



Lawyers Alert
Promoting Human Rights



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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

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About Lawyers Alert:

Lawyers Alert is a Justice Sector Civil Society Organization that is Non-Profit, Non-Partisan, and Non-religious. It is made up substantially of Lawyers and other professionals committed to the entrenchment of democracy, rule of law, and socio-economic development of citizens with particular emphasis on women. Lawyers Alert with its almost two decades of existence has actively serviced its target beneficiaries. They include Women, Female Sex Workers, Sexual Minorities, People Living with HIV, People who use and Inject Drugs, and People Living with Disabilities (PWDs), amongst others.

Lawyers Alert has a staff strength of 23 persons working in both the Head office in Makurdi, Benue State, and the field office in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. It also has regional outreaches across Nigeria with 6 focal persons for each geo-political zone. There are also about 20 volunteers of which 8 are active while 12 are available on demand. The entire staff of the organization is trained, dedicated, and skilled in their thematic areas. The organization has well-equipped and fully functional offices with round-the-clock internet access. The organization has a website, a blog, a Facebook page, an Instagram page, a Twitter handle, a YouTube page, and a LinkedIn page, including web-based e-mail addresses. It has a 5-person Board of Trustees, and an active 5-member Governing Board headed by Prof. Mrs. Magdalene M. Dura.

The roles of the Board of Trustees are many and multi-dimensional. Some of the basic roles include them standing in trust for the organization in the eyes of the public, they also act as

promoters and custodians of the organization. The Board of Trustees also helps in raising funds and goodwill for the organization among other key functions. In summary, the Board of Trustees plays an advisory and promotional role in the organization.

The Governing Board, on the other hand, sets policies and programmes for the organization. They approve policy and direct policy thinking. They also help in fundraising, approval of appointments of senior management staff, and procurements. The Board also advises and supervises ongoing projects and programs amongst other strategic functions.

Decision-making in Lawyers Alert starts from the top of the Organizational radar down to the bottom. The task of the decision-making process rests with the Governing Board at the Annual General Meeting. The Governing Board initiates a decision process at the Annual General Meeting where the decision is studied closely and inputs are made into it by all members. When satisfied, the decision taken is forwarded to the Management Committee headed by the President for implementation. This is done to give our decision-making process a collective approach. The chain of command within the organization is structured to flow from top to bottom with instructions emanating from the President through the Program Officers downwards. Our communication flow is both upward and downward

Mission

Lawyers Alert empowers women and vulnerable groups through knowledge of their rights and accessible means of enforcing the same. This is done primarily via literacy campaigns, capacity building, monitoring & documentation of rights violations, alongside advocacy.

Vision

Lawyers Alert envisions a world where women and other vulnerable groups are free from injustice. Lawyers Alert works with pro bono lawyers across the 6 geo-political zones who are litigating cases for the advancement of rights and public interest cases involving human rights and rule of law. While Lawyers Alert primarily provides legal support for women and vulnerable groups, its objectives also include providing training to Lawyers and members of the judiciary and facilitating legal networks across the country.

Our Values



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Adoption of Lawyers Alert's 2022 Annual Operational Plan

Before the commencement of its activities in 2022, as is the practice of Lawyers Alert to collectively review activities and actions of the previous year alongside the collective development of an Annual Work Plan for the year in focus with our target beneficiaries. Lawyers Alert held several meetings to develop, review and adopt her 2022 Annual Operation Plan. These meetings were premised on the need for a plan to run within the New Year 2022. These meetings were held physically and virtually and all staff and beneficiaries were in attendance.

Highlights from January 2022 to December 2022

New Staff: In 2022, Lawyers Alert welcomed six new Staff to the family; Patience Monday as an Office Assistant, Aishat Abdullahi as a Media Officer, Prosper Gabriel as an ICT Officer, Ibrahim Mom as an Intern, Lazarus Ahangba as a Management Consultant, and Isese Sor as an M&E Officer.

Send-forth: Lawyers Alert also released Ms. Omotola Omotayo a Media Officer, and Mr. Elvis Torkuma a Program Officer. We wish them success in their future endeavors.



Fig 1: Pictures from the Send-forth of Ms. Omotola Omotayo and Mr. Elvis Torkuma.

Lawyers Alert 2022 Annual Report

Lawyers Alert is pleased to share its 2022 Annual Report which provides insight into what we accomplished in the year. This was achieved with the help of our Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025, Annual Operational Plan, strong leadership model, and professionalism of Staff. We strengthened our work processes as an organization and showcased the promotion of more accountable and safe workspaces internally and externally through the implementation of our projects/interventions.

This annual report is a compilation of our accomplishments in the year 2022 in line with our program areas and our Action/Operational Plan. Our program areas include;

- (i) Gender and Human Rights
- (ii) Campaigns and Movement Building
- (iii) Security and Access to Justice
- (iv) Elections, Democracy, and Good Governance.

GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Lawyers Alert envisions a world of gender equality, equal access to resources and services, participatory decision-making, equitable and equal treatment for all regardless of their sex, health, physical appearance, etc. Activities under our gender and human rights programs are with the aim of challenging stigma and discrimination against women and other marginalized groups.

Interventions carried out in the year 2022 under this program aligned with the overall goals and objectives of the organization. They include;

- Towards the elimination of stigmatization of Persons Affected by Tuberculosis (PATBs) and a world free of TB, Lawyers held a series of brainstorming sessions with Debriche Health Development Centre (DHDC) towards reviewing and harmonizing actions for engagement in Lagos and the FCT. The team also carried out an advocacy visit to the National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Control Programme and secured the buy-in of the National Coordinator to support Lawyers Alert's work to achieve maximum impact in TB eradication in Nigeria. Lawyers Alert additionally paid a courtesy visit to the Lagos State Ministry of Health and secured the commitment of the Ministry via the State's TB, Leprosy, and Buruli-Ulcer Programme Manager. He assured Lawyers Alert of the Ministry's support to ending TB in the State. We also visited and secured the commitment of Stop TB Partnership Nigeria in reaching out to TB communities and partners in the fight to eradicate TB in Nigeria.



Fig 2: Pictures from brainstorming sessions by Lawyers Alert and DHDC.



Fig 3: Pictures from the advocacy visit to the National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Control Programme, FCT, Nigeria.



Fig 4: Pictures from the advocacy visit to the Lagos State Ministry of Health, Lagos, Nigeria.



Fig 5: Pictures from the advocacy visit to Stop TB Partnership, Abuja, Nigeria.

- In our ongoing efforts towards the decriminalization of HIV infection in Akwa-Ibom State, Nigeria, Lawyers Alert paid a courtesy visit to the Attorney-General of Akwa-Ibom State. The visit was to provide justification on why the proposed Bill was not only harmful in the efforts to end HIV, but also erodes human rights, put women at risk, and leads to the misapplication of states resources that could be channeled to the provision of products and services in fighting HIV.



