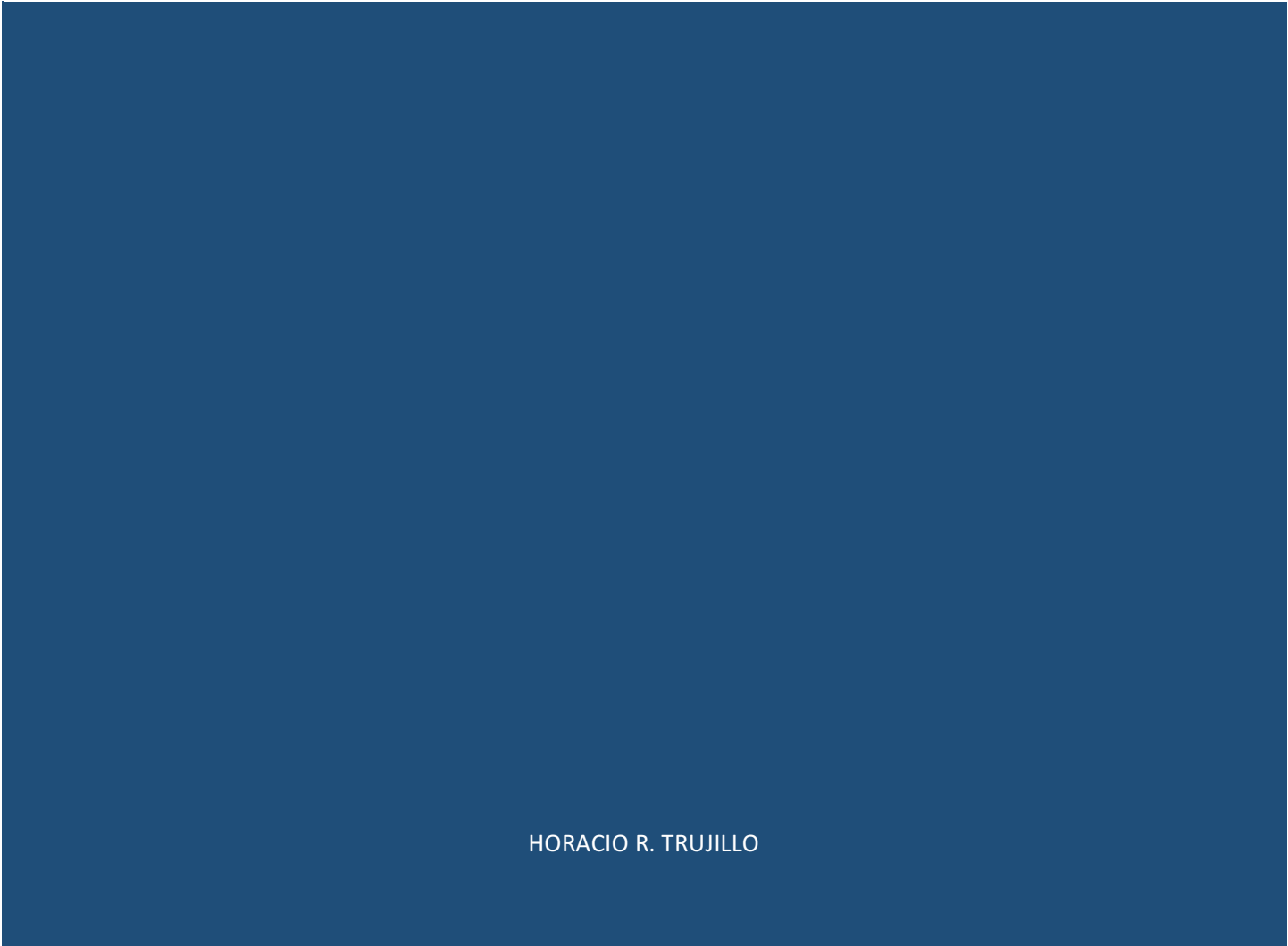




SEARCH FOR COMMON GROUND

Expanding Initiatives to Reduce Human Rights Abuses in Northern Nigeria

Final Evaluation
May 2018



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Introduction

This study presents an evaluation of Search for Common Ground's project *Expanding Initiatives to Reduce HR Abuse by Security Forces in Northern Nigeria*, the theory of change (TOC) of which is —

If we build coalitions and capacities among networks of Civil Society, the Judiciary, and National Human Rights Commission and within the security services then human rights abuse by security forces will be reduced.

In terms of specific objectives, the overall objective of the project is thus articulated as

"expanding engagement and advocacy processes and enabling local CSOs to effectively address human rights abuses perpetrated by security forces,"

and three specific objectives of the project are:

- Objective 1: Strengthen the capacity of CSOs and the NHRC in human rights monitoring, reporting, and advocacy;
- Objective 2: Establish a platform between the NHRC, CSOs, and judicial actors for effective action on issues related to human rights;
- Objective 3: Improve communication and understanding between affected communities, key stakeholders, and security actors on issues related to human rights.

The 52 month project was implemented in Borno, Adamawa, Bauchi and Plateau States in Northern Nigeria from August 2013 to December 2017, in which it aimed to bolster established CSO platforms, and leverage investments in state actors, CSOs and community leaders through targeted trainings to build their capacity to own and address human rights gaps. In parallel it engaged relevant regional actors into a growing network of human rights actors. It also aimed to bring displaced populations into the spheres of the networks by supporting partner organizations to extend their programming across the border of difficult-to-reach areas such as Diffa, Niger.

The targeted beneficiaries and primary stakeholders include: Civil Society Organizations (CSOs); NHRC; Security actors; Judiciary; and affected communities. A cross section of these stakeholders, inclusive of participants and non-participants of the project, were engaged in this evaluation to draw lessons and gauge results of the project.

This study has as its primary focus the evaluation of the theory of change, centering around three DAC criteria of effectiveness, relevance and sustainability of the project – assessing, thus, if SFCG's efforts to build coalitions among and the capacities of civil society, the judiciary, the National Human Rights Commission and within the security services contributed to a sustainable reduction of human rights abuses. The general conclusion from the gathered data (observational data collected from representatives of these and other stakeholder groups as well as from the general public) is that these efforts have in fact contributed to a reduction of human rights abuses (effectiveness).

Beyond this general finding, the study also evaluates the various components of the Project, including the community and media engagements, and presents the conclusion that both of these components were critical to the effectiveness of the project (relevance), with the media engagement identified as particularly important. Also important is that the influence of the project is likely to be sustainable even if some of the specific

components of the project are not and there could have been some improvements to the program to have made this influence more sustainable (sustainability).

The data for the study was collected from stakeholders in select communities in the project locations – Borno, Adamawa, Bauchi and Plateau States through participatory methods. The primary analytic methodologies that informed the collection and interpretation of this data are Outcomes Harvesting and Most Significant Change by which the effects of the program are identified from the data rather than the data being interrogated to consider whether the program contributed to the anticipated effects. Notably, while the study also considered if findings on the project were different in North East and North Central Nigeria, there is no suggestion from the data that there is a meaningful difference in the project's performance in these different regions.

Summary of Findings and Analysis

As noted above, the general conclusion from the gathered data (observational data collected from representatives of these and other stakeholder groups as well as from the general public) is that these efforts have in fact contributed to a reduction of human rights abuses (effectiveness). In particular, the conclusion of the analysis of the findings of the study is that:

- The objectives of the project were well understood by the stakeholders, critical to its success, and engaged in it by SFCG.
- The project reasonably contributed to the realization of its intended outcomes as represented in its objectives – these are the outcomes of
 - improving awareness of human rights and actions to promote and protect human rights,
 - improving collaboration among civil society organizations (CSOs), state human rights agencies and security forces for the purpose of improving awareness of human rights and actions to promote and protect human rights, and
 - improving the capacity of civil society organizations to raise awareness of human rights and actions to promote and protect human rights – but not identifiably increasing the capacity of government agencies responsible for the same.

Beyond these general findings, the study also evaluates the various components of the Project, including the community and media engagements, and presents the conclusion that both of these components were critical to the effectiveness of the project (relevance). In particular,

- Both the project's programming to promote collaboration among CSOs, state human rights agencies and security forces – in the form of "platforms" / regular meetings of these entities to discuss human rights – and the project's radio programming represented unique contributions to the landscape of mechanisms to promote general public awareness of human rights and the importance of promoting and protecting human rights in the region.
- Similarly, the project's programming to promote collaboration among CSOs, state human rights agencies and security forces – in the form of "platforms" / regular meetings of these entities to discuss human rights – was actually effective in promoting information-sharing among these actors, and particularly in bringing together in conversation diverse and even oppositional actors, and in such a way that contributed to meaningful exchanges and even identifiable improvements in their work individually and jointly, including new collaboration activities.
- Finally, stakeholders consider the capacity-strengthening activities of the project to have been valuable to them in terms of improving their operations as well as the abilities of their communities to address human rights concerns, although these increases in capacity are more difficult to establish with the collected data.

Finally, the influence of the project is likely to be sustainable even if some of the specific components of the project are not, such as the radio programming, and others will in some cases require the intervention of other agencies to sustain them, such as the Community Security Architecture Dialogues and the Peace Architecture Dialogues where they have not already been incorporated into other agencies, such as state governments or civil society organizations. While these activities might not be sustainable or might face some challenges in transitioning to sustainability, some of the practices of inter-organizational collaboration are likely to continue without formal structures as the relationships have been routinized and proven themselves useful to the collaborating organizations. Nonetheless, the sustainability of the influence of the project could be improved by better considering

- Implementing the project at a scale that is more likely to have a lasting influence on the behavior of the stakeholders through effecting larger scale societal institutions,
- Considering an appropriate business model to make the radio programming of the project sustainable into the future rather than being presented for only a limited run,
- Improving even further the diversity of stakeholders participating in the various dialogues of the project, particular more community-level actors and actors representing societally relevant communal groups, such as more representatives of religious communities, and
- Providing more practical support for the promotion and protection of human rights, such as providing participating CSOs with more regular technical assistance and organizing more direct advocacy with government entities, particularly for institutionalization of the project's activities in order to ensure their sustainability.

Summary of Lessons and Recommendations

Lessons Learned

The Project offered a Unique Service to Communities for which there is considerable Demand

There is no question that the project introduced into communities unique mechanisms to improve communication among stakeholders about community concerns regarding human rights abuses along with many other of the population's concerns regarding personal and community safety and security. As various stakeholders identified, prior to the introduction of the project there existed virtually no regular, meaningful interaction among most of the stakeholders that were or should have been involved in the promotion and protection in human rights and who have now developed practices of communicating with each other and even cooperating with each other. The enthusiasm for these mechanisms expressed by stakeholders signals the clear and strong demand for this and related interventions.

The Project Mechanisms are Effective for Increasing Awareness and Confidence of Stakeholders

The various mechanisms that the project introduced are from all general appearances effective in raising stakeholder awareness of the need for improved promotion and protection of human rights and the value of improving interactions among stakeholders to realize these outcomes.

The Radio Programming seems to be, but cannot be established as, a Critical Mechanism of Influence

The radio programming component of the project is routinely identified by stakeholders as being a critical mechanism for raising awareness of human rights and spurring actions to protect human rights. However, the project's ability to document this influence is highly inadequate. The radio logs provide such few data points, and particularly data that can only be identified as compromised by selection bias and is little more than anecdotal, that they cannot be utilized for any meaningful analysis of the reach or influence of the project.

The Project's Contributions to Capacity are Difficult to Identify

While stakeholders report that the project increased the capacity of various actors working to promote and protect human rights, the actual contribution to the capacity of these organizations, particularly beyond any

anecdotal, case-specific evidence, is difficult to identify in any meaningful way. There is certainly testimony to the development of some capacity among some stakeholders, but there is scant evidence that the capacity strengthening components of the project were designed or implemented to have a systemic effect on the capacity of these actors.

The Project falls short of supporting More Practical Action to Improve Human Rights

While the project does a very good job of raising awareness and demand for the promotion and protection of human rights – it falls short of providing more practical support for stakeholders to engage in actions that would move them toward more effective improvements in human rights promotion and protection, ranging from more direct, coordinated lobbying of the government to the development and strengthening of community-based mechanisms to monitor human rights and advocate for protection of vulnerable populations and victims.

Recommendations

Make the Radio Programming more of an Explicit and Integrated Focus of the Project

The radio programming component of the project was identified as critical to raising awareness of the general public regarding human rights and the prerogative of all persons to have their rights protected. And, yet, the full potential of the radio programming to influence public understanding and even to stimulate demand for human rights is not clearly articulated in the objectives of the project. This seems to have led to the radio programming of the project to be implemented somewhat separately from the rest of the project rather than as complementarily and in particular with as much emphasis on trying to orient the implementation of the radio programming to specific substantive outcomes beyond awareness raising. Making the radio programming a more explicit focus of the project, and especially articulating more carefully the intended substantive outcomes of the project could do much to making the radio programming even more effective than already perceived to be by stakeholders.

Formulate an Assessment Plan that lends itself to more Rigorous Analysis

While there is clear qualitative evidence of the effectiveness of the project in contributing to the articulated intended objectives, this analysis can only be suggestive due to the lack of a clear assessment plan for collection of data throughout the project that can be used to more definitively establish this influence including the magnitude of such influence. With the objectives and planned activities of the project more carefully articulated, SFCG could better identify the appropriate data to be collected at or before the inception of the project (that might actually be collected as part of the data used to inform the construction of the theory of change) and throughout the project and at the end of the project to be able to more rigorously establish the project's causal influence on the intended objectives and even the magnitude of this causality.

Formulate the Focus of the Project to be Consistent

While the project's evolution to focus on human rights abuses broadly is a praiseworthy shift, in order for the project to be assessed more rigorously the theory of change and objectives have to be kept constant from the project's inception to its conclusion.

Extend the Time-Frame for Implementation

Research suggests that interventions intended to establish new patterns of interaction among organizations needs a fair amount of time to take root – and in the case of such a large undertaking it seems that two years of consistent implementation with incentives would be a minimum of time needed to establish strong principles and norms for cooperation.

Consider Greater Scale and Scope of the Intervention

The project could benefit from a more clear articulation of its full aspirations, which include a systemic improvement of human rights in northern Nigeria, especially as this requires the project to ultimately serve additional communities (most likely indirectly through the demonstration of its effectiveness and the diffusion of the intervention into sustainable societal institutions) and to incorporate other activities that contribute to this goal to serve the collective interest, such as more collective advocacy of government officials on particular issues regarding human rights and engagement of the state and national governments to sustain the project activities or similarly serving mechanisms.

Methodology

The evaluation utilized mixed methods for analysis employing both qualitative and quantitative data, including primary data collected through a survey of community residents in the locations where the project was implemented, as well as through key informant interviews and focus group discussions from civil society, security and government leaders within Borno, Adamawa, Bauchi and Plateau States.

