

WOMEN INFORMATION NETWORK (WINET)

2021 Annual Report



Photo by WINET

...inspired to uplift women and youths for a fruitful life in the society

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ACRONYMS

GAC – Global Affairs Canada

MANR- Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources

PWDs – Persons with Disabilities

SGBV – Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

SRHR – Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights

WINET – Women Information Network

WVL-N -Women's Voice and Leadership Nigeria Project

INCORPORATED TRUSTEES

Hon. Justice Cordelia Chukwurah (Rtd) - Chairperson

Emeka Maduegbuna (Mr.) - Treasurer

Nkem Menkiti (Miss) –Human Resource

Winifred I. Nzegwu (Barr.) - Legal

Miriam Menkiti (Mrs.) - Secretary

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Nkem Menkiti

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Uju Onyemelukwe (Miss) -

Miriam Menkiti (Mrs.) - Secretary

Executive Director

Miriam Menkiti

WINET TEAM

Ijeoma Obinna-Onwuka - Programme Manager

Chinelo Dim- Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation/Gender Desk Officer

Bridget Chiedu- Accountant

Joy Okeke - Human Resource /Communication Officer

Alfred Ajayi - Volunteer

Nnadozie Oshigbo - Volunteer

Vivian Eze – Volunteer

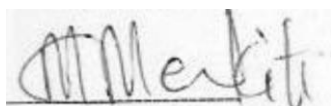
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPEAKS

For us in Women Information Network, the year 2021 was quite busy.

We say thank you to all our partners who have supported us to achieve our target areas of sustained enlightenment campaigns towards ending violence against women/girls and gender-based violence in the communities in Enugu State, promoting the right to be a girl by offering scholarships to three hundred and twenty-five girls in Enugu State and in educating women with disabilities on human rights and the procedure for enforcement.

We mention particularly ActionAid Nigeria funded by Global Affairs Canada under Women's Voice and Leadership Nigeria project, African Women's Development fund, Mundo Cooperante of Spain, Solidaridad West Africa and AmplifyChange.

We appreciate the commitment of our Incorporated Trustees, Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and consultants for always being available to support our work.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Miriam Menkiti', written over a horizontal line.

Miriam Menkiti (Mrs.)
Executive Director

Who we are and what we do?

Women Information Network (WINET) is a women's rights, media focused, non-governmental and non-profit organization established in January 2000. It is registered with Corporate Affairs Commission of Nigeria in 2002 as: RC: 14892.

WINET works towards the dissemination of information to promote gender equality, women's rights, human and political rights and ensures that Nigerian women and girls have access to information that will enable them to make informed decisions.

The organization carries out training for women and girls, conducts media advocacy, disseminates information on all issues relating to the advancement of women's rights in the society and implements peace building activities.

WINET has over the years carried out activities to empower various categories of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) to access justice through the courts, empowered hearing-impaired youths with information on their human rights and women and girls on their sexual reproductive health and rights and human rights as well as the procedure for enforcement.

WINET has taken actions to condemn and combat Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) in the society and engaged in campaigns to promote women's inclusion in leadership at the community level.

Studies conducted by WINET include Online Study on The Most Prevalent Types of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence during the COVID-19 Lockdown March–August in Enugu State, Nigeria (2020); Child and Forced Marriages in Ebenebe Community, Anambra State of Nigeria (2016); Persons with Disabilities and Access to Justice in Enugu State (2014), Utilization of Customary Courts in Enugu State of Nigeria (2012), and Women's Reproductive Rights in Enugu State, Nigeria (2006).

Vision: WINET seeks an informed society where women know, exercise and enjoy their rights, while performing their duties and obligations.

Mission is to uplift Nigerians especially women, young people and persons with disabilities by providing them with information and support to enable them live fruitful lives.

Aims and Objectives include to:

- Inform, educate and create awareness on women's issues including human rights, as well as promote and protect rights.
- Campaign for ending sexual and gender-based violence against women, girls and people with disabilities.

- Promote women's political rights agenda and reforms to eliminate institutional discrimination against women and girls.
- Engage in media advocacy campaigns and other such activities considered necessary for the advancement of women, young people and persons with disabilities.
- Organize conferences, workshop and meetings on topical issues of concern to women, girls and youths.
- Disseminate information on HIV/AIDS Prevention, Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights of Women and Young people, Safe Motherhood and Democracy and Good Governance
- Engage in research and publications on outcomes of the organizations' activities.

