



# Annual Report 2025



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## Message from the CEO



The year 2025 represented an important milestone for GoGreen Environmental Health Sustainability Initiatives as we continued our work to support peaceful, resilient, and sustainable communities across Benue State. The operating environment remained complex, shaped by recurring farmer–herder tensions, climate variability affecting agricultural livelihoods, economic pressures on rural households, and broader security concerns. Despite these challenges, communities demonstrated remarkable resilience and commitment to peaceful coexistence.

Through the Agropastoral Integration for Peace and Sustainable Development (AIPASD) Project, GoGreen worked alongside local communities in 12 LGAs in Benue State, North Central Nigeria to strengthen grassroots peacebuilding mechanisms and promote sustainable livelihoods. Our approach continues to emphasize community ownership, inclusive dialogue,

and the “Do No Harm” principle, ensuring that interventions strengthen local capacity rather than create dependency. One of the most significant achievements of the year was the establishment and operationalization of Community Peace Committees (CPCs) across several project communities. These locally led structures now serve as trusted platforms for early warning, mediation, and conflict resolution, enabling communities to address disputes constructively before they escalate into violence.

At the same time, our programs placed strong emphasis on youth engagement, gender inclusion, and economic resilience. By creating opportunities for dialogue, strengthening livelihoods, and supporting youth empowerment initiatives, we worked to address some of the root causes that often contribute to conflict and social instability. The progress highlighted in this report reflects not only the dedication of the GoGreen team but also the leadership and commitment of community members themselves. We remain deeply grateful to our partners, development supporters, traditional leaders, and government institutions whose collaboration continues to make this work possible.

As we move forward, GoGreen remains committed to expanding community-driven solutions that strengthen peace, environmental sustainability, and inclusive development across Nigeria.

**Jackson Ameh, MSc, MBA, FCA**

**Chief Executive Officer**

## Executive Summary

In 2025, GoGreen Environmental Health Sustainability Initiatives implemented the Agropastoral Integration for Peace and Sustainable Development (AIPASD) Project under the SPRiNG Programme funded by the UK Government through the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office with technical support from Tetra Tech International Development Services. This project was implemented across several communities in 12 LGAs of Benue State. The project aimed to strengthen community-based peacebuilding mechanisms, reduce resource-based conflicts between farmers and pastoralists, and promote sustainable and climate-resilient livelihoods.

The project adopted an integrated approach that combined peacebuilding, livelihood support, climate-resilient agriculture, youth empowerment, and community awareness initiatives. By addressing both the immediate drivers and the structural causes of conflict, the interventions contributed to strengthening cooperation between farmers and pastoralists while improving economic resilience within participating communities. Throughout the year, GoGreen supported community peace dialogues and mediation platforms that created safe spaces for farmers, pastoralists, youth leaders, women representatives, and traditional authorities to openly discuss grievances and identify locally driven solutions. The establishment of Community Peace Committees (CPCs) further strengthened grassroots systems for early warning, dispute resolution, and community reconciliation.

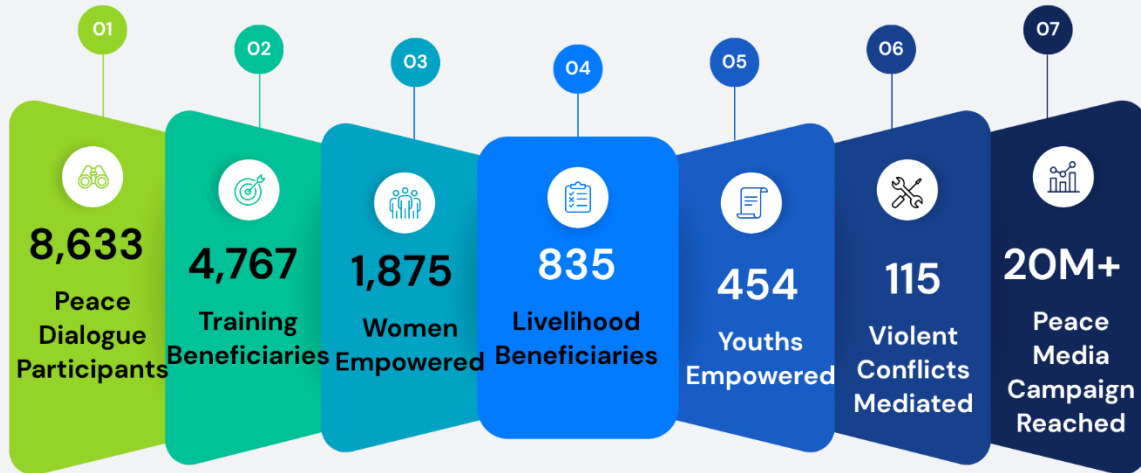
The project also supported farmers and pastoralists through climate-resilient agricultural training, livelihood support, and the distribution of improved agricultural inputs, helping communities increase productivity while promoting more sustainable natural resource management practices. Demonstration farms and practical training sessions further enabled farmers to adopt climate-smart agricultural techniques. In addition, youth empowerment and community development initiatives addressed critical social challenges, including substance abuse, unemployment, and gender-based violence. Livelihood training programs equipped young people with practical income-generating skills, while radio programs and public awareness campaigns amplified messages promoting peace, gender equality, and community cooperation.

Despite operating within a challenging security and economic context, the project recorded significant progress in strengthening community dialogue, local conflict resolution mechanisms, and climate-resilient livelihoods. The results demonstrate the effectiveness of community-driven approaches in building trust, preventing conflict, and supporting sustainable development.

These outcomes reflect the combined efforts of community members, local leaders, GoGreen staff, and development partners working together to promote long-term peace and sustainable development in Benue State.

# 2025 at a Glance

## What We Achieved



## Who We Are

GoGreen Environmental Health Sustainability Initiatives is a youth-led Nigerian non-governmental, not-to-profit, non-political, and non-religious organization committed to youth empowerment, promoting peace, environmental sustainability, and community resilience.

Based in Nigeria with operational offices in Benue State, and FCT, GoGreen works with vulnerable communities to address interconnected challenges related to conflict, climate change, and economic vulnerability. GoGreen's approach emphasizes community participation, inclusive development, and sustainable solutions that empower local actors to drive positive change.

Through partnerships with community leaders, government institutions, civil society organizations, and development partners, GoGreen implements programs that strengthen peacebuilding systems, promote climate-resilient livelihoods, and protect environmental health. We believe that sustainable development can only be achieved when communities are empowered with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to manage conflicts peacefully and protect their environment for future generations.

## Vision

A sustainable and peaceful world where communities thrive through effective climate adaptation and peaceful coexistence.



## Mission

To empower vulnerable communities with sustainable climate adaptation strategies and peacebuilding initiatives that promote environmental health and social cohesion at the grassroots level.