A mixed methods approach – which emphasize the importance of “methodological appropriateness” in the design of evaluations – makes possible measurement of interventions on complex social phenomena, such as influencing the behavior of military actors and their interaction with society – as well as better provides for these evaluations to offer meaningful, useful information. Triangulating findings – better approximating findings and avoiding errors – through the use of multiple methods of analysis and data collection – is a meaningful justification alone for a mixed-methods approach in the evaluation of interventions addressing complex social phenomena, especially for the identification of the effects of interventions, in the measurement of these effects and in the validity of claims of attribution of these effects.¹

Data Collection Methodologies Overview

The data to be collected includes:

- (i) qualitative data collected from **key informant interviews** and **focus groups**, as well as from SFCG’s own **project documents**, and
- (ii) quantitative data to be collected from a **population-based survey**, as suggested in the terms of reference and collected in a fashion modeled after the populations-based survey data ongoing evaluation of SFCG’s project to strengthen community-based mechanisms for early warning of and early response to large-scale violence in Adamawa and Borno states.

The **key informant interviews** and the **focus groups**, along with **project documents** have provided the data for the analysis to understand the effectiveness of the project, including identifying unintended influences of the project and the causal influence pathways of the project, and can also contribute to the identification of attribution and measurement of influence.

The 29 **key informant interviews** – twice as many as initially planned for the study – collected data from notable stakeholders of the project, from key staff of higher-level partner organizations (the Judiciary, National Human Rights Commission and security services) within and among which SFCG is working on strengthening relationships and capacities to work together and for whom participation in focus groups would not be particularly suitable.

The nine **focus groups** of approximately 10-15 persons each – one more than initially planned for the study – collected data from participants in the project’s activities, such as the capacity-strengthening and coalition-building/ strengthening/ supporting workshops and trainings, along with key actors not engaged in the project but that have perspective on the project. The eight (8) focus groups included 3 each in Maiduguri (Borno) and Yola (Adamawa) – one each with male participants, with female participants and with radio program listeners – and one each in Bauchi (Bauchi) and Jos (Plateau).

The **survey** collected data primarily to assess the project’s influence on the broader public, including providing some simple statistical measure of the magnitude of such influence. In total, the survey team collected responses from 460 persons in communities benefitting directly from the interventions and other communities

¹ We refer SFCG to the September 2013 special volume of the *Journal of Peacebuilding & Development* (v8 no2) on “Evaluation in Violently Divided Societies: Politics, Ethics and Methods,” and particularly the article by Kenneth Bush and Colleen Duggan, “Evaluation in Conflict Zones: Methodological and Ethical Challenges,” for a review of this perspective.

not benefitting directly from the interventions, yielding 400 complete observations. The careful use of these quantitative data (collected only after the intervention has been implemented, and as such not able to offer insights into the magnitude or causality of the effectiveness of the intervention) can offer a complementary perspective on the influence of the project beyond stakeholders familiar with it.

The survey data and analysis of this data is presented separately in this report, however, because the knowledge, attitudes and practices of the respondents to the survey simply cannot be attributed to the project – and to present this data otherwise to suggest any such attribution would be inappropriately speculative at best. While the survey was designed with questions to potentially elicit meaningful responses that could be interpreted to provide support for the evaluation of the project, the respondents did not provide responses of such quality. And, while it is disappointing to not have received responses as such that could be appropriately interpreted to reflect on the project, that we did not get answers of such quality simply suggests to us, not surprisingly and actually confirmatory of a priori expectations, that members of the general public are simply not privy to the capacities of and relationships among the various agencies that are the project's focus.

Population-Based Survey Data Collection Implementation Detail

Sampling Method – Survey respondents were selected through systematic, central-location sampling (identifying a central location in each community and interviewing every n^{th} person walking through the location during a period of high traffic), offering a high efficiency in the collection activity, not requiring travel by the enumerators to access respondents.

This methodology also offers security benefits for both respondents and enumerators. There is an inherent risk to randomly surveying persons regarding victimization, given the possibility of (re)traumatizing respondents who have been direct or even indirect victims. This risk is even greater when there is still a possibility of exposure to further victimization. And, this risk is even greater when respondents could be targeted by those employing victimization as a means of pursuing their interests as a means of punishment or deterrence for cooperating with efforts to address this victimization. There are also trade-offs in this risk to any manner of surveying the population. For example, if data is collected by enumerators going to households selected at random, those households could be identified as targets for victimization. And, if data is collected by enumerators selecting respondents at random in a central public location, the individual respondents could potentially be identified by other observers for targeted victimization. Central-location sampling arguably presents fewer unnecessary risks compared to other sampling methods and could actually be less risky to both (a) respondents, whose responses will not require visits to their households by enumerators and whose participation will be difficult to track and will be recognized as random to any observers, (b) enumerators, who will conduct the surveys in central locations rather than in less public spaces that can be more dangerous.

Care was taken by enumerators to administer the survey away from military and security forces or other potential sources of threats (such as Keke Napep gathering spots) so that respondents would feel confident that they could respond candidly without fear of being overheard by these forces, which are known to at times be perpetrators of human rights abuses. So long as the surveys were conducted at a distance that would not allow for responses to be overheard, there is no reason to believe that respondents would necessarily be influenced in one direction versus another by being interviewed around military and security personnel or other actors – as there would be no way for military and security personnel (or Keke Napep drivers) to believe that their responses would be either good or bad, and respondents could be influenced to either (1) identify these actors as perpetrators by the presence of these actors bringing them to mind or (b) be hesitant to speak negatively of these actors due to their presence.

Sample Size – Because this post-intervention study is not be able to identify the project’s causal influence on the knowledge, attitudes and practices of the population, the survey was designed to offer general representativeness of these knowledge, attitudes and practices of the population. In order to achieve this representativeness, data was collected from eight (8) communities each in Borno and Adamawa states. The distribution of responses collected is represented in the table below.

<i>Adamawa (228)</i>		<i>Borno (179)</i>	
<i>LGA</i>	<i>Villages</i>	<i>LGA</i>	<i>Villages</i>
<i>Gombi (55)</i>	<i>Gombi North</i>	<i>Jere (34)</i>	<i>Old Maiduguri</i>
	<i>Guyaku</i>		<i>Mairi</i>
<i>Madagali (57)</i>	<i>Shuwa</i>	<i>Konduga (52)</i>	<i>Jakana</i>
	<i>Mayo Wandu</i>		<i>Auno</i>
<i>Michika (58)</i>	<i>Hausari</i>	<i>Maiduguri MC (36)</i>	<i>Bolori 1</i>
	<i>Jiddel</i>		<i>Lamisila/Jabbamari</i>
<i>Mubi (58)</i>	<i>Kochifa</i>	<i>Monguno (57)</i>	<i>Monguno</i>
	<i>Nassarawo</i>		<i>Ajari</i>

Survey Questionnaire Design Considerations – The survey questionnaire itself reflected the following design elements:

- The survey was designed to be administered by enumerators who would record the verbal responses from the respondents.
- The survey was designed for soliciting perspectives of the general population, and as such the questions were focused on topics that general population respondents can be considered to provide responses on without speculation (that reflect their knowledge, their attitudes and their practices, as opposed to their assessments of phenomena that would ask them to speculate).
- The questions covered the range of different dimensions of the evaluation (knowledge, attitudes and practices) in as few questions as possible (16) and particularly in questions that could be answered as efficiently as possible. The goal was for answering the questions in the survey to take no more than 30 minutes to administer, including reviewing with and obtaining proper informed consent from the respondent, which was largely met in the actual administration of the survey.
- The language used in the survey was kept as simple as possible in order to allow enumerators to be able convey the questions as consistently as possible to respondents and for respondents to be able to comprehend as best as possible.
- The survey questions were constructed as much as possible to elicit more specific (particularly enumerable) responses that are amenable to translation to quantifiable measures, particularly through use of Lickert scaling.

Ethical Considerations in the Survey Questionnaire Design – In order to be implemented in accordance with standards appropriate care for the respondents, the survey design required enumerators to obtain appropriate informed consent from respondents after introducing the survey and before beginning with the substantive questions of the survey and also repeatedly requesting consent from the respondents during the early questions of the survey in order to best ensure that the respondents were informed of the content of the survey and were able to withdraw their consent as they become more familiar with the survey.

Furthermore, as inclusion of questions that ask respondents to reflect on their awareness of victimization of themselves or of others can pose risks for re-traumatization. As such, after significant reflection, we included these questions as the first questions in the survey in order to raise the issue quickly and provide the respondent with an opportunity to discontinue the survey if it prompts any sense of hesitancy of proceeding

with responding to the survey. Fifty-one (51) respondents refused consent after answering the initial questions of whether they were aware of persons experiencing human rights abuses or were afraid of being victims of human rights abuses.

Findings & Analysis

This study has as its primary focus the evaluation of the theory of change, centering around three DAC criteria of effectiveness, relevance and sustainability of the project – assessing, thus, if SFCG’s efforts to build coalitions among and the capacities of civil society, the judiciary, the National Human Rights Commission and within the security services contributed to a sustainable reduction of human rights abuses.

The general conclusion from the gathered data (observational data collected from representatives of these and other stakeholder groups as well as from the general public) is that these efforts have in fact contributed to a reduction of human rights abuses (effectiveness). In particular, the conclusion of the analysis of the findings of the study is that:

- The objectives of the project were well understood by the stakeholders, critical to its success, and engaged in it by SFCG.
- The project reasonably contributed to the realization of its intended outcomes as represented in its objectives – this is the outcomes of
 - improving awareness of human rights and actions to promote and protect human rights,
 - improving collaboration among civil society organizations (CSOs), state human rights agencies and security forces for the purpose of improving awareness of human rights and actions to promote and protect human rights, and
 - improving the capacity of civil society organizations to raise awareness of human rights and actions to promote and protect human rights – but not identifiably increasing the capacity of government agencies responsible for the same.

Beyond this general finding, the study also evaluates the various components of the Project, including the community and media engagements, and presents the conclusion that both of these components were critical to the effectiveness of the project (relevance). In particular,

- Both the project’s programming to promote collaboration among CSOs, state human rights agencies and security forces – in the form of “platforms” / regular meetings of these entities to discuss human rights – and the project’s radio programming represented unique contributions to the landscape of mechanisms to promote general public awareness of human rights and the importance of promoting and protecting human rights in the region.
- Similarly, the project’s programming to promote collaboration among CSOs, state human rights agencies and security forces – in the form of “platforms” / regular meetings of these entities to discuss human rights – was actually effective in promoting information-sharing among these actors, and particularly in bringing together in conversation diverse and even oppositional actors, and in such a way that contributed to meaningful exchanges and even identifiable improvements in their work individually and jointly, including new collaboration activities.
- Finally, stakeholders consider the capacity-strengthening activities of the project to have been valuable to them in terms of improving their operations as well as the abilities of their communities to address human rights concerns, although these increases in capacity are more difficult to establish with the collected data.

Finally, the influence of the project is likely to be sustainable even if some of the specific components of the project are not, such as the radio programming, and others will in some cases require the intervention of other agencies to sustain them, such as the Community Security Architecture Dialogues and the Peace Architecture Dialogues where they have not already been incorporated into other agencies, such as state governments or civil society organizations. While these activities might not be sustainable or might face some challenges in transitioning to sustainability, some of the practices of inter-organizational collaboration are likely to continue without formal structures as the relationships have been routinized and proven themselves useful to the

collaborating organizations. Nonetheless, the sustainability of the influence of the project could be improved by better considering

- Implementing the project at a scale that is more likely to have a lasting influence on the behavior of the stakeholders through effecting larger scale societal institutions,
- Considering an appropriate business model to make the radio programming of the project sustainable into the future rather than being presented for only a limited run,
- Improving even further the diversity of stakeholders participating in the various dialogues of the project, particular more community-level actors and actors representing societally relevant communal groups, such as more representatives of religious communities, and
- Providing more practical support for the promotion and protection of human rights, such as providing participating CSOs with more regular technical assistance and organizing more direct advocacy with government entities, particularly for institutionalization of the project's activities in order to ensure their sustainability.

Effectiveness

Understanding of the Project

An initial consideration of the effectiveness of the project is whether or not SFCG was effective in communicating to stakeholders the purpose of the project. Stakeholders' understanding of the purpose of the project can be seen as both a sign of effectiveness of the project in influencing the orientation of these stakeholders on the issue of focus of the project, which importantly suggests that this focus of the project will be sustained by the stakeholders. For reference, the theory of change, overall objective and specific objectives of the project are:

Theory of Change

If we build coalitions and capacities among networks of Civil Society, the Judiciary, and National Human Rights Commission and within the security services then human rights abuse ~~by security forces~~² will be reduced. (*as discussed below the project evolved to have a focus beyond abuses specifically committed by security forces)

Overall objective

Expanding engagement and advocacy processes and enabling local CSOs to effectively address human rights abuses ~~perpetrated by security forces~~³ (*as discussed below the project evolved to have a focus beyond abuses specifically committed by security forces)

Specific Objectives

Objective 1: Strengthen the capacity of CSOs and the NHRC in human rights monitoring, reporting, and advocacy;

Objective 2: Establish a platform between the NHRC, CSOs, and judicial actors for effective action on issues related to human rights;

Objective 3: Improve communication and understanding between affected communities, key stakeholders, and security actors on issues related to human rights.

² While the project initially was conceived to address abuses by security forces in particular, the project evolved over time to focus on addressing human rights abuses more broadly, regardless of the perpetrators. This is discussed further throughout the report, including as an example of a valuable lesson learned.

³ See footnote 2 above.

Notably, when stakeholders who were interviewed one-on-one through key informant interviews or in focus groups were asked to share their understanding of the project's purpose, the largely conveyed a clear understanding of the project.

Importantly, the stakeholders were able to identify that the ultimate purpose of the project is to **protect and promote human right in northern Nigeria**. Under this broad understanding, stakeholders articulated that achieving this goal reflected both the more specific substantive goal of **reducing human right abuses in their communities** and the still substantive but more instrumental goal of **raising societal awareness and understanding of human rights and the respect, protection and promotion of human rights for all persons through educating and enlightening the population on fundamental human rights and how to promote and protect these rights, including how to seek redress when these rights have been infringed** and the similarly substantive but more instrumental goal of **improving the effectiveness of institutions and mechanisms for the promotion and protection of fundamental human rights**. These stakeholder perspectives largely articulate the theory of change of the project and, in fact, add the additional component of raising societal awareness and understanding that is implicit in the project's theory of change.

Stakeholders also articulated their understanding of the objectives required to realize these higher-level goals, further exemplifying the effectiveness of SFCG in conveying the project objectives to these stakeholders who currently are participants or even collaborators in the project and whom will be looked to for sustainable leadership of such efforts after SFCG's sponsorship of the project's activities.

