

REPORT OF A ONE DAY VALIDATION WORKSHOP WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS TO REVIEW PPBAS ONGOING DATABASE ON INCIDENT REPORTS OF CONFLICT AND ATTACKS IN FLASHPOINT LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS IN PLATEAU STATE.

The nature of protracted conflicts and attacks that have plagued Plateau State has been quite devastating. The cumulative impacts have exacted a massive toll on the socioeconomic development of the state.

While conflicts and attacks on hapless communities have persisted overtime, there is equally a compelling need to have a robust database that speaks to these incidences. However, it would appear that there aren't enough efforts focused on effective documentation of these events as they unfold. The consequence of this reality is partly evident by sometimes poor outcomes of government policies and other well-intended interventions that sought to nib in the bud these ugly incidences because such interventions are not guided or anchored on credible database.

The establishment of Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA) as a coordinating hub for conflict prevention and peace building activities in Plateau state is therefore, a step in the right direction by the current administration to respond to this gap. Aside from leading in the peace coordination efforts taking place in the state, PPBA is also required to be a repository of credible databases or databank on peace and conflict related issues in the state that will further guide government policies as well as interventions by other non-state actors as well.

Against this backdrop, on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, the PPBA hosted a One-Day validation workshop with select group of conflict and Peace resolution experts and Peace researchers. The central objective of this important engagement is to conduct a review of the data of incident reports on attacks and conflicts in the state as collated by the Agency with a view to making it robust and reliable for research purposes, planning evidence-based interventions, as well as policy formulation and implementation.

The validation workshop organized through the Research Unit of PPBA is part of the PEACECORE Project supported by the GIZ, German International Cooperation to further strengthen the institutional capacity of the Agency. The event was therefore, quite critical to the success of ongoing effort to develop robust database for the Agency on incidence report of conflicts and attacks.

The Lead Facilitator, Prince Charles Dickson, Ph.D who led the session commended the PPBA for the initiative. Dickson said the input of the stakeholders would go a long way in shaping the database in line with international best practice.

Earlier in a remark, Director General of PPBA, Joseph Lengmang said the exercise was part of the Agency's milestone under the PEACECORE project to further strengthen one of the cardinal mandates of the Agency which speaks to documentation of conflicts, attacks and other such incidences.

Participants who attended the roundtable were drawn from different organizations including: Centre for Conflict Management and Peace Studies (CECOMPS) University of Jos, Security

Desk Officers from flashpoint LGAs: Bassa, Jos North, Jos South, Riyom, Barkin Ladi and Bokkos; RURCON, Post Graduate Students of CECOMPS, Plateau Peace Practitioners Network (PPPN), Plateau State Ministry of Justice, Peace Corps Nigeria, Youth and Women representatives, Centre for Conflict Reconciliation and Documentation, GAFDAN, Community Security Architecture Dialogue (CSAD), Operation Rainbow Jos, Irigwe Development Association, PIDAN, and PPBA.

Far-reaching observations aimed at improving template and database was reached at the session. The PPBA Research Team will review the template taking into considerations some of the issues raised.

Photo Gallery.





