

STRENGTHENING YOUTH RESILIENCE TO PREVENT ELECTORAL VIOLENCE IN NIGERIAN GENERAL ELECTIONS IN 2023



3 DAYS

OF RESIDENTIAL AND PARTICIPATORY TRAINING

in unarmed civilian protection (UCP) approach to prevent violence and promote stability throughout the 2023 election process. The training introduced UCP strategy and activities, with a specific focus on the methods of Early Warning Early Response, Rumor Control as well as Protective Presence and Accompaniment.

42 YOUNG PEACE CHAMPIONS TRAINED

FROM EACH STATE OF NIGERIA

42 men and women, aged between 18 and 32 years old

1 TOWNHALL MEETING

HELD WITH LOCAL AND NATIONAL MONITORING ORGANIZATIONS

with the trained participants, to discuss solutions and coordinate local responses.

This project consisted of a three-days residential and participatory training, held in Abuja, Nigeria for 42 Young Leaders to prevent violence eruptions in the upcoming Nigerian presidential elections in February 2023. Participants, aged between 18 and 32 (equal participation of men and women) were selected by CEPASD's local organization. The training was led by an experienced UCP trainer, Parfaite Ntahuba from Burundi and assisted by local mentors from CEPASD, who has been trained in UCP by NP via online training. The training offered an accelerated training in Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP) with a focus on the use of UCP in violence prevention in the context of elections. In particular, participants were exposed to and trained to the activities of Early Warning Early Response, Rumor Control, Protective Presence and Accompaniment.

Different methodologies were combined, including expository, role play exercises, small groups, questions, and brainstorming.



“My name is Y. Thank you for training us about the non-partisanship principle. Actually, here in Nigeria civilians usually collect money from different politicians to vote for them. And the big issue is that most Nigerians particularly young people will never reject money. I have now understood that collecting money can prevent me from being nonpartisan and independent. It is also cheating. And cheating is violence”

The training ended with the organization of a **townhall meeting**, inviting representative from local organization and election monitoring systems. Together with the participants, they discussed the following topics: enhancing Electoral Process through violent-free elections, the role of the civil society for Electoral Violence Prevention, and the role of Youth in this process.

At the issue of the training, participants have committed to:

collect data to monitor incident and promote peace initiatives, transfer the UCP knowledge in their homestate, initiate online awareness on electoral violence prevention, and to be present at the polling stations on the day of elections as observers.

Youth engagement on social media during and following the training:

CEPASD @CEPASDAfrica · Jan 19
Information Disorder can contribute to Electoral Violence! Stop Sharing! Fact check before sharing. This was the highlight of today's training session
@CFSCQuakers @EUinNigeria @GPPAC @HamzyCODE @Peaceforce @SaharaReporters @USinNigeria @USAID @USIP @NTANewsNow @AU_YouthEnvoy

Justin Chiazom @Justinodinkalu1 · Jan 19
Misinformation can actually contribute to electoral violence. Let's checkmate out information before taking it to the world.
@CEPASDAfrica @cleenfoundation @ChigozirimOdink @Vivobinwa @inecnigeria

CEPASD Retweeted
Amb Maryam Ibrahim Sani @ibrahimmaryams3 · Jan 23
*YOUTH VOICES AGAINST ELECTORAL VIOLENCE.
There is need to set measures and actions to prevent and mitigate Electoral Violence before, during and after-elections therefore, election security must be prioritized

CEPASD @CEPASDAfrica · Jan 20
Congratulations and thank you for your active participation in the three days training on Strengthening Youth Resilience To Prevent Electoral Violence
@CFSCQuakers @Peaceforce @nonviolence21 @ChigozirimOdink @EUinNigeria @EUinNigeria @Gadpeter @GPPAC #YouthEndElectoralViolence

Justin Chiazom @Justinodinkalu1 · Jan 20
I want to thank @CEPASDAfrica for the opportunity to be part of this training I really enjoy it. Pls the message Nigeria pls its possible to have election without violence. Pls say No to electoral violence.
@inecnigeria @yagaafrika @cleenfoundation @ChigozirimOdink @Vivobinwa

GLEEN Foundation and 2 others