



COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN (CPRP)

FOR BURUKU LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, BENUE STATE

OCTOBER, 2025



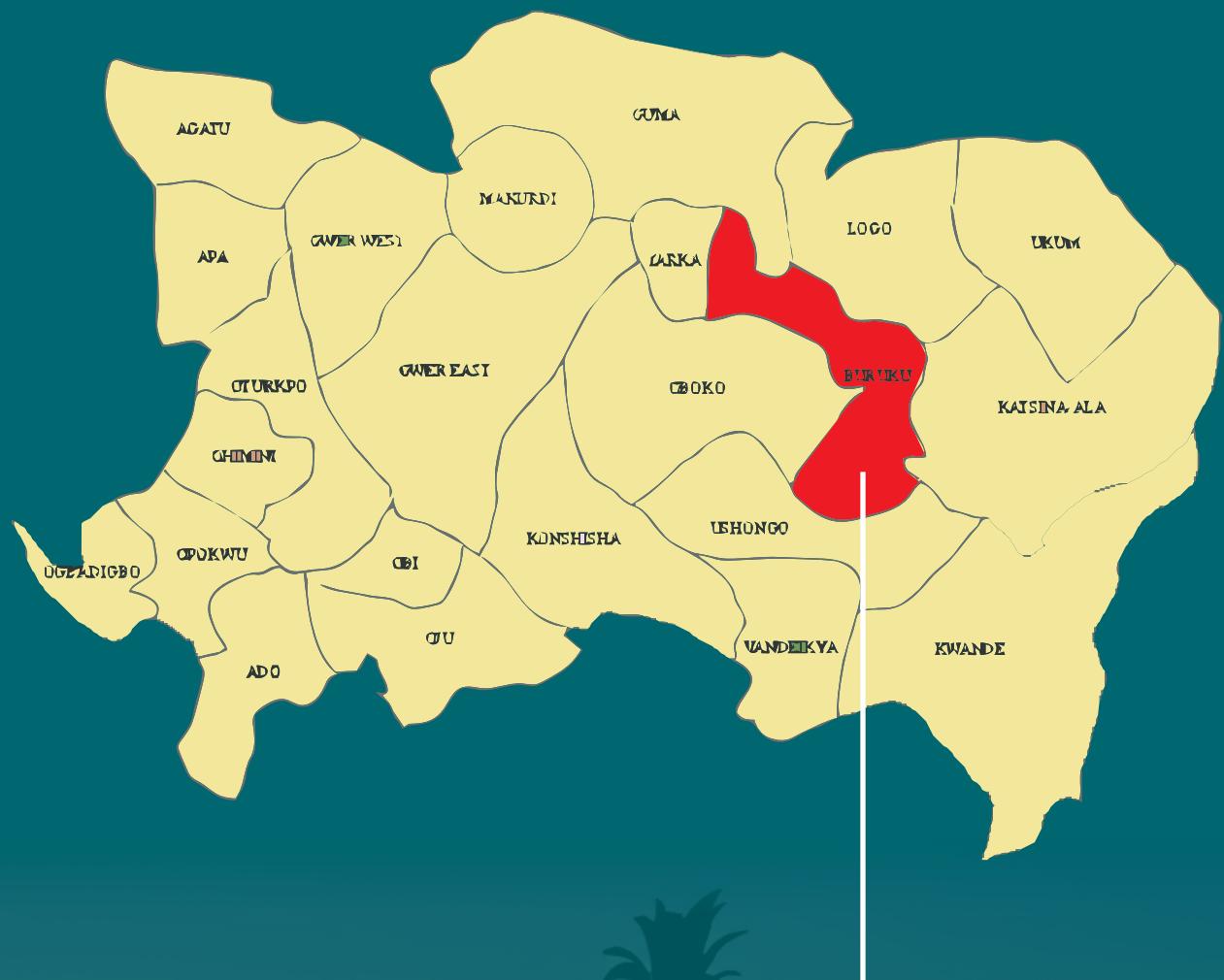
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Acronyms

CPC	-	Community Peace Committees
CPLC	-	Community Peace and Livelihood Committee
CPRC	-	Community Peace and Resilience Committee
CPRP	-	Community Peace and Resilience Plan
FGD	-	Focus Group Discussion
GPD	-	Global Peace Development
KII	-	Key Informant Interview
LGA	-	Local Government Area
PARSULP	-	Promoting Agro pastoralism Reconciliation and Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Peace
SPRING	-	Strengthening Peace and Resilience in Nigeria

Wards Covered



1. Binev
2. Etulo
3. Mbaade
4. Mbaakura
5. Mbaapen
6. Mbaatirkyaa
7. Mbaazagee
8. Mbaikyongo / Nyifon
9. Mbaiytyough
10. Mbakyaan
11. Mbaya
12. Mbayaka
13. Shorov

Preface

The Community Peace and Resilience Plan (CPRP) stand as a strategic pillar of the project Promoting Agropastoralism Reconciliation and Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Peace (PARSULP) Project. It translates the voices, insights, and aspirations of communities across Benue, Plateau, Kaduna, and Katsina States into practical pathways for conflict prevention, resource cooperation, and inclusive development.

At its core, this CPRP reflects Global Peace Development's belief that peacebuilding and resilience must emerge from within communities, grounded in shared ownership and lived experience. The plan captures how farmers, herders, women, youth, and traditional leaders can transform competition over natural resources into collaboration, building mutual trust and sustainable livelihoods in the process.

The CPRP process was deeply participatory facilitated through consultations, mapping, and joint dialogue sessions that encouraged communities to identify root causes of conflict and design their own locally relevant responses. It documents not only the risks and vulnerabilities within these agropastoral settings but also the strengths, institutions, and indigenous mechanisms that sustain coexistence even amid adversity.

As an organization, Global Peace Development see this plan as both a framework and a commitment. A framework for structured community action and policy engagement, and a commitment to inclusive, evidence-based peacebuilding that values every stakeholder's role. The CPRP provides clear direction for linking grassroots peace structures with broader institutional processes at state and national levels, ensuring that the voices of rural communities inform durable policy outcomes.

I acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedication of our project teams, consultants, facilitators, and field officers who guided communities through this important exercise. I also commend the local leaders, Ardos, farmers, women, and youth who participated with honesty and resolve. Their contributions reaffirm that peace is not an event, it is a continuous journey of dialogue, adaptation, and shared responsibility.

This CPRP Report is therefore a planning document, and a living guide to cooperation, resilience, and peace. It reminds us that lasting stability grows from the ground up, when communities are empowered to plan and lead their own development.

Esike Onajite Ebruke
Executive Director
Global Peace Development

Forward

The Community Peace and Resilience Plan (CPRP) marks an important step in the ongoing work of the PARSULP Project. It is a step that bridges understanding with action. Where the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) captured voices and challenges, the CPRP transforms those insights into concrete strategies that communities can own and sustain.

Across the four PARSULP states, the CPRP process provided a platform for farmers, herders, traditional leaders, and women to sit together, share their realities, and imagine new ways of coexisting. It was not an external prescription but a collaborative effort shaped by local knowledge, dialogue, and trust. From the fields of Buruku to the arid grazing lands of Daura, from the farmlands of Soba to the rocky terrains of Riyom, communities worked side by side to outline priorities for peace, resource governance, and climate-resilient livelihoods.

This report captures that collective journey is a journey that began with honest conversations about what divides communities and matured into joint commitments for what can unite them. It highlights locally grounded action plans that address conflict triggers, strengthen early warning systems, promote equitable access to land and water, and foster climate-smart practices that reduce competition while improving productivity.

What stands out most from this process is the resilience and determination of the people. Despite the pressures of insecurity, economic hardship, and environmental change, communities continue to show that dialogue remains their most powerful tool. Their willingness to plan together, to share knowledge, and to envision a peaceful future affirms the central idea behind PARSULP project that peacebuilding is most sustainable when communities lead it.

