



PROMOTING PEACE, JUSTICE, AND
HUMAN RIGHTS SINCE 2019

2020-2024

IMPACT REPORT

A roadmap to Building
Strategic Partnership
and Resource Mobilization



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Abbreviations and Acronyms

APJHR: -----Alliance for Peace, Justice, and Human Rights

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CSO: -----Civil Society Organization

FGM: -----Female Genital Mutilation

IPV: -----Intimate Partner Violence

INGO: -----International Non-Governmental Organization

SGBV: -----Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

UNFPA: -----United Nations Population Fund

YWE: -----Young Women Entrepreneurship



Abigail BL Karneh
Founder/ Executive Director
Alliance for Peace, Justice
& Human Rights

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Readers,

As we present the Impact Report for the Alliance for Peace, Justice, and Human Rights (APJHR) covering the period from 2019 to 2024, I am profoundly grateful and inspired by the transformative journey we have undertaken together. Our mission, established in August 2019, was to address critical issues such as sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), child marriage, and female genital mutilation (FGM), while amplifying the voices of communities affected by conflict, harassment, abuse, violence, and extremism. Reflecting on our achievements fills me with immense pride and hope for the future.

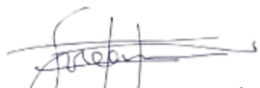
The launch of our Road Map to Justice initiative stands as a cornerstone of our work. This program has been instrumental in providing redress for rape victims, offering both legal support and essential livelihood assistance. By fostering an environment of accountability and empowerment, we have made significant strides in ensuring that 178 survivors receive the justice they deserve and regain their sense of agency and stability.

Our Young Women Entrepreneurs Bootcamp has successfully nurtured the entrepreneurial spirit among 103 young Liberian women, equipping them with the skills and confidence needed to thrive in business. This initiative not only supports economic independence but also challenges traditional barriers, creating a ripple effect of positive change within communities.

The Agriculture Program for rural women has been a beacon of hope and opportunity, promoting women's empowerment through local food production. By enhancing agricultural skills and access to resources, we have empowered 89 rural women to become key players in their communities' economic and nutritional well-being. These accomplishments reflect our unwavering commitment to the cause and the resilience of the communities we serve. Our work would not have been possible without the dedication of our staffs, volunteers, partners, donors, Liberians in the Diaspora and at home and the passionate individuals who drive our mission forward. As we look ahead, we remain resolute in our commitment to social justice, empowerment, and peace. The road is long, but the progress we've made is a testament to the collective effort and enduring spirit of our organization and its supporters.

Together, we will continue to advocate for change and strive towards a world where every individual's rights are respected and upheld.

With gratitude and hope,



Abigail BL Karneh
Executive Director
Alliance for Peace, Justice, and Human Rights

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report covers the 2020-2024 self-funded and implemented activities of the Alliance for Peace, Justice, and Human Rights. The report further expands on challenges, threat and opportunity encountered by APJHR while planning, engaging, recruiting and mobilizing resources for pilot activities. Additionally, APJHR have directly reached seven hundred and fifty beneficiaries in rural and urban communities including, Nimba, Montserrado and Bong while indirectly impacting the fifteen sub-political divisions of Liberia. These activities range from leadership capacity building, life skills development, climate change and access to Justice, Youth in peace and security, advocacy for women and children.

This report intends to build on two strategic approaches such as; a) resource mobilization, we expect that at the end of this report we will have the opportunity to raise the necessary resources towards sustaining our programmatic interventions and reaching out to thousands of women, girls, boys and marginalized population who still do not find themselves in the process of nation building and social or gender equalities b) Partnership, given that the APHJR have experienced dismal level of partnership for joint project or activities implementations, it is our utmost wish that by completing or partially reading this report will

enable us build stronger synergies among private institutions, INGOs, Community Based Organization and local civil society organizations in and out of Liberia, c) the report also relies on influencing enhanced awareness for strategic intervention and re-narrating the real Liberian stories, whether in gender inequalities, rule of law, access to Justice, Human Rights, Peace Building, accountability and democratic governance.

