinguished man that he is, we want to trust him to deliver on his words. It doesn't matter what the senate has not done in the past on this same matter. For what we have now is what they have said, and we trust them to match action with words.

Women of Nigeria are watching, and these women comprise of their colleagues in the National Assembly, their mothers, wives, sisters, daughters and granddaughters. The World is a global village and for any nation to develop and be healthy, there must be gender parity in public life. The need for the amendment of the constitution cannot therefore be overemphasized.

Question: How do you think women should react to this

statement?

ANSWER- To hold government accountable, we must continue to demand for accountability in all ramifications. That is why the Nigerian women are demanding for the amendment of the Constitution to address the continuous discrimination and violation of women's rights both in private and in public life.

The Women groups in Nigeria through the Incorporated Trustees of the National Women's Trust Fund have gone to court to challenge the poor implementation of the 35% Affirmative Action and the violation of the National Gender Policy 2006 which was instituted after affirming the Beijing Platform for Action of 1995 by the Nigerian government.

They are also seeking for the interpretation of the provisions of our constitution which prohibits all forms of discrimination (such sections as 42, 147, 14 (2) and the provisions of many international instruments of which Nigeria ratified and is a signatory to.

Question: Why are female Political aspirants measured on a different yardstick?

ANSWER—The women in the western world that are holding great political positions are women like the women in Nigeria, they do not have 2 heads, but the difference is in the enabling environment which allows them to engage meaningfully without any form of discrimination. Their election and electoral processes are devoid of any form of violence, high monetisation and intimidation. Their laws are sacrosanct and respecter of no man. Rule of law is entrenched. Their political stage is a flat stage for all.

Talking about the Tanzanian Woman President, I'm happy for her and I also sympathize with the family of the Late President. It is not our wish and desire that a President has to die for a woman to ascend to that position. Women are qualified to be so elected and should be given the opportunity without any bias or unequal treatment. There are countless women that meet the qualifications and criteria for the office of the President. All we need is the enabled environment that is free and fair without any inhibitions or limitations. Nigerian women are great leaders with evidence all over the globe showing the stuff

they are made of in their respective offices. Asking whether Nigeria has developed to the extent of having a female President is uncalled for.

Question: How would you encourage women to participate and make a change for 2023 election?

ANSWER—Getting more women to participate in politics is not rocket science. With what we are seeing, hearing from the government, I believe that the needful is being addressed which includes but not limited to the following:

- Amending the Nigerian Constitution that will promote gender parity in all spheres of public life
- Calling for the implementation of the provisions of the National Gender Policy which is in tandem with the declarations of the Beijing Platform for Action and the 35% Affirmative Action.
- Create an enabling environment that is devoid of any form of discrimination and violations of women rights which are human rights.
- Political party constitution should be gender neutral
- Government should implement the recommendations of the Electoral Reform Committees (Justice Uwais Committee) which was holistic in approach.
- Support the bill that seeks to

make it mandatory for a quota system allocation of seats to women in every state.

- empowerment of women to enable them to compete favourably. We must note that majority of women are in unpaid care jobs with little or no income, which limits the resources at their disposal, it also affects the time they may have to participate in politics.
- Government should invest more in public facilities/ infrastructure which will help reduce the time and energy the woman expends in her unpaid care job.
- Our laws should be gender neutral and government should take proactive measures to ensure for effective implementation of our national laws, and all international instruments that Nigeria is a signatory to.
- Women should continue to build coalitions nationwide, in all communities to sensitise and create awareness on the need to participate in politics.
- Men should see women as partners and not competitors, let's team up to build back a better Nigeria.

Work with Gate Keepers including Women Leaders, Youths, Religious Leaders and Traditional Rulers to Address Social Norms that negatively affect the status of Women and entrench violence against women and girls



Our focus is targeted at Identifying and Disrupting Societal Norms that Subjugate Women and Girls through a community led approach.

Working on this, FIDA Nigeria has developed the capacities of community stakeholders with particular attention to women on issues of gender-based violence, promotion of women's rights and instilling leadership

abilities in community women leaders across six beneficiary communities namely (Obadore & Odongunyan/Odonla Communities) of Lagos State, (Bukuru Gyel & Mangun Communities of Plateau State, Erinmope-Ekiti and (Ilawe-Ekiti Communities of Ekiti States respectively

Project Supported by Ford Foundation for a period of Two years (June 2020- September 2022) in Ekiti, Lagos & Plateau States.



