

Centre For Community Development And Research Network (CCDRN)

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# NEWSLETTER

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Providing leeway for affected communities to lift themselves out of poverty is at the heart of what we do **CCDRN Distributes WFP Livelihood Starter Kits to Targeted Beneficiaries across Yobe and Adamawa states** 



Beneficiary receiving NFI During Ceremonial Flag off in Bade, Yobe. Photo: CCDRN/Jason Johnson

The Centre for Community Development and Research Network (CCDRN) has officially flagged off the distribution of Livelihood startup kits to targeted vulnerable individuals it trained and empowered with skills in various incomegenerating activities with support from the United Nations World Food Programme as part of its 2020 livelihood initiative across Michika and Madagali Local government Areas of Adamawa state as well as Bade, Gujba and Gulani Local Government Areas of Yobe state, Northeast Nigeria.

Since January of 2020, the Centre for Community Development and

Research Network has been implementing the World Food Programme's Livelihood intervention in targeted communities across Yobe and Adamawa, reaching vulnerable individuals through lifesaving and life-changing initiatives that have shown potential for improved resilience building and recovery.

Targeted conflict-affected individual whose capacity has been built with skills in various Income generating activities (IGAs), such as food processing, tailoring, barbing saloon, shoemaking, carpentry, knitting and weaving, cap making, soap making, Groundnut oil processing, welding, Ice and soft drink making, grinding mill

and other micro-enterprises received the startup kits to enable them startup and launch their various micro-enterprises to reestablish and regain lost sources of livelihood, support their family and meet their immediate food needs.

Meanwhile, before now, some other targeted beneficiaries have been empowered with various startup kits under this intervention ranging from seeds and fertilizers for rain-fed farmers, small ruminants for livestock farmers, pullets and feeds for poultry farmers among others.

# **Creative Associates International, CCDRN partners to Empower Women For Peace Platform to Lead Dialogue and Positive Change in Borno Communities**

The Centre for Community Development and Research Network (CCDRN) has provided training and mentorship support to the Women For Peace Platform (WFPP) on leadership, advocacy, peace building and communication under an initiative aimed at empowering women to identify and address social challenges in their communities The project which is being funded by Creative Associates International via the Nigerian Lake Chad Basin Program (NLCB) across four LGAs in Borno state, Northeast Nigeria, also seeks to put women on the driver's seat of leading dialogue and positive change in their communities through advocacy and engagement with stakeholders. CCDRN had a robust engagement with the women drawn across Maiduguri Metropolitan council, Monguno, Mobbar

across Maiduguri Metropolitan council, Monguno, Mobbar and Gubio to equip them with requisite skills and knowledge on Leadership, Advocacy, and Resource Mobilization to enhance their activity in their locality.

#### The Future is Female

Women are underrepresented in formal conflict resolution process even though they play a pivotal role in contributing

to the informal processes of peace building. When women are not included, society suffers. According to International Crises Group (2006), women make a difference, in part because they adopt a more inclusive approach toward security and address key social and economic issues that would otherwise be ignored.



WFPP training session in Maiduguri, Borno state. Photo: CCDRN/Sultan

Clearly, in North East Nigeria, women need support and mentoring to survive the cruelty of conflict, push for peace and create a better society for themselves as over time they have become the victims of war and biggest stakeholders of peace.

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This is already making a positive impact in their lives and holding prospects for improved livelihood.

It is on record that notwithstanding the improvement of the humanitarian situation in recent years across this state and another part of the northeast as compared to 2016 and 2017, a substantial portion of the conflict-affected populations is still displaced, vulnerable, living in poverty and hunger

CCDRN, a leading indigenous Non-Governmental Organization through a massive support from the World Food Programme has been working with affected communities and other stakeholders in Michika and Madagali LGAs of Adamawa state and three LGAs in Yobe state to provide lifesaving and resilience building assistance to conflict-affected people with a focus to recover means of Livelihood and communities' long-term food security and



Various Livelihood Starter kits in full display prior to distribution. Photo: CCDRN/Jason/James

Nutrition pliability through individual and communal assets building and restoration as well as capacity strengthening.