I am deeply grateful to our state and field teams, facilitators, and consultants for their unwavering dedication to ensuring the CPRP process remained participatory and inclusive. I also extend heartfelt appreciation to the community leaders, Ardos, and local authorities whose guidance and partnership gave legitimacy and strength to this work.

This Community Peace and Resilience Plans (CPRP) belong to the communities, it is their blueprint for cooperation, their voice in planning, and their statement of hope. As implementation begins, it would serve as a guide for sustained dialogue, equitable growth, and collective resilience in the face of change.

Danjuma Mohammed David
Project Manager, PARSULP Project
Global Peace Development

Executive Summary of the Community Peace and Resilience Plan (CPRP) for Buruku LGA

Buruku Local Government Area (LGA) is located in the north-central part of Benue State, Nigeria, along the Katsina-Ala River Basin. The area is predominantly agrarian, with farming and livestock rearing serving as the primary sources of livelihood for most residents. The LGA covers a land area of fertile plains suitable for crop production and animal grazing. Buruku has a population composed mainly of Tiv-speaking communities, with few migrant herders and traders from neighbouring states. The area shares boundaries with Gboko, Ushongo, and Logo LGAs, and experiences seasonal migration of pastoralists in search of pasture and water. Over the years, resource-based conflicts, particularly between farmers and herders, have disrupted livelihoods, weakened social cohesion, and increased vulnerability to poverty and environmental stress.

The Promoting Agro-Pastoralism Reconciliation and Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Peace (PARSULP) Project is funded by FCDO-SPRiNG and implemented by Global Peace Development (GPD) to strengthen local capacities for peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and climate resilience in Benue State. The project in Buruku LGA covered all 13 federal wards, aimed to improve relationships among agro-pastoral communities, promote dialogue, and enhance the equitable use and management of shared natural resources. The PARSULP initiative emphasizes participatory and community-led planning to build trust, prevent violence, and support sustainable rural development that is mutually benefiting.

The Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercise in Buruku LGA was conducted between 14th and 26th October 2025 by a team led by Dr. Ifatimehin Olayemi Olufemi supported by field facilitators and local research assistants. The PRA covered all 13 wards: Binev, Etulo, Mbaya, Mbaade, Mbayaka, Mbaya-Mbalagh, Mbaya-Mbagbu, Mbayem, Mbayion, Mbaakura, Mbaya-Ikyo, Mbaikyongo, and Mbaya-Mbatyough. A range of participatory tools were employed, including social and resource mapping, seasonal livelihood calendars, conflict timelines, focus group discussions (FGDs), key informant interviews (KIIs), and stakeholder analysis. The process actively involved farmers, herders, traditional rulers, women, youth, religious leaders, and local government representatives in identifying livelihood patterns, conflict drivers, and resilience opportunities.

PURPOSE OF THE CPRP

The Community Peace and Resilience Plan (CPRP) was developed to translate the findings of the PRA into concrete, community-owned strategies for peace and development. It serves as a guiding document that defines shared priorities, practical peace actions, and livelihood recovery pathways. The CPRP aims to strengthen social harmony, promote equitable resource management, and enhance the adaptive capacity of households to withstand environmental and economic shocks, and to create a mutually benefiting initiatives for farmers and herders

METHODOLOGY

The CPRP was developed through a participatory and consultative process, ensuring inclusivity and representation from all wards. Validation meetings were held at ward levels to review PRA findings, prioritize needs, and design implementable actions. The process was supported by the Community Peace Committees (CPCs), community members, herders, farmers, and civil society partners, ensuring ownership, legitimacy, and sustainability of outcomes.

KEY CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE FINDINGS FROM THE PRA



PEACE AND RESILIENCE PRIORITIES

Sustainable Resource Management: Promote shared water points, grazing areas, and environmental restoration.

Capacity Building for Women and Youth: Enhance inclusion in peace structures and decision-making.

Institutional Collaboration: Link CPRP implementation with state peace structures and development agencies.



CONCLUSION

The CPRP for Buruku LGA represents the collective vision and consensus of its communities. It reflects a shared determination to move beyond conflict toward sustainable peace and development. The participatory process fostered local ownership, strengthened trust, and enhanced coordination among diverse groups. Through the CPRP, Buruku LGA is positioned as a model of community-led peacebuilding and resilience planning in Benue State and beyond.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 01. Institutional Support:** The Benue State Peace Commission and Local Government Council should formally adopt and integrate the CPRP into state plans.
- 02. Resource Mobilization:** Development partners should provide technical and financial support for implementation.
- 03. Strengthen CPCs:** Continuous training and facilitation support should be provided toward-level peace committees.
- 04. Environmental Action:** Promote tree planting, water management, and climate adaptation projects that is mutually benefiting to the pastoralists and farmers.
- 05. Monitoring Framework:** Establish quarterly review mechanisms involving communities, civil society, and local authorities.
- 06. Sustainability:** Encourage private-sector and donor engagement to ensure continuity beyond project duration.

Introduction

The Community Peace and Resilience Plan (CPRP) process in Buruku Local Government Area (LGA) builds upon a series of Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRAs) that examined local livelihood systems, natural resource utilization, and conflict dynamics within the area. It is anchored within the broader objectives of the Promoting Agro-Pastoralism Reconciliation and Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Peace (PARSLUP Project), which adopts an integrated approach to reconciliation, equitable resource management, and resilience building among agro-pastoral communities.

The CPRP initiative recognizes that sustainable peace and development in agrarian communities cannot be achieved without addressing the underlying drivers of resource-based conflicts and livelihood insecurities. Therefore, the plan serves not only as a framework for coordinated peace actions but also as a strategic tool for enhancing community resilience, social cohesion, and environmental sustainability in Buruku LGA which can be adapted and scaled up to other LGAs of the State.

Buruku Local Government Area (LGA) is located along the River Katsina-Ala Basin in Benue State, Nigeria. It is a predominantly agrarian economy, where crop farming and livestock rearing form the mainstay of household livelihoods. The area benefits from fertile alluvial soils that support the cultivation of major food and cash crops such as yam, cassava, maize, and rice. The River Katsina-Ala provides not only a natural irrigation corridor but also opportunities for fishing and dry-season farming, making the region an important agricultural hub within the state.

Despite these endowments, agricultural productivity in Buruku LGA remains largely rain-fed and highly seasonal, leaving farmers and pastoralists vulnerable to climate variability, environmental degradation, and economic shocks. Over the past decades, the area has witnessed increasing water scarcity, soil erosion, and land degradation, all of which have significantly reduced crop yields and grazing potential. These challenges have been exacerbated by deforestation, bush burning, and unsustainable land-use practices, which further threaten the ecological balance of the area.

The growing pressure on land and water resources has resulted in intensified competition among users particularly between sedentary farmers and migratory herders over access to arable land, grazing routes, and water points. During the dry season, when resources become particularly scarce, these tensions often escalate into violent confrontations that disrupt livelihoods, displace populations, and destabilize local economies. The situation is compounded by weak land governance systems, inadequate enforcement of grazing and environmental regulations, and the gradual erosion of traditional dispute-resolution institutions that once helped mediate such conflicts.

As a result, Buruku LGA has experienced recurrent farmer–herder clashes, leading to loss of lives, destruction of property, forced displacement, and abandonment of farmlands. The socio-economic consequences are severe: reduced agricultural output, loss of income, food insecurity, and declining household welfare. Local markets have been disrupted, trade activities curtailed, and social relations between ethnic and occupational groups have become increasingly strained.

Absence of rural infrastructure such as feeder roads, irrigation schemes, veterinary services, and agricultural extension systems has restricted the community's capacity to adapt and diversify beyond subsistence farming. Women and youth, in particular, bear the brunt of these challenges, facing both economic marginalization and reduced access to productive resources.

