



5-YEARS (2019-2024) OF IMPACTING THE LIVES OF WOMEN & GIRLS IN LAGOS STATE, NIGERIA

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ACRONYMS

AAN -ActionAid Nigeria
CBOs-Community Based Organizations
CGE Africa- Center for Gender Economics in Africa
CSOs-Civil Society Organizations
COVID-Corona Virus Diseases
DSVA – Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency
GAC- Global Affairs Canada
LASODA- Lagos State Office of Disability Affairs
LCDA – Local Council Development Area
LGA - Local Government Area
LWROs-Local Women Rights Organizations
MDAs – Ministries Departments and Agencies
NNEW- NECA’s Network of Entrepreneurial Women
SGBV – Sexual and Gender-based violence
SIF-Strategic Opportunity Fund
SOF-Strategic Innovative Fund
WRAHP – Women’s Rights and Health Project
WVL - Women’s Voice and Leadership

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“With an investment of 327,045,088.66 Naira, we have made substantial strides in women’s economic empowerment, combating sexual and gender-based violence, promoting social and economic inclusion of elderly women, and enhancing women’s political participation.” (Andrew Mamedu, Country Director of ActionAid Nigeria).

This remarkable statement by the ActionAid Nigeria, Country Director sums up the achievements of the WVL partners in Lagos State over the 5-year implementation of the WVL-Nigeria project. This was at the Lagos State WVL Close Out & Dissemination Forum held on Friday, July 12, 2024 at Grandeur Event Center, Ikeja, Lagos.

The WVL project in Lagos State implemented by 16 partners (4 LWROs and 12 CBOs) over a 5-year period (2019-2024) made significant strides in addressing gender-based violence (GBV), empowering women economically, and promoting socio-economic inclusion for elderly women. With a financial investment of over N327 million, the project reached over 1.1 million people directly and approximately 1.6 million through traditional and social media. Notable achievements over the 5 years included; establishing a functional GBV resource center, empowering 931 women through economic programs, and using radio as a tool for development. The project also successfully influenced policies and frameworks that support women’s rights and inclusion, demonstrating the transformative impact of sustained community engagement and tailored capacity-building initiatives.

Project objectives in Lagos State were to:

- Enhance delivery of programming and advocacy to prevent and response to Gender-Based Violence/Violence against Women and Girls and advance gender equality in Lagos State.
- Improve management and sustainability of local women’s led Community based organizations in Lagos State.
- Set up elderly women’s safe spaces for well-being parties in the project communities.
- Amplify older women’s voices on the issues that affect them through participatory filmmaking.
- Enhance the skills and knowledge of caregivers and service providers for inclusive care of older women.
- Raise Awareness and Advocate for improved policies and support systems for older women.
- Ensure that petty traders have the capability to access funds and that they only pay appropriate taxes.
- Alleviate the sufferings of female petty traders in selected local governments in Lagos State, during the COVID-19 lockdown.
- Ensure that petty traders are able to safely continue their trades, regardless of lockdown and without sexual harassment.
- Ensure that appropriate anti-SGBV bye-laws are enacted and enforced.
- Use Women Radio, WFM 91.7 radio platform to increase female representation in leadership positions and the political sector, enable opportunities for the girl child, amplify the voices of women across all sectors, tackle barriers to gender inequality, and close gaps to economic justice for women.

2.0 ABOUT WOMEN’S VOICE & LEADERSHIP NIGERIA PROJECT (WVL-N)



The Women’s Voice and Leadership Project is a five-year Global Affairs Canada development assistance (2019-2024) with the goal to support the capacity and activities of local and regional women’s organizations and movements seeking to empower women and girls, advance the protection of women’s and girls’ rights and achieve gender equality. Nigeria is one of the 30 recipient countries, and it is being managed by ActionAid.

The project over a 5-year period provided financial and technical support to 100 plus Local Women’s Rights Organizations (LWROs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Networks and Movements in six project states of Bauchi, Cross River, Enugu, Lagos, Kebbi and Kwara and at the national level.

The Theory of Change that drives this initiative states that ***“If Local Women’s Rights Organizations (LWROs), Networks and Movements have technical and institutional expertise, assuming they have the courage of conviction for transformative gender equality work and relevant stakeholders are committed with enabling environment for the advancement of gender equality in Nigeria, then they will deliver interventions that influence programs, policies and legislations, change negative social beliefs relating to women and girls’ rights; thus contributing to enjoyment of human rights of girls and women in Nigeria”***

The ultimate outcome of this initiative was increased enjoyment of human rights by women and girls and the advancement of gender equality in Nigeria. The intermediate outcomes included: improved management and sustainability of local women’s rights organizations in Nigeria; enhanced delivery of programming and advocacy to advance gender equality by local women’s rights organizations in Nigeria; increased effectiveness of sub-national, national, and regional women’s rights platforms, networks and alliances to affect policy, legal and social change in Nigeria.

Project strategies adopted by WVL-Nigeria project include; granting, capacity building (via trainings, mentoring, coaching etc), networking and building alliances, research and documentation, advocacy for

social change. Multiple funding opportunities provided by the WVL-Nigeria project accessed by different partners were: Multi-Year Grant by 112 LWROs, Strategic Opportunity Fund- Rapid Response by 44 LWROs, Strategic Innovation Fund by 15 LWROs, COVID-19 Response Fund by 20 LWROs.

The key intervention focus areas were:

- Addressing Gender Based Violence/violence against women and girls
- Women Economic Justice and Empowerment Programmes
- Women Political Participation and Leadership
- Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR)
- Promoting Socio-Economic Inclusion of Elderly Women
- Women and Girls' Education

Some key project achievements over the 5-year period (2019-2024) included the following:

- ✓ 100 women-led organizations' systems and programming abilities strengthened.
- ✓ 182 women-led organizations have received funding from the WVL-N project's 3 funding streams, including the COVID-19 top up grant.
- ✓ 180 grants disbursed to 182 women led organizations across 24 states and the FCT from 2019-2024
- ✓ 47 women's rights related legislations, policies and commitments at State and National levels.
- ✓ 190 women make history as members of traditional leadership councils in 4 project states.
- ✓ 4,781 sexual and gender-based violence survivors (women and girls) directly reached.
- ✓ N271, 445,478 (250,637 CAD) saved by 7.563 women through the Village Savings & Loans Association (VSLA).
- ✓ 1,532,323 women and girls reached with economic justice and empowerment initiatives.
- ✓ 29,696 women organizations and individuals provided with online information on gender equality, feminist interventions, and women's rights and advancement through the Feminist Hub.
- ✓ 7, 150, 153 women and girls inclusive of People with Disability (PWDs) reached across 24 states and the FCT in Nigeria.

Lessons learnt from the project: Feminist Localization Partnership Approach creates a sense of ownership and security for sustainability of the WVL project; Skills Transfer through Participatory Grant Making builds the confidence of LWROs in grant management; Large number of LWROs (100+) allows wide spread and reach of women and girls.

Notable innovative interventions were: Introduction of Finance Technology (FinTech) into the informal community level savings and loans' schemes; Establishment of the I Support Her Club, made up of 40 young men formed to motivate positive changes in attitudes amongst men and boys; The use of Women's Radio (WFM 91.7) to champion the course of advancement and equality in Nigeria.

The total financial investment expended across 6 States and FCT to partners on WVL project was N2,233,578,250.92 over the 5-year period (2019-2024). There were two unique features of the WVL - Nigeria project, namely- (i) Locally driven Agenda and (ii) Participatory Grant Making.

