



**IMPACT REPORT - FY 25**



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# From the Desk of the Country Director



**“ Beyond the impact we have made, we see the endless possibilities for women and girls ”**

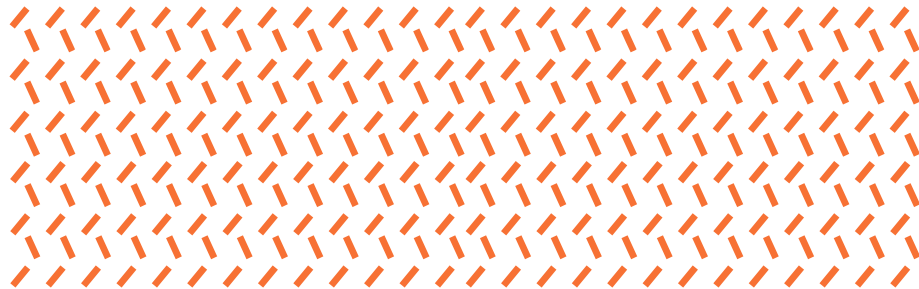
This year, we are excited to share some of our biggest strides with you! We have engaged governments to institute key policies, worked regionally for the protection of sexual and reproductive health, built the capacity of healthcare providers to deliver stigma free sexual and reproductive health care including abortion and contraception as well as empowered women and girls with information that helps them manage their fertility.

Beyond the impact we have made, we see the endless possibilities for women and girls everywhere to have their dreams realized because they now have bodily autonomy and are empowered to reach their own potential. This is at the bedrock of why we work to enable safe choices for women to make better decisions about their health, and we believe our work this year has brought us closer to achieving this.

We sincerely thank our partners and donors for making our vision a reality, one day at a time.



**Lucky Palmer PhD**  
Country Director





# Securing Better Policy for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights





**Two Standards and Guidelines for the medical management**

of survivors of Gender Based Violence in Benue and Nasarawa States.

**Two Guidelines for Safe Termination of Pregnancy (SToP)**

for Legal Indication adopted in Benue and Nasarawa States.

As a central part of our work, we have remained committed to enabling legal access to sexual and reproductive health at state levels. Through in-depth advocacy and multiple engagement, we have worked to institutionalize policies in two states, including the Standards and Guidelines for the Medical Management of Survivors of Gender Based Violence and the Safe Termination of Pregnancy for Legal Indications.

Our survivor-centered approach to Gender Based Violence enables us to ensure stigma reduction in the delivery of care to survivors. In Nasarawa State, we built the capacity of social workers to understand their role in the delivery of survivor centered care, and educated them on how they can better implement the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Law (VAPP) in the State



**“** When legal abortion is provided within a health facility, it reduces maternal mortality. If safe abortion not done within the facility, it can result in the loss of the woman’s life. The Safe Termination of pregnancy guidelines have served as a guide to healthcare workers when such cases come up to know what exactly should be done.

**Beatrice Isavmbu Ph.D**  
Permanent Secretary, Benue State Ministry of Health and Human Services



**“** I learnt a lot about the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Law, it doesn’t discriminate against anybody, and it is useful for all persons, including persons with disabilities.

**Mrs. Esther Andrew Ali**  
Representative, Persons with Disabilities





### Opposition mitigation strategies

- ❑ Strategic litigation endeavours to challenge the Bill- Some partners have also sent the Bill to Court
- ❑ Organize value clarification workshops for healthcare providers to improve the provision of SRHR services to community members
- ❑ Organize a value clarification workshop for staff of like-minded CSOs to improve SRHR advocacy
- ❑ Public education, awareness creation activities

Ipsa Confer Wifri - Passterand  
Conference @ 2023  
Udogy v @ ipas.org

# Advocating for Reproductive Health and Rights

## National and Regional Strides





**One ruling secured from the Federal High Court in Nigeria**

affirming that unplanned pregnancies resulting from rape, incest and other forms of sexual violence is a violation of the rights of women and girls to physical and mental health.

**“ With restrictive abortion laws in Nigeria, our work looks to create a legal environment that makes abortion access safe.**

With restrictive abortion laws in Nigeria, our work strives to create a legal environment that makes abortion access safe. This year, we worked at the national level in engaging the Federal High Court of Nigeria to expand access to abortion care for survivors of rape and incest, as well as other forms of sexual violence.

At a regional level, we led advocacy efforts with the Office of the Special Rapporteur on Women’s Rights and Executive Secretary to the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights to discuss strategic discussions that centered on progress, threats, and opportunities for advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights and build momentum for reproductive justice.



Honourable Commissioner Janet Ramatoulie Sallah-Njie, African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa) committed to supporting the Rapid Response Team in the Anglophone Countries established by Ipas Nigeria, to respond to anti rights groups in the region.



