



END OF PROJECT EVALUATION





END-OF-PROJECT EVALUATION

STRENGTHENING PATHWAYS TO INCLUSIVE PEACEBUILDING PROCESSES AND
EXPANDING ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR MARGINALISED GROUPS IN KANO &
SOKOTO STATES

EVALUATION REPORT

Submitted By:



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STRENGTHENING PATHWAYS TO INCLUSIVE PEACEBUILDING PROCESSES AND EXPANDING ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR MARGINALISED GROUPS IN KANO & SOKOTO STATES

Foreword

Over the past several years, insecurity in Northwest Nigeria has exposed deep structural fractures, weak governance systems, limited platforms for civic engagement, and the systematic exclusion of women and other marginalized groups from peacebuilding and decision-making processes. These dynamics have not only fueled cycles of communal violence but have also weakened trust between communities and institutions meant to protect them.

It is against this backdrop that Global Rights, with support from the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), implemented the third and expanded phase of the project Strengthening Pathways to Inclusive Peacebuilding Processes and Expanding Access to Justice for Marginalized Groups in North-West Nigeria. Building on earlier phases, this phase deepened work in Sokoto and Kano, strengthening community peace structures while expanding access to justice through the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS).

This endline evaluation offers an independent assessment of the project's relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability. The findings affirm what communities themselves have consistently expressed, that when women are positioned as leaders, peacebuilding becomes more inclusive, more trusted, and more durable. The strengthening of Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs), expansion of Community-Based GBV Response Teams, deployment of PDSS lawyers, and application of the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) methodology collectively contributed to measurable improvements in civic participation, access to justice, and community-level conflict resolution.

The project exceeded several of its key targets. Women's participation in dialogue and peacebuilding platforms increased significantly, community trust in security actors improved, access to legal representation expanded for detainees and marginalized groups. These outcomes reflect strong implementation performance and growing local ownership of the model.

At the same time, this report is candid about the work that remains. Institutional linkages must be further formalized, referral pathways require continued strengthening, gains in gender norm transformation demand sustained engagement, particularly with men and youth. The evaluation therefore, provides strategic recommendations to consolidate progress and guide future programming.

What emerges clearly from this report is that inclusive peacebuilding is practical, measurable, and achievable when communities are meaningfully engaged and supported. The foundations laid through this intervention provide a viable model for scaling gender-responsive peacebuilding and justice reform across fragile contexts in Nigeria and beyond.

We extend our appreciation to community leaders, CDC members, justice sector actors, civil society partners, and government stakeholders whose commitment made these outcomes possible. Their leadership demonstrates that sustainable peace is strongest when it is locally owned, gender-inclusive, and institutionally supported.

As this phase concludes, the work does not end. Rather, it transitions with evidence, lessons, and a strengthened network of actors ready to carry it forward.

Abiodun Baiyewu

Executive Director

Acknowledgement

The Nextier evaluation team extends its sincere appreciation to all individuals and institutions who contributed to the successful completion of this end-of-project evaluation of the “Strengthening Pathways to Inclusive Peacebuilding and Expanding Access to Justice for SGBV Survivors in North-West Border Communities in Nigeria” project.

We are particularly grateful to the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) for its financial support and continued commitment to advancing inclusive peacebuilding and access to justice in Nigeria. The support provided has contributed significantly to strengthening community resilience and promoting gender-responsive civic engagement in the North-West.

Our appreciation also goes to Global Rights and its implementing partners for their cooperation, openness, and logistical support throughout the evaluation process. Their willingness to share documentation, facilitate stakeholder engagement, and provide clarifications was invaluable to ensuring a rigorous and credible assessment.

We sincerely thank the Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs), GBV Response Teams, GALS beneficiaries, traditional and religious leaders, justice sector actors, government representatives, civil society organisations, and community members in Kano and Sokoto States who generously shared their time, experiences, and insights. Their candid reflections and active participation made this evaluation both meaningful and evidence-based.

Finally, we acknowledge the dedication of the evaluation team and field researchers whose professionalism and commitment ensured the integrity, inclusiveness, and quality of the evaluation process.

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List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
CDCs	Community Dialogue Committees
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
CSSF	Conflict, Stability and Security Fund
FIDA	Federation of Women Lawyers
FGDs	Focused Group Discussions
FCDO	United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
GALS	Gender Action Learning System
GBV	Gender based violence
GBVRT	Gender-based Violence Response Teams
IDIs	In-depth Interviews
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
MCAPI	Mobile Computer-Assisted Personal Interview
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
OECD-DAC	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee
PDSS	Police Duty Solicitor Scheme
PwDs	People with disabilities
SARC	Sexual Assault Referral Centres
SGBV	Sexual and gender-based violence
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
TOC	Theory of Change
UK	United Kingdom

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Executive Summary

Project Background. This report presents the findings of an independent end-of-project evaluation of the “*Strengthening Pathways to Inclusive Peacebuilding Processes and Expanding Access to Justice for Marginalized Groups in North-West Nigeria*” project. Funded by the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), the project represents the expanded third phase of a multi-year intervention addressing communal violence, insecurity, gender exclusion, and limited access to justice in Kano and Sokoto States, North-West Nigeria.

The project was designed to respond to structural drivers of instability, including weak communication platforms, disenfranchisement of women and minority groups, and barriers to justice for marginalised populations. Its overarching goal was to strengthen community resilience and increase civic participation by positioning women at the forefront of peacebuilding, while expanding access to justice through inclusive, community-led mechanisms and strengthened institutional responses.

Approach/Methodology: A cross-sectional endline design was adopted, comparing achieved results against baseline data (where available), project targets, and the approved logical framework. The evaluation applied a mixed-methods, utilisation-focused approach to ensure robust and actionable findings.

Data collection included:

- Document review and results framework analysis
- 22 Key Informant Interviews (KIs) with implementing staff, partners, judiciary actors, legal aid officials, traditional and religious leaders, government agencies, and CSOs
- 21 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with CDC members, GBV Response Teams, GALS beneficiaries, women, youth, and persons with disabilities
- A quantitative survey of 300 respondents across both states

Findings were assessed against the five OECD-DAC criteria: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability.

Key Findings and Conclusions: The evaluation documented five categories of key findings against the OECD-DAC criteria (relevance of project activities, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability). These findings are further elaborated within the full-length evaluation report.

Relevance

The evaluation found the project to be highly responsive to local needs and aligned with the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda. Core interventions – GALS training, CDC and GBVRT capacity strengthening, women-led town halls, PDSS lawyer deployment, thematic webinars, and the 16 Days of Activism campaign – directly addressed structural barriers to inclusive peacebuilding and justice access.

Endline results show that empowerment and capacity-strengthening approaches were perceived as most impactful. Community-driven structures (CDCs) and participatory methodologies (GALS) resonated strongly with beneficiaries. Justice-sector reforms were valued but less visible at the community level, suggesting a need for stronger communication of institutional gains.

Effectiveness and Key Achievements

The project recorded strong performance across all major result areas and exceeded several targets.

Institutional and Community Strengthening

- Established and strengthened CDCs across target communities
- Expanded six Community-Based GBV Response Teams
- Facilitated peer learning and joint action planning across communities

Community Engagement

- Conducted more than double the planned number of community sensitisation and town hall meetings
- Reached over 3,400 community members, significantly surpassing outreach targets

Gender Inclusion

- Increased women's participation in dialogue committees
- Implemented women-led town halls
- Applied GALS methodology to promote gender-transformative dialogue

Access to Justice

- Recruited and deployed twice the targeted number of PDSS lawyers
- Facilitated pro bono legal services for detainees and marginalised community members

Evidence and Learning

- Convened midline and endline review meetings
- Documented stories of change
- Leveraged digital platforms to broaden stakeholder engagement

Overall, the project exceeded several key indicators, particularly in civic participation and justice access, demonstrating strong local ownership and scalable potential.

Efficiency

The project demonstrated high efficiency in converting inputs into outputs. Strategic partnerships, adaptive management, and community-led implementation contributed to strong value-for-money outcomes. Outreach significantly exceeded projections without proportional increases in resource requirements, underscoring cost-effectiveness.

Emerging Impacts

While the 8-month timeframe limits expectations of full structural transformation, clear early impacts are evident:

👉 Individual-Level

- Increased knowledge of inclusive peacebuilding and survivor-centred response
- Enhanced confidence among women to speak publicly and engage in mediation
- Improved awareness of rights and justice pathways

👉 Community-Level

- Operational CDCs and GBVRTs functioning as local peace infrastructure
- Increased women's leadership in community decision-making
- Improved mediation and conflict resolution practices

👉 Institutional-Level

- Strengthened collaboration between community actors and justice institutions
- Expanded access to legal representation for detainees and vulnerable populations

These shifts represent foundational progress toward longer-term structural change.

Sustainability

The project has laid strong groundwork for sustainability. CDCs and GBVRTs demonstrate growing autonomy and capacity to continue dialogue facilitation and survivor support. Emphasis on mentorship, peer learning, and resource mobilisation strengthens long-term viability.

However, sustained institutional engagement, periodic refresher trainings, and reinforcement of referral systems are recommended to consolidate gains.

Strategic Recommendations

Drawing from the findings, the following strategic recommendations are proposed to consolidate gains, address identified gaps, and inform future programming:

1. Institutionalise Women's Leadership – Formalise gender representation within CDCs and mediation panels through community by-laws and leadership development programs.
2. Formalise Justice Linkages – Establish MOUs and case-tracking systems between community structures and formal justice institutions.
3. Provide Refresher Capacity Support – Deliver periodic training on GBV response, mediation, and documentation.
4. Strengthen Interfaith Platforms – Institutionalise structured Muslim-Christian dialogue mechanisms as early warning systems.
5. Deepen Male and Youth Engagement – Expand targeted strategies to consolidate shifts in gender norms.

6. Improve Case Documentation Systems – Support community structures to track mediation and referral outcomes.
7. Link Peacebuilding with Economic Empowerment – Integrate livelihood support to reinforce women's agency and resilience.
8. Scale the Model – Replicate the gender-responsive, community-embedded model in additional LGAs and states.
9. Develop a Structured Exit Strategy – Formalise transition planning, integrate activities into state systems, and identify local funding streams.

Overall Conclusion

The project demonstrates strong relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency. It has generated measurable improvements in inclusive civic participation and justice access while laying durable foundations for community resilience. With consolidation and strategic scaling, the model presents a viable pathway for advancing gender-responsive peacebuilding and justice reform in fragile contexts.

I. Introduction, Project Overview and Context

I.1. Introduction

Global Rights, with support from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), implemented a twelve-month project titled “*Strengthening Pathways to Inclusive Peacebuilding Processes and Expanding Access to Justice for Marginalized Groups in North-West Nigeria*.” The initiative builds on two earlier phases completed between 2023 and 2025 and implemented in Kaduna, Sokoto, Katsina, and Kano States. The project aims to promote sustainable, inclusive peacebuilding processes and strengthen community resilience against insecurity and violent extremism, while expanding access to justice for marginalised groups in target communities. Building on previous interventions in Kaduna, Sokoto, Kano, and Katsina in phases I & 2, this phase sought to expand its impact to address a critical gap identified in previous efforts – limited legal aid for vulnerable populations, particularly women, in conflict-prone communities.

This third and expanded phase focused on Sokoto and Kano States, incorporating new communities and covering all three senatorial districts in each state. The project maintained its core programmatic focus on promoting sustainable and inclusive peacebuilding, strengthening community resilience to insecurity and violent extremism, and expanding access to justice for marginalised groups – particularly detainees and women survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

As Phase III of the project draws to a close, Global Rights commissioned Nextier SPD, an independent consulting firm based in Abuja, Nigeria, to conduct an end-of-intervention impact evaluation. This evaluation was undertaken as an accountability exercise to both the donor and the project’s beneficiaries, and as an opportunity for independent reflection on performance and results.

The assessment provides an external, objective review of the overall progress and effectiveness of the FCDO-funded intervention across the target states. It measures the extent to which the project has advanced its stated strategic objectives and delivered on its intended outcomes and outputs. Beyond accountability, the evaluation is designed to generate actionable insights to inform program learning, adaptive management, and future programming.

This report presents the findings of the endline evaluation conducted in February 2026 at the conclusion of Phase III. The rest of the evaluation report is structured as follows:

Section 1 presents the project background and context, overview of the Global Rights Phase III project, its overall goal and intervention objectives, and the purpose and objectives of the final evaluation, scope and coverage, and evaluation criteria.

Section 2 outlines the endline research approach and methodology, including the sampling strategy, data collection methods, data analysis, and study limitations.

Section 3 presents an analysis of the key findings from the endline assessment. The analysis is structured under the OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability, including cross-cutting issues of gender and social inclusion.

Section 4 presents implementation challenges encountered in the course of project implementation, including an assessment of lessons learned and best practices.

Section 5 summarises the main conclusions and sets out actionable recommendations.

Sections 6 and 7 contain the references and annexes, respectively.

1.2. The Phase III Project Overview and Objectives

This project is the expanded third phase of an intervention designed to stem the spate of communal violence and insecurity exacerbated by a lack of communication platforms, disenfranchisement of critical stakeholders, in particular, women and minority identities, and the lack of access to justice for marginalised individuals and groups.

For over two decades, North-West Nigeria has faced endemic insecurity and multidimensional violence driven by weak governance, exclusionary practices, and the systemic disenfranchisement of critical groups, particularly women. The absence of inclusive civic platforms and the exclusion of women and marginalised populations from decision-making and peacebuilding have perpetuated cycles of violence, social injustice, and ineffective state responses.

In response, Global Rights, with support from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), implemented this project titled “Strengthening Pathways to Inclusive Peacebuilding Processes and Expanding Access to Justice for Marginalized Groups in North-West Nigeria.” The initiative builds on two earlier phases completed between 2023 and 2025 and implemented in Kaduna, Sokoto, Katsina, and Kano States. It aims to promote sustainable, inclusive peacebuilding, strengthen community resilience to insecurity and violent extremism, and expand access to justice for marginalised groups, particularly women survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

This phase focused on Sokoto and Kano states and included new communities across the three senatorial districts in each state.

1.2.1 Overall Goal and Expected Outcomes

The project aims to promote sustainable, inclusive peacebuilding processes, strengthen community resilience against insecurity and violent extremism, and expand access to justice for marginalised groups in target communities. Building on previous interventions in Kaduna, Sokoto, Kano, and Katsina in phases I & 2, this phase sought to expand its impact to address a critical gap identified in previous efforts - limited legal aid for vulnerable populations, particularly women, in conflict-prone communities.

The project's objectives were achieved through:

Dialogue and advocacy platforms: The project replicated dialogue and advocacy platforms (Community Dialogue Committees), which were highly successful in the 1st & 2nd phases, for community and security sector stakeholders to discuss sectional needs and interests. Building trust and working together, these stakeholders achieved improved security outcomes. A critical strategy for this phase, as part of Global Rights' approach to foster rooted capacity, was the peer-to-peer learning exchange sessions, in which older CDCs shared context-relevant knowledge with newer CDCs, co-developed conflict prevention and mitigation processes while highlighting the critical role of women in peacebuilding.

Expand the GBVRT: The project established community Gender-based Violence Response Teams (GBVRT) in the new project communities and expanded existing GBVRT to include critical stakeholders such as organizations and individuals, including the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA), Legal Aid Council, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), NAPTIP, law enforcement officers, Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC), shelter providers, Police Gender Desk Officers, MHPSS providers, and the state Ministry of Justice, willing to provide pro bono legal services to survivors and other indigent groups. These stakeholders were critical in carrying out activities, including capacity building for other Women's Rights Organisations and SGBV responders, and in engaging in continuous mentorship during and after the intervention on strategic engagement, negotiation towards peacebuilding, and best practices for SGBV response and prevention.

Improve access to justice for marginalised groups: The project leveraged strategic relationships with security agencies in each project state to assign PDSS lawyers to at least one police station in each community. Access to justice for marginalised groups, especially women who suffer SGBV, was a critical component of this project. To expand beyond the domiciled PDSS lawyers in the police stations and the training of WROs and SGBV responders, Global Rights, through the CDCs and GBVRT, facilitated direct access of victims to pro bono lawyers within the community.

To further strengthen these structures towards sustainability, Global Rights built the capacities of the CDCs and GBVRTs in resource mobilisation, fundraising, and sustainability strategies to maintain and upscale project gains post-intervention.

Finally, to strengthen women's roles in decision-making in both private and public spaces and in peacebuilding processes, the project employed the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) to foster a community-wide understanding and acceptance of the importance of women's involvement in decision-making and, ultimately, peacebuilding.

1.2.2. Expected Outcomes

The project expected results, as stipulated in the Project Document, are:

- ☞ Improved community buy-in and cross-community collaboration, with strengthened local ownership and enhanced shared learning on inclusive peacebuilding and SGBV response strategies.
- ☞ Increased representation and meaningful participation of women in inclusive peacebuilding structures and decision-making processes in border communities.
- ☞ Enhanced access to justice and strengthened community mobilisation to advance the safety and protection of women in Northwest Nigeria.
- ☞ Strengthened the capacity of Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) to sustain local peacebuilding structures, self-replicate successful practices, and mobilise resources to scale impact across communities.
- ☞ Increased evidence-based interventions to inform project design, align strategies with community realities, and contribute to practice-based knowledge in inclusive peacebuilding and access to justice.

I.2.3. Output/Activities

The Project supported various activities designed to build community resilience and increase civic participation in Kano and Sokoto through platforms for women's engagement and participatory dialogue to promote inclusive peacebuilding efforts, while expanding access to justice for marginalised groups, especially women, through inclusive, community-led mechanisms. The following core activities were implemented:

- ☞ Host women-led town halls on civic participation and inclusion in peacebuilding processes.
- ☞ Work with traditional, religious, and community leaders and CSOs to build trust and strengthen the relationship between communities and law enforcement/security agencies.
- ☞ Establish and strengthen established community structures (CDCs and GBVRTs) in Sokoto and Kano states to sustain engagements and build on project gains.
- ☞ Expand GBVRT to include critical stakeholders, build capacity, and develop an operational framework.
- ☞ Designate PDSS lawyers to police stations in each community to facilitate access to justice.
- ☞ Structure peer-to-peer learning exchange meetings between new and existing CDCs
- ☞ Support CDC and GBVRT-led activities, including sensitisation and town halls
- ☞ Conduct GALS training for households in implementing communities.
- ☞ Collaborate with PWAN to co-convene a high-level northwest regional conference on Women, Peace and Security.

I.2.4. Theory of Change

Grounded in the context and conflict analyses, the project's Theory of Change (TOC) assumes that: **IF** Global Rights' interventions strengthen the capacity of community-led structures, embed legal support mechanisms within communities, and empower women through inclusive peacebuilding platforms,

THEN communities in Northwest Nigeria will be better equipped to prevent conflict, respond to sexual and gender-based violence, and sustain locally driven peace and justice outcomes. This will result in the meaningful inclusion of women in decision-making, improved access to justice for marginalised groups, and the long-term transformation of communities into resilient, gender-inclusive, and peaceful societies.

I.3. Purpose and Objectives of the Endline

I.3.1. Purpose

The overall purpose of the final evaluation is to provide an independent and systematic assessment of the project's relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability at the end of implementation. The evaluation serves both accountability and learning functions: ensuring responsible stewardship of donor resources while generating evidence to inform future programming, policy engagement, and institutional strengthening efforts.

Specifically, the evaluation seeks to determine the extent to which the project achieved its strategic objectives, contributed to improved access to justice and community-based protection systems, and fostered inclusive participation in peacebuilding and governance processes.

I.3.2. Specific Objectives

The final evaluation is guided by the following specific objectives:

- **Assess Relevance:** Examine the extent to which the project design and interventions responded to the needs, priorities, and contextual realities of beneficiaries and stakeholders in the target states.
- **Assess Effectiveness:** Determine the extent to which the project achieved its intended outputs and outcomes, including progress toward its strategic objective.
- **Assess Efficiency:** Evaluate how well resources (financial, human, and technical) were utilised to achieve results, including cost-effectiveness and value for money.
- **Assess Emerging Impact:** Identify higher-level changes – intended or unintended, positive or negative – that can reasonably be linked to the intervention.
- **Assess Sustainability:** Examine the likelihood that the benefits of the project will continue beyond the funding period, including institutional capacity, community ownership, and resource mobilisation efforts.
- **Generate Lessons and Recommendations:** Provide actionable recommendations and lessons learned to strengthen future programming, scaling strategies, and donor engagement.