3.0 ABOUT LAGOS STATE (WVL-N) PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION



The project titled “Women’s Voice and Leadership Nigeria (WVL-N) Project” was supported by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) through ActionAid Nigeria and covered a 5-year period (2019-2024). The project’s expansive reach in the state, was facilitated by 16 partners, including 3 Local Women’s Rights Organizations (LWROs), 1 network, and 12 Community Based Organizations (CBOs), covering 18 LGAs/LCDAs and reaching 46 communities. In Lagos State, the sum of N327, 045,086.66 was made in financial investments through various grants, including the Multi-Year Grant, Strategic Opportunity Fund (SOP), Covid-19 Response Grant, Research and Documentation, Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF).

Project implementing partners in the State were:

(a) Local Women’s Rights Organizations

- i. Centre for Gender Economics in Africa (CGE) Africa
- ii. NNEW – NECA’s Network of Entrepreneurial Women.
- iii. Women Radio 91.7, WFM 91.7
- iv. Women’s Rights and Health Project (WRAHP)

(b) Community Based Organizations

- i. Almanah Hope Foundation, Ibeju Lekki LGA
- ii. Bisi Adebayo Networking (GEMS), Kosofe LGA
- iii. Catholic Sisters United in Christ Foundation, Alimosho LGA
- iv. Edda Women Progressive Development Initiative, Lagos Mainland
- v. Ejigbo Grinding Machine Association, Ejigbo LGA
- vi. Epe Women Help Association, Epe LGA
- vii. Havilah Impact and Empowerment Foundation, Alimosho
- viii. Healthy Living Women and Empowerment Initiative, Alimosho LGA
- ix. Humanity Family Foundation for Peace and Development, Ikorodu LGA
- x. Ogo-Oluwa Women Association, Eti-Osa LGA
- xi. Women Liberation and Transformation Group, Alimosho LGA
- xii. Women of Wisdom, Mushin LGA

The project intervention areas in Lagos State were:

- Addressing gender-based violence/violence against women and girls.
- Women Economic Justice and Empowerment Programmes.
- Women Political Participation and Leadership through Radio for Development
- Socio-Economic Empowerment of the Elderly.

Project partners and stakeholders were broad based covering state and non-state actors and included:



<i>Civil Society Organizations</i>	Child Protection Network	International Federation of Female Lawyers	Miracle Center, Ikeja
Women & Girls with Disabilities Alimosho LGA	Women Resource & Dev. Centre -WARDC	Project Alert	Centre for Women's Health and Information CEWIN

Media Partners

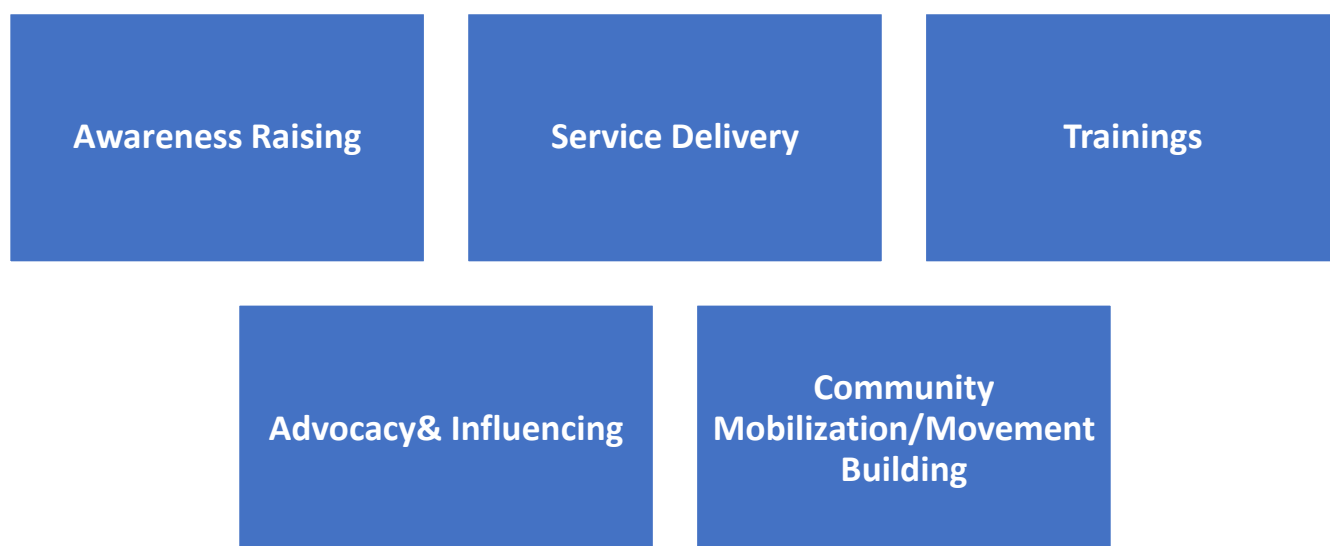
AIT Television	First News	News Agency of Nigeria	The Nations Newspaper
The Sun Newspaper	Daily Trust Newspaper	Wazobia FM	TVC
	Arise News	Ogun Today	

Tailored Capacity Building Programs that Implementing Partners have benefited from:

- Partnership Assessment and Monitoring Exercise (PAM)
- Training on Intersectional Feminist Programming and Policy Influencing.
- Training on Financial Management (1,2,3)
- Training on Communications for Development (1 & 2)
- Training on Monitoring, Evaluation & Information Management (Record Keeping and Documentation).
- Training on Project Management for Development Professionals (PMDPro).
- Training on Network Management and Policy Influencing.
- Training on Advocacy & Policy Influencing 2.0
- Training on Managing Gender Based Violence in Emergencies (Online Training)
- Training on Organizational Effectiveness and Succession Planning.

- Training on Resource Mobilization and Diversification.
- Training on Psychosocial First Aid.
- Training on Leadership and Change Management.
- Training on Outcome Harvesting (Online training via ActionAid E-Learning platform)
- Basics of Human Rights Based Approach to Programming (Online training via ActionAid E-Learning platform)
- Training on Women Peer Education Programmes
- Training on Report and Documentation
- Training on CBO Management
- Training on Exit Strategy and Sustainability
- Training on Village Savings and Loans Scheme (VSLA).

Strategies & Approaches Used



Reach Through the Partners in Lagos State

over all Direct reach (426, 9933)

Indirect Reach (698, 508)

Total Reach (1, 125, 441)

Significant strides made across the intervention areas in Lago State were:

Addressing Gender Based Violence/Violence Against Women

- **Rebuilding Lives and Restoring hope** for 1,108 women and girls survivors of SGBV through legal aid, counselling and psychosocial support services.
- Convictions of 2 perpetrators for sexual offences
- Capacities of 2,761 young GBV ambassadors, built and championing GBV prevention and response issues affecting their peers.
- Sensitized and engaged 29,032 community members (women, girls, men, boys, persons with disabilities) as mandatory reporters and advocates in community level SGBV prevention and response.
- Challenging Patriarchy and engaged 11 Traditional and Community leaders in Alimosho LGA as advocates to speak up and take actions against GBV
- Increasing community access to existing GBV laws and policies through simplification and dissemination
- 118 vulnerable women and GBV survivors provided economic succor through palliatives during COVID 19 Lock down.
- Through sensitization activities by 12 CBOs, 13, 135 grassroots women from 3 Senatorial Districts in Lagos reached with vital information for GBV prevention and response



Women Economic Justice and Empowerment Program

- WVL in Lagos State has empowered the lives of 931 women and girls through cash assistance, skills acquisition training and start-up grants for business development and expansion.
- Equipped 701 female petty traders with the necessary knowledge needed (basic bookkeeping, customer service and stock control). This has led to 49 female petty traders accessing grants of N50,000 each from the Federal Government.
- Reduction in levies and taxes paid by market women from over N11,000 to N6,000 annually in Lagos State.
- Enrolment of 50 selected female petty traders from three markets into the National Health Insurance Scheme.
- Over one million Naira saved by the women through Village Saving Loans in Majidun, Ikorodu.
- Influenced the inclusion of the informal sector in the reviewed Micro Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) National Policies. This will ensure that microbusinesses, like petty traders are included in various government plans.
- Fifty-two female petty traders were trained on the use of simple technology and social media to maintain sales, aimed at ensuring that petty traders are able to safely continue their trades regardless of lockdown and without sexual harassment. The fifty female petty traders were also given Android phones to ease communication with their customers.
- Sensitization of over six hundred market leaders in Lagos State on "the ills and consequences of sexual harassment in the markets" also VAPP Laws as it concerns SGBV. This led to the

formation of the Market Taskforce Team on SGBV which contributed to reduction in the rate of SGBV cases in the market places.



