



# YOUTH ACTION PLAN (YAP):

Domesticating UN Security Council  
Resolution 2250 in Nasarawa State  
**2021-2024**

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**ENGR. ABDULLAHI A. SULE**

EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR, NASARAWA STATE

# FOREWORD

In Nasarawa State, the Political, Economic and Social recognition for the role of youths' peacebuilders, in conflict prevention and security has a history that precedes this document to domesticate the UN Security Council Resolution 2250 and related youth, peace and security. Those efforts have benefited from the support of many experts, individuals, partners and groups. We hereby acknowledge these contributions as basis upon which the evidence that the development of this NS-YAP process builds on.

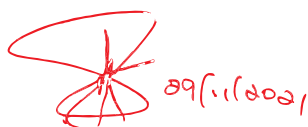
In Nasarawa State today, it goes without saying that Youth inclusion is at the center of government socio-economic and political development policy, plans and resource allocation. With several initiatives as the Nasarawa State Youth Empowerment Scheme (NAYES) where thousands of youths have been engaged in different functions, in specially towards ensuring Peace and Security in Nasarawa state, this serve as a demonstration of the readiness of our administration to address the needs of young people not just to be seen and heard but included as key agents' actors for peace building and socio-economic transformation. The Executive council support for the Assembly Bill to establish Youth Development Commission also demonstrates the Political Will of my government to put in place concrete mechanisms that will institutionalize, the inalienable role of youth to contribute meaningfully to the development of the state at all levels.

This Youth Action Plan (YAP), as a framework for domestication of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015) and 2419 (2018) inter alia the AU Continental Framework on Youth, Peace and Security, is part of the ongoing efforts of the state government to ensure that youth in Nasarawa state receive all the necessary political and policy backing to engender their continued role in making sure the pathway to sustainable development that has been envisioned over the next few years is on course and not threatened.

As the Executive Governor and Chief Security Officer of Nasarawa State, I hereby in line with the vision and directions of my administration, endorse and present to you, the Nasarawa State Youth Action Plan on the Domestication of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015) and related others. I, also herewith, call on all stakeholders in the peace and security sector to see this document, not just as a public-sector action agenda alone, but as a coordinating instrument that will provide the opportunity for working together and delivering as one very important issue of promoting and supporting the young people of this state and their organizations to be more effective partners in the efforts to make Nasarawa peaceful and prosperous.

I and my government will do all that is possible to ensure the priority actions at all levels are actualized with collective responsibilities from all and sundry to bring desired change for the present and future generations of our dear state.

God bless Nasarawa state!



**H.E Engineer Abdullahi A. Sule**  
*Executive Governor*  
**Nasarawa State**

# PREFACE

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) was launched by the UN General Assembly few months ahead of the landmark Security Council agenda on youth, peace and security that resulted in the UNSCR 2250 (2015). Notwithstanding, that one of the 17 SDG goals (SDG16) is to "Promote peaceful and inclusive society for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels" its targets and indicators for measurement, explicitly captures on youth empowerment as a sine qua non for progress. In sequel, resolution 2250 (2015) being the first ever on youth and peace and security, further affirms the global recognition that the role of youth is essentially linked to successful efforts to prevent conflict and violent extremisms.

Empowering young people to play this role and supporting them to be effective in playing it, the resolution establishes, must now go together. This underpins our clarity of purpose in mainstreaming youth across all levels of work at the SDGs office in Nasarawa state. Reference the recently convened Peace Architecture Dialogue (PAD) leading to the mobilization and call for the establishment of an Act of Parliament for a Peace Commission with a department on Youth participation.

The importance of moving away from marginal and tokenist youth participation is not just the matter of actualizing the rights of youth to be included in all decisions that affects them but also must be done, if development programmes, plans and resources are meant to be sustainable. The development of the Nasarawa State Youth Action Plan (NS-YAP) is in response to this philosophy as enshrined in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250, that the youth population are not a threat to peace but the missing link to sustainable progress in ensuring peace and security through its five pillars, namely: Participation, Protection, Prevention, Partnership, Disengagement and Reintegration.

The presentation of this document, as a bottom-up approach through community led actions, is the center of the youth peacebuilding work and could not have come at a better time than now. We support it fully and have committed to work with all stakeholders in moving this from words to action and do hereby call on other MDAs, Development partners and private sector including traditional, religious and community leaders to rise to the call.



**Abubakar Murtala Muhammad**  
*Senior Special Assistant to the Executive Governor  
On Sustainable Development Goals  
Nasarawa State.*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The UN Security Council agenda fully dedicated to youth and peace and security was debated under Chapter 7, Article 39 of the UN charter for the first time since the existence of the Council. As a member state of the United Nations, this makes it binding for the government of Nigeria, at all levels, to, within its sovereignty, implement Resolution 2250 (2015) as a first of its kind Security Council document. The development, validation and presentation of this State Youth Action Plan as a domestication mechanism, sets a first step.

We use this opportunity to thank all individuals and institutions who contributed to the development of this SYAP. In particular, the Nasarawa State Ministry of Youth and Sports, special thanks to ActionAid Nigeria, Global Peace Development and Beacon Youth Initiative without whose technical and financial support this process would not have been possible.

The process started with the engagement of a national consultant, Emmanuel Etim who was assisted by Wilcox Onyemekeihia and selected Youth volunteers who assisted in gathering data that formed the basis on which the drafting of this document was done. A draft document was produced and presented at the Policy Dialogue on Youth Development bill. The dialogue was co-chaired by the Deputy Speaker, Nasarawa House of Assembly Honourable RT Hon. Nehemiah Tsentse Dandaura, Chairman House Committee on Youth and Sport Development, Nasarawa State House of Assembly, Hon Musa Salihu Iyimoga, Director Youths Development, Nasarawa Ministry of Youth and Sports Development, Abubakar Ahmed Umar. The Secretary General Jama'atu Nasril Islam (JNI) Chief Imam Muhammed Au'wal Ali Ph. D, Christian Association of Nigeria, Chairman Youth Wing, Solomon Inusa; Members of the Youth Advocacy Cluster and the Project Coordinator SARVE II, Humanitarian Response Unit, ActionAid Nigeria Mr Anicetus Atakpu.

In this regard, we recognize the contributions of the Project officer, ActionAid Nigeria, Mr Aliyu Adamu, the Nasarawa State Command of the Nigerian Police and the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corp (NSCDC): in particular the Personal Assistant to the Commissioner for Police, SP. Oladipo Kolawole; Head of Peace and Conflict Resolution National Civil Defence Service Corp, Mrs Ibitoye Sunbo Eunice. We also acknowledge the State Director National Orientation Agency (NOA), Nasarawa State office, Priscilla Gondoaluor, Ph. D, National Boundary Commission office, Special Adviser on NGOs and Development Partners to the Executive Governor, Mrs Munira Abdullahi, Research Officer, SDG office Mrs Monica Jatau.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports is grateful to all these persons and the contributions of key officers of many government MDAs, Journalists and members of the Community Action Response Teams (CART) who cooperated with the consultants and researchers during the data gathering stage. In addition, the document enjoyed the inputs of civil society partners and traditional, religious and community at the state and local government levels, all of which confirmed the dire need for this domestication framework for action.

A cross section of representatives of various stakeholders reviewed and validated the draft of this policy at a validation meeting. Their contributions during this process are highly appreciated.

**Hon. Othman Bala Adam**  
*Commissioner*  
*Ministry of Youth and Sports Development*  
*Nasarawa State*

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# ACRONYMS

<b>AAN</b>	-	ActionAid Nigeria
<b>AUYVC</b>	-	African Union Youth Volunteer Corp
<b>AYC</b>	-	African Youth Charter
<b>BOT</b>	-	Board of Trustees
<b>BYI</b>	-	Beacon Youth Initiative
<b>CAN</b>	-	Christian Association of Nigeria
<b>CART</b>	-	Community Action Response Teams
<b>CSDA</b>	-	Community Security Development Association
<b>CSO</b>	-	Civil Society Organizations
<b>GPD</b>	-	Global Peace Development
<b>UNECOSOC</b>	-	United Nations Economic and Social Council
<b>EDC</b>	-	Enterprise DevelopmentCentre
<b>IDP</b>	-	Internally Displaced Persons
<b>LOCMA</b>	-	Local Council Management Association
<b>MARC</b>	-	Massive Awareness Raising Campaign
<b>MDA</b>	-	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
<b>MOJ</b>	-	Ministry of Justice
<b>NYP</b>	-	National Youth Policy
<b>NOA</b>	-	National Orientation Agency
<b>NSCDC</b>	-	Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corp
<b>NUJ</b>	-	Nigerian Union of Journalist
<b>PAD</b>	-	Peace Architecture Dialogue
<b>PTA</b>	-	Parents Teachers Association
<b>SARVE</b>	-	Strengthening ApproachAgainst Radicalization to Violent Extremism
<b>SCA 2016</b>	-	Strategic Conflict Assessment of Nigeria
<b>SCOMA</b>	-	State Conflict Management Alliance
<b>SEMA</b>	-	State Emergency Management Agency
<b>SHA</b>	-	State House of Assembly
<b>SSA /SA</b>	-	Senior Special Adviser/Special Adviser
<b>SSC</b>	-	State Security Council
<b>SUBEP</b>	-	State Universal Basic Education Programme
<b>TOC</b>	-	Theory of Change
<b>TVET</b>	-	Technical Vocati onal Education Training
<b>TVSD</b>	-	Technical Vocational Skills Development
<b>UN</b>	-	United Nations
<b>UNDP</b>	-	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNFPA</b>	-	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNSCR</b>	-	United Nations Security Council Resolution
<b>YAC</b>	-	Youth Advocacy Cluster
<b>YAP</b>	-	Youth Action Plan
<b>YDC</b>	-	Youth Development Commission
<b>YoPebNet</b>	-	Youth Peacebuilders Network

# DEFINITION OF TERMS

**F**or the purpose of this document, the following definition shall apply to the following terms:

## **Youth**

The definition of this Youth Action Plan (YAP) shall therefore be aligned to the African Youth Charter which refers to Youth as “every person between the ages of 15 and 35 years. Though, Nigerian National Youth Policy defines a Youth as a person between the age group 15 and 29.

Hitherto, the YAP takes notes that considering the term “Youth” refers to a period of transition from independence of childhood to adulthood. Youth is a more fluid category - applied in context of sovereign and or multilateral jurisdictions - than a universal fixed age group. For instance, the United Nations defines youth as those persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years. UNSCR 2250 sees youth as persons between the ages of 15 and 29.

## **Young people**

Used in this document interchangeable with Youth covers the same age group of 15 and 35

## **Peace**

It should be noted that peace is a relative condition of security friendly climate that allows individuals and group relations to progressive order and stability. Peace does not mean the absence of conflict or war. It reflects that security friendly system that frees individuals and groups of people from fear and dangers of losing such inalienable human rights as life, liberty and property (Aja, 2007). This definition is apt because conflict is inevitable in any society and no matter the level of commitment of a people to peaceful co-existence, conflict is bound to occur in social relations, as conflict is part and parcel of social dynamics.

## **Security**

Generally, security is an elastic concept which has over the years attracted opinions from different fields and study. However, there is a consensus that security should be centred on humans rather than the state. In this regard, security may be defined as safety from harm and danger which may constitute threat to human existence. This is in consonance with the perspective of Imobighe (1990), when he affirms that: Security has to do with freedom from danger or threat of a nation's ability to protect and develop itself, promote its cherished values and legitimate interest and enhance the well-being of its people.

The importance of peace and security in any society cannot be overemphasized because while peace and stability are essential ingredients needed for development and an ordered social life (Odoma&Aderinto: 2012). Security is the primary necessary condition for the smooth functioning of every other sector of the social system.

