Business Unusual: A Rapidly Changing World Calls for Adapting Peacebuilding in Africa

Report on the 2022 Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding Annual Conference

SVNP 2022 Conference Participants in the Memorial Hallway of the Woodrow Wilson Center

Hosted by the Wilson Center Africa Program

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

Washington, D.C.

September 12-16, 2022

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Wilson Center

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**Report on the 2022 Annual Conference of the
Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding**

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Africa Program
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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

Centering African knowledge and agency is key to building and sustaining peace in Africa. The Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding (SVNP) is a network of 22 African policy, research, and academic organizations that works with the Wilson Center's Africa Program to attain the most appropriate, cohesive, and inclusive policy frameworks and approaches for achieving sustainable peace in Africa.

Generously sponsored by Carnegie Corporation of New York since its establishment in 2011, the SVNP works to generate African knowledge to inform U.S. and international peacebuilding policies on Africa; help build the next generation of African peacebuilders through its scholarship program; and create a pan-African network of African peacebuilding organizations, practitioners, and experts to collaborate and share knowledge, best practices, and lessons learned on peacebuilding in Africa.

The SVNP 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 SVNP 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.

2022 Annual Conference Objectives

The theme of the 2022 conference was "Business Unusual: A Rapidly Changing World Calls for Adapting Peacebuilding in Africa." The main objectives of the conference were to take stock of the peace and security challenges prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and consider how these challenges have evolved and what can be done to address them; assess peacebuilding from a wide view to examine issues of citizen-state relations, democratic decline, gender, youth, technology, food security, and terrorism; and, through these discussions, facilitate the sharing of best practices and offer concrete recommendations and policy options for adapting and strengthening peacebuilding in Africa.

The conference convened 26 SVNP directors and representatives in Washington D.C. from 21 SVNP organizations and SVNP scholar alumni as well as members of the public, policymakers, practitioners, experts, and international stakeholders to assess the current state of peace and security in Africa and analyze how peacebuilding approaches can or should change to fit the current environment.

The global peace and security landscape is undergoing significant changes. Consecutive shocks such as COVID-19, economic decline, climate change, rising food insecurity, degrading democracy, and an uptick in violent extremism in some countries have contributed to increasing fragility. Meanwhile, on the African continent, the acceleration of economic integration through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and progress toward digital transformation open new opportunities for advancing development goals.

The key question posed at the conference was, "what does all of this mean for peacebuilding in Africa?"

Through a five-day series of presentations and dialogue, the annual conference provided participants the opportunity to share valuable insights and perspectives into how to adapt peacebuilding approaches in Africa, network with U.S. policymakers and practitioners working on peacebuilding in Africa, enhance individual and organizational capacities, and strengthen SVNP collaboration.

This conference marked a landmark for the SVNP, as it was the first annual conference held in person since 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic. Past conferences have occurred Virtually (2021), and in Côte d'Ivoire (2019), Ethiopia (2018), Washington, D.C., (2017 & 2015), South Africa (2016), and Kenya (2013).

From the Africa Program

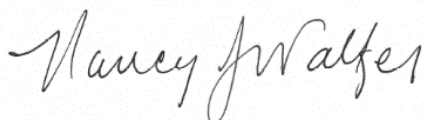Dear Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding Members and Friends:

The 2022 annual conference was significant for the Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding (SVNP) as it marked the first in-person conference since 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic. We were delighted to host 26 SVNP directors and scholar alumni in Washington, D.C. to share their expertise on peacebuilding and state building and engage with U.S. policymakers and practitioners. This year's annual conference tapped into a theme of change and evolution in peacebuilding over the past few years that has affected each member organizations work: "Business Unusual: A Rapidly Changing World Calls for Adapting Peacebuilding in Africa."

Over five days we examined if these changes call for us to rethink peacebuilding strategies and approaches in Africa and if so, how? This conference was, as always with SVNP, a practical one as members shared their experiences, best practices, analysis, and evidence to offer concrete recommendations and policy options for adapting and strengthening peacebuilding in Africa.

Central discussion areas included: adapting peacebuilding in Africa to a changing world; assessing and facing democratic backsliding and the comeback of coups; improving citizen-state relations in matters related to peacebuilding; enhancing understanding and making progress regarding women's roles in peacebuilding; navigating digital transformation and the accompanying new threats and possibilities for peacebuilding; understanding the scope and impact of misinformation and disinformation; localizing and adapting humanitarian and development interventions; evaluating the changes and current state of terrorism in Africa; evaluating how economic integration and the private sector can add value to peacebuilding efforts; the ways in which weakening food security hinders peace and what can be done about it; and ways to empower youth and centralize their contributions to building sustainable peace.

The conference was also an important time to reflect on the last 10 years of the SVNP and its impact, as well as re-engage with each other to build new institutional and personal relationships or invigorate existing ties. As members provided their suggestions for the way forward for the network, these contributions underscored how important the annual convening is to the strength of the network and to its impact.

We are grateful to each member organization for their commitment to peacebuilding in Africa and to Carnegie Corporation of New York for their continued support over the last 11 years.

