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KASU AND FIDA JOIN FORCES TO PROMOTE LEGAL AWARENESS AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE

By Caleb Kanda and Hamza Musa Makarfi



Kaduna State University (KASU), in partnership with the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) Kaduna Branch, on February 19th, 2026, organised a sensitization programme themed “Promoting Legal Awareness, Protection, and Access to Justice.” The event brought together students, university officials, legal practitioners and security personnel to address key societal issues affecting women, children and the broader community.

The programme was convened by Dr. Bashariya Baba Mustapha, Director of the Centre for Mentorship and Career Development at KASU. The Registrar, Barrister Samira Balarabe, delivered the opening remarks, encouraging students to embrace continuous learning and apply the knowledge gained beyond the university environment.

Mrs. Florence Suleiman Deputy Registrar Student Affairs also urged participants to listen attentively and grow into responsible ambassadors of society, while Barrister I. Abdulmutallab, Deputy Registrar, Legal-KASU, emphasised the importance of taking each presentation seriously.

FIDA National Assistant PRO, Aisha Abdu Muhammed Esq, National Assistant PRO, outlined the organisation's history in Nigeria, with 43 branches nationwide and its commitment to protecting women and children through free legal services, mediation in domestic violence cases and advocacy for strict penalties against offences such as rape.

The sensitisation programme featured several presentations. Mrs. Esther Olumidara from Kaduna State Substance Abuse and Mental

Health Agency addressed the dangers of substance abuse, explaining its effects on the brain, mental health and personal development. Sidikat Adegboye, Esq., Manager SARC Tudunwada Kaduna discussed the forms and impact of sexual and gender-based violence, including sexual, physical, psychological, economic and digital abuse. Sarah Ishaku Sambo MultiDoor Court/ADR High Court Kaduna examined the role of Alternative Dispute Resolution in providing survivor-centred support while ensuring serious criminal cases are referred to appropriate authorities.

Barrister I. Abdulmutallab further spoke on fundamental human rights under the 1999 Constitution (as amended) and the need for strict adherence to the university's Student Handbook and codes of conduct.

Fatima Umar Bala Esq, Assistant PRO FIDA Kaduna Branch, delivered a presentation on advance fee fraud and cybercrime, warning of the severe legal and reputational consequences

of financial and online crimes. Police Superintendent Dominic, Gender Desk Officer who was represented, explained police procedures in handling cases of sexual and gender-based violence, substance abuse and cyber offences. In the concluding legal presentation, Barrister Olufunke Bamikole Esq. Chairperson, FIDA Kaduna Branch highlighted relevant Kaduna State laws protecting victims and outlined pathways to justice through legal aid, courts, NGOs, mediation and public complaint commissions, encouraging individuals to break the culture of silence.

The event concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, during which Dr. Bashariya Baba Mustapha rewarded active participants, and Prof. Hauwa' Evelyn Yusuf commended both KASU and FIDA for organising the impactful programme. Overall, the collaboration successfully equipped participants with practical knowledge to protect their rights, make informed decisions and contribute to a more just and responsible





KASU AND ALLIANCES FOR AFRICA SIGN MOU ON TACKLING SEXUAL HARASSMENT

By Hamza Musa Makarfi

In pictures: KASU AND ALLIANCES FOR AFRICA SIGN MOU ON TACKLING SEXUAL HARASSMENT



Kaduna State University (KASU) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Alliances for Africa to strengthen efforts at combating sexual harassment within the university community.

The initiative is driven by the Centre for Gender Studies, KASU, led by Professor Hauwa'u Evelyn Yusuf, which serves as a dedicated platform committed to addressing gender-based violence (GBV), sexual harassment, and gender inequality

both within the university and in the surrounding community.

The MoU was formally signed by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Strategy, Innovation and Service Delivery), Professor Helen AfangAndow, and the University Registrar, Barrister Samira Balarabe, Esq., marking a significant step toward fostering a safer, more inclusive, and equitable academic environment.