Fig 6: Pictures from the courtesy visit to the Attorney General, Akwa-Ibom, Nigeria

- **Towards the decriminalization of Petty Offences in Nigeria:** Lawyers Alert facilitated an international training for Lawyers offering free legal services to victims of petty offences in Nigeria. An international legal consultant from the United States equipped lawyers with strategies and best practices for legal representation of marginalized groups and strategic impact litigation.



Fig 7: Pictures from Lawyers International Training, Abuja, Nigeria

- In commemoration of International Women’s Day 2022, Lawyers Alert joined the campaign to break the bias against women in our society, towards creating an enabling environment for women to thrive.



Fig 8: Lawyers Alert’s Staff strike the #breakthebias pose to commemorate the IWD 2022.

- In commemoration of the World Tuberculosis Day Celebration, Lawyers Alert organized a press conference with a focus on human rights-based approaches to ending TB in Nigeria. **“Tuberculosis: Gender and Human Rights-Based Approaches in Nigeria”**.



Fig 9: Pictures from the Press Conference to commemorate World Tuberculosis Day 2022.



Fig 10: Newspaper feature of the World Tuberculosis Day 2022.

<https://authorityngr.com/2022/03/22/tuberculosis-pass-laws-to-halt-stigma-discrimination-group-tells-nass/>

<https://newsdayonline.com.ng/wtb-day-why-there-is-need-for-law-to-cater-for-rights-of-people-affected-by-tuberculosis-patb/>

<https://www.africanleadershipmagazine.co.uk/group-tasks-nigeria-government-on-tb-specific-law-to-address-stigmatization-against-people-affected/>

<https://summitpostnews.com/2022/03/26/tuberculosis-still-number-one-killer-disease-in-nigeria-group-raises-alarm/>

<https://tribuneonlineng.com/humanitarian-lawyers-advocates-for-domestication-of-tb-patients-rights-in-nigeria/>

<https://www.newtelegraphng.com/lawyers-seek-laws-to-address-stigma-discrimination-of-tb-patients/>

- Lawyers Alert facilitated a Human Rights sensitization and legal training workshop in Lagos and the FCT. The 2-day training was implemented in both project locations and had in attendance PATBs, human rights lawyers, media, health service providers, TB programs in Lagos and the FCT, and the judiciary. The training was robust and very interactive and served as a platform for initial contact between the agencies represented. Conversations went beyond training to the expression of concerns and anxieties & proffering of potential solutions by stakeholders across the various sectors. The need for networking

was highly emphasized and agreed upon leading to the creation of coalitions in both project locations. Highlights of the training include;

- Effective engagement by the judiciary who undertook to expeditiously determine TB cases brought before them.
- Complete ownership by the media, with evidence in a deluge of TB reports in the media.
- Undertaken by lawyers to provide free legal services.
- Medical personnel from the state and federal programs leading conversations on the science of TB.
- The Lagos workshop was especially instructive given the collaborative efforts between Lawyers Alert and DHDC.



Fig 11: Pictures from the Human Rights sensitization and Legal training workshop in Lagos, Nigeria.



Fig 12: Pictures from the Human Rights sensitization and Legal training workshop in Abuja, Nigeria.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CddlQ2nsLHR/>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CbrNB5NMnir/>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CbzcpIjrLn7/>

https://twitter.com/lawyersalertng/status/1509858843114803201?s=20&t=1W8OUznZUO_XkyjGrprUPQ

<https://tribuneonlineng.com/fct-chief-judge-bemoans-lack-of-access-to-justice-for-victims-of-health-rights-violation/>

<https://dailytrust.com/lack-of-awareness-fueling-discrimination-against-persons-affected-by-tb>

<https://theeagleonline.com.ng/workshop-identifies-reasons-for-discrimination-against-persons-affected-by-tb/>

<https://www.thenigerianvoice.com/news/306934/adequate-information-about-tb-will-reduce-stigmatization-di.html>

<https://www.thenigerianvoice.com/news/307079/victims-of-health-rights-violation-should-receive-justice->

<https://summitpostnews.com/2022/04/02/dearth-of-health-discrimination-cases-in-nigeria-courts-group-raises-alarm/>

- Post the workshops in Lagos and the FCT, Lawyers Alert facilitated the creation of TB Coalitions in Nigeria. This was in order to create an immediate platform for engagement in Lagos and Abuja. Additionally, these platforms will serve not just as a medium of communication between the agencies, but also as a continuous capacity-building hub on TB and rights. Several virtual meetings were held in trying to address issues of relationship with lawyers, media, and PATBs, including the development of a road map on how lawyers can provide free legal services when the need arises. Both coalitions are also making efforts to develop Strategic Plans, including Advocacy and Capacity Building Plans to guide future engagements and to aid their continuity.

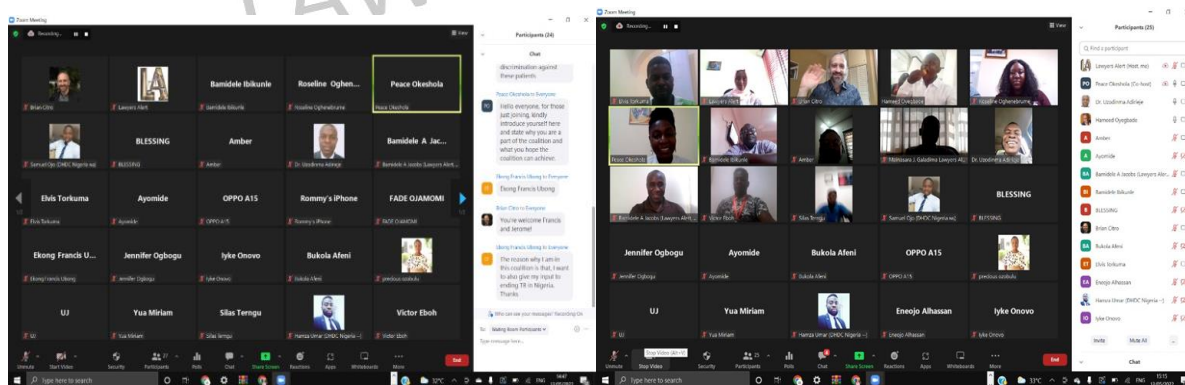


Fig 13: Snapshot from the virtual meeting of the Coalitions.

- Lawyers Alert facilitated series of brainstorming sessions with NINERELA + towards resolution and access to justice for Master X, a 12-year old boy who was expelled from Command Secondary School in Suleja, Niger State, Nigeria, on account of his HIV status.



