## CHILDREN AND PEACEBUILDING PROCESSES

Children innovating, creating and expressing

Sub-Saharan Africa: Nigeria

In northeastern Nigeria, our program with UNICEF works to address the psychosocial aspects and create a conducive environment for socioeconomic reintegration of children associated with armed forces and armed groups (CAAG) (including the Civilian Joint Task Force) as well as provide for education, livelihoods, and vocational training. Some of the curriculum has been adapted for radio while the children's peace clubs continue in their communities while schools closed.

In our program on socioeconomic reintegration of children formerly associated with armed groups in northeastern Nigeria, our team has noted the pandemic is heightening psychological distress of already vulnerable children and communities, young participants are under pressure to forego any activities that are not associated with economic development (such as the education, social reintegration and trauma awareness activities). Increased engagement of community based structures such as community based child protection committees and community based caseworkers has played a significant role in ensuring continuity of service provision in cases where access to the children is restricted for non locals.

**Search for Common Ground**