

REPORT ON COMMUNITY PEACE ARCHITECTURE FORUM FOR RIYOM L.G.A.

CPAF is a monthly meeting platform with funding support from German International Corporation through the instrumentality of its PEACECORE project currently implemented in partnership with the PPBA. The platform provides an opportunity for state and non-state actors working for peace and security in communities to interact, dialogue, review, share experience of best practices as well as foster mutual cooperation and synergy. Furthermore, it is a platform for learning exchange, progress reports of peace initiatives specifically focused on farmer-herder challenges with a view to highlight or identify actionable points to facilitate mediation and dialogue processes leading to a sustainable transformation of the farmer-herder conflict.

Thus, this month's event brought together a selected group of community stakeholders with a view to review the issues around criminality and other incidents that poses threats to security in Riyom Local Government Area. The forum also assigned persons to follow up on the actionable points raised during the engagement.

The objective is to bring together farmers-herders in Riyom Local Government Area with the view to undertake a deep assessment of incidents/issues in their various communities, identify pathways through which collaborative efforts between conflict parties can be better harnessed through an inclusive and highly integrated community-driven approach to conflict prevention and peacebuilding, encourage them to have ownership of the platform, enable them proffer solutions to their own problems, provide a non-partisan monthly platform upon which PPBA can effectively coordinate Peace and conflict interventions in Plateau State and lastly, to serve as a viable platform for detecting and responding to early warning signs of conflict in our communities.

After extensive deliberation, some points were agreed upon which include;

- a. Government should come up with training programs on moral re-orientation through the National Orientation Agency, NOA.
- b. Government should check the proliferation of small arms and ammunitions.
- c. Government should enact legislation to curb drug abuse, crime and criminality.
- d. Ethnic sentiments and profiling should be discouraged.
- e. Youth leaders should take responsibility to educate their youths on virtues and values.
- f. Traditional leaders should hold periodic meetings with their subjects and women should also be included.
- g. Inter-faith committee for the locality should be constituted.
- h. Moral/Civic education should be taught from primary school level and also at home.
- i. Measures should be put in place to enable displaced persons return to their original homes.
- j. Government should create employment opportunities for the youth in order to curb their excesses.
- k. Parents should be actively involved and take deep interest in their children/ward affairs.
- l. Under age grazing should be discouraged
- m. People should not take laws into their hands but report to the appropriate authorities in the event of provocation.

In conclusion, the engagement was inclusive and well structured. The meeting was very insightful due to the prevailing situation in the society.



Discussing contextual issues



Youth Leader making contribution



Participant giving his contribution



Traditional Ruler discussing on challenges



Director of programs facilitating the program



Traditional Ruler giving opening remark