## **Conflicts**

Conflicts are situations of competition and/or contestations between two or more stakeholder groups over claims of ownership, use, power equity or equality (SCA 2016).

## **Stakeholders**

They are defined as groups of people with common objectives and sets of interest with regard to the resource in question, including those who make decisions, directly or indirectly. For the purpose of this YAP, refer to section 2.5 below for details.

## **Office of the Executive Governor/Governor's Office**

The Executive Governor of the State is also the Chief Security Officer and Chairs the State Security Council. The use of this terminology shall also apply to all personnel appointed whose portfolio impacts on the implementation of the YAP. They may include but not limited to the Chief of Staff, Senior Special Assistants, Special Advisers, et al.



## CONTEXT AND RATIONALE

### 1.1 About Nasarawa State

The area, which is today known as Nasarawa state, was formerly a geo-political unit under Benue and Plateau Provinces of Northern Nigeria and was carved out by the General Sani Abacha-led military government, on 1 October 1996. The state is structured into thirteen (13) Local Government Areas (LGAs) namely: Akwanga, Awe, Doma, Keana, Keffi, Kokona, Karu, Lafia, Nasarawa, Nassarawa-Eggon, Obi, Toto and Wamba. Nasarawa state, according to the head count of the 2016 National Population Commission (NPC), is projected to have in 2020 a youthful population size of 794,623 which is 31.5% of the total population of the State.

The state is made up of over 30 ethnic groups each with its distinct cultural heritage; living in harmony with one another. These include the Alago, Eggon, Gbagyi, Gwandara, Egbura, Migili, Kantana, Rindre, Fulani, Hausa, Kanuri, Tiv, Afo, Gade, Nyankpa, Koro, Jukun, Mada, Ninzam, Nakere, Basa, Agatu, Arum, Kulere, Ibo, Yoruba, etc. People from other parts of the country coexist peacefully with the indigenes. The diverse people of the state have very rich cultural heritage, which they uphold religiously. These manifest in the many festivals, which, serve as source of inspiration, recreation and entertainment all the year round. These festivals are also veritable tools of unity among the ethnic nationalities in the state. These customs and traditions are also platforms through which perceptions, ideas, aspirations and philosophies are transmitted as well as commune with their creator.

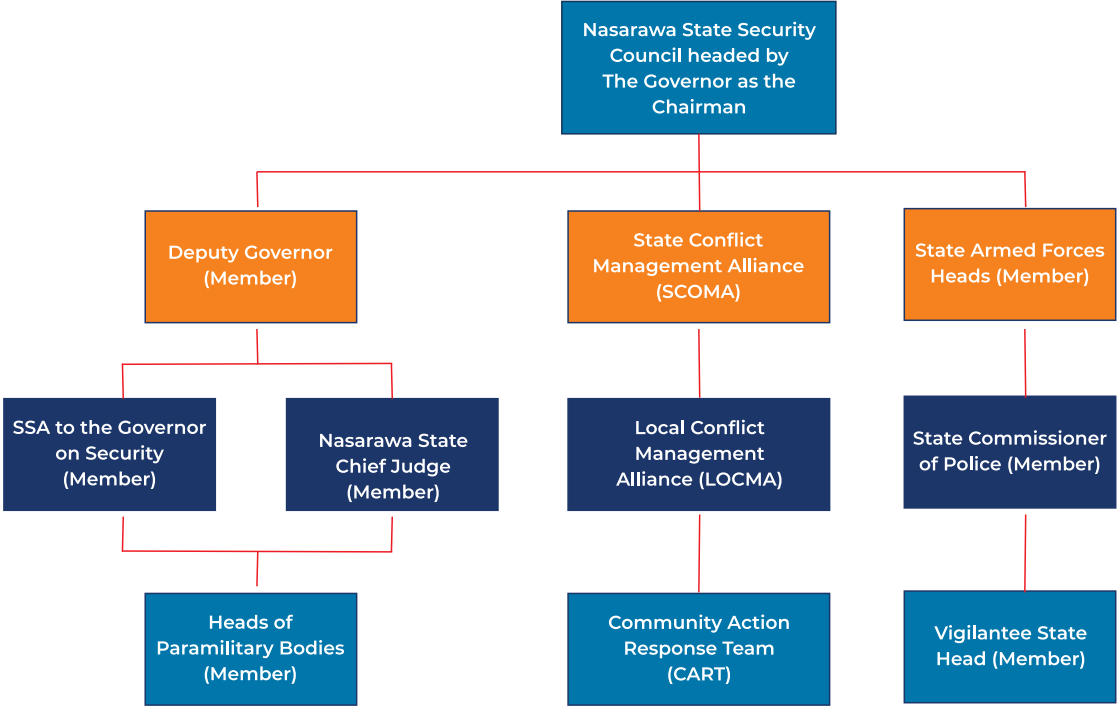
### 1.2 Peace and Security Landscape of Nasarawa state

The conflicts recorded in the State revolve around land disputes arising from ancestral and post- colonial or resettlement boundaries; to the before, during and after elections; farmer-herder's clashes and kidnappings of which bear the marks of no clear pathways to socio-economic and political advancements, due to unemployment, lack of access to basic infrastructure, social services and health care. Consequently, the largest population group affected are the youths: given the State demographic profile and the percentage of those who become disgruntled for all the lack they have experienced and having no sensitization to the personal level and community benefits for maintaining peace, initiatives or earnestly needed support for self-employment, entrepreneurship and alternatives to engaging state structures; the youths who thereby are the largest population cohort, will of certain be counted as the majority who get radicalized for violence and conflict.

In sequel, the linkages of a huge youth population as the susceptibility of the state to sporadic and protracted armed conflicts, are in clear contradictions to the available evidence gathered from the communities during the grassroots consultations that led to the development of this document.

- Employment of youth
- Poverty amongst youth
- Education levels
- Entrepreneurship
- Access to health
- Political participation

**Security Sector Architecture Map of Nasarawa State**



**1.3 State Legislations and Policies on Peace and Security with opportunity for institutionalizing the essential role of the Youth**

The Nasarawa state Youth Action Plan is developed in pursuant to the domestic implementation of the twin United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2250 adopted in 2015 and 2419 adopted in 2018, wherein Youth-led and Youth-focused contributions to peace and security would for the first time in the history of the Security Council be highlighted, promoted, recognized, institutionalized and funded. In reaffirming this essential role of young people in prevention and resolving conflicts in Nasarawa state, the government in collaboration with key stakeholders, presents this document as a framework for action, which the responses to ensure peacebuilding and security in the state can be accelerated and the impact of previous conflicts mitigated.

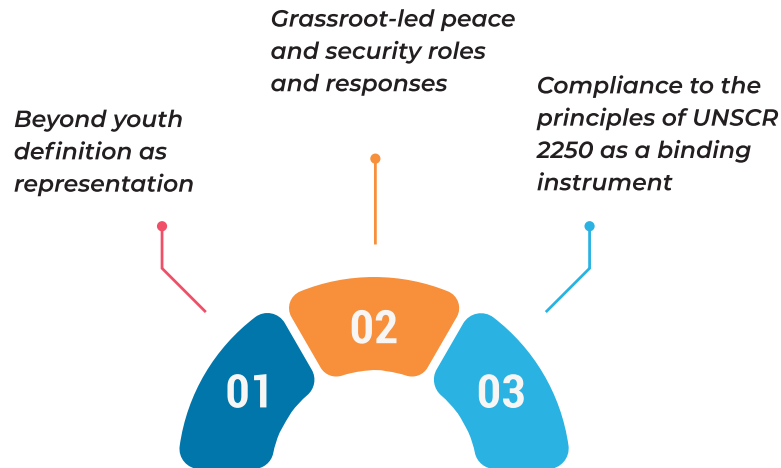
Whereas, the twin Security Council resolutions, did not call for National instruments, this Youth Action Plan finds emphasis he need to be a centre piece of emerging new values, where youth are no longer seen as perpetrators of conflicts and violent extremism but as those whose human rights and citizenship agency to participate at all levels of public life has been the 'missing peace'.

Developed in line with the UNSCR five (5) pillars of Participation, Prevention, Protection, Partnership and Disengagement and Reintegration; It provides holistic human rights-based approach to the mainstreaming the role of youth in tackling the root causes of conflict and to create sustainable peace.

This YAP will have duration of three (3) years, after which it will be reviewed to ensure its ability to respond to emerging contexts of changing political climate and needed foresight in addressing youth engagement resources and tools towards the dynamic and emerging gaps and issues around conflict, peace and security.

For effective coordination, implementation and monitoring, this YAP proposes the establishment and mainstreaming of youth in all decision-making peace and security structures of the state, the state security sector revision to make explicit provision for youth participation, capacity building for youth networks and organizations engage in the building and sustaining peace, Ensuring gender parity and of persons with disabilities.

In translating the Nasarawa state Youth Action Plan for peace and security into practice, a broad coalition of actors is needed and after statewide consultations, the following emerged as deal breakers:



#### 1.4 The State-YAP as a tool for domesticating the UNSCR 2250 in the State

The Nasarawa Youth Action Plan for peace and security is a frontline action and turning point towards a new way of engaging with youth, primarily on the basis of translating the provisions contained in the historical UNSCR 2250 and 2419 into local context for implementation. Built upon the Amman Youth Declaration, as outcome from the Global Summit on the role of youth in peace and security, held under the patronage of the government of Jordan; In 2015, the UN Security Council had on its agenda for the first time, Youth, Peace and Security. This agenda item was sponsored by the government of Jordan alongside Angola and Nigeria, and unanimously adopted by the UN Security Council, its Resolution 2250 was a first of its kind for the international community since the existence of the Security Council.

The existence of the UNSCR 2550 brought to the fore, the any impactful roles: despite the difficult conditions, even at the risk of their lives; that many youths have played, driving change to promote peace and security, across the world. The case statement of these roles, gave further justifications for the Security Council to again reaffirm on June 6, 2018 with Resolution 2419, that member states of the United Nations establish the contributions of youth in ensuring peace and security was not only recognised as an epicentre to preventing violence, but are a sine qua non being equal members at the table of negotiating and implementing peace agreements, and no longer termed a demographic risk to be contained or merely as perpetrators of violence and conflict.

The UN Youth, Peace and Security agenda, is encapsulated in the two resolutions, a holistic and inclusive approach to security and is complementary to the African Youth Charter provisions for youth participation in peace and security including its Continental Framework on Youth, Peace and Security. This approach comprises five main strategic pillars: Participation, Protection, Conflict Prevention, Partnerships, Disengagement and Reintegration.

Noting therefore that, Security Council resolutions which was adopted under Chapter 7 of the UN Charter is legally binding and that both resolution 2250 and resolution 2419 were considered under Chapter 7, Article 39 of the UN Charter, this Youth Action Plan for peace and security is in fulfilment of the responsibility of the Nasarawa state government and in collaboration with all stakeholders to implement the UNSCR in the state as part of the bottom-up momentum for national youth, peace and security response.

### **1.5 Benefits of the Youth Action Plan in connection to prevention radicalization and violent extremism**

Just as it is now around the world, the narrative of youth and the negative stereotypes associated with being youth is changing and this YAP represents a powerful tool which aims to reflect this transformation and capture its gains for the improvement of lives and prosperity for citizens of the state.

Having the YAP in place, will assuredly inspire confidence in young people of Nasarawa state who, preceding the UNSCR 2250 Who hitherto were rarely recognised but are now actively engaged because of the essential role they have played in demanding peace, addressing conflict and violent extremism.

The YAP represents a paradigm shift from how the state security and in its responses views young people and consequently the limiting scope of their participation, thus far, in the peace and security structures of the state, both in policy development, implementation and monitoring, programming and measuring results of investments.

