



Centre for African Justice,  
Peace and Human Rights

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

LATEST INFORMATION  
TO THE EXISTING  
STATUS OF OUR PROJECTS AND  
ACHIEVEMENTS

REPORT BY THE CENTRE FOR AFRICAN  
JUSTICE, PEACE & HUMAN RIGHTS



STEPPING  
FORWARD TO  
PROGRESS IN 2019

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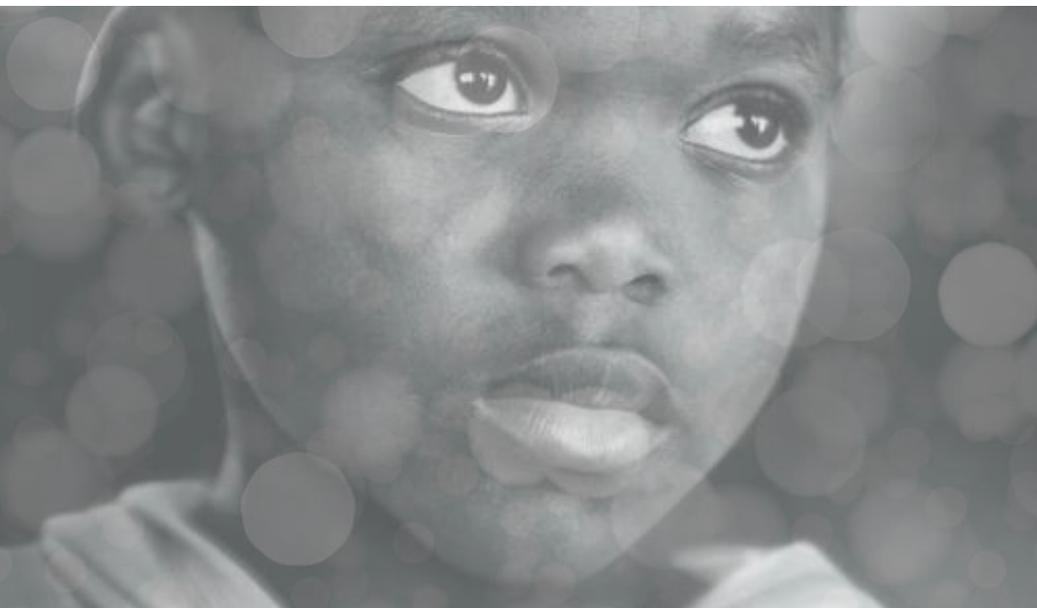
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# OUR FOUNDER'S STATEMENT

Since the start of the organisation I have been very excited to see what was once a small dream be transformed into a reality. Sexual Violence against the male gender was our pilot project, our first step towards fighting impunity and recognising injustices against male victims of sexual violence. From this point onward we have grown, spanning out our reach to include Capacity Building for African lawyers, Women Empowerment and Right to Quality Education, recognising the importance of each area in empowering citizens of a country and protecting their more basic human rights.

From their creation we have engaged in legal research, conferences activism, awareness raising, forming

physical change in our focal countries. I could not be prouder of the work that our teams, and their members have created over these past years, and I cannot wait to see what 2020 will bring.

**Thank you teams for all your hard work and dedication, you make me and the other board members so proud.**

Read this annual report to see exactly what work we have done as an organisation within the reporting period.



**Centre for African Justice,  
Peace and Human Rights**



Photo depicting our founder, Sophia Ugwu



Centre for African Justice,  
Peace and Human Rights

A BRIEF  
**OVERVIEW**  
OF OUR TEAMS



# OUR TEAMS OVERVIEW

## Capacity Building Team

Capacity Building, as a strategy, forms the backbone of most of the CAJPHR's initiatives as it revolves around peace, justice and human rights. The Capacity Building in International Criminal Law Project (CB) concentrates on the employment of strategies through training of justice legal actors to positively and constructively engage and involve stakeholders in Africa in International Criminal Law. As expected, capacity building falls under the justice cluster of our projects



## Sexual Violence Team

The Sexual Violence Team falls under the Justice and Human Rights cluster of our Projects. It examines the issue of the Sexual Violence against the male gender in situations during and post armed conflicts. The Sexual Violence Team builds on international efforts to raise awareness of the use of sexual violence in conflict as a tool of war, specifically, where there are male victims as they are currently often overlooked in legal remedy.



## Right to Quality Education Team

Right to Quality Education Team falls under Human Rights cluster of our projects. Together with partners we work with African stakeholders to provide essential school facilities for students in impoverished communities. The Right to Quality Education Team supports communities to ensure a safe educational environment for all students that is non-violent and inclusive which removes barriers to effective learning.



## Women Empowerment Team

CAJPHR organises events and workshops to train young women of African descent who have immigrated to Europe. The Project aims at providing them with tools to "Renew themselves, Re-state their goals, Re-brand their lives and Re-tell their stories". The objective is to rekindle the spirit of excellence in the minds of women who have been victims of abuse and may be struggling to settle into their new environment. The women empowerment project is about building female agents of peace.

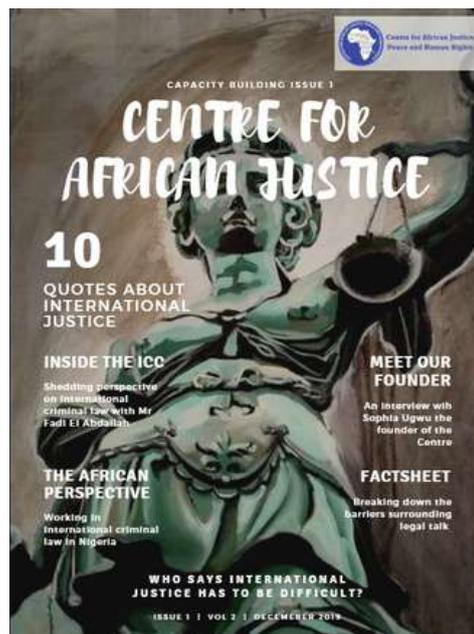
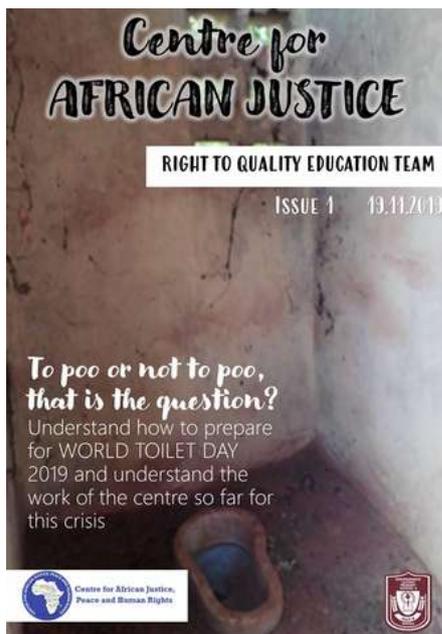


# OVERVIEW OF THE CENTRE: STATISTICS

One of the main aims of the centre is not only to make a change, but to inform others about the problem and how it can be fixed, we are not only activists but aim to inspire others through education to join our centre for African Justice army and fight injustice across all of our specialist areas.

There has been multiple ways that the centre has done this since we started: conferences, campaigns, publications (original literature) and social media interaction. Below you will find some statistics on the social media for the centre as a whole.