Methodology

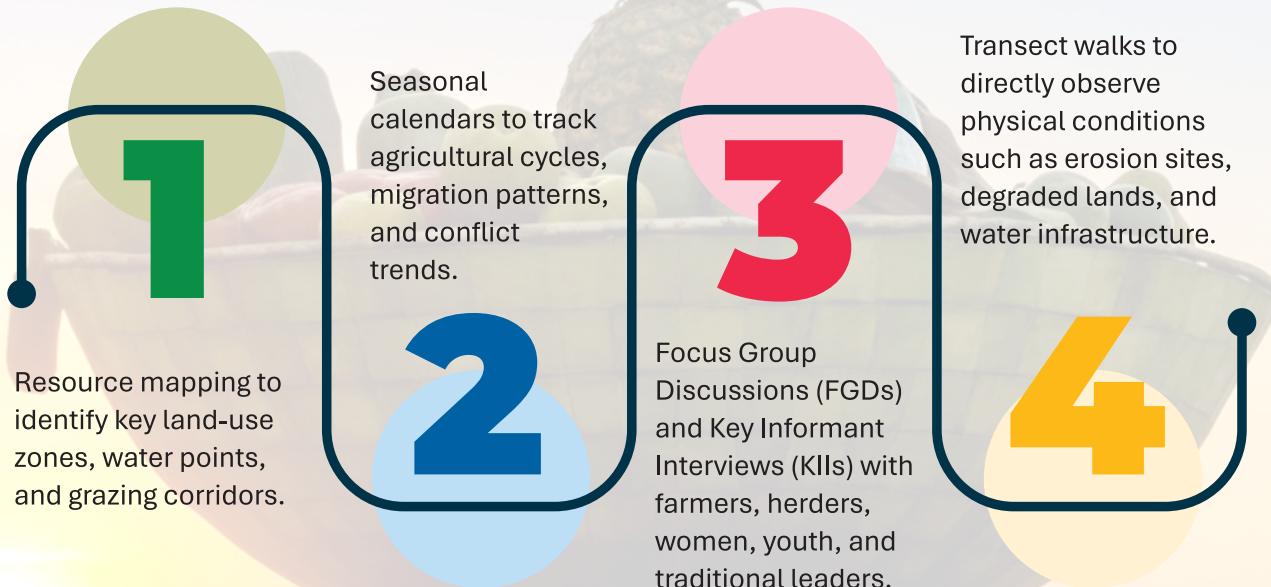
The development of the Community Peace and Resilience Plan (CPRP) for Buruku Local Government Area (LGA) adopted a participatory, inclusive, and consensus-driven approach, ensuring that community members were active participants and decision-makers throughout the process. This approach was guided by the understanding that sustainable peace, effective resource management, and resilient livelihoods can only emerge when those most affected by conflict and environmental stressors are empowered to define their own priorities and solutions.

The participatory methodology also reflected the core principles of the PARSULP Project, which emphasize local ownership, inclusivity, equity, and evidence-based decision-making. It recognized that communities possess rich indigenous knowledge, social capital, and adaptive capacities that are essential for building resilience and transforming conflict situations into opportunities for cooperation and development.

The CPRP formulation process was structured in four interrelated phases, combining field-based participatory research with iterative consultation and validation mechanisms during the PRA.

PHASE 1: PARTICIPATORY RURAL APPRAISAL (PRA)

The process began with Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercises conducted across all 13 wards of Buruku LGA between 14th and 26th October 2025. These PRAs served as the diagnostic foundation for understanding the socio-economic, environmental, and conflict dynamics shaping community life. A variety of participatory tools and techniques were employed, including:



These exercises generated rich, qualitative data and community insights that highlighted both the root causes of resource-based conflicts and the opportunities for peace building and resilience building.

PHASE 2: DATA SYNTHESIS AND THEMATIC ANALYSIS

Following the fieldwork, facilitation teams analysed the PRA outputs to identify recurring themes, priority needs, and conflict hotspots. The analysis focused on understanding the inter linkages between livelihood vulnerabilities, environmental stress, and social tensions. Issues such as water scarcity, land disputes, youth unemployment, and breakdown of traditional mediation systems were categorized into thematic areas relevant to peace and resilience planning.

This phase also involved triangulation of information across multiple wards to ensure accuracy, consistency, and representation of all stakeholder perspectives. Preliminary findings were compiled into ward-level diagnostic summaries, which served as the basis for subsequent community consultations.

PHASE 3: WARD-LEVEL VALIDATION AND PRIORITIZATION

To strengthen legitimacy and local ownership, ward-level validation meetings were convened across Buruku LGA. These sessions brought together traditional rulers, women's associations, youth groups, community-based organizations, local government representatives, and security agencies to review and refine the PRA findings.

During these meetings, participants:

01.

Confirmed the accuracy of the data collected.

02.

Ranked identified issues according to urgency, feasibility, and impact potential.

03.

Proposed practical and locally appropriate actions for addressing conflict and livelihood challenges.

The participatory ranking process ensured that the resulting priorities reflected broad community consensus rather than external imposition. This step also allowed marginalized groups including women, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and minority pastoralist clans to voice their concerns and contribute to planning outcomes.

PHASE 4: CONSOLIDATION AND PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The final phase involved the harmonization and synthesis of ward-level inputs into a Local Government-level CPRP document. Technical facilitators supported the communities in translating their aspirations into implementable activities, timelines, and monitoring indicators. The resulting CPRP thus reflects not only the collective vision of Buruku's communities but also an action-oriented framework aligned with local realities and the overarching goals of the PARSULP Project.

Mbaapen Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

In Mbaapen Ward, herders' invasion and destruction of farmlands are major sources of recurring conflict between farmers and pastoralists. Armed herders often restrict community access to the Katsina-Ala River during the dry season, creating competition over scarce water resources. The situation is worsened by poor security presence and weak enforcement of local by-laws, which limit timely response to disputes. Additionally, inadequate road infrastructure and lack of alternative livelihoods reduce farm-to-market access and income opportunities, heightening community vulnerability.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

Traditional dispute resolution remains the primary mechanism for addressing conflicts, led by District Heads, elders, and members of the clergy. In serious cases, the police are occasionally involved, though their reach and presence in remote areas are limited. Informal dialogue between community elders and herder leaders is regularly used during the farming season to mediate disputes and prevent escalation. Women also contribute significantly to peacebuilding through church groups and market associations, promoting tolerance and reconciliation at the grassroots level.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

The ward faces multiple livelihood and environmental challenges that threaten stability and well-being. Environmental degradation and periodic droughts have reduced crop yields and food security. Insecurity has disrupted both farming and trade, discouraging economic activities. The absence of adequate water infrastructure and alternative grazing routes contributes to competition over natural resources. Youth unemployment remains a serious issue, increasing social idleness, migration, and exposure to risky coping strategies. Strengthening local livelihoods and building community resilience are therefore key priorities for sustaining peace in Mbaapen Ward.

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS / GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS (NGOS, GOV'T, LEADERS)	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
1. Strengthen peace building and dialogue	Establish a Community Peace and Resilience Committee	Traditional leaders, youth and women leaders	GPD, LGA Peace Desk, Security Agencies	3 months	Improved communication and early conflict resolution

	(CPRC) with farmer-herder representation				
2. Improve community security	Advocate for joint patrols and stronger police presence during harvest	Community vigilante group, CPRC	LG Security Committee, Nigeria Police	2 months	Reduced armed herder attacks
3. Enhance water access and cooperation	Construct new boreholes and create joint-use agreements for river access	Ward development committee, water users association	Benue Water Board, NGOs	6 months	Reduced conflict over water access
4. Promote livelihoods and cooperation	Train farmers and herders on climate-smart agriculture and shared dry-season farming	Farmers' and herders' associations	Ministry of Agriculture, GPD	6–12 months	Improved productivity and peaceful coexistence
5. Empower youth and women in peace building	Support youth and women in community policing and awareness campaigns	Youth/women groups	Benue Peace Commission, CSOs	Ongoing	Active youth/women participation in peace processes
6. Foster environmental restoration	Encourage tree planting and agroforestry	Environmental committees, schools	Forestry Dept., NGOs	Annual	Reduced erosion and improved resource management

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Monitoring Approach

The Community Peace and Resilience Committee (CPRC) will serve as the primary body responsible for overseeing the implementation of the CPRP, documenting progress, reporting incidents, and highlighting successes. To ensure accountability and adaptive management, monthly review meetings will be held, bringing together the CPRC, traditional leaders, and the local peace desk. Progress will be assessed using key indicators, including a reduction in reported farmer-herder clashes, the number of joint community meetings and dialogues conducted, improved access to water and land without disputes, and increased participation of women and youth in decision-making processes. This structured approach aims to provide

timely feedback, facilitate collaborative problem-solving, and ensure that interventions remain responsive to community needs.