During these courses of times, we were able to execute the following activities ranging from, 16 Days of Activism, Covid-19, Response Project, She Safe Program, Nimba Future Summit, Agri-Life, Our Human Rights Clubs, Young Women Entrepreneurship Boot camp and Peace Building through Recreation Activities.

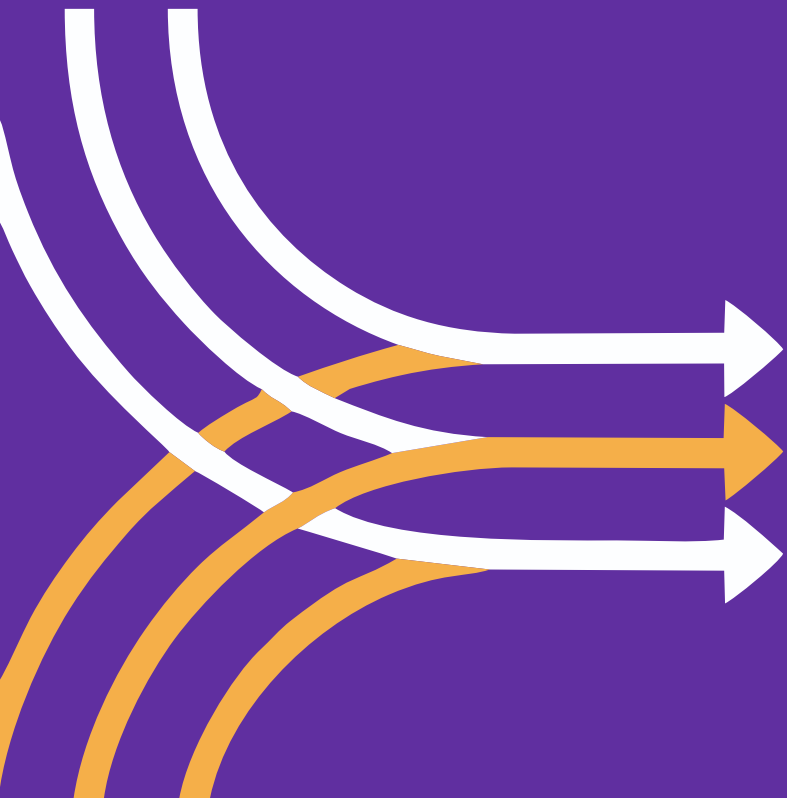
The Alliance for Peace, Justice, and Human Rights is a non-for-profit social movement established in 2019. We are passionate about amplifying the voice, choice, and rights of communities impacted by conflict, violence, harassment, abuse, and extremism. The Alliance forges a path towards a more peaceful and just world. We are dedicated to advocating for human rights, peace, and justice in Liberia. We empower organizations and groups to claim and demand their rights, promote collective to transform their livelihoods, and influence policy-induced actions by state actors and duty bearers.





Activities Description





16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

16 Days of Activism reflects a moment of our lives as people to collectively address violence against women and children throughout the world. Historically, Liberia among nations in the world experiences one of the high proportions of sexual, gender-based violence and/ or intimate partners' violence (IPV) that hinder women access to justice and further socio-economic opportunities as part of APJHR's strategic roadmap. On June 1, 2020, we kicked off 16 days of activism against SGBV in Ganta and conducted series of community engagements in 28 communities of Nimba County. During the 16 days, we discovered many cases of rape and teenage pregnancy in the communities as a result of sexual abuses. Many of those cases were unreported as the culture of silence was high thus preventing victims/ families from speaking/ reporting cases of abuse. During the 16 days, we were able to interview victims and forwarded their case to the women and children department of the Liberia National Police for further processing and investigation. As we went about raising awareness, more people started talking and the messages were resonating which moved the ministry of Gender and local government to act. On June 16, they all agreed to sign a permit which legitimized our movement, and they signed a commitment to support our fight for Human Rights in Nimba.





