

ActionAid is a global movement of people working together to further human rights for all and defeat poverty. We prioritise works with the poor and excluded, promoting values and commitment in civil society, institutions and governments with the aim of achieving structural changes to eradicate injustices and poverty in the world.

ActionAid Nigeria believes that a Nigeria without poverty and injustice is possible.

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PEACE BREEDERS

A COMPENDIUM OF IMPACT STORIES

System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) Project in Kano and Kaduna States.





2024 ActionAid Nigeria.

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»»» FOREWARD

For many years, youths and women in conflict-prone areas of Nigeria have faced severe psychological and physical challenges, leading to widespread unemployment, marginalization, gender-based violence, and social exclusion. States like Kano and Kaduna have not been immune to these issues. Unemployment rates continue to rise, and a significant portion of the youth population is seeking avenues for engagement and empowerment.

Recognizing the importance of youth involvement in preventing violent extremism, ActionAid Nigeria has prioritized youth engagement as a critical tool in fostering self-reliance, productivity, and social cohesion. Through the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)-funded SARVE III project, ActionAid Nigeria aims to create a platform that awakens youth consciousness, builds their capacity, and empowers them to engage with local stakeholders on youth-related issues.

Having successfully implemented previous phases of the SARVE project in Kogi and Nasarawa states, ActionAid Nigeria continues to partner with key organizations—such as the Participation Initiative For Behavioral Change In Development (PIBCID), Global Peace Development, and Beacon Youth Initiative. The SARVE III project builds on the gains made in SARVE I and II, focusing on protecting young and vulnerable people from the influence of violent extremism. The goal is to ensure that youths are equipped with the skills, knowledge, and opportunities to contribute meaningfully to the development of their communities, states, and the country at large.

In the 36-month life span of the SARVE III project in Kaduna and Kano, ActionAid Nigeria has been able to impact by reaching out 33,789 as direct beneficiaries, 23,004 female and 10,785 male through its strengthening resilience, 606 persons (175 youth males, 209 youth females, 222 adult women) received livelihood

economic empowerment skills reducing their vulnerability to violent extremism and built the capacity of 120 mid and higher-level media professionals in conflict sensitive reportage, feminist journalism and peace building. The project has led to the establishment of 24 women safe spaces, mentoring women on leadership and Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE). Furthermore, 24 Community Action and Response Teams (CARTs) have been formed to enhance early warning capabilities, along with 12 Local Conflict Management Alliance (LOCMA), establishment of peace clubs in schools, trained 120 youth on basic digital literacy skills to enhance access and capacity for employment and entrepreneurship all of which are instrumental in fostering.

In addition, 60 police officers of which 15 are women and 45 are men, were trained to respond to rising issues on violent extremism through the fundamental Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) while working closely with existing community policing structures.

Other landmark achievements include the establishment of 12 Conflict Management Alliance (LOCMA) structures in 12 LGAs in Kano and Kaduna States to prevent and escalate conflicts from the communities and promoting peace at large. Also, through the project we supported the enactment of the Nasarawa Youth Development Commission Law, designed for youth inclusion and engagement in governance, and creation of more employment opportunities within the state towards reducing youths' vulnerability to violent extremism.

This publication highlights the impact of the SARVE III project on the lives of the target groups and relevant institutions.

Andrew Mamedu
Country Director
ActionAid Nigeria

»»» ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As we conclude the second phase of the “System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism (SARVE II)” project, we reflect on the last 36 months with great satisfaction and heartfelt appreciation for all those who made this journey truly remarkable. The Board, Management, and entire Staff of ActionAid Nigeria extend their deepest gratitude to everyone who played a pivotal role in ensuring the successful and smooth implementation of this project in Kano and Kaduna States.

First and foremost, we express our sincere gratitude to the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), the donor of this project, for their unwavering support and commitment. GCERF's consistent efforts in maintaining financial stability and ensuring the smooth flow of activities have been instrumental. We also acknowledge the passion, dedication, and continuous technical support from GCERF's country manager and team, whose invaluable contributions have advanced the project's success at all levels. We are also deeply grateful to our esteemed partners, the Dispute Resolution and Development Initiative (DRDI-DAG) and Global Peace Development (GPD), for their outstanding work in Kano and Kaduna states respectively. Their tireless efforts and innovative approaches in community engagement have been key to the success of this project.

We would like to thank the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA), the custodian of Nigeria's National Action Plan and Policy Framework for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE), for their strong collaboration and trust in our work. Our partnership has strengthened the relationship between civil society organizations and government, contributing to the effective implementation of PCVE initiatives in Nigeria.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes to the Kano and Kaduna State Governments, whose commitment to fostering peace and development within their states enabled the successful execution of various peacebuilding initiatives under the

SARVE III project. Their support for peace walks, cultural peace fiestas, peace camps, stakeholders' engagements, summits, workshops, and policy engagements significantly contributed to the positive outcomes of these activities.

We are grateful to our community leaders and facilitators whose grassroots mobilization and engagement played a critical role in achieving the project's objectives. We also acknowledge the remarkable contributions of our resource persons, including those from the academia, media, civil society organizations, and security agencies, who have been instrumental in the success of this project.

To the youth participants, who have become ambassadors of peace, spreading the message of peaceful coexistence and countering radicalization in their communities, we extend our deepest thanks. Your dedication and commitment to the cause of peace are truly commendable.

We also appreciate the efforts of our media partners, who provided essential platforms for PVE sensitization, ensuring that the project's activities received adequate coverage and visibility in both traditional and digital media.