Young people of the state can now use the document to negotiate spaces for meaningful representation in the state peace and security arrangement, engage public sector fiscal policy and accountability actions, at the intersections of socio-economic empowerment, human rights, political and good governance indicators, and mobilize resources to support and expand the important work they are already on the ground.

Stakeholders -state and non-state- can now utilize this document as an enabler to partner with young people to do what young people know best, being the closest to the ground in preventing conflict and promoting peace.

### **1.6 Status of Youth in the context of Peace and Security in the State**

Young people will inherit the long-term benefits of peacebuilding or the long-term consequence of conflicts. Therefore, ensuring their leadership role, away from tokenism and peripheral representation, their inclusion, partnership and innovative solutions is the only way to guarantee sustained change.

Whereas the prevailing public policy environment on peace and security is widespread in its misguided approach to youth participation in violence and conflict, the actual statistical reference to base this is grossly insignificant to have been generalized, notwithstanding how well-meaning policy makers have been. All available data suggest, however, that only a small number of youths do in fact ever actually engage in extremist violence, suggesting the focus is a misapprehension.



For a youthful population as is in this state, the aforementioned policy assumptions therefore anticipate that increases in the youth population will by implication lead to increases in the incidence and rate of violence and conflict (SCA 2016). Other context that also preys on the youthfulness of the population, includes refugees, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) many of whom are young people, are a burden and threat to their host communities and have a typical appeal to radicalization that leads to violence and extremism. The implicit governance panic, results in peace and security strategies that manifest in repression responses in pre-empting violent youth dissent through hard-line security tactics and military force.

In Nasarawa state today, and preceding the UNSCR 2250 and 2419, youth have been involved in driving change towards conflict prevention. The development of this Youth Action Plan for peace and security is a reflection of the breadth and diversity of youth contributions to peacebuilding at all stages of the conflict cycle (sustaining peace, ongoing conflict, humanitarian assistance and post-conflict) and in dealing with different types of violence (violent extremism, political conflict, organized criminal violence as well as gender-based violence).

### **1.7 Problems and Challenges of Youth participation, leadership and inclusion in the efforts against radicalization and violent extremism and peace building.**

This Youth Action Plan for peace and security takes into cognizance the gravity of the threat presented by the violence recorded in the state with Farmer-herders, boundary clashes, and kidnapping. It is, nonetheless, a departure from the false and harmful characterizations of youth as threats that have to be avoided because of their huge population.

The connections youth have to one another, like never before, is in and of itself considered a threat to state, rather than seen as a force for change, driving social progress and renewing citizenship agency, which benefits the present and future prospects for peace. Gerontocracy and power relations which are very easily dependent on the culture of respect for constituted authority have repeatedly emerged as the foundation upon which experiences required in decision making have been the bias used to deepen the exclusion of youth, disregard their work, and in many instances their human rights.

The non-existent avenues for the constitutional justification of the youth status in protection and enforcement of economic, educational, employment, access to social services and opportunities, underlie the long-seated mistrust between the youth and institutions of government. This is especially real for young women who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and marginalization.

How Young people perceive the peacebuilding processes, ultimately shapes their confidence in the legitimacy of the peace process.

## FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

### 2.1 Process of Developing the State-YAP

#### *Towards Domesticating the UNSCR 2250 and related others*

The YAP supports legislation and policy development and defines a strategy for the practical implementation of resolution 2250 in the state. Indeed, the participatory approach of the study is a model of a public private partnership strategy for multi-stakeholder collaboration for this sort of work within the state, particularly through organizational relationships with governmental agencies, officials, youth and civil society organizations. In supporting the implementation of resolution 2250, the document seeks to contribute to the implementation and advancement of the “sustaining peace” resolutions and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – in particular Goal 16 – by generating a platform for young people and fostering their contributions to violence prevention and sustainable peace, based on respect for human rights.

In Nasarawa state, the Office of the SSA to the Executive Governor on the SDGs has initiated the Peace Architecture Dialogue with active youth representation and participation. The PAD is a forum that is expected would lead into stakeholder mobilization and buy-in for a State Peace Commission. The Commission's conceptual framework provides explicitly for the role of youth in-line with the approach supported by the UNSCR 2250.

#### **Methodology**

It was vital to ensure that the Youth Action Plan was not unobtrusive in addressing the problem it ought to address: the exclusion of youth. The development of the YAP therefore used an inclusive and participatory intergenerational and multi-stakeholder consultative approach. At least, 175 Young women and men were directly consulted. Particular effort was made to reach out beyond easily accessible, urban centres and elite youth, to young people who would not ordinarily have a say in these sorts of policy making processes, such as youth internally displaced by conflicts, youth in religious settings, youth living with disabilities and youth in hard-to-reach communities in rural areas. To achieve this, local partner civil society organizations that had strong trust-based relationships with youth on the ground used their capacity to mobilise them. The development of the YAP also benefited from the young people engaged in peace work in different communities, and across different types and phases of conflict and violence, including both conflict-affected and relatively peaceful societies. Consequently, gathering evidence of what works and does not, how and with whom, under what conditions and its impact in achieving the desired change: in sequel, making the case in support of youth contributions to peacebuilding.

#### **Process**

Consultations held to i) Map stakeholder readiness and determine political will for the implementation of the YAP included focus group discussions, key informant interviews, stakeholder dialogues, focused on identifying and analysing sources of positive change and resilience in youth and the organizations they lead, rather than mapping conflict

trends, prioritizing causative factors and blame line analyses. The consultation process included: one non-state actor's consultation with civil society including faith-based organizations and media agencies and one broader stakeholder validation consultation involving state and non-state actors.

In substantiating the evidence base for the proposed interventions and actions in this document:

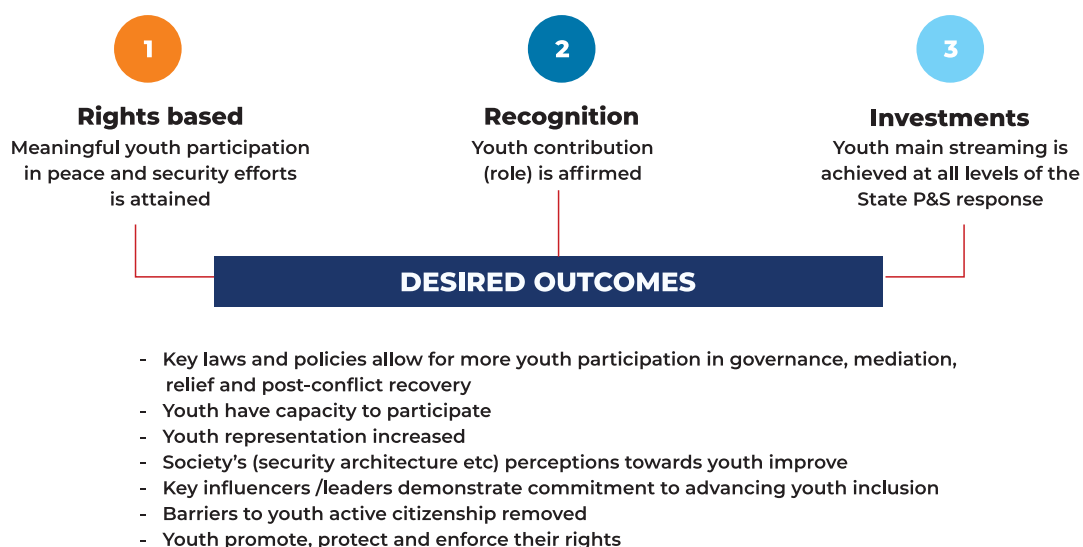
- The background narrative was informed from extensive literature reviews carried out on available state-level strategic conflict assessment data with bearing on youth through commissioned unpublished and published studies by individual experts, academia and international organizations such as the Nigerian National Security Strategy (2019) by the Office of the National Security Adviser to the President; The National Peace Policy; and other studies by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- A critical reflection was used to review documentation of project-focussed pre-and post-evaluation, compendium of impact stories applying a structural equation model (AUYVC 2010) and its state-level survey of youth-led peacebuilding organizations, undertaken by Action AID SARVE I and II

The consultations and data analysis aimed to provide a snapshot of the scope, scale and impact of the peacebuilding work being done by youth-led organizations, and serve as a platform for different categories of beneficiaries to express their needs and concerns, and offer recommendations for the interventions areas of the Youth Action Plan, which in turn, ensures that translating the global youth, peace and security framework of UNSCR 2250, reaffirmed by 2419 and the AU Continental Framework on Youth, Peace and Security is guided within local context and practical enough to ensure that its implementation is feasible and impact driven.

## **2.2 Theory of Change (Making the Case)**

The development of the YAP is informed by analysis and data, covering trends and progress in the work youth have led in peacebuilding. These findings showed that, the missing link in efforts that is required to prevent conflict and ensure peace was not the exclusive preserve for gerontocracies but a human right for which the citizenship agency of youth must be cultivated. Although this is an evolving notion from an institutional approach, this YAP believes that if investments are made in young women and men by recognizing, supporting and protecting their diversity and comparative advantage to accelerate and sustain progress in working towards peace, then the desired impact of driving change will be reaped.

## P&S YOUTH ACTION PLAN THEORY OF CHANGE



Built into a Structural Equation model, this Theory of Change assumes that if the YAP is implemented, the State can reap huge economic and societal benefits by mainstreaming the recognition of the rights of young women and men as key actors, who do – and- play active roles as agents of positive and constructive change in the conflict prevention and peacebuilding response.

### 2.3 YAP Mission and Objectives

The overall goal of this Youth Action Plan for peace and security is to provide an enabling environment upon which youth in Nasarawa state can mobilize, involve, partner and get support in fulfilling their full potential as a positive force for building peace and just societies.

At its core, is the implementation of resolution 2250 as it justifies the rationale for the State in collaboration with all stakeholders, to make political, financial, technical and logistical investments that will enable and protect youth peacebuilders in achieving greater inclusion and meaningful participation at all levels of decision making in the peace processes.

The Mission and Objectives of this YAP are inextricably linked to the five pillars of resolution 2250, wherein actions to advocate, lobby, build partnerships, mobilize resources and build momentum for implementation, monitoring and coordination will together drive the transformation desired by the resolution 2250(2015) and related others. The five pillars are:

**Participation:** It asks for increase in the participation of young people at all decision-making structures of the peace and security sector as well as basic human right in the broader public life.

**Protection:** It requires the state government takes measure to ensure the protection of youth and civilians during conflict and in post conflict settings.

**Prevention:** It calls on the state government to support youth leadership by creating a conducive atmosphere so as to allow them to implement violent prevention and peace building activities.

**Partnership:** It urges the state government to establish and strengthen partnerships with relevant actors by engaging and empowering them on issues of countering violent extremism, social cohesion and inclusion.

**Disengagement and reintegration:** This resolution urges the state government to disengage youth from taking violent actions through the provision of job opportunities, education, capacity building and training, civic engagement programmes and everything possible to support the ideas and aspirations of young people.