SheSafe Program

In August, the Alliance launched the SHESAFE, a program that supported vulnerable women and children with alternative livelihood incomes. Every Independent Day (July 26) and Christmas, we embark on distributing food, financial support and sanitary pads to teen mothers in across few of Liberia's slums. According to UNFPA, many mothers are actually teenage mothers – Liberia has a high adolescent pregnancy rate where about one in three adolescent girls are pregnant. The younger the woman, the more dangerous pregnancy and childbirth are to herself and her baby. Addressing this crisis means providing urgent support for these teenagers to integrate them in a safer home and protect their well-beings.



Activities Description





Nimba Future summit

On July 27, for the first time we held the NIMBA FUTURE SUMMIT a call for solidarity and to build a resilient community to revolt against Violence and Injustices. The summit was held under the theme "Uniting to Fight Harmful Culture in Nimba" Our cultures are discriminative and lacks empathy for women, therefore, we cannot progress if there are many things holding us down. The event was attended by the County Leadership represented by the Superintendent, the City Mayor, Women organizations, Entertainers and Young people.



Protests and Advocacy Lead to National Emergency Declaration on Rape in Liberia


August 12, APJHR staged a huge protest in Sanniquellie city, Nimba County demanding the arrest of two rape suspects Wilfred Mendin and Saye Manse who were released illegally during the Covid 19. The protests came as a result of the Judge in Chamber not willing to tell the victims' families, lawyer and the community how those alleged rapists escaped detention at the central Prison. The protests brought together many youths and women demanding that the Judge Hector Quoibiah answers questions of the suspects disappearance.

Fortunately for us, the court was able to take actions and made a commitment to locate the suspects. At the end of August, we were informed that the two suspects were located, arrested and returned to the Prison compound in sanniquellie.

On August 25-27, we joined the Affiliation of Women and Child's Rights Activist for a three-day strike against rape and petitioned the president of the Republic of Liberia H.E Dr. George M Weah to declare Rape a national emergency and put mechanism in place to fight sexual and Gender-based violence due to its prevalence in Liberia. After our national strike, the president immediately declared rape a national emergency and mandated the Ministry of Gender and Social protection to enforce a sexual and gender-based violence road map. As part of our intervention, safe homes for survivors and victims were built, specialized rape prosecutors were assigned to magisterial courts across Liberia, and the National SGBV Task force was formed to address situational cases of rape.



2022



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT THROUGH AGRICULTURE

The Alliance in Partnership with AGRI-LIFE implemented an agriculture program in rural community. This program is component of our youth empowerment program. Participant of this program were trained in sustainable farming and local food productions to enable them grow food for themselves and their families. The agriculture initiative is currently ongoing in District 1, Nimba County and we are anticipating extending to other community. We are challenge with finances and it's a major obstacle for the work we are doing in these communities.

We distributed 30 rain boots, 30 cutlasses, 30 shovels, cabbage seeds, watermelon seeds, bitter balls and peppers to each community and we monitor the crops and follow up till harvest. After harvest, we recruited new farmers. The agriculture program is a great gate way of empowering youth in rural communities, and we look forward to support, partnership and recommendations to extend the program to other communities.

The agriculture program is being supervised by AgriLife; AgriLife is a grassroots organization apart of our network.

Human Rights Clubs

We have our Human Rights Clubs and Program actively ongoing as we are working closely with our clubs president providing mentorship support for students and youth. Our Human Rights Clubs creates an enabling space for youth to discuss and take actions on SGBV issues.

Story Telling and Action Park Visit:

The Alliance for Peace Justice and Human Rights in collaboration with the Movement for the Establishment of the War and Economic Crimes Court, Liberia Youth Legislative Caucus, African Youth Fellowship and community stakeholders to host a one-day story-telling event at the Duport Road Massacre Site. The event which brought together community members, youth leaders, elders' council, and women groups, to advocate for the establishment of the war and economic crimes court in Liberia. This initiative was driven by the need to address past atrocities, seek justice for victims, and ensure accountability for those responsible for war crimes and human rights violations during the Liberia's tumultuous history.

