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ISHR Stakeholder Mapping

For Ghana, Nigeria and Liberia

Submitted by

PIRON Global Development,
in the role of Secretariate for ISHR.

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Executive Summary

West Africa has seen many human rights violations over the years. Yet, there have been many positive steps taken to stop these abuses and ensure human rights and freedoms for all.

This report, based on explorative research, is meant to throw light on 3 English speaking countries in West Africa, particularly Ghana, Nigeria and Liberia, with the objective of:

- Painting a picture of the human rights scene in these countries
- Mapping out **24** relevant human rights institutions, covering key thematic areas of violation within these countries.

The aim is to help inform ISHR's general and communications strategy for West Africa including opportunities for new members, collaboration and the institution's social media plan.

Selection of Institutions: Institutions were selected based on their work in thematic areas of rampant human rights abuse of a specific country. Other factors considered were: power and interest levels, openness to collaboration, credibility, access to and existence on social media.

Considering that this research paper will be used to inform a communications strategy, the paper touches on each country's, freedom of expression index, its social media and internet rights, as well as general accessibility and affordability of the internet and digital devices in these countries.

A stakeholder analysis was carried out using the power and interest grid. It was highlighted that human rights institutions in these 3 countries appear to have similar characteristics. In addition, some governments, political players and organizational bodies, who have the power and voice to ensure fundamental rights of citizens, rather, tend to be engaged in acts of corruption and are indeed the actual violators of human rights. It was also observed that Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria face similar challenges on the human rights scene, although the intensity may be at different levels.

It was further recognized that in these 3 countries there are many small human rights institutions (in terms of capacity and resources), struggling to be heard and facing various hindrances to making proper impact. This is mainly due to a lack of financial resources, lack of technical knowledge on how to run their organization and more. Recommendations were given, including the idea of organizing webinars or networking events for smaller-voiceless human rights institutions to collaborate on projects, learn from and support each other. This way, they can work together as a more powerful team to create lasting impact.

Limitations of the research included a difficulty in attaining interim reports for some of these institutions, as they are not readily accessible to the public.

Recommendations for general communications and social media strategy, moving forward, were also given.

The Big picture: West Africa and Human rights

The western part of Africa is made up of 17 countries¹. African leaders from 15 of these countries ie. Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo saw the need for corporation and a unified voice on economic matters². Human rights, security and good governance became big on the ECOWAS agenda after a number of violent conflicts arose within the community. In 1993, the revised ECOWAS treaty prioritized these areas and this has been the case till date.

the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights were key in shaping the ECOWAS definition of rights³.

"The main relevant actors in the ECOWAS governance and human rights architecture are the Directorate of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (under the executive branch of the organisation); the Mediation and Security council (on the technical side); a Court of Justice (under the judiciary branch) and a Council of the Wise, which acts as special envoy⁴."

Focus on Ghana: The human rights scene and violations

Ghana was the first African country to gain independence from European colonialism on 6th March 1957. With a population of approximately 30 million people, the nation has been recognized for many years as a strong democracy. This country is also the fastest growing economy in Africa⁵. Human rights actors on the Ghanaian scene can be categorized in three. The first group, which draw inspiration from the fight for freedom against colonial rule, tend to fight against political subjugation and infringement of rights. The next group concentrate mainly on developmental projects and include both international and local NGO's and developmental agencies. The last group are mainly involved in research and advocacy.

The country made significant strides in the human rights space, as the right to information (RTI) law took effect in 2020⁶. The Bill, which was enacted in 2019, was meant to encourage

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[https://pitt.libguides.com/c.php?g=12378&p=65818#:~:text=Western%20Africa%20\(17\)%20%2D%20Benin,Senegal%2C%20Sierra%20Leone%2C%20and%20Togo](https://pitt.libguides.com/c.php?g=12378&p=65818#:~:text=Western%20Africa%20(17)%20%2D%20Benin,Senegal%2C%20Sierra%20Leone%2C%20and%20Togo)

² ustr.gov/countries-regions/africa/regional-economic-communities-rec/economic-community-west-african-states

³ <https://www.achpr.org/legalinstruments/detail?id=49>

⁴ <https://ecdpm.org/wp-content/uploads/ECOWAS-Governance-Policy-Brief-PEDRO-Political-Economy-Dynamics-Regional-Organisations-Africa-ECDPM-2017.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.gvi.co.uk/blog/the-fastest-growing-economy-in-africa-how-ghana-got-it-right/>

⁶ <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Highlights-a-year-after-the-RTI-law-took-effect-in-Ghana-1145795>

transparency and accountability by the government. Other noteworthy achievements in the last few years include free meals for school children and free basic and senior high school education⁷.

Overview of key human rights violations in Ghana

Freedom of expression: Witnessing the murder of Ahmed Suale, an investigative journalist whose work on corruption incited calls for brutality against him from a ruling parliamentarian, was heart wrenching. He was shot by unknown men on motorbikes shortly after that⁸. There have been further attacks on media personnel and journalists since then, causing Ghana's position on the World Press Freedom Index to drop from 27 to 30⁹.