The WFP livelihood intervention CCDRN is implementing in Yobe and Adamawa has a holistic approach encompassing many components of Agriculture, health, infrastructure, education, vocational skills training and empowerment, environment/ hygiene, capacity building, and entrepreneurship. The projects work in sync with local authorities, community stakeholders and beneficiaries and facilitate linkages to key social services and schemes for the project beneficiaries and host communities. Typically, most human and material resources needed for the projects are sourced locally with the exception of the once that are not readily available. Each project aims to ultimately enable the beneficiaries to become self-reliant and food secure, thus contributing towards the general wellbeing of the host communities

CCDRN embarks on focused interventions in agriculture to maintain and enhance individual and household access to adequate food and nutrition, increase agriculture production, income and employment via irrigation and rain-fed farming, horticulture, and livestock management. These interventions have been designed to improve efficiency in production systems, lower input costs, increase per capita output, and improve food and dietary security at household level

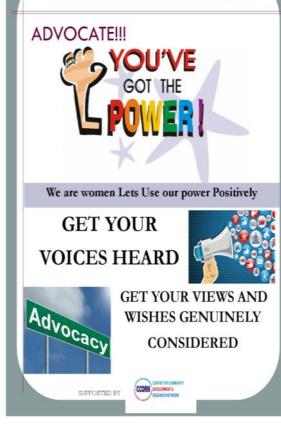
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Women have also been marginalized and excluded from leadership, decision making, peace building and advocacy which have increased their vulnerability., and this has being a concern eapecially in the lake chad axes and CCDRN with support from NLCB and are currently working on enlightening women and setting them up to take lead and participate in the affairs of their community, hence the need of the initiative necessitating the training.

Drawing evidence from key operations and engagement with women across Early Warning and Peace Building projects we have implemented across the Northeast, it is clear that involving women in peace processes and including their concerns will no doubt contribute towards addressing violent conflict in volatile northern Nigeria. <image><text><text><text><text><text><text><text>

"When women participate in peace making, we are all safer and secured"

#### WOMEN FOR PEACE PLATFORM



According to the International Crises Group (2006), when properly supported, women's peace movements can affect large sectors of the population and be a powerful force for reducing violence and building democratic and participatory public institutions, particularly in the post-conflict period. Haven identified this gap; CCDRN is supporting the Women For Peace Platform with capacity development on leadership and advocacy so as to bring about positive change in peace building processes thus boosting their confidence to work towards disrupting the influence and recruitment drive of Non State Armed Groups across their communities.

> We break the vicious circle of violence by erecting infrastructures of peace in at risk communities



#### Farm inputs Raises hopes for Bumper Harvest in Adamawa Communities

For most of the last 10 years, the deteriorating security situation in Michika and Madagali Local Government Areas of Adamawa state, Northeast Nigeria, has taken a devastating toll on most households. Inability to access farmlands for fear of attacks forces farmers to resort to farming close to their homes with some compelled to farm on arid grounds. These, including food shortage and lack of means of livelihoods, have left affected households even more vulnerable.

Through support from the World Food Programme, close to 1,134 farmers across Michika and Madagali in Adamawa, received support this season to grow Maize, beans, rice, groundnut, including fertilize and training on rain-fed farming

Some of these farmers, mostly women are optimistic for bumper harvests this farming season, due to the support they received from the United Nations World Food Programme, attributing it to the training and farm inputs such as seeds and fertilizers they received from CCDRN under the WFP 2020 livelihood project.

33-year old Hauwa John is one of the women who benefited from the rain-fed farming training, seeds, and fertilizers provided by CCDRN as part of the project and she is confident about plenteous harvest in view of this support.

"I am one of the luck beneficiaries of the world food programme under the farming



Hauwa John working on her Maize farm in Michika, Photo: CCDRN/James

category. In the beginning, we were trained in contemporary farming practices. It was such a great experience as it increased my knowledge on farming generally and I learned a lot from this training" Hauwa said, adding that "I also got farm inputs such as maize, groundnut and beans which I have planted as you can see and the farm is looking good and promising"

An excited Hauwa stated further that she cultivated beans, groundnut, and Maize at her farms in Sangere Community, adding that the crops were yielding well.

"Last year I don't have what you are seeing currently on this farm. I got about 10 bags of maize last year from this farm but from what I currently see, I expect to harvest up to 18 to 20 bags of maize because before now, I had no access to fertilizer but this time it is different because I was pro-

vided both seeds and fertilizer through this intervention"

Recalling how she has had to cope with farming without any support in the past, Hauwa said, "I have never received this kind of intervention from anywhere before. This is really great because in the end, if I harvest and sell out of this maize, I am sure of meeting some of my needs and help my family. With what I have on this farm as it is now, I am sure of having enough to sell and keep for my family use.

Hauwa, who is still single, said she worked on the farm together with her sisters. She takes care of her aged mother and siblings. One of the exhilarating things about the farm this season she says is that virtually all the crops are growing well and holds promise for a good harvest.