Reducing human right abuses in their communities – In regards to the substantive objective of reducing human rights abuses, stakeholders were attentive to identifying specific rights and abuses to be addressed, again reflecting the objectives of the project, particularly:

- Human rights violations perpetrated **by security agencies**
- Rights of **internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees**
- **Unnecessary detentions**, as in the case of alleged Boko-Haram detainees
- **Support to victims of right abuses** for seeking redress through appropriate institutions

In Plateau and Bauchi states in particular, where the project was implemented earlier, the specific focus of the project as initially articulated by SFCG, with a focus on human rights abuses by security forces, was specifically identified by stakeholders. This more careful articulation of this specific focus in these states in particular points to the intentional focus of the project initially on abuses by security forces, which SFCG then broadened as it identified that the project could achieve this objective, and perhaps even more effectively, while also contributing to improvements in human rights protection more broadly. One stakeholder from Plateau state provided an extremely articulate encapsulation of this initial focus of the project:

- Preventing violation of human rights by security operatives, as citizens are provided with a platform and are more informed of where to report infringement of their rights by the security agencies and enjoy the rapid response through the COHRAP and NHRC.

Raising societal awareness and understanding of human rights and the respect, protection and promotion of human rights for all persons through educating and enlightening the population on fundamental human rights and how to promote and protect these rights, including how to seek redress when these rights have been infringed – In regards to the substantive and instrumental objective of raising societal awareness and understanding of human rights, which again SFCG's theory of change seemingly incorporates implicitly and Objective 3 of the program also speaks to instrumentally, stakeholders were very articulate. These objectives included in particular statements not just related to the realization of human rights but the explicit articulation

of how such shared understanding promotes human rights and of the benefits of human rights (such as “freedom from fear” and “peace and unity” and “sustainable development”):

- Communities free from “slavery and fear” that is achieved through the realization of fundamental human rights
- Communities of persons that share equal rights, respect one another and work to achieve common goals
- A proactive society where people take ownership of their communal issues by actively partnering with government and INGOs in resolving their issues.
- Improved peace and unity in our communities that will lead to sustainable development as a result of ensuring justice, equity and equality

Improving the effectiveness of institutions and mechanisms for the promotion and protection of fundamental human rights – In regards to the instrumental outcome of improving the effectiveness of institutions and mechanisms for the promotion and protection of fundamental human rights, stakeholders again articulated an understanding of the project that corresponds meaningfully to the objectives set out by SFCG, including:

- ***Enhancing the capacity of civil society actors / local NGOs*** to promote and protect against violations of fundamental human rights through monitoring, reporting and documentation

And, again, perhaps articulating even more carefully than SFCG, the objective of increasing the effectiveness of institutions promoting and protecting human rights by facilitating their “synergistic” cooperation:

- ***Building “synergy” among (increasing the collective effectiveness of) actors responsible for the promotion and protection of fundamental human rights*** – like the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Federation of International Women Lawyers (FIDA), National Human Right Commission and the Federation of International Women Lawyers (NHRC) and local NGOs – ***by strengthening their collaboration.***

Beyond these stakeholder perceptions of the purpose of the project that correspond with SFCG’s, stakeholders also expressed broader aspirations for the project, particularly related to “peace and security.” Notably, these perspectives seemingly reflect the complementarity of this project with SFCG’s project to improve early warning and early response mechanisms. These objectives perceived by the stakeholders include:

- Peace building by enhancing fundamental human right of our people
- Peaceful co-existence and harmony in communities / Prevention of hatred amongst people
- Making peace between aggrieved or abused parties
- Helping people who are traumatized as a result of the insurgency
- Improved inter-agency collaboration and community participation on issues of security, peace and development
- Harmonized and cordial relationship between the security agencies and the general populace

In summary, the observations of stakeholders engaged in the project suggest that while most stakeholders did not articulate on their own the full purpose of the project, collectively these stakeholders understand well the purpose of the project and have aligned themselves with this purpose, which portends that they will contribute to sustaining efforts toward this objectives even after SFCG ends its lead sponsorship of the project’s activities.

Outcomes

In terms of outcomes identified by stakeholders (key informants and focus group participants), there is again evidence suggesting that the project has been effective in not only achieving its specific objectives but also its overall objective:

Overall Objective

Expanding engagement and advocacy processes and enabling local CSOs to effectively address human rights abuses ~~perpetrated by security forces~~ (*as discussed the project evolved to have a focus beyond abuses specifically committed by security forces)

Specific Objectives

Objective 1: Strengthen the capacity of CSOs and the NHRC in human rights monitoring, reporting, and advocacy;

Objective 2: Establish a platform between the NHRC, CSOs, and judicial actors for effective action on issues related to human rights;

Objective 3: Improve communication and understanding between affected communities, key stakeholders, and security actors on issues related to human rights.

In the following sections, the evidence provided by the testimony of stakeholders is reviewed for each of the objectives, beginning with the overall objective. Objective 3 is discussed in the same section with the overall objective as the evidence for this objective is most closely related to that supporting the assessment of the project's effectiveness in realizing the overall objective. The evidence supporting objective 2, improved collaboration among organizations working on the protection and promotion of human rights, is discussed in the following section. And, finally, the last section presents the evidence from stakeholder testimonials regarding objective 1, the strengthened capacity of CSOs and the NHRC in monitoring, reporting and advocating regarding human rights.

Improved Awareness and Action to Address Human Rights Abuses

In terms of the overall objective, there was strong consistency across stakeholders that the project contributed to improved awareness and action to address human rights abuses, with many of these stakeholders also suggesting that there was a reduction of actual abuses, particularly rape and sexual assault, domestic violence against both women and children, criminal behavior by Keke Napep operators and related to drugs, abuses by security forces, and even extending to the easing of tensions between communities of differing religious and tribal identities.

Overall Objective – If we build coalitions and capacities among networks of Civil Society, the Judiciary, and National Human Rights Commission and within the security services then human rights abuse will be reduced.

In particular, all of these reductions of specific abuses attributed the project's effectiveness at least in part to its success raising public awareness, encouraging reporting of or speaking out against these abuses and destigmatizing victimization. Specifically, stakeholders identified that

- members of the general public are now more aware, as a result of the project, of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and its role in protecting human rights, and are more likely to reach out to the commission for assistance,
- the radio program "Yancika Garkuwarka" was a significant influence in raising public awareness of human rights and mechanisms for seeking protection against abuses of these rights, and
- relations between security actors and the general population had been improved by the project.

All of these elements reflect Objective 3 of the project –

Objective 3: Improve communication and understanding between affected communities, key stakeholders, and security actors on issues related to human rights.

Testimonials from stakeholders illustrate the raising of awareness and improving communication and understanding between affected communities, key stakeholders, and security actors on issues related to human rights that is attributed to the project. In some cases, stakeholders also speak of the role of the project in raising awareness of the rights of and among specifically vulnerable populations, such as women and children, and particularly girls, including social and economic rights, such as education.

Awareness of Human Rights and Awareness of and Facilitation of Reporting of Human Rights Abuses

At a high level, stakeholders report that the project led to improved awareness broadly about human rights along with the importance of reporting concerns regarding human rights, as well as awareness of the mechanisms through which such reporting could be done and resources to assist with such concerns.

People learned to report cases of human rights violation with immediate effect, looking at our complaint profile. Complaints of human rights violations have increased more than 300% as a result of this project. Before now we used to have 10 to 15 complaints each month, but as a result of this project, and especially the radio program, we now receive 30 to 40 complaints each month. People now know that they have the right to defend and fight for their rights; and that is what will ensure they are free men and women.

The project created awareness among community members to be able to monitor and report human right violation to BAHNR for transmission to the peace architecture dialogue (PAD).

Community members are more aware of the mandate of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and can easily access the commission for complaints on human rights abuses.

Widows of the insurgency and their children have been helped by the project – informed of and assisted in protecting their rights

The project has increased parents' awareness of monitoring the well-being of children, especially girls, including encouragement of the girl child education.

There is now a massive awareness of human rights, [whereas persons were] openly denied their fundamental human rights before.

Security Forces

More specifically, related to the initial focus of the project, stakeholders identify the project's effectiveness in contributing both to the improvement of relations between the general populace and security forces and further the decrease of abuses by security forces.

[There has been a] transition from “mutual suspicions” to “mutual respect” in civilian-military relationships.

Human rights violations have been reduced drastically through interface meetings with security agencies and community members.

Before the project there was huge displeasure among citizens in Plateau regarding the perceived role of military in ongoing ethno-religious crises, but today communities and securities work together to ensure safety and security of lives and properties in their communities

The military who are the major actors [in the commission of human rights abuses] adhere to their rules of engagement now, and the communities have more confidence in them.

Civilian-military relationships have been improved by reducing mutual suspicions among stakeholders.

We are not afraid to meet security officers on the street to inform him of security concerns; before now we used to see security forces as our rivals.

[The project has] improved checks the military’s observance of rules of engagement in crisis and conflict situations and human rights actors checks and balances on the military with every agency sticking to its statutory responsibilities and collaborating where necessary.

The project has established rapport between community leaders and security agencies such everyone understands the dynamics of the crisis and conflicts.

Yancinka Garkuwarka

In particular, stakeholders repeatedly identified that the radio program Yancinka Garkuwarka contributed to the meaningful increase in awareness and understanding of human rights and action to protect human rights.

The project contributed to these positive outcomes through the radio program Yancinka Garkuwarka on peace FM Maiduguri which reached so many people

The radio program provided a platform through which people cry for assistance in the case of human rights violations.

People call during the radio program “Yancinka Garkuwarka”, to seek clarification on how to take action if someone’s right is being violated.

Many callers with various cases of right abuses during the program (being a live phone-in program) do air their problems or cases of right abuse and which answers were given or directed on what to do or where to go to in order to get justice or seek redress. And with knowledge they now have, they are well equipped knowledge wise as well as confidence to fight for their rights.

A number of issues were treated during the live program which the victims did call back to share the result of the case as well as express gratitude to the presenters and sponsors of the program for a job well done.

Many listeners of the program do call-in to express their gratitude for being enlightened on issues of their rights which before where totally ignorant.

They [SFCG] created a platform where people can access information that will improve their lives and freedom for free. The radio program has contributed a lot in this aspect. There is increased awareness on human rights by the people through that radio program “Yancinka Garkuwarka”. The program provided an avenue where people access information on their right.

Additionally, many of the testimonials provided by stakeholders speak even more directly to the actions that members of affected communities have taken to seek redress for victims of abuses. The message conveyed by the speakers of these testimonials is that persons are seeking redress for abuses due to the project’s effectiveness in raising the population’s awareness of human rights and the improved communication between the population and those actors responsible for protecting and promoting human rights. Moreover, the testimonials also suggest that these efforts to seek redress also contribute to greater awareness that these abuses are not acceptable and thus to the deterrence of such behavior.

Notable testimonials to the effect of the project on increased and improved efforts to address human rights abuses and the reduction of specific abuses include:

Security Forces

Notably, among the specific improvements in awareness of human rights and avenues for addressing human rights abuses, stakeholders referred most to improvements related to security forces. These improvements, again spanned from greater awareness among the general public, to greater awareness within and precautionary measures taken by security forces themselves, improved relations among civilians and military forces and among security forces themselves, and actual action to address abuses that have led to a decrease in such abuses.

Police and army harassment and intimidation has been reduced as a result of the project.

Military and other securities agencies are now more cautious of committing human right violations.

There was a similar case this year when a listener from Gombi called me that he was taken to Abuja by SARS because they made allegations against him that he was a Boko Haram member. On their way to Abuja the family of the man bargained about one hundred and fifty thousand naira for his release because they had been told that he will be taken to Abuja for prosecution and be killed. Later the SARS operative accepted to collect the negotiated amount of one hundred and fifty thousand naira for his release. The family members later... inform[ed us] about their ordeal... Police went to the family and threatened them that if they take the case to court they are going to kill them. They also said they are not going to take further action against the man again and that ended the case. The officer that was in charge of the case was arrested and returned to Yola from Abuja. He was jailed here and about to be arraigned in a court but for lack of adequate evidence since no one wanted to be involved in the case because of the threat issued by the police and the fact that they are from a rural area and not educated, the case was [dismissed] by the court. This was one of the success story I wrote and presented as my report.

For example, through the raising of awareness of the need for peace and security, the dispute between the National Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) and the vigilante groups was resolved by the police in the state.

In Panyam community for example, an entire Security formation was evacuated and replaced as a result of alleged human rights violations reported by community members through COHRAP.

Human rights violations have been reduced and CSO's reporting of abuses have improved as a result of better civil military relationship.

There is a joint task force check point called Kanti Kori, after Girei before the Federal University of Technology. The check point is manned by Army, Police, Civil Defense Corps, Custom, Immigration and the road safety etc. They created a point there close to the road where vehicles that are passing must go to make clearance before you are allowed to pass. Even in cases of emergency where people have sick relatives to rush to the hospital they are delayed at the check point. At the check point people are forced to give them money that is bribery otherwise that person will not be allowed to pass. There is also a market close to the area where cows are sold. They usually extort money from the pickup driver that convey cows to the market. The corrupt practices by the joint task force men and women is very alarming.

At a point we were receiving lots of calls about this situation. One day I told them to resist giving any money to the security agents at the check point and when told to park their vehicle they should do so for... in a very short time when they continue to ask everyone to park there will be no space for vehicles to park at that spot. They did... and in less than 20 minutes the whole place was filled with vehicles. They became afraid because if one of their superior officers or a top government functionary is passing by they will find out why there are many vehicles parked on the way and this might complicate issues for them and lead to disciplinary action. At that point they allowed all the vehicles to leave without any extortion. This incident took place only once.

As a result of the incident that occurred at the Joint Task Force check point they no longer forcefully extort money from commuters that ply that route they only check their vehicles to see what is in it.

Rape and Sexual Assault

Given that rape and sexual assault were identified as among the second most commonly experienced abuse of human rights in these communities (see the survey results in Appendix 1), the project's contribution to awareness and action on this issue is critical. This influence moreover ranged from not simply raising awareness of the issue but even more important about improving understanding about the issue, including contributing to the de-stigmatization of being a victim of rape or sexual assault and encouraging and even making known mechanisms for reporting of such abuses and how to access and make use of them.

The SFCG project has taught us how to gather factual evidence that can be used to prosecute rapists and has contributed to destigmatizing rape victims and reporting of rape cases, [which were] not previously reported to the appropriate authority for investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of the rape because of the fear of stigmatization.

Parents have been enlightened not to engage their children in street hawking because of its negative impact on the child, especially the girl child whom can be raped or harassed sexually.

There was a case of a teacher that refused to give a female student her result, except on the condition that he must sleep with her in Jiddari Secondary School, in February, 2018. The girl reported to her mother, and the mother courageously reported the issue to the school authority. When the school authority in collaboration with the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) carried out an investigation and findings corroborated with the girl's story, the case was taken to the human rights commission. The teacher was sacked.

Rape cases have been reduced, as parents are enlightened not to send their daughters at odd hours to farm around which sexual assault and rape was common, and young men that work in the farm were mobilized to act as security.

There was a case of a 7-year-old girl being raped by an 18-year-old boy in Jiddari Community in January, 2018. The parents had the courage to report the case at the police station, unlike in the past, when a girl will be raped and the parents will do nothing about it.

Additionally, there are cases of rape which the victims do shy away from phoning-in during the live broadcast of the program but will phone after the program has ended to relate their problems which they are usually directed to go and report to National Human Right Commission and the Federation of International Women Lawyers (FIDA) or Police authorities in order to seek redress or get justice.