## Our Strategic Pillars

### Climate Change



In Nigeria, particularly North-Central, climate change has intensified environmental challenges such as unpredictable rainfall, flooding, and declining soil fertility, all of which affect agricultural productivity and rural livelihoods. GoGreen works with communities to promote climate resilience through climate-smart agriculture, environmental awareness, and sustainable land management practices that help farmers adapt to changing weather patterns while protecting natural ecosystems.

### Food Security



Food security remains a critical priority in North-Central Nigeria and Benue State, where many households depend on agriculture for survival. GoGreen supports farmers and pastoralists with training, agricultural inputs, and improved farming practices that increase productivity, strengthen livelihoods, and reduce resource-based conflicts, ensuring communities have consistent access to safe and nutritious food.

### Water, Sanitation & Hygiene



Access to clean water and proper sanitation is essential for community health and resilience. GoGreen promotes improved hygiene practices, water safety awareness, and community engagement to help reduce water-borne diseases and improve living conditions, particularly in vulnerable rural communities across Benue State.

### Gender Equality



GoGreen recognizes that sustainable development and peacebuilding require the meaningful participation of women and girls. Through community dialogues, leadership training, and advocacy initiatives, the organization promotes gender equality by strengthening the role of women in decision-making processes and addressing harmful practices such as gender-based violence.

### Youth Empowerment



Young people represent a powerful force for positive change in communities across Benue State. GoGreen empowers youth through leadership development, livelihood training, and awareness programs that address issues such as substance abuse while promoting entrepreneurship, civic engagement, and participation in peacebuilding and community development initiatives.

## Corporate Governance and Organizational Structure

GoGreen Environmental Health Sustainability Initiatives operates under a strong corporate governance framework that ensures accountability, transparency, and effective organizational leadership. The organization is governed by a dedicated Board of Trustees, providing strategic direction and oversight for all programs and operations. **Professor Maxwell Idoko Ocheri**, a distinguished

climate change expert with over two decades of experience in environmental studies, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation is the global lead for GoGreen. His leadership brings deep technical expertise and strategic vision to the organization's mission of promoting environmental sustainability and community resilience.



The Board of Trustees works closely with the management team led by **Mr. Jackson Ameh, FCA**, providing strategic guidance and oversight to ensure the effective and timely implementation of GoGreen's programs and initiatives. This collaboration fosters a results-driven approach, where policies and decisions are aligned with the organization's mission, vision, and thematic priorities. Through regular engagement, performance reviews, and strategic planning sessions, the Board ensures that resources

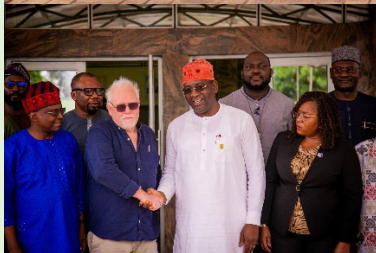
are managed prudently, risks are appropriately mitigated, and accountability mechanisms are consistently upheld. This integrated governance and management structure promotes transparency, operational efficiency, and continuous learning, enabling GoGreen to adapt to emerging challenges while sustaining growth. It further reinforces the organization's commitment to delivering inclusive, community-driven, and sustainable solutions.

## What We Delivered in 2025

### Strategic Stakeholders Engagements:

As part of our commitment to strengthening partnerships and fostering collaborative impact, GoGreen actively engaged key government and development stakeholders during the year. In July 2025, the organization conducted a high-level advocacy and stakeholder engagement visit to the Office of the **Executive Governor of Benue State**, where the delegation was warmly received by **His Excellency, Dr. Sam Ode, the Deputy Governor of Benue State**.

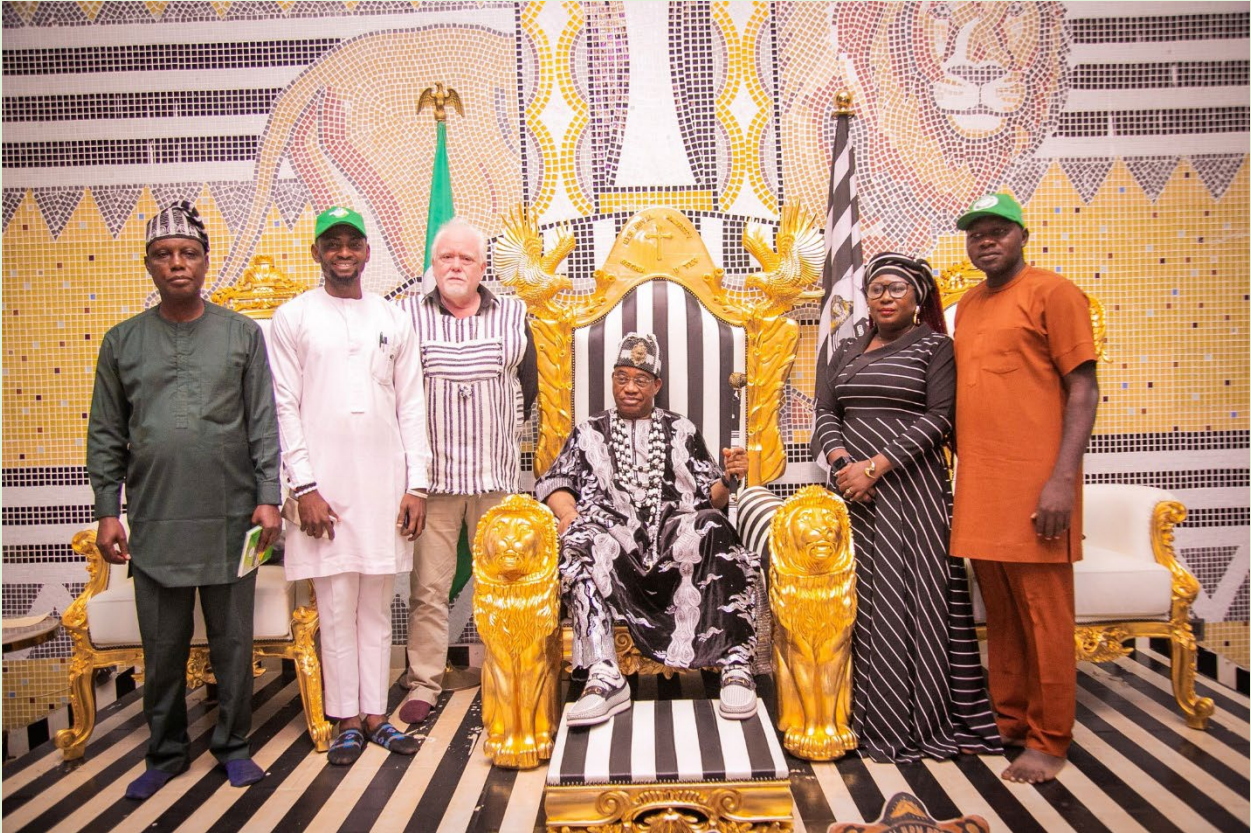
GoGreen led a distinguished delegation comprising representatives from the British High Commission Abuja, headed by Mr. Graham Gass, alongside the Country Lead of the SPRING Programme, Professor Ukoha Ukiho. The visit provided a strategic platform to brief the state leadership on the objectives and progress of the SPRING Programme in Benue State, as well as the ongoing peacebuilding interventions being implemented by GoGreen.