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#### **CCDRN** provides Handholding Support to IGA Beneficiaries, Conducts Cost Benefit Analysis Across Communities in Bade LGA

For the month of August, CCDRN continued with its "Cost Benefit Analysis" on beneficiaries, in a bid to provide continues support to targeted beneficiaries and ensure that they are guided towards success

This activity is to solely help Income Generating Activities (IGA) beneficiaries monitor their income, know their expenses and be able to draw a profit margin.

This month of August, 'Cost Benefit Analysis' and Monitoring were facilitated in Azamkura, Dagona, Garin Lamido of Bade LGA, Yobe State. Beneficiaries on Tailoring, Individual poultry and Barbing Saloon IGA were visited and monitored on for the process.

These beneficiaries were initially given Non-Food Items (NFI's) to help them commence/regain their means of livelihood and also build resilience. The 'Cost Benefit Analysis' is a continuous process, and WFP/CCDRN is keen in seeing the productive income value for beneficiaries.



Hauwa works with her sisters on their groundnut farm in Michika. Photo: CCDRN/James

Hauwa, who is still single, said she worked on the farm together with her sisters. She takes care of her aged mother and siblings. One of the exhilarating things about the farm this season she says is that virtually all the crops are growing well and holds promise for good harvest.

"I will sell a part of the produce to buy other food items to feed my mother and take care of my siblings. I am happy that I am doing well. Farming for me has never been so good and I thank the world food programme and CCDRN for this" she said. Another farmer, Rejoice Danladi, who was also empowered through the intervention, said she cannot quantify the quantity of groundnuts she hopes to harvest from her farm. She hopes to also sell a part of her produce to take care of herself and help her family.

"This intervention has really changed how I was practicing my farming. Last year, I cultivated this land but it was not as good as this. Now I am really happy about this specie of seeds you gave me. It holds a lot of prospects for me. From what I am seeing I will have a bountiful harvest and hope to sell a part of it to buy other things I will need to support my family

The fertilizer I got as part of this intervention helped a great deal. See how great my farm looks. I am really grateful to you (CCDRN) and WFP

The project which is expected to end in September of 2020 is helping farmers to access inputs including training on farming best practices. These agricultural inputs range from improved seeds, fertilizers and knowledge. Seeds are critical to successful crop production and inevitably, farm productivity and profitability. The intervention is aimed at strengthening food security, increase resilience and improve livelihoods of conflict affected farmers

> This intervention has really changed how I was practicing my farming. Last year, I cultivated this land but it was not as good as this. Now I am really happy about this specie of seeds you gave me. And the fertilizer . It holds a lot of prospects for me. From what I am seeing I will have a bountiful harvest

# WFP Beneficiaries Receive Carpentry tool kits in Gujba and Gulani, Yobe state



CCDRN staffer presenting carpentry toolkit to Beneficiaries across communities in Gujba and Gulani. Photo: CCDRN

As part of effort to provide income opportunities for vulnerable persons struggling to cope with the aftermath effect of Conflict in the Nigerian Northeast, CCDRN has commenced the distribution of carpentry tool kits to targeted beneficiaries under a robust Income Generating Activities (IGA) initiative in Gujba and Gulani Local Government Areas of Yobe state.

CCDRN's IGA Team distributed NFIs to beneficiaries who were initially trained and provided with modern knowledge and practice of carpentry, business management and entrepreneurship.

The distribution took place at Gujba fertilizer plant and was graced by some dignitaries who came to witness the ceremony including District heads who presented some of the NFI to the eligible beneficiary.

Fifty beneficiaries benefitted from this intervention, five beneficiaries from Gujba, one in Katarko, nine in Ngeljuli, fifteen in Wagir, ten in Bara, and another ten in Gulani.

Items distributed to beneficiaries include; Measuring tape, Chisel Set, Hand saw, Claw Hammer, Pinches, Smooth Sand paper, carpenter Square, Rough sand paper, spoke Shave, Top Bond Gum, Jack plane, Circular saw, Hand press, Spirit level, Clamp, 5 Inch Nail, Quick Clamp, 3 Inch Nail, 2 Inch Nail, Half Inch Nails, Set of saw.

Beneficiaries were delighted with the items given to them and express gratitude adding that they will use the NFIs to commence their trade immediately.