Fig 14: Picture from one of the brainstorming sessions.

- Lawyers Alert in the year 2022 developed and deployed an Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD), which is also known as short codes. This innovation was geared towards increasing access to SRHR services for survivors of SGBV in Bauchi, Benue, Enugu, Kano, and Osun States. The USSD was developed to bridge the gap between service providers and women by providing them with education on their rights and nearby services such as psychosocial support centers, shelters, health facilities, legal support, etc. In addition, it will address information gaps without internet connectivity acting as a potential barrier. It will aid speedy service delivery because findings have revealed that perpetrators of SGBV live under the same roof as the victims. Series of engagements/activities and brainstorming sessions were held towards the final launch of the USSD (*7006*24#).

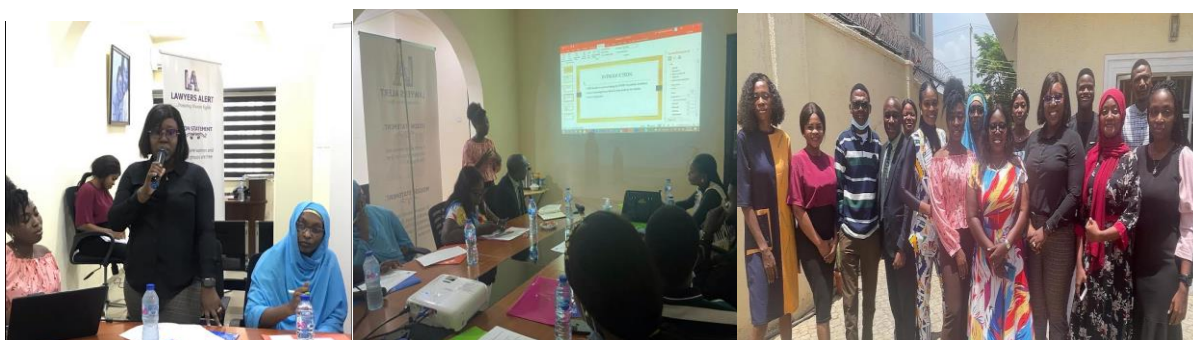


Fig 15: Picture from the Project Start-up meeting with partners from Bauchi, Benue, Enugu, Kano, & Osun.



Fig 16: Picture from an advocacy visit to the Director, Technical Standards and Network Integrity of Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) to secure buy-in and Ethics Approval for the USSD.

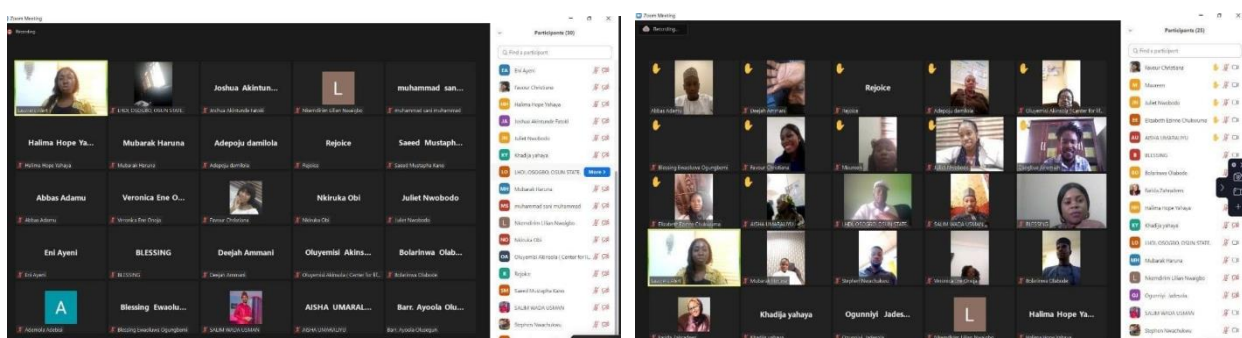


Fig 17: Picture from meeting with service providers towards clarity on roles and responsibilities to survivors/victims of SGBV and to secure their buy-in for the USSD.

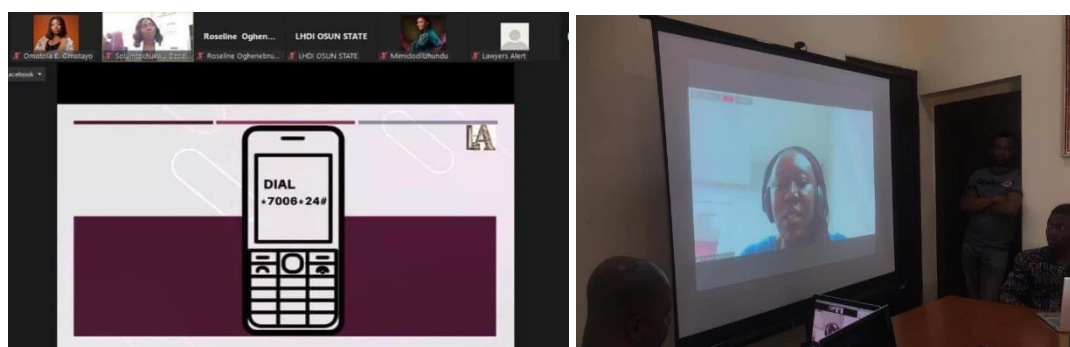


Fig 18: Picture from official launch of the USSD *7006*24#.

<https://authorityngr.com/2022/10/28/gender-based-violence-ngo-launches-free-toll-line-for-victims-in-5-states/>

<https://newsdayonline.com.ng/lawyers-alert-launches-free-toll-lines-for-victims-of-sexual-and-gender-based-violence/>

<https://promptnewsonline.com/lawyers-alert-launches-ussd-shortcodes-to-improve-access-to-srhr-services/>

<https://www.newtelegraphng.com/sgbv-lawyers-alert-ussd-code-launch-targets-vulnerable-women-in-rural-areas/>

<https://newsexpressngr.com/news/169938-Lawyers-Alert-launches-USSD-shortcodes-to-improve-access-to-SRHR-services>

<https://newsbarng.com/2022/10/29/8809/>

<https://theeagleonline.com.ng/lawyers-alert-launches-ussd-shortcodes-to-improve-access-to-srhr-services/>

<https://www.facebook.com/245777418823519/posts/pfbid02aAEM3XQRmExMDEQgY5TDpgMq58hqWfMNIQWAmTmCa9r8ouArtWwtGEvhbYkWfyicl/>

<https://twitter.com/DEagleOnline/status/1587165157259882496?t=Ap5m7kh0SqNsxzYqKYNHg&s=08>

<https://newsnowonline.com.ng/2022/10/31/lawyers-alert-launches-ussd-shortcodes-to-improve-access-to-srhr-services/>