WINET's core values include:

- Respect for Human Rights
- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Transparency and Accountability
- Non-Partisanship and Non-Sectarian

PROGRAM AREAS

- Sexual & Gender Based Violence (SGBV)
- Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)
- Human Rights & Civic Education
- Democracy & Good Governance
- HIV & AIDS Prevention
- Safe Motherhood
- Media Campaigns
- Training and Research

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

SUSTAINED ENLIGHTENMENT CAMPAIGN TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS AND SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV) IN ENUGU STATE SUPPORTED BY ACTIONAID NIGERIA AND FUNDED BY GLOBAL AFFAIRS CANADA UNDER THE WOMEN'S VOICE AND LEADERSHIP NIGERIA PROJECT

Under the sustained enlightenment campaign to end violence against women & girls and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in Enugu State, several activities were carried out in the year 2021. They include advocacy visits to Traditional Leaders in the four project communities. (Ugwuaji in Enugu South L.G.A, Akegbe-Ugwu in Nkanu West LGA, Umuchigbo Iji-Nike and Ugwuogo-Nike both in Enugu East LGA to tell them about the trainings that will be carried out in their communities and find out how they are using the information or taking actions on ending SGBV from our previous activities.

Activities carried out so far include:

Community dialogues on Male involvement in ending SGBV in Amagu Akegbe-Ugwu in Nkanu West LGA and Ugwuogo- Nike in Enugu East LGA. Information was given on Role of Men in Ending Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Enugu State, existence of Enugu State VAPP law 2019, provisions of the law to punish perpetrators of violence, the need to report abuse and violence and where to report SGBV.

The Objectives of the dialogues are:

- Establish sustained enlightenment campaign to end violence against women and girls.
- To give information on importance of reporting cases of SGBV and VAW/G and where to report.
- To involve men in efforts to reduce SGBV



A Resource Person Barr. Nnamdi Otukwu at a one-day community dialogue on involving men in ending SGBV held on 17th August 2021 at Amagu, Akegbe-Ugwu Community Hall, Nkanu West LGA, Enugu State. Photo credit: WINET



Cross session of participants during a one-day community dialogue on involving men in ending SGBV held on 1st September 2021 at Ugwogo-Nike Community Hall, Enugu East LGA, Enugu State. Photo credit: WINET

Town Hall meetings on Ending Sexual and Gender Based Violence at Umuchigbo, Iji-Nike in Enugu East LGA and Ugwuaji community in Enugu South LGA. The main objective is to protect sensitize women and girls on issues of SGBV, give information on Enugu State VAPP Law 2019 and guide them on where and how to report cases to seek redress.



Group Photograph of Participants during a one-day Town Hall Meeting on ending SGBV for women held on 11th November 2021 at Umuchigbo, Iji-Nike Community Hall, Enugu East LGA, Enugu State

Photo by WINET

2021 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women at Community Secondary School, Obeagu, Awkunanaw

On 25th November, 2021 WINET celebrated the 2021 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women with male students of Community Secondary School, Obeagu, Awkunanaw. The resource person and a Legal officer in the Department of Public Prosecution (DPP), Enugu State Ministry of Justice, Barrister Ifeanyi Onaga in his presentation titled “Guys Let’s Join Hands to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence”, explained that for every act of violence, the law prescribes punishments and he highlighted provisions of Enugu State Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Law 2019 and said that the punishment for rape is life imprisonment.

Barr. Onaga emphasized that male students should report any case of Violence against girls and women anywhere they see it.

The outcome of the event was that they male students made commitments to be Champions for WINET in the fight against SGBV in their school and homes. They also promised to create awareness on what the learnt about SGBV by stepping down to others who did not attend the event. The activity was carried out in partnership with ActionAid Nigeria funded by Global Affairs, Canada, WVLN project.



The Resource Person Barr. Ifeanyi Onaga during his presentation to the male students of Community Secondary School Obeagu on 2021 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against women held on 25th Nov. 2021 at CSS, Obeagu, Enugu South LGA, Enugu State.

