

Project Title: "Promoting Stability in Nigeria's Northeast"

Project Update, Lesson Learnt, Successes and Challenges.

Duration: 01/12/2016 – 31/12/2018 (24 months) extended to March

2019

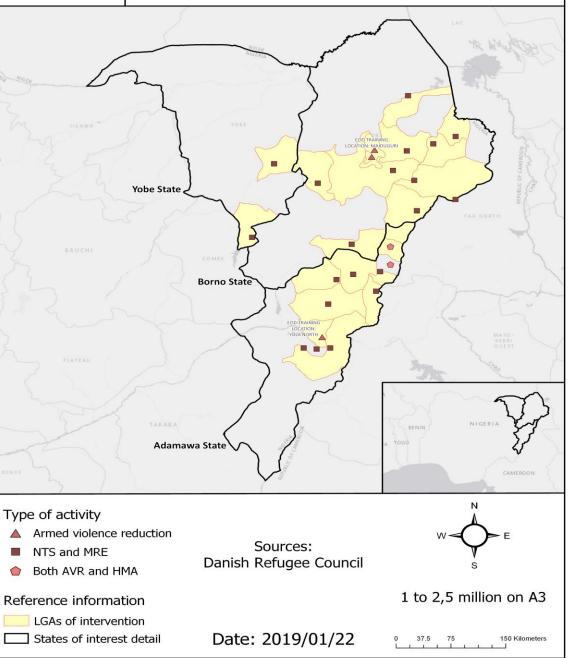
Geographical Scope: Northeast Nigeria, Adamawa and Borno

States





DDG Activities: Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) and Armed Violence Reduction (AVR)





Project Components

1. Armed Violence Reduction (AVR)

- Livelihood Youth Engagement
- Dialogue Engagement
- Community Safety
- Conflict Management

2. Livelihood

- Small Home Gardening Assistance Packages
- Entrepreneurship Training Workshops and Small Grants
- Multi-purpose Cash Grants for Extremely Vulnerable Individuals
- Cash for Work for Youth
- Trade-specific Training Workshops



Project Objectives

- Obj. 1. To improve community resilience and socio-economic recovery of 4,100 people by providing support to IDPs and host communities to better meet their basic needs and cope with future shocks (Livelihood).
- Obj.2. To empower at risk youth by strengthening young IDPs' skills and preference for peaceful and constructive behaviour, resilience to negative influences and providing access to alternative, legitimate livelihood opportunities (AVR).
- Obj.3. To enhance community safety and conflict mediation capacities by developing IDP and host communities abilities to implement their own community safety plans and to call on a network of communitybased conflict mediators to resolve disputes peacefully (AVR).



Breakdown of Targets and Achievements (Livelihood)

Activities	Target	Achieved
R1.A1. Socio-economic livelihoods assessment report (Livelihoods Market Assessment, Baseline) -Consultant	1	1 Livelihood Market Assessment Conducted focusing on SME, VST and CTDM
R1.A2. Small home gardening assistance packages provided and small poultry distributed to women -Work with Ministry of Agriculture and local trainers	450	450 Women support with agricultural production trainings and kits (390 gardening and 60 poultry)
R1.A3. Entrepreneurship training workshops and small grants provided to vulnerable women -Market Assessment to inform programming	200 women for training workshops and 75 vulnerable women to receive small grants	250 Women trained on business management 249 Women received business grants
R1.A4. Multi-purpose cash grants provided to EVIs (conditional or unconditional) -Vulnerability mapping with Protection	150 Extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs)	304 EVI supported for 4 months (1 month remaining)
R1.A5. Cash for Work provided to youth -Work with AVR to profile youth	175 Youth	187 Youth provided with CFW for 5 months (1 month remaining)
R2. Trade-specific training workshops organised for youth. Business start up kits	50 Youth	150 Youth trained on business management 141 Youth received business grants CFW supported the creation of 6 Youth Safe Spaces



Breakdown of Targets and Achievements (AVR)

