



#DEFYHATENOW 2021 ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

Taking action against online incitement to violence

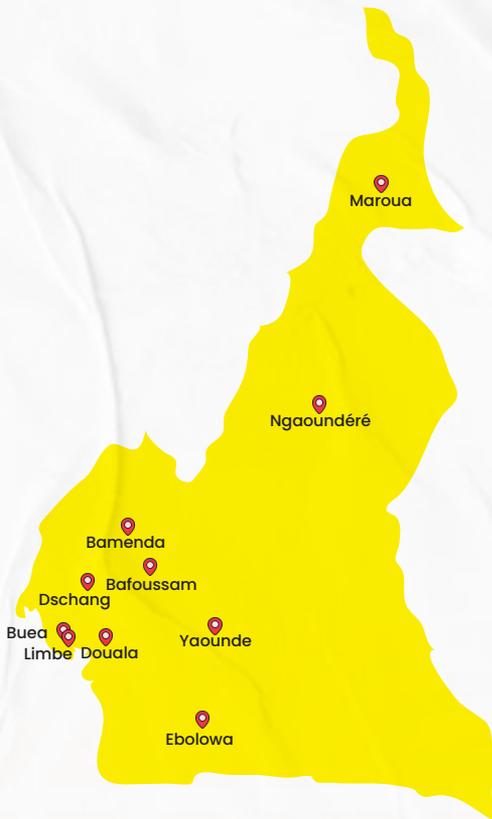


2021 ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

Through the years #defyhatenow has worked on providing community-based and data-driven solutions to the problem of hate speech, disinformation and misinformation over the years.

In 2021 through the Covid-19 pandemic the initiative continued to support the voices and actions of citizens working against online induced conflict within and outside affected regions by bringing youth, community leaders, grassroots organizations and further civil society stakeholders into a peace-oriented media and information literacy framework.

The initiative was most active in South Sudan and Cameroon.



#defyhatenow CAMEROON

In **Cameroon** the main mandate is **conflict reduction towards a #HateFreeCameroon** in the midst of the Anglophone Conflict.

Here are some of the activities we had divided by objectives;

TRAINING, WORKSHOPS AND CITIZEN ADVOCACY

29.01.2021 - University of Buea Symposium on Diversity and Hate Speech in the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon

In collaboration with the Department of International Relations / Conflict Resolution the initiative held a workshop to create awareness on hate speech / incitement to violence. It identified areas for further research on how to mitigate hatespeech willingness by students and lecturers to foster research on peace building.

18-19.02.2021 to 15.12.2021 - AFF Cameroon

The #Africa Fact-Checking Fellowship Cameroon promotes fact-checking, data journalism, and digital rights among journalists, bloggers, and content creators in Africa. In 2021 #defyhatenow Cameroon ran cohorts, 4 and 5 with the aim of training bloggers and content creators on Fact Checking, Information Verification, Hate Speech Mitigation and Peer Learning. A network of factcheckers has been created through equipping fact checking the fellows with tools, techniques and skills on effective modern fact checking for peace building.



20.04.2021 - Trauma healing and Psychosocial support.

Conflict and violence in the society, has a negative effect on individuals that leads to trauma. In collaboration with YAWAC Network an online trauma/healing session was held to promote mental health and provide skills on how to recognize, interact and provide psychosocial support trauma victims.

YAWAC NETWORK

TRAUMA HEALING AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

20th April 2021 | 5:00 pm Cameroon

With the different crises faced by the country and women and girls bearing the brunt of the effects more, we thought it wise to have this session so as to enable them to be resilient as well as support others around them who are in the same condition or more."

CAMEROON CHAPTER FOR WEST AFRICA

MEETING ID: 851 3263 9236
PASSCODE: 762646

AINEBYOONA SHARLOTTE KIGEZO
Trauma Healing Specialist/Community Manager Platform Africa

29.04. 2021 - Friedrich Ebert Stiftung FES Kamerun

This workshop trained female peace builders and mediators to counter the obstacles created by fake news and hate speech during the mediation process in their different communities. #defyhatenow used the social media hatespeech mitigation field guide as a resource.

15.05.2021 - Confronting prejudices as a driver of violence

Thirty adolescent girls and young women from conflict zones were trained on peacebuilding advocacy and good practices through intercultural dialogue in the North west region of Cameroon Bamenda.

13. 06. 2021 Combating Prejudice within the Health Sector

An #AFF meetup in Bamenda to demonstrate ways to combat social prejudice in the health care sector. It shed light on how social prejudices are a barrier in the health care sector, and how to mitigate them towards an informed health care sector.

