



# ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

# 2023

# #DEFYHATENOW

**#defyhatenow** Cameroon is a community-based initiative with a focus on strengthening communities, providing data-driven solutions to mitigate social media-based hate speech, and mobilizing civic action against all forms of hate speech and online incitement to violence. We do this to work towards building a **#HateFreeCameroon**.

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#thinkandactforpeace

#HATEFREE  
CAMEROON

# 01 Introduction

**#defyhatenow Cameroon** works within and alongside the local communities to develop solutions to the challenges of online and offline conflict. In collaboration with its implementing partner, Association Civic Watch, the initiative engages youth, community leaders, grassroots organizations, and civil society stakeholders in a peace-oriented media and information literacy framework. This initiative bridges the knowledge gap between those with access to technology and those without, promoting awareness and understanding of online spaces.

By creating safe spaces for dialogue, **#defyhatenow Cameroon** addresses the complex issues surrounding the Anglophone crisis, involving both local communities and the diaspora. Our overarching goal is to empower communities to advocate for respectful public discourse, whether online or offline.

This activity report showcases the activities and accomplishments of the **#defyhatenow Cameroon** initiative in 2023.

**#HATEFREE  
CAMEROON**



# 02

## Knowledge Transfer and Direct Engagement with Educational Institutions

### Outreach to Schools for Responsible Use of Social Media

A school outreach to educate students in Douala in collaboration with Safe Youth Outreach. Students were trained on the responsible use of social media and how to mitigate hate speech online and within the school environment.



### Sensitization Campaign in Bangoulap Schools

A sensitization campaign in Bangoulap schools to promote the responsible use of social media. The campaign aimed to promote peace and social cohesion within both the school environment and the broader community



### ASKotec with Google developers Student Club University of Bamenda

A working session with students on open-source hardware and hands-on practice with the ASKotec Kit and the Hyrac Box.



## Peacebuilder Makerspaces 2023 with Peace Watch

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other vulnerable youth were trained in skills acquisition to enhance their self-reliance and reduce their vulnerability to hate speech and incitement to violence.



## Trauma Healing and Entrepreneurship Boot Camp for Internally Displaced (Peacebuilder Maker Spaces) Straw Academy

Internally displaced youths received training on coping with conflict-related trauma and promoting peace in their communities without resorting to violence.



## #AFFCameroon Cohort 8A

Training for journalists, bloggers, and content creators on fact-checking, information verification, and hate speech mitigation, including the submission of assignments.



**We Built  
Peace**

Trauma Healing and Entrepreneurship Boot Camp for Internally Displaced (Peacebuilder Maker Spaces) Straw Academy



## Tech Engagement to Mitigate Hate Speech with Digital Renter & ActivSpaces

A 3-day bootcamp featuring React Native software development and hate speech sensitization sessions. This event brought together IDPs, students, and job seekers to learn how to combat hate speech effectively.



## Master Classes with Journalists and Content Creators with Africa Check

Master classes organized by #defyhatenow and Africa Check to train journalists, CSOs, and content creators in fact-checking, combating fake news, and reducing hate speech online.



## #AFFCameroon Cohort 8B

Training for journalists, digital rights activists, bloggers, and content creators on fact-checking, information verification, and hate speech mitigation, including the submission of assignments.



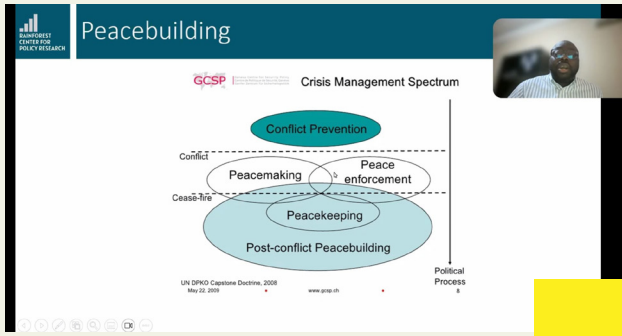
## Cyber Holidays BootCamp

A tech-for-peace boot camp designed to train youth in technology-related innovations that promote peace and social cohesion, utilizing the ASKotec kit.



