



# KADUNA STATE UNIVERSITY

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### KASU AND ALLIANCES FOR AFRICA LAUNCH NATIONAL CAMPUS CLIMATE BASELINE SURVEY ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Centre for Gender Studies at Kaduna State University (KASU) and Alliances for Africa have officially launched the National Campus Climate Baseline Survey on Sexual Harassment in Nigerian Public Tertiary Institutions during a press briefing organised to commemorate International Women's Day 2026.

The event brought together academic and non-academic staff, students, civil society organisations, and members of the media, including representatives of the News Agency of Nigeria.

Presenting the findings of the baseline survey, Bilkisu Yusuf described sexual harassment within Nigerian tertiary institutions as a persistent and systemic challenge that requires urgent and coordinated intervention. She explained that the research, conducted across universities in Nigeria's six geopolitical zones, represents one of the most comprehensive data on gender-based violence within higher education institutions.

According to the survey findings, 70 percent of female students and 30 percent of male students reported experiencing at least one form of gender-based violence on campus. Among university staff, 63 percent of female staff and 37 percent of male staff also reported encountering similar experiences.

Ms. Yusuf noted that the most common forms of harassment identified in the study include



*Ms. Bilkisu Yusuf presenting findings*

unwanted touching, inappropriate comments, verbal abuse, and stalking. She emphasised that the statistics represent thousands of students who arrive at universities seeking knowledge but instead face harassment, intimidation, and coercion

She further explained that many victims fail to report such incidents due to fear of retaliation, lack of trust in institutional systems, and the absence of safe and confidential reporting mechanisms.

She therefore called on university authorities nationwide to establish independent sexual harassment response units, strengthen institutional policies, and create confidential reporting channels to protect students and staff. She also urged the National Universities Commission and the Federal Ministry of Education (Nigeria) to support policies and funding initiatives aimed at addressing gender-based violence within higher institutions.





*Dr. Deborah Bijimi, Director, Centre For Gender Studies, KASU, welcoming participants*

Welcoming the audience, Director of the Centre for Gender Studies at KASU, Dr. Deborah Bijimi, explained that the press briefing was organised to mark International Women’s Day while presenting evidence-based research that can guide institutions toward creating safer and more inclusive learning environments. She highlighted that the 2026 International Women’s Day theme, “Give to Gain”, underscores the importance of collective responsibility and collaboration in advancing gender equality and empowering women

Speaking on the theme, Dr. Hilary Zaggi observed that women constitute nearly half of the world’s population but continue to face significant barriers, including limited access to economic opportunities, underrepresentation in leadership and gender-based violence. Quoting former United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, he noted that “there is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women.”

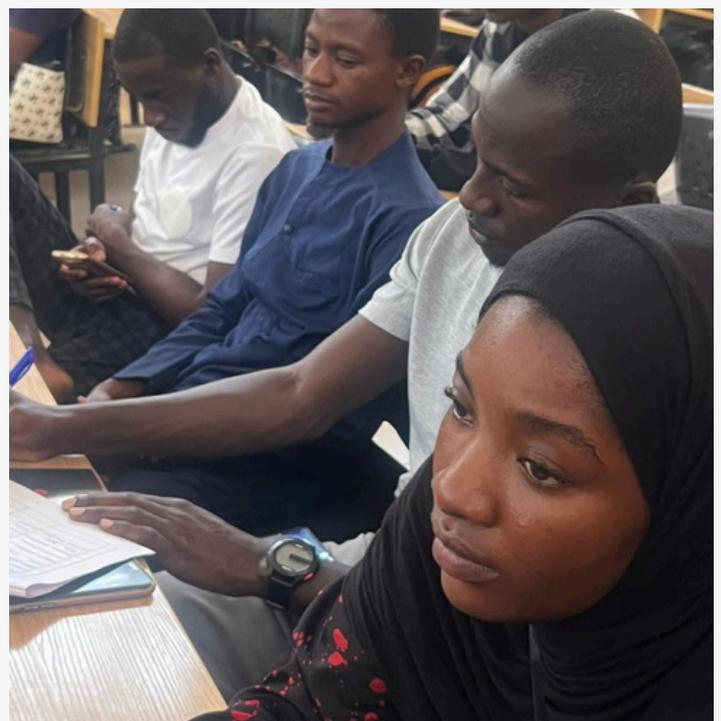


*The Deputy Vice Chancellor, Strategy, Prof Helen Andow, flanked by the University Registrar, Barr. Samira Balarabe and Dr, Bijimi in a group photograph with staff and students of KASU*

**“ According to the survey findings, 70 percent of female students and 30 percent of male students reported experiencing at least one form of gender-based violence on campus ”**



*Lead Paper Presenter, Dr. Hilary Zaggi*



*KASU Students in attendance at the event*