17.06.2021 Engaging Muslims Youths in combating Hate Speech

A specialized meetup with Muslim youths in Fako, discussing how to mitigate hate in their communities.



January to August 2021 Catalyzing Media For Peace and Justice

Capacity Building Through Media4Peace Training and Mentoring Program; Peace Journalism Resources; and Media for Peace Research for conflict sensitive reporting. Journalists in various regions of Cameroon were trained on conflict sensitive reporting skills for better reporting, editorial and news writing strategy.



31.07.21 Community Outreach for Women

This workshop held in Bafoussam sensitised widows with skills to mitigate hate speech, engage in peace building activities, promote peace and social cohesion and recognize and handle trauma.

17-17.09.21 Festival International Ecran Slam

A series of events impacting more than 100 youths aimed at celebrating and promoting peace through the use of spoken arts, walk for peace, round table discussions.



02.10.21 Mobilising Action Against Hate Speech and Keeping Girls Safe Online

Leap Girl Africa held a workshop with girls from Yaounde on how to keep safe online in an environment marked by violent armed conflict.

5-6.10.21 #237Check Workshop

Journalists, bloggers and content creators gained skills on how to effectively run a fact checking platform as the 237Check platform was launched. The platform will further public discourse and counter false information through fact-checking and verification of information.

21.10.21 Media Guide Stakeholder Consultation

A workshop with Media Professionals, International Organisations and CSO's on how to effectively use the Media Guide to promote peace via conflict sensitive reporting in times of violent armed conflict.

10.11.2021 Droits Numériques et la Lutte Contre les Fake News en ligne

A meet up session by the #AFFCameroon fellows in Yaounde met students of Collège Allemand d'Odza were taken through a session on digital rights and how to recognise mis/dis/malinformation online. #ThinkB4UClick.



12-13.11.2021 Bloggers Summit 2021

#defyhatenow engaged bloggers on the basics of digital citizenship. They discussed the role of media in societies and methods of promoting safe digital spaces, while, creating content online.



15.12.2021. Meetup with Official of the Ministry of Health

Yaoundé based #AFFCameroon fellows had a session with Officials of the Ministry of Health on how best to use technology in their Covid response. How to mitigate mis/dis/malinformation in the health sector especially in regards to the Covid-19 pandemic.

RESOURCE MATERIALS

01.02.21 - Field Guide campaigns during the Youth week Douala

Using the Social Media Hate Speech mitigation Field Guide peacebuilder makerspace “JE production” ran a one week sensitization campaign in schools to educate youths on the dangers of hate speech and the need for a responsible use of social media.



February 2021- June 2021, Training of Trainers - The Field Guide Community Relays

The Social Media Hate Speech mitigation Field Guide ToT was organized to encourage and sensitize local organizations and stakeholders on the use of available resources to mitigate on/offline hate speech.

8 -9/ 06/ 2021 Peace Building and Mediation - Bamenda

A workshop with the Field Guide with women on their role in peace building and mediation to minimise hate speech in communities.



11 & 12. 06. 2021 Enhancing Youth Participation in Peacebuilding

A workshop organized in collaboration with “One Peace” to enhance youth participation in peacebuilding and hate speech mitigation in their institutions.

17 & 18. 06. 2021 Youth task force in combating hate speech

A workshop with youths in the university of Bamenda, to localize efforts in mitigating hate speech online and offline. Using the Field Guide resource kit students discussed their role in peacebuilding and how to combat mis/dis/mal information on/offline.

20.10.21 & 17.11.202 Apprendre Par Le Jeu

A workshop organised by ActiveSpaces and #defyhatenow using the Field Guide Game to bring together school children from different Primary and Secondary schools on the dangers of hatespeech online and how it can affect them offline.



INFRASTRUCTURE AND NETWORKING



16.07.2021 Peace Builder Maker's Spaces Hub

Internally displaced persons in Douala received skills on, peace building, hate speech mitigation and recognising incitement to violence. The six month capacity building program helped them adapt in their new environment and contribute positively in their host communities.

1-2.10.21 Hyrac Box (offline server) ToT

A workshop with CSO leaders on the practical usage of the Hyrac Box as an offline server for training in low internet and power access areas for peacebuilding efforts.

November 2021, #defyhatenow ASKotec Training

An open source training with the #defyhatenow #ASKotec kit for community trainers, created for mobile field-use where there is neither easy power nor internet connectivity used to provide life skills to less privileged youths who are more vulnerable to violence and conflict.



