

The Political Economy of Democracy and Peacebuilding in Africa in the COVID-19 Era

Report on the 2021 Southern Voices Network
for Peacebuilding Annual Conference



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Hosted by the Wilson Center Africa Program
The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
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“The Political Economy of Democracy and Peacebuilding in Africa in the COVID-19 Era”

Report on the 2021 Virtual Annual Conference of
the Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Africa Program
Washington, D.C.

19-23 July 2021

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*There was no 2020 Annual Conference of the Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding due to the COVID-19 pandemic

The Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding

Eliciting and Applying Local Knowledge for Peacebuilding and State-building in Africa

About the Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding

The SVNPN is a continent-wide network of 22 African policy, research and academic organizations that works with the Wilson Center's Africa Program to bring African knowledge and perspectives to U.S., African, and international policy on peacebuilding in Africa. Established in 2011 and supported by the generous financial support of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the project provides avenues for African researchers and practitioners to engage with, inform, and exchange analyses and perspectives with U.S., African, and international policymakers in order to develop the most appropriate, cohesive, and inclusive policy frameworks and approaches to achieving sustainable peace in Africa. The SVNPN achieves this by:

- Hosting scholars from the network and other African peacebuilding organizations for a
- 3-month residency at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C.
- Organizing conferences that link SVNPN members to one another and to U.S., African, and international policymakers and peacebuilding practitioners
- Producing policy analysis including through research papers, policy briefs, reports, books, op-eds, and posts on the Africa Program blog, *Africa Up Close*

Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding Conferences

The Africa Program hosts annual conferences to promote dialogue and collaboration within the network and share important recommendations and ideas with a wider audience. The conferences occur on a rotating basis between Washington, D.C. and the continent with the goal of enhancing peacebuilding-related policy dialogue among and between the Global North and the Global South.

2021 Annual Conference Objectives

The theme of the 2021 conference was "The Political Economy of Democracy and Peacebuilding in Africa in the COVID-19 Era." The main objectives of the conference were to assess the impact of COVID-19 on democracy and peacebuilding in Africa, examine the crosscutting roles of gender, youth, technology, non-state actors, and international stakeholders on these issues, identify some of the challenges posed and opportunities created by the pandemic, and explore the way forward for U.S.-Africa relations in the COVID-19 era. The conference discussed best practices, concrete recommendations, and policy options for addressing challenges and strengthening democracy and peacebuilding in Africa.

Through a five-day series of virtual presentations and dialogue, the annual conference provided participants the opportunity to discuss and share knowledge and facilitate strategic thinking on the impact of COVID-19 on peacebuilding in Africa; network with each other and meet with U.S., African, and international policymakers and practitioners working on peacebuilding in Africa; showcase the SVNPN's work in the peacebuilding sphere; enhance individual and organizational capacities; and strengthen SVNPN collaboration.

This conference marked a major landmark for the SVNPN, as it was the first ever annual conference to be held virtually, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Previous annual conferences have occurred in-person in Côte d'Ivoire (2019), Ethiopia (2018), Washington, D.C (2017 & 2015), South Africa (2016), and Kenya (2013). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no annual conference took place in 2020.

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From the Director

Dear Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding Members and Friends:

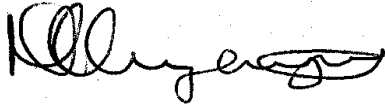
This year's annual conference was notable for the SVNP as it was our first virtual conference and occurred after the COVID-19-related postponement of the 2020 conference. The annual conferences are an important time to share peacebuilding-related knowledge with each other and with policymakers and practitioners, refresh network member ties, invigorate collaboration and our commitment and vision for the SVNP, and share aspirations for the future based on the accomplishments of the past year. After a long hiatus, we were delighted to gather virtually and engage with many of our SVNP colleagues. This year's SVNP annual conference was dedicated to the memory of our friend and colleague, Mr. Francis A. Kornegay, Jr., who passed away in June of 2021. Mr. Kornegay, a former Global Fellow and Public Policy Fellow at the Wilson Center, and the long-time Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD) representative for the SVNP, was instrumental in the founding of the SVNP and remained an unwavering supporter of and advocate for the network. He was a pan-Africanist who was deeply committed to fostering stronger U.S.-Africa relations and promoting African voices and agency. His contributions to the SVNP, the Wilson Center, and the larger academic and public policy world will always be remembered, and his legacy will continue to inspire pan-Africanists, internationalists, and scholars for generations to come.

This year's theme, "The Political Economy of Democracy and Peacebuilding in Africa in the COVID-19 Era" tied the core peacebuilding purpose of the SVNP to current global developments and shifts brought on by COVID-19. For a decade, the SVNP has worked to increase dialogue and share knowledge between members, African, U.S., and international policymakers, improve collaboration between and among SVNP members, and generate and amplify African knowledge on issues of peace, security, and state-building in Africa. The annual conference is a key component of the SVNP, providing an opportunity to come together, update each other on our work and contributions to peacebuilding, share best practices and lessons learned, connect with policymakers, and build relationships that support projects to advance peacebuilding in Africa.

The conference convened 19 representatives from SVNP member organizations, and external speakers, policymakers, and practitioners. Over five days we shared perspectives, knowledge, and lessons. We heard about ways in which members have tackled the challenges and opportunities presented over the past year and a half. These efforts underscored the importance of SVNP and the value it brings to the ever-challenged and ever-changing peacebuilding landscape in Africa. In particular, this conference convened policymakers and practitioners in different sectors across the U.S. policymaking space, affording the SVNP opportunities to accomplish a priority of the SVNP—to build connections between African, U.S., and international policymakers.

Central themes from the conference included: COVID-19's exacerbation of democratic backsliding and its testing of governance and social contracts in Africa; technology as a double-edged sword to both impede and create more inclusive civic and democratic participation; the continuing necessity of having women and youth voices in Africa's democratic and peacebuilding space; a call for African stakeholders to continue using their voices and expertise to further influence global conversations on health, technology, economy, democracy, and peacebuilding, and for international partners and institutions to meaningfully engage their expertise; the importance of involving and empowering local, national, and regional expertise and voices in peacebuilding; the need for cooperation among non-state actors and international stakeholders in addressing African security issues and building peace; and for African peacebuilding architectures and initiatives to be flexible, adaptive, and inclusive.

A key outcome was a reiteration of the SVN's intent to continue adapting to global challenges and leveraging the network platform, knowledge, and relationships to keep producing research, analysis, and insights toward building a sustainable peace. I would like to thank the Carnegie Corporation of New York for their continued support and efforts to amplify and strengthen the network. We are especially thankful to our SVN representatives who made the extra effort to attend virtually amidst different time zones and ongoing responsibilities. Your dedication to SVN and to this conference are deeply appreciated.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Muyangwa', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr. Monde Muyangwa
Director, Wilson Center Africa Program

Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding 2021 Virtual Annual Conference Agenda

Washington, D.C. (Virtual)
19-23 July 2021

Day 1: Monday, 19th July

- 08:00 Conference Opens
- 08:30-09:30 **Session 1:** Welcome and Introductions, Status of Current Grant, Key Deliverables and Issues
- Welcome and session facilitation by Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze (WANEP)
 - Administrative remarks from Ms. Hannah Akuiyibo (WWICS)
- 09:30-09:45 Break
- 09:45-11:15 **Session 2:** SVNP Directors' Discussion on Current Grant, Next Steps on SVNP Scholarship
- Facilitator: Dr. Monde Muyangwa (WWICS)
- 11:15 Day 1 Administrative Remarks, Conclusion

Day 2: Tuesday, 20th July

- 07:30 Conference Opens
- 08:00-09:00 **Session 3:** Reports from Regional Policy Workshops and the Way Forward
- Moderator: Dr. Monde Muyangwa (WWICS)
 - Speakers: Dr. Laure Tall (IPAR-Senegal), Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze (WANEP), Dr. Nicholas Ozor (ATPS), Prof. Cheryl Hendricks (HSRC)
- 09:00-09:15 Break
- 09:15-10:45 **Session 4—Internal Policy Session:** The Global Fragility Act and Peacebuilding in Africa
- Moderator: Dr. Monde Muyangwa (WWICS)
 - Presenter: Ms. Janina Staguhn (Center for Strategic and International Studies)
 - Speakers: Mr. Erol Yayboke (Center for Strategic and International Studies), Ms. Annie Pforzheimer (Center for Strategic and International Studies)
- 10:45 Day 2 Conclusion

Day 3: Wednesday, 21st July

- 08:00 Conference Opens
- 08:30-10:00 **Session 5—Public Event:** COVID-19, Democracy, Development, and Peacebuilding in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities
- Moderator: Ms. Hannah Akuiyibo (WWICS)
 - Speakers: Ms. Tess McEnery (National Security Council), Mr. Mvemba Phezo Dizolele (International Republican Institute), Dr. Christopher Fomunyoh (National Democratic Institute)
- 10:00-10:30 Break
- 10:30-12:00 **Session 6—Public Event:** Gender, Youth, Technology, Democracy, and Development in the COVID-19 Era: Disruptions, Concerns, and Prospects
- Moderator: Dr. Monde Muyangwa (WWICS)
 - Speakers: Mr. Jon Temin (Freedom House), Mr. Max Amanu (Northwind Foundation), Ms. Helen Kezie-Nwoha (WIPC)
 - Discussants: Dr. Laure Tall (IPAR-Senegal), Prof. Fredrick Ogenga (CMDPS), Dr. Nicholas Ozor (ATPS)
- 12:00 Day 3 Conclusion

Day 4: Thursday, 22nd July

- 08:00 Conference Opens
- 08:30-10:00 **Session 7A—Public Event:** The State of Peacebuilding in Africa: Lessons Learned for Policymakers and Practitioners – SVNPA Author Presentations
- Moderator: Dr. Monde Muyangwa (WWICS)
 - Speakers: Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze (WANEP), Dr. Franklin Oduro (CDD), Dr. Fritz Nganje (University of Johannesburg), Dr. Jok Madut Jok (Sudd Institute)
- 10:00-10:05 Break
- 10:05-10:20 **Session 7B—Public Event:** SVNPA “Peacebuilding in Africa” Research Award Competition Announcement and Presentation from Winning Paper Authors
- Moderator: Ms. Oge Onubogu (United States Institute of Peace)
 - Speakers: Dr. Arsene Brice Bado (CERAP), Mr. Osei Baffour Frimpong (WANEP)
- 10:20-10:35 Break
- 10:35-12:05 **Session 8—Internal Policy Session:** Time for a Rethink? U.S.-Africa Relations in the COVID-19 Era – Conversation with SVNPA Directors, Congressional Staff and U.S. Government officials.
- Facilitator: Dr. Monde Muyangwa (WWICS)

12:05 Day 4 Conclusion

Day 5: Friday, 23rd July

08:00 Conference Opens

08:30-10:00 **Session 9—Public Event: COVID-19, Security, and Peacebuilding: Non-State Actors and International Stakeholders**

- Welcome: Ambassador Mark Green (WWICS)
- Moderator: Dr. Monde Muyangwa (WWICS)
- Speakers: Ms. Michelle Strucke (U.S. Department of Defense), Dr. Cyril Obi (African Peacebuilding Network), Mr. Anas El Gomati (Sadeq Institute)
- Discussants: Fr. Alain Nzadi-a-Nzadi (CEPAS), Mr. Gustavo de Carvalho (ISS)

10:00-10:30 Break

10:30-12:00 **Session 10—Public Event: Beyond Silencing the Guns: Reflections on Challenges and Recommendations for the Way Forward**

- Moderator: Mr. Thompson Ayodele (IPPA)
- Speakers: Ms. Aïssatou Hayatou (African Union), Ms. Oge Onubogu (United States Institute of Peace)
- Discussant: Dr. Philani Mthembu (IGD)

12:00-12:05 Break

12:05-12:35 **Session 11: SVNPs Directors' Discussion on Surveys, Closing Ceremony**

- Facilitator: Dr. Monde Muyangwa (WWICS)

12:35 Day 5 Conclusion, End of Conference

Conference Proceedings

Day 1: Monday, 19th July

Session 1: Welcome and Introductions, Status of Current Grant, Key Deliverables and Issues

Welcome remarks and discussion facilitation:

- **Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze**, Executive Director, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)

Dr. Eze opened the proceedings by welcoming SVNP members to the first ever virtual SVNP Annual Conference. He acknowledged the difficult circumstances in which this conference was taking place due to COVID-19 and emphasized the importance of continuing the momentum of the SVNP.

Member Organization Introductions, Updates, and Intra-SVNP Collaborations

SVNP organization representatives then introduced themselves and described their organization's activities and how they relate to the mission and vision of the network, reported on any collaborations with fellow SVNP members since the last conference, and shared expectations for what representatives hope to get out of the network and any questions.

Fr. Justin Ilboudo, Head of the Department of Legal Studies, Political Studies, and Administration, Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP), Côte d'Ivoire:

Fr. Ilboudo represented CERAP and stood in for Fr. Hyacinthe Loua, Director of CERAP, who was unable to attend the conference due to other obligations. Fr. Ilboudo explained that CERAP has two departments: legal studies, political studies, and administration; and economics. CERAP covers a variety of research areas in Côte d'Ivoire, including gender, armed groups, electoral violence, land disputes, migration, COVID-19 vulnerabilities, and leadership and governance. Dr. Eze indicated that CERAP had partnered with WANEP on election work in Côte d'Ivoire.

Mr. Thompson Ayodele, Director, Initiative for Public Policy Analysis (IPPA), Nigeria:

Mr. Ayodele noted that IPPA, which has been a part of the SVNP since its inception, conducts research and advocacy work on key issues in Nigeria, with a particular focus on elections over the past year, examining electioneering discrepancies and electoral violence. IPPA's recent project examined the role of digital systems in the election sphere, work in which IPPA is open to partnering with other SVNP members. IPPA's work aligns with the mission of the SVNP because of the role of electoral issues as a destabilizing force in Africa. Dr. Eze indicated that WANEP-Nigeria would be interested in holding discussions with IPPA on the next Nigerian election cycle. The Wilson Center also notes that IPPA collaborated on the 2020 SVNP West Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Progress and Retrogression on Electoral Processes in West Africa – Concerns & Consequences for Peace and Security."

Fr. Alain Nzadi-a-Nzadi, Director, Centre d'Etudes pour l'Action Sociale (CEPAS), The Democratic Republic of the Congo:

Fr. Nzadi-a-Nzadi noted that CEPAS focuses on strengthening the linkages between research and social action by partnering with other civil society organizations. CEPAS has five core activity sectors:

research and social/political studies; development support; publications; a research library; and the organization's journal, *Congo-Afrique*. The Wilson Center notes that CEPAS collaborated on the 2021 SVNP Southern Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Building Peace in the Midst of a Perfect Storm: What is to be done in Southern Africa?"

Dr. Fonteh Akum, Executive Director, Institute for Security Studies (ISS), South Africa:

Dr. Akum noted that he is the newly appointed head of ISS and, in this capacity, he is keen to participate in and engage with the SVNP. He explained that ISS has four axes of intervention: policy research, technical assistance, capacity building, and policy dialogue platforms. Throughout the last year, due to COVID-19, ISS has pivoted to work more in the area of technological platforms. At the country-level, ISS is focused on violent extremism in Mozambique and on challenges to the rule of law in South Africa. In East Africa, ISS is focused on the political transition in Sudan, on the changing conflict dynamics in Ethiopia, and on the political situation in Somalia as well. In West Africa, ISS has focused on Mali in the aftermath of the coup, and more specifically, on the role of ECOWAS and the AU in this context. They are also focused on Burkina Faso. In Central Africa, ISS is primarily looking at the Central African Republic and Chad. In addition to these country-specific focus areas, ISS is interested in the broader dynamics of violent extremism in the Sahel, and in the links between violent extremism, transnational organized crime, and local conflict in the Lake Chad Basin. Over the past year, ISS has worked with WANEP-Togo on preventing the spread of violent extremism to West African coastal states and co-authored ISS Today publications. ISS has also worked with IGD and Dr. Mthembu on many of ISS's engagements and activities, and with IPSS on organizing the Tana Forum.

Mr. Gustavo de Carvalho, Senior Researcher, Peace Operations and Peacebuilding, Institute for Security Studies (ISS), South Africa:

Dr. Akum had previously introduced ISS, but Mr. de Carvalho highlighted that this was the first time ISS's director had attended the annual conference and thanked Dr. Akum for his participation. Mr. de Carvalho added to Dr. Akum's summary of ISS work, highlighting his two main areas of work in particular: multilateral approaches to peacebuilding, including work with the African Union on post-conflict reconstruction and development and its new Cairo-based center; and work related to the engagement of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) on youth-related matters and in the private sector. ISS also has a new initiative on enhancing the role and voice of Africa in the world, and enhancing African agency. Related to partnerships, Mr. de Carvalho added that ISS also recently participated in the 2021 SVNP Southern Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Building Peace in the Midst of a Perfect Storm: What is to be done in Southern Africa?" held in Pretoria, South Africa. Mr. de Carvalho acknowledged the absence and loss of Francis Kornegay, which Dr. Eze reiterated.

Mr. Anas El Gomati, Founder and General Director, Sadeq Institute, Libya:

Over the last year since COVID-19, the Sadeq Institute has focused on peacebuilding and mediation in Libya. They have begun low-level, early-stage work looking into a potential reconciliation program in Libya following the October 2020 ceasefire agreement. The Sadeq Institute recently published an edited volume (*The Great Game*) on the 10-year anniversary of the Libyan revolution, a project which was partly inspired by conversations with Dr. Muyangwa and others after the Côte d'Ivoire conference, and discusses the perspectives on Libya as a theater for Western actors. The Institute has also recently overhauled its website and is now publishing new short and long-form publications, working to get young scholars from Libya and other North African countries working with international scholars to publish on foreign policy and peacebuilding.

Ms. Helen Kezie-Nwoha, Executive Director, Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC), Uganda:

WIPC focused on women's participation in peacebuilding through research and advocacy, training, and partnerships. WIPC works primarily in East Africa—in Uganda, South Sudan, Burundi, and DRC, in addition to work in Nepal. Over the last year, the WIPC conducted research on the implementation of the South Sudan UN Security Council Resolution 1325 National Action Plan, on gender dynamics of the implementation of the South Sudan revitalized peace agreement, and on election violence in Uganda and how to implement the Women's Situation Room (which promotes women and youth participation in election peacebuilding). WIPC trained over 3,000 women and youth throughout 30 districts in Uganda to promote peace, monitor, and observe the elections, with over 1,900 election observers put in place. WIPC is still working on post-election reviews and stakeholder engagements, planning to develop a longer-term program for the promotion of peace in elections. In terms of collaboration with other SVNP members, WIPC also established a women's mediator network in Uganda and then in South Sudan—with assistance and knowledge-sharing from WANEP. WIPC, along with WANEP, recently joined the Just Future Consortium, which conducts gender mainstreaming and profiles civil society voices in responsive peacebuilding. More recently, Ms. Kezie-Nwoha did a training for master's students at IPSS on women, peace, and security, where she shared experiences from Uganda in developing the national action plan and lessons learned for other countries, African Union staff, and diplomats. WIPC also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IPSS to support trainings on advocacy at the African Union. The Wilson Center also notes that WIPC collaborated on the 2021 SVNP East Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the COVID-19 Era."