I.4. Scope, Coverage and Project Communities

The final evaluation covered the full implementation period of Phase III of the project, spanning its 8-month lifecycle. It assessed performance across all result areas, including outputs, outcomes, cross-cutting themes, and early indications of impact.

In terms of geographic coverage, the evaluation was conducted across two project target states and intervention locations where activities were implemented, including communities hosting Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs), GBV Response Teams (GBVRTs), and Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS) deployments. Both urban and rural intervention sites were included to ensure representativeness of diverse operating contexts.

In terms of geographic coverage, the evaluation covered Kano and Sokoto States, including the following project communities/LGAs:

Kano State

1. Kawo community (Nasarawa LGA)
2. Kofar Gabas community (Tofa LGA)
3. Sabon Gari community (Wudil LGA)

Sokoto State

1. Shuni District, Dange Shuni LGA (Sokoto South Senatorial District)
2. Chimmola District, Gwadabawa LGA (Sokoto East Senatorial District)
3. Gagi (Sokoto North Senatorial District)
4. Kware (Sokoto North Senatorial District)

I.5. Evaluation Criteria

The final evaluation was guided by internationally recognised evaluation standards, drawing primarily on the OECD-DAC criteria. The assessment applied the following criteria to systematically examine project performance and results:

Table 1: Evaluation Criteria

Relevance	Assessed the extent to which the project design, objectives, and interventions were responsive to the needs, priorities, and contextual realities of beneficiaries and stakeholders in the target states. This included alignment with national legal frameworks, community protection needs, and donor priorities.
Effectiveness	Examined the degree to which the project achieved its intended outputs and outcomes, including progress toward its strategic objective. The evaluation reviewed performance against planned

	targets, quality of implementation, and evidence of behavioural or institutional change.
Efficiency	Evaluated how economic resources (financial, human, and technical) were converted into results. This included analysis of value for money, cost-effectiveness, timeliness of implementation, and the use of partnerships and internal expertise to optimise delivery.
Impact	Assessed higher-level changes – intended or unintended, positive or negative – that can reasonably be linked to the intervention. Given the project's 8-month duration, particular attention was paid to emerging impacts and early indicators of systemic or behavioural shifts.
Sustainability	Examined the likelihood that project benefits will continue beyond the funding period. This included assessment of community ownership, institutional capacity strengthening, policy uptake, resource mobilisation efforts, and embedded systems or structures that can sustain gains.

2. Evaluation Approach and Methodology

The following section outlines the evaluation approach and methodology adopted by the assessment team in conducting the final evaluation study. It provides an overview of the design, data collection methods, sampling strategy, and analytical framework used to ensure a rigorous and credible assessment of project performance and results.

2.1. Evaluation Approach

The final evaluation adopted a mixed-methods, utilisation-focused approach, combining quantitative and qualitative data to ensure a comprehensive and balanced assessment of performance and results. The approach was guided by the OECD-DAC evaluation criteria – relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability – while remaining sensitive to the project’s short implementation period and systems-strengthening focus.

Given the intervention’s emphasis on institutional capacity building and community structures, the evaluation applied a theory-informed approach, assessing the logical pathways between inputs, outputs, outcomes, and emerging impacts. Particular attention was paid to contribution rather than attribution, recognising that changes in access to justice and social norms are influenced by multiple contextual factors.

The evaluation also integrated principles of:

- ☞ Triangulation to validate findings across multiple data sources
- ☞ Participation by engaging diverse stakeholder groups
- ☞ Gender and inclusion sensitivity to capture differentiated experiences
- ☞ Conflict sensitivity and safeguarding considerations

2.2. Evaluation Design

A cross-sectional endline design was used, comparing achieved results against baseline data (where available), project targets, and the approved logical framework. The evaluation assessed performance across all result areas and thematic components implemented during the 8-month project cycle.

2.3. Target Population

The study population comprised residents of the project’s target communities, including women, girls, men, youth, and other community members. Particular emphasis was placed on vulnerable and marginalised groups – especially detainees, survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), and individuals facing social or structural exclusion – who are disproportionately affected by barriers to accessing justice and protection services. This deliberate focus ensured that the evaluation captured the experiences of those most directly impacted by justice system gaps and community-level protection challenges.

Specifically, the study will target multiple stakeholders and respondents, including:

- Marginalised community members (e.g., women, PwDs, poor rural households)
- Detainees
- GBV survivors (women, girls, men/boys where relevant)
- Justice sector actors (police, judiciary, legal aid providers)
- Religious and traditional leaders
- Civil Society (CSOs, paralegals, health workers, social welfare officers)
- Government officials

2.4. Data Collection Methods

A combination of quantitative and qualitative methods was employed:

1. Desk Review

A comprehensive review of project documents, including:

- Project proposal and logical framework
- Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework and IPTT
- Quarterly and annual reports
- Training materials and activity reports
- Case documentation and Most Significant Change (MSC) stories

2. Quantitative Data Collection

Structured surveys were administered to a representative sample of beneficiaries and stakeholders. Survey data measured changes in knowledge, attitudes, participation levels, institutional access, and service utilisation. A summary of the quantitative results achieved is presented in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Summary of Sample Distribution by State and Respondent Type

Component	Respondent Category	Kano State	Sokoto State	Total
Quantitative Survey	Sample of beneficiaries and stakeholders.	148	152	300
Subtotal (Survey)		148	152	300
Qualitative (KIIs)	Implementing Partners	2	1	
	Judiciary and legal aid officials	2		
	CDC & GBV Response Team Leader	2	7	
	Traditional and Religious Leaders	4	4	
Subtotal (KIIs)		10	12	
Qualitative (FGDs)	SGBV Response Team	3	4	
	CDC Beneficiary Group	3	4	
	GALS Beneficiary Group	3	4	
Subtotal (FGDs)		9	12	
Total Respondents (All Methods)		167	176	343

Monitoring data and administrative records (e.g., Global Rights M&E reports, outreach figures) were also analysed to assess performance against targets.

3. Qualitative Methods

To deepen contextual understanding and capture higher-level changes, the evaluation was conducted:

- Key Informant Interviews (KIs) with project staff, implementing partners, police representatives, PDSS lawyers, state actors, and community leaders (see table 2).
- Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with CDC members, GBVRT members, women, youth, and other beneficiary groups (see table 2).
- Most Significant Change (MSC) Stories to document transformative experiences and unintended outcomes.

2.5. Sampling Strategy

A purposive and stratified sampling approach was used to ensure representation across:

- Geographic locations (urban and rural intervention sites)
- Stakeholder categories (beneficiaries, institutional actors, community structures)
- Gender and inclusion groups (women, youth, persons with disabilities)

The sampling framework was designed to ensure diversity of perspectives while remaining feasible within time and resource constraints.

2.6. Training of Enumerators and Research Assistants

A one-day training was conducted for the enumerators and research assistants who engaged in the study. The training session preceded the fieldwork and focused on study objectives, methodology, sampling process, respondents' selection, data collection ethics, interview termination, do no harm principles, and cultural sensitivities etc.

2.7. Tools used

For the qualitative data collection, discussion and interview guides were developed to guide the discussions for the qualitative component of the evaluation. (See Annexe for the guides).

For the quantitative data collection, a structured questionnaire was designed for the endline survey (see Annexe). The quantitative instrument was programmed into a mobile data collection platform, otherwise known as the computer-assisted-personal-interviewing (CAPI) platform. The research team specifically used KoboCollect, which the organisation is proficient at and able to complete all programming/scripting and survey management.

2.8. Data analysis

Quantitative data were analysed using statistical software SPSS version 26.0 to generate descriptive statistics and, where relevant, comparative analysis against baseline or target benchmarks.

Qualitative data were transcribed, coded, and analysed thematically to identify recurring patterns, divergent views, and evidence of behavioural or institutional change. Triangulation across data sources strengthened the validity of findings.

2.9. Ethical considerations

The assessment team placed significant importance on ethical considerations throughout the study, including informed consent, confidentiality, child-safeguarding, impartiality and the do no harm principles. Ethical issues were included in the training provided to enumerators, and the study ensured all respondents participated on a voluntary basis. Prior to the start of data collection activities, enumerators were expected to explain to respondents that they could refuse to answer any questions or withdraw from the activity at any time without penalty.

In summary, the following ethical considerations were considered:

- **Informed consent:** All participants were briefed on the purpose of the study, voluntary participation, and the right to withdraw at any point.
- **Confidentiality:** No names or identifying details were recorded; data was anonymised.
- **Do-no-harm principle:** Sensitive questions were asked in a respectful and trauma-informed manner.
- **Referral pathways:** Survivors identified during the study were provided with information on available GBV services and referrals.
- **Child safeguarding:** For minors, parental/guardian consent and child assent will be obtained.

2.10. Limitations

The evaluation acknowledges certain limitations, including:

- The relatively short 8-month implementation period constrains the measurement of long-term impact.
- Potential response bias in self-reported survey data.
- Access constraints in certain locations may have limited full coverage.

Mitigation strategies included triangulation, independent data verification, and inclusion of multiple stakeholder perspectives.

3. Evaluation Findings

This section presents the findings of the endline evaluation of the Phase III project. The assessment identified six key domains of analysis: (1) the relevance of project interventions; (2) effectiveness in achieving stated objectives and outcomes; (3) efficiency of delivery approaches and resource utilisation; (4) impact, including evidence from most significant change (MSC) stories; and (5) sustainability of project results.

To strengthen the credibility and validity of findings, data triangulation was systematically applied. Qualitative evidence from Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) conducted across target communities was compared and cross-validated with quantitative survey results. The evaluation also drew on project monitoring data, administrative records, and field reports provided by implementing partners.

The section begins with an overview of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of survey respondents to contextualise the findings that follow.

3.1. Respondent Demographic Profile

The endline survey captured a diverse and socially representative sample across Kano and Sokoto States, reflecting both general community members and key marginalised groups targeted by the project. The balanced distribution of respondents across the two states strengthens the reliability of state-level comparisons and outcome interpretation. A total of 300 respondents were interviewed across the two project states. Table 3 presents the percentage distribution of respondents by state and key demographic characteristics. Of the total sample, 148 respondents (49.3%) were from Kano State, while 152 (50.7%) were from Sokoto State, reflecting a near-equal state representation.

Overall, the sample is female-majority (58.3%), with particularly strong female representation in Sokoto. This aligns well with the project's focus on expanding access to justice for women and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Male respondents accounted for 41.7%, enabling assessment of male engagement in peacebuilding and justice processes. In Kano, female respondents constituted 66.9% of the sample compared to 31.1% males. In contrast, Sokoto recorded a higher proportion of male respondents (53.9%) relative to female respondents (46.1%).

Table 3: Demographic snapshot of survey sample by state

Description		Kano (n = 148)	Sokoto (n = 152)	Total (N = 300)
Gender	Male	44 (41.5%)	29 (27.9%)	172 (41.7%)
	Female	62 (58.5%)	75 (72.1%)	240 (58.3%)
	Sub-Total	106 (100%)	104 (100%)	412 (100%)
Age group	18 – 24 years	28 (18.9%)	19 (12.5%)	47 (15.7%)
	25 – 34 years	46 (31.1%)	51 (33.6%)	97 (32.3%)
	35 – 44 years	32 (21.6%)	37 (24.3%)	69 (23.0%)

	45 – 54 years	33 (22.3%)	27 (17.8%)	60 (20.0%)
	55 years and above	9 (6.1%)	18 (11.8%)	27 (9.0%)
	Sub-Total	148 (100%)	152 (100%)	300 (100%)
Respondent Current Status	Detainee or formerly detained	12 (8.5%)	13 (8.9%)	25 (8.7%)
	Survivor of sexual or gender-based violence (SGBV)	14 (9.9%)	7 (4.8%)	21 (7.3%)
	Person with disability (PwD)	4 (2.8%)	13 (8.9%)	17 (5.9%)
	Woman (15 – 17 years; 18 – 24 years]	15 (10.6%)	15 (10.3%)	30 (10.4%)
	Older person (60+)	2 (1.4%)	11 (7.5%)	13 (4.5%)
	Community member	99 (69.7%)	87 (59.6%)	186 (64.6%)
	Sub-Total			
Marital Status	Single	42 (28.4%)	16 (10.6%)	58 (19.4%)
	Married	95 (64.2%)	131 (86.8%)	226 (75.6%)
	Widowed	8 (5.4%)	4 (2.6%)	12 (4.0%)
	Divorced/ Separated	3 (2.0%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (1.0%)
	Sub-Total	148 (100%)	151 (100%)	299 (100%)
Religious Affiliation	Christianity	15 (10.3%)	8 (5.4%)	23 (7.8%)
	Islam	129 (89.0%)	141 (94.6%)	270 (91.8%)
	None	1 (0.7%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.3%)
	Sub-Total			
Highest level of Education	Have not attended school	8 (5.4%)	0 (0.0%)	8 (2.7%)
	No qualification	0 (0.0%)	10 (6.6%)	10 (3.3%)
	Quranic	11 (7.4%)	40 (26.3%)	51 (17.0%)
	Primary school	11 (7.4%)	8 (5.3%)	19 (6.3%)
	Secondary school	63 (42.6%)	45 (29.6%)	108 (36.0%)
	OND, ND or NCE	43 (29.1%)	32 (21.1%)	75 (25.0%)
	Undergrad/HND/BSc	12 (8.1%)	15 (9.9%)	27 (9.0%)
	Postgraduate	0 (0.0%)	2 (1.3%)	2 (0.7%)
	Sub-Total	148	152	300
Disability Status	Yes	27 (18.9%)	18 (12.3%)	45 (15.6%)
	No	116 (81.1%)	128 (87.7%)	244 (84.4%)
	Sub-Total	143	146	289

Respondents are largely within economically and socially active age groups, with over half aged between 25 and 44 years. Youth (18–24 years) represent 15.7% of the sample, while older persons (55+) account for 9.0%. This distribution ensures that findings reflect the perspectives of household decision-makers, community influencers, and young adults who are central to resilience and prevention efforts. The survey successfully reached several priority groups central to the project's theory of change. These

include detainees and formerly detained persons (8.7%), survivors of SGBV (7.3%), persons with disabilities (5.9%), and older persons (4.5%). Additionally, 10.4% of respondents were young women (15–24 years).

Importantly, 15.6% of respondents self-identified as living with a disability, demonstrating meaningful inclusion of persons with disabilities in justice and peacebuilding programming. The presence of both direct beneficiaries and general community members (64.6%) allows for triangulation between beneficiary experiences and broader community perceptions.

The majority of respondents were married (75.6%), particularly in Sokoto. This indicates that most participants are embedded within household and family systems – key units for influencing social norms related to gender, justice, and conflict resolution. The relatively smaller proportion of single respondents reflects prevailing socio-cultural patterns in the intervention states.

The sample was predominantly Muslim (91.8%), consistent with the demographic profile of the intervention areas. This underscores the importance of faith-sensitive programming and engagement with religious leaders and structures in shaping community norms around justice and gender.

Educational attainment varied between states. While over one-third of respondents completed secondary education (36.0%), a significant proportion – particularly in Sokoto – reported Quranic education (17.0% overall). Approximately one-third of respondents hold post-secondary qualifications (OND/NCE or higher), suggesting a reasonable level of literacy for engagement in legal awareness and civic participation initiatives. However, the presence of respondents with limited or no formal education highlights the continued need for accessible, simplified communication strategies.

Overall, the demographic profile demonstrates strong alignment with the project's inclusion objectives. The sample reflects meaningful participation of women, justice-affected individuals, persons with disabilities, and economically active community members.

3.2. Relevance and Appropriateness of Project Activities

This section assesses the extent to which the intervention objectives and design responded to project participants' needs and priorities and continued to do so whenever circumstances changed. Under this thematic area, the evaluation examined whether the Phase III project activities responded to the needs and priorities of women in peacebuilding processes and decision-making in their communities, targeting the right areas of population segments with the right interventions. We also considered whether the implementation choices and activities represent relevant ways of contributing to the related expected results and objectives, and if the programmatic choices for implementing the activities are the most appropriate in order to ensure the effectiveness of the project's activities.

The evaluation process has shown that the implemented interventions have been both relevant and appropriate to the beneficiaries' needs, in both target states and seven communities across the LGAs.

This observation is based on the answers provided by community members, project beneficiaries, and all relevant stakeholders during the evaluation.

With respect to the relevance of the project tools and strategies, the evaluation found that the core interventions – (a) GALS training; (b) CDC and GBVRT capacity building and mentorship; (c) Women-Led Town Halls; (d) training of PDSS lawyers and security personnel; (e) hosting of thematic webinars; and (f) the 16 Days of Activism campaign – were highly responsive to the needs and priorities of the targeted communities.

These approaches were strategically designed to strengthen both community-level structures and institutional actors, thereby reinforcing local protection systems and access to justice mechanisms. Importantly, by placing women and gender-related issues at the centre of dialogue, leadership platforms, and civic processes, the project contributed to enhanced community resilience, increased civic participation, and more inclusive peacebuilding efforts.

a) Perceived Relevance of GALS activities

Building on the success of the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) in previous phases, Global Rights expanded this proven methodology in this phase to households in newly targeted, conflict-prone border communities. GALS has been instrumental in empowering women and men to jointly plan gender-equitable livelihoods, reshape household dynamics to support women's inclusion in decision-making, challenge harmful social norms, and promote mutual accountability.

The evaluation assessed participants' perceptions of the relevance of the GALS activities to their personal needs, roles, and community responsibilities. Findings indicate that GALS was widely regarded as a highly relevant and practical intervention across the target states. Table 4 presents respondents' perceptions of the relevance of the GALS intervention across Kano and Sokoto States. Overall, more than two-thirds (65.7%) of respondents rated GALS as either very relevant or extremely relevant to their needs. Only 12.9% considered it not at all relevant, while 9.1% found it slightly relevant. This strong positive perception underscores the alignment of the GALS methodology with participants' lived realities, particularly in relation to household decision-making, gender relations, conflict mitigation, and inclusive community engagement.

Table 4: Rating of the relevance of the GALS Training

Response Categories	To what extent were GALS relevant to your needs or role?		
	Kano	Sokoto	Overall Total
Not at all relevant	11.2%	16.0%	12.9%
Slightly relevant	11.2%	5.3%	9.1%
Moderately relevant	11.9%	8.0%	10.5%
Very relevant	22.4%	48.0%	31.6%
Extremely relevant	43.3%	22.7%	35.9%

State-level analysis shows some variation in perception. In Kano, a larger proportion of respondents rated GALS as extremely relevant, suggesting that participants experienced deeper or more transformative value from the intervention. In Sokoto, a higher proportion rated it as very relevant, indicating strong applicability and usefulness, though slightly fewer categorised it at the highest level of significance. A small minority in both states perceived limited relevance, highlighting the importance of continued contextual adaptation and follow-up support to maximise impact.

Overall, the findings demonstrate that GALS was a contextually appropriate and responsive strategy that contributed meaningfully to strengthening gender-responsive dialogue, enhancing women's participation, and promoting inclusive community peacebuilding processes.

Analysis of qualitative data obtained through the FGDs and KIs indicates that, across Kano and Sokoto States, respondents consistently affirmed that the project addressed critical and context-specific needs, particularly in relation to gender-based violence (GBV), women's exclusion from decision-making spaces, weak access to justice pathways, and fragile interfaith relations. The interventions were perceived as timely and responsive to existing social and institutional gaps.

In Sokoto, women emphasised that before the intervention, they lacked both confidence and knowledge of their rights. Following project activities, particularly training under GALS and peacebuilding components, participants reported increased awareness and agency: *"The change I see now is I know my rights, and I can speak confidently in public places or meetings, which wasn't like that before the training."* [003-FGD-GALS-SK-Feb-2026]

b) Perceived Relevance of CDCs/GBVRT/Mentorship Workshop/Capacity Building

The evaluation findings indicate that the CDC, GBVRT, mentorship workshop, and broader capacity-building interventions were widely perceived as relevant and responsive to participants' roles within their communities.

As reflected in Table 5 below, overall, 67.5% of respondents rated these interventions as either very relevant (22.9%) or extremely relevant (44.6%) to their needs. This strong positive rating suggests that the activities were well-aligned with the practical responsibilities of CDC and GBVRT members, particularly in areas such as mediation, survivor support, community mobilisation, and coordination with institutional actors.