#defyhatenow Diaspora Meetup

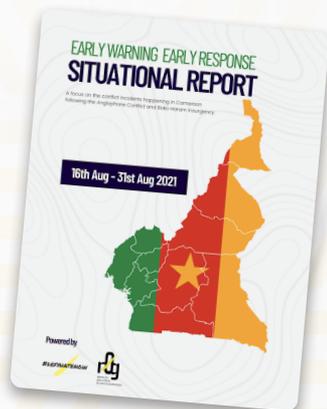
The event took place on 20.11.2021, at Schillerstr. 20, Berlin with an aim to create a network of Cameroonian diaspora actors and a platform to identify and support voices and actions mitigating and transforming the conflict. It followed the model of community dialogue focusing on informing on peace-oriented social media use, enhancing social media skills for diaspora-based influencers and open dialogue on common actions towards mitigating conflict in Cameroon.

The participants had specific discussions about the Anglophone conflict, its history, the role of the diaspora both as conflict influencers and as peacebuilders and what actions could be taken toward peacebuilding.



Situational Analysis Reports

The situational analysis reports identify, monitor, analyze and report conflict activities on the ground. This data is used to predict future conflict trends as an early warning and is shared with partners and communities for appropriate early responses. These reports are populated and backed by data from the Early Warning Early Response system.



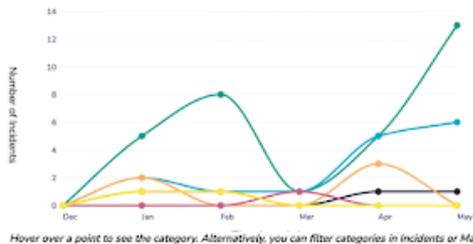
About EWER - The Mungo

The Mungo is figurative to the river that brings together the Anglophone and Francophone regions of Cameroon. It's a citizen journalism framework that crowdsources and maps conflict incidents mostly in the North West and South West regions for rapid response. Moreover we publish bi-weekly situational analysis reports highlighting the state of affairs in Cameroon and is intended to give an early warning for relevant effective responses. For you as our partner we foresee these reports aiding your planning and informing your community activities.

Recent Incidents

- Ambazonia fighters Burn Cars and...
According to the reports received....
- About 40 Young boys were...
It is reported that about....
- An Amba Colonel Killed Along...
Reports say the camp of....
- Military Officers Entered Guzang, arrested...
According to online sources like....
- Military Officers Attacked and Killed...
Many Military officers have lost....

Incidents Chart Overview



The Early Warning Early Response System_ The MUNGO

One of the challenges in monitoring online social media activity is needing to correctly interpret imminent acts of mass violence and summon a response to save lives.

The MUNGO, our Early Warning Early Response (EWER) system, plots, reports, and highlights violent incidents, patterns, and hotspots in Cameroon's conflict regions. Named after the river connecting Cameroon's anglophone and francophone regions, the MUNGO aims to provide timely online data analysis.

Some of the #AFFC Africa Fact-Checking Fellowship Cameroon alumni use their expertise to support keeping the MUNGO updated. Due to MUNGO's sensitive nature, access is limited to #defyhatenow trusted partners.

Africa Fact-checking fellowship and 237Check Platforms

Africa Fact-checking fellowship dubbed #AFFC is aimed at monitoring and mapping viral trends on social media related to the key thematic issues in Cameroon. It empowers fellows and alumni to embrace and promote fact-checking, data journalism, and digital rights among Cameroonian journalists, bloggers, and content creators. Apart from having a platform where fact-checked articles and social media health reports are routinely published, the three-month program provides fellows with the skills and tools needed to tackle the current misinformation challenges.

The 237Check is a coordinated platform that utilises the skills and tools and online resources the alumni have learned to build a critical mass of fact-checkers in Cameroon. The platform is run by #defyhatenow_Cameroon in collaboration with Association Civic Watch and UNESCO_Yaounde.

ONLINE CAMPAIGNS + CONFERENCES

February 2021 - ThinkB4Uclick Campaign

A one month online campaign that reminded Cameroonians on the dangers of mis/dis/malinformation and the effects of it offline. Led by five partner organisations the campaign focused on messages on how to recognise and mitigate mis/dis/malinformation.

#Artivism 2021

Mac Alunge of #StrawAcademy a partner of #defyhatenow, featuring several local organisations and individuals ran a #Art4Peace campaign that included 'The #OneAfrica Series', "ThinkB4Uclick" "P-E-A-C-E", "H-O-P-E-F-U-L", and "WORDS" had a mission to combat Hate Speech and Incitement to violence and build Peace and Social Cohesion in the Southwest and Northwest Regions of Cameroon with the use of Audiovisual Art (#Artivism). These projects were written and directed by Mac Alunge.



27.04.2021 - FriEnt PBF2021 (FriEnt Conference on Peacebuilding)

An online peacebuilding session gathering peacebuilding stakeholders from different parts of the world to discuss social media and peacebuilding: challenges and opportunities.