Dr. Nancy J. Walker
Public Policy Fellow, Wilson Center Africa Program

Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding 2022 Annual Conference Agenda

<u>**Day 1: Monday, 12th September (Wilson Center)**</u>

09:00   Conference Opens

09:00 - 10:30   **Session 1:** Welcome, Conference Objectives, & Member Organization Updates (*One representative from each member organization asked to present for 3 minutes*)
- Welcome from Dr. Nancy J. Walker (WWICS)
- Administrative remarks from Ms. Hannah B. Akuiyibo (WWICS)

10:30 - 11:00   Coffee/Tea Break

11:00 - 12:30   **Session 2:** SVNP Member Organization Updates (Continued) (*One representative from each member organization asked to present for 3 minutes*)
- Wilson Center update from Ms. Gamuchirai Mhute (WWICS)

12:30 - 14:00   Lunch

14:00 - 15:00   **Session 3 – Public Event:** Peacebuilding in Africa: Adapting to a Changing World
- Moderator: Dr. Nancy J. Walker (WWICS)
- Speakers: Amb. Mark Green (WWICS); Dr. Helen Kezie-Nwoha (WIPC); Mr. Anas El Gomati (Sadeq Institute); Fr. Alain Nzadi-a-Nzadi (CEPAS); Ms. Faith Mabera (IGD)

15:10 - 15:15   Official Photo

15:15 - 15:30   Coffee/Tea Break

15:30 - 17:00   **Session 4:** Setting the Stage—The Current Challenges for Peacebuilders in Africa
- Facilitators: Dr. Terence McNamee (WWICS); Dr. Nancy J. Walker (WWICS)

17:00   Day 1 Administrative Remarks, Conclusion

09:00 - 10:00   **Session 5:** Overview of Current SVNP Grant: Key issues, deliverables, and the way forward (including regional policy workshop takeaways), and branding roll-out
- Facilitator: Ms. Hannah B. Akuiyibo (WWICS)
- Branding update from Ms. Cheri Ayers (WWICS)

10:00 - 10:30   Coffee/Tea Break

10:30 - 12:00   **Session 6 - Public Event:** Democratic Decay and the Comeback of Coups
- Moderator: Dr. Nancy J. Walker (WWICS)
- Speakers: Ms. Lisa Peterson (U.S. Department of State); Ms. Lauren Ploch Blanchard (CRS); Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze (WANEP)

12:00 - 13:30   Lunch

13:30 - 15:00   **Session 7 - Public Event:** Assessing the State of Citizen-State Relations and Peacebuilding in Africa
- Moderator: Dr. Terence McNamee (WWICS)
- Speakers: Dr. Edem Selormey (CDD-Ghana); Dr. Mathieu Cloutier (The World Bank); Dr. Mziwandile Ndlovu (AFIDEP)

15:00 - 15:30   Coffee/Tea Break

15:30 - 17:00   **Session 8 - Public Event:** Women and the African Peace and Security Agenda
- Moderator: Dr. Helen Kezie-Nwoha (WIPC)
- Speakers: Dr. Christopher Isike (Univ. of Pretoria); Ms. Miriam Mukalazi (Georgetown Institute for WPS)

17:00 - 17:05   Day 2 Administrative Remarks, Conclusion

Day 3: Wednesday, 14ᵗʰ September (Wilson Center)

09:00 - 10:30	**Session 9 - Public Event:** Digital Transformation, Governance, and Peacebuilding: New Threats and New Responses • Moderator: Dr. Terence McNamee (WWICS) • Speakers: Ms. Kay McGowan (DIAL at UN); Mr. Will Ferroggiaro (Independent); Prof. Fredrick Ogenga (CMDPS)
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee/Tea Break
10:45 - 12:00	**Session 10:** Misinformation, Disinformation, and Peacebuilding in Africa • Facilitator: Dr. Nancy J. Walker (WWICS) • Speaker: Dr. Mark Duerksen (ACSS) • Roundtable Discussion
12:00 - 12:15	Short Break
12:15 - 13:30	**Session 11:** Localization and Adapting Humanitarian and Development Interventions for Peacebuilding • Facilitator: Dr. Nancy J. Walker (WWICS)
13:30 - 15:00	Lunch
15:00 - 16:30	**Session 12 - Public Event:** Terrorism in Africa: State of Play and Solutions • Moderator: Dr. Nancy J. Walker (WWICS) • Speakers: Ms. Oge Onubogu (USIP); Mr. Mark Stamilio (U.S. Department of Defense)
16:30 - 16:35	Day 3 Administrative Notes, Conclusion

Day 4: Thursday, 15th July (National Press Club)

09:00 - 10:30   **Session 13 – Public Event:** Economic Integration, the Private Sector, and Peacebuilding
- Moderator: Dr. Terence McNamee (WWICS)
- Speakers: Mr. Edward Burrier (USIP); Dr. Vuyo Mjimba (HSRC); Dr. Olusegun Sotola (IPPA)

10:30 - 11:00   Coffee/Tea Break

11:00 - 12:30   **Session 14 – Public Event:** Interlinked Challenges: Food Security and Peace
- Moderator: Ms. Hannah B. Akuiyibo (WWICS)
- Speakers: Dr. Nicholas Ozor (ATPS); Ms. Eugenia Kayitesi (IPAR-Rwanda); Dr. Laure Tall (IPAR)

12:30 - 13:30   Lunch

13:30 - 15:00   **Session 15 – Public Event:** Youth and the Future of Peace and Security in Africa
- Moderator: Ms. Ottilia Maunganidze (ISS)
- Speakers: Fr. Hyacinthe Loua, S.J. (CERAP); Dr. Augustino Ting Mayai (Sudd Institute); Ms. Ramatoulie Isatou Jallow (Georgetown University)

15:00 - 15:30   Coffee/Tea Break

15:30 - 17:00   **Session 16 - Roundtable:** Good Governance and Institutional Strengthening in Africa
- Facilitators: Dr. Nancy J. Walker (WWICS); Dr. Terence McNamee (WWICS)
- (*One representative from each member organization asked to present for 1 minute*)

17:00   Day 4 Administrative Notes, Conclusion

17:00 - 18:30   Break

18:30 - 20:00   **Session 17:** Group Dinner at Fogo de Chão Brazilian Steakhouse.

