



END OF PROJECT EVALUATION





**ENDLINE ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE
AND SGBV RESPONSE THROUGH INCLUSIVE
PEACEBUILDING AND ENHANCED ACCESS TO
JUSTICE**

FOREWORD

For decades, peace in Kaduna State has been fragile, and its stakeholders have struggled to find sustainable solutions to intractable insecurity. The state's volatility has been worsened by limited access to justice, and deeply rooted social norms that influence how disputes and violence are addressed.

State-led interventions often yielded poor results because they neither actively involve critical stakeholders, especially impacted communities, nor adopt gender-inclusive approaches. Their Early Warning Response Coordination systems and peacebuilding efforts frequently disenfranchise women due to trust deficits and structural inequities. Moreover, interventions often overlook the fact that SGBV is not merely a consequence of conflict but also a driver and perpetuator of insecurity. As a result, response mechanisms frequently exclude the very people they are intended to serve, particularly women, persons with disabilities, and other traditionally marginalized groups. Additionally, the absence of accessible, community-based justice services further limits the ability to prevent SGBV, seek redress, or ensure survivor-centered, trauma-informed care, perpetuating cycles of impunity and exclusion in conflict-affected communities.

With support from the FCDO-funded SPRiNG programme, led by Tetra Tech, we sought to change the trajectory by implementing a project *Strengthening Community Resilience and SGBV Response through Inclusive Peacebuilding and Enhanced Access to Justice* across Igabi, Zaria, and Zangon Kataf LGAs between May 2025 and March 2026.

This endline evaluation reflects on the outcomes of that intervention and the core lessons it afforded us. The findings point to clear shifts in how the project communities engage with conflict and justice. Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) have become better structured and recognized platforms for mediation, early warning and response systems have improved the ability of communities to identify and address tensions before they escalate, access to justice has expanded through the deployment of PDSS lawyers, and there is growing collaboration between community actors and formal institutions.

Importantly, the project has contributed to changes in participation and voice. Women are increasingly present and active in peacebuilding spaces, as contributors to decision-making processes. At the same time, conversations around sexual and gender-based violence are becoming more visible, even as challenges around reporting, stigma, and formal prosecution remain.

The evaluation also highlights that while progress has been made, institutional consolidation is still ongoing. Community structures are functional, but their long-term sustainability will

depend on stronger documentation systems, deeper integration with formal justice institutions, and continued investment in local ownership.

What emerges clearly is that when communities are supported with practical tools, inclusive platforms, and access to justice mechanisms, they are better positioned to manage disputes, reduce escalation, and build more resilient systems over time.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the FCDO-funded SPRiNG programme, led by Tetra Tech; the research team at the Centre for Development Research and Training (CDRT); the study participants; and all stakeholders whose time, expertise, and collaboration made this progress possible.

As we conclude this phase, we have shifted our focus to sustaining and building on these gains, and ensuring that the systems, relationships, and progress achieved continue to evolve beyond the life of the project.

Abiodun Baiyewu
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This endline evaluation assesses the outcomes of the project “Strengthening Community Resilience and SGBV Response through Inclusive Peacebuilding and Enhanced Access to Justice” implemented under the SPRiNG programme in Kaduna State. The evaluation focuses on three conflict-affected Local Government Areas (LGAs): Igabi, Zaria, and Zangon Kataf. It examines the extent to which the intervention contributed to improved community resilience, strengthened prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), enhanced access to justice, and increased inclusion of women and marginalized groups in community peace processes.

At baseline, the communities were characterized by recurring insecurity, limited trust in formal justice institutions, and weak community mechanisms for preventing and resolving disputes. The baseline study revealed that 31.8% of respondents reported experiencing conflict in their communities within the previous three years, while justice utilization remained low, with only about 34% of households reporting the use of any justice service in the previous year. SGBV was both prevalent and underreported due to stigma, social pressure, and limited awareness of referral pathways. Informal settlement through family, traditional, or religious leaders was the dominant response mechanism.

By endline, the evidence indicates meaningful shifts across several domains. Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) have become recognized platforms for mediation and conflict prevention, introducing more predictable dispute-resolution pathways at the community level. Many disputes are now addressed earlier through dialogue and mediation, reducing escalation into violent confrontation. Community perceptions of safety have improved, and stakeholders report greater willingness to raise grievances through structured channels rather than resorting to violence or silence.

The evaluation also identifies significant progress in gender inclusion. Women’s participation in community peace structures has increased, and women now contribute more actively to mediation and dialogue processes. The Gender Action Learning System (GALS) contributed to shifts in household decision-making dynamics, with many participants reporting increased joint planning and financial decision-making between spouses. These changes appear to have strengthened women’s confidence and visibility in community discussions.

In the domain of SGBV prevention and response, awareness has increased and community discussions about violence against women and girls have become more open. However, while awareness and discourse have improved, formal prosecution pathways remain inconsistent. Social stigma, family pressure, and community preference for reconciliation continue to influence how SGBV cases are handled, reflecting a transitional stage in norm change.

Access to justice has improved through strengthened collaboration between community structures and formal justice actors, particularly through the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS). Where PDSS lawyers are present, respondents report improved procedural fairness, greater awareness of legal rights, and faster resolution of some cases. Nevertheless, awareness of

PDSS services remains uneven across communities, and institutionalization of these mechanisms beyond project support remains a key sustainability consideration.

Overall, the project demonstrates credible contributions to community resilience, gender inclusion, and justice engagement. The strongest outcomes are observed in the strengthening of community-level mediation systems, improved dialogue around SGBV, and increased participation of women in peace structures. However, institutional consolidation remains incomplete. Sustaining these gains will require continued investment in documentation systems, stronger referral pathways, deeper institutional integration of justice actors, and long-term support for community peace infrastructure.

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1. BACKGROUND AND PROJECT CONTEXT

Kaduna State has experienced persistent insecurity and social tensions over the past decade, driven by a complex mix of communal disputes, farmer–herder conflicts, criminal banditry, and localized violence. These conflicts have disrupted livelihoods, weakened community trust, and created fragile security environments across several local government areas in the state. In northern Nigeria more broadly, cycles of violence linked to banditry, cattle rustling, and communal disputes have contributed to displacement, loss of lives, and erosion of social cohesion in many rural communities¹.

Within this broader context, communities in Igabi, Zaria, and Zangon Kataf Local Government Areas (LGAs) have experienced periodic tensions linked to youth violence, unresolved disputes, and weak conflict-management structures. In some locations, disputes between individuals or families have escalated due to the absence of predictable mediation mechanisms or timely early warning responses. In Zangon Kataf and surrounding areas, recurring violent incidents and attacks by armed groups have further strained community relations and heightened perceptions of insecurity².

Beyond physical insecurity, access to justice remains a major challenge in many communities. Formal justice institutions often appear distant or inaccessible, particularly for low-income or marginalized populations. Arrested persons frequently lack legal representation at the early stages of detention, increasing the risk of prolonged detention and procedural violations. The Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS) was developed in Nigeria to address this gap by providing free legal advice and representation to suspects at police stations, ensuring protection of their rights at the point of arrest and during detention³.

Gender inequality and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) further compound these challenges. In many communities, intimate partner violence and other forms of SGBV are frequently managed informally through family or traditional mediation rather than formal reporting mechanisms. Social stigma, fear of retaliation, and limited awareness of survivor-support pathways often discourage victims from seeking justice. These dynamics reinforce cycles of silence and undermine community trust in justice systems.

Against this backdrop, the Strengthening Community Resilience and SGBV Response through Inclusive Peacebuilding and Enhanced Access to Justice project was implemented in Kaduna State under the Strengthening Peace and Resilience in Nigeria (SPRiNG) programme. The project was Development Office (FCDO) through Tetra Tech and ran from May 2025 to March 2026 across Igabi, Zaria, and Zangon Kataf LGAs implemented by Global Rights with support from the United Kingdom’s Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office(FCDO).