Dr. Nicholas Ozor, Executive Director, African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS), Kenya:

ATPS is a transdisciplinary network of researchers, policymakers, civil society, and private sector actors that works to promote the dissemination, use, and mastery of science, technology, and innovation for Africa's development and global inclusion. Dr. Ozor highlighted the issue of digitization and the necessity of adequate and sustainable technology for successful peacebuilding and elections. ATPS works across 30 countries, where it has established national chapters. It focuses on thematic priorities based on the African Union's Agenda 2063 including agriculture, food and nutrition, renewable energy, climate change, environment, and health innovations. Its programs include: science, technology, and innovation policy and advocacy; training and capacity-building; youth and gender empowerment; knowledge brokerage; and intra-African and global partnerships. Over the last year, ATPS has conducted work on issues of technology and artificial intelligence as they relate to: livelihoods; gender inclusion and equality; agriculture and food systems; and climate change and the environment. ATPS also co-hosted the East Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the COVID-19 Era," in partnership with WIPC, IPAR-Rwanda, CCM, IPSS, and CMDPS, and consulted with WANEP. ATPS has also been able to develop technologies to help with elections, pastoral area and cattle rustling issues, other security issues, and productivity and resilience for farmers and pastoralists.

Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze, Executive Director, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), Ghana:

WANEP is the largest peacebuilding network in West Africa, and has formal partnerships with ECOWAS and the African Union on the operationalization of the continental early warning system and the ECOWAS early warning mechanism. Over the last year, WANEP has focused on managing elections and transitions in West Africa through an approach it calls EMAM (Election Monitoring, Analysis, and

Mitigation), partnering with Track II and Track III actors to develop a national response group that uses early warning systems and information to work on electoral dispute resolution. WANEP has also recently ventured into work in Mali and the Sahel, examining pitfalls in how actors, interlocutors, and development agencies intervene in the Sahel and why issues reoccur. WANEP published a recent book on this topic with ECOWAS, which will be available shortly. WANEP has also invested effort in women's participation in leadership positions and on engaging women in the Sahel (specifically in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger), working with ECOWAS and UNDP. WANEP has also begun working on creating a reflection of WANEP in East Africa. Additionally, it has worked with ECOWAS to review the Security Council Resolution 1325 and supporting the African Union to develop FemWise and ECOWAS to operationalize the Council of the Wise. In Ghana, WANEP has continued to work with CDD on election and post-election issues and dialogue. The Wilson Center also notes that WANEP co-hosted the 2020 SVNP West Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Progress and Retrogression on Electoral Processes in West Africa – Concerns & Consequences for Peace and Security," held in Accra, Ghana. Other SVNP partners included the Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD), the Initiative for Public Policy Analysis (IPPA), and the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET).

Ms. Hannah Akuiyibo, Program Associate, Wilson Center Africa Program, United States:

The Africa Program's work continued to focus on good governance and leadership; trade, investment, and sustainable development; Africa's evolving role in the global arena; and peacebuilding. The Africa Program carries out its work through research production and analysis, and convening meetings and dialogues. The program recently published a book, *The State of Peacebuilding in Africa*, which examined 30 years of lessons learned and best practices in peacebuilding, providing policy recommendations drawn from case studies. Six members of the SVNP contributed as authors and co-authors to the volume. Ms. Akuiyibo highlighted the Africa Program's recent launch of the regional policy workshops, of which there have been three over the past year and a half: the 2020 SVNP West Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Progress and Retrogression on Electoral Processes in West Africa – Concerns & Consequences for Peace and Security;" the 2021 SVNP East Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the COVID-19 Era;" and the 2021 SVNP Southern Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Building Peace in the Midst of a Perfect Storm: What is to be done in Southern Africa?" The Africa Program also recently partnered with the Wilson Center's office of Congressional Relations to host an Africa Masterclass, which featured seven SVNP speakers and convened 30 senior staffers from Congress (both House and Senate) interested in learning more about Africa issues including governance, economics, security, and peacebuilding. It served as an important way for SVNP members to engage more directly with policymakers. The Africa Program has also been able to increase collaboration on research paper contributions from across the SVNP, and viewership increased during COVID-19.

Session 2: SVNP Directors' Discussion on Current Grant and Next Steps on SVNP Scholarship

Facilitator:

- **Dr. Monde Muyangwa**, Africa Program Director, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

This session allowed SVNP members to discuss the conference agenda, session objectives, and speakers, review the current grant, and discuss ways to move forward with and improve upon the SVNP Scholarship. The topic for the 2021 annual conference was originally agreed upon during the 2019 annual conference in Abidjan. When the COVID-19 pandemic arose, the Wilson Center Africa Program reached out to the SVNP members for updated feedback on the 2021 topic, and added

COVID-19 as an overarching framework, building the conference agenda around the key issues indicated by the members.

Overview of Current Grant:

SVNP Scholarship: Under the 2020-2022 grant, the Africa Program will host six scholars. To date, the Africa Program has hosted zero out of six scholars due to the COVID-19 pandemic which closed down international travel and resulted in many organizations, including the Wilson Center, assuming telework. The new plan is to host scholars the six scholars for a virtual portion of the scholarship from October-December 2021, followed by the first batch of three scholars who will attend an in-person portion of their scholarship from January-April 2022. The second in-person batch of three scholars would join from May-August 2022. So far, the Africa Program has received six applications for the scholarship, and plans to review applications and make selections in September, to allow for the virtual scholarship portion to begin in October. Given the limited number of applicants, Dr. Muyangwa requested that each SVNP member organization to nominate at least one person from inside or outside their organization who works on peacebuilding, and announced that applications would remain open through the end of August. Dr. Muyangwa noted that a large proportion of scholars have been from Ethiopia and thanked IPSS for their work encouraging applications, but reiterated the pan-African goal of the SVNP project, and encouraged the SVNP members to send recommendations from across the continent of young and upcoming scholars working on different dimensions of peacebuilding. Dr. Muyangwa clarified that if a selected scholar was unable to participate during their cohort timeframe due to COVID-19 restrictions, they would conduct the online portion of their scholarship as planned but could be bumped to the next in-person cohort.

Annual Conferences: The SVNP members need to decide on a location and topic for the 2022 conference, which will be on the African continent (COVID-19 allowing), since this year's virtual conference was hosted in Washington, D.C. Previous annual conferences in Africa have been hosted in East Africa (Kenya, 2013), southern Africa (South Africa, 2016), East Africa (Ethiopia, 2018), and West Africa (Côte d'Ivoire, 2019), so the next conference should take place in either Central or southern Africa. The annual conferences are typically co-hosted by one or two primary organizations, in addition to the Africa Program, so the SVNP must also determine which organizations will host the next conference.

Regarding the 2021 Joint Research Award Competition, which had a goal of enhancing collaboration among SVNP members, Dr. Muyangwa noted that four papers had been submitted: "Rethinking IGAD's role in Addressing Emerging Regional Security Threats" by Dr. Getachew Zeru Gebrekidan (Ethiopian Civil Service University, formerly at IPSS) and Mr. Messay Asgedom Gobena (IPSS); "Lessons from Street Protests as a Peacemaking Process" by Dr. Arsene Brice Bado (CERAP) and Mr. Philippe Gueu (CERAP); "Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Eastern Africa in the COVID-19 Era" by Dr. Nicholas Ozor (ATPS), Mr. Felix Musila (ATPS), and Prof. Frederick Ogenga (CMDPS); and "#EndSARS Youth Protests in Nigeria: Lessons and Opportunities for Regional Stability" by Mr. Osei Baffour Frimpong (WANEP) and Mr. Richmond Commodore (ACET). The review committee had met to review and rank the papers and the winner would be announced during the public session on Thursday.

The Africa Program will disseminate the 2021 conference report after the conclusion of the conference.

Regional Policy Workshops: The regional policy workshops have been successful in allowing SVNP members more ownership of the network and more opportunities to foster regional collaboration and to engage with policymakers on a critical peacebuilding issue in the region. The pilot workshop ("Peace, Youth, and Security in the Sahel") was hosted in 2019 by IPAR-Senegal in Senegal and the

second regional workshop (“Progress and Retrogression on Electoral Processes in West Africa – Concerns & Consequences for Peace and Security”) was hosted by WANEP in Ghana in 2019, with collaboration by CDD, IPPA, and ACET. The SVNPs built on those to host subsequent policy workshops in East Africa (“Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the COVID-19 Era,” hosted by ATPS in partnership with CMDPS, CCM, IPAR-Rwanda, WIPC, and IPSS) and southern Africa (Building Peace in the Midst of a Perfect Storm: What is to be done in Southern Africa? hosted by HSRC and ISS in partnership with the University of Pretoria, IGD, and CEPAS) in 2021.

The next workshop is scheduled to be held in Central Africa. Given its location and issue-area overlap, the planning of the Central Africa workshop may include SVNPs members from East Africa as well. It was agreed that the DRC, Rwanda, and Uganda could be considered part of Central Africa due to the shared challenges of the Great Lakes region, and that the 2022 regional policy workshop planning should begin with SVNPs members in those countries. Dr. Muyangwa reiterated that the core workshop planners must come from the region in question, as they can best identify the topic, speakers, resources, and policymakers from their region, but that other members can still play a role in the process. Also, given the transnational nature of security and peacebuilding issues that bridge North Africa and the Sahel/West Africa, and the fact that the Sadeq Institute is the only North African organization, Dr. Muyangwa brought up the need to discuss collaboration between the Sadeq Institute and other SVNPs members to host the final regional policy workshop under the grant.

Director’s Roundtables: Under the current grant, the SVNPs is scheduled to host two director’s roundtables. The roundtables are intended to take advantage of SVNPs director travels through Washington D.C. to host peacebuilding roundtable discussions with policymakers and practitioners. Dr. Muyangwa discussed the difficulty in hosting roundtables due to COVID-19 restrictions and travel challenges, but asked any SVNPs members to let her know if any of them were traveling to or through Washington, D.C., so the Africa Program can try to coordinate a meeting. If COVID-19 persists and continues to impact international travel, the Africa Program will host virtual roundtables instead.

Strengthening Partnerships: Dr. Muyangwa was pleased to hear about the intra-SVNPs collaboration reported earlier which spoke to the SVNPs goal of deepening collaboration and partnership among its members. She was especially pleased that this collaboration was taking place despite the challenges posed by COVID-19. She indicated that the Africa Program would write up and disseminate a list of collaborations reported in Session 1 for the SVNPs members to augment. She also encouraged the members to look ahead to opportunities for more collaboration in 2022.

Dissemination and Uptake of Research Products: A key part of the SVNPs mission is to generate knowledge from Africans to disseminate among policymakers. Dr. Muyangwa reported that the SVNPs was on-track with blog publications (12 of 24), asked any members who had not yet submitted a blog to do so, and encouraged members to continue sending in blogs so the network could meet or even exceed its goal—highlighting the value of blogs as a way for SVNPs organizations’ younger staff members to contribute to the SVNPs mission while developing their professional skills. She noted that the Africa Up Close site was currently offline—a situation that the Program is working to remedy. In the meantime, blog pieces are being published on the Wilson Center site instead. Dr. Muyangwa asked members to follow up on any blog pieces still in the Africa Program publishing pipeline.

Impact Assessment: The Impact Assessment, for which an external evaluator was hired, was recently completed. To assess the views of policymakers and the U.S. government on the utility of the SVNPs, the Wilson Center hosted a small virtual policymaker focus group which we had hoped to augment with an in-person one in Washington, D.C. However, we were unable to do so due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Muyangwa indicated that a more detailed update on the findings of the assessment would be provided later.

Scholarship: Dr. Muyangwa discussed the alumni database for the Carnegie Corporation of New York grant that tracks scholars, their publications, and their professional accomplishments. The SVNPN is a part of this alumni database and Dr. Muyangwa asked SVNPN members to help the Africa Program keep track of scholars to maintain the database, including by providing contact information when their scholars move on to other organizations. Monde also noted that one of the points to emerge from the impact assessment was the desire for SVNPN scholars to be more engaged with SVNPN following completion of their scholarship. These scholars are an invaluable resource and she asked for ideas of how SVNPN could more actively engage scholars post-scholarship. SVNPN members agreed that the SVNPN could and should do more, and offered suggestions, summarized below:

- Involve scholarship alumni in conferences
- Invite scholarship alumni to speak during SVNPN events such as regional workshops
- Invite scholarship alumni to contribute blogs
- Update the database to reflect current alumni areas of research and send list to directors as a resource
- Host a “get to know you meeting” for all previous scholars—potentially recurring
- Invite former scholars to speak to current scholars to discuss their journey with SVNPN

For a full list of 2020-2022 grant status and deliverables, see *Appendix 7*.

Day 2: Tuesday, 20th July

Session 3: Reports from Regional Policy Workshops and the Way Forward

Facilitator:

- **Dr. Monde Muyangwa**, Africa Program Director, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

Speakers:

- **Dr. Laure Tall**, Research Director, Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR-Senegal)
- **Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze**, Executive Director, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
- **Dr. Nicholas Ozor**, Executive Director, African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS)
- **Prof. Cheryl Hendricks**, Executive Head, African Institute of South Africa, Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)

The objective of this session was to hear from SVNPs members who had hosted regional policy workshops, to review key outcomes, and to share lessons learned and best practices that could be used to enhance future regional workshops.

The pilot regional policy workshop on “Peace, Youth, and Security in the Sahel,” took place in Senegal in 2019 and was hosted by IPAR-Senegal. In February of 2020, the second regional policy workshop was held in Ghana on “Progress and Retrogression on Electoral Processes in West Africa – Concerns & Consequences for Peace and Security,” and was led by WANEP, ACET, IPPA, and CDD. In December of 2020, ATPS led the East Africa workshop in Kenya on “Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the COVID-19 Era,” in partnership with CMDPS, WIPC, CCM, IPSS, IPAR-Rwanda. The fourth workshop, on “Building Peace in the Midst of a Perfect Storm: What is to be done Southern Africa?” took place in June of 2021 in South Africa and was hosted by HSRC, IGD, ISS, and CEPAS.

In setting the stage, Dr. Muyangwa asked each of the SVNPs presenters to address the following points regarding their regional policy workshops:

- i) What was happening in the region that made you pick that topic?
- ii) What did policymaker engagement look like
- iii) What were the key workshop outcomes and lessons learned; and
- iv) What are 2-3 recommendations from your workshop that could be helpful for the future?

Dr. Laure Tall presented on the 2019 pilot regional policy workshop held in Senegal on “Peace, Youth, and Security in the Sahel”—a topic she noted was still of crucial interest now. At the time of the conference, the Sahel crisis was deepening and there seemed to be a lack of awareness from regional leaders. The workshop focused on two countries in particular, Mali and Nigeria, since Mali has been the epicenter of violence by international terrorist groups, and Nigeria, also dealing with violent terrorism, is one of Africa’s largest economies. Dr. Tall emphasized that the topic of youth was chosen because the massive recruitment of teenagers was a key component of the prevalence of violent extremism in the region. The workshop hosted a diverse set of participants and high-level panelists, including a former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Senegal, the former regional director of Amnesty International, a former Senegalese army officer, and the Chief of Staff for the President of Senegal, as well as parliamentarians, youth, and Dr. Muyangwa. Dr. Tall highlighted some of the key questions that arose in discussions: how to balance African priorities and Mali’s sovereignty with international interests and strategies; how to adjust French engagement with the G5 Sahel, other Sahelian countries, and UN peacekeeping; how to create more democratic governance in global and national institutions; and how to ensure that African issues are on the international agenda. Key themes

included: the need to invest in primary drivers of governance; the importance of amplifying African voices (particularly youth voices) at the international level; and the recognition that international and national levels of governance are deeply interconnected.

Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze gave an overview of the 2020 SVN West Africa Regional Policy Workshop, “Progress and Retrogression on Electoral Processes in West Africa – Concerns & Consequences for Peace and Security,” hosted by WANEP in Ghana, in partnership with CDD, IPPA, and ACET. The partners selected this topic because they had noticed that elections in West Africa were being characterized by violence and displacement, pessimism, and military incursion into politics. Some common challenges faced by countries in the region included questions of election credibility, ethnic politics, violent extremism, and terrorism. Conference participants included representatives from West African electoral commissions, ECOWAS, political parties, civil society organizations, and international partners. Discussions covered the political dynamics and current institutional strategies of electoral processes, the regional electoral outlook for 2020, key fragile states, and how to manage complex elections and support civil society actors. Dr. Eze then noted some key conference takeaways including: the shrinking space of civil actors in elections is a major issue area; the need to involve media in electoral processes; and the need for more inclusive electoral processes; the importance of protecting citizens’ rights and enforcing presidential term limits; and the dangers of political manipulation of identity, ethnicity, and religion. Post-conference, WANEP has been able to bring stakeholders from the workshop into national response groups, strengthen its early warning system, and provide guidance to civil society, media, election management organizations, and regional economic communities. The most important factor for a successful regional policy workshop, Dr. Eze concluded, is the region’s ability to choose a conference topic that resonates with the region’s peacebuilding priorities and needs.

Dr. Nicholas Ozor presented on the 2020 SVN East Africa Regional Policy Workshop, “Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the COVID-19 Era,” hosted in Kenya by ATPS in partnership with CMDPS, WIPC, IPAR-Rwanda, CCM, and IPSS. The East African partners selected this topic because the region had been experiencing frequent terrorist attacks stemming from continued radicalization, which had been worsened by the isolation and reliance on virtual communication of young people during the COVID-19 pandemic. Workshop participants included officials from counter-terrorism centers, policy officials, relevant ministers, high commissioners, and representatives from embassies and county governments. Participants discussed the gaps and differences between countries’ approaches to dealing with violent extremism—gaps which have allowed violent extremism to flourish in the region, especially in border regions. In terms of solutions, participants suggested that there is a need for proper alignment of policy, cooperation, and information sharing between countries in the region in order to address the collective danger posed by violent extremism. The workshop produced a *communiqué* with action points for governments including: strong regional collaboration; investments in research, training and advocacy; information sharing; psychosocial support for victims; networking amongst stakeholders; and a focus on emerging hotspots that have not traditionally been the center of attention for countering violent extremism. Post-conference, the East African partners launched and disseminated County Action Plans in Kenya and developed a research paper based on the workshop, which was submitted by two SVN members to the Wilson Center as part of the 2021 Joint Research Award Competition.