## BUILDING AWARENESS



Since we started we have executed

# 6

conferences to challenge norms of inequality and injustice across the teams

We have posted a grand total of

# 511

Facebook posts to raise awareness of our cause and missions

In addition to the social media campaigns at the end of 2019 we started a CAJPHR magazine, to further educate and instil in our followers and readers, the importance of each of our missions. 2019 had 2 volumes, however this will grow in 2020.



Since we started we have published

# 10

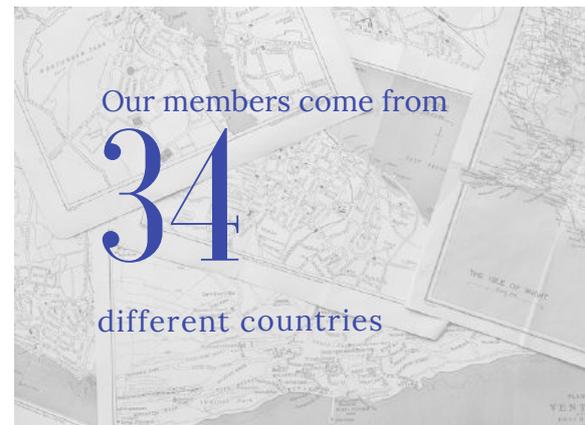
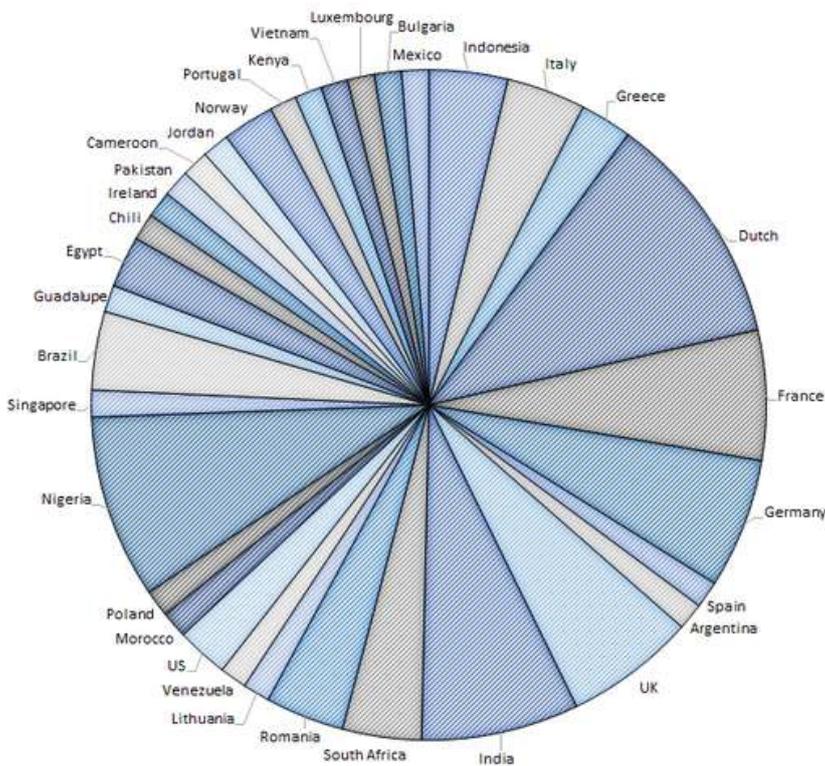
original articles across all of our teams. Visit our website and Facebook to read them.

# OVERVIEW OF THE CENTRE: STAFF STATISTICS

Its important to understand who we are as an organisation, that of course involves our vision and our values, but it also involves who we are as a team, who makes up our teams and what experience andz perspectives they bring our organisation.

We have been very lucky to have a diverse range of staff working for us through 2019, and indeed since we started. We have members from all over the globe, some travelling to the Netherlands just to join our cause. Below you will find some overall statistics about our team superstars.

## EMPLOYEE NATIONALITY





Centre for African Justice,  
Peace and Human Rights

INDEPTH REPORT FROM THE

# CAPACITY BUILDING TEAM



# CAPACITY BUILDING TEAM

## Team Background

The Capacity Building mission is to provide actors across Africa with the tools, knowledge and skills needed to help create a conflict-free Africa, built on principles of justice, accountability, rule of law and respect for Human Rights. This department aims to provide these tools to legal professionals and law students, capacitating them in International Criminal Law, enabling them to investigate and execute justice.

Misconceptions and misinformation can be dangerous. As a response to this lack of understanding, we developed two approaches to decrease the existing stigma. In both approaches, we truly believe that by familiarizing lawyers, judges, prosecutors, any interested legal professional, and also national and international students, we are helping them develop important legal skills that will help to put an end to the existing culture of impunity. However, a variety of important skills and tools will not be forgotten. Through interactive workshops and lectures, we will encourage dialogue and increase our attendees debating and augmenting skills.

- **International to Domestic Approach:**

This approach consists of accompanying International Criminal Law experts from the Netherlands to African countries, where we will be holding seminars, workshops, lectures and other kinds of sessions. Starting with in the west african region, and continuing to other African countries afterwards, we aim to bring the right information to the right people, capable of implementing the core concepts of International Criminal Law in their countries, allowing them the tools to domesticate International Criminal Law in their national jurisdiction. At present, we have already began negotiating the execution





of CB workshops with few West African States and invite International law stakeholders in other States to reach out to us for potential collaboration.

- **Domestic to International Approach**

To provide practical experience in International Criminal Law, we host legal experts and other professionals, of whom wish to ensure legal accountability. Through these working visits for legal professionals from domestic jurisdiction and study visits for law students and researchers from domestic jurisdiction, legal experts from domestic jurisdictions get the chance of having a practical experience of the international criminal justice system in the Hague. They visit courts, attend proceedings and interact with their international counterpart

Hence, introducing them to a global network in this field will allow everyone to exchange perspectives and practices, learning from each other.

The capacity building team is also a research based team. The team basis its research on various methods such as empirical research which includes both quantitative and qualitative analysis, doctrinal legal research, socio-economic legal research and comparative research. The research heavily relies on the primary as well as secondary sources respectively. Primary sources being our focal people working at ground zero in different African states, and secondary being information based on different articles, reports, books, journals, etc from credible and authentic sources.

The team relies on empirical research methods in order to assess the working of the governance by the African states in relation to the criminal sector in Africa. Both, quantitative and qualitative analysis is made in order to come to a result as to the performance of the governance by these states.

The doctrinal research methodology focuses on case-laws, statutes and other legal sources. The laws are examined as a written body of principles which are discerned and analysed using only legal sources. History of law, what the law was previously, what the law is now and whether there are indications as to how the law might be evolving or developing and if it is currently in tandem with the modern day problems and situations faced by these African states. All of these





factors are taken into consideration in order to assess the working of the rule of law in these states.

Another methodology that is adopted is the socio-economic legal analysis of these states. This leads to tell us as to how the social and economic crisis in these countries is affecting the people in terms of knowledge about the rule of law, general legal procedures and access to justice.

The research also involves comparative studies to investigate the historical and cultural context giving rise to the development of legal rules in different legal systems. If the African constitutions have overlooked or failed to address the innumerable regressive provisions and human rights abuses inherent in customary laws and practices which may have a cultural context behind it during its formation. This may result in certain crimes not being prosecuted.