## Conflict-Sensitive Reporting: Online Training

Journalists, bloggers, and content creators were trained in responsible reporting during conflicts to promote peace and social cohesion.



## Specialized Meetup AFF cohort8 Fellows

Cohort 8 fellows in Yaounde shared with youths of Mboahub on misinformation and the importance of verifying and information before sharing.



## #defyhatenow Clubs in Secondary Schools Yaoundé by NewSetter

A series of activities in secondary schools to sensitize and equip students with the knowledge to counter hate speech and violent extremism through club activities.



## #ASKCamp Bamenda

65 students of Votech – S7 Academy Bamenda were given access to skills and knowledge on hardware and graphic design to address the challenges faced in their communities for peaceful coexistence.



## #AFFCameroon Cohort 8C

A series of activities in secondary schools to sensitize and equip students with the knowledge to counter hate speech and violent extremism through club activities.



## ● Conflict-Sensitive Reporting

An on-site training session for journalists, bloggers, and content creators, including the production of modules on conflict-sensitive reporting to promote peace and social cohesion in Cameroon.



## ● #AFFCameroon Cohort 9B

Training for journalists on fact-checking and hate speech mitigation, featuring assignments and a focus on peer learning as a key component of the training process.



## ● #AFFCameroon Cohort 9A

Training for journalists, digital rights activists, bloggers, and content creators on fact-checking and hate speech mitigation, with assignments submitted at the end.



## ● Cameroon Association of Media Professionals (CAMP) - Limbe

#defyhatenow shared insights with journalists on effective cross-cultural communication as a tool against hate speech in humanitarian settings.



## ● Imams Build Capacity for Community Outreach

Training for journalists, digital rights activists, bloggers, and content creators on fact-checking and hate speech mitigation, with assignments submitted at the end.



- **Field Guide Implementation in Douala**

A session in Douala to equip community and youth leaders with skills for responsible social media use and promoting peace through community engagement.



- **Community Engagement with the Field Guide 2.0 - Garoua**

A TOT session to equip community and youth leaders with skills to ensure the responsible use of social media and promote peace through community engagement.





# 03 Community/Cultural Mobilisation and Advocacy

## • What Do Young People Want?

YOHEDA engaged youth on the importance of protecting their environment through civic responsibility and the responsible use of digital spaces.



## • Interfaith and Intercultural Discussion

A workshop with women from faith-based and cultural associations to discuss ways to promote peace and social cohesion by mitigating hate speech.



## • Youth4Peace Panel Discussion

An online session where youth shared strategies and experiences on building peace in their communities through their various activities.

**#YOUTH4PEACE PANEL DISCUSSION**

**I am Responsible for Building Peace & a #HateFreeCameroon**

10<sup>th</sup> February 2023 | On Zoom Platform  
1PM - WAT



**Mansour Maina**  
Association Kawtal / Garoua



**Moutoni Mireille Sandrine**  
Senior Youth & Animation Counsellor / Bertoua



**Ayuk Mbeng Lawrence**  
Pastor / Douala



**Kanda Honourine**  
Community Manager / Yaounde



**Innocent Yuh**  
Community Manager / Kumba

**Laure Nganlay, #defyhatenow / Civic Watch**

## • Football in Search of Well-being #Sports4PeaceBamenda

«Monday Soccer» was launched in Bamenda on March 27th, a “ghost town” day, to demonstrate football’s role in promoting peace and well-being in conflict-affected Anglophone Cameroon.



- **Win Hate Project with Dream Soccer Academy**

A sporting event aimed at using football as a tool to mitigate hate speech and promote peace and social cohesion within communities in the South West region.



- **Media Leaders' Forum Yaounde**

Journalists and media leaders gathered to discuss the challenges and opportunities of upholding free speech and countering hate speech in the media in Cameroon.



- **National Symposium on Hate Speech and Violence in Cameroon**

A symposium aimed at enlightening researchers, civil society organizations (CSOs), civil servants, and others about violence and hate speech in Cameroon, with the goal of improving policies to address these issues.



- **Community Engagement in Bonavada by Global Hand Cameroon**

Indigenous people and internally displaced persons (IDPs) from two villages in the Bonavada community in Buea were engaged in promoting sustainable livelihoods through peaceful coexistence and education.



