



**NDJ
2024**



Youth and Women in Action :

International Symposium on Conflict Prevention and Gender Equality

N'Djamena, June 24 - 27, 2024 | CEFOD

Organized by projects :



● CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The international symposium **“Youth and Women in Action: International Symposium on Conflict Prevention and Gender Equality”** aims to address two main themes: the prevention and combating of gender-based violence and the management and prevention of conflicts.

These are highly significant topics in Chad and the surrounding region: various humanitarian, governmental, and civil society actors are implementing projects to impact dynamics of violence and oppression deeply rooted in recent history, with women and youth often being the primary victims. These are two subjects for which an ethnographic approach, exploring the causes of violence and analysing institutions - often informal and community-based - that manage them, can make significant contributions to theoretical reflection. It also provides crucial insights into directing development policies and actions dedicated to these issues.



Youth and Women in Action:

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Since 2019, ACRA has collaborated with civil society organisations and partnered with the research community on programs addressing these challenges. ACRA and its partners consider empirical understanding of the causes and dynamics of gender-based violence and the nature of conflicts and their management by youth and women's associations as essential, allowing improvements for the most vulnerable populations.

The Symposium aims to facilitate **academic and practical discussions on these topics**, analysing the **mutual contributions that civil society and the academic world can make in collaboration, based on results from on-the-ground project implementations**.

The Symposium is scheduled for **June 24-27, 2024, in N'Djamena, at CEFOD**.

It will span four days: the first two days will feature various thematic panels and two roundtable discussions; on the third day, participants will engage in working groups to address specific topics and prepare general

guidance documents for validation by the participants; on the fourth day, there will be meetings with civil society organisations in the morning and the presentation of final documents produced by the working groups, and the adoption of forum orientation documents in the afternoon, concluding the event.

Call for applications:

This call for applications is open to researchers, professors, and academics who have worked on the identified themes to present their results, studies, and analyses. NGOs with successful practices in preventing and combating SGBV and conflict prevention can also present their case studies and experiences.

To participate, send an **abstract of a maximum of 250 words** (in French or English) on one of the forum topics and your CV/presentation of the NGO **before March 31, 2024, to the following address:**

ndjamena2024@acra.it



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Abstracts should focus on the listed topics that will be analysed during the Symposium:

- *The role of youth and women in society and crisis contexts*
- *Female genital mutilation*
- *The role of women in preventing and combating SGBV*
- *Women's access to land*
- *Causes and dynamics of community conflicts*
- *Education and economic empowerment of girls and boys*
- *The impact of civil society and local actors (customary and official) on women and youth's political participation*
- *The impact of civil society and local actors (customary and official) on the resolution of community conflicts*

The Scientific Committee will evaluate proposals based on geographical and thematic focus.

The emphasis will be primarily on Chad and Sahelian countries with similar issues, but more general theoretical contributions or relevant cases for comparative analysis will also be accepted.

Support for Selected Participants:

ACRA will cover all meals and coffee breaks during the forum.

ACRA may cover travel and accommodation expenses for a limited number of participants from outside. Please indicate in your proposal submission whether your institution can cover part of the expenses or if you request full coverage from the organizers.

In case of your candidacy's selection, we recommend timely verification of visa acquisition procedures for Chad.

For more information: specific event organisation details are available on the website: <https://ndjamena2024.acra.it>



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ACRA is a non-governmental, secular, and independent organisation founded in 1968. It has over 50 years of activities in Chad. ACRA's intervention areas include **education, child protection, food sovereignty**, access to **clean water, natural resource** management, and support for **economic initiatives**.

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With a participative and inclusive approach, the project "Youth in Action for the Future of Chad! - ICSP/2021/425-403," funded by the EU, aims to contribute to conflict prevention and resolution and the strengthening of social cohesion by enhancing the capacities of youth and juvenile civil society in Chad. Specifically, the project aims for conflict prevention and peacekeeping processes to become more inclusive, with young women and men and their associations becoming agents of peace consolidation in N'Djamena and the provinces of Lac, Ouaddaï, Kanem, Moyen Chari, Borkou. Currently, 42 youth associations are implementing micro-projects in the intervention areas. Through the use of **artistic language**, community awareness moments are also planned to promote mutual understanding and key principles of **peaceful coexistence**.

For more information:

<https://acra.it/cosa-facciamo/aree-di-intervento/ciad/gioventu-in-azione>



The project HUM/2018/400-608: "The Challenge of the Forgotten Crisis in Chad: Civil Society Organizations Fight Gender-Based Violence" is a development project co-financed by the European Union. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to gender equality and the empowerment of women and young girls in Chad. The specific objective is for Chadian Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to use acquired knowledge and enhanced capacities to prevent all forms of violence (VSS) against girls and women and promote a rights-based culture.

In collaboration with:



The project supports gender equality, empowers women and young girls, and prevents all forms of violence against them by strengthening the capacities of civil society organizations in Chad. Since January 1, 2019, the project has funded 129 Chadian CSOs, including Parents' Associations (APE) and Mothers' Associations (AME) in 6 provinces of Chad (N'Djamena, Logone Occidental, Logone Oriental, Mandoul, Moyen Chari, and Salamat), with a strong focus on areas hosting Central African refugees.

For more information:

<https://acra.it/cosa-facciamo/aree-di-intervento/ciad/violenza-di-genere-crisi-dimenticata>