## Partnerships & Grant-searching

The Capacity Building team is aware of the need for support to develop a project as such. Trusting the potential outcomes that might be conceived through teamwork and irreplaceable partnerships, endeavors have been made throughout the year when frequenting events and brainstorming our ideas to other experts in the field, interested in partnering up and contribute in any way to our mission. We are grateful for the values and vision we share with other entities concerning the importance of capacity building when seeking for justice, rule of law, accountability and respect for Human Rights.

The team met and is looking forward to working closely with some Diplomatic Missions and Embassies in The Hague, regarding the development and strengthening of the project, being thankful for their commitment to the fight alongside us against impunity.

Recently, a partnership was celebrated with the Royal School of Education Therapy Foundation. As the existence of a shared goal concerning capacity building, the RSETF desires to assist and cooperate with the implementation of CAJPHR's Capacity Building in International Criminal Law project, in Nigeria.





The CAJPHR is currently involved with Universities, having hosted an event in Leiden Universiteit and is currently involved in partnerships with Nasarawa State University and NOVA Law School of Lisbon. These partnerships and support enrich CAJPHR and allow us to obtain and give knowledge provided by experts in the field.

## Events in 2019

### **WiGS in Gowns Society and Leiden Public International Law Society presents: Human Rights Advocacy in Practice**

On the 24th May 2019, a WiGS event as hosted in Leiden for about 25 attendees. WiGS is an off-school of the Capacity Building project created with students in mind to provide training for human rights skills, strategic human rights litigation, all the way to learning about human rights investigative skills and forensic digital investigation.

By holding interactive sessions on topics concerning international law and justice and an investigation of a case study, national and international students were capacitated in developing knowledge and further their legal skills, such as debating, writing augmenting and research skills. Students were introduced to strategies used by NGO's and legal practitioners when fighting impunity for crimes of torture.

It was an opportunity to learn from legal practitioners that litigated human rights cases in this regard, giving students a chance to learn more about issues/problems they might themselves encounter in their future careers and why strategic litigation is important when combating impunity for



Picture taken at the WiGS event at Leiden University

[For more information about the event, please go to annex 1.](#)





## Capacity Building's Goals for 2020:

We aim to kick start the Capacity Building Pilot phase in Nigeria at the beginning of 2020, which will consist of training and study visits, where the primary focus in 2020 will be establishing a program in an African country, future plans from 2020 onward will see expansion to other parts of Africa. Efforts will be made to ensure the sustainability of the project beyond the pilot phase.

The Capacity Building team will work on establishing further strategic partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the organisation as a whole.

The continuation of the production of the Capacity Building Team magazine will act as a platform to inform and education on international law, as proposed, the magazine will be produced quarterly, delving into international criminal law, will the sole purpose of educating and informing both our African and international partners, and readers.



Pictures of our current and former members for the Capacity Building Team



## INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

We've had a lot of different nationalities working for the Capacity Team. To date we have had employees from 18 different countries, imparting knowledge of domestic legislation and what international law means to their home countries.



## SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE 2019

Increase in social media campaigns from 2018 in order to raise awareness of the importance of international criminal law and fighting impunity\*.

\*includes only posts by this team and not the centre in general.

## ACADEMIC REACH 2019

From the start of the Capacity Team, 2019 saw the biggest progress in terms of academic publications, with the first issue of the Capacity Building Magazine in which multiple blogs, articles and info-graphics were produced to challenge and inform the reader about international criminal law. In future years this number will only grow.

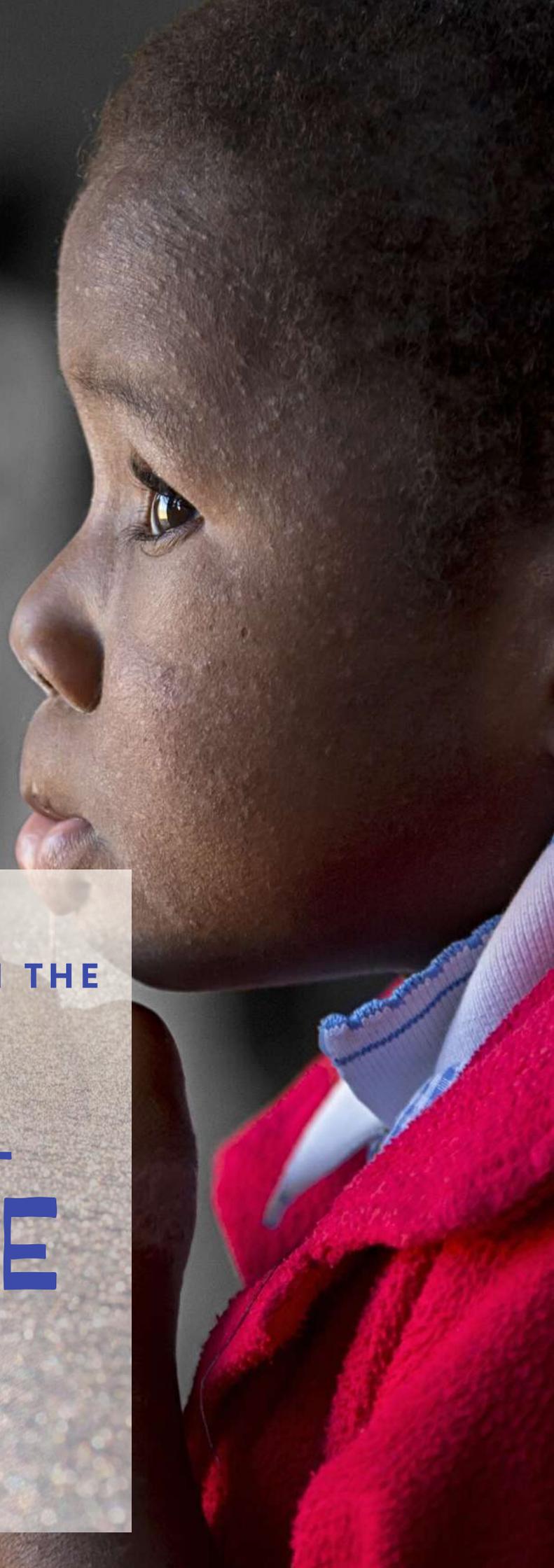




Centre for African Justice,  
Peace and Human Rights

INDEPTH REPORT FROM THE

# SEXUAL VIOLENCE TEAM



# SEXUAL VIOLENCE TEAM

## Team Background

The Sexual Violence (SV) team falls under the Justice and Human Rights cluster of our Projects. Specifically, it examines the issue of the Sexual Violence against the male gender in situations during and post the armed conflicts. The issue of sexual violence as a tool or weapon of war during conflicts has been touched upon by the international community.

From the Resolution 1820 (2008) of the Security Council on sexual violence as a weapon of war, until the cases brought before the international courts and tribunals, the efforts for prosecuting conflict-related sexual crimes have started to increase. CAJPHR, supporting this global effort, has created this department to launch projects to raise awareness via annual conferences, events, film screenings and to provide resources using the domestic legislation of the African Countries as a focus in conjunction with international law.

Thanks to the Sexual Violence Team, CAJPHR is a member of the Conflict-Related Sexual Violence NGOs based in the Netherlands. CRSV Network NL provides an opportunity to the NGOs such as CAJPHR to have an insight on each other's work and share knowledge on various issues related to sexual violence in conflict.





## Projects in 2019

### **Ongoing Database Project**

Throughout the year, the SV Department has been working on creating an extensive and comprehensive Database that contains Domestic Laws of African countries on sexual violence against the male gender as well as cases that were brought before domestic and international courts on the same issue in situations of armed conflict or post conflict.