**Championing Strategies to  
Expand Access to Sexual  
and Reproductive Health.**

+++++



**57% to 68.5%**

Increase in Social Support Care for Abortion

**40% to 48%**

Increased mean abortion self-efficacy score among women and girls in Nigeria

**26,130**

women and girls are empowered with information on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) including Abortion, Contraception and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) care.

One community at a time, we are breaking the limitations in access to sexual and reproductive health for women and girls in Nigeria. In Borno, Benue, Lagos and Oyo States, Ipas Nigeria is engaging women and girls in communities to successfully improve their information and positive attitudes related to Sexual and Reproductive Health. By addressing knowledge gaps and challenging existing social norms and myths, these efforts have been transformational in supporting women and girls access to sexual and reproductive health services and understanding of bodily autonomy in Nigeria.



**“** I have learnt a lot about how to prevent an unplanned pregnancy and options for contraception. With the information I now have, I can calculate my menstrual cycle. I have also learnt a lot about life skills that have helped me better.

**Jennifer**

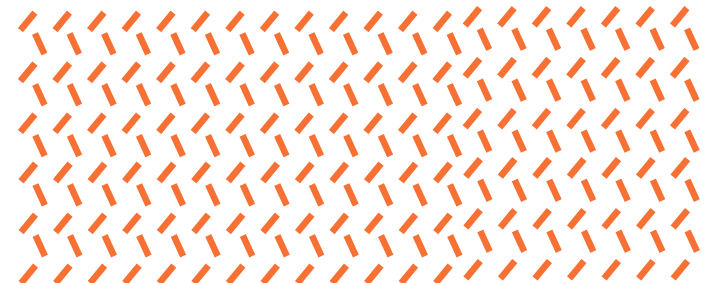
Peer group student, Benue State



**“** There was a woman who told me that she uses traditional medicine for family planning, but she was happy when she learned about the contraception options and that she can access them at the hospital. Some people don't believe in family planning, they believe nothing can stop pregnancy, but now most of our people are convinced about family planning because we engage their husbands too.”

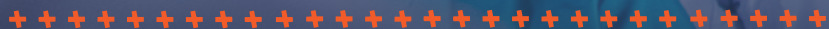
**Hadiza**

Peer Educator, Borno State





**Strengthening Primary Healthcare Centers to deliver Stigma Free Sexual and Reproductive Health Services**





## Built the capacity of



**309**



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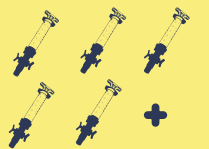
health care workers  
across 281 health facilities  
across 8 states

## Services Delivered



**15808**

women and girls accessed  
contraception services



**1395**

persons accessed  
abortion care

In the delivery of sexual and reproductive health care, Ipas is particular about ensuring reduction of harm, and quality of care that delivers stigma-free sexual and reproductive health care. Ipas has built the capacity of healthcare providers in eight states to deliver quality services that are stigma free for women and girls.



**“** I learned the techniques for manual vacuum aspiration (MVA) and medical abortion for safely ending a pregnancy within our facilities. Recently, I was able to efficiently attend to a patient that had an incomplete abortion. Before, I would refer the case to the general hospital but now I can attend to this type of case. I was also able to offer post-abortion family planning to the patient.”

**Suzan**

Healthcare worker in Benue State



**“** On medical abortion, I learned that we as health workers, we should always put ourselves in the shoes of our patients. Previously, before the training, I used to turn people away that need these services, but now I attend to them.

**Dochima**

Officer in charge and Nurse,  
PHC Asasi, Benue State



**“** I learned how to provide safe abortion care using the MA Combipack. The training helped me understand the right dosage, follow-up care, and how to manage complications. Before the training, I was not confident handling such cases, but now I can provide care safely

**Fatima**

Midwife, Kudai Primary Health  
Centre, Jigawa State

**Definitions:** *Manual Vacuum Aspiration (MVA)* is a safe, effective, and minimally invasive, handheld surgical procedure used for abortion or miscarriage management.

*Medical Abortion (MA)* uses pills (mifepristone and misoprostol) to end an early pregnancy non-surgically. It's a safe, effective option for early pregnancies.

## INTRODUCTION

Ipas Nigeria Health Foundation actively advocates for equitable health access for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). Collaborating with People with Disabilities (PWDs) from education and employment, exacerbating poverty within their households, which studies show are significantly poorer than those with disabilities. Collaborating with People with Disabilities (PWDs) from education and employment, exacerbating poverty within their households, which studies show are significantly poorer than those with disabilities.