Looking forward to the phase IV of this project, we take this opportunity to recognize the outstanding efforts of the SARVE III team, who delivered on their roles with minimal supervision, showcasing exemplary dedication and professionalism. Congratulations to all of you on this remarkable achievement.

Finally, to all those who contributed in various ways but have not been mentioned individually, we are profoundly grateful for your support and contributions. Your efforts have made a lasting impact, and for that, we are eternally thankful.

Suwaiba Muhammad Dankabo
Deputy Country Director and Director of Programme
ActionAid Nigeria



ACRONYMS

AAN	ACTIONAID NIGERIA
DRDI-DAG	DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
CART	COMMUNITY ACTION AND RESPONSE TEAM
GPD	GLOBAL PEACE DEVELOPMENT
GCERF	GLOBAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE FUND
LOCMA	LOCAL CONFLICT MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE
WSS	WOMEN SAFE SPACE



SARVE III PROJECT SUMMARY

System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalization to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) project is a three-year project funded by Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) to establish and consolidate existing structures and practices within the context of prevention and response framework in project communities, among youth and women groups to tackle violent extremism and foster peaceful co-existence. The project is being implemented with Global Peace Development (GPD) in Kaduna and Dispute Resolution and Development Initiative (DRDI-DAG) in Kano State supporting youths, women to engage actively with social and economic activities while also working with state and local government, ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs), traditional rulers, religious

leaders, security agencies to create linkages and opportunities for young men and women. The three (January 2022 – December 2024) year project currently being implemented in Kaduna and Kano States with a budget of \$1.5 million entails effective engagement with the community and formal institutions and processes to influence practices that address youth and women issues and supporting them to becoming active change advocates/agents. Last year, there was grant amendment (\$ 1 million) to support PAVE Knowledge, Innovation and Resource Hubs (KIRHs) to scale-up and mainstream Preventing Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE) by empowering Partnership Against Violent Extremism (PAVE) network across GCERF intervention states (Kaduna, Kano, Katsina and Sokoto).

ACTIONAID NIGERIA: WHO WE ARE

ActionAid Nigeria is an affiliate of ActionAid International, which is a global alliance of organisations working to achieve a world without poverty and injustice in which every person enjoys the right to a life of dignity. As a large and visible development organization, we work in more than forty countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and America. Our expertise lies in community-led approaches to development and working through partnerships with the poor and other grassroots organisations.

ActionAid Nigeria started operations in Nigeria in 1999 as a Country Programme of ActionAid International, we have transformed into an autonomous national organization registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission. We work across the 36 states in Nigeria and have offices in Lagos, Borno, Yobe and Abuja which houses the headquarters.

ActionAid Nigeria has a strong national governance structure-a Board and a General Assembly-consisting of reputable Nigerians providing strategic oversight.

OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



VISION

A just, equitable and sustainable world in which every person enjoys the right to a life of dignity, freedom from poverty and all forms of oppression.

MISSION

To achieve social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication by working with people living in poverty and exclusion, their communities, people's organisations, activists, social movements and supporters.

VALUES

Mutual respect, Equity and justice, Integrity, Solidarity with people living in poverty and exclusion, Courage of conviction, Independence, Humility.



BACKGROUND TO IMPACT STORIES

The individuals featured in this booklet are called "Peace Breeders," a metaphor drawn from the world of agriculture. It is a fitting term, as "breeding" implies a process of nurturing, growth, and development. Emerging from a backdrop of violence, neglect, and humiliation, these men and women have risen above the difficult circumstances that once defined their lives. They have embraced a forward-looking, cohesive, and inspiring path, one that focuses on peace and development.

The world they left behind was one marked by thuggery, electoral violence, rampant drug abuse, patriarchal oppression, water conflicts, and community destruction. It was a world defined by tension, terror, isolation, and neglect, a world where people struggled to survive, and where radical influences found fertile ground. These conditions made the young people vulnerable to extremist ideologies and escalated cycles of violence.

Today, however, these same young people in Kano and Kaduna states have turned a new leaf. They are the champions of peace and development in their communities. In many cases, their transformation is nothing short of remarkable, almost cinematic in its scope. For example, individuals who once struggled with drug abuse and criminality have turned their lives around, finding new purpose in roles such as security personnel or metal fabricators. The journey from being a criminal or a drug user to becoming a productive member of society is long and difficult, but these stories are a testament to the success of the SARVE III project's intervention.

At times, the transformation is not limited to individuals but extends to entire communities. What began as a grassroots effort in just four of Nigeria's 36 states has the potential to create rippling effects across the entire nation. The positive changes set in motion by the SARVE III project have planted the seeds of resilience and peace, and the country stands to reap the rewards when these seeds blossom into lasting change.

The individuals leading these transformations, these Peace Breeders are the cornerstone of the growing resistance to violent extremism. They are the golden outcomes of the SARVE III project, and their stories are a powerful reminder of the potential for change in even the most challenging of circumstances. Below, we share their compelling stories of resilience, growth, and the power of peace.

IMPACT STORIES



RESOLVED: A TALE OF JEMA'A HERDER'S AND FARMERS COLLISION

In the ancient city of Jema'a, known for its rich traditions and fertile agricultural lands, both farmers and herders have long lived side by side, benefiting from the area's abundant natural resources. The city has been a melting pot of various ethnic groups, united by a shared history and enriched by the region's mineral wealth. For many years, farmers and herders coexisted harmoniously, each respecting the other's way of life.