Prof. Cheryl Hendricks presented on the recent 2021 Southern Africa Regional Policy Workshop, “Building Peace in the Midst of a Perfect Storm: What is to be done in Southern Africa?” The workshop was hosted in South Africa by HSRC in partnership with ISS, the University of Pretoria, IGD, and CEPAS. Prof. Hendricks highlighted a few specific peacebuilding challenges in the region which informed the workshop focus: the ongoing crisis and protests in South Africa; electoral-related unrest in Malawi; violent extremism in the DRC, Tanzania, and Mozambique; human rights challenges;

maritime insecurity; high levels of gender-based violence and femicide. Prof. Hendricks indicated that the prevalence of violent extremism, especially, brought up the need for an analysis of peacebuilding in southern Africa, along with a focus on soft security challenges including poverty, inequality, and COVID-19, and that the title incorporating “perfect storm” to describe the situation in region was coined by the late Francis Kornegay. Workshop sessions touched upon issues including: political transitions and liberation movements; the undermining of democratic institutions; the non-implementation of SADC’s recommendations; case studies on Eswatini, the DRC, and Mozambique; governance issues and exclusionary politics; the third wave of COVID-19; and the role of civil society and women in conflict contexts. Stakeholder participants included policymakers, practitioners, implementers, academics, and several ambassadors. Prof. Hendricks emphasized that the biggest takeaway from the conference was that peacebuilding should be comprehensive, inclusive, and human-centered, and noted that a comprehensive report would be compiled and would include key policymaker recommendations.

Session 4 – Private Event: The Global Fragility Act and Peacebuilding in Africa

The purpose of this private session was to hear African perspectives and ideas on the Global Fragility Act (GFA) by engaging leaders of several Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding (SVNP) organizations working on peacebuilding in Africa. Participants were provided with an overview of the GFA presented by U.S. researchers from the NGO sector, which was followed by a moderated discussion. Specifically, participants were asked to reflect on the following questions:

- i) How can the U.S. effectively partner at the local level, including with women, youth, and other historically marginalized groups, to ensure local ownership of plans to address fragility and instability?
- ii) In what countries would you see the most opportunities for partnership on Global Fragility Act implementation?
- iii) What are ways to develop and implement effective 10-year plans, understanding that political leadership will change over that long time horizon?
- iv) What could be the potential role of the SVNP in this? As a consultative capacity?

The SVNP participants contributed to the following points and recommendations:

How can the U.S. effectively partner at the local level, including with women, youth, and other historically marginalized groups, to ensure local ownership of plans to address fragility and instability?

- There is a need for a commitment of long-term and consistent funding along with a paradigm shift from a focus on peacekeeping and conflict response, to a focus on peacebuilding and conflict prevention.
- There is sometimes a difference in how the United States views and defines fragility vs. how Africans view and define fragility.
- Avoid overcrowding in the peacebuilding space and “commercialization of peacebuilding.”
- Avoid crowding out of local actors and ensure that in-country implementation includes mechanisms for local ownership and legitimacy.
- Ensure that country-specific implementation is informed by local realities (i.e. changing peacebuilding terrain and ecology, emerging issues at the local level).
- Focus on and formalize consultative processes in each phase of GFA implementation.
- Remain as regime-neutral as possible to build sustainable engagement of women, youth, and marginalized groups.
- Conduct mapping of and learn from existing indigenous early warning systems and conflict prevention mechanisms that have been successful.

- The ability to address long-term structural fragility issues and not just implement short-term solutions is crucial. It may take a while to see the dividends from such initiatives, but they will be mutually beneficial to both recipient and implementing countries.

In what countries would you see the most opportunities for partnership on Global Fragility Act implementation?

Recommendations for Country Prioritization

- Focus on countries with a combination of human- and nature-caused fragility and develop a matrix for understanding and addressing the diverse causes of fragility.
- Focus on countries whose fragility or instability have deep regional implications.

There was no consensus on which countries should be prioritized, but the following specific countries were raised as possibilities.

- South Sudan
 - Fragile yet with plenty of opportunities and inroads for partnership.
- Ethiopia
 - Was previously considered stable, now becoming increasingly more fragile with multiplicity of issues, and regional and international implications.
- Chad
 - Lies at intersection of regional fragilities (Sahel, Lake Chad Basin, Central Africa), so its ability to shore up fragility will benefit multiple regions—including regions high on the United States' priority list as sources of international violent extremism.
- Kenya
 - Key regional player: borders multiple regions and key conflict zones/countries (including the Horn of Africa), largest economy in the EAC (the East African Community) and COMESA (the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa).
 - Hosts a convergence of key African conflict drivers including displacement (Kenya is one of the top refugee-hosting countries on the continent) and extremism (there has been a spread in violent extremism along the East Africa Corridor, which runs through Kenya).
- Mali
 - Epicenter of Sahel fragility dynamics (a focus area of the U.S. and international community).

What are ways to develop and implement effective 10-year plans, understanding that political leadership will change over that long time horizon?

- Draw from existing national and regional peacebuilding strategies, agendas, and frameworks in planning and strategizing 10-year implementation plans.
- Involve, utilize, and empower civil society organizations in implementation structures and processes.
- Consider binding mechanisms and instruments that can carry government obligations through different regimes and changes in leadership.
- Mainstream/incorporate GFA implementation into national development agendas, and make national contributions/buy-in a precondition for investment.
- Create a formal sustainability plan that accounts for potential leadership changes and/or government support withdrawal.
- Understand which actors are in the United States' engagement toolbox and build the foundation for implementation on strong partnerships.

What could be the potential role of the SVN in this? In a consultative capacity?

The SVN is a deep and rich pan-African resource on peacebuilding in Africa, consisting of 22 African organizations that work with the Wilson Center on various dimensions of peacebuilding. It:

- Can be engaged as an implementing partner.
- Can provide research for empirically-grounded implementation strategies.
- Can provide constructive, local critique of strategies/plans.
- Can connect U.S. officials with key stakeholders across the continent, and serve as a sustainable liaison.

Day 3: Wednesday, 21st July

Session 5 – Public Event: COVID-19, Democracy, Development, and Peacebuilding in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities

Moderator:

- **Ms. Hannah Akuiyibo**, Program Associate, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

Speakers:

- **Ms. Tess McEnery**, Director for Democracy and Governance, U.S. National Security Council (NSC)
- **Mr. Mvemba Phezo Dizolele**, Senior Advisor, International Republican Institute (IRI)
- **Dr. Christopher Fomunyoh**, Senior Associate and Regional Director for Central and West Africa, National Democratic Institute (NDI)

The goal of this session was to explore and analyze how COVID-19 has impacted democracy, development, and peacebuilding in Africa. Specifically, this session addressed key issues and trends; identified the most pressing challenges to democracy and peacebuilding that COVID-19 has exposed or exacerbated; and highlighted some of the opportunities for strengthening democracy and peacebuilding in Africa in the COVID-19-era and beyond.

Ms. Tess McEnery began by highlighting key impacts of COVID-19 on democracy and peacebuilding, including the acceleration of democratic backsliding and abuses of executive power under the guise of pandemic responses, and the exacerbation of existing inequalities and drivers of conflict and instability—noting that the United States has not been immune to such challenges, which are global in nature. Pointing to recent democratic challenges in Africa after many years of gains, Ms. McEnery highlighted incomplete national elections, ethnic mobilization, violence against civilians and failed ceasefires, restrictions on freedom of speech and expression, coups, assassination attempts, and instability. Ms. McEnery called on the international community to invest more in conflict prevention (noting that the recent Global Fragility Act indicates a U.S. pivot toward this approach), to demonstrate that democracy delivers through inclusive, participatory, transparent, and accountable governance, and to collaborate with and empower local partners through more people-centered development approaches.

Mr. Mvemba Phezo Dizolele discussed the widespread restriction of political and civic space in many countries under COVID-19, but noted that this was not the case everywhere. Mr. Dizolele suggested that one of the few benefits of the COVID-19 pandemic is that it served as a useful test of the social contract, emphasizing that the failure of governments to uphold this contract is a key driver of conflict. Another benefit was the increased focus on digital platforms, which reduced exposure of activists and civil society actors to physical violations, allowing them to train, collaborate, and communicate at the local and global levels. One of the most pressing challenges relating to shrinking civic space under COVID-19, Mr. Dizolele suggested, was increased government surveillance of civil society actors and opposition groups. He concluded by emphasizing that donor countries, governments, and other peacebuilding and democracy actors must push for social contracts to be upheld on the continent—otherwise no serious peacebuilding will be possible.

Dr. Christopher Fomunyoh discussed the post-colonial waves of democratization in Africa, which have now been on the decline. Such backsliding, Dr. Fomunyoh asserted, has led to more conflicts, contested elections, shrinking political space, and the inability of citizens to hold their governments accountable—a vulnerable situation to the impact of COVID-19. Dr. Fomunyoh echoed the previous

speakers' remarks in highlighting the shrinking of political space and the abuse of power by executive branches of government under COVID-19. In this context, he emphasized, peacebuilding and democracy actors must look ahead to anticipate future flashpoints between authoritarian and democratic systems, with upcoming elections serving as an important test of democracy. Dr. Fomunyoh recommended that more effort go into rejuvenating political leadership on the continent, and that peacebuilding and conflict resolution efforts take on a more holistic approach—stepping back from the traditional focus on military responses to conflict.

Session 6 – Public Event: Gender, Youth, Technology, Democracy, and Development in the COVID-19 Era: Disruptions, Concerns, and Prospects

Moderator:

- **Dr. Monde Muyangwa**, Africa Program Director, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

Speakers:

- **Mr. Jon Temin**, Director, Africa Program, Freedom House
- **Ms. Helen Kezie-Nwoha**, Executive Director, Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC)
- **Mr. Max Amanu**, Programs Officer, Northwind Foundation

The goal of this session was to examine the crosscutting dynamics of gender, youth, and technology, and how they influence/relate to democracy, development, and peacebuilding in Africa in the COVID-19 era. Specifically, this session addressed the impact of COVID-19 on democratic participation, examining key issues, trends, and disruptions across the issue areas of gender, youth, and technology; identified the most pressing challenges to and opportunities for democracy and peacebuilding as related to each of the cross-cutting dynamics; and made policy recommendations for how to strengthen democracy and peacebuilding efforts across the three issue areas.

Mr. Jon Temin began his remarks on the technology dimension by acknowledging the global trends of democratic decline. He articulated that while technology had once been viewed as the great liberator, autocrats have since learned to harness technology to their advantage to close civic space. Specifically, Mr. Temin pointed to three technological tools that autocrats use to do so: internet shutdowns, digital surveillance, and disinformation. On the positive side, he noted that technology has also served to organize protests, expose governance issues, deliver services, and facilitate and monitor elections in Africa. Mr. Temin concluded by emphasizing the need to build digital literacy across the continent; the importance of including African voices in global conversations about technology regulation to contribute toward progress within the sector—conversations which have so far been largely driven by the Global North; and the danger of allowing civic restrictions under COVID-19 to become permanent.

Ms. Helen Kezie-Nwoha focused her remarks on the issue of women's democratic participation as it relates to the COVID-19 era. In describing long-term and recent trends, she acknowledged the overall rise in women's political democratic participation in Africa—with the caveat that such progress has occurred very gradually, but explained that recent elections in Africa have often been characterized by violence against and marginalization of women. The patterns of repression seen under COVID-19 (particularly in the realm of elections), she remarked, have been detrimental to women's participation in democracy. While positive electoral technological innovations emerged in response to the pandemic, women have not been able to take full advantage of this due to limited access to resources, money, and technology. She emphasized the need to actively include women and youth in multi-track peacebuilding and democracy programming, and to build local infrastructures for peace and democracy.

Mr. Max Amanu began his remarks on the youth dynamic of democracy and peacebuilding by emphasizing that youth are not a homogenous group, but include diverse identities spanning gender, disability, refugee status, and urban/rural dynamics. He stressed that attention must be paid to facilitating inclusive youth participation in democratic processes, and described the intersecting challenges faced by youth during the pandemic including: the restriction of movement, mental health issues; the crowding out democratic spaces; the lack of internet access and digital literacy; and unemployment. Mr. Amanu concluded by recommending that peacebuilders conduct mapping of grassroots organizations to help build datasets for youth mobilization; that African governments involve youth in all policy processes, including COVID-19 recovery strategies; that private and public sector actors invest in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) infrastructure and youth training; and that African governments create robust data and privacy regulations to allow their citizens (especially youth) to safely and effectively take advantage of the democratic and development potential of technology, especially in the increasingly virtual context of COVID-19.

Day 4: Thursday, 22nd July

Session 7A – Public Event: *The State of Peacebuilding in Africa: Lessons Learned for Policymakers and Practitioners* – SVNP Author Presentations

Moderator:

- **Dr. Monde Muyangwa**, Africa Program Director, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

Speakers:

- **Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze**, Executive Director, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
- **Dr. Franklin Oduro**, Resident Program Director for Elections, Ethiopia Office, National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI); and former Director of Programs and Deputy Executive Director, Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD)
- **Dr. Fritz Nganje**, Associate Professor of International Relations, University of Johannesburg
- **Dr. Jok Madut Jok**, Co-Founder, Sudd Institute; and Professor of Anthropology, Syracuse University

The purpose of this session was to hear from several authors featured in Wilson Center’s recently published book, *The State of Peacebuilding in Africa*, who presented the key points, findings, and policy recommendations from their chapters.

Dr. Monde Muyangwa opened the session with a brief overview of *The State of Peacebuilding in Africa: Lessons Learned for Policymakers and Practitioners*. The book, which was published in 2021 under the SVNP project, looks back over 30 years of peacebuilding experiences, examines why the challenge of rebuilding societies following conflict has not become easier over time, and highlights key lessons learned that could be used to entrench sustainable peace on the continent. Dr. Muyangwa then thanked her co-editor, Dr. Terence McNamee, a Wilson Center Global Fellow, as well as the 23 experts (including six SVNP members) who contributed to the book.

Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze offered an overview of his chapter, “Contributions of Early Warning to the African Peace and Security Architecture: The Experience of the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP).” Dr. Eze explained that WANEP uses its network structure of organizations to support data collection and analysis for the early warning system, in partnership with the African Union and ECOWAS. His chapter discusses the gap between early warning systems and early responses to conflict, and a need to institutionalize early warning systems across countries through civil society engagement—as most existing systems have been state-centric. The chapter also explains that such civil society engagement can help bridge the gap between military and human security approaches to managing and responding to conflict. Another key point from the chapter is that African governments have not yet offered commensurate financial contributions toward the African Union’s peace and security architectures. Dr. Eze concluded his remarks with several recommendations from the chapter: first, that it is crucial to empower the local on-the-ground elements of early warning systems; second, that there is a need for adequate and sustainable funding for early warning systems; third, that it is important to address the gender and youth dimensions of peacebuilding and to mainstream peace education; fourth, that there must be enhanced collaboration between civil society and regional economic communities; and finally, that peace and security architectures must be invested in at the local, national, and regional levels.

Dr. Franklin Oduro discussed the findings and recommendations of his chapter, “The Changing Nature of Elections in Africa: Impact on Peacebuilding.” The central finding of this chapter was that while elections can be a peacebuilding tool, they must be inclusive, transparent, and credible to be effective. Dr. Oduro emphasized that the timing of elections is crucial to their efficacy and that while technology can be a tool for electoral transparency, it also remains a threat when used to manipulate and obscure election results. Another key finding of the chapter was that elections are becoming increasingly costly, with funding disparities between opposing parties impacting the fairness of elections. Dr. Oduro concluded by offering several key recommendations from the chapter: first, that there is a need to revisit and update outdated electoral regulations to improve consistency with continental peace infrastructures; second, that strong, sustainable support for civil society is necessary to counter the growing abuse of presidential term limits; third, that civil society organizations must examine how technology can be used for good in elections; and finally, that there needs to be a conversation around campaign financing to promote local ownership in electoral processes and to improve inclusion of women, youth, and other marginalized groups.

Dr. Fritz Nganje offered remarks on his chapter, “Local Peace Committees and Grassroots Peacebuilding in Africa.” He began by highlighting the historical tension between “bottom-up” and “top-down” approaches to peacebuilding, which is evident in discussions of whether local peace committee structures should be formalized or not, and what the relationship between these committees and formal state structures should be. Dr. Nganje offered several conclusions from the chapter: first, that the principle of local ownership and agency, which gives local peace committees their value and dynamism, is a necessary but not sufficient requirement for peacebuilding—as local dynamics can both contribute to peace and cause conflict; second, that in order for local peace committees to be able to effectively deal with the complexities of peacebuilding and draw legitimacy from formal institutions, they must be a part of a broader framework of peacebuilding that cuts across local, national, regional, and international levels. Dr. Nganje closed his remarks with a few key recommendations: first, that African governments should put in place a legal policy framework that supports the work of local peace committees as grassroots peacebuilding structures; second, that institutions like the United Nations and the African Union should consider bringing in local peace committees as components of their formal missions in order to better localize peace processes; and finally, that a framework for learning between different local peace committees across the continent should be established.

Dr. Jok Madut Jok provided an overview of his chapter, “Lessons in Failure: Peacebuilding in Sudan/South Sudan.” He began his remarks by discussing the central question posed in his chapter: “What makes efforts to build and sustain peace so difficult to succeed?” Dr. Jok described the first possible answer to this question, which is that the multi-layered, fractured nature of conflicts can blur the lines of confrontation, where the great number of actors involved and the divisions within factions themselves makes coming to a settlement difficult. It therefore becomes difficult, he noted, to identify who the main actors are, as well as who should be included or excluded in peace negotiations, and the cost of such inclusion or exclusion. Dr. Jok then explained the chapter’s next finding that while conflicts simultaneously occur at both the national and local levels (which feed into and influence one another), peace negotiations have a tendency to focus too much on national-level negotiations and power-sharing at the expense of local dynamics—which are just as damaging to human security and equally important to address. As to whether justice or silencing the guns should come first, Dr. Jok recommended that peacebuilders find ways to do these concurrently. He concluded by emphasizing the importance of supporting local-level peace initiatives to allow for daily life to continue even as peacebuilders continue to search for national, formal solutions.

Session 7B – Public Event: SVNP “Peacebuilding in Africa” Research Award Competition Announcement and Presentation from Winning Paper Authors

Moderator:

- **Ms. Oge Onubogu**, Director, West Africa Program, U.S. Institute of Peace

Speakers:

- **Dr. Arsene Brice Bado**, Associate Researcher, Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP)
- **Mr. Osei Baffour Frimpong**, Liaison Officer at the African Union Peace and Security Department for the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)

The purpose of session was to announce and celebrate the winners of the SVNP’s joint research award for the best collaborative research paper on a key or emerging peacebuilding issue, and to hear a short presentation from the winning authors.

Ms. Oge Onubogu opened the session with a brief overview of the SVNP joint research competition which invited submissions of co-authored research papers involving two or more SVNP member organizations and focused on an issue that is relevant to peacebuilding in Africa. The authors were asked to assess current responses to that peacebuilding challenge and to offer policy options and recommendations. Ms. Onubogu then provided brief overview information on each of the four paper submissions:

- “Rethinking IGAD’s role in Addressing Emerging Regional Security Threats” by Dr. Getachew Zeru Gebrekidan (Ethiopian Civil Service University, formerly at IPSS) and Mr. Messay Asgedom Gobena (IPSS), which assessed the Intergovernmental Authority on Development’s (IGAD) role in addressing emerging regional security threats in the Horn of Africa;
- “Lessons from Street Protests as a Peacemaking Process” by Dr. Arsene Brice Bado (CERAP) and Mr. Philippe Gueu (CERAP), which examined the trend of street protests in Africa and how they differ from similar protests which have signaled changes in other parts of the world, particularly as related to democracy and peacebuilding;
- “Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Eastern Africa in the COVID-19 Era” by Dr. Nicholas Ozor (ATPS), Mr. Felix Musila (ATPS), and Prof. Frederick Ogenga (CMDPS), which examined the immediate and remote causes of, as well as the strategies for preventing, violent extremism in Eastern Africa.
- “#EndSARS Youth Protests in Nigeria: Lessons and Opportunities for Regional Stability” by Mr. Osei Baffour Frimpong (WANEP) and Mr. Richmond Commodore (ACET), which examined the discontent expressed by Nigeria’s youth during the #EndSARS protest, how it is reflective of trends in other West African states, and its implications for regional security.