Child labour remains a prevalent issue as reports show an upsurge in the use of children as workers on cocoa farms¹⁰. The Kidnapping of 3 young girls in Takoradi (Western Region), set social media ablaze with the hashtag, #BringBackOurTaadiGirls. The sad ending to this narrative was that the girls were found and confirmed dead by the police.

Violence against women: Violence against women continues to be a cause for alarm. The kidnapping of 3 young girls, who were later found dead by the police was disturbing¹¹. This issue does not stand in isolation as there have been increasing reports of domestic abuse and rape of women. Early child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM) are also issues in this space.

The list continues with issues on **detention, harmful religious practices, gender discrimination** and more.

In spite of the pockets of setbacks, major actors on the human rights scene are making great headway in ensuring freedoms for all.

Focus on Nigeria: The human rights scene and violations

Nigeria has the largest population in Africa, with over 200 million people¹². The country suffered 16 years under the repressive rule of military led dictatorship governments.

⁷<https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=22951&LangID=E>

⁸

<https://www.ecoi.net/en/document/2028276.html#:~:text=On%2026%20March%2C%20the%20Parliament,ac>

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⁹ <https://rsf.org/en/ghana>

¹⁰ <https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2020/10/20/child-labour-rising-in-ghana-and-ivory-coasts-cocoa-farms>

¹¹ <https://www.bbc.com/pidgin/tori-49765478>

¹² <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/nigeria-population/>

This period was characterized by human rights abuses, economic depression and other unpleasant occurrences. In May 1999, elections were held and civilian led governance was restored¹³. The Nigerian government signed the treaty for the establishment of an International Criminal Court in year 2000, showing a commitment to human rights. As time went on citizens of the country began to enjoy more civil and political liberties. Despite this improvement on the human rights scene, in the last decade there have been recordings of terrible human rights violations and political corruption in the country. It is interesting to note that the current president of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari, was a former military dictator who was voted into power because of his counterterrorism agenda¹⁴.

Overview of key violations In Nigeria

Armed attacks

Most notable in this section is an extremist sect, Boko Haram, responsible for over 37,500 deaths since May 2011¹⁵. This militant Islamic group pledged allegiance to ISIS in 2015¹⁶. Its leader, Abubakar Shekau, and several commanders split from the group in 2016 over ideological differences and formed their own faction. The group has launched attacks on religious institutions, schools, the police and military. The terrorist group kidnapped 276 school girls in 2014. 112 of these girls remain in captivity.

Torture and maltreatment

The SARS police Unit of Nigeria is alleged to have been involved in illegally assaulting and killing citizens. Protests were carried out against this, all over Nigeria and social media was ablaze with the hashtag #EndSars. Some uniformed men, alleged to be soldiers, shot some of these unarmed protestors. This drew the attention of the international community. The US president Joe Biden admonished authorities to end the "violent crackdown on protesters¹⁷".

Violence against women and girls

There have been reports of abuse, rape and trafficking of women and girls. Human Rights Watch documented the abuse of 43 displaced women and girls. Their abusers included policemen and soldiers¹⁸.

Issues on **Children's rights, death penalty, Gender violence, Detention** and more remain in Nigeria.

¹³ <https://www.hrw.org/news/2000/08/22/human-rights-nigeria#>

¹⁴ <https://www.strifeblog.org/tag/goodluck-jonathan/>

¹⁵ <https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/boko-haram-nigeria>

¹⁶ <https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-africa-31784139>

¹⁷ <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-54624611>

¹⁸ <https://www.hrw.org/news/2018/04/27/human-rights-situation-nigeria-and-womens-rights-concerns-mauritania>

Focus on Liberia: The human rights scene and violations

Liberia is Africa's first democratic republic¹⁹. The country has a population of about 4.5 million people²⁰. Liberia's economy is unstable as the country heavily relies on the export of rubber while importing most of its raw materials. The minutest shift in global prices greatly affects the country²¹.

Liberia suffered a 14-year civil war that ended in 2003, leaving the nation and its citizens in ruins. With a destroyed economy and great refugee predicament, citizens of the country suffered many abuses including rape and torture, during and after the war²². Although the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was created to address these issues, for a long period no one was tried for war crimes. There has however been some progress, for instance, with the trial of a former Liberian rebel leader arrested in Switzerland for alleged war crimes²³. In 2009, the Independent National Commission on Human Rights was formed.

Liberia was the first country in Africa to elect a female president²⁴. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Liberia's former president won a Nobel Peace prize for her work on women's rights. Many citizens of the country however, did not think she deserved this award and she faced some allegations on corruption²⁵. Though she disputed the allegations, corruption and nepotism have been known to be rampant within the government and nation as a whole. The current president of Liberia is George Weah. One of the positives for Liberia is that the country is known to treat refugees fairly, granting automatic asylum to refugees from Ivory Coast²⁶.

Overview of key human rights violations in Liberia

Sexual violence: Rape was declared as a national emergency in Liberia by the president in 2020²⁷. The president also addressed the general upsurge in violence against women and introduced some measures to curb them. Female genital mutilation (FGM) and early girl child marriages are also big problems that need to be tackled.