However, this peaceful coexistence began to unravel as the population grew and migration increased. With the demand for more land to support agricultural production, farmers began to encroach upon grazing areas, leaving herders with limited space for their cattle. This led to fierce conflicts, with both sides suffering loss of lives and property.

In response to this growing tension, the LOCMA team organized a community

dialogue to address the root causes of the conflict and explore potential solutions. The event brought together all relevant stakeholders, farmers, herders, local leaders, and other community members. It was a well-coordinated session, allowing everyone to voice their concerns and contribute ideas for peace.

By the end of the dialogue, a range of solutions had been proposed, and each group was encouraged to collaborate on

actionable steps to resolve the issues. The session ended on a positive note, with all parties returning to their homes peacefully and hopeful for the future.

The importance of ongoing dialogue and community engagement in Jema'a cannot be overstated. Such efforts will not only help build trust across ethnic and religious lines but also improve the livelihoods of all those living in the region, fostering long-term peace and prosperity.



» BUILDING RESILIENCE: A RENASCENCE TO STEM VIOLENCE

Government and community leaders are taking responsibility for keeping their neighborhoods 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 the 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 a community watch group in respect to peace and security by relating with other security agencies, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of government on issues that contribute 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





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.





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 III 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; 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).





EMPOWERED TO LEAD FOR PEACE

As you can see, people are passing and greeting me because they know I am their leader but before now, I did not have such a platform. - Ruth Danjuma, Women Leader and Safe Space Facilitator, Marmara Damishi, Chikun L.G.A

Ruth was just an ordinary woman in the community who was quite introverted before SARVEIII launched its presence in Marmara Damishi community, Chikun L.G.A of Kaduna state. Her excitement knew no bound when the SARVE III team visited her community during the decentralised 2023 Women conference. According to Ruth, she said she is now a leader that people always want to identify with, and has learnt a lot, understands her rights as a woman and now outgoing.

In appreciation, she boasted of how the SARVE III project has helped the women in her community achieve a lot. "We now know our rights and the need to live peacefully. She gave an example of one of her colleagues who was prohibited by her husband from attending political functions because he did not understand equality and felt she was wayward. After the sensitisation from AAN and Global Peace Development, through the radio listening circles and Women safe space, she and her husband now understand Women Rights better.

Ruth believes that even when the project ends, the cooperative and the learning circles should continue and hopes to be a governor someday in her state.



A CHANGE OF PERCEPTION THROUGH SARVE III THE RADIO LISTENING SESSION

Timothy Emmanuel, a SARVE III radio listening member of Gama LGA, Kaduna State, narrated his translation from his previous acts of drug abuse.

I used to smoke and take hard drugs in the jungle and start thinking about how to steal and cause trouble. This was because of idleness and my perception towards life as I saw it as a form of being happy. - Timothy Emmanuel

I heard about the radio listening session and attended with the aim of having fun. The radio session changed my perception toward life

because I thought the easiest way to make money was to steal and the way to be happy was to smoke. Now I am into iron bending and fabrication. I am genuinely happy with what I am doing now, and I have invited my friends to the radio listening session which is usually held every Thursday so that they can have a change in perception.

Thank you, ActionAid,
Thank you, SARVE III,
Thank you, GCERF.



MITIGATING YOUTH'S VULNERABILITY THROUGH THE PEACE CLUB: A TALE OF REPLICATION AND ADOPTION OF PEACE CLUB BY THE KANO STATE GOVERNMENT.

There used to be brutal fights between senior and junior students in Bichi Education Foundation, but after the establishment of peace club in the school, senior and junior students have been living peacefully. Khalid Hussein

Khalid Hussein Expressed his happiness due to the establishment of peace club in Bichi Educational Foundation Secondary School, Bichi, which is an instructive extracurricular for students to inculcate peace culture, promote social cohesion, guidance and deter debauchery habits that leads to violent extremism.

36 Peace Clubs were established across secondary schools in SARVE III intervention communities that are contributing to the psychosocial and emotional healing from pains that dehumanizes girls and boys to withdraw and avoid society engagements

premiered on exclusion and cultural impunity. Blocking exclusion and promoting inclusive empowerment in our target communities will foster inclusive engagement, knowledge enhancement, and would in turn contribute to mitigating radicalization and violent extremism through collaborative learning and constructive social change among boys and girls necessitated to adopt education to prevent violent extremism.

It is on the glaring success that Kano state government adopted and replicated Peace club across all the schools in the state.

“Peace club has sharpened my mind and led me to embrace tolerance and understand diversity”. Hauwa Hafsat Abubakar from Government Girls Secondary School, Tudun Wada.





SIGNING OF PEACE ACCORD: ITS IMPLICATION TO A NON-VIOLENT ELECTION IN KADUNA STATE

The meeting of the top echelon comprising political parties, candidates and their teeming supporters was convened to collectively support state's political stakeholders to pursue their ambitions without recourse to provocation, intimidation, incitement, and other negative tendencies that may lead to the disturbance of public peace and social order targeted at addressing issues that pose a threat to peace and security thus ensuring accountability speech by politicians while dwelling on the theme of the day – building consensus and mobilizing collective action for peaceful 2023 general elections in Kaduna State.

By gathering political actors to witness the signing of the Peace Accord in preparation to the 2023 general elections, critical stakeholders could proudly say Kaduna State was once again asserting its leadership position in the country and demonstrating the unwavering commitment of its citizens towards peaceful and harmonious

coexistence.