In the past, young girls tend to roam the streets especially in the evening in Jiddari, but as a result of this project and more enlightenment received, this has stopped.

Domestic Violence

Closely related to rape and sexual assault is the concern in the project's communities regarding domestic violence, and the project is identified as having also raised awareness of this issue – both among victims and observers but even among perpetrators and would-be perpetrators. Again, this awareness is also tied to actual action to address incidences of such violence.

There was one man that used to live close to my house. This man was in the habit of beating his children every day, and even sometimes denies them food. As a result of the training I received on human right protection by SFCG, I developed confidence and confronted this man and told him that what he was doing was not right. I explained to him the implication of what he was doing; and after some days his wife and the children came to my house to appreciate me, because they have seen changes in their father since the day I talked to him.

As a result of a topic of discussion on the radio program called the rights of spouses, many husbands called in to genuinely confess that they didn't know that they were actually violating the right of their wives.

There was a case of a man who was fond of beating his wife in Jiddari community. Due to the sensitization they received from this project, they developed courage and reported the man to the community leader (Bulama).

Criminality

Beyond these repeated observations on specific priority concerns, stakeholders broadly identified that the project was effective in addressing public safety issues, particularly issues of criminal behavior that they identified as posing violations or threats to their human rights, ranging from drugs to organized crime. Again, the effectiveness of the project was identified in terms of both raising awareness but also having this awareness lead to meaningful action to address these concerns.

Community members, especially men, were mobilized to keep watch at night in groups, which has reduced cases of robbery and theft

There are criminals who claimed to be IDPs. We directed leaders in communities and IDPs camps should ask any intruder to properly identify themselves to the leaders of the community.

Hot spots were detected last year as spots use by drugs abusers and they were flushed out of the place. Cinema houses and Naija betting houses that were designed for adults is patronized by minors who steal money to patronize the place. We met with our ubadona (district head) and agreed to put a check on some of this abnormally. We went to the cinema and betting houses with the police and civil defense corps and told those that were not registered businesses were told to leave and registered ones were told not to allow minors in their premises.

Because of the project, the Keke Napep havoc, late hours and loud music has been reduced.

Cases of organized crime groups in Jiddari have reduced by about 50%. For example, Ba'rowa group is no more in existence in Jiddari. The group did comprise of boys and girls who would introduce and teach innocent children how to smoke cigarette and Indian hemp.

There was an area called Digaladima in Maiduguri. It comprises a hotel and a number of rental houses used for carrying out human right abuses and other alarming acts like rape, prostitution, lesbianism and drug abuse. This area became a nuisance to the residents of that community but they were afraid to come out and complain. As a result of the program, someone developed courage and phoned in during a radio program and reported the issue. Other people also called in and made reports about the area. We now went to the area to find out about the truth of the matter by interviewing some residents. When we found out that it was really true, we aired the issue on radio and the securities took it upon themselves and now the terrible acts in that area has become a thing of history.

Communal Tensions

Finally, potentially the effectiveness of the project in addressing systematic abuses of human rights can be associated with its serving to also mitigate tensions among communal groups. While the other concerns that the project addresses pose more direct threats of physical harm to the population and therefore are identified more readily as fears of "human rights abuses," it is arguable that those are threats of criminal activity but not systematic human rights abuses, particularly since the focus of the project shifted from a focus on the systematic abuses of security forces. As such, the identification of the project's influence in reducing communal tensions is important.

Discrimination based on religious differences and tribalism has been reduced as a result of the project.

The project has significantly reduced hatred and ethno-religious bigotry among communities and religions.

Through the multi-faceted approach to resolving human rights violations issues in plateau state, leaders of warring groups engage in dialogues and reach a common ground for resolving their differences.

Improved Collaboration to Address Human Rights Abuses

In regards to objective 2 –

Objective 2: Establish a platform between the NHRC, CSOs, and judicial actors for effective action on issues related to human rights

– stakeholders provided significant testimony of the project’s effectiveness in promoting collaboration among the NHRC, CSOS, judicial actors and others for effective action on human rights. In fact, many stakeholders identified that the establishment of such a platform was the most significant outcome of the project. Others went further, suggesting not only that the establishment of a platform for cooperation was a significant outcome but that the notable outcome of SFCG’s success in building or strengthening such platforms was the increase in the effectiveness of the efforts to promote human rights in the communities in which the platforms were established. Finally, various stakeholders noted that the project’s efforts to establish such platforms facilitated the interaction of actors that otherwise did not engage with each other and would not have engaged with each other and whose mutual engagement benefits the promotion and protection of human rights – and some other actors spoke specifically to how the project’s facilitation of collaboration among actors allowed them to be more effective in their own efforts regarding human rights.

Value of a Platform for Collaboration

To begin, stakeholders were clear in their attribution of the project’s contribution to establishing a platform that improved collaboration among key actors working on human rights. To many, this was in fact the most significant outcome of the project as it provides a functioning mechanism for continuing to raise the issue of human rights protection to the level of a priority among the myriad actors working on different facets of the issue as well as continuing to facilitate their sharing of information and understanding on the issue and even taking action on the issue.

The formation of the peace architecture dialogue (PAD) comprising all relevant stakeholders and the creation of awareness among community members through community forums are the most significant outcomes.

[The most significant outcome of the project is that it] established a forum (PAD) that deliberates on the issues reported. The forum meets monthly to review and resolve human rights violations cases brought to it by the human rights monitors who are mainly civil organizations and members of BAHNR.

[An example of the project’s effectiveness is] its ability to involve all stakeholders working on protecting and promoting human rights

[The most significant outcome of the project is] the bringing together different organizations to come and champion the course of the project.

[An example of the project’s effectiveness is] its ability to establish platforms that allowed inter-agency collaboration in an effort to support the project mandate of ensuring that the rights of the citizen are protected.

[The most significant outcome of the project is] the creation of interaction forums for major actors and stakeholders such as the Protection Action Group (PAG) (sic) where we get information from communities on what is happening in their communities.

Engagement of Diverse Stakeholders

Beyond identifying that the project was effective in establishing a platform for information sharing, agenda setting, identification of needed actions and of opportunities for joint action, stakeholders also identified the success of the project in engaging diverse actors in the different platforms established, and in particular bringing together through these platforms actors that might otherwise not have engaged with each other in spite of the critical importance of their mutual engagement to addressing issues related to the promotion and protection of human rights.

[The project has provided us with the opportunity to] interact with the security personnel and share information on security threat that will improve the security situation in our communities.

The project has provided an opportunity for collaboration between youth and community leaders.

People from different communities now come under one umbrella to resolve issues.

The project enhanced collaboration between state and non-state actors on preventing and responding human right abuses.

Collaboration Resulting from the Project

Beyond the effectiveness of the project in realizing the intermediate, instrumental outcomes of establishing platforms for collaboration and engaging a broadly and meaningfully diverse collection of actors in these platforms, stakeholders also spoke more explicitly as to the effectiveness of the platforms in promoting collaboration among actors that did not occur beforehand, and particularly the collaboration among so many and such diverse actors and actors that otherwise might find themselves on opposite ends of issues and in confrontational stand-offs rather than productive collaborative discussions.

With the collaboration between ministries of women affairs and social welfare, victim's human rights violations are protected with dignity and utmost confidentiality. Lawyers through Legal Aids council provide free legal services to victims of violations. Without the collaboration, that could not have achieved.---

Though BAHNRN was in existence before the project, SFCG has built the capacity of members and brought the network to limelight that are now more aware of it and patronize it on issues within her mandate. Since then, the network got the recognition of security agencies and other actors in the human rights sector

[The project has] improved inter-agency collaboration through the PAD, EBAF, etc., comprising officials of the NHRC, Police, SSS, FRSC, CSOs, community leaders, etc., which has really helped in investigating and answering questions in alleged human right violation.

One interesting thing about the project, is its ability to bring people and organizations from different sectors to join hands in fighting human right abuses. Prior to the coming of the project, such collaboration was not there. This collaboration is contributing a lot in the success recorded in human right protection.

Contribution of Collaboration to the Effectiveness of Participating Entities

Moreover, stakeholders gave specific examples of how the project's facilitation of collaboration among critical actors working on human rights contributed specifically to the improvement of the work of their own organizations, such as that of the judiciary and of the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), or to addressing specific human rights abuses.

There are cases of rape and divorce which SFCG referred to the Federation of International Women Lawyers (FIDA) and they were able to secure justices for the victims in these cases.

The alliance the project created is working and yielding result. During our inaugural meeting of the national human rights and judiciary actors which was facilitated by SFCG, the judicial actor expressed deep shock that so much was going on about human right issues that they were not aware of but with the meeting we had with them they now understood the nature of human issues that were on ground, the nature of abuses, challenges that were spotted in the field and the frustrations that especially were tendered with the issues of judicial red tape and others. When we began this meeting, it was very clear that our alliance was going to facilitate or will achieve the goals of identifications and solution of human rights issues. The outcome yielded very great results, though initially people were not able to open up and speak out on human abuses and sometimes the police, the judiciary, the courts and other CSOs and monitors did not know how to go about handling human right protection issues, before you know it very credible human right cases were being lost. But our coalition opened the eyes of other CSOs including the human right commission that if you follow certain procedures it will be easy to identify those issues and arrest the offender. Now women are reporting domestic violence and abuse of the human rights and speak about it openly which they previously do not report or speak openly. They now know cases they complaint about will be investigated and violators will be brought to book.

The judiciary as an organ for the liberation of human rights has had the opportunity [through the project] of meeting and collaborating with other sister organs to achieve this mandate.

Through the project in which I have been given opportunity to speak during workshops and meetings on issues of drug abuse, many other organizations and groups haven listened to my presentations and have invited me to deliver lectures both within and outside Adamawa State, which has accorded me the privilege to create more awareness on the issue of drug abuse and its dangers to the society, thereby furthering a decline in drug abuse cases in the society. Some of the institutions that have invited me include; American University of Nigeria, Churches, Mosque, Muslim Student Society, Nigerian Society of Engineer etc. And these organizations have written many appreciation letters to me explaining how the presentations and enlightenment have impacted on their members.

There was a reported arbitrary arrest of the community members in Kirfi which was reported to BAHNR who are in constant liaison with the PAD with all available details of reports. There was a transaction disagreement between policeman and recharge card seller where the boy was unjustly arrested by a police crew and molested. This was adequately monitored by human right defenders and BAHNR wrote a petition to the Bauchi state Commissioner of police highlighting the infringement of human right. The police officers involved were detained and made to pay damages of N50,000 along with apology.

Contribution of Collaboration to the New Joint Action by Collaborating Organizations

And, finally, even beyond the benefit of collaboration to the effectiveness of individual organization's work, stakeholders were able to identify numerous examples of new joint action by participating organizations and the effectiveness of such joint action.

Late 2016 CSAD discussed on the drug abuse among youths that is very prevalent and they agreed to negotiate with land owners to give out their lands to youths that are willing to use the land for farming because joblessness and idleness were some of the factors responsible for the abuse of drugs. Lands around Girei bridge and Bagala areas were given to the youths to use for dry season farming.

At the inception of the human right advocacy project we carried out a survey and the finding shows that lots of youths were idle. We discussed action plan on how to get support for skill acquisition and vocational training for the youths. Program on information technology (IT) and tailoring etc. and sourced for funds both within and outside and discovered that SFCG did not include this in their budget earlier but later it was taken up. At our CSAD and PAD meeting it was discovered that the administration of governor Murtala Inyako build a youth skill acquisition centre which had been abandoned and a committee was constituted to follow up the matter. It has been forward to Joint Action Meeting (JAC) which is a forum for all the LGA chairmen in the state.

Sometime in 2017, in one of the coalition's meetings the case of Capital School in Yola was discussed whereby drug abuse cases were reported among students and what steps to take to curb it. Additionally, in the same school there was a case of shortage of water whereby students had to be going out of the school premises in search of water, and that was viewed as an avenue which could expose them to different social vices. And urgent steps were recommended to tackle the problem for immediate solution.

[The most significant contribution of the project has been the] formation and participation in Coalition of Human Rights Advocates in Plateau state (COHRAP). The coalition followed up human rights issues such as rape cases to ensure perpetrators are brought to justice and counseled victims. The formation of the coalition has brought stakeholders together to take multi-sectoral action on human rights abuses.

There is a place in Girei market where people gather to consume all sorts of illicit substances, the issue was brought to the knowledge of SFCG, they inaugurated a committee headed by the Wazirin Girei with the head of service Girei LGA, security agencies and wards head. The committee went to the spot where the illicit substances are consumed and enlightened them on the effects of consuming hard drugs and the ambit of the law that permits the arrest hard drugs users and peddlers. The effort of the committee has helped in reducing the illegal gathering and the consumption of illicit substances.

In February 2018, a group of men were accused of engaging in witch craft and beaten mercilessly by the soldiers. As a result of the effort of the coalition in this project of SFCG, the case was taken to court and justice was done. The soldiers were punished by their authority.

Through the project the Keke Napep Association chairperson was summoned to the meeting and asked to ensure only their registered and known members work, and we also notified the Military commander of this area and discussed with the district head the need to not allow Keke Napep to be moving around in odd hours of the day. As a result the Keke Napep are now restricted to operate only from 6:00am to 9:00pm.

Improved Capacity to Address Human Rights Abuses

Finally, in terms of effectiveness, stakeholders also identified that the project was effective in strengthening the capacity of leading actors working on the promotion and protection of human rights, even beyond the specific aspirations identified in objective 1.

Objective 1: Strengthen the capacity of CSOs and the NHRC in human rights monitoring, reporting, and advocacy;

General Capacity Strengthening

At a broad level, stakeholders report that the project was effective in increasing the capacity of CSOs in particular, on general understanding of human rights and human rights advocacy as well as through support to

organizations to acquire specific equipment or develop specific functional capacities, as well as on conflict resolution and mediation.

All we have to say is that the human rights project of SFCG has built our capacity immensely and awakened us to become more proactive CSOs working in the human rights sector in plateau.

[Examples of components of the project include:] the technical and financial support for the civil society actors through sponsorship of human rights protection activities; training and funding of the activities such as workshops and sponsoring PAD meetings; providing BAHN with office equipment such computers for efficient delivery of secretarial duties and documentation; and sponsorship of radio programs to create awareness on human rights in local media outfits.

There are changes now compared to before as people are now seeking redress and the incidence of abuse of human rights is decreasing. This should be credited to SFCG having been instrumental through the training and retraining and advocacy on improving protection on human rights abuses. They have trained us on how to advocate for peace and mediate on conflict and conflict resolution. It has helped us to build our capacity and sharpened our skills as people who work in communities.

Capacity for Identifying, Documenting, Reporting and Advocating regarding Human Rights Abuses

More specifically, stakeholders also identify that a critical capacity that the project contributed to strengthening among CSOs is technical knowledge of how to identify human rights abuses, document them carefully to allow for legal action, reporting them properly as well for legal action and advocating for legal action regarding violations and protection of victims and potential victims.

[Among the most significant contributions of the project is that it has] enhanced the capacity of CSOs to the extent that they can identify, report and document human rights abuses.

