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PEACE BREEDERS

System and Structure Strengthening Approach Against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism (SARVE III PROJECT)

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PHOTO CAPTION:

L-R, Yetunde Adegoke, National Coordinator, GCERF, Aisha Bello Muhammed, Member, ActionAid Nigeria's Board, Alhaji Aminu Babba Dan Agundi, Sarkin Dawaki Babba and District Head of Nasarawa representing The Emir of Kano, Alhaji Aminu Ado Bayero Suwaiba Muhammad Dankabo, Deputy Country Director and Director of Programmes, ActionAid Nigeria, during the launch of the inter-religious dialogue in Kano State, Nigeria

WHAT'S NEW

1

In the period under review, the Community Action Response Team (CART) established by ActionAid Nigeria's System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) Project in Kaduna, led by Cornelius Shija, State Programme Officer for SARVE III, paid a courtesy visit to the Emir of Zazzau. The Emir not only approved the initiative but also wholeheartedly pledged his commitment to and support for the adoption of the Interfaith Dialogue Guide as a means of preventing violent extremism, from both Christian and Islamic perspectives.

2

In the quest to resolve the communal clash between Magashi and Galadanci community, Gwale LGA, Local Conflict Management Alliance (LOCMA) and CART which are established initiatives of ActionAid Nigeria SARVE III project organised a community dialogue. A proffered solution in resolving the clash was agreed and representatives of Magashi and Galadanci community extended a handshake of peace. In celebration of their peaceful coexistence, AAN organised a peace football match between the youths of Magashi and Galadanci community

3

Also, through SARVE III interventions, Community Action, and Response Team (CART) was established in Bichi and Danzabuwa communities. 153 CART members across 17 seventeen communities were trained by the LOCMA team.



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ActionAid Nigeria's SARVE III Community Action Response Team (CART) in Kaduna during a courtesy visit to the Emir of Zazzau



THE ROYAL PLEDGE

Emir of Zazzau Affirms His Commitment to the Adoption of the SARVE III interreligious dialogue.

Gate keepers in every community have always shown leadership and guidance in coordinating and fostering peace and harmony amongst their community members. In an opulent palace, adorned with vibrant cultural treasures, Community Action Response Team (CART) in Kaduna led by Cornelius Shija, SARVE III State Programme Officer, paid a courtesy visit to the Emir of Zazzau who gave his word of blessing and pledged his commitment and dedication to the adoption of the Interfaith Dialogue Guide towards prevention of violent extremism: Christian and Islamic perspective.

In his words, he said: "religion today in Nigeria has become a tool or weapon for provoking violence because of the view about religious ideologies."

The Emir, known for his unwavering commitment to progress and social development, listened intently. His eyes mirrored a deep understanding of the challenges faced by the Zazzau's of different faiths coming to a mutual understanding. With an unwavering conviction, he attested to the fact

that religious leaders have a role to play in conflict management, religious institution strengthening against radicalisation to violent extremism.

Through the power of unity and collaboration with the Emir's commitment, we believe that the SARVE III project will soar to new heights and the Zazzau community of Kaduna state will feel the winds of change as the project's noble objectives found a fertile ground to blossom.

The royal blessings showcase the remarkable potential that traditional/religious leaders are stakeholders of peace, and influential figures can as well dedicate themselves to the betterment of peaceful coexistence within their communities.





Community players in action during ActionAid Nigeria's SARVE III Kick4Peace football match in Kano State

THE KICK4PEACE TACTICS:

A Tale in Resolving Magashi and Galadanci Communal Clash

Kano state has challenges, resulting in many avoidable loss of lives and properties. One of the most concerning issues is communal clashes. In Kano, these clashes occur regularly, often erupting as the memory of the last incident fades. Although these conflicts happen periodically, they are usually serious, leading to severe injuries, destruction of properties, and displacement of people.

The communal clash between Magashi and Galadanci community in Kano State has been worrisome. In the quest to resolve the communal clash between the two communities, Gwale LGA LOCMA and CART organised a meeting with stakeholders from Magashi and Galadanci communities.

The meeting had in attendance the Divisional Crime Officer (DCO), Gwale LGA, DSS, Civil Defence, Ward Heads, Wakilin Yamma and community vigilantes. During discussion, they discovered the cause of the clash between both communities were the youth.

A proffered solution in resolving the clash between both communities was agreed. Representatives of Magashi and Galadanci

community extended a handshake of peace and went back to their various communities happy.