***GoGreen team led by Professor Maxwell Ocheri leading the UK delegation and SPRiNG Leadership to the office of the Executive Governor of Benue State***

GoGreen facilitated a high-level visit by the UK Government delegation to the Palace of the Tor Tiv in Gboko, Benue State. The delegation was received by **His Royal Majesty, Professor James Ortese Ayatse**, the Tor Tiv V, the paramount ruler of the Tiv nation and Chairman, Benue State Council of Chiefs. The visit provided GoGreen and the SPRiNG leadership an opportunity to brief His Royal Majesty on the SPRING Programme

in Benue State, highlighting the peacebuilding interventions being implemented with support from the UK Government. The engagement created an opportunity for meaningful discussions on community-driven approaches to conflict resolution, social cohesion, and sustainable development, highlighting the critical role of traditional institutions as pillars of peace, unity, and grassroots governance.



***GoGreen Team led by Professor Maxwell Ocheri with the UK Government Delegation, SPRiNG Leadership and Benue State Government Officials with the Tor Tiv- Prof James Ortese Ayatse***

For inclusive and culturally grounded peacebuilding efforts, GoGreen extended its high-level stakeholder engagements to the Idoma traditional institution through a strategic visit to the Palace of His Royal Majesty, Dr. John Elaigwu, the Och'Idoma and Paramount Ruler of the Idoma Kingdom. The visit provided an opportunity for GoGreen to formally brief His Royal Majesty on the scope and progress of the SPRING Programme interventions in Benue State, with particular emphasis on peacebuilding efforts across communities in the Zone C Senatorial District. Discussions highlighted

the deliberate engagement of traditional leaders as critical peace actors, leveraging their influence, legitimacy, and proximity to grassroots communities to foster dialogue, prevent conflicts, and promote social cohesion. This visit further deepened GoGreen's collaboration with traditional leadership structures in Benue State, reaffirming the organization's belief that sustainable peace and development can best be achieved through partnerships that integrate indigenous knowledge systems with formal peacebuilding approaches.



**GoGreen team led by the Chief Executive Officer- Mr. Jackson Ameh FCA to the palace of HRM Dr. John Elaigwu the Ochi'doma and Paramount Ruler of the Idoma Kingdom**

GoGreen engaged with the Benue State Commission for Peace and Reconciliation, recognizing its pivotal role in coordinating and sustaining peace efforts across the state. The visit provided a platform to align GoGreen's peacebuilding programmes and interventions—particularly under the SPRiNG Programme—with the State's strategic peace frameworks and Durable Solutions agenda. During the engagement, the Director-General of the Commission, Ms. Josephine Habba, expressed strong support for the SPRiNG Programme and GoGreen's community-based peacebuilding initiatives,

reaffirming the Commission's commitment to collaborative efforts aimed at strengthening peace architectures and promoting long-term stability in Benue State. In the same vein, GoGreen also conducted an advocacy visit to the Benue State Bureau for International Development and Cooperation. This engagement was aimed at fostering synergy with the State's development priorities, enhancing coordination with development partners, and ensuring that GoGreen's interventions are well-aligned with broader policy frameworks and international cooperation strategies.



***GoGreen Team with the DG Of the Benue State Commission for Peace and Reconciliation- Ms. Josephine Habba on advocacy visit***



## Peacebuilding & Social Cohesion



Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion is a central pillar of GoGreen Environmental Health Sustainability Initiatives' work in Benue State. Communities in the state have experienced long-standing tensions related to land use, access to natural resources, migration, and livelihood competition between crop farmers and pastoralist herders. These tensions are often intensified by economic hardship, climate pressures, youth vulnerability, and limited platforms for dialogue and mediation.

Through community-driven peacebuilding initiatives, GoGreen works to strengthen local structures that prevent violence, resolve disputes peacefully, and promote inclusive dialogue among diverse groups. Our approach emphasizes empowering traditional leaders, community mediators, women, youth, and grassroots institutions to become active custodians of peace within their communities. By combining structured

dialogue platforms, capacity strengthening, public awareness campaigns, and community-led peace committees, GoGreen helps communities develop sustainable systems for managing conflict and strengthening social cohesion.

In 2025, these initiatives contributed to increased trust among community members, improved mediation capacity at the grassroots level, and stronger collaboration between farmers, pastoralists, traditional authorities, and government stakeholders across project communities in Guma and Makurdi Local Government Areas of Benue State.

## 1. Traditional Leaders Training (SPACE Benue)

Strengthening the capacity of traditional and community leaders to manage conflicts was a major focus of GoGreen's peacebuilding work in 2025. Through targeted training workshops organized under the Agropastoral Integration for Peace and Sustainable Development (AIPASD) project, traditional leaders and security actors were equipped with skills in mediation, dialogue facilitation, conflict analysis, and early warning systems.

In July 2025, GoGreen conducted a three weeks workshop on Strengthening Peace

and Advocacy for Conflict Resolution through Engagement with Traditional Leaders in Benue State (SPACE\_Benue). The workshops which cover participants from each of the three senatorial districts of Benue State was held in Makurdi, Gboko and Otukpo from June 16th 2026 to August 2nd 2026. This workshop was organized for traditional leaders and security personnel from 12 Local Government Areas in Benue State. and brought together 115 traditional leaders and 14 security operatives, alongside government officials and civil society representatives, totalling 129 participants.



