



# PROMOTING YOUTH DIALOGUE AND RESILIENCE BUILDING THROUGH SPORTS IN CAMEROON (PROYOSPORT) PROJECT



## PROJECT SUMMARY

This project is proposing to build on sports and leisure activities as a key tool to provide safe spaces for displaced persons from North West and South West Regions and host communities to participate in dialogues, acquire conflict resolution skills, as well as promote youth leadership, social cohesion, and influence attitudes (teamwork, tolerance, respect) that can make these young people resilient to ideological exploitation, which lures them into extremist violence. This initiative will be executed in the Douala IV Constituency in Littoral Region-Cameroon. It seeks to empower over 56000 persons over a period of 1 year.

This project is supported by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) within the framework of the UN Global Programme on Security of Major Sporting Events, and Promotion of Sport and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism



## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Strengthen capacity and collaboration between and among 25 displaced young people and host community members in facilitating dialogues and transforming violent extremism
- Establish a community task force of community leaders (traditional and religious), young people, civil society actors, justice and security sector actors in the host communities for sport as a tool to prevent violent extremism
- Develop a National Technical Guide on Preventing Violent Extremism through Sport in Cameroon
- Organise a 3-months sporting Jamboree to facilitate social cohesion and dialogue in communities

## ABOUT IMPLEMENTING ORGANISATION

Local Youth Corner Cameroon(LOYOC) is a leading youth peace building and countering violent extremism organisation in Cameroon with over 18 years of experience designing and implementing projects across the 10 regions of Cameroon. It was created as a response to the increase in the socio-political and economic challenges facing young people such as; unemployment, bad governance, gender-based violence and lack of quality education, poverty, corruption, the poor social justice system and exclusion in the decision-making processes which serves as push and pull factors to youth radicalization, involvement in crime, violence and in conflict with the law. We have experience in executing over 600 development projects and collaborating with over 100 national and international development stakeholders. Our work has earned several national and international recognitions including the Luxembourg Peace Prize and others .





# WE PLAY TOGETHER WE DI GLAD TOGETHER SPORTS JAMBOREE

JUNE - AUGUST 2022

DOUALA-LITTORAL REGION



## ABOUT THE JAMBOREE

This three months (90 days) jamboree with the theme; *We Play Together We Di Glad Together*, seeks to provide an opportunity for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from North-West and South-West regions based in Douala to play with and alongside host community members as a way to foster social cohesion. Physical and mental exercise is a healing process that affects attitude, self-esteem, skills and behaviours. This healing process helps to prevent high-risk social behaviour, favours social cohesion, meets the existing demands and helps to achieve the physical, mental and social well-being of the entire community. The jamboree will consist of 5 sporting tournaments and 3 disciplines; football, basketball and dancing (male and female respectively). Teams will constitute both displaced persons and host community members. The jamboree will adopt tools from the Technical Guide to Prevent Violent Extremism Through Sport.



### FOOTBALL

The football tournament will be at 2 levels; male and female. Each team will have a perfect mix of IDPs and members of the host communities. The name of each team will be carefully selected to represent words which reflect social cohesion (e.g. team love, justice). We will apply tools from the Teams will be managed by influential young people from different walks of life.



### BASKETBALL

The basketball tournament will be at 2 levels; male and female. Each team will have a perfect mix of IDPs and members of the host community. The name of each team will be carefully selected to represent words which reflect social cohesion (e.g. team love, justice). Teams will be managed by influential young people from different walks of life.



### DANCING

The dancing competition will be focused on using dancing to convey messages on social cohesion, respect, tolerance and team work. The competition will comprise of 6 to 8 dancing groups, made up of boys and girls. Each dancing team will be compelled to be inclusive of IDPs and host community members. Guided by a team of judges, the dance groups will use both contemporary, traditional or local dance moves.



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Picture of our 2018 female sports tournament in Prisons

## ABOUT US

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## WHY SPORTS?

Douala has become a safe zone for over 100,000 young people who have been displaced by the violent conflict in the North West and South-West regions. Though they have been received with open hands by residents of Douala, their forced displacements have made them more vulnerable to stigmatization, hate, crime, violence and unethical practices. The realities of these challenges have deteriorated the trust and peaceful existence between displaced persons and the host community.

To respond to these challenges, we have adopted sports and leisure activities between and among idps and host community members as a key tool to provide safe spaces for dialogue, peer to peer learning and critical thinking, youth leadership, social cohesion, influence attitude and life skills (teamwork, tolerance, respect) that can make these young people resilient to ideological exploitation and that lures to extremist violence.

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## CORE VALUES OF THE JAMBOREE

Non-Confrontation

Fair Play

Everyone is a winner and gets celebrated

Democracy

Solidary

Team work & Leadership

Respect & Justice



# KEY PROJECT ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 2021-DECEMBER 2022



## Activity 1: Training of Trainers for Displaced and Host Communities on Peacebuilding and Preventing Violent Extremism

Organise a 3-day residential training of trainers for 25 persons including IDP youths, community leaders, religious and traditional authorities on conflict transformation and preventing violent extremism. It will also provide them with an opportunity to learn how to combat hate, acquire non-adversarial engagement techniques, understand non-violence, accountability and rights-based approaches and community security techniques to respond to violent extremism and violent conflicts. These 25 persons will serve as front liners within the community to support their peers in managing and responding to conflict-related challenges.



## Activity 2: Establish and Train a Community Task Force for Sport as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism.

To ensure community buy-in, the project will create a task force made up of 15 persons from the trainers who will support the elaboration of initiatives toward building peace within the community. This task force will be capacitated on how to use the Technical Guide to Prevent Violent Extremism through Sport in Cameroon. Also, the task force will play a major role in the unfolding of the project as they will serve as key persons implementing related project activities.



## Activity 3: Organize Sporting Jamboree for Peace and Dialogue for the Displaced and Host Community Members

Sport and leisure are core components of this project. Physical and mental exercise is a healing process that affects attitude, self-esteem, skills and behaviours. This healing process helps to prevent high-risk social behaviour, favours social cohesion, meets the existing demands and helps to achieve the physical, mental and social well-being of the entire community. Thus, we seek to organise a 3-month sporting jamboree (June to August). The jamboree will consist of 5 sporting tournaments; football, basketball and dancing (male and female respectively). Teams will constitute both displaced persons and host community members.



## Activity 4: Develop an Evidence-based National Guide on using Sports as a Tool for Preventing Violent Extremism in Cameroon

In order to sustain this initiative, the project will develop a guide, building on the global Technical Guide on Prevention of Violent Extremism through Sport. This document will serve as a tool for communities across Cameroon to design and implement similar initiatives. This tool which will be developed by young people will be supported by the task force and will set the stage for harnessing already existing values that sports have brought toward social cohesion and peace in Cameroon. The publication will focus on some evidence of positive practices and policy recommendations.