The ideas taught on Evidence based human right reports include taking of pictures, if one right is abused by a police officer who want to extort his/her right, the officers name, police number, the location and time of the abuse. And in the process of forcing anyone to collect bribe picture could be taken. In the case of rape, the sight of the offence could be snap and protected as evidence, the lady might have bruises which might visible, we expect to hear the victim crying and people will rush to the scene to see what is happening this is known as situational evidence that could be documented as facts that will be used to prosecute the offender

Before now there was low involvement of the LGNOs in the promotion of justice especially in Borno state but with the coming of this project we are full involved. We received trainings on forms of human right abuse, how to detect and channel abuse cases, etc.

There was a reported case of forceful marriage in Kirfi where the girl fell into a well to escape from the marriage or even commit suicide. With the intervention of the human right monitors, that marriage was stopped and the police officers who conspired to deny the incident were detained and later transferred. This wouldn't have been achieved if not because of the capacity built in BAHN members who followed the case to logical conclusion.

Community Capacity Strengthening

Finally, stakeholders also pointed to the project's strengthening not only of CSOs' capacities but more broadly the strengthening of capacities as a whole through the CSOs' strengthened or developed abilities to spur new community norms or the upholding of community norms or the resolution of conflicts or the introduction of practices to identify and resolve problems confronting the communities, including informal practices and practices that were taken up and institutionalized formally into government or other structures.

[As a result of the capacity strengthening provided by the project] the ubandona (district head) district head set up a ten-person committee in each of the ten (10) villages in Girei LGA who report the outcome of their activities and meeting direct to the Ubandona. The LGA later supported the program and a peace accord was signed last year.

Secondly, through the knowledge gained from the project, between December 2017 and January 2018 I have engaged with members of my community (Opola in Lamurde LGA of the state) and Numan LGA which experienced frequent cases of Farmers/Herdsman clashes on the need not to retaliate any attack on them, but rather work with the security agencies for the issues to be resolved.

There is another issue of drugs that was addressed in one community called Angwan Lambu. The community is into irrigation farming and any time they go to their farms, the drug users break into their houses and burgle them. The community members through the CRN collaborated with vigilantes to provide security for them and to also sensitize the youths who carry out the acts on the dangers of their acts. Through these efforts now the youths that were involved in the acts have stopped the acts and are engaged in farming. The community leader testified that the youths who now embraced irrigation bring soup condiment for him and that he does not go to the market to buy them any longer and this is as a result of this project.

In summary, the project is considered to have been effective in advancing each of the project's specific objectives –

- improving awareness and action on promoting and protecting human rights, particularly through the radio programming,
- improving collaboration among critical, key stakeholders addressing human rights, and particularly creating a channel through which community-level stakeholders could raise concerns to the attention of higher-level authorities, from government to military and police forces to national and international NGOs, and
- improving the capacity of critical, key stakeholders to address human rights abuses, ranging from local stakeholders' knowledge on how to monitor for human rights abuses and advocate more effectively for attention to human rights generally or regarding a specific human rights abuse, to the provision of actual improvements in organizations' operating capacity through the provision of needed equipment.

Broadly, speaking this feedback suggests that the project has been effective in advancing its overall objective of: expanding engagement and advocacy processes and enabling local CSOs to effectively address human rights abuses.

Relevance

Assessing the relevance of a project considers how appropriate the project strategies are to the objectives of the project, including the appropriateness of the stakeholders engaged by the project and the manner in which these stakeholders have been engaged.

As the discussion of the effectiveness of the project has already demonstrated, the elements of this project can be considered highly relevant to its identified objectives – given that we can identify that the project has contributed effectively to the realization of these objectives. However, the relevance of the project's strategies can be further assessed by considering the relative importance of the contribution of the project's strategies to the project objectives.

In this assessment, the project strategies' can be considered to have made notably important contributions to the realization of the project objectives. This finding is supported by consistent observations of the stakeholders noting the uniqueness or the notable quality of the project's strategies.

Prior to reviewing the evidence of the relevance of the project in terms of the uniqueness and quality of its strategies, it is worth revisiting again the theory of change and objectives of the project.

Theory of Change

If we build coalitions and capacities among networks of Civil Society, the Judiciary, and National Human Rights Commission and within the security services then human rights abuse by security forces will be reduced.

Overall Objective

Expanding engagement and advocacy processes and enabling local CSOs to effectively address human rights abuses perpetrated by security forces

Specific Objectives

Objective 1: Strengthen the capacity of CSOs and the NHRC in human rights monitoring, reporting, and advocacy

Objective 2: Establish a platform between the NHRC, CSOs, and judicial actors for effective action on issues related to human rights

Objective 3: Improve communication and understanding between affected communities, key stakeholders, and security actors on issues related to human rights.

Again, as with the presentation of the discussion of effectiveness, the findings related to relevance are presented beginning with objective 3, as this objective is more reflective of the end goal of having human rights understood and respected throughout Nigerian society. After this, the findings regarding the collaboration among actors promoting and protecting human rights are presented, followed by the findings regarding strengthened capacity of individual organizations.

Awareness and Action regarding Human Rights

Objective 3: Improve communication and understanding between affected communities, key stakeholders, and security actors on issues related to human rights.

With respect to broad societal awareness and respect of human rights, while the evaluation of the project's effectiveness has already pointed to the relevance of the project's activities to improving communication and understanding of issues related to human rights – and as such heightened awareness and action to promote

and protect human rights – stakeholders have also identified the project’s strategies as being not only important but critical to these outcomes, such that without the project such awareness and action would not have been realized. In particular, the radio program “Yancinka Garkuwarka” is identified by stakeholders as having been an essential mechanism for realizing this heightened awareness and action to protect human rights, which is resonant with the findings presented on the effectiveness of the project but is further identified as critical and even unique in its contribution to raising such awareness and mobilizing such action.

[The most significant contribution of the project was] the awareness creation on the issue of right abuses which before now, many people did not know what to do or where to go to get justice when their right is abused. In fact, some members of the public only got to know about the existence and the role of NHRC and FIDA during the awareness creation program on human right by SFCG.

It is good to note this for a record, “Yancinka Garkuwarka” is the only radio program that enlighten and discusses human right issues despite our situation. So, introducing this radio program is the secret of their success.

The project has achieved this important outcome [of broad societal awareness of human rights] through the radio program “Yancinka Garkuwarka.”

The radio program “Yancinka Garkuwarka” on peace FM Maiduguri was done very well. The program was really enlightening and sensitizing, as it reached so many people who were illiterates/didn’t understand English, most specifically the aged people found it very educative. It allowed people to call in and share their experiences or ask questions on their rights, how to report.

Collaborative Action

Similarly, while the discussion of the project’s effectiveness in establishing a platform for collaboration among actors promoting and protecting human rights spoke to the relevance of the project strategies to objective 2, additional observations by stakeholders illustrate the uniqueness and relative importance of the project’s strategies.

Objective 2: Establish a platform between the NHRC, CSOs, and judicial actors for effective action on issues related to human rights

The SFCG project contributed through capacity building of COHRAP, PAD members and sponsorship of meetings as well as interfacing between state and non-state actors. This is because prior to the project, there was little or no coordination between human rights actors in the state. The project facilitated that coordination and has been effective such that even after the project winds down the platform still functions effectively.

When the project came there were a lot of human rights violations which could be difficult to resolve by any single agency. Coming together of various stakeholders make it possible for human right violation issues to be followed up and resolved.

[One of the most significant outcomes of the project has been the] prompt responses to reported cases of human rights abuses in the monthly meeting during which cases are reported and looked in to.

[One of the most significant outcomes of the project was] the metamorphosis of COHRAP to PAD which was taken over by the Plateau State Peace Agency.

The formation of the Peace Architecture Dialogue (PAD) has provided a platform for resolving and prevention of human right violation and other security threats in communities as reported by any of the agencies participating in the dialogue and also reviewed ongoing cases and prosecutions.

The inter-agency collaboration is the most significant [outcome of the project] for me because as a security officer it has improved my skills and the way I see things. It even helped me to do my work with less stress. Through this collaboration, I know what happened in the neighborhood of which as security officer I may not know it occurred.

Before the project communities and security personnel were at loggerheads suspecting each other of complicity in times of crisis. The project succeeded in reversing the situation with both sides understanding how best to work together to end the crisis, such was achieved through sensitization and advocacies.

Capacity Strengthening

Finally, again, the discussion of the project's effectiveness in strengthening the capacity of CSOs, the NHRC and other actors also spoke to the relevance of the project's strategies. But additional stakeholder observations emphasize the uniqueness of the project's intervention, including contributing to sustainable changes in the capacity of these actors individually and collectively.

Objective 1: Strengthen the capacity of CSOs and the NHRC in human rights monitoring, reporting, and advocacy

[A component of the project that was done particularly well was the] provision of mentoring and coaching services to BAHRN and PAD by the project staff that periodically visit CSOs' offices to identify gaps in their administration and operations and to bridge such gaps efficiently. The SFCG staff were very friendly and flexible.

Our communities have learnt to resolve communal disputes without necessarily taking the matter to formal authorities which usually escalate and result to misunderstanding and hatred in the communities.

The project capacity building was done well as it enhanced the capacity of the state and non-state actors on identifying, reporting and documentation of human rights violation and being flexible by not interfering or tele-guiding with the action plans of CSOs. "without the capacity left in us by the project we wouldn't have sustained the platform and a lot of us might have fall into trouble"

Other Stakeholders to Engage

Finally, in terms of the relevance of the stakeholders engaged in the project, the project seemingly engaged all of the most critical actors. Stakeholders who provided input to this study did identify other stakeholders that could contribute to the project if incorporated, but for the most part these were actors that would certainly add to the project but whose omission from the project should be considered critical. More importantly is that some observers did identify that particular stakeholders who were engaged in the project might be engaged more effectively, particularly government agencies, security forces, religious communities and parents and youth. One notable community whose inclusion could be considered particularly complementary to the others already included is the health community, which might offer particularly value in its ability to serve as a community of actors in direct contact with the population and thus able to monitor, document and report human rights abuses.

Government

Apart from the identification of particular government agencies that could add to the project, stakeholders observed that the involvement of higher-level government officials like the Commissioner of Police and the State Attorney General could contribute to the process of the institutionalizing the project as an initiative supported by the state government. Beyond this observation, the specific government agencies identified for potential inclusion in the project included the following (some of which were already engaged in the project, although perhaps not in the mechanisms in which the particular stakeholders providing the input were also active) –

- Ministry on Religious affairs
- Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development
- National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA):
- NDLEA detention facilities were identified as sites of human rights violations
- National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
- And State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA)
- NEMA and SEMA were identified as critical to addressing rights of IDPs
- Nigeria Prison Service (NPS)
- NPS facilities were identified as sites of unlawful detention of citizens

- National Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE)
- Bauchi Peace and Security Committee

Security Forces

Similar to the discussion regarding government agencies, observers noted that security agencies were already meaningfully engaged but that there could be even more engagement and more meaningful engagement of security forces. Seen by many as the primary perpetrators of human rights abuses, stakeholders suggested that greater involvement of security forces could drastically reduce cases of abuse. Moreover, stakeholders observed that the active participation of the military and police in the radio program would contribute to further improvement of relations between the community and security forces as in many cases in which persons raised questions about human rights violations by military and police personnel there were no military or police representatives to respond. Finally, stakeholders also observed that vigilantes outside of the official security forces need to part of the community security architecture not they are now more well-structured than they were at the time of the formation of the platforms.

Community

Stakeholders also suggested that while community-level actors were obviously represented in the project, incorporating more community-level representatives would improve the project. In particular, stakeholders identified:

- Parents
- Youth
- Community-based Organizations, of which various are already incorporated, but additional examples of which were identified, such as Tarkanda and Ambur
- Religious Communities, which again are already included, but additional examples of which were identified, from the Federation of Muslim Women's Associations in Nigeria (FOMWAN) more representation of Christians and

Legal Community

While the Nigerian Bar Association was a primary stakeholder engaged in the project, some stakeholders did not recognize the NBA's involvement. Others identified that engagement of other representatives from the legal community could make the project more effective, particularly the Human Rights Defenders Civil Society Organization and human rights law practitioners themselves.

Health Community

As mentioned in the introduction to this discussion one notable community whose inclusion could be considered particularly complementary to the others already engaged in the project is the health community (Health Sector Experts/Organizations), which might offer particularly value in its ability to serve as a community of actors in direct contact with the population and thus able to monitor, document and report human rights abuses.

Commercial Actors

Finally, some stakeholders identified commercial groups to engage, such as the Market and Farmers Association and the Water Vendors Association, although the specific rationale for inclusion of these groups was not clear. On the other hand, the Patent Medicine Dealers Association was identified as a group that could be engaged to address the issue of drug abuse.

Sustainability and Related Observations on the Theory of Change and Design

Finally, the evaluation of the project's sustainability provides the most opportunity for suggestions of how the project might have been improved, both in terms of the design of the interventions but also the overall theory of change of the project.

In summary, there is considerable reason to suggest that the project has contributed to sustainable improvements in the promotion and protection of human rights in the communities in which it has been implemented – as has been reflected in the effectiveness of the project in positively and meaningfully changing the knowledge, attitudes and practices of the general public and social institutions in regards to the recognition, promotion and protection of human rights.

This being said, there are changes to the design of the project that could potentially make the project's influence even more sustainable or to otherwise increase further the contribution of the project to the promotion and protection of human rights. Similarly, the theory of change of the project can be revisited to more appropriately reflect the causal influence of the project.

Sustainability and Scale

Most notably, there is considerable reason to suggest that the project could benefit from having an extended period of implementation by SFCG for it to more deeply institutionalize the collaboration among the various actors promoting and protecting human rights. While the influence of the project certainly suggests that it has spurred behavior by these leading stakeholders, including the NHRC, CSOs, the judiciary and security forces, it does seem that a longer time horizon would be more appropriate for fostering their more meaningful and sustainable interaction as well as to ensure that the capacity improvements imparted individually to various actors is also more meaningful and likely to be sustained.

Even more so, the project was not even implemented for the planned 18 months in some settings, which makes the challenge of ensuring a sustained change of behavior among the engaged actors.

As two stakeholders observed,

The project only lasted for about 15 months in the state as against the 18 months announced to stakeholders during its launching. The duration of the project also needs to be extended beyond 18 months, considering prevalence human rights abuses in the state.

The duration of the project should also be extended to last for at least 24 months and establish sustainability mechanisms at both community and LGAs levels

Additionally, as the second of these observations notes, another suggestion for improvement of the project repeated by many stakeholders related to the scale of the project and specifically the need for the project to be extended to additional communities.

The project should expand to cover all the LGAs in Plateau state so that the impact can be felt across the state as we experience human rights violations virtually everywhere in Plateau.

The project could have been more relevant and impactful if had worked in more than eight LGAs that it targeted.

As these observations suggest, the call for the project to be extended is specifically concerned with the impact of the project not only to affect more persons but to be more sustainable by improving knowledge, attitudes and practices of the broader society of which the project communities are part in order to create more

coherence of the projection and promotion of human rights in this broader context that will reinforce the progress in the project communities.