Moreover, the Database will contain information about the procedure for reporting, investigating and prosecuting cases of sexual violence. The aim is create a one stop research point with information about the historical and present development of prosecuting sexual violence in African Countries.

When completed, the database can be used as a tool to help researchers to easily spot the loopholes in the existing legal provisions in international and domestic laws. It can also draw the attention of policy makers to areas in the provisions needing their urgent attention.

The Database is comprised of both domestic and international legislation to provide as much information as is possible for individuals accessing it.

### **Domestic Legislation**

The research regarding domestic legal situation has focused on the legislation of criminal law and case law of African countries. Some of them are: Uganda, Senegal, Kenya, Ghana, Cameroon, Nigeria, DRC, Sierra Leone, Rwanda and South Africa. The analysis of the legal situation of the country regarding prosecution of sexual violence should include the domestic jurisdiction and cases before international courts and tribunals involving situations and nationals of this country.





## International Legal Analysis

This part of the Database has been developed to contain analysis of international and regional human rights law and international policies, such as, UN Conventions, as well as analysis of cases tried before international courts and tribunals regarding sexual violence against the male gender. This also includes judgements of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, International Criminal Court and The Special Court for Sierra Leone.

## Team Events of 2019

### **Annual Conference: “Sexual Violence: The Male Perspective”**

Every year, the Sexual Violence team holds a Conference to raise awareness on sexual violence perpetrated against the male gender. The team aims at creating a platform for exchange of best practices between prosecution of sexual violence in domestic law and international law. Thus, we invite resourceful people with various backgrounds working on the issue of male sexual violence, such as judges, lawyers, psychologists, medical experts, legislators, prosecutors, academics, NGOs, religious organisations and law students, among others. Victims are not left out of the conversation as we bring male victims on board to share their experiences at the event.

This year's Conference was held in Maastricht on the 15th February 2019, was titled “Sexual Violence: The Male Perspective”, with focus on the theme “Unseen, Unheard, Unspoken”. The event began with an opening remarks by Ms. Sophia Ugwu, founder of the Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights through Mr. David Okwor, and was followed by presentations from members of our team.





Among the distinguished speakers of the Conference were her excellency Ms. Mirsada Colakovic, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Kazi Russel-Pervez, Counsellor at the Embassy of Bangladesh, MS. Rachel Ploem, Rutgers, Technical Advisor, Ms. Gloria Atiba Davis, Head of the Gender and Children Unit (GCU), Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court. The conference was anchored by Mr. Abeka Adballah. The speakers elaborate on the issue of sexual violence against the male gender during and post armed conflicts and the examined the situation from societal and legal perspective.

Ambassador Mirsada Colakovic, touched upon the issue of “sexual violence against men during conflicts from a societal perspective” and explained how gruesome conflict-related sexual violence is and how much it has dealt with countries like the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Sudan.

However, she highlighted that sexual violence is not limited to African countries alone; instead, it is a crime that transcends geographical location such as the case of Yugoslavia.

Ms. Colakovic also discussed about the limited or under-reporting of cases of sexual violence by male victims. This is due to the fact that in many countries, men are presumed to be the dominant gender and protector of the family. Therefore, when they are sexually abused, it emasculates and feminises them. In such a situation having to report rape or any form of sexual violence would lead to stereotypical presumptions.

Mr. Pervez, Counsellor of the Embassy of Bangladesh, presented the definition of rape under the domestic laws of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh; and the extent to which men and boys are legally protected and recognised as potential victims of rape within the country. According to the existing domestic laws of Bangladesh, men are only viewed as perpetrators and only women are viewed as victims





In case of children, the law does not distinguish between genders and that is how a male child is protected in cases of sexual violence. According to Mr. Pervez, Bangladesh is yet to sufficiently improve their laws to address sexual violence perpetrated against men and it's about time for Bangladesh to amend their laws on sexual violence against men; for the purpose of letting male victims especially same-sex rape victims to easily seek redress.

On the topic of “involving boys and men in gender equality by recognising male victims of sexual violence”, Mrs. Ploem, linked the sexual violence with the gender-based violence. She mentioned that there is a lack of documentation concerning male victimisation especially when it comes to conflict-affected countries. The male victims who finally end up reporting the sexual assaults, very often they are not covered by the existing legal framework because of their gender. Mrs. Ploem also focused on the impact society can have on the victims in order to overcome their traumatic experiences.

Ms. Davis, examining the issue from an international perspective, stated that the Rome statute was the first international treaty to recognise a range of sexual and gender violence crimes as among the most serious of the international concern. She also elaborated on the relevant jurisprudence of the international courts as well as studies that helped support the view that indeed males are victims of sexual violence during conflicts.

Overall, the Conference gave opportunities for one to acquire knowledge on the different aspects of sexual violence against men. The conference also focused on the possible positive impact to be initiated for the prevention of this crime as well as methods victims who have gone through this kind of violation can be assisted.





## Event Speakers



Her Excellency, Ms Mirsada Colakovic.  
Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina.  
Speaker for the symposium, sexual  
violence - the male perspective.



Ms Rachel Ploem (Rutgers, SRHR and  
Gender Adviser)Topic: "Involving boys and  
men in gender equality by recognizing  
male victims of sexual violence"



Mr Kazi Russel Pervez (Counselor, Embassy  
of Bangladesh)Topic: "The definition of rape  
under the domestic laws of the people's  
Republic of Bangladesh: To what extent are  
men and boys legally protected and  
recognized as potential victims of rape in  
Bangladesh"



Ms Gloria Atiba Davies is currently the Head  
of the Gender and Children Unit (GCU) in  
the Office of the Prosecutor, International  
Criminal Court. With her professional  
training as a lawyer, she gained expertise  
working on issues of sexual and gender-  
based violence in her home country Sierra  
Leone



Pictures from the Conference in Maastricht

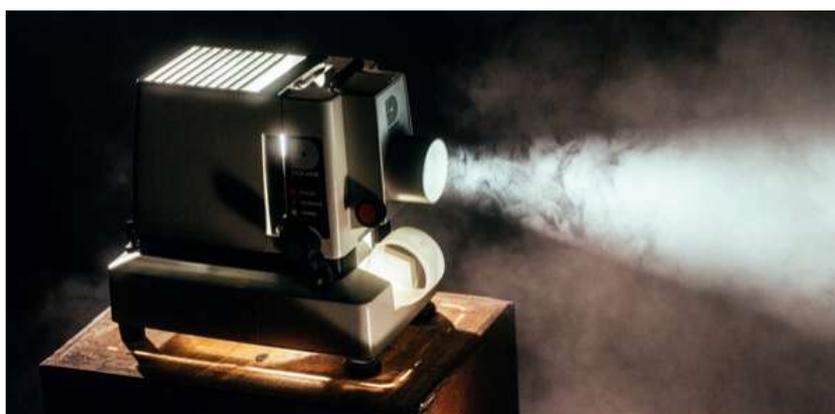
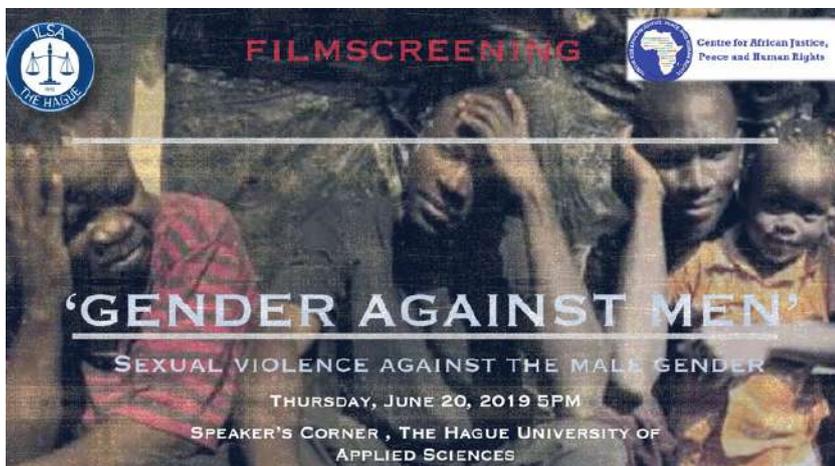