Table 5: Perceived relevance of CDCs/GBVRT/Mentorship Workshop/Capacity Building

Response Categories	To what extent was CDCs/GBVRT/Mentorship Workshop/Capacity Building relevant to your needs or role?		
	Kano	Sokoto	Overall Total
Not at all relevant or applicable	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%
Slightly relevant	14.0%	2.9%	9.2%
Moderately relevant	14.0%	6.7%	10.8%

Very relevant	15.4%	32.7%	22.9%
Extremely relevant	44.1%	45.2%	44.6%

State-level analysis reveals some variation. In Sokoto, a higher proportion of respondents rated the interventions as very relevant (32.7%) and extremely relevant (45.2%), reflecting strong practical applicability and resonance with participants' community roles. In Kano, while the proportion rating the interventions as extremely significant remained high (44.1%), a slightly larger share of respondents rated them as only slightly or moderately relevant, suggesting the need for more tailored or role-specific reinforcement in certain contexts.

The identical 12.5% “not at all relevant” or “applicable” across both states suggests that a consistent minority across locations did not find the programming aligned with their roles or applicable to their situation. While this represents a minority view, it highlights the importance of continuous contextual adaptation, differentiated capacity-building approaches, and structured follow-up to ensure that training content translates effectively into practice.

Findings from the FGD and KII responses indicate that Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) are functioning as grassroots mediation and dialogue platforms that have strengthened peaceful dispute resolution across communities. Participants consistently described the CDCs as creating structured spaces where grievances are openly discussed and resolved before escalating. As one participant noted,

“Before the committee was formed, small misunderstandings easily turned into serious conflict, but now issues are discussed openly and resolved peacefully” [002-FGD-CDC-KN-Feb-2026].

Similarly, another respondent explained that:

“The CDC members intervene quickly when there is tension between groups; they call meetings and ensure both sides are heard” [003-FGD-CDC-SK-Feb-2026].

Key informants reinforced this growing legitimacy, with one stating, *“People now bring their grievances to the Dialogue Committee first before going to the police or traditional rulers” [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026].*

Regarding Gender-Based Violence Response Teams (GBVRTs), the qualitative data reflect increased awareness, improved reporting, and stronger referral mechanisms. FGD participants highlighted enhanced survivor confidence, particularly due to assurances of confidentiality. One participant remarked,

“Women are no longer afraid to report cases because they know the GBV team will handle it confidentially” [001-FGD-SGBVRT-KN-Feb-2026].

Another emphasised improved service linkage, stating,

“When a case is reported, the team links the survivor to the hospital and sometimes legal support immediately” [002-FGD-SGBVRT-SK-Feb-2026].

KIIs further indicated gradual normative shifts, especially among men, with one community leader observing that *“Men are gradually understanding that GBV is not a private family matter but a community concern” [004-KII-CTL-SK-Feb-2026]*. Nonetheless, stigma and entrenched socio-cultural norms were still cited as constraints in certain areas.

Overall, the findings provide strong evidence that the CDC/GBVRT mentorship and capacity-building strategy was a contextually appropriate and strategically sound intervention that strengthened community-level protection mechanisms and enhanced the capacity of local actors to promote inclusive peacebuilding and access to justice.

c) Perceived Relevance of Women-Led Town Halls

These town halls focused on encouraging active engagement of women in local governance, decision-making, and peacebuilding efforts. Facilitated by women leaders, the town halls provided a safe and inclusive space for women to share their perspectives, voice their concerns, and contribute to solutions for peace and security in their communities.

The evaluation findings indicate that perceptions of the relevance of Women-Led Town Halls were mixed overall, with significant variation between Kano and Sokoto States.

Table 6: Perceived relevance of Women-Led Town Halls

Response Categories	To what extent were women-led town halls relevant to your needs or role?		
	Kano	Sokoto	Overall Total
Not at all relevant	25.6%	10.6%	19.6%
Slightly relevant	18.6%	4.7%	13.1%
Moderately relevant	24.0%	14.1%	20.1%
Very relevant	20.2%	30.6%	24.3%
Extremely relevant	11.6%	40.0%	22.9%

At the collective level, 47.2% of respondents rated the Women-Led Town Halls as either very relevant (24.3%) or extremely relevant (22.9%) to their needs or roles. Meanwhile, 32.7% perceived them as not at all relevant (19.6%) or slightly relevant (13.1%), and 20.1% rated them as moderately relevant. These results suggest that while nearly half of the participants found the intervention highly relevant, a considerable proportion experienced more limited alignment with their roles or expectations.

State-level analysis reveals notable differences:

- Sokoto recorded strong positive perceptions, with 70.6% rating the town halls as very relevant (30.6%) or extremely relevant (40.0%). This suggests that the Women-Led Town Halls were

particularly effective in creating meaningful platforms for women's participation, dialogue, and visibility within civic and peacebuilding processes.

- Kano, however, showed more moderate ratings. Only 31.8% rated the intervention as very relevant (20.2%) or extremely significant (11.6%), while 44.2% considered it not at all or slightly relevant. This may reflect contextual or socio-cultural factors influencing participation, varying levels of direct engagement, or differences in how the town halls were integrated into existing community structures.

Overall, the findings suggest that Women-Led Town Halls were highly relevant in certain contexts – particularly in Sokoto – where they effectively amplified women's voices and strengthened inclusive civic engagement. However, the variation observed in Kano highlights the importance of context-sensitive implementation, stronger community sensitisation, and enhanced linkage between dialogue outcomes and tangible community actions to maximise relevance and uptake across diverse settings.

The analysis of FGDs responses on Women-Led Town Halls with GALS beneficiaries demonstrates significant improvements in women's awareness of rights, confidence, and participation in community and household decision-making processes. Participants reflected that the town hall contributed to strengthening their understanding of gender equity and entitlement, noting that *"They also learned about giving women their rights without depriving them of it"* [003-FGD-GALS-KN-Feb-2026]. Respondents further described the contribution of the town hall in shifting perceptions about women's leadership roles, explaining, *"Yes it changed them as they mention that Now they see the changes in both home and community and leadership as well. It is not stated that mandatory women must be at the lowest level always. Which is very wrong, women deserve equal opportunity everywhere"* [003-FGD-GALS-KN-Feb-2026].

Further reviews of the FGDs' responses have shown that Women-Led Town Halls contributed to strengthening women's access to justice pathways. GALS members affirmed, *"Yes, After the town halls we are aware of presenting cases by women for justice and support without the interference of any man, they develop confidence in doing such but not as anytime, sometimes they must include men to go ahead for them in some cases"* [003-FGD-GALS-KN-Feb-2026]. Broader impacts were identified at multiple levels, including personal capacity building, where *"they learned how to manage their businesses, time management and financial discipline"*; at the household level, *"Inclusion and decision making by members of household"*; and at the community level, *"Conflict resolution and massive awareness, people are now interested in being guided"* [003-FGD-GALS-KN-Feb-2026].

d) Perceived Relevance of Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS)

Global Rights introduced the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS) in two targeted project states as a critical mechanism for providing free legal services to detainees at police stations. This intervention supports the enforcement of both Force Order 20 of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) and the human rights provisions enshrined in the Administration of Criminal Justice Laws of both states. To operationalise the scheme, the project engaged lawyers across the target states who not only offer legal

services at police stations but also actively participated in the activities of the Gender-Based Violence Response Teams (GBVRTs). Their involvement enabled them to respond to cases identified through GBVRT mechanisms, expand the reach of legal aid, and facilitate effective case follow-through.

The evaluation findings indicate that the PDSS was widely perceived as a relatively relevant and strategically important intervention within the project's access to justice framework.

Table 7: Perceived relevance of Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS)

Response Categories	To what extent was PDSS relevant to your needs or role?		
	Kano	Sokoto	Overall Total
Not at all relevant	38.3%	30.9%	36.1%
Slightly relevant	21.1%	7.3%	16.9%
Moderately relevant	17.2%	9.1%	14.8%
Very relevant	12.5%	25.5%	16.4%
Extremely relevant	10.9%	27.3%	15.8%

Overall, while about one-third of respondents recognised strong relevance, more than half perceived PDSS as only moderately or minimally relevant. This reflects that the scheme's impact is concentrated among those who directly interact with the justice system. Higher relevance in Sokoto may be due to greater engagement with local police divisions, better awareness of services, or more effective communication about the scheme's purpose.

Across target communities, respondents – including detainees, legal actors, and community stakeholders – reported that the deployment of PDSS lawyers directly addressed critical gaps in legal representation, rights awareness, and oversight within police divisions. The scheme was particularly valued for improving timely access to legal advice, reducing prolonged detention, and strengthening procedural fairness.

Analysis of qualitative data obtained through the FGDs and KIs indicates that, across Kano and Sokoto States, respondents affirmed that the project's strengthening of community mediation structures and justice referral pathways addressed persistent barriers faced by marginalised populations [004-KII-RL-KN-Feb-2026]; [010-KII-RSI-KN-Feb-2026]. Stakeholders noted that communities previously relied on informal mechanisms that were often inconsistent or gender-biased, and that the project introduced more structured, rights-based approaches to dispute resolution.

Also, further analysis strongly affirms the relevance of the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS) in improving access to justice for marginalised and vulnerable individuals in Kano and Sokoto States. Respondents consistently described PDSS as filling a critical gap at the police station level, particularly for individuals who lack the financial capacity or knowledge to secure legal representation. One key informant explained that “PDSS has helped many people who cannot afford lawyers; once they are arrested, a lawyer is available to assist them at the station” [KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. This reflects the scheme's direct contribution to reducing prolonged detention and protecting suspects' rights at the early stages of the justice process.

e) Perceived Activity with the Greatest Positive Impact

The endline evaluation sought to determine which project activities participants perceived as having the greatest positive impact on themselves and their communities. This analysis provides insight into the interventions considered most meaningful, effective, and likely to generate sustained outcomes beyond the project lifecycle. Importantly, it would be nice to note that lower perception of impact does not necessarily imply low effectiveness; rather, it may indicate narrower beneficiary reach or reduced visibility compared to community-wide capacity-building initiatives

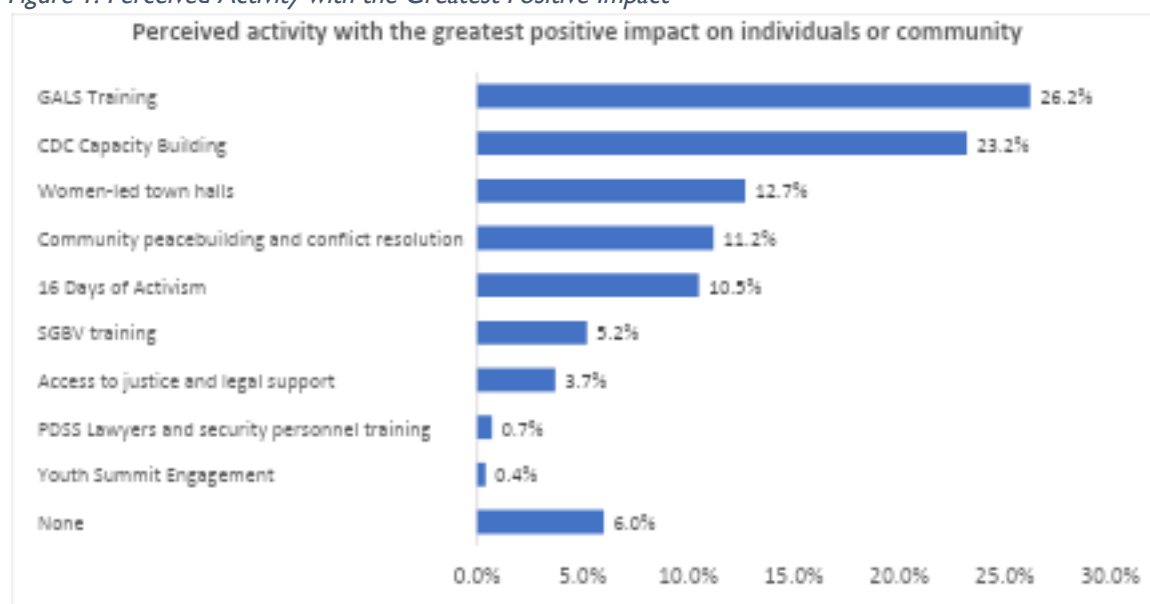
Figure 1 reveals a clear hierarchy in how beneficiaries and community members perceive the relevance and impact of the various interventions. Among the high-impact core activities, GALS Training (26.2%) and CDC Capacity Building (23.2%) were most frequently cited. Together, these account for nearly half (49.4%) of all responses, indicating that respondents view structured capacity-building and empowerment-focused approaches as the most transformative components of the project. These findings reinforce the centrality of locally anchored systems strengthening and gender-responsive empowerment within the project's overall theory of change.

From a project relevance perspective, the prominence of GALS underscores its effectiveness in influencing household and community-level gender norms, improving decision-making dynamics, and promoting both economic and relational empowerment. Its strong ranking suggests that participants experienced tangible shifts in attitudes and practices, particularly around gender roles and shared responsibility.

Similarly, CDC capacity building reinforces institutional sustainability and strengthens local ownership of peacebuilding and development processes. By equipping community structures with the skills and confidence to address insecurity and conflict, the intervention contributes to longer-term community resilience.

The concentration of perceived impact around these structured capacity-strengthening approaches indicates that the project's theory of change – centred on empowering individuals while reinforcing local systems – is closely aligned with community priorities and lived realities.

Figure 1: Perceived Activity with the Greatest Positive Impact



Relatedly, the following activities were moderately cited as having the greatest positive impact: Women-led town halls (12.7%), Community peacebuilding and conflict resolution dialogues (11.2%), and the 16 Days of Activism campaign (10.5%). Collectively, these interventions represent public engagement, dialogue, and awareness-raising strategies aimed at shifting norms and strengthening civic participation.

The relatively strong rating of women-led town halls underscores the importance of safe and inclusive civic spaces that amplify women's voices and participation in community decision-making. Community peacebuilding dialogues remain relevant, though they are perceived as somewhat less transformative than structured capacity-strengthening initiatives. Similarly, while the 16 Days of Activism campaign is clearly visible and widely recognised, it may be viewed as more event-driven in nature rather than producing sustained, systemic change. Overall, this pattern suggests that although awareness-raising efforts are valued, respondents more strongly associate long-term impact with skills-based interventions and institutional strengthening approaches.

Other activities were cited less frequently, including SGBV training (5.2%), access to justice and legal support (3.7%), PDSS lawyers and security personnel training (0.7%), and Youth Summit engagement (0.4%). Direct legal and justice support services, while essential, may be perceived as benefiting a more limited group of individuals rather than the broader community. Institutional-level trainings—such as those targeting lawyers and security personnel—may also have less immediate visibility at the community level, thereby affecting perceived impact. The low citation of Youth Summit engagement may reflect limited reach, recall, or perceived tangible outcomes.

Overall Assessment of Project Relevance

Overall, the Global Rights Phase III Project was well-conceived, with clearly defined objectives and a coherent intervention logic. The programmatic methodology and strategies were appropriate and

effectively aligned with the needs of beneficiaries and key stakeholders. The partners engaged in the program were highly relevant to the project's objectives, contributing to interventions that addressed the underlying barriers to women's meaningful inclusion in peacebuilding processes within the security and justice sectors.

The data strongly suggests that:

- Capacity-building and empowerment-focused interventions are perceived as most relevant and impactful.
- Community-driven structures (CDCs) and participatory methodologies (GALS) resonate strongly with beneficiaries.
- Awareness campaigns and public engagement activities are recognised but considered secondary in transformative value.
- Justice-sector and institutional reform components may require stronger communication of results to improve visibility and perceived impact.

Overall, the findings validate the project's emphasis on: a) local ownership; b) gender-transformative approaches; and c) community resilience mechanisms. However, they also highlight an opportunity to:

- ☞ Strengthen visibility of justice-sector reforms
- ☞ Enhance youth engagement visibility
- ☞ Communicate institutional impact more clearly

The project successfully targeted structural drivers of gender inequality, including those highlighted under the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda, ensuring that activities were both contextually responsive and strategically aligned with broader gender equity goals.

3.3. Assessment of Project Effectiveness

The effectiveness of the project was assessed through the accomplishment of outputs and outcomes indicators, the responses from the beneficiaries about the quality and usefulness of services provided to them, and information about barriers and supporting factors to the achievements of intended outcomes.

3.3.1. Achievement of Program Objectives

Global Rights established two impact indicators in the Phase III project logframe to measure progress toward its intended outcomes. As presented in Table 8 below, substantial progress was recorded against both indicators during the reporting period. The range of activities implemented under each of the two program objectives contributed meaningfully to positive change among project participants, notwithstanding some implementation challenges (discussed in a subsequent section).

The sections that follow provide a detailed analysis of performance against each indicator, including quantitative results and qualitative insights drawn from beneficiaries' feedback to assess the effectiveness of the interventions.

Table 8: Progress Toward Program Objective and Impact-Level Results

Table 6.1 Progress toward Program Objective and Impact Level Results						
IPTT Reference No.	INDICATORS	BASELINE VALUE	ENDLINE EVALUATION			STATUS
			ENDLINE RESULT	TARGET VALUE	% OF TARGET ACHIEVED	
Programme objective (Impact): To build community resilience and increase civic participation in the North-West by situating women and women’s issues at the forefront of civic engagement and community peacebuilding efforts, while expanding access to justice for marginalised groups through inclusive, community-led mechanisms and strengthened institutional responses.						
IP. 1	Level of participation of women, youths and PWDs in civic engagement and community peacebuilding efforts	48% from Phase I & II	88.2%	50%	176%	Met and Surpassed
IP. 2	Number of marginalised individuals with enhanced access to justice	0	231	100	231%	Met and surpassed

LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN, YOUTHS AND PWDs IN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY PEACEBUILDING EFFORTS: The program aimed to build community resilience and increase civic participation in North-West Nigeria by placing women and women's issues at the forefront of civic engagement and community peacebuilding, while expanding access to justice for marginalised groups through inclusive, community-led mechanisms and strengthened institutional responses. Endline findings demonstrate substantial progress toward this objective, with impact-level indicators showing strong performance.

Under IP.1 (Level of participation of women, youths, and persons with disabilities in civic engagement and community peacebuilding efforts), participation increased significantly from a 48% baseline (established during Phases I and II) to 88.2% at endline. Against a target of 50%, this represents 176% achievement of the intended result. The 40-percentage-point increase reflects meaningful expansion in inclusive civic engagement and suggests that previously excluded groups are now actively participating in community decision-making and peacebuilding processes. This outcome strongly validates the program's gender-responsive and inclusion-centred approach, particularly its investments in women-led structures, CDCs, and empowerment methodologies. The scale of improvement indicates not only increased

attendance or representation, but a broader normalisation of women's and marginalised groups' participation in public and civic spaces.

Relatedly, evaluation findings show a clear positive shift in inclusive participation across both states at endline. Overall, 88.2% of respondents reported that participation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities (PWDs) had either slightly increased (51.3%) or significantly increased (36.9%) compared to before the project. This indicates strong perceived progress toward inclusive civic and peacebuilding engagement.

Table 9: Perceived Change in Representation of Women, Youth, and PWDs in Civic and Peacebuilding Activities

Response Categories	Compared to before the project, how has the participation of women, youth, and PWDs changed?		
	Kano	Sokoto	Overall Total
Decreased	2.0%	7.3%	4.7%
No Change	14.3%	0.0%	7.0%
Slightly Increased	52.4%	50.3%	51.3%
Significantly Increased	31.3%	42.4%	36.9%

When disaggregated by State:

Kano

- 83.7% reported increased participation (52.4% slightly; 31.3% significantly).
- 14.3% perceived no change.
- Only 2.0% reported a decrease.

This suggests meaningful gains in inclusion, though a notable minority still perceives stagnation.

Sokoto

- 92.7% reported increased participation (50.3% slightly; 42.4% significantly).
- No respondents reported “no change.”
- 7.3% reported a decrease.

Sokoto shows stronger perceived progress, particularly in the proportion reporting a significant increase (42.4%), which is higher than Kano (31.3%). However, the slightly higher “decreased” response in Sokoto suggests that while overall gains are strong, experiences may not be uniform across all communities.

Overall, endline data show that both states demonstrated substantial improvements in inclusive participation. Sokoto appears to have achieved a bigger perceived change (higher “significantly increased”). Kano shows moderate gains, but with a higher “no change” perception. These findings suggest that project interventions aimed at strengthening inclusive civic engagement were largely effective in both states. The high proportion of respondents reporting increased participation indicates progress toward shifting norms and strengthening the representation of women, youth, and PWDs.