¹⁹ <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/liberian-independence-proclaimed#:~:text=The%20Republic%20of%20Liberia%2C%20formerly,democratic%20republic%20in%20African%20history.>

²⁰ <https://www.lr.undp.org/content/liberia/en/home/countryinfo.html>

²¹

<https://www.accioncontraelhambre.org/en/africa/liberia#:~:text=Action%20Against%20Hunger%20has%20been,longer%2Dterm%20food%20security%20activities.>

²² <https://borgenproject.org/facts-about-human-rights-in-liberia/>

²³ <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/12/01/liberia-milestone-swiss-trial-wartime-atrocities>

²⁴ <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2012/nov/01/liberia-johnson-sirleaf-nepotism-corruption>

²⁵ <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2012/nov/01/liberia-johnson-sirleaf-nepotism-corruption>

²⁶ <https://borgenproject.org/facts-about-human-rights-in-liberia/>

²⁷ <https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/liberia-declares-rape-national-emergency/>

Right to land: Vast portions of Liberian lands were given to foreign investors for mining, agricultural purposes and other business activity, between 2006 and 2011²⁸. Activists called out the government on this issue.

Detention: Prisons remain crowded with inadequate facilities. There are reports of a prisoner getting pregnant by her male inmate in a Tubmanburg Central Prison and being forced to have an abortion by prison authorities²⁹.

Discrimination against minority. Muslims make up about 12% of the population, yet find it difficult to register to vote³⁰.

The list continues with issues on **Ritual Killings, Childs rights and more.**

Communications space- Mass media, internet accessibility and freedom of Expression- (Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria)

According to the African Freedom of Expression Exchange (AFEX's) **monitoring** Many African governments have been known to try and impose restrictions on the media and internet during important national events like elections³¹.

Ghana takes the lead with freedom of expression, ranking 30 out of 180 countries on the world press freedom indexⁱ. The country relatively upholds freedom of expression, however the Murder of Ahmed Suale and attacks on other media personnel in current times has caused the countries ranking to drop from 27 to 30 on the World Press Freedom Index³². Although Ghana has invested in digital infrastructure, it is largely limited to urban areas³³. High speed internet is available but unaffordable to most. 67% of the population are mobile subscribers³⁴.

Liberia ranks 95 out of 180 countries on the world press freedom index³⁵.

The Liberian government, on 7th June 2019 issued a shutdown of all social media channels i.e. Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and WhatsApp., in an attempt to crush anti-corruption protests meant to be held on that day³⁶. Thousands of Liberians protested against this act.

²⁸ <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2012/nov/01/liberia-johnson-sirleaf-nepotism-corruption>

²⁹ <https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/africa/liberia/report-liberia/>

³⁰ <https://borgenproject.org/facts-about-human-rights-in-liberia/>

³¹ <https://ifex.org/liberians-disappointed-at-blocking-of-social-media-platforms/>

³² <https://rsf.org/en/ghana>

³³ <https://www.dw.com/en/despite-ghanas-commitment-to-internet-expansion-problems-persist/a-46508524#:~:text=Ghana%20was%20the%20second%20nation,of%20an%20average%20monthly%20income.>

³⁴ <https://www.dw.com/en/despite-ghanas-commitment-to-internet-expansion-problems-persist/a-46508524#:~:text=Ghana%20was%20the%20second%20nation,of%20an%20average%20monthly%20income.>

