



JUNE 20-23, 2023

ABUJA & YOLA, NIGERIA



Justice and Security Dialogues for Justice and Security Sector Reform

CEPAN
+234 813 159 9582
cepanprogram@gmail.com
www.cepanpeacenigeria.org

WANEP
wanep-nigeria@wanep.org
+234 806 687 8561
www.wanepnigeria.org



ORDER OF EVENT

TUESDAY, JUNE 20

Section 1: Opening Ceremony

10.00am : All guests Seated. National Anthem

10:15am : Welcome and opening remarks – Dr Chris Kwaja, Interim Country Director, USIP Nigeria

10:20 -

10:30am : Remarks by JSD state- and national-level partners:

- Girei Local Government Chair – Hon. Judah Amisa
- Director, Law Reforms Department, Adamawa State Ministry of Justice – Mr. Murtala Alfa Belel
- Permanent Secretary, Adamawa State Women Affairs and Social Development – Mrs. Saso Benson.
- Director, Public Health, Adamawa State Ministry for Health – Mr. Paul Dogara
- Executive Secretary, Adamawa State Emergency Management Agency (ADSEMA) – Dr. Muhammad Aminu Suleiman
- Commissioner of Police, NPF, Adamawa State Police Command – CP Babatola Afolabi Adeniyi

10:30–

11:00am: Virtual remarks from USIP Washington, INL and U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria

- Leroux-Martin, Philippe, Director GJS, USIP
- Sany, Joseph Vice President of the Africa Center, USIP
- Vice President of Applied Conflict Transformation Center, USIP
- Smith, Jason INL, U.S. Embassy, Nigeria
- Hove, Mark, INL, Washington DC
- U.S. Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Nigeria

11:00am Declaration of event open by U.S. Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Section 2:

11:16-11:30am: JSD: The Journey So Far —Isioma Kemakolam, Project Coordinator, Governance, Justice and Security, Nigeria.

11:30am: Tea Break

12:00-

3:00pm: JSD Lessons Film Documentary and Success Stories/Challenges



ORDER OF EVENT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

Section 1: 10am-4pm- Mobilising community for change:

- Building and maintaining partnerships with government institutions and civil society organizations: Learnings from JSD – Kevin Abonyi, WANEP Nigeria.
- Accountability, responsiveness and capability: Lessons from JSD – NPF, MOJ and NHRC Adamawa State.
- Mobilising the community of change: Lessons from JSD – Usman Ahmad Dada, Executive Director, Dadah Foundation for Education and Empowerment (DAFEE)
- Discussion on JSD methodology tools and documents – Ephraim Emah, Project Officer, Justice and Security Dialogue (JSD), Nigeria.
- What does sustainability look like? Lessons from JSD – Boniface Waziri, Founder, I Need to Know Foundation, & Mohammed Baba Yahaya, Madawakin Girei.

Section 2: Breakout Sessions on Panel discussions

Participants: Police, IDP, FIDA, MOJ, MW, MH, community Leaders, Girei LG, NHRC, CSOs, media, ADSEMA

Media Session (in-person only-Yola) Thursday, June 22: 12pm-2pm

- Presentation and interactive discussion on JSD project processes and successes

Participants: Print and electronic media. Partners and selected government project beneficiaries.

Closing Ceremony (Yola) Friday, June 23 : 10am-12pm

10:00-10:15: Welcome CEPAN/WANEP

10:15am-12pm: Thank you and presentations of awards and commendations

Participants: JSD Stakeholders Committee and CSOs representatives from other projects sharing same goal, vision, target and operational space with JSD