Activities conducted that yielded great success includes the following:

Mapping and scoping of activities with inception meetings.

The holding of two capacity building sessions on:

- a. Elimination of Sexual and Gender Based Violence through the effective implementation of the VAPP Act/Law and other related laws across the States, and
- b. Enhancing leadership abilities in community women.

To drive home salient points, we held necessary Media cam-

paigns and awareness activities on GBV and socio-cultural norms that negatively affect the status of women and girls.

In conclusion of which an Annual Dialogue and Award Event was held in 2021 to promote peer learning approaches on altering negative social norms subjugating the rights of women and girls prevalent across the six communities.

- First to fourth community townhall meetings.

However, for sustainability purposes the following additional

activities will be implemented from Last week of June – August 2022

Training of FIDA State Branches on effective best practices in sustaining the interventions after the project tenure.

Unscheduled Visitations to focal Community visitations to review implementation process of Action Plan.

Training and retraining of community paralegals and surveillance team on effective reportage and case management skills.

Community awareness campaigns/ rallies in focal communities on GBV sensitization/ action plans

Annual peer-learning system/ Dialogue Sensitisation Campaigns on Community action plans.

Major challenges experienced in our implementation process are:

The constant security concerns around Plateau and Ekiti States which has in some ways hindered progressive monitoring and implementation of project ac-

tivities in focal communities

Members of the community Surveillance Team still need more capacity building on case management which hampers team's quality of work.

There still exists the prevalence of culture of silence demonstrated by the constant inability of some Stakeholders to speak up against violence perpetrated on women and girls within their communities.

Financial constraints by the communities in effectively prosecuting GBV offenders and implementing some level of activities created in their action plan.

Continuous resistance by some communities who are still hung on certain, practices that subjugate women such as the refusal to work towards discarding the Oro culture in Odogunyan, Ikorodu North LGA of Lagos State.

Project Supported by Ford Foundation for a period of Two years (June 2020- September 2022) in Ekiti, Lagos & Plateau States.



Bukuru-Gyel Community Sensitization of women's right



FIDA Ikorodu Community Sensitization and Dissemination of Community Action Plan Ikorodu Lagos



FIDA Ikorodu Community Sensitization and Dissemination of Community Action Plan Ikorodu Lagos



Annual Dialogue & Peer Learning Forum for Community Gatekeepers



Strengthening Collaboration amongst Criminal Justice Actors to deepen The Criminal Justice Architecture to Ensure the Effective Implementation of the ACJA/ACJLs



Training on effective implementation of the Administration of the Criminal Justice Law Plateau State



Training on effective implementation of the Administration of the Criminal Justice Law Kaduna State

Over the years, FIDA Nigeria has been involved in strengthening collaboration amongst criminal justice actors to deepen the criminal justice architecture to ensure the effective implementation of the ACJA/ACJLs.

Status of Project Activities Implemented:

Sensitization campaigns through scripting, production, and airing Jingles on the ACJA/L in the 6 pro-

ject states inclusive of FCT ended on May 31st, 2022.

Sensitization campaigns in six communities across the project state on the ACJA/L through simplified copies of the Laws which were held between February – March 2022.

Continuous Legal Education training was held in April 2022 across the six project states including the Federal Capital Territory.

Project supported by MacArthur Foundation for a period of Three years (October 2021 – September 2024) in Anambra, Kano, Bayelsa, FCT, Ekiti, and Rivers State.



Training on effective implementation of the Administration of the Criminal Justice Law Ekiti State



Training on effective implementation of the Administration of the Criminal Justice Law Rivers State

Technical support is being provided to the respective Administration of Criminal Justice Monitoring Committees in the six project States (May-June 2022)

Outcomes of project activities implemented:

Improved knowledge of the Administration of the Criminal Justice Act & the respective Laws in the focal states of our Macarthur Foundation funded intervention namely Rivers, FCT, Ekiti, Anambra, Bayelsa & Kano states.

This has been made possible through simplified copies of the laws, and the airing of radio jingles

in local languages.

Provision of support for the various Administration of Criminal Justice Monitoring Committees, Building the capacity of FIDANS on these laws as part of our continuing legal education.

Monitoring & reviewing practice directions in focal states amongst others while working with other relevant criminal justice actors like the police, correctional service, etc for effective criminal justice delivery.