She thanked her fellow members of the competition review committee, Dr. Nii Akuetteh and Dr. Jamie Van Leeuwen, and noted that the competition decision had been a difficult one because of the high quality of the papers. She then announced the result was a tie, and that the two winning papers were “Lessons from Street Protests as a Peacemaking Process” and “#EndSARS Youth Protests in Nigeria: Lessons and Opportunities for Regional Stability.” Representatives from both winning papers were then called upon to provide short presentations.

Dr. Arsene Brice Bado briefly discussed the argument of “Lessons from Street Protests as a Peacemaking Process,” which was that street protests should be taken seriously as a locus of peacebuilding. The paper recommended that peacebuilders seek to understand the rationale behind street protest movements in order to build strategies that are responsive and adaptive to them.

Mr. Osei Baffour Frimpong presented the findings of “#EndSARS Youth Protests in Nigeria: Lessons and Opportunities for Regional Stability” that the issues that triggered the #EndSARS movement were a wider reflection of issues affecting youth across West Africa (including poverty, unemployment, and marginalization), and recommended that youth be at the center of policy development and implementation.

Session 8 – Private Event: Time for a Rethink? U.S.-Africa Relations in the COVID-19 Era – Conversation with SVNP Directors, Congressional Staff and USG

The purpose of this session was for Congressional staffers to enter into a conversation with SVNP organization directors about U.S.-Africa relations and engagement in the COVID-19 era. SVNP directors were given the opportunity to communicate their views on what Africans would like to see from U.S. engagement in Africa in the coming years, as well as their perspectives on the biggest challenges to and opportunities for strengthening U.S.-Africa relations.

Points and Recommendations for the Future of U.S. Engagement with Africa

- Focus on providing more support for non-state and civil society organizations. Redirect support when the state is problematic/failing—don’t remove it entirely—because when democracy is failing, that is the time when civil society organizations most need international support to challenge authoritarianism.
- Re-examine the U.S.’s election support toolbox to ensure that approaches respond to both opportunities and challenges of African elections and how they have evolved, particularly as related to the use of technology.
- U.S. can use its influence and position to champion dialogue involving marginalized groups.
- The U.S. can draw more from existing African regional cooperation plans and agendas (such as the African Union’s Agenda 2063 and other sub-regional strategies) to help formulate its peacebuilding strategies.
- There are too many external actors at the forefront of African peacebuilding, which often prevents African ownership, thus negatively impacting the sustainability of peacebuilding efforts.
- Involve and engage youth voices and input in all discussions and strategies.
- In U.S. policy discussions on Africa, highlight the strengths, opportunities, and value of
- U.S.-Africa partnership and engagement, and focus less on just the challenges that exist on the continent.
- Focus more effort on the nexus between peace and development in a holistic manner, to ensure approaches and programs are mutually reinforcing in both of these areas.
- Open and clear communication as to how policies and programs respond to realities on the ground is important, not only at the government-to-government level but at the community level.

Points and Recommendations for U.S. Policy Focus Areas

- Violent extremism, terrorism, and malevolent non-state actors
- Capacity building in the areas of democracy, human rights, and rule of law
- Economic development
- Post-COVID-19 recovery

Points and Recommendations Regarding Challenges to U.S.-Africa Relations

- When U.S. peacebuilding and peacekeeping support/funding is ad-hoc (as opposed to through continuous, long-term operations), malevolent non-state actors are able to exploit gaps,

- leading to resilient insurgencies.
- The COVID and post-COVID recovery of both the U.S. and Africa will continue to be a major challenge to U.S.-Africa relations.
 - There is often a U.S. focus on strengthening state institutional capacity, sometimes at the expense of strengthening non-state organizations that support democracy, peacebuilding, and development.
 - There is sometimes a disconnect in terms of what the U.S. Government is actually doing in certain spheres in Africa, and how Africans perceive U.S. engagement (i.e. U.S. engagement is not well known or evident on the ground).
 - Often, there is a perception of a “one-size-fits-all” U.S. approach to Africa when, in fact, different countries and situations require different strategies and approaches designed to fit their particular situation.
 - It was explained that there seems to exist a dichotomy related to U.S. engagement in Africa: the United States is both criticized for engaging too much and not engaging enough.

Points and Recommendations for Strengthening U.S.-Africa Relations

- Africa’s economy is rapidly developing, and there are many inroads for deeper U.S. engagement and cooperation.
- There is room for increased support and investment in African technological innovations and in the digital space, a sector in which the United States has a unique capacity/expertise.
- There are opportunities for deeper engagement, policy, and programs with Africa’s youth and women to ensure stronger future U.S.-Africa relations.

Day 5: Friday, 23rd July

Session 9 – Public Event: COVID-19, Security, and Peacebuilding: Non-State Actors and International Stakeholders

Welcome and Opening Remarks:

- **Ambassador Mark Green**, President, Director, & CEO, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS) Moderator:

Moderator

- **Dr. Monde Muyangwa**, Africa Program Director, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

Speakers:

- **Ms. Michelle Strucke**, Principal Director for Stability and Humanitarian Affairs, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, U.S. Department of Defense
- **Dr. Cyril Obi**, Program Director, African Peacebuilding Network (APN)
- **Mr. Anas El Gomati**, Founder and General Director, Sadeq Institute

The purpose of this session was to explore and analyze the role of non-state actors and international stakeholders as they relate to African security and peacebuilding in the COVID-19 era. Specifically, this session addressed the impact of COVID-19 on the security environment in Africa; identified the key security trends and challenges posed by non-state actors and the impact of COVID-19 these dynamics; identified opportunities for involving non-state actors and international stakeholders in peacebuilding efforts; and made policy recommendations to address the security challenges surrounding non-state actors in the COVID-19 era.

Ambassador Mark Green delivered opening remarks to set the stage for the discussion, highlighting the prevalence of security threats from non-state groups in Africa and the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. He emphasized that although poverty itself does not cause terrorism, it does lead to despair—which extremists know how to exploit for their own gains. Ambassador Green warned that in this period of COVID-19, more communities (and young Africans in particular) will be vulnerable to ideological capture and recruitment by violent, non-state extremist groups. However, other non-state groups can play a constructive, positive role in addressing insecurity and fragility, he explained. He emphasized a few key recommendations: first, that peacebuilding processes must involve cooperation at every level—local, national, regional, and global; second, that African governments and international stakeholders must work to empower civil society organizations; third, that there is a need for strong institutions that are citizen-responsive; and finally, that Africa’s youth should take the lead in tackling Africa’s challenges. He concluded his remarks by stressing that it is in everyone’s best interests to invest in peacebuilding together, and emphasizing his optimism for Africa’s future.

Ms. Michelle Strucke began with an overview of the United States’ commitment to fostering good governance, development, and prosperity, and to ending the COVID-19 pandemic. She noted that the pandemic has strained Africa’s already fragile health systems and created a new impediment to ongoing peace processes—placing undue stress on populations (particularly on women and girls) and creating a context which malevolent non-state actors have exploited. Ms. Strucke stressed the importance of avoiding one-size-fits all solutions to African security challenges, facilitating

information exchange on COVID-19, and strengthening bilateral relationships to support peacebuilding and peacekeeping efforts. She concluded by saying that African countries, with support from the United States, will be able to apply the lessons learned from the Ebola crisis to successfully combat COVID-19.

Dr. Cyril Obi discussed the disruptions of COVID-19 to everyday life, politics, economics, and security in Africa, stressing that the pandemic had exacerbated existing structural inequalities and threatened years of growth and social progress on the continent. As more Africans are forced into poverty due to COVID-19, Dr. Obi explained, the drivers of conflict are fueled. There has been a shrinking of civic space, an erosion of social safety nets, violations of human rights, and a backsliding into authoritarian, violent governance. As a result, he indicated, armed non-state actors have been able to challenge states—undermining the monopoly over the use of force, expanding fear, and increasing their influence. Conversely, Dr. Obi noted that COVID-19 has opened up space for local grassroots organizations to create resilience and new forms of livelihood and collaboration. He insisted that peacebuilding solutions should focus on structural drivers of conflict and violence, and not on quick fixes. He emphasized the need to revisit social contracts of African states to foster more inclusive and democratic governance and better address grievances and inequalities. He concluded by recommending that African states and regional bodies re-evaluate African peace and security architectures to respond to the emerging challenges unearthed by COVID, consulting with and empowering locally-led initiatives.

Mr. Anas El Gomati offered a case study perspective on the dynamics of non-state and international actors in the COVID-19 peacebuilding environment, focusing on Libya in particular. He explained that the COVID-19 pandemic had replaced conflict resolution and peacebuilding priorities, allowing the conflict in Libya to intensify and warring factions to become increasingly ripened toward conflict and away from compromise. He emphasized the difficulty in conducting peacebuilding virtually, as peacebuilders rely heavily on in-person interaction. Regarding solutions, Mr. El Gomati stressed the need for peacebuilders to collaborate with social media companies to combat disinformation campaigns. He called upon the international community to prioritize the prevention of arms embargoes violations, which had increased under COVID-19. He concluded by asserting that the pandemic's impact cannot be measured by hospital beds alone, and that peacebuilders must examine what it has allowed state and non-state actors to do.

Session 10 – Public Event: Beyond Silencing the Guns: Reflections on Challenges and Recommendations for the Way Forward

Moderator:

- **Mr. Thompson Ayodele**, Director, Initiative for Public Policy Analysis (IPPA)

Speakers:

- **Ms. Aissatou Hayatou**, Acting Head, AUDA-NEPAD Coordination Unit and former “Silencing the Guns” Operations Manager, African Union Commission
- **Ms. Oge Onubogu**, Director, West Africa Program, U.S. Institute of Peace

The purpose of this session was to examine the African Union's continent-wide campaign, “Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2020,” and to reflect upon the way forward for building sustainable peace in Africa. Specifically, this session examined the extent to which the “Silencing the Guns” initiative has been successful and its major roadblocks; identified the key challenges faced by peacebuilding efforts on the continent more broadly; and made recommendations for concrete steps toward “silencing the guns” and achieving a more sustainable peace in Africa.

Ms. Aissatou Hayatou, began by noting that she was speaking in her personal capacity. She acknowledged that the African Union’s “Silencing the Guns” campaign is part of a longer term process that builds upon previous initiatives. Ms. Hayatou offered a few achievements of the campaign, including the mainstreaming of the initiative across all developmental, political, security, and peacebuilding areas. She emphasized that over the past decade, stakeholders have increasingly understood how their own efforts and activities fit into the promotion of peace on the continent and have mobilized across sectors—private, government, civil society, and international—to raise awareness for the idea that there should be some ownership of the agenda for peace by all. Ms. Hayatou stressed the importance of facilitating citizen participation in and mobilizing resources toward peacebuilding frameworks while simultaneously supporting development efforts. She concluded by asserting the importance of creating comprehensive frameworks, like “Silencing the Guns,” that address the many intersecting factors impacting peace on the continent.

Ms. Oge Onubogu opened her remarks by discussing the ways in which COVID-19 has exacerbated the root causes of conflict, particularly in terms of inequality. She pointed to the many instances in which governments have exploited the crisis to further their agendas, and reacted with security responses that entailed widespread human rights abuses. On the other hand, she noted, the pandemic has created opportunities for civil society and community actors to advance peace, with many quickly pivoting their activities to respond to the needs created by COVID-19 and building relationships between communities. She suggested that COVID-19 has presented an opportunity to reflect on peacebuilding approaches, and asserted the need for peacebuilding to be holistic, adaptive, inclusive (particular in regard to youth), and responsive to citizen needs. She recommended that the international community leverage the goodwill that exists to advance peacebuilding efforts, and concluded by suggesting that plans like “Silencing the Guns” are only the starting point.

Session 11: SVNP Directors’ Discussion on Surveys, Closing Ceremony

Facilitator:

- **Dr. Monde Muyangwa**, Africa Program Director, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

The last session of the conference allowed SVNP members to discuss surveys and conference deliverables, and conclude with reflections on the week.

Dr. Monde Muyangwa began by thanking the SVNP members for participating in the conference and selecting such a timely theme. She gave a brief overview of conference highlights and areas for improvement, and asked that each SVNP representative complete and return the survey to improve future programming. She requested that the SVNP members offer topic recommendations for the 2022 annual conference, and concluded by asking each session participant to offer one-minute closing reflections, summarized below:

- The conference created new research questions for SVNP organizations to examine
- The panel discussions were rich and directors learned many new things
- The conference provided SVNP members with new resources to share with their networks
- SVNP members are looking forward to exploring areas of collaboration discussed during the conference
- While the physical component was missed, the conference was still engaging
- SVNP members formed new connections and linkages from the week’s sessions, and some had already reached out to new partners
- The conference provided many opportunities cross-learning and knowledge sharing
- SVNP members were energized by the conference to become more engaged with the network,

- through publications and other methods
- The conference sessions involved specific recommendations on big topics, where many other peacebuilding conferences stay in the abstract

Appendices

Appendix 1: Participant Biographies

SOUTHERN VOICES NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING MEMBER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. Yonas Adaye Adeto received his B.A. and M.A. in English and M.A. in International Relations. He received a Postgraduate Diploma in Security Sector Reform in Post Conflict Countries and his Ph.D. in Peace Studies at the University of Bradford in the U.K. Dr. Adeto has expertise in international relations, security studies, and peace and conflict studies. Dr. Adeto started his career as the Editor-in-Chief for the newsletter for the Department of English Language and Literature at Addis Ababa University from 1990 to 1995. Between 1993 and 2003, he served as an instructor in the Department of English Language and Literature before transitioning to a lecturer from 2003-2006. Dr. Adeto was an editorial board member for Forum for Street Children in Ethiopia from 1995 to 2000, Executive Secretary for the Ethiopian English Language Teachers' Society at the British Council in Addis Ababa from 2000 to 2004. Dr. Adeto was the Director of IPSS from 2007 to 2009 before becoming the Deputy Director and Regular MA Programme Coordinator in 2012. Since 2001, he is also a Research Group Member with the Organization for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA). He is currently Associate Academic Director at the same Institute since December 2014.

Dr. Fonteh Akum is Executive Director at the Institute for Security Studies. He previously headed the Lake Chad Basin Programme at the ISS. He also previously worked in research, research management and policy communication roles at the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), the Africa Programme of the United Nations University for Peace, and also at the International Monetary Fund headquarters in Washington DC. Fonteh's research covers violent conflicts, governance and human security in the Lake Chad Basin and the broader Central Africa region on which he has published. A former African Graduate Fellow at the American University in Cairo, Fonteh has an MA from the School of International Service at the American University, Washington DC, and a PhD in Politics and international studies from the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies.

Dr. Abraham Akec Awolich Nyuat is currently the Acting Executive Director at The Sudd Institute. Awolich, since the founding of The Sudd Institute, has served as the Administrator and a Senior Policy Analyst at the Institute. Awolich's research has focused on governance and public administration. Awolich serves currently on the Board of South Sudan Revenue Authority. He also serves double roles as Deputy Coordinator and the Head of the Finance and Administration Unit for the South Sudan National Dialogue Secretariat. Before joining the Sudd Institute, Awolich was the co-founder Executive Director of the Sudan Development Foundation (SUDEF). Awolich has a Master's degree in Public Administration from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University and Bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont in Anthropology and Business Administration.

Mr. Thompson Ayodele is the Director of Initiative for Public Policy Analysis, a public policy think tank based in Lagos, Nigeria. Thompson attended Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, and the University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, BC, Canada, for a master's degree in International Development. Thompson has more than 12 years in research and advocacy and is involved in numerous research activities including design, implementation and dissemination of findings. Thompson has published widely, and he is one of the authors of the award-winning book:

“Lesson From the Poor,” and he has published several policy briefs and editorial opinions in several media outlets. His articles had been published in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, New York Post, Providence Journal, Washington Post, Baltimore Chronicle, Australia Financial Review, Business Day South Africa and several media outlets in Nigeria. He is also a regular commentator and has granted countless media interviews on governance, and conflict issues in Africa to the BBC, Swedish Television CNN, Irish Times, Associated Press (AP), Radio France International, Voice of America as well as Reuters. Thompson’s recent research is focused on China’s engagement in Africa, and the possibility of China’s signing a Free Trade Agreement with African countries.

Dr. Edward Brown is the Director, Country engagements and operations at the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET), based in Accra, Ghana. He has more than 35 years of experience in international development and public policy, half of which were spent at the World Bank. He has worked extensively in Africa, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia. Currently at ACET, he manages a pool of in-house senior policy advisors, researchers and economist, drawing on a worldwide pool of expertise to assist African policymakers respond to specific challenges and opportunities—with the explicit goals of transferring knowledge, building local capabilities and spurring economic growth and transformation. He holds a PhD and MA in Development Economics and Demography from the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze is the Executive Director of West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, the largest peacebuilding network in Africa with offices in all the ECOWAS member states and headquarters in Accra, Ghana. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science and Master’s and Doctorate Degrees in Peace and Strategic Studies. Eze has 20 years’ experience in peacebuilding practice, political dialogue, and early warning and conflict assessment. He is the lead interface between civil society organizations’ early warning systems, the African Union, and ECOWAS, and developed the Early Warning System for the Peace Commission of the Government of South Sudan. Eze is the pioneer Deputy Registrar and Fellow of the Institute for Chartered Mediators and Conciliators, Fellow of the Society for Peace Studies and Practice (SPSP), and Fellow of the Danish Fellowship program in Copenhagen, Denmark. Between November 2016 and May 2017, he served as Senior Adviser on Mediation and Political Dialogue to the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General in Guinea Bissau. He teaches peacebuilding practice at the University of Utah in the United States, the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center Ghana, and the West Africa Peacebuilding Institute. He is also a resource to the United Nations Development Program, Wilton Park in the United Kingdom, and has several journals, articles and books to his credit.

Mr. Anas El Gomati is the founder and current Director General of the Tripoli-based Sadeq Institute, the first public policy think tank in Libya’s history established in August 2011. The Sadeq Institute conducts qualitative and quantitative field research across east, west and south Libya. He has held several positions in the region and Europe, as a visiting fellow at the Carnegie Middle East Centre in Beirut, Lebanon and visiting lecturer at the NATO defense college in Rome, Italy. He is a frequent commentator on Libya & the MENA region on Al Jazeera, BBC, France 24, Sky News. He is the author of 'Libya's Islamists and Salafi Jihadists - the battle for a theological revolution' of the edited volume 'The Arab Spring Handbook' (Routledge Press 2015). He is author of 'The Libyan revolution undone - the conversation will not be televised' from the edited volume - 'a divided gulf, anatomy of a crisis' (Palgrave 2019).