Day 5: Friday, 16ᵗʰ September (Wilson Center)

09:00 - 10:15   **Session 18:** SVNP 10+: Key Outcomes from Impact Assessment, and Next Stage of the SVNP: Grant renewal status and key parameters
- Facilitator: Ms. Hannah B. Akuiyibo (WWICS)
- Short Address by Dr. Monde Muyangwa (USAID)
- Announcement of Grant Renewal by Mr. Mwangi Thuita (CCNY)

10:15 - 10:30   Coffee/Tea Break

10:45 - 12:45   **Session 19 – Visit:** Tour of the National Museum of African American History and Culture
- Remarks on the NMAAHC; Ms. Gamuchirai Mhute (WWICS)

12:45 - 13:00   Walk to Wilson Center

13:00 - 14:00   Lunch

14:00 - 15:30   **Session 20:** Conference Recap, Completion of Surveys, Closing Ceremony
- Facilitators: Dr. Nancy J. Walker (WWICS); Ms. Hannah B. Akuiyibo (WWICS)

15:30 - 15:35   Final Administrative Remarks and Closing

Conference Proceedings

DAY 1: Monday, 12th September

Sessions 1 and 2 - Welcome, Conference Objectives, and Member Organization Updates

Welcome remarks:
- **Dr. Nancy J. Walker,** Public Policy Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)
- **Ms. Hannah B. Akuiyibo**, Senior Program Associate, Africa Program (WWICS)

Ms. Akuiyibo opened the proceedings by welcoming the SVNP members to Washington, D.C. on behalf of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. She noted the importance of the first SVNP in-person conference in three years and introduced Dr. McNamee and Dr. Walker as the co-facilitators of the conference.

Dr. Walker welcomed the participants to the 2022 Annual Conference and expressed appreciation for their continued involvement with the Network over the past two years during the COVID-19 pandemic. She expressed her gratitude to the Carnegie Corporation of New York, who have funded SVNP since 2011. She noted the appointment of Dr. Monde Muyangwa, the previous director of the Wilson Center's Africa Program, as the Assistant Administrator in the Bureau for Africa at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Dr. Walker contextualized the conference as following Secretary of State Antony Blinken's reveal of the Biden Administration's Sub-Saharan Africa strategy and policy priorities on August 8, 2022. She further situated the conference following President Biden's invitation to convene African heads of state in Washington, D.C. this December for the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit. Dr. Walker noted the main goals of the conference, which were to offer recommendations for adapting approaches to peacebuilding in Africa, discuss best practices, and present policy recommendations.

Member Organization Updates: Following the presentation of conference objectives, representatives from each SVNP member organization were asked to provide an update on their organization's mission and work, touch on specific engagement that pertains to the SVNP conference and theme of "business unusual and peacebuilding," and highlight collaboration with other SVNP organizations. This update session was important to set the stage for the week's discussions and to identify areas of opportunity for current and future collaboration among SVNP members. While some representatives provided broad updates on their organizations, others chose to focus on updates that related to the conference theme.

Dr. Augustino Ting Mayai, Managing Director, The Sudd Institute, South Sudan:

The Sudd Institute works on two tracks. First, the Sudd Institute aims to provide policymaking options on peace and security at the local and national levels with evidence. Second, the Sudd Institute addresses factors that influence peace and security such as education and healthcare. The Sudd Institute joined the SVNP around 2014 and has collaborated on research projects with USAID, the World Bank, and the United Nations.

Mr. Richmond Commodore, Research and Policy Analyst, Africa Center for Economic Transformation (ACET), Ghana:

ACET has been a member of the SVNP since its founding in 2011. ACET works to define the components of economic transformation in Ghana and align policies to this transformation. ACET also aims to link human well-being to peace and security, and bolster youth representation. They have previously partnered with CDD-Ghana and IPPA in the SVNP network.

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

ATPS is a founding member of the SVNP. ATPS is a transdisciplinary network of policymakers, researchers, civil society, and private sector actors that promote science, technology, and innovation for African development, environmental sustainability, and global inclusion. They work in 30 countries. ATPS is working on a pioneering program using artificial intelligence for agriculture and food systems, a project key to food security. ATPS has previously collaborated with CMDPS in the SVNP network.

Dr. Mziwandile Ndlovu, Research Scientist, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP), Kenya:

AFIDEP operates in Kenya, Malawi, and is currently setting up operations in Côte d'Ivoire. AFIDEP plans to move its headquarters to Lilongwe, Malawi once diplomatic status is granted by the Malawi government. AFIDEP is a pan-African research and policy institute that bridges the gap between policy and practice. They focus on the transformative use of evidence in policymaking. AFIDEP has developed projects on population dynamics, the demographic dividend, and public health issues. Last year, they inherited the African Integrity Indicators, strengthening their work on governance and accountability.

Mr. Olusegun Sotola, Senior Researcher, Initiative for Public Policy Analysis (IPPA), Nigeria:

IPPA is a founding member of the SVNP. IPPA focuses on development work. In the past couple months, IPPA has been examining the lack of transparency in African governments and the potential effects this has on peacebuilding.

Dr. John Peter Mugume, Lecturer, Centre for Conflict Management, University of Rwanda (CCM), Rwanda:

CCM focuses on teaching, research, and community engagement. They offer master's programs in genocide studies, peace studies and conflict transformation, and security studies. This year, CCM added a PhD program in peace studies and conflict transformation. They engage with the community through work with governments. CCM partnered with Prof. Fredrick Ogenga (CMDPS) at a peace and security symposium last year.