***Workshop participants with His Excellency, the Deputy Governor of Benue State Dr. Sam Ode at the Makurdi SPACE Benue Workshop for Traditional Leaders***

Participants included traditional leaders from Makurdi, Guma, Gwer West, Gboko, Buruku, Logo, Ukum, Katsina-Ala, Otukpo, Okpokwu, Apa, and Agatu LGAs. The training sessions focused on key themes such as nature and drivers of violent conflicts in Benue State,

dialogue mediation and negotiation skills, conflict analysis and resolution frameworks, early warning and early response systems (EWERS), inclusive peacebuilding and youth engagement



***Training Participants along with HRM Professor James Ayatse -Tor Tiv, British Council Conflict Advisor Graham Gas, and SPRiNG Country Team Lead, Professor Ukoha Ukiho at the Gboko SPACE Benue Workshop***

The workshops were facilitated by renowned scholars and peacebuilding experts, including Professor Etannibi Alemika, Professor Sunday Ochoche, Professor Magdalyne Dura, and Professor Maxwell Ocheri. The training was declared open by His Excellency Rev Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormen Alia, The Executive Governor of Benue State and prominent traditional leaders, including

His Royal Majesty Professor James Ayatse (Tor Tiv), Chairman of the Benue State council of Chiefs, and His Royal Majesty Dr. Eliagwu Odogbo Obagaji John (Ochi'Idoma) were in attendance. Development partners and government stakeholders also participated in the event, including representatives from the British High Commission and senior leadership from the SPRiNG programme.



***Training participants along with HRM Dr. Eliagwu Odogbo Ogbaji the Ochi'doma at the Otukpo SPACE Benue Workshop***

## **2. Training of Local Community Peace Actors**

In 2025, 225 peace actors carefully selected from crop farmers and pastoralists were trained on peaceful mediation strategies. The training advanced SPRiNG's peacebuilding objectives by equipping 225 participants (158 males, 67 females) from eight communities in Guma and Makurdi LGAs with conflict resolution and agropastoralism skills. Post-training surveys indicated 85% of

participants improved their mediation abilities, supporting farmer-herder

coexistence. Participants committed to establishing Community Peace Committees (CPCs) to promote dialogue and coordinate early conflict response. The trainings strengthened collaboration between traditional institutions and security actors across the participating LGAs.



***Training participants at the Local Community Peace Actors Training with the DG Benue State Commission for Peace and R- Ms Josephine Habba***

### **3. Community Peace Dialogue Sessions**

Community Peace Dialogue Sessions (CPDS) remained one of the most important mechanisms for promoting peaceful coexistence between farmers and pastoralists. These monthly dialogue

platforms provided safe spaces where community members could openly discuss grievances, identify conflict triggers, and collaboratively develop solutions. In 2025, a total of eight monthly dialogue sessions were

conducted across the project's target communities—Abinsi, Daudu, Imande Dem, Ortese, Tse Akpuku, Imande Akpo, Ugbuugh, and Zongo reaching 8,633 participants through the Community Peace Dialogue Sessions (CPDS) over the course of the year. These sessions brought together participants both male and female representing diverse groups, including traditional leaders, farmers, pastoralists, youth, women leaders, and

persons with disabilities. Due to heightened tensions following directives requiring pastoral herders to temporarily vacate parts of the state, the dialogue sessions were conducted separately for farmers and herders to reduce security risks and prevent confrontation. Despite these challenges, the dialogues continued to foster communication and maintain trust between group



*Women of the Ortese community practicing the PMA during the CPDS in the community*



*PWD participating in the CPDS in the Daudu community*



*Participants at the Community Peace Dialogue Session in Zongo Community, October 16, 2025*

A notable innovation used during the sessions was GoGreen's Peace Market Approach (PMA). This participatory methodology simulates a market environment where participants "buy" and

"sell" conflict issues and solutions, making dialogue more interactive and culturally relatable. The approach encourages open expression of grievances and collaborative problem-solving among participants.



**Women and men of Imande Dem practicing the PMA during CPDS in Imande Dem Community**

To further strengthen engagement and address economic vulnerabilities linked to conflict drivers, GoGreen integrated hands-on Crop Residue Processing training into the dialogue sessions across all eight communities. The training equipped

participants with practical skills in processing crop residues for animal feed during periods of scarcity, as well as creating income-generating opportunities to support sustainable livelihoods.



**Crop Residue Processing demonstration session -Zongo community, October 2025**

## 4. Establishment of Community Peace Committees



*Inauguration of Peace Committee in Zongo Community*

A major milestone in 2025 was the establishment and strengthening of local Community Peace Committees (CPCs) across project communities.

120 trusted community members were formally inducted into CPC structures across the eight



**Abinsi Community CPC**

Buruku, Gboko Katsina Ala, Ukum, and Logo cutting across the three (3) senatorial districts of Benue State. Monitoring visits conducted later in the year confirmed that many CPC structures were operational and actively resolving disputes within their communities. In some locations, CPCs successfully mediated land disputes, prevented mob violence, and facilitated negotiations between conflicting parties.

Each committee consisted of 15 members selected through community consultations, including: Traditional leaders, Youth representatives, Women leaders, Opinion leaders, and Persons with disabilities.

The committees were inaugurated in eight communities in Makurdi and Guma LGA: Tse-Akpuku, Imande-Akpo Ugbuugh, Zongo, Daudu, Ortese, Abinsi, and Imande-Dem. The selection process was conducted through open community consultations to ensure transparency and community ownership

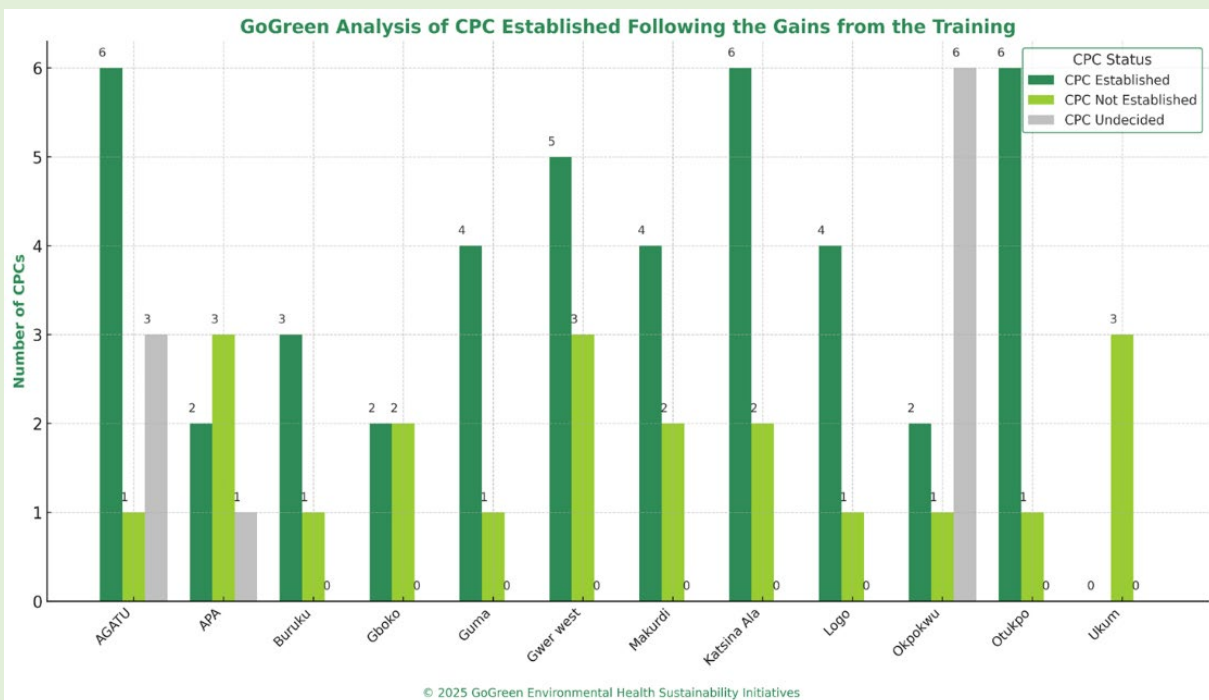
project communities. These committees now serve as grassroots platforms responsible for: early warning and conflict monitoring, mediation of disputes, community reconciliation processes, strengthening dialogue between farmers and pastoralists. Through the SPACE\_Benue initiatives, 44 additional CPCs were successfully established in 2025 across 12 LGA in Benue State- Apa, Agatu, Otukpo, Okpokwu, Makurdi, Guma, Gwer West,