Prof. Cheryl Hendricks is the Executive Head of the African Institute of South Africa, Human Sciences Research Council. She was formerly a Professor of Politics and International Relations at the University of Johannesburg (UJ). Prior to taking up the professorship at UJ, she dedicated eight years of service to the Institute for Security Studies, where she was a Senior Research Fellow in the Conflict Management and Peacebuilding Programme, and head of the Southern African Human Security

Programme. She also worked at the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Centre for Conflict Resolution and spent many years teaching in the Political Studies Department of the University of the Western Cape. Professor Hendricks has worked with intergovernmental organisations (e.g. AU, SADC, UN Women), research institutes (e.g. ISS, Codesria, Africa Leadership Centre - Nairobi) and civil society organisations (e.g. Club of Madrid and Africa Forum (former heads of state), SADC Gender Protocol Alliance, Isis Wicce). Prof Hendricks has gathered substantive insights into conflict management, security, gender, governance and peacebuilding, consistently delivering extensive contributions to society by way of her institutional and academic citizenship and professional associations. Her widely published works and presentations include constructive views on Peace and Security in Africa, Women Peace and Security, Security Sector Reform and Governance, Regional Security Architectures, South African Engagement in Post-Conflict Development and on Decolonization of Knowledge.

Fr. Justin Ilboudo, originally from Burkina Faso, is the Head of the Department of Legal Studies, Political Studies, and Administration for the Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP) in Côte d'Ivoire.

Dr. Philani Mthembu is Executive Director at the Institute for Global Dialogue, an independent foreign policy think tank based in Tshwane (Pretoria), South Africa. Prior to joining the IGD, he pursued a joint doctoral programme (Dr. rer. pol.) with the Graduate School of Global Politics, Freie Universität Berlin (Germany), and the School of International Studies at Renmin University, Beijing (China). The focus of his dissertation was on the rise of emerging powers as sources of development cooperation in Africa, for which he was awarded Magna Cum Laude. He co-founded the Berlin Forum on Global Politics (BFoGP), a non-profit organisation dedicated to the promotion of academic, expert and public understanding of global politics. While completing his Masters in International Relations at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, he headed the Academic Development Programme for first-year students and was elected as the first independent candidate to the Student Representative Council (SRC). His recent publications include a single authored book titled 'China and India's Development Cooperation in Africa: The Rise of Southern Powers', a co-edited book titled 'From MDGs to Sustainable Development Goals: The Travails of International Development', a co-edited book titled 'Africa and the World: Navigating Shifting Geopolitics', and a co-edited book titled 'Africa-China Cooperation: Towards an African Policy on China?'

Ms. Helen Kezie-Nwoha is the Executive Director of the Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC). With an academic background in gender and international development and over 16 years' experience working on women's rights, gender, peace building and conflict resolution and governance, she provides leadership in resource mobilization, institutional visioning and management. She has led regional and international training and research programs and advocacy on Peace and security in Africa (Liberia, South Sudan, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone and Burundi) and Asia. She has provided technical support for peace mediation engagements by women activists in Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo. Helen has a Master's in Business Administration.

Fr. Alain Nzadi-A-Nzadi holds a BA in Philosophy, a MA in Francophone Literature and a MA in Biblical Theology. He has also undergone several certified trainings including electoral knowledge, civil society influence, leadership, peace building, etc. He is currently the Managing Director of Centre d'Etudes pour l'Action Sociale (CEPAS) in Kinshasa and the Chief Editor of Congo-Afrique journal. His research area remains Francophone literatures and he has a special interest on Congolese sociopolitical issues. His recent publications include articles in Congo-Afrique journal : "Comment rendre les démocraties africaines fonctionnelles et utiles?", N°554 (April 2021), " Conception biaisée du mandat politique : un frein au développement et à l'émergence d'une « conscience nationale » en

RD Congo ", N° 552 (Feb 2021); "2020, rétrospective d'une année à rebondissements en RD Congo", N° 550 (Dec 2020); "Le rêve de Patrice Emery Lumumba pour un Congo grand et prospère se réalisera-t-il un jour ?", N° 548 (Oct 2020); and a book in literature.

Dr. Franklin Oduro is currently the Resident Program Director for Elections at the Ethiopia Office of the Washington DC-based National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI). Until recently, he had been the Director of Programs and Deputy Executive Director of the Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana). He has more than 15 years of experience in program development, research and advocacy in the area of democratization and governance, more than a decade of that time spent with CDD-Ghana. Franklin has also worked with and consulted for the International Center for Transitional Justice (NY), previously for NDI, and the Kofi Annan International Peace Keeping Training Center (Accra, Ghana).

Prof. Fredrick Ogenga is an Associate Professor of Media and Security Studies and the Founding Director of Center for Media, Democracy, Peace and Security, both at Rongo University, Kenya. He also serves as the Chief Executive Officer of The Peacemaker Corps Foundation Kenya. Prof. Ogenga is a former Southern Voices for Peacebuilding Scholar, Wilson Center, Africa Peacebuilding Network Grantee, and Boston University's Africa Studies Center Visiting Researcher. His latest contributions include the book, *Peace Journalism in East Africa: A Manual for Media Practitioners*, and two book chapters: "Can African Centered Reporting Solve Terror Threats in the New World Order" (2019), and "Institutional Designs, Democracy and Peacebuilding in Africa" (2020), published by Zed Books 2020.

Dr. Nicholas Ozor has a double Ph.D. in Agricultural Extension from the University of Nigeria and in International & Rural Development from the University of Reading, United Kingdom. He is currently the Executive Director of the African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) Nairobi, Kenya where he has worked for 10 years. He was formerly a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Extension at University of Nigeria, Nsukka, and is a Teaching Fellow and Mentor for the African Climate Change Fellowship Program. Dr. Ozor has led and is currently leading many internationally funded research projects bordering on science, technology and innovation (STI); natural resource management; innovation systems; climate change; development issues; policy development, analysis and advocacy; technology management and transfer; and private sector engagements among others. He is a member of many professional organizations and has published over 100 articles in reputable international journals, book chapters, and other multimedia in the area of STI and development issues. Dr. Ozor has raised over 50 million US Dollars in grants to support development work in Africa. He holds many distinctive prizes and awards for academic excellence and good community leadership.

Dr. Laure Tall is an agroecologist and Research Director at IPAR (Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale), a West African think tank based in Senegal. Prior to that, Laure Tall was a researcher at the Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA) for 7 years. During these years at ISRA, she held the positions of Director of the National Research Laboratory on Plant Production (LNRPV) and co-director of the International Joint Laboratory on Ecological Intensification on Cultivated Soils in West Africa (LMI IESOL). Laure completed her university degrees at the University of Montreal (CANADA). In 2012, she defended her thesis entitled, "Microbial transformations of nitrogen in large rivers" in the Department of Biological Sciences. Dr. Laure Tall is now the scientific coordinator of a multidisciplinary team of about thirty researchers. She has participated as a researcher/principal investigator in several projects including climate change projects such as AMMA2050 (<https://www.amma2050.org/>) and now AgMIP. Her research focuses on the evaluation of the potential for adaptation to climate change for different practices and cropping systems in West Africa. Her goal is to contribute to evidence-based decision making for development in Africa.

SVNP PARTICIPANTS

Ms. Golda Afidegnon is a Regional Programme Officer for Communications and Capacity Building at the West African Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP).

Mr. Gustavo de Carvalho joined the ISS in 2014 as a senior researcher in the Peace Operations and Peacebuilding Programme in Pretoria. Before joining the ISS, he worked as an analyst at the African Centre for Constructive Resolution of Disputes in Durban, and as a researcher at Global Witness in London. Gustavo is experienced in capacity development, policy support and peacebuilding research in Africa. He has a Master's degree in African studies from the University of Oxford and a Bachelors in International Relations from the University of Brasilia.

Dr. Siphamandla Zondi is a professor at the University of Johannesburg and the former head of the Department of Political Sciences at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. He previously worked for the Institute for Global Dialogue and the Africa Institute, both notable think tanks on foreign policy, diplomacy and global affairs in Africa. He writes on decolonizing international relations, Africa's international relations, Global South agency and African political thought. He is a co-editor (with Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni) of *Decolonizing the University: its Knowledge and Disciplines* (Carolina Press, 2016).

CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK PARTICIPANTS

Ms. Andrea Johnson is a program officer in the Carnegie Corporation of New York's International Program.

Mr. Aaron Stanley is a program analyst with the Corporation's International Peace and Security program.

EXTERNAL SPEAKERS

Mr. Max Amanu is the Programs Officer of Northwind Foundation, an affiliate organization of Changing Lives Switzerland, an NGO which focuses on youth empowerment and livelihood through skills development. He is also the research team lead for the East and Southern African region in the UNESCO Youth As Researchers (YAR) COVID-19 Pandemic Response Project. He was a member of the committee which drafted the Seoul Youth Declaration for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, containing recommendations for youth inclusion in addressing issues related to Sustainable Development Goals, New and Emerging Technologies, gender, and disarmament. Which was adopted on 30th June 2021 by the participants of the Youth Forum on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, the first of its kind event co-hosted by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea. He was also a member of the committee which spearheaded the introduction of Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)'s Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN) program to Uganda in 2018. He consulted in the development of the National Coordination Mechanism for Youth Programs in Uganda. He is currently an active member of the Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network and a summer 2021 program fellow at African Middle Eastern Leadership Project (AMEL Institute), an innovative online training academy for young human rights and civil society activists.

Mr. Arsène Brice Bado is an associate researcher at the Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix

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Mr. Mvemba Phezo Dizolele is a professorial lecturer in African studies at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies and Senior Advisor at the International Republican Institute. He is a writer, foreign policy analyst, and independent journalist. Formerly, he was a Peter J. Duignan Distinguished Visiting Fellow and a National Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. He is the author of the forthcoming biography, *Mobutu: The Rise and Fall of the Leopard King* (Random House). Dizolele's analyses have been published in the Journal of Democracy, New York Times, Newsweek International, International Herald Tribune, Foreign Policy, Foreign Affairs, New Republic, Forbes, St Louis Post-Dispatch, and other outlets. A frequent commentator on African affairs, he has been a guest analyst on PBS's NewsHour and Foreign Exchange; NPR's Tell Me More, On Point, and the Diane Rehm Show; BBC's World News Update; and Al Jazeera's the Stream, NewsHour, and Inside Story. He has testified before various subcommittees of both chambers of the U.S. Congress, as well as before the UN Security Council. He was a grantee of the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting and covered the 2006 elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo. With the Pulitzer Center, he produced Congo's Bloody Coltan, a documentary report on the relationship between the Congo conflict and the scramble for mineral resources. He served as an election monitor with the Carter Center in Congo in 2006 and 2011. He was also embedded with UN peacekeepers in Congo's Ituri district and South Kivu province as a reporter. Dizolele holds an International M.B.A. and an M.P.P. from the University of Chicago, and he graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in political science and French from Southern Utah University. He is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, and he is fluent in French, Norwegian, Spanish, Swahili, Kikongo, and Lingala and is proficient in Danish and Swedish.

Dr. Christopher Fomunyoh is currently senior associate and regional director for Central and West Africa at NDI. He has organized and advised international election observation missions to Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. He has also designed and supervised country specific democracy support programs with civic organizations, political parties and legislative bodies in Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, Mali, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal and Togo. In the course of his work, Dr. Fomunyoh interacts regularly with heads of state and government, cabinet ministers, elected officials and political and civic leaders. He recently designed and helped launch the African Statesmen Initiative (ASI), a program aimed at facilitating political transitions in Africa by encouraging former democratic heads of state to stay engaged in humanitarian issues, conflict mediation, public health and other key sectors of political, economic and human development on the continent.

Mr. Osei Baffour Frimpong is the Liaison Officer at the African Union Peace and Security Department for the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), a member organization of the

Wilson Center Africa Program's Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding. He provides regional conflict and security analysis to support the AU Conflict Early Warning System and its operations. Mr. Frimpong holds a Master's in International Affairs from the University of Ghana and is a former Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding Scholar with the Wilson Center.

Ms. Aïssatou Hayatou is a Cameroonian citizen, mother of four daughters. She is 50 years old. She accumulates 26 years of professional experience with 16 years at the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa. Her expertise mainly focuses on peace, security and development matters in Africa, in particular as regards policy analysis and development. She currently holds the position of Acting Head of the AU Commission - AUDA-NEPAD Coordination Unit in the Cabinet of the Chairperson of the Commission. Prior to that, she held various positions at the AU in the area of Peace and Security, most notably Operations Manager for the Silencing the Guns Program, Senior Analyst at the Continental Early Warning System and Expert in support of the AU Peace and Security Council Secretariat. Her academic background consists in a Master's of Science in Global Affairs (2003) Rutgers, State University of New Jersey, USA, and Masters in International Relations (1994) Institut d'Etudes des Relations Internationales Paris, France. She advises her publication in the Africa's New Peace and Security Architecture: Promoting norms, institutionalizing solutions; Ashgate publications, April 2010.

Dr. Jok Madut Jok is a Professor of Anthropology at Syracuse University, New York, and Co-Founder of the Sudd Institute, a public policy research center based in Juba, South Sudan. He was educated in Sudan, Egypt and the United States and holds a Ph.D. in the anthropology of health from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Jok research focuses on gender-based violence, reproductive health and has worked as a consultant for various humanitarian aid agencies. He is a widely recognized specialist on security, conflict and political violence. Following the independence of South Sudan in 2011, Jok served for two years in the newly formed Government of South Sudan as undersecretary in the Ministry of Culture and Heritage. Jok has held several fellowship positions, including at the United States Institute of Peace, the Rift Valley Institute, and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Jok is the author of four books and numerous articles covering gender, sexuality and reproductive health, humanitarian aid, ethnography of political violence, gender-based violence, war and slavery, and the politics of identity in South Sudan and Sudan.

Ms. Tess McEnery is the Director for Democracy and Governance at the White House National Security Council (NSC). Ms. McEnery joined the NSC from the U.S. Department of State, where she served as the Global Affairs Section Chief in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, advancing democratic and rights-respecting foreign policy to counter authoritarianism and democratic backsliding. McEnery was previously a Senior Conflict Prevention Advisor at the Department, developing policy frameworks to prevent conflict and address global fragility. She also served as a Director at the NSC in 2017-2018, focused on democracy, human rights, fragile states and stabilization, and countering violent extremism. Prior to her first stint at the NSC, McEnery worked for over a decade at the U.S Agency for International Development as a democracy, conflict, and political transitions advisor, working primarily on sub-Saharan Africa.

Dr. Fritz Nganje is Associate Professor of International Relations at the University of Johannesburg. He is also Associate Editor of *Politikon: South African Journal of Political Studies* and a former Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding Scholar. His primary areas of research include the foreign relations of subnational governments, decentralized cooperation, local peacebuilding, as well as South Africa's foreign policy and diplomacy in Africa.

Dr. Cyril Obi is program director for the African Peacebuilding Network (APN) and the Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa program at the Social Science Research Council, bringing his

extensive research, networking, and publishing experience on African peace, security, and development to the Council. After completing his doctoral studies in Political Science at the University of Lagos, Nigeria, he joined the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA) and was promoted to associate research professor in 2004. That same year, Dr. Obi was awarded the Claude Ake Visiting Chair at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at the University of Uppsala, Sweden. From 2005 to 2011, he was a senior researcher and led the research cluster on “Conflict, Displacement and Transformation” at the Nordic Africa Institute (NAI) in Uppsala. He has received academic awards and fellowships from the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) in Dakar, Senegal; the Social Science Research Council (SSRC); Africa Studies Center (ASC), Leiden; St. Antony’s College, University of Oxford; 21st Century Trust; Salzburg Seminar; and the Nordic Africa Institute (NAI). Dr. Obi is currently a research associate of the Department of Political Sciences, University of Pretoria, South Africa; a visiting scholar to the Institute of African Studies (IAS), Columbia University; and an adjunct professor at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY).

Ms. Oge Onubogu is the director of the West Africa program at the U.S. Institute of Peace, where she leads programming in Nigeria, Coastal West Africa, Lake Chad Basin and the Gulf of Guinea. In this position, she provides leadership and oversees the design and implementation of projects to mitigate violent conflict, promote inclusion and strengthen community-oriented security by partnering with policymakers, civic leaders and organizations. Onubogu’s thematic focus is on governance and democracy, U.S.-Africa relations, and civil society development in sub-Saharan Africa. Prior to joining USIP in 2015, she managed governance, citizen engagement, and election programs in countries across West and Southern Africa with the National Democratic Institute. Before that, she was the program officer for West Africa at the National Endowment for Democracy, where for several years, she oversaw and managed a multi-million-dollar grants portfolio to civil society organizations in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Ghana and Cameroon. Onubogu has consulted for the World Bank, Freedom House and the Carter Center. She has also coordinated refugee resettlement programs with the International Rescue Committee. Onubogu is a regular commentator and speaker on Nigerian and African affairs. She has a bachelor’s in international and area studies from the University of Oklahoma and a master’s in international development from Brandeis University. She is also in the Public Leadership Credential program at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Ms. Annie Pforzheimer is a non-resident associate with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). A recently retired career diplomat with the personal rank of minister counselor, Annie was the acting deputy assistant secretary of state for Afghanistan until March 2019, and from 2017-2018, she was the deputy chief of mission in Kabul. With a focus on security, rule of law, and human rights during a 30-year career in the Foreign Service, Annie directed the implementation of the 2014 U.S. Strategy for Engagement in Central America at the National Security Council. She was the director for the Office of Andean Affairs in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs during Colombia’s peace process and the emerging Venezuela crisis (2015-2017); the Bureau of International Organization Affairs’ Office of Peace Support Operations, Sanctions, and Counterterrorism; and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs’ Office for Civilian Police and Rule of Law. She also directed the Mérida Initiative in Mexico City and was the political counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Afghanistan and El Salvador. She is a graduate of Harvard University and holds an M.A. in security studies from the National War College and speaks Spanish and some Dari.

Ms. Janina Staguhn is a research assistant for the Project on Prosperity and Development (PPD) and Project on U.S. Leadership in Development (USLD) at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), where she supports the projects’ research agenda and coordinates events. Prior to becoming a research assistant in August 2019, she was a graduate student research assistant at the

Robert Strauss Center for International Security and Law and a research associate at the Innovations for Peace and Development research lab. She also worked on the Hillary Clinton presidential campaign and for the Colorado Democratic Party. Her research interests include conflict stabilization, forced migration, security policy, and human rights. She holds an M.A. in global policy studies from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin and a B.A. in international studies and political science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Ms. Michelle Strucke is the Principal Director for Stability and Humanitarian Affairs in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. In that capacity she has policy responsibility for humanitarian assistance and disaster response, including COVID-19 global response; DoD support to the security of U.S. embassies; peacekeeping and stability operations; and international humanitarian law, rule of law and protection of human rights. Ms. Strucke is an expert on human rights, humanitarian affairs, and development issues in intersection with conflict. She comes to the role with policy, national security, and practitioner experience from her career in government, and non-profit sectors.