Empowering women to embrace Entrepreneurship



Use of Radio as a Tool for Development

- Through 834 HerVoice productions of 138 radio episodes, 480 radio jingle spots, 78, audio-visuals, 120 IEC materials, HerVoice increased women education on issues of gender-based violence and connected women to help centres. Male Listeners also got involved on the ills of GBV on women and girls. Increasing the emergence of male champions with our Men's Conversations.
- Male Listeners also got involved on the ills of GBV on women and girls. Increasing the emergence of male champions with our Men's Conversations.
- Used Radio to influence the increased visibility of WVL-N projects on social media platforms with over 372,400 engagements.
- Enhanced partnership with WVL partners on different platforms and live coverage of protest to lobby for the demands of the Nigerian women for the passage of the 5-gender bill.
- Supported and gave visibility to female political candidates ahead of the 2023 elections that resulted to Rukaiyat Shittu the youngest lawmaker emerging winner in Kwara State



Promoting Socio Economic Inclusion of Elderly Women

- Successfully reduced social behaviors of excluding older women in Iredo and Maiyegun communities through strategic sensitization and community advocacy efforts.
- Reduced abuse of older women in Lagos state through comprehensive strategies, including policy dialogues, stakeholder engagements, media partnerships, and impactful online campaigns.
- Achieved a remarkable transformation in the well-being of nearly 100 older women in two communities, through learning and sharing within the monthly wellbeing parties.
- Established Pioneering Safe Spaces for older women. The Senior Women Association (SEWA) was founded in project communities.
- Successfully amplified older women's voices on pertinent issues through engaging in participatory filmmaking and active involvement in policy advocacy



Transforming the wellbeing of older women in Lagos State





Proudly advocating for the inclusion and care of older women in Nigeria at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW) 68 in New York, in 2024

Institutional Capacity Strengthening

- Institutional capacities of partners strengthened and relevant policies and manuals such as; Administrative Manual, HR policy, Finance Manual, Procurement policy, safeguarding policies, Strategic Plans, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework, Resource Mobilization Strategy amongst others fully operational. Partners have increased capacity to access other diversified funding sources in addition GAC's support.
- Partners have increased capacity to access other diversified funding sources in addition the funding from GAC through ActionAid Nigeria.
- CBOs hitherto without offices, vision, mission etc now have well defined vision, mission, organizational values, constitution, organogram, registered with CAC, physical offices, functional Boards in place, employee manuals, HR Policies, Protection from Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse Policies, Finance Policies, Procurement Manuals, Resource Mobilization Strategies, Monitoring and Evaluation Systems, Communication Plans, hold consistent staff meetings with documented Minutes of staff meetings.



Institutional Capacity Building Programmes for CBOs



4.0 PROJECT'S INFLUENCE ON THE WOMEN



Improved administrative and program capacity of 11 women leaders to manage and sustain community-based organizations in Lagos State addressing sexual and gender-based violence and women economic empowerment programs at grassroots level. 30 young females with improved leadership capacities on responding to SGBV cases

(“Every aspect has been educative. I was able to discover myself as a leader and all the qualities of a leader and also learnt about effective communication. I learnt that as a woman you have right stand as a voice for others”. -Benson Abiola, Hairdresser)

Improved Human Rights and Leadership Opportunities for Women and Young Girls in Alimosho LGA through exposure to strategic plan development skills.

(“Women’s Rights and Health Project also encourage community participation in her activities by training & engaging community leaders. For example, I was part of her five years strategic planning meeting held at FESTAC in September, 2020. We also have lots of our members who are trained to facilitate dissemination of information on SGBV to the local communities”

Hon. Rabiul A. Kazeem Community leader Egbe-Idimu LCDA).

20 female Executives and Ladies on Wheels Nigeria (LOWAN) members empowered to report and refer GBV cases effectively and promptly to Gender-Based Violence Response Service Providers in Lagos State.

(“ I have always thought I couldn’t survive financially without my ex-husband but today I can single-handedly handle all my financial obligations.” Abiola Nkechi, LOAWAN Executive).

State Level/Policies Influenced/Impact on Women’s Leadership:

- ✓ 35 percent affirmative action on Political Parties’ Bill (35 percent of Executive positions in Political Parties)
- ✓ Inclusion of at least ten percent affirmative action in favour of women in Ministerial appointments.
- ✓ Citizenship bill (granting to foreign-born husbands of Nigerian women. Already a Nigerian man’s foreign-born wife is automatically a Nigerian citizen).

- ✓ Supported and gave visibility to female political candidates ahead of the 2023 elections that resulted to Rukaiyat Shittu the youngest lawmaker emerging winner in Kwara state and Irete Kingigbe the senator representing the FCT

5.0 CASE STUDIES, SUCCESS STORIES & TESTIMONIALS

. Case Study 1:



Glowing Up at the Ireti Resource Center by Female SGBV Survivors

They come to the center looking tired, dejected and abandoned. For them what's the point living on when life as they experience it has not offered them anything to cheer about. They cannot see any offence that they have committed against the society or close and intimate partners. Yet they continue to experience various forms of violence/abuses such as; battery, economic deprivation, ejection from homes etc.

WRAHP's Ireti Center provides hope and healing for many particularly the glow and safe space sessions which get them back to life emotionally and psychologically and thus promote healthy living. Through Glow Up/Safe Space sessions at the Ireti Resource Centre, **lives have been rebuilt and hope restored.**

Maureen, and her two children suffered abandonment and neglect from her husband for a period of four months. Within that period, Maureen was emotionally disturbed and the financial burden of taking care of the two children was solely borne by her. Maureen walked into Ireti Resource Center to report the case of abandonment and neglect on 15th September 2022. She was provided with trauma informed psychosocial support and assurance that the issue can be resolved. After undergoing three counseling sessions and Glow Up session, Maureen's face brightened, her self-esteem improved and she felt safe. Ireti Resource Center engaged Maureen's husband and he has been making provisions for a monthly sum of N24,800 for the upkeep of Maureen and the two children as well as paying the two Children's school fees.

"After the Glow Up Therapy session at Ireti Resource Centre, I felt like all my burden was taken off. I really felt light weighted and I would love to feel this way more often. I appreciate every effort made towards this program. I now believe that abuse do not stop one from glowing."

(Maureen A. Alimosho, Lagos)

"I must commend the organizers of this programme. I have gained strength listening to other women like me. Before now, I thought looking beautiful and presentable is only for women who have no problem to think about" (Glow Up Therapy at Ireti Resource Center)

Case Study 2:

Changing The Narrative: A Programme Giving Voice to The Voiceless

“This radio programme opened my eyes to a lot of things ignored and now I have found my voice and have begun to encourage women in my community to do same”- Mrs Olayinka (Real name withheld).