The endline evaluation further assessed the extent to which the Global Rights project contributed to increased participation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities (PWDs) in civic and peacebuilding activities. Respondents were asked to rate the project's level of contribution, providing insight into perceived attribution and the effectiveness of the intervention in strengthening inclusive engagement. The findings indicate a strong perceived project contribution to increasing participation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities (PWDs) across both states, as shown in Table 10 below.

At the aggregate level, 98.7% of respondents reported that the project made at least a moderate contribution. 51.7% rated the contribution as moderate, and 47.0% rated it as high; Only 1.4% perceived low or no contribution. This suggests that the project's inclusion strategies were widely recognised and valued by community members, with virtually no perception of ineffectiveness.

Table 10: Perception of Contribution of Project to Increased Participation of Women, Youth, and PwDs

Response Categories	To what extent did the Global Rights project contribute to increased participation of women, youth, and PWDs?		
	Kano	Sokoto	Overall Total
No contribution	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%
Low	1.4%	0.0%	0.7%
Moderate	54.1%	49.3%	51.7%
High	43.8%	50.0%	47.0%

When disaggregated by project locations:

Kano:

- 54.1% rated the contribution as moderate
- 43.8% rated it as high
- 2.1% perceived low or no contribution

This pattern suggests that while the project was clearly impactful in Kano, most respondents perceived the gains as steady and incremental rather than transformational.

Sokoto

- 50.0% rated the contribution as high
- 49.3% rated it as moderate
- Only 0.7% reported no contribution.
- No respondents rated the contribution as low.

Sokoto demonstrates slightly stronger perceived intensity of impact, with half of the respondents describing the project's contribution as high. This aligns with earlier findings showing higher proportions reporting significant increases in participation. Interestingly, both states show overwhelmingly positive assessments. Sokoto reflects a stronger perceived depth of change (higher "high" rating). At the same

time, Kano reflects strong but slightly more moderate assessments. The near absence of “low” or “no contribution” responses strengthens confidence in attribution – respondents clearly link observed improvements in inclusive participation to the Global Rights intervention.

These findings indicate:

- High program relevance and visibility – communities and stakeholders are aware of and can attribute change to the project.
- Effective inclusion strategies – particularly in strengthening representation of women, youth, and PWDs.
- Stronger transformational perception in Sokoto, suggesting contextual or implementation factors may have amplified impact there.
- Sustained incremental gains in Kano, though potentially requiring deeper norm-shifting interventions for a stronger “high impact” perception.

Evidence from the FGDs and KII transcripts also demonstrates that the project was effective in achieving its intended outcomes, particularly in strengthening women’s participation in peacebuilding processes, improving GBV response mechanisms, and enhancing community-level justice systems. In Sokoto State, CDC members reported improved mediation skills and confidence in addressing disputes. Women described tangible changes in their approach to handling sensitive cases:

“We have seen changes; women now have a better approach to the situation.”
[001-FGD-CDC-SK-Feb-2026]

Participants also reported psychological and emotional transformation, suggesting deeper empowerment outcomes:

“The change I feel now within me is I feel secure and happier than before.”
[002-FGD-GALS-SK-Feb-2026].

Also, the effectiveness of GBV response strengthening is particularly evident in cases where women took leadership roles in mediation and resolution processes. As noted,

“There are a lot of cases where women are influenced into dispute resolutions and decision-making, mostly cases of GBV.” **[001-FGD-CDC-SK-Feb-2026].**

Furthermore, in Kano, institutional stakeholders indicated improved coordination between community structures and formal justice actors, contributing to clearer referral systems and increased trust in justice processes [010-KII-RSI-KN-Feb-2026]. Religious leaders also acknowledged improvements in community dialogue and dispute resolution capacity [004-KII-RL-KN-Feb-2026].

Collectively, the findings suggest that the project not only delivered activities but also translated these into measurable behavioural, structural, and institutional changes. Overall, both the quantitative and

qualitative data provide strong evidence that the project contributed meaningfully to enhancing inclusive civic and peacebuilding participation across both states.

NUMBER OF MARGINALISED INDIVIDUALS WITH ENHANCED ACCESS TO JUSTICE: This indicator measures the absolute number of individuals from marginalised groups who have experienced improved ability to seek, obtain, or benefit from justice services as a result of the project. “Enhanced access” here means, among other things, individuals are better able to: a) report cases to formal or informal justice mechanisms; b) obtain legal advice or representation; c) access police, courts, mediation, or alternative dispute resolution; d) navigate complaint and referral pathways; and d) receive fair, timely, and respectful treatment.

For IP.2 (Number of marginalised individuals with enhanced access to justice), the programme recorded significant gains from a zero baseline to 231 individuals reporting enhanced access to justice mechanisms at endline. This surpassed the original target of 100 individuals by more than double. The results demonstrate strengthened referral pathways, improved legal awareness, and increased responsiveness of justice institutions to marginalised populations, including detainees, survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, and persons with disabilities. The progress suggests growing trust in community-based and institutional justice mechanisms, as well as improved coordination between community actors and formal justice providers.

Evaluation findings demonstrate an overall positive shift in perceptions of the justice system across both states, with a strong majority reporting improvement compared to the pre-project period. At the overall project level:

- 84.3% of respondents reported improvements in their experience with the justice system - 62.8% indicated it had slightly improved; 21.5% reported it had significantly improved
- 13.5% reported no change.
- Only 2.2% indicated their experience had become much worse.

These findings suggest that the project period coincided with meaningful perceived improvements in justice system responsiveness, accessibility, or fairness.

Table 11: Perceived improvements in justice system responsiveness, accessibility or fairness

Response Categories	Compared to before the project, has your experience with the justice system changed?		
	Kano	Sokoto	Overall Total
Much worse	0.7%	3.9%	2.2%
No Change	19.3%	7.0%	13.5%
Slightly improved	61.4%	64.3%	62.8%
Significantly improved	18.6%	24.8%	21.5%

State-level analysis indicates:

Kano

- 80.0% reported improvement (61.4% slightly; 18.6% significantly).
- 19.3% reported no change.
- Only 0.7% reported a worsening experience.

Kano reflects steady but largely incremental improvement. However, the relatively higher “no change” response (19.3%) suggests that gains may not have been uniformly experienced across all respondents.

Sokoto

- 89.1% reported improvement (64.3% slightly; 24.8% significantly).
- Only 7.0% reported no change.
- 3.9% reported their experience was much worse.

Sokoto demonstrates stronger perceived progress, particularly in the proportion reporting significant improvement. However, it also records a slightly higher proportion reporting deterioration compared to Kano, suggesting uneven experiences.

In general, the high proportion across both states reporting improvement strengthens evidence that project interventions – particularly those related to access to justice, referral systems, legal awareness, or institutional engagement – have had tangible effects. The predominance of “slight improvement” suggests gradual system strengthening rather than transformative institutional overhaul. The minority reporting no change or worsening experiences warrants qualitative follow-up to understand whether specific populations (e.g., PWDs, rural women, youth) continue to face barriers. The stronger improvement trend in Sokoto may reflect differences in implementation intensity, stakeholder engagement, or baseline conditions.

Responses obtained through the FGDs and KII indicate that the project contributed to a measurable increase in the number of marginalised individuals, particularly women, vulnerable marital cases, and socially disadvantaged community members, who accessed justice through strengthened community mediation structures and improved referral pathways in Kano and Sokoto States. Although the transcripts do not provide consolidated numerical totals, multiple accounts demonstrate that marginalised individuals who previously lacked voice, confidence, or institutional access were able to seek redress through Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs), traditional authorities, and linked formal justice actors.

In Sokoto State, women played a central role in handling GBV-related cases, reflecting both increased access and improved responsiveness of justice mechanisms: “*There was a case where a man beats up his wife, we women in CDC were 85% involved in that case, we were the ones who handled it.*” [001-FGD-CDC-SK-Feb-2026]. This suggests that survivors of domestic violence, who are often among the most marginalised, were able to access community-based justice support through female-led mediation structures.

However, access to formal justice remains constrained by socio-cultural stigma and institutional corruption, limiting the full realisation of justice outcomes. As noted by a traditional leader in Sokoto: *“The major challenges we are facing are the parents sometimes... try to send them to the court to have justice, but they refuse... because they are afraid of exposing their daughter’s identity...”* [001-KII-TL-SK-Feb-2026]. Additionally, *“the police sometimes... deny the case and even accuse the victim just because of corruption and the victim is a nobody.”* [001-KII-TL-SK-Feb-2026]. These statements indicate that while community-level access has improved, systemic barriers still affect escalation to formal institutions.

In Kano State, strengthened referral pathways and structured escalation systems contributed to enhanced access for marginalised complainants. CDC leaders described clear referral mechanisms from community mediation to higher traditional authorities and police: *“If it’s above us, then we take such cases to the higher authority... If it’s beyond us from the Hakimi’s house, we will move it to the police.”* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. This tiered system reflects expanded access channels, ensuring that cases beyond local capacity can move upward within formal and semi-formal justice hierarchies.

Furthermore, inclusive CDC composition ensured that marginalised groups, including women, youth, and persons with disabilities (PwDs), were structurally represented within justice mechanisms: *“Women are involved... There are youth and also PWDs. We go with the youth completely, and there is no segregation of any group.”* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. This inclusive framework enhances the likelihood that marginalised complainants feel represented and supported when seeking redress.

Taken together, the impact-level results indicate that the project has made substantive contributions toward strengthening inclusive civic participation and expanding justice access in the intervention states. The magnitude of achievement – particularly the significant overperformance against targets – suggests that the programme’s theory of change, centred on empowering women while reinforcing community systems and institutional linkages, is both relevant and effective within the local context. These outcomes provide strong evidence of enhanced community resilience and more inclusive governance structures capable of sustaining gains beyond the project lifecycle.

3.3.2. Achievement of Outcomes

This section presents an assessment of the extent to which the project achieved its intended outcomes. Drawing on quantitative survey data, qualitative insights from focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIs), and project monitoring records, the analysis highlights progress across five outcome areas: i) Improved community buy-in and cross-community collaboration, with strengthened local ownership and enhanced shared learning on inclusive peacebuilding; ii) Increased representation and meaningful participation of women in inclusive peacebuilding structures and decision-making processes in border communities; iii) Enhanced access to justice and strengthened community mobilization to advance the safety and protection of women; iv) Strengthened capacity of Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) to sustain local peacebuilding structures, replicate successful practices, and mobilize resources to scale impact across communities; and v) Increased use of evidence-based

interventions to inform project design, align strategies with community realities, and contribute to practice-based knowledge in peacebuilding and SGBV response.

Together, these outcomes demonstrate the project's multifaceted impact on fostering inclusive, sustainable, and locally owned peacebuilding processes. The findings also examine variations in outcomes across Kano and Sokoto states, as well as the perceived effectiveness of interventions from the perspective of beneficiaries and local stakeholders.

3.3.2.1. Achievement of Project Outcome I Indicators

Under Outcome I, the project sought improved community buy-in and cross-community collaboration, with strengthened local ownership and enhanced shared learning on inclusive peacebuilding. As demonstrated in Table 12 below, evaluation data and internal project monitoring data reveal that the project achieved all its intended outcomes under this result area as per the indicators, milestones, and targets set out in its results framework. All 5 indicator targets were either achieved or exceeded. This outcome was mostly achieved through extensive consultations and engagement with community leaders and community gatekeepers by Global Rights, the establishment of dialogue and peacebuilding committees, building the capacity of the committee members and volunteers, and regular hosting of monthly dialogue and peacebuilding committee meetings. These measures increased the direct engagement of women in decision-making and peace-building activities. Achievement against each indicator is discussed below with specific details and insights into the effectiveness of the interventions based on beneficiaries' feedback.

Table 12: Achievement of Project Outcome I Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Outcome I: Improved community buy-in and cross-community collaboration, with strengthened local ownership and enhanced shared learning on inclusive peacebuilding						
OC I.1	% Increase in the number of inter-community collaboration initiatives addressing peacebuilding	0%	4	4	100%	Achieved
OC I.3	Number of community buy-in engagements conducted	0%	4	4	100%	Achieved

% INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF INTER-COMMUNITY COLLABORATION INITIATIVES ADDRESSING PEACEBUILDING: Project monitoring data show that the project successfully established four new community dialogue committees across four additional senatorial districts in Sokoto and Kano states, achieving 100% of the target. These committees serve as local platforms for dialogue and conflict resolution, bringing together diverse community members, including women, youth, and marginalised groups, to address issues affecting peace and social cohesion. By fostering inclusive participation and collaborative decision-making, the

committees strengthen local ownership of peacebuilding processes and create sustainable mechanisms for communities to prevent and resolve conflicts independently.

Results in the final evaluation reveal that the majority of respondents reported that activities were effective in improving community peacebuilding or conflict resolution. Overall, across the two project states, 77.6% of respondents reported that the project contributed significantly or very significantly to improving community peacebuilding and conflict resolution (23.9% significantly; 53.7% very significantly). Only 9.6% perceived little or no contribution (3.7% no contribution; 5.9% slightly). This indicates strong acknowledgement of peacebuilding improvements to the Global Rights intervention and suggests high visibility and credibility of project activities within target communities.

When data is disaggregated at the state level:

In Kano:

- 61.8% reported a significant or very significant contribution (22.2% significantly; 39.6% very significantly).
- 21.5% rated the contribution as moderate.
- 16.7% perceived slight or no contribution.

In Kano, while the majority acknowledges meaningful contribution, perceptions are more evenly distributed across categories. This suggests solid but comparatively moderate perceived impact, with some communities possibly experiencing incremental rather than transformative change.

In Sokoto

- 95.3% reported a significant or very significant contribution (25.8% significantly; 69.5% very significantly).
- Only 1.6% perceived slight or no contribution.

Sokoto demonstrates exceptionally strong perceived impact. The fact that nearly 7 in 10 respondents rated the contribution as very significant suggests deep community resonance and potentially transformative effects on local peace structures.

Table 13: Contribution of the Project to improving community peacebuilding

Response Categories	To what extent did the Global Rights project contribute to improving community peacebuilding or conflict resolution?		
	Kano	Sokoto	Overall Total
No contribution	6.3%	0.8%	3.7%
Slightly	10.4%	0.8%	5.9%
Moderately	21.5%	3.1%	12.9%
Significantly	22.2%	25.8%	23.9%
Very significantly	39.6%	69.5%	53.7%

The qualitative findings corroborate the quantitative findings, indicating a notable increase in inter-community collaboration initiatives aimed at peacebuilding across Kano and Sokoto States, resulting from the project's structured dialogue platforms, inclusive mediation mechanisms, and interfaith engagement activities. The project created and strengthened spaces where diverse community actors, including women, youth, traditional leaders, and religious representatives, could jointly address conflicts and promote social cohesion.

In Sokoto State, participants highlighted the significance of structured interfaith engagement that brought Muslim and Christian community members together around shared peace objectives: *"I can remember the training that was given to us for peace between Muslim and Christian, coming together as one and making peace."* [003-FGD-GALS-SK-Feb-2026]. This statement reflects deliberate collaboration across religious divides, which is particularly significant in contexts where religious identity can shape community tensions. The project fostered platforms that encouraged dialogue, joint participation in trainings, and shared commitment to peaceful coexistence.

Initial scepticism about the project's intentions further underscores the importance of sustained collaboration. As noted: *"people believe that we are supporting other religions on their mission..."* [002-KII-CDCTL-SK-Feb-2026].

However, continued engagement and visible community impact transformed this perception, leading to increased participation and cross-community engagement. The shift from suspicion to active involvement suggests strengthened inter-community trust and collaboration. In Kano State, collaboration was also evident in the structured referral and mediation system linking community leaders, Hakimis, town heads, and police authorities: *"If it's above us, then we take such to the higher authority... If it's beyond us from the Hakimi's house, we will move it to the Police."* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. This tiered coordination mechanism demonstrates functional collaboration across traditional and formal institutions, contributing to collective peacebuilding and dispute resolution efforts beyond individual communities.

Furthermore, inclusive CDC composition, integrating women, youth, and PwDs, created broader representation within collaborative peace structures: *"Women are involved... There are youth and also PWDs. We go with the youth completely, and there is no segregation to any group."* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. This inclusivity strengthened inter-community engagement by ensuring that collaboration was not limited to traditional male elites but incorporated diverse voices.

From the results of the final evaluation, the data provide compelling evidence that the project substantially strengthened community-level peacebuilding and conflict resolution mechanisms. The high proportion of "very significant" responses – especially in Sokoto – signals that interventions such as Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs), cross-community engagement platforms, and inclusive participation strategies were not only operational but influential. The moderate-to-high ratings in Kano suggest solid institutional strengthening, though potentially with room for deeper norm change or broader reach. Overall, the findings strongly support the conclusion that the project made a meaningful and, in many cases, transformative contribution to community peacebuilding outcomes.

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY BUY-IN ENGAGEMENTS CONDUCTED: Project monitoring data indicate that Global Rights conducted four community entry and advocacy engagements in Shuni, Chimmola, Sabon Gari, and Kofar Gabas communities over the course of the project lifecycle, achieving 100% of the planned target.

These engagements were strategically important in laying the foundation for effective project implementation. They facilitated early relationship-building with community leaders, traditional institutions, and other key stakeholders, helping to secure local buy-in and legitimacy. The advocacy sessions also provided an opportunity to clarify project objectives, align expectations, and identify priority peace and protection concerns within each community. By investing in structured community entry processes, the project strengthened trust, enhanced local ownership, and created an enabling environment for inclusive and sustainable peacebuilding interventions.

Also, the qualitative findings indicate that deliberate and sustained community buy-in engagements were central to the successful implementation of the project in both Kano and Sokoto States. These engagements included consultations with traditional leaders, religious leaders, Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs), youth representatives, and other community stakeholders before and during project rollout. The data suggest that early resistance and scepticism were gradually transformed into acceptance and active participation through continuous dialogue and visible impact.

In Sokoto State, initial community suspicion, particularly around perceived religious motives, highlighted the necessity of structured engagement at inception. A CDC leader noted: *“The only challenge we faced was that from the inauguration of this project, people believe that we are supporting other religions on their mission...”* [002-KII-CDCTL-SK-Feb-2026]. This reflects the sensitive religious context in which the project operated and underscores the importance of proactive engagement strategies. However, sustained community dialogues and inclusive participation mechanisms strengthened trust over time: *“...after the continuity of this project, they discovered that the project have an impact in their community and they are even rushing just to participate...”* [002-KII-CDCTL-SK-Feb-2026]. This progression from suspicion to demand-driven participation demonstrates effective community sensitisation and buy-in.

In Kano State, engagement with traditional leadership hierarchies was instrumental in securing legitimacy and ensuring case referral coordination. A CDC leader described the structured relationship with higher traditional authorities: *“If it's above us, then we take it to the higher authority... If a case is beyond my ability, then I will refer it to the Hakimi... If it's beyond us from the Hakimi's house, we will move it to the police.”* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. This indicates that engagement extended beyond community groups to include Hakimis, town heads, and formal institutions, reinforcing ownership across governance levels.

Furthermore, inclusive composition of CDCs, ensuring representation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities, also reflects intentional community buy-in at the structural level: *“Women are involved... There are youth and also PWDs. We go with the youth completely, and there is no segregation to any group.”* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. By embedding inclusion criteria within

CDC formation, the project strengthened broad-based ownership and minimised perceptions of exclusion.

Overall, the qualitative evidence suggests that community buy-in engagements were not one-off activities but ongoing processes involving sensitisation meetings, trust-building dialogues, leadership consultations, and collaborative dispute resolution mechanisms. These engagements were critical in overcoming early resistance, strengthening legitimacy, enhancing participation, and ensuring the sustainability of project outcomes across Kano and Sokoto States.

3.3.2.2. Achievement of Project Outcome 2 Indicators

Under Outcome 2, the project aimed to strengthen the representation and meaningful participation of women in inclusive peacebuilding structures and decision-making processes across target communities. Recognising the persistent structural and socio-cultural barriers that limit women's voice and influence in civic and peace forums, the project deliberately implemented targeted strategies to enhance women's visibility, leadership, and agency within Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) and other local governance platforms. As seen in Table 14, the project achieved 100% of the planned target.

Progress toward strengthened local peacebuilding structures with increased women's participation is evident through the consolidation of CDCs and the growing leadership roles assumed by women. The project has shown increased confidence, public engagement, and representation of women in community dialogues, referrals, and decision-making, indicating that the selected outputs are appropriate and effective pathways to this outcome.