## 2.4 Guiding Principles on Youth Participation Peacebuilding

 <p><b>Participation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritize young people's participation for peacebuilding</li> <li>• Promote that the majority of youth strive for peace; only a minority engages in violence.</li> <li>• Link youth participation to all sectors (social, economic, cultural and political) and to all levels</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Value young people's diversity and marginalized voices.</li> <li>• Develop targeted strategies to involve young people from different backgrounds.</li> <li>• Respect the experiences of all, including those associated with conflict.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Gender</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be sensitive to gender dynamics.</li> <li>• Avoid stereotypical assumptions about the role and aspirations of girls, boys, young women, men and transgender people.</li> <li>• Identify strategies to seek young women's engagement.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Leadership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable young people's ownership, leadership, and accountability.</li> <li>• Find them, learn from them, and support them.</li> <li>• Facilitate mechanisms for communication to enable young leaders to be accountable to their peers and communities.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Safety</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always aim to "Do No Harm" and provide a safe environment for young people to participate.</li> <li>• Ensure that facilitators are trained to handle difficult situations.</li> <li>• Be cautious not to incentivize violence.</li> <li>• Be sensitive to inequalities.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Involvement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involve young people in all stages of programming.</li> <li>• Have decision makers, institutions and organizations commit to accountability to youth.</li> <li>• Offer alternative sources of power to youth who have attained power using violent means.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Competence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance the knowledge, attitudes, skills and competencies of youth.</li> <li>• Identify young people who can serve as positive role models.</li> <li>• Develop violence prevention strategies beyond security responses that nurture skills in mediation and conflict resolution.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Partnership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest in intergenerational partnerships in young people's communities.</li> <li>• Increase dialogue and opportunities for cooperation among children, young people parents and elders, in order to resolve violence.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support policies that address the full needs of young people.</li> <li>• Contribute to the establishment of local, regional and national forums that can enhance young people's participation in the development of public policies.</li> </ul>

Source: Inter-agency Working Group on Youth Participation in Peacebuilding [www.youth4peace.info](http://www.youth4peace.info)  
Designed by Seulji Kim

## 2.5 Stakeholder map and enabling environment

The overall score for this is based on a standard deviation formula which computes youth inclusion as the coefficient for desired change. Preliminary results indicate that the readiness, political will and stakeholder map are very significant.

This suggests that operationalizing the YAP is a highly welcome development and its multi-sectoral approach with the Government playing the role of coordination is a premise as good practice.

S/N	STAKEHOLDER	ROLES
	State Government - Office of the Executive Governor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To ensure full implementation of YAP in ensuring constructive economic, social and political engagement that does not offer the usual temporal, marginal and misaligned access to economic systems.</li> <li>- Ensure financial allocation for youth peace-building initiatives based on the YAP</li> <li>- Sponsor the reform of hardline security agencies and militarizes approach to peace-building initiatives based on the YAP.</li> </ul>
	State House of Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pass Youth Development Bill into law with provisions for Department on Peace and Security, youth fund and support to MDAs to have a desk officer/focal point on youth development</li> <li>- Request a parliamentary oversight report on the implementation of the YAP by the commission</li> </ul>
	SSA/SA on Security, Youth Affairs and SDGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support the monitoring of the State Security Plan from a youth lens</li> <li>- Support the formal recognition of the youth-inline with the new approach at the State Security Council and other institutionalized security arrangements of Nasarawa State</li> </ul>
	Community Action Response Team (CART), CSDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Becomes grassroots interlocutors for a State Youth Peace-builder Alliance</li> <li>- Sere as the main avenue for direct intervention on youth-led initiatives in peace-building and conflict prevention</li> </ul>
	Civil Society (Youth Peace-builders Alliance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitor the implementation of the YAP</li> <li>- Support youth representation and engagement within the framework of the YAP guiding principles at formal</li> </ul>

	Security Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In collaboration with youth peace-builders, develop tailored training for operations in working with youth as co-actors in maintaining peace and preventing conflict</li> </ul>
	Judiciary/Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure access to justice is not compromised</li> <li>- Support ongoing dissemination efforts and expanding civic spaces</li> </ul>
	Parents (PTA) organized through work place/professional associations, traditional groups, religious associations etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Primary duty bearers in the training of their wards to be aware of law and order and function within its parameters</li> </ul>
	Donors and Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Explore and support innovative approaches to build the capacity and leadership of young women and men in the peace and security network and ecosystem at large</li> </ul>

## IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENT

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### 3.1 Coordination mechanism

Whilst recognizing the roles that have been played by several “groups of youth peace and security champions” including, the Youth Advocacy Cluster, the Students for Peace and Security and the Networks for a Culture of Peace: The call and provision in this YAP, for a State Youth Peacebuilders Network, is prompted by Resolution 2250 (2015) as an institutional mechanism to articulate and champion a Massive Awareness Raising Campaign for the YAP as a multi-stakeholder and interdisciplinary mechanism to advance the full recognition of the bottom-up and grassroots based peace efforts undertaken by young women and men.

In principle, this YAP is not directed at government actions alone, but rather to be a framework for multisectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration amongst a wide range of actors working together. The YAP would serve as an interlocutor to the broader youth development and empowerment investment framework, thus, necessitating the establishment of the State Youth Development Commission as a concrete mechanism for the N-YAP to be implemented, and monitored.

The next steps, under the guidance of Office of the Governor, The Youth Development Commission will be expected to setup a department on Peace and Security which will oversee the operationalization of the YAP through an annual workplan. The YDC P&S department will have a focal point or desk officer, who will directly manage collaborations with the Youth Peacebuilders Network structure as proposed in the logical framework. Under this collaboration, a YAP Implementation Committee will be composed and be responsible for creating an e-coordination platform/database to be used by the Youth Peace and Security stakeholder ecosystem on a periodic or annual basis to document their activity data using standardised data collection forms.

### 3.2 Critical Assumptions

There are five critical assumptions that must hold true if the implementation of the YAP will deliver progress towards the strategic objective and intermediate results. Beyond these, each Local Government will have specific assumptions unique to its particular conflict assessment setting.

- The YAP development process projects to reach a 100 percent inclusion of youth at all levels of decision making, in Nasarawa state peace and security structure: during the life of this document (minimum of three years). It recognizes that the current institutional arrangement for the Nasarawa state security architecture and responses do comprise a hard-line security approach and militarised decision-making hierarchy. This approach reinforces the negative stereotypes associated with a youthful population, as such promoting the non-marginal and tokenistic representation of youth across the State peace and security decision making arrangement, must in practice adhere to the guiding principles of the UNSCR 2250 (2015) and 2419 (2018)
- The YAP implementation will benefit from the State Security Trust Fund, A State Youth Development Commission, the SDGs investment plan and multi-stakeholder collaboration and support



- The YAP is built upon non-prescriptive, context-specific direct community-led response and engagement, where the youth activities are conducted.
- The YAP is designed to be gender-sensitive and priority actions proposed are based upon best practices on engaging women and girls.
- The YAP sufficiently in this version upholds the marginal aspirations to facilitate the translation of youth and peace and security into broader policy frameworks

### **3.3 Funding the YAP**

The availability of domestic sources in meeting the resource requirement for implementing the YAP is an evident challenge and echoes across the process of developing of the YAP.

The YAP, in spite of its needs-based aspirations and sound evidence upon which the priority target and actions have been hinged, they already faced with the profound impediment of public sector financing constraints at a time of slow economic recovery from the impact of COVID-19, the 2020 economic recession and low-income generating revenue portfolio of the state.

Estimated to cost at marginal levels, a total of N54b, the YAP intrinsically adopts four-pronged strategic approach for its funding as follows:

- a) Mainstreaming of youth across all activities of MDAs through the coordination role of the Youth Development Commission
- b) Tracking public expenditures performance with a Youth lens to ensure effective budget allocations and participatory governance.
- c) The need to establish a Youth Investment Bank through public private sector instruments as blended finance, private equity, block-chain and start up accelerator ecosystem, credit guarantees and crowdfunding solutions.
- d) Using the YAP as a strategic compass, the need to harness existing and mobilize new international and national development actors working with and supporting youth development and empowerment to deliver as one and its intersectionality's with the broader peace and security intergenerational equity agenda of the state.

## 3.4 Proposed Interventions (Costed)

### Pillar 1: PARTICIPATION

TO INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE AT ALL LEVELS OF DECISION MAKING IN THE PEACE AND SECURITY SECTOR							
TARGET	ACTIONS	KEY ACTORS	INDICATORS	MOVs	RESPONSIBLE	TIME FRAME	METHODOLOGY
Promoted an enabling environment where youth contributions (i.e formal and informal) to the peace, development and prosperity of their society are seen, respected and recognised.	Support the mobilization of Community youth representatives into a State-wide Youth Peacebuilders Network (YoPebNet) to articulate the YAP Implementation in alignment with UNSCR 2250 and others.	Youth representative(s) in the Community Action Response Teams (CART)  All Peace and Security Stakeholders	# of LGAs with youth members of CART active in YoPebNet	YoPebNet registry	Office of the Chairperson, State Youth Development Commission (YDC)  Commissioner MY&SD  State Association of Village heads/chiefs	Six months (Yr1)	-Develop guideline for establishing community action response teams (CART) with diversity in youth inclusion -Promote and organize in collaboration with partners the establishment of CART state-wide  -Organize a youth and peace and security stock taking summit (content led by CART lessons learned, challenges and opportunities for impact)  -Inaugurate the YoPebNet on the platform of the summit

<p>Improved the sustainability index for peace and security through youth inclusion</p>	<p>Support high-level advocacy engagements for representative(s) of the YoPebNet to become statutory members of the State Security Council/Joint Security Operations and Intelligence Task Force</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>YoPebNet</li> <li>YDC</li> <li>SHoA</li> </ul>	<p>Profile of youth representative(s) invited to seat the SSC table. i.e Affiliations, Age, Sex, Disability <i>if any</i></p>	<p>Copy of white paper/official gazette/press release inviting youth representation as member of SSC</p> <p>Number of SSC meeting(s) attended by Youth representatives</p>	<p>Chief Press Secretary, Government House</p> <p>Media aide to the Executive Governor</p> <p>Chief of Staff to the Executive Governor</p> <p>SSA on Youth Affairs /SA Student Affairs to the Executive Governor</p>	<p>YR 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby influential voices around the Governor's office to justify the rationale for the advocacy</li> <li>Propose a 'shopping' list of names from the YoPebNet community for consideration by the Executive Governor</li> <li>YDC/YoPebNet allocation of grant to support the role of youth in the SSC</li> <li>Role of youth in SSC may include annual youth P&amp;S report based on fact finding missions</li> </ul>
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<p>Institutional disregard for the 'formal and informal' role and impact of youth peacebuilders are significantly reduced</p>	<p>Support for Advocacy on the Youth Development Commission Bill/Law to include <i>abi initio</i> or ratify the YAP as a supplementary Act in all matters of interventions related to peace and security</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Advocacy Cluster for a YDC</li> <li>YoPebNet</li> <li>MoJ</li> <li>SDGs office</li> </ul>	<p># and profile of Advocacy visits and key messages delivered</p>	<p>Report of SHoA oversight function on the YDC</p>	<p>P &amp; S Desk Officer YDC Executive leadership of YoPebNet ShoA committee on Youth Affairs</p>	<p>YR 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce policy briefs on youth and peace and security as a key sectoral focus of the YDC</li> <li>Setup a working group/task force on the implementation of the YAP as a mandate of the YDC</li> </ul>
<p>Promote and Support monitoring activities aimed at 'calling out' superficial forms of youth inclusion in political institutions, parties and governance arrangements, including in peace agreements involving tribal boundary settlements et al.</p>	<p>Promote and Support monitoring activities aimed at 'calling out' superficial forms of youth inclusion in political institutions, parties and governance arrangements, including in peace agreements involving tribal boundary settlements et al.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Advocacy Cluster</li> <li>YoPebNet</li> <li>Youth wing of Political parties</li> <li>Inter-Party Advisory Council</li> </ul>	<p>Existence of constitutional provision for internal representative/participatory democracy in political parties</p>	<p>Copies of relevant documents</p>	<p>YDC P&amp;S dept Chairperson, Boundary Commission Commissioner, State Independent Election Commission Chairperson, Peace Accord Committee BoT/NEC of Political parties</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review organogram of Peace Accord organizing Committee leadership to include Youth</li> <li>Develop Interparty Youth dialogue forums</li> <li>'Watchdog' youth and gender participatory quota system for political</li> </ul>