"I'm a carpenter. Prior joining World Food Programme (WFP) Income Generating Activities (IGA), Life was so critical for me, I didn't have all it takes both mentally and physically to be in the carpentry business, I had few tools, and in most cases I had to borrow tools from my neighbor, which I wasn't comfortable with, and this made me deliver services inappropriately, and I started losing customers, my income started depreciating and it affected my family. But now with this tools I have received, I believe things will turnaround for me" says 47-year old father of six, Aisa Kolo,

'I was over whelmed the day I was pick as an IGA beneficiary under Carpentry. My heart was full of joy, I was trained and also empowered, I was given all the tools I need to excel in my carpentry business which include, Tape, pinches, hammer, Gum, Clawn, Sam-paper, Smooth engine etc. Apparently, from now on I believe I will be able to raise income to feed my family. I honestly thank WFP and CCDRN''.he adds

"I felt I have failed, I couldn't afford the basic needs of life for my household. All thanks to WFP and CCDRN I have being revived and empowered, I now believe I can make it in the carpentry business, I'm more grateful for the innovative skills I have being taught in the carpentry business. I believe I will be able to carry out my duties as a man and father now." says Mallam Kanemi, 45, from Katarko in Gujba Local Government area

CCDRN's team carried out the distribution in strict compliance with COVID preventive and precautionary measures, embedding sensitization and other protocol to curb the spread of the virus before and after the distribution.

> WFP and CCDRN Partnership is creating opportunities for vulnerable persons to learn the skills necessary to lift them out of poverty and strengthening their resilience towards livelihoods

#### **Rain Fed Farming: CCDRN Embarks on Process Monitoring to**

#### **Track Beneficiaries Progress**

The Centre for Community Develop- sorghum farming covering relement and research Network (CCDRN) vant major monitoring indicais providing supportive supervision In tors such as farm size and locaa bid to track the progress of WFP tion, fertilizer application, farm rain fed farming beneficiaries and management, seed and crop source information about the current spacing, farm record etc. status of their farming activities', successes, challenges and possible reme- Preliminary findings indicate dial actions across project communi- that the farmers portray inties in Bade, Yobe state.

CCDRN with its intensity for success tion, weeding, pest control, also established measures for tracking farm record and plant spacing, success of beneficiaries which include raising prospects of high yield inspection of beneficiaries in farming and bumper harvests activities such as rice, groundnut and

creased resilience, proper farm management, fertilizer applica-



CCDRN Team with a beneficiary during monitoring visit in Bade

#### **General Food Distribution: Targeted Beneficiaries Receives Double Ration to Cover** August and September

Beneficiaries of the United Nations World Food Programme across targeted communities in Yobe and Adamawa states have received double food ration of in-kind food assistance to cover them for August and September in order to address food insecurity among the vulnerable people affected

by decade long conflict through the General Food Distribution

Provision of in-kind food assistance remains a vital component of WFP's intervention in the northeast of Nigeria, especially in areas where people are cut off from their normal sources of food and can-



Food rations arranged prior to distribution in Bade

not access enough to meet their needs. The main objective of this intervention is to abate the high level of food dearth and improve food security among targeted vulnerable persons

In Yobe, CCDRN CCDRN facilitated the General Food Distribution across 3 LGAs, Gulani, Gujba, and Bade. While in Adamawa, food was distributed in Madagali LGA only. Beneficiaries received 2 months rations at once in compliance with WFP laid down COVID protocol. The distributions were conducted in strict adherence to Standards of Operation (SOP) issued by WFP to prevent the spread of COVID 19. CCDRN prioritized regular hand washing, social distancing, and the wearing face mask among other practices during the distribution process. Similarly, adequate sensitization was conducted during predistribution meetings across all locations. The WFP's food assistance reaching targeted vulnerable families via CCDRN includes basic staples like Cereals, pulses, oil, and salt to prevent malnutrition and meet basic food needs.

# PHOTO NEWS: WFPP Training Session Across Four LGAs in Borno state







# **PHOTO NEWS: NFIs Distribution Flag off across Yobe and Adamawa**









WFP/CCDRN Joint advocacy visits to stakeholders in the FCT ahead of distribution of COVID palliatives to targeted communities



CCDRN team handover elderly shelter keys to beneficiaries in Madagali





Community leaders and stakeholders join CCDRN to unveil and commission livelihood infrastructures across communities in Michika and Madagali



Beneficiaries being verified during general food distribution in Madagali



CCDRN field officer taking beneficiary complain during CBT monitoring in Gujba



CCDRN team member checking beneficiaries temperature during food distribution in Madagali