Table 14: Achievement of Project Outcome 2 Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Outcome 2: Increased representation and meaningful participation of women in inclusive peacebuilding structures and decision-making processes in border communities						
OC 2.1	% of women included in dialogue and peacebuilding committees in each community	0%	40% of the committee in the new communities will be comprised of women	40% overall of the committee in the new CDCs are comprised of women Shuni: 40% Chimmola: 40% Sabon Gari: 47% Kofar Gabas: 47%	100%	Achieved
OC 2.2	% of households where women are taking on shared	0%	60% of households where women are	95% of households where women are taking	158%	Met and surpassed (58%)

responsibility and decision-making		taking shared responsibility and involved in decision-making	shared responsibility and are involved in decision-making	
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Beyond numerical representation, the focus was on promoting meaningful participation – ensuring that women were not only present but actively engaged in deliberations, agenda-setting, and decision-making processes related to conflict prevention, resolution, and community safety. This included building women’s capacity, strengthening institutional responsiveness to gender perspectives, and fostering community acceptance of women’s leadership in peacebuilding spaces. Through these efforts, the project sought to contribute to more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable peacebuilding outcomes grounded in gender-responsive approaches.

Final evaluation data reveal a very strong positive perception of women’s voice in civic and peace forums across both states, with particularly robust results in Sokoto. As shown in Table 15, 95.2% of respondents overall agree or strongly agree that women can speak freely in civic/peace forums. Only 2.4% are neutral, and 2.4% express disagreement. This suggests broad normative acceptance of women’s participation and voice in community decision-making spaces. From a strategic standpoint, this reflects substantial progress toward gender-inclusive peacebuilding.

Table 15: Women can speak freely in civic/peace forums

Response Categories	To what extent do you agree with the following statement: “Women can speak freely in civic/peace forums		
	Kano	Sokoto	Overall Total
Strongly disagree	2.8%	0.0%	1.4%
Disagree	2.1%	0.0%	1.0%
Neutral	4.8%	0.0%	2.4%
Agree	28.3%	47.7%	38.1%
Strongly agree	62.1%	52.3%	57.1%

State-Level Insights reveals the following:

In Kano:

- 90.4% agree or strongly agree (28.3% agree; 62.1% strongly agree).
- 9.7% are neutral or disagree.

Kano demonstrates strong endorsement of women’s voice, though there remains a small segment expressing hesitation or resistance – suggesting that while change is well advanced, it may not yet be fully universalised.

In Sokoto:

- 100% agreement (47.7% agree; 52.3% strongly agree).
- No respondents expressed neutrality or disagreement.

This reflects exceptionally strong consensus and suggests that women's participation in peace forums has become widely normalised within target communities. From a systems-change perspective, the results suggest that the project has moved beyond simple representation to influencing community-level norms around women's voice and agency.

The concentration of responses in the top two agreement categories – particularly the high “strongly agree” percentages – indicates not just tolerance but affirmation of women's participation. This is a critical milestone in gender-transformative peacebuilding. However, sustainability will depend on: a) continued reinforcement of inclusive norms; b) ensuring that perceived freedom to speak translates into actual influence on decisions; c) monitoring whether agreement levels are consistent across age, gender, and leadership status.

Overall, the quantitative data point to a highly successful intervention in advancing women's meaningful participation in civic and peace processes.

3.3.2.3. Achievement of Project Outcome 3 Indicator

Outcome 3 aimed to enhance access to justice and strengthen community mobilization to advance the safety and protection of women in Northwest Nigeria. The indicator table reflects strong structural progress, though some performance data require clarification or completion. Overall, performance against Outcome 3 demonstrates strong progress in expanding access to justice and strengthening community-based protection mechanisms, with most indicators either achieved or exceeded. However, some distributional and reach gaps remain, particularly regarding SGBV case resolution volumes and equity across demographic groups.

Table 16: Achievement of Project Outcome 3 Indicators

Table 10: Achievement of Project Outcome 3 indicators						
IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Outcome 3: Enhanced access to justice and strengthened community mobilization to advance the safety and protection of women in Northwest Nigeria.						
OC 3.1	Number of GBVRTs established or expanded in target communities	0%	6	7	100%	Achieved
OC 3.2	Number of marginalized individuals (including women and girls)	0%	100	143	142%	Met and surpassed

	accessing legal support services in target states				
OC 3.3	% of rights violation cases successfully resolved or referred through the PDSS lawyers disaggregated by gender, age, and PWD	0%	60%w; 40%m; 10% PWD; 60% youth	16% w, 84% m, and 89% youths	27%w, 210%m, and 148% youths Mixed achievement
OC 3.4	% increase in community trust in police divisions due to the presence of PDSS lawyers	31.8%	0	86.8%	NA NA
OC 3.5	Number of reported SGBV cases and proportion resolved within the intervention period	0	At least 30 SGBV survivors receiving support	21	70% Partially achieved

OC 3.1: ESTABLISHMENT OR EXPANSION OF GBV RESPONSE TEAMS (GBVRTs) – ACHIEVED: The project fully met its target by establishing or expanding six (6) GBVRTs across target communities, compared to a zero baseline. This achievement reflects effective community mobilization, institutional coordination, and local ownership. The presence of functional GBVRTs provides a critical preventive and response infrastructure, strengthening early identification, referral, and survivor support pathways at the community level.

GBVRTs have become foundational entry points for justice access and community-based protection.

OC 3.2: MARGINALIZED INDIVIDUALS ACCESSING LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES – MET AND SURPASSED: The project significantly exceeded its target, supporting 143 marginalized individuals against a target of 100 – representing 142% achievement. This strong overperformance reflects high demand for legal services and effective outreach mechanisms, including PDSS lawyers, community referrals, and trusted local intermediaries. It also suggests that access barriers – such as fear, distance, or lack of awareness – were successfully reduced during implementation.

Overall, legal support interventions were both accessible and trusted, effectively lowering structural and social barriers to justice for marginalized groups.

OC 3.3: RESOLUTION OR REFERRAL OF RIGHTS VIOLATION CASES VIA PDSS LAWYERS (DISAGGREGATED TARGETS): Results under this indicator show mixed achievement:

- Women: 16% achieved against a 60% target (27% of target achieved)
- Men: 84% achieved against a 40% target (210% of target achieved)
- Youth: 89% achieved against a 60% target (148% of target achieved)

While the overall volume of resolved or referred cases is strong – particularly for men and youth – the significantly lower resolution rate for women indicates persistent gender-specific barriers. These may include stigma, fear of retaliation, social pressure, or economic dependence, which limit women’s ability to pursue cases to resolution even when access exists.

Overall, results the indicator achievement reveals that access does not automatically translate into equitable justice outcomes, underscoring the need for survivor-centered, gender-responsive case management and additional protective measures for women and girls.

OC 3.4: COMMUNITY TRUST IN POLICE DUE TO PDSS PRESENCE – STRONG POSITIVE SIGNAL: The data shows a substantial increase in community trust in police divisions, rising from 31.8% at baseline to 86.8% at endline. This represents a 55 percentage-point increase, indicating that the introduction and deployment of Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS) lawyers played a critical role in improving public confidence in policing processes. The presence of legal professionals during arrests and detention likely reassured community members that procedures were more transparent, rights-respecting, and accountable.

This is a notable qualitative and perceptual achievement. PDSS functions not only as a justice mechanism but also as a trust-building intervention between communities and formal security institutions – an important condition for long-term violence prevention and rule of law. Overall, trust-building is a critical preventive outcome, contributing to greater willingness to report violations and engage formal justice systems over time.

OC 3.5 – REPORTED SGBV CASES AND PROPORTION RESOLVED: The project supported 21 SGBV survivors against a target of at least 30, achieving 70% of the target. This represents partial achievement, likely influenced by underreporting, stigma, security concerns, and the sensitivity of SGBV cases – particularly in conservative or conflict-affected communities. The shortfall does not necessarily indicate low incidence or weak response capacity, but rather the structural and cultural barriers that continue to suppress reporting. The result reinforces the importance of prevention, safe disclosure mechanisms, and long-term trust-building, beyond project timelines.

Overall, Outcome 3 has been largely achieved, with notable successes in institutional strengthening, legal access expansion, and trust-building with justice actors. However, the mixed performance across gender and survivor-specific indicators highlights the importance of:

- Deepening gender-responsive outreach
- Strengthening survivor-centered reporting mechanisms
- Addressing social and mobility barriers faced by women
- Moving further upstream toward prevention and early intervention

The findings confirm that while justice mechanisms are functioning, equitable access – especially for women and SGBV survivors – remains the critical frontier for impact.

3.3.2.4. Achievement of Project Outcome 4 Indicators

Under Outcome 4, the project aimed to strengthen the capacity of Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) to sustain local peacebuilding structures, replicate successful practices, and mobilise resources to scale impact across communities. To this end, targeted capacity-building support was provided to both CDCs and Gender-Based Violence Response Teams (GBVRTs), with a particular focus on sustainability planning, institutional strengthening, and resource mobilisation strategies.

As a result, CDCs were able to independently design and implement locally driven strategic initiatives that promoted peacebuilding and strengthened access to justice mechanisms for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). In addition, newly established CDCs received training on inclusive peacebuilding approaches to ensure that women, youth, and persons with disabilities were meaningfully represented in local decision-making structures.

As reflected in Table 16, the project achieved and, in some cases, exceeded the planned targets for both success indicators under this outcome, demonstrating strengthened institutional capacity and increased local ownership of peacebuilding efforts.

Table 17: Achievement of Project Outcome 4 Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Outcome 4: Strengthened capacity of Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) to sustain local peacebuilding structures, self-replicate successful practices, and mobilise resources to scale impact across communities.						
OC 4.1	Number of CDCs platforms demonstrating increased capacity to plan and implement peacebuilding and access to justice initiatives independently	0%	2	2	100%	Achieved
OC 4.2	Number of community-led peacebuilding and SGBV response interventions initiated by CDCs	0%	6	15	250%	Met and surpassed (150%)

NUMBER OF CDCs PLATFORMS DEMONSTRATING INCREASED CAPACITY TO PLAN AND IMPLEMENT PEACEBUILDING AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE INITIATIVES INDEPENDENTLY: Global Rights conducted a capacity-building workshop for CDCs, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Response Teams (SGBVRTs) and Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) in both Sokoto and Kano, on resource mobilisation and sustainability strategies. Project monitoring report reveals that the workshop provided participants with practical skills in fundraising, partnership development, identification of financial and non-financial resources, and the development of community-driven sustainability plans.

Community feedback from project participants and the endline evaluation survey shows that the capacity-building activity was effective in increasing the capacity of the members to plan and implement peacebuilding and access to justice initiatives.

When participants were asked to assess the extent to which the capacity-building workshop improved their knowledge and skills, the findings point to strong overall training effectiveness, with notable variation in the depth of impact between Kano and Sokoto. As presented in Table 17, 68.6% of participants reported that their knowledge or skills improved significantly or very significantly (29.7% significantly; 38.9% very significantly), while an additional 10.5% reported moderate improvement.

However, 21.0% of respondents indicated that their knowledge or skills improved only slightly or not at all. These results suggest that, although the workshops were highly effective for the majority of participants, learning outcomes were not uniformly experienced across all cohorts. This points to potential differences in baseline capacity, participant selection, facilitation dynamics, or contextual factors that may have influenced the overall depth of impact.

In terms of State-Level Insights:

Sokoto – Deep and Concentrated Impact

The findings indicate that Sokoto experienced a strong and concentrated training impact. A substantial 81.4% of participants reported that their knowledge or skills improved significantly or very significantly (42.2% significantly; 39.2% very significantly), while only 13.7% reported slight or no improvement.

This pattern suggests a high depth of learning impact, with a particularly strong concentration in the upper performance tiers. The results may reflect strong alignment between training content and participant needs, effective facilitation delivery, and/or a conducive learning environment. From an outcome's perspective, the intervention in Sokoto appears both relevant and impactful.

Kano – Broader but More Varied Impact

In Kano, 59.1% of participants reported significant or very significant improvement, while 14.6% reported moderate improvement. However, 26.3% indicated slight or no improvement, including 13.9% reporting no improvement at all.

While the results remain positive overall, the response distribution is more dispersed, indicating variability in participant experience. The higher proportion reporting limited gains may point to several factors, including:

- ❖ Misalignment between participant selection and training objectives
- ❖ Training content that was not sufficiently tailored to participant needs
- ❖ Variability in facilitation quality or delivery
- ❖ Differences in baseline knowledge or experience levels

These findings suggest that while the workshop model is fundamentally sound, implementation consistency may vary across contexts. From a performance lens, the workshops delivered strong overall returns in human capital development – particularly in Sokoto, where impact appears deeper and more concentrated.

However, the approximately one in five participants reporting minimal improvement represents a clear performance optimisation opportunity. Ensuring more consistent learning outcomes across cohorts will be critical for scaling and sustainability.

Table 18: Self-Reported Capacity Enhancement of CDCs and GBVRT Members After Capacity Building Workshops

Response Categories	As a result of the Capacity Building Workshop, to what extent did your knowledge or skills improve?		
	Kano	Sokoto	Overall Total
No at all	13.9%	10.8%	12.6%
Slightly improved	12.4%	2.9%	8.4%
Moderately improved	14.6%	4.9%	10.5%
Significantly improved	20.4%	42.2%	29.7%
Very significantly	38.7%	39.2%	38.9%

The qualitative findings indicate that CDC platforms in Kano and Sokoto States have strengthened their capacity to independently manage peacebuilding and access to justice initiatives. In Sokoto, CDC members, particularly women, demonstrated the ability to handle sensitive GBV cases directly: *“There was a case where a man beats up his wife, we women in CDC was 85% involved in that case, we were the ones who handled it.”* [001-FGD-CDC-SK-Feb-2026]. Participants also reported improved mediation approaches, suggesting enhanced technical and interpersonal skills: *“We have seen changes; women now have a better approach to the situation.”* [001-FGD-CDC-SK-Feb-2026]

In Kano, CDC leaders described structured referral systems that reflect procedural clarity and institutional maturity: *“If it's above us, then we take such to the higher authority... If it's beyond us from the Hakimi's house, we will move it to the Police.”* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]

Inclusive composition of CDCs further strengthened their legitimacy and representativeness: *“Women are involved... There are youth and also PWDs. We go with the youth completely, and there is no segregation to any group.”* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]

However, logistical and identification constraints limit full operational independence: *“For my activities, even a bicycle I don't have...”* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026] *“We need a sign of identification...”* [002-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]

Overall, both quantitative and qualitative evidence demonstrate increased technical competence, structured case management, and inclusive governance within CDC platforms, although material and institutional support is needed to fully sustain their independent functioning.

In terms of implications for future scaling, and to enhance effectiveness and standardise impact across states, future implementation should prioritise:

- ❖ Pre-training needs assessments to better align content with participant capacity levels
- ❖ Participant segmentation to tailor learning pathways
- ❖ Adaptive facilitation approaches that respond to varying learning needs
- ❖ Post-training reinforcement mechanisms (e.g., mentoring, refresher sessions, peer learning platforms)

If implemented with the same intensity and alignment observed in Sokoto, the capacity-building model demonstrates strong potential for sustained institutional strengthening. Overall, the capacity-building intervention was largely successful and, in Sokoto, potentially transformative. Kano, while demonstrating solid gains, presents an opportunity to refine delivery mechanisms to achieve more consistent and equitable participant-level impact across all cohorts.

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY-LED PEACEBUILDING AND SGBV RESPONSE INTERVENTIONS INITIATED BY CDCs: As reflected in Table 17, the project demonstrated strong effectiveness under Outcome indicator 4.2, exceeding the planned target for this indicator by 150%. This overachievement provides clear evidence of strengthened institutional capacity and growing local ownership among Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs). Project monitoring data show that CDCs in Sokoto hosted five community-led interventions, including a Peace Walk to commemorate International Peace Day. Notably, the Kware CDC partnered with the Local Government Council to construct a station for local vigilante groups – an important demonstration of resource mobilisation, strategic partnership building, and sustainability beyond direct project inputs.

In Kano, CDCs organised three community town hall meetings in commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child, reinforcing advocacy for gender inclusion and protection. Additionally, CDCs in Sokoto hosted four community-led events, while Kano CDCs hosted three events during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign.

Collectively, these initiatives illustrate that CDCs moved beyond participation in project-supported activities to independently conceptualising, organising, and implementing locally owned peacebuilding and SGBV response actions. This outcome signals not only strengthened technical capacity but also enhanced confidence, legitimacy, and sustainability of local peace structures – core objectives of Outcome 4.

3.3.2.5. Achievement of Project Outcome 5 Indicators

Under Outcome 5, the project sought to strengthen the use of evidence-based interventions to inform programme design, align strategies with evolving community realities, and contribute to practice-based knowledge in peacebuilding and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) response.

This outcome emphasised the systematic generation, analysis, and application of data to ensure that interventions were context-responsive, adaptive, and grounded in demonstrated community needs. By

integrating monitoring findings, beneficiary feedback, and field-level insights into decision-making processes, the project aimed to enhance effectiveness, improve accountability, and contribute to broader learning within the peacebuilding and SGBV response ecosystem.

Table 19: Achievement of Project Outcome 5 Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Outcome 5: Increased evidence-based interventions to inform project design, align strategies with community realities, and contribute to practice-based knowledge in peacebuilding and SGBV response.						
OC 5.1	Number of evidence-based reports produced	0	At least two (2) evidence-based reports produced - one endline assessment and one project assessment report and 10 documented stories of change	2 reports; 7 documented stories of change		
OC 5.2	Number of program interventions that reflect community feedback and documented experiences	0	2	2	100%	
OC 5.3	Number of project adaptations & course corrections informed by community-based insights and practice-based evidence	0	1	1	100%	

NO. OF EVIDENCE-BASED REPORTS PRODUCED: Project M&E report shows that the project has produced four (7) documented Stories of Change, demonstrating progress toward strengthening evidence-based programming and contributing to practice-based knowledge in peacebuilding and SGBV response. These stories go beyond anecdotal accounts; they systematically capture qualitative evidence of transformation at individual, institutional, and community levels.

The Stories of Change highlight shifts in community norms, strengthened women's participation in peace forums, improved access to justice for survivors, enhanced collaboration between CDCs and local

authorities, and increased local ownership of peacebuilding initiatives. By documenting real-life experiences and contextual dynamics, the project was able to translate lived outcomes into structured learning products.

From an effectiveness perspective, the production of these reports reflects several important gains:

- ❖ Adaptive Programming – Insights from the stories informed ongoing implementation adjustments, ensuring strategies remained responsive to community realities.
- ❖ Accountability and Attribution – The documentation provides qualitative validation of quantitative outcome indicators, strengthening the evidence base for project impact.
- ❖ Knowledge Contribution – The reports contribute to broader development sector learning on inclusive peacebuilding and SGBV response in fragile and border communities.
- ❖ Sustainability and Replicability – Capturing locally driven innovations creates a reference point for scaling successful models in similar contexts.

Importantly, the documentation of ‘Stories of Change’ signals a deliberate shift from activity reporting to outcome-oriented learning. This strengthens the project’s credibility, enhances donor confidence, and positions the intervention as a source of field-tested, contextually grounded peacebuilding practice.

NO. OF PROGRAM INTERVENTIONS THAT REFLECT COMMUNITY FEEDBACK AND DOCUMENTED EXPERIENCES: The project set a target to convene two partner review meetings during the implementation period to ensure that programme interventions remained responsive to community feedback and documented field experiences. As reflected in Table 18, the midline review meeting was successfully held in December, while the endline review meeting is scheduled for the end of February 2026, positioning the project to fully achieve this target.

These structured review platforms play a critical role in translating monitoring data, beneficiary feedback, and documented Stories of Change into adaptive programme decisions. By convening implementing partners and key stakeholders to reflect on progress, challenges, and emerging lessons, the project institutionalised a culture of learning and accountability.

From an effectiveness standpoint, the review meetings strengthened adaptive management by:

- Providing space to validate findings from community consultations and monitoring data;
- Identifying implementation gaps and context-specific challenges;
- Refining strategies to better align with evolving community needs; and
- Enhancing coordination and shared ownership among partners.

Overall, this indicator reflects the project’s commitment to evidence-informed programming and continuous improvement. Rather than implementing activities in a static manner, the project embedded structured reflection mechanisms to ensure that interventions remained context-responsive, relevant, and impact-driven.

NUMBER OF PROJECT ADAPTATIONS & COURSE CORRECTIONS INFORMED BY COMMUNITY-BASED INSIGHTS AND PRACTICE-BASED EVIDENCE:

Under this indicator, Global Rights committed to producing and launching one comprehensive impact report that captures the successes, experiences, challenges, and key achievements of the project. The report is designed to synthesise lessons drawn from ongoing project monitoring, as well as findings from the endline evaluation, providing a robust evidence base to inform adaptive management and future programming.