Series of engagements with political parties and their supporters, religious and traditional leaders, security personnel, media and citizens of Kaduna state were engaged with to create awareness and provide capacities. This ensured peaceful campaigns and elections which could be achieved only when all commit to peaceful conduct and agree that no one would carry out any acts of intimidation and provocation capable of undermining peace and social order.

Elections were conducted and semblance of peaceful co-existence was seen across most of the communities in the state. More so, that democracy only thrives in atmosphere of peace and social tranquility. Political parties, candidates, supporters, and the citizens can only exercise their free choice and franchise when law and order prevail.



THE ROYAL PLEDGE

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.



OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE M AND E STRATEGY FOR PCVE IN NIGERIA

In furtherance to ensuring a seamless flow of information among various stakeholders to guarantee more transparency and efficiency in the implementation of the Policy Framework and National Action Plan on Prevention and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE) in Nigeria, ActionAid Nigeria through the System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) in collaboration with the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA) and funding from Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) launched a Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy for Policy Framework (PF)

and National Action Plan (NAP) for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE).

The Document was launched on the 30th of June 2022 in Abuja.

Different organisations and stakeholders present during the launch pledged their support in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE) in Nigeria. This feat reflects the will of the Nigerian Government to utilise both Government and societal approach against the threats and risks of violent extremism.

INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE: A KEY TO ENHANCING TOLERANCE AND PROMOTING PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE.

Religion today in Nigeria has become a tool or weapon for provoking violence because of the views about religious obligation.

Hence, actions of religious bigots have resorted to violence which contradicts both the religious and cultural principles which society is known for.

This led ActionAid Nigeria's System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) Project with funding from Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund

(GCERF) to launch an Interfaith Dialogue Guide Towards Prevention of Violent Extremism: Christian and Islamic Perspective. This seeks to contribute towards building just, equitable, peaceful and tolerant societies, empowering religious leaders as agents of change and peace ambassadors.

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).





SOLVING INSECURITY, THE COMMUNITY WAY. A CASE OF DORAYI CART MEMBERS

I received information from one of my CART members, that an unknown person was threatening to kill one of the community members if he did not give him a certain amount of money. We intervened in the case and asked the person not to pay anything and fortunately, CART was able to trace the suspect and arrested him. Alh. Kabiru Alhassan CART member

ActionAid Nigeria through the System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalization to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) Project, has established the Community Action and Response Team (CART) to strengthen community systems and structures to address violent extremism.

The CART has collaborated with community leaders to commence the building of a vigilante office to house the local vigilantes. This is in line with

development efforts by the CART towards the Dorayi community.

Before the SARVE III project, the community did not support the vigilante, and the leaders did not advocate for the support either. But now, the community leaders and members are in total support of the vigilante group in the community. Abdulrahim Auwal, Vigilante Commandant.

The collaboration between Dorayi CART members and the community vigilante group has been appraised to be recording success in crime control and prevention. The challenges of illegal drug taking, theft, phone and tricycle snatching etc have drastically reduced in the community. Now, women and youths are engaging in conflict-preventive activities that are yielding positive results.



»»» RADIO: THE PEACEBUILDING TOOL

The launch of the SARVE III project birthed a new trajectory for promoting peaceful coexistence by airing the radio programme: Kano together for peace and #Kaduna together for peace programs radio stations and listening groups in different communities in the project states. With the aim of communicating, educating, and informing the youths, men, and women in vulnerable communities on the need to embrace peaceful coexistence, shun violence and build resilience against triggers of violent extremism, the radio program was critically thought through after a survey was conducted and certain vices were found as triggers of VE. It was also discovered that most of our target audience listen to FM' through radio without being distracted from their daily activities.

So far, the media and other stakeholders are in solidarity with the project and the Together for Peace Radio program which began airing in April 2022 with guided topics and tunes to tackle triggers of VE while also

communicating morals to the audience. The Programme continues to sensitize citizens to peaceful cohabitation and serves as a platform for communities, citizens, and local groups to engage with experts on peacebuilding.

It is worth noting that the topic that has stood out most is the sensitisation on drug abuse with situation reports received from the listening audience. Just like any group of friends, members of the community listening circles realised that they are a group of friends that have a genuine interest in supporting each other to be a better member of the community with a common goal of spreading the word of peaceful cohabitation in their different communities. The Together for Peace radio programme is helping to gather a community of on-air listeners on the radio which is fast growing popular among lovers of radio in Kano and Kaduna, it is fast becoming a household name and one of the breeding successes to the SARVE III project.





MEDIA ADVOCACY: A PANACEA FOR FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE TO PVE

Through years of experience working in poor and vulnerable communities, ActionAid Nigeria recognizes starkly how violence stalls development efforts, with severe negative impacts on children, young people, women, and men. Leveraging its strong grassroots approach in community engagement and in-depth knowledge of the complexities of violence and its drivers, ActionAid Nigeria continuously supports and protects vulnerable communities. Hence, the project was specifically designed to radically address the key drivers of violent extremism in Kano and Kaduna states.

Considering this, ActionAid Nigeria, through the SARVE III project, directly engaged with the media in Kano and Kaduna states, recognising the strong linkages between good governance and peacebuilding, as well as the key roles played by the media in promoting good governance. This effort is part of the project's endeavour to equip relevant stakeholders with the necessary information and capacity to respond to, withstand, and overcome the impact of adverse violent extremism where and when it may occur.

It was in pursuance of this goal that the media training on Strengthening Media Advocacy for Fiscal Responsibility and Good Governance to PVE was conceptualised.