Photo by WINET



Group photo of participants during 2021 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against women at Community Secondary School Obeagu on 25th Nov. 2021
Photo by WINET

**HUMAN AND DISABILITY RIGHTS EDUCATION FOR WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES IN
ENUGU STATE, NIGERIA SUPPORTED BY AFRICAN WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT FUND
1ST FEBRUARY 2021 – 31ST JANUARY 2022**

Beneficiaries of the project were 90 female members of Enugu State Chapter of Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities (JONAPWD), comprising Enugu State Association of the Deaf, Enugu State Association of the Blind, Enugu State Association of Physically Challenged Persons, The Little People and Albino Foundation.

WINET organized 6-day capacity building workshops for the female PWDs, according to their clusters to teach them human rights, disability rights and procedure for reporting/seeking redress for rights violations. They were also educated on the provisions of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act 2018 for them to know its contents in order to lead advocacy to Enugu State House of Assembly to seek its adoption in Enugu State.



Cross session of members of Association of the Blind and Albino Foundation during the workshop in Enugu



Cross session of female members of Association of the Physically Challenged, Little Person and Spinal Cord Injuries Association during the workshop.

EDUCATION SUPPORT FOR 325 FEMALE STUDENTS FROM THREE SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN ENUGU STATE, NIGERIA– SUPPORTED BY MUNDO COOPERANTE OF SPAIN,

MAY 2021 - JANUARY 2022

WINET offered Scholarship to 147 Female Students of Community Secondary School Obeagu, Awkunanaw under the project titled "Education Support for 325 Female Students under “The Right to be a Girl” - Projects to end Girl Child marriage.



147 female beneficiaries of Community Secondary School, Obeagu, Awkunanaw, Enugu South Local Government area with WINET team, Principal and teachers



The Executive Director of WINET addressing the 147 students during scholarship award ceremony at Community Secondary School Obeagu, Awkunanaw in Enugu South local Government Area, Enugu State.

Photo credit:

WINET



106 beneficiary female students from Community Secondary School, Ndeaboh, Ani Nri local government area, Enugu State.



72 female student beneficiaries from Comprehensive Secondary School, Mbulu-Owo, Nkanu-East local government area of Enugu State.



SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS EDUCATION AND COUNSELLING SERVICES FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES IN ENUGU STATE, NIGERIA FUNDED BY AMPLIFYCHANGE 2019-2021

An end line evaluation survey was carried out at the end of the project.

The evaluation findings are as follows:

- There was increase in the female PWDs conception of SRHR
- Increase in the level of awareness of the concept of sexual reproductive and health rights.
- Increase in the awareness of sexual abuse.
- Increase in the understanding of the concept of sexual and gender based violence.



Group photograph of participants during the presentation of findings from the end line survey in Enugu.

Photo credit: WINET

SOLIDARIDAD REGIONAL EXPERTISE CENTRE WEST AFRICA/WINET PARTNERSHIP

The WINET/ Solidaridad West Africa partnership is on National Initiatives for Sustainable and Climate-Smart Oil Palm Smallholders (NISCOPS) programme working in Enugu State, Nigeria. In implementing the activities, the CSOs project team on Thursday 22nd April, 2021 paid an advocacy visit to the Enugu State Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Hon. Mathew Idu. The visit was to follow up on budget commitment by the Ministry.



Enugu CSO team with the Hon. Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources Enugu State, Hon. Mathew Idu. Second from the left is Programme Manager, WINET, Ijeoma Obinna-Onwuka

Photo credit: WINET

Under the project, smallholder farmers were inaugurated into Multi-Stakeholders Platform (MSP) by CSOs for local government level, while the selection of state level MSP for four (4) Local Government Areas comprising Isi-Uzo, Nkanu-West, Aninri and Udeni, was carried out.



Group photograph at MSP formation at Aninri LGA on 11th May, 2021
Photo credit: WINET

In May, 2021 Enugu CSOs project team organized a meeting for inter-ministerial intervention to promote inclusion of women, PWDs and youths. The social inclusion meeting gears to promote the involvement of women, youths and PWDs in the oil palm production, as it will serve as a means of earning income and promotion of productivity of oil palm in the community and the society.



