

Ghana Newsletter Update, April 2018

Building Momentum in Ghana

In March, [local peace committees in Ghana](#) supported by the Purdue Peace Project (PPP) built on momentum from a retreat held last fall and took steps to advance outcomes from the retreat.

The PPP organized its [first-ever retreat](#) for its four local peace committees in Ghana in October 2017, bringing local peacebuilders together to share experiences, network, and mentor each other. At the conclusion of the retreat, participants identified several next steps they would like to see in the future as outcomes of the retreat. Several of these were realized during a recent PPP visit to project sites in March.



TOP: Ghana Country Director Yaganoma Baatuolkuu co-facilitates a mini-lesson for two local peace committees in the Upper West Region.

RIGHT: Local peace committee members role-play a conversation with an elder about peace.

In the Upper West Region, two local peace committees, Lambussie Youth for Peace and Development (LYPAD) and Nandom Youth for Peace and Development (NYPAD), came together in Lambussie for a mini-lesson on “upward influence,” or how to have persuasive conversations about peace with those in positions of power. This mini-lesson, which involved role-playing activities, was co-facilitated by PPP Ghana Country Director Yaganoma Baatuolkuu and Associate Director of Research and Operations Dr. Jasmine Linabary. Mini-lessons like this

were one of the requested outcomes of the retreat, as a way to continue to build on the knowledge and skills participants said they gained during the retreat.

In the Brong Ahafo Region, members of the PPP's longest standing local peace committee, the Berekum Peace Committee (BPC), traveled to Tuobodom to mentor the Tuobodom Peacemakers Committee (TPMC), another next step identified during the retreat. The BPC facilitated a meeting with TPMC members to talk through challenges they face as a committee and help them identify solutions to address those challenges.



Members of the Berekum Peace Committee pose with some of the members of the Tuobodom Peacemakers Committee after a mentoring visit in March.

The local peace committees also provided input in March on a shared report from the retreat that will be co-authored by the PPP and local peace committees, another outcome from the retreat that will be released in the coming months.

In addition to these activities, members of the local peace committees indicated that the retreat has continued to affect the ways that they interact with each other within and between their committees. For example, members of one local peace committee discussed how after the retreat they re-organized internally and committed to specific goals as a committee. Additionally, members discussed how they have kept in contact with members of other peace committees they met during the retreat, checking in on each other to follow up on conversations they had during the retreat.

Learn more: For more information about the Purdue Peace Project's work in Ghana, visit <https://cla.purdue.edu/ppp/projects/ghana.html>