¹ https://unjpe.com/index.php/UNJPE/article/download/221/210?utm_source=

² [Ungwan Wakili massacre - Wikipedia](#)

³

https://www.justiceinitiative.org/publications/lawyer-police-station-door-how-replace-provides-legal-aid-nigeria?utm_source

This phase of the intervention represented an upscale and consolidation of earlier programming, which had previously piloted similar approaches in Zonkwa community in Kaduna State and Gagi community in Sokoto State. Lessons from these earlier initiatives demonstrated that strengthening inclusive community dialogue structures and improving justice access mechanisms could significantly enhance local peacebuilding processes and increase women's participation in mediation and community decision-making.

The project was therefore designed to address four interconnected structural challenges identified through earlier programming and baseline assessments:

- Weak and personality-driven community mediation systems that allowed disputes to escalate.
- Limited access to legal representation at police divisions, particularly for vulnerable detainees.
- Underdeveloped early warning coordination mechanisms capable of identifying and addressing tensions before escalation.
- Persistent sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), especially intimate partner violence, often resolved informally without survivor-centered referral pathways.

A critical dimension of the intervention was the recognition that peace and justice processes in many communities excluded women, youth, and other marginalized identities. At baseline, community dialogue and mediation spaces were largely male-dominated, limiting the legitimacy and inclusiveness of local conflict-management systems. The project therefore sought not only to strengthen peace structures but also to promote inclusive participation in community peace and security governance.

To address these challenges, the project adopted a dual-track approach combining community peace infrastructure strengthening with justice-sector reform.

Community Peace Infrastructure Strengthening

At the community level, the project focused on strengthening mechanisms that enable early dispute resolution and inclusive participation. Key interventions included:

- Establishment and strengthening of Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs).
- Training of community-based GBV response teams.
- Deployment of Early Warning and Early Response Coordination (EWERC) systems, supported by a digital early-warning reporting application for real-time documentation and reporting.
- Implementation of the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) to promote gender-transformative dialogue and joint decision-making at the household level.

These mechanisms aimed to create structured channels for identifying early signs of tension, mediating disputes before escalation, and ensuring that women and youth actively participate in peacebuilding processes.

Justice Sector Accountability

Complementing community-level interventions, the project also addressed gaps in formal justice processes by deploying the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS) across six police divisions in Kaduna State.

Through this component:

- 12 PDSS lawyers were deployed across six police divisions, with two lawyers stationed in each division.
- Lawyers provided legal advice, representation, bail support, and monitoring of detention conditions.
- A total of 523 cases were handled during the project period, strengthening procedural safeguards at the point of arrest and improving detainee access to legal representation.

By combining community-level peace infrastructure with justice-sector accountability mechanisms, the project sought to move beyond awareness-raising toward institutional embedding of inclusive peace and justice systems.

Overall, the intervention reached 1,428 direct beneficiaries across the three LGAs, with women constituting 56% of participants, reflecting the project's deliberate focus on gender inclusion while maintaining balanced male engagement to support broader normative change.

This evaluation therefore examines the extent to which the project contributed to measurable changes in community safety, conflict management, access to justice, SGBV response, and inclusive participation in peacebuilding structures across the target communities.

2. EVALUATION PURPOSE, QUESTIONS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Evaluation Purpose

This endline evaluation assesses the overall performance and outcomes of the project “Strengthening Community Resilience and SGBV Response through Inclusive Peacebuilding and Enhanced Access to Justice”.

The evaluation consolidates findings from the three Local Government Area (LGA) endline assessments conducted in Igabi, Zaria, and Zangon Kataf LGAs of Kaduna State. The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the extent to which the intervention contributed to improvements in:

- Community safety and conflict prevention
- Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention and response
- Access to justice and justice quality
- Inclusive participation in peace and security processes

- Institutional sustainability of community peace infrastructure

Beyond measuring project outputs, the evaluation examines whether community and justice institutions supported by the project have become functional, predictable, and capable of sustaining conflict management and justice delivery beyond the project lifecycle. Particular attention is given to the effectiveness of Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs), Early Warning and Early Response Coordination (EWERC) systems, Gender-Based Violence Response Teams (GBVRTs), the Gender Action Learning System (GALS), and the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS).

The evaluation therefore moves beyond activity verification to assess whether the intervention contributed to structural changes in how communities prevent violence, manage disputes, and access justice institutions.

2.2 Evaluation Design and Analytical Approach

The evaluation applies a mixed-methods design that integrates both quantitative and qualitative evidence collected at the LGA level and synthesizes them into a consolidated state-level analysis.

Given the complex and multi-actor nature of peacebuilding interventions, the evaluation adopts a contribution analysis approach rather than strict attribution. Peace and justice outcomes in fragile contexts are influenced by multiple interacting factors including broader security dynamics, governance reforms, and socio-economic conditions.

The evaluation therefore examines whether available evidence supports a credible and plausible contribution of the intervention to observed changes in community resilience, justice access, and gender inclusion.

The evaluation design focuses on five analytical dimensions:

- Measuring outcome-level change in safety, conflict trends, and justice access
- Assessing the functionality of community peace infrastructure
- Examining justice quality improvements, including procedural safeguards at police divisions
- Analyzing participation shifts and power dynamics, particularly regarding women and youth
- Evaluating prospects for institutional sustainability of supported structures

This approach allows the evaluation to assess not only whether activities were implemented, but whether governance routines and justice processes have become more predictable, inclusive, and institutionalized.

2.3 Data Collection Methods

The evaluation combines quantitative surveys, qualitative interviews, and administrative data review to ensure triangulation of evidence.

Quantitative Data Collection

Endline surveys were conducted across the three LGAs to capture perception-based indicators and service utilization patterns relating to:

- Changes in violent conflict and community safety
- Trends in SGBV incidence and reporting behavior
- Utilization of CDC mediation services
- Engagement with PDSS lawyers
- Perceptions of justice timeliness and fairness
- Participation of women and youth in peace processes
- Community confidence in sustainability of project structures

The consolidated survey sample size was 75 respondents, including community members, CDC actors, project beneficiaries, and justice stakeholders. This enabled triangulation between community perceptions and institutional performance indicators.

The respondent profile shows a balanced gender distribution, with 56% female respondents and 44% male respondents, reflecting the project's emphasis on women's participation in peace and justice processes.

Qualitative Data Collection

Qualitative inquiry was conducted to provide deeper understanding of institutional functionality, power dynamics, and community experiences with project-supported structures.

Data were collected through:

- 12 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) across the three LGAs
- 45 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with relevant stakeholders

FGD participants included:

- Male and female community members
- CDC members
- GALS beneficiaries
- GBV Response Team members

A total of 92 individuals participated in FGDs, including 44 males and 48 females.

Key informants interviewed included:

- Traditional and community leaders
- Religious leaders
- CDC leadership
- GBV Response Team members
- Police officers
- PDSS lawyers
- GALS beneficiaries
- Male and female community members

Qualitative methods enabled deeper exploration of:

- Institutional functionality of CDCs and EWERC systems
- Power dynamics and women's participation in mediation structures
- Survivor-centred approaches to SGBV response
- Coordination between community structures and formal justice actors
- Normative change around gender and conflict resolution
- Sustainability risks affecting project outcomes

These qualitative findings provide explanatory depth to quantitative trends and help identify mechanisms through which the intervention contributed to observed change.

Administrative Data Review

Programme monitoring and administrative records were reviewed to validate output-level performance and institutional footprint.

Key administrative data sources included:

- PDSS case records, documenting 523 cases handled across six police divisions
- EWERC reporting data, showing 249 early warning cases recorded
- CDC mediation records
- Gender-disaggregated participation data

These administrative sources were used to cross-check reported utilization patterns and assess the operational functionality of supported peace and justice systems.

2.4 Limitations

Several limitations should be noted:

- Documentation systems within community structures remain limited, restricting longitudinal case tracking.
- Broader regional insecurity dynamics fall outside the direct scope of the intervention.
- The project timeframe may be insufficient to fully consolidate institutional reforms, particularly in justice-sector embedding and financial sustainability.

KEY FINDINGS

3. FINDINGS: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

Community resilience in this evaluation is understood as the capacity of communities to anticipate, absorb, and manage tensions without escalation into violence. It is assessed not by the absence of insecurity, but by improvements in predictability, mediation routines, early response mechanisms, and inclusive governance structures.