The Problem

Nigeria is characterized by gender inequality in almost all areas of human development and ranked 118 out of 134 countries on the Gender Equality Index. The inadequate inclusion of women and girls perceptive in policy making decisions, resources allocation and implementation in Economic and Social sectors continues to challenge the advancement of Gender Equality. Negative social norms which condone or support violence against women and girls and harmful practices remain pervasive. Gender based Violence is wide spread and 30% of women aged 15-49 have reported experience of sexual abuse. Gender based Violence is one of the most prevalent human right abuses in Nigeria such as physical abuse, mental abuse, economic abuse and leadership abuse. Reports of violence against women is usually being underreported reported in the Nigerian media, however gender-based violence has become normal in our society. Nigeria’s patriarchal system re-enforces violence against women as a tool for correcting behaviour and exerting male dominance in the society. Some religions in Nigeria frowns at divorce and this contributes to women staying in abusive relationships. The action nor the perpetrator are neither challenged nor addressed making the woman more vulnerable.

The Approach

These challenges are significant barriers to addressing gender-based violence. Hence through funding from Global Affairs Canada, ActionAid partnered with Women Radio 91.7 on the Women Voice and Leadership Nigeria Project, created an innovative tool to amplify the voices of women and girls, expose the abuse as well as the perpetrator and demand justice to end gender-based violence. Women Radio worked with stakeholders on gender-based violence and inequality both on radio and taking the programme to the beneficiaries. The radio programme HerVoice gained high listenership within Lagos that has a population of over 15 million residents and Ogun state with over 5 million residents.

The Change

Women Radio 91.7 used HerVoice as a mirror for women to see that GBV is wrong and not acceptable, giving the woman the ability to challenge and condemn GBV as well as shape her judgement in a view to breaking the silence culture. HerVoice on Women Radio 91.7 was able to increase the number of women talking about GBV and cycle of inequality.

At the initial stage of the programme, Mrs. Olayinka (Name withheld) a 60-year-old woman who experienced violence in different forms blamed herself and considered it normal, because this was the norm she met in her community and was raised in, she never believed women should be heard. However, after being a regularly listener on the show, she had a changed perspective and started airing her views, now she comfortably speaks and contribute to talks on SGBV on radio.

“This radio programme opened my eyes to a lot of things ignored and now I have found my voice and have begun to encourage women in my community to do same”- Mrs. Olayinka (Real name withheld).

Today, we have women like Mrs Olayinka boldly come on radio to address issues of gender-based violence it causes and ways to tackle them. The role radio plays in amplifying the voices of women and girls, most especially the marginalized ones, on health and development issues cannot be overemphasized. Executing of this project will certainly not have been possible without funding from GAC through Action Aid Nigeria. On behalf of Nigerian women, HerVoice is grateful to GAC and AAN for the support and commitment giving more power to these voices and increase the numbers.

Case Study 3

Case Study: Enhancing Elderly Well-Being And Social Inclusivity In Itedo Community, Lagos, Nigeria.

Elderly individuals in Lagos, Nigeria, often find themselves marginalized and overlooked in a society that tends to prioritize the younger generation. They lack appropriate care, support, and tailored programs that cater to their unique needs. Furthermore, they are frequently grouped together with younger people, despite lacking the energy to keep up with the pace of the young people. The COVID-19 pandemic further heightened this challenge. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the elderly constitute the most vulnerable group of the COVID-19 fatality due to their premedical conditions. In Itedo Community, Eti-Osa Local Government Area of Lagos State, many elderly individuals were cut off from their families who lived in an entirely different location from them, due to the lockdown of the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to feelings of isolation and neglect. Access to essential resources, including financial support and healthcare, became a challenge leaving them vulnerable and struggling to maintain a decent quality of life.

In response to these challenges, CGE Africa launched a transformative project within Itedo Community, aiming to address the pressing needs of elderly women amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. However, it soon became evident that additional support was necessary to effectively assist these women. With funding support from Global Affairs Canada through ActionAid Nigeria, CGE Africa initiated a groundbreaking project to uplift the elderly in the community, bridging the gap between generations and revitalizing their sense of self-worth and social connectivity. The focus of the initiative is the concept of well-being parties tailored for the elderly women. These gatherings, organized monthly in the second and third years of the project and then quarterly in the fourth year, provides a space for elderly women to connect, rejuvenate, and engage in activities that promote their overall well-being. Guided by a comprehensive well-being party toolkit, designed by CGE Africa, the sessions address critical themes such as nutrition, social engagement, physical activities, and the healing power of nature. In Itedo and Maiyegun Communities, Lagos State, a remarkable transformation took place, offering a beacon of hope for marginalized elderly women who have long been overlooked and underserved.

Among the participants, Mrs. Victoria Harrison, a widowed mother of two and grandmother of three, emerged as a source of inspiration. Recognizing the unique challenges that aging presents, the well-being parties rekindled her spirit and drive. Energized by the transformative experience, Mrs. Victoria Harrison became a catalyst for change within her community. She actively rallied other elderly women, encouraging them to participate in the well-being parties and fostering a sense of unity and support.

“This program came to our community during the coronavirus pandemic. Because of the lockdown, it was difficult for our children to reach us with food supplies. We were expected to queue to get government palliatives, but we cannot compete with young people physically. CGE Africa came with provision and envelope (money). They provided everything for us and we are grateful.” – Mrs Victoria Harrison.

What began as a program to support elderly women soon evolved into a network of profound connections among these women. These support networks provided more than just assistance; they fostered social inclusivity and a deep sense of belonging. Through these networks, elderly individuals began to regain their voice and agency, dispelling the isolation that often accompanies old age.

This case study illuminates several valuable lessons:

1. Programs designed specifically for the elderly women can bring about significant positive change in their lives, enhancing their well-being and social integration.
2. Individuals like Mrs. Victoria Harrison exemplify the power of community champions. Their dedication and enthusiasm can create a ripple effect, inspiring others to participate and engage.
3. A holistic approach, encompassing physical, emotional, and social well-being, is crucial for addressing the challenges faced by elderly women.
4. Creating networks and spaces for social interaction can combat isolation, reinforcing the importance of fostering connections among elderly women.

The journey of enhancing well-being and inclusivity for elderly women in Itedo Community stands as a testament to the transformative impact of community-driven initiatives. CGE Africa's commitment, coupled with funding from Global Affairs Canada through ActionAid Nigeria, has rekindled hope and unity among the elderly in Itedo Community. By tailoring interventions to their unique needs and fostering social connections, a brighter future has been ushered in for a generation that deserves to live their later years with dignity, respect, and a sense of purpose.

Testimonial 1:

The ActionAid Women's Voice and Leadership Project has given a voice to women at the grassroots in Nigeria enabling their voices to be heard. The project has also brought about increased channel of GBV reporting thereby breaking the culture of silence in Alimosho community.

The ActionAid Women's Voice and Leadership Project has enabled WRAHP to have strengthened institutional capacity and given WRAHP a strategic focus. In Alimosho community, there are now Anti-SGBV Community who report cases to WRAHP and Ireti Resource Center through various channels: walk-in, phone-in, social media handles and also refer other survivors. We here below a testimonial from one of the beneficiaries:

“Women's Rights and Health Project (WRAHP) has been of tremendous blessing to the communities of Egbe-Idimu LCDA and Alimosho in general through her various community engagement, sensitization and awareness programmes on the various aspects concerning women's rights, child abuse and other forms of gender-based violence. The location of her office Ireti Resource Center has also helped to allow our members' access to justice and information on SGBV. WRAHP also encourages community participation in her activities by training & engaging community leaders. For example, I was part of her

five-year strategic planning meeting held in FESTAC in September, 2020. We also have lots of our members who are trained to facilitate dissemination of information on SGBV to the local communities. From the security desk, we also get reports that the rate of SGBV is being curtailed as a result of awareness and access to justice through WRAHP”.