CPC Monthly Mediation Meeting held at Imande-Dem and Daudu community.



Cross-section pictures of CPC members from otobi and okete ward



## Outcomes of Community Peace Committees Interventions

Community Peace mediation and conflict resolution Sessions facilitated by Community Peace Committees (CPCs) played a vital role in strengthening peaceful coexistence across project communities in Guma and Makurdi LGAs. The dialogue platforms brought together farmers, pastoralists, traditional rulers, youth, and community leaders to openly discuss tensions related to land use, grazing routes, and crop damage, while identifying practical solutions through

community-led mediation. CPCs documented 115 conflict cases, successfully resolving 94 cases, while 16 remained pending, 1 ongoing, and 4 referred to relevant authorities. In Guma LGA, CPCs resolved 58 conflicts, while 36 conflicts were resolved in Makurdi LGA. CPCs served as effective grassroots mechanisms for early warning, mediation, and reconciliation, helping prevent violence and strengthen dialogue between farmers and pastoralists.

GoGreen Environmental Health Sustainability Initiatives						
GoGreen_SPRING Programme Conflict/Case Resolution Tracker						
CPC Reviewed Conflict Cases FY25						
LGA	Community	Closed	Ongoing	Pending	Referred	Total Conflicts
Guma	Abinsi	8	0	1	0	9
	Daudu	18	0	1	1	20
	Imande-Dem	21	0	2	0	23
	Ortese	11	0	1	0	12
<b>Guma Total</b>		<b>58</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>
Makurdi	Imande-Akpu	13	1	3	2	19
	Tse-Akpuku	11	0	3	1	15
	Ugbugh	10	0	2	0	12
	Zongo	2	0	3	0	5
<b>Makurdi Total</b>		<b>36</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>94</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>115</b>

## 5. International Peace Day 2025

GoGreen also commemorated International Peace Day in 2025 through community outreach activities aimed at promoting unity, dialogue, and collective action for peace. The event brought together youth groups, community leaders, women organizations, and civil society actors from the project communities. Peace education activities included community sensitization campaigns, cultural engagement activities, and awareness discussions highlighting the importance of peaceful coexistence. A total

of 996 participants were reached during the International Peace Day activities, exceeding the initial target of 800 participants. These events provided an opportunity for communities to reflect on the importance of dialogue, tolerance, and collaboration in building sustainable peace. The celebrations reinforced the message that peacebuilding is a shared responsibility and encouraged communities to actively participate in conflict prevention efforts.



**Participants at the 2025 International Day of Peace celebration held at Zongo community Makurdi LGA demonstrating the strength of unity even in diversity**



## Climate Resilience & Sustainable Agriculture



Climate resilience and sustainable agriculture are essential to building long-term peace and stability in communities where livelihoods depend heavily on land, water, and other natural resources. In Benue State, competition over farmland, grazing routes, and water sources has historically been a key driver of conflict between crop farmers and pastoralists. Climate variability, environmental degradation, and declining agricultural productivity further intensify these pressures.

GoGreen Environmental Health Sustainability Initiatives addresses these challenges by promoting climate-resilient agricultural practices and strengthening cooperation between farming and pastoralist communities through integrated agropastoral approaches. By combining technical agricultural support with peacebuilding strategies, GoGreen

supported communities improve food production, diversify livelihoods, and reduce resource-based conflicts.

In 2025, GoGreen implemented several initiatives aimed at strengthening sustainable agriculture, enhancing economic resilience, and fostering cooperation between farmers and pastoralists across communities in Guma and Makurdi Local Government Areas of Benue State.

### **1. Agropastoral & Climate Resilience Training**

One of the major interventions under this thematic area was the AgroPastoral and Climate Resilience Training, designed to strengthen the capacity of farmers and pastoralists to adopt climate-resilient agricultural practices and improve natural resource management. These training sessions introduced farmers and pastoralists

to sustainable farming techniques that enhance productivity while protecting soil health and reducing environmental degradation. Participants were trained on climate-smart agricultural practices such as soil fertility management, biofertilizer production, improved crop management, and climate adaptation strategies. Participants also participated in Hands-on-

training on Pasture Preservation. Through these training sessions, 1,152 farmers and pastoralists were trained, surpassing the original target of 800 participants, achieving 144% of the planned target.

Participants included: Crop farmers, Pastoralist herders, Youth farmers, Women farmers, and Community agricultural leaders



The training promoted knowledge exchange between farmers and pastoralists whose livelihoods depend on

shared natural resources, helping reduce tensions related to land use and grazing.



***Dr Timothy Ikyumme demonstrating to community participants on Agro Climatic Pasture Preservation for Farmers and Herders in Imande-Akpu Community, Makurdi LGA of Benue State.***

## 2. Farmers & Pastoralists Livelihood Support

Economic vulnerability is one of the major underlying drivers of rural conflict. To address this challenge, GoGreen implemented livelihood support interventions aimed at strengthening the economic resilience of farmers and pastoralists. Through these interventions, 835 beneficiaries received direct livelihood support. Beneficiaries included farmers and pastoralists from the eight project communities: Abinsi, Daudu, Imande Dem,

Ortese, Tse Akpuku, Imande Akpo, Ugbuugh, and Zongo. The support focused on improving agricultural productivity, strengthening food security, and reducing economic pressures that often contribute to farmer-herder conflicts. These interventions contributed significantly to strengthening household income stability and reducing vulnerability among farming and pastoralist households.