Prof. Fredrick Ogenga, Head of the Department of Communication, Journalism and Media Studies and the Founding Director of the Center for Media, Democracy, Peace and Security (CMDPS), Rongo University, Kenya:

The Center for Media, Democracy, Peace and Security, established within the Department of Communication, Journalism and Media Studies with the recognition and support of Rongo University, focuses on using media and technology to promote peace and security in Africa. CMDPS's three areas of work are teaching, research, and community engagement. Within teaching, CMDPS has developed a Master's and PhD program in Media and Security Studies, offers a degree in Peace Journalism in East Africa, and hosts courses in digital peacebuilding. Through their research, CMDPS promotes the use of local evidence mapping.

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

WANEP is currently working with the African Union (AU) Commission and the Community of West African States and supporting the AU Peace and Security architecture. This year, WANEP is working with ECOWAS to review the ECOWAS conflict prevention framework, especially looking at the article on democracy and governance. In partnership with the UNDP, they are also examining the coping mechanisms used in borderline communities in the Sahel region. WANEP is collaborating with two SVNP member organizations, WIPC, and CDD-Ghana.

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

WIPC is a feminist organization working to increase women's representation in peacebuilding. WIPC aims to support the agency of women affected by conflict and advocate for meaningful change by creating spaces for women to work with policymakers. They provide healing tools, including through the publishing of their handbook, *Healing through Rituals*. WIPC is also collaborating with WANEP to establish an early warning system in East Africa and, through the Just Future Alliance on fragility in transitions, to promote more accountable and inclusive security and justice institutions in six countries: Afghanistan, Mali, Niger, South Sudan, Burundi, and the DRC.

Dr. Edem Selormey. Director of Research and Knowledge Management, Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana), Ghana:

CDD-Ghana has been part of the SVNP since its founding. CDD-Ghana is a think tank that promotes democracy-and good governance. They conduct research and work on advocacy. Since 2019, their focus has been on five areas: 1) political constitutional governance, 2) economic cooperative governance, 3) justice, peace, and security, 4) social inclusion and equity, and 5) media. CDD-Ghana collaborates with other networks such as the Afrobarometer. CDD-Ghana is currently working on a cross-border community crime and violent extremism project. They collaborated with WANEP on a violence monitoring and mitigation project looking at what leads to electoral violence. They are also collaborating with WANEP to create a space to combat democratic backsliding in Africa.

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

CEPAS joined the SVNP in 2016. Their five departments are: 1) research and sociopolitical issues, 2) development support, 3) the university library, 4) publications, and 5) their journal, *Congo Afrique.* The most recent publication of the journal focused on the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19. CEPAS recently published and hosted a conference on challenges to building peace in the eastern part of the DRC. CEPAS collaborated with IPAR-Rwanda in the organization of a regional conference and Prof. Fredrick Ogenga from CMDPS is a member of Congo Afrique's editing board.

Dr. Laure Tall, Director of Research, Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR), Senegal:

IPAR was a founding member of the SVNP. IPAR has three areas of focus: predictive research, capacity building, and nonpartisan policy dialogue. They hope to increase data on agriculture, migration, land governance, climate change, and sustainable development goals. IPAR trains elected officials in Senegal, advocates for employment of people in the G5 countries, and focuses on building local food systems.

Ms. Eugenia Kayitesi, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR-Rwanda), Rwanda:

IPAR-Rwanda's three goals are: relevant and timely research, policy analysis and debate beyond the region, and capacity building. Three research projects pertinent to the SVNP are: 1) socioeconomic recovery from COVID-19, 2) women's unpaid carework and familial violence perpetrated against these women, 3) youth aspirations and mobilization. IPAR-Rwanda also promotes coordination among African governments on food security. They collaborate with the Senegal based IPAR.

Fr. Hyacinthe Loua, S.J., General Director, Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP), Côte d'Ivoire:

CERAP joined the SVNP in 2014. They aim to train future Francophone African country leaders and agricultural workers. CERAP works with professors to understand the meaning of reconciliation and are building a library with the National University of Côte d'Ivoire. CERAP has collaborated with CEPAS on their *Congo Afrique* journal. CERAP is also building a university program to address corruption through ethics education. They also operate in Guinea, Burkina Faso, and Mali to promote peacebuilding and social cohesion.

Mr. Yared Debebe, PhD Candidate, Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS), Ethiopia:

IPSS is a teaching and research institute. They collaborate on a joint peace and security program with the AU Education Council. IPSS also collaborates with ISS. Mr. Debebe concluded with a message from the Director of IPSS, highlighting the external response and outsized attention Ukraine has received in comparison to the attention given to African conflicts. Institutions such as the SVNP can serve to lift up African voices in conflict.

Prof. Christopher Isike, Professor of African Politics and International Relations, University of Pretoria, South Africa:

The University of Pretoria has two centers relevant to the SVNP: the first on state formation and state building in Africa and the second on women, conflict, and peacebuilding. They offer a master's program in Security Studies. The university publication is called *The Strategic Review for Southern Africa*. Its most recent issue examined the effects of the Russia-Ukraine war on Africa. The university has collaborated with South African organizations to develop a national peace charter, which includes institutes for human rights, for justice and reconciliation, and for women's rights.

Dr. Vuyo Mjimba, Acting African Institute of South Africa Coordinator, Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), South Africa:

HSRC conducts policy research in the social sciences and humanities spaces. Included in the issues HSRC researches are peace, security, and peacebuilding. Looking ahead, HSRC aims to expand to North Africa and outside the continent.

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

The Sadeq Institute joined the SVNP in 2018. They are an independent and non-partisan think tank, whose mission is to foster a culture of informed citizenship in Libya by providing a forum for Libyan society to participate in policymaking. The Sadeq Institute's core values are pluralism, integrity, and democracy. They promote dialogue and understanding, such as in their mediation work with militias. Their partnerships are with European organizations, but they would like to build African partnerships.

