

Team Europe Democracy (TED) Network Grants

Local Citizen Participation, Terrorism, and Border Crises in Northern Benin (PARCINORD)

Duration: March 2025 - March 2026

Countries of implementation: Benin



The Civic Academy for Africa's Future (CiAAF) is a non-profit, non-political and scientific association. It is a think tank whose mission is to generate, promote and disseminate innovative social, political, economic, cultural and scientific ideas to public and private actors, as well as to citizens in Benin and across Africa. CiAAF focuses on strategic issues that shape the future of the continent. It produces academic research and operates across several fields: democratic governance, human rights, security, digital technology and the media, environment and agriculture.

Objective

The project aims to strengthen inclusive and resilient local governance in crisis-affected areas, particularly those facing security challenges. It will analyse community perceptions of public action during crises, promote collaborative management through a good practice guide, and build local capacities for co-creating public policies.

Target Groups / Beneficiaries

- Local communities from the affected areas
- Local authorities and municipal representatives
- Beninese civil society organisations, including community-based groups and associations

Key Activities

The project conducts a survey on local governance challenges and produces a research report capturing the perceptions and proposals of local communities in a context of security crisis. It will also develop a guide for collaborative management of public affairs and produce ten audiovisual capsules showcasing practices and actors promoting more inclusive local governance under security tension.

Expected Outcomes

Local governance becomes more inclusive and resilient, informed by community perspectives gathered through the research. Public attention is brought to the concerns of communities, possible solutions for improving local governance are highlighted. Strengthened collaboration between local actors, authorities and civil society supports better co-construction of public policies in contexts of crisis.