Food ration stacked and arranged during distribution in Bade



Beneficiaries take a pose by their food ration in Bade



Cash out activity under WFP livelihood project in Bade



Joint spot check with WFP under the COVID scale up intervention in Bade



Beneficiaries receive the monthly nutrition packages in Yobe



CCDRN Hosts CBT stakeholders meeting in its Damaturu office



CCDRN Team ensuring compliance with COVID standard operational procedure



CCDRN Research Team move to the field across Kano, Kaduna, Sokoto and Zamfara as study on sustainable model for reintegration of Almajiri children kicks off in earnest

#### Fanfare, Dancing as CCDRN Commissions and Hands over WFP Supported Social Infrastructure Projects to communities across Michika and Madagali



Official unveiling and commissioning of WFP infrastructure projects across Michika and Madagali followed by celebrations

Community members in their numbers gathered to witness dance and cheer as CCDRN officially unveils and hand over key social infrastructure development projects carried out under the United Nations World Food Programme's 2020 Food For Assets-(Livelihood) intervention across targeted communities in Michika and Madagali Local Government Areas of Adamawa state.

Michika and Madagali LGAs are two of the hardest-hit communities by the decade long insurgency which led to massive displacement and destruction of valuable community assets.

The handing over of the key infrastructures was a sequel to an official unveiling attended by key community stakeholders during a ceremony organized to flag off the distribution of livelihood starter kits to targeted beneficiaries under the Income Generation component of the project.

Speaking during the unveiling ceremony, Chairman of Michika Local Government area appreciated WFP for funding the initiative and expressed thanks to CCDRN for effective implementation of the project which according to him will have a long term positive impact on the people

"a lot of projects has been completed across our communities. Thank you for this very initiative. Without the support we have been receiving from organizations like you, honestly, life will not be as it is today. With this now we are starting life all over again and we thank you" he said

Also, Mr, John Kwadzain who represented the Local government chairman of Madagali LGA, lauded the project, describing it as very impactful and life-transforming. He commended WFP and CCDRN for considering the people of Madagali who according to him have suffered massively due to the insurgency. He noted that the infrastructures and other initiative brought under the project is gradually bringing life back to normal "In fact, when the insurgency ravaged Michika and Madagali, we had a series of challenges across education, economic and in fact, the livelihood of our people was destroyed "But since this project by CCDRN and WFP commenced, life is gradually coming back to normal. In the sense that, in the market, a shed is being provided, in terms of education, the schools, primary schools are being renovated. In the health sector, primary health care centers are being renovated and constructed including toilets and elderly shelter. It did not stop there; palliatives are also being given to ensure that life comes back to normal" he said.

He appealed to the beneficiaries to make judicious use of the opportunity provided through the intervention.

"I lack words to quantify what WFP and CCDRN has done for our people" Kwadzain adds

Community stakeholders who also gathered to witness the handing over of key social infrastructure projects in separate ceremonies across communities registered their appreciations "We are grateful to God for making us part of this intervention, WFP&CCDRN brought this life saving opportunity to our community, we have never experienced such a blessing. We are pleading to CCDRN's engagement officers to deliver our gratitude directly to WFP and CCDRN" say Justina philimon, a women leader in Sukur, Madagali.

"We are also grateful to CCDRN for their effort in sensitizing us on the Corona Virus Pandemic and other diseases and Personal Hygiene related issues, our awareness has been boosted and we are now more cautious of our physical environment.

"CCDRN's intervention is making life easy for us, they built a hospital in our community, prior CCDRN, we had to look for health centers to take care of minor health issues, we now have access to drug and we are sincerely grateful, myself and my community members now look healthy, all thanks to WFP&CCDRN, as mothers we know the pain of children having health issues with no problem hospital to access/treat them, before now, we only depended on herbs to cure some health issues of our child, but with this intervention, our children now consume drugs too and good food," she said

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# SAM Cases Continues to Rise despite Intervention



A child with SAM case in Bade

The management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) is critical for child survival and is a key component of the scaling up nutrition framework for addressing undernutrition

Under the United Nations World Food Programme's Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) CCDRN as a cooperating partner, identify and screen for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in targeted communities in Yobe and Adamawa The BSFP is the standard intervention aimed at preventing acute malnutrition in young children and women during an emergency situation where a high prevalence of Acute Malnutrition and high food insecurity exists.

Despite measures put in place to address malnutrition through the provision of nutrition-sensitive packages, SAM cases still abound and are being recorded on a monthly basis. In August 2020, prior to BSFP distribution, CCDRN identified and recorded 15 SAM cases referred to the stabilization center for therapeutic and intensive medical attention.