Across Igabi LGA, Zaria LGA, and Zangon Kataf LGA, the evidence indicates measurable strengthening of community-level conflict management systems. The intervention strengthened community peace architecture through the establishment and support of 56 Community Dialogue Committee (CDC) members across the three LGAs, alongside the deployment of Early Warning and Early Response Coordination (EWERC) mechanisms, which collectively recorded 249 early warning cases during the project period.

These institutional developments contributed to observable changes in mediation practices, conflict reporting patterns, and community perceptions of safety.

3.1 Institutionalization of Mediation Structures

A central contribution of the intervention across all three LGAs is the strengthening and routinization of the CDCs as structured mediation platforms.

At baseline, dispute resolution mechanisms were largely informal and personality-driven. Authority figures intervened reactively, often only after tensions had escalated. By endline, CDCs are operational, meeting regularly, mediating disputes, and interfacing with traditional leaders and security actors.

Utilization rates demonstrate functionality rather than nominal existence:

- In **Igabi**, 61% accessed CDC mediation within the past six months and 89% reported successful resolution of disputes.
- In **Zangon Kataf (Zonkwa)**, 75% accessed CDC mediation and 63% reported successful resolution.
- In **Zaria**, 68.2% accessed CDC Mediation. Mediation routinization is widely acknowledged, with improved predictability in dispute routing.

Survey findings further indicate a substantial increase in mediation activity across the three LGAs. In **Igabi**, 72% of respondents report a significant increase in mediation activity and an additional 20% report moderate increase. In **Zaria**, 44% report a significant increase and 32% a

moderate increase. In **Zangon Kataf**, 40% report a significant increase and 36% report moderate increase in mediation activity.

The significance of this shift lies in predictability. When communities can anticipate fair and timely dispute resolution processes, escalation thresholds change. Grievances are surfaced earlier, and confrontation-driven responses decrease.

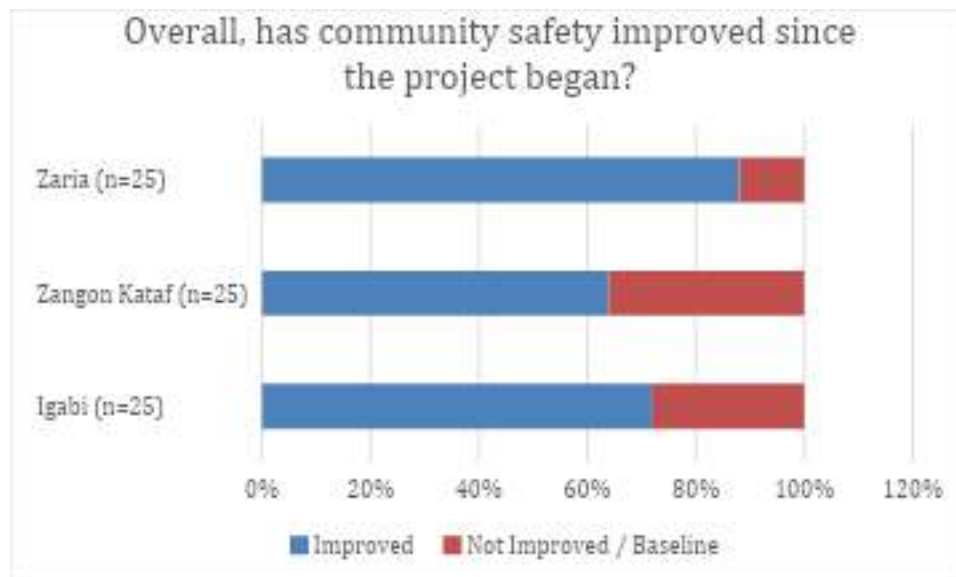
Community testimonies reinforce this shift. A CDC member in Zaria explained:

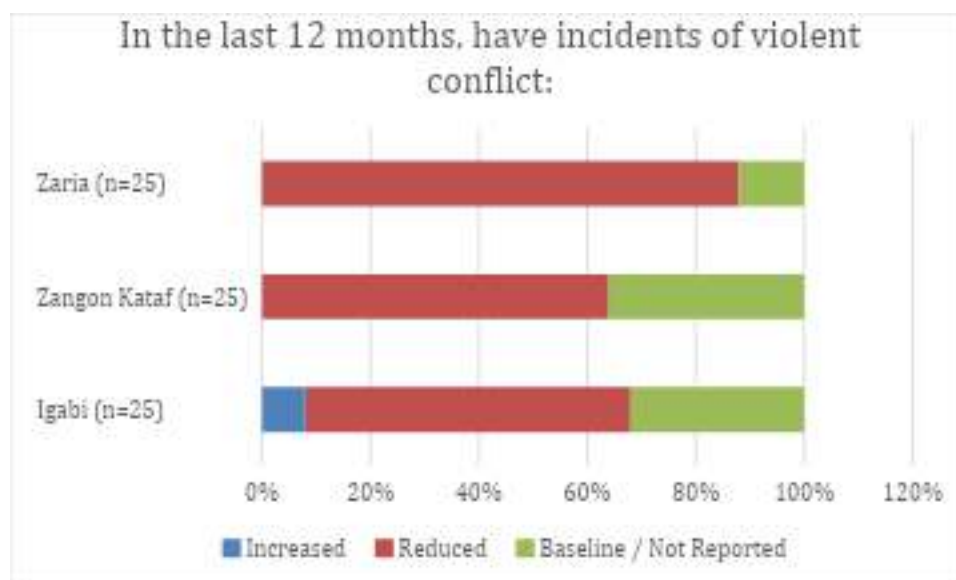
“Before, issues would drag and cause tension. Now the CDC intervenes early.” - Zaria FGD
CDC 02

3.2 Perceived Reduction in Violent Conflict

Across LGAs, majorities of respondents report reductions in violent conflict and improvements in community safety:

- **Igabi:** 60% report reduced violent conflict; 72% report improved safety.
- **Zangon Kataf:** 64% report reduced violent conflict and improved safety.
- **Zaria:** 88% report improved safety and reduced escalation.





These perception shifts are significant given baseline concerns around youth-related violence, unresolved disputes, and localized inter-communal tensions that characterized the communities prior to intervention.

Qualitative evidence aligns with these findings. Stakeholders describe fewer youth altercations, earlier mediation of domestic disputes, and greater willingness to report tensions before escalation.

Respondents also demonstrated strong attribution of safety improvements to the intervention. When asked what would likely have happened without the project, **84% of respondents in Zaria, 72% in Igabi, and 64% in Zangon Kataf indicated that conflict would likely have increased.**

It is important to note that broader regional insecurity factors, such as banditry and kidnapping across the North-West region, remain beyond the direct scope of community-level intervention. The project's contribution is therefore best understood as strengthening internal conflict management capacity and dispute containment mechanisms, rather than eliminating structural security threats.

3.3 Early Warning and Early Response

Early warning mechanisms have been established or strengthened across all LGAs. Triggers for conflict and SGBV are now mapped within CDC structures, and community members report increased awareness of escalation risks.

During the project period, **249 cases were recorded through the Early Warning and Early Response Coordination (EWERC) system**, including reports related to community disputes, youth disturbances, suspicious movements, and GBV alerts.

Beyond reporting volume, the proportion of cases resolved through dialogue provides stronger insight into system functionality. Endline findings indicate that **84% of early warning cases in Zaria, 65% in Igabi, and 60% in Zangon Kataf** were resolved through dialogue mechanisms prior to escalation. These figures produce a consolidated resolution rate of approximately **65 percent**, exceeding the project benchmark of 50 percent.

In **Igabi**, 83% of respondents report using Early Warning and Early Response mechanisms to identify emerging tensions. In **Zangon Kataf**, mapping of conflict triggers is confirmed, though broader community-level utilization remains moderate. In **Zaria**, early warning operates more as a community practice embedded in dialogue and mediation processes rather than a strictly formalized documentation system.

The overall pattern suggests that early response culture has strengthened across the three LGAs, though documentation practices and formal escalation protocols require further institutionalization.

3.4 Youth Participation and Conflict Prevention

Youth marginalization was identified as a significant baseline risk factor across LGAs. By endline, youth participation in peace and security discussions has increased substantially.

Survey findings indicate increased youth engagement in community governance and security dialogue platforms:

- **Zaria:** 84% report increased youth participation in security discussions.
- **Igabi:** 72% report increased youth participation.
- **Zangon Kataf:** 56% report increased youth engagement.