## Film Screening “Gender Against Men”

On the 19th of June, the UN celebrates the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict. Inspired by this cause, the Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights had a film screening event on the 20th June 2019 at the Speakers Corner in the Hague University of Applied Sciences. “Gender Against Men” is an advocacy-oriented documentary exposing the hidden world of sexual and gender-based violence against men in the conflicts of the Great Lakes Region of Africa, created by the Refugee Law Project.

Sexual violence against the male gender is severely under-reported due to destructive cultural stereotypes and the inability of the investigators, the criminal justice system and aid workers to identify male victims. After the screening, the audience and the members of the Sexual Violence Team were engaged in a round-table discussion where everybody had the opportunity to share their opinions and knowledge of the issue.





## Annual NGO Reception

The Centre for African Justice took part of the Annual International Organisation & NGO Reception, a by invitation event organised by the Humanity Hub on the 29th January 2019. After the welcome address by Deputy Mayor Saskia Bruines and by the Humanity Hub Managing Director Jill Wilkinson, our representatives made important contributions on the following interactive workshops:

- Data Security and Cyber Protection for NGOs (Karama, X-Systems, Justice and Peace, and Startpage.com).
- How can SMEs and NGOs collaborate to realize the SDGs? (Oxfam Novib, Twynstra Gudde, and ImpactCity)
- Digital Learning Innovations (Centre for Innovation, Leiden University)
- Business Model Transformation for NGOs (InnoPlot and Humanity Hub)

## Implementation of the Civil Society Declaration on Sexual Violence

On 26th of September 2019, the Civil society representatives were invited to a closed meeting to formally launch the Civil Society Declaration on Sexual Violence. During the event, the Declaration was adopted, which also included a strategic advocacy plan to implement and maximize the impact of the Declaration.

CAJPHR through its representatives made important interjections with regard to inclusion of “child marriage” and “confinement” (alone) as acts of sexual violence. The members present unanimously adopted the Declaration.





## External Meetings of 2019

### 3rd CRSV Meeting - 18th April, 2019

CAJPHR representatives discussed with the representative of the host organization, Ms. Rina Ghafoerkhan and with the CRSV Network Coordinator, Ms. Anne-Marie de Brouwer about “How we could benefit from each other’s work / expertise?”. Our representatives pointed out the need to acknowledge and redress sexual violence against the male gender in conflict and post conflict situations.

### 4th CRSV Meeting - 7th November, 2019

The 4th CRSV meeting was focused on identifying and managing stress, in particular among support workers in conflict situations. CAJPHR representatives participated in the workshop and gave good contributions to the discussions.

### Embassy Meetings

The Sexual Violence Team attended 8 diplomatic meetings throughout the year. The Centre for African Justice members took the opportunity to create awareness about the importance of sexual violence perpetrated against the male gender, in both conflict and post conflict situations. The meetings were conducted with the following Embassies’ representatives:

- H.E. Oji Nyimenuate Ngofa, Ambassador of Nigeria
- Mrs. Anna Wrangle, Counsellor Multilateral Affairs of the Sweden Embassy
- H.E. Mirsada Colakovic, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- H.E. Mr. Momar Gueye, Ambassador of Senegal
- Mr. Jaymion Allen Hendricks, Third Secretary Bilateral of the South African Embassy
- H.E. Ms. Paivi Kaukoranta, Ambassador of Finland
- H.E. Dr Hissa Abdulla Ahmed Alotaiba, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates
- Dr. Luther M. Rangreji, Counselor of the Embassy of India





## Plans for 2020

### Upcoming Events

#### **Annual Conference “Sexual Violence against Boys in Conflict: The Case of Child Soldiers”**

The Sexual Violence Team will hold its Annual Conference on the 11th of February 2020. The Conference will address the sexual violence against male child soldiers in armed conflict. Sexual violence against the male gender has long been under discussed mostly as a result of a problematic legal and societal framework. However, in several conflict situations, incidents of rape and sexual violence against boys have been documented but still those incidents are under reported.

In many cases, sexual violence is weapon or tool of war that the perpetrators use to degrade them. In other cases, the boys are forced to behave as perpetrators themselves and to sexually abuse others as part of their training in conflict. The situation deteriorates as in many countries affected by war there is no legal protection for boys against rape, as their national legislation fails to recognise rape against males in general.

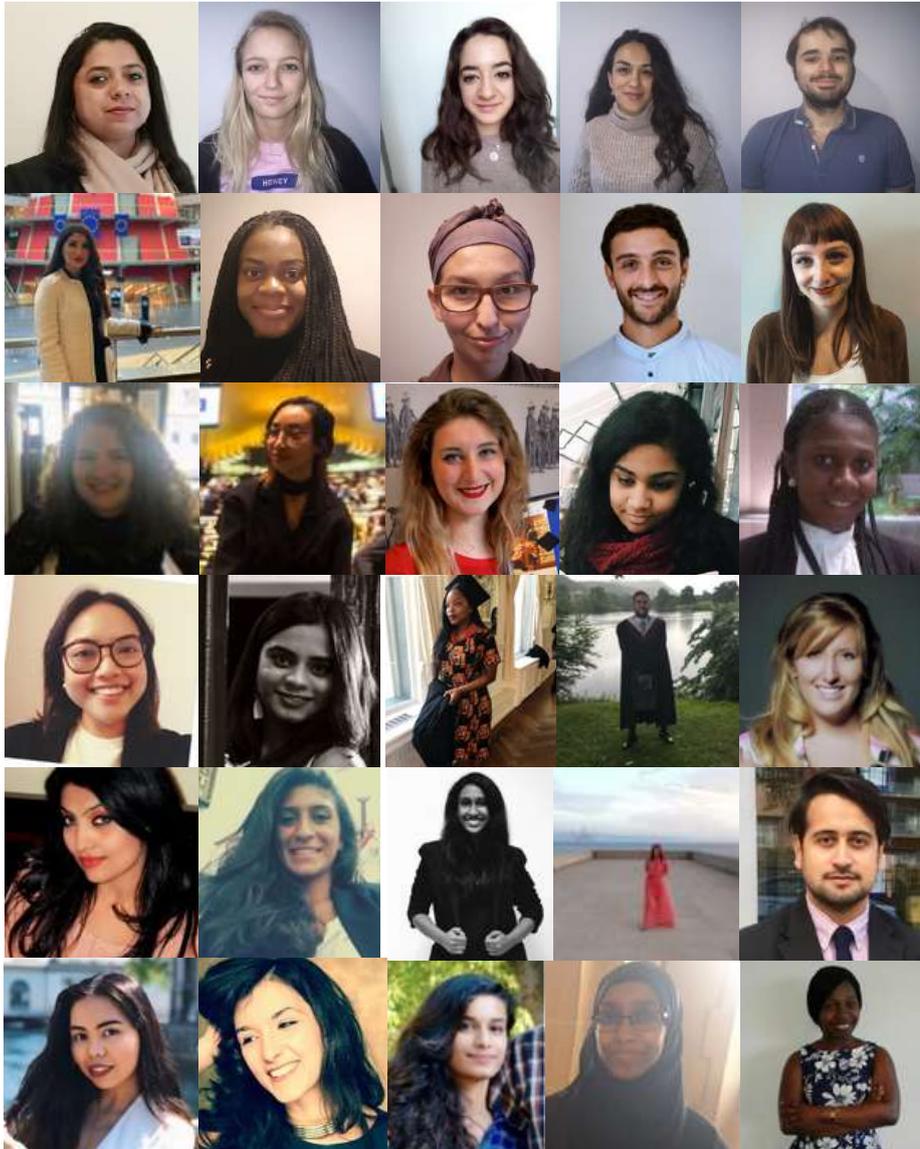
Our annual Conference aspires to raise awareness and to shed some light on the issue of rape and sexual violence against the male child soldiers. In discussing the above issue from a legal and societal perspective, CAJPHR once more will invite distinguished speakers, experts in relevant fields that will share their knowledge and experience on the issue.