Sustainability

For long-term sustainability, the community agreed to institutionalize the CPRC under the Ward Development Committee (WDC), embedding it within local governance structures. The plan will also be integrated into the Buruku LGA Peace and Security Committee to ensure alignment with broader peace and development initiatives. Partnerships with government agencies and NGOs will be pursued to support small-scale livelihood and environmental projects, further enhancing resilience. Capacity-building programs will target youth and women, empowering them to serve as local mediators and early warning focal points. These steps are designed to strengthen local ownership, promote inclusivity, and ensure the continued relevance and impact of the CPRP beyond the immediate project period.

Mbaakura Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

In Mbaakura Ward, conflict primarily arises from the destruction of crops by cattle, worsened by the absence of designated grazing areas. Limited access to farm inputs has reduced agricultural productivity, while high youth unemployment and lack of livelihood diversification contribute to social tension. Communication gaps between farmers and herders from neighbouring areas further exacerbate misunderstandings and disputes, highlighting the need for improved dialogue and conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms anchored agropastoral initiatives that is mutually benefiting to herders and farmers.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

Despite these challenges, the community has several mechanisms to maintain peace. Traditional leaders play a key role in mediating land and boundary disputes, while youth leaders assist in local security patrols and dispute resolution. Religious leaders also encourage dialogue and tolerance during community gatherings, promoting social cohesion and fostering understanding between different community groups.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

Mbaakura Ward faces significant livelihood and environmental challenges. Soil fertility is declining due to erosion and deforestation, and farmers have limited access to fertilizers and modern tools. Opportunities for women's empowerment are scarce, with few programs providing start-up kits or skills training. Additionally, local farmers are poorly linked to extension services, reducing access to technical advice and modern agricultural practices, which limits overall productivity and resilience.

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS/GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
1. Strengthen community peace structures	Establish and train a Community Peace and Early Warning Committee (CPEWC)	Traditional Council, Youth Leaders	GPD, LG Peace Desk, Security Agencies	3 months	Improved coordination and early response to conflicts
2. Promote sustainable	Support joint	Farmers' Groups, Extension Agents	ADP, NGOs	6 months	Increased productivity

agriculture and cooperation	training on improved farming techniques for farmers and youth				and cooperation
3. Empower women and youth	Provide skill acquisition and start-up kits (tailoring, welding, POS, processing machines)	Women/Youth Groups	Ministry of Women Affairs, NGOs	6–12 months	Reduced youth unemployment and women dependency
4. Restore degraded farmlands and water points	Launch community tree planting and erosion control campaigns	Farmers & School Clubs	Forestry Dept., GPD	Ongoing	Reduced erosion and restored soil fertility
5. Enhance local communication and cooperation	Hold quarterly peace dialogues among farmers, youth, and traditional leaders	CPEWC, Religious Leaders	Local Gov't, NGOs	Quarterly	Improved community relations and social trust

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Implementation of the CPRP will be led by the Community Peace and Early Warning Committee (CPEWC).

The committee will meet quarterly to assess progress and document outcomes using simple monitoring tools.

Monitoring Indicators:

- i. Number of conflicts resolved at community level.
- ii. Frequency of peace dialogues held.
- iii. Number of beneficiaries of livelihood support.
- iv. Evidence of environmental restoration and tree planting.

Sustainability

For sustainability, the CPRP will be integrated into Ward Development and Peace Committee (WDPC) structures. Continuous engagement of women and youth in peace initiatives will ensure inclusivity and local ownership. Collaboration with Global Peace Development (GPD), the Buruku LGA Peace Desk, and relevant State Ministries will provide technical and financial support. Finally, ongoing training and mentoring will build capacity for self-reliant, community-led peace and resilience initiatives that can be maintained beyond the life of the project.

Etulo Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

In Etulo Ward, resource disputes over farmlands and water points remain a central cause of tension between community members and neighbouring herders. Limited government presence has led communities to rely on self-help security measures, which sometimes escalate conflicts. Economic hardship and high unemployment, particularly among youth, further intensify social pressures. Additionally, occasional tensions with migrant herders near river boundaries have been reported, underscoring the need for coordinated conflict prevention and livelihood support interventions that can promote social cohesion, resilience and societal stability.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The community has established mechanisms to manage and mitigate conflict. Traditional leadership, including the Otse (king), Ato-Otse (ministers), and the ECCD Committee, mediates disputes and ensures local order. Religious leaders promote moral guidance and social cohesion, while youth leaders manage intra-community discipline and provide early warning for potential conflicts. Strong cultural values emphasizing respect, discipline, and reconciliation further support peaceful coexistence and social stability.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

Livelihoods in Etulo Ward are constrained by several environmental and structural challenges. Farmers lack modern tools and adequate storage facilities, while poor road networks, seasonal flooding, and soil erosion limit productive activity and market access. Access to education and healthcare remains weak, reducing opportunities for human capital development. Overdependence on farming and low income diversification heighten vulnerability, while limited opportunities for women and youth restrict economic inclusion and resilience.

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS / GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
1. Enhance peace and	Form a Community	Otse, Ato-Otse, Youth	GPD, Benue Peace	3 months	Functional local peace

security coordination	Peace and Development Committee (CPDC) under ECCD	Leaders	Commission, Local Govt Peace Desk		platform with reporting channels
2. Strengthen livelihoods through farming support	Provide access to improved farming tools and seeds	Farmers' Groups, Women Associations	BNARDA, NGOs, Agric Ministry	6 months	Increased productivity and food security
3. Empower youth and women economically	Establish vocational skill programs and small grants scheme	ECCD, Women & Youth Leaders	GPD, Ministry of Women Affairs, NGOs	6–12 months	Reduced youth idleness and strengthened inclusion
4. Improve access to education and healthcare	Advocate for functional schools and health facilities	Community Leaders, ECCD	Local Govt Health & Education Depts.	12 months	Improved service delivery and wellbeing
5. Promote environmental resilience	Tree planting and erosion control campaigns	Youth Volunteers, Farmers	Forestry Dept., NGOs	Continuous	Reduced land degradation and improved safety
6. Foster intergroup relations	Organize annual peace cultural festival (Etulo Day) for unity and dialogue	ECCD, Traditional Council	Peace Commission, Media	Yearly	Improved interethnic understanding and social cohesion

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Monitoring will be community-led through the CPDC (Community Peace and Development Committee), reporting quarterly to ECCD and the Ward Development Committee.

Monitoring Indicators:

- i. Number of community peace meetings and trainings held.
- ii. Reduction in farmland and water-related disputes.
- iii. Increase in participation of women and youth in governance.
- iv. Number of cooperative and livelihood initiatives launched.
- v. Visible improvement in local infrastructure

Sustainability

Sustainability will be ensured through integration of the CPDC into ECCD and traditional council structures, creation of local peace bylaws, and continuous capacity building of youth and women leaders in mediation and early warning. The ward will also pursue partnerships with NGOs and local government to maintain funding, visibility, and institutional support for ongoing peace and resilience initiatives. These measures aim to build long-term, community-owned structures that support social cohesion, reduce conflict, and enhance livelihoods in Etulo Ward.