This shift is significant because youth are no longer positioned primarily as potential conflict actors but as governance contributors. Inclusion within structured dialogue spaces reduces grievance-driven mobilization and strengthens preventive resilience.

A youth participant in Zangon Kataf explained:

“Before, they would say security issues are for elders. Now they invite us.” (Zangon Kataf FGD Women 005)

3.5 Overall Assessment of Community Resilience

Across the three LGAs, community resilience has strengthened in several important ways:

- Mediation is increasingly routinized rather than reactive.
- Disputes are surfaced earlier through CDC mediation and early warning reporting.
- Youth are integrated into dialogue and conflict prevention platforms.

- Perceived safety has improved across communities.
- Escalation intensity of disputes has reduced.

Resilience gains are strongest at the relational and procedural levels, where mediation routines and early reporting practices have become normalized. Institutional embedding, particularly documentation systems and formal integration of CDC and early warning mechanisms into local governance frameworks, remains an area for further consolidation.

4. FINDINGS: SGBV PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) was identified at baseline across the three project LGAs Igabi, Zaria, and Zangon Kataf as a significant yet largely underreported challenge affecting women and girls. Baseline evidence indicated that survivors rarely reported incidents to formal institutions due to stigma, fear of retaliation, economic dependence, and limited trust in justice systems. Approximately **38% of survivors reported incidents to no one**, while only **10.2% reported to the police**, highlighting the extent of silence surrounding SGBV at the start of the intervention.

These dynamics reinforced reliance on informal settlement mechanisms through family members, traditional authorities, and religious leaders. In response, the SPRiNG intervention prioritized strengthening community awareness, improving survivor support pathways, and linking community-based mechanisms to formal justice institutions.

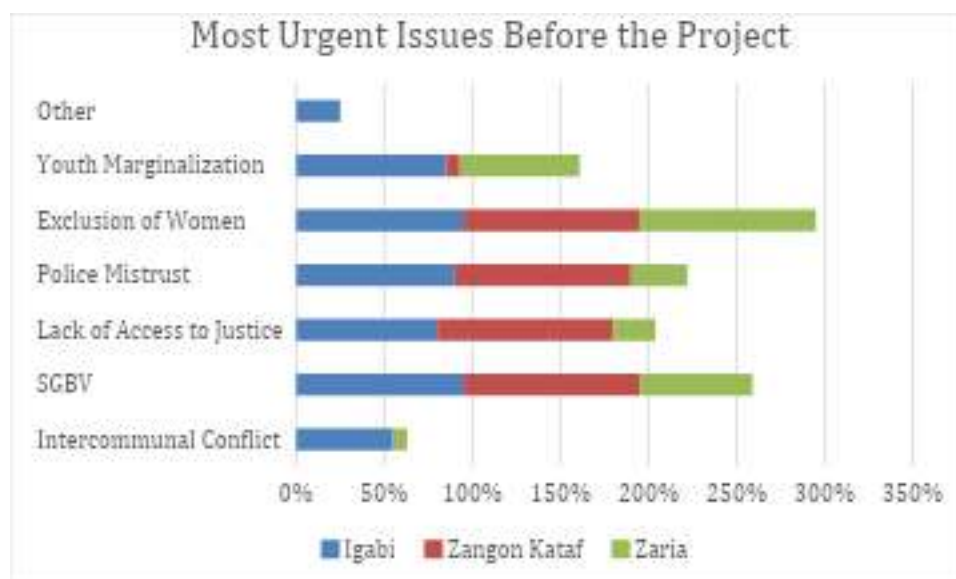
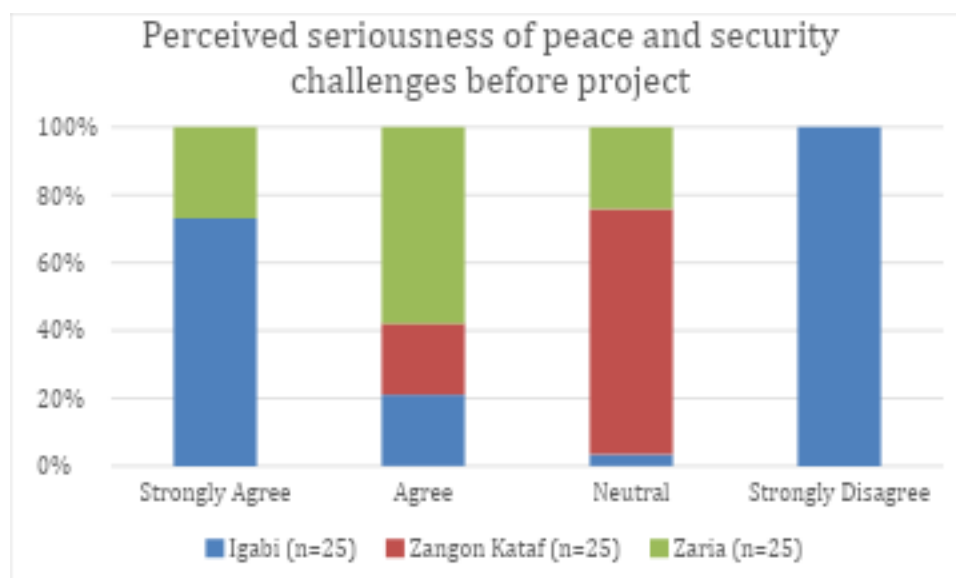
4.1 Increased Awareness and Normative Shift

Across the three LGAs, awareness of SGBV as a violation of rights has increased since the project began, although the scale of change varies across communities. Community members now demonstrate improved understanding of multiple forms of abuse including physical, emotional, sexual, and economic violence and discussions around SGBV have become more visible within community dialogue spaces.

In **Igabi**, the shift has been particularly significant. **94% of respondents reported that SGBV reporting has increased since the start of the project**, reflecting growing confidence among survivors and community members to disclose incidents and engage available support systems.

In **Zangon Kataf**, **88% of respondents reported an increase in SGBV reporting**, suggesting that sensitization activities and the presence of referral structures have contributed to greater willingness to acknowledge and address gender-based violence.

In **Zaria**, the pattern is more mixed. While **36% of respondents reported increased SGBV reporting**, **45% indicated that reporting had decreased**, suggesting that although awareness and community dialogue have improved, stigma and informal settlement practices continue to influence disclosure behaviour.



Despite these variations, qualitative evidence from community stakeholders indicates that SGBV is increasingly discussed as a community issue rather than solely a private family matter. This shift from silence to dialogue represents a meaningful normative transformation across the project communities. However, awareness and social recognition appear to be advancing faster than institutional accountability mechanisms in some locations.

4.2 Reporting and Referral Pathways

Referral systems linking survivors to support services have strengthened across the three LGAs, though the degree of institutional consolidation differs by location.

In **Igabi**, the most advanced progress is evident. **78% of respondents reported a significant increase in referrals of SGBV cases to formal institutions**, while **67% reported accessing legal assistance through the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS)**. These results suggest that community structures, such as Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs), Early Warning and Early Response Coordination (EWERC), and SGBV Response Teams are effectively facilitating linkages between communities and justice actors.

In **Zangon Kataf**, **44% of respondents reported accessing SGBV referral pathways within the past six months**, indicating moderate uptake of services and improved awareness of available support mechanisms.

In **Zaria**, referral mechanisms exist but are less frequently utilized. Only **23% of respondents reported using SGBV referral pathways in the past six months**, while **just 5% reported accessing PDSS legal support**, suggesting that institutional access and awareness remain comparatively limited.

Overall, these findings indicate that survivors now have greater knowledge of where to seek assistance, and community structures increasingly serve as entry points for justice services. However, referral systems remain uneven across LGAs and require further strengthening to ensure consistent access to formal protection mechanisms.

4.3 Survivor-Centered Practice and Confidentiality

Survivor-centered approaches to SGBV response have strengthened across the project areas, particularly in Igabi where structured referral mechanisms and the presence of PDSS lawyers have improved perceptions of safety and fairness in justice engagement.

In **Igabi**, community respondents reported increased confidence in reporting incidents, supported by improved confidentiality practices and stronger institutional coordination between community actors and justice institutions.