<p>Youth participation mainstreamed into all peace and security processes and institutions</p>	<p>Encourage and support the mobilization of the Youth Peacebuilders Network as Advocates for active youth inclusion in the Nigerian National Security Strategy development, review, implementation and monitoring.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>YoPebNet</li> <li>All P&amp;S stakeholders</li> </ul>	<p># of spaces with little of inexistent youth at the decision-making structures and tables</p>	<p>Youth and Peace and Security REPORT CARD</p>	<p>YDC P&amp;S dept SDGs Office SSA Security to the Executive Governor</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission a youth and peace and security report for the state</li> <li>Support interaction and participation of YoPebNet members in Official National delegation to Multilateral, Intergovernmental Peace and Security conferences</li> </ul>
<p>Promote and Support an annual Intergenerational dialogue on Youth and Peace and Security.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All P&amp;S stakeholders</li> </ul>	<p># and profile of participants at dialogue # and scope of media reports, clips and public noise and debate as a result of the dialogue</p>	<p>Conference report Clips of media coverage</p>	<p>YoPebNet YDC Youth Advocacy Cluster</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set up conference organizing secretariat within YDC</li> <li>Endorsement by State Security Council as part of conference attraction</li> </ul>	

<p>Ensured benchmark of equity and fairness in the holistic and diverse participation of youth peacebuilders</p>	<p>Promote and support multiple channels and avenues of youth participation and engagement without risk to fragmenting approach, tools and opportunities, which reinforce systemic exclusions (proximity, gender, age, disability type)</p>	<p>All P&amp;S stakeholders</p>	<p># of avenues and tools used to internally mobilize, organize and coordinate information sharing, action alerts and networking amongst youth peacebuilders</p>	<p>Membership profile registry and activities portal</p>	<p>YoPebNet YDC desk officer Youth Advocacy Cluster</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce internal policy/guideline on ensuring diversity and representation</li> </ul>
	<p>Promote and support the connection between the youth peacebuilders and their organizations with national, regional and global level spaces and platforms</p>	<p>All P&amp;S stakeholders</p>	<p># of national and international documents, research and reports with reference to the state YoPebNet members</p>	<p>Citations registry</p>	<p>YoPebNet</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit major activity report to UN-ECOSOC</li> <li>Participate in Nigeria's SDGs 16 working group and country reporting</li> <li>Join virtual convening's to speak and share testimonials</li> </ul>

## Pillar 2: PROTECTION

**OBJECTIVE: OBJECTIVE: TO TAKE MEASURES THAT ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF YOUTH HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND YOUTH HUMANITARIAN RESPONDERS DURING CONFLICT AND IN POST CONFLICT SETTINGS.**

TARGET	ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	INDICATORS	MOVS	KEY ACTORS	TIME FRAME	METHODOLOGY
Improved impact of youth-led non-security approach and contributions in reduction and prevention of violent conflicts and insecurity	Sensitize and build capacity of security agencies to identify and recognize the work of youth peacebuilders across all phases of the peace and conflict cycle and include them in their operations map	Nigerian Police NSCDC JTF Humanitarian organizations	# of security personnel trained in working with youth in humanitarian responses	Field mission reports on collaborations with youth human right defenders and as humanitarian responders	P.R.O Nigerian Police Force United Nations Field Missions YoPebNet	Ongoing	-Develop operations guideline in alignment with areas of collaboration with youth
	Encourage and support the development and wide scale adoption of youth-led innovation with digital technology that use GPS tracking to help improve safety and security for peacebuilding workers in the field.	Min of Defence Min of Police Affairs Dept of SS Min. of Communications Min. of Sci and Tech Private sector	# of new locally designed tools developed with digital technologies in support of maintaining security and preventing conflict and early and surveillance	Early warning signals and surveillance logs and crisis mapping reports	YoPebNet Development partners YDC	Ongoing	-Partner with local start-ups ecosystems  -Develop small grants initiative in support of youth-led proposals  -Create a special force recruitment process (outside the normal security and law enforcement battalion arrangement). This will target exceptional tech and high IQ performing talents.

Education and Educational spaces	Support In-school engagement opportunities using sports, artistic, cultural and leisure activities/events as part of the promoting social cohesion and conflict prevention.	Min. of Sports, Min. of Education NOA Local Govt. Area Councils	# of schools used as safe spaces for youth resilience  # of youth of school age sympathetic to the use of violence as some likely methods, acceptable under any context in conflict	Report of SSC on state of educational and educational spaces in conflict context assessments	YoPebNet Development partners  SA Sports, Athletics and Culture to Executive Governor	Ongoing	<p>- Offer athletics and sports performance-based scholarships</p> <p>- Open crowdfunding avenues for public donations and assistance</p> <p>- Encourage and support radio-based schooling in areas or during periods where schools are closed due to threats of violent conflicts</p>
	Encourage and support youth-led humanitarian actors to conduct lifesaving missions	Min of Interior SDGs office Min. of Social Welfare Min. of Works and housing	# of youth, human rights defenders reporting less intimidation	Report of Humanitarian and human rights observers during conflict and post conflict settings	do- SDGs Office	do-	



<p>Protected civic movement building by youth peacebuilders on the frontline</p>	<p>Encourage and support youth-led activism as important democratic alternatives to exert their influence on decision making bodies.</p> <p>Support youth-led community efforts using social media and internet without risk to breach of privacy, reprisal attacks and identity assassinations</p>	<p>Security agencies Ministry of Interior SCOMA LOCMA</p>	<p># of youth-led rallies, peaceful protests held (if any) and supported by Police, NSCDC and any other law enforcement state apparatus</p>	<p>Eyewitness reports of role of Police, NSCDC and other security agencies in peaceful protests</p>	<p>Office of Commissioner, State Police Command NSCDC State Commandant</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train and retrain security personnel in civil liberties and human rights</li> <li>Town hall meetings between security agencies and CART</li> </ul>
<p>Deepened culture of accountability, tolerance and democratic governance</p>	<p>Enforcements of the human rights status of youth advocates for peace agents' intimidation, brutality and harassments and all forms of oppression against youth advocacy efforts online and</p>	<p>State Offices of National Human Rights Commission SCOMA LOCMA All Peace and Security stakeholders</p>	<p># of competent judicial proceedings instituted, ongoing and completed to ensure justice in claims of human rights abuses # and type of legal mechanisms implemented to rapidly investigate,</p>	<p>Court judgements Case files</p>	<p>Chief Judge of the state Office of the Attorney General Code of Conduct Bureaus Dept of Security and Law enforcement agencies</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dedicate chapter in annual status of youth and peace and security report on 'Access to Justice'</li> <li>Inaugurate interdisciplinary taskforce or community of</li> </ul>

	offline by both state and non-state actors.	Office of the Public Defender/Legal Aid Councils	prosecute and bring to justice incidences of human rights abuses by law enforcement agents/agencies		YDC/YoPebNet Desk Officer	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>practice on Youth and Law Enforcement</li> </ul>
	Promote and support Peace Camps during holidays for inter-cultural exchange, cross-ethnic dialogues, values-based orientation and	SCOMA LOCMA CART			All Peace and Security Stakeholders	Periodic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing youth holiday/summer camps can integrate peacebuilding education into its programming</li> </ul>

### Pillar 3: PREVENTION

#### OBJECTIVE: TO PREVENT VICES AND ENGAGEMENT OF YOUTH IN VIOLENT EXTREMISM.

TARGET	ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	INDICATORS	MOVES	KEY ACTORS	TIME FRAME	METHODOLOGY
Promoted society-wide culture of peace, tolerance, foster resilience and meaningful youth participation	Promote and support training of youth in their diversity as Peace ambassadors/champions in conflict mediation and awareness of alternative dispute resolution avenues	NOA Min. of Comms. Media SCOMA LOCOMA CART	# and type of youth groups trained  # of youth reporting attitudinal and behavioural change in favour of peacebuilding and security during conflict	Pre-and Post-training KABP evaluation	YDC P & S Dept SDGs Office YoPebNet	Ongoing	-Adapt existing manuals for training youth in peace and security from development partners like AAN SARVE
	Promote and support sensitization of Parents, traditional and religious leaders as primary duty bearers.	PTA CAN JNI SUBEB	# of Parents interacting with public awareness campaigns on 'Parenting and Youth resilience'  # of religious and traditional leaders endorsing peacebuilding messages and sensitization for their constituents		DoP NoA MoE SDGs Office YDC/YoPebNet desk officer	Ongoing	-Design and implement a Massive Awareness Raising Campaign (MARC)

	<p>Promote and support multiple methods of massive awareness and education on 'how to identify fake news, parody accounts, desists exclusionary or separatists and divisive rhetoric'</p>	<p>NOA Min of Information State Commands of Law enforcement and security agencies NUJ</p>	<p>Proportion of public noise based on misinformation deescalated</p>	<p>Digital platform or registry with trail of debunked fake news</p>	<p>Intelligence units/dept of law enforcement security agencies</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide guide to Parody accounts</li> <li>• Create a mechanism to identify parody accounts</li> <li>• Monitor activities of already identified parody accounts</li> <li>• To distinguish parody accounts from misinformation campaigns and hate speech</li> </ul>
<p>Operationalized nexus between peace and security and broader youth empowerment policies and programmes</p>	<p>Promote and support TVET skills acquisition initiatives linked to start-up ecosystems especially in technology based agro-allied value chains processing, packaging and exports</p>	<p>Financial Institutions Min of Trade EDCs/ Recognized TVSD centres of excellence</p>	<p>Proportion of community youth, male and female trained in skills acquisition also having support for apprenticeship and self-employment # of Youth with financial inclusion Rate of startups owned by young women and men</p>	<p>Testimonials from beneficiaries Startup Index Report</p>	<p>SDGs Office YDC Partnership Dept  Private capital firms such as CUSH Capital, AYIIB</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a comparative statistical data platform on the status of youth development</li> <li>• Develop a youth empowerment SCORECARD</li> <li>• Youth Guarantee is a Public Private Sector model.</li> </ul>

<p>Strengthened foundation for life cycle approach as an adaptive modality in Safety Net interventions for in-school and community outreaches</p>	<p>Support peer education, anger management, counselling, substance abuse assessment and psychosocial support as a life cycle approach for youth, formerly in violent groups</p>		<p># of groups/individual sessions held</p>		<p>Annual</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum package includes A youth employment digital board linked to opportunities for jobs, volunteerism, internship, apprenticeship; Youth development fund with provision for ideation, product testing and development etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boxing, martial arts training, to teach youth discipline, self-control and sportsmanship , vocational training, support services from social workers and leadership opportunities</li> </ul>
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## Pillar 4: PARTNERSHIP

### OBJECTIVE: TO ESTABLISH AND STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS BY RELEVANT ACTORS WITH YOUTH PEACEBUILDING WORKERS

TARGET	ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	INDICATORS	MOVES	KEY ACTORS	TIME FRAME	METHODOLOGY
<p>Marginal reduction achieved in the levels of mistrusts between Government policies, security and law enforcement agencies and the Youth;</p>	<p>Repeal or amend policies which prevent young people's access to their fundamental rights and reduced space for civil society</p> <p>Formalize the establishment of and strengthen the effectiveness of Community Action Response Teams (CARTs) as part of the state security architecture for conflict management</p>	<p>State NHRC Youth Advocacy Cluster</p> <p>All Peace and Security stakeholders</p>	<p># of laws and policies enacted, repealed, reviewed with bearing on youth rights to equitable opportunities for development and empowerment</p> <p># of LGAs with CARTs established and strengthened</p>	<p>Youth lens of security sector assessments</p>	<p>Chair, Assembly Committee on Youth YDC/YoPebNet desk officer SSA/SA Youth Affairs SSA/SA Security to the Executive Governor/State Security Council SCOMA LOCMA</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A youth lens can be integrated into annotated outlines or plans for studies</li> <li>Through the CART system, community level youth peace ambassadors can be mobilized and trained in early warning surveillance and information gathering</li> </ul>

