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STRENGTHENING PEACE AND PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM IN NORTHERN GHANA

• A REGION OF DIVERSITY AND RISING PRESSURE •

Northern Ghana is a place of rich cultures and respected traditional leadership. Yet everyday life is increasingly shaped by pressures on land, farmer–pastoralist tensions, chieftaincy disputes, and the challenges of limited services. In many border areas, these local strains intersect with cross-border crime and insecurity from the Sahel, creating moments of vulnerability that can undermine community cohesion.



EU
FUNDED
FOREIGN POLICY
INSTRUMENT



24
MONTHS



5
MILLION €



FIVE NORTHERN
REGIONS OF GHANA



PEACEBUILDING,
CONFLICT
PREVENTION & PVE

• LOCAL LEADERS ON THE FRONTLINE •

Traditional authorities, district assemblies, security services, women’s groups, and youth networks all play essential roles in preventing violence. But despite their commitment, they often operate in isolation. Information doesn’t always flow across institutions, early-warning signs are easily missed, and responses can arrive too late to stop tensions from escalating.

• WHAT PEACEPROTECT PROJECT SET OUT TO DO •

PEACEPROTECT was created to strengthen these local systems for peace. The project brought state and community actors around the same table, rebuilt trust, and supported them to detect risks earlier and act together when tensions emerge. By investing in relationships, practical skills, and more coordinated local structures, the project helped communities in northern Ghana respond to insecurity with confidence and resilience.

50 000+ PEOPLE REACHED WHERE THEY ARE

Not everyone can attend community meetings but almost everyone listens to the radio. Through radio programming, community sensitisation campaigns, and joint outreach by RPCs, CSOs and the police, messages on dialogue, social cohesion, and the prevention of violent extremism were widely disseminated. This helped counter misinformation, reduce fear, and strengthen community resilience.



Mobile audio-visual discussion on GESI by a sub-grantee CSO (Kpododo Consult)



We are grateful to the EU and Coginta for introducing the Local Peace Committees initiative. This has strengthened the Peace Council's presence and significantly enhanced its capacity for early warning and early response in managing conflicts across hotspots in northern Ghana.

A RPC participant to ADR training

I have worked with CLSs for some time, but I have never had such a clear understanding of my role and responsibilities until now. With this training, I believe we are finally ready to get to work.

Member, CLS Committee

I have been the Director of ProNet for more than three decades and have collaborated with many donors on various projects, but this is the first time I have seen a donor take such a keen interest in strengthening the implementing partner's capacity before field work begins. Indeed, your approach is unique.

Dr. Dery, Director, ProNet North, at the GESI training workshop in Tamale

I underrated the challenges land poses to our collective peace. The training has changed my entire life experience and appreciation of land-related conflicts.

Hajia Maida, a member of the Northern Regional Peace Council.

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