In **Zangon Kataf**, although referral pathways have become operational, survivors continue to face social pressure that may discourage full disclosure. Community actors frequently prioritize mediation and reconciliation, particularly in cases of intimate partner violence.

In **Zaria**, stigma remains a significant barrier to reporting. Survivors may still experience pressure to resolve incidents privately to preserve family reputation or community cohesion. While community awareness has increased, confidentiality safeguards and survivor-centered protocols are not yet consistently institutionalized across all actors involved in case management.

Across the LGAs, the evidence suggests that improvements in awareness and referral knowledge have progressed more rapidly than the institutionalization of comprehensive survivor protection mechanisms.

4.4 Informal Settlement and Accountability Gaps

Although reliance on informal settlement mechanisms has declined compared to baseline conditions, such practices have not been completely eliminated.

In both **Zaria and Zangon Kataf**, certain forms of violence, particularly intimate partner violence, are still sometimes resolved through mediated agreements or traditional dispute resolution processes rather than formal prosecution.

This reflects a common transitional phase observed in fragile and conflict-affected settings, where social norms begin to shift before formal justice systems fully consolidate their enforcement capacity. As communities increasingly recognize SGBV as unacceptable, institutional mechanisms must strengthen to ensure that justice processes reinforce these evolving norms.

4.5 Overall Assessment of SGBV Outcomes

Across the three LGAs, the SPRiNG project has contributed to measurable improvements in SGBV prevention, awareness, and response systems.

Key improvements include:

- Increased public awareness and recognition of SGBV as a rights violation
- Increased reporting and disclosure, particularly in **Igabi (94%)** and **Zangon Kataf (88%)**
- Strengthened referral pathways linking community structures to formal justice institutions
- Expanded participation of women in community governance and mediation spaces

However, several challenges remain:

- Informal mediation continues to influence case resolution in some communities
- Formal prosecution of SGBV cases remains inconsistent, particularly in Zaria
- Confidentiality safeguards require further strengthening across referral actors
- Economic dependence and social stigma continue to influence survivor decision-making

Overall, SGBV response outcomes can be characterized as **strong in Igabi, moderate in Zangon Kataf, and emerging but uneven in Zaria**. The intervention has successfully contributed to reducing silence around gender-based violence and strengthening referral pathways. However, sustained institutional engagement and continued investment in survivor-centered justice mechanisms will be necessary to consolidate these gains and ensure long-term accountability.

5. FINDINGS: ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND JUSTICE QUALITY

Access to justice at baseline across the three LGAs was constrained by mistrust of police institutions, fear of prolonged detention, stigma, cost barriers, and limited awareness of legal rights. Engagement with formal justice institutions was often delayed or avoided, and informal settlement mechanisms dominated dispute resolution. Survivors and community members frequently relied on traditional or family mediation, while interaction with police or courts was limited and often viewed with suspicion.

The intervention therefore prioritized strengthening the interface between community structures and justice institutions, particularly through Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs), Early Warning and Early Response Coordination (EWERC), and the deployment of the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS). These mechanisms aimed to improve procedural safeguards, reduce rights violations at the point of arrest, and rebuild trust between communities and justice actors.

5.1 Entry-Point Justice Reform: The Role of PDSS

One of the most significant justice-sector contributions of the intervention is the strengthening of procedural safeguards at the point of police contact through the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS).

In **Igabi**, PDSS impact is particularly visible. **67% of respondents reported accessing PDSS lawyers**, while **83% strongly agreed that trust in police has improved due to the presence of PDSS lawyers**. Additionally, **100% strongly agreed that cases are now resolved faster than before the project**, indicating that legal oversight at the arrest and investigation stage has improved both procedural fairness and efficiency.

In **Zonkwa (Zangon Kataf)**, the influence of PDSS is more moderate but still evident. **81% of respondents agreed that cases are resolved faster than before the intervention**, while **31% reported accessing PDSS lawyers**. Respondents and stakeholders noted improved cooperation between PDSS lawyers and police officers, alongside reduced instances of prolonged detention.

In **Zaria**, the direct utilization of PDSS services remains limited, with only **5% of respondents reporting access to PDSS lawyers**. However, perceptions of procedural fairness have improved where PDSS is present within justice processes, particularly among actors connected to CDC networks.

The analytical significance of PDSS lies in its placement at what practitioners often describe as the “*engine room*” of justice the investigation and arrest stage. Early legal oversight reduces the risk of rights violations, shapes downstream judicial outcomes, and strengthens perceptions of fairness within the justice system.

5.2 Timeliness and Dispute Resolution

Across the three LGAs, respondents consistently reported improvements in the timeliness of dispute resolution and case handling.

In **Igabi**, improvements are particularly strong. **100% of respondents strongly agreed that cases are resolved faster than before the project, and 89% reported successful dispute resolution outcomes.**

In **Zonkwa**, **81% of respondents agreed that cases are resolved faster**, while **63% reported successful dispute resolution**, often through community mediation processes supported by CDC structures.

In **Zaria**, improvements in timeliness are widely acknowledged through the routinization of CDC mediation. **86% of respondents reported successful dispute resolution**, indicating that community mediation structures are effectively addressing disputes before escalation.

The strengthening of CDC mediation has reduced reliance on lengthy formal processes and created lower-cost entry points for justice. This hybrid model community mediation linked to formal legal safeguards, has improved accessibility while enabling earlier resolution of disputes.

5.3 Institutional Trust

Institutional trust in justice actors, particularly the police, has improved across the three LGAs, though the degree of change varies.

Igabi demonstrates the strongest shift, with **83% of respondents strongly agreeing that trust in police has improved due to the presence of PDSS lawyers.**

In **Zonkwa**, perceptions of police trust improved more gradually. Approximately **50% of respondents agreed that trust in police has improved**, while **44% remained neutral**, reflecting cautious but positive shifts in perception.

In **Zaria**, perceptions are similarly mixed but trending positively. **86% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that trust in police has improved**, though engagement with formal justice mechanisms remains less frequent compared to the other LGAs.

Overall, the findings suggest that improvements in procedural fairness and timeliness are beginning to rebuild institutional trust. However, historical mistrust of justice institutions means that legitimacy is consolidating gradually and will require sustained performance over time.

5.4 Justice Quality Dimensions

Justice quality was assessed across six core dimensions:

1. Timeliness

Strong improvements are evident across the LGAs due to faster mediation processes and PDSS oversight at the investigation stage.

2. Procedural Fairness

Improved particularly where PDSS lawyers are present, providing early legal oversight during arrest and detention processes.

3. Accessibility

Strengthened through CDC mediation structures and the availability of free legal representation through PDSS.

4. Confidentiality

Improved in some areas but not yet consistently institutionalized across all justice actors.

5. Survivor-Centeredness

Awareness of survivor rights and referral pathways has improved, though full institutionalization of survivor-centered practices remains uneven.

6. Accountability

Moderate progress has been observed. While referral systems have strengthened, formal prosecution of some SGBV cases remains inconsistent.

Overall, the most consolidated improvements are observed in timeliness and procedural safeguards, while confidentiality protections and consistent formal prosecution remain less fully institutionalized.

5.5 Overall Assessment of Justice Outcomes

Across the three LGAs, access to justice has improved in several key ways:

- Increased utilization of legal and mediation services
- Faster dispute resolution through CDC mediation structures
- Strengthened procedural safeguards at the arrest and investigation stage
- Improved oversight of detention practices through PDSS
- Increased engagement between communities and police institutions

However, several challenges remain:

- Deep institutional legitimacy is consolidating gradually
- Formal prosecution pathways for SGBV cases require further strengthening
- Sustainability of PDSS will depend on long-term institutional absorption by justice institutions

Overall, justice access outcomes can be characterized as strong at the entry-point level and moderate in long-term institutional consolidation. The intervention has significantly strengthened

procedural fairness and timeliness, laying an important foundation for deeper justice reform across the three LGAs.

6. FINDINGS: INCLUSION AND POWER DYNAMICS

Inclusion was a central pillar of the intervention, particularly the meaningful participation of women and youth in community peacebuilding and governance processes. At baseline, participation of both groups across the three Local Government Areas (LGAs) was limited and often symbolic. Women were largely excluded from decision-making forums due to prevailing social norms, while youth engagement in formal dialogue structures remained minimal despite their direct exposure to conflict dynamics.