<https://docpetnews.com/2022/11/01/lawyers-alert-launches-ussd-shortcodes-to-improve-access-to-srhr-services/>

<https://thelabourngr.com/2022/11/01/sgbv-lawyers-alert-launch-revolutionary-ussd-code-to-boost-fight-against-the-menace-in-workplaces-markets-homes/>

<https://tribuneonlineng.com/lawyers-alert-ussd-code-launched-to-boost-fight-against-sgbv-in-workplaces-homes-market/>

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/CkN2PZyD9hG/?igshid=MWI4MTIyMDE=>

<https://fb.watch/ieosOQnJIS/?mibextid=v7YzmG>

- Lawyers Alert with funding from United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through Palladium under Component 5 of the Strengthening Civic Advocacy and Local Engagement (SCALE) project, worked towards the activation and implementation of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP)

and Administration of Criminal Justice (ACJ) Laws in Bauchi, Benue, Enugu, Kaduna, Osun, and the FCT. This was aimed at speedy justice service delivery for SGBV victims and survivors in these states. This intervention was in partnership with organizations (National Association of Women Journalists, Ikra Foundation for Women and Youth Development, Community Advancement Initiative for Self-Reliance, League of Women Voters, Legal Awareness for Nigerian Women, and Agbani Farms Limited) across these states under the cluster model approach, with our cluster called SGBV Justice Network (SJN) Cluster. Series of engagements and activities were held towards the effective delivery of the mandate of the SJN Cluster.



Fig 19: Pictures from the Project Start-up meeting with SJN Cluster members from Bauchi, Benue, Enugu, Kaduna, FCT, & Osun.



Fig 20: Pictures from Stakeholders meeting working on SGBV across project states towards securing buy-in and commitment towards speedy justice service delivery for victims/survivors of SGBV.



Fig 21: Pictures from SJN's first Cluster Coaching session with SCALE.



Fig 22: Pictures from the advocacy visit to the Chief Judge, the Chairman Committee on Judiciary, and the Attorney General of Benue State.



Fig 23: Pictures from the advocacy meeting with executives at FIDA Bauchi towards the implementation of VAPP and ACJ in the State.

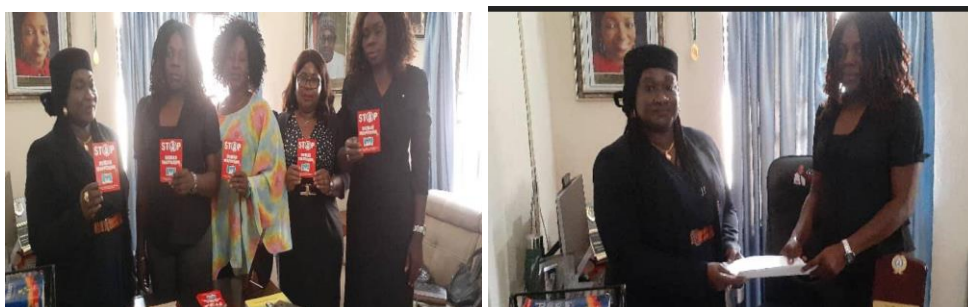


Fig 24: Pictures from the advocacy visit to NAPTIP in Enugu State.

<https://radionigerianortheast.gov.ng/vaapp-law-to-be-implemented-in-bauchi/>

- Lawyers Alert deepened engagement with the members of the Alliance for the Decriminalization of Petty Offences in Nigeria (ADPON). In the year 2022, the Alliance held series of reflection meetings and introduced new partners. The Action Plan for the Alliance was revised and strategies towards achieving set goals was designed. These meetings were in partnership with the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) towards the decriminalization & declassification of petty offences in Nigeria.



Fig 25: Pictures from one of ADPON's reflection meeting.

- We carried out Advocacy and awareness creation on Rights and protection towards ending Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and violations associated with SRHR and Petty Offences. We planned and implemented not less than 1 key advocacy strategy every quarter of the year. We also carried out advocacy to key

government officials and other target group members to have them take action against Gender-Based Violence or other issues under SRHR, alongside the decriminalization of petty offenses in Nigeria. The courtesy visit to the Chief Registrar of High Court, Benue State was in a view to partner with the judiciary towards the decriminalization of petty offences in Benue State. This advocacy resulted in the partnership with the Judiciary in training its officers on petty offences and secured commitment to decriminalize petty offences in the State.



Fig 26: Pictures from the advocacy visit to the Chief Registrar of High Court, Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria.

- Lawyers Alert engaged the judiciary in Bauchi and Benue states respectively on the Advisory Opinion of the African Court Judgement on the decriminalization of petty offenses in Nigeria. Both meetings aimed at knowledge-sharing and securing the buy-in of the judiciary toward the decriminalization of petty offenses in their states. Most Magistrates in attendance alluded to the fact that much more needed to be done regarding promoting and protecting the rights of the poor and vulnerable who are usually victims of petty offenses violations. The Judiciary committed to be on the lookout for cases of petty offenses and pledged to always treat them as human rights cases.



Fig 27: Pictures from engagement with the Judiciary in Bauchi State, Nigeria.



Fig 28: Pictures from engagement with the Judiciary in Benue State, Nigeria.

- Lawyers Alert in the year 2022 was inaugurated as a member of the monitoring committee for the effective implementation of the provisions of the Administration of Criminal Justice Law (ACJL) of Benue State. This was following series of engagement with the Chief Judge of Benue State on the need to fully implement and monitor the ACJL of Benue State 2019, pursuant to the section 471(2) of the Law. This engagement was towards the effective justice service delivery for survivors and victims of SGBV in the State.



Fig 29: Pictures from the inauguration meeting in Benue State, Nigeria.



Fig 30: Pictures from the ACJL Committee Action Plan development meeting in Benue State, Nigeria.

- Lawyers Alert and her partners (Ikra Foundation for Women and Youth Development, Community Advancement Initiative for Self-Reliance, Agbani Farms Limited, and Legal Awareness for Nigerian Women) under the SJN Cluster organized capacity strengthening training for key justice sector actors in Bauchi, Benue, Enugu, Kaduna, and Osun. This was aimed at increasing the knowledge of key justice sector actors on the content of the VAPP and ACJL,

enhancing speedy justice service delivery in SGBV cases, and improving inter-agency collaboration between justice sector providers in ensuring speedy justice delivery for survivors and victims of SGBV in these states.



Fig 31: Pictures from capacity strengthening of justice sector actors in Bauchi State, Nigeria.



Fig 32: Pictures from capacity strengthening of justice sector actors in Benue State, Nigeria.



Fig 33: Pictures from capacity strengthening of justice sector actors in Osun State, Nigeria.