### 5th CRSV Meeting

The CAJPHR will host the 5th CRSV Meeting in April 2020 with the subject: sexual violence against the male gender.



Pictures of our current and former members of the Sexual Violence Team, where photographs were available.



## GLOBAL REACH 2019

Every year, the Sexual Violence team approaches embassies to explain their teams work. In 2019 this number was greater than in the past, in fact it was 300% higher than the number of embassies approached in comparison to previous years. Through these meetings, we briefed states about sexual violence perpetrated against the male gender in conflict and post conflict situations and emphasized the role of States in recognizing males as victims of SV within their domestic jurisdiction



## SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE 2019

In 2019 we saw a large increase in our social media campaigns from 2018. The main purpose, to raise awareness of the Sexual Violence against the Male Gender and to increase our recognition as being global actors of fighting this particular injustice\*.

\*includes only posts by this team and not the centre in general.

## PUBLICATIONS 2019

In 2019 we had 5 new publications on the topic of sexual violence. Each of the publications designed to challenge current misconceptions about the possibility and prevalence of male victims





Centre for African Justice,  
Peace and Human Rights

INDEPTH REPORT FROM THE

# RIGHT TO QUALITY EDUCATION TEAM



# RIGHT TO QUALITY EDUCATION TEAM

## Team Background

The Right to Quality Education Team and partners work with African stakeholders to provide essential school facilities for students in impoverished communities. We support communities that lack the infrastructure to provide a safe education environment for their students by building and upgrading existing school facilities.

Our team is guided by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4. More specifically, we are focused on promoting lifelong learning opportunities by “building and upgrading education facilities that are child, disability, and gender sensitive in order to provide a safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environment” (UN, 2018). We work tirelessly to reduce the dropout rate of students by ensuring they have access to the most basic facilities such as basic drinking water and basic sanitation.

Our goal is to provide children access to a safe learning environment and a quality education. This goal is essential to improve the standard of living for the most vulnerable in the society. Any country that has a poor education system is more likely to have unacceptable social inequalities.

Despite the demand for better education services and facilities across the African continent, some local and national governments struggle to provide safe, non-violent, and effective learning environments. Some reasons behind this issue include: on-going conflicts, lack of resources to build and maintain education facilities, and deficiency of basic infrastructure and professionals to provide basic education services.



The Right to Quality Education Team believes that access to basic education is essential for the sustainable development of peoples, institutions, and resources. Our initiatives are always focused on closing the gap between the quality and standard of education received in impoverished communities and the rest of the developing world.

## Enugu Project

The Right to Quality Education Team came across Independence Layout Primary School 2 in Enugu State, Nigeria, through our partners in the region who introduced us to some of the challenges the school is facing.

Last year, the school had four dysfunctional toilets servicing more than 700 children and school staff. These bathroom facilities fell into a state of disrepair because the school did not have access to a continuous source of water for cleaning and maintenance.



School's toilet facilities before the Enugu Project

The Right to Quality Education Team studied the school and challenges in the area and felt the need to aid the school in its effort to provide a safer and healthier educational experience to its student body. Our Investigations revealed that in consequence of the lack of clean running water and an effective sanitation system, students preferred defecating in the bushes and gardens around the school premises.



Due to the urgency of the situation, we launched this project to provide the clean water, standardised toilet system, overhead tanks, water pumping machine and other needed sanitation standards to improve the school's toilet facilities



New school's toilet facilities under construction during the the Enugu Project

With the help of European Third World Association (ETWA) who provided the majority of the finances needed, our team managed to implement this success story. By implementing this project, we immediately improved the learning environment for hundreds of children and enhance the educational institution space for future generations.



New school's toilet facilities built by the Enugu Project

We are proud of being able to positively impact so many lives by providing the school with clean and safe toilet facilities.



Innauguration of the new school's toilet facilities built by the Enugu Project

For further information about this project, please go to Annex 2.



## Events

Throughout the year of 2019, the Right to Quality Education Team attended different events and contributed with discussions on the matters of the CAJPHR.

Among the events, the Right to Quality Education Team took part of the 'Why is Justice Important for Sustainable Peace and Development' event at the Humanity Hub and the 'Searching for the Cutting Edge: Identifying Pathways to Achieving Access to Justice at the National, Regional and International Level' event at the IDLO - International Development Law Organization.

On the 12th of September, the Right to Quality Education Team was invited by the Diplomat Magazine to the VI Diplomats Welcome After-Summer event to present the results of our Enugu Project.

For World Toilet Day (19th November) the CAJPHR orchestrated a social media campaign to raise awareness of the large proportions of the world who do not have access to a seated toilet, this was visually represented through the biggest squat challenge. Members of organisation across teams were challenged to hold a squat for the longest the event was registered on <https://www.worldtoiletday.info/events/> to raise awareness of both the cause and the organisations goals.



Pictures taken during the biggest squat for World Toilet Day 2019



## Productions & Publications

In order to promote the importance of lifelong learning opportunities to all and the need of a proper sanitation for the educational environment, the Right to Quality Education Team produced four articles and several texts throughout the year.

For the World Toilet Day (WTD), an official United Nations international observance day, the Right to Quality Education Team published on the official CAJPHR website an article about the 'Lack of Toilet facilities in the developing world And why Ignorance is not bliss'.

The publication can be found at:

<http://centreforafricanjustice.org/lack-of-toilet-facilities-in-the-developing-world-and-why-ignorance-is-not-bliss/>

In addition to this the first issue of the Centre's magazine was also focussed around World Toilet Day and was for the Right to Quality Education.

The success of the Enugu Project was published by the Diplomat Magazine at:

<http://www.diplomatmagazine.eu/2019/09/15/access-to-quality-education-is-one-of-the-fundamentals-of-human-rights/>

## New Year's Goals of the Team

The Right to Quality Education Team envisions the execution of new projects in African schools in order to contribute with the educational environment while ensuring the access to the most basic facilities such as basic drinking water and basic sanitation.