Biniev Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

In Biniev Ward, major sources of conflict include destruction of crops by cattle, largely due to the absence of clearly demarcated grazing routes. Encroachment on farmlands and lack of proper land boundaries further fuel disputes between farmers and herders. High youth unemployment contributes to tension and mistrust, while limited access to security services and early warning systems reduces the community's capacity to prevent or respond to conflicts effectively.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The community relies on a combination of traditional, religious, and informal mechanisms to maintain peace. Traditional rulers mediate disputes between households and farmers, while religious leaders facilitate reconciliation meetings. Local vigilante groups provide basic security support, and informal cooperation between farmers and youth groups during the harvest season helps to reduce tensions and ensure community harmony.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

Biniev Ward faces challenges that undermine livelihoods and resilience. Crop yields are declining due to limited access to fertilizers and improved seeds. Poor road infrastructure reduces market access, limiting income opportunities for farmers. Youth idleness and limited vocational skills exacerbate social vulnerabilities, while environmental degradation and climate variability threaten agricultural productivity and food security.

Community Peace and Resilience Plan

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS/GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
Strengthen local conflict prevention	Establish and train a Community Peace Committee (CPC)	Traditional Leaders, Youth & Women Representatives	GPD, LG Peace Desk	3 months	Improved community mediation and reduced conflicts
Enhance sustainable farming practices	Provide fertilizer and improved seedlings; organize farmer-herder dialogue	Farmers Association	ADP, NGOs, Traditional Council	6 months	Increased cooperation and agricultural output

Youth and women economic inclusion	Vocational skills training and small grants support	Youth & Women Groups	Ministry of Women Affairs, NGOs	6–12 months	Reduced youth idleness and improved livelihoods
Improve community security coordination	Establish early warning channels between vigilante groups and police	Vigilante Leaders, CPC	Local Security Agencies	Continuous	Timely reporting and conflict prevention
Environmental restoration	Promote tree planting and soil fertility management	Farmers & Schools	Forestry Dept., GPD	Ongoing	Reduced erosion and improved soil resilience

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

The Community Peace Committee (CPC) will oversee the plan's implementation. Monitoring will involve quarterly review meetings to track progress, document successes, and address challenges.

Monitoring Indicators:

- i. Number of conflicts resolved through dialogue.
- ii. Increase in community peace meetings.
- iii. Participation of women and youth in CPC activities.
- iv. Evidence of livelihood recovery initiatives.

Sustainability and Next Steps

To ensure sustainability, the CPRP will be integrated into Biniev Ward's Development Framework and local security committee agendas. Traditional rulers and CPC members will maintain continuous ownership and leadership over implementation. Capacity-building initiatives for CPC members will focus on mediation, record-keeping, and reporting skills. Ongoing collaboration with GPD, the Buruku Peace Desk, and local NGOs will provide technical support, funding, and visibility to maintain long-term peace and resilience interventions in the ward.

Shorov Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

Shorov Ward, encompassing the Tyowange and Ehorov communities, has unique characteristics that influence conflict dynamics. The area relies heavily on small-scale farming along fertile riverbanks and seasonal grazing lands. Farmer-herder tensions are prevalent due to competition over farmland and stream access, with cattle occasionally destroying crops and contaminating water sources. Limited access to government support, including fertilizers and farm tools, constrains agricultural productivity, while poor road networks and lack of electricity impede economic cooperation and market access. Additionally, women and youth are minimally engaged in formal peace structures, reducing opportunities for inclusive decision-making and early conflict intervention.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The ward has relied on a combination of traditional and religious institutions to manage conflict. Traditional leaders and religious elders mediate disputes and encourage reconciliation, while a local police post provides limited security intervention. Informal dialogue between youth and farmers during market days helps address minor disputes. However, there is no formal or continuous farmer-herder forum, limiting structured opportunities for dialogue and trust-building.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

Livelihoods in Shorov Ward are constrained by declining soil fertility and limited access to farm inputs. Poor roads hinder market access and trade, and youth face limited opportunities for capital or skills development, leading to idleness and social tension. Women are rarely included in governance and economic decision-making, which restricts household income diversification. Environmental degradation and climate variability further exacerbate the community's vulnerability, making livelihoods and peace interconnected challenges.

Community Peace and Resilience Plan

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS/GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS (NGOS, GOV'T, TRADITIONAL LEADERS)	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
Strengthen local peace structures	Establish and train ward-level peace committees	Traditional Council, Youth Leaders	GPD, LGA Peace Desk, Security Agencies	3 months	Functional peace committee handling local

	including farmers, herders, women & youth				disputes
Enhance dialogue and trust between farmers and herders	Organize quarterly joint dialogue sessions on grazing, farming, and water sharing	Community Leaders, Religious Leaders	GPD, Livestock Guards, Civil Defence	Ongoing	Improved relationships and reduced tension
Improve livelihood and economic resilience	Facilitate fertilizer and farm tool distribution through cooperatives	Farmers' Union, Youth Groups	Benue State Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs	4–6 months	Increased crop yield and income
Empower women and youth	Create local cooperative groups for access to micro-credit and skills training	Women Leaders, Youth Leaders	SMEDAN, GPD, LGA Women Affairs	6 months	Increased household income and reduced unemployment
Strengthen early warning and response	Train peace committee on conflict monitoring, reporting, and response	Ward Peace Committee	GPD, Benue Peace Commission	3 months	Early intervention and reduction in violent incidents
Promote environmental resilience	Launch tree planting and soil conservation campaigns	Farmers, Schools, Churches	Ministry of Environment, NGOs	1 year	Reduced erosion and restored farmlands

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

- i. Peace Committee: To coordinate CPRP implementation, meet monthly, and report to GPD and the LGA Peace Desk.
- ii. Traditional Council: Provide oversight and mobilize community compliance.
- iii. Youth and Women Representatives: Track progress of livelihood and empowerment initiatives.
- iv. GPD Field Officers: Conduct quarterly supervision and provide technical guidance.

Indicators of success:

- i. Reduction in recorded farmer–herder conflicts.
- ii. Improved access to farm inputs and market linkages.
- iii. Functional ward peace committee with regular reports.
- iv. Increased participation of women and youth in governance.

Sustainability

Sustainability will be ensured through integration of the CPRP into Buruku LGA development and peace structures. Capacity-building for local peace committees on mediation, conflict monitoring, and early warning will be prioritized. Joint farmer–herder market days and community clean-up campaigns will foster cooperation and collective ownership. Partnerships with local NGOs and self-help initiatives will sustain technical support, funding, and community engagement, ensuring long-term peace, resilience, and inclusive development in Shorov Ward.

Mbatyough Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

Mbatyough Ward experiences occasional land and boundary disputes among farming groups, often arising from unclear demarcation of farmlands. Crop damage and encroachment by itinerant cattle are frequent sources of tension, particularly during the rainy season when grazing routes overlap with farmland. Limited access to fertilizers, herbicides, and improved seeds reduces agricultural productivity, while inadequate government presence in agricultural extension and security services limits the community's capacity to prevent and manage conflicts.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The ward has relied on traditional leadership and community structures to maintain peace. Local elders and traditional chiefs mediate disputes between households, while religious leaders provide moral guidance and promote dialogue. Informal youth groups act as community vigilantes, supporting early intervention and basic security. These mechanisms, although informal, play a crucial role in sustaining local harmony.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

Livelihoods in Mbatyough ward are constrained by poor access to farm inputs and essential tools, resulting in low agricultural productivity. Inadequate road infrastructure limits market access, affecting income generation and economic cooperation. There are minimal empowerment programs for women and youth, and limited access to water, electricity, and other basic infrastructure further reduces resilience to economic and environmental shocks.

