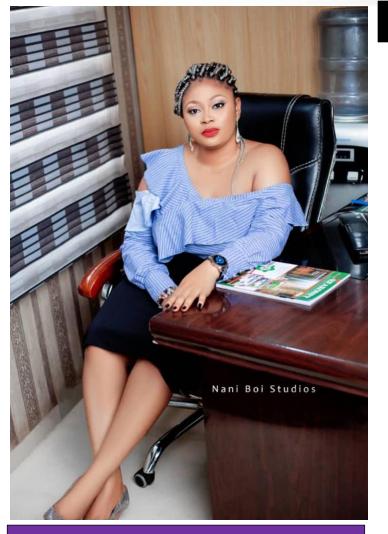
## September 2022

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT EDUCATION AND PEACE BUILDING INIITIATIVE

### NEWSLETTER



OGUADIMMA IJEOMA JOY FOUNDER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WEPBI

A simple definition of insecurity is when

one is not sure of sleeping and waking up the next morning, when one goes out and is not certain of coming back alive, when family in a dining table has their heart hanged, thinking of what may happen next; if the meal will be their last intake.

Nigeria as a nation have suffered the threat of insecurity for a reasonable period of time to the extent that some people now have no home because of banditry. Like the citizens of Borno and their neighbors, caused by the emergence of Boko Haram and other security threatening groups.

#### INSECURITY IN NIGERIA; WE CARE FOR A SAFE NATION

farmers become afraid to attend to their farm lands, for the fear of being killed in the process. And then their farm input will later be consumed by nomadic cows on their pasturing journey. When this happens, the table of the farmer will be left empty, and the family will have no option than to retire to bed with an empty stomach. So, fear and starvation becomes the order of the day. Across the different states of the nation exists one or two devastating security problem. This poses a challenge to the people and drives away their joy, while sending some into their early graves, creating an irreplaceable vacuum in the heart of their living relatives.

Kidnaping, robbery, rape and other vices cannot be left out in the counting of the things that force tears out of the eyes of the people.

While all this happens, it comes to mind that the most affected are women, girls and the children.

Children are kidnapped and huge amount of money demanded from their parents, which have now graduated to parents being kidnapped and down to priests in different churches.

So many women have been left by their husbands to suffer terribly to feed the children as widows, while so many girls lose their lives by being used for money rituals by some While all these happen, the people that are meant to put a stop to it are busy dragging the control of the national treasury, while the citizen who the national treasury should be used on suffer in pain waiting for their last days. So may have been left in mercy of their pastors searching for protection. Some have ran to native doctors to get their body charmed never to be hurt, but the question remains, what of the women, the children and other vulnerable ones who cannot make such move?

TheGuardian



INSECURITY

PICTURE CREDIT: THE GUARDIAN NEWSPAPER

Presently the agitation for separation and other related issues has turned the south East into a bloody zone where dead bodies are found in the street every day like the time of bird flu. No one knows who is who anymore.

Just few months ago, the ugly bloody attack in a church in Ondo state got the country bleeding again, causing the people to ask "which way Nigeria?"



The story of the Fulani headsmen cannot be forgotten so easily; a situation whereby heartless hoodlums in the quest to people to ask which way Nigeria? enrich their pockets. This is a time our leaders should go back

Insecurity as a global menace has a devastating effect on the lives of the citizen of any nation.

Armed robbers kill so many on the high ways and even visit homes to snatch money and still waist the blood of their helpless and innocent victims. This is a time our leaders should go back and understand their responsibilities or convince us that they are away of what is happening because Gen. Abacha a former military head of state of this nation once said that "if any banditry lasts more than two days, it means that the government in power knows about it".

While we cry and pray for a safe nation, let us remember that we can still change the narrative.



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WEPBI

# WEPBI SUCCESS STORY

#### NINE WOMEN ADDED INTO THE TRADITIONAL CABINET COUNCIL IN ABOR COMMUNITY, UDI LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF ENUGU STATE

The palace of H.R.H.Igwe Chukwudi Ngwudile, Agbodom the third and Chinemeze 1 of Abor on the 10th of September, 2022, was filled with people from all walks of life to witness the grand occasion and inauguration of some women who were selected to join the traditional ruling council and the Town Union Executive of the community.

The possibility of such a memorable day is an outcome of the intervention of the Women Empowerment Education and Peace Building Initiative (WEPBI) through the Women Voice and Leadership (WVL) project sponsored by Global Affairs Canada and supported by Action Aid Nigeria.



Speaking during the occasion, the Executive Director of WEPBI, Oguadimma Joy Ijeoma, expressed her joy for the day, saying that it took the origination and the community leader whole lots of dialogue and engagement to make such day a reality. She thanked the community members especially the male cabinet members for their consideration and acceptance of women inclusion in the cabinet, assuring them of a positive impact in the community. To the women she told them to be just w bench warmer in the cabinet, rather they should strive to contribute meaningfully to



IGWE AGODOM THE THIRD WITH THE INAUGURATED WOMEN AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WEPBI, OGUADIMMA IJEOMA JOY

Igwe Agbado the third also expressed his gratitude to the sponsors and supporters of the initiative, saying that their expectation is high that other communities that are yet to do such should try requesting that the organization should also take the idea to them immediately.