Also, our team will be dedicated on promoting awareness by publishing new articles and newsletters



Pictures of our current and former members for the Right to Quality Education Team where pictures were available of the former members.



### PROJECT IMPACT

The Enugu project impacted the lives 780 school children and 25 staff members. That's a lot of positive impact made through just under 2 months work.



### ENUGU PROJECT 2019

It took a total of 57 days from start to finish for the construction of the toilets. That's only 57 days to make a major difference to 805 people.

### PUBLICATIONS 2019

In 2019 we had 3 new publications on the topic of toilet facilities. The publications are designed to raise awareness about the impact not having access to toilet facilities on education. This includes the magazine issue released on World Toilet Day.





Centre for African Justice,  
Peace and Human Rights

INDEPTH REPORT FROM THE

# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT TEAM



## Team Background

Due to the World's sexist historical background and the constant challenges faced by the society to achieve gender equality, many women can be led to the sensation of incapacity to achieve their life/career goals. Thinking about this, the Women Empowerment Team looks forward to empower women who've migrated from Africa to the Netherlands and also to help female entrepreneurs within the Netherlands.

Our mission is to rekindle the spirit of excellence in the minds of women through: Capacity-Building, Empowering and providing resources to achieve sustainable business developments and Peace-building.

Our vision is to empower women who have low self-esteem, inferiority-complex, into entrepreneurship and are generally helpless in their present location outside their home countries.

Our research has shown that migration whether positive or negative has side effects on women. Many female migrants and refugees are exposed to unspeakable challenges; some of them have become victims of identity crisis, sexual and domestic abuse. No doubt, these dwindle their chances of having a successful career and a fulfilled life. In the same vein, lack of mentorship, information, coaching and motivation in the face of these challenges has caused women residing in foreign lands to drop out of school, go into drugs or alcohol, give into trauma, depression and other forms of mental or psychological situations.

The unique methods employed by our team in reaching out to broken women is the use of women to empower women. We believe that there are many reasons why women are in a better position to empower, motivate and lift up other women. Based on this, we use very successful and influential women as tools for motivating and coaching younger ones to keep focus and achieve their dreams.





## Two Sections of the WE Team

- **Instrument of Peace Building**

The Women Empowerment Team aims at grooming young women to become agents of peace in the society. As Peace is the foundation of every society, we use our efforts as an avenue to empower young African women to become instruments/agents of peace in the society while striving to achieve their highest potentials in life. At our events, women are trained to perform impressive roles as peace builders and peace keepers for the benefit of their immediate society and the world at large.

- **Empowering Women Through Education**

We aim to empower women through education. We would like to give opportunities and resources to the women in Africa who have no access to education, we believe it is essential for their good and betterment of society. To achieve this, we have made partnerships with primary schools, secondary schools and Universities in the Netherlands to collect second-hand books on their grounds and deliver the books to schools in Africa. Our intention is to help educate less-privileged women in need of academic support.

## 4R Women Empowerment Conference

On 22th of March 2019, the Women Empowerment Team has successfully organized the 4R Women Empowerment Conference. The topic of the conference was "Renew your mind, Restate your goals, Rebrand your life and Retell your story". We aimed at empowering women, creating opportunities to enable them become exposed to diverse information and tools which will help them achieve their highest potentials in life.

For the success of the 4R Women Empowerment Conference, we had the participation of honourable speakers:

-Ms Nenita La Rose, Chairperson of Dutch Women's Council





- Prof. Alanna O'Malley, United Nations Studies in Peace and Justice, Leiden University
- Ms Christina Noreno, CEO of She Matters
- Ms Veena Joseph, Founder at the Forerunners Consulting and Coaching



## Publications

To raise awareness about women empowerment, our team with the help of other members of the Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights published quotes about their thoughts and opinions following the theme for International Women's Day (8 March) 2019, "Think Equal, Build Smart, Innovate for Change".





In addition to social media campaigns, the women empowerment team have also produced blogs informing on the importance of economic empowerment of women for economies to thrive

### New Year's Goals of the Team

The Women Empowerment Team next year's goal is to organise workshops / training programs for the empowerment and capacity building of women especially in the domain of entrepreneurship. Through this, we hope to enhance economic growth and strengthen the sustainability of development initiatives undertaken by female entrepreneurs.

We also intend to create platforms where women are reminded that no matter what they have been through in life, there is always light at the end of the tunnel.

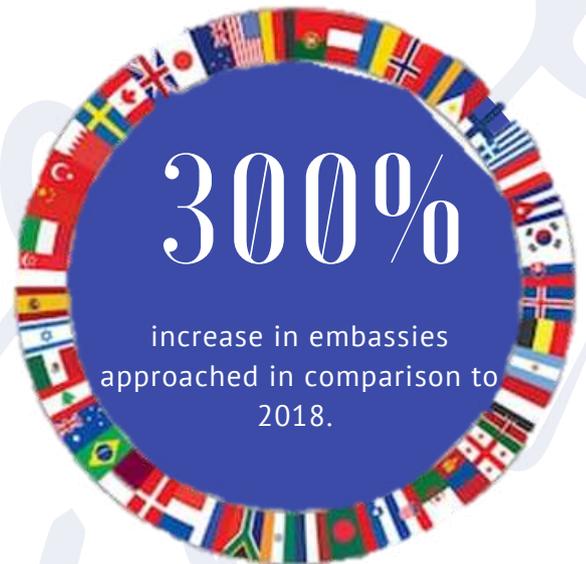


Photographs depict current and former members of the Women Empowerment Team, where photographs were available of our memebres.



## GLOBAL REACH 2019

Every year, the Sexual Violence team approaches embassies to explain their teams work. In 2019 this number was greater than in the past, in fact it was 300% higher than the number of embassies approached in comparison to previous years.



## SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE 2019

In 2019 we saw a large increase in our social media campaigns from 2018. The main purpose, to raise awareness of the still gender differences in society and inspire actors to challenge this fact.

\*includes only posts by this team and not the centre in general.

## PUBLICATIONS 2019

In 2019 we had 3 new publications on the topic of women empowerment looking at economic empowerment and the importance of international women's day. Challenging the still present gender inequalities in society.





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# THE ANNEX



# ANNEX 1 - THE WIGS IN GOWNS SOCIETY (WIGS)

The WiGS's aim is to familiarise international and national undergraduate and graduate students (at Bachelor, Master, and PhD level) with various issues of public international law. To this end, the society held regular sessions on chosen topics reflecting contemporary concerns of international law and justice.

Through the sessions, WiGS students were instructed on how to develop legal skills (such as debating, writing, augmenting, researching), as well as build a network of students and guests speakers to help them in their future career. The meetings were conducted in such a way that it required the students to participate actively to the discussion and give them the opportunity to put theory in practice.

The sessions consisted of:

- A presentation of the chosen issue of public international law by the speaker (generally students but also lecturers and professionals);
- The analysis by the speaker (student, lecturer or professional) of a chosen piece of research relevant to the issue;





- An open debate and discussion on said issue among the students (or between the students);
- An opportunity to put theory into practice: through delivering speeches; sustaining legal argumentation; presenting opinion pieces; or drafting memorandums, contracts and other legal documents, etc.;
- A general feedback on the session, through evaluation forms to be filled by the students.





