

CHALLENGES

1. High prevalence of Sexual a Gender-Based Violence.
2. Absence of women and girls friendly SRH center.
3. A limited number of Health Service Providers.
4. Poorly trained Health Service Providers on SGBV.
5. Absence of a Safe Space (Rescue Home) for SGBV Survivors.
6. Poor implementation of the VAPP Act in FCT, particularly at IDP camps
7. Low skill acquisition level amongst IDP women.
8. Poor knowledge of policies and laws that protect the rights of women and girls

EXPECTED BENEFITS

1. Reduction in cases of SGBV.
2. Improved access and utilization of SRHR information and services.
3. Community stakeholders are strengthened to become champions against SGBV.
4. Improved skills would empower women to make better choices relating to their health and wellbeing.

REQUIRED ACTIONS

- Recruit and train the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Rapid Response team in the Internally Displaced Person Camps.
- Increase funding for overhead running costs, especially for the health personnel in the IDP.
- Create safe spaces for survivors of SGBV in the IDP camps.
- Improve synergy and collaboration among key ministries, departments, and agencies focusing on the implementation of programs on SGBV.
- Provide comprehensive SRH services and kits to survivors of SGBV.
- Strengthen sensitization on SGBV laws and Policies at the IDP CAMPS.
- Provide vocational skill training for women and girls in the IDP to promote empowerment.
- Create a functional structure for law enforcement agents within the IDP Camp community.
- Ensure constant education for law enforcement agents in response to SGBV within the IDP camp.
- Provide media advocacy on SGBV for IDP camp residents

GOAL:

To ensure access and utilization of quality sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information and services for women and girls in internally displaced persons' camp.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV) IN WASSA IDP CAMP

POLICY BRIEF

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BACKGROUND

The crisis in northeast Nigeria has created vulnerabilities and humanitarian concerns since the first Boko Haram insurgency in 2009. The conflict has resulted in the destruction of health facilities and the displacement of women and girls, including 1.7 million women of childbearing age, isolating them from necessary reproductive health services. Abduction and sexual violence are defining characteristics of the ongoing conflict, with 6 in 10 women in the northeast having experienced gender-based violence (GBV), (UNFPA 2018).

Wassa Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp, FCT Nigeria is one of the various camps that house these displaced persons. It has a population of approximately 5,572 IDPs and 821 households from Borno (82% of the total population), Adamawa (12% of the total population), and Yobe (6% of the total population) in the north-east of Nigeria. About 70% of the total population are children and young women of reproductive age with most of them bearing more than 6 children before age 25.

According to United Nations (2019), lack of family planning services results in gender inequality restricting the empowerment of women and girls, and lack of good health hence the need for these services to become accessible in the camp as there is a high birth rate in the camp. Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR) information covers both family planning services and SGBV, which is important as these women have also mentioned cases of SBGV being found among them.

CURRENT SITUATIONS

The Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) and Child Rights Acts are laws that are nationally recognized but unfortunately, not operationalizing these acts could lead to a lack of access to SRHR information and services arising from poor political will, lack of budget allocation, and release, etc. According to the need assessment survey conducted in the camp in May 2022, 7 in 10 women do not have any knowledge about any SGBV law/policy even though 98% of the women are willing to be educated on SGBV. 8 out of 10 women do not know about a committee that supports women and girls that experienced rape, unfortunately, 47% of women and girls in the camp believe they can experience SGBV in the camp. The survey shows that 94.79% of the people affected by SGBV in the camp are women and girls.

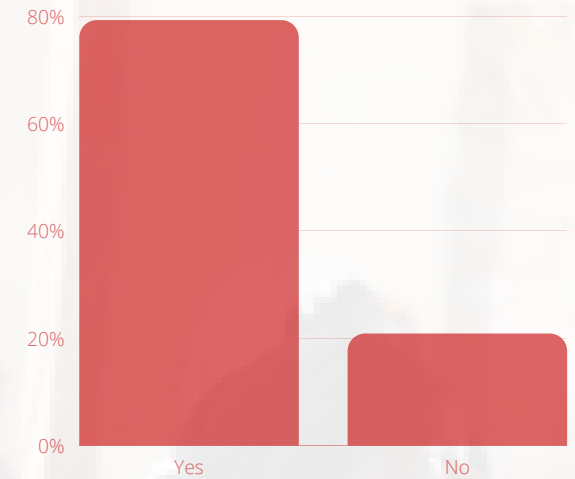


Figure1.0 Only 21% of respondents reported that they are knowledgeable about organizations that focus on SGBV in the Camp

This shows a great need for an intervention in expanding and equipping these women's knowledge on SRHR including access to equitable and quality services.

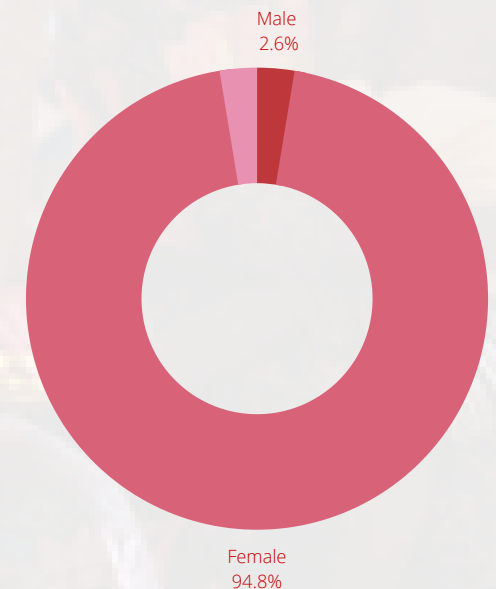


Figure1.1 Data showing that respondents believe that females are mostly affected by SGBV