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## Assessment of the Bauchi State Law for PWDs

A Technical Narrative of Findings from the Assessment of the Implementation of the Bauchi State Persons with Disability Law

Ipas Nigeria Health Foundation  
Partners for Reproductive Justice

**INTRODUCTION**

compound the challenges faced by women and girls with disabilities (WGWGs).

A survey by the Disability Rights Advocacy Centre (DRAC) revealed that 24.2% of women with disabilities aged 20-24 had no formal education, with nearly one-third (30.6%) similarly uneducated. Among the participants, 51.6% were single, 37.6% were students, and 16.6% were unemployed. The majority of respondents were from Benu State, followed by Plateau. The onset of disability occurred at various life stages: adulthood (29.3%), childhood (27.4%), birth (22.9%), and adolescence (19.1%). The participants experienced diverse forms of disability. Persons with disabilities face various forms of exclusion or discrimination and sexual reproductive health and rights exclusion, which is one of the most damaging yet pervasive forms of exclusion-3. The Nigerian government recognised the exclusionary practices in health care service provision to persons with disabilities (PWDs), especially young women and girls, in assessing the healthcare system and developed a strategic National Policy on Sexual and

Reproductive rights of Persons with Disabilities with emphasis on women and girls in June 2018. However, this document on reproductive issues of Women and Girls with Disabilities (WGDs) is yet to be adapted for full implementation in Nigeria.

Given this context, Ipas is commissioning an assessment of the 2010 Bauchi State Disability Law to evaluate its implementation, identify gaps, and explore opportunities for strengthening its effectiveness. This aligns with Ipas's commitment to promoting meaningful inclusion and the SRHR of PWDs. The assessment findings will be used, in collaboration with the Bauchi State Agency for People with Disabilities, to build social support for PWDs, challenge discriminatory beliefs and norms, and improve access to economic resources through robust implementation of the state disability law.



### Objectives of the Assessment

1. Conduct a comparative desk review of the National Disability Prohibition Act (2018) and the Bauchi State PWD Law (2010).
2. Assess the extent to which SRHR issues of PWDs have been captured in the Bauchi State PWD Law (2010).
3. Assess the implementation of the Bauchi State PWD Law (2010), identifying key successes and gaps.
4. Develop recommendations and learnings to inform a review of the Bauchi State PWD Law and strategy recommendations to address gaps in the implementation of the law.

## Literature Review

In order to gain comprehensive understanding of the available knowledge on the assessment of the burden of unsafe abortion in the state, a literature review was integrated into the study. An extensive review was conducted using Google Scholar to identify relevant literature on the topic. Additionally, efforts were made to reach out to other credible sources to gather information on any existing body of knowledge.

The Google search yielded only one study titled "Gap between Supply and Demand for Contraceptives in North East Nigeria: a Case Study" published by the Women's Refugee Commission (WRC) in May 2020. Furthermore, a key informant mentioned the existence of an unpublished study on Safe Abortion

Care (SAC) commissioned by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) Nigeria office. However, it is important to note that this unpublished study could not be cited as part of the literature review due to its status as unpublished work.

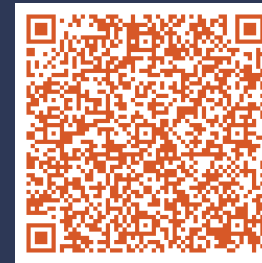


## The Burden of Unsafe Abortion in Nigeria: A case study on the Incidence of Unsafe Abortion in Borno State

## The Burden of Unsafe Abortion in Humanitarian Settings in Nigeria: A case study on the Incidence of Unsafe Abortion in Borno State

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<https://ipasnigeria.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/An-Assessment-of-Abortion-Incidence-and-the-Burden-of-Unsafe-Abortion-in-Borno-State1-3.pdf>



[https://ipasnigeria.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Final-updated-Report\\_Ipas-NHF-Sept15.pdf](https://ipasnigeria.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Final-updated-Report_Ipas-NHF-Sept15.pdf)

# EVIDENCE FOR ADVOCACY DISABILITY INCLUSION IN SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND ABORTION ACCESS IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

This year we have produced research that informs advocacy efforts to advance reproductive justice. The research documents provide evidence of the existing gaps in sexual and reproductive care for Persons with Disabilities as well as the limited access to abortion care in humanitarian settings.



**Ipas** Partner  
Reproductive Health  
NIGERIA HEALTH FOUNDATION

**Launch and Dissemination Meeting of the Cross River State Policy Document and Guidelines for the Management of Gender-Based Violence and Safe Termination (STOP) Guidelines**



Ipas Nigeria Health Foundation works to empower women and girls to have bodily autonomy and exercise their sexual and reproductive health and rights. As partners for reproductive justice, we build collective action that transforms societies to enable women, girls, and vulnerable persons to manage their fertility and realize their full potential.

**Ipas** Partners for  
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NIGERIA HEALTH  
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