Mr. Jon Temin is the director of the Africa program at Freedom House, overseeing the organization's efforts to advance democracy and human rights across the continent. From 2014 to 2017, he was a member of the U.S. Department of State's Policy Planning Staff. Mr. Temin also served as director of the U.S. Institute of Peace's Africa Program, leading the Institute's efforts to help end conflicts and prevent new violence. He has written for The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Financial Times, Foreign Affairs and Foreign Policy, and he has testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and House Foreign Affairs Committee. Previously, he was a Fulbright Fellow in Ghana, Visiting Fellow at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and term member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He is currently a non-resident Senior Associate with the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Mr. Erol Yayboke is a senior fellow with the International Security Program and director of the Project on Fragility and Mobility at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). His specific research interests include migration and forced displacement, violent conflict and global fragility, conflict-aware stabilization, violent extremism, climate change, civil-military cooperation, and disruptive technologies. Previously, he was a senior fellow and deputy director with the CSIS Project on Prosperity and Development. Prior to CSIS, Mr. Yayboke served on the Hillary Clinton presidential campaign as well as the Evidence for Policy Design team at the Center for International Development at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Mr. Yayboke has long-term field experience working for organizations (Global Communities, Save the Children, and AECOM International Development) in Iraq, Afghanistan, South Sudan, and the Somali Region of Ethiopia, serving in various senior management roles.

WILSON CENTER LEADERSHIP

Ambassador Mark Green (ret.) serves as the President, Director, and CEO of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, a non-partisan policy forum for tackling global issues through independent research and open dialogue so that Congress, the administration, and the international policy community can act. Prior to joining the Wilson Center, Green served as Executive Director of the McCain Institute, Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Prior to USAID, he served as President of the International Republican Institute, President and CEO of the Initiative for Global Development, and senior director at the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition. Green served as the U.S. ambassador to Tanzania from mid-2007 to early 2009. Before that, he served four terms in the U.S. House of Representatives representing Wisconsin's 8th District. Green was the

longest-serving member of the board of directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation. He has also served on the Human Freedom Advisory Council for the Bush Institute and the Board of the Consensus for Development Reform. He holds a law degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School and a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire. In 2012, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science from Georgetown University's School of Nursing and Health Studies. In 2014, President Jakaya Kikwete of Tanzania presented him with a special Presidential Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation.

WILSON CENTER STAFF

Dr. Monde Muyangwa is Director of the Africa Program at the Woodrow Wilson Center where she leads programs that analyze and offer practical, actionable policy options addressing some of Africa's most critical issues. Previously, Monde served as Academic Dean and Professor of Civil–Military Relations at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. She served as Director of Research and Vice President for Research and Policy at the National Summit on Africa, and Director of International Education Programs at New Mexico Highlands University. She serves on the Board of Trustees at Freedom House, and previously was an Advisory Council member of the Ibrahim Index of African Governance. Monde holds a Ph.D. in International Relations and B.A. in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from the University of Oxford, and a B.A. in Public Administration and Economics from the University of Zambia. She was a Rhodes Scholar, a Wingate Scholar, and the University of Zambia Valedictory Speaker for her graduation class.

Ms. Hannah B. Akuiyibo is the Program Associate with the Wilson Center Africa Program. Hannah manages the day-to-day operations of the Africa Program's activities and projects. She also served as a Program Assistant with the Africa Program, and as an Executive Assistant with International Justice Mission. Originally from Alaska, Hannah received her B.A. in Political Science from Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina and studied German at the Goethe Institute in Göttingen, Germany. Hannah worked previously in East Africa in Kenya and Uganda and speaks conversational Swahili. She is pursuing her M.A. in Democracy and Governance at Georgetown University. Her current focus is on elections, subnational politics, and democracy in Africa.

Ms. Gamuchirai Pamela Mhute is a Program Assistant (Director's Office) with the Wilson Center Africa Program. Previously, she served as an International Programs Intern with the International Peace and Security Institute where she focused on South Asia and social media. She received her B.A. in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland, College Park. She received her M.A. in International Peace and Conflict Resolution from American University's School of International Service. Originally from Zimbabwe, Gamuchirai is fluent in Shona and is interested in peacebuilding in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Ms. Catharine Helmers is a Program Assistant with the Wilson Center Africa Program. She recently received her M.A. in International Conflict Studies from the Department of War Studies at King's College London, where her research examined atrocities against civilians through an interdisciplinary lens. Originally from Baltimore, Catharine has previously worked and volunteered for nonprofits and NGOs in Colorado, Texas, Maryland, and the United Kingdom. She holds a B.A. in International Affairs from the University of Colorado at Boulder and is interested in peacebuilding, the prevention of violence against civilians, rebel groups, and human rights in Africa.

Appendix 2: Participant List and Contact Information

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Appendix 3: Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding Member Organization Profiles

Member Organizations:

1. African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) – Ghana
2. African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) – Kenya
3. African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) – Kenya
4. Center for Democratic Development (CDD) – Ghana
5. Center for Media, Democracy, Peace and Security (CMDPS) – Kenya
6. Center for Policy Studies (CERPS) – Liberia
7. Centre d'Etudes Pour l'Action Sociale (CEPAS) – Democratic Republic of the Congo
8. Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP) – Cote d'Ivoire
9. Centre for Conflict Management (CCM) – Rwanda
10. Centre Ivoirien de Recherches Economiques et Sociales (CIRES) – Cote d'Ivoire
11. Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) – South Africa
12. Initiative for Public Policy Analysis (IPPA) – Nigeria
13. Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR) – Senegal
14. Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD) – South Africa
15. Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS) – Ethiopia
16. Institute for Security Studies (ISS) – South Africa HQ
17. Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR-Rwanda) – Rwanda
18. The Sadeq Institute – Libya
19. The Sudd Institute – South Sudan
20. University of Pretoria Department of Political Science – South Africa
21. West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) – Ghana HQ
22. Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC) – Uganda
23. Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Africa Program – Washington, DC

African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET)

Country: Ghana

Director: K.Y. Amoako

Point of Contact: Edward K. Brown

Overview: ACET is an economic policy institute that supports Africa's long-term growth. Its mission is to promote policy and institutional reforms for sustained economic growth and transformation in Africa. Its vision is for all African countries to drive their own growth and transformation agendas by 2025. This will be led by the private sector and supported by capable states with strong institutions and good policies.

Topical Focus: ACET utilizes three approaches to their work on sustained economic growth and transformation: analysis, advice, and advocacy. These methods are used in three primary areas:

- (1) African Transformation Index: provides a common quantitative tool to measure the progress of countries and foster intra-African learning
- (2) Shared Governance: assists in developing institutional arrangements for coordinated policy, management of public finances, and deliverance of goals
- (3) Transformation Dialogues Program: shares the findings with stakeholders at the global, regional, and country levels for debate, feedback, refinement, and implementation

Operations: As a think-tank, ACET applies knowledge by directly engaging citizens and decision makers. Bringing an authentic African perspective, the core staff comprises 30 personnel from eight African countries, based at the headquarters in Accra. They include economists, researchers, policy analysts, management consultants, extractive industries experts, and administrative staff. They are supported by a global network of dozens of resource persons and renowned experts in African development, including a Nobel laureate in economics.

Link: <http://acetforafrica.org>

African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP)

Country: Kenya

Director: Eliya Zulu

Point of Contact: Rose Oronje

Overview: AFIDEP is a non-profit policy think tank whose mission is to translate research evidence and use it to advocate for improved policies and program effectiveness in Africa. The ultimate goal is to contribute to the improvement of the wellbeing of Africans by reducing unplanned pregnancies, reducing maternal and child deaths, slowing population growth, and improving sexual and reproductive health outcomes of young people.

Topical Focus: AFIDEP's 2014-2018 Strategic Plan provides a framework to guide the Institute in building on past gains as well as expanding and strengthening the scope of its programs. It follows three overarching objectives: the synthesis and translation of research evidence; enabling the utilization of research evidence in decision-making; and strengthening capacity in research evidence synthesis, translation, and utilization. It has three focus areas:

- (1) Population change and development
- (2) Maternal and child health
- (3) Adolescent reproductive health and development

Operations: AFIDEP has assembled a multi-disciplinary core staff comprising of experts trained in various social sciences, public health, policy analysis, and communications. This team will be expanded during the next five years in line with the changing needs of our programs. The Institute's core staff is complemented by a network of Associate Fellows who contribute to our work and seek to strengthen the impact of their own work through our programs and connections. A Board of Directors comprising distinguished experts, who provide strategic guidance and oversee the running of the organization, governs AFIDEP.

Link: <https://www.afidep.org/>

African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS)

Country: Kenya

Director: Nicolas Ozor

Point of Contact: same

Overview: ATPS Network is a multidisciplinary network whose mission it is to improve the quality of science, technology, and innovation (STI) research, policy, and practice for sustainable development in Africa, by Africans, and for Africa. The strategic vision is to become the leading center of excellence and reference in STI systems research.

Topical Focus: ATPS draws on its rich network of experts in all aspects of the innovation systems in African countries including policymakers, science experts, private sector actors, and the civil society actors. It focuses specifically in the fields of science, technology, and innovation and works to further training and capacity building, communication and sensitization, knowledge brokerage, policy advocacy, and outreach in Africa. It will achieve its vision by strengthening capacity for knowledge generation, communication, and dissemination for sustainable development in Africa.

Operations: ATPS was established in 1994 and was accorded full diplomatic status in Kenya on December 3, 2003. ATPS operates through chapters in 29 countries across Africa and the Diaspora in Europe and the USA. It ensures that the STI policy research and programs are fully and effectively engaging all actors in the relevant innovation systems. Most importantly, it ensures that they are implemented at improved cost-effectiveness and low administration cost ratios.

Link: <http://www.atpsnet.org/index.php>

Center for Democratic Development (CDD)

Country: Ghana

Director: H. Kwasi Prempeh

Point of Contact: Franklin Oduro

Overview: CDD-Ghana is an independent, non-partisan, and non-governmental research-based and advocacy think tank dedicated to the promotion of democracy, good governance and economic development in Ghana and throughout Africa. Its mission is to promote and deepen democratic consolidation, good governance, and inclusive growth and development. Its vision is a free, peaceful, and a well-governed democracy in Ghana and in other parts of Africa

Topical Focus: Its programmatic and analytic work covers a broad range of six key thematic areas. Given the organizational capabilities, the Center also conducts policy research, generates evidence and data, advocates for change, develops capacity within civil society and Government and develops coalitions and networks with others. The Center's thematic areas are as follows:

- (1) Political and Constitutional Governance
- (2) Economic and Corporate Governance
- (3) Justice, Peace, and Security
- (4) Social Inclusion and Equity
- (5) Civil Society
- (6) Special Projects:
 - The Afrobarometer Surveys
 - Regional Initiatives (e.g. Elections)

Operations: CDD pursues its corporate philosophies through high-quality policy research and policy analysis, technical analyses, capacity development, and advocacy through widely disseminated publications and documentation. It also organizes roundtables, seminars, and conferences, issues press statements, and engages in extensive networking and coalition building with relevant state and non-state stakeholders to inform and educate, to foster public and policy-maker awareness, and to support advocacy and stimulate policy reform. Its core values are inclusiveness, integrity, independence, and excellence.

Link: <http://www.cddgh.org>

Center for Media, Democracy, Peace and Security (CMDPS)

Country: Kenya

Director: Fredrick Ogenga

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The mission of the CMDPS is to conduct research, policy advocacy, and public education and offer academic programs geared toward enhancing the generation and dissemination of public information to promote democracy, peace and security in Africa

Topical Focus: The Center for Media, Democracy, Peace and Security focuses on conducting high quality research in areas of media, democracy, peace, and security. The Horn of Africa faces serious peace and security challenges. The Center aims to research media representation of these conflicts, investigate the media's role in sensationalizing acts of violence and terrorism, and develop new approaches of representing and covering conflicts in conflict-prone societies that will encourage peaceful dialogue and deliberation.

Operations: The Center for Media, Democracy, Peace and Security pursues its mission by conducting the following activities: publishing research findings and policy briefs; organizing academic and policy workshops for journalists; organizing journalism institutes that focus on traditional journalism and new/social media citizens-journalism; hosting visiting scholars, exchange students, journalists, and policy advocates; and building collaboration between different agencies and organizations on security issues.

Link: <http://ruc.ac.ke/cmdps/>

Center for Policy Studies (CERPS)

Country: Liberia

Director: Elwood Dunn

Point of Contact: same

Overview: CERPS is an independent policy research institution established to study issues critical to Liberia and West Africa. Unlike the rest of ECOWAS, Liberia has little capacity to carry out necessary policy research. CERPS seeks to fill that void by creating policymaking capacity within Liberia.

Topical Focus: CERPS seeks to spur peacebuilding and identify and resolve issues that inhibit nation-building and development. To do this, the Center identifies and researches possible policy choices on emerging debates across political, social, and economic issues, encourage dialogue, and find consensus. It also reaches out to build a bridge between the Liberian public and policymakers to ensure adequate local and national voices in policy debates and inform the public of important policymaking issues.

Operations: The founding members of CERPS have decades of research experience in policy fields including economics, law, political science, conflict resolution, natural resource management, peacebuilding, and land rights. Members of the team have experience working in government, academia, research organizations, and civil society, and are well-positioned to build bridges between them and enhancing policymaking capacity.

Link: <http://cerpsliberia.net/>

Centre d'Etudes Pour l'Action Sociale (CEPAS)

Country: The Democratic Republic of the Congo

Director: Alain Nzadi-a-Nzadi

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The Centre d'Etudes Pour L'Action Sociale (CEPAS) (Research Center for Social Action), was established in 1965 with the mission of promoting justice and integral human development in the Democratic Republic of the Congo through its analyses, research and consequent actions.

Topical Focus: Among other objectives, CEPAS intends to ensure the linkage between research and social action; to enlighten, through in-depth understanding of the Congo's political, economic, social, and cultural realities; and to contribute to the process of endorsing Congo's economic and social studies through the analysis of the society, its structures, and the conditions of sustainable development.

Operations: CEPAS focuses on:

- (1) Undertaking research in order to understand the society and its problems, particularly disabled groups, and supporting undertaken actions to find suitable solutions to these problems
- (2) Publishing in the Congo-Afrique Review, its organ of expression, the findings of the research undertaken by its members and other researchers in order to promote in targeted areas a critical understanding of the society and the alternatives for a just development
- (3) Publishing disseminating brochures in order to inform and build the capacity of a very large public on the Country's social, economic, political and judicial matters
- (4) Providing researchers, students and active individuals with a center for specialized documentation on social, economic, political and cultural questions
- (5) Ensuring courses, workshops, conferences and disseminated radio broadcasts in order to help various publics to well understand the society and the needs of a just development

Link: <http://www.cepas-rdc.org/>

Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP)

Country: Côte d'Ivoire

Director: Hyacinthe Loua, S.J.

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The mission of the CERAP is to promote the human person to serve the common good,

and the emergence of open African societies, mindful of solidarity and respectful of human dignity (*promotion de la personne humaine en vue du service du bien commun, de l'émergence de sociétés africaines, ouvertes, solidaires et respectueuses de la dignité humaine*).

Topical Focus: CERAP has become both a University and Social Institution for the promotion of the human person in view of the service of the common good of African societies, which are opened and sensitive to solidarity and the respect of human dignity. In October, CERAP will launch a Research Centre for Society and Business where social and political issues will be researched as well as issues related to corporate social responsibility. It will focus course work on the areas of economics, accounting, law and ethics in governance, sustainable development, conflict management, human rights, and peace.

CERAP is divided into four departments:

- (1) The Human Rights and Dignity Institute (IDDH)
- (2) The Documentation Centre
- (3) The CERAP Editions
- (4) The Social Action in Urban Environment (ASMU)

Operations: The University offers a BA in economics with five options, a MA in governance and ethics with four options, and in October 2015, in partnership with the Catholic University of Milan, a MBA in entrepreneurship will begin. In October 2015, CERAP will launch a Research Centre for Society and Business with the support of the African Development Bank. The Social Center will be expanding its training in the informal sector and extend its advocacy work toward the most vulnerable.

Link: <http://www.cerap-inades.org>

Centre for Conflict Management (CCM)

Country: Rwanda

Director: Dr. Aggée Shyaka Mugabe

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The Centre for Conflict Management in the College of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Rwanda was created in 1999 with financial support from the United Nations Development Programme. CCM's mandate rises from the particular challenges raised in the post-genocide context. CCM seeks to be a bridge between academic teaching, research findings, and policymaking inspiration for peace and conflict studies in Rwanda, the African Great Lakes region, and Africa.

Topical Focus: Located in Rwanda and founded during the successful post-genocide reconstruction, CCM strives to expand its research and teaching activities to the whole region and continent for the benefit of the population which seeks to live in peace and security. CCM conducts research into the causes of conflict, peacebuilding, power sharing, genocide ideology, and related topics.

The organization's focuses include:

- (1) Genocide studies and prevention
- (2) Gender and conflict
- (3) Post-conflict reconstruction and development

Operations: CCM has 14 staff members and offers two masters programs in genocide studies and peace and conflict studies, as well as short courses to leaders from Rwanda, the Great Lakes region, and beyond.

Link: <http://www.ccm.ur.ac.rw/>

Centre Ivoirien de Recherches Economiques et Sociales (CIRES)

Country: Côte d'Ivoire

Director: Ibrahim Diarra

Point of Contact: same

Overview: CIRES is a social science research institution whose mission is to undertake research concerning the economic and social problems of Côte d'Ivoire and the countries of the sub-region. Its vision is to establish relationships with as many economic bodies, public or private, as possible, and to publish research concerning economic and social disciplines.

Topical Focus: The overall objectives of CIRES are to identify the economic and social problems of Côte d'Ivoire as well as those of the sub-region and to carry out economic and social studies in order to find solutions to identified problems. CIRES wants to drive the thinking and basic research and animate the scientific debate in economics in Ivorian society and the sub-region. Furthermore, CIRES will provide vocational training in economics and rural sociology through masters and Ph.D. programs, create a training course in management of economic policies, and organize seminars and high-level forums.

Operations: CIRES has fifty permanent researchers and twenty high-level researchers, which rank first among the wealthy research centers of Francophone black Africa. CIRES researchers come from a variety of backgrounds including economists, demographers, statisticians, engineers, sociologists, and agronomists.

Link: <http://www.cires-ci.com/accueil.php>

Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)

Country: South Africa

Director: Leickness Chisamu Simbayi

Point of Contact: Cheryl Hendricks

Overview: The HSRC is a non-partisan, public-purpose organization that generates scientific knowledge through its research and analytical work in the social and human sciences. Its mission is to serve as a knowledge hub for research-based solutions to inform human and social development in South Africa, the African continent, and the rest of the world. HSRC aims to inform policy development and good practice, thereby making a difference in the lives of people in South Africa and in the mother continent.

Topical Focus: It has several research programs that focus on:

- (1) Education and skills development
- (2) Economic performance and development
- (3) Population health, health systems, and innovation
- (4) HIV/AIDS, STIs and TB (including the African-wide research network SAHARA)
- (5) Democracy, governance, and service delivery
- (6) Human and social development

Operations: The HSRC responds to the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups in society through its research. It develops and makes available data that underpins research for policy development and public discussion of developmental issues. It undertakes large-scale, multi-year, and collaborative research and produces high quality scientific evidence to inform further analysis, debate, advocacy, and decision-making by role players in government, the media, academia, and community-based groups.