Fig 34: Pictures from capacity strengthening of justice sector actors in Enugu State, Nigeria.



Fig 35: Pictures from capacity strengthening of justice sector actors in Kaduna State, Nigeria.

<https://neptuneprime.com.ng/2022/08/23/stakeholders-hold-workshop-for-judges-others-on-criminal-justice-wappl-implementation/>

<https://theeagleonline.com.ng/ngo-trains-osun-justice-sector-actors-on-vapp-acj-laws/>

<https://aprokorepublic.ng/experts-call-for-the-use-of-vapp-law-in-prosecuting-cases-of-sgbv-in-enugu-state-see-deatils/>

<https://aprokorepublic.ng/update-jail-term-awaits-perpetrators-of-sexual-and-gender-based-violence-see-details/>

[Group mobilises justice service providers on implementation of VAPP, ACJ laws – Development Diary \(news.blog\)](#)

[Group Mobilises Justice Service Providers On Implementation Of VAPP, ACJ Laws - Nigeria News August 29, 2022 \(nnn.ng\)](#)

[Group mobilises justice service providers on implementation of VAPP, ACJ laws - Newsdiaryonline](#)

[Group mobilises justice service providers on implementation of VAPP, ACJ laws - Realnews Magazine](#)

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid05VgtMc3UuPMqRrDbyxzymu6gc91kJQqw9RWeZks6HecxWCpK5ZUtx4q7ePr7aUHul&id=100063546311458

- Lawyers Alert and her partner (Community Advancement Initiative for Self-Reliance) was instrumental in the setting up of a Sexual Assault and Referral Centre (SARC) in Osun State which commissioned by the First Lady of the State. This was as a result of our advocacy efforts and visits for the establishment of SARCs to serves as a one-stop shop for SGBV survivors/victims in the state.



Fig 36: Pictures from advocacy visit and launch of the SARC in Osogbo, Osun State, Nigeria.

- In commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child 2022, Lawyers Alert joined the campaign via literacy on the need for joint efforts to reduce the surge in early girl child marriage in Nigeria. [Link.](#)
- In commemoration of the World AIDS Day 2022, Lawyers Alert joined the campaign via giving publicity to the case of Master X who was expelled from school due to his HIV status. <https://www.thecable.ng/how-command-secondary-school-rejected-12-year-old-student-over-hiv-status>



Fig 37: Picture from the campaign.

- Lawyers Alert in commemoration of the Human Rights Day held a panel discussion themed “Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All”. Panelists at the event were Joshua Tyoyer - State Coordinator, Human Rights Commission, Mimidoo Uhundu – Executive Director, Spring of Hope for Girl Child Development Initiative, Beatrice Onoja – Coordinator, Benue Assistant on Children SGBV support, and Victor Eboh – Legal Officer, Lawyers Alert. The discussions x-rayed the process of human rights in Benue State and mechanisms towards improving the protection of rights for all.



Fig 38: Picture from the Human Rights Day.

Celebration of the 16 days of Activism –

The 16 Days of Activism were marked through various activities undertaken by Lawyers Alert, these activities include; online campaigns (pictures and videos) against every form of GBV, legal literacy series on various GBV issues on Facebook, awareness creation on free legal services provided by Lawyers Alert to indigent citizens on social media handles.



Fig 39: Posts from the celebration of the 16 days of Activism.

- Lawyers Alert launch her Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) violations report in year 2022. The report analyzed SRHR violations collated whin year 2017 to 2022. The collation and production of the SRHR Violations report by Lawyers Alert aim to address the lack of reliable data in critical areas, which makes SRHR intervention difficult as it is hardly tailored to meet challenges in Nigeria. The SRHR violations report serves as a huge resource for vulnerable groups, state and non-state actors, CSOs, and the media. It does not only serve as an informative document, but serves as a strong tool for advocacy and interventions.



Fig 40: Pictures from the event.

Abuja, Lagos, Benue record high rate of health violations – Report

From Hameed Oyegbade, Osogbo

The Federal Capital Territory, Lagos and Benue states have been identified to account for the highest incidents of sexual and reproductive health and rights related violations in Nigeria.

A report presented by a non-profit human rights organisation, Lawyers Alert, said the FCT had the highest violations twice, in 2017 and 2019 while Lagos

topped twice in 2020 and 2021.

It stated that Benue had the second highest violations in 2017, 2020 and 2021.

The President of Lawyers Alert, Rommy Mom, said sexual and reproductive health and rights were important and fundamental to an individual ability to lead healthy and fulfilling lives, saying the group chose to do that to provide additional data for SRHR.

He said these rights

included the right to make informed decisions about one's body, sexual and reproductive health, and relationships as well as the right to access information, education and services.

The report revealed across the different groups, emotional and verbal abuse topped the list of violations, ranging between 19-40 per cent with female sex workers aged between 25 - 40 most emotionally and verbally abused at 73 per cent.

Fig 41: Snapshot of the event from Daily Trust Newspaper page 26, December 20 2022.

<https://authorityngr.com/2022/12/14/fct-lagos-highest-in-sexual-reproductive-health-rights-violation-report/>

<https://theeagleonline.com.ng/group-launches-report-on-sexual-reproductive-health-rights-violation/>

<https://www.newtelegraphng.com/lawyers-alert-develops-tool-to-curb-sexual-gender-based-violence/>

<https://promptnewsonline.com/?p=246354>

<https://newsnowonline.com.ng/2022/12/20/group-urges-fg-to-ensure-access-to-srhr-services-support/>

CAMPAIGNS AND MOVEMENT BUILDING

Lawyers Alert under our campaign and movement building program enhanced the capacity of organizations towards empowering them and enhancing synergy in addressing the issues of GBV, SRHR, and Petty Offences. Given that Network and Movement building remains the most effective and efficient means of achieving a holistic social change, Lawyers Alert places much priority and attention on networking and movement building.

Interventions carried out in the year 2022 under this program aligned with the overall goals and objectives of the organization. They include;

- Lawyers Alert in the year 2022, carried a lesson sharing and learning visit to Alliance for Reproductive Health Rights (ARHR) and African Youth and Adolescents Network (AfriYAN), Ghana. The aim of the sharing visit was to create and establish sub-regional partnerships/ networks with SRHR organizations in countries outside of Nigeria for Sub-regional lesson sharing. It was also aimed at understanding community engagement strategies with regards to issues of SRHR in Ghana and to begin the exploration of key SRHR issues across government agencies in the sub-region by CSOs. The meeting was facilitated by AmplifyChange.



Fig 42: Pictures from the Lesson Sharing visit to ARHR, Ghana.