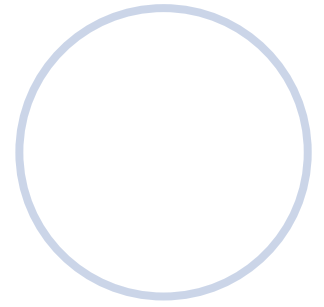
MY JOURNEY ON THE PROJECT

My first engagement with the Justice Security Dialogue (JSD) project was participating in the baseline workshop conducted in 2021. During the baseline workshop that lasted for three days, I observed, unlike other projects I have participated in, that participants were allowed to make the decision. For example, allowing stakeholders to identify and prioritize issues, including the pilot LGA for implementation of the project, attracted my interest. Subsequently, as the implementation of the project commenced, I observed that participants selection was determined by the issue to be discussed not necessarily the need to create a balance (religion, community, gender etc). The emphasis was on position, influence, and relevance to the issue. For example, because I am the Gender Specialist, I was consistently invited to “JSD on Multistakeholder Response to SGBV in Adamawa”. I also observed the consistency in the choice of dialogue participants. That is some participants attended the same dialogue all the time. This consistency allowed for improved collaboration, for example, the Gender Officer for NPF and I through our participation, realized that we are better together. It also allowed continuity as there was always a follow-up on previous discussions or agreed actions from the previous dialogue, and update on progress made on the issues from those assigned roles. In responding to any issue associated with SGBV in the community, the JSD project did not impose decisions on us, they only provided guidance; we [stakeholders] make and lead the decisions in response to SGBV. This way of implementation in my own view impacted two levels. Institutionally, it

- enabled local ownership of SGBV prevention actions across communities including the Girei IDP Camp.
- Improved trust between the dialogue participants. E.g. it enabled community stakeholders to engage with security actors more constructively
- Improved synergy and coordination especially between my office and that of the police Gender Desk and government
- Dissipated competition and improved coordinated response
- Provided a framework/platform to strengthen multi-stakeholder response to SGBV



MY JOURNEY ON THE **JSD** PROJECT



At the individual level, the training on responding to SGBV and other relevant trainings, in particular, human rights and law enforcement, improved my knowledge. For instance, I can now apply relevant laws in handling cases related to violence and abuse that fall within the purview of the Unit that I head. My skills in dialogue facilitation in response to SGBV also improved. I now apply the same strategy as the JSD to other several social issues that affect community safety. My application of skills developed from the project improved my ability to strategically coordinate with other security agencies and government line ministries, such as Ministries of Women Affairs, Justice, Health, and Education, informal security actors, and community leaders, to improve response to SGBV and build the confidence of SGBV survivors. I have also introduced various innovations that enhanced the effectiveness of the referral pathways managed by the Gender Unit of the NSCDC in Adamawa State. Overall, my participation in this project improved my visibility within and outside Adamawa State. For instance, I was invited to make a presentation on the Role of Women in Peace and Security in Adamawa State to members of the National Council of Women Societies (NCWS), Adamawa State Chapter. In partnership with the Humanitarian Innovation Foundation, I represented NSCDC to lead a 6 month British Council-funded project to address violence, especially among Youths, Facilitated several community-level dialogues with community members in Girei LGA and Jambutu ward of Yola North LGA on SGBV prevention.

Thank you JSD for helping me perform my role better.



**ACC CHARITY A. FWAH - AIAGP
GENDER SPECIALIST UNIT,
NSCDC, ADAMAWA STATE COMMAND.**



JSD

ENABLED REDUCTION IN SGBV CASES IN COMMUNITIES

The JSD project significantly shaped FIDA’s work in Adamawa State. Before the project’s implementation in the state, FIDA was heavily engaged in soliciting and lobbying various actors to ensure the domestication of the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act and the Child Rights Act. Our efforts so far led to the passing of the Adamawa State Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law, 2021 and the Adamawa State Child Protection Law, 2022. FIDA also partnered with the State Ministry of Justice and the Judiciary to achieve the passage of the Practice Directions (For Child Offenders) and also the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law, 2021, Practice Direction, No. 1 of 2022 on Protection Orders by the High Courts.