<p>Civil society actors including faith-based organizations and traditional leaders</p>	<p>Support community level peace education seminars and forums</p>	<p>All Peace and Security stakeholders</p>	<p># of community youth benefiting from peace education forums and seminars</p>	<p>Activity report of CART</p>	<p>Office of the Executive Governor/SSC YDC/YoPebNet desk officer Development partners State Security Trust Fund</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Handbook on Measures for Integrating Youth rights approach in security sector institutions</li> <li>Examples of cases for digital technologies by youth peacebuilders include but not limited to crisis mapping, technology-driven first responder programmes and geographic information system-based security applications</li> </ul>
			<p># of security and law enforcement apparatus of the government attending ToT and active as Peer educators</p> <p># of youth-led initiatives receiving grant funding to implement projects</p>				

	<p>Promote the use of effective education programs that reinforce the resilience of youth to violence conflicts by religious, community and traditional leaders</p> <p>Strengthen the skills and capacity of community, traditional and religious leaders to collaborate with youth initiatives on peacebuilding</p> <p>Support development of handbook for young politicians and conduct interparty training on how to apply a youth lens –agenda-in negotiating political processes and democratic structures</p>	<p>All Peace and Security stakeholders</p> <p>All Peace and Security stakeholders</p> <p>All Peace and Security stakeholders</p>	<p># of community youth desensitized to sympathize with violent conflicts agitations, aggressions and groups.</p> <p># of traditional, religious and community leaders identifying as proponents with youth working in peacebuilding</p> <p># of political party endorsing and using the handbook</p>	<p>State conflict assessment reports</p> <p>Capacity building manual</p> <p>Copy of handbook in any format</p>	<p>YoPebNet/YDC Desk Officer</p> <p>IPAC Executive Committee YoPebNet/YDC Desk Officer</p>		
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<p>Media working with youth peacebuilders to sensitize 'Power' in deconstructing deep seated biases built upon social norms that regard the voices, inclusion and capacity of youth as inexperienced.</p>	<p>Support the high-visibility of non-violent efforts of youth-led response in peace and security</p> <p>Utilize youth-led innovative and participatory mass multimedia tools and platforms to promote shifts in public attitudes towards SGBV</p> <p>Engage youth humanitarian actors in ensuring available information on the situation of Internal displacements are gender, disability- and age sensitive</p>	<p>YoPebNet</p> <p>Youth Advocacy Cluster</p> <p>Guild of Editors SDGs office</p> <p>YDC</p> <p>SEMA NOA</p>	<p>Proportion of media report on peace and security with youth sensitive reporting</p> <p>Proportion of media highlighting the voices and work of youth peace builders</p> <p># of youth humanitarian workers working with media as informants</p>	<p>Copies and links to research published and unpublished</p>	<p>Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR)</p>	<p>YDC/YoPebNet</p> <p>YDC/YoPebNet desk officer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development partners can develop projects and proposals that include conducting training for media on working with youth in peace and security</li> <li>The media can establish a 'volunteer correspondents in monitoring and documenting human rights violations through the innovative use of new media tools'.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A small research grant fund can be created for use by youth</li> </ul>
<p>International Community</p>	<p>Support researches which demonstrate that contributions of</p>	<p>Development partners and donor organizations</p>	<p># of research conducted and supported and on the progress in youth and peace and security</p>					

	<p>youth-led initiatives are having the desired impact, where and gaps to further consolidate on its power and innovation to reducing violence and building peace</p> <p>Support youth-led advocacy towards criminal justice reforms and constitutional review under international law that promotes, protects and enforces the rights of youth in-line with international human rights law.</p>	<p>All Peace and Security stakeholders</p>	<p>Proportion of research with scope/coverage of research objectives including humanitarian preparedness response, recovery and transaction costs for delivering aid and life-saving assistance</p> <p># of projects funded on youth and peace and security addressing criminal justice reforms with a bearing on the human rights approach</p>	<p>-do-</p> <p>Project reports and publications</p>	<p>YDC/YoPebNet desk officer Commissioner, MoJ Multilateral, Bilateral donor agencies INGOs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>researchers with interest themes on Youths lens of security sector assessments .</li> </ul>
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## Pillar 5: DISENGAGEMENT AND REINTEGRATION

OBJECTIVE:							
TARGET	ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	INDICATORS	MOVS	KEY ACTORS	TIME FRAME	METHODOLOGY
Increased attention to the precarious plights of young people undergoing juvenile investigations, sentencing and detention.	Support youth-led advocacy for the review and reform of juvenile justice practice that ignore the 'push and pull' vulnerabilities that exposed the youth to violent conflicts and extremism.	MoJ Min of Social Welfare Office of Public Defender State Office, NHRC	# of steps initiated, underway, completed and by whom towards juvenile justice reform	Compliance assessment on applicable laws on the administration of juvenile justice to International standards	YoPebNet Attorney General SHoA Committees on Youth, Judiciary SSA SHoA Liaison; SSA Youth Affairs to the Executive Governor Youth Advocacy Cluster YDC SDGs Office -do-	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dedicate chapter in Annual report on status of youth and peace and security for 'Juvenile Justice condition'</li> <li>Magistrate visits to Police stations in search of cases needing transfer to juvenile detention</li> <li>Connecting youth counselling and psychosocial support centres with Law enforcement officers</li> </ul>

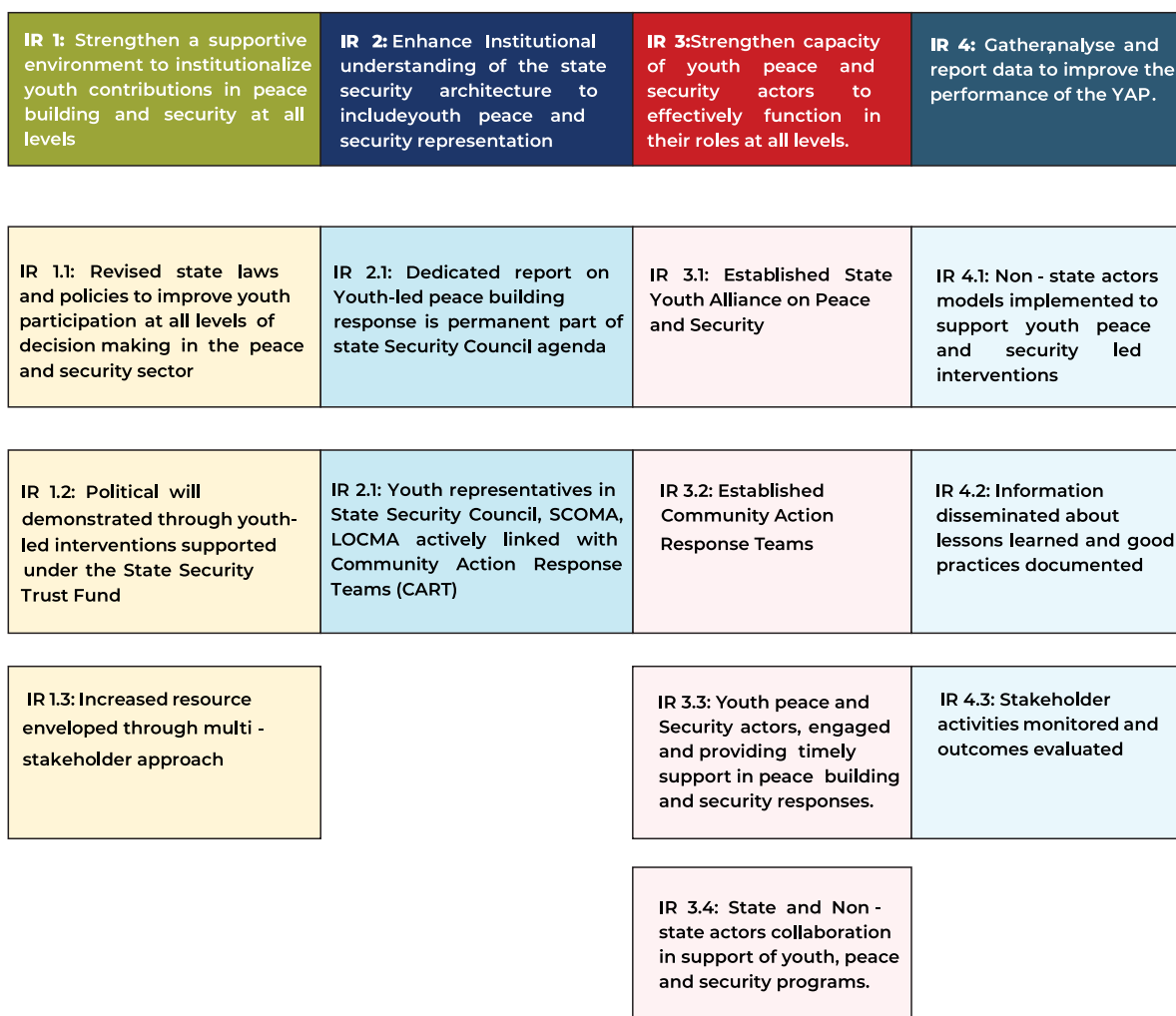
<p>Integrated Safety Net services available to communities, families and individual young women and men</p>	<p>Support Community services providing safe haven for youth disengaged from promoting or joining violent agitations, offenders and/or conflicts;</p>	<p>State Min of Planning Development partners Humanitarian actors</p>	<p>Proportion of youth, men and women, identifying as ex violent conflict culprits</p>	<p>Report on the Status of Safety Net programming in response to youth and peace and security</p>	<p>SDGs Office YDC/YoPebNet Desk Officer Interagency and Donor coordinating secretariat</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training for Law enforcement officers on alternatives to arrest &amp; detain measures</li> <li>• Addressing the exceptionally low Institutional epistemology on the human rights of youth undergoing investigation, sentencing or detained for violent conflicts</li> </ul>
<p>Dedicate chapter in the Annual Status of youth and peace and security report to “Social, Economic and Political Safety Net system and programming reform”</p>							

	<p>Support access to cognitive behaviour &amp; recovery therapy and life coping skills, social insurance and assistance in response to youth disengagement and reintegration from violent conflict mind-sets.</p> <p>Support training and equipping of repentant youth as peer educators and support groups with useful tools in mediating conflicts, early warning signals, developing democratic values, and in leading alternative dispute settlements.</p>	<p>YESSO CSDP NCTP GEEP</p> <p>All Peace and Security stakeholders</p>	<p># of ex-young men and women-violent offenders accessing therapy, health care, continuing education, cash transfers, rehabilitation</p> <p># of repentant youth, men and women disaggregated by disability type active as trained role models</p> <p># of repentant youth, using and maintaining visits with support groups</p> <p>Proportion of conflicts deescalated from becoming violent</p> <p># of youth, violent offenders intercepted and disengaged</p>	<p>-do-</p> <p>Peer educators register and activity reports</p>	<p>YDC P &amp; S Dept SDGs Office</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entry point opportunity lies the identified gaps for improved coordination in a federating state regarding the impact of National Social Safety Systems in the state and local government arrangements.</li> <li>Best practice studies reveal as effective –repentant youth as role models and facilitators of support group activities in edutainment, reflective art exhibitions, documentaries, story-telling movies showing promises of future generations learning from past violent</li> </ul>
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	<p>Support programming conducted through youth-led direct action and preventive efforts that celebrate basic rights, diversity and awareness of constructive alternatives to violence</p>	<p>All Peace and Security stakeholders</p>		<p>Conflict Assessment reports</p>	<p>YDC/YoPebNet Desk Officer</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>conflicts and offences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Model parliaments i.e Youth Parliaments for example, hold some evidence that demonstrates opportunities for patriotic values clarification, bridging conflict divides, building trust and connections among youth wings of political parties, traditional, religious and other subject-matter interest groups</li> </ul>
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**Figure 2: YAP for Peace and Security, Results Framework**

To formalize the essential role of youth at all levels of decision making in the Peace and Security Sector of Nasarawa state



### **3.5 Results based monitoring and evaluation plan**

The YAP Monitoring and Evaluation plan has been developed based on the framework of structural equal modelling and should be effective when used to plan, manage, assess and report progress towards the expected gains derived by investing in the formal and institutional role of youth in driving accelerated decrease in the rate of violent conflict and insecurity in Nasarawa State, thereby having far-reaching implications for peace building in the State and Nation at large.