- **Community Campaign for a World Where Peace and Harmony Reign in Nkongsamba**

A round table debate was held with local authorities and community members at the Nkongsamba Council Hall and on the radio to address the fight against hate speech in the community.





- **#PeaceJam2023 On Air with News Upfront**

A week-long podcast aired on radio and published online, featuring a talk show focused on mitigating hate speech among diverse communities. The program included a Peace Jam quiz with awards for the best messages.



- **Good Ambassadors of Hope (GWAH) Work with IDP Youths**

IDP and host community youths in the Eloumden neighborhood of Yaoundé engaged in activities aimed at mitigating hate speech, including drawing sessions, scrabble games, and sketches.



- **Community Engagement in Wum**

A project focused on creating and promoting inoffensive content both online and offline. Activities included spot announcements, micro-programs, and focus group discussions.



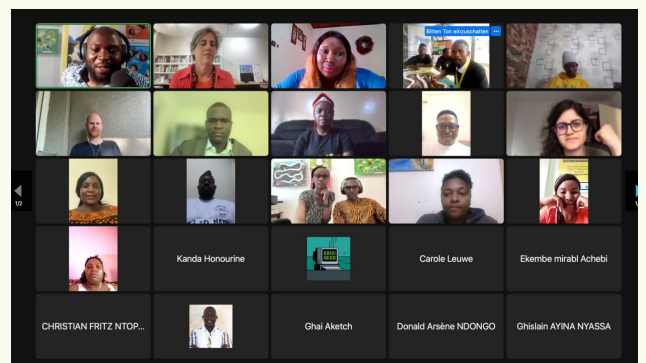
- **Onsite #PeaceJam2023 - Online Safe Spaces for Digital Security**

An onsite session with peace builders to commemorate the International Day for Countering Hate Speech, hosted as part of #DefyHateNow during PeaceJam2023.



- **Virtual #peacejam2023 - Online safe spaces for digital security**

Online session with peacebuilders to mark the International Day for Countering Hate Speech through #defyhatenow's peacejam2023.





- **Meetup: Sensibilisation des Femmes Réfugiées sur les Discours Haineux et les Fake News**

A meetup session aimed at sensitizing refugee women to the dangers of hate speech and fake news within their communities.



- **Advocacy Workshop Nkongsamba by Better Future**

A workshop with authorities to raise awareness and engage them in addressing hate speech, incitement to violence, and misinformation/disinformation within their spheres of influence.



- **Discussing the Benefits of Peace and Social Cohesion with Tamtam du Mboa**

A round table discussion and sensitization campaign aimed at mitigating hate speech and promoting social cohesion between the IDP and host communities of Bakoko.



- **Workshop on Peace Building & Mediation to Eradicate Hate Speech in Foubot**

A discussion between IDPs and communities in Foubot on how to coexist and promote social cohesion for peace.



- **Peace Weavers Cohort 1**

A session with youth leaders to discuss ways to collaborate on peace-building efforts and promote peace and social cohesion in various communities.





## ASKotec Silicon Mountain 2023

An event organized by tech hubs in the South West region to showcase the potential of technology in promoting peace and social cohesion.



## AFFC Cohort 9 Specialized Meetup

Cohort 9 fellows of AFFC engaged youth and community leaders in Foumban on combating hate speech in their communities and on social media.



## Meetup with Bamenda-Based Partners, Fellows, and Media Association Leaders

A meetup with partners in Bamenda to exchange strategies for enhancing efforts to mitigate hate speech, incitement to violence, and fake news.



# D4

## Social Media Monitoring, Analysis/ Ewer and Digital- Based Solutions

### Digital Inclusion: Embrace Equity For a #HateFreeCameroon

As part of the women’s day activities, #defyhatenow engaged women working in the technology space in sharing how they use technology to foster peace and development in their communities.