“The 2024 SARVE III media training has opened my eyes to how the media can effectively track State and Federal Government budget actuals and allocations. I wish I had received this training before now.” - Rymboxx, Correct FM

Within the first, second, and third phases of the SARVE project, ActionAid Nigeria trained a total of 172 mid and high-level media professionals in Kogi, Nasarawa, Kano, and Kaduna states. The trained media professionals are members of the JAVE (Journalists Against Violent Extremism) network supporting AAN in preventing and countering violent extremism.

ActionAid Nigeria facilitated the media training in partnership with Global Peace Development and Dispute Resolution and Development Initiative.





A CHANGE OF DECISION: THROUGH THE SARVE III COMMUNITY RADIO LISTENING SESSION

“I had initially refused to send my daughters to school because I believed it was a waste of time and resources. However, after listening to the importance of girl child education on the radio programme broadcasted on Freedom Radio, I gained a better understanding of the role of an educated woman in society. I personally registered all my three daughters in school.” Ibrahim Baba Yahaya, Kofa Community, Kano state.

The radio listening session has attained 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.

The together for peace weekly radio programme is aired on two Radio Stations in Kano (Freedom Radio and Arewa Radio) and two stations in Kaduna states. (Alheri Radio and Correct FM)



PEACE CLUB: AN ANTIDOTE FOR VIOLENCE EXTREMISM

The establishment of peace clubs across 36 secondary schools in Kano State aimed at contributing to the psychosocial and emotional healing of students who have experienced exclusion and cultural impunity has fostered positive outcomes. It is on this glaring success that the Kano state government has now adopted and replicated peace club across all the schools in the state.










“My mother and father had a clash because of money requested by my mother. I spoke to my mother while playing her favorite Quranic recitation, explaining to her that my father misunderstood the purpose of the money. This calmed her down. When my father returned, I told him about my excellent grades in school that day which drew his attention and made him happy. I then explained the reason for the money requested by my mother. He apologised to my mother and gave her the money. He embraced

her and they were happy” Fatima Isah Hamza, President of Peace Club, Government Girls Arabic Secondary School, Tundun Murtala, Fagaryi Community.

Fatima has not only influenced students in her school to embrace peace but has also stepped down knowledge acquired during peace club sessions in resolving conflict between her parents at home. The peace club is an established structure by System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalization to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) project in Kano and Kaduna state.

“I am happy because of the changes happening in my home and I asked my daughter for the reason, and she told me that they were taught in peace club to be ambassadors of peace in their school, homes and community” Fatima's mother.

QUICK WINS

	88 media professionals from Kano and Kaduna states were trained on Conflict sensitive reportage and counter narratives as part of efforts in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism.
	175 youth males, 209 youth females and 222 adult women from Kano and Kaduna states engaged/empowered with livelihood skills/economic empowerment.
	14,385 young men and women have gained insights from experts, entrepreneurs, and young business mentors on how to productively engage, organise and create the change they want to see in their communities through the Youth Summits held in Kano and Kaduna states.
	457 radio programme episodes have been held in Kano and Kaduna and FCT with increased awareness on PVE and peacebuilding.
	33,651 young men and women (18,355 Female and 15,296 Male) mentored on life skills development, inter-ethnic and religious tolerance and confidence building through youth peace camp.
	40 PCVE steering committee members trained on Monitoring & Evaluation of the PCVE National Action Plan Framework.
	328 state and non-state actors trained on sustainability for State Conflict Management Alliance Kano and Kaduna states
	24 Girls Safe Spaces / Women Safe Space/ and 41 Community Action and Response Team (CART) established across 41 communities.
	2 State Conflict Management Alliance established to improve conflict management mechanism by encouraging broader societal participation in peacebuilding and improving effectiveness of security agencies in prompt response of early warning and reference.



SANDS OF IMPACT: FROM BREAKING THE LAW TO DEFENDING THE LAW - THE POWER OF RADIO LISTENING SESSION

Rambo (pseudo name) was a young man deeply entrenched in the vices of drug abuse and alcoholism in Gama Community. He destroyed properties and terrorised his community, vandalising schools, offices, and anywhere he felt he could find money to buy intoxicating substances to satisfy his desires.

Rambo was a menace until he encountered the members of the Gama Community radio listening session. They convincingly invited him to attend the radio listening session to see if he would like it, while his impact was poised to strike. He attended the session on the day the topic centered on the impact of drug abuse. Moving on the topic, he began attending other sessions, and his behavioral change became evident.

After listening to the session on empowerment, he realised that to overcome these vices completely, he needed financial empowerment to meet his daily needs. Rambo decided to start selling charcoal to meet his daily needs.

Seeing his change and effort, he was employed as a security guard for Government LEA Secondary School Gama, where the Gama Radio Listening Session is held, to help watch over the school premises and water the flowers. Expressing enthusiasm, Rambo said, 'I'm grateful to Allah for the opportunity to live a different life. I'm grateful to ActionAid, GCERF, and the SARVE III project for coming to our community and changing lives.'



MAINSTREAMING PCVE: ONSA, PAVE, AND ACTIONAID NIGERIA'S ADVOCACY VISIT

The Office of the National Security Advisor (ONSA), in collaboration with the Partnership Against Violent Extremism (PAVE) and supported by ActionAid Nigeria, recently carried out advocacy visits to the state governments of Kano, Kaduna, Katsina, and Sokoto. The goal of these visits was to discuss the integration of Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE) into the states' Action Plans, security strategies, and development policies.