Project supported by MacArthur Foundation for a period of Three years (October 2021 – September 2024) in Anambra, Kano, Bayelsa, FCT, Ekiti, and Rivers State.



STRENGTHENING CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

Our focus is aimed at strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations towards improving local engagements with key stakeholders in countering trafficking in persons and responding to issues of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence as well as Child Early Forced Marriage which are the two core components areas.

Some of the activities implemented on this project includes:

Project Inception Meeting, mapping of 24 communities for project intervention, NEEDS assessment for 30 Civil Society Organizations.

Community Inception meetings were held in 24 communities in, development of formative research on best practices in curbing SGBV &CEFM.

Capacity Building workshop for Civil Society Organizations on SGBV & CEFM Prevention & Response

Capacity Building workshop for Traditional & Faith Leaders as SGBV & CEFM advocates & Paralegals

Capacity Building for Prosecutors & Judicial Officers on countering trafficking in persons

Results/Outcomes of activities implemented:

The capacity of 30 CSOs has been strengthened in preventing and responding to Sexual & Gender-Based Violence, Child & Early Forced Marriage in Bauchi, Delta, Osun, Ebonyi, Katsina & FCT.

Improved capacities of Traditional & Religious Leaders to institutionalize bye-laws and serve as advocates & paralegals on SGBV issues in 24 local communities across Nigeria.

Strengthened capacity of Judges, Magistrates & Prosecutors in countering trafficking in persons.

Project supported by USAID/ Palladium for a period of Five years in Bauchi, Katsina, Delta, FCT, Ebonyi, and Osun State.



Capacity Building Workshop in Abuja, for Traditional & Faith Leaders across three Northern States



Capacity building workshop for Prosecutors and Judicial Officers on countering trafficking in persons Southern Nigeria

Women Voices & Leadership Project



Coordination Meeting For Community Paralegals and Service Providers Abuja

The Women Voices & Leadership Project aims to contribute to the institutional building of the organization as well as building the capacity and institutionalizing paralegals in communities in the 6 Area councils of the FCT.

FIDA is currently in the second quarter of Year 4 of the 5-year WVLP Project.

In the course of the project, FIDA Nigeria has been providing psy-

chosocial support through Reconnect NG to 18 survivors from 6 communities in 4 Area Councils as well as legal representation to 18 survivors from 6 communities in 4 Area Councils in the FCT.

Some of the activities under year 4 includes:

Experiential sharing meeting with paralegals in 2 communities in each of the 3 Area Councils

Project supported by Action Aid, Nigeria for a period of 5 years in FCT, Abuja.

Organize a Coordination meeting with paralegals and community-based service providers/responders at the 3 Area Councils

Conduct capacity-building workshops to develop and adopt institutional policies, Human Rights Approach, and other relevant dynamic concepts/tools trending in Gender Based Violence Programming for the FIDA National Secretariat Team

Provide free legal representations for indigent women in the FCT.

Project's Results

Improved institutional mechanisms through the development

and operationalization of the strategic plan for the next five years.

Provision of legal services, psychosocial support & referrals for survivors of gender-based violence in three area councils in the Federal Capital Territory, training & re-training of Para-legals amongst others.

At this point, we must reiterate our commitment to improving the safety & security of survivors of GBV through establishing more shelters and safe homes in Nigeria and strengthening the existing Gender Responsive & Protective institutions to be more accountable to the people.



THE SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE PHASE 2 PROJECT

FIDA Nigeria is currently implementing phase 2 of the Spotlight Initiative Project in six states in Nigeria. In achieving the outcomes of this project, the following interventions are being carried out by FIDA Nigeria:

Building a network of 200 women's and girls' rights advocates and CSOs in Cross River State on gender-responsive budgeting for VAWG/SGBV/HP and advocacy.

Organizing a series of advocacy visits to National & Sub-National legislative houses with a cohort of trained women and girls' rights advocates and CSOs to present a joint advocacy Asks and advocate for gender-responsive budgeting for VAWG/SGBV/HP.

Getting government buy-ins through key government offi-

cials committing to support the initiatives on gender-responsive budgeting for VAWG/SGBV/HP.

Capacity Strengthening of 10 women's rights and girl's rights advocates and CSOs to have greater knowledge on how to track budget allocation and releases, monitor budget utilization and implementation across relevant ministries.