Endline findings indicate a clear shift toward broader civic participation and increased visibility of women and youth in community peace infrastructure. However, while participation has expanded significantly, deeper redistribution of authority within traditional decision-making hierarchies remains gradual.

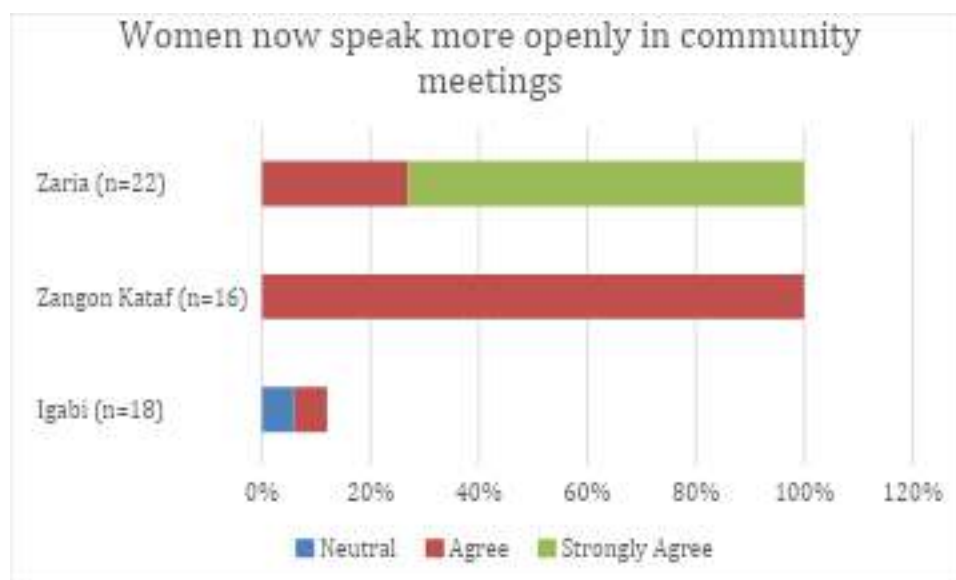
6.1 Women's Participation in Governance and Mediation

Remarkably, across all three LGAs, women's representation within Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) meets or exceeds the project's benchmark of **40% participation**, indicating strong progress toward gender inclusion targets.

Beyond numerical representation, qualitative findings reveal meaningful changes in women's participation dynamics. Respondents across Igabi and Zaria reported that women now speak openly during community meetings and contribute actively to mediation and dispute resolution processes. These changes signal a shift from symbolic representation toward functional participation, where women's voices are increasingly recognized within community dialogue platforms.

This transformation aligns with evidence from stakeholder interviews indicating that women are increasingly perceived as legitimate actors in peacebuilding processes. In Zaria, for example, women mediators have emerged as trusted figures in dispute resolution processes and are frequently referenced by community members as key facilitators of dialogue and reconciliation.

The normalization of women's presence within community governance spaces represents an important institutional shift. Women are no longer peripheral observers but increasingly active contributors to community decision-making and mediation processes.



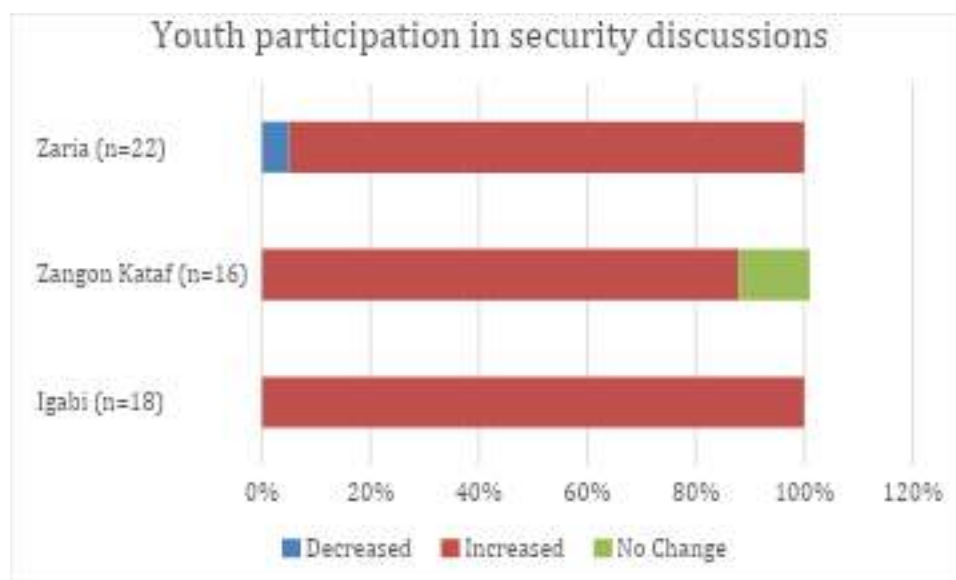
6.2 Youth Engagement in Peace and Security Discussions

Youth marginalization was identified at baseline as a key vulnerability factor contributing to social tension and conflict escalation. Young people were largely excluded from structured dialogue platforms despite being among the groups most affected by insecurity and violence.

By endline, youth participation in peace and security discussions has increased substantially across the three LGAs. In **Igabi**, youth involvement in community dialogue platforms and security discussions is reported as widespread, while **Zaria** and **Zonkwa** show increasing integration of youth representatives into mediation and governance processes.

This shift has important implications for community resilience. Youth are increasingly positioned as contributors to dialogue and prevention efforts rather than as potential drivers of conflict escalation. Their participation in community structures strengthens early mediation processes and supports more inclusive governance arrangements.

Evidence from community discussions suggests that youth involvement has also improved information flow and early identification of emerging tensions. When young people are integrated into dialogue structures, community actors are better positioned to identify potential risks and address grievances before escalation occurs.



6.3 Movement from Participation to Influence

While participation has expanded across all LGAs, the redistribution of decision-making authority remains incremental.

Women and youth now participate in mediation discussions and governance forums; however, in high-stakes disputes or culturally sensitive matters, final authority often remains concentrated among traditional male leadership structures. This pattern reflects the persistence of deeply embedded social hierarchies that shape authority within community governance systems.

Nevertheless, the intervention has contributed to gradual shifts in power dynamics, particularly at the household level. The Gender Action Learning System (GALS) methodology introduced through the project has strengthened negotiation capacity within households and encouraged more collaborative decision-making practices among couples.

52% of Respondents in Igabi and 20% of Respondents from Zaria reported increased instances of joint household decision-making related to finances, family planning, and livelihood strategies among participants exposed to GALS training. A Respondent from Zangon Kataf exclaimed:

“The GALS training for me was the best part of the project, how I wish more Couples would get an opportunity to go for that training. It changed the way I relate with my Wife, before we don’t really sit together to talk about decisions because I take all the decisions alone but now, we plan together as Husband and Wife, our finances has improved since then. We save more and are able to meet to more needs” – (Zangon Kataf FGD Men 03)

These changes represent early indicators of gender-norm transformation that may contribute to longer-term shifts in authority relations within communities.

However, economic control structures remain uneven, particularly in households that did not directly participate in the GALS intervention. This suggests that while normative change has begun, sustained engagement will be required to consolidate deeper structural shifts.

6.4 Normative Change and Social Legitimacy

One of the most significant changes observed across the three LGAs is the growing normalization of women's presence in peacebuilding and governance spaces. Women's participation is increasingly accepted within community dialogue structures, and peer mobilization among women has strengthened collective confidence and solidarity.

In **Zaria**, women leaders within CDC structures have become influential reference points for mediation processes, reflecting increased social legitimacy of women's leadership roles.

In **Igabi**, high levels of public support for women's participation reflect substantial normative acceptance, with community members increasingly recognizing women's contributions to peacebuilding and conflict resolution.

In **Zonkwa**, women's participation is also substantive; with women gradually taking up roles within the traditional leadership structure across the LGA. However, continued engagement with religious and traditional authorities remains important to sustain broader acceptance of women's leadership roles.