The advocacy visits highlighted the positive impact of PCVE interventions across the four states and sparked discussions on the potential for mainstreaming PCVE into local peace, security, and development policies. This initiative aligns with the National PCVE Policy Framework and National Action Plan (PFNAP) 2017, aiming to foster stronger coordination and collaboration between the government, civil society organisations (CSOs), community actors, and other non-state actors. Together, these groups aim to build safer and more resilient communities by integrating PCVE strategies into state-level action plans.

A key outcome of the visits was the establishment of PCVE State Technical Working Groups (TWGs) in each of the visited states. These groups are composed of government representatives, CSO members from the State PAVE Network, non-state actors, and the organised private sector. The aim of these groups is to help develop both state and local action plans, a government-led initiative anchored and coordinated by ONSA in collaboration with the PAVE Network.

By incorporating PCVE into state frameworks, these states can more effectively combat extremism, ensure the safety of citizens, and create a stable environment conducive to growth and development.

ActionAid Nigeria's involvement through the System and Structure Strengthening Approach Against Radicalisation to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) is instrumental in supporting the PAVE network, which is a diverse body of civil society actors working with communities and various associations. This partnership plays a critical role in implementing a whole-of-society approach to PCVE through the establishment of PCVE Knowledge, Innovation, and Resource Hub (PCVE KIRH). This hub facilitates evidence-based research, the sharing of best practices, and enhances communication, advocacy for private sector funding, and the development of regional collaboration platforms.

In addition to the advocacy visits, the state chapters of the PAVE Network were formally inaugurated. These state chapters will be pivotal in collaborating with state governments and non-state actors to combat extremism in Kano, Kaduna, Katsina, and Sokoto.

This initiative is part of the broader PAVE Network's efforts under the PCVE Scale-Up Project, an extension of the ActionAid SARVE III Project. Through this collaborative effort, the project aims to create a unified approach to preventing violent extremism, helping to shape safer and more resilient communities across the Northwest region of Nigeria.



CART IN ACTION: A PATHWAY OF PEACE

Getso Community has been ravaged by herders and farmers crisis for over 5 years. Every year, herders and farmers clashed over cattle destroying farmlands during grazing.

Following the introduction of the Community Action and Response Team (CART) in Getso Community by the SARVE III project, the team swung into action to address the issue.

Junaidu Khalil the Vigilante representative, while speaking on the efforts made to resolve the herders/Farmers crisis, recounts how CART invited the community leaders and leaders of the Fulani Elders, religious leaders, security agencies and other corresponding members to a discussion on ending the crisis. The

general discussion came after they met with leaders of the herders and the farmers individually.

In his remark, Junaidu said the fallout of the meeting was that farmers should harvest their crops within an agreed timeframe concluded by both parties after which the herders are free to take their cattle for grazing.

In his final words Junaidu Khalil said “Thank God for ActionAid that brought about CART. Since the meeting with the herders and farmers, we had not had any clash and farmers whose crops are destroyed is most likely because they did not harvest within the agreed time.”



FROM A MENACE TO AN ENTREPRENEUR

“I began sinking into the vice of drug abuse because of peer pressure. I saw my friends' taking drugs and I didn't want to be left out, I would go out to meet them where they usually stay and gradually, I began to take gradually until it became difficult to stop” said Gambo (pseudo name).

Gambo (pseudo name) a member of Gama Community was sinking in the vice before the intervention of CART. Gambo found himself perpetually during other young men who were abusing drugs and could not stop after a while.

Speaking of his transformation, He said the members of CART and religious leaders approached them and spoke to them through the leaders of their group.

After continuous sensitisation, Gambo gradually stopped taking drugs and constituting menace. He then proceeded to register in Kano State Polytechnic to further his education.

He currently sells caps and cattle. These he uses to support himself and his extended family.



SAFE AND EMPOWERED: THROUGH THE WOMAN SAFE SPACE

“Before being introduced to the woman safe space in my community, I had engaged in several failed businesses, and I really wanted to make a difference for myself but didn't know how. I heard that I could acquire an entrepreneurial skill from the women safe space. So, I joined the women safe space to be empowered” - Amina Abdillahi, Bichi Community.

Amina a member of Bichi community Women Safe Space recounts how she became a member. she joined the Woman Safe Space primarily to become empowered to help her family. She was invited to the group during the period Bichi Women Safe Space were teaching members how to process groundnut into oil and Kuli-kuli a local snack.

Amina participated in the training, learnt, and decided to put to practice the skill. She started

the business with three (3) modules of ground nut, and she has since grown the business within the last one year.

Amina Abdullahi makes an average of 5,000 weekly, and processes at least 40 modules of groundnut every two weeks.

She has empowered 10 women with the knowledge of groundnut processing, and she feels that every woman deserves a chance to acquire productive skills and contribute to the growth of the society. She also added that she has been able to support her family with the income from her business and ventured into buying and selling livestock.

She appreciates ActionAid Nigeria for introducing the women safe space to their community.

COUNTERING VIOLENCE EXTREMISM THROUGH LIVELIHOOD AND SKILL EMPOWERMENT

With Kano State's 27.36% unemployment rate and 32.06% underemployment rate and Kaduna state recording the second highest rate with 72.8% according to the Quarter 3 of 2023 report of Nigeria Bureau of Statistics (NBS), youths of these states stand the risk of being vulnerable. Given this, ActionAid Nigeria took steps in reducing the vulnerability of these youths, through the provision of vocational skills training to boost their income generation, making them entrepreneurs and a panacea in the prevention of violent extremism in Kano and Kaduna State.