CSOs and participants during social inclusion meeting on 20th May, 2021
Photo credit: WINET

CELEBRATION OF 2021 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD

To mark the International Day of the Girl Child, WINET celebrated the day with 36 female students of Community Secondary School, Obeagu, Akwunanaw. The theme of the celebration is Digital, Generation, Our Generation. In a presentation to mark the day, WINET Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, Mrs. Chinelo Dim said that it is expected that the world would ensure that girls, especially in developing countries can reap the benefits of the technological revolution that has re-shaped the life of every human being. The day is marked to focus attention on the need to address the challenges that girls face, promote girls' empowerment and fulfillment of their human rights.

Mrs. Chinelo Dim used the occasion to educate the young female students on Menstrual Hygiene Management. She taught them what menstruation is and how to manage their first period when it comes. She advised them on how to dispose used menstrual products and keep clean.



Participants during celebration of 2021 International Day of the Girl Child at Community Secondary School Obeagu, Awkunanaw with WINET team

Photo credit: WINET

NETWORKING ACTIVITIES

WINET participated in activities, meetings and trainings by networks to which she belongs. They include Coalition of Eastern Non-Governmental Organizations (CENGOS), West Africa Network for Peace Building (WANEP), Transition Monitoring Group (TMG), Civil Society for HIV and AIDS (CiSHAN) Enugu State, Centre for the Eradication of Violence against Women (CEVAW).

ACTIONAID WVLN YEAR -3 ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING

Year 3 Annual Review Planning 2021 for Enugu and Imo States WVL- N partners held from 29th to 30th June 2021, organized by ActionAid Nigeria in Enugu. The meeting was to review year-3 work, share success stories, highlight the challenges encountered during project implementation and to proffer solutions on the way forward. The meeting also strengthened coordination Program Managers and Accountants and prepared WVL partners for the year 3 work.

The 2ND Annual National Women's Conference by ActionAid Nigeria



Some participants at the National Women's Conference organized by ActionAid Nigeria Women's Voice and Leadership Nigeria (WVL-N) for partners, funded by Global Affairs Canada

NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

- Civil Society for HIV/AIDS Nigeria (CiSHAN) Enugu State
- Girls Not Brides
- Women in Peace Building Network (WIPNET)
- Legislative Advocacy Coalition on Violence Against Women (LACVAW)
- Association of Eastern Non-Governmental Organization (CENGOS)
- Transition Monitoring Group (TMG)
- Nigeria Community Radio Coalition (NCRC)
- Affirmative Action Initiative for Women(NCAA)
- West African Network for Peace Building (WANEP)
- Centre for Eradication of Violence Against Women (CEVAW)

SOME WINET PUBLICATIONS

- Know Your Fundamental Rights and Enforcement Procedure, A Training manual for the project "Human and Disability Rights Education for Women with Disabilities in Enugu State, Nigeria" (2021).

- Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR): A Handbook for Young Girls and Women (2019).
- Child and Forced Marriages: Report of a Baseline Study (2017).
- A Handbook on Democracy and Fundamental Human Rights for Youths (2017).
- Community Dialogue Guide for Girls and Women's Sexual, Reproductive Health and Rights (2015).
- Justice Options through the Courts: A Guide for Persons with Disabilities (2015).
- Procedure for Commencing Cases in Customary Courts in Enugu state (2nd Edition 2015).
- Procedure for Commencing Cases in Customary Courts in Enugu state, Nigeria (1st Edition 2013).
- The Court and The Citizen: A Guide to Understanding the Court Process (2004).

OUR PARTNERS

We appreciate our past and current partners:

- ActionAid Nigeria/Global Affairs Canada
- Mundo Cooperante of Spain
- African Women's Development Fund
- EU-Agents for Citizen-Driven Transformation
- AmplifyChange
- Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre, West Africa
- CLEEN Foundation/ MacArthur Foundation
- Women Advocates for Vaccine Access (WAVA) and COMCiRIN
- U.S. Consulate General Lagos.
- Justice for All (J4A)/DFID Nigeria
- Global Fund for Women (GFW)
- CiSHAN/World Bank Assisted HPDP 11
- European Union (EU)
- White Ribbon Alliance Nigeria (WRAN)

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