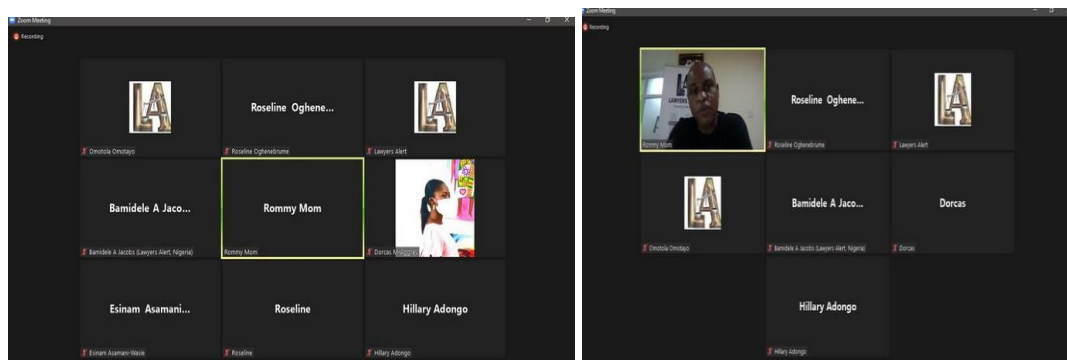


Fig 43: Pictures from the Lesson Sharing visit to AfriYAN, Ghana.

- Lawyers Alert in its ongoing efforts at building the structure of small and nascent organizations enhanced the capacity of key staff of Icevs Nigeria, a sexual minority organization. This was via a 3-day organization strengthening program on Advocacy, Project Management, Resource Mobilization, SRHR, Networking, Human Rights, and email etiquettes.



Fig 44: Pictures from the capacity strengthening program for Icevs Nigeria in Benue State.

- Lawyers Alert in year 2022 was inaugurated as part of the committee on comprehensive age-appropriate sexuality education set up by Aid Health Foundation (AHF) for the Agwan Jukun Community in Benue State, Nigeria. The Committee is saddled with the responsibility of working and partnering with the community leaders towards promoting and protecting rights in the community.



Fig 45: Pictures from the inaugural meeting of the Committee in Agwan Jukun Community in Benue State, Nigeria.

- Lawyers Alert and the SJN Cluster in partnership with SCALE organized two campaign hashtags launch and rallies. They both had the objective of galvanizing support for on SJN Cluster’s policy reform agenda and to create awareness on the provisions of the VAPP and ACJL towards speedy justice service delivery and resolution of SGBV cases in Benue and Osun State. The first hashtag “**#IMPLEMENTSGBVLAWS**” was launched in Benue State and the second “**#JUSTICEFORSGBVSURVIVORS**” was launched in Osun State.



Fig 46: Pictures from the first campaign hashtag launch “#IMPLEMENTSGBVLAWS” in Benue State, Nigeria.



Fig 47: Pictures from the second campaign hashtag launch “#JUSTICEFORSGBVSURVIVORS” in Osun State, Nigeria.

<https://www.nextedition.com.ng/sgbv-group-calls-for-implementation-of-vapp-acl-laws-in-benue>

<https://www.sunnewsonline.com/lawyers-alert-pushes-for-implementation-of-sgbv-laws-in-benue/>

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<https://www.truenewscorner.com/2022/10/justice4sgbvsurvivors-osun-government.html>

<https://newsexpressngr.com/news/169357-NAWOJ-NGOs-task-Osun-Government-urge-implementation-of-VAPPACJ-laws>

<https://www.thirdeye.com.ng/2022/10/sgbv-group-begins-implementation.html>

- In commemoration of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons 2022, Lawyers Alert joined the campaign against Human Trafficking organized by the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), in Benue State.



Fig 48: Pictures from the campaign against Human Trafficking.

- In commemoration of the World Humanitarian Day 2022, Lawyers Alert joined the campaign and appreciated everyone who have been instrumental in providing supplies to the poor and marginalized in the society. <https://fb.watch/iegfohlGue/?mibextid=cr9u03>
- Lawyers Alert in its bid to enhance rights awareness and legal literacy has created interventions for enhanced legal awareness for vulnerable and excluded groups (legal literacy). This includes weekly Facebook presentations with discussions on burning issues from the universality of human rights and several others; forums and focus groups discussions; and celebration of World days that are relevant to our target groups. Our campaigns in the year 2022 directly reached over 8,403,000 persons and indirectly 19,687,000 persons.



Fig 49 Pictures from LA' literacy series.

- Lawyers Alert also engaged in carrying out relevant research, documentation and advocacy on Gender Based Violence, Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights and petty offences. This was implemented through the documentation, analysis and publishing of over 6000 copies of SRHR, GBV and petty offences finding. These findings are published on our website (<https://www.lawyersalertng.org/resources>) and this was intended to serve as a resource material for advocacy and/or policy formulation for both State and Non-State Actors working in the area of SRHR.

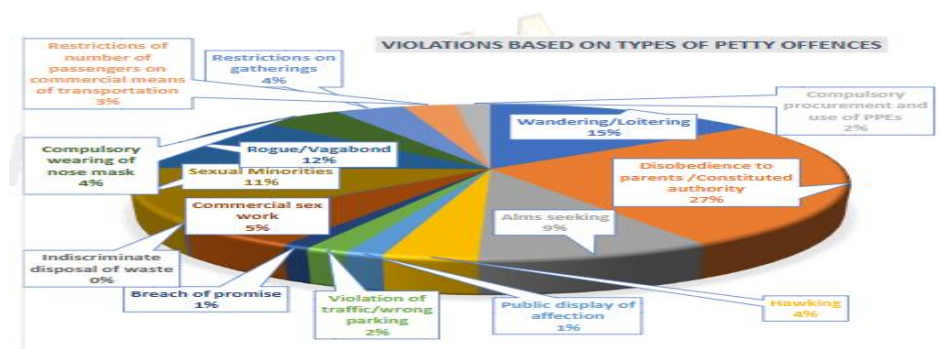


Fig 2: Violations based on types of Petty Offences.

Fig 50: Snapshot of Lawyers Alert violations report.

- The Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Makurdi Branch recognized the President of Lawyers Alert and named him an Icon of the Legal Profession. This was owing to his monumental efforts and contributions to the Bar and Rights-based governance in Nigeria.



Fig 51: Pictures of Joe-Kyari Gadzama SAN presenting the Plaque to the President of Lawyers Alert.

- Lawyers Alert in the course of executing the project “Implementing the Nigeria TB Legal Assessment to mobilize and promote the use of the

Law and courts among lawyers and People Affected by TB (PATB)” attended a summit in Thailand alongside 150 participants from different countries.



Fig 52: Picture of Peace Okeshola at the Summit in Thailand.