Vocational skills starter pack and equipment worth N100,000,000 was given to 600 youths and women in Kano and Kaduna State. Beneficiaries were trained in cattle rearing, tailoring, poultry, and piggery from 12 communities in 6 local government areas of Kaduna State. While in Kano, beneficiaries were trained across 3 vocational skills namely: tailoring, rice processing, Groundnut Oil processing from 12 communities in 6 local government areas which are Gwale, Nasarawa, Bichi, Gwarzo, Bebeji, and Tudun Wada.



WOMEN SAFE SPACE: EMPOWERING CHANGE THROUGH COLLABORATION

In a world that thrives on collaboration and community, the power of women supporting women stands as a beacon of hope, strength, and inspiration. The Dorayi Women Safe Space is a shining example of this power in action. This transformative initiative emerged through the combined efforts of the Democratic Action Group (DAG) and ActionAid Nigeria (AAN), with generous funding from the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), as part of the SERVE III Project. The Dorayi Women Safe Space has become a pillar of support, providing hope and empowerment to local women and offering them the tools to live their best lives while also helping others do the same.

Aisha Mohammed Mustapha, the facilitator of

the Dorayi Women Safe Space and the women's cooperative, shared how the initiative is making a significant difference in the lives of women in the community. Through the safe space, the women meet twice a month to engage in discussions about conflict resolution and ways to support one another. This shared space fosters mutual care, learning, and emotional support, creating a sense of belonging and solidarity. In addition to their meetings, the women have initiated a weekly contribution scheme known as "adache." Through this system, they pool their resources together to support one another, enabling women to raise funds and invest in their businesses. This collective effort not only strengthens the community but also fosters economic independence for women who may

have otherwise struggled to access financial support.

Aisha also highlighted the livelihood component of the SERVE III Project, explaining that eight women, including herself, were trained in sewing at the inception of the cooperative. Over the course of just one year, they have trained over forty other women, all free of charge, and provided them with access to the cooperative's sewing center. The women are encouraged to use the facilities to generate income, while contributing a small monthly fee of N1000 for the maintenance of the machines. This initiative has empowered many women to build their businesses, and the cooperative has become an important resource for financial independence

and skill-building.

This success story underscores the profound impact of the collaboration between AAN and DAG, as well as the strength and resilience of the women of Dorayi. It highlights how structural support, community-driven initiatives, and shared resources can work together to foster positive change, illustrating the power of collaboration in combating radicalisation and promoting social cohesion. The Dorayi Women Safe Space is not only a testament to the importance of women's solidarity but also a powerful reminder of the potential that lies within communities when they come together to uplift and support one another.





BICHI 1,000 WOMEN EMPOWERMENT STORY: A PATH TO ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

Unemployment has long been recognised as one of the primary drivers of radicalisation and violent extremism. As part of efforts to curb this issue, various initiatives have been launched to provide employment opportunities for women, youth, and men. One such initiative took place in the Bichi community, where 1,000 women were empowered through the efforts of the Honourable Member representing Bichi and the women of the safe space.

Rakiya Abdullahi Mohammed, a member of the women safe space, shared her experience of how the empowerment scheme impacted the women in her community. She explained that, in the past, many women missed opportunities for empowerment, often failing to use them effectively. However, being part of the women safe space has given these women a sense of purpose and direction. The platform has facilitated numerous training programs, equipping the women with valuable skills.

Thanks to the training they received, it became easier for the facilitators of the women safe space to recommend women from their group for the empowerment program provided by the House

of Representatives member. Rakiya shared that, unlike before, she is now actively engaged in various businesses, selling oil, groundnuts, groundnut cakes, and farming.

Aisha Abdussalam, another beneficiary of the empowerment scheme, shared her personal testimony. "I benefited from the empowerment program through the women safe space. I was given a sewing machine, and it has truly changed my life. I am now meaningfully engaged and gradually make a profit of up to N40,000 a month. I'm enthusiastic about teaching other young women who are interested in learning how to sew," she said, highlighting the transformative impact of the opportunity.

The success of this empowerment scheme in Bichi is a powerful testament to the positive effect that targeted programs, like the women safe space, can have on women's lives, offering them the skills and resources needed to break free from unemployment and contribute meaningfully to their communities. Through these efforts, these women are not only becoming economically independent but are also helping to build a safer, more stable environment for their families and communities.





CONSTRUCTION OF DRAINAGE IN KOFA: A STORY OF RESILIENCE AND COLLABORATION

This is the inspiring story of the Kofa community's resilience, told through the lens of Alhaji Umar Nasir Kofa, the Secretary of the Community Action and Response Team (CART). He reflects on how the people of Kofa came together to repair a drainage system that had become a major menace, promoted crime and hindered daily life in their community.

The drainage repair project is a powerful testament to the impact of advocacy and collaboration, facilitated through the CART structure, established by ActionAid Nigeria in partnership with the Democratic Action Group (DAG) under the SERVE III Project. The initiative highlights how communities can come together to solve local challenges when empowered with the right support and structure.

Alhaji Umar explains that the dilapidated state of the drainage caused severe disruptions for the people of Kofa. Movement was hindered, making it difficult to transport goods from one place to another. Flooding along the pathways affected people's homes, and the neglected area became a breeding ground for

crime. The community's struggles motivated the CART to act.