Link: <http://www.hsrc.ac.za/en>

Initiative for Public Policy Analysis (IPPA)

Country: Nigeria

Director: Thompson Ayodele

Point of Contact: same

Overview: IPPA is a research and advocacy organization whose mission is to serve as one of the leading promoters of social, economic, and political freedom. IPPA holds tenaciously the belief in free society hinged on the principle that a good and prosperous society is achievable when a government's participation in certain key spheres is drastically reduced concerning individual action, private property rights, and the rule of law.

Topical Focus: IPPA's core areas of interest include development economics, trade, entrepreneurship, property rights, education, environment, health, and safety. Keeping these in mind, IPPA has several goals that it follows throughout its work:

- (1) Empowering people
- (2) Individual liberty and choice
- (3) Private property rights protection
- (4) An economy based on free enterprise
- (5) Democratic government under the rule of law
- (6) An autonomous and free civil society
- (7) The facilitation of trade within Africa and beyond

Operations: IPPA engages in a number of activities that include research, seminars/workshops, newsletters, organizing essay competitions, writing on developmental issues, and student-based programs.

Link: <http://www.ippanigeria.org>

Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR)

Country: Senegal

Director: Cheikh Oumar Ba

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The IPAR's mission is to co-produce analysis to provide policy options and strategies to influence national, sub-regional, and international policy. We support/assist public and private actors at all levels (local, regional, and national), by providing the required information, analysis, and research that is strategic and forward-looking for their consideration to build a vision. Specifically, we bring together the players to take part in the design, implementation, and evaluation of public policies on creating the conditions for dialogue between policymakers, researchers, users of the results of research, and citizens. IPAR contributes to developing the peacebuilding infrastructure relevant to natural resource management and early warning systems.

Topical Focus: The main research themes of IPAR, as defined in its 2015 strategic plan, are connected to:

- (1) Demography, employment and migration
- (2) Performance of agriculture
- (3) Land and other natural resources management
- (4) Public policies
- (5) Other emerging interesting topics

Operations: IPAR seeks to foster and participate in a reflection and a permanent, open debate on the future of rural areas and agriculture, the joint city/countryside, the conditions for successful integration in the sub-region, and beneficial integration into the global economy. Through these exchanges and debates, IPAR wants to allow the confrontation of interests of different professional categories and the search for compromise. The aim is to participate in the creation of sustainable institutional capacities in agricultural and rural prospects and to promote and support alternative paths to current policies and programs in Senegal and the sub-region.

Link: <http://www.ipar.sn>

Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD)

Country: South Africa

Director: Dr. Philani Mthembu

Point of Contact: same

Overview: IGD is a foreign policy think-tank that engages in cutting edge policy research and analysis, catalytic dialogue, and stakeholder interface on global dynamics that have an impact on South Africa and Africa. Its mission is to work toward a prosperous and peaceful Africa in a progressive global order. Its vision is to become the think-tank of choice in its field.

Topical Focus: IGD promotes a broader understanding of the role of foreign policy and diplomacy in the pursuit of national and international developmental goals and to ensure discernable policy outcomes. It will establish and strengthen mutually beneficial strategic partnerships nationally, regionally, and globally. Finally, it will work to enhance the standard of service to clients and consumers of IGD's work in order to ensure their satisfaction.

IGD has three projects that further these initiatives:

- (1) South Africa's Foreign Policy Analysis Project: spans the making and management of foreign policy, multi-stakeholder interface, public diplomacy, and development diplomacy
- (2) African Studies Program: focuses on regional and continental integration, peace diplomacy, inter and intra-African trade, and Africa's external relations
- (3) Multilateral Governance Analysis Program: addresses various international developments that relate to changes in multilateralism with the growing influence of non-state actors

Operations: IGD was founded during the evolution of the new South Africa in 1994 with the assistance of former president Nelson Mandela and the former German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl. The IGD is comprised of a small, highly competent team of researchers and project administrators. A network of fellows and associates that work part-time for IGD and consultants on funded projects complement this team. IGD's research staff teaches at universities and training colleges, and frequently participates in media commentary on international developments and foreign policy.

Link: <https://www.idg.org.za>

Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS)

Country: Ethiopia

Director: Yonas Adaye Adeto

Point of Contact: same

Overview: IPSS is a research and policy institution. Its mission is to serve its Africa stakeholders through education and professional development, policy dialogue, and research. The vision of IPSS is to be the premier institute for education, research, and policy dialogue on peace and security studies.

Topical Focus: The IPSS strives to attain the highest levels of excellence in the teaching and learning process in order to set and maintain bespoke standards in education and professional development. It highly values innovation, creativity, evidence-based, and action-oriented research. Its topical focuses include Pan-Africanism, diversity, integrity, and inclusion. Finally, it is committed to delivery and social transformation.

Operations: It maintains a partnership with the African Union through the Africa Peace and Security Program, which operates with the vision of a premier source for AU and Regional Economic Communities of substantial and high-quality contributions toward promoting practical African-led solutions for peace and security challenges. The Institute produces skilled professionals in conflict prevention, management, and resolution as well as in peace building, and promotes the values of a democratic and peaceful society.

Link: <http://www.ipss-addis.org/new-ipss>

Institute for Security Studies (ISS)

Country: South Africa HQ

Director: Fonteh Akum

Point of Contact: Fonteh Akum and Gustavo de Carvalho

Overview: ISS is a Pan-African applied policy research institute headquartered in Pretoria, South Africa. It is an established think tank working in the area of African human security. Its mission is to advance human security in Africa through evidence-based policy advice, technical support, and capacity building. It does independent and authoritative research, provides expert policy analysis and advice, and delivers practical training and technical assistance. The vision of ISS is a peaceful and prosperous Africa for its entire people.

Topical Focus: ISS pursues its vision and mission through the work of four divisions:

- (1) Governance, Crime and Justice Division: promotes democratic governance, transparency, and respect for human rights, reduced crime, and improved justice

- (2) Conflict Prevention and Risk Analysis Division: helps prevent conflict and improve state capacity for risk analysis by contributing to the understanding of the latest human security developments on the continent
- (3) Conflict Management and Peace Building Division: enhances effective conflict management and peacebuilding by governments and international institutions
- (4) Transnational Threats and International Crime Division: combats such threats and crimes by enhancing the ability of African inter-governmental organizations and national/civil society to respond more effectively

Operations: ISS follows a set of core values including sustainable development, democracy, human rights, rule of law, collaborative security, and gender mainstreaming. It does this by undertaking applied research, training, and capacity building. It emphasizes working collaboratively with others. It facilitates and supports policy formation and carefully monitors trends by collecting, interpreting, and disseminating information at the national, regional, and international levels.

Link: <http://www.issafrica.org>

Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR-Rwanda)

Country: Rwanda

Director: Eugenia Kayitesi

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The Institute of Policy Analysis and Research-Rwanda is a non-profit, independent think-tank in Rwanda guided by a fundamental concern for the well-being of all Rwandans, whose mission is to enhance evidence-based policy making and promote dialogue and a culture of debate on policy issues in Rwanda through conducting timely, relevant, high-quality public policy analysis and research.

Topical Focus: IPAR-Rwanda's research areas include:

- (1) Agriculture and value chain development
- (2) Social development
- (3) Governance
- (4) Economic growth and transformation
- (5) Environment and natural resources management

Operations: IPAR-Rwanda seeks to provide information and analysis to assist decision-makers and provide a forum for vibrant policy debate in the country. The organization does this by publishing reports, policy briefs, and papers and hosting conferences. IPAR-Rwanda is currently conducting research projects on lessons from Rwanda in aid management and fiscal policy, on the Feed the Future Africa Great Lakes Coffee, and on the impact of Rwanda's National Climate Change and

Environment Fund (FONERWA).

Link: <http://www.ipar-rwanda.org/index.php?lang=en>

The Sadeq Institute

Country: Libya

Executive Director: Anas El Gomati

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The Sadeq Institute is an independent and non-partisan think tank, whose mission is to foster a culture of informed citizenship in Libya by providing a forum for the whole of Libyan society to participate in policy-making. As the world's first research institute specializing in Libyan affairs, the Sadeq Institute's ethos comprises three main tenets; pluralism through ideas, accountability through research, and change through participation.

The Sadeq Institute is committed to encouraging a diversity of political opinions, and believes that drawing on this diversity is key to producing policy that represents Libyan society as a whole. True accountability can only come about in the context of an informed and empowered citizenry, and the Sadeq Institute advocates for the ability of all Libyans to hold government to account, and for information and commentary on government activities to be freely disseminated and accessible to all.

Topical Focus: The Sadeq Institute's research aims to provide innovative solutions to key national challenges in Libya. These include:

- (1) Economics
- (2) Health
- (3) Law
- (4) Governance
- (5) Security
- (6) Education

Operations: By consulting and engaging with the Libyan public and by conducting rigorous research, the Sadeq Institute aims to deliver evidence-based policy solutions that reflect the diverse needs of Libyan citizens while holding public officials accountable for their actions.

Link: <http://www.sadeqinstitute.org/>

The Sudd Institute

Country: South Sudan

Director: Abraham A. Awolich

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The Sudd Institute is an independent research organization that conducts and facilitates research and training to inform public policy and practice, to create opportunities for discussion and debate, and to improve analytical capacity in South Sudan. Its mission is to promote informed and accountable policy and practice that responds to the needs, wants, and well-being of the South Sudanese people. The institute was established to close the knowledge gap and help ensure that decisions made during this critical period in the country's history result in positive change.

Topical Focus: To contribute to developing government efficiency, accountability, and transparency, the Sudd Institute offers critical analysis about key governance issues, including resource generation and allocation, relations between the national government and the states, and the constitution development process. The Sudd Institute follows two tracks:

- (1) Track 1: addresses internal and external insecurity by aiming to help decision-makers to better understand the causes and consequences of such violence that has wreaked havoc across the country and to offer recommendations for policy and practical change
- (2) Track 2: geared toward building an inclusive, responsive, and transparent government

Operations: As South Sudan embarks on critical state building, nation building, and development initiatives, little is known or understood about the country and the needs of its institutions and people. To fill this knowledge gap, Sudd operates by conducting, facilitating, and communicating high quality, independent, and action-oriented research and analysis. It provides opportunities for discussion and debate. Finally, it focuses on improving analytical capacity and research skills in South Sudan.

Link: <http://www.suddinstitute.org>

University of Pretoria Department of Political Sciences

Country: South Africa

Director (Former): Siphamandla Zondi

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The University of Pretoria Department of Political Sciences is a core department of the University of Pretoria, one of South Africa's premiere research universities. Research within the department focuses on a broad range of political science topics, including mediation, governance, and democracy studies. The Institute for Strategic and Political Affairs (ISPA), the Center for the Study of Governance Innovation (GovInn), and the Centre for Mediation in Africa (CMA) are research centers contained within the Political Science Department.

Topical Focus: Research of the University of Pretoria Department of Political Sciences focuses on a broad range of African and non-African political science topics including mediation, conflict studies, governance, security, and democracy. Within the department, the Centre for Mediation in Africa

focuses on publishing research on mediation best practices, training senior government officials, and assisting the UN, AU, and other sub-regional bodies to build mediation capacity and expertise. CMA has also hosted conferences, including a major conference on conflict and mediation at the University of Pretoria in June 2015.

Operations: With more than 20 professors, researchers, and staff, the University of Pretoria Department of Political Sciences conducts academic research with important implications for issues of mediation, conflict studies, and good governance. As a part of a major research institution in South Africa, the department is well-positioned to carry out important research on Africa's most pressing topics.

Link: <http://www.up.ac.za/political-sciences>

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)

Country: Ghana HQ

Director: Chukwuemeka B. Eze

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) is a leading regional peacebuilding organization founded in 1998 in response to the civil wars that plagued West Africa in the 1990s. Over the years, WANEP has succeeded in establishing strong national networks in every member state of ECOWAS, with over 500 member organizations across West Africa.

Topical Focus: WANEP places special focus on collaborative approaches to conflict prevention, and peacebuilding, working with diverse actors from civil society, governments, intergovernmental bodies, women groups, and other partners in a bid to establish a platform for dialogue, experience sharing and learning, thereby complementing efforts at ensuring sustainable peace and development in West Africa and beyond.

Operations: In 2002, WANEP entered into a historic partnership with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), an inter-governmental structure, for the implementation of a regional early warning and response system (ECOWARN). A memorandum of understanding between WANEP and ECOWAS was signed in 2004 for five years, and has since been renewed for another 5 years. This partnership constitutes a major strategic achievement for WANEP and West Africa civil society as it offers the much-desired opportunity to contribute to Track I response to conflicts and policy debates.

WANEP has more than 500 member organizations across the member states of ECOWAS. At the continental level, WANEP is a member of the Peace and Security cluster of the African Union's (AU) Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC), representing West Africa. At the international level, WANEP has a Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and is the West Africa Regional Representative of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC). WANEP is the Chair of GPPAC.

WANEP provides professional courses in conflict prevention and peacebuilding informed by years of practical experience to governments, businesses, and practitioners throughout the sub-region and

beyond. Underlying its work is a commitment to professionalism and a dedication to a world of mutual respect, tolerance, and peace.

Link: <http://wanep.org/wanep/>

Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC)

Country: Uganda

Executive Director: Helen Kezie-Nwoha

Point of Contact: same

Overview: Women's International Peace Centre is a global action oriented women's human rights organization that empowers women's leadership and peace building in conflict and post conflict settings. Its mission is to ignite women's leadership, amplify voices, and deepen their activism in re-creating peace. Its vision is for women to be living in peace and re-creating peace.

Topical Focus:

Women's International Peace Centre is committed to the building of a fair and just society where women can equally participate in decision-making and where their capacities and potential are utilized for a better world through the documenting of women's realities and facilitating the exchange of skills and information. Throughout, there is an emphasis on research and knowledge creation where Women's International Peace Centre has historically done groundbreaking research on women in conflict countries. Women's International Peace Centre has three programs dedicated to its mission:

- (1) **Advocacy and Networking:** builds partnerships with strategic allies and advocates for the needs of women survivors
- (2) **Communications and Management:** ensures that what we learn is communicated directly to those making decisions that shape women's lives at national, regional, and international levels
- (3) **Feminist Leadership Institute:** focuses on strengthening women's activist and political leadership in order to be able to challenge existing institutional mechanisms that undermine women's rights

Operations: Women's International Peace Centre is named after the ancient Egyptian goddess Isis who symbolizes wisdom, creativity, and knowledge. Women's International Peace Centre has started national and regional programs to facilitate the flow of information from Uganda to other parts of Africa and the rest of the world. The organization has immensely contributed to and strengthened the women's movement in Uganda and on the African continent.

Link: <https://wipc.org/>

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Africa Program

Country: United States

Director: Monde Muyangwa

Point of Contact: same

Overview: The Africa Program works to address the most critical issues facing Africa and U.S.-Africa relations, build mutually beneficial U.S.-Africa relations, and enhance understanding about Africa in the United States. The Program achieves its mission through in-depth research and analyses, including our blog, *Africa Up Close*, public discussion, working groups, and briefings that bring together policymakers, practitioners, and subject matter experts to analyze and offer practical options for tackling key challenges in Africa and in U.S.-Africa relations.

Topical Focus: Good governance and leadership; conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and security; Trade, investment, and sustainable development; and Africa's evolving role in the global arena. The Program maintains a cross-cutting focus on the roles of women, youth, and technology, which are critical to Africa's future: to supporting good governance, to securing peace, to mitigating poverty, and to assuring sustainable development.

Operations: Founded in 1999 with an initial focus on peacebuilding in Africa, currently the Africa Program is investigating the issues of peace and state-building in Africa under the banner of the [Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding](#), funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The Program also addresses pressing issues of economic development in Africa under the banner of the [Brown Capital Management Africa Forum](#), funded by Brown Capital Management.

Link: <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/program/africa-program>

Appendix 4: List of 2019 Conference Action Items and Deliverables*

2019 SVNP Annual Conference Action Items and Deliverables

Action Items

ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE	STATUS
1. Finalize the impact assessment framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Muyangwa will reach out to the SVNP member organizations for additional inputs in shaping the impact assessment framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalized framework. Assessment ongoing final stages as of July 2021
2. Confirm topic and logistics details for the 2020 Annual Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilson Center Africa Program will share the suggested topics for the conference with the SVNP members • SVNP member organizations will provide feedback on the suggested topics • Wilson Center Africa Program will confirm dates for next year's conference (current planning is around same dates, 13-16 July 2020) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilson Center Africa Program will send out suggested topics and 2020 conference dates with the Conference Report in August 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postponed to 2021 in Washington DC as a virtual conference due to COVID-19
3. SVNP Ambassadors one-pager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Muyangwa will reach out to the SVNP directors regarding the SVNP Ambassadors one-pager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed
4. Share 2019 Annual Conference debriefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Conference participants who are <i>not</i> SVNP directors will share the debriefs they plan to give their directors with Dr. Muyangwa (at least bullet points) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed
5. Follow-up regarding the West Africa Regional Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Muyangwa will follow up with WANEP regarding the sub-regional workshop for West Africa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed
6. Discuss plans for East Africa Regional Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Muyangwa will reach out to the SVNP member organizations regarding plans for the proposed regional workshop in East Africa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed
7. Disseminate 2019 Annual Conference presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilson Center Africa Program will disseminate all Annual Conference presentations received to the conference participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed in report
8. Follow-up regarding CCONY Alumni Database	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Muyangwa will send form to Directors to gather information needed for CCONY Alumni Database • Directors to return the needful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed

*There was no 2020 Annual Conference of the Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Appendix 5: List of 2021 Conference Action Items and Deliverables

2021 SVNP Annual Conference Action Items and Deliverables

Action Items

ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE	STATUS
1. SVNP Conference Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SVNP Director's to return conference feedback survey to Dr. Muyangwa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August 1, 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partially received
2. Share/Nominate for the SVNP Scholarship Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFR will resend the SVNP Scholarship Application materials with a note about the hybrid/in-person model for the first-term Director's will share with their networks/nominate scholar to apply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extended to Aug. 30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
3. Share the impact assessment findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Muyangwa will reach out to the SVNP with a briefing event and/or written readout 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Late 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment completed. Under final review.
4. Confirm topic and host country 2022 Annual Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SVNP Director's will share top topics suggestions on post-Conference surveys, or via email if you did not attend the conference Wilson Center Africa Program will share the list suggested topics (ranked by most "votes") for the conference with the SVNP members SVNP member organizations will provide feedback on the suggested topics list Wilson Center Africa Program will confirm dates for next year's conference (current planning is around same dates, mid July 2022) Directors from Central Africa will coordinate and propose the location and co-hosts. Rwanda was proposed in the conference as a location. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wilson Center Africa Program send out email survey to all member requesting suggested topics proposed conference dates with the Conference Report in September 2021 Directors to propose host country and dates by December 2021. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing with topics due out in Sept. 2021
5. Follow-up re: North Africa and Central Africa Regional Policy Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFR to send proposed dates Directors to coordinate and propose location, dates, and co-hosting partners for the regional workshops (in Central and North Africa) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sept 2021 (dates) Nov. 2021 (Location/co-hosts) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
6. Follow-up re: intra-SVNP collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFR will send the collaboration notes from the SVNP conference discussion Director's to add-on, comment on the document for sharing with CCNY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 2021 October 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing

7. SVNP Blog Contributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFR will send call for submissions with each member org ideally submitting 1-2 blogs over the grant. • AFR will email members who have not yet submitted a blog and request that they do so; members who have already submitted have been asked to consider submitting another • AFR commits to posting in a timely manner on wilsoncenter.org while blog is revamped 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing from August 21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing
8. AFR to propose and share enhanced SVNP scholar alumni engagement ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFR will draft ideas from conference and share with Directors for comment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing
9. Follow-up regarding CCNY Alumni Database	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Africa Program will re-send form to Directors to gather information needed for CCNY Alumni Database • Directors to return the Alumni Database Spreadsheet updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2021 • October 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing
10. Africa: Year in Review Submissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFR to send Call for Submission for AYIR 2021 to SVNP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not started

Deliverables

DELIVERABLE	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE
1. 2021 Annual Conference report and Session Readout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilson Center Africa Program will draft the Annual Conference report • Wilson Center Africa Program will finalize the report and disseminate to all conference participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2021
2. Africa Year in Review 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send Call for Submission for AYIR 2021 • Publish January 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 2021 • January 2022

Appendix 6: 2018-2020 Grant Objectives and Deliverables

2018-2020 Grant Objectives and Deliverables – Final Update as of July 12, 2019

**The Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding
Funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York**

The Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding is a network of 22 African policy and research organizations that works with the Wilson Center Africa Program to bring African analyses and perspectives to key issues in U.S.-Africa relations. Funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York since 2011, the project provides avenues for African researchers to engage with, inform, and exchange perspectives with U.S., African, and international policymakers in order to develop the most appropriate, cohesive, and inclusive policy frameworks for the issues of peacebuilding and state-building in Africa.