Organizing review meetings to access the progress of the cohorts in tracking budget allocation and releases as well as monitoring utilization of the budget by the relevant ministries

Project supported by UNWOMEN for a period of One Year (April 2022 – March 2023) in the FCT, Lagos, Ebonyi, Adamawa, Sokoto, and Cross-River State.



Phase 2 Inception Meeting and a Capacity Building Workshop on Gender-Responsive Budgeting, Cross River



Capacity Building Workshop on Gender-Responsive Budgeting, Adamawa



Phase 2 Inception Meeting and a Capacity Building Workshop on Gender-Responsive Budgeting, Lagos



Donor Funded Intervention

Promoting Democracy and Good Governance through the Participation of Women and Women with Disabilities in the Electoral Process; 2022 Ekiti and Osun State Gubernatorial Elections.



FIDA Nigeria as part of activities aimed at promoting women, youth and PWD inclusion in key democratic and governance processes, has been selected as one of the resource partners for the Goree Institute, Senegal Charter Africa

Project.

FIDA Nigeria as part of its activities under this project will observe the participation of women, women with disabilities and other vulnerable groups at the forthcoming

Project supported by Goree Institute and European Union

Osun and Ekiti Governorship Elections using technological solutions provided through the development and scripting of monitoring tools and election day incident forms.

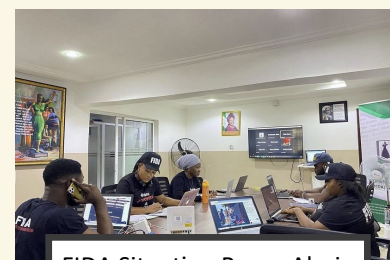
FIDA in consonance with Civic Tech will also conduct media campaigns sensitizing women and vulnerable groups on the need for exercising their civic duties and franchise using various online media platforms amongst other activities.

This project which is a sub-

grant award is expected to run from June 2022 through October 2022.



FIDA Situation Room Osun



FIDA Situation Room Abuja





ACTION AID WE-YOU PRO PROJECT

FIDA Nigeria as resource partner on the ActionAid Elections work under Partnership to Engage, Reform and Learn (PERL) Programme is managing the implementation of the Innovation Campaign component of the Campaign for inclusion of women and young people in political and governance processes (We-YOU Pro) project in FCT-Abuja.

The 3-month project is aimed at contributing to an inclusive and responsive democratic process and outcomes through citizens' led actions to-

wards the 2023 general elections in Nigeria.

Under this partnership, FIDA Nigeria will implement innovative campaigns and strategies to engender an inclusive decision-making political process that reflects the priorities of the young people and women, and to strengthen the capacities of young people and women on campaign strategies, policy and influencing towards taking leadership positions to drive positive change ahead of the 2023 elections.



Continuous Voters Registration Sensitization
Bwari (Dutse Alhaji and Gaba Tudu)



Continuous Voters Registration Sensitization
Bamishi and Kuchiyakwo communities Kuje
Area council



Continuous Voters Registration Sensitization
AMAC (Jahi 1, Jahi 2)





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www.fida.org.ng

Area 2, Garki, Abuja

PROMOTING, PROTECTING AND PRESERVING THE RIGHTS, INTERESTS AND WELL-BEING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

FIDA PROJECT REACH REPORT



WEYOU-PROJECT

Strategic Round Table Dialogue for CSO's

31 Participants



81%
Women



19%
Men

Community sensitisation on the electoral act

421 people reached



49%
Women



33%
Men



18%
PWD



WOMEN VOICE AND LEADERSHIP PROJECT (WVL)

Experiential Sharing for CSOs and Community Leaders and paralegals

108 Participants



42%
Women



58%
Men

Psychosocial Support Session

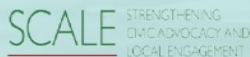
15 Beneficiaries



95%
Women



5%
Men



STRENGTHENING CIVIC ADVOCACY AND LOCAL ENGAGEMENT (SCALE) PROJECT

Specialised Training for Prosecutors and Judicial Officers

34 Beneficiaries



59%
Women



41%
Men

Capacity Workshop Traditional and Faith Base leaders

50 Beneficiaries



20%
Women



80%
Men



6
PWD

Capacity Building for CSO's

30 Beneficiaries



77%
Women



23%
Men



- Mentorship session for CSOs and Community Leaders
- SGBV/CEFM 2nd Bi-Annual Coordination Meeting on enhanced referral pathways and linkages