The overall objective of the Youth Action Plan for domesticating the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250, reaffirmed by UNSCR 2419, the African Union Continental Framework on Youth and Peace and Security, and the Nigerian National Peace Policy: aims to translate their aspirations practical implementation in Nasarawa State.

This YAP, having a life span projected for three years will have the opportunity for a mid-term review in its second year. This should be a participatory process with a bottom-up approach under the guidance of a knowledge management technical working group, inaugurated under the YAP Implementation Task Force through consultations by the Youth Development Commission in collaboration with the Youth Peacebuilders Network.

#### **3.3.1 Results Framework**

This results framework (Figure 2), the Intermediate Results (IRs) listed below the Strategic Objectives (SO), share a focus on a) implementation of the priority activities that address the meaningful representation, community driven and an enabling environment; and b) adherence to the guiding principles: Participation, Diversity, Gender, Leadership, Safety, Involvement, Competence, Partnership and Policy.

#### **3.3.2 Outcome Indicators**

In articulating this YAP towards translating the UN resolution 2250 into practice, inter alia its domestication, the theory of change is set in the broader conceptual framework of youth participation models and structures, wherein, all actors working together to deliver on its objectives will contribute to affirm the contributions of youth through mainstreaming at all levels of the State P&S response.

All peace and security stakeholders engaging in the peace and security sector are in principle considered members of the Coordination platform (3.1) and will be able to have their peacebuilding work in communities captured, using the outcome indicators proposed herewith. The Youth Development Commission will collaborate with the Youth Peacebuilders Network to encourage stakeholders to use the platform as an interlocutor in applying a youth lens to their contributions and support for the SDGs state annual workplan.

The following lists are the summary of 12 outcome indicators to be used in assessing the impact of stakeholder response. They were presented at the Lafia 2020 Policy dialogue on youth development and validation of UNSCR 2250 domestication document for ratification.



### Applying the Standard Deviation

$A \propto B, A = K(B), K = B/A$   
Therefore,  $\Delta A = \Delta B$

Standard Deviation, SD,  $\sigma =$

A = Intervention opportunities,  
B = Accelerated Decrease in rate of Violence and Insecurity,  
K = Youth Action Plan

Weight keys: Excellent =5, Very Good = 4, Good = 3, Fair = 2, Poor = 1, Very Poor = 0

#### CONFLICT VARIABLES

Communal Crises	3	0.367068	3.083333
Herder/Farmer Crises	3	0.367068	1.083625
Kidnapping	4	0.25742	
Rape	2	0.223358	
Cultism	3	0.367068	
Thuggery	3	0.367068	
Robbery	4	0.25742	
Drug Abuse	5	0.077035	
Cyber Crime	2	0.223358	
Hate Speech	1	0.057997	
Corruption	4	0.25742	
Electoral Malpractice	3	0.367068	

#### INTERVENTION VARIABLES

Anti-Kidnapping Law	3	0.237941	2.285714
Community Policing	4	0.138306	1.496026
NAYES	4	0.138306	
State Youth Development Program	0	0.082999	
Implementation of Youth Development	2	0.261849	
Availability of Mechanism for Regular Update	2	0.261849	
Youth Engagement Score Card	1	0.184326	

**IR1** - Strengthen a supportive environment to institutionalize youth contributions in peace building and security at all levels -there is primary emphasis on the establishment of the State Youth Development Commission.

**IR 2** - Enhance Institutional understanding of the state security architecture to include youth peace and security representation

**IR3** - Strengthen capacity of youth peace and security actors to effectively function in their roles at all levels. Activities focus on strengthening capacity YoPebNet members

**IR 4** – is to Gather, analyse and report data to improve the performance of the YAP. Activities will focus on resource envelope available for youth led initiatives on conflict prevention, peace building and security.

### 3.3.4 Monitoring and Reporting

In monitoring the implementation of the YAP, the list of output indicators in the logical framework based on the proposed priority actions will be used. At the Lafia December 2020 Policy dialogue on youth development and validation of UNSCR domestication document, the indicators were reviewed and the monitoring form to more clearly capture key information. The YAP Implementation committee will routinely review and use these data to monitor the YAP effectiveness and to make proposals for stakeholders on what activities are being conducted where and by whom, existing gaps, emerging trends and sharing good practices.

The Implementation committee in order to fulfil the monitoring and reporting aspirations of the YAP will take the following steps:

- Develop handbook on Youth and Peace and Security: A Community response for use by all stakeholders in ensuring coordination and delivering as one YAP
- Develop data portal to capture, share and document the activities and impact of community youth-led peacebuilders.
- Conduct annual thematic report on youth and peace and security
- Develop database on youth peace and security report card and a statistical profile using digital technology and mobile applications

### Reporting Structure

Level of reporting	Frequency	To Whom	Who is Responsible
Mid-term review	18 months	Executive Governor	Knowledge Management Technical working group
End of implementation	3 years		
Oversight functions/Budget defence	Annual	State Assembly	Youth Development Commission/Gov ernor's Office
Project and Community based	Periodic/Inline with intervention plans	Duty bearers	YoPebNet

## CONCLUSION

**T**he development of the YAP on Peace and Security in Nasarawa State by the Ministry of Youth and Sports is an important effort at initiating the domestication of the UNSCR2250 and affirmation of the government readiness and Political Will to fulfil its social contract with the youth.

This document encapsulates the evidence that establishes the positive role of youth in Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding and provides a framework for action which can ensure that the broader youth development and empowerment policies, programmes and plans on economic inclusivity, political equity and others are designed appropriately and effectively.

## UNSC Resolution 2250 (2015)

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 7573rd meeting, on 9 December 2015**

*The Security Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013) and 2242 (2015) on Women, Peace and Security and all relevant statements of its President, its resolutions on Countering Terrorism 2178 (2014) and 2195 (2014) and the Statement of its President [S/PRST/2015/11](#), and the Statements of its President on Post-Conflict Peacebuilding [S/PRST/2012/29](#) and [S/PRST/2015/2](#),

*Recalling* its resolutions 1265 (1999) and 1894 (2009) on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict,

*Bearing* in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Noting* that the term youth is defined in the context of this resolution as persons of the age of 18-29 years old, and further noting the variations of definition of the term that may exist on the national and international levels, including the definition of youth in the General Assembly resolutions [A/RES/50/81](#) and [A/RES/56/117](#),

*Recognizing* that today's generation of youth is the largest the world has ever known, and that young people often form the majority of the population of countries affected by armed conflict,

*Expressing* concern that among civilians, youth account for many of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, and that the disruption of youth's access to education and economic opportunities has a dramatic impact on durable peace and reconciliation,

*Recognizing* the important and positive contribution of youth in efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security,

**Reissued for technical reasons on 5 January 2016.**

*Affirming* the important role youth can play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and as a key aspect of the sustainability, inclusiveness and success of peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts,

*Recognizing* that youth should actively be engaged in shaping lasting peace and contributing to justice and reconciliation, and that a large youth population presents a unique demographic dividend that can contribute to lasting peace and economic prosperity if inclusive policies are in place,

*Recognizing* that the rise of radicalization to violence and violent extremism, especially among youth, threatens stability and development, and can often derail peacebuilding efforts and foment conflict, and stressing the importance of addressing conditions and factors leading to the rise of radicalization to violence and violent extremism among youth, which can be conducive to terrorism,

*Expressing* concern over the increased use, in a globalized society, by terrorists and their supporters of new information and communication technologies, in particular the Internet, for the purposes of recruitment and incitement of youth to commit terrorist acts, as well as for the financing, planning and preparation of their activities, and underlining the need for Member States to act cooperatively to prevent terrorists from exploiting technology, communications and resources to incite support for terrorist acts, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in compliance with other obligations under international law,

*Noting* the important role youth can play further as positive role models in preventing and countering violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, and fuels conflict, inhibits socioeconomic development and fosters regional and international insecurity,

*Noting* that the Secretary-General is finalizing a Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism to integrate youth's participation, leadership and empowerment as core to the United Nations strategy and responses,

*Noting* the World Programme of Action for Youth, the Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding, the August 2015 Global Forum on Youth, Peace and Security, the Amman Declaration on Youth, Peace and Security, the September 2015 Global Youth Summit against Violent Extremism and the Action Agenda to Prevent Violent Extremism and Promote Peace, and acknowledging their role in creating a foundation that promotes young people's inclusive participation and positive contribution to building peace in conflict and post-conflict situations,

*Acknowledging* the on-going work of national governments and regional and international organisations to engage youth in building and maintaining peace,

*Encouraging* Member States to consider developing a UN common approach to inclusive development as a key for preventing conflict and enabling long-term stability and sustainable peace, and highlighting in this regard the importance of identifying and addressing social, economic, political, cultural and religious exclusion, intolerance, as well as violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, as drivers of conflict,

*Recognizing* that the protection of youth during conflict and post-conflict and their participation in peace processes can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security, and being convinced that the protection of civilians, including youth, in armed conflict should be an important aspect of any comprehensive strategy to resolve conflict and build peace,

*Noting* relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,

## **Participation**

1. Urges Member States to consider ways to increase inclusive representation of youth in decision-making at all levels in local, national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention and resolution of conflict, including institutions and mechanisms to counter violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, and, as appropriate, to consider establishing integrated mechanisms for meaningful participation of youth in peace processes and dispute-resolution.
2. Calls on all relevant actors, including when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to take into account, as appropriate, the participation and views of youth, recognising that their marginalisation is detrimental to building sustainable peace in all societies, including, inter alia, such specific aspects as:
  - (a) The needs of youth during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction.
  - (b) Measures that support local youth peace initiatives and indigenous processes for conflict resolution, and that involve youth in the implementation mechanisms of peace agreements.
  - (c) Measures to empower youth in peacebuilding and conflict resolution.
3. Stresses the importance of Security Council missions taking into account youth-related considerations including, as appropriate, through consultation with local and international youth groups.

## **Protection**

1. Calls upon all parties to armed conflict to comply strictly with the obligations applicable to them under international law relevant to the protection of civilians, including those who are youth, including the obligations applicable to them under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977.
2. Further calls upon states to comply with the obligations applicable to them under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugee and the Protocol thereto of 1967, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979 and the Optional Protocol thereto of 1999 and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
3. Further calls upon Member States to comply with their respective obligations to end impunity and further calls on them to investigate and prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other egregious crimes perpetrated against civilians, including youth, noting that the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern has been strengthened through the work on and prosecution of these crimes by the International Criminal Court, ad hoc and mixed tribunals and specialized chambers in national tribunals;
4. Calls on all parties to armed conflict to take the necessary measures to protect civilians, including those who are youth, from all forms of sexual and gender-based violence.