Additionally, beyond just the shortened implementation period of the project in at least one instance, stakeholders identified that the manner in which the project was closed out – without any formal process did not provide the stakeholders with an opportunity to further consider options for sustaining the activities sponsored by the project.

The project close-out could have been done better, there was no formal close out ceremony or meeting with stakeholders when the project ended. There should have been a stakeholders' forum meeting by the project to inform stakeholders of the formal project closure and also develop sustainability plan for the project. The project should have organized a formal close out session with stakeholders to show case achievements, challenges, as well as draw a sustainability plan for the project.

Radio Programming

These observations on the sustainability and scale of the project in general were also echoed by stakeholders with specific reference to the radio program, “Yancinka Garkuwarka,” including calls for the radio program to have been broadcast beyond the time period of the project, even extended indefinitely.

Beyond this general call for the radio program to be presented for a longer period of time, there were also calls similar to those about the program in general regarding the extension of the project to additional communities – in this case through the broadcast of the program in additional languages.

The radio program should be aired in the Kanuri language. This will help in gaining more acceptance by the people of Borno state.

The radio program should have targeted people in Biu, Shani, Kwayo and Hawai Local Government areas, because these areas are marked by high levels of human right abuses This project can be improved by sensitizing the people of these communities in Kanuri, Hausa and Babur languages through programs on radio and television.

Additionally, stakeholders observed that a more frequent schedule for airing the radio program, as well as extending the length of each episode of the program would contribute to its effectiveness. In particular, the rationales behind these suggestions, similar to those for extending the communities to which the project reached, were to reach critical parts of the population that are critical to ensuring that the desired change in knowledge, attitudes and practices would take root and be most likely to be sustainable – such as specifically reaching men.

The radio program should be adjusted to 7:00-7:30pm, as this will grant husbands the opportunity to listen.

The program should be aired twice a week instead of once a week in order to accommodate the volume of listeners who have many questions and issues to share.

Finally, while these last two suggestions would stretch the model of the project as envisioned by SFCG, with meaningful implications for the project's costs, stakeholders did observe that complementing the radio program by other means of broader public outreach, particularly through television programming and complementary printed material, would have contributed to the influence of the project.

The radio phone in program in local languages should have been replicated to television.

Informational, Educational and Communication (IEC) materials such as posters banners and placards will also go a long way in enlighten the citizens on human rights issues and will enhance access to services for victims of violations.

Stakeholder Representation

Stakeholders also provided valuable suggestions as to how the representation of key stakeholder in the different project platforms could have been more effective – offering useful insights regarding how persons participate in such groups more generally as well as insights regarding particular challenges to the environments in which the project was implemented.

In the first instance, regarding more general dynamics of collaborative engagement environments, one stakeholder offered the astute insight that consideration should be given to having more than one person from organization participate in each platform in order to ensure that the information or understanding gleaned by the participants from the platforms is not lost if a representative is unable to continue participating or even if a representative can only participate inconsistently. This observation actually reflects well-established understanding that having more than one representative of an organization participating in such process also better support the participants in being able to make effective use of the information or understanding obtained from their engagement in collaborative process, which might otherwise be difficult to do if they are isolated in their organizations with this new information or understanding.

Similarly, as other stakeholders identified – even though representatives of religious communities participated in the project and particularly the platforms for stakeholder collaboration, the project could benefit from establishing a platform that deals specifically with religious issues as there is a need for religious leaders to find opportunities to work together to educate their followers on the need for integration and peaceful coexistence. As these stakeholder noted, the effects of religious leaders are not well felt in the project, but their engagement and leadership is necessary because communities are now separated along religious line and do not get along. An extension of this call for the more intentional involvement of religious leaders in the project is that there also need to be inclusion of traditional activities in the project that can help to foster unity among differing religious communities.

Community-Level Engagement

Another common observation among stakeholders is the need for more support in the project for community-level engagement, to actually help to effect the protection of human rights in the lives of persons.

There should be a community-based team on awareness creation because it is not everybody that can afford a radio set or to listen to radio programs

There should have been a team that goes to the grass root and help people channel their complaints to the appropriate authorities.

[There is a need for the project to] take the human rights sensitization program to schools.

Human rights guidance centers should be established throughout the region.

Of course, this type of intervention would again be a divergence from the project theory of change as envisioned by SFCG. However, this thinking is useful to consider for future related programming.

Not surprisingly, such community-level activity to promote and protect human rights would require additional resources. Stakeholders were also aware of this challenge, particularly because several stakeholders engage in this sort of activity even without it being a formal part of their participation in the project – and they note the challenge to this work that is posed by a lack of financial resources.

Funding is very poor. We had issues of lack of funding to carry out investigation on alleged violation of human right, there is need for effective investigation for further action but you find out that there is logistic needs unattended to and there is nothing you can do than to let go the investigation/allegation.

Provision of logistic should be included in the project for those embarking on facts findings and resolution of disputes in remote communities. When we are sent on errand or assignment we are not given any incentive to carry out the work. Girei is a vast area, when given assignment to follow up on action points to area that are very far from our residents we are not given transport fair apart from the security risks of going to some place for the assignment. We had serious challenges raising transport from our pocket to transport from one place to another

There should be provision for small grants for CSOs to implement activities proposed to promote human rights and prevent abuse proposed in the strategic plan they developed with support from SFCG Human Rights project.

By sharing this observation, this study does not make a recommendation that the project should have included community-level promotion and protection efforts in its design. But, it is important to recognize that stakeholders identify this sort of complementary activity to be important to the success of the interventions included by SFCG in the project.

As one stakeholder observed, one potential way of securing such resources for this type of activity would not be for SFCG to take it on but to identify in its theory of change a more explicit goal of engaging government more intentionally strategically to get support for this type of community-level promotion and protection activity.

Government should have been more involved in the project to provide more financial support.

Some stakeholders additionally observed that efforts to address issues related to human rights, such as alleviating idleness and unemployment among youth, providing opportunities for skills acquisition or vocational training, or support for widows and orphans of insurgency-related violence, and particularly the practice of almajari. Again, while these are not identified to suggest that SFCG ought to have included this type of activity in the project design, they are identified to make SFCG aware of the broader complementary issues that should be considered in the articulation of a more complete theory of change regarding the problem.

Finally, sometime in 2017 the NHRC/Judiciary Actors Coalition decided to go the Abattoir side of Yola and other social clubs where drugs peddling and abuse is very rampant to engage the youths on why they involve in the act. And some of them said they did that due to joblessness and that if job is provided for them right away they will quite the illicit business and act instantly, but the team was handicapped in the area of offering them job.

More Direct Advocacy and Regular Technical Assistance

Finally, there are two observations that stakeholders offered that are identified for SFCG's consideration as potential refinements to the design of similar projects in the future.

The first of these is that the project would benefit from even more coordination and technical assistance for advocacy to government agencies regarding the need for policy improvements or for assumption of sponsorship of particular functions for promoting and protecting human rights.

The second of these is that the project would also benefit from even more "consistent coaching and mentoring of both state and non-state actors to keep them abreast of developments regarding human rights to help them follow up with issues as they emerge."

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

Lessons Learned

The Project offered a Unique Service to Communities for which there is considerable Demand

There is no question that the project introduced into communities unique mechanisms to improve communication among stakeholders about community concerns regarding human rights abuses along with many other of the population's concerns regarding personal and community safety and security. As various stakeholders identified, prior to the introduction of the project there existed virtually no regular, meaningful interaction among most of the stakeholders that were or should have been involved in the promotion and protection in human rights and who have now developed practices of communicating with each other and even cooperating with each other. The primary mechanism for this has been, of course, the various regular stakeholder meetings, the Community Security Architecture Dialogues (CSADs) and Peace Architecture Dialogues (PADs). Additionally, the radio programming is also identified as a unique, valuable offering of the project, contributing most to the more general raising of awareness among the broader population of the regions in which it is broadcast, which stakeholders and survey respondents identify was not very robust prior to the introduction of the project. As such, a primary lesson is that there is clear demand for more interventions of this type or for the extension of interventions like this one. Key stakeholders and the general public alike express this demand.

The Project Mechanisms are Effective for Increasing Awareness and Confidence of Stakeholders

While the above lesson is about the demand for this type of intervention in the served communities and the project's unique offering of such intervention, a related lesson is that the mechanisms that the project introduced into these communities are from all general appearances effective in raising stakeholder awareness of the need for improved promotion and protection of human rights and the value of improving interactions among stakeholders to realize these outcomes. This includes the effectiveness in raising the awareness of the general public, primarily through the radio programming.

The Radio Programming seems to be, but cannot be established as, a Critical Mechanism of Influence

In fact, it is important to draw out the lesson that the radio programming is identified as being a critical mechanism of influence. This is particularly important because while the radio programming can be seen as contributing to the first specific objective of the project, the influence of the radio programming might actually not be appropriately captured by any of the objectives. The converse lesson of the seemingly critical influence of the radio programming is that project's ability to document this influence is highly inadequate. The radio logs provide such few data points, and particularly data that can only be identified as compromised by selection bias and is little more than anecdotal, that they cannot be utilized for any meaningful analysis of the reach or influence of the project.

The Project's Contributions to Capacity are Difficult to Identify

A lesson of a different type is that while stakeholders report that the project increased the capacity of various actors working to promote and protect human rights, the actual contribution to the capacity of these organizations, particularly beyond any anecdotal, case-specific evidence, is difficult to identify in any meaningful way. There is certainly testimony to the development of some capacity among some stakeholders, but there is scant evidence that the capacity strengthening components of the project were designed or implemented to have a systemic effect on the capacity of these actors.

The Project falls short of supporting More Practical Action to Improve Human Rights

Finally, from the feedback of stakeholders and survey respondents alike, the project does a very good job of raising awareness and demand for the promotion and protection of human rights – but falls short of supporting stakeholders to engage in actions that would move them toward more effective improvements in human rights promotion and protection, ranging from more direct, coordinated lobbying of the government to the development and strengthening of community-based mechanisms to monitor human rights and advocate for protection of vulnerable populations and victims.

Recommendations

Make the Radio Programming more of an Explicit and Integrated Focus of the Project

Nearly all stakeholders reported of the importance of the radio programming to raising awareness of human rights and the prerogative of all persons to have their rights protected. And, yet, the full potential of the radio programming to influence public understanding and even to stimulate demand for human rights is not clearly articulated in the objectives of the project. This seems to have led to the radio programming of the project to be implemented somewhat separately from the rest of the project rather than as complementarily and in particular with as much emphasis on trying to orient the implementation of the radio programming to specific substantive outcomes beyond awareness raising. Making the radio programming a more explicit focus of the project, and especially articulating more carefully the intended substantive outcomes of the project could do much to making the radio programming even more effective than already perceived to be by stakeholders.

Formulate an Assessment Plan that lends itself to more Rigorous Analysis

While there is clear qualitative evidence of the effectiveness of the project in contributing to the articulated intended objectives, this analysis can only be suggestive due to the lack of a clear assessment plan for collection of data throughout the project that can be used to more definitively establish this influence including the magnitude of such influence. This actually requires that SFCG be more careful than perhaps even the sponsors of its work demand –

- carefully articulating its ultimate objective as a SMART (specific, measurable, ambitious, relevant and time-bound) outcome (as opposed to a statement of activity)
- carefully articulating an actual “theory of change” (or a theory- and evidence-based causal logic argument of how this outcome can be realized, as opposed to a project/intervention hypothesis)
- carefully articulating the intermediate objectives to be achieved by the project as informed by the theory of change and articulated again as SMART outcomes (as opposed to statements of activities or actions)
- and finally carefully articulating the project hypothesis, “theory of action” and/or logic model (the components of which for this project are largely now represented as the project’s objectives).

With these objectives and planned activities of the project more carefully articulated, SFCG could then better identify the appropriate data to be collected at or before the inception of the project (that might actually be collected as part of the data used to inform the construction of the theory of change) and throughout the project and at the end of the project to be able to more rigorously establish the project’s causal influence on the intended objectives and even the magnitude of this causality. In particular, again, as part of the data collection to inform the theory of change, the assessment approach should entail collecting data from communities that will not or, preferably, might not be included in the project. This approach to baseline data collection would allow for a quasi-experimental design, which would prove much more rigorous.

Formulate the Focus of the Project to be Consistent

Relatedly, while the project’s evolution to focus on human rights abuses (very broadly defined, with much of the focus of the stakeholders and the public on behavior that can certainly be considered criminal (kidnapping, drugs and rape) or stemming from civil conflict or rebellion / insurgency) is a praiseworthy shift in the project’s

intervention – in order for a project to be assessed more rigorously, the theory of change and objectives have to be kept constant from the project's inception to its conclusion. To do this, again, very careful consideration of the project's objectives and theory of change is needed.

Extend the Time-Frame for Implementation

Not surprisingly, many stakeholders expressed concern about the project being able to sustain itself after SFCG's pulling out as the lead agency. In particular, this criticism was levied at the radio program, which stakeholders wish could be broadcast potentially indefinitely provided there were the resources to do it, along with expanding the languages in which the programming is broadcast. And, this criticism was also levied at the project overall, as stakeholders expressed concern about the degree to which the cooperation of the stakeholders had yet taken root. While such criticisms are to be expected of most any programming as it reaches its end, this feedback from stakeholders finds support in various research that suggests that establishing new patterns of interaction among organizations in particular needs a fair amount of time to take root – and in the case of such a large undertaking it seems that two years of consistent implementation with incentives would be a minimum of time needed to establish strong principles and norms for cooperation.

Consider Greater Scale and Scope of the Intervention

Finally, it is also relatively clear from the observations of stakeholders that the project could benefit from a more clear articulation of these activities particularly to serve additional communities and to incorporate other activities that serve the collective interest, such as more collective advocacy of government officials on particular issues regarding human rights, engagement of the state governments to sustain the project activities once SFCG's steps out of the roles

Appendix A: Population-based Survey Findings and Analysis

The survey of the population is included as an appendix to the report for two important reasons. First, the focus of the project is on influencing the behavior of the organizations responsible for promoting and protecting human rights in communities in Adamawa and Borno states as opposed to directly influencing the knowledge, attitudes or practices of the general population. As such, this data on the perspectives and behavior of the population is useful to glean what effect the project might have on the ultimate outcome of interest of the project – the security of the human rights of the population – but against which the effectiveness of the project should not be measured.

SFCG has done well in appropriately scoping the influence of its project on the behavior of the organizations responsible for promoting and protecting human rights, which is an intermediate outcome to improving the security of the population's human rights. This scoping appropriately recognizes that SFCG's efforts do not themselves directly affect the rights of the population, and as such to either take credit for improvements in the security of these rights or assume responsibility for a lack of improvement would be an invalid argument.

However, because the project has both encouraged and attempted to improve the capacity of organizations to improve the knowledge, attitudes and practices of the population regarding the security of human rights, and has also engaged in direct outreach to the population through the project's radio programming (jingle and radio program), giving some attention to the perceptions of the population can be helpful to provide a suggestion of whether the project's efforts have been ineffective (in that the project cannot be credited with improvements or assigned responsibility for deteriorations of public perceptions – but its effectiveness can be questioned if there is deterioration.)