Legal Counsel for Survivors of GBV

22 Beneficiaries



95%
Women



5%
Men

Donor Funded Intervention



FORD FOUNDATION PROJECT

Advocacy Visits

395 Participants



50%
Women



50%
Men

Stakeholders Inception Meetings

140 Participants



49%
Women



51%
Men

Capacity Building Workshop

269 Participants



55%
Women



45%
Men

Women Leadership Training

495 Beneficiaries



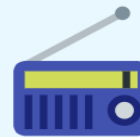
99.6%
Women



0.4%
Men

Community Sensitisation

3,000 via Radio Jingle



UN SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE PROJECT

Capacity building on Gender responsive budgeting
for Women advocates and CSO's

132 Beneficiaries



84%
Women



16%
Men



7
PWD

Capacity building on Gender responsive budgeting
for Women advocates and CSO's

132 Beneficiaries



84%
Women



16%
Men



7
PWD

Sensitisation for Parliamentarians on
Gender responsive budgeting



314
Parliamentarians



MACARTHUR FOUNDATION PROJECT

Training of Judges and other Judicial/Legal officers
on the ACJA/L and other Anti-corruption Legislative
Frameworks in Nigeria

330 Beneficiaries



100%
Women

Awareness creation/community outreach on the
benefits and proper utilisation of the Act/Law

236 Beneficiaries



57%
Women



43%
Men

MEDIA CAMPAIGN

59,000,000 via Radio Jingle





INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN LAWYERS
(FIDA) NIGERIA



Osun Decides 2022



1.95 million

Registered Voters



VOTE

42.37%

Registered voters actually participated in the polls



58.8%

Abstaining from the voting process

FIDA Nigeria observed from INEC official results that **804,450** persons exercised their franchise at the polls



Comparatively the turnout is lower than in

2018	2014	2003
45.74%	53.14%	58.63%



Persons living with disabilities were prioritized in at least **56%** of the polling units



32% of the polling units provided special kits for persons living with disabilities however

68% of the polling units did not make such provisions



4PM

87%

Concluded voting and counting of votes had either commenced or ended accordingly.

13%

Voting process ongoing after 4pm due to the late arrival of the electoral materials or malfunctioning of (BVAS)



84% of the polling units covered Security Agencies were unarmed with firearms

16%

armed with firearms



Transparency and fairness **86%** polling units covered

78% of the covering polling units voted in secrecy

At least 96%

Of the polling units we covered and were reported to have agreed with the sanctity of the process by signing the election results across all polling units covered by our observers.

Read the full stat:

<https://fida.org.ng/2022/07/fida-nigeria-post-election-statement-on-the-2022-osun-state-governorship-election/>



As an Impact of FIDA Nigeria's advocacy and sensitization activities in Mangun Community, Plateau State, under the Ford Foundation supported project and in furtherance of FIDA's sustainability drive, women and girls of the community independently conducted a massive rally in October, 2021 that conscientize the populace on the harmful practices and socio-cultural norms that subjugate women and girls; and enlightened the populace on the rights of women and girls, as well as the negative effects of SGBV on the health and overall well-being of women and girls.

This initiative was carried out by community women leaders who have been beneficiaries of the Ford Foundation Project in collaboration with the Mangun Community Surveillance Team against SGBV earlier constituted under the Project.

As part of sustaining this intervention, they inaugurated a Mentorship program where young girls are paired with prominent women within the community to serve as Mentors and Counselors on GBV issues to these young girls.

women are gradually recognized and provided a platform on decision making in their communities.



Sensitization Action Plans
Dissemination Bukuru gyel Community



Sensitization Action Plans
Dissemination Erinmope' ekiti Community



Sensitization Action Plans
Dissemination Ikorodu State

Success Stories

It was worthy to note that this exercise was implemented by the community women leaders without any form of technical or financial support from FIDA.



Cross section of photos during the advocacy



Through our Ford Foundation supported intervention in Ekiti, Lagos & Plateau State, we have an avalanche of community gatekeepers around six communities who have developed & created action plans to prevent prevalent harmful, religious & cultural practices experienced by women & girls in the communities they are domiciled.

