



## **NIGERIA CSO SHADOW REPORT ON THE BEIJING + 25 REVIEW**

**“REALISING WOMEN’S RIGHTS FOR AN EQUAL FUTURE IN NIGERIA: 2015 – 2020 “ROADMAP FOR ACCERLERATED ACTION”**

### **CONCEPT NOTE**

**September, 2019**

**NIGERIA CSOs' SHADOW REPORT ON BEIJING +25  
(SEPTEMBER 2019 – FEBRUARY 2020)**

**CONCEPT NOTE**

**Background**

2020 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth UN World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995), (Beijing + 25), the international blueprint to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment. It will also commemorate 20 years of Security Council Resolution 1325, 5 years of the Sustainable Development Goals, 10 years of UN Women and 75 years of the United Nations. These anniversaries come at a challenging time for women's human rights. As Nigerian CSOs, we acknowledge an urgent need for decisive reversal of the backlash against women's rights and the gender equality agenda. As leaders, activists, advocates of gender equality and those who cherish the dream of leaving a better world for new generations, 2020 presents us with a generational opportunity to mobilize everyone who believes that a better world is possible, to seize this anniversary moment to make change.

At the 1995 sessions held in Beijing, Nigeria was among the delegates from the governments of 179 countries, among other groups and representatives who met and came up with firm commitments. The decision was acclaimed as a landmark that set a new global order/agenda/process for addressing issues of women's rights and gender inequalities, and provided a guiding principle for countries to design policies and develop programmes to implement these commitments. Nigeria operates a democratic system of government which is practiced under three tiers of governance – the Federal, State and the Local Government Areas. Most of the population resides in the rural areas and over 52.6 percent of Nigerians are still poor; the majority of these are women. Nigeria remains the poverty capital of the world since May 2018 as confirmed by various OXFAM and development partners report 2018 and 2019. NBS corroborates this and records that over 75million Nigerians live in active poverty of less than 2\$ a day. This has not changed. It questions all 500billion released in 2016, 2017 and 2018 to the Social investment programming through conditional cash transfers, market moni, trader money and N power programs of Nigeria's Economic and Recovery Growth plan under the office of the Vice President, headed by Mrs. Maryam Uwais. As a result 52.6% in the concept note on poverty levels in my mind do not add up and do not reflect our dire and increasing poverty of Nigerians including those in our sector. Please kindly look through again and rephrase or revise. Will share supporting reports on Nigeria's poverty crisis as we engage further. It is key to our concerns and we need to shout it out to the global community that we as Nigerians are really tired of being poor.

Since the major paradigm change on women's rights and development occurred at the Beijing Conference in 1995, advances have been made in national and global agendas to recognize and realize women's rights and gender equality. The civil society organizations in Nigeria acknowledge Nigerian government and development partners for the progress that has been made towards the realization of the commitments of the Beijing Platform for Action (PFA). Since 1995, the Nigerian government has formulated various policies and enacted diverse laws to contextualize the Beijing PFA, and has adopted various regional protocols to reinforce the Beijing PFA and other development frameworks.

Nigeria CSOs have been very active in ensuring the implementation of BPFA and in this process have produced shadow reports for every celebration of BPFA and have also organised roundtables to assess the extent of implementation in –country. The outcome of these engagements ~~is~~ shows that while a lot of progress have been made, many gaps and limitations remain at the level of policies, programs and legal frameworks in the Beijing twelve Critical Areas of Concerns.

In the past Nigeria leading feminist organisations like Women Consortium of Nigeria, Women Advocates Research and Documentation Centre, (WARDC) and Centrea for Organisational Development (COD) have played lead role in the promotion of BPFA and its implementation in Nigeria, they have submitted past reports and convened meetings to legitimise every document submitted around the country.

This year, BraveHeart Initiative for Youth & Women, a leading feminist CSO is working with WARDC, WOCON and COD to support a multi-generational group and Csos ~~Civil~~ to prepare Nigeria's CSO Shadow report. BraveHeart is leading an online consultation that involves CSO stakeholders including Young feminist influencers, Grassroots women's groups, mobilizers, sexual and reproductive health and rights groups, LGBTQI groups, people with disabilities community, environmental and climate justice groups, minority groups including IDPs etc.

WARDC, WOCON and COD will be leading physical meeting in the six geopolitical in November 2019 to gather views of organisations that may not have access to the online documents and further bring together more voices of women to discuss the government report, look at the gaps and contribute to a robust single Shadow Report from Nigeria.

## Methodology

- Online Consultation, Subsequent to the development of 1<sup>st</sup> Draft Report which will be completed through the online-consultation, to be led by BraveHeart
- A second round of consultations will take place at the geopolitical zones via Regional Consultative Meetings in the six geopolitical zones and the Federal Capital Territory to be attended by intersections of CSOs, to be led by WOCON, WARDC and COD. This will be a one day meeting with 35 people each.
- On completion of the regional meetings, there will be a National Validation Meeting which will include adoption of recommendations and input and will the undergo CSOs endorsement, which will take place at the National Women Conversation proposed for the 27-29 November 2019

The delebration as follows:

- Critical Area of Concern 1: Women and Poverty
- Critical Area of Concern 2: Education and Training for Women
- Critical Area of Concern 3: Women and Health
- Critical Area of Concern 4: Violence against Women
- Critical Area of Concern 5: Women and Armed Conflict
- Critical Area of Concern 6: Women and the Economy
- Critical Area of Concern 7: Women, Governance, Power and Decision Making
- Critical Area of Concern 8: Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women
- Critical Area of Concern 9: Human Rights of Women
- Critical Area of Concern 10: Women and the Media
- Critical Area of Concern 11: Women and the Environment
- Critical Area of Concern 12: The Girl Child

## Goal of the Geo-Political Zones Consultative Meetings

Building on the outcomes of the online consultation, to develop a common strategy and specific actions that CSOs and partners will use to address concerns in women's rights towards the Beijing +25 review.

**Target Audience:** Civil Society Organisations, CBOs, Labour, Market Association, People With Disabilities and other minority and marginalized groups.

## Proposed timeline

ACTIVITIES		End dates
1.	Online consultation on B+25	October 31 <sup>st</sup> 2019
2.	Stakeholders Consultation in NE, Adamawa & SS UYO	November 7/8 <sup>th</sup>
3.	Stakeholders Consultation in NW Kaduna & SE Enugu	13/14 November
4.	Stakeholder Consultation in SW , Abuja	21/22 NOV 2019
5.	National Consultation Abuja	27/28 Nov 2019
6.	Submission of drafts reports by Rapporteur for comments	3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2020
7.	Submission of distribution plan	10 <sup>th</sup> February2020
8.	Launch of report with wider audience at CSW	11-20 March 2020