

18 MAY 2015

PRESS STATEMENT

The WAJA-CBP Concludes a three day Gender Sensitization Workshop in Abuja

ABUJA, - The West African Journalists Association, through its Capacity Building programme (WAJA/CBP) in collaboration with NUJ concluded today in Abuja a three day workshop on “Women Reporting Women -- Gender Sensitive Reporting “.

This step-down workshop is the second of its kind after the one held in Banjul, The Gambia in September 2014 and they both follow a “Training of Trainers” programme held in July 2014 in Bamako.

The project is supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Norwegian Union of Journalists.

Twenty women journalists from different Nigerian media outlets, print and electronic, attended the workshop in the Federal Capital of Nigeria.

Speaking during the closing ceremony, Nigerian Union of journalists (NUJ) President Mohamed Garba, renewed the commitment of his organization to empower women journalists across the country.

The workshop was a good opportunity to improve the participants’ skills in reporting women’s issues and at the same time to address the challenges faced by the Nigerian women journalists, both inside and outside the newsrooms.

The workshop was implemented by the Dakar based journalism & Communication school, E-jicom.

Four senior Nigerian journalists who attended the Bamako Training of Trainers session co-facilitated the Abuja workshop under the supervision of the programme’s Lead trainer Hamadou Tidiane Sy.

We are glad the trainee-trainers from Nigeria have had the opportunity to share their knowledge in gender reporting with their compatriots. We are looking forward to seeing the other countries - Liberia and Sierra

Leone also conduct their in-country workshops”, said Peter Quaqua, the WAJA president.

“This workshop is timely and relevant. It is coming at a time when Nigerian journalists needed it most”, said Shuaibu Leman, secretary General of the NUJ on behalf of his organisation, at the opening ceremony.

The WAJA/CBP gender reporting project, which resumes after a long break due to the Ebola epidemic in West Africa, is a deliberate effort to address some of the gender imbalances in the media.

The workshop was enriched by a field visit in the village of Pegi, near Abuja, to help participants do some practical exercises, wearing their “gender lenses”.

The WAJA/CBP (Women Reporting Women) programme which started with the anglophone countries in West Africa is due to continue with francophone and lusophone countries in the region. E-jicom has been assigned to design and implement the curriculum of this unique 3 year programme which combines a training of trainers and step down activities in sixteen countries