*AgroInputs distribution for herders*

The intervention targeted both farmers and pastoralists, with the goal of strengthening agricultural productivity, enhancing food security, and improving the economic resilience of households affected by recurrent conflict and climate-related shocks. This initiative contributes to GoGreen's broader strategy of promoting integrated agropastoral systems that support sustainable livelihoods and foster peaceful coexistence. By providing high-quality inputs and encouraging improved farming practices, the project aims to increase crop yields, boost household incomes, and reduce vulnerability among rural families. Agro

inputs distributed included improved varieties of rice and maize seedlings, knapsack sprayers, pre- and post-emergence agricultural boosting herbicides. The distribution process was conducted in collaboration with community leaders and local stakeholders to ensure transparency and fairness. Field monitoring later confirmed that the improved seeds provided through the project produced significantly higher yields of over 75% compared to seeds previously purchased from local markets, demonstrating the effectiveness of the intervention.



**AgroInputs Distribution, being carried out in the Ugbugh and Tse Akpuku communities**



**AgroInputs Distribution, being carried out in the Zongo community**

### **3. Establishment of Demonstration Farms**

In 2025 8 number of demonstration farms were established to serve as practical learning platforms



**Field monitoring of livelihood support interventions**

for farmers and pastoralists, allowing them to observe and practice improved agricultural techniques. These farms enabled farmers to gain hands-on experience with improved crop management methods and climate-resilient farming practices. During monitoring visits conducted jointly with project partners, several demonstration farms showed strong crop performance, including thriving rice farms and improved maize harvests cultivated using the improved seeds distributed through the project.



Community members also reported improved food production and stronger collaboration between farmers and pastoralists as a result of these initiatives. These demonstration farms also played an

important role in encouraging peer-to-peer learning among farmers and increasing community confidence in climate-resilient agricultural practices.



***Demonstration Farm Site Identification, Setup, and Planting in Imande Dem Community***



***Demonstration Farm Site Identification, Setup, and Planting in Ugbugh Community***

These initiatives contributed to improved food production, strengthened household income, and enhanced cooperation between farmers and pastoralists. By addressing both the environmental and economic drivers of conflict, GoGreen's climate resilience programs are helping communities build more sustainable livelihoods while promoting peaceful coexistence across Benue Stat



## Environmental Health & Sustainability



Environmental health and sustainability remain central to GoGreen Environmental Health Sustainability Initiatives' efforts to promote resilient livelihoods and peaceful coexistence across communities in Benue State. In predominantly agrarian communities such as those in Guma and Makurdi Local Government Areas, the health of the environment directly influences agricultural productivity, food security, and community stability. Unsustainable land use, environmental degradation, and climate variability can reduce soil fertility, strain water resources, and intensify competition between farmers and pastoralists. Recognizing these challenges, GoGreen integrates environmental sustainability into its broader peacebuilding and livelihood programs under the Agropastoral Integration for Peace and Sustainable Development (AIPASD) Project. The organization's approach emphasizes the

interconnected relationship between environmental stewardship, climate resilience, agricultural productivity, and conflict prevention. By raising awareness and promoting environmentally responsible practices, GoGreen supports communities in protecting the natural resources that sustain their livelihoods while strengthening long-term community resilience. Throughout 2025, environmental sustainability was embedded across several project activities, including community dialogues, climate resilience trainings, demonstration farms, and farmer–pastoralist livelihood initiatives. These interventions helped communities understand the importance of protecting soil fertility, managing natural resources responsibly, and adopting climate-smart agricultural practices that promote both environmental protection and economic stability

# 1.Environmental Sustainability for Community Well-Being

Environmental health and sustainability are central to GoGreen’s work in Benue State, where agriculture and natural resources support rural livelihoods. Environmental degradation and unsustainable land use can weaken productivity, increase health risks, and intensify resource competition. GoGreen integrates environmental stewardship into its development and peacebuilding programs to strengthen community resilience and

sustainable livelihoods. GoGreen promotes responsible natural resource management by engaging farmers, pastoralists, youth, and community leaders in dialogue and awareness initiatives. These engagements highlight the links between environmental protection, livelihood security, and social stability. Communities are encouraged to adopt practices that protect land, water, and other shared resources.



***GoGreen Climate Change Team with Students of Bristow College Gboko during the Youth 4 Climate Change Adaptation events held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025 in partnership with Global Center on Adaptation- Netherlands.***

# 2.Promoting Youth in Climate Leadership

In 2025, GoGreen significantly advanced youth engagement in climate leadership

through the establishment of Climate Justice Clubs in selected schools across Benue State.

This initiative was designed to empower young people as active agents of environmental stewardship and climate action within their schools and communities. Through these clubs, students were provided with structured platforms to learn, engage, and lead on key environmental issues, including climate change adaptation, environmental hygiene, soil conservation, and sustainable agricultural practices. Regular activities such as peer-to-peer learning sessions, school-based awareness

campaigns, environmental sanitation exercises, and community outreach initiatives were conducted, fostering both knowledge acquisition and practical action. In addition, GoGreen facilitated capacity-building sessions for teachers and student

leaders to ensure the sustainability of the clubs and to strengthen mentorship structures within participating schools. The clubs also served as hubs for promoting climate justice conversations, encouraging young people to understand the social and economic dimensions of climate change, particularly its impact on vulnerable communities. As a result of this intervention, participating students demonstrated increased awareness of climate and environmental issues, improved leadership and advocacy skills, and a stronger sense of responsibility toward environmental protection. The initiative further contributed to building a pipeline of young climate leaders who are equipped to champion sustainable practices and influence positive behavioral change within their communities.



**Cross section of participants at the Youth 4 Climate Change Adaptation Event held at Bristow College Gboko on October 12, 2025 in partnership with GCA- Netehrlands**



## Community Development



Community development is a critical pillar of GoGreen Environmental Health Sustainability Initiatives' work to build resilient and peaceful communities. Beyond addressing environmental and livelihood challenges, sustainable development requires strengthening social systems that empower young people, promote responsible citizenship, and address social issues that undermine peace and stability. In many rural communities in Benue State, youth unemployment, substance abuse, and limited economic opportunities contribute to social tensions and vulnerability to violence. At the same time, harmful social norms and gender inequality continue to expose women and girls to various forms of violence and exclusion from decision-making processes.

GoGreen's community development initiatives, therefore, focus on empowering youth, strengthening community awareness, expanding economic opportunities, and promoting gender equality and social inclusion. Through training programs, media engagement, awareness campaigns, and livelihood initiatives, the organization works with community members to build stronger and more inclusive communities where individuals are equipped to contribute positively to social and economic development. In 2025, GoGreen implemented several initiatives aimed at strengthening youth leadership, raising public awareness on peace and social issues, supporting economic empowerment, and promoting gender justice across communities in Guma and Makurdi Local Government Areas of Benue State.