Four (4) out of the fifteen (15) were SAM Cases with medical complication and were referred to Stabilization center (SC) Nguru, while the remaining 11 were referred to OTP center for intensive care at PHCC Garin Lamido and PHCC Lawan Musa, this was carried out with an intensive Follow up by CCDRN's Team. Three (3) SAM Cases were discharged and left with one (1) at the FMC Nguru stabilization center. For Gujba one (1) SAM Case was found and referred to OTP center Gujba for intensive care, and for Gulani there was no SAM case found during BSFP distribution.

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Abdullahi Koji, a health worker at the Sukur Settlement in Madagali, where CCDRN completed and renovated a primary health care Centre extended his gratitude over the projects carried out in the communities

Prior to their intervention our health center was very bad. Now you have improved our infrastructures, such as school, hospital, market place and so on and things are taking great shape" he said

Binta Dauda, another community member who spoke during the handing over ceremony noted that WFP and CCDRN projects is the best they have witnessed in their community

"As an individual, I'm grateful to WFP and CCDRN, for all the innovation they have brought to my home personal and also to my society at large, this innovation is apparently the best we have been blessed with in the most recent times, I know both our stakeholders and government are also grateful to them, our school are better and more conducive than it used to be, every child is hoping to resume school soon, so they can all acquire knowledge in these conducive classrooms" she said.

The unveiling ceremony witnessed massive turnout on part of community members who poured praises and good will. The event ended with dancing, glitz and flourish as community members dance to the pacifying rhythm from local drummers who graced the occasion.



Elderly shelter beneficiary waves in appreciation

# In-Kind Food Assistance Providing Relief for Conflict Affected Families in Madagali: Hauwa's Story

62-year-old Hauwa Toma is a World Food Programme beneficiary from vodrokot community in Madagali, one of the worsthit areas by the over 10 year's conflict which ravaged most part of Adamawa, Northeast Nigeria. With the ferocity of attack in her area, Hauwa and her family of five were forced to abandon their homes and, like many displaced people from her village lying adjacent to Nigerian border with Cameroun, she moved to the neighboring town of Madagali in search of a roof over her head and food to feed her family.

"6 years ago, I was displaced from my home. The attackers came at night and drove us out and left us with nothing. All our livestock were killed, our crops destroyed, they burnt down our houses and chased us away. We first fled to the mountains to find shelter but they came there and fired at us. We couldn't sleep for several nights until we relocated to this town" says Hauwa who recalled her nightmarish experience.

Notwithstanding the dismal condition in which they found themselves, Hauwa and her family had the will to survive. She said that on arriving in Madagali town, it was initially very difficult for her family to find any kind of assistance and was not being able to purchase food from local markets in order to feed her family. She resorted to daily menial labor, breaking firewood in exchange for money and helping other host community members in their farms to raise income to feed her family. Their situation was precarious

Narrating her ordeal further she said, "We came to this community with nothing, we were told to pay money for rent, and we couldn't pay at that time, my children that were previously in school, had to drop out of school. My children left school due to the insurgency and started chopping wood to sell, and I also started working in peoples farm, this was how we were able to feed, there were some nights we went to sleep on an empty stomach until this food assistance brought a prevailing light into our life." Auspiciously, for Hauwa and her family, when WFP brought its food assistance for conflict-affected households she got enrolled. Under WFP's beneficiary targeting criteria, Hauwa and her fami-





ly qualified for food assistance considering their status as displaced and extremely vulnerable persons. Her family now receives monthly food entitlements under the WFP in-kind Food Distribution consisting of cereals, pulses, fortified vegetable oil, and salt.

The family has since been depending on the food assistance. Hauwa says she is now able to use income she gets from her menial labor to meet other family needs as well as accommodation. "It is this food intervention that you are giving that has been sustaining me and my family," says Hauwa. 'Now I am happy,I just received ration for this month, we will process this food and eat with my children. I will cook this and eat with my family and have enough strength to work on my farm" she adds" "After meeting with the intervention, we didn't have to worry about how to get money to purchase food items no more; both I and my children are now having enough to eat. We no longer sleep on an empty stomach, we are grateful to WFP, if not for this food I am receiving, I might dead by now. I thank World food for providing me and my children this food. Now we are no longer hungry, I now have enough food to eat" Hauwa continued This is not unique to Hauwa and her family alone, thousands of other displaced families are also benefiting from the WFP in-kind food distribution on a monthly basis.