Hon. Rabi A. Kazeem (CDC Chairman, Egbe-Idimu)

First Success Story

✓ Justice is Served: Convictions for perpetrators of SGBV

- i. *Conviction 1: On the 16th of February 2023, WRAHP got a conviction for one of its survivors in a judgement delivered by Justice R.A Oshodi of the Sexual Offence Court, Ikeja. The perpetrator Oluwapamilerinayo Eniola was sentenced to life imprisonment for the rape of a 24year old lady in 2021. The perpetrator has been registered in the Sexual offender's register accordingly.*
- ii. *Conviction 2: On the 9th of March 2023. WRAHP got a conviction for one of its survivors in a judgment delivered by Justice Sholadoye of the Sexual Offences Court 43, Ikeja. The perpetrator ISMAIL ABDULMODIU was convicted and sentenced to Life imprisonment for the defilement of one Miss R. The perpetrator's name has been registered in the sexual offenders Register as maintained by Lagos State.*



Second Success Story

✓ Government Recognition

In recognition of WRAHP's commitment and impact in addressing sexual and gender-based violence in Lagos Communities, the Office of the Lagos State Government through the First Lady of Lagos State, Dr. Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu donated a brand-new Black Bus to WRAHP on the 10th of December, 2021

Third Success Story

Mile 12 Market

Mile 12 International Market is the landing place for vegetables in Lagos State. Because of its uniqueness, the market houses major tribes in Nigeria. The market faced significant challenges with sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). In an effort to address this critical issue, a dedicated task force on SGBV

was inaugurated. This strategic move marked the beginning of a transformative journey towards reducing the incidence of SGBV in the market.

The task force launched extensive awareness campaigns to educate market traders and visitors about SGBV, its impact, and the importance of reporting cases. These campaigns included workshops, flyers, posters, and community meetings. The Task Force collaborated with local law enforcement agencies, which resulted in the cases of SGBV being promptly investigated and prosecuted. This partnership enhanced the accountability and deterrence mechanisms within the market.

Since the inauguration of the Task Force, the reported incidents of SGBV have dropped significantly, and the market community has become more vigilant and proactive in preventing SGBV, with many traders participating in awareness activities and training sessions.

Fourth Success Story

NNEW was exposed to various institutional capacity strengthening by the WVL project intervention. As a result of the capacity building that came along with the project, NNEW now has an eight-month project with Alive & Thrive Nigeria. NNEW was asked to come up with another area of intervention to be funded by Alive & Thrive. Another support was also received for a multimillion-naira BRAVE Women Nigeria project to be sponsored by Bank of Industry Nigeria. In addition, another project support from Development Research and Projects Centre (dRPC), where NNEW was assigned to lead a consortium of women's organizations in Lagos to conduct advocacy with state governments to improve access to funding and livelihood opportunities for economically active women.

Fifth Success Story

An Open Door for Partnership

Women Radio 91.7 an organisation with a goal to amplify the voices of women and push for women's development started up with little to no funding and partnership. When Women joined the Women Voice and Leadership Nigeria project in 2019, Women Radio had no proper organizational structure guiding the affairs of the organisation. Prior to the WVL-N project through ActionAid Nigeria with funding from Global Affairs Canada we had no visibility from donor agencies and our works were not properly highlighted. Today Women Radio is one of the leading women organisations recognized in Africa for funding and collaborations. We now have a database of women network in the 6 geopolitical zones and still being populated.

Women Radio was recognized and nominated by National Broadcasting Commission in 2023 as outstanding radio station for the year. Women Radio have continuously organised several conferences for Nigeria women with aim of pushing the woman agenda and promote equality.

“Women Radio appreciates ActionAid Nigeria for recognizing our potentials and building our capacity over the years with institutional support, we are where we are today because of the WVL-N project with funding from the Global Affairs Canada through ActionAid Nigeria. We hope for the continuation of the WVL-N project in Nigeria and to be part of it” – Toun Okewale Sonaiya (CEO WOMEN RADIO)

Sixth Success Story

The Men's Conversation

Through the Women Radio's several conversations around Sexual and Gender Based Violence and Women's inclusion. Mr Ambetter Kalu (Name withheld) a man who had no prior knowledge of the danger women face in the society and how violence has affected women in several stages of their lives, spoke about how the Radio programme was an eye opener and how he felt women were overly emotional and overbearing and just wants to become men.

Through the Women Voice and Leadership Nigeria project funded by Global Affairs Canada through ActionAid Nigeria, Women Radio was able to change the stereotype mindset of men like Mr Ambetter Kalu and bring to light things hidden. Mr Ambetter Kalu now a regular caller on radio uses his voice to advocate for women and promote inclusion of women in politics among others

"As a man, I realised through this programme that women are really vulnerable in our world, I can comfortably move around with no fear anywhere but women do not feel safe, I have a daughter and I want her to have a safe community free of violence"- Mr Ambetter Kalu (Real name withheld).

Seventh Success Story

Changing The Narrative: A Programme Giving Voice to The Voiceless

In Lagos and Ogun where cases of violence are rampant, women and girls hardly have a voice due to stigmatisation, girls were constantly in danger of Sexual and gender-based violence day in day out. Women Radio through the Women Voice and Leadership- Nigeria project with support from Action Aid Nigeria and funding of the Global Affairs Canada, found the need to sensitise women and girls on gender-based violence, discrimination and their causes.

The radio programme "HerVoice" was launched in 2019 by Women Radio to condemn all forms of discrimination against women and girls and address issues of gender-based violence in Nigeria. "Hervoice" gave a voice to the vulnerable to report cases of violence, discrimination and also ensure women have a safe community where they matter and air their views.

At the initial stage of the programme, Grandma Olayinka (Name withheld) a 60-year-old woman who experienced violence in different forms blamed herself and considered it normal, because this was the norm she met in her community and was raised in, she never believed women should be heard. However, after being a regularly listener on the show, she had a changed perspective and started airing her views, now she comfortably speaks and contribute to talks on SGBV on radio.

"This radio programme opened my eyes to a lot of things ignored and now I have found my voice and have begun to encourage women in my community to do same" - Grandma Olawale (Real name withheld).

Eight Success Story

Holistic Well-being Parties: Transforming Lives Through Tailored Physical Activities

CGE Africa's well-being parties, shaped by a comprehensive toolkit, integrate nutrition, social engagement, physical activities, and nature's therapeutic benefits, fostering a holistic well-being environment. An exemplary success story arises from our focus on tailored physical activities, notably impacting Mrs. Emily Beremuh, who, after a stroke in 2009, experienced significant improvement in her

body's movement and regained independence. This success underscores the effectiveness of our approach in promoting physical well-being and recovery. Our purposeful and targeted initiatives have not only created a supportive environment, fostering connection and rejuvenation but have also brought substantial improvements to the daily lives of our beneficiaries. Mrs. Beremuh's testimony encapsulates this impact: *'Since I started attending the well-being parties and applying what I learned, I have been able to improve movement in the side of my body that is stiff due to the stroke I suffered in 2009.'*

Ninth Success Story

Fostering Community and Connection Through the Senior Women Association

Expanding our project's impact, we introduced the Senior Women Association (SEWA), a pivotal element transforming the lives of older women, as seen in Mrs. Victoria Tomasa's uplifting story. SEWA provides Mrs. Tomasa with vital outings, fostering social interactions crucial to her well-being. The success of SEWA breaks the isolation often linked with aging, emphasizing the positive impact of creating a space for older women to connect, share experiences, and build meaningful friendships. Mrs. Tomasa's story showcases that aging can be a time of community, connection, and shared joy, reinforcing our commitment to promoting physical well-being, social inclusion, and happiness for older women in our communities.