The event gathered approximately two hundred and fifty plus (250) people from the Duport Road waterside community and beyond. It featured storytelling sessions where survivors of the civil war shared their experiences and highlighted the importance of the establishing a war crimes court in Liberia. Their story accounts shared during the event were powerful testimonies that unearth the urgent need for justice and accountability in the country.

Speaking on behalf of the team from APJHR-LIBERIA, the Executive Director underscored the need for speedy passage of the war and economic crimes court in Liberia. She asserted that "in recent decades, Liberia's people have suffered human rights violations and economic crimes with no accountability of perpetrators neither adhering to the recommendation in 2009 by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to establish a court to ensure justice."



2024



International Women's Day 2024



On March 8, 2024, APJHR successfully celebrated International Women's Day 2024 under the theme, invest in women: Accelerate progress. The event garnered significant support from numerous youth organizations and CSOs, demonstrating solidarity with women's leadership. Attendees collaborated with us to enhance our efforts and capacity in addressing various challenges facing women in our society, such as Gender Justice, Social inequalities, and Inclusion.



Peace Building through Recreation Activities

Prior to the upcoming elections, the Alliance has introduced a Community Peace and SGBV awareness tournament as a means of creating awareness about peace building in communities. The tournament featured 24 communities and the momentum has been so high especially amongst the youth.



In January of this year, we begin a skills training school for women / girls in Ganta and started with the tailoring component. We were able to secure few sewing machines that allows 10 beneficiaries to be train for 6 months. Our vision is to advance this livelihood program and incorporate catering, hair dressing, interior decoration etc. We are face with funds challenge now and we are looking forward for your support, recommendations and partnership to advance our skills training program. Upon graduation, we want to empower these students with tools they can use to establish their own business. When a woman is skilled and financially independent, the culture of violence will reduce because women wouldn't have to endure abusive relationships due to poverty.



Young Women Entrepreneurship Boot camp: Cohort 1

The “Young Women Entrepreneurship Boot camp” is an Annual Entrepreneurship program for aspiring and existing entrepreneurs in Liberia. The YWE Boot Camp is an Innovation of the Alliance for Peace Justice and Human Rights; aims at building a strong and vibrant network of entrepreneurs in Liberia, focusing on science, technology and entrepreneurship through community-led meetup groups.



The YWE Boot Camp seeks to develop a new breed of young Liberian entrepreneurs to solve problems and impact the economy through what is called “Venture Prep”; a hands-on innovative designed to guide existing and emerging entrepreneurs through defining and assessing some of the key elements and skills that they will be lacking and to help with their startup or startup idea. Such as market research/customer discovery survey, computer skills, business plan development, pitching, public speaking, resource mobilization and startups launch.

The Edition only targets Montserrado County, and has brought together over 75 young aspiring and existing women entrepreneurs, comprising of University Students, High School Students, and Local Women Leaders. This Report summarizes the YOUNG WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP Activities of 2024, where our young women was processed through a day-long training for the participants to deepen their understanding of how to successfully develop and implement their ideas. They were taught and guided to shape their ideas into business solutions as well as problem-solving, ideation, prototyping and pitching a project. The YWE Bootcamp also involved interactive hands-on-experience tours, entrepreneurial courtesy visits to companies, government institutions and foreign missions and social development events.

Achieved Results

Behavioral change

Attitude among local communities' actors changed towards compromising sexual and gender-based violence and also enable high-level stakeholder actors to report cases of SGBV to nearest police stations, while supporting survivors with recourse services. Under this initiative, we were able to impact 300 survivors and victims of SGBVs in Nimba, Montserrado and Bong.