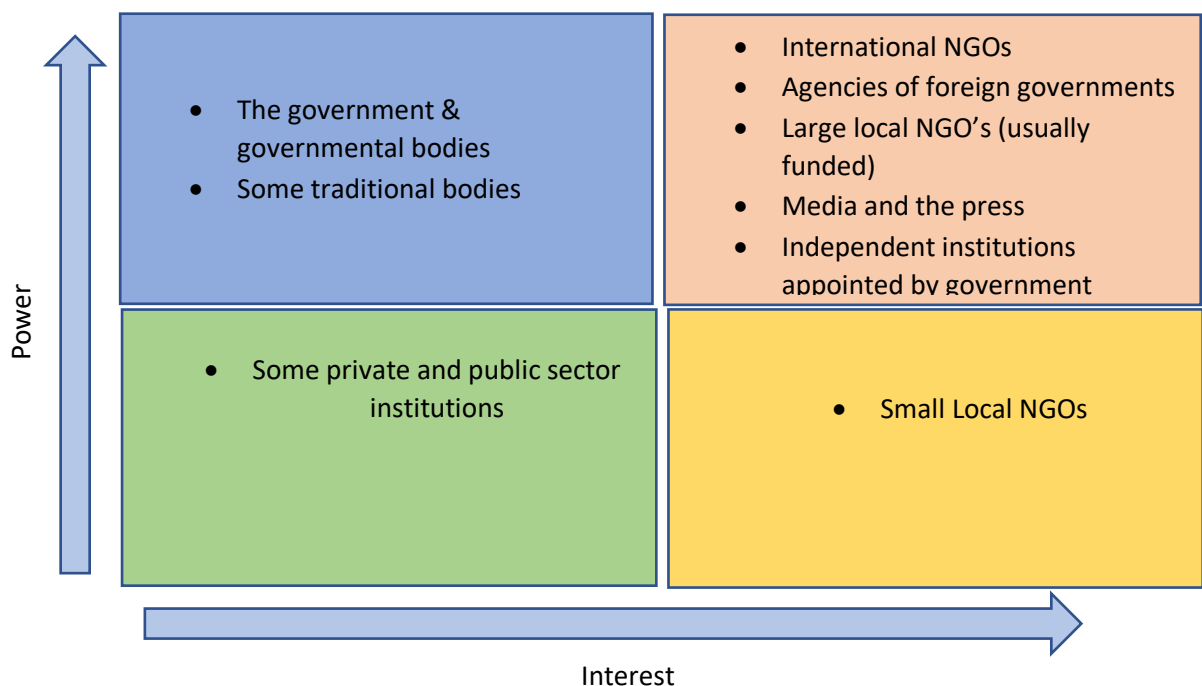
³⁵ <https://rsf.org/en/ranking#>

³⁶ <https://ifex.org/liberians-disappointed-at-blocking-of-social-media-platforms/>

According to the Alliance For Affordable Internet, internet penetration stands at 19% in Liberia and internet rates are generally exorbitant³⁷. In Liberia men are 49% more likely to access the internet than women. “While the highest 20% of income earners on average pay 8% of their monthly income for 1GB of data, it costs the lowest 20% of earners a staggering 47.56% to access the same, far above the 2% target³⁸.”

Nigeria ranks 115 out of 180 countries on the world press freedom index³⁹. The country presents an unsafe terrain for journalists. 2 journalists were killed in 2019 and 2020 respectively while covering “Islamic Movement in Nigeria protests⁴⁰” some protests. No investigations were carried out to find out those responsible. A cyber-crime law passed in 2015 has led to the unfair arrests of various journalists and bloggers⁴¹. The #MakeDataCheaper campaign went viral in Nigeria as citizens campaigned for lower data costs in 2018.

Figure 1.1
General Institutional stakeholder Analysis (Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria)



Source :Bibi Hammond

³⁷ <https://a4ai.org/the-internet-is-unaffordable-in-liberia-action-is-needed-to-set-the-agenda-for-positive-change/>

³⁸ <https://a4ai.org/the-internet-is-unaffordable-in-liberia-action-is-needed-to-set-the-agenda-for-positive-change/>

³⁹ <https://rsf.org/en/ranking?>

⁴⁰ <https://rsf.org/en/nigeria>

⁴¹ <https://rsf.org/en/nigeria>

Figure 1.1 shows Institutional Stakeholders in Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria. Human rights institutions in these countries tend to have similar behavioral patterns. This analysis uses the power and interest grid. With the top left (blue box) showing institutions with high power and low Interest, top right (pink box) showing organizations with high power and high interest, Bottom left (green box) low power, low interest, Bottom right (orange box) High Interest, low power.

Power and Interest grid analysis

High Power, Low Interest:

Various literature would cement the fact that **governments and some governmental agencies** in Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria fall within this category. Some ruling political parties which are in the ultimate position to ensure human rights of citizens and guarantee development have unfortunately been known to be the actual violators of citizen's rights by engaging in corruption and abuse. The others who may not engage in such acts, do not seem to be able to properly enforce decisions to implement certain rights of their citizens. Government has authority and a voice, hence, high power. Yet, we would categorize their interest as being low for the reasons stated above. Some **Traditional Institutions** also fall within this category eg. Chiefs who are highly respected by society but hold on to harmful traditional practices like female genital mutilation and Trokosi (traditional system where virgin girls, some as young as six years old, are sent into Trokosi shrines (shrines for gods) as slaves to make amends for wrongs committed by a member of the virgin girl's family⁴²)

High power, High Interest:

International NGO'S and agencies of foreign governments tend to fall within this category. A lot gravitate towards developmental projects for citizens and tend to be embraced by the government. Those who play the role of calling out corrupt ruling parties, presidents etc. also tend to be heavily self-funded and have enough power to make their voices heard.

Large (in terms of capacity, engagement and project implementation), local NGO's, some of which are funded by powerful international bodies tend to also carry a lot of power in this space, as their financial backing gives them leverage. The significant work carried out by most of these NGO's in the space bears witness to their high interest levels.

The media also tends to be very powerful in these 3 countries, who try to uphold freedom of expression. For Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria, some television, radio and

²⁹ <https://theconversation.com/girls-in-west-africa-offered-into-sexual-slavery-as-wives-of-gods-105400>

social media channels have become the voice of the people, fighting hard against violations.

High Interest, Low power

Small local NGOs tend to fall within this category. A lot of these smaller NGOs are very enthusiastic to create positive change in their communities but do not have the finances to carry out their activities. Many of these institutions are striving hard to implement a few projects and gain some recognition with the hope that this will attract funding from the government, local or foreign bodies.

Low power, low interest

Private and public sector institutions play a big role in ensuring fundamental rights of citizens. Some who do not find themselves directly working with human rights have little or no interest in the happenings on the ground. Since they do not directly tackle human rights issues, most do not have the power to create change on a big level, but they can at least make positive changes within their organizations to ensure rights of workers.