"I look forward to every SEWA meeting, it is the outing I have, other days I am in my home. The meeting brings me so much joy! At least I talk with women my age and they are happy to talk with me" –Mrs. Victoria Tomasa.

6.0 CHALLENGES & MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Challenges	Mitigation strategies
Erratic Government Policies: Naira Notes redesign and removal of fuel subsidies late to dramatic increases in prizes affecting administrative and program staff and even staff of WRAHP.	We Adopted Hybrid operations to address challenge of increased administrative and program cost. We reviewed some of the activities and staff were made to work remotely from home on some days.
Poor Economic background of most survivors coming to the Irete Resource Center	Provision of refreshments and transport support for such survivors coming to the Irete Resource Center. Also, linkages to economic empowerment programs by other organizations and palliative support
Survivors requiring multiple services which could not be provided by Irete Resource e.g. economic empowerment, temporary shelter etc.	We adopted an integrated approach towards case management through partnership and multisectoral collaboration with other partners e.g. Lagos State Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, civil society organizations providing such services
Witness Cooperation: While most witnesses cooperated well, there were sometimes challenges in getting crucial witnesses, the investigating police officers (IPOs), to court for testify.	We took proactive measures and engaged in intensive follow up activities to ensure presence of the witnesses in court on the next scheduled dates.
Long Adjournment Dates: Lengthy adjournment dates set by the courts caused delays in the trial processes, which were frustrating for the parties involved and prolonged the legal proceedings.	Continued advocacy with the Lagos state Ministry of Justice and working closely with the State Domestic and Sexual Violence Response Agency.
Delays in Filing of Information: In some cases, there were delays in filing the information at the High Courts by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), causing significant stalls in the proceedings.	WRAHP followed up with the Lagos State Authorities diligently to ensure that the filing of information at the High Courts were promptly executed before the next scheduled court dates. This contributed to expedite the cases and reduced further delays.
Absence of Defendants in courts: Sometimes we faced challenges when the defendants were presented on courts dates	Engaged the services of lawyers for Watching Briefs to ensure we don't miss out on such cases when defendants eventually appear

Low staff remuneration resulting in High staff Attrition especially by CBOs	Ongoing orientation, mentoring and coaching for newly engaged staff/volunteers of CBOs both virtually and physical visits to their offices
Delay in submission of Reports by CBOs	Training on Report and Documentation and direct supervision and reviews of reports
Delay in disbursement of Funds	Merging the time lines for the implementation of activities e.g. combining quarters 1 and two activities
General High overhead cost due to erratic power supply	Ensuring as much as possible staff work on activities needing alternative power supply at the same time and reduction on the operational time for use of generator. However, the Inverter to be purchased though Action Aid support will be an added value.
The culture of silence and stigmatisation still predominant as many women are not open to sharing their stories and using their stories to call for action from key stakeholders	Continuous advocacy on radio on encouraging women to speak up and be brave
Fluctuation of economy affecting budgets and expenses	Cut down on some project activities to accommodate new realities and fit the budget
Political biases in inclusion of women in positions	Continuous advocacy on the 5-gender bill and its passage by the senate house.
Technological challenges in terms of internet	Leveraging on virtual platform and new technologies to facilitate radio programmes
Operational challenges with increase in fuel price	Exploring alternative power supply.
High Staff turnover due to small admin cost was	Increase in Admin fees helped to address the challenge.

7.0 KEY STRATEGIC LESSONS

Operational Lessons

- Multiyear granting is effective in project sustainability.
- Combination of funding for programs and institutional capacity strengthening is most effective in making local women's rights organizations and community-based organizations viable and sustainable.
- Capacity building programs are most effective as ongoing initiatives (including on the job mentoring and coaching) rather than one off formal training.
- Sub-granting and management of CBOs is painstaking and requires a high level of technical skills at the administrative, financial and program levels to succeed.
- Having a clearly defined partnership policy is crucial in identifying and engaging with partners in a mutually beneficial and sustainable relationships. Roles and Responsibilities of partners must be defined and adhered to at all times.
- Establishing clear, achievable goals and detailed project plans is crucial for keeping the project on track. Regularly revisiting and adjusting these plans helps accommodate unforeseen challenges and ensures continuous progress.
- Maintaining open and regular communication within the project team and with stakeholders ensures everyone is aligned and informed about the project's status, challenges, and achievements.
- Efficiently managing and allocating resources, including time, budget, and personnel, is crucial for the successful implementation of project activities.

Thematic areas

- When GBV cases are not promptly followed up once reported, the survivor is exposed to pressure from family members, community structures and other stakeholders in the community to remain with the violent intimate partner or not to seek justice. This situation clearly demonstrates the need for sustained efforts towards promoting prompt reporting and scaling up access to justice related services by survivors.
- Access to a psychosocial support center located within the community increases reporting on cases of SGBV by survivors. This has been our experience at the Ireti Resource Center that has witnessed increased reporting since it became operational in September 2020. For instance, from January 2019 to December 2019, WRAHP received a total of 46 reported cases, while A total of 224 clients (200 females and 24 males) were received at the Center between January 1, 2022-December 1, 2022
- There is need to combine provision of psychosocial support services for survivors with economic empowerment programs. This will help to reduce dependency on their male partners and the tendency to remain in abusive relationships for economic survival.
- Community engagement (traditional rulers, community leaders, women and youth leaders etc) is crucial for effective SGBV prevention and response at the grassroots level.
- Improved access to justice for vulnerable women, children, juveniles, persons with disabilities, and victims of sexual-based gender violence require a reformation of the current legal processes to ensure speedy and cost-effective dispensation of justice to perpetrators.

- Actively involving market leaders, in the planning and implementation phases of project ensures strong partnership and project ownership by market women.
- Providing micro-financing options or grants directly to women can empower them economically, leading to greater autonomy and decision-making power within their communities.

Strategic Lessons

- Providing targeted leadership training for women significantly enhances their confidence, skills, and ability to take on leadership roles. Structured programs that include mentorship, skill-building workshops, and practical leadership experiences are particularly effective.
- Establishing support networks and mentorship programs where experienced female leaders guide and support emerging leaders can have a transformative impact. These networks provide a platform for sharing experiences, challenges, and strategies for success.
- Providing comprehensive support services for GBV survivors, including legal aid, psychological counseling, and medical assistance, is crucial for their recovery and empowerment.
- Working closely with community mobilizers who have good understanding of the project's intricacies significantly enhances its sustainability of intervention programs targeted at elderly women.
- Strong Partnership with government entities to implement and enact policies that benefit project beneficiaries ensures sustainability for elderly women projects. Our successful partnership with LAMATA is an example of this approach.