6. Community Peace and Resilience Plan

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS/GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
1. Enhance peaceful coexistence and local mediation	Establish and train a Community Peace and Early Warning Committee (CPEWC)	Traditional Leaders & Youth Representatives	GPD, LGA Peace Desk	3 months	Improved dialogue and conflict resolution
2. Strengthen agricultural productivity	Provide fertilizers, herbicides, and improved seeds to farmers	Farmers' Cooperative Societies	Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs	6 months	Increased crop yields and reduced tension

3. Promote women and youth empowerment	Support vocational training and business start-up kits (tailoring, POS, cassava processing)	Women & Youth Associations	MoWA, Skills Agencies	6–12 months	Economic inclusion and income diversification
4. Improve community security and vigilance	Strengthen vigilante networks and link them to formal peace desks	Youth & Security Committees	Civil Defence, Police, LGA Authorities	6 months	Safer communities and early response
5. Promote environmental resilience	Tree planting, water source protection, and hygiene sensitization	Schools, Faith Leaders, Youth Groups	Forestry Dept., NGOs	Ongoing	Improved water quality and reduced erosion

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

- Lead Implementing Body: Community Peace and Early Warning Committee (CPEWC) – Mbatyough Ward.
- Monitoring Tools and Indicators:
 - a) Quarterly progress review meetings.
 - b) Number of disputes mediated successfully.
 - c) Reports on livelihood support interventions.
 - d) Documentation of tree planting and empowerment activities.

Sustainability

To sustain the CPRP interventions, actions will be integrated into ward-level development planning and institutionalized within local leadership structures. Collaboration with local government, NGOs, and civil society will provide technical and financial support for youth and women empowerment initiatives. Strengthening community leadership and early warning systems, as well as establishing local monitoring groups, will ensure continuity, accountability, and long-term peace and resilience in Mbatyough Ward

Mbaye Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

Mbaye Ward is situated along the Katsina-Ala River, making it highly productive for farming but also vulnerable to seasonal herder invasions. Armed herders frequently encroach on farmlands during the dry season, causing crop destruction and heightening tensions with local farmers. Limited access to government support, fertilizers, and modern farm tools reduces agricultural productivity. Youth unemployment is high, increasing restiveness and vulnerability to conflict. These factors collectively affect both livelihoods and social cohesion in the ward.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The community relies on traditional rulers and elders who mediate land and resource disputes, while religious leaders promote moral guidance and peaceful coexistence. Volunteer youth groups act as local security and surveillance structures, providing early warning and support during potential conflict incidents. Although effective, these mechanisms are largely informal and require strengthening to address recurring seasonal tensions.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

Road infrastructure in the ward is poor, making access to farms and markets difficult during rainy seasons. There are limited agro-processing facilities for crops such as tomato, rice, and cassava, resulting in post-harvest losses. Water scarcity, due to few functional boreholes, constrains both domestic and agricultural use. Additionally, women are weakly included in decision-making processes, limiting opportunities for household income diversification and community resilience.

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS/GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
1. Promote peaceful coexistence and early warning	Establish a Community Peace and Early Warning Committee (CPEWC) and organize quarterly dialogue meetings with herders	Traditional Leaders, Youth, Elders	GPD, LGA Peace Desk, Police	3 months	Improved communication and reduced conflict incidents

2. Enhance youth employment and empowerment	Launch business and vocational empowerment programs (POS, tailoring, welding)	Youth Leaders, Prominent Sons & Daughters	MOWA, NGOs, GPD	6 months	Increased youth productivity and reduced idleness
3. Improve agricultural productivity	Provide fertilizer, herbicides, and improved seedlings to farmers	Farmers' Cooperatives	Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs	6 months	Enhanced food security and reduced tension
4. Strengthen local infrastructure for livelihoods	Construct bridges and repair rural access roads to markets	Ward Development Committee	Local Gov't, Public Works Dept	9 months	Improved market access and community mobility
5. Support agro-processing and value addition	Establish tomato and cassava processing centers	Women & Youth Groups	GPD, Agro-Partners	12 months	Reduced post-harvest loss and increased income

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Monitoring and Coordination:

- i. The CPEWC will coordinate CPRP implementation and submit quarterly reports to the Ward Development and Peace Committee (WDPC).
- ii. The Youth Group and Volunteer Guides will serve as field monitors.
- iii. Indicators:
 - Number of community peace dialogues held.
 - Number of trained youth/women empowered.
 - Decrease in reported farmer-herder conflicts.
 - Increase in farm productivity and local income sources.

Sustainability

Sustainability will be ensured by institutionalizing the peace structures within the Ward Council and integrating CPRP actions into LGA peace and development plans. Capacity-building for local peace monitoring and mediation will be continuous. Partnerships with relevant ministries, civil society organizations, and GPD will provide technical and financial support. Continuous participation of women and youth in dialogue and development initiatives will strengthen ownership, ensuring long-term peace, resilience, and inclusive growth in Mbaya Ward.

Mbayaka Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

Mbayaka Ward experiences frequent farmer–herder tensions, especially during migration seasons when cattle destroy farmlands and contaminate streams and wells. Limited government presence and poor access to security services exacerbate these conflicts. The absence of structured dialogue and communication channels between farmers and herders reduces opportunities for peaceful resolution. Youth idleness and frustration, stemming from limited economic and empowerment opportunities, further heighten social tension.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The ward relies on the leadership of the district head and elders to mediate disputes, while religious leaders serve as moral influencers and mediators. Volunteer guides maintain local order during conflict incidents, and weekly community meetings provide a platform for dialogue. However, these mechanisms are largely informal and require coordination, reinforcement, and linkage with Buruku LGA peace structures for greater effectiveness.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

Mbayaka Ward livelihoods are constrained by inadequate access to fertilizers, tools, and improved seedlings. Poor rural road networks and limited electricity hinder market access and economic growth. Health facilities and potable water are insufficient, while youth and women have limited inclusion in economic activities. Climate-related stress, including drought and flooding, further affects agricultural productivity and household resilience.

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS / GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
Strengthen Peace building and Dialogue	Establish a community peace committee with farmer–herder representation	Traditional leaders, Youth & Women Leaders	LGA Peace Desk, Security Agencies, GPD	3 months	Reduced tension and improved early response to conflict
Enhance Livelihood Recovery	Provide fertilizers, herbicides, and farming tools to smallholders	Farmers' Groups	GPD, Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs	6 months	Increased food production and income generation

Improve Infrastructure and Resource Access	Rehabilitate access roads and construct boreholes	Ward Development Committee	LGA Works Dept., Donors	9–12 months	Improved mobility and access to clean water
Promote Youth & Women Inclusion	Facilitate vocational training and business empowerment programs	Youth and Women Groups	GPD, Cooperative Associations	6 months	Reduced unemployment and social tension
Strengthen Early Warning and Monitoring	Set up a local early warning system linked to community volunteers	Volunteer Guides, Elders	Security Agencies, GPD	3 months	Timely conflict alerts and preventive action
Support Agroforestry & Environmental Restoration	Plant trees and promote soil conservation	Farmers, Schools, Youth	Benue Forestry Dept., NGOs	1 year	Improved ecosystem resilience and shared natural resource management

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

- Monitoring Structure: The Peace Committee will coordinate monthly progress reviews supported by the Ward Development Committee and youth leaders.
- Indicators of Success:
 - a) Reduced farmer–herder incidents
 - b) Increased joint activities (dialogues, trainings)
 - c) Improvement in farming productivity
 - d) Establishment of functional community boreholes and security posts

Sustainability

To ensure sustainability, CPRP actions will be integrated into local development planning, and the capacity of peace committees will be strengthened for conflict-sensitive planning. Continuous gender mainstreaming and inclusion of youth will be prioritized. Partnerships with government agencies, private sector actors, and NGOs will secure technical and financial support for livelihoods interventions. Finally, a ward-level early warning and response system will be institutionalized to maintain long-term peace, resilience, and socio-economic stability in Mbayaka Ward.