May 2021 “A #HateFreeCameroon online campaign”

A hate free Cameroon campaign to sensitise the public on the need to mitigate hate speech and promote peace and social cohesion in Cameroon. Citizens from all walks of life updated their social media images with #HateFreeCameroon messages and took a commitment to promote peace and mitigate hate speech.



25.06.21 How To Effectively Combat Hate Speech/ Fake News In Our Society

A meet up by AFF fellows on My Media Prime’s TV program “In The House” livestreamed on facebook on how to mitigate hate speech and fake news in the society using online tools to factcheck.

21.09.21 #Peacejam2021 “Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world”

#defyhatenow, marked the **International Day of Peace** with discussions on how people displaced by conflicts can be part of peace talks and contribute more effectively to the social and economic recovery of their countries. There were two online discussions **Recovering after displacement - A chat with refugees and IDPs on their role in conflict transformation and Diaspora Voices on conflict mitigation and transformation.**

There were five offline activities in Cameroon and Kenya with activities ranging from activism to roundtable discussions on peacebuilding.





#defyhatenow SouthSudan

#defyhatenow South Sudan 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.

27/03/2021 Public Prosecutors training on Hate Speech, Prejudice and Incitement of Violence

Under the #HateFreeSouthSudan, #defyhatenow_EA organised a training on Hate Speech and Prejudice awareness for the state public prosecutors.



March 2021 - Peace Camps

I am Peace is a non-political youth led initiative that aims at addressing societal issues ranging from social to economic challenges using the power of art. It is a social forum that aims at empowering the youth through the use of available games, talents and skills.



Cybersecurity Awareness SafetyComm South Sudan

SafetyComm is an online community/platform that provides tools, methodologies, and resources on the online safety of social media users and digital natives. Our volunteer-based community actively provides technical training, user education, community experience sharing, and rapid response to social media safety incidents.



South Sudan Press Club Webinars

Forum for journalists, content creators & newsmakers to interact, network in South Sudan

South Sudan journalists, newsmakers, content creators Meet and Interact in a social setup that encourages the free flow of ideas for a free and flourishing media alongside a fair and open government.

The South Sudan press club partnering with #defyhatenow did Webinars on the fight against Misinformation and the roles of journalists in giving accurate information to the people:

Sunday, 25 April 2021, Role of individual journalist in reporting facts, identifying misinformation and challenges of covering news

Sunday, 2nd May 2021, South Sudan Press Club Meet-up to commemorate the World Press Freedom Day

Sunday 9th May 2021, Encountering Fake News and Misinformation

Sunday, 16th May 2021, Factors De-limiting women's engagement in Media

01.04.2021- Peace camp under #hatefreesouthsudan

The activity aimed at engaging different stakeholders to actively take part in creating a peaceful society for sustainable development.



#defyhatenow Ethiopia

#defyhatenow Ethiopia held a three-day workshop in Addis Ababa on March 15-17, 2021, for students and teachers from the PolyTechnic TVET College in Assosa.

March 15th-17th 2021, Building up social media literacy

The workshop focused on building up social media literacy and engagement to help mitigate hate speech and prevent harmful online content. The hybrid online/offline workshop was hosted by the GIZ, our partner in Ethiopia and resulted in the production of a bilingual Social Media Hate Speech Mitigation Field Guide Ethiopia.



#defyhatenow team 2021

#defyhatenow Cameroon

Ngala Desmond
Nganlay Laure
Kinang Derick Fai
John Paul Foingwe
Kanda Honourine
Tchiengue Donald
Mbong Vera

#defyhatenow Germany

Stephen Kovats
Susanne Bellinghausen
Blen Desta
Sara Budarz
Barbara Bichlmeier
Cornilius Fogha
Heike Bluthardt
Petra Kilian
Prime Illumin
Valerie Viban
Benedictus Agbelom

#defyhatenow Kenya

Kendi Gikunda
Paul Simiyu
Daniel King'ori

#defyhatenow Ethiopia

Hirut Dawit

#defyhatenow South Sudan

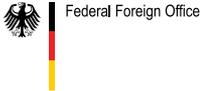
Marina Modi
Nelson Kwaje
Eleanor Macheso
Kimmie Otor
Deng Atem
Garang Abraham
James Kunhiak
Elizabeth Tumalu
Arok John
Ariik Robert Ajack
Emmanuel Bida
Alemi Daniel William
Dahlin Omer

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Partners, Collaborators & Community



Data Cameroon L'information citoyenne au service de la cité



Association des Blogueurs du Cameroun



YAWC NETWORK



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



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