8.0 SUSTAINING THE IMPACT

A. Organizational Level		
Key Sustainability Domain	Actions to be Taken	Expected Results
Project Report and Documentation	Production of a comprehensive narrative report of the WVL project, highlighting the processes, accomplishments, challenges, lessons learnt and Recommendations	Existence of hard copy and e-copy report for Institutional Memory
	Production of a comprehensive project financial report with all supporting documentations with summary narrative highlighting the challenges of financial sub-granting and making retirements	Existence of hard copy and e-copy financial report.
In-house Staff Reflection Meeting	One day reflection meeting by WRAHP Team to reflect on learnings from the project.	Shared understanding of lessons from the project by WRAHP Team. Documentation of lessons learnt to guide future implementation of similar projects
Organizational Policies, Manuals and Documents	Constantly ensure these are available to new staff as part of their orientation after their engagement. Develop new policies and manuals relevant to WRAHP's work	Continuous used of existing policies and new emerging ones to guide operational procedures
Broad Scale Project Experience Sharing with stake holders (state and non-state actors) to promote replication and scaling up	Use of WRAHP's websites and other social media platforms. Use documentary on the impact of the WVL project to engage more stakeholders News letter publications to continuously update stakeholders and donors on scaling up activities	Replication and scaling up of the project by other stake holders from state and non-state actors across Nigeria Engaging more stake holders in project sustainability

SGBV Laws and Policies	Ongoing Simplification and dissemination of existing and new emerging laws and policies	Increased Public support for SGBV prevention and response and better understanding and application of the laws
Provision of survivor centered psychosocial support services and legal aid services at the Ireti Resource Center	<p>Ongoing provision of survivor centered services at Ireti Resource Center</p> <p>Expanding scope of services at Ireti Resource center to include livelihood empowerment for women and girls survivors of violence and academic scholarships for children affected by abuse who drop out of school.</p> <p>Ongoing diversified fundraising activities (e.g. Breakfast meeting, Opportunity Markets etc. towards Sustainability of Service Delivery at Ireti Resource Center</p> <p>Production and dissemination of flyers on services available at the Resource Center</p>	Sustainability and scaling up of services at Ireti Resource Center
B. COMMUNITY LEVEL		
Key Sustainability Domain	Actions to be Taken	Expected Results
Community level SGBV response	<p>Ongoing Community Legal Clinic</p> <p>Ongoing Advocacy activities with Community Development Committee (CDC) Leaders and other Traditional Rulers</p> <p>Ongoing community sensitization and referrals by trained Male and Young Women Community SGBV Advocates/Ambassadors</p>	Sustained community engagement on SGBV prevention and response

	<p>Follow up with Traditional Rulers in Alimosho LGA on harmonization of local laws with legal provisions to end SGBV</p> <p>Sensitization on Child Rights, Child Abuse and Reporting Mechanisms of Gender-Based Violence, menstrual hygiene for secondary school students in Alimosho LGA</p>	
Partnerships with Local Organisations to sustain radio programing	By partnering with local organisations and institutions, we ensure that there is a local support system in place to continue project activities and objectives.	Project sustainability
Community Ownership of Radio programing for women	Throughout the project and radio programmes, we have emphasized the importance of community ownership. By involving community members in decision-making processes and project implementation, we have fostered a sense of responsibility and commitment to sustaining the project's impact.	Fostering a sense of responsibility and commitment to sustaining the project's impact.
C. LOCAL GOVERNMMET LEVEL		
Key Sustainability Domain	Actions to be Taken	Expected Results
SGBV response at the LGA Level	<p>Advocacy meeting with Traditional Rulers LGA Chairmen of 3 LGAs on harmonization of local laws with legal provisions to end SGBV and support for SGBV response.</p> <p>Sensitization on Child Rights, Child Abuse, menstrual hygiene and Reporting Mechanisms of Gender-Based</p>	Expanding the frontiers of SGBV response to other LGAs beyond Alimosho

	Violence for 5 secondary school students in 5 LGAs	
D. STATE LEVEL		
Key Sustainability Domain	Actions to be Taken	Expected Results
Government Agencies and Ministries	<p>Advocacy visits to relevant ministries and agencies</p> <p>Participation in state level SGBV programs</p> <p>Sustaining ongoing partnership with Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Response Agency. And the Office of the First Lady</p>	<p>Sustained partnerships with Govt Ministries and Agencies.</p> <p>Linkages of SGBV survivors to services provided by the government eg economic empowerment programs and shelter for those in need.</p>
Mentorship and Management of CBOs	Scaling up CBO management and mentorship to reach other CBOs outside Lagos State and expanding the target population for diversity and inclusion to reach CBOs led by men and persons with disabilities.	Documentation of impact and lessons learnt from the CBO perspectives
Law Enforcement Agencies	Advocacy visit the Lagos State Commissioner of Police and other Police Commands	More effective engagement by Law Enforcement Agencies to SGBV response
Networking/Partnerships with other CSOs	<p>Joint advocacy activities with other CSOs</p> <p>Participation in partnerships and networking meetings and programs</p> <p>Establishment of a movement of Local Women Rights Organizations in Nigeria (Lagos State Chapter)</p>	Networking and partnerships strengthened with CSOs.
Advocating for Supportive Policies for Women's Radio programming	Women's Radio has actively engaged in policy advocacy to secure governmental support for the project's objectives. This includes lobbying for policies that promote gender	Strong partnership with the government

	balance, women's leadership, and protection against gender-based violence (GBV).	
Online Resource Platforms to promote broader Radio reach	Online platforms have been established to provide ongoing access to resources, training materials, and support networks.	Expanding reach/coverage

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE PROJECT

Addressing sexual and Gender based violence

- Continuous provision of survivor centred psychosocial support services for SGBV survivors is crucial in addressing violence against women and girls.
- Expanding scope of services to include livelihood empowerment for survivors, academic scholarships for children affected by abuses will assist in reducing women financial dependence on their spouses and ultimately reduce violence against women
- Strong community partnerships/community ownership of SGBV intervention programs is an effective strategy for addressing all forms of violence against women and girls at the community level.
- Gender based violence intervention should be tailored to address existing realities in a particular community. The community should be engaged all through the project phases- design, planning, implementation. Monitoring and evaluation.
- Men when empowered with positive masculinity are great allies in combating violence against women and girls.
- The principle of inclusion (leaving no one/population behind) should be adopted in programming to end violence against women and girls.
- Combination of institutional capacity strengthening and program support is crucial for local women organizations/CBOs to remain viable in addressing violence against women and girls in a more sustainable manner.

Women Economic Empowerment Programs

- Engage the State Market Boards, Local Government officials, market leaders, and beneficiaries in the planning and implementation processes to ensure diverse representation and sustainability.
- Consolidate the good strategy of Conducting Needs Assessment to identify specific needs, barriers, and priorities of local women's rights organizations before project design, planning and implementation as this is crucial to ensure project relevance.
- Sustainable Livelihood Programs: Develop and support sustainable livelihood programs that provide economic opportunities for community members, particularly women. This can include vocational training, microfinance, and entrepreneurship support.
- Financial Literacy: Incorporate financial literacy training to empower individuals to manage their finances effectively and make informed economic decisions

Radio Programming addressing gender equality and women's rights:

1. Enhanced Capacity Building

- Continuous Skill Development: Future projects should include ongoing capacity-building programmes to continuously enhance the skills of community members and stakeholders. This can involve periodic workshops, online courses, and hands-on training sessions.

2. Expanding Partnerships

- **Diverse Collaborations:** Establish diverse partnerships with government agencies, NGOs, local businesses, and international organizations. These collaborations can provide additional resources, expertise, and support.
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Explore opportunities for public-private partnerships to leverage resources and expertise from both sectors for greater impact.

3. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

- **Inclusive Practices:** Ensure that future projects are inclusive and equitable, addressing the needs of marginalized groups, including women, youth, and people with disabilities.
- **Gender Mainstreaming:** Integrate gender perspectives into all project activities to promote gender equality and empower women.

4. Utilizing Technology

- **Digital Tools and Platforms:** Leverage digital tools and platforms for communication, training, and monitoring. These technologies can enhance efficiency and reach, particularly in remote areas.
- **Innovation in Delivery:** Explore innovative methods for delivering project activities, such as mobile-based training, virtual workshops, and e-learning platforms.

Socio-Economic Empowerment of the Elderly.

- It will be more strategic to have more funding support spread over fewer years.

10.0 CONCLUSION/APPRECIATION



The Lagos State Project Implementers of the Women's Voice and Leadership Nigeria Project express sincere appreciation to the Executive Governor of Lagos State, His Excellency Babajide Sanwo-Olu and the Government of Lagos State, Traditional and Community Leaders, Development Partners, Media and other stake holders for the strong partnership over the 5- year period (2019-2024) to impact the lives of women and girls in our Center of Excellence, Lagos State.

