



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE 2023

IANSA REPORT

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence



Stop gender-based violence now!

25 November – 10 December 2023

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence took place from 25 November until 10 December. IANSA's theme this year was **"Take Action! Stop gender-based violence now."** Small arms and light weapons (SALW) are used to perpetrate or facilitate gender-based violence (GBV). GBV involves any act of violence targeting an individual on the basis of their gender. GBV encompasses violence against people based on their perceived or real sexual orientation, gender identity or expression and sexual characteristics. This campaign aims to raise awareness of the issue of GBV and urge government officials to take effective measures to address it.

IANSA called upon all States, parliamentarians, civil society representatives, and other relevant stakeholders to mobilise and take action against gender-based armed violence. It was also an opportunity to start preparing for the Fourth Review Conference on the UN Programme of Action on SALW (RevCon4), which will take place 17–28 June 2024.

IANSA focused on four key advocacy points for this year's campaign. We urged states to:

- Develop or strengthen existing gender-responsive arms control to account for the differential impacts of the SALW trade and misuse on men, women, girls, boys and gender-diverse persons;
- Strictly regulate the possession by civilians of SALW and implement legislation and programs to allow for the removal of firearms from homes in cases of gender-based and intimate partner violence;
- Develop and set national and regional targets in relation to gender-responsive arms control for the effective implementation of the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms;
- Take targeted measures to ensure the full, meaningful, equal and effective participation of traditionally excluded or marginalised groups (including women, youth, survivors of armed violence and gender-diverse people) in policymaking and programming for effective arms control and disarmament.

For the campaign, IANSA put together a list of 16 Actions to take during the 16 Days of Activism, available [here](#).

Funded Organisations

As part of IANSA's project with the UNODA through contributions received from the European Union: "From the Bottom Up: Civil Society Engagement and Support for the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons", small stipends were given to IANSA members to undertake activities during the 16 Days of Activism. This is a summary of their activities.

Burundi

Réveil Communautaire d'Assistance aux Victimes (RECOVI)

RECOVI organised an activity at a girls high school in Muzinda titled "Let's participate inclusively and actively in the fight against Gender-Based Violence: Tomorrow is already too late," Engaging over 250 students with participation from from accompanied by local authorities, civil society organisation leaders, young people affiliated with political parties, and local religious leaders.



Men Engage Burundi organized a panel discussion on the "Role of Men and Boys in the fight against violence against girls and women". Around thirty civil society organizations and state institutions, and media representatives were in attendance.



Food and Livestock Initiative organised a community awareness campaign to promote women's rights and to fight against gender-based armed violence in the Katoyi neighbourhood in the city of Goma. With participation from over 50 community leaders, young people and local authorities.



Rural Women's Network (RUWON) organized a "Leadership Development for Gender Equality Training Program" with participation from 15 women from different areas of Nepal, living in Kathmandu. This workshop aimed to help to enhance community women's knowledge of their rights, leadership, gender-based violence, gender justice, and violence against women and gender equity along with motivating skills.



Girls United for Human Rights organized two awareness raising workshops to unite community members to prevent violence against women and girls in Saidu Sharif, Pakistan. With participation of over 50 women, including 15 transgendered women, several community leaders, local civil society organizations, and youth. A signatory campaign was conducted and campaign materials were disseminated in the community.



Additional Activities

In addition to groups that received funding, other IANSA members from around the world participated in the 16 Days of Activism.

BÉNIN – Réseau d'Actions sur les Armes Légères en Afrique de l'Ouest (RASALAO)

Published several announcements about the 16 Days of Activism in a local newspaper.

MESURES CONTRE LA VIOLENCE ARMÉE BASÉE SUR LE GENRE

L'important message de RASALAO-BÉNIN orienté vers l'urgence d'une synergie d'actions

Le siège national du Réseau d'Actions sur les Armes Légères en Afrique de l'Ouest (RASALAO), section du Bénin, a servi de cadre le samedi 25 Novembre 2023 dans la soirée, à une sortie médiatique. Elle s'inscrit dans la logique du lancement des séries d'activités dans le cadre de la semaine d'actions pour les mesures contre la violence armée basée sur le genre. Des initiatives portées et financées par l'Organisation "International Action Network on Small Arms" (IANSA) et l'Union Européenne (UE) à travers leur bras opérationnel RASALAO. Le message de la section béninoise de RASALAO délivré par madame la présidente, Pascaline AHOJANGNIMON devant une forte mobilisation des acteurs de la société, a mis en lumière une série d'actions. Mais avant de les aborder, elle a fait un état des lieux de la lutte contre la prolifération des armes légères et de petits calibres et ses effets néfastes sur l'être humain en particulier la gente féminine. L'état des lieux n'a point épargné aussi les enfants embarqués de force ou de gré dans cette aventure non rentable de l'utilisation et de la manipulation illicite des armes. Un constat qui donne un avant goût de la situation d'insécurité grandissante et de la compromission du développement de l'être humain du fait de son devenir pour l'accroissement de la richesse et qui impacte négativement le développement de la nation. Ceci



ACTIVISME CONTRE LES VIOLENCES BASEES SUR LE GENRE

PASSEZ A L'ACTION! ARRETEZ LA VIOLENCE
BASEE

SUR LE GENRE MAINTENANT.