Recommendations based on stakeholder analysis

Government and Governmental bodies (High power, low interest): Keep the relationship warm, keep them in a loop

It is important to maintain a good relationship with governments and entities that have a say in policy making decisions, as they hold high power and could make or break the organization. Keeping them in the loop with communications is very important. Governmental bodies would also lend some credibility and weight to activities held by ISHR in any of these African countries, hence the need to keep them in the loop.

Small local NGOs (High interest, low power): Bring them together; Get them to collaborate to have a voice.

This is a very interesting space of upcoming zealous human rights institutions with the drive to make impact. They can be helped by leveraging their strengths and grouping them together to collaborate via. Webinars, conferences etc. this way they

get to have a stronger unified voice, they can also be linked to potential donors/ partners through online networking events.

INGOs, recognized local NGOs, foreign developmental agencies etc. (High power, high interest: Work with them directly/ share news and information)

Established high power and interest groups are very cherished allies. They can provide valuable insight on the terrain and expert advice. By following them on social media, it is possible to repost a lot of their news and stories, since there is some level of assurance on the credibility of such information. Collaborating with such institutions is a good entry way into these African countries because they understand the terrain, have a good following and can navigate the system easily.

Some corporate institutions (Low power, low interest) - keep them periodically informed. Don't give out too much information at a time.

The institutional directory



Human Rights Organizations in Ghana

<p>Name of organization 1.Human Rights Reporters Ghana (HRRG)</p> <p>Thematic Area Advocacy on general violations</p> <p>Website https://humanrightsreportersgh.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles Twitter: @humanrightsGH</p> <p>Interim Report https://bit.ly/2Lv2low</p>	<p>About A combined group of journalists and human rights advocates formed purposely with the aim of shedding light, sounding alarm and drawing the attention of duty bearers to take the necessary actions to tackle issues in a bid to end up all forms of human rights abuses the country is confronted with</p> <p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among 10 finalists across Africa as part of the 2020 Africans Rising Activism Award under the Movement of the Year award category. • Sensitizing students on Covid 19 • Edu-train kaya project- Educating Kayaye (young female head potters) in Ghana. • Kidnapping sensitization campaign in Ghana.
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<p>Name of organization 2.Crime Check Foundation (CCF)</p> <p>Thematic Area Prisons, rehabilitation, justice</p> <p>Website https://crimecheckfoundation.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles Facebook: @crimecheckfoundation</p>	<p>About Educating the public on the consequences of crime, rehabilitation for past prisoners, justice for the innocent.</p> <p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping the poor and voiceless skip the trap of imprisonment • Providing support for ex-convicts. • Petty offenders project- led to the release of many petty offenders jailed for their inability to pay court fines imposed on them.
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<p>Name of organization 3. Commission on Human Rights Administrative Justice (CHRAJ)</p> <hr/> <p>Thematic Area National Human rights issues</p> <p>Website Chraj.gov.gh</p> <p>Social Media Handles Twitter: @CHRAJGHANA</p> <p>Interim Report https://www.mofep.gov.gh/sites/default/files/pbb-estimates/2019/2019-PBB-CHRAJ.pdf</p>	<p>About The Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) came about as part of the 1992 transition from single-party authoritarian rule to a constitutional democracy</p> <p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Action Plan (NACAP); • Constitutional mandate to maintain free and fair elections, devoid of human rights violations.
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<p>Name of organization 4.GenCED</p> <hr/> <p>Thematic Area Women's rights (Research & Advocacy)</p> <p>Website https://www.genced.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles @GenCEDgh</p> <p>Interim Report http://www.genced.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/genced-2016-annual-report-1.pdf</p>	<p>About organization that seeks to empower women and youth for sustainable development in our communities.</p> <p>Activity/Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrepreneurship development program for women • Increase the pool of informed women who can participate in the electoral process as candidates and voters.
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<p>Name of organization 5.Right To Play</p> <p>Thematic Areas Child's rights</p> <p>Website https://righttoplay.com</p> <p>Social Media Handles Twitter: @RightToPlayIntl</p> <p>Interim Report (Link): https://righttoplay.com/en/news/2019-annual-report/</p>	<p>About Right to play addresses quality education, gender equality and child protection needs across the country.</p> <p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-service teacher training to improve teaching of pre-primary and primary school students. • teaching girls to say “No to unwanted sex” • Providing spaces for safe play, encouraging creativity
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<p>Name of organization 6.POS Foundation</p> <p>Thematic Areas Justice, social inclusion, right to Information (Advocacy)</p> <p>Website http://posfoundation.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles</p>	<p>About one of the leading CSOs in Ghana in the area of Access to Justice, Advocacy for the Right To Information, Convener for Civil Society Platform on the UN Universal Periodic Review in Ghana, Drug Policy reforms etc. and currently serves as the secretariat for the Ghana Human Rights NGOs Forum.</p> <p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice for All Programme (JFAP)- is a State led intervention, established in 2007 to alleviate prison overcrowding by setting up Mobile In-prison Special Courts to adjudicate remand/Pre-trial prisoner cases throughout the country. • POS Foundation represents the youth on the Coalition of the Right to Information (RTI) which is spearheaded by Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), Africa office in Accra. • Organized a 3 Day Training Program to train Prison officers, prison inmates as well as external personnel as paralegals to man the newly established paralegal office at the Nsawam Prison.
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<p>Name of organization 7.Stop The Abuse</p>	<p>About Established to eradicate all forms of abuse in Ghana through advocacy.</p>
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<p> Thematic Areas Human rights (Advocacy)</p> <p>Website http://www.stopabuseghana.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles Twitter: @StopAbuseGhana</p>	<p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talks, conferences and general advocacy on discrimination in the workplace, gender violence and more
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<p>Name of organization 8. International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA-Ghana)</p> <p> Thematic Areas Women and child's rights</p> <p>Website https://www.fidaghana.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles Twitter: @fida_ghana</p>	<p>About FIDA-Ghana also holds the government of Ghana responsible to its obligations towards the implementation of all laws, particularly those that affect women, children and the vulnerable in Ghana.</p> <p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained Actions on Violence prevention Enhanced (SAVE) project, is an innovative and different way that FIDA-Ghana is seeking to address domestic violence. • Strengthening the voice of rural women farmers for improved livelihoods (SWIFT) project is NETRIGHT consortium with FIDA, WOM and ACTWAR working on the project in the Northern and Southern sectors. • Gender Inclusion and Voices of Equality Sustained (GIVES) project is an initiative by FIDA-Ghana with support from STAR-Ghana with the basic aim of adopting a comprehensive human rights perspective to address intra-gender violence
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Human Rights Organizations in Nigeria

