



CRD In Focus:
Amplifying the Work of CRD in Liberia



CRD Graduates Over Sixty Young Liberians in Emotional, Social and Self-awareness Training.

CRD, in partnership with the National Commission on Peace and Carita (NCJPC) with funding from USAID, successfully graduated sixty-six (66) youths from Safe Spaces and Youth Dialogue Training in Ganta City, Nimba County, Liberia. This micro-level intervention focused on rebuilding psychosocial skills among youth aged 18-35, fostering trauma healing and enhancing community resilience.

Youth Dialogues engage participants in a structured 12-step process to collectively envision, address conflicts, implement solutions, monitor progress, and adapt agreements to evolving circumstances.

CRD Conduct a two-days retreat In Ganta City, Nimba County, Liberia



The Center for Reform and Development (CRD) recently concluded a productive two-day Annual Retreat in Ganta City, Nimba County, under the theme "Growing Together: Building a Stronger and More Resilient Team for Exponential Growth". The retreat convened CRD staff, Senior Management Team (SMT), and the Board of Advisories to reflect on achievements in 2023, conduct thorough capacity assessments, and strategize for the year ahead. Key highlights included the reinforcement of civic and voter education initiatives aimed at enhancing community engagement and empowerment. Contd...

The retreat began with an indoor session that included a breakfast followed by an opening prayer, self-introductions, and a welcoming remark. Miss Deboria Luogon led the opening prayer, invoking divine presence for a meaningful annual retreat. Participants introduced themselves, fostering familiarity among attendees. Mr. Ta'Alee Gbengarn, Chair of CRD's Board of Advisors, delivered the welcoming remarks, extending greetings to all participants, including guest Mr. Emanuel S. Kuleh, at CRD's 2024 Annual Retreat. He emphasized the importance of collective effort among staff, senior management, and the Board of Advisors for the organization's success. Mr. Gbengarn highlighted CRD's rich history and dedication to youth initiatives, underscoring the organization's potential to achieve its goals through collaborative efforts. To comprehensively review 2023 activities and programs, conduct a thorough capacity assessment, review the newly crafted five-year Strategic Plan, and develop plans and actions for 2024. Additionally, focus will be on enhancing staff capacities to effectively execute current and future programs.

Strengthening Civic and Voter Education



The Center for Reform and Development (CRD) successfully engaged over thirty thousand eligible citizens in District 1, Nimba County over a span of three months through its Civic and Voter Education (CVE) initiative. This effort included zoning communities into nine accessible zones, translating NEC-authorized information into local languages, and involving over fifty Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in the April 23, 2024, Nimba County Senatorial By-Election.



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Using conflict prevention strategies such as town hall meetings, community dialogues, public outreach, and media engagement, CRD effectively informed citizens about their roles in electoral processes. Looking ahead to the 2029 elections, CRD recommends further interventions to reduce invalid votes, prevent electoral violence, and promote social cohesion, with a particular focus on marginalized youth and women in Ganta City and Nimba County.

Capacity Building and Professional Development:

Four members of CRD's staff recently benefited from a comprehensive capacity-building training focused on peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and countering violent extremism. This three-day training took place at the Angel Hill Top Guest House and was facilitated by the West Africa Peace Building Network as part of its Research Action for Peace Network (RECAP Project), funded by the European Union (EU).

CRD Welcome Team From EISA



On June 23, 2024, CRD hosted a delegation from the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA/USAID) at its headquarters. The objective was to investigate the factors contributing to the significant number of invalid votes in Liberia's recent elections: the 2023 General & Presidential Elections and the 2024 Senatorial By-Election. CRD, as an accredited Civic and Voter Education (CVE) Cell, highlighted several key factors during the discussions. These included limited funding, high levels of illiteracy among voters, delays in disseminating CVE messages, and the prevalence of misinformation and disinformation campaigns.

Following the dialogue, CRD proposed the establishment of a dedicated "Civic and Voter Education Commission of Liberia" tasked solely with organizing and implementing CVE initiatives. Additionally, CRD recommended that the Liberian government integrate CVE education into the national curriculum for all primary and secondary schools, aiming to enhance civic awareness and voter literacy from an early age.



During the opening ceremony, CRD's Executive Director, Mr. Steve Nyemeinway Quoi, expressed gratitude to the RECAP team for initiating this crucial project, particularly highlighting the involvement of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and media partners. Mr. Quoi emphasized the strategic importance of such initiatives in border areas like Ganta, Nimba, Lofa, and Bong, where heightened conflict risks and exposure to violent extremism exist.

He urged participants to approach the training with seriousness and emphasized the importance of applying the knowledge gained within their respective institutions and communities.