- Lawyers Alert paid a courtesy visit to AmplifyChange’s office in Bath, United Kingdom. Discussion during the visit focused on Lawyers Alert SRHR work, AmplifyChange support to the SRHR regime in Nigeria, and exploring possible opportunities for advancing SRHR & Safe Abortion in Nigeria.



Fig 53: Pictures of visit to AmplifyChange.

- Lawyers Alert attended a prison reform meeting in South Africa. This was towards strengthening the prison reform and prisoners’ rights component of Lawyers Alert’ work as well as exploring possible areas of collaboration with other actors.



Fig 54: Pictures of Bamidele Jacobs at the Prison Reform meeting in South Africa.

- In promoting sustainable development and addressing Climate change issues, Lawyers Alert signed the pledge and joined the campaign #ClimatePledge and #GetEveryoneTalkingAboutClimateChange

organized by DevTrain CEDI. This campaign is geared towards mitigating the effect of climate change on the environment.



Fig 55: Pictures of Lawyers Alert Staff and DevTrain CEDI representatives.

SECURITY AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Lawyers Alert envisions a world where women and vulnerable groups are free from injustice. Activities under our security and access to justice program are geared towards unfettered access to justice for all, accountable policing, women's rights in conflict situations, and dignified treatment in detention.

Interventions carried out in the year 2022 under this program aligned with the overall goals and objectives of the organization. These include;

- **Free legal representation** – Legal Aid and Pro bono Services has been the foundation of Lawyers Alert from its inception till the present day. It was on the back of a pro bono case that Lawyers Alert came into existence. In the year 2022, we intervened in over 350 cases across the Country. The cases we handled ranged from human trafficking, rape, GBV, petty offenses, and other human rights violations. In the year 2022, we held a series of brainstorming sessions with pro-bono lawyers and in-house lawyers' meetings towards devising strategies to better serve our target groups.
- **Case of Master X** - Lawyers Alert instituted a matter at the Federal High Court, Division of the Federal Capital Territory seeking the Enforcement of the fundamental human rights of Master X a 12-year-old pupil of Command Secondary School, Suleja who was born HIV positive but has been on the necessary treatment and care from inception. The latter was expelled from the said Command Secondary School, Suleja owing to his HIV status. The said pupil in the company of his mother both was allegedly embarrassed, humiliated, and escorted off the school premises. Lawyers Alert have initiated a process in court seeking the enforcement of the Fundamental Human Rights of Master X as

guaranteed under sections 43 & 42 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Articles 2,4,5,16 and 19 of the African Charter on Human and People's Right (Ratification and Enforcement) Act Cap A9 LFN 2004.

- Lawyers Alert began the prison decongestion movement with letters submitted to various correctional centers and detainees assigned to lawyers offering free legal assistance.
- Lawyers Alert in its ongoing partnership with Equal Access International in the “Securing Nigerian Communities” Project inaugurated the Benue State Action Plan on the implementation of the UNHCR 1325, and related resolution on women, peace, and Security in Nigeria.



Fig 56: Pictures from the inauguration of the Benue State Action Plan on the implementation of UNHCR 1325 under the EAI partnership.



Fig 57: Pictures from the drafting of the Local Action Plan for the implementation of UNHCR 1325 under the EAI partnership.

- The President of Lawyers Alert was a panelist at the Nigerian Bar Association Abuja Law week where he discussed Community Policing in line with the Police Act 2020 and the need for communities especially marginalized populations to be involved in decision-making processes in securing communities, including accountability in the sector.



Fig 58: Some pictures from the Event.

- The President of Lawyers Alert facilitated a session during the Nigerian Bar Association Human Rights Institute Summit 2022 themed “Human Rights & Insecurity: Accessing the future of Governance and Sustainable Livelihood in Nigeria”. He discussed the need for community awareness and participation in the area of community policing/good governance. He called for partnership with the NBA and the Police Service Commission towards leveraging on the strengths of the police in securing human rights and implementing a people-driven policy.



Fig 59: Some pictures from the NBA Human Rights Institute Summit.

- Public/Strategic Impact Litigation – In 2022, Lawyers Alert held series of brainstorming meetings on instituting strategic impact cases in Nigeria. One of such sessions focused on the rights of Persons Affected by Tuberculosis (PATBs). The meeting discussed issues to be brought before the court: Compelling government to enhance physical access to DOT centres; confidentiality when on treatment; counseling for TB testing and treatment; and the need for policy on isolation to be human rights compliant.



Fig 60: Some pictures from the Brainstorming meeting.

- The SIL filed with regard to the fundamental rights suit built on the grounds of the ban and destruction of bikes in Kastina – Ala Local Government and environs in Benue State Nigeria is still ongoing.
- LA V Federal Republic of Nigeria before the Community Court of ECOWAS in Abuja, FCT. The Strategic Impact Litigation (SIL) filed with regard to Vagrancy Laws and Petty Offences is ongoing. Lawyers Alert will in the year 2023 make an application for default judgment given the Federal Government did not file in their defence.
- In the ongoing case of LA V Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB) & 2 Ors, the respondent has not also responded but the matter is slated for definite hearing.
- Lawyers Alert filed a new SIL on TB where we sued the Minister of Health to further expand the frontiers of People Affected by Tuberculosis (PATB) Rights and address issues of stigma and discrimination. The action was instituted at the Federal High Court Abuja and is still at the preliminary stage.
- Lawyers Alert produced and presented a Bill to decriminalize petty offenses in Bauchi and Benue states. Both Bills are presently before the States Houses of Assembly.
- The human trafficking case of COP V Jenniver Patrick in Benue State is ongoing.

ELECTIONS, DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

Lawyers Alert envisions a world where the marginalized population participates in governance, the government is open and accountable to citizens, and resources are used judiciously and equitably for all.

Interventions carried out in the year 2022 under this program aligned with the overall goals and objectives of the organization. These include;

- Memo on Bill for National Electoral Offences Commission: Following the call by the House Committee on Electoral Matters for a public hearing and the submission of Memoranda for “A Bill for an Act to establish the National Electoral Offences Commission and for related matters”, Lawyers Alert prepared and made a submission. See [link](#).
- In 2022, which is the year before the general elections, Lawyers Alert attended a Pre-election digital safety training organized by Meta for Human Rights Defenders and CSOs. This was towards accessing digital security for activists and addressing areas of concerns with regard to human rights civic engagement in the digital space.



Fig 61: Some pictures from the Event.

- Lawyers Alert’s intervention in this thematic area in year 2022 was also through literacy sessions, which touched on issue-based voting, discussed as a topic on our weekly Thursdays’ Facebook live streaming series.
- Lawyers Alert facilitated a webinar themed “2023: The Youths, Differing opinion and women participation”. Resource persons at the webinar were Miss Oluwatoyin Oladejo, Legal Practitioner, Prince Okunade, Public Development Advocate, and Ademola Emmanuel, Journalist and Youth Activist. The webinar was to engage youth activists and facilitate a discussion between the youth who form 65% of registered voters in Nigeria. The webinar discussed electoral issues, challenges, and way forward of the above.