**Panelists #Women4Peace**

**#Women4Peace #IWD2023**

**#EmbraceEquity**

moderator: **Dr. Solange Swiri Tumasang**

panelist: **Oyindamola Seyi**

panelist: **Caroline Mveng**

panelist: **Bar. Balbine Manga**

panelist: **Sophie Ngassa**

panelist: **Catherine Molo Zeh**

**Digital Inclusion: Embrace equity and engage together for a #HateFreeCameroon**

**Date & Time: March 10, 2023 - 1pm**

**Venue: Zoom**

**#DEFYHATENOW**

### Women Journalists & ICT

A discussion with female journalists from journalism associations (JAFEC & CAMASEJ Yaoundé) sharing their experience on the use of information Technology in their day-to-day activities as journalists.



### Early Warning Early Response Framework Consultation

A brainstorming session on the early warning early response framework data collection team to discuss ways for an effective framework to promote peace and social cohesion in Cameroon.





- **Digital Engagement Exchanges with Content Creators & Influencers**

A discussion with online content creators and influencers on the responsible use of social media for peace and self-development.



- **Exploring the Role of Social Media in Fostering Peaceful Coexistence - AFFC Meetup**

A meetup by AFFCameroon fellows in Bamenda to raise awareness on the responsible use of social media to promote peace and social cohesion in communities.



- **National Celebrity Endorsement**

Social media influencers, content creators, and youth were educated on maintaining safe online spaces while mitigating hate speech and fake news.



- **Bamako Forum on Digital and Social Security**

#defyhatenow joined researchers, policymakers, and experts to discuss and develop long-term solutions for building peace in Africa.

# 05 Conflict Mitigation Resource Development

- **Online Engagement to Mitigate Hate Speech**

A video documentary featuring survivors of both online and offline hate speech, sharing their stories through personal storytelling.



- **Field Guide Implementation Ndop**

A session in Ndop focused on implementing the Field Guide to advocate for peace in communities, using it as a tool for peacebuilding.



- **Field Guide Implementation in Garoua-Boulai**

A discussion with authorities and youth leaders on promoting intra-cultural communication and peace using the field guide as a peace-building tool.



- **Pidgin Field Guide Implementation**

A session with broadcasters using the Pidgin English Field Guide to exchange ideas and produce programs for community radios focused on promoting peace and social cohesion.



- **Theatre Troupe Film Documentation on Hate Speech**

The Show Theatre Troupe produced a play on hate speech and bullying, which was later adapted into a short documentary film.





# #defyhatenow Team

## Berlin



**Stephen Kovats**

Co-initiator of #defyhatenow and Project Lead



**Susanne Bellinghausen**

Co-initiator of #defyhatenow and Global International Community Advisor



**Barbara Bichlmeier**

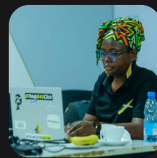
Finance and Book Keeping

## Cameroon



**Ngala Desmond**

Country Project Manager



**Laure Nganlay**

Communication Manager



**Kinang Derick Fai**

Conflict Research and Administration Coordinator



**Njodzeka Theresia Suimola**

Finance Coordinator



**Tchengang Tchiengue Loris Donald**

Digital Project Coordinator



**Kanda Honourine**

Community Coordinator



**Mbong Vera**

Social Media Coordinator



**Stephane Dipanda**

Graphic Designer



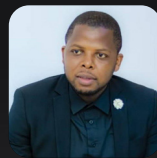
**Essoung N'noko Ruth Raïssa**

Monitoring and Évaluation Officer



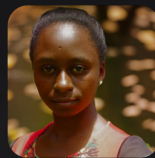
**Maxime Dapeu**

Human Monitor



**Vianney Forewah**

Tech Lead



**Mbu Stella**

Ewer monitor and Stakeholder engagement expert.



**NTEIN Nadine Bindey**

Human Monitor

## Kenya



**Kendi Gikunda**

Education Resources & KPI Management Lead



**Dan King'ori**

Tech Lead



**Njoki Kariuk**

Social Media Coordinator



# Partners, Collaborators & Community





## #DEFYHATENOW

#defyhatenow\_Cameroon est un programme de la r0g\_agency for open culture & critical transformation financé par une subvention du ministère fédéral allemand des Affaires étrangères, et mis en œuvre par l'Association Civic Watch, une organisation camerounaise à but non lucratif dirigée par des jeunes.

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### #CAMEROON

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