

#DEFYHATENOW



2020

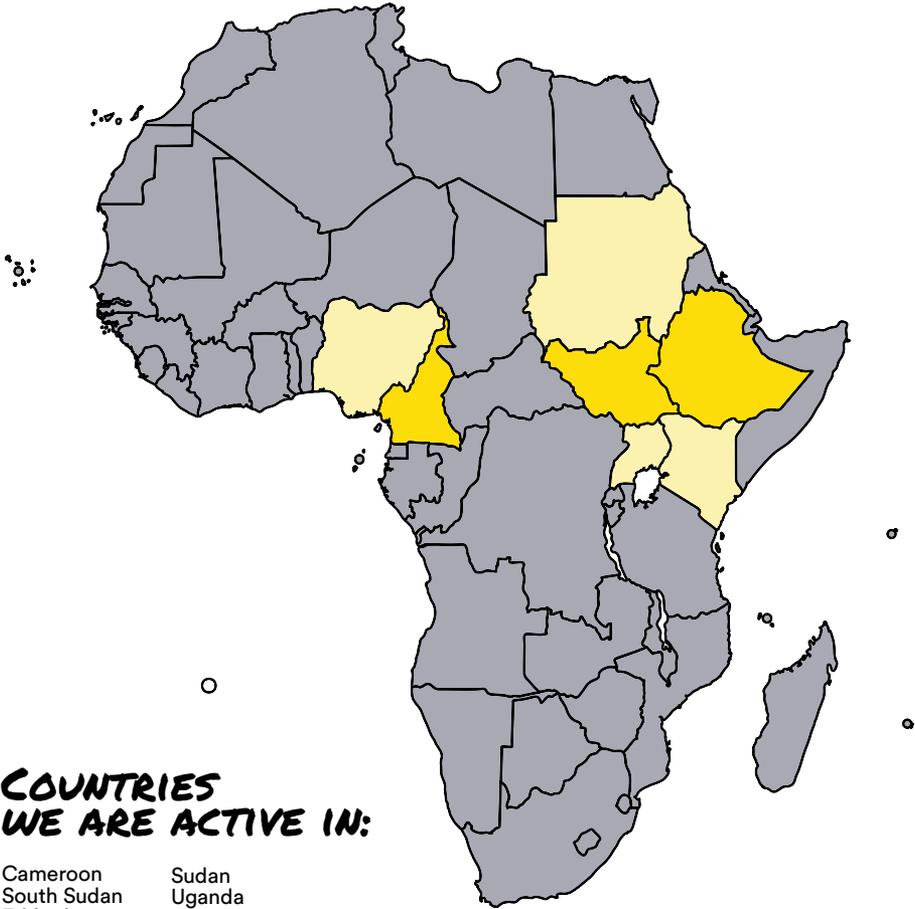
Annual Report

Speak Up. Educate. Share Responsibly.



SPEAK UP. EDUCATE. SHARE RESPONSIBLY.

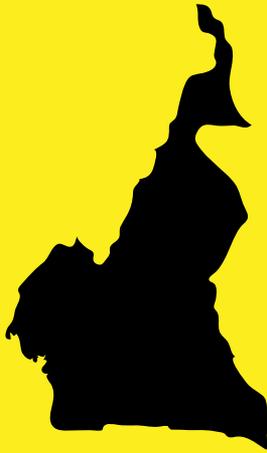
The #defyhatenow initiative works on providing community-based and data-driven solutions to the problem of hate speech, disinformation and misinformation. Our work focuses on creating a framework for increasing trust between stakeholders by mobilising civic action against all forms of hate speech and incitement to violence, including disinformation exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.



**COUNTRIES
WE ARE ACTIVE IN:**

- | | |
|-------------|---------|
| Cameroon | Sudan |
| South Sudan | Uganda |
| Ethiopia | Kenya |
| | Nigeria |





#DEFYHATENOW CAMEROON

#defyhatenow Cameroon works towards strengthening the voices of youth while supporting the actions of the community and media-oriented civil society organizations to counter social media based hate speech, conflict rhetoric and directed online incitement to violence in response to Cameroon's 'Anglophone Crisis'. The project provides capacity building and media literacy trainings to enable community based organizations and citizens, including people displaced by conflict, to become positive influencers with counter-actions, fact-checking and early response monitoring skills, peacebuilding, as well as education and culture oriented activities in a rapidly evolving social media landscape in Cameroon.

