

Report of Community Peace Architecture Forum Riyom L.G.A. for the Month of January 2022

The community peace architecture forum which has been established as a local structure set up by the Plateau Peace Building Agency for the decentralization of its activities, in line with one of the mile stone of the GIZ/PEACECORE PROJECT and the five (5) year strategic plan of the Agency which is engaging key stakeholders at the grass root levels and enhancing their capacity in security and peace building process.

Furthermore, it is a safe space and a platform for stakeholders to learn from each other, and communicate their fears, challenges, exchange ideas on solutions, and other initiatives specifically focused on farmer-herder challenge with a view to identify actionable points to facilitate mediation and dialogue processes in support to a sustainable transformation of conflict in their respective communities.

However, since the last meeting there has been some calm in the security situation in Riyom LGA, although the effect of the destruction of farm land has resulted to food security as most farmers had barely a bag of their produce. On the other hand, there is the rustling and killing of cattle, which causes little tension around the communities though to this effect the traditional rulers are trying to be proactive at their level.

Conflict Analysis of Riyom

- The security landscape in Riyom was quite peaceful from the last meeting, however early this year there has been issues of attack where 3 were killed, 2 were admitted in the hospital after which one died making a total of four (4)
- In Wereng there was also a report of missing cattle, after two (2) days they were later found
- In the Fulani community, they are suffering cattle rustling. 30 cattle were missing, after which 12 more were missing and another 12 the previous week. In the new year the Fulani community have recorded the rustling of about 54 cattle have been rustled.
- Just today in Kuru some cattle were killed and others were rustled and the miners are the suspects of the missing cattle
- There is a peaceful landscape in Riyom, however there hasn't been much killings of persons and the destruction of farm lands seeing that it is dry season. However, the

new trend in Riyom faced is criminality, thefts of vehicles, rustling and killing of cattle.

- The improved situation in Riyom LGA is commendable as some areas which were not accessible out of fear are now available, there is unity and synergy between the traditional rulers and the Local government chairman is also committed in ensuring a peaceful environment in Riyom LGA.
- The displaced persons should be returned back to their ancestral land both the Berom and the Fulani. Displaced communities be rebuilt.
- Irrigation farms are also destroyed.
- The displaced persons which have lost their means of livelihood and have no means to sustain themselves and their families, this has also promoted to theft.
- Cattles were rustled and found in Kaduna and the herder boy was found dead.

The following actionable points were taken;

- Compensation for farmers whose farmland get destroyed should be given.
- Complains of destruction of farmland or cattle rustling should be forwarded to the leaders of both parties (MACBAN/AFAN)
- Investigation should be done after a cattle or farmer is found dead rather than accusing each ethnic group (berom/fulani) AFAN, MACBAN and Security.
- AFAN and MACBAN should exchange contact and build a relationship to discuss issues both associations face.
- Central committee should be created and subcommittee at the district level to step down at the grass root level, this will help in exposing culprits.
- The committee can bring together farmers and herders to discuss issues such as; bush burning.



