

Project Title: Building Collaboration, Partnerships and Political Commitment to Delay Early Marriage and the Onset of Childbearing in Northern Nigeria (Consortium Project)

Funder: Action Aid Nigeria

Project Period: January 2013 - January 2015

Location: Kano and Kaduna States

Building Collaboration, Partnerships and Political Commitment to Delay Early Marriage and the Onset of Childbearing in Northern Nigeria project was implemented by a consortium of 4 civil society partners with funding from the Ford Foundation West Africa office. The overarching goal of the project was to delay child marriage by reducing social and economic barriers to girls' education and the key objectives of the project are:

- To establish a strong and effective consortium of civil society organizations working to delay marriage in the northwestern states of Kaduna and Kano;
- To increase awareness among key stakeholders of the adverse social and reproductive health consequences of child marriage and to build political commitment (within two years) for concrete measures for its reduction; and
- To pilot government-civil society partnerships to scale-up best practices in reducing child marriage in the two states

The consortium served as a platform for greater coordination and systematic evaluation of efforts to end child marriage through legislative/stakeholder advocacy and capacity building. The consortium partners advocated for the domestication and enactment of protocols on the rights of the child (such as the Child Rights Law) and the improved implementation of the Children and Young Persons Law.

The project was coordinated by ActionAid Nigeria and implemented in Kano and Kaduna States by Girl-Child Concerns (GCC), Girl-Child Education (PRHI/Bixby Center) and Isa Wali Empowerment Initiative (IWEI). dRPC provided monitoring and evaluation support to the implementing partners by anchoring knowledge management and dissemination of project successes.