During an interview with the women, Mrs. Akpugo Staller one of the inaugurated women also said that she is overwhelmed with joy for being one of those selected to join them men in the palace to make decision for the community. "My joy knows no bound today, for amongst all that were screened I came out victorious and today I am recognized and addressed as Ichie. Eziokwu Bu Ndu 1 of Abor community" she said. Another women cabinet member, Mrs. Edith Ozor who spoke to WEPBI media team, said that she never believed such a day will come when women will sit with men in the palace to exchange ideas. "We were surprised when the initiative was brought and never believed it will come to reality, but today through the intervention of WEPBI, this us women being placed side by side with men with equal right in the palace" she said.





All the women inaugurated into the cabinet received a certificate validating their acceptance and inclusion into the highest decision-making body of the community



The occasion also witnessed the confinement of title to Mrs. Virginia Ogochukwu Obianyo with a chieftaincy title of Ugwum sin a Chi 1 of Abor.

the decision-making and developmental project of the community.



A little conversation with the town union president general, Hon. Bonaventure Ozor who is also a member of the cabinet revealed that the women were carefully selected from different clans and organizations to make sure every part of the community is well represented in the palace. According him, a screening was organized to make sure the women are the best option before the inauguration. Other members of the community to show appreciation to the sponsors and supporter of the movement came with different cultural music drumming and dancing.







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### LIVE RADIO PROGRAM



On the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2022, WEPBI team took to Energy, 105.5 FM to discuss the inclusion of women in the traditional cabinet council. Such a serious issues called for a discussion as some communities through the WVL project intervention has started including women to part of the decision-making in the palace which is the highest decision is making institution in the community. To make the discussion flow properly and sound as expected, Mr. Iheanyi Igboko who is the Executive Director of Centre for Memories (CFM) Enugu was invited as the quest speaker. Speaking on the topic, Iheanyi made it clear to the audience that the importance of including women in the cabinet council of the different communities is a practice that should not be given a second though before adopting. Speaking on the question of if there are some traditional laws that speak against such act, Igboko clearly stated that there has never been any of such law and even the tradtion of the Igbo land has nothing against that. Callers from different locations called in to air their views including Chinedum .E. Ofomata, who is a renowned writer and projector of Igbo culture and tradition. Other speakers in the show include Abuguja David Nnanna who is the communication officer of WEPBI and Loveth Ugochukwu who is the programs officer WEPBI. Both of them made their contribution majorly on the success stories by the organization in the area of women inclusion in the cabinet in the project communities.









END OF SESSION FOR WOMEN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

### **UP-AND-COMING EVENT**

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT EDUCATION AND PEACE BUILDING INITIATIVE (WEPBI)

PRESENTS

#### DINNER FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS AND LEADERS



- NETWORK AND
  BUSINESS CONNECTION
- BUSINESS STRATEGIES
- FREE BUSINESS
- EXHIBITIONS

OR CALL 07017989093

**5TH EDITION** 

NEWSLETTER

REGISTRATION FEE #3000 DETAILS:0303161302 GTBANK

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT EDUCATION AND PEACE BUILDING INITIATIVE

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of October, 2022, Women Empowerment and Peace Building Initiative will host its 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Dinner for Young Entrepreneurs and Leader. This is an event that brings young entrepreneurs and leaders together to discuss and exchange ideas as it relates to owning and managing a business and the business of leadership. This event gives opportunity for growing entrepreneurs, business owners and young ones with vision to engage in the leadership and politics of the society to showcase their potentials and gain more innovative ideas on the best way to go about it.

To register click on: https//wepbi.com/events Or call 07017989093

DOCUMENTARY ON WOMEN INCLUSION IN CABINET COUNCIL







WEPBI

NEWSLETTER



To intimate the society and disseminate the information about the importance of women in leadership, WEPBI engaged on a documentary production to showcase some communities that has accepted and added women in their cabinet, and the testimonies they shared concerning the impact of these women. It is also the collection of all the activities under WVL project that has led to the success of incorporating women in leadership and politics in Enugu state.











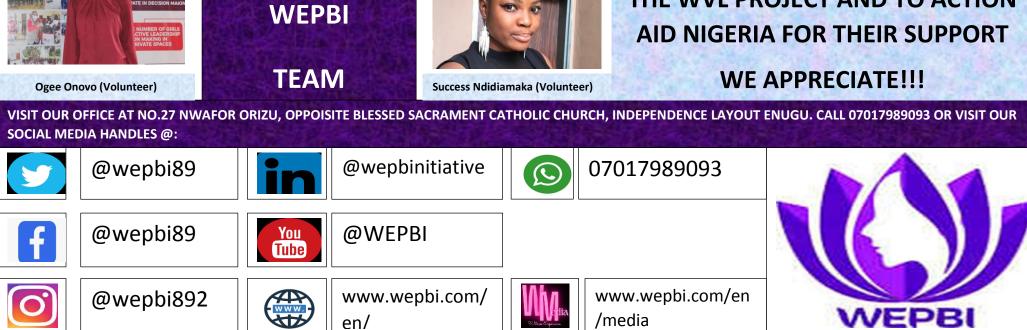








SPECIAL THANKS TO GLOBAL AFFAIRS CANADA FOR SPONSORING THE WVL PROJECT AND TO ACTION



MEET