***Ms Nina Mason Senior Conflict Advisor with UK Foreign Commonwealth Development Office, Prof Ukoha Ukiho SPRiNG Country Lead, FCDO and GoGreen Team on a joint field visit to Imande-Dem Community Guma LGA Benue state***

### **1. Youths Against Drug Abuse Training**

Youth engagement remained a major priority under GoGreen’s community development programming in 2025. Recognizing the growing concern around substance abuse among young people, the organization implemented training programs aimed at equipping youth with the knowledge and skills needed to resist drug abuse and promote positive community leadership.

Through these training sessions, young people were educated on the dangers of substance abuse, its impact on mental health and community safety, and strategies for resisting peer pressure. Participants were also encouraged to become advocates for responsible behaviour within their communities. In total, 454 youth participants

were trained, exceeding the planned target of 400 participants, representing 114% achievement of the program target. The training sessions brought together: Youth leaders, Student representatives, Community youth groups, young farmers and pastoralists, and Community volunteers. The sessions also provided a platform for discussions around youth leadership, community responsibility, and the role of young people in preventing violence and promoting peace.

Participants expressed strong commitment to serving as peer educators within their communities, helping raise awareness about the dangers of substance abuse and promoting positive youth engagement.



**Cross-section of participants at Youths Against Substance abuse training**



**GoGreen youth peace club established to promote youth involvement in community development**

## 2. Community Peace Radio Program

Recognizing the power of media in shaping public awareness and influencing community attitudes, GoGreen partnered with local radio stations to broadcast community peace programs aimed at promoting dialogue, tolerance, and peaceful coexistence. Through

these community media programs, discussions were held on issues such as farmer–herder relations, conflict prevention strategies, gender equality and human rights, community leadership and mediation, environmental sustainability and agriculture



The radio programs provided an opportunity for community leaders, traditional rulers, youth representatives, and civil society actors to share perspectives on peacebuilding and community development. In 2025, 16 radio programs were successfully broadcasted, reaching over 20million listeners across

Benue communities and beyond and served as an important platform for raising awareness about the importance of dialogue and cooperation. Radio broadcasts also amplified messages from community peace dialogues and reinforced key lessons learned from project activities.



### 3. Youth Empowerment & Income Diversification

Youth empowerment and economic inclusion are essential to reducing vulnerability and strengthening community resilience. To address economic challenges faced by young people, GoGreen implemented income diversification initiatives aimed at equipping youth with practical livelihood skills. Through these trainings, 454 young people were equipped with meaningful livelihood skills. Participants received hands on instruction in

transforming yam into pondo yam flour and cassava into High Quality Cassava Flour (HQCF). Participants also gained practical skills in broiler production and management, learning the full 4–6-week production cycle, including housing, feeding, vaccination, and biosecurity. The initiative helped young people gain greater confidence in their economic potential while strengthening their role as contributors to community development.



*Training participants at the youth empowerment and income diversification workshop*



During the demonstration of processed product and equipment used for yam and Cassava processing.



Pictures from Community practical demonstration of some equipment used in yam and cassava processing.



## 4. 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

Gender equality and protection against violence remain key priorities within GoGreen's community development programming. In 2025, the organization participated in the global 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, conducting awareness campaigns across project communities. The campaign focused on raising awareness about the prevention of gender-based violence (GBV), promoting human rights, and encouraging communities to support survivors and challenge harmful social norms. Activities implemented during the campaign



included: community awareness sessions, advocacy engagements with community leaders, radio discussions on gender equality and violence prevention, public sensitization campaigns involving youth and women groups. Through these activities, 1,875 women were reached.

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*Cross section of participants at ortese and Daudu during community advocacy on GBV 2025*

The campaign helped increase awareness of gender-based violence, strengthened community dialogue around gender equality, and encouraged greater participation of women and youth in community leadership. GoGreen collaborated with several stakeholders during these activities, including community leaders, women groups, youth organizations, local media partners and civil society actors. These partnerships strengthened the reach and impact of the campaign.



## Stories from the Field

### Restoring peace – Miss Jennifer Yenge, female Crop Farmer



Being a female crop farmer and a part of the Community Peace Committee has been one of the most fulfilling roles I've taken on. So far, we've been able to resolve about 20 cases right here in the community, and whenever an issue is beyond us, we make sure it gets to the right authorities. We also work closely with the police, and that partnership has really helped us handle cases more effectively. Seeing people come back to thank us, or watching tensions calm down because we stepped in, reminds me why this work matters. It encourages me to keep showing up for peace

every day.

### Building Peace and Growing Prosperity – Zaki Chado Oliver,

I've watched our community change in ways I honestly didn't expect. The trainings we received



opened our eyes, and people are now applying what they learned. Because of that, cases of domestic violence, land disputes, and family misunderstandings have dropped sharply. One thing I'm really proud of is our effort to integrate herders into the community. We're encouraging them to participate fully, and it's helping us build trust and unity. On the farming side, the improvements have been remarkable. Using biofertilizers has boosted our soil health, and properly integrating livestock has made our farms more productive. Also, we are now practicing crop rotation more intentionally, and the results speak for themselves. Even animal waste, which used to be a big problem for us, is

now being turned into organic manure. It's amazing how something we once struggled

to dispose of is now adding real value to our farms. These changes may seem small, but

for us, they've made a huge difference in our livelihoods, and in the future we're shaping together.



***From Vulnerability to Empowerment: A Life Transformed- Henry Iorkyaa***



***A Renewed Hope for Peace in Ugbuugh Community- Mrs Orhill Hembafan***

We are truly grateful for the kindness shown to us, the Ugbuugh community, by the SPRiNG programme through GoGreen. This support has significantly improved our lives and motivated our youth to strive for a better future. It is evident that GoGreen genuinely values our lives, and we are more open to their peacebuilding message because we trust their intentions. We also desire to live

GoGreen's interventions have changed my life and our community. As a person with a disability, I've learned sustainable farming techniques, including biofertilizer production, which my wife now uses to improve our crop yields. As a CPC member, I help mediate disputes, fostering peace and reducing drug abuse. The program has taught us better farming, peacebuilding, and the dangers of substance abuse, creating a safer, more cohesive community.

harmoniously with the herders, as a community of only farmers cannot meet all social and economic needs. However, we appeal to GoGreen to intensify educational efforts targeted at herders, emphasizing the value of human life. Many herders have not had access to formal education, and this lack of awareness negatively affects social behavior. Education plays a vital role in shaping attitudes and increasing respect for human life."