Expressing his gratitude for the lifesaving intervention, 45-year old John Patrick, another displaced person benefiting from the intervention has this to say; "The monthly GFD given to us by WFP through CCDRN has been a blessing to us and it's also life-saving. We are more grateful to them for taking out of their tedious time to get us qualitative food, none of the food items given to us are bad, we could consume them for some months without complaining of any health issues, rather the food items has made us healthier".

Centre for Community Development and Research Network is the main Cooperating partner working with the World Food Programme to reach out to 2,131 households through life-saving food assistance in Madagali, on a monthly basis to boost nutrition and build the resilience of conflict-affected population

# **Research:** CCDRN Partners Governments, Non-state Actors in Kano, Katsina, Kaduna and Sokoto to explore Sustainable Model for Almajirai Integration

In a bid to review the existing policy climate around Quranic education, Almajirai, and interventions targeting the Almajiri system in northern Nigeria, the Centre for Community Development and Research Network (CCDRN) is working with governments and Non-state actors in Katsina, Sokoto, Kaduna and Kano States to explore sustainable model for Amajirai integration via a robust study aimed at generating evidence-based information that will be useful in formulating better policies and remodeling approaches that can empower them educationally and economically.

CCDRN, a leading Non-Governmental organization with vast structure and presence across Kaduna, Kano, Sokoto, Zamfara States and the North-East, is deploying its resources and infrastructures with support from the government to examine the existing policy climate around Quranic education, Almajirai, and interventions targeting the Almajiri system, vis-à-vis examining successes and challenges of the existing and previous Almajiri integration models of providing quality and relevant education that is accessible and sustainable in the selected states.

The study which has since kicked off across the four states will provide course of action for a sustainable model for Almajiri reintegration that will guarantee access to education (basic, Quranic and vocational) that is affordable, pragmatic and acceptable by all stakeholders.

More than ever before, there has been a persistent desire by the governments and people of northern Nigeria to address the worrisome state of Almajiri children in the region. The most recent attempt is signified by the repatriation of the Almajiri staged by many state governments as part

"This effort has placed CCDRN on the National spotlight with recognition as important partner in the Almajiri Reform Initiatives" -Abba Adamu Isiyaku



Focus Group Discussion with some of the repatriated Almajirai in Gwarabjawa village, Danbatta LGA Kano state

of measures to curb transmission of COVID -19 in their states.

Through incoherent and conflicting approaches, many state governments have started taking measures to address the menace of Almajiri. While governments of Kano and Kaduna states have enacted laws that banned the Almajiri child begging in their states; other states like Zamfara have declared that they will welcome all the repatriated Almajiri from other states to the state. Borno state is committed to profile the database of the Almajirai living in the state instead of repatriating them as guided by the principles of caution and human face. However, one thing that is common to all states is their realization of the dangers of the current Almajiri practice and their resolve to remodel the system.

Against this backdrop, this study is being conducted to develop a better approach for provision of education and economic empowerment for Almajiri that is amenable to all stakeholders to be piloted by the CCDRN to provide current and reliable information that will guide stakeholders towards designing future interventions on remodeling of Almajiri system across board.

The organization is tapping into its exist-

ing experience and structures through which it implemented several related research works and projects in northern Nigeria on Counter Violent Extremism (CVE), education, Early Warning, Peace building, livelihood and economic empowerments to carry out this research activity.

CCDRN is adopting a mixed method research design deems most suitable as approach for the study, purposively selecting the four states Kaduna, Kano, Katsina and Sokoto in the north west for this study, adopting both exploratory and descriptive design to investigate the sustainable model for the reintegration of Almajiri system in Kano, Kaduna, Katsina and Sokoto States, Nigeria.

State and Non-State actors, are being considered as the sample population with a view to understanding the existing and past Almajiri integration models of providing quality and relevant education that is accessible and sustainable in the selected States, factoring the Almajiri children, their teachers, parents/guardians, community leaders, relevant government institutions, civil society actors, academic specialists, international development aid workers, among others.

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#### Cont'd from page 17......The Big Picture: What Nigerians Should Expect From This Project

The likely fall out of the repatriation of Almajiri could be intra state movement of Almajiris and human trafficking of the Almajiris for menial jobs in the cities. Both could be worse than the present Almajiri system where the Almajiris are somehow controlled by the mallams and guided by the religious injections.

The research will provide evidence-based recommendations that will clearly spell out the principles of the proposed model for the provision of quality education to Almajiri. Depending on the findings of the research, the principles could be presented under the following subheadings; Education, Livelihood, Law enforcement, among others.