#defyhatenow Cameroon has partnered with our main implementing partner Civic Watch who is a community based organization whose main goal is to mobilize civic action to counter violent extremism online and offline. Civic Watch works in a constantly changing environment, where the youths are finding more solace in the use of social media to express their views.

4. 05. 2020

FACT-CHECKING COVID-19 WEBINAR FOR JOURNALIST

Misinformation about COVID-19 has spread around the world even faster than the disease. In response, #defyhatenow Cameroon partnered with Africa Knowledge and Policy Center to organize a fact-checking Covid-19 webinar for journalists in Cameroon. The immediate objective of the intervention was to rapidly equip journalists to respond to



the growing problem of misinformation by increasing their knowledge and providing them with tools to detect and correct COVID-19 misinformation.



THE AFRICA FACT CHECKING FELLOWSHIP CAMEROON

Africa Fact-checking fellowship dubbed #AFF was designed as follow up and to succeed #FactsMatter237 fellowship which ran till late 2019. #AFFCameroon is an initiative by #defyhatenow in partnership Data Cameroon which aims at promoting fact-checking, data journalism, and digital rights among journalists, bloggers, and content creators in Africa. During the launch of the program fellows discussed strategies to handle misinformation and disinformation and make available exceptional contents on social media.

In 2020 the fellowship had 8 sessions as outlined below;

14. 07. 2020 #AFFCameroon Fellowship Launch

July/August #AFFCameroon Fellowship Virtual Session

July/August #AFFCameroon Fellowship Virtual Mentorship Session

15-16. 08. 20 #AFFCameroon Monthly Meeting

18-19. 09. 20 #AFFCameroon follow-up

20-21. 10. 20 #AFF Cameroon /Corona Facts Workshop

20-21. 11. 20 #AFFCameroon

18-19. 12. 20 #AFF Cameroon Cohort



CATALYZING MEDIA FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE PROGRAM

Through its partner the Africa Knowledge and Policy Center (AKPC), #defyhatenow has put in place a capacity development project to strengthen the media in #Cameroon, to prevent violent conflict and contribute to peace and justice.

We had various sessions in 2020 as outlined below;

13-15.08.20 Catalyzing Media for Peace and Justice in Cameroon Buea

3-5. 09. 20 Catalyzing Media For Peace and Justice in Cameroon

8-9. 10. 20 Catalyzing media for peace Bafoussam



15. 08. 2020

HEALING INVISIBLE WOUNDS

The ongoing crisis in the North West & South West Regions of Cameroon has caused pain and hardship on the local population, so many people are left traumatised, heart breaks and depressed with women and girls constituting the vulnerable group and most at time direct victims. #defyhatenow partnered with Hope Advocates Africa an organization specialized in providing psycho-social support and counselling to survivors of violence, in organizing a Trauma Healing Program for predominantly women and girls.



19. 08. 2021

FIGHTING HATE SPEECH IN FAKO

#defyhatenow in partnership with Reach Out hosted a one-day training for the fight against #HateSpeech in Fako Division with over 30 male & female youth leaders in #Buea.



26. 08. 2020

HATE LEAVES MY COMMUNITY, ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS IN PIDGIN ENGLISH (ABPE) BUEA

The “Association of Pidgin English Broadcasters” is one which focuses on communicating in pidgin which is a local language common amongst Cameroonians especially the least educated. The meetup was held with the motive of educating Pidgin media professionals on what comprises hate speech and how to mitigate it in different communities.



27 - 29.08. 2021

HATE SPEECH NOT MY CULTURE BUEA

#defyhatenow in partnership with OnePeace discussed the root causes and effects of #HateSpeech during the three-day session in #Buea. The event targeted youth who have been affected in one way or another by the increased hate speech related to the Anglophone crisis.



31. 08. 2020

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BLOGGERS

The aim of this event was to sensitize bloggers and social media users on a more efficient/responsible use of the social media for the construction of a sane digital environment where all Fake News and Hate speech is eradicated.



24 - 26. 09. 2021

THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN PEACE BUILDING

The “role of youth in peace building” was meant to influence the youths and their leaders who came from different walks of life, with the objective of educating them on the role they have to play as far as peace building is concerned in the society, and how dangerous their careless attitude can be on these platforms.



7 - 11. 09. 2020

TOGETHER AGAINST HATE IN MY COMMUNITY/STOPBADMOP

JE production organized #StopBadMop in partnership with #defyhatenow where they could interact with youths and educate them on how to relate with their fellow Cameroonians online and offline. Especially the internally displaced whom they have to mingle with in schools or their respective environments.