The impact report is scheduled to be launched at the upcoming regional conference, offering a platform to share practice-based insights with stakeholders, highlight effective strategies, and disseminate lessons learned to strengthen inclusive peacebuilding and SGBV response initiatives.

By documenting and reflecting on community feedback, field experiences, and empirical evidence, this initiative not only consolidates project learning but also ensures that future interventions are context-responsive, evidence-driven, and aligned with community realities, reinforcing both programmatic effectiveness and sustainability.

3.3.3. Achievement of Project Outputs

The project demonstrated a high level of effectiveness in delivering its planned outputs within the implementation period. Across key thematic areas – community engagement, capacity building, establishment of CDCs, evidence generation, and stakeholder coordination – the majority of output-level targets were either fully achieved or exceeded. Planned workshops and trainings were successfully conducted, resulting in measurable improvements in participant knowledge and skills. Community-led peacebuilding and SGBV response initiatives were implemented beyond target levels, reflecting both strengthened local ownership and the operational readiness of CDCs. Additionally, structured partner review meetings and documentation processes ensured that outputs were not only delivered but also continuously refined through evidence-based learning.

The following sections present an assessment of the extent to which the project achieved its outputs. Drawing on quantitative survey data, qualitative insights from focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs), and project monitoring records, the analysis highlights progress across 12 key output areas, providing a comprehensive view of implementation performance and early indications of impact.

3.3.3.1. Output 1: Community Entry Engagements

Table 19 below presents the level of achievement in relation to Output 1 target indicators and activities. According to the project's quarterly monitoring reports, both indicators under Output 1 were fully achieved, reaching 100% of their respective targets.

Four community entry engagements were successfully conducted in the new project communities of Shuni, Chimmola, Sabon Gari, and Kofar Gabas, ensuring formal introduction of the project, stakeholder buy-in, and community ownership from inception.

In addition, the project carried out strategic high-level advocacy visits to strengthen institutional partnerships and secure leadership support. These included visits to the new Sokoto State Commandant of the NSCDC and the Director General of the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria, as well as engagement with traditional leadership structures, including the Sarkin Gabas and the Ardo Shuni (District Head of Shuni). In Kano State, similar high-level advocacy visits were conducted with the Emirate Council and the newly appointed NSCDC Kano State Commandant.

Table 20: Achievement of Output 1 Target Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 1: Community Entry Engagements						
OP 1.1	Number of community entry meetings conducted in new project communities	0%	4	4	100%	Achieved
OP 1.2	Number of community leaders and stakeholders engaged during entry processes	0	6	6	100%	Achieved
OP 1.3	Number of high-level advocacy meetings held with relevant state and local authorities	0%	4	6	150%	Met and surpassed (50%)
OP 1.4	Number of trained and deployed core implementation team	0	23	23	100%	Achieved

Collectively, these engagements reinforced institutional collaboration, strengthened legitimacy at the community and state levels, and created an enabling environment for effective implementation of subsequent project activities.

3.3.3.2. Output 2: Community Dialogue Committee (CDC) and inclusive peacebuilding mechanism established in four new communities and strengthened in the existing three communities in Kano and Sokoto states

Output 2 focused on establishing and strengthening Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) and inclusive peacebuilding mechanisms in four new communities, while reinforcing existing structures in three communities across Kano and Sokoto states. The table below provides a comparison of baseline, targets, endline results, and achievement percentages for key indicators.

Table 20: Achievements of Project Output 2 Indicator Targets

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 2: Community Dialogue Committee (CDC) and an inclusive peacebuilding mechanism established in four new communities and strengthened in the existing three communities in Kano and Sokoto states						
OP 2.1	Number of new dialogue and peacebuilding committees established	0%	4	4	100%	Achieved
OP 2.2	Number of community members in the new communities trained on dialogues and women's inclusion in peacebuilding	0%	40	57	143%	Met and Surpassed (43%)
OP 2.3	% of the new dialogue committee members who are women	0%	40	43	108%	Met and Surpassed (8%)
OP 2.4	Number of CDC monthly meetings convened	0%	65	47	72%	Partially achieved

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DIALOGUE AND PEACEBUILDING COMMITTEES (OP 2.1):

- Target: 4 new committees
- Endline Achievement: 4 committees
- % of Target Achieved: 100%

The project fully achieved its target in establishing new CDCs. This reflects effective mobilisation, stakeholder engagement, and operational execution. The establishment of these committees lays a strong foundation for structured, locally owned peacebuilding mechanisms.

TRAINING COMMUNITY MEMBERS ON DIALOGUE AND WOMEN INCLUSION (OP 2.2):

- Target: 40 community members
- Endline Achievement: 57 members
- % of Target Achieved: 143%

The project met and surpassed its target by 43%, demonstrating strong effectiveness in capacity building. Training exceeded expectations, indicating successful outreach, high community interest, and the ability to engage more participants than initially planned. This also reflects a positive trajectory toward inclusivity in peacebuilding efforts.

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATION IN NEW DIALOGUE COMMITTEES (OP 2.3):

- Target: 40% of members to be women
- Endline Achievement: 43%

- % of Target Achieved: 108%

The project slightly exceeded the target for women's representation, highlighting a successful emphasis on gender inclusion. This demonstrates that the committees are not only established but are gender-responsive, contributing to equitable participation in decision-making and peacebuilding processes.

NUMBER OF CDC MONTHLY MEETINGS CONVENED (OP 2.4):

- Target: 65 meetings
- Endline Achievement: 40 meetings
- % of Target Achieved: 72%

This indicator was partially achieved, suggesting challenges in sustaining regular committee meetings. Potential factors may include: a) Logistical or resource constraints; b) Limited member availability or engagement; c) Coordination challenges in new communities.

While the committees have been successfully established and members trained, additional support may be needed to strengthen operational sustainability and regular engagement.

Overall Assessment (Output 2)

The project was highly effective in establishing new committees, training participants, and promoting women's inclusion, achieving or surpassing 100% of targets in three out of four indicators. The partial achievement in monthly meetings highlights an operational gap that requires attention to ensure long-term sustainability and consistent functioning of CDCs. In summary, Output 2 demonstrates strong progress toward building inclusive, community-led peacebuilding structures, with opportunities to enhance routine committee activity for sustained impact.

3.3.3.3. Output 3: Establishment, Expansion, and Strengthened Community-Based GBV Response Teams (GBVRTs) in Target Communities

Output 3 focused on the establishment, expansion, and strengthening of Community-Based Gender-Based Violence Response Teams (GBVRTs) in target communities. The data indicate progress across all planned indicators.

Table 21: Achievement of Output 3 Indicator Targets

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 3: Establishment, Expansion, and Strengthened Community-Based GBV Response Teams (GBVRTs) in Target Communities						
OP 3.1	Number of GBVRTs established or expanded in target communities	0	6	7	117%	Met and surpassed

OP 3.2	Number of persons who participate in the GBVRTs training	0	NA	56	
OP 3.3	Number of GBVRT members who express enhanced knowledge of survivor-centred SGBV response	0	NA	49	

ESTABLISHMENT OR EXPANSION OF GBVRTs (OP 3.1):

- Target: 6 GBVRTs
- Endline Achievement: 7 GBVRTs
- % of Target Achieved: 117%

The project successfully achieved its target, establishing or expanding seven GBVRTs in the target communities. Four new GBVRTs were established in Chimmola, Shuni, Sabon Gari and Kofar Gabas communities, and three were expanded in Kware, Gagi and Kawo communities. This demonstrates effective community mobilisation, stakeholder engagement, and operational readiness for SGBV response at the local level.

TRAINING PARTICIPATION (OP 3.2):

- Endline Achievement: 56 participants trained (38 females, 18 males)

While the target was not explicitly quantified for training participation, the conducted sessions reflect active engagement and capacity building among GBVRT members. The gender distribution indicates strong inclusion of women, which is critical for survivor-centred approaches and trust-building within communities.

ENHANCED KNOWLEDGE OF SURVIVOR-CENTRED SGBV RESPONSE (OP 3.3):

- Endline Achievement: 49 members reported a remarkable increase in knowledge, while 7 members showed little or no improvement.

This demonstrates that the majority of GBVRT members gained meaningful skills and understanding to provide survivor-centred services. A small minority (7 members) may require additional refresher training or mentoring to ensure consistent application of SGBV response protocols.

With regards to overall assessment, the evaluation concludes that Output 3 was highly effective, achieving full establishment of GBVRTs and ensuring that most members received relevant training and demonstrated enhanced knowledge.

The strengths include, among other things: full target achievement for team establishment (100%); high female participation (38/56); and the majority of members reporting enhanced knowledge, signalling capacity strengthening.

On the other hand, some opportunities for improvement include: targeted follow-up for members with limited knowledge gains, and continued mentoring and practical engagement to reinforce survivor-centred practices.

Overall, the project successfully delivered the structural and capacity components of community-based SGBV response. By combining team establishment with training and measurable knowledge gains, the project has laid a strong foundation for operationalised, survivor-centred GBV response mechanisms that can be sustained and scaled within target communities.

3.3.3.4. Output 4: Established shared learning between established and newly formed CDCs, leading to improved knowledge exchange, mentorship, and replication of best practices for inclusive peacebuilding.

Output 4 focused on establishing shared learning between existing and newly formed Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) to improve knowledge exchange, mentorship, and replication of best practices for inclusive peacebuilding.

Table 22: Achievement of Output 4 Target Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 4: Established shared learning between established and newly formed CDCs, leading to improved knowledge exchange, mentorship, and replication of best practices for inclusive peacebuilding						
OP 4.1	No. of structured peer-to-peer learning sessions conducted between CDCs	0	2	2	100%	Achieved
OP 4.2	% of participating CDC members reporting increased knowledge on inclusive peacebuilding and SGBV response approaches	0%	70%	68.6%	98%	Almost Achieved
OP 4.3	The number of action plans jointly developed by CDCs for implementation in their communities	0%	7	7	100%	Achieved

STRUCTURED PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING SESSIONS (OP 4.1):

- Target: 2 sessions

- Endline Achievement: 2 sessions
- % of Target Achieved: 100%

The project fully achieved its target, successfully conducting two structured peer-to-peer learning sessions between established and new CDCs. These sessions facilitated the exchange of experiences, mentorship, and the dissemination of effective strategies, strengthening the collective capacity of CDCs to implement inclusive peacebuilding initiatives.

INCREASED KNOWLEDGE ON INCLUSIVE PEACEBUILDING AND SGBV RESPONSE (OP 4.2):

- Endline Achievement: 68.6% of CDC members reported increased knowledge

This indicates that the learning sessions and other capacity-building interventions effectively enhanced participants' understanding of inclusive peacebuilding approaches and SGBV response strategies. The proportion reflects meaningful knowledge gains among a majority of participants, though there remains a segment of members who may benefit from further reinforcement or follow-up support.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED ACTION PLANS (OP 4.3):

- Target: 7 action plans
- Endline Achievement: 7 action plans
- % of Target Achieved: 100%

The project successfully facilitated the co-development of 7 action plans, demonstrating that CDCs not only exchanged knowledge but also translated learning into practical, community-level interventions. These plans reflect collaborative problem-solving, shared ownership, and a commitment to implementing inclusive peacebuilding strategies in their respective communities.

Overall, the project was highly effective in achieving Output 4 targets. Strengths include full achievement in structured peer-to-peer learning sessions and joint action plan development, as well as significant knowledge gains among CDC members. These outcomes indicate that the project successfully fostered mentorship, knowledge transfer, and replication of best practices, strengthening CDC capacity and enhancing the sustainability of inclusive peacebuilding structures.

3.3.3.5. Output 5: Gender Action Learning Systems implemented in 4 new communities in Sokoto and Kano states.

Output 5 focused on the implementation of the Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) methodology in four new communities across Sokoto and Kano States. The data reflect strong outreach performance overall, with notable variations across target groups.

Table 23: Achievement of Output 5 Target Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 5: Gender Action Learning Systems implemented in 4 new communities in Sokoto and Kano states						

OP 5.1	Number of households reached with the GALS methodology	0%	32	44	138%	Met and surpassed (38%)
OP 5.2	Number of men reached with the GALS methodology	0%	32	44	138%	Met and surpassed (38%)
OP 5.3	Number of women reached with the GALS methodology	0%	32	44	138%	Partially achieved
OP 5.4	Number of youths reached with the GALS methodology	0%	8	17	213%	Met and surpassed (113%)
OP 5.5	% Increase in positive perceptions of women towards their inclusion	0%	50%	88%	176%	Met and surpassed (76%)
OP 5.6	% of households reporting improved outcomes as a result of GALS	0%	60%	100%	167%	Met and surpassed

HOUSEHOLDS REACHED WITH GALS (OP 5.1):

- Target: 32 households
- Endline Achievement: 44 households
- % of Target Achieved: 138%

The project met and surpassed its target by 38%, demonstrating strong community uptake of the GALS methodology. This indicates effective mobilisation strategies and community interest in household-level gender-transformative approaches.

MEN REACHED WITH GALS (OP 5.2):

- Target: 32 men
- Endline Achievement: 44 men
- % of Target Achieved: 138%

Engagement of men significantly exceeded expectations. This is a particularly positive outcome, as male engagement is critical in advancing gender-transformative programming, reducing resistance, and promoting shared decision-making within households and communities.

WOMEN REACHED WITH GALS (OP 5.3):

- Target: 32 women

- Endline Achievement: 22 women
- % of Target Achieved: 69%

This indicator was partially achieved, with participation falling short of the target. Possible contributing factors may include: a) Competing domestic responsibilities limiting women’s availability; b) cultural or religious constraints; c) timing or location of sessions not fully accommodating women’s schedules.

While overall household reach was strong, the lower participation of women highlights an area requiring targeted strategies to ensure equitable engagement in future scaling.

YOUTHS REACHED WITH GALS (OP 5.4):

- Target: 8 youths
- Endline Achievement: 17 youths
- % of Target Achieved: 213%

Youth participation more than doubled the target, indicating strong interest and responsiveness among young people. This suggests that the GALS methodology resonated with youth and may hold strong potential for intergenerational dialogue and long-term behavioural change.

Overall, the evaluation team notes that Output 5 was largely successful, with three out of four indicators meeting or significantly surpassing targets. The project demonstrated strong effectiveness in household-level engagement, male inclusion, and youth participation. However, the shortfall in women’s participation signals the need for more intentional gender-sensitive outreach and facilitation strategies to ensure balanced engagement.

The implementation of GALS shows strong potential as a gender-transformative tool within the project communities. While the high participation of men and youth strengthens inclusivity and collective ownership, improving women’s participation will be essential to fully realise the methodology’s empowerment objectives. With targeted adjustments, the GALS approach could yield even more balanced and sustainable gender outcomes in future programming.

3.3.3.6. Output 6: Established access to legal support and justice mechanisms for marginalised groups.

Output 6 focused on establishing and strengthening access to legal support and justice mechanisms for marginalised groups, particularly at the community and police division levels. Global Rights introduced the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS) in Kano and Sokoto states as a critical mechanism for providing free legal services to detainees at police stations. This intervention supported the enforcement of both Force Order 20 of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) and the human rights provisions enshrined in the Administration of Criminal Justice Laws of both states.

Table 24: Achievement of Output 6 Target Indicators

IPTT					% of	Overall
Reference	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	Target	Assessment
No.					Achieved	

Output 6: Established access to legal support and justice mechanisms for marginalised groups						
OP 6.1	Number of PDSS lawyers recruited, trained, and deployed to police divisions in target states	0	12	24	200%	Met and surpassed (100%)
OP 6.2	Number of community members and detainees who have access to pro bono legal services	0%	100	855	855%	Met and surpassed (755%)

RECRUITMENT, TRAINING, AND DEPLOYMENT OF PDSS LAWYERS (OP 6.1):

- Target: 12 lawyers
- Endline Achievement: 24 lawyers
- % of Target Achieved: 200%

The project significantly surpassed its target, recruiting, training, and deploying twice the planned number of PDSS lawyers to police divisions in the target states. This represents a substantial strengthening of institutional capacity within the justice sector.

The deployment of trained lawyers directly to police divisions enhances: immediate legal support for detainees, oversight and accountability within detention processes, and protection of the rights of marginalised individuals. Exceeding the target by 100% demonstrates strong implementation performance and strategic prioritisation of access to justice.

ACCESS TO PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICES (OP 6.2):

- Endline Achievement: 100 community members and police detainees gained access to legal services.

While the baseline was zero, the project successfully facilitated access to pro bono legal services for 100 individuals. This reflects tangible progress in removing barriers to justice for vulnerable populations, including detainees who may otherwise lack representation.

Beyond numerical achievement, this indicator reflects: increased awareness of legal rights; strengthened linkages between communities and justice institutions; and improved responsiveness of the legal system to marginalised groups.

The combined achievement of expanded legal personnel and increased beneficiary access signals both structural and service-level impact. By strengthening justice mechanisms and simultaneously improving community access to pro bono services, the project has contributed to a more responsive and inclusive legal support system in the target states. If sustained, this model has strong potential to improve accountability, reduce arbitrary detention risks, and enhance protection for marginalised populations.

3.3.3.7. Output 7: Women-led town halls on civic participation and inclusion in peacebuilding processes.

Output 7 aimed to promote women-led civic engagement through town halls focused on encouraging active engagement of women in local governance, decision-making, and peacebuilding efforts. Facilitated by women leaders, the town halls provided a safe and inclusive space for women to share their perspectives, voice their concerns, and contribute to solutions for peace and security in their communities. The data reflect strong activity delivery but mixed results in inclusion targets.

Table 25: Achievement of Output 7 Target Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 7: Women-led town halls on civic participation and inclusion in peacebuilding processes						
OP 7.1	No. of women-led town halls conducted on civic participation and inclusion in peacebuilding	0%	2	2	100%	Achieved
OP 7.2	% of women and girls participating in the town halls	0%	60%	44% women and girls participated in the 2 townhalls. (45% in Kano and 42% in Sokoto).	73%	Partially achieved
OP 7.2.1	% of PWD participants in townhalls	0%	10%	8%	80%	Partially achieved
OP 7.2.2	% of youth participants in townhalls	0%	40%	17%	43%	Partially achieved

NUMBER OF WOMEN-LED TOWN HALLS CONDUCTED (OP 7.1):

- Target: 2 town halls
- Endline Achievement: 2 town halls
- % of Target Achieved: 100%

The project fully achieved its target, successfully convening two women-led town halls – demonstrating effective planning, mobilisation, and leadership facilitation. This confirms that structured civic dialogue platforms were created as intended.

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS (OP 7.2):

- Target: 60% participation
- Endline Achievement: 44% (45% in Kano; 42% in Sokoto)

- % of Target Achieved: 73%

While participation of women and girls was substantial, the target of 60% was not fully met. The 44% participation rate indicates meaningful engagement but suggests that barriers – such as mobility constraints, social norms, competing responsibilities, or outreach limitations – may have affected turnout. Despite partial achievement, nearly half of the participants being women and girls reflects progress toward inclusive civic engagement.

PARTICIPATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs) (OP 7.2.1):

- Target: 10%
- Endline Achievement: 8%
- % of Target Achieved: 80%

Participation of PWDs approached the target but fell slightly short. This suggests some degree of inclusive outreach; however, accessibility considerations (venue access, targeted mobilisation, assistive support) may need strengthening in future engagements.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION (OP 7.2.2):

- Target: 40%
- Endline Achievement: 17%
- % of Target Achieved: 43%

Youth participation was significantly below target, indicating a gap in engagement strategy. Possible contributing factors may include: timing of events not aligned with youth availability; limited targeted youth mobilisation; youth perceiving civic town halls as less relevant to their interests; and structural barriers limiting youth voice in community forums. This represents the most notable underperformance under Output 7.

The project successfully created women-led civic dialogue platforms, reinforcing leadership visibility and community engagement. However, achieving deeper inclusivity – particularly among youth and PWDs – requires more targeted mobilisation strategies, flexible scheduling, and potentially tailored engagement formats. While Output 7 demonstrates effectiveness in delivery and moderate inclusion gains, optimising participation diversity will be essential to fully realise the objective of inclusive civic participation in peacebuilding processes.

3.3.3.8. Output 8: One-Day Capacity Building for CDCs and GBVRT on Resource Mobilisation and Sustainability Strategies.

Output 8 focused on strengthening the sustainability of Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) and Gender-Based Violence Response Teams (GBVRTs) through a one-day capacity-building training on resource mobilisation and sustainability strategies.