These patterns suggest that inclusion has moved beyond project-driven compliance toward emerging social legitimacy. While structural barriers remain, attitudes toward women's participation are evolving in ways that support longer-term transformation.

6.5 Overall Assessment of Inclusion Outcomes

Across the three LGAs, inclusion outcomes demonstrate substantial progress in expanding participation and strengthening the visibility of women and youth in peace and governance processes.

Key achievements include:

- Increased representation of women in CDC leadership and mediation structures
- Expanded youth participation in community dialogue and security discussions
- Greater confidence among women to speak and contribute in governance forums
- Improved household negotiation dynamics in GALS-supported communities

However, several structural constraints remain:

- Redistribution of authority remains gradual within traditional leadership structures
- Economic empowerment continues to shape women's influence within households and communities

- Long-term consolidation of gender-transformative outcomes requires sustained engagement and institutional support

Overall, inclusion outcomes can be characterized as strong in participation expansion and moderate in structural power redistribution. The intervention has significantly broadened civic space for women and youth and established a foundation upon which deeper social and institutional transformation can build over time.

7. SUSTAINABILITY

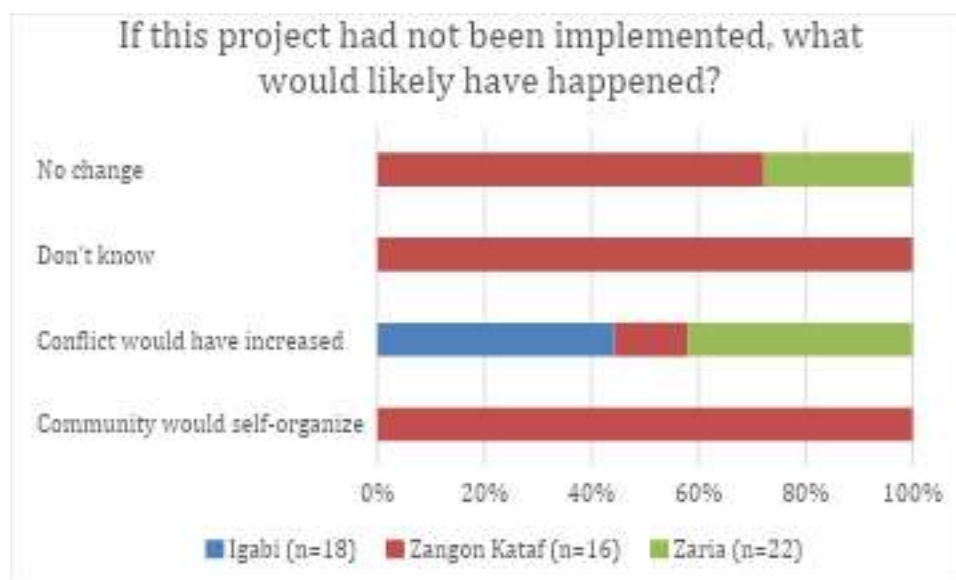
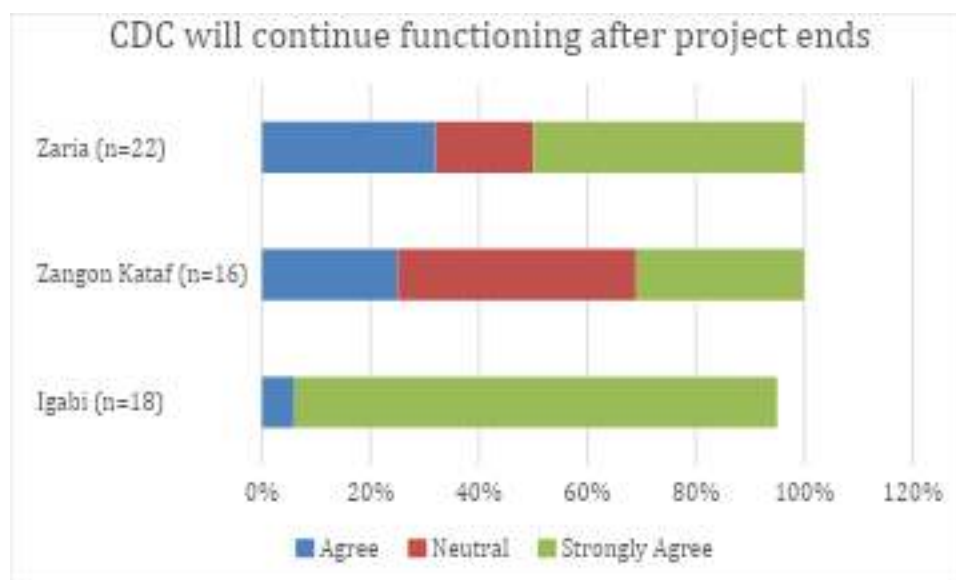
Sustainability is assessed across three interrelated dimensions: social legitimacy, institutional integration, and financial durability. While the intervention has generated strong community-level outcomes, the long-term endurance of these gains will depend on the extent to which the project's mechanisms are embedded within formal governance and justice systems.

7.1 Social Legitimacy and Community Ownership

Across all three LGAs, the Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) demonstrate strong social legitimacy. Mediation practices introduced through the project are widely recognized, and community members consistently report continued reliance on CDC structures for dispute resolution and conflict prevention.

In **Igabi**, 83% of respondents confirm that CDCs remain active and operational, with high levels of mediation utilization. In **Zonkwa**, 75% of respondents reported accessing CDC mediation services for resolving community disputes. In **Zaria**, mediation practices have become routinized and embedded within community governance structures, with disputes increasingly channelled through dialogue platforms before escalation.

These findings suggest that CDCs are not perceived as temporary project entities but as legitimate community governance mechanisms. As a result, social sustainability is assessed as strong across all three LGAs, with clear evidence of community ownership and continued utilization of the structures.



7.2 Institutional Integration

Institutional embedding of the project mechanisms remains **moderate**.

In Igabi, Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS) lawyers are physically stationed within police divisions, indicating a higher degree of operational integration within formal justice systems. In Zaria and Zonkwa, collaboration between the police, PDSS lawyers, and CDC structures has improved significantly, with communities reporting stronger cooperation in dispute resolution and case referrals. However, formal standard operating procedures, statutory recognition, and institutional codification of these partnerships remain limited.

Early Warning and Early Response mechanisms are functioning at the community level but have not yet been fully integrated into Local Government planning, security coordination frameworks, or formal budgeting processes. Furthermore, documentation and case-tracking systems remain inconsistent, limiting the ability of institutions to maintain systematic records of conflict trends and justice outcomes.

Institutional sustainability is therefore emerging but not yet consolidated, with further integration required within formal governance systems.

7.3 Financial Sustainability

Financial sustainability represents the most vulnerable dimension of the intervention.

The continuation of PDSS legal services remains dependent on sustained funding and formal absorption within state-level justice sector structures. Similarly, the ongoing functionality of CDCs and SGBV Response Teams requires logistical support for meetings, documentation, mediation activities, and referral coordination.

Although strong community ownership helps reduce operational costs through volunteer participation, structured justice oversight, legal representation, and referral systems require institutional financial commitment. Without the establishment of dedicated budget lines within state justice institutions or resource mobilization strategy, the long-term continuity of some components may be constrained.

Financial sustainability across the LGAs is therefore moderate but fragile.

7.4 Risk Factors and Mitigation Needs

Several risks could affect the long-term sustainability of the project outcomes:

Key risks include:

- Withdrawal of PDSS funding without state-level institutional absorption
- Weak documentation and case management systems
- Limited statutory recognition of CDC structures
- Economic pressures that may affect volunteer participation and retention

Mitigation strategies include:

- Establishing formal memoranda of understanding between CDCs, police divisions, and state justice institutions
- Enhancing CDC structures to partner with Local Government peace and security coordination frameworks
- Developing gradual co-financing models to support PDSS legal services

- Strengthening documentation, monitoring, and case-tracking systems to support institutional learning and accountability

7.5 Overall Sustainability Assessment

Across the three LGAs, sustainability can be summarized as follows:

- Social sustainability: Strong
- Institutional sustainability: Moderate
- Financial sustainability: Moderate to fragile

Overall, the intervention has successfully embedded mediation practices and inclusive peacebuilding norms within communities. However, the durability of these gains will depend on deeper institutional absorption, sustained funding commitments, and strengthened administrative systems.