## ANNEX 2 - ENUGU PROJECT

We came across Independence Layout primary school 2 in Enugu State, Nigeria through our partners in the region who introduced the school to us last year. The school was facing empirical challenges due to its lack of adequate infrastructure.

The vision and mission statement for the school is to “provide learning environment for indigent children”, (b) to be a model primary school that aims at attaining the highest standard of primary education, (c) an inclusive school that does not discriminate, free, compulsory, affordable and accessible to families and children at risk. It respects diversity and ensures equality of learning for all children.

CAJPHR studied the school and the challenges in the area and aspire the need to aid the school in its effort to provide a safer and healthier educational experience to its student body. CAJPHR was immensely touched of the stories of the children attending the school. Their heart-aching stories motivated us to urgently provide the school with clean water, standardized toilet system, overhead tanks, water pumping machine and other needed sanitation standards to improve the learning experience of over 780 learners and 25 teachers.





Our RQE team mapped all the possible funding partners that aid NGOs and organizations in developmental projects. As a result, we came across European Third World Association (ETWA). With the help of ETWA who provided the majority of the finances needed (Six thousand Euros), CAJPHR managed to implement its first success story of its RQE department and thus brought joy to hundreds of students, while creating a more peaceful, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environment to over 700 students.

### Challenges

The challenges listed below were some of the most crucial obstacles that the school was facing due to lack of clean water and toilet facilities:

- No regular access to clean water, which leads the children to defecate in the bushes near the school.
- Female children had to leave school when menstruating.
- Lack of/poor toilet facilities had led to chronic diseases of the students and the staff. for instance, according to the information provided by the school board more than 80% of students are affected by diarrhea, cholera, typhoid fever or dysentery.
- Lack of access to water and proper sanitation system induced children to leave school to try to find water and a suitable place to relieve themselves; resulting in abduction by criminal organizations and casualties caused by road accidents.
- Additionally, the environment had to suffer due to feces found around the school premises; creating a toxic environment for children to be in.





## Beneficiary

The main beneficiary of this project is Independence Layout primary school 2, more specifically the 780 students attending classes in the school, plus the 25 teachers/members of staff.

Additionally, the school agreed to let the neighboring primary schools that are in the same situation use their facilities if they respect the rules and the maintenance agreement until they manage to obtain their own.

As part of the goal of the project to ensure sustainability and the continuous maintenance of the facilities provided, the school staff will sell water to the members of the community during the weekend, which means that the whole community of Enugu will also have access to clean water. Thus, it is fair to claim that this project supports not only the school children, the instructors and the staff, but also the community as a whole.

## Aims of the Project

The Project had two main goals:

- Equip the school with clean water and toilet facilities, which can be achieved through setting a Water Well with a water pumping machine and a water reservoir (also known as an Overhead Tank) inside the premises of the school.
- Construction of two additional toilets and the renovation of the already existing four toilet rooms.





As a result, the project contributed to the construction of the following units:

- Renovation of four – units’ toilets
- Construction of two – units’ toilets
- Building an overhead tank stand with two GEE PEE tanks of water reservoir mounted.
- Construction of water well  
Provision of electric water pumping machine

### Application Stages

The Parents and Teachers of Independence Layout primary school 2, under the leadership of Veronica Ugwu, Headmistress of the school, applied for funding through the Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights, who also served as a co-supervisor of the project. The application for funding to the European Third World Association (ETWA) was made on the 16th of July 2018.



### Funding stages

The Parents and Teachers Association (PTA) of the school donated around 20% of the sum that was needed to fulfill the project.

Male parents of the children have been working as non-skilled laborers during the execution of the project, which leads to a decrease in the overall expenses. Additionally, PTA served as a monitoring body at the school once per day for the duration of the project.





PTA, working together with the School-Based Management (SBM) is also responsible for maintaining the electrical and water installation. They will do so by selling water during the weekend to the community. The sale will take place only during the weekend as to not disturb the children during weekdays.

ETWA was the main funder of the project. ETWA had donated a total amount of 6,000 Euros, on 19 September 2018, for building the new toilets, for paying the experts needed for construction, for the refurbishing of the toilets and for building the well. On the 15th of October 2018, the school received the first part of the funding for the project, N1,242,121.20.



Dorona Enterprise Ltd, was the company in charge of building the infrastructure mentioned above.

On the 16th of November 2018, the remaining sum, N1,207,438.91 was received by the PTA and SBM of the school.



### **Execution of the Project**

The project was supposed to start a week after the release of the funds for the project and last for about four months. The project started 8 days later than the 15th of October 2018, when it was supposed to start, due to the loss of a student. A tragic accident occurred in which a student (Akachukwu Wisdom) who had wandered around the bushes to relieve himself, was hit by a car outside the premises of the school right before the project was supposed to start. This incident was so tragic and so touching that enforced the urgency of our action to get the project implemented as soon as possible.





On the 5th of November 2018, the following progress was made: clearing of site, setting out an excavation of two new toilets, strip casting for the two new toilets, block laying for the new toilets, casting lintel and level to roof for the new toilets, removal of existing roof sheets and roof structure on existing toilets, roof works and roof covers, plastering and rendering of the two new toilets and the masonry work. Installation of doors and windows, tile, painting and electrical works were in progress. Plumbing work was also about 80% completed.

By the 19th of December the project was fully implemented. And the earlier mentioned renovations and constructions had taken place at the school.

The opening ceremony of the project took place on the school grounds on the 24th of July 2019. Among the attendees where about 500 guests, 750 students and 27 staff members. Amongst the high official attendees were Mrs Margret Ayoga, Director of Schools, and represented Secretary Ministry of Education, Mrs Nwanneka Onah. Additionally, Mr Nicholas Ani, Parents Teachers Association (PTA) chairman, Mr Omeje Vincent Chingbodu from School Based Management Board, Pastor Mr. Obi, a PTA member, and Mrs Ada Okpala, Women Leader were amongst the highest official attendees.

There were many volunteers at the closing ceremony who played different roles at the event. Some were part of a team of volunteers who helped with the construction of the infrastructures at the school, during its implementation. Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights volunteer, Barrister Linda Chukwu, Engr Charles Ogbu (Volunteer), Veronica Ugwu (MIHNR) (Head Teacher of the school), and Hon. Barr. Jennifer I. Ugwu (Committee Member and Country Director CAJPHR Nigeria).





### Tasks Completed

By Installing a water reservoir (Water Wells and Overhead Tanks) we have provided basic drinking water, basic sanitation facilities and basic handwashing facilities to the students and school staff. We had also constructed a two-room toilet facility connected to the Water Tanks for instant flushing after use, and renovation of 4 old toilets.

The overall construction in Toilet Block A = 2 toilet rooms and handwashing facilities, in Toilet Block B = 4 toilet rooms and handwashing facilities, 2 Gpee Water Tanks, a deep water Well and a water pumping machine

### The Impact of the Project

- Lowered the chance of contamination leading to health issues.
- Improved the health of the community.
- Promotion of human rights by providing a non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environment.
- Prevented diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, typhoid fever or dysentery.
- Prevented poverty.
- Reduced child abduction since there is no need for school children to leave school premises and wander around to find a safe place to relieve themselves.
- Infant mortality has been reduced.
- The clean facilities have attracted more children to schools from nearby cities.
- The project has reduced absence from courses and dropouts due to issues caused by no access to clean water and toilets such as school girls not attending school on their menstrual cycles.
- The project had reduced pollution in the area.





Thank you for reading the annual report for The Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights.



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