



Peace Action for Rapid and Transformative Nigerian Early Response (PARTNER)

Catalyzing community action for peace

MARCH 2022

Background

Waves of resource-based, ethnic, and sectarian conflict, rising criminality and banditry, and violent extremism are rendering North-Central and North-West Nigeria increasingly insecure. The 2023 national election promises to upend the political order as the rise in conflict and insecurity represents an existential threat to Nigeria's unity, its development and risks destabilizing Nigeria's democracy, potentially leading to increased violence and reduced political levers to build peace.

Despite mounting challenges, community members and leaders alike recognize the need for decisive, concrete action that will make their lives more secure and will enable Nigeria to thrive socially and economically.

Now is a critical juncture where important gains made toward Early Warning Early Response (EWER) systems at the national and state levels can be consolidated and local actors can lay the foundations for a sustainable, durable EWER System in North-West and North-Central Nigeria.

About the PARTNER Program

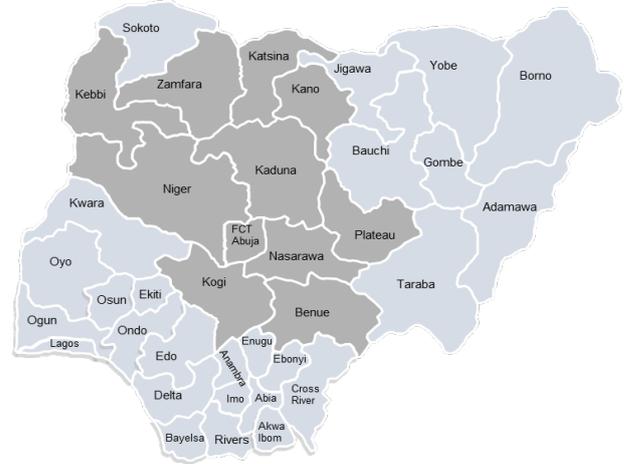
The **Peace Action for Rapid and Transformative Nigerian Early Response (PARTNER)** program aims to overcome

By embedding EWER innovations within formal structures from the beginning, PARTNER will increase Nigeria's self-reliance in leading a holistic, coordinated, and effective effort to promote sustainable peace.

challenges to EWER systems and close the gap between reporting and response, by strategically reimagining the entire EWER process whereby early warning information is analyzed, formatted, and disseminated to stakeholders in the system who are positioned to receive and act upon that information.

PARTNER will pursue a bold approach to collaboration across local, international, government, non-government, community, state, and security stakeholders to achieve this vision.

Our Intervention Areas



PARTNER will be implemented in collaboration with a consortium of key resource partners including West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP-Nigeria), Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), Plateau Peace Building Agency (PPBA), and Kaduna State Peace Commission (KSPC).

Our Interventions

The program imbibes three approaches of Peacebuilding, Social Cohesion and Early Warning Early Response in its implementation:

- Build on existing, easy-to-use EWER technologies to establish a sustainable analytical platform that collates offline and online reports, and facilitates quick and seamless response at the local, state, and national levels.
- Rigorous testing and learning by implementing pilot activities with low-cost impact valuations embedded in the MEL system to identify and scale most effective EWER approaches.
- Conflict sensitivity and Do No Harm (DNH) will inform analysis and start-up, participant selection, engagement, and constant adaptation to ensure resilient implementation and a shock-informed and responsive EWER system.
- Close partnership between Mercy Corps and IPCR will also focus on capacity assessment and strengthening, with an emphasis on detailed sustainability planning related to the EWER platform's technology and management, as well as continued funding and influence across key stakeholders.

Strategic Approach & Sustainability

The success of PARTNER will rest on the program's ability to strengthen and sustain local capacity and ownership of both NGO and government partners.

Mercy Corps will hand over successive responsibility to WANEP through a jointly owned, systematic approach to capacity strengthening and transition.

Mercy Corps, WANEP, and USAID will track progress against the following stages: joint organizational capacity assessment, transition planning, implementation of capacity strengthening, including mentorship and accompaniment as well as discrete activities,

actual transition of responsibility, and the hopeful assumption of primary program leadership by WANEP.



Community engagement sessions with PARTNER- supported dialogue in Kaduna state.

About Mercy Corps

Mercy Corps is a leading global organization powered by the belief that a better world is possible. In disaster, in hardship, in more than 40 countries around the world, we partner to put bold solutions into action — helping people triumph over adversity and build stronger communities from within. Now, and for the future.

CONTACT

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