<p>Name of organization 1.National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)</p> <hr/> <p>Type of organization: Government appointed human rights commission.</p> <p>Thematic Areas General human rights (Women’s rights, child’s rights, freedom of expression and the media, human rights defenders etc.)</p> <p>Website https://www.nigeriarights.gov.ng/</p> <p>Social Media Handles Twitter: @NhrcNigeria</p> <p>Interim Report (Link) https://bit.ly/3ji1CDF</p>	<p>About The National Human Rights Commission is Nigeria’s national human rights body, established to deal with all matters relating to the promotion and protection of human rights, investigation of alleged human rights violations, and enforcement of decisions of the Commission’s Governing Council. The NHRC presently has State offices in all 36 states of the country and the FCT.</p> <p>Activities/Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Human Rights Commission in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) conceived a project titled “Integrating Human Rights in UN Peace-building Response to the Farmer-Herder Crisis in the Middle Belt” to run for a period of 18 months • Presently, the Commission is in the forefront of a Bill on Women Participation in Elections. The Bill seeks to prescribe women quotas for elections into the Senate, House of Representatives, State Houses of Assembly and Area Council Elections in FCT in order to support and enhance women participation and representation in certain elective offices.
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<p>Name of organization 2.Women's Rights Advancement and Protection Alternative (WRAPA)</p> <hr/>	<p>About works to increase access to justice for women across all three legal systems in Nigeria: common law, traditional law, and Shariah law.</p> <p>Activity</p>
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<p>Type of organization: NGO</p> <p>Thematic Area Women's rights</p> <p>Website Website: https://wrapanigeria.org</p> <p>Social Media Handles @WrpaNG</p> <p>Interim Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WRAPA has a training centre in Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja where women and girls are trained on different skill to move towards financial independence and supporting the family. These skills range from soap making, bead making, fashion design, baking and much more. Promoting Safety and Security for the Girl-Child Education in North Eastern Nigeria Project (PSSGE)- (WRAPA) is leading a coordinated effort by concerned women, youth and professionals across Nigeria
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<p>Name of organization 3. Prisoners Rehabilitation and Welfare Action (PRAWA)</p> <p>Thematic Area Prisons, detention</p> <p>Website https://www.prawa.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles https://twitter.com/prawa_tweets</p> <p>Interim report/relevant report https://www.prawa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2-1st-Quarter-Report-Finalv52.pdf</p>	<p>About Promote institutional reforms in formal and informal sector for Access to justice, rehabilitation, and social development of prisoners, ex-prisoners, torture victim and youth at risk.</p> <p>Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prison Reform Intervention in Africa (PRIA)- to promote effective and sustainable prison reforms in Africa, which is in compliance with international and regional human rights standards Human Rights Training Integration (HRTI)- Training and capacity building of Prison Officers on Human Rights and Good Prison Practice and development of resource materials. Oak project: Standing up for survivors of torture and ensuring that they are supported in their efforts to rebuild their lives has always been one of PRAWA major priorities.
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<p>Name of organization 4. Centre for Environmental, human rights and development</p> <p>Thematic Area</p>	<p>About promoting sustainable green development and entrenchment of human rights in Nigeria</p> <p>Activity</p>
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<p>Environment & conservation, human rights and governance, health and community development</p> <p>Website www.cehrd.org</p> <p>Social Media Handles https://twitter.com/CEHRD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organized a multi-stakeholders policy summit on gender-based violence response in Rivers State • Organized a one-day Capacity Building Workshop for Rivers State Legislators on Biodiversity and Climate Change • Supported selected farmers from communities in Bayelsa State with improved and climate resilient varieties of seedlings like cassava stems, plantain suckers, banana suckers, maize seeds and cucumber seeds
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<p>Name of organization 5.Seri-Socio Economic Rights Initiative</p> <p>Thematic Area Housing,Health,Governance</p> <p>Website http://serifoundation.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles Facebook: @socioeconomicrightsinstitute</p> <p>Interim Report</p>	<p>About SERI is committed to the advancement of economic and social rights through promotion of the universal rights of every one, to health, housing, living environment, education, food, adequate standard of living, equality, security and the rule of law.</p> <p>Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting the rights of People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHA):SERI has, in collaboration with several PLWHA care and support organizations, picked up the mantle to fight discrimination against PLWHA in the workplace, in hospitals, in schools and, indeed in the society at large • Housing Rights Program: The project is aimed at making government fulfill its responsibility regarding housing to Nigerians
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<p>Name of organization 6.Child's rights and rehabilitation network (CRARN)</p> <p>Thematic Area Child "witches" (research, rehabilitation)</p> <p>Website https://www.craryn.net/</p> <p>Social Media Handles</p>	<p>About charity organization registered with Corporate Affairs Commission in Nigeria and a 501c Charity in the US. CRARN began in 2003 to shelter a few children who had been accused of possessing witchcraft power as part of a widespread witch-hunt in their community, which left hundreds of people dead in the space of two months.</p> <p>Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRARN supports children accused of witchcraft to access medical care, education giving them nutrition and love.
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Twitter: @cram	
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<p>Name of organization 7. Community Life Project (CLP)</p> <p>Thematic Area Governance, digital inclusion, sustainable community development</p> <p>Website communitylifeproject.org</p> <p>Social Media Handles Twitter: @cram</p>	<p>About participatory grassroots development, citizens' engagement, livelihood, gender equality, popular participation in electoral process, and sexual and reproductive health and rights Promotes in Nigeria. CLP serves as the institutional base for ReclaimNaija – a broad-based national social movement of Grassroots citizens working to enthrone democratic accountability and inclusive development</p> <p>Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing Community-Based Monitoring of Educational Projects: The project offers communities the opportunity to “No Sidon Look” again but to get involved in ensuring quality education for our children and wards in line with the “Education for All” policies. 300 Community Leaders, Members off School-Based Management Committee sensitized on monitoring and reporting on the status of awarded projects in their communities. • Community Life Project (CLP), with support from USAID-SACE, is working with Informal Sector Workers and the Government to promote transparency in the sector and increase compliance rate. • Building Grassroots citizens capacity to actively participate in the governance decision-making process, especially at the Local Government level. We are also working with Government Officials to open up the space for Grassroots.
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<p>Name of organization 8. Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF)</p> <p>Thematic Area</p>	<p>About WOTCLEF works towards the elimination of trafficking in persons, child labour, abuse of women's rights and more.</p> <p>Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The United Nations ranted a Special Consultative Status to WOTCLEF. Giving them a rare
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<p>Human trafficking, child labour, women's rights, reproductive health</p> <p>Website wotclef.org.ng</p> <p>Social Media Handles Twitter: @wotclef</p>	<p>opportunity to attend relevant UN activities as an NGO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ogun state chapter of WOTCLEF has rescued 30 Beninnois children from quarries in some parts of Ogun State and offered them rehabilitation services. • Developed a comprehensive advocacy strategy for combating the worst forms of child labour in Nigeria.
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Human rights institutions in Liberia