Passing these laws were vital; however, increasing public knowledge about them was also as important as their passage. The implementation of the JSD project in Girei Local Government Area of Adamawa State is one of the greatest stroke of luck that hit FIDA. Girei LGA had one of the highest cases of SGBV, making it almost impossible for people (men, women, boys and girls) to move freely and carry out their daily activities for fear of being sexually violated. FIDA, with support from the JSD project, successfully organized awareness and sensitization advocacies and campaigns in Girei main market. FIDA targeted this market because of the population of community members that patronize it and reach that would be achieved for sensitization on the dangers of SGBV and its related crimes in communities. For example, before the sensitization,

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JSD

ENABLED REDUCTION IN SGBV CASES IN COMMUNITIES

it was difficult to go to the market for fear of being kidnapped and/or sexually attacked.

The sensitization focused on informing community members, community leaders, and the head of market and transport unions about different forms of SGBV and the referral pathways and services that survivors could utilize to access help. FIDA also informed the stakeholders about the SGBV USSD response code, supported by the JSD project, to enable survivors access timely response to SGBV. Through these sensitization programs, several community youths have become knowledgeable about SGBV crimes and how to support survivors. The USSD code enabled community members to report more cases, helping many survivors to access help, and reducing the rate of SGBV cases and crime drastically.

The JSD project worked with FIDA to target and sensitize vulnerable communities about the harmful effects of SGBV and its effect on criminal activities in their communities.

The project also strengthened opportunities for multi-stakeholder partnerships (security actors, community leaders, women, youths, CSOs, etc.) through dialogues and capacity building training towards ensuring reduction in SGBV cases in Girei LGA and other parts of Adamawa State. The pronounced success of thi

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PROJECT DEVELOPED MY CONFIDENCE

My relationship with the police is either that I am wanted for arrest, or visiting the police station to bail someone who was arrested. With JSD interventions, these has changed.

Before the JSD project commenced in my community, the relationship between the youths and the security services especially the police and NDLEA was very poor. However, the tides turned when the JSD intervened to support multi-stakeholders' actions to address Youth crime, criminality, and gang violence. The project created a platform that enabled the youths and security actors to improve their relationships.

The project gave voice to the youths by developing their capacities to become part of conflict prevention, decision-making, and collaborative problem-solving processes in respective communities. More importantly, it humanized youths like me, IDP youths, and youths in conflict with the law and out-of-school youths.

I participated in the two-year project intervention on Substance abuse and gang violence. Of note is the mentorship program for at-risk youths where a number of youths were trained on vocational skills e.g how to make soap etc. The project strengthened youth partnerships with government institutions, the police, and other security actors in Girei Local Government. These partnerships resulted in some youths being selected and registered to participate in the State

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JSD

ENHANCED COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY POLICING IN GIREFI LGA

This knowledge and the capacity developed through the project's training and dialogues helped me to work closely with diverse stakeholders in Girei to strengthen police-community collaboration to tackle crime. For instance, due to the JSD project, the police started to convene monthly meetings with youths and community leaders to identify strategies for improving stakeholder partnerships to address crime. This collaboration extended to other relevant security agencies (formal and informal) and other community members to ensure effective information, intelligence gathering and dissemination on crime and criminal activities committed or those that were about to be committed in the community. Moving away from an era of inter-security agency rivalry, the development of law enforcement capacity by the JSD project improved information sharing among security actors in Girei LGA as well as coordinated and prompt response to crime.

Due to the JSD project, I have changed from being an isolated police chief who had little or no concern about community feelings over how I delivered my policing duties to one who respects, promotes, protects, and embraces the basic rights of citizens. The JSD project facilitated this achievement by creating platforms that enabled the police, other security agencies, and the community to discuss issues constructively and collaboratively proffer solutions to them. Specifically, through the dialogues organized by the JSD project, I mingled and interacted easily and freely with community members,

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ENHANCED COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY POLICING IN GIREI LGA

especially the youths; an action that was difficult for me in the past.