Mbaazagee Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

Mbaazagee Ward experiences recurring tensions between farmers and migrant herders, especially during dry seasons when cattle encroach on farmland and contaminate streams. Poor infrastructure, including inadequate roads, lack of electricity, and limited access to clean water, contributes to community frustration and perceptions of neglect. These challenges affect both agricultural productivity and social cohesion, making the ward particularly vulnerable to seasonal disputes.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The ward relies on the leadership of Kindred Heads and Elders to mediate conflicts, while religious leaders and the Benue State Protection Guard support calm and order. Strong community unity, adherence to moral codes, and informal dispute resolution contribute to discouraging violent behavior. However, these mechanisms are largely informal and require systematic reinforcement, coordination, and integration with LGA structures for enhanced effectiveness.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

Key challenges include lack of clean water, limited access to fertilizers and herbicides, poor road networks, absence of local security posts, and climate variability with irregular rainfall and dry spells. These factors impact farmers, women, traders, and the entire community, reducing agricultural yields, hindering market access, and increasing vulnerability to environmental and socio-economic stressors.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

CHALLENGE	DESCRIPTION	AFFECTED GROUP(S)
Lack of clean water	No borehole; reliance on contaminated stream	Entire community
Poor road access	Limited transport for goods and emergency movement	Farmers and traders
Limited access to fertilizer/herbicides	Low productivity, high cost	Farmers and women
Absence of security post	Delayed response to threats	Entire community
Climate variability	Irregular rainfall, dry spells	Farmers

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS / GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS (NGOS, GOVT, TRADITIONAL LEADERS)	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
1. Improve access to clean and safe water	Drill community boreholes	Community Peace & Livelihood Committee (CPLC), Youth Leaders	Buruku LGA, RUWASSA, GPD	3–6 months	Reduced water-borne diseases and improved cooperation
2. Strengthen peace building and dialogue structures	Establish Community Peace Committee	Traditional Leaders, Religious Leaders	GPD, Benue State Peace Commission	2 months	Early detection and prevention of conflicts
3. Enhance agricultural productivity	Provide fertilizers and improved tools	Farmer Groups, Women Associations	Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs	Ongoing	Increased food production and economic stability
4. Improve infrastructure and mobility	Lobby for road rehabilitation	Community Development Association, Youth Group	LGA Works Department, GPD	6–12 months	Better market access and movement
5. Promote inclusion of women and youth in leadership	Create dedicated roles in peace and livelihood committees	Women & Youth Representatives	GPD, Traditional Council	Continuous	Strengthened participation and local ownership
6. Establish early warning and response systems	Identify local focal points for alerts	Vigilante and CPLC	Security Agencies, GPD	3 months	Timely response to threats or disputes

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

The CPLC will coordinate implementation and meet monthly to review progress, reporting quarterly to the LGA Peace Desk and GPD team. Traditional leaders will provide oversight and mobilization, while youth and women groups will lead action implementation. Monitoring indicators include reduction in conflict reports, increased access to clean water and farm inputs, and greater participation of women and youth in peace structures. Partnerships with the Benue State Peace Commission, GPD, RUWASSA, and the Ministry of Agriculture will provide technical guidance and support.

Sustainability

Sustainability will be achieved by integrating CPRP actions into Ward Development Plans and fostering community ownership through local contributions of labor, security, and maintenance. Continuous capacity building for peace committees and youth groups will be prioritized, alongside engagement with LGA officials for technical and financial support. Committee members will be trained on monitoring, documentation, and reporting to ensure long-term continuity of peace, resilience, and socio-economic development in Mbaazagee Ward.

Mbakyan Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

Mbakyan Ward is generally peaceful, with no permanent herder settlements. However, resource pressures during the dry season occasionally create tension, particularly around water and grazing areas. Past interactions with itinerant herders have highlighted the potential for conflict if resources are scarce. Traditional and religious leaders play a critical role in maintaining social harmony, mediating disputes, and fostering community cohesion.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The community relies heavily on the leadership of elders and traditional rulers to mediate disputes and maintain social order. Religious leaders contribute moral guidance and foster reconciliation, while consensus-based, dialogue-driven decision-making ensures that community voices are considered in resolving conflicts. However, these mechanisms remain largely informal and require coordination with LGA structures for more sustainable outcomes.

KEY LIVELIHOOD AND DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

The community faces multiple development and livelihood constraints. Lack of clean water forces residents to rely on streams, while poor road networks hinder trade, transport, and access to health facilities. Farmers experience low productivity due to limited fertilizers and herbicides. Health services are inadequate, leaving women, children, and the elderly vulnerable. Idle youth, coupled with limited electricity, reduce economic opportunities and contribute to restiveness within the community.

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS / GROUPS	SUPPORTING PARTNERS (LGA, NGOS, GPD, ETC.)	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
1. Improve access to healthcare	Build/upgrade community health center	Traditional Council, Youth Leaders	Buruku LGA Health Dept., NGOs	6–12 months	Reduced mortality and better access to health
2. Boost agricultural productivity	Provide fertilizers, herbicides, and farm tools	Farmers' Association, Women Groups	Ministry of Agriculture, GPD	Seasonal (March–August)	Increased yield and income
3. Enhance youth empowerment	Vocational skills training and financial inclusion	Youth Leaders, Elders	GPD, SMEDAN, NGO partners	3–6 months	Reduced unemployment and crime

4. Increase access to clean water	Drill boreholes in key locations	CPLC, Elders	RUWASSA, LGA Water Dept., NGOs	6 months	Clean water and reduced disease
5. Improve road infrastructure	Advocate for road grading/rehabilitation	Traditional Council, Youth Group	LGA Works Department	12 months	Better mobility and trade
6. Strengthen peace structures	Establish Community Peace & Livelihood Committee (CPLC)	Religious & Traditional Leaders	GPD, Benue Peace Commission	2 months	Institutionalized peace dialogue

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

The CPLC will monitor progress on a monthly basis, reporting to the Ward Development Committee, which in turn feeds into the Buruku LGA Peace Desk and GPD. GPD will conduct quarterly reviews with local authorities. Key indicators of success include the number of boreholes constructed, frequency of peace meetings, improved agricultural productivity, reduction in reported disputes, and better access to health facilities.

Sustainability

To ensure sustainability, CPRP actions will be integrated into existing Ward Development Plans, with active community ownership through contributions of labor, materials, and leadership. Peace committees will receive continuous capacity building on dialogue, mediation, and project tracking. Partnerships with local NGOs, private actors, and government ministries will be strengthened to support livelihoods and community development. The CPLC will be formally inaugurated, the CPRP submitted to the LGA Peace Desk and Benue State Peace Commission, and partnership mobilization with GPD and relevant ministries initiated.

Mbaikyongo Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

Mbaikyongo Ward experiences recurrent communal land disputes, particularly with the neighboring Nyifun-Mbayaka communities. During the dry season, limited access to water intensifies competition over streams and wells. Farmers face challenges due to scarce farming tools and poor road infrastructure, which constrains access to markets and reduces income opportunities. These challenges, combined with limited engagement of women and youth in community decision-making, exacerbate tension and social vulnerability.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The community relies heavily on the leadership of elders and traditional rulers to mediate disputes and maintain social order. Religious leaders contribute moral guidance and foster reconciliation, while consensus-based, dialogue-driven decision-making ensures that community voices are considered in resolving conflicts. However, these mechanisms remain largely informal and require coordination with LGA structures for more sustainable outcomes.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

Farming in the ward is predominantly rain-fed, making households vulnerable to dry-season scarcity between March and May. Access to clean water, electricity, and health facilities is limited, while women and youth face constrained opportunities for economic participation and decision-making. These factors collectively affect productivity, income generation, and overall resilience.