Table 26: Achievement of Project Output 8 Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 8: One-Day Capacity Building for CDCs and GBVRT on Resource Mobilisation and Sustainability Strategies						
OP 8.1	Number of CDC and GBVRT leadership trained on resource mobilisation and sustainability strategies	0	36	39	108	Met and surpassed
OP 8.2	% of the trained CDC and GBVRTs who demonstrate improved knowledge of project sustainability models and resource mobilisation	0%	70%	94% of trained CDCs and GBVRTs leadership demonstrate improved knowledge of the project sustainability and resource mobilisation strategies	134%	Met and surpassed

NUMBER OF CDC AND GBVRT LEADERSHIP TRAINED (OP 8.1):

- Target: 36 participants
- Endline Achievement: 39 participants
- % of Target Achieved: 108%

The project slightly exceeded its target, training 39 CDC and GBVRT leaders. This reflects strong participation and interest among leadership structures in strengthening institutional sustainability. Surpassing the target demonstrates effective mobilisation and commitment from community-based structures to enhance long-term viability.

IMPROVED KNOWLEDGE OF SUSTAINABILITY AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION MODELS (OP 8.2):

- ☞ Target: 70% of trained leaders demonstrate improved knowledge
- ☞ Endline Achievement: 94%
- ☞ % of Target Achieved: 134%

The project significantly surpassed its knowledge improvement target. A remarkable 94% of trained CDC and GBVRT leaders demonstrated improved understanding of sustainability models and resource mobilisation strategies. This suggests that: the training content was highly relevant and well-delivered; participants were receptive and engaged; and the intervention effectively addressed a critical capacity gap related to long-term sustainability.

By combining leadership training with measurable knowledge gains, Output 8 strengthens the project's sustainability architecture. Unlike activity-based outputs, this intervention builds strategic capacity – enhancing the likelihood that peacebuilding and SGBV response structures will remain functional and self-sustaining after project close-out.

3.3.3.9. Output 9: Project Learning and Impact Documentation Developed and Disseminated.

Output 9 focused on strengthening project learning, reflection, and impact documentation through structured partner-led review processes. The project fully achieved its target by successfully convening both the midline and endline partner-led learning and review meetings. These sessions provided structured platforms for reflection, evidence review, and adaptive decision-making.

Table xxx: Achievement of Project Output 9 Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 9: Project Learning and Impact Documentation Developed and Disseminated						
OP 9.1	No. of partner-led learning/review meetings conducted (midline and endline)	0%	2	2	100%	Achieved

The meetings are structured to enable partners to:

- Review progress against indicators.
- Analyse monitoring and evaluation findings;
- Reflect on implementation challenges and successes;
- Identify lessons learned and areas for improvement.
- Strengthen coordination and shared accountability.

Overall, Output 9 was fully achieved, demonstrating a strong commitment to learning, accountability, and adaptive management. The successful conduct of both review meetings indicates that the project embedded systematic reflection mechanisms rather than treating learning as an ad hoc activity. By institutionalising midline and endline review processes, the project strengthened its evidence-based programming approach. This output enhances transparency, supports informed course correction, and contributes to the development of credible impact documentation.

The achievement of Output 9 reinforces the project's broader effectiveness by ensuring that implementation was continuously informed by data, partner insights, and documented field experiences.

3.3.3.10. Output 10: Regional Conference Convened on Women, Peace, and Security.

To amplify women's voices and strengthen regional collaboration on gender-responsive peacebuilding, Global Rights aims to convene a high-level Regional Conference on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS). The conference will bring together traditional and religious leaders, women-led groups, civil society actors, government stakeholders, and security institutions from across the project states. It will serve as a platform for peer learning, policy dialogue, and cross-border exchange on inclusive peacebuilding, SGBV response, and women's roles in conflict prevention and community resilience.

Table 27: Achievement of Project Output 10 Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 10: Regional Conference Convened on Women, Peace, and Security						
OP 10.1	Number of participants (disaggregated by sex, age and PWD) attending the regional conference	0%	1 regional conference 55%w; 45%m; 20%PWD; 20%youth	1 regional conference 52%w/49%m; 7%PWD; 22% youth		Mixed Achievement
OP 10.2	Number of policy recommendations or action points agreed upon during the conference	0%	Post conference communique developed and disseminated	Key outcomes and recommendations presented at the close of the conference and immediate highlights disseminated through Global Rights' social media platforms		Achieved

3.3.3.11. Output 11: CDC & GBVRT-led activity.

Output 11 focused on promoting community-driven action through CDC- and GBVRT-led activities, including sensitisation, town halls, and legal outreach services.

Table 28: Achievement of Project Output 11 Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 11: CDC & GBVRT-led activity						
OP 11.1	Number of community sensitisation & Townhalls conducted by CDCs & GBVRTs with Global Rights' support	0%	6	15	250%	Met and exceeded target
OP 11.2	Number of community members reached through sensitisation & townhall engagements	0%	300 people reached	3,431 community members reached through sensitisation & townhall engagements. (48% male, 62% female, 23% youths, 5% PWD)		Met and exceeded target.
OP 11.3	Number of legal clinics held across target communities	0%	6 legal clinics (1 per community)	4 legal clinics in Sokoto State	67%	Partially Achieved

COMMUNITY SENSITISATION & TOWN HALLS CONDUCTED (OP 11.1):

- 👉 Target: 6 engagements
- 👉 Endline Achievement: 15 engagements
- 👉 % of Target Achieved: 250%

The project significantly exceeded its target, conducting 15 community sensitisation and town hall engagements—more than double the planned number. This reflects strong ownership and proactive leadership by CDCs and GBVRTs, as well as effective support from Global Rights.

The overachievement demonstrates: i) high community demand for dialogue and awareness activities; ii) strengthened confidence and operational capacity of CDCs and GBVRTs; iii) Effective mobilisation and coordination at the community level.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS REACHED (OP 11.2):

- ☞ Target: 300 people
- ☞ Endline Achievement: 3,431 people
- ☞ % of Target Achieved: Over 1,000%

The project vastly surpassed its outreach target, reaching 3,431 community members. The participation breakdown indicates strong inclusivity:

- 48% male
- 62% female
- 23% youth
- 5% persons with disabilities (PWDs)

Although the gender percentages exceed 100% when combined (likely due to overlapping categories or reporting format), the data nonetheless reflect substantial female participation and notable youth engagement.

This level of outreach achieved by the project, among other things, demonstrates: effective scale-up of community sensitisation efforts; increased visibility and legitimacy of CDC and GBVRT structures; expanded awareness on peacebuilding, SGBV response, and legal rights within communities.

LEGAL CLINICS HELD (OP 11.3) :

- ☞ Target: 6 legal clinics (1 per community)
- ☞ Endline Achievement: 4

This component remains unachieved at the time of reporting. The delay may affect the project's ability to fully link awareness efforts with direct legal service provision. Timely implementation will be critical to ensure that sensitisation activities translate into accessible justice mechanisms.

Overall, Output 11 demonstrates exceptional performance in community engagement and outreach, with substantial overachievement in both the number of activities conducted and the number of beneficiaries reached. The scale of engagement reflects strengthened community ownership and operational maturity of CDCs and GBVRTs. However, the pending legal clinics represent an important service-delivery gap that should be prioritised to consolidate gains in awareness and translate them into tangible access to justice outcomes.

3.3.3.12. Output 12: Strategic Social Media engagements.

Output 12 focused on leveraging strategic social media platforms to expand the project's reach, enhance visibility, and promote dialogue on peacebuilding and SGBV response. As reflected in Table 29, Output 12 was fully achieved, demonstrating effective use of digital platforms to complement on-the-ground interventions.

Table 29: Achievement of Project Output 12 Indicators

IPTT Reference No.	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Endline Result	% of Target Achieved	Overall Assessment
Output 12: Strategic Social Media engagements						
OP 12.1	Number of webinars conducted	0	2	3	150%	Met and surpassed

NUMBER OF WEBINARS CONDUCTED (OP 12.1):

- ☞ Target: 2 webinars
- ☞ Endline Achievement: 3 webinars
- ☞ % of Target Achieved: 150%

The project fully achieved and surpassed its target by successfully organising three webinars. These virtual engagements provided broader platforms for knowledge sharing, stakeholder engagement, and dissemination of project learning beyond physical community settings. Webinars likely enhanced regional and possibly national-level visibility of project themes and outcomes.

3.3.4. Summary of Key Project Achievements

The project recorded significant achievements across institutional strengthening, community mobilisation, gender inclusion, and access to justice. Key accomplishments include:

1. Establishment and Strengthening of Community Structures

- Successfully established new Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) and strengthened existing ones across target communities.
- Established and expanded six Community-Based GBV Response Teams (GBVRTs), ensuring localised mechanisms for survivor-centred response.
- Facilitated structured peer-to-peer learning sessions, leading to joint action plans and replication of best practices across communities.

2. Exceeded Community Engagement Targets

- Conducted more than double the planned number of community sensitisation and town hall engagements through CDC and GBVRT leadership.
- Reached over 3,400 community members – far surpassing initial outreach targets – demonstrating strong local ownership and demand for peacebuilding and SGBV-related dialogue.

3. Strengthened Gender Inclusion and Women's Leadership

- Achieved and slightly exceeded targets for women's representation in newly established dialogue committees.
- Conducted women-led town halls on civic participation and peacebuilding.

- Implemented the Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) methodology, engaging households, men, women, and youth in gender-transformative dialogue.

4. Enhanced Knowledge and Capacity

- Trained CDC and GBVRT members on inclusive peacebuilding, survivor-centred SGBV response, and sustainability strategies, with high percentages demonstrating measurable knowledge gains.
- Strengthened leadership capacity on resource mobilisation, enhancing the sustainability prospects of community structures.

5. Expanded Access to Justice for Marginalised Groups

- Recruited, trained, and deployed twice the targeted number of PDSS lawyers to police divisions, strengthening institutional capacity.
- Facilitated access to pro bono legal services for community members and detainees, improving protection of rights and justice outcomes.

6. Institutionalised Learning and Evidence-Based Programming

- Successfully convened midline and endline partner review meetings.
- Documented stories of change and developed an impact report to consolidate lessons learned and inform future programming.
- Leveraged digital platforms (webinars and X Spaces) to broaden knowledge dissemination and stakeholder engagement.

Overall, the project not only met the majority of its targets but exceeded several key indicators – particularly in community engagement, institutional strengthening, and legal access. The combination of strong local ownership, strategic institutional partnerships, measurable capacity gains, and adaptive management positioned the project as both impactful and scalable.

3.3.5. Key factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of project outcomes and outputs

The extent to which the Global Rights project achieved its intended outputs and outcomes was shaped by a combination of enabling and constraining factors operating at community, institutional, and operational levels.

Enabling Factors (Drivers of Achievement)

- 1) **Strong Community Ownership and Local Leadership:** The establishment and strengthening of Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) and GBV Response Teams (GBVRTs) fostered local ownership of activities. In several instances, community structures went beyond planned targets (e.g., sensitisation engagements), demonstrating internal motivation and buy-in. This ownership significantly contributed to overachievement in Outputs related to outreach and committee establishment.

- 2) **Strategic Institutional Engagement and Partnerships:** High-level advocacy visits and partnerships with justice actors (e.g., NBA, NHRC, FIDA, SARCs, police divisions and legal aid structures) created an enabling environment for implementation. The deployment of PDSS lawyers and collaboration with traditional and state actors strengthened legitimacy, responsiveness, and institutional support.
- 3) **Effective Capacity Building:** Training interventions – particularly on survivor-centred SGBV response, sustainability strategies, and inclusive peacebuilding – resulted in measurable knowledge gains among participants. Strong facilitation and context-relevant content contributed to high percentages of improved knowledge across multiple outputs.
- 4) **Adaptive Management and Structured Learning:** Midline review meetings and documentation processes allowed for reflection and course correction during implementation. This adaptive approach likely contributed to the achievement and overachievement of several targets.
- 5) **High Community Demand and Engagement:** Significant overperformance in sensitisation outreach and participation indicates strong community interest in peacebuilding, civic engagement, and SGBV response themes. Youth engagement in some components (e.g., GALS) also demonstrated receptiveness to innovative methodologies.

Constraining Factors (Areas Affecting Full Achievement)

- 1) **Participation Gaps Among Target Groups:** While many targets were met, some inclusion indicators—particularly youth participation in town halls and women’s participation in GALS—were partially achieved. Contributing factors may include: Socio-cultural norms limiting participation; Competing domestic or economic responsibilities; Timing and logistical barriers; Limited targeted mobilisation strategies for specific groups.
- 2) **Sustainability and Operational Consistency Challenges:** The partial achievement of indicators such as CDC monthly meetings suggests operational sustainability challenges, including: Volunteer fatigue; Resource constraints; Competing community priorities.

Overall, the project’s achievements were primarily driven by strong community ownership, effective capacity strengthening, strategic institutional partnerships, and adaptive learning mechanisms. Where targets were partially achieved, factors were largely related to participation dynamics, operational sustainability, and contextual barriers rather than implementation failure.

3.4. Project Efficiency

Project efficiency is defined here as the extent to which results were achieved in a cost-effective and timely manner, with optimal use of available resources. Overall, the project demonstrated strong efficiency performance, as evidenced by high target achievement rates, strategic resource utilisation, and leveraged partnerships.

I. Cost-Effective Delivery of Outputs

Several indicators were achieved or significantly exceeded without proportional increases in planned resources, demonstrating strong efficiency and prudent financial management. For example, community sensitisation engagements more than doubled their planned target, while outreach far surpassed initial projections, reaching thousands of beneficiaries beyond expectations. Similarly, the number of PDSS lawyers recruited and deployed doubled the original target, substantially strengthening institutional capacity within the justice system.

These results indicate that the project maximised outputs relative to planned inputs, reflecting effective coordination, strategic planning, and sound resource management. The project converted inputs into outputs efficiently by optimising internal capacities, leveraging strategic partnerships, and applying cost-conscious delivery approaches.

As highlighted in quarterly monitoring reports, Global Rights deliberately utilised in-house technical expertise to minimise consultancy and facilitation costs. Project staff and duty solicitors served as facilitators and panellists during key activities – including mentorship workshops and webinars – at no additional cost to the project. Furthermore, the project capitalised on long-standing partnerships with experienced facilitators and service providers, enabling the negotiation of fair and competitive rates aligned with standard training benchmarks.

Collectively, these measures demonstrate a deliberate value-for-money approach, ensuring that financial resources are translated into expanded reach, strengthened institutional capacity, and enhanced community impact.

2. Leveraging Partnerships and Local Structures

Efficiency was enhanced through Global Rights' internal procurement policy, which prioritises value for money through multiple vendor quotations and cost comparison that guided negotiation of prices, such as prices for venues, training materials, and logistics. This approach enabled the project to secure suitable venues and materials at reduced costs while maintaining quality standards. In Sokoto and Kano, for example, the engagement of state-based implementing partners and local service providers significantly reduced operational expenses, as they offered services at locally negotiated rates compared to national-level vendors.

Project efficiency was also enhanced through:

- Engagement with existing community leadership structures (CDCs and GBVRTs), reducing the need for parallel systems.
- Strategic collaboration with legal and security institutions, integrating project interventions within established frameworks.
- High-level advocacy that secured institutional buy-in, minimising implementation bottlenecks.
- By building on existing systems rather than duplicating them, the project optimised time, financial, and human resources.

3. Adaptive Management and Timely Course Correction

Midline review meetings and structured learning processes enabled timely adjustments where needed. This minimised resource wastage and ensured interventions remained aligned with community needs and contextual realities.

The ability to exceed multiple targets while addressing participation gaps in other areas reflects flexible and responsive implementation rather than rigid activity execution.

4. Economies of Scale Through Community Ownership

Strong community ownership contributed to efficiency gains. CDCs and GBVRTs independently led multiple sensitisation and engagement activities, expanding reach without significantly increasing operational costs. This decentralised model improved both coverage and cost-effectiveness.

5. Areas for Efficiency Improvement

While overall efficiency was strong, some factors influenced optimal resource utilisation:

- Partial achievement of certain participation targets suggests that more targeted mobilisation strategies could reduce outreach inefficiencies.
- Delays in select activities (e.g., legal clinics) may affect timing efficiency if not implemented within the project lifecycle.
- Sustaining regular committee meetings may require additional low-cost support mechanisms to prevent volunteer fatigue.

Overall, the project demonstrated a high level of efficiency, achieving or surpassing most output targets and significantly expanding outreach beyond initial projections. Strategic partnerships, community ownership, and adaptive management contributed to strong value-for-money outcomes. The model shows strong potential for replication and scale, particularly where community structures are empowered to independently drive implementation.

3.5. Evidence of Emerging Impacts (Impact and Most Significant Change Stories)

The Global Rights project has generated significant and multi-layered impacts across Kano and Sokoto States that merit consolidation and sustained investment. Across its implementation period, the intervention produced both intended and unintended outcomes, reflecting its catalytic influence on individuals, community structures, and institutional systems. However, it is important to contextualise these results within the project's relatively short lifespan of 8 months. Meaningful social and behavioural change – particularly in areas such as gender norms, justice access, and community peacebuilding – typically requires sustained engagement over longer periods. As such, while early shifts are evident, deeper structural transformation should be understood as an emerging process rather than a completed outcome.

This section of the report, therefore, assesses the extent to which the intervention has generated significantly higher-level effects – positive or negative, intended or unintended – while situating these findings within realistic expectations for a short-duration systems-strengthening initiative. Although the project lifecycle primarily focused on strengthening systems, capacities, and community structures, early evidence points to emerging impacts at individual, community, and institutional levels. These impacts are drawn from quantitative findings, qualitative data (FGDs and KIIs), monitoring records, and documented Stories of Change. The evaluation has grouped the evidence of emerging impacts into three broad areas of program objectives: Individual-Level Impact, Community-Level Impact, and Institutional-Level Impact.

A. Individual-Level Impact

1) Enhanced Knowledge and Behavioural Shifts:

A significant proportion of CDC members, GBVRT members, and trained leaders reported improved knowledge in inclusive peacebuilding, survivor-centred SGBV response, and resource mobilisation strategies. Beyond knowledge acquisition, qualitative interviews indicate increased confidence in applying mediation skills, supporting survivors, and engaging state actors.

Several Stories of Change document:

- Women's leadership and public participation increased substantially. Women moved from peripheral roles to central actors in community peace processes. As noted by a respondent, "Women participate so much in peace building and community decision..." [003-FGD-GALS-SK-Feb-2026]
- Women reported transformative personal empowerment, including increased self-confidence and rights awareness. "I know my rights, and I can speak confidently in public places..." [003-FGD-GALS-SK-Feb-2026]
- Survivors are receiving more confidential and respectful support from trained GBVRT members. Community-based GBV response mechanisms were strengthened. Women-led CDC structures actively handled domestic violence and other disputes: "We women in CDC were 85% involved in that case, we were the ones who handled it." [001-FGD-CDC-SK-Feb-2026]
- Community leaders are adopting more inclusive decision-making approaches.
- Male participants are demonstrating increased openness to women's participation in dialogue spaces.

These shifts suggest early transformation in attitudes and practices that are foundational for longer-term impact.

B. Community-Level Impact

2) Strengthened Local Peace Infrastructure

The establishment and operationalisation of CDCs and GBVRTs have created functional, community-owned peace and protection mechanisms. Evidence shows that these structures are independently convening dialogues, organising sensitisation campaigns, and addressing emerging tensions.

Most Significant Change (MSC) narratives highlight:

- A Historic Shift as Kware Welcomes Women into Traditional Leadership: Kware Community, Sokoto, experienced a historic shift toward women's inclusion. Through sustained advocacy and dialogue led by Global Rights and the Kware CDC in

Sokoto state, long-standing cultural barriers were challenged, resulting in increased women's participation in leadership and peacebuilding.

For the first time in Kware's history, traditional rulers embraced women's inclusion within traditional leadership structures. Through consistent engagement, advocacy, and awareness programmes facilitated by Global Rights and the Sokoto CDC, traditional leaders began to recognize the social, political, and developmental value of women's leadership.

This resulted in the historic turbaning of women into respected traditional titles, including:

- Dr. Hafsat Galadima Durbawa as Sarauniyar (Queen) Galadanchi Sokoto
- Dr. Larai Aliyu Tambuwal as Zinariya
- Professor Sadiya Umar Bello as Moddibo of Sokoto, personally turbaned by the Sultan

This is a decisive break from long-standing exclusion and establishes a foundation for sustained female representation in traditional governance.