Project Objectives	Performance Measures	Project Outputs	Status
<p>1) Generate peacebuilding-related knowledge by African scholars and practitioners.</p>	<p>Published SVNP research papers, policy briefs, and blogs that generate at least 8 meeting requests.</p>	<p>Continuation of the SVNP scholarship by hosting 6 scholars (3 SVNP & 3 non-SVNP) and publishing research papers, policy briefs, and blogs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 internal events • 6 public events • 6 research papers • 6 policy briefs • 12 blog posts • 6 internal interviews • media training • External media interviews, as appropriate • Policymaker and practitioner outreach • 6 SVNP Ambassadors Reports on the benefit and impact of the scholarship and activities to carry the network forward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 scholars confirmed for August-November term • Original January-March term was delayed due the U.S. Federal Government shutdown, which inhibited the visa process for scholars. • We are accepting applications for the final spring term January-March 2020. • Applications are due August 30.

<p>2) Strengthen individual researcher capacities for research, policy writing, communication, and outreach to policymakers.</p>	<p>Surveys of scholars that they believe that their scholarship experiences are enhancing their research, building their capacities, and increasing their exposure to U.S., African, and international policymakers.</p>	<p>Working with African researchers on their research skills, policy writing, and communications skills, and strategies for engaging with policymakers through the scholarship and conference series.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging an editor to work with the scholars for increased mentoring for brief and paper deliverables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will continue to work with an editor due to the value they brought to the scholar’s work. We are working to engage an editor for the new scholars presently.
<p>3) Build the credentials and strengthen the collective capacities of the Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding.</p>	<p>Surveys and anecdotal evidence or interviews from SVN members that they believe SVN is providing a useful forum through which members can share experiences and sound practices that build their capacities to engage with policymakers.</p>	<p>Hosting a SVN conferences each year for directors, scholars, and policymakers, as well as regional policy workshops and APN collaborative events, to deepen and strengthen collaboration among SVN members and policymakers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 annual conferences: 1 Director-level conference; 1 will scholar alumni to focus on substantive engagement with policymakers. 2 conference reports 2 policymaker focus groups which will focus on engaging U.S. & African policymakers to strengthen relationships around key issues as well as the enhance the impact and value-added of the SVN 2 Regional Workshops co-hosted by SVN members (during the first grant cycle we propose 1 in East Africa and 1 in West Africa); Regional workshops will include 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are co-hosting the 2019 annual conference with CERAP and CIRES in Côte d'Ivoire, utilizing SVN’s connections with policymakers and international organizations in the region. Following the conference, we will produce a conference report. Planning for the 2020 SVN annual conference will begin after closing-out the 2019 conference. We will begin planning regional policy workshops (1 to be held in East Africa, 1 in West Africa) following the 2019 conference closeout. We are hosting a workshop in Senegal with IPAR to engage with policymakers in the region Discussions have been made with Dr. Cyril Obi at APN for a partnership event, dates are forthcoming. However, SVN members supported APN’s Kujenga Podcast and about peacebuilding in Africa. We collaborated with a CCNY grantee—Dr. Aili Tripp from the Women and Peacebuilding in Africa

		<p>targeted inclusion of policymakers and capacity building sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 partnership events with the African Peacebuilding Network with the Social Science Research Counsel in New York <p>And, Undertaking a length-of-project evaluation to assess the impact of SVNP and identify areas for possible enhancement, and offer options for the way forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a length-of-project evaluation of the impact of the SVNP to be presented as an assessment for the Network and CCNY 	<p>Consortium—for an event on the role of women in peacebuilding in Africa.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafting of a scope of work for contracting a project evaluator to assess the impact of SVNP is underway.
<p>4) Increase dissemination and uptake of knowledge generated among U.S., African, and international policymakers in the peacebuilding realm.</p>	<p>Surveys, focus groups, and anecdotal evidence that show that research products are reaching an increased number of U.S., African, and international policymakers and that SVNP is providing useful and in depth analysis of and policy options for major issues in peacebuilding and state-building in Africa.</p>	<p>Broadening and strengthening communications and dissemination activities in order to amplify reach and increase policymaker uptake of SVNP products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French and Portuguese translations of select scholar publication • Produce quarterly communications and analytics reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are currently evaluating dissemination and readership using web and social media analytics. • Translation services are still forthcoming; a translation publisher has not been identified. • We have created a template for communications reporting, more data will be available following the fall 2019 SVNP scholar terms. • We have published 8 blogs in FY19. The grant requires 30 blog posts from Network members, so we have 22 remaining blogs needed.

Appendix 7: 2020-2022 Grant Objectives and Deliverables

2020-2022 Grant Objectives and Deliverables – Update as of July 16, 2021

Outline of Deliverables – Qualitative and Quantitative

Goal:

- To help bridge the gap between African knowledge and U.S. policy formulation on peacebuilding and state-building in Africa, the project will continue to provide African-generated, context-specific, relevant, timely, and accessible information and analysis on peacebuilding in Africa to key policymakers and officials in the peacebuilding realm

Key outcomes:

- **Knowledge/Analysis Production:** U.S. policy on peacebuilding and state-building in Africa that is better informed by African research, knowledge, and expertise.
- **Capacity Building:** African peacebuilding researchers and practitioners who are better equipped to communicate with U.S., international, and African policymakers.
- **Enhance dissemination of African knowledge into the policy eco-system:** Dissemination and uptake of policy products among policymakers and officials is increased.
- **Strengthened SVNP collaboration and relationships:** Consolidated connections among SVNP members (at organizational and scholar levels), with other Carnegie grants, and with partner organizations sharing similar goals resulting in a raised SVNP profile as a pan-African peacebuilding network

Measures of success:

- In the short term, a successful project will be characterized by the **completion of the project activities**, during which time their **policy communication and research skills have improved**; an **increase in the reach to and engagement with policymakers**; the **maturing of the Network’s pan-African nature through collaboration including joint activities and research**; and a **thorough evaluation of the network’s impact** which will inform strategic direction.

Activities and Deliverables	Outcomes and Measures	Planning and Status
<p>1. Continue the scholarship program</p> <p>a. Host 6 scholars</p> <p>b. Conduct 6 internal events and 6 public events</p> <p>c. 12 publications (research papers and policy briefs)</p> <p>d. 12 blogs</p>	<p>a. Scholars build ability to engage with and inform U.S. policy on peacebuilding in Africa by presenting their research at public events alongside U.S.-based policymakers.</p> <p>b. Scholars strengthen scholarly research and policy formulation skills in producing papers for U.S., African, and international policymakers</p> <p>c. Scholars build broader networks through mentorships opportunities, and build skills through social media and interview training.</p> <p>d. Build the communications capacities and portfolio of scholars</p> <p><i>Measures: event RSVP/attendee lists, webcast views, engagement with policymakers ; scholar surveys, publication dissemination, readership and views, analytics</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare and advertise scholarship - Review select, process, onboard scholars - Complete scholarship deliverable steps (papers, events, etc.) - Contract processing of editor - Facilitate media interview and social media trainings <p>Status July 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 0/6 scholars hosted due to COVID-19 related Wilson Center/embassy closures and halting of visa issuance. - 5 applications received (4 from IPSS; 1 from CMDPS) - Scholarship dates shifted to 3 scholars (Hybrid in Spring: Remote – Oct-Dec; In-person Jan-Apr 2023); 3 scholars (May-Aug 2022)
<p>2. Host 2 annual conferences</p> <p>a. 2021 & report</p> <p>b. 2022 & report</p>	<p>a. Capacities of and connections among SVNP member organizations built and opportunities for collaboration developed.</p> <p>b. SVNP as a go-to resource for the peacebuilding policy and practice field bolstered.</p> <p>c. Senior-level engagement on critical peacebuilding issues, including with U.S. and international policymakers facilitated.</p> <p><i>Measures: RSVP/attendee lists, attendee survey responses, engagement with policymakers</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Select host country, date, and topic - Develop concept note - 10th anniversary dinner concept - Conference planning steps (invitations, travel, etc.) - Joint paper editing and publication - Implement communications, branding, and marketing plan. - Design and publish conference report <p>Status July 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of 2021 Conference completed; complete conference report and close-out in Aug-Sept. 2021 - Host country selection + format TBD for 2022 (goal is to plan for in-person meeting that can be converted to virtual format if COVID persists)

<p>3. Host 4 regional policy workshops a. East Africa (2020) b. Southern Africa (2021) c. North Africa (2022) d. Central Africa (2022)</p>	<p>a. Give member organizations more ownership of the SVNPN. b. Nurture organizational collaboration at the regional level c. Provide an avenue for SVNPN members to engage in dialogue and inform policymakers on a key peacebuilding issue of significant relevance to their region.</p> <p><i>Measures: workshop reports, surveys/evaluations, RSVP/attendee lists, engagement with regional and international policymakers</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Select host country, date, and topic - Support concept note development - Invite policymakers - Support conference planning (invitations, travel, etc.) - Share conference reports <p>Status July 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Completed: East Africa and Southern Africa workshops</i> - <i>Pending: Select host/dates/location for North Africa and Central Africa workshops + agree on model</i>
<p>4. Host 2 Director's roundtables</p>	<p>a. Policymakers and practitioners based in Washington, D.C. and working on peacebuilding issues hear from and engage with the SVNPN at a senior level. b. SVNPN directors deepen their connections in the Washington, D.C. policy space. c. Raise the visibility and profile of the SVNPN in Washington, D.C.</p> <p><i>Measures: event RSVP/attendee lists and webcast views, engagement with policymakers</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Select date and topic - Event planning and close-out (invitations, travel, event summary etc.) <p>Status July 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Roundtables were initially planned to be stand-alone. However, due to COVID-related travel restrictions, amended format so that private roundtables between SVNPN directors and policymakers were included in the SVNPN annual conference. In addition, SVNPN directors featured in the Wilson Center's 2021 Congressional Masterclass on Africa)</i> - <i>Continuing virtual, targeted meetings may be necessary going forward.</i>
<p>5. Continue to strengthen partnerships in the peacebuilding field a. Potential: host 1-2 partnership events with other CCNY grantees b. Continue to encourage and track Intra-SVNP Collaboration</p>	<p>a. Consolidate, build on, and leverage strategic partnerships with like-minded organizations to both amplify and extend the reach of the SVNPN and those of the broader Africa peacebuilding community of practice.</p> <p><i>Measures: event RSVP/attendee lists and webcast views, engagement with policymakers</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event planning and close-out (invitations, travel, etc.) <p>Status July 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>1 event hosted in 2020 with APN.</i> - <i>APN + other CCNY grantees invited as speakers and participants to 2021 SVNPN annual conference</i> - <i>Will ask for collaboration data during 2021 Conference.</i>

<p>6. Increase the dissemination and uptake of SVNP research products among U.S., international, and African policymakers and officials</p> <p>a. Publish 24 blogs b. Translate 6 SVNP paper c. Re-design AFR Up Close blog d. 8 quarterly communications reports e. Publish joint research papers and award 1</p>	<p>a. Continue to amplify African voices and perspectives and strengthen Africa Up Close and SVNP publications as a port-of-call for research b. Disseminate SVNP research products in English, French, and Portuguese</p> <p><i>Measures: publication dissemination, readership and views, analytics</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publish 24 blogs - Translate 6 papers - Publish joint research papers and award one paper - Track and report on dissemination analytics and trends <p>Status July 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Q1 Comms report completed; Q2 and Q3 reports pending - 12 of 24 blogs published; need 13 more blogs to meet goal - Blog redesign plan postponed pending new Comms Assistant onboarding - 4 Collaborative Research Papers submitted; external selection committee convened to review papers; 2 papers selected; all 4 papers will be published. - Pending: Translation of 6 SVNP papers into FR and PT - Pending: Updated analytics tools and plan with new Google Analytics metrics
<p>7. Complete Impact Assessment</p>	<p>a. Completed impact assessment report soliciting feedback through document review, KII, and focus groups on the impact and lessons learned for further strengthening the SVNP.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue contract with evaluator - Conduct remote KII and focus groups <p>Status July 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Near final draft submitted - In final revisions for completion this year.
<p>8. Populate and continue to update the SVNP Databases (Fellowship, Alumni, Information)</p>	<p>a. Provide CCNY with up-to-date contact information of our SVNP scholars and key developments (research and promotions, collaborations, etc)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update and populate databases - Continue to update information when we receive fellowship applications - Keep track of and update contact information and key SVNP alumni developments (research, promotions, etc) <p>Status July 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pending: All pending scholar terms for new alumni database information. Past alumni updated and shared with CCNY

Appendix 8: List of SVNP Member Organization Collaborations (July 2019-July 2021)

List of SVNP Member Organization Collaborations (July 2019-July 2021)

1.
 - a. **Topic/project:** Programming on election violence in Côte d'Ivoire
 - b. **SVNP partners:**
 - Centre de Recherché et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP)
 - West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
2.
 - a. **Topic/project:** Programming on the prevention of violent extremism expansion in West African coastal states
 - b. **SVNP partners:**
 - Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
 - West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) –Togo
3.
 - a. **Topic/project:** Bogu/Gayya: Local women's contribution to conflict analysis in the Tillabery Region, Niger
 - b. **SVNP partners:**
 - Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
 - West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) – Niger
4.
 - a. **Topic/Project:** African Union post-summit meeting policy seminar
 - b. **SVNP Partners:**
 - Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
 - Institute for Peace and Security Studies
5.
 - a. **Topic/project:** Collaboration on numerous southern African engagements and activities, including on South African policy and engagement with the United Nations Security Council
 - b. **SVNP partners:**
 - Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
 - Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD)
6.
 - a. **Topic/project:** Continuing collaboration on the Tana Forum, an Ethiopia-based annual meeting of African policymakers and policy influencers that explores security issues and promotes African-led solutions
 - b. **SVNP partners:**
 - Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
 - Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS)
 - Centre for Conflict Management (CCM)

7.
 - a. **Topic/project:** WANEP provided guidance to WIPC on implementing their women's mediation networks
 - b. **SVNP partners:**
 - Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC)
 - West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
8.
 - a. **Topic/project:** Collaboration as part of the Just Future Consortium, which works on civil society participation and responsive peacebuilding
 - b. **SVNP partners:**
 - Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC)
 - West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
9.
 - a. **Topic/project:** Graduate student training on women, peace, and security
 - b. **SVNP partners:**
 - Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC)
 - Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS)
10.
 - a. **Topic/project:** 2020 West Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Progress and Retrogression on Electoral Processes in West Africa – Concerns & Consequences for Peace and Security"
 - b. **SVNP partners:**
 - West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
 - Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD)
 - Initiative for Public Policy Analysis (IPPA)
 - African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET)
11.
 - a. **Topic/project:** 2020 East Africa Regional Policy Workshop, "Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the COVID-19 Era"
 - b. **SVNP partners:**
 - African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS)
 - Center for Media, Democracy, Peace and Security (CMDPS) at Rongo University
 - Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC)
 - Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR-Rwanda)
 - Centre for Conflict Management (CCM)
 - Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS)
 - West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) – shared guidance based on their experience hosting the West Africa Regional Policy Workshop

12.

- a. **Topic/project:** 2021 Southern Africa Regional Policy Workshop, “Building Peace in the Midst of a Perfect Storm: What is to be done in Southern Africa?”
- b. **SVNP partners:**
 - Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)
 - Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
 - University of Pretoria
 - Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD)
 - Centre d’Etudes pour l’Action Sociale (CEPAS)

Appendix 9: Suggested Topics for the 2022 SVNPA Annual Conference

- Violent extremism in Africa
- The impact of civil society on peacebuilding in Africa
- Elections in Africa: What has changed and what has to be changed?
- Technology, youth, and peacebuilding in Africa
- Social media literacy and peacebuilding in Africa
- Borderlands insecurity and peacebuilding in Africa
- Reframing peacebuilding in the era of pandemics
- Bridging the gap between peacebuilding policies and practice
- Interrogating the peace and security dimensions of African Union Agenda 2063 – How far, how well?
- The effect/impact of quality of governance (democratic) on sustaining peacebuilding efforts in Africa
- Democratic recession/backsliding in Africa and its effect/impact on peacebuilding
- Living with the COVID-19 pandemic: Dynamics, effects on peacebuilding, and building strategic responses in Africa
- Re-assessing continental (AU) and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) mechanisms and structures for peacebuilding efforts

The Africa Program

The Africa Program works to address the most critical issues facing Africa and U.S.-Africa relations, build mutually beneficial U.S.-Africa relations, and enhance understanding about Africa in the United States.

The Program achieves its mission through in-depth research and analyses, including our blog Africa Up Close, public discussion, working groups, and briefings that bring together policymakers, practitioners, and subject matter experts to analyze and offer practical options for tackling key challenges in Africa and in U.S.-Africa relations.

The Africa Program focuses on four core issues:

- i. Inclusive governance and leadership
- ii. Conflict prevention and peacebuilding
- iii. Trade, investment, and sustainable development
- iv. Africa's evolving role in the global arena

The Program maintains a cross-cutting focus on the roles of women, youth, and technology, which are critical to Africa's future: to supporting good governance, to securing peace, to mitigating poverty, and to assuring sustainable development.

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