Our sincere appreciation also goes to Global Affairs Canada and ActionAid Nigeria for the funding support of this initiative. We look to sustaining this partnership with all relevant stakeholders and to consolidating and scaling up this laudable initiative in Lagos State.

ANNEXE

Media Links/Knowledge Products

WVL-N WRAHP's 5-Year Impact Documentary

Short Version	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-38MebTJ4antI_E26VhkYUtb55NkRM66/view?usp=drive_link
Original Version	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1beeS9RebD8D7nMx_U7Tek2SqyOaEmqa0/view?usp=drive_link
Audio Jingles for Year 5	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12zfst_qjnr8Q9v764iMvdes6sS6Q2nrg?usp=drive_link

Social Media Reach (2019-2024)- 1,064, 139

Social Media Platform	Reach
Facebook	659, 096
Instagram	351, 249
LinkedIn	24,943
Twitter (X)	28,851

Traditional Media Links

News Agency of Nigeria	Community Legal Clinic for PWDs in Alimosho LGA	https://thenewslineng.wordpress.com/2023/06/21/ngo-offers-free-legal-services-to-50-pwd-in-lagos/
First News	Community Legal Clinic for PWDs in Alimosho LGA	https://firstnewsng.com/in-bid-to-address-gbv-other-abuses-wrahp-takes-legal-clinic-to-pwds-in-lagos
Vanguard Newspaper	CBO M&E Training	https://www.vanguardngr.com/2023/01/sgbv-wrahp-empowers-cbos-harps-on-result-oriented-projects/
First News	CBO M&E Training	https://firstnewsng.com/wrahp-builds-capacity-of-women-rights-cbos-on-basic-monitoring-evaluation-others
Vanguard Newspaper	Breakfast Meeting	https://www.vanguardngr.com/2023/09/centre-seeks-financial-support-to-fight-sgbv-cyberbullying-others/

First News	Breakfast Meeting	https://firstnewsonline.ng/wrahp-appeals-for-financial-support-to-combat-gbv-and-empower-vulnerable-individuals
The Nations Newspaper	Breakfast Meeting	https://thenationonlineng.net/women-battle-vulnerability-to-sgbv/
Daily Independent Newspaper	VSLA Training	https://independent.ng/wrahp-trains-cbos-on-village-savings-loan-association-scheme/
First News	Community Legal Clinic	https://firstnewsonline.ng/wrahp-explores-different-legal-frameworks-to-enlighten-lagosians-about-their-rights
First News	Community Legal Clinic	https://firstnewsonline.ng/wrahp-takes-community-legal-clinic-to-ayobo-ipaja-lcda
Times News Global	LOWAN Training	https://nnn.ng/ngo-trains-20-female-e-hailing-drivers-on-tackling-gender-based-violence/
Health Daily	Community Legal Clinic	https://healthdailyng.com/ngo-trains-provides-legal-aids-to-lagos-communities/
First News	CBO Leadership Training for CEOs and Mid-Level Managers	https://firstnewsonline.ng/women-voice-and-leadership-project-wrahp-trains-actionaid-nigeria-cbo-partners
Ogun Today	Community Legal Clinic	https://oguntoday.com/ngo-trains-provides-legal-aids-to-lagos-communities/
First News	Community Legal Clinic for PWDs in Lagos	https://firstnewsonline.ng/in-bid-to-address-gbv-other-abuses-wrahp-takes-legal-clinic-to-pwds-in-lagos
Newsline	Community Legal Clinic for PWDs in Lagos	https://thenewslineng.wordpress.com/2023/06/21/ngo-offers-free-legal-services-to-50-pwd-in-lagos/

Media Links for Lagos State WVL Close Out & Dissemination forum

MEDIA HOUSE	ACTIVITY	LINKS
News Agency of Nigeria	Closeout/Dissemination event	https://thenewslineng.wordpress.com/2024/07/12/wvl-n-project-minister-lauds-actionaid-for-support-on-women-girls-issues/

Ogun Today	Closeout/Dissemination event	https://oguntoday.com/wvl-n-project-minister-lauds-actionaid-for-support-on-women-girls-issues/
Citizen Compass	Closeout/Dissemination event	https://www.citizenscompassngr.com/minister-commends-actionaid-for-supporting-nigerian-women/
First News	Closeout/Dissemination event	https://firstnewsonline.ng/wrahp-builds-capacity-of-women-rights-cbos-on-basic-monitoring-evaluation-others
WFM	Closeout/Dissemination event	https://wfm917.com/2024/07/15/actionaid-nigerias-wvl-n-project-impacts-over-3-5-million-in-lagos-state/
Daily Trust	Closeout/Dissemination event	https://dailytrust.com/71-per-cent-of-trafficked-victims-are-women-naptip/

INSTAGRAM

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/Cj-n294DMFB/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/Cj7UoLEjz5z/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/Cj2bn5zDbQu/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
<https://www.instagram.com/reel/CjsZKIVjUZq/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
<https://www.instagram.com/reel/CIN4INMABzB/?igshid=ZmVmZTY5ZGE=>
https://www.instagram.com/p/CIECxwyDdp_/?igshid=ZmVmZTY5ZGE=
<https://www.instagram.com/p/Ck-kbVljnYH/?igshid=ZmVmZTY5ZGE=>
<https://www.instagram.com/reel/Ckz8Js4jEHZ/?igshid=ZmVmZTY5ZGE=>
<https://www.instagram.com/reel/CmhFaT5BP7w/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CmhE9rdDXhq/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CmYtlqDWUB/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
<https://www.instagram.com/reel/CmJGS1SjJRF/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

FACEBOOK

<https://fb.watch/gmc9cM6Wh2/>
https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0286kxgFUajYkeFJEyXRWjjbvrMAS7MderB7kpHEWe1goZiP1xPpXHhi1UdFPRXVEal&id=100064067800912
https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0KH94RUbc4GKkR9wpbagx8Dit6aybzkv9WbJhgwtm6zC5YUBBYEGxijp3QY7nW5uUl&id=100064067800912

<https://fb.watch/gmcmVKrQGT/>

https://fb.watch/g_RrxJy7N2/

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0hvWySAdJD6CQo7XxFo8KsQFSYpWRpHFj91xgtYaeX8niUB9cBnuzWvoMRtEsLAtbl&id=100064067800912&mibextid=Nif5oz

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0c74LZvVhYikjfFqAWcC1hSACZFyh4PKxULHMXgqXPCXzeMeNvZtW9vi2M58FswTl&id=100064067800912&mibextid=Nif5oz

https://fb.watch/g_RUNWwIG0/

<https://www.facebook.com/100064067800912/posts/pfbid0dsxJctX8XqBdvUV7zZ7gf2SfDWaDeRGdHBQpk7mMSecyYaeM7Ui9Q4U1NzdMCQiBl/?app=fbl>

YOUTUBE

https://youtube.com/shorts/uF8_vmmbbn4?feature=share

<https://youtu.be/yXmCduR3ipI>

<https://youtu.be/OuZ1aBVfKNk>

<https://youtu.be/ptjwfP-x3uY>

<https://youtube.com/shorts/OiC86B0jnvY?feature=share>

<https://youtu.be/ptjwfP-x3uY>

https://youtube.com/shorts/uF8_vmmbbn4?feature=share

<https://youtu.be/yXmCduR3ipI>

<https://youtu.be/OuZ1aBVfKNk>

<https://youtu.be/ptjwfP-x3uY>

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	Benjamin Alade
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The Guardian Newspaper, March 23, 2021	Group Seeks Policy Inclusion for Elderly Women Benjamin Alade
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