***Empowering Youth to Lead Peace and Prosperity- Mrs Naomi Yaachivin***

*The peacebuilding and skill acquisition training has inspired the youths in our communities to see peacebuilding as a shared responsibility. The acquired skills show that peace and economic productivity can go hand-in-hand, motivating young people to take active leadership roles.*

## Stories of Change and Impact

### **1: From Conflict to Cooperation as Farmers and Herders Rebuild Trust in Daudu Community**

For years, tensions between crop farmers and pastoralists in Daudu community had resulted in repeated clashes, destruction of crops, and loss of livelihoods. Among those affected was Zaki Oliver Chado, a smallholder farmer, who had previously lost an entire season's harvest due to cattle encroachment. Through the AIPASD project, Oliver participated in community dialogue sessions and agropastoral training, where he engaged directly with pastoralists for the first time in a structured and peaceful setting. One of those pastoralists was Malam Adamu, who also faced losses when conflicts disrupted access to grazing routes. Through facilitated dialogue and practical demonstrations on livestock-crop integration and pasture management, both men began to see the mutual benefits of cooperation. Today: they have agreed on designated grazing pathways to prevent crop destruction, Terfa now uses crop residues as livestock feed, creating value from what was previously waste, Adamu sources locally grown fodder, reducing the need to encroach on farmlands. What was once a relationship defined by mistrust has evolved into one of collaboration and shared economic benefit, demonstrating the transformative power of dialogue and integrated livelihoods.

### **2: Women Finds Voice and Leadership Role in Abinsi Community**

In Abinsi community, where women were traditionally excluded from decision-making processes, Mrs. Rhoda Yanmar, a mother of four, had never participated in community meetings. Through AIPASD's inclusive approach, she was nominated as a member of the Community Peace Committee (CPC) and received training in mediation and dialogue facilitation. Initially hesitant, Rhoda gradually built confidence and began actively contributing to discussions. During a dispute involving access to water resources, Rhoda played a key role in facilitating dialogue between affected groups, ensuring that women's concerns often overlooked were brought to the forefront. Today, she serves as a respected voice in the CPC, women in the community increasingly participate in dialogue sessions, decisions now reflect more inclusive perspectives, reducing tensions. Rhoda's journey reflects a broader shift in community norms, where women are no longer passive observers but active agents of peace and change.

### **3: Youth Empowerment Reduces Vulnerability to Conflict in Imande-Dem**

In Imande-Dem, many young people were previously unemployed and vulnerable to being drawn into conflict-related activities. Agbande Joseph, a 28-year-old youth, struggled to find stable income and often relied on irregular labor. Through the AIPASD project, James participated in income diversification training, where he learned poultry farming and basic agribusiness skills. With support from the project, he started a small poultry enterprise. Within months

Joseph began generating consistent income, supporting the community and became actively involved in community peace activities, advocating against violence. Economic empowerment transformed Joseph from a vulnerable youth into a productive entrepreneur and peace advocate, highlighting the critical link between livelihoods and stability.

#### **4: Strengthening Institutions – Community Peace Committees Take Ownership**

Before AIPASD, most communities relied on external actors or security forces to resolve conflicts, often after escalation had already occurred. Through the project, CPCs were established and trained, Members gained skills in mediation, early warning, and dialogue facilitation. In one instance in Ortese community, a dispute over farmland boundaries was reported early through the CPC's early warning system. The committee intervened promptly and facilitated dialogue, resolving the issue before it escalated. Reduced reliance on external interventions, faster, locally owned conflict resolution, strengthened institutional capacity at community level. CPCs are now recognized as trusted and effective peace structures, ensuring sustainability beyond the project.

#### **5. From Fear to Friendship – Fulani Community Embraces Peace in Imande-Dem**

For years, the Fulani pastoralist families in Imande-Dem lived in constant uncertainty. Movement was restricted, grazing routes were contested, and interactions with crop farmers were often

marked by suspicion and fear. Minor disagreements could quickly escalate into conflict, disrupting livelihoods and threatening lives. For Malam Usman, a pastoralist and father of six, these tensions were a daily reality. "There was a time we could not pass near farms without fear," he recalls. "Even when our cattle were controlled, misunderstandings would arise, and it could lead to serious problems. Everything began to change with the introduction of the Agropastoral Integration for Peace and Sustainable Development (AIPASD) project under the SPRiNG programme.

Through the project, Malam Usman and other members of the Fulani community were invited to participate in dialogue sessions, peacebuilding trainings, and agropastoral demonstrations alongside crop farmers. For many, it was the first time they sat together in a structured and safe environment to openly discuss their challenges and shared concerns.

"At first, we were hesitant," Usman admits. "But when we started talking, we realized that the farmers were also facing difficulties, just like us." Today, the change is visible and deeply felt.

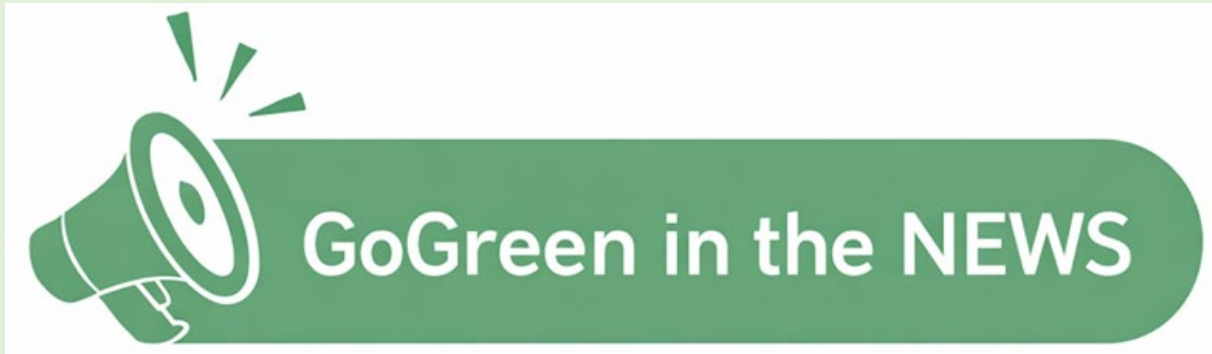
"We now call each other when there is a problem instead of fighting," says Usman. "If cattle stray, we resolve it peacefully. There is understanding."

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**Herders-Farmers Crisis: GoGreen launches AIPASD Project in Benue – City Post**

<https://www.citypost.ng/herders-farmers-crisis-gogreen-launches-aipasd-project-in-benue/>

**GoGreen empowers women as pillars of peace and leadership in Benue communities**

<https://dateline.ng/gogreen-empowers-women-as-pillars-of-peace-and-leadership-in-benue-communities/>

**GoGreen empowers Benue youths to lead climate change action**

<https://dailytrust.com/gogreen-empowers-benue-youths-to-lead-climate-change-action/>

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**Open grazing no longer sustainable in Nigeria –MACBAN**

<https://thesun.ng/open-grazing-no-longer-sustainable-in-nigeria-macban/>



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