Ms. Faith Mabera, Senior Researcher, Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD), South Africa:

IGD is a founding member of the SVNP. Their three programmatic areas are foreign policy analysis, geopolitical dynamics and governance issues, and the Global South. In 2020, they published a book on China-Africa relations. They also produce geopolitical risk analysis workshops and train women mediators. Looking ahead, they are working with the AU to examine whether African countries have the regional will and capability to get institutionally and operationally involved in the changing landscape of conflict.

Ms. Ottilia Maunganidze, Head of Special Projects, Office of the Executive Director, Institute for Security Studies (ISS), South Africa:

ISS is a founding member of the SVNP. They are a nongovernmental policy institute. ISS has five key strategic areas: 1) African futures, 2) gender equality, 3) governance, peace, and security, 4) national/transnational crime and violence, and 5) climate change and human security. Partnerships include previous work with CEPAS on Chinese labor practices, ongoing work with WANEP on violent extremism, HSRC on organized crime in Africa, IGD on multilateralism, and the University of Pretoria and the Sudd Institute on transitional justice.

To ensure that conference deliberations were focused on meeting the participant's needs, Dr. Walker invited SVNP members to share their expectations for the week and outcomes they hoped the conference would achieve.

Anticipated Expectations/Outcomes:

- Collaborate across organizations and offer tangible joint activities.
- Establish connections with policymakers.
- Reestablish connections that were lost due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Plan joint events and write joint papers within the network.
- Produce an outcome statement.
- Learn from each other.
- Inputs that will be integrated into policy related to the US-Africa Summit in December.
- Promote the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda (WPS).
- Recognize the informal role of women in peacebuilding.
- Discuss adaptive peacebuilding.
- Produce recommendations for policymakers.
- Shift the power of peacebuilding to local contexts.
- Maintain and strengthen connections between conferences.
- Translate conference outcomes into actionable items for ordinary people.
- Increase respect for African peacebuilding approaches.
- Leverage the network to expand within Africa and outside the continent.
- Produce evidence-based research.
- Link academics, think tanks, and civil society.
- Share knowledge about what is unusual within "business unusual."
- Share knowledge about how to build peace across the African continent.
- Come out of the conference reenergized.
- Get immersed in SVNP projects.
- Develop tools to track the impacts on policymaking.
- Identify current peacebuilding priority areas.
- Identify clear and concrete steps on how to implement recommendations.

Dr. Walker thanked participants for their input.

Session 3 – Peacebuilding in Africa: Adapting to a Changing World

Speakers:
- **Amb. Mark Green**, President and CEO, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS); Welcome Remarks
- **Dr. Helen Kezie-Nwoha**, Director, Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC)
- **Mr. Anas El Gomati**, Founder and General Director, The Sadeq Institute
- **Fr. Alain Nzadi-a-Nzadi**, Director, Centre d'Etudes pour l'Action Sociale (CEPAS)
- **Ms. Faith Mabera**, Senior Researcher, Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD)

Moderator:
- **Dr. Nancy J. Walker**, Public Policy Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

The objective of this public session was to set the stage for the conference by interrogating key developments and what these mean for peace and peacebuilding in Africa; assess whether current peacebuilding approaches are fit for purpose or if global developments have overtaken them; and provide recommendations for doing peacebuilding differently and more effectively on the continent.

Amb. Green provided welcome remarks, introduced the conference themes, provided an overview of the SVNP project, and highlighted the conference agenda and areas to engage throughout the week. Amb. Green emphasized that Congress established the Wilson Center to provide nonpartisan scholarship. The SVNP's goal is to develop and nurture the most appropriate, cohesive, and inclusive policy frameworks for peace- and state-building in Africa. At the appointment of the Africa Program's former Director, Dr. Monde Muyangwa as the Assistant Administrator of USAID's Africa Bureau, USAID's Administrator Samantha Power specifically cited the work of SVNP. Amb. Green contextualized this work in the changing global peace and security landscape. Peace is at stake in Africa, he said. Challenges and shocks are revealing the fragility of some institutions and the number of displaced people is increasing worldwide. This is also a time of great opportunity as AfCFTA offers new avenues toward reaching development goals, and African countries are beginning to take advantage of these trends. Amb. Green concluded by acknowledging that while the African continent faces significant challenges, there are hopeful signs and great potential for positive change across the continent.

Dr. Kezie-Nwoha addressed the question of, "what are the key developments globally and in Africa and what does this mean for peacebuilding?" In response, she discussed the impact of COVID-19 on peacebuilding. She noted that COVID has exacerbated existing gender inequalities, had a negative effect on refugees and internally displaced people, stressed government systems, and diverted resources away from peacebuilding. There are also climate-related peace and security risks in terms of forced migration, farmer-herder competition, conflict over resources, and exploitation of marginalized groups. International engagement has been fragmented. Her recommendations for adapting peacebuilding approaches included solutions that need to be 1) proactive; 2) focused on work between the local, regional, and international levels; and 3) guided by local realities. This bottom-up approach will better recognize and account for intersectionality and community needs.

Mr. El Gomati answered the following question, "are new developments overtaking old peacebuilding practices?" by presenting the changing landscape of conflict in Libya. Actors involved in conflict now include mercenaries, companies, and media influencers. Non-state actors have become usual, so a handshake between two people in an institutional setting may no longer hold as a peacebuilding solution. Mr. El Gomati offered the following recommendations: 1) ensure that the description of the problem fits the situation on the ground; 2) move to a network approach to peacebuilding that harnesses political will; 3) remove a government seat from the incentive structure of conflict negotiations; and 4) encourage the AU to play a larger role than states in conflict mediation and resolution.