CART organised a series of meetings to mobilise community members, dividing them into groups with specific responsibilities. They reached out to local government representatives and philanthropists, sharing the plight of their community and advocating for support. Their efforts bore fruit. With the support of bricks and cement from their advocates, the people of Kofa worked together to repair the drainage system. The successful renovation not only resolved transportation and flooding issues but also contributed to the overall development of the community. This collaborative effort demonstrated the power of community advocacy, resilience, and teamwork in overcoming local challenges.

The renovated drainage is now a symbol of what can be achieved when communities unite to address their own problems, supported by the advocacy structures put in place by ActionAid Nigeria and DAG.



ROYAL BLESSINGS: EMIR OF KANO AFFIRMS HIS COMMITMENT WITH SARVE III TO FOSTER PEACE

In an opulent palace adorned with vibrant cultural treasures. The team led by the resilient and passionate Country Director, Ene Obi found themselves standing on hallowed ground.

The air hummed with anticipation as they presented the SARVE III vision to the revered Emir.

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 community he so passionately served. With an unwavering conviction, he welcomed the team and pledged his commitment and dedication to SARVE III's course. In his words, he said:

The palace is your home. At any point in time,

you want to come, feel free, you're always welcome because we know you are bringing positive elements into society. We are happy to receive you today and I am giving you the assurance that the palace will always be there for you as an adviser and guardian. I wish you well, I pray you succeed.

Through the power of unity and collaboration with the Emir's endorsement we believe that the SARVE III project will soar to new heights and the communities in Kano 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 tradition can embrace progress, and influential figures can also dedicate themselves to the betterment of their communities.

CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Youth restiveness, widespread unemployment, patriarchy, mutual suspicion, illiteracy, ignorance, long-term neglect, superstition, scarce resources, and failing infrastructure collectively form the fertile ground from which radicalism takes root, evolves, and violent extremism emerges. These factors, when combined, create a dangerous and volatile environment, where communities become vulnerable to the influence of extremist ideologies. In this context, individuals and communities often find themselves caught in a dilemma, unsure of where to turn during times of crisis. The resulting frustration can push them towards violent extremism, which has far-reaching consequences, often spilling over beyond the initial affected area, becoming a regional problem.

The need for good governance cannot be overstated. Providing essential services such as clean water, electricity, accessible markets, roads, and hospitals plays a pivotal role in improving the quality of life in communities. When individuals feel that they are valued and have their basic needs met, tensions are alleviated, and crises are more manageable. This principle applies universally and is crucial in tackling the underlying causes of extremism, not only in Nigeria but across the globe.

The SARVE III project, implemented in Kano and Kaduna states, demonstrates the power of targeted, community-driven interventions in mitigating extremism. The efforts of ActionAid Nigeria and its partners, including CART, Peace Clubs and Women Safe Space Initiative, highlight how investing in youth empowerment, peacebuilding, and community engagement can bring about lasting positive change. The project's success serves as a model that can be replicated in other regions of Nigeria, where similar conditions contribute to the rise of radicalism.

In the South-South region, where environmental challenges, poverty, and migration fuel discontent, and

in the North-West, where the long-standing neglect of pastoral communities has bred poverty, insecurity, and banditry, the need for strategic intervention is clear. The lack of support for pastoral herders, who face economic hardships, and the absence of compensation or safety nets, contributes to the spread of violent extremism. In the South-East, decades of neglect, unemployment, and the absence of infrastructure have led to widespread agitation, which has continued to intensify in recent years.

The SARVE III project underscores the importance of Peace Breeders, individuals at the forefront of fostering change within their communities. These change-makers are instrumental in promoting the need for good governance, the provision of essential infrastructure, and a culture of forgiveness and dialogue. The lessons learned from SARVE III are critical and can be applied to other parts of Nigeria that face similar challenges, fostering peace and resilience in areas affected by neglect and extremism.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **Replicating the SARVE Model:** The approach used in SARVE III should be extended to other conflict-prone regions in Nigeria, including the South-South, North-West, and South-East. By focusing on youth engagement, community dialogue, and peacebuilding initiatives, we can reduce the appeal of violent extremism.
2. **Government Investment in Infrastructure:** Governments at all levels should prioritize investments in critical infrastructure such as roads, water, electricity, and healthcare to improve the quality of life in underserved areas, thereby addressing root causes of unrest.

3. **Support for Vulnerable Communities:** Specific attention should be given to vulnerable groups, such as pastoral herders in the North-West, by creating safety nets and providing compensation for losses due to disease or natural causes. This will help reduce the economic incentives for engaging in criminal activities like kidnapping and banditry.
4. **Promoting Dialogue and Forgiveness:** In all affected regions, creating platforms for dialogue and reconciliation is essential. This will help foster a culture of understanding, healing, and cooperation among diverse community members, paving the way for sustainable peace.
5. **Youth Empowerment:** Continued investment in youth development programs, with a focus on education, skills training, and employment opportunities, is crucial in reducing the appeal

of radical ideologies and violent extremism. Programs like SARVE III should be scaled up to engage and empower the youth.

6. **Private sector investment to peace building:** Financing peacebuilding and approaches to closing funding gaps for peacebuilding. This should put them in a better position to raise new resources to enhance access, efficiency and effectiveness in peace building and own the process of sustainable financing.

In conclusion, addressing the underlying causes of violent extremism in Nigeria requires a holistic approach that combines good governance, infrastructure development, community engagement, and youth empowerment. The SARVE III project provides a successful model for achieving these goals and can be a catalyst for positive change in other regions of the country.