The JSD project has been instrumental to my attitudinal and behavioral change, mainly in the ways that I engage and police communities within my jurisdiction

With the support of the JSD project, especially during the monthly police-youth dialogues, I recognized the importance of the youths in policing our communities and we agreed to jointly implement the following responsibilities:

1. Locate and report criminal hide outs and black spots.
2. Gather information and intelligence.
3. Participate in joint patrols.
4. Desist from jungle justice.
5. Engage in other community policing activities.

I wish to say kudos to the JSD project and its sponsors for the remarkable personal and relational change that it enabled me and the police in Girei Division to achieve since the commencement of the project. I look forward to replicating the knowledge and skills developed through the JSD project throughout my policing experience.

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SP ABUBAKAR USMAN BAFETO

**DIVISIONAL POLICE OFFICER
NIGERIA POLICE FORCE, GIREI
DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS,
ADAMAWA STATE COMMAND**



JSD

STRENGTHENED INTER-SECURITY AGENCY COLLABORATION & NDLEA'S APPROACH TO DRUG ABUSE REDUCTION IN ADAMAWA STATE

Before the JSD project, NDLEA and other security agencies have been working poles apart, with each security actor trying to outwit the other. The binding force and coordinated response to crime was relatively weak. However, the JSD project helped us to build effective synergy with one another. Some of the areas where synergies improved during the project are joint patrol, raid of drug blackspots, youth engagement on the dangers of drug and substance abuse in the community, and election security management.

The project's dialogues and trainings enabled community and security stakeholders to discuss pressing security concerns, share ideas, and develop collaborative responses to tackle community issues. These activities allowed us to appreciate each other better and increased multi-stakeholders' consciousness of our collective roles in crime prevention and security provision.

I would like to mention that the JSD series on Election Security Management increased security actors' understanding of their roles in policing elections. Personally, the dialogue deepened my awareness of some of the challenges faced by the police during elections, enabled me and other participating security agencies at the dialogues to critically reflect on the diverse and concrete strategies that we could implement to ensure complementarity of efforts during the 2023 General Elections. Despite some of the few setbacks that disrupted the peace of the state, the elections were generally

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JSD

STRENGTHENED INTER-SECURITY AGENCY COLLABORATION & NDLEA'S APPROACH TO DRUG ABUSE REDUCTION IN ADAMAWA STATE

peaceful in Adamawa State, all thanks to the significant role played by the JSD project through its series on election security, several months before the elections.

In the specific area of NDLEA's work, before the JSD project, the Adamawa State Command of the NDLEA concentrated on "arrest" and "seizures" of drugs and other banned substances and paid little or no attention to its Anti-Drug Abuse Campaigns. However, with the Command's participation in the JSD project activities where discussions on drugs and drugs abuse were presented by participants as a key driver of community insecurity stirred us to intensify our Anti-Drug Abuse Campaigns called the War Against Drug Abuse (WADA).

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The campaign collaborated with traditional rulers, other community stakeholders, the police and NSCDC, and JSD youth facilitators and emphasized on the importance of youth abstinence from illicit drugs and other banned substances in urban areas to local communities. The project also supported the NDLEA to map stakeholders whose participation in the anti-drug campaign would help sustain its message. This mapping enabled us to identify and engage some members of the Pharmaceutical Council, health workers, and some youths as WADA ambassadors. These ambassadors continued to sensitize the youths and other members of the public on the dangers of drug and substance abuse. The various insights gotten from participants in the dialogues enabled us to step-down our sensitization campaigns to schools and encouraged the establishment of Drug Free Clubs in Adamawa State.



JSD

STRENGTHENED INTER-SECURITY AGENCY COLLABORATION & NDLEA'S APPROACH TO DRUG ABUSE REDUCTION IN ADAMAWA STATE

Overall, the JSD project enabled all security actors to maintain synergy and embark on combined operations with officers and men of the Police, Army, Air Force, and NSCDC, to dislodge blackspots and hideouts of criminals in the three Senatorial Districts of Adamawa State.

The JSD project has been instrumental to security sector collaboration and coordination to address crimes across Adamawa communities.



ULOKO LINUS

DEPUTY COMMANDER, NARCOTICS NATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (NDLEA) ADAMAWA STATE COMMAND.