Fr. Nzadi-a-Nzadi addressed the question, "why has peacebuilding been so difficult and what do these developments mean for peace and peacebuilding on the continent?" Fr. Nzadi-a-Nzadi focused his response on the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He posited that conflicts in the Great Lakes region are driven by a desire for control over natural resources and land, and the over-politicization of smaller ethnic conflicts. The military approach most often used in peacebuilding is difficult to execute and produces insufficient results. Instead, multilateral approaches should be pursued. Fr. Nzadi-a-Nzadi offered a host of recommendations: 1) move away from a military approach; 2) restore state's authority instead of control by rebel groups; 3) reduce incentives for remaining in conflict and "the business of war;" 4) rethink land governance given the economic gains of this sector and the increasing number of land disputes; 5) better manage population movements to address interethnic conflict; 6) rethink policies used to relocate people for mining purposes; 7) strengthen the fight against impunity; 8) practice active diplomacy; 9) strengthen good governance; 10) strategize in security, such as by negotiating with several groups; and 11) avoid over-politicizing issues.

Ms. Mabera, in answering the question, "in what ways has peacebuilding adapted?" emphasized the internationalization of conflicts. Ms. Mabera argued that this prolongs conflict. Peacebuilding approaches have adapted by using predictive models and cartography. By crowdsourcing locally and taking into account where violence has previously occurred, predictions of where future conflict may take place are possible. Ms. Mabera suggested that these models should: 1) combine indicator sets with displacement data; and 2) include structural drivers and geopolitical factors into analytical risk estimates.

Session 4 - Setting the Stage—The Current Challenges for Peacebuilders in Africa

Facilitators:
- **Dr. Terence McNamee,** Global Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)
- **Dr. Nancy J. Walker**, Public Policy Fellow, Africa Center, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

The final session of day one drew on the collective expertise of the SVNP for a roundtable discussion of the key issues relating to the current landscape of peacebuilding in Africa. This valuable discussion set the stage and flagged key issues to be discussed during the conference. Among the many important issues raised were the following:

- African states are different from European states. European peacebuilding strategies may not work effectively in Africa. There is a need for specialized solutions.
- Restraint is needed in calling for "African" solutions, as Africa is not one entity but a collection of states.
- Adapting the social contract to correct the disconnect between African people and their state governments.
- Limiting the number of actors involved in the peacebuilding process to avoid crowding the space.
- Integrating communalism into government structures.
- Valuing non-western conflict resolution and peacebuilding.
- Incorporating cultural recognition by the state.
- Issue of trust in governments and in intervening states.
- Building more localized peacebuilding frameworks.
- Producing local knowledge.
- Defining the common values and functions of the state.
- Using interdisciplinary peacebuilding approaches.
- Examining the link between development and peace.
- Using religion as a conflict resolution tool.
- Defining peace.
- Understanding security at the individual level.
- The regionalization and internationalization of conflict.
- Using regional organizations, such as the AU.
- Recognizing spillover effects of conflicts.
- Mobilizing power of the information space.
- The role of civil society as a guarantor.
- Navigating how identity issues exacerbate conflicts.
- Incorporating the human security perspective.
- The tendency to prescribe short-term peacebuilding plans.
- Using education as a conflict prevention tool.
- Increasing the comprehensiveness of peacebuilding and peace agreements.
- Recognizing how fragility and insecurity stem from uncertainty about the future.
- Learning from positive examples of peacebuilding.

DAY 2: Tuesday, 13th September

Session 5 - Overview of Current SVNP Grant: Key Issues, Deliverables, and the Way Forward (including regional policy workshop takeaways and branding roll-out)

Facilitators:
- **Ms. Hannah B. Akuiyibo**, Senior Program Associate, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)
- **Ms. Cheri Ayers**, Program Assistant (Communications), Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS); Branding Roll-Out Presentation

This session allowed SVNP members to discuss the progress, work remaining, and close-out of the current grant (2020-2022) and review the agreed upon action items and deliverables from the 2021 virtual conference before discussion of the next grant cycle that took place on the last day of the conference.

2020-2022 Grant Achievements:

Grant Objectives: Under the current grant (1 October 2020 to 30 September 2022), the goal of SVNP has been bridging the gap between African knowledge and U.S. policy formation on peace- and state-building in Africa. To this end, the project continued 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 focused on the production and dissemination of knowledge and analysis, capacity building of SVNP scholars, strengthening SVNP collaboration and the SVNP network, and reaching policymakers with SVNP research. The SVNP has made progress toward these goals through the scholarship program, events, and consolidating connections between SVNP members.

Grant Progress: The deliverables from the 2020-2022 Carnegie Corporation grant are as follows:
- Host 6 SVNP scholars.
- Conduct 6 internal events with SVNP Scholars.
- Conduct 6 public events with SVNP Scholars.
- Publish 6 research papers and six policy briefs.
- Publish 12 SVNP scholar blogs.
- Host 2 annual conferences and produce 2 accompanying conference reports.
- Host 4 regional policy workshops: East Africa, southern Africa, North Africa and Central Africa.
- Host 2 Director's Roundtables.
- Host 1-2 partnership events with other CCNY grantees.
- Publish 24 Network blogs.
- Translate 6 SVNP papers into French or Portuguese.
- Redesign and refresh the *Africa Up Close* blog.
- Redesign and refresh the SVNP logo and branding.
- Produce 8 quarterly communications reports.
- Publish joint research papers and award 1 joint research paper award.
- Conduct partnership activities with other Carnegie Corporation grantees.
- Complete a 10-year impact assessment of SVNP.
- Populate and continue to update the SVNP Databases (Scholarship and Alumni, information).