Enhanced awareness among key stakeholders

Our initiatives have ideally positioned key stakeholders to understanding major human rights violations (aside from SGBV) such as lack of access to sexual and reproductive services among teen mothers, Female genital mutilation and child labor. At the end of the Human Rights clubs, students were also trained to understanding the dimension of the Liberian Human rights system and how institutional and the academia can contribute towards addressing these typical and basic human rights violation that hinder societal progress.

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Peace Building

Our outreach built the capacity of young people in peace building, conflict resolution and mediation during the Liberian general and presidential elections. Those trained young people were assigned to several pooling centers to monitor election and report on outcomes. Additionally, young women and girls were major actors of our capacity building process.

Life skills

As part of our intervention to enable young women sustain themselves economically in the Liberian formal economy, we launched the Young Women Entrepreneurship Boot camp. This boot camp empowered 75 young women entrepreneurs, including university, high school students and local leaders. Participants enhanced their entrepreneurial skills in areas such as market research, computer skills, business plan development, pitching, public speaking, resource mobilization.

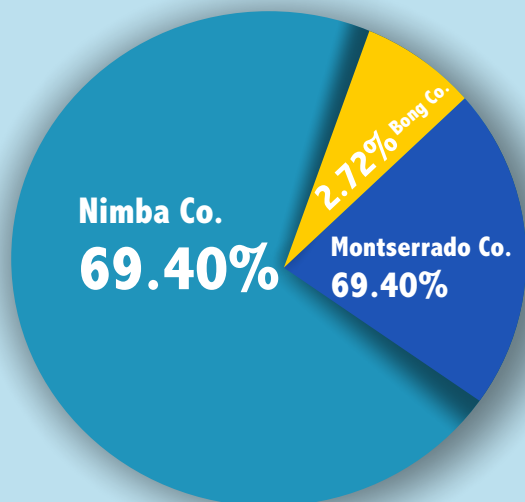
Leadership

For the past decade, our priority in youth development has often targeted young women and girls to build their leadership capacity for enhanced decision making and address leadership gaps in the Liberian society. This has not just addressed critical leadership areas among young people but have improved their skills in community development and problem solving.

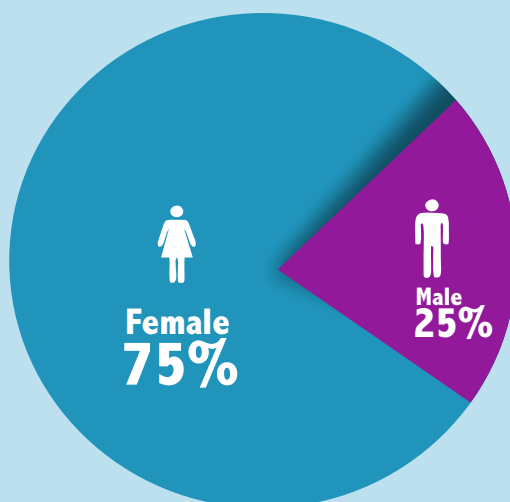
Beneficiaries

On average, our initiative has impacted 720 individuals from Nimba, Bong and Montserrado spreading across eight districts.