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POLICE RESPONSE TO SEXUAL GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV) IN ADAMAWA STATE: LESSONS FROM JSD

With respect to Sexual Gender-based violence (SGBV) in Adamawa State, police report shows that it is one of the prevalent crimes in many communities- even as we know that the statistics represent significant underreporting. The weak synergy between the police, other security actors, and the community in addressing these SGBV issues contributed to the challenges of effective response to SGBV.

From my participation in JSD, I gained knowledge and skills on how to identify, prioritize, and intervene, at my level and within resources available to me, on some of the challenges to the effective response to SGBV. Two of these are the police approach and weak collaboration that impede access to reporting, documentation, and justice for survivors. Through training and dialogues on SGBV and the JSD Approach, for the police and other security agencies, government institutions, and CSOs, we were able to improve our collaboration and collectively respond to SGBV. For instance, effectively collaborating with other government ministries strengthened the implementation of police-community responses to SGBV. It also led to the emergence and use of referral pathways for survivors and subsequently, improved community confidence in the ability of the Gender Unit of the police to effectively respond to SGBV.

Two things stood out for me in the two years of my engagement with JSD. One is the training on human rights and law enforcement and the after-training care. Periodically, the JSD Team do a field visit where they sit in to observe my colleagues and I respond to reports related to SGBV. Through these visits, I can apply practically, the principles underlying human rights and law enforcement regarding secondary victimization of victims or suspects writing statements under duress

or in a hostile environment.

Applying these principles helped my colleagues and I to further develop professional strategies for handling cases of SGBV without causing harm to survivors. This approach alone has gone a long way to restore community trust in the police. Finally, the JSD project enabled the Gender Unit to innovatively develop and use other measures to improve awareness of and response to SGBV and other related crimes in Adamawa State. One such measure includes periodic media/radio programs aimed at sensitizing the public on issues of SGBV and providing them with relevant information on how to get help from the police as well as access other social services. These helped in breaking the culture of silence as many survivors are speaking-up and reporting cases of SGBV as they occur to the police.



ASP ASABE HARUNA,
21/C, POLICE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER,
NIGERIA POLICE FORCE, ADAMAWA STATE COMMAND



THE JSD PROJECT IMPACTED GIREI LGA FOR 2 YEARS, AND WE ARE GRATEFUL!

In the last 2 years, the JSD project focused on facilitating critical dialogues on security matters for IDPs, host communities, and even security actors, with a view to improving collaborative approaches to building peace and creating the conditions for development to thrive in Girei LGA. The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding in Nigeria (WANEP-Nigeria), the Centre for Peace Advancement in Nigeria (CEPAN), and the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) demonstrated commitment towards ensuring the success of this project in Girei, and we are seeing the results. As traditional leaders, we learned that the JSD project is for prevention, not intervention. Therefore, the project worked with stakeholders in the community, particularly the traditional institution, to transform community peace and security. In JSD, through joint problem-solving, we determine and lead the solutions to our peace and security concerns. This approach also promoted constructive relationships between and within groups.

JSD improved our capacity in early warning detection and response to conflict. Through this, we were able to create a local conflict management framework comprising IDPs, traditional leaders, and security actors and youths. Through JSD, we understood the true definition of working and living together as we plan and implement actions for peacebuilding. For instance, as we work together, some of the tribal and religious stereotypes that used to exist among community members have become transformed into constructive relationships. Also worthy of mention is the JSD way of allowing participants to lead the process. Through this approach, we realize that as a community, we have a wealth of network resources to manage and

improve collaborative action to effective response to SGBV. This allowed for ownership and strengthening of the institutional framework for responding to SGBV at the community level.