For each of this component, CCDRN will via the study present evidence from the research findings that reveal the necessity to critically address the Almajiri issue from that perspective. This will be supported with case studies and/or testimonies that stress the need to look at that component and followed by the recommended principles/conductions (related to that component) that must be in place to have an accessible and sustainable model that is acceptable by all. These can be in form of do's and don'ts, making reference to the failure of the previous models as a result of the absence of any of the principles/conditions.

Following successful validation of research methodology with key stakeholders, field activities has since commenced for data collection.

"This effort has placed CCDRN on the National spotlight with recognition as important partner in the Almajiri Reform Initiatives. The organization will be formally invited to participate in the working group for Almajiri Reform which will lead to a National Summit on Almajiri Education" says Abba Adamu, the Research Team lead for Kano state.

In essence, this research will lead to a better understanding of the underlying factors that will affect the success of any Almajiri remodeling approach in the selected states.

"The research work is contributing significantly towards peacebuilding by mending the gaps of understanding between the state government and the 'radical' stakeholders such as Almajirai Malams and parents.

"Formal relationship has been established between CCRDN and key stakeholders working on the fraternity of education and social development in Kano state and beyond" he adds

In essence, this research will lead to a better understanding of the underlying factors that will affect the success of any Almajiri remodeling approach in the selected states. This will lead to formulation of an alternative model that is more amenable to all stakeholders including the Malams and parents/guardians of the Almajiris.

The outcome of the study will be provided to donors, international development organizations, INGOs, local and state CSOs, and the state and national authorities to assist in formulating policies and interventions both in the short and long terms.



CCDRN Research team holds meetings with officials of Quran and Islamiyya Schools Management Board

# Livestock Production sets Vulnerable Families on a pathway to Better Livelihood In Adamawa Communities

Livestock is central to the livelihoods of the poor. They form an integral part of mixed farming systems, where they help raise whole-farm productivity and provide a steady stream of food and revenues for households.

In michika and Madagali Local Government Area of Adamawa state, CCDRN with support from the United Nations World Food Programme empowered victims of insurgency through Livestock farming.

47-year old Aranka Thomson is one of the many beneficiaries supported under the livestock production component of the world food programme Livelihood project in Madagali.

Aranka who was displaced from Gubla community in 2014, now lives in Madagali town as an IDP with his wife and five children. Life was rough and tough for Aranka and his family. But he is one of the many beneficiaries who are hoping for a better future through the World Food Programme Livelihood intervention CCDRN with support from WFP provided Aranka and other beneficiaries with small ruminantssheep and goat including training on livestock management. Each beneficiary received four goats/ sheep comprising one male and three females. He tells of how this intervention is now holding great prospect for his future

"I received four goats, three females, and a male. All three female goats have produced offspring bringing my entire flock to 8. By God's grace, I am sure this goat will serve as some sort of



insurance for my family and their future. Even if I am no more, my children are here, it will surely help them to take care of themselves.

"You see these goats, once they reach maturity, I will sell some of them and enroll my children back to school," says Aranka

For the local people in Adamawa state, livestock's role and contribution to livelihoods extend well beyond what is produced for the market or for direct consumption. Livestock plays many other important roles, including: as a provider of employment to the farmer and family members; as a store of wealth; as a form of insurance; contributing to improved livelihoods for women and men.



Aranka Thomson, WFP beneficiary showcases his Small ruminants in Madagali

# World Humanitarian Day 2020: CCDRN Appreciates all its Team Members

Every year World Humanitarian Day is observed on August 19, to remember the real life heroes who chose humanitarian service in most difficult circumstances. Today we are saying thank you to all our team members in the frontline, working under difficult circumstances to deliver lifesaving support to affected communities

As World Humanitarian Day this year comes amid the global coronavirus pandemic, the global campaign celebrates #RealLifeHeroes, who have "committed their lives to helping others."

Some of our frontline team members shares what continues to motivate them to make life beautiful for vulnerable population



# AMINA MOHAMMED

"I do my job diligently, not minding the attendant risks, knowing that my effort is making difference in the lives of vulnerable people. I feel very satisfied when I see that our work puts smiles on peoples faces. For me it is a great experience to be a humanitarian"



# **MERCY MAISAMARI**

"COVID 19 poses serious threat to lives and livelihood of vulnerable communities. It is in times like this that supporting vulnerable communities gives me an opportunity to offer a helping hand and make a difference. I love my job because I see direct impact on lives of affected persons"

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