Through this intervention selected women have been trained on leadership and GBV issues, town hall meetings have been held to sensitize the communities on prevention of this menace, community champions on SGBV have been recognized and awarded, and

FEATURING BRANCH ACTIVITIES DURING UN DAYS OF OBSERVATION

International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation (6th February 2022)



Warri Branch



Lagos Branch



Badagry Branch



Eket Branch



Ekiti Branch



Rivers Branch

International Women's Day (8th March 2022)



Plateau Branch



Uyo Branch



Bayelsa Branch



Cross-River Branch



Osun Branch



Badagry Branch

World Day against Child Labor (12th June 2022)



Ekiti Branch



Warri Branch



Badagry Branch



Ogun Branch



Ondo Branch



Osun Branch

International Widows Day (23rd June 2022)



Rivers Branch



Lagos Branch

THE FUN CORNER

A lawyer defending a man accused of burglary tried this creative defense: “My client merely inserted his arm into the window and removed a few trifling articles. His arm is not himself, and I fail to see how you can punish the whole individual for an

offense committed by his limb.” “Well put,” the judge replied. “Using your logic, I sentence the defendant’s arm to one year’s imprisonment. He can accompany it or not, as he chooses.” The defendant smiled. With his lawyer’s assistance, he de-



tached his artificial limb, laid it on the bench, and walked out.

A man walked into a bar with his alligator and asked the bartender, “Do you serve lawyers here?” “Sure do,” replied the bartender. “Good,” said the man. “Give me a beer, and I’ll have a lawyer for my gator.”

Two lawyers walking through the woods spot a vicious-looking bear. The first lawyer immediately opens his briefcase, pulls out a pair of sneakers, and puts them on. The second lawyer looks at him and says, “You’re crazy! You’ll never be able to outrun that bear!” “I don’t have to,” the first lawyer replies. “I only have to outrun you.”



OCCUPY NASS

On the 8th of March 2022, FIDA Nigeria alongside other coalition of women's group protested at the rejection of 5 gender bills by the national assembly had said they would continue to occupy the main gate of the legislative complex until their demands were met.

In a statement by the Country Vice/ National President FIDA Nigeria Amina Suzanah Agbaje, FIDA Strongly Demands Equal Representation of Women at All Levels of Governance & Leadership in Nigeria: Enjoins Reconsideration of All Gender Responsive Bills Rejected By The Senate.

FIDA strongly demonstrated support for legislative frameworks that supports the rights & attainment of women into leadership positions & other affirmative aspirations. This has been evidenced through her well-known participation at the public hearing forums organized by Joint National Assembly Constitution review committee in the six geo-political zones. FIDA Nigeria's position through her memorandum

was on gender affirmative actions and creation of special seats for women at both the National & States Houses of Assembly. We had gone further to eulogise the Joint Committee for taking into consideration our memorandum, upon which the various gender-responsive bills were submitted to both the Senate & Federal Houses of Representatives for ratification.

Despite this giant stride towards promoting gender inclusivity in leadership which we had recorded, we were dismayed on the 1st of March 2022, a date which will always be remembered in our nascent democracy, when most members of the Nigeria Senate at the Senate Chambers voted against the following Gender-responsive Bills submitted for its consideration:

- a) Bill No 35. A bill for an act to provide special seats for women in National & State House of Assembly
- b) Bill No 37, A Bill for an act to provide for affirmative action in political party administration
- c) Bill No 36, A Bill for an act to ex-

pand the scope of citizenship by registration

d) Bill No 38, A bill for an act to provide criteria for qualification to become an indigene of a state in Nigeria.

Based on the majority votes from these members, these gender responsive bills whose beneficiaries are mainly women were rejected. The implication of this rejection indicates there is no proportional representation for women at the parliament, women are denied 35% affirmative action in party administration & leadership positions, denial of affirmative action of women into appointed positions, denial of indigene ship by women of their husband's state after 5 years of being together, denial of citizenship to the foreign-born husband of a Nigerian women amongst others, which has made the struggle for an egalitarian society most inevitable.

a) We urge all like-minded civil society organisations, women led organisations & women's right's organizations to sustain advocacy and intensify demands for Gender equality and opportunities by occupying the National Assembly until the rejected bills are considered

b) We call on the Nigeria Senate to as a matter of urgency reconsider consideration of these gender responsive bills

We hope that these sustained advocacy measures will enable the National Assembly in general & the Senate in particular to retract from these patriarchal dispositions towards giving women equal opportunities through reconsideration of these Bills even as we commemorate the International Women's Day on 8th March 2022.