- MEMBRES DE L'EXECUTIF,
- PARLEMENTAIRES,
- MEMBRES DE LA SOCIETE CIVILE,
- AUTRES PARTIES PRENANTES CONCERNÉES,

MOBILISONS-NOUS ET PRENONS DES MESURES CONTRE LA VIOLENCE ARMÉE
BASEE SUR LE GENRE AU BENIN ET EN AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

une vie épanouie et plein de sens. C'est pourquoi madame la présidente en symbiose avec les membres et organisations affiliées à RASALAO-BÉNIN, a pointé du doigt certains faits et conduites qui poussent à cette triste circulation illicite des armes et conduisant dans certains cas à des situations de violence armée basée sur le genre. Il s'agit entre autres des conflits résultants de la mauvaise gouvernance démocratique et qui prennent dans certains cas, l'allure de la violence armée et des guerres. A cela, il faut ajouter l'intégrisme religieux occasionnant des actes terroristes ou de formation au terrorisme. Face à cette urgence, une prise de conscience s'impose. D'où l'appel de RASALAO-BÉNIN pour une synergie d'actions de la société civile et des médias à l'adresse des enfants et adolescents sans oublier les hommes et femmes matures pour former leur mental à résister à toutes formes de manipulation de nature à les orienter vers le chemin de l'utilisation illicite des armes. Un accent est mis sur la sensibilisation et la formation qui ne sont que des pas pour une éducation. A l'effet, il faut intégrer les tribunes d'échange libre pour croiser les opinions et conscientiser les populations. Des approches pertinentes qui ont retenu l'attention et qui ont été saluées de tous les représentants des organisations de la société civile qui ont répondu présents à la cérémonie officielle du lancement des activités.

NIGERIA – Keen and Care Initiative (KCI)

Organised an event with school children about ending violence against women and girls. KCI also united youth from the University of Abuja to spread awareness on ending GBV and gun violence.



Additional Activities

NIGERIA – West Africa Action Network On Small Arms And Light Weapons (WANSA)
Organised a large community gathering and march on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.



SOUTH SUDAN – Action for Youth Aid and Development (AYAD-SS)

Organised a large scale activity and march to promote awareness on peace and security by strengthening small arms control in South Sudan.



Overview of Social Media Participation in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2023

Cameroon Youths and Students Forum for Peace (CAMYOSFOP) ...
December 9, 2023 at 11:56 AM · 🌐

Prior to the International Day of Human Rights usually celebrated every 10th December, we organized a sensitization sportwalk in Ombessa to raise awareness and prevent gender-based violence (GBV) against women and girls. This campaign aimed to enhance understanding of women and girls' rights for their protection and encourage their active involvement in GBV prevention and response. The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of vulnerable women and girls IDPs, as well as the host population in Ombessa, advocating to "step up, end GBV, protect women and girls." This initiative is part of the CAMYOSFOP/ UN Women Cameroon project, funded by the Japan - The Government of Japan , and reflects our unwavering commitment to promoting gender equality and safeguarding the rights of women and girls.

Cellcom PRC Assemblée Nationale du Cameroun Ministère de la Promotion de la Femme et de la Famille Ministère de l'Administration Territoriale du Cameroun Ambassade du Japon au Cameroun/在カメルーン日本国大使館 Plan International Cameroon United Youths Organisation. Reach Out Mairie de Bafia Cameroon Human Rights Commission Ministère de la Jeunesse et de l'Education Civique 237



WILPF @WILPF · Nov 25, 2023 ...

✨ Join us in the movement against #GenderBasedViolence! From today until December 10, let's unite against the global threat affecting 35% of women worldwide.

Follow @WILPF and #16DaysOfActivism for updates during the #16Days campaign.

#EndGBV



George-Okoli, Chidi @georgeochidi · Nov 24, 2023 ...

#TakeActionStopGenderBasedViolenceNow @ARISetv @UN_Disarmament @UN_Women @IANSAnetwork @ecowas_cedeao @WaansaG @rasalaoci @Wansanigeria @cfpeace2018 @igwemni @LamidiMay @rasaleb @UNOCHA @controlarms @NTANewsNow



Recovi Recovi is with **La Diablita** and 12 others.
December 8, 2023 at 8:17 AM · 🌐

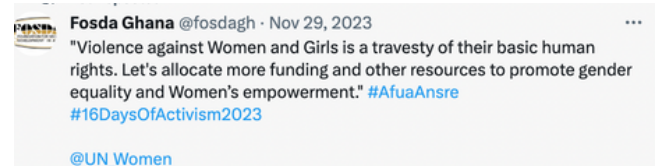
Joining hands to embrace # 16Days Of Activism against gender-based violence! Let's raise awareness, foster empathy, and work towards a World where everyone feels safe and empowered . Together we can make a difference.

End GBV 🧡🧡🧡

RECOVI Burundi
RECOVI Sweden
IANSAN
controls Arms
International Action Network on Small Arms IANSA
Recovi(Reveil communautaire d'assistances aux victimes



Overview of Social Media Participation in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2023



Overview of Social Media Participation in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2023



George-Okoli, Chidi @georgeochidi

@Wansanigeria successfully marked the end of 16 Days Campaign Against GBV, Int'l Human Rights Day and launch of GBV Campaign Advocacy Sticker in Abuja on 10th of Dec. 2023. @WaansaG @rasalaoci @FMWA_ng @IANSAnetwork @ecowas_cedeao @Sdg13Un @UNEP @igwemni @EVAWintl @GBVnet @USIP



Control Arms @controlarms · Nov 28, 2023

Control Arms joins the #16Days of Activism Against #GBV

Controlling international arms trade via the #ArmsTradeTreaty is crucial in preventing gender-based violence and fostering safer communities globally.

Together, let's #EndGBV