21. 09. 2021

#HATEFREE ABAKWA

The aim of these events was to encourage the sharing of factual information about Covid-19 to people and shun misinformation and rumors that made most people believe that Covid-19 is a myth. It also sought to reduce the level of community deaths due to lack of observing regulations meant to reduce the spread of Covid-19.



21. 09. 2020

#PEACEJAM 2020

The 21st of September is the UN International Day of Peace. This years #defyhatenow's #PeaceJam, had peace advocates from across the globe who joined in our annual #PeaceJam online due to the pandemic.



18. 10. 2020

HATE SPEECH IN SCHOOLS

Les cops d'abord in partnership with #defyhatenow held a radio program where they educated and discussed issues related to youths and their activities online and how they can be part of the ongoing fight against hate speech and violence and for them to also take note of the reality of false information.



11. 11. 2020

FIELD GUIDE LAUNCH - CAMEROON

The #defyhatenow Social Media Hate Speech Mitigation Field Guide is a tool to fight hate speech. The launch was held online with partners of the initiative in Cameroon to give them more insight on how to integrate it in their work and different contexts and localities. Over 100 participants joined us.



13 - 14. 11. 2020

MEDIA 4PEACE MENTORSHIP

#defyhatenow social media community is a solution to the problem of hate speech, violence, misinformation and disinformation today. The engagement by #defyhatenow to train and mentor journalists, bloggers and social media users is a great step to solve this problem.



20. 11. 2020

#HATEFREEABAKWA

Global Initiative for Digital Inclusion and Communication in partnership with #defyhatenow organized a training on hate speech and incitement of violence in Bamenda, with the aim of sensitizing the women living with disabilities to hate speech in the community.



26. 11. 2020

BLOGTALKSHOW

The BlogTalkShow was a meet up with bloggers from various locations in Cameroon. The event was held in Douala where the bloggers discussed issues concerning social media management and the transmission of information through articles and how they have benefited from additional resources to enhance their work.



27 - 28. 11. 2020

HATE LEAVES MY COMMUNITY

#defyhatenow in collaboration with One Peace organised in Buea a meet up with community and youth leaders on the dangers of hate speech and violence. Youth leaders from various localities were present and took the light lamp so they could also fight this ill in their various localities.



2 - 5. 12. 2020

TECH4PEACE BOOTCAMP

A five day tech4peace boot camp was held to create a conducive environment making technology an effective tool for peace processes and community cohesion, primarily responsible use of technology to counter violent extremism. The aim was to equip grassroots communities with a strong tech and design command shaping the conversation on technology use as a positive step towards peace.



4 - 11. 12. 2020

VIVRE ENSEMBLE

Vivre ensemble was a capacity building and advocacy program to train youth leaders as peace ambassadors and to fight community hate speech and incitement to violence. During these events, community leaders and youths were trained on cultural acceptance and unity in times of crises and also Traditional dances and activities relatable to the local community were incorporated.



9 - 12. 12. 2020

NON AU DISCOURS DE HAINE

A discussion in collaboration with our partner REDHAC was held in Douala, to explore tools to identify and mitigate fake news and fight online hate with community experts dubbed Non au discours de haine “No to Hate Speech”



16. 12. 2020

FIELD GUIDE TOT TRAINING

Partners were educated on how to use the field guide to fight hate speech in their respective communities, on how to use Social Media for

peace building. This session was held online with 24 community leaders, youth leaders and peace advocates.



#DEFYHATENOW SOUTH SUDAN

#defyhatenow was initiated in response to the way social media was being used to fan the conflict that erupted in South Sudan in December 2013, and again in July 2016. In 2019, a **#defyhatenow** Community Based Organisation was legally registered in Juba, South Sudan, which continued with the work already started by exporting the knowledge and experiences on mobilizing civic action to counter violent extremism online and offline to other regions.



31. 10. 2020

OFFICE LAUNCH/HOSTING AU - YOUTH ENVOY

#defyhatenow officially launched its new office located at Hai Malakal in Juba. The office launch coincided with the visit of Aya Chebbi, the AU youth envoy whom #defyhatenow had the pleasure of hosting at the new office premises.