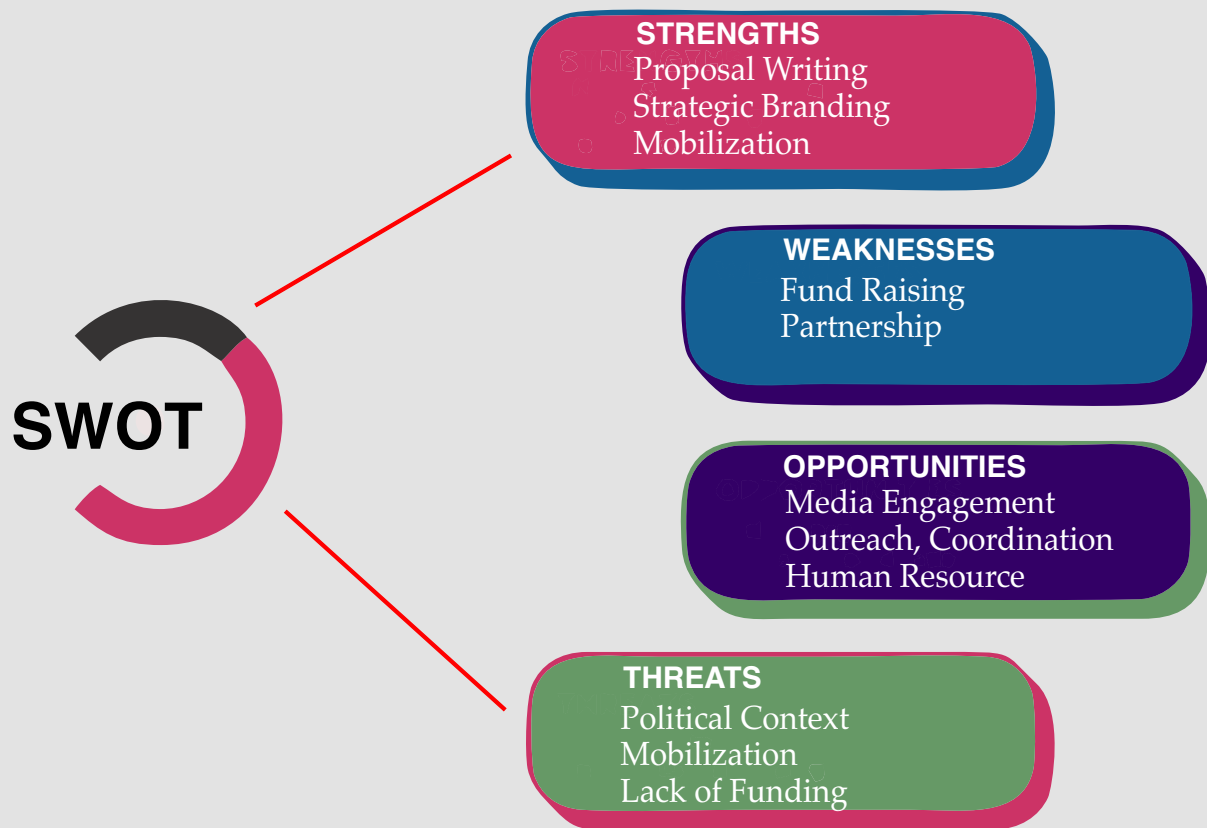
County of Intervention based on the Beneficiaries Impacted



Gender Disaggregation



SWOT Analysis



CHALLENGES



Fund Raising



Logistics



Traditional Practices



Partnership



Mobility



Political Context

Our works are most often implemented in rural parts of Liberia targeting some of the most traditional and political stakeholders. While rolling out our activities, tradition and political contexts have interplay with the outcome of the work. For instance, our pilot activity on FGM was a major threat and less-favorable conversation which came to a standstill by traditional actors and political stakeholders who support the practice of Female Genital Mutilation.

On the other hand, traveling from one community to another has been costly for us especially with bad roads. We often rent vehicles. It is costly renting a car or motorbikes treatments. Currently, we are using a private clinic donated to us by Mrs Ruth Paye for treating victims of rape and sexual abuse. We have challenges accessing full medical equipment and medicine especially for babies under 5 years old.

CONCLUSION

The Alliance for Peace, Justice, and Human Rights (APJHR) has demonstrated remarkable resilience and commitment to advocating for human rights, peace, and justice across Liberia despite facing significant challenges. Our self-funded and community-driven initiatives have not only impacted hundreds of individuals directly but have also resonated across Liberia's fifteen sub-political divisions, influencing broader societal change.

The execution of diverse activities, from the 16 Days of Activism to the Young Women Entrepreneurship Boot Camp, reflects our holistic approach to addressing the multifaceted challenges facing marginalized communities, particularly women, girls, and youth. These initiatives have empowered individuals with life skills, leadership capabilities, and a renewed sense of agency, contributing to the broader goals of social justice and equality.