In celebration of their peaceful coexistence, a peace football match was organised between the youths of Magashi and Galadanci community by ActionAid Nigeria SARVE III project in partnership with Dispute Resolution and Development Initiative (DRDI-DAG) and with funding from Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)



RESOLVED:

A Tale of Jema'a Herder's and Farmers Collision

In the ancient city of Jema'a, rich in tradition and located amidst fertile lands for agriculture, residents and neighbouring communities have reaped the benefits. Jema'a has always been a melting point of various ethnic groups, and this has been due to its rich mineral deposits. Over decades, herders and farmers have coexisted harmoniously and enjoyed their different cultures.

This peaceful coexistence was cut short due to the growing population and migration of people, which resulted in the need to acquire more land by farmers for more agriculture and sustainability. This move had adversely affected herders who now have little to no grazing sites for their cattle, resulting in conflicts, loss of lives and properties by both farmers and herders.

In the quest to resolve the existing conflict, the

LOCMA team organised a community dialogue with the aim of addressing the issue which had all stakeholders in attendance. The Jema'a community dialogue session was well coordinated and lots of issues were tabled for deliberation.

At the end of the dialogue session, a wide range of possible solutions were tabled to the various groups/institutions and advised to work on them for positive outcomes. All parties returned to their residence peacefully and happy.

The need for continued engagement and community dialogue in the region cannot be over-emphasised as it would not only build trust along ethnic and religious lines but also improved the livelihood of the people who reside in the region.



Cross section of participant at the community dialogue session organised by ActionAid Nigeria SARVE III project LOCMA team in Jema'a, Kaduna State.



Participant during SARVE III LOCMA CART training in Bichi, Kano State.

BUILDING RESILIENCE

Replication of CARTs across 17 communities in Bichi local Government of Kano state.

A renaissance to stem violence

Government and community leaders are taking responsibility for keeping their neighbourhoods safe. Communities take a unified stand against disorder, extremism, conflict and violence. Security agencies and communities strive to build a system in which violence and disorder will not thrive.

Bichi local government is located in Kano state, the northwest region of Nigeria. It is the headquarters of Bichi Emirate and approximately 40KM away from the Kano metropolitan. The economic mainstay is agriculture, weaving, and crafting. The local government had a history of political violence and farmers herder's crisis. Bichi is one of the most elite local governments in the state that produced engineers, doctors, teachers, entrepreneurs, and many workforces to the development of the state and the country at large.

The local government has adopted a peace-focused approach through dialogue, consultations, and engaging with security actors to ensure enduring harmony among diverse groups. As part of SARVE III initiatives, the establishment of the Community Action and Response Team (CART) in Bichi and Danzabuwa communities was facilitated.

Sequel to success of CART in Bichi and Danzabuwa. The Local Conflict Management

Alliance (LOCMA) under the auspices of Bichi Local Government trained 153 CART members across 17 communities.

The purpose of Community Action Response Team (CART) is to act as community watch group in respect to the peace and security by relating with other security agencies, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of government on issues that contributes to the development of their community.

"We have replicated CART model in the local government to strengthen security and avert crimes in the local government. We look forward to more collaboration and synergy with Organisations like ActionAid for the development of our communities." **Dr Yusuf Muhammad Sabo**
– **Chairman Bichi Local Government**





Women Safe Space members during an interactive session in Kano State.

EMPOWERED

Through the Women Safe Space

"I was given N3000 to support my business from the money we contributed weekly during women safe space session in my community. I used the money to produce car washing soaps and hand washing soaps, air freshener during Eid Kabir. I have gained significant benefits from the profit, received back the initial capital, and I aspire to extend this support to other women, enabling them to experience the same positive outcomes as I have" **Asiya Muhammad Tagarji Community**

It is worthy to mention that the Women Safe Space (WSS) programme introduced by ActionAid Nigeria SARVE III project in partnership with Dispute Resolution and Development Initiative and this has reshaped the narratives of women in Tagarji community. Women are not just only peace ambassadors in their community but also

agents of socio-economic empowerment.

The Women Safe Space in Tagarji Community facilitated the rehabilitation of 30 drug addicted youths and established Women Safe Space in Zango Community which started with 10 members and now they have 26 members. They also supported 10 members with N3000 each from the weekly contribution and facilitated the training of 76 women in collaboration with ANDI vocational skills training on soap making and tailoring. For accountability, the Women Safe Space network developed membership registration form with the aim of screening their members.

The Women Safe Space in Tagarji Community have indeed pulled down extremist barriers and provided financial freedom for her members.





Cross section of SARVE III radio listeners during the weekly radio listening session in Kano State.