31. 10. 2020

PANEL DISCUSSION ON AFRICAN YOUTH "SILENCING THE GUNS"

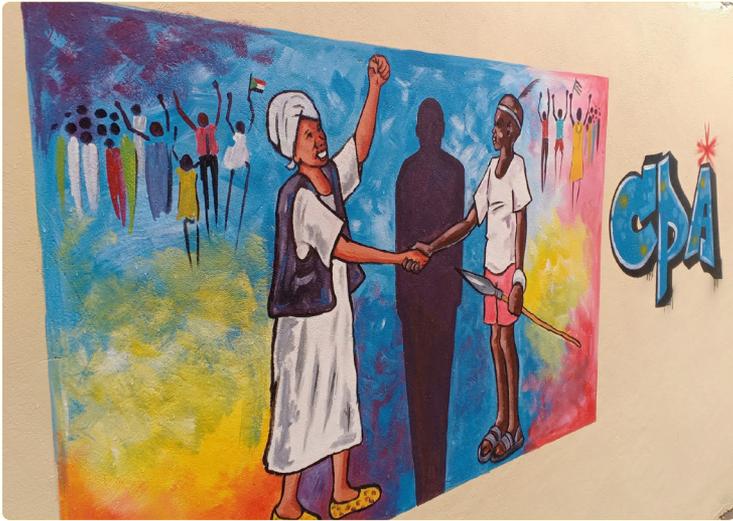
The panel discussion served as a preamble for Africa Youth day. The conversation was centred around the theme of African youth silencing the guns and featured South Sudan's Minister of youth as well as the AU-Youth Envoy, among others.



October 2020

PAINTING OF #HATEFREESOUTHSUDAN MURALS

#defyhatenow worked with a group of visual artists to paint cultural artworks showcasing the struggle ridden history of South Sudan and the role hate and conflict has played in it. The artworks cover the walls of the office compound and have proven to be an effective way to communicate the message of the awareness campaign as they are unique, intriguing and eye catching to all the visitors. Additional murals have also been painted in strategic locations across Juba.



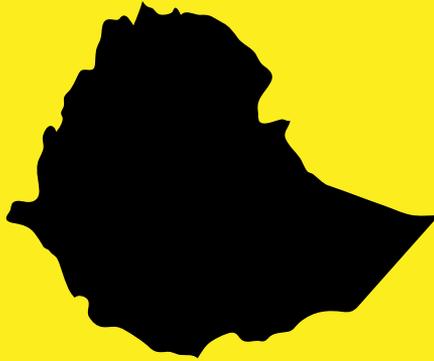
A painting by Akot Solip titled "CPA" showcasing the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005.

17. 12. 2020

SCHOOL VISIT UNDER #HATEFREESOUTHSUDAN CAMPAIGN



A team of artists alongside the #defyhatenow team visited LightHouse International School and conducted the Hate-Free South Sudan campaign through visual arts and eco-art. This was under the theme of the month titled "Different colours, One people". The pupils were taught about hate speech and discrimination and ways to mitigate them through fun and artistic ways.



#DEFYHATENOW ETHIOPIA

HATE SPEECH MITIGATION INTERVENTION IN BENISHANGUL-GUMUZ, ETHIOPIA.

#defyhatenow Ethiopia is a hate speech mitigation intervention in Benishangul-Gumuz region designed to enable the establishment of community based peace-building initiatives to combat online hate speech and mitigate incitement to offline violence. In a context of inter-communal tension, lack of concerted peacebuilding efforts or consequent sustainable development strategies in this region of Ethiopia bordering Sudan, social media platforms are being used by numerous groups and individuals, including diaspora citizens abroad, to exacerbate long-simmering conflict. The spread of hate speech and incitement to violence in social media leads to attacks and violent clashes between ethnic, social or religious communities.



24 - 26/02/2020

SOCIAL MEDIA CONFLICT ANALYSIS AND TRAINING

In early 2020 r0g_agency (Berlin) in collaboration with #defyhatenow team members from South Sudan, Kenya, Ethiopia and Germany began a #defyhatenow implementation in Ethiopia. Beginning with a social media conflict analysis and an introductory training February 24-26, 2020 with 35 students from the Poly Technic TVET College in Asossa, Benishangul-Gumuz, the workshop focused on prejudice awareness, hate speech mitigation,

and preventing online incitement to violence. The #defyhatenow Ethiopia project on social media hate speech mitigation, as a peacebuilding intervention in the Benishangul-Gumuz region, is commissioned by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH within the framework of the 'Cross-Border Collaboration Programme in Western Ethiopia and Eastern Sudan' funded by the European Union.

#DEFYHATENOW

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HYRAC TECH



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Les COP'S
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Reach Out



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