Also, as a result of consistent dialogues facilitated by the project, the frequency of the farmer-herder clashes reduced significantly to periodic occurrences. I noticed that the difference and probably the reason for this impact is due to five factors (1) how participants for the dialogue were selected, (2) the involvement of relevant stakeholders in simple things such as dialogue agenda, (3) consistency of the dialogue process, not one-off, (4) the patience of the Project team to take one step at a time in the dialogue process never in a rush to move to the next stage until everybody is on the same page, (5) how the dialogue did not just end in the hotel room but through constant follow-up from the JSD Team on the issue, “forced” us to take action. Although a very slow process, we see the fruits. One of which is the reopening of closed stock routes for cattle passage and redesign of the structure and approach of our community conflict resolution mechanisms.

Our community is also more cohesive than it used to be in the past. For example, regardless of tribe, religion, or social status human relationships within communities have improved as we now record more intermarriages across tribal and religious groups. Another example depicting cohesiveness is in the construction of a Joint meeting Hall in front of the District Head’s palace. The construction is the fruit of collaboration and contributions from community members who saw the need for consistent dialogue.



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IDP SECURITY – LESSONS

FROM GIREI LGA, ADAMAWA STATE

The JSD project came into Girei LGA in 2021 at a time when the IDPs wanted recognition and support from their host communities to participate in community life without discrimination. IDPs did not fully enjoy support and acceptance from some members of the host communities and this impacted our daily security. For example, we were unable to farm or move freely without fear of harassment or molestation from some host community members. We were also always afraid of security actors because of the discriminatory security provision that we experienced with some of them. Some of these security services do not give adequate attention or respond to our safety needs when we report security concerns. On the other hand, while the state government and other international development organizations provided us with services as they could, their support was insufficient compared to the number and needs of IDPs living in the camps and within host communities. As IDPs, we were not happy with this situation because we seemed to be living without dignity.

IDPs integration into Girei/Community Police Stakeholders forum: However, when JSD came, we started to see changes in the relationship between security actors, host community members, and other government agencies as JSD facilitated our engagement with them. These engagements that happened through training workshops and dialogues provided the basis for our acceptance and subsequent integration into

the community security stakeholders' forum by the Police DPO in Girei where we participate in monthly security and policing plan meetings.

IDP welfare improved: IDPs benefited from JSD training on policy advocacy. Following the training, the IDP exco members, were supported to advocate for their needs. For example, defining the messaging, the right target, and generally, mobilizing the IDP community for change. JSD provided us with the platforms to utilize these capacities. For example, in the past, the government's commitment to and recognition of IDPs welfare was inconsistent. JSD high level dialogues, afforded us the opportunity to meet various government representatives and supported us to strategically engage with them. In August of 2022, IDPs issues began to receive increased attention from the state government, especially direct support from the Office of the Adamawa State Governor. In Feb of 2023, we successfully accessed support from the North East Development Commission (NEDC), who supplied us with 17 trucks of essential commodities such as food, medicines, and shelter materials as well as mattresses and blankets to IDPs across the IDP camps in Adamawa State. We also now have shelter from the NEDC and UNHCR, we received 954 housing (500 from NEDC and 454 from UNHCR). In addition to these increased support for IDPs, we utilized our dialogue skills to advocate to some of the political representatives, one of whom



provided mattresses and blankets to IDPs across the IDP camps in Adamawa State.

In addition, due to consistent engagements between the IDPs, the host communities, and the Adamawa State Government through JSD dialogues, the state government responded to our demand by completing and allocating 455 housing units to IDP households in May 2023. This recognition of IDPs also translated to the liberty we now enjoy as exemplified by our active participation in the 2023 elections. Compare to past elections, IDPs were forced by some political elites to vote for specific political parties or candidates or suffer backlash or loss of basic relief supplies. 2023 election was different as IDPs were allowed to vote for their preferred political candidates and parties. The ability of JSD to respond to real time needs, I think is the edge, it has over other projects. For instance, the dialogue series on election security management and the engagement of sectoral stakeholders by the JSD project with the findings of the Election Security Threat Assessment (ESTA) revealed several electoral challenges faced by IDPs, making these critical actors, in particular, ADSEMA and INEC Adamawa State, to take action.