Secondly, while this data can provide additional support to the qualitative data collected for the evaluation but, because this type of data was collected only after the project had been implemented without comparable data collected before the onset of the project, this data in itself can only be considered illustrative and must be interpreted in the context of the findings and analysis from the individual interviews and focus group discussions with key stakeholders even for this purpose of illustration.

The presentation of this survey data is thus presented in two parts. The first of these parts presents the findings and analysis regarding the population's knowledge and attitudes regarding the radio programming in particular that was part of SFCG's project, which can be considered to be the most directly relevant to the effectiveness of the project. The second part focuses on the population's attitudes regarding the security of their rights, which cannot be directly attributed to SFCG's programming but provides a snapshot of the conditions in which SFCG's program was implemented, which speaks to stakeholders calls for the project to be continued. Of course, if the project were to be extended, this data would serve as a meaningful baseline for more quasi-experimental statistical analysis of the effectiveness of the project.

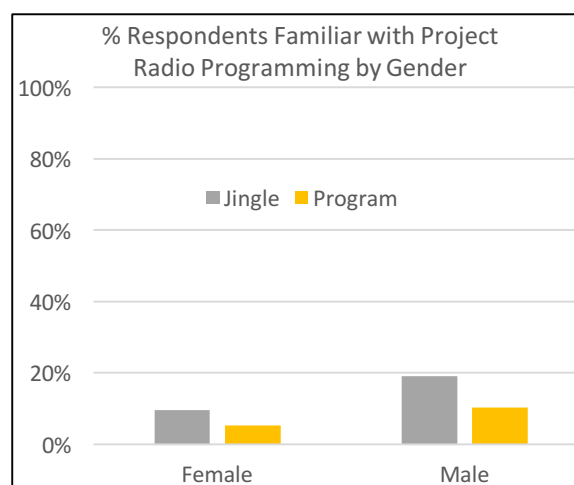
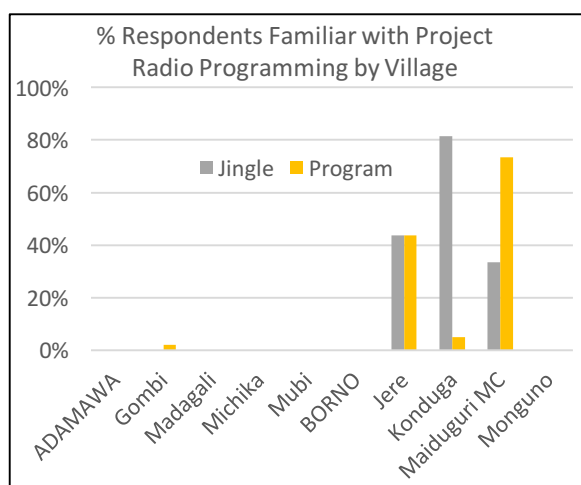
Notably, while the data was collected with identifying data to analyze whether differences in age or location in treatment communities were meaningful in affecting responses, these differences were not found in the analysis of the data. As such, the findings here do not present this data. On the occasion that gender presented an identifier that suggested a unique finding (regarding the project radio programming), this is noted.

Among the clearest findings of the survey regarding the project's effectiveness are those that can be gleaned from the responses to the questions regarding respondents' familiarity with the radio jingle and the radio program. However, these responses do not suggest particularly positive findings. In particular, the survey responses collected suggest that the general population was largely unfamiliar with the project's radio

programming, with only 14% of respondents reported being familiar with the radio jingle while only 7% reported being familiar with the radio program *Yancinka Garkuwarka*. This finding was consistent throughout all geographies surveyed, except in Jere, Konduga and Maiduguri MC.

These findings suggest that while the feedback provided by stakeholders suggests that the radio programming was an effective mechanism for promoting public understanding and action on human rights, that these findings might be meaningfully influenced by selection bias and the largely non-representative, anecdotal nature of the key informant observations. At the same time, the survey's finding of higher awareness of the radio programming among the population in Jere, Konduga and Maiduguri, could be interpreted to suggest that the programming was more effective in areas in which other components of the project were being implemented and thus promoted awareness of the population to the radio programming.

Similarly, counter to the feedback of the key informant stakeholders, a higher percentage of male respondents reported being familiar with the radio programming than female respondents – by a factor of roughly 2-to-1 – respondents reporting familiarity with the jingle – male, 19%; female, 10% – and with the radio program – male, 10%, female 5%.



While these findings of the popularity of the project's radio programming are less positive than is suggested by the key informant stakeholder feedback, the survey findings regarding the influence of the radio programming on listeners is very positive and, as such, correspondent to the observations of the key informants. In particular, when asked what they had learned from the radio jingle or the radio program *Yancinka Garkuwarka*, nearly 90% of respondents reporting what they had learned from the jingle or radio program identified that they had learned the value of peace (37%) or, even more so, how to promote peace (27%), or, particularly relevant to the project, that they should report concerns regarding human rights along with resources to which they can report these concerns (24%). In terms of actual change in their behavior, nearly 90% of all respondents reported that they had changed their behavior "positively" (which also included responses of "extremely positively" or "very positively") or that they had begun to report their concerns regarding human rights (30%) or that they were now cooperating with security forces (15%).

Learning from radio programming	Jingle	Program	Total	Jingle	Program	Total
Total	46	16	62			
Promote Peace	12	11	23	26%	69%	37%
Report Human Rights Concerns	12	5	17	26%	31%	27%
Value of Peace	15	0	15	33%	0%	24%

Behavior Change from radio programming	Jingle	Program	Total	Jingle	Program	Total
Total	45	16	61			
Positively	13	14	27	29%	88%	44%
Report Human Rights Concerns	18	0	18	40%	0%	30%
Security Forces Cooperation	9	0	9	20%	0%	15%

Together, the responses to these two questions suggest several findings that correspond with and support the findings of the data collected from key informant stakeholders, including:

- (1) The radio programming of the project was seemingly effective in raising respondents' awareness of human rights and the importance of reporting human rights.
- (2) The radio programming similarly was seemingly effective in promoting a more general awareness of and even techniques for promoting "peace" within communities, which is apparently related to conflict prevention and resolution.
- (3) Finally, there is some suggestion that the radio programming also encouraged improved relations between the general public and security forces,

Familiar with...?	Jingle	Program	Jingle	Program
ALL				
Yes	50	28	14%	7%
No	269	303	73%	80%
ADAMAWA				
Yes	0	1	0%	1%
No	183	186	100%	99%
Gombi				
Yes	0	1	0%	2%
No	49	48	100%	98%
Madagali				
Yes	0	0	0%	0%
No	49	52	100%	100%
Michika				
Yes	0	0	0%	0%
No	27	28	100%	100%
Mubi				
Yes	0	0	0%	0%
No	58	58	100%	100%
BORNO				
Yes	0	1	0%	2%
No	49	48	100%	98%
Jere				
Yes	14	14	44%	44%
No	18	18	56%	56%
Konduga				
Yes	35	2	81%	5%
No	8	38	19%	95%
Maiduguri MC				
Yes	1	11	33%	73%
No	2	4	67%	27%
Monguno				
Yes	0	0	0%	0%
No	58	57	100%	100%

Familiar with...?	Jingle	Program	Jingle	Program
Female				
yes	11	6	10%	5%
no	104	110	90%	95%
Male				
yes	39	22	19%	10%
no	165	193	81%	90%

Moving from the data regarding radio programming specifically, the additional survey data collected can help us understand the context in which the program is operating, including trends in this data.

Of this data, respondents answers to the question of whether they are more or less afraid for their safety and security than they were one year ago offers the broadest picture of whether the population feel that the human rights are being better promoted and protected in their communities. In response to this question, nearly one half (44%) of all respondents reported feeling less afraid, which was 50% greater than those reporting feeling more afraid (30%) or neither more or less afraid (26%). Even more telling is that more than one of every 4 respondents (28%) reported feeling “much” less afraid, nearly equal to those reporting feeling more afraid and more than twice as many as those reporting feeling “much” more afraid (30%).

More or Less Afraid?	#	%
...of which Much Less Afraid	94	28%
Less Afraid	146	44%
Neither	87	26%
More Afraid	102	30%
...of which Much More Afraid	42	13%

Notably, the findings of whether persons felt more or less afraid regarding their safety/security were not surprisingly related to whether persons had been or had not been victims of human rights abuses previously.

66% of respondents reported having been a victim of human rights abuses in the past year or being familiar with a victim of human rights abuses in the past year. In comparison to those persons who had not been a victim themselves in the previous year, twice as many of those who had been a victim in the previous year reported that the fear of being victimized again was among their greatest fears (>40% vs. 19%). In the opposite direction, those persons who had not been a victim themselves in the previous year reported not being afraid at all of being a victim twice as often as those who had been a victim in the previous year (27% vs. 13%). Of those respondents who had been personally victimized and knew someone who was victimized, not a single one did not fear being a victim again.

Victim of Human Rights Abuse?	351	
Yes	233	66%
I	84	24%
Familiar	94	27%
Both	55	16%
No	118	34%

Afraid of Human Rights Abuse?	Total	Great	Very	Some	Not	Total	Great	Very	Some	Not
Victim	232	80	45	77	30	70%	34%	19%	33%	13%
I	84	37	9	26	12	25%	44%	11%	31%	14%
Familiar	93	23	23	29	18	28%	25%	25%	31%	19%
Both	55	20	13	22		17%	36%	24%	40%	0%
No	101	19	22	33	27	30%	19%	22%	33%	27%

Of those reporting having been victimized or familiar with a victim, nearly two thirds (63%) reported the abuse as occurring more than once, with nearly one half (46%) reporting that the abuse occurred “repeatedly” (in many different frequencies, as depicted in the table below).

Frequency?		
Once	85	37%
More than Once	40	17%
Not often	23	
More than Once	12	
Sometimes	5	
Repeatedly	106	46%
Several	40	
Often	22	
Repeatedly	14	
Many	9	
Very often	7	
Continuing	5	
Innumerable	6	
Always	2	
Daily	1	

In terms of the type of abuse experienced, the most commonly reported was abuse by security forces or police, representing more than one of every five reported abuses (21%). This suggests that the initial focus of the project was aptly identified to address a prevalent harm. Corresponding to the feedback of the key informant stakeholders, rape was the second most commonly reported abuse, accounting for 15% of reported cases. And, third most common was the fear of Boko Haram or insurgents, representing 10% of all reported cases.

Notably, rape was the one abuse reported in different proportions by women and men, with 23% of women reporting that they or someone they were familiar with had been a victim, while half as many men reported being themselves or being familiar with someone was a victim of rape. Moreover, this difference was even greater for reporting being rape victims themselves, with more than one in three women reporting being rape victims (39%) while men reported at a rate three times lower (13%).

Abuse Experienced?		
Not willing to identify	13	6%
Security Abuses	49	21%
Security Abuses	45	19%
Police Abuse	4	2%
Rape	34	15%
Boko Haram / Insurgency	23	10%
Boko Haram	19	8%
Insurgents	4	2%
Kidnapping	13	6%
Robbery	13	6%
Abuse of Power	12	5%
Harassment	11	5%
Children	6	3%
Domestic Abuse	6	3%
Corruption	4	2%
Killing	4	2%
Neighbor Conflict	4	2%
Drugs	3	1%
Farmer-Herdsman Issues	3	1%

In terms of the subject of their fears, respondents identified that even though fewer had been victims of Boko Haram or other insurgents, this was a more common fear of potential future abuse.

A full half of all respondents identified either “insurgency” generally or “Boko Haram” specifically as the primary or secondary source of their fears regarding their safety or security. The third most identified source of safety/security fears is “drugs,” representing the primary or secondary source of such fear for nearly one in five respondents (18%) which corresponds with the findings from the input of the key informant stakeholders. Similarly, more than one of every ten (11%) respondents identified rape as their primary or secondary source of safety/security fears. Similar to reported experiences of abuses, rape was the one category that showed a distinguishable difference between female and male respondents regarding their safety/security fears, with women reporting rape as a primary or secondary safety/security concern (19%) nearly five times as often as men (4%). Moreover, the spread between women’s and men’s identifying rape as a primary concern was even greater, with women reporting rape as their primary concern (12%) six times as often as men (2%). In fact, while nearly twice as many women identified rape as a primary concern (12%) as those that identified it as a secondary concern (7%), no more men reported rape as a primary concern (2%) than identified it as a secondary concern (2%).

Notably, the fear of abuse by security forces, the initial focus of this project, is reported by only 6% of respondents as their primary or secondary cause of fear regarding their safety/security. This could be a sign of the success of the project in helping to address this issue, but this cannot be established without comparable data from earlier time periods. Moreover, this percentage of persons reporting concerns related to abuses by security forces could be as much as four times greater (>25%) if respondents answers identify the feared behavior of the security forces rather than pointing to security forces as the perpetrators of these abuses (such as, harassment, corruption and other forms of abuse of power).

Other sources of safety/security fears include criminal behavior (~20%) other than rape, comprising robbery (8%), kidnapping (6%) and terrorism (6%); socioeconomic well-being (~15%), comprising unemployment/idleness (9%) and poverty (7%); and abuse of power (~10%), including corruption. The less specific categories of “insecurity” and “harassment” also account for roughly 10% of respondents each.

A similar question, which asks respondents of their fear of abuses of human rights specifically offers similar findings, with more than one in five respondents (22%) reporting Boko Haram and Insurgents more generally as the primary threat to their human rights, and approximately 5% each reporting security forces or drug actors. In response to this question, more than 10% of respondents again identify “harassment” as the primary threat to their human rights with 4% reporting kidnapping.

Finally, when asked of the actors likely to perpetrate these abuses, respondents provide similar, corroborating answers even if in a slight different order again – with nearly half of all respondents (49%) now reporting that the actors they most fear of abusing their human rights being security (40%) and police forces. Roughly 40% of all other respondents identify Boko Haram and insurgents (7%), politicians (7%) or drug actors (6%) as the actors they most fear of abusing their human rights.

	Fears	Primary	Secondary	1+2	Primary	Secondary	1+2
	Total	362	342	704			
1	Insurgency	51	46	97	14%	13%	27%
2	Boko Haram	45	37	82	12%	11%	23%
3	Drugs	33	33	66	9%	10%	18%
4	Insecurity	23	22	45	6%	6%	12%
5	Rape	20	20	40	6%	6%	11%
6	Harassment	19	16	35	5%	5%	10%
7	Unemployment / Idleness	17	17	34	5%	5%	9%
8	Robbery	14	14	28	4%	4%	8%
9	Farmer-Herdsmen Issues	13	13	26	4%	4%	7%
10	Poverty	14	12	26	4%	4%	7%
11	Abuse of Power	12	11	23	3%	3%	6%
12	Kidnapping	11	11	22	3%	3%	6%
13	Security Abuses	11	11	22	3%	3%	6%
14	Corruption	11	11	22	3%	3%	6%
15	Terrorism	11	11	22	3%	3%	6%

Threat	#	%
Boko Haram (42, 20%) + Insurgents (5, 2%)	47	22%
Harassment	22	11%
Security Force Abuses	13	6%
Drug Actors	11	5%
Kidnapping	8	4%

Actors of which Afraid	#	%
Security Forces + Police	93	49%
Security Forces	73	40%
Police	16	9%
Boko Haram (9, 5%) + Insurgents (4, 2%)	13	7%
Politicians	13	7%
Drug Dealers or Users	11	6%

Notably, those persons who reported being familiar with victims but not being victims themselves were the most likely to report taking action when concerned about human rights abuses – even more often than those who had been victims themselves (regardless of whether they were familiar with another victim). This could be evidence of the concern reported by key informants that victims can avoid reporting abuses for fear of being stigmatized.