All scholar deliverables on research papers, policy briefs, blogs, internal and public events, and interview requirements will be met by the conclusion of the grant except for deliverables for one scholar who could not obtain their visa and was postponed to the subsequent cohort. Several deliverables shifted in their timeframe due to COVID. Ms. Akuiyibo emphasized that the blog posts for *Africa Up Close* have less stringent criteria than research papers and policy briefs and are, therefore, an excellent way to involve younger staff in the SVNP and gives them the opportunity to exercise their writing and analysis skills while also contributing to the SVNP mission.

At the time of this conference, five SVNP scholars had been hosted. One scholar was delayed due to visa processing and approval delays as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and embassy backlogs, but this scholar will be brought in during the next iteration of the grant, if approved. Scholars were onboarded largely through virtual trainings and meetings. Five internal events and five public events were hosted. Ten SVNP scholar blogs were published. Three scholar research papers and three policy brief have been published, and two research papers along with two policy briefs are in their final stages of completion and will be published before the end of the grant.

Two annual conferences, 2021 and 2022, have been hosted or are currently underway, respectively. The 2021 annual conference was the first SVNP virtual conference. Although active engagement among participants proved to be more difficult and attendance levels by virtual audiences was lower than in years past, the virtual format had several advantages in broadening the audience and the diversity of speakers.

Three regional policy workshops have been hosted. WANEP, AceT, IPPA, and CDD co-hosted in Ghana (2020); ATPS, WIPC, CCM, and WIPC hosted in Kenya (2021); and WIPC, CEPAS, IPAR-Rwanda, and CCM co-hosted in Uganda (2021). The North African conference is pending and will occur as a rollover activity in early 2023 with planning beginning in late 2022. Members from West Africa and North Africa were especially encouraged to consider hosting this workshop and initiate planning for it.

Based on feedback from previous conferences, SVNP members asked for more engagement opportunities. Accordingly, this grant built in two Director's roundtables to be held when SVNP members are in Washington, D.C. However, due to COVID, the SVNP members did not travel to Washington, D.C., so the activity was restructured. Instead, a "COVID-19 and Africa" webinar featuring 5 SVNP Directors and representatives was held in 2020 and a two-day virtual "Congressional Masterclass" featuring presentations by several SVNP members to senior Congressional staffers was held in 2021.

One area in need of improvement is collaboration with other Carnegie Corporation of New York grantees. As all grantees adjusted the scope and timing of their work to the pandemic, this was one area that more could be done in in future. In 2020, SVNP hosted one event with the African Peacebuilding Network (APN), and the APN alongside other Carnegie Corporation of New York grantees were invited to this year's conference.

Among SVNP participants, 12 collaborations were reported at the 2021 annual conference. This is an impressive accomplishment considering the virtual format of the event that reduced participation numbers. 22 *Africa Up Close* blogs have been published. No SVNP papers have been translated and this delay is due to Africa program staff and deliverable timeline adjustments, but the translations of SVNP papers into French and Portuguese will occur in the carryover period of the grant. Four joint research papers were published and unveiled at the 2021 annual conference as part of a competition. SVNP jointly awarded the prize to two papers. The four published joint research papers were "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 two winning papers were "Lessons from Street Protests as a Peacemaking Process" and "#EndSARS Youth Protests in Nigeria: Lessons and Opportunities for Regional Stability."
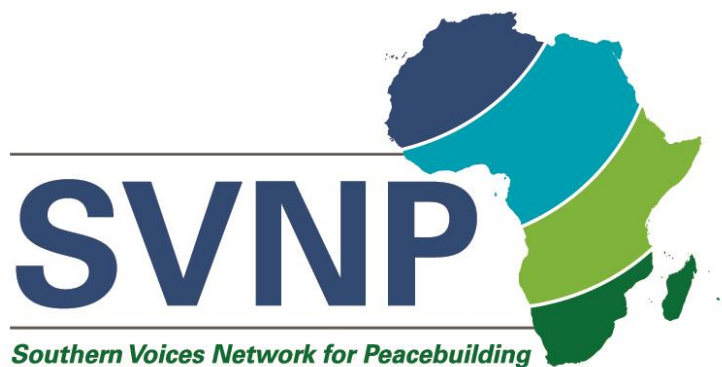
A goal of the Africa Program this grant cycle is to better understand who is reading the SVNP publications. This task is in progress. Thus far, the Africa Program has determined that Africa Program publications are consistently in the top five of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars programs in terms of visits and reads. Moreover, there has been an uptick in analytics over the past year. This area of analytics is a focus for the program going forward.

In 2021, the Program also produced an impact assessment of the SVNP to mark the 10-year anniversary of the project. Ms. Akuiyibo thanked SVNP members for their feedback and interviews that informed the impact assessment. Two key areas of feedback in terms of the way forward for SVNP were strengthening intra-network collaboration and improving dissemination of publications.

Overall, while experiencing several adjustments due to COVID, the 2020-2022 grant cycle was highly productive and successful.

Branding Rollout:

Ms. Ayers presented the new SVNP logo and updated branding of the SVNP, which was a requirement to strengthen, refine, and expand brand engagement. The new logo incorporates a color palette that builds on SVNP branding (green) and taps into Wilson Center and Africa Program's blue palette. The redesign of the logo will help create a unified SVNP brand, improve engagement within the SVNP, and between the SVNP members while making the SVNP brand recognizable to wider audiences. The redesign also includes a tag line for SVNP; *generating and centering African voices and knowledge in peacebuilding policy since 2011*. The tag line highlights the key aspect of SVNP and the scholarship, how long we have been doing this work, and our purpose. Ms. Ayers highlighted the logo and redesign on a few conference documents and materials as part of the launch.