RESHAPED PERCEPTION

Through the SARVE III Radio Listening Session

The radio listening session has made giant stride by increasing awareness/sensitisation to grass root communities on preventing violence extremism and promoting peaceful coexistence. This has played a vital role in resolving inter and intra communal conflicts. The radio listening session has also fostered change of perspectives among community members.

“I did not allow my girl child to attend school but after listening to ActionAid Nigeria SARVE III radio programme on the importance of girl child education, I now understand the role of an educated woman in the society. I will personally take my daughter to school when they resume from break”. **Baban Layya Kofa Community.**

“After I listened to ActionAid Nigeria SARVE II radio programme on education, I will personally buy an application form for my wife to further her education” **Mustapha Ibrahim Kofa Community.**

The together for peace weekly radio programme

often aired on four radio stations, two Radio Stations; Alheri Radio and Correct FM in Kaduna and two Radio Stations; Freedom Radio, Arewa Radio and WAZOBIA FM in Kano State respectively.

The System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) project radio programme in Kano and Kaduna state is funded by Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF).





Cultural display by youth during the SARVE III Peace Fiesta to commemorate the Global Day for Peace in Kaduna State.

ACTIONS FOR PEACE:

Our Ambition for the #Globalgoals

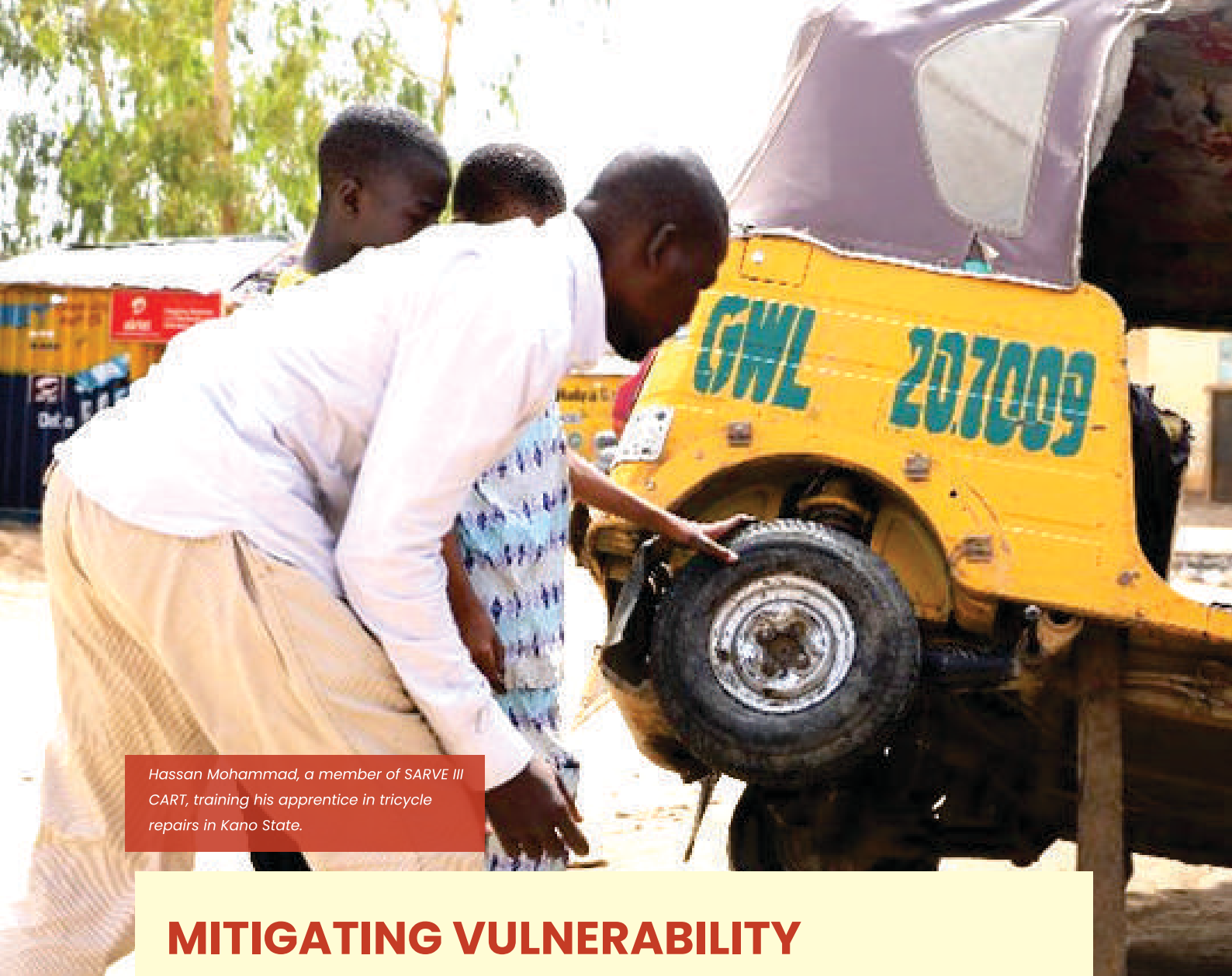
ActionAid Nigeria through the System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) Project in partnership with Global Peace Development (GPD) and Dispute Resolution and Development Initiative (DRDI-DAG) in collaboration with the Kano state ministry of culture and tourism, and Kaduna State ministry of Culture and Tourism, commemorated the International Peace Day 2023 in a Cultural Peace Fiesta.