Took Action when concerned of Human Rights Abuse	161	46%
Victim	121	52%
I	38	45%
Familiar	56	60%
Both	27	49%
No	40	34%

In terms of the action taken by those concerned with human rights abuses, more than 80% identified that they report their concern to some authority, while 7% reported that they take personal action. More specifically, more than one-third of respondents (38%) identified that they report to security forces (23%) or police forces

(19%). Another quarter of respondents identified that they report more generally to authorities, without specifying a specific authority. And, roughly one in five identified that they report to community leaders (19%).

Action when Concerned	#	%
Security Forces + Police	60	38%
Security Forces, Report to	36	23%
Police, Report to	24	15%
Authorities, Report to	38	24%
Community Leader, Report to	30	19%
Personal Intervention	11	7%

Finally, in terms of the perceived quality of protection offered by these various actors, it is notable that one in four respondents (25%) reported that official security forces offer “no protection” against human rights abuses or other security concerns, while nearly half of this percentage report that these forces offer “excellent protection.”

In comparison, while roughly the same percentage of respondents report that other actors (primarily vigilantes and community leaders) offer “excellent protection” against human rights abuses or other security concerns, nearly the same number or more than half of those reporting that they look to other actors for protection (55%) report that these other actors offer “good or excellent protection.” Of course, those respondents identifying that they report to other actors identify that these actors provide some protection, so there are no reports that those seeking protection from others believe that these other actors offer “no protection” against human rights abuses or other security concerns.

Notably, even though roughly twice as many respondents identify reporting to vigilantes (44%) than those that identify reporting to community leaders (23%) – nearly twice the percentage of those reporting to community leaders believe that these leaders offer “excellent protection” against human rights abuses and other security concerns (29%) as opposed to the percentage of those reporting to vigilantes believe that these they offer “excellent protection” against human rights abuses and other security concerns (17%).

Protection by Security Forces	# (of 327)	% (Cumulative for Protection)
Excellent protection	48	15%
Good or Excellent protection	119	37%
Some protection	246	75%
No protection	81	25%

Protection by Other Actors	# (of 177)	% (Cumulative for Protection)
Excellent protection	32	18%
Good or Excellent protection	98	55%
Some protection	177	100%
No protection	0	0%

Other Actors from which Protection is sought		
Vigilante	70	44%
Community Leaders	36	23%
NGOs	12	8%

Vigilante		
Excellent protection	12	17%
Good or Excellent protection	32	46%
Some protection	69	100%

Community Leaders		
Excellent protection	10	29%
Good or Excellent protection	24	70%
Some protection	34	100%

Appendix B: Data Collection Instruments

Hello, I am working with an NGO called Search for Common Ground to understand citizens' views on public safety and security to inform programs to improve public safety and security.

Can I take a few minutes of your time to ask you a few questions about public safety and security?

- a. No. "Thank you for your time."
- b. Yes – *continue...*

Thank you for offering your time to help us understand better your feelings about public safety and security.

I will ask you a few short questions about your view of public safety and security, which should take approximately 10 minutes.

If you have any questions for me at any time, please ask me.

Do you have any questions for me before we begin?

i. Demographic Question 1 (Observation by Enumerator) – Is the respondent male or female?

ii. Demographic Question 2: Before we begin with the survey questions, I hope you will be willing to tell me your age.
...How old are you?

Thank you for providing me your age, I will now begin asking you the questions about public safety and security....

1. What are your primary concerns regarding public safety and security?

2. Which of these concerns about public safety and security is your greatest concern?
Which of these is your second greatest concern?

3. Have you or someone you personally know been a victim of human rights abuse in the past year?

- a. No.
- b. Yes – **I have been a victim** of human rights abuse in the past year.
...Are you comfortable naming what type or types of human rights abuse you were a victim of?
 - i. No – I would prefer not to name the specific types of abuse.
 - ii. Yes
 - 1. Which types of abuse?
 - 2. Did this abuse occur one time or was it repeated? How often?
- c. Yes – **someone I know personally** has been a victim of human rights abuse in the past year.
 - i. No – I would prefer not to name the specific types of abuse.
 - ii. Yes
 - 1. Which types of abuse?
 - 2. Did this abuse occur one time or was it repeated? How often?
- d. Yes – **both I have been a victim and someone I know personally** has also been a victim of human rights abuse in the past year.
 - i. No – I would prefer not to name the specific types of abuse.
 - ii. Yes
 - 1. Which types of abuse?
 - 2. Did this abuse occur one time or was it repeated? How often?

...Are you comfortable continuing with this interview?

4. How afraid are you of being a victim (again) of human rights abuses?

- a. I am **not afraid** of being a victim (again) of human rights abuses.
- b. I am **somewhat afraid** of being a victim (again) of human rights abuses – **but I am not very afraid**.
- c. I am **very afraid** of being a victim (again) of human rights abuses – **but this is not one of my greatest fears**.
- d. Being a victim (again) of human rights abuses is **one of my greatest fears**.

...Are you comfortable continuing with this interview?

5. Have you taken any actions when you were concerned about human rights abuses against you or others?

- a. No – Why not?

- b. Yes – What actions did you take?

6. ...Would you take any actions today if you were concerned about human rights abuses against you or others?

- a. No – Why not?
b. Yes – What actions would you take?

7. How aware do you feel you are about services or agencies or other resources that protect you or are available for protecting you against human rights abuses?

- a. I am **not aware** of resources that protect me or are available to protect me against human rights abuses.
b. I am aware of only **few, limited resources** that protect me or are available to protect me against human rights abuses.
...What specific resources are available to protect you against abuses by military or security personnel?
c. I am aware of **many resources** that protect me or are available to protect me against human rights abuses.
...What specific resources are available to protect you against human rights abuses?

8. Do you feel more or less afraid of being a victim of human rights abuses today than you did a year ago?

- a. I feel **much more** afraid of being a victim of human rights abuses today than I did a year ago.
b. I feel **somewhat more** afraid of being a victim of human rights abuses today than I did a year ago.
c. I **don't feel more or less** afraid of being a victim of human rights abuses today than I did a year ago.
d. I feel **somewhat less** afraid of being a victim of human rights abuses today than I did a year ago.
e. I feel **much less afraid** of being a victim of human rights abuses today than I did a year ago.

9. Which specific situations do you fear put you in danger of being a victim of human rights abuses?

- a. No
b. Yes – Are you comfortable saying which situations fear put you in danger of being a victim of human rights abuses?
i. No
ii. Yes – Which situation or situations? ...Why are you afraid of these specific situations?

10. Are you afraid of specific actors violating your human rights?

- a. No
b. Yes – Are you comfortable naming which specific actors you are afraid will violate you human rights?
i. No – I would prefer not to name the specific actors.
ii. Yes – Which group or groups?
...Why are you afraid of these specific actors?

11. How well do you feel official Nigerian security forces protect you against human rights abuses?

- a. I feel that official security forces offer me **no protection** from human rights abuses.
b. I feel that official security forces offer me **some but little protection** from human rights abuses.
c. I feel that official security forces offer me **good but not excellent protection** from human rights abuses.
d. I feel that official security forces offer me **excellent protection** from human rights abuses.

12. Do you feel that other actors protect you against human rights abuses?

- a. No.
b. Yes – Which actors are these?
...How well do you feel these other actors protect you against human rights abuses?
i. I **feel somewhat protected** by these other actors.
ii. I **feel well protected** by these other actors.
iii. I **feel very well protected** by these other actors.

13. Are you aware of any improvements made in the last year to protect your community against human rights abuses?

- a. No
b. Yes – What improvements can you identify that were made in the last year to protect your community against human rights abuses?

14. Do you feel more or less protected from human rights abuses today than you did a year ago?

- a. I feel **much more** protected from human rights abuses today than I did a year ago.
- b. I feel **somewhat more** protected from human rights abuses today than I did a year ago.
- c. I **don't feel more or less** protected from human rights abuses today than I did a year ago.
- d. I feel **somewhat less** protected from human rights abuses today than I did a year ago.
- e. I feel **much less** protected from human rights abuses today than I did a year ago.

15. Are you familiar with the radio program “Yacinka Garkuwarka (Talking Human Rights)”?

- a. No
- b. Yes – Can you remember when you have heard the program?
 - What do you remember of the program?
 - Did you learn anything from the program? If so, what did you learn?
 - Have you changed your behavior in any way that the program suggests? If so, how have you changed your behavior?

16. Are you familiar with the radio jingle “Muryoyin Zaman Lafiya (Voices of Peace)”?
(Enumerator plays the jingle for respondents)

- a. No
- b. Yes – Can you remember when you have heard the jingle?
 - What do you remember of the jingle?
 - Did you learn anything from the jingle? If so, what did you learn?

i. Respondent Name and Title / Organization

Thank you again for your time in being willing to speak with me on behalf of Search for Common Ground to understand your views on public safety and security and Search's program on improving protections on human rights. Our discussion should take no more than 30 minutes. During these 30 minutes I would like to discuss with you your views on public safety and security and Search for Common Ground's project on improving mechanisms for protecting human rights. Your responses will not be reported individually but will inform a general assessment of views of stakeholders of the project. None of your comments will be attributed to you. I have a number of questions to guide our conversation, but we can discuss other topics as come up. Do you have any questions for me before we start?

- a. Yes – *answer their questions...*
- b. No. "Thank you. To begin the conversation can you tell me..."

1. How have you participated in Search for Common Ground's project on improving mechanisms for the protection of human rights?

2. How would you characterize the goal of this Search for Common Ground project in improving mechanisms for the protection of human rights? In other words, what outcomes do you feel the project is supposed to achieve?

3. What would you suggest are the outcomes that the project has actually achieved?

4. Can you give examples of these outcomes that the project has achieved?

5. What would you suggest is the most significant or important of these outcomes that the project has contributed to or achieved?

6. How did the project contribute to the achievement of these outcomes?

7. Are there particular aspects of the project that you believe were done very well?

8. Are there particular aspects of the project that you believe could have been improved?

9. How could these aspects of the project have been improved?

10. Are there other persons or organizations or groups of persons that should have been or should be more involved in the project?

11. Are there other activities that should have been or should be included in the project?

12. Did the project contribute to improved collaboration among actors working to protect human rights? If so, did this improved collaboration contribute to any improvements in human rights protections?

13. Do you have any additional thoughts to share with me about this project of Search for Common Ground?

Thank you for your time to help us understand better your feelings about public safety and security so that we can inform efforts to improve your safety and security.

Thank you again for your time in being willing to speak with us on behalf of Search for Common Ground to understand your views on public safety and security and Search's program on improving protection of human rights. Our discussion should take no more than 90 minutes. During these 90 minutes we would like to discuss with you your views on public safety and security and Search for Common Ground's project on improving mechanisms for protecting human rights. Your responses will not be reported individually but will inform a general assessment of views of stakeholders of the project. None of your comments will be attributed to you.

I have a number of questions to guide our conversation, but we can discuss other topics as come up.

Do you have any questions for me before we start?

- c. Yes – *answer their questions...*
- d. No. "Thank you. To begin the conversation can you tell me..."

1. How have you participated in Search for Common Ground's project on improving mechanisms for the protection of human rights?
2. What do you understand to be the goal of this Search for Common Ground project in improving mechanisms for the protection of human rights? In other words, what outcomes do you feel the project is supposed to achieve?
3. What would you suggest are the outcomes that the project has actually achieved?
4. Can you give examples of these outcomes that the project has achieved?
5. What would you suggest is the most significant or important of outcomes that the project has contributed to or achieved?
6. How are these outcomes relevant to the current context regarding human rights in these communities?
7. How did the project contribute to the achievement of these outcomes?
8. Are there particular aspects of the project that you believe were done very well? If so, how were they done well?
9. Are there particular aspects of the project that you believe could have been improved? If so, How?
10. How could these aspects of the project have been improved?
11. Are there other persons or organizations or groups of persons that should have been or should be more involved in the project?
12. Are there other activities that should have been or should be included in the project?
13. Did the project contribute to improved collaboration among actors working to protect human rights? If so, did this improved collaboration contribute to any improvements in human rights protections?
14. Are there other activities that should have been or should be included in the project?
15. Is there anything else that could be done to make this project more relevant to the human rights context in northern Nigeria?
16. Do you have any additional thoughts to share with me about this project of Search for Common Ground?

Thank you for your time to help us understand better your feelings about public safety and security so that we can inform efforts to improve your safety and security.

ii. Respondent Name and Title / Organization

Thank you again for your time in being willing to speak with us on behalf of Search for Common Ground to understand your views on Search's radio program "Yacinka Garkuwarka (Talking Human Rights)" and jingle "Muryoyin Zaman Lafiya (Voices of Peace)".

Our discussion should take no more than 60 minutes, during which we would like to discuss with you your views on this radio program and jingle. Your responses will not be reported individually but will inform a general assessment of views of stakeholders of the project. None of your comments will be attributed to you.

I have a number of questions to guide our conversation, but we can discuss other topics as come up.

Do you have any questions for us before we start?

1. Are you familiar with the radio program "Yacinka Garkuwarka (Talking Human Rights)"?

- a. No – # / Yes – #
- b. Can you remember when you have heard the program?
- c. What do you remember of the program?
- d. How many episodes of the program do you believe you heard?

**2. Are you familiar with the radio jingle "Muryoyin Zaman Lafiya (Voices of Peace)"?
(Enumerator plays the jingle for respondents)**

- a. No – # / Yes – #
- b. Can you remember when you have heard the program?
- c. What do you remember of the jingle?
- d. How many times do you believe you heard the jingle?

3. Did you enjoy the program or jingle?

- a. Yes – Why did you enjoy the program?
- b. No – Why did you not enjoy the program?

4. How would you characterize the goal of the program or jingle? In other words, what outcomes do you feel the program or the jingle is supposed to achieve?
5. Do you think the program or jingle has actually achieved any outcomes?
6. Can you give examples of these outcomes that the program or jingle has achieved?
7. What would you suggest is the most significant or important of these outcomes that the program or jingle has contributed to or achieved?
8. Are there particular aspects of the program or jingle that you believe were particularly effective?
9. Are there particular aspects of the program or jingle that you believe could have been improved?
10. How could the program or jingle have been improved?
11. Do you have any additional thoughts to share with me about the program or jingle?

Thank you for your time to help us understand better your feelings about the radio program "Yacinka Garkuwarka (Talking Human Rights)" and jingle "Muryoyin Zaman Lafiya (Voices of Peace)".