However, our journey has not been without obstacles. The challenges of resource mobilization, logistical constraints, and the socio-political context of our operations underscore the need for strengthened partnerships and strategic collaborations. The limitations we face in terms of funding, mobility, and the entrenched traditional practices highlight the critical importance of solidarity and support from stakeholders both within and outside Liberia.

As we look to the future, this report serves as a testament to our unwavering dedication to our mission. It is also a call to action for potential partners, donors, and allies to join us in our quest for a more just and peaceful Liberia.

Together, we can build on the foundations laid by our past efforts, expand our reach, and amplify our impact to ensure that every Liberian, regardless of gender, age, or background, can live in a society where their rights are respected, and their voices are heard.

PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO GALLERY



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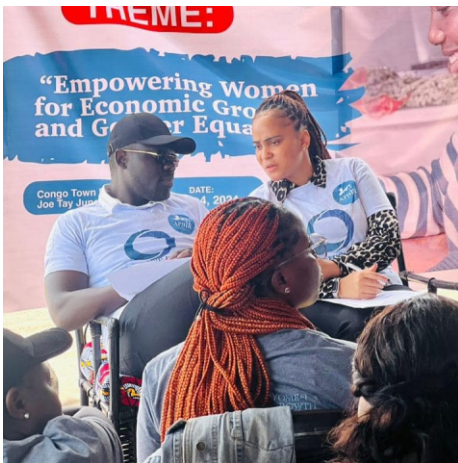
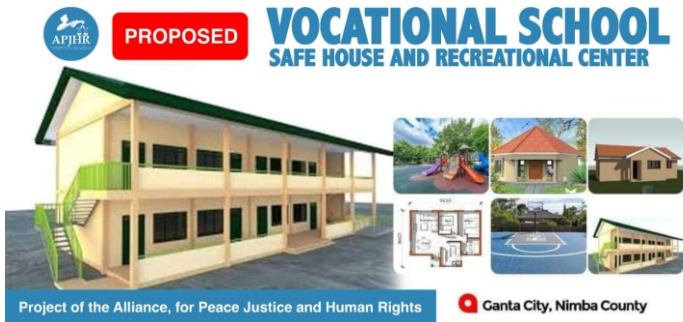
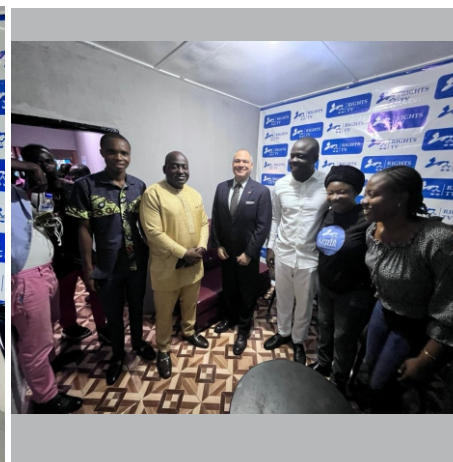
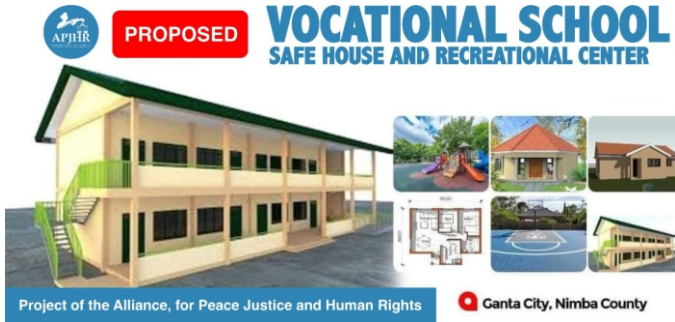


PHOTO GALLERY





APJHR

ALLIANCE FOR PEACE JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS
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