<p>Name of organization 1.EduCARE</p> <hr/> <p>Type of organization: NGO</p> <p>Thematic Areas Women's rights</p> <p>Website https://www.empowerwomen.org</p> <p>Social Media Handles Facebook: @educarelib</p>	<p>About EduCARE is a women-based not-for-profit and business hub operation in Liberia. It works closely with Liberia's Ministry of Commerce and Industry and in collaboration with the Liberia Marketing Association and the Association of Women in Cross Border Trade.</p> <p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EduCARE is an implementing partner for Liberia's Gender Ministry and UN Women's Peace Building Project targeting 4,000 women in 6 rural counties. • Literacy classes for rural and vulnerable women for communities in need • Business skills coupled with life skills classes for rural community women, market women, and women cross border traders • Leaderships skills, business skills, job skills and placement, coupled with access to information technology for urban and rural adolescent girls
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<p>2.Name of organization Save The Children</p> <hr/> <p>Thematic Areas Child's rights</p>	<p>About A leading International NGO working with other local and international partners, as well as the Liberian Government, to improve the welfare of children and make Liberia a safe place for them</p>
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<p>Website liberia.savethechildren.ne</p> <p>Social Media Handles @save_children</p>	<p>Activities/Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Save the Children Liberia currently operates in eight of Liberia's 15 counties • Embarked on a national project to generate an evidence base on health system financing and public expenditure to support and facilitate discussions with key budget decision makers and to better advocate for increased levels of health system financing for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Maternal, New-born and Child Health (MNCH) in Liberia.
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<p>Name of organization 3.Prison Help in Liberia</p> <hr/> <p>Thematic Areas Prisons, rehabilitation</p> <p>Website http://www.prisonhelpliberia.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles Facebook :@PrisonHelpLiberia</p>	<p>About Prison Help Liberia INC is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) whose goal is to provide quality skills training for inmates in prison to help them after they have been released.</p> <p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocational skills training for prisoners in Tubmanberg Central Prison and Buchanan Central Prison.
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<p>Name of organization 4.Green advocates</p> <hr/> <p>Thematic Areas Environmental protection</p> <p>Social Media Handles: Twitter: @greenadvocates1</p> <p>Website https://www.forestpeoples.org/en/partner/green-advocates</p>	<p>About Green Advocates (the Association of Environmental Lawyers of Liberia) is Liberia's first and only public interest environmental law organization dedicated to: Advancing human rights protection and advocacy through sound environmental practices.</p> <p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • giving voice to rural, indigenous, and tribal people, through advocating for strong environmental laws, working to enforce existing laws, and empowering citizens to participate in environmental decision-making.
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<p>Name of organization 5.Camp for Peace Liberia (CPL)</p>	<p>About Helping young people participate socially and economically in Liberia's post-war development</p>
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<p> Thematic Areas Youth empowerment</p> <p>Website http://campforpeace.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles Facebook: @campforpeace</p>	<p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial sponsoring and mentoring of the youth- sponsored 30 students to study vocational skills. • “Digital Inclusion” project during COVID 19”- Providing radios to 30 influential young people. • Provided a processing machine can produce 150 bags of processed cassava to Salayea town.
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<p>Name of Organization 6.Formidable Initiatives for women and girls (FIGW-L)</p> <p>Thematic Areas Adolescent and young women advocacy/empowerment</p> <p>Website http://www.fiwgliberia.org/</p> <p>Social Media Handles @formidableAnd</p> <p>Interim Report (Link)</p>	<p>About Adolescent girls and young women advocacy, empowerment and human rights</p> <p>Activities/ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIWG facilitates the Adolescent Girls and Young Women Leadership Program over the course of the school term and at community levels with girls between the ages of 10-24, teaching them various life skills from leadership, confidence building, and entrepreneurship, to how to take care of their bodies, protect themselves from sexual violence and avoid teenage and unplanned pregnancy. • Created the Formidable Females Network to discuss sensitive topics on a more frequent basis and participate in making handicrafts, pastries, beauty care, reusable sanitary pads as well as learning life skills and physical fitness. • GRIP (Girls Realizing Increased Potential) : an all-girls program that combines knowledge of adolescent development and other important life skills topics
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<p>Name of organization 7.Action against hunger</p> <p> Thematic Areas Advocacy,emergencies, food security,nutrition & health</p>	<p>About An INGO,assisting at-risk communities with nutrition programs, access to clean water and investing in longer-term food security activities.</p> <p>Activities/achievements</p>
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<p>Website ww.accioncontraelhambre.org</p> <p>Social Media Handles @Acontraelhambre</p> <p>Interim Report (Link)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisted over 90000 people through capacity-building efforts with the government of Liberia
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<p>Name of Organization United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)</p> <hr/> <p>Thematic Areas Development and advocacy in Liberia</p> <p>Website unmil.unmissions.org</p> <p>Social Media Handles @un_Liberia</p>	<p>About The Human Rights and Protection Section (HRPS) of the United Nations Mission in Liberia is working together with national institutions and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in ensuring the promotion, protection and monitoring of human rights in all fifteen counties in Liberia</p> <p>Some activities/milestones/achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provided technical and advocacy support to the establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) works closely with civil society to increase community awareness of human rights and supports Government efforts to implement the nation's human rights obligations.
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Limitations of the research