Discrimination and racism harm not just the lives of those who endure it, but also the society. In line with the theme for the year; **“Actions for Peace: Our Ambition for the #GlobalGoals”** and as part of the SARVE III efforts towards supporting communities to strengthen their resilience against violent extremism. The Cultural Peace Fiesta is an opportunity to promote diversity, tolerance and peaceful coexistence among divergent faiths, beliefs and ethnic groups in Kaduna and Kano state. The fiesta recognised the

need for collective responsibility to foster peace and unity in Kano and Kaduna State, while positively engaging communities, individuals, and most importantly youths who are most vulnerable to violence extremism.

2,056 Participants present for the Cultural Peace Fiesta funded by Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) in Kano and Kaduna State re-affirmed their commitment to continuously join efforts in taking action for peace.





Hassan Mohammad, a member of SARVE III CART, training his apprentice in tricycle repairs in Kano State.

MITIGATING VULNERABILITY

Through Skill Empowerment

Community Action Response Team (CART) has continuously maintained her giant stride in its swift response in identifying and managing community crises.

Hassan Mohammad, during the CART meeting, identified unemployment and idleness as drivers of violence. He has taken a personal initiative to provide free training in tricycle repairs for three young individuals within his community.

In his words, "I am training three of them for free so that when they are masters, they can also do the same by training other youths. This will help reduce idleness among the youths in the community which will help reduce their vulnerability in perpetrating violence".

ActionAid Nigeria implements the SARVE III project in Kaduna and Kano in partnership with Global Peace Development (GPD) and Dispute Resolution and Development Initiative (DRDI - DAG) with funding from Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)



PEACE AMBASSADORS SPOTLIGHT.

“

I did not allow my girl child to attend school but after listening to ActionAid radio programme on the importance of girl child education, I now understand the role of an educated woman in the society, I will personally take my daughter to school when they resume from break

Baban Layya Kofa Community.

”

“

I really appreciate the Women Safe Space. Because of this, my relationship with my husband has now improved. I learned how to take care of myself and family in terms of health issues and learned how to take care of the kitchen, cook and how to use ash and charcoal to clean my toilet. Also, I am now self-reliant and can take good care of my husband and family

Fatima Mahamud Yaryasa Community

”

“

As a result of women safe space session, I got a business empowerment support. I can now support my family. Also, I have never been to Kano city in my life but as a result of safe space programme, I went to Kano city to attend a programme, I learn a lot from the programme

Hadiza Ibrahim Yaryasa Community.

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“

After listening to ActionAid radio programme on education, I vow to personally buy an application form for my wife to further her education

Mustapha Ibrahim Kofa Community.

”

“

The CART training enlightened me more about the importance of unity. If we can do away with our differences, we will have development. I also learnt about security threats and movement and how to best handle them.

Hassan Garba Musa from Bumbum Community Bichi LGA

”

SARVE III

PROJECT SUMMARY

Following successes recorded in the first (SARVE I) and second (SARVE II) phases of the project in Kogi and Nasarawa states respectively as well as current trends in the Northwest region of the country, ActionAid Nigeria has received more funding from the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) to continue the implementation of the third (3rd) phase of the SARVE project in partnership with Democratic Action Group (DAG) in Kano and Global Peace Development (GPD) in Kaduna states.



The project is a 36-month project aimed at strengthening community resilience against violent extremism across



24 communities in 12 LGAs in Kano and Kaduna States.



The project will reach **36,000** direct beneficiaries: **18,200** youths (12,600 male and 5,600 female), **4,160** women; **7,320** men and **6,320** in-school children (3,160 male and 3,160 female)



129,360 indirect beneficiaries (40,200 female and 89,160 male)



System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism Project, SARVE I and II are proudly funded by



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