Reduction of sale and use of drugs in IDP camps. Overall, the JSD project has deepened IDPs' collaboration with host communities in Girei, making it possible for even host community members to support IDPs through joint advocacy to the local and state government. This improved collaboration between IDPs and host communities and with security actors enabled the development of multi-stakeholders' strategies to accomplish the reduction of sale and use of drugs in the Camp which helped to reduce gang violence (Shilla boys and girls' activities), and SGBV. This joint advocacy also helped us to negotiate and successfully share land and water resources between farmers and herders. If nothing, the project has improved our standard of living and more importantly, capacity to manage social problems and prevent social vices in our Camp.

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For this, we are grateful to the leadership of Madam Isioma and Emah whose commitment to the security of IDPs is second to none. We are also grateful to CEPAN who introduced us to JSD.

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**JOHN GADZAMA,
IDP SECRETARY, ADAMAWA STATE**





WANEP NIGERIA

BUILDING AND MAINTAINING PARTNERSHIPS WITH GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS: LEARNING FROM JSD – KEVIN ABONYI

With the implementation of the Justice and Security Dialogue (JSD) program in Nigeria, we discovered that the reality on ground is between the struggle for limited resources and the obligation for government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to deliver on its mandate. The struggle is not the issue. The issue is creating balance of demand and supply and managing expectations. This meant that **JSD cannot focus its efforts only on demand but also on supply side to manage stakeholders' expectations.** From this understanding, two things were realized; that it would be unrealistic to expect that an organisation, for example, the Police, to provide and meet all demand for the community they serve. That to meet community demand, both the community and the government or organisation must work together.

Of the nine principles of JSD, four stood out for me- **Partnership, Collaboration, Inclusion and Participation.** Below are key lessons I learnt from my involvement with JSD.

- Understanding stakeholders and the nature of their relationships.
- Alliance with goals, principles and values as important lubricant to sustain the relationship
- Complementarity (growth, visibility, credit etc)
- Mutual trust and respect, much more than funds, will nurture the relationship
- Ease of communication

Successful Collaboration entailed

- Improved capacity to engage more effectively with actors in the Justice and Security Sector
- Support to local partners to have a credible and respected voice that enables them to influence reforms and policy development in the justice and security sector. USIP provided all the support for WANEP to “shine” throughout its engagement with USIP. In fact, at some point, it was difficult for JSD stakeholders to differentiate between USIP and the local partner.





WANEP NIGERIA

The highlight of this for me was the CSO mapping conducted by USIP. The purpose was to map and understand civil society organisation interventions in justice, security, and conflicts in Adamawa State. Specifically, to map CSOs sharing same interest and space as JSD to avoid duplication but rather to complement. Following this study, a JSD CSO network was formed and in December 2022, it held its first retreat. The retreat was an opportunity for members of the network to share experience with JSD. Based on each CSO contribution and the lessons learned from field activities, participants discussed the future of JSD, set goals and created a degree of shared ownership in pursuit of overall JSD objectives. This unique strategy I would say laid the foundation for JSD success.

Inclusion: For JSD, inclusion meant that anybody and everybody can participate. From JSD, I understood that inclusion goes beyond representation to voice backed with action. Organic nature of JSD supported by the flexibility of the funders ensured that even minority groups concerns can be addressed.

Participation: For JSD, I observed that participation goes beyond taking part in any activity. Participation to JSD is DIY (Do it yourself). To get to a level of DIY, JSD conducts what it calls, AUDIENCE FIGURE COUNT (AFC). For example, if JSD were to facilitate a dialogue section that will cost \$100 with 20 participants, JSD through AFC and as a rule, will ensure that the value each of the 20 participants will bring to the table (capability to address issue) must be worth \$5 and above that each participant will cost JSD. This method helped in bringing to the table stakeholders with power, influence, material resources, skills, knowledge, interest, to deliberate on issues as prioritised by community stakeholders. This process also helps to ensure that the right people are on the table.

Kevin Abonyi

WANEP Nigeria