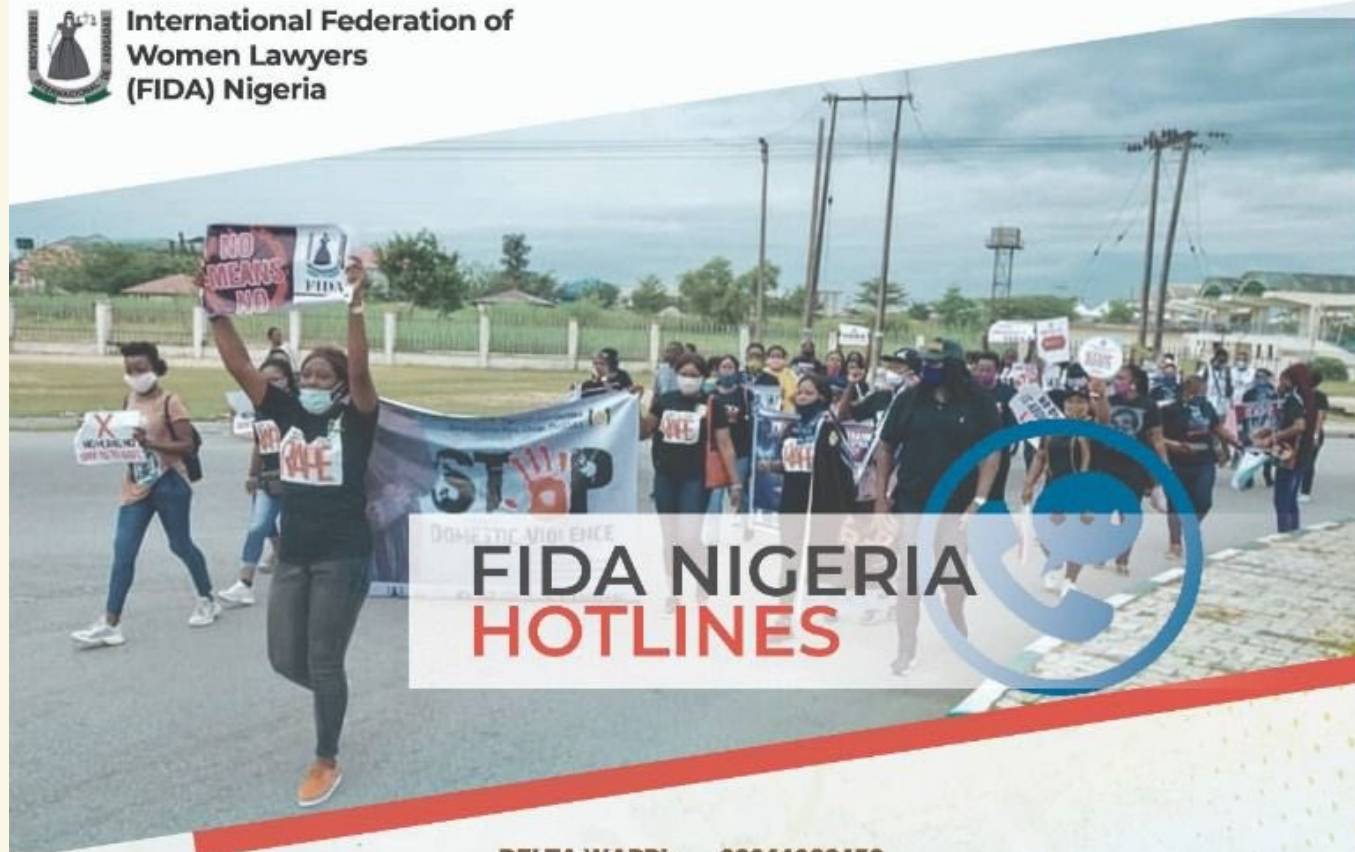


CROSS SECTION OF PHOTOS DURING #OCCUPYNASS PROTEST





**International Federation of
Women Lawyers
(FIDA) Nigeria**



FIDA NIGERIA HOTLINES

		DELTA WARRI:	09044099459	
		EBONYI:	0803336031	LAGOS BADAGARY: 09131324472
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**“AS WOMEN,
WE MUST STAND UP
FOR OURSELVES.
WE MUST STAND UP
FOR EACH OTHER.
WE MUST STAND UP
FOR JUSTICE FOR ALL.”**

MICHELLE OBAMA



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS (FIDA) NIGERIA

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