

FACTSHEET

MANAGING CONFLICT IN NIGERIA

The Managing Conflict in Nigeria (MCN) Programme supports Nigerian-led conflict resolution at the state and community levels. Our work focuses on reducing violence, promoting stability and strengthening resilience so that Nigerians feel more safe and secure in their communities.

We work in north-eastern Nigeria in three focal states – Yobe, Borno and Adamawa – some of the country's most conflict-affected areas.

The five and a half-year programme (2017–22) is funded by the European Union and implemented by the British Council.

WHAT WE DO

Conflict management, reconciliation, safety and stability in communities

We work to build the capacity of government, security and community institutions to resolve disputes more effectively and maintain records of their decisions. Through the establishment of community peace and safety partnerships, both state and non-state actors work together to manage conflict, identify situations which might lead to violence, danger and vulnerability, and to take actions to prevent it.

We work to enhance reconciliation and stability within communities, particularly in areas most affected by displacement. We support civil society organisations and government actors to initiate dialogue and host community mediation activities. Public events are organised to announce and formalise reconciliation schemes and share lessons learned.

We support community accountability forums – comprising the community, police and informal policing groups – to maintain safety and give voice to the community in addressing security needs.

The role of women in peacebuilding

We promote the involvement of women in peacebuilding and support community-based women's associations to address the impact of violence against women and girls, helping the reintegration of those affected, through skills development and economic empowerment programmes.

Support for women and girls affected by violence

In situations of conflict, violence is often directed at women, girls and boys. We support activities that address the problem of sexual and gender-based violence. We work to establish family support units in police stations and sexual assault referral centres to offer survivors both medical and psychosocial support and enable the collection of forensic evidence to support the prosecution of offenders.

The reintegration of people involved in and displaced by conflict

Small grants support the development of skills and self-employment for individuals, particularly women and youths. We focus on those involved in informal policing and support youth-focused peace initiatives. We support voluntary policing groups to build their capacity and ensure their operations respect, promote and protect human rights. We support community participation in, and acceptance of, reintegration initiatives.

Research to support policymakers

We seek to influence key decision-makers and opinion-formers through targeted research and policy dialogue. We support local research initiatives to address information gaps for government, security agencies and civil society organisations in managing peace and security initiatives. We strengthen the capacity of existing peace and conflict centres to undertake research by fostering partnerships with international research organisations and networks.

Funded by the
European Union



Implemented by
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OUR APPROACH

Adopting conflict-sensitive approaches

We adopt conflict-sensitive approaches to peacebuilding and build on the lessons learned from programming on justice, conflict and security in Nigeria and the north-east, including the Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Programme (NSRP) and the Justice for All Programme (J4A) – both funded by the UK government and implemented by the British Council.

We collaborate with other humanitarian and development programmes to promote resettlement, recovery, community cohesion, and stabilisation.

Building partnerships

We work with government, security and civil society actors to build partnerships and improve policy and practice on conflict management and peacebuilding.

HOW WE WORK

We deliver our programme through:

- Technical assistance
- Capacity strengthening
- Financial assistance
- Knowledge management

PROGRAMME IN NUMBERS

By the end of January 2021, the programme has reached an estimated

3,185,993



beneficiaries

More than

8,700



government and security personnel have been trained in the same period

Over

77,000



individuals have been involved in conflict prevention and peace-building interventions.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- 1** Strengthened community-level conflict management mechanisms.
- 2** Functioning systems for enhanced reconciliation and community cohesion and resilience.
- 3** More women are involved in peacebuilding and violence against women and girls is recognised and addressed.
- 4** Enhanced reintegration of men and women (affected by and involved in insurgency and counter-insurgency operations) into communities.
- 5** Key decision-makers and opinion-formers are influenced through targeted research.
- 6** State and community-level conflict management capability is enhanced and preventing the escalation of conflict into violence in north-eastern Nigeria.

Updated - April 2021

Find out more

Managing Conflict in Nigeria (MCN)

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www.justice-security.ng