Fig 62: Webinar – 2023: The Youths, Differing Opinions and Women Participation.

BUILDING OF LAWYERS ALERT STAFF CAPACITY

In 2022, Lawyers Alert continued in its approach to Staff Capacity building via facilitating weekly capacity-building sessions on various fields or areas of development for members of staff. This approach led to over 40 capacity-building sessions held for the staff of Lawyers Alert. Additionally, Lawyers Alert's work with SCALE provided the opportunity for staff to be trained on various aspects in line with international best practice.



Fig 63: Picture of Lawyers Alert Staff at the Resource Mobilization training in Abuja, Nigeria, organized by WEWE, SCALE Partner.



Fig 64: Picture of Lawyers Alert Staff at the Media and Private Sector Engagement training in Uyo, Nigeria, organized by SCALE.



Fig 65: Picture of Lawyers Alert Staff & SJN Cluster at the Budget Analysis and Monitoring Training in Abuja, Nigeria, organized by SCALE.

LAWYERS ALERT ANNUAL RETREAT 2022

Lawyers Alert held her annual retreat from the 10th – 12th of August 2022 virtually to reflect on her past performance in the year 2021 and year 2022 vis-à-vis Lawyers Alert Annual Plan. The retreat was also geared towards tracking processes and results achieved in line with the Annual Plan, receiving feedback from target beneficiaries, and team building. At the end of the retreat, Staff and Management distilled learnings, tracked unintended successes, and now have a clearer strategy for achieving all laid-down actions for the year 2023 toward better servicing of poor and vulnerable persons in the society. Partners and beneficiaries were also present to review and make inputs into the developed strategy for engagement in the coming year.

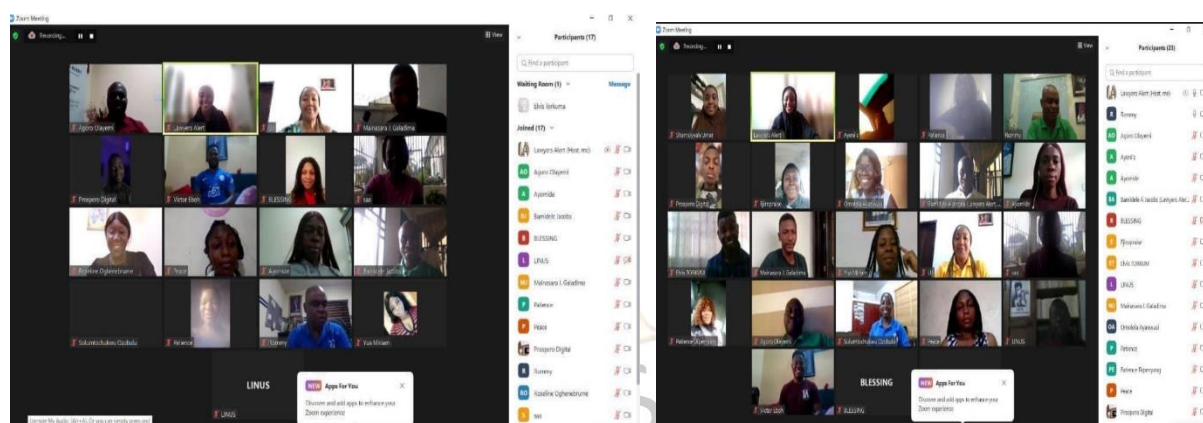


Fig 66: Picture of Lawyers Alert Staff, Beneficiaries, and Partners at 2022 Annual Retreat.

LAWYERS ALERT STAFF



Dr. Magdalyne Dura
Chair, Governing Board



Rommy Mom
President



Dr. Victoria Daaor
North-Central Program
Lead



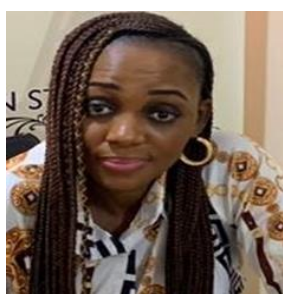
Nanahauwa Sule
North-West Program Lead



Merama Yusuf Balami
North-East Program Lead



Chinelo Eze
South-East Program Lead



Beckley A. Kofoworola
South-West Program Lead



Umoren Blessing Sunday
South-South Program



Roseline Oghenebrume
Director, Programs



Jerome Uneje
Director, HQ/Programs



Bamidele A. Jacobs
Director, Legal



Olayemi Agoro
Director, Finance



Lazarus Ahangba
Management Consultant



Saadatu Idris
HR Manager



Victor Eboh
Legal/Reproductive
Rights Officer



Blessing Mase
Finance Officer



Ozobulu S. Precious
Legal Officer



Peace Okeshola
Legal Officer



Mainasara Galadima
Legal Officer



Aishat Abdullahi
Media Officer



Prosper Gabriel
ICT Officer



Isese Sor
M&E Officer



Linus O. Mbakaan
Admin/Finance Assistant



Ayomide Joshua
Front Office Manager



Miriam Yua
Admin/Program Assistant



Mbakaan Terngu Silas
Office Assistant



Patience Monday
Office Assistant



Ibrahim Mom
Intern

LIST OF LAWYERS ALERT TRUSTEES

Dr. Mrs. Magdalene Dura (Chair Person)
Rommy Mom (Secretary)
Mrs. Mary Okpe (Member)
Arch. Chris Uloko (Member)
Adejir Andrew (Member)

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AMPLIFYCHANGE



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URGENT
ACTION
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AFRICA

FOR WOMN'S HUMAN RIGHTS

SCALE
STRENGTHENING
CIVIC ADVOCACY AND
LOCAL ENGAGEMENT



icj
International
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of Jurists
Advocates for Justice and Human Rights

OUR PARTNERS

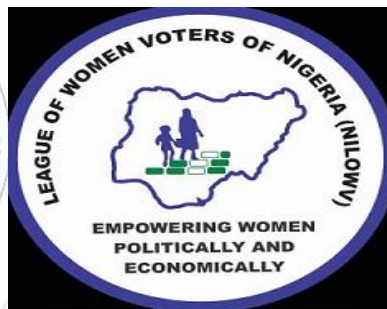


DAILY TRUST



HEARTLAND
ALLIANCE
INTERNATIONAL





NATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS & LEPROSY CONTROL PROGRAMME (NTBLCP)

Federal Ministry of Health



Rescue The Women Foundation



ANPPCAN

African Network for the Prevention and Protection
Against Child Abuse and Neglect

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