S/n	Thematic Components	Activities	Project Target	Achieved
1.	Youth Engagement	YES! Framework- Youth Empowerment and Safety (YES!) planning process	18 YES! Plans	18 YES! plans
		Implementation of youth recreational activities to enhance social cohesion	36	41
		Infrastructure development and support-construction of Youth Safe Spaces/Centers	6	6
		Training on youth leadership and communication	720	724
2.	Dialogue Engagement	Training on Inter-generational Dialogue and Inter-Faith Dialogue process	375	3107
		Community-Police (Security Providers) Dialogue and Cooperation (CPDC) workshops	18 Declarations	18 Declarations
3.	Community Safety	Community Safety Planning process and the development and implementation of community safety action plans	18 CS-Plans	18 CS-plans
4.	Conflict Management	Trainings – Youth (Community leaders, CSOs/FBOs, Government Security Providers, DRC's staff)	720	1062
		Direct efforts at Mediation and (peace-process) dialogue	288	363



Program Challenges – Livelihood

Challenges Experienced	Solutions
Poor market for poultry	DRC engaged beneficiaries and the Ministry of Livestock Production to see how the program could diversify agricultural production and improve sales. Through market assessment and analysis by the Ministry of Livestock Production, eggs showed to be in higher demand in the local markets compared to whole chickens. As a result, the program shifted from meat production to egg production.
Operation and maintenance of water pumps was difficult	DRC staff continually ensured that water pumps were properly fuelled and repaired. In future projects, DRC will include some men in the program to support with the operation and maintenance of water pumps and the heavy manual labour required at the garden sites.
Theft of fencing materials	DRC engaged the beneficiaries and local leadership through discussions to ensure security of infrastructure and materials at the garden site to avoid theft and damage.
Some men complained of being excluded	DRC explained to communities the purpose women only activities, and their importance in empowering vulnerable women through providing livelihood opportunities.



Program Challenges - AVR

Challenges Experienced	Solutions
Difficult process of acceptance due to large software programming	(a) Persistent advocacy and sensitisation of resilience-building impact(b) Minimal support for outcomes
Limited participation of women due to cultural and religious beliefs	(a) Strong advocacy(b) Gender separation at programme outset
Programme implementation conflicted with planting/harvest season and different religious holidays	(a) Intense advocacy with target groups for buyin(b) Consultative spread-out of programme timing
Poor weather conditions – excessive heat	Adapted activities with limited hours for sessions
Transportation - sometimes vehicle options unsuitable for terrain	Scheduled and coordinated activities with vehicle options



Program Achievements - Livelihood

- 450 women supported with agricultural production training and kits.
- 250 women trained on business management.
- 249 women received business grants.
- 304 extremely vulnerable individuals supported with cash grants for 4 months.
- 187 Youth provided with Cash for Work for 5 months.
- 150 youth trained on business management.
- 141 youth received business grants.



Program Achievements - AVR

- Training of 44 civil society organizations on conflict management and dialogue facilitation techniques has contributed to resolving some of the herder-farmer conflicts in Adamawa state.
- There is increased demand for the capacity development of youth on peacebuilding and establishment of peace-clubs in schools.
- There is growing awareness on the importance of community-focused policing (thereby contributing to security sector reform).
- There are improved levels of trust-based relationships between government security providers and community members e.g., the establishment of a communication network to share security-related information.
- An improved sense of collaboration, acceptance and joint sense of responsibility between members of local safety organizations and hunter groups.



Lessons Learnt

- Engaging government ministries in program development provides an opportunity to maximize resources and provides additional validation of the program's legitimacy and potential to beneficiaries.
- Programming needs to allow for beneficiary feedback and beneficiary-led modifications as much as possible. This was highlighted in beneficiaries wanting to move from poultry to egg production and the program being flexible enough to facilitate this.
- Ensuring participation from groups including at-risk youth, women and the elderly requires community level advocacy measures throughout the life of the project – not just in the planning stages.



Thank You!



Youth presenting Community Safety Action Plans at state level during CSP workshop in Auno Community, Maiduguri LGA, Borno State.