Future programming should therefore prioritize consolidation rather than expansion, focusing on institutionalizing existing mechanisms and translating community-level progress into durable governance and justice reforms.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Global Rights / Implementing Partner

1. Establish standardized case-tracking templates for CDCs, SGBVRTs, and PDSS actors to improve monitoring, accountability, and longitudinal analysis.
2. Support clear escalation protocols for severe SGBV cases to reduce over-reliance on informal settlement and strengthen formal prosecution pathways.
3. Expand linkages between women's civic participation and economic empowerment interventions to reinforce structural power shifts.
4. Periodically assess institutional readiness for independent functioning and identify early warning signs of regression.
5. **Expand awareness and strategic deployment of the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS).** Although PDSS has improved procedural fairness and community trust where it is visible, awareness of the scheme remains limited in some communities. Targeted awareness campaigns and stronger community-police-legal interface engagements should be conducted to improve community knowledge of legal rights and available services.
6. **Deepen gender-transformative programming.** The Gender Action Learning System (GALS) has produced significant shifts in women's participation and household decision-making. Future interventions should focus on consolidating these gains by expanding couple-based dialogue, strengthening women's leadership within CDCs, and

addressing remaining barriers to women's influence in sensitive conflict and justice decisions.

7. **Strengthen SGBV accountability and referral pathways.** While awareness of SGBV has increased and community discussions have become more open, informal settlement remains common. Implementing partners should prioritize strengthening survivor-centred referral pathways, legal follow-up mechanisms, and confidentiality protocols to ensure serious cases receive appropriate institutional response.

9.2 Kaduna State Government and Relevant Ministries

1. Integrate PDSS structures into Local Government governance systems to enhance legitimacy and continuity.
2. Allocate dedicated funding within justice or security budgets to sustain PDSS services and mediation logistics.
3. Develop written standard operating procedures between police divisions and legal aid council of Nigeria to ensure continuity beyond project support.
4. Integrate CDC Early Warning data into security planning. Use community-level early warning insights to inform LGA and state security response strategies.
5. Provide budgetary support for community peace structures. Sustainability of CDCs and early warning mechanisms will require minimal but consistent financial support. LGAs should consider allocating small operational budgets to support mediation activities, documentation, and community dialogue processes.

9.3 Police and Security Agencies

1. Institutionalize gender-sensitive investigation practices and detention safeguards across divisions.
2. Regular coordination meetings between police divisions, PDSS lawyers, and community representatives should be encouraged to improve trust, transparency, and information sharing.
3. Enhance collaboration with CDCs and community actors
4. Continued oversight of detention practices and investigation processes should be prioritized to sustain the gains in justice access and community confidence in law enforcement institutions.
5. Establish dedicated and private reporting spaces within police stations for SGBV survivors.
6. Police and justice actors should receive continued training on survivor-centred investigation, confidentiality, and referral procedures to ensure cases are handled sensitively and in line with legal standards.

9.4 Recommendations to Community Leaders

1. Sustain inclusive participation in peacebuilding processes. Traditional and religious leaders should continue supporting the participation of women and youth in mediation

and community decision-making spaces, reinforcing the gains achieved during the project.

2. Strengthen community ownership of peace structures. Community leaders should encourage consistent participation in CDC activities and promote voluntary contributions or locally mobilized resources to support committee activities.
3. Promote accountability and responsible mediation practices. While community mediation remains important for social cohesion, serious rights violations including SGBV should be referred promptly to appropriate formal institutions to ensure justice and protection for survivors

9.5 Community Structures (CDCs, GBVRTs)

1. Maintain regular mediation documentation. Record cases systematically to improve transparency and institutional memory.
2. Sustain women and youth inclusion standards. Preserve representation benchmarks and encourage rotational leadership to prevent regression.
3. Explore modest community-based funding mechanisms to sustain meeting logistics and coordination.
4. Reinforce ethical handling of SGBV cases within community structures.

9.6 Donor / Future Programming Considerations

1. Focus future funding on institutional embedding rather than geographic scale-up.
2. Donor programs should move beyond short-term project cycles and support multi-year investments that strengthen the institutional integration of community mediation structures into formal governance systems.
3. Invest in strengthening prosecution pathways and inter-agency coordination for SGBV cases.
4. Link peacebuilding with livelihoods programming
5. Address structural economic drivers of youth vulnerability and household-level gender inequity.
6. Fund longitudinal violence monitoring systems. Support improved data infrastructure to track sustained reductions in violence and justice utilization over time.

9.6 Strategic Priority Areas for the Next Phase

Across stakeholders, four cross-cutting priorities emerge:

- Institutional absorption of PDSS services and its expansion
- Strengthened documentation and accountability systems
- Formal recognition and integration of CDC structures
- Consolidation of survivor-centered SGBV response mechanisms.

CONCLUSION

The endline evaluation finds that the project has made a credible contribution to strengthening community resilience, improving access to justice, and promoting more inclusive peacebuilding processes across the target communities. Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) have become functional mechanisms for dispute resolution, enabling earlier mediation of conflicts and fostering structured dialogue between community members, traditional authorities, and security actors. These developments have contributed to improved perceptions of safety and reduced escalation of community tensions.

The intervention also strengthened access to justice through the deployment of Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS) lawyers, which enhanced procedural safeguards, improved legal awareness, and increased community confidence in formal justice processes. In addition, the project supported greater participation of women in community peace structures and decision-making platforms, reflecting gradual but meaningful shifts in gender inclusion.

Despite these gains, important challenges remain. Informal handling of SGBV cases continues to influence justice outcomes in some communities, and the long-term sustainability of project-supported structures, particularly CDCs and early warning practices will depend on stronger institutional integration, documentation systems, and sustained support from local authorities.

Overall, the project has established important foundations for community-led conflict prevention and justice access. Consolidating these outcomes will require continued institutional commitment, strengthened accountability mechanisms, and sustained investment in inclusive community governance structures.

Annexes

Annex 1: Stakeholder Categories Consulted

Quantitative Component

Endline surveys were conducted within each LGA to capture perception-based and service-utilization indicators related to:

- Changes in violent conflict and community safety
- SGBV trends and reporting behavior
- Utilization of CDC mediation services
- Engagement with PDSS lawyers
- Perceptions of justice timeliness and fairness
- Participation of women and youth

- Sustainability confidence

The consolidated survey sample size was **n = 75**, comprising community members, CDC actors, program beneficiaries, and justice stakeholders. This enabled triangulation between community perception and institutional performance indicators.

It is important to note that findings related to conflict and SGBV trends reflect reported perceptions rather than independently verified incident data.

1. Respondent Profile (n = 75)

Variable	Category	n	%
Sex	Female	42	56.0%
	Male	33	44.0%
Age Range	15–19	2	2.7%
	20–24	10	13.3%
	25–29	13	17.3%
	30–35	12	16.0%
	36–45	18	24.0%
	46+	20	26.7%
Youth (15–35)	Yes	44	58.7%
	No	31	41.3%
Disability Status	None	73	97.3%
	Physical	2	2.7%
Primary Livelihood	Trader	35	46.7%
	Student	11	14.7%
	Civil Servant	9	12.0%
	Unemployed	8	10.7%
	Farmer	7	9.3%
	Other	5	6.7%
Respondent Role	General Community Member	37	49.3%
	CDC Member	18	24.0%
	GALS Participant	14	18.7%
	Volunteer	6	8.0%
LGA	Igabi	25	33.3%
	Zaria	25	33.3%
	Zangon Kataf	25	33.3%

Qualitative Component

Qualitative data were collected through:

- **12 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)** across the three LGAs

- **45 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)** across the three LGAs

Respondents for the KII included:

- Traditional and community leaders
- Religious leaders
- CDC Leadership
- GBV Response Team members
- Police officers
- PDSS lawyers
- GALS beneficiaries
- Male and female community members

With 25 Females and 20 Males.

Qualitative inquiry enabled deeper examination of:

- Institutional functionality
- Power dynamics and inclusion
- Survivor-centered practices
- Coordination across structures
- Sustainability risks
- Normative change



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