Interim Reports: These were not readily available on most company websites. Some organizations only had old reports and not current ones. Although efforts were made to contact organizations directly for their reports, responses have been slow. Though this information is not readily available, some pages on institution website may give a fair rundown of recent activities, finances etc.

Time frame: This document is work in progress and was carried out within a limited time frame. There will be room for increased information in the final version submitted.

Conclusions and recommendations: Communications and Social media strategy (Africa) – Building awareness and engagement

- **Feeding off the general brand and business strategy of ISHR:** A good social media strategy must be derived from the entire business and brand strategy that ISHR has for Africa. Such that there are synergies with execution to create lasting impact.
- **Building the ideal target persona:** What does the Ideal institutions that ISHR would like to corporate or share information with look like?
- **Segmenting and targeting:** Africa contains 54 countries; hence, it will be a good idea to segment the market and use a step by step to build a broader network and share information.
- **Setting SMART goals:** Having numerical targets e.g. Number of people to reach and a specific time frame etc. will be helpful for communications and social media strategy
- **Content:** Content for Africa must be easily understood and culturally relevant.
- **Analysis of similar institutions:** Have other similar institutions branched into the African market? What can we learn from their successes and failures?
- **360 approach for re-posting:** As showcased in this research, it is possible to have a list of organizations handling the key thematic areas of violation or progress in a particular country. Following these organizations on social media will provide an all-encompassing view of human rights in the country and provide relevant, up-to-date content for posting