- Reduced escalation of local disputes due to early mediation by CDC members. Interfaith relations improved through structured dialogue and training, fostering unity and reducing tensions: “coming together as one and making peace.” [003-FGD-GALS-SK-Feb-2026]

In the Kaware community, issues such as Gender-Based Violence (GBV), rape, drug abuse, and family conflict were common but often hidden. As the Secretary of the Community Dialogue Committee (CDC), Halima Usman Abdullahi explained, “Actually, we have many issues in our community. But the most common one within the community is GBV - Gender-Based Violence, and drug abuse and raping issues.” Before the project, many of these cases went unnoticed. She reflected, “Before as a layman, I didn't even know that we had many cases within my community.”

The establishment of the CDC marked a turning point. Through structured community dialogue, sensitization, and advocacy, residents became aware of a safe, trusted platform for reporting concerns. According to her, “With the commencement of CDC community dialogue... there is a drastic change within the community, more especially when it comes to family issues, Gender-Based Violence.” Increased awareness encouraged people to come forward: “We helped without exposing the victims... So people are coming out to say and voice out their problems.”

Capacity strengthening transformed the CDC from an informal mediator into a recognized justice mechanism. Halima described her role as, “I write and listen to all information around GBV, early warnings... I write and send records about information around GBV.” Cases are now handled systematically from identification to resolution: “As they come to us we try to see that we interfere into their cases from the grassroot to the end of the problem where we see everybody is safeguarded.”

The CDC also built strong referral linkages with formal institutions. She noted, “We have the women affairs, the NAPTEP, police - Civil Defence - we are all working hand-in-hand with them and they really cooperate.” This collaboration has strengthened protection systems and improved accountability.

Perhaps most significantly, the project has shifted community norms. “Women are now voicing out, youths are now voicing out. And those that are maybe harassing or bullying have started having the fears... and are now having peace in the society where we are living.”

Today, the CDC in Kaware stands as a trusted and sustainable community justice structure. With strengthened capacity, improved coordination, and growing public confidence, the community has moved from silence and hidden abuse to increased reporting, collaboration, and peace — a change the CDC members are committed to sustaining beyond the life of the project.

Halima Abdullahi, Kaware Community, Nasarawa LGA, Kano state

- Increased reporting and referral of SGBV cases to appropriate support mechanisms.
- Improved collaboration between community actors and law enforcement institutions.

The replication of joint action plans and peer-learning outcomes further demonstrates the institutionalisation of inclusive peacebuilding practices.

C. Institutional-Level Impact

3) Improved Access to Justice

The recruitment and deployment of additional PDSS lawyers directly to police divisions have enhanced legal oversight and access to pro bono services. Community members and detainees who previously lacked representation now have improved pathways to justice.

Stories of Change reflect:

- Individuals are released from prolonged detention due to timely legal intervention.
- Increased awareness among detainees of their legal rights.
- Strengthened accountability within police divisions. In Kano, strengthened collaboration between community actors and formal justice institutions improved access to justice pathways, particularly for marginalised groups, reinforcing structural impact beyond individual empowerment.

These developments indicate systemic shifts that extend beyond immediate project beneficiaries.

4) Gender and Inclusion Impact

The Global Rights Strengthening Pathways project has reinforced institutional justice delivery in Kano State by strengthening collaboration, early legal representation, and coordination mechanisms within the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria. As the Assistant Director explained, the Council's mandate is broad: *"To offer real legal services such as legal advice, representation in court, correctional center visit or detention and all such lawyer can do... we have power in rape cases, army robbery cases, we have power to all civil cases."*

A key impact has been the strengthening of early access to legal representation through the Police Duty Solicitor Scheme (PDSS). He noted, *"Global right comes with what we call PDSS, it's also our mandate... when there is a suspect there must be a lawyer and this is complimenting the law."* This has reinforced due process at the point of arrest and reduced the risk of rights violations for vulnerable individuals.

Institutional coordination has also improved significantly. The respondent described referral pathways as: *"Very effective, especially Gwagwarwa division, they use to refer cases... infact we created a WhatsApp group."* This enhanced communication between police divisions and legal aid actors has strengthened timely referrals and case follow-up.

Despite systemic challenges such as resource and manpower constraints, the institution affirms that justice delivery remains inclusive: *"No discrimination and people are aware of their services."* Safeguards for detainees are emphasized, with the respondent noting, *"We do represent them to make sure justice is done. Justice is not one-way traffic."* Importantly, the institutionalization of key mechanisms is likely to endure. As stated, *"PDSS and CDCs are very important and are likely to be sustained after the project."*

Overall, the project has strengthened institutional responsiveness, improved coordination within the justice ecosystem, and reinforced procedural fairness—contributing to a more structured and accessible justice system in Kano State.

Muhammad Auwalu kofa

Assistant Director- Legal Aids Council of Nigeria, Kano

The implementation of GALS training, women-led town halls, and strengthened female representation within committees demonstrates early movement toward more inclusive community governance.

Emerging impacts include:

- Increased visibility of women in leadership and dialogue platforms.
- Household-level discussions on shared decision-making.
- Youth engagement in civic dialogue spaces.

While some participation gaps remain, qualitative evidence suggests growing acceptance of inclusive peacebuilding norms.

Overall, while long-term structural change requires extended time horizons, the available evidence suggests that the project has triggered early transformative shifts in:

- ☞ Knowledge and attitudes
- ☞ Community mediation capacity
- ☞ Survivor-centred response practices
- ☞ Institutional collaboration and accountability
- ☞ Women's participation in civic and peacebuilding processes

The Most Significant Change stories, in particular, provide compelling qualitative validation that the project is not only delivering outputs but catalysing meaningful change at multiple levels.

3.6. Sustainability Signals

The Phase III Global Rights project was designed with sustainability as a core consideration, focusing on institutional strengthening, community ownership, and capacity building to ensure that benefits extend beyond the project's 8-month implementation period.

3.6.1. Key Factors Supporting Sustainability

- **Strengthened Community Structures:** Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) and GBV Response Teams (GBVRTs) were not only established but also trained in leadership, resource mobilisation, and inclusive peacebuilding strategies. Many committees independently convened meetings, implemented community-led interventions, and replicated best practices, demonstrating a high level of local ownership.
- **Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer:** Targeted trainings enhanced the skills of community leaders, CDCs, GBVRT members, and PDSS lawyers, ensuring that technical knowledge in peacebuilding, survivor-centred SGBV response, and legal support is retained and can be applied in future interventions.

- Evidence-Based Adaptive Learning: Use of project monitoring data, Most Significant Change stories, and participatory feedback mechanisms fostered adaptive management, enabling communities and institutions to make informed decisions and sustain effective practices independently.
- Gender and Inclusion Integration: Embedding gender equality and social inclusion considerations into committee operations, town halls, and GALS interventions has established inclusive norms that are likely to persist, strengthening long-term community cohesion and participation.
- Partnerships and Linkages: Strategic engagement with local government authorities, law enforcement, traditional leaders, and civil society organisations created institutional linkages that enhance ongoing support, resource access, and accountability mechanisms.

3.6.2. Sustainability Outlook

Evidence from endline findings suggests that, particularly in Sokoto and Kano, the project has laid the foundation for sustained institutional and community-level impact. CDCs and GBVRTs are equipped to continue facilitating dialogue, supporting survivors, and promoting inclusive peacebuilding practices. The emphasis on resource mobilisation, structured peer learning, and evidence-based decision-making further increases the likelihood that project gains will be maintained and scaled within the communities.

The sustainability of results is supported by the institutionalisation of strengthened capacities within community structures. Because interventions were embedded within CDCs, religious platforms, and local leadership systems, the knowledge and skills gained are likely to persist beyond project closure. Participants' internalised confidence and knowledge indicate durable change: "*The change I feel now within me is I feel secure and happier than before.*" [002-FGD-GALS-SK-Feb-2026] "*I know my rights...*" [003-FGD-GALS-SK-Feb-2026]. Such attitudinal and behavioural transformations are foundational for long-term sustainability.

However, continued support (e.g., continued engagement of state institutions in both states and ongoing coordination of referral systems), periodic refresher trainings, and external reinforcement of newly established systems are recommended to maximise long-term impact and ensure that emerging practices evolve into fully embedded, sustainable structures.

4. Lessons Learned and Challenges Encountered

This section highlights the key lessons that emerged from the implementation and evaluation of the project, as well as some of the implementation challenges encountered in the course of project implementation. These insights draw from field observations, stakeholder consultations, and beneficiary feedback, offering practical guidance for strengthening future FCDO interventions in Nigeria and similar contexts.

4.1. Lessons Learned

The endline evaluation of the Global Rights Phase III FCDO project offers several valuable lessons to inform the design and implementation of future interventions:

- 👉 *Importance of Community Ownership:* Projects that actively engage Community Dialogue Committees (CDCs) and GBV Response Teams (GBVRTs) in planning, decision-making, and implementation achieve stronger uptake, sustainability, and relevance of interventions. Working through respected traditional and religious leaders enhances community acceptance and legitimacy. At the same time, initial resistance rooted in gender norms highlights the importance of sustained community sensitisation. As expressed by a project beneficiary, “women don’t trust us into their home for dispute resolutions.” [001-FGD-CDC-SK-Feb-2026]. Overcoming such resistance required patience, demonstrated competence, and visible results.
- 👉 *Targeted Capacity Building Drives Impact:* Structured training and mentorship for community structures, legal actors, and local leaders significantly improve knowledge, skills, and confidence, enabling more effective service delivery and inclusive peacebuilding.
- 👉 *Early and Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement is Critical:* Involving women, youth, persons with disabilities, traditional leaders, and local authorities from the outset strengthens relevance, legitimacy, and participation in civic and peacebuilding processes. The project demonstrates that meaningful inclusion of women in peacebuilding structures can transform community dispute resolution systems. Empowerment must go beyond training to include structured opportunities for leadership and decision-making authority.

- ☞ *Data-Informed Decision Making Enhances Responsiveness:* Systematic use of monitoring data, beneficiary feedback, and Most Significant Change stories allows for adaptive management, targeted course corrections, and evidence-based scaling of successful practices.
- ☞ *Strategic Partnerships Increase Efficiency:* Leveraging existing partnerships, in-house expertise, and experienced facilitators reduces costs, enhances delivery quality, and ensures value for money.
- ☞ *Sustainability Requires Continuous Support and Reinforcement:* Capacity-building efforts are more likely to translate into sustained impact when complemented by post-training follow-up, peer-learning mechanisms, and institutional support structures.

These lessons underscore the importance of inclusive, evidence-based, and contextually tailored approaches to peacebuilding, gender justice, and community development interventions, providing practical guidance for future FCDO programming in Nigeria and similar contexts. The Global Rights project in Kano and Sokoto achieved substantial progress in strengthening inclusive peacebuilding processes and expanding access to justice for marginalised groups. Its most enduring legacy lies in empowered women leaders, strengthened community mediation systems, improved interfaith cohesion, and enhanced linkages between informal and formal justice institutions.

4.2. Challenges Encountered

Despite the overall success of the Phase III project, several challenges were encountered during implementation that affected the pace, reach, or uniformity of outcomes:

1. *Short Project Duration:* With a 8-month implementation period, some interventions – particularly those targeting social and behavioural change – had limited time to achieve deeper or sustained impact.
2. *Participant Mobilisation and Attendance:* In certain communities, ensuring consistent participation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities in workshops, town halls, and committee meetings was challenging due to competing commitments, mobility constraints, or socio-cultural norms.
3. *Socio-Cultural Barriers to Justice and Protection of Victims:* A major challenge identified in Sokoto State relates to cultural norms that discourage families from pursuing formal justice, particularly in GBV cases. Families often prioritise protecting a girl's dignity over legal redress: “The major challenges we are facing is that parents sometimes, if they bring a case and try to send them to the court in order to have justice, but they refuse to because they are afraid of exposing their daughter's identity...”[001-KII-TL-SK-Feb-2026]. This reflects persistent stigma and fear of reputational damage, which limits access to formal justice mechanisms despite strengthened community mediation systems.

4. *Institutional Weaknesses and Corruption:* Institutional barriers, particularly within law enforcement, were also highlighted. Perceived corruption and influence of powerful perpetrators undermine justice processes: *“the police sometimes hold the case without doing the right thing, especially if the perpetrator has a long hand... The police would deny the case and even accused the victim just because of corruption, and the victim are a nobody.”* [001-KII-TL-SK-Feb-2026]. Such systemic weaknesses discourage victims from pursuing formal referrals.
5. *Initial Religious Misperceptions and Community Suspicion:* At project inception in Sokoto, some community members suspected a hidden religious agenda: *“people believe that we are supporting another religion on their mission...”* [002-KII-CDCTL-SK-Feb-2026]. However, continued engagement and visible impact gradually reduced this resistance and improved participation.
6. *Jurisdictional and Structural Constraints in Case Handling:* In Kano State, CDC leaders emphasised limits to their authority. Cases beyond their mandate required escalation through traditional hierarchies or to the police: *“If it's above us, then we take such cases to the higher authority... If it's beyond us from the Hakimi's house, we will move it to the Police.”* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. While structured, this multi-tiered system can delay case resolution, especially in complex disputes.
7. *Logistical and Resource Constraints:* Operational limitations, including a lack of mobility support, affected the effectiveness of community actors: *“For my activities, even a bicycle I don't have. So I have to rely on public transport...”* [001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. Limited logistical resources constrain outreach and timely response to complaints.
8. *Evidence Suppression and Difficulty Establishing Facts:* Community members sometimes conceal critical information, complicating mediation efforts: *“people are hiding the real fact. So at times when they hide the real facts, we won't be able to go into it and have justice.”* [002-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. This challenge affects fairness and delays resolution.
9. *Legitimacy and Identification Challenges:* CDC members in Kano reported lacking formal identification tools to establish credibility: *“At times you go to people but with what identity?... we need a sign of identification...”* [002-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. Although inclusion criteria ensured representation of women, youth, and PwDs: *“Women are involved... There are youth and also PWDs. We go with the youth completely, and there is no segregation to any group.”*[001-KII-CDCTL-KN-Feb-2026]. Practical legitimacy gaps remain a challenge in field engagement.

Despite these challenges, adaptive management approaches, strong community partnerships, and effective use of internal resources allowed the project to achieve or exceed most of its targets. Lessons from these challenges offer important guidance for improving future interventions, particularly in scaling up and sustaining community-led peacebuilding and justice initiatives.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

This section synthesises the key findings of the endline evaluation and presents actionable recommendations aimed at enhancing the effectiveness, sustainability, and impact of future FCDO-supported initiatives in Nigeria.

5.1. Concluding Remarks

The End-of-Project Impact Assessment of the Global Rights Initiative, “*Strengthening Pathways to Inclusive Peacebuilding Processes and Expanding Access to Justice for Marginalised Groups in Kano and Sokoto States*”, demonstrates that the project has made significant and measurable contributions toward inclusive community governance, gender-responsive peacebuilding, and improved access to justice mechanisms.

Across both states, the project successfully addressed structural gaps that historically limited women’s participation in peace and justice processes. The evidence indicates that women moved from peripheral engagement to substantive leadership roles within CDCs, SGBV response structures, and local mediation platforms. The project’s Gender Action Learning System (GALS) approach, capacity-building interventions, and institutional engagement strategies collectively contributed to strengthened confidence, rights awareness, and decision-making participation among women. These shifts were not only procedural but transformative at the individual, community and institutional levels.

The findings further indicate that community-level GBV response mechanisms became more structured and inclusive. Women’s involvement in mediation, especially in sensitive cases such as domestic violence, reflects a shift in gender norms and increased trust in female-led justice processes. In addition, strengthened collaboration between community actors and formal justice institutions in Kano enhanced referral pathways and contributed to greater coherence between informal and formal justice systems.

Interfaith dialogue and inclusive peacebuilding efforts also contributed to improved social cohesion, particularly in contexts where religious identity can influence community tensions. By promoting Muslim-Christian engagement and shared problem-solving, the project reinforced peaceful coexistence and collective ownership of local peace processes.

Importantly, the project demonstrated high contextual relevance and operational efficiency. By leveraging existing structures, traditional leaders, religious institutions, CDCs, and state justice actors, it avoided duplication and enhanced sustainability. Embedding skills and knowledge within community institutions increases the likelihood that outcomes will persist beyond project closure.

However, the assessment also highlights that the transformation of deeply rooted gender norms requires sustained engagement. While initial resistance to women mediators diminished over time, long-term consolidation of these gains will depend on continued support, institutional reinforcement, and community sensitisation.

In conclusion, the project has made meaningful progress toward inclusive peacebuilding and expanded access to justice in Kano and Sokoto States. Its most enduring impact lies in strengthened women's leadership, improved community-based dispute resolution systems, enhanced interfaith cohesion, and stronger linkages between grassroots and formal justice actors. The initiative provides a strong model for gender-inclusive peacebuilding programming in Northern Nigeria.

5.2. Recommendations

Drawing from the findings, the following recommendations are proposed to consolidate gains, address identified gaps, and inform future programming:

- ❶ **Institutionalise Women's Leadership within Community Structures:** To sustain gains in women's participation, formal mechanisms should be established to guarantee women's representation in CDC executive roles and community mediation panels. This may include adopting written community bylaws or guidelines that institutionalise gender quotas within local peace structures. Continuous mentorship and leadership development programs should be introduced to support emerging female leaders.
- ❷ **Strengthen Linkages Between Community Mechanisms and Formal Justice Institutions:** While referral pathways have improved, stronger institutional frameworks are needed to formalise collaboration between CDCs, religious leaders, police, legal aid services, and the Ministry of Justice. Memoranda of understanding (MOUs), periodic coordination meetings, and shared case-tracking systems would enhance accountability and continuity.
- ❸ **Provide Ongoing Capacity Strengthening and Refresher Trainings:** To ensure sustainability, periodic refresher training on GBV response, mediation skills, human rights standards, and documentation should be provided to community actors. Continuous learning opportunities will prevent skill erosion and adapt local actors to evolving conflict and justice dynamics.
- ❹ **Expand Interfaith Dialogue Platforms:** Given the positive outcomes related to Muslim-Christian engagement, structured interfaith dialogue forums should be institutionalised at the community and local government levels. These platforms can serve as early warning and conflict prevention mechanisms while reinforcing trust across religious divides.
- ❺ **Address Deep-Seated Gender Norms Through Community Sensitisation:** Although acceptance of women mediators has improved, broader community engagement—particularly with male leaders and youth—is necessary to consolidate attitudinal change. Future programming should include targeted male engagement strategies to promote shared ownership of gender-inclusive peacebuilding.

- ⑥ **Strengthen Monitoring and Documentation of Community-Level Cases:** Community structures should be supported to systematically document mediation cases, referrals, and outcomes. Improved data collection will enhance evidence-based decision-making and demonstrate impact to state-level actors and potential funders.
- ⑦ **Promote Economic and Social Empowerment Linkages:** Women's increased voice and agency should be complemented by economic strengthening initiatives, as financial autonomy reinforces leadership confidence and bargaining power within households and communities. Linking peacebuilding actors to livelihood and empowerment programs will deepen resilience.
- ⑧ **Scale the Model to Additional LGAs and States:** Given the demonstrable success in Kano and Sokoto, the model of embedding gender-responsive peacebuilding within existing community structures should be considered for replication in other Northern Nigerian states, with contextual adaptations.
- ⑨ **Ensure Exit Strategy and Sustainability Planning:** As external funding phases out, Global Rights and partners should develop a structured sustainability and transition plan. This may include identifying local funding sources, integrating activities into state government frameworks, and empowering community actors to independently convene dialogue and mediation sessions.

6. References

SN	Document Name
1	Baseline Report
2	Quarterly Report
3	FCDO Project Proposal Phase 3
4	Updated Result Framework
5	Stakeholders List
	Kano GALS Monitoring Report
6	Sokoto High-Level Town Hall Meeting Report
7	Kano High-Level Town Hall Meeting Report
8	Sokoto GALS Monitoring Report
9	Gender Action Learning Systems Report
10	GR Activity Report for Sustainability and Resource Mobilisation to CDC and GBV members
11	GALS Training Report
12	GALS M&E Reporting for Sokoto

7. Annexes

Annexe 1: Sample List of Selected Key Informants

Annexe 2: Household Survey Questionnaire

Annexe 3: Key Informant Interview Guide

Annexe 4: Focus Group Discussion Guide

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