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS/GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
Peace building and Dialogue	Establish a community peace committee with farmer and youth reps	Youth & Women Leaders	Local Gov't Peace Desk, Security Agencies	3 months	Reduced conflict incidents
	Conduct quarterly inter-community dialogue meetings	Traditional Leaders & Elders	NGOs, Local Gov't	Ongoing	Early conflict detection and resolution
Livelihood Recovery and Cooperation	Construct 4 boreholes (Uga, Mate, Iorough, Ateka-old Uga)	Community Development Committee	Government/NGOs	6 months	Access to clean water for all

	Provide farming tools during dry season	Farmers Union & Youth Leaders	GPD/NGOs	4 months	Increased farm productivity
Environmental Restoration and Resource Sharing	Implement small-scale agroforestry along communal lands	Farmers & Women Groups	Local Gov't, NGOs	12 months	Reduced soil degradation, improved communal resources
Youth and Women Inclusion	Form youth and women subcommittees in peace initiatives	Youth & Women Leaders	Traditional Leaders	3 months	Enhanced participation in decision-making
Monitoring and Early Warning	Set up seasonal monitoring for water scarcity and communal land disputes	Peace Committee	Local Security Agencies, NGOs	3 months	Timely preventive action
Agro-pastoral Mutual Benefits	Engage neighboring communities in shared resource agreements	Elders & Community Leaders	Government, NGOs	6 months	Reduced inter-community conflict
Agroforestry Initiatives	Plant fruit trees along farmlands and grazing corridors	Farmers & Youth	Local Gov't, NGOs	12 months	Long-term environmental and livelihood resilience

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

- Community peace committee to track progress monthly.
- Youth and women focal points to report challenges and progress.
- Partnerships with NGOs and local government to provide technical and logistical support.
- Indicators: Reduced conflict incidents, improved access to water and farming tools, enhanced inter-community cooperation, active participation of youth and women.

Sustainability

- Ensure community ownership through regular committee meetings and quarterly validation sessions.
- Integrate plan into local government development programs.
- Provide capacity-building for committee members on conflict mediation, resource management, and climate-smart agriculture.

Mbaatirkyaa Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

Mbaatirkyaa Ward experiences occasional tension mainly due to historical land disputes, seasonal farmer–herder interactions, and water scarcity during the dry months. These challenges affect farming activities, livestock management, and settlement expansion. The community relies heavily on traditional leaders and elders to mediate disputes and enforce customary norms, while religious leaders provide moral guidance. Youth leaders play a key role in monitoring tensions, and decisions are often reached through inclusive community consensus.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The community relies heavily on the leadership of elders and traditional rulers to mediate disputes and maintain social order. Religious leaders contribute moral guidance and foster reconciliation, while consensus-based, dialogue-driven decision-making ensures that community voices are considered in resolving conflicts. However, these mechanisms remain largely informal and require coordination with LGA structures for more sustainable outcomes.

LIVELIHOOD AND RESILIENCE CHALLENGES

The ward faces several development and livelihood constraints. Limited functional boreholes force residents to rely on streams, which become scarce during dry seasons, affecting both domestic use and livestock. Agricultural productivity is low due to limited availability of fertilizers and herbicides. Poor infrastructure, including roads, health facilities, and schools, restricts access to markets, health services, and education. Seasonal floods or dry spells further stress crops and livestock, and the lack of youth and women participation in decision-making limits social cohesion and economic opportunities.

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS / GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
Peace building and Dialogue	Establish a community peace committee with farmer–herder reps	Elders, Youth Leaders	Local Gov't Peace Desk, NGOs	3 months	Reduced conflicts and early dispute resolution

	Conduct quarterly peace dialogues and conflict sensitization	Community Peace Committee	Religious Leaders, NGOs	6 months	Improved trust and cooperation
Livelihood Recovery and Cooperation	Facilitate provision of fertilizers and herbicides	Farmers' Association	Govt. Agric. Dept, NGOs	4 months	Increased crop yields
	Develop boreholes for clean water	Community Leaders	Govt, NGOs	6 months	Reduced water-related disputes
Environmental Restoration and Resource Sharing	Rehabilitate stream banks and tree planting	Youth Groups	NGOs, Community	6 months	Reduced environmental degradation and soil erosion
Youth and Women Inclusion	Include women and youth in decision-making for development projects	Community Leaders	NGOs	Ongoing	Strengthened inclusion and representation
Monitoring and Early Warning	Establish local early warning system for conflicts	Youth, Elders	Local Security Agencies, NGOs	3 months	Timely reporting and conflict prevention
Agro-pastoral Mutual Benefits	Promote cooperative pasture and crop-sharing agreements	Farmers and Herders	Community Leaders, NGOs	Dry season annually	Reduced farmer-herder tensions
Agroforestry Initiatives	Plant multi-purpose trees along farmlands	Farmers, Youth	NGOs, Community	1 year	Improved soil fertility, shade, and resilience

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

The community peace committee will monitor progress through quarterly review meetings. Elders and youth will serve as focal points, with technical support provided by NGOs and local government authorities. Success will be measured through reduced conflict incidents, functional boreholes, increased crop production, and inclusive participation in community development projects.

Sustainability

Sustainability will be ensured through strong community ownership, with the peace committee leading the execution of activities. CPRP initiatives will be integrated into ward-level development plans, and committee members will receive continuous training in conflict resolution, sustainable agriculture, and water management. Partnerships with local NGOs, government agencies, and development organizations will be leveraged to support long-term livelihoods, peacebuilding, and environmental resilience.

Mbaade Ward

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

KEY CONFLICT DRIVERS

Mbaade Ward experiences occasional tension, primarily due to farmer–herder interactions when herders encroach on farmlands, damage crops, or contaminate water sources. Water scarcity during the dry season and limited safe drinking water heighten competition for resources, occasionally leading to disputes. Poor infrastructure, including untarred roads and missing bridges, restricts mobility, market access, and emergency response. The absence of a functional hospital or primary health care center exposes residents to health risks, while idle youth and limited electricity reduce economic opportunities and contribute to restiveness.

EXISTING PEACE MECHANISMS

The existing peace mechanism in the ward include the mediation role of traditional rulers and elders, the moral guidance and conflict moderation provided by religious leaders, and selective participation of youth and women in local decision-making. Despite these mechanisms, the community remains vulnerable to seasonal conflicts due to resource scarcity. Access to farming tools, fertilizers, and markets is limited, and environmental stressors such as river flooding and dry season water shortages exacerbate livelihood challenges.

COMMUNITY PEACE AND RESILIENCE PLAN

OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	LEAD ACTORS/GROUPS	SUPPORT ACTORS	TIMELINE	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
Reduce Farmer-Herder Conflicts	Establish a community peace committee with farmer and herder representatives	Youth & Women Leaders	Local Gov't Peace Desk, NGOs	3 months	Reduced conflict incidents
Improve Water Access	Drill boreholes and maintain streams	Community Leaders	NGOs/Government	6 months	Adequate and safe water for all
Enhance Road and Bridge Access	Construct/repair key roads and bridges	Community Leaders & Youth	Local Gov't, NGOs	12 months	Improved mobility, market access, emergency response
Strengthen Healthcare	Establish a primary health care center	Community Leaders	NGOs/Government	12 months	Access to healthcare for all

Empower Youth and Women	Train in peace building, resource management, and leadership	Youth & Women Groups	NGOs, Religious Leaders	6 months	Increased inclusion in decision-making and local governance
Promote Livelihood Cooperation	Introduce shared farming and fishing initiatives	Farmers, Youth	NGOs/Government	6 months	Improved productivity and cooperation
Environmental Restoration	Riverbank protection and community clean-ups	Youth & Women	Local Gov't, NGOs	6 months	Reduced environmental degradation and resource-based conflicts

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

The Community Peace Committee will monitor conflict trends, coordinate interventions, and ensure timely reporting. Traditional leaders, youth leaders, and women leaders will serve as focal points for tracking the progress of activities. Partnerships with local government and NGOs will provide technical and material support. Success will be measured by reductions in farmer–herder conflicts, functional boreholes and health facilities, improved road access, and active participation of youth and women in decision-making.

Sustainability

Sustainability will be maintained through strong community ownership, regular committee meetings, and contributions of labor, materials, and leadership. CPRP activities will be integrated into the ward development plan, with ongoing capacity building for conflict mediation, water management, and resource monitoring. Annual review sessions will allow the plan to be updated in response to emerging challenges, ensuring that Mbaade Ward remains peaceful, resilient, and inclusive.