5. Reaffirms that states must respect and ensure the human rights of all individuals, including youth, within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by relevant international law and reaffirms that each state bears the primary responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity.
6. Urges Member States to consider specific measures, in conformity with international law, that ensure, during armed conflict and post conflict, the protection of civilians, including youth.

### **Prevention**

1. Urges Member States to facilitate an inclusive and enabling environment in which youth actors, including youth from different backgrounds, are recognised and provided with adequate support to implement violence prevention activities and support social cohesion.
2. Stresses the importance of creating policies for youth that would positively contribute to peacebuilding efforts, including social and economic development, supporting projects designed to grow local economies, and provide youth employment opportunities and vocational training, fostering their education, and promoting youth entrepreneurship and constructive political engagement.
3. Urges Member States to support, as appropriate, quality education for peace that equips youth with the ability to engage constructively in civic structures and inclusive political processes.
4. Calls on all relevant factors to consider instituting mechanisms to promote a culture of peace, tolerance, intercultural and interreligious dialogue that involve youth and discourage their participation in acts of violence, terrorism, xenophobia, and all forms of discrimination.

### **Partnerships**

1. Urges Member States to increase, as appropriate, their political, financial, technical and logistical support, that take account of the needs and participation of youth in peace efforts, in conflict and post-conflict situations, including those undertaken by relevant entities, funds and programmes, inter alia, the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office, United Nations Peacebuilding fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Population Fund, UN-Women, and by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant bodies, and actors at regional and international levels;
2. Stresses the vital role the Peacebuilding Commission in addressing the conditions and factors leading to the rise of radicalization to violence and violent extremism among youth, which can be conducive to terrorism, by including in its advice and recommendations for peace building strategies ways to engage youth meaningfully during and in the aftermath of armed conflict.

4. Encourages Member States to engage relevant local communities and non-governmental actors in developing strategies to counter the violent extremist narrative that can incite terrorist acts, address the conditions conducive to the spread of violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, including by empowering youth, families, women, religious, cultural and education leaders, and all other concerned groups of civil society and adopt tailored approaches to countering recruitment to this kind of violent extremism and promoting social inclusion and cohesion;

#### **Disengagement & reintegration**

1. Encourages all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to consider the needs of youth affected by armed conflict, including, inter alia, such specific aspects as:
  - (a) evidence-based and gender-sensitive youth employment opportunities, inclusive labour policies, national youth employment action plans in partnership with the private sector, developed in partnership with youth and recognising the interrelated role of education, employment and training in preventing the marginalisation of youth.
  - (b) investment in building young persons' capabilities and skills to meet labour demands through relevant education opportunities designed in a manner which promotes a culture of peace.
  - (c) support for youth-led and peacebuilding organisations as partners in youth employment and entrepreneurship programs.
2. Notes its readiness, whenever measures are adopted under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, to consider their potential impact on the population, including youth.

#### **Next steps**

1. Invites relevant entities of the United Nations, Rapporteurs and Special Envoys and Representatives of the Secretary-General, including the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and the Special Envoy for Youth Refugees, to improve the coordination and interaction regarding the needs of youth during armed conflicts and post-conflict situations.
2. Requests the Secretary-General to carry out a progress study on the youth's positive contribution to peace processes and conflict resolution, in order to recommend effective responses at local, national, regional and international levels, and further requests the Secretary-General to make the results of this study available to the Security Council and all Member States of the United Nations.
3. Also requests the Secretary-General to include in his reports in the context of situations that are on the agenda of the Council the measures taken in the implementation of this resolution, including information on youth in situations of armed conflict and the existence of measures relating to the prevention, partnerships, participation, protection, disengagement and reintegration of youth under this resolution.
4. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.



## **YAP Development - Community Needs Assessment (Beneficiaries, Proponents etc)**

### **Focus Group Discussion Guiding Questions**

Each participant will be given a one-page summary on the conflict situation of the state

- What will you say is the current status of Violent extremism in the State since 2002 to date? Probe with questions on what part of the state are more prone to intolerance, tensions that lead to violent conflict, radicalization and extremism and why?
- What are the ongoing interventions of stakeholders to prevent and counter violent extremism in the state? In what ways are young people engaged or what would be the reasons/barriers in areas where they are not engaged?
- How will you assess the perception of other actors (government, development partners, non-state etc) on the role and contribution of youth in preventing, resolving conflicts and sustaining peace in the state?
- So far, would you say young people are meaningfully, temporally or marginally engaged? Probing for reasons to answers given: Can young people do more than they are currently engaged to do and in what ways?

### **The State-YAP as a tool for domesticating the UNSCR 2250 in the State:**

- What would you say is your level of awareness on the status and usefulness of the UN Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015) and 2418 (2018) on youth and peace and security?
- Are you aware of the African Union Continental Framework on Youth, Peace and Security?
- Is there a state security strategy and does have an implicit or explicit focus on youth?
- How relevant is developing a State YAP to improve the Role of Youth in Peace and Security? Probe for why it is needed now.
- What are your expectations from the development and implementation of the S-YAP, with regards to the standards set forth in the security council resolution on peace and security?
- In the various contexts of the peace and security response of the state where youth have been involved, what would you say has been the results in making progress towards the desired change?

### **Benefits of the Youth Action Plan in connection to prevention radicalization and violent extremism**

- What would be the difference the YAP will make in the current peacebuilding, security and conflict prevention responses by government and other stakeholders?
- What conditions must the state YAP satisfy in order to make a difference for youth and the need to deepen their inclusion and participation in ensuring a peaceful and prosperous society? Probe for provisions that must be made.

- Do you foresee any clash of objectives or confusion in mandate between the state YAP on peace and security and any other state law and policy with bearing on youth (participation?)?
- In what ways would you want the state YAP to strengthen the capacities, agency and leadership of you and your organizations to operate as equitable partners in the formal and informal responses towards the systematic and holistic approach to implement the state security strategy?

**Status of Youth in the context of Peace and Security in the State**

- In what ways are young people affected and impacted by insecurity and violent extremism?
- What would be the barriers in engaging youth as actors in providing solutions and leadership required to deliver a society free of violent conflict and extremism? Probe if responses are Institutional arrangement built upon tradition and gerontocracy? Probe even further to identify any outliers in this spectrum.
- How will you assess the relationship between youth and security agencies in the state?
- What would you say is the link between youth and the label of 'guilty until proven innocent' approach by law enforcement and security agencies?

**Problems and Challenges of Youth participation, leadership and inclusion in the efforts against radicalization and violent extremism and peace building.**

- Have you found yourself in situations where you have been angry enough to be violent and retreated? Probe for reasons of answer given.
- Are there young people you know who have been radicalized or could not resist the circumstances that led them into violent conflict?
- What would you say may make a youth too weak and vulnerable to resist the need for violent expressions and extremist agenda? Probe for personal testimonies.
- Do you think there are harmful traditional stereotypes held by law enforcement and myths in policy making frameworks that undermine the leadership role of youth, stigmatize the youth population as 'volatile' and need to be pre-empted and controlled not to cause violence? Probe for expansion.
- Do you or your organization receive any support (financial, technical and others) to carry out your activities on peace and security? Probe for sources, amount and effectiveness.

## **YAP Development - Stakeholder mapping and Readiness Assessment**

### **Key Informant Interviews**

#### *Formal Participation*

#### Mainstreaming and Institutionalizing Youth in the state security sector

1. Are you aware of state policies / protocols / standards / framework documents in place with implicit or explicit bearing on youth? (Name custodian and list)
  - a. If yes, does policy/ protocol take care of the sectoral links to youth vulnerability for radicalization and violent extremism?
2. Is there a state security strategy and monitoring plan?
  - a. If yes, are youth a target or part of the actors (stakeholders)?
3. Would you say that existing and ongoing government programmes have been sufficient in responding to and mitigating conflict in the state? Probe for examples.
4. Are there gaps in the current response of the state government in its response to conflicts and in what ways can there be improvements?
5. Can it be said that the general perception of youth used in criminal-behavioural profiling by security forces (e.g Police and other Law enforcement agencies) gives youth a negative public image of 'guilty until proven innocent'?
  - a. If Yes why? And if no, why not (generally discuss)
6. Do the state political leaders trust the youth with leadership and inclusion at all levels of decision making? Probe for evidence of formal representation, engagements etc.
7. Do the youth have confidence in the government's response and determination to end violent conflict and extremism in the state?

#### **Youth Representation in the Security sector framework and decision making processes**

1. What capacity building activities are there in place in your MDA or organization for youth to participate in peace building and security?
2. What is the level of youth participation in official state government peace and security efforts?
  - a. Can you provide information on the number of youth (women-men, people with disability etc) who attend these activities?
  - b. How many young people have been supported to attend a state-led or government house, MDA decision-making meeting in your work? How many meetings do you hold that allow young people to attend as stakeholders/members of civil society?
3. Is there a youth focal person or desk officer in your agency?
  - a. If not, do you see the need for there to be and what difference will the role make in the desired change?

4. Does the Governor have in place a mechanism for regular update and mandatory reporting on the youth programmes by all MDAs or organization?

#### **State YAP Compliance and Alignment to International Standards and Instruments**

1. Do you know of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250, 2419 and the Secretary General's Report on their implementation?
2. Do you know of the African Union Continental Framework on Youth, Peace and Security?
3. What will be required to align the UNSC resolution to the State Peace and Security laws, where necessary?

#### **Partnerships**

1. Who are the main development partners working with you on Peace and Security?
  - a. Do they support the youth component?
  - b. How do you rate the level of support where it exists?
2. What youth related Peace and Security interventions (that could make huge differences) you have but no support to implement and why?
3. From a funding and implementation perspective, would having a YAP succeed?
  - a. If Yes or No, discuss why?

#### **Coordination and Sustainability**

4. Which government department has overall responsibility for youth?
5. Are you aware of the State Youth Policy?
  - a. If Yes, does it have a Strategic Plan for Implementation? If yes, is the plan costed?
6. Does the State Youth Policy have a Strategic Plan of Action that is costed?
7. Does the State have a Youth Development Commission?
  - a. If Yes, when was it established?
  - b. If underway, are you aware of the current status of process to establish it?
8. Does the state need a Youth Action Plan on Peace and Security?
  - a. If Yes why? If No why not?.
9. If a State Youth Policy and Strategic Plan (costed) is in place, do you see the need for Harmonization with the YAP on Peace and Security?
  - a. If Yes, why and if No, why not?
10. What level of collaboration exists with the lead MDA responsible for the implementation of the State Youth Policy?

11. Who are the major funders for the Youth Programmes of the state? Statutory, Donors/CSOs, Others?
12. Is there a need to have a State Youth Development Fund?
  - a. If Yes, why and if No, why not?
13. Who are the main partners of the State on Peace and Security programmes and Intervention?
14. Do you envisage a conflict of aspiration between the state youth policy and the YAP on P&S?

### **Informal Participation**

#### **Structures of decision making and opportunities for youth engagement**

1. How is your community or organization responding to the situation of violent conflicts and extremism?
2. How does your organization engage youth in this response (s)?
3. Are there organizational practices that structurally reduce the profile and role of youth contributions to past and current response to promoting peacebuilding?

#### **Recognition for Youth-led projects and community-based interventions**

1. Do you see any positive Impact in community-led activities by youth to mitigate violent conflict and extremism? Probe for examples or longitudinal-type testimonies
2. What more can the youth do to help improve the progress for a peaceful, tolerant and violence free society?

#### **Ethnographic-type Observations**

1. Gaps in quality of current interactions with youth peacebuilders and recommendations
2. Understand stereotypes that may affect recognition and confidence of youth-led peace and security interventions
3. Intergenerational equity and human rights approach



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