SVNP participants asked questions and provided feedback on the new logo and rebranding for SVNP. When asked if member organizations are obligated to include the logo on all their publications, Ms. Ayers noted that it is only required if the publication is directly linked to SVNP. The logo includes three stripes going across the continent. One participant asked what that represents and if it has anything to do with the regions of Africa. Ms. Ayers noted that the logo presents networking across the continent and out into the world. The lines are stylistic and not meant to separate the continent. The main purpose of the logo is to represent the word "network" and the color palette is representative of color SVNP has always used. While viewing the logo and branding favorably, members expressed their wish that it had been distributed for feedback and comment in advance of finalization and rollout. Overall, members agreed this will benefit the Network to present unified messaging.

Session 6 - Democratic Decay and the Comeback of Coups

Speakers:
- **Ms. Lisa Peterson**, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State (DoS)
- **Ms. Lauren Ploch Blanchard**, Specialist in African Affairs, Congressional Research Service (CRS)
- **Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze,** Executive Director, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)

Moderator:
- **Dr. Nancy J. Walker**, Public Policy Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

This public session assessed if a weakening of democracy undermines peace in Africa, and if so, how?; evaluate key drivers and factors in democratic degradation in the region and also identify some of the partners and allies in the fight for democracy; and to discuss new approaches that may be necessary to reverse this trend and offer practical options for how to advance the goal of democratic renewal in Africa.

Ms. Peterson contextualized the discussion by identifying that, according to Freedom House, Africa is in its 16th year of democratic decline and only eight Sub-Saharan African countries were rated as free. In some African countries, as is the case globally, governments have misused COVID measures or anti-extremism measures to repress populations and authoritarian leaders are spreading misinformation. Ms. Peterson also noted that marginalized groups are often kept out of the decision-making process. However, there are also positive developments such as democratic reforms occurring in Zambia and Kenya's recently administered peaceful election. The Biden administration launched a presidential initiative to bolster democracy and address corruption. Ms. Peterson emphasized the Department of States' collaborative approach whereby the United States and Africa work together to support good governance, combat corruption by working through global anticorruption collaboration, and hold leaders accountable.

Ms. Ploch Blanchard noted that in the context of global decline, the picture in Africa is mixed. Multiparty competition has been widespread in Africa while democratic consolidation has varied. She noted that authoritarian leaders have become more effective at co-opting democratic norms and institutions and using elections to create a facade of democracy while

suppressing and in some cases imprisoning citizens. Ms. Blanchard further noted that there are growing signs of democratic disappointment and growing levels of corruption, calling into question whether "peaceful" is too low a standard to set for elections. She raised the question, what should be done when countries produce unsatisfactory candidates? Ms. Blanchard suggested that positive examples of democracy—such as Kenya or Malawi—at work may have a demonstration effect, with African countries increasingly learning from one another rather than from states outside the continent.

Dr. Eze noted the session's title and characterized the situation in Africa as a democratic "decline" rather than a decay. Regarding the nature of democracy in Africa today, he presented two paradoxes: 1) the focus used to be on protecting the state from violent groups, but these groups are not contesting for the central authority anymore and now want to create their own states, and 2) stability can come from both consolidated democracies and consolidated autocracies. While the movement from an autocracy to a democracy is a highly volatile time period and violence related to elections undermines the populace's trust in democracy which may bolster efforts at military rule. Dr. Eze recommended that transparency of where funding for the state goes and who is responsible for its dissemination be increased to push for reforms more accurately. He noted that weak state institutions undermine citizen trust and loopholes in protocols (such as that taken up by ECOWAS) to strengthen democracy should be addressed. He emphasized the problem of extending term limits and suggested that the United States and others should decline to engage with leaders in some international fora who are unconstitutionally extending their authority. Finally, he urged attention to the roles of civil society and regional institutions in holding leaders to account.

In the subsequent discussion the speakers answered questions regarding the role democracy will play in the 2022 U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit, the gaps in international engagement with democratic health, decline, and renewal in Africa, the impacts of technology on democracy, and the need to support institutions over individuals

Session 7 - Assessing the State of Citizen-State of Relations and Peacebuilding in Africa

Speakers:
- **Dr. Edem Selormey,** Director of Research and Knowledge Management, Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana)
- **Dr. Mathieu Cloutier,** Governance Economist, The World Bank
- **Dr. Mziwandile Ndlovu,** Research Scientist, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP)

Moderator:
- **Dr. Terence McNamee,** Global Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

The objective of this public session was to assess the current state of citizen-state relations in Africa, including positive and negative trends and trajectories; unpack primary points of connection and disconnection between citizens and their government, and the impact on peacebuilding; and to offer recommendations for strengthening citizen-state relations and building on lessons learned to tackle future challenges and strengthen peacebuilding in Africa **Dr. Selormey** drew on Afrobarometer data to highlight the low level of institutional and political trust in African countries with only 40 percent of Africans reporting trusting their leaders. Freedom of information and assembly are being curtailed in many countries. Democracy

capture, the façade of popular support and legitimacy in a state while elites maintain a stronghold over state institutions and forces is on the rise. Restrictive COVID policies have also allowed authoritarian leaders to consolidate power. She noted that corruption, economic decline, and lack of basic services such as health care fuel this disconnect between citizens and the state. These factors prevent the creation of a sustained political democratic culture. Although many Africans have become disillusioned with democracy, according to Afrobarometer, over 75 percent still prefer democracy over other types of governance and 70 percent support constitutional term limits. Dr. Selormey noted that most Africans are young and recommended they be empowered, involved, and connected rather than marginalized or utilized by leaders as political tools.

Dr. Cloutier argued for a reimagining of the social contract. He recommended that the definition of the social contract should be a dynamic agreement between citizens and the state to produce policy and development outcomes, with resilience built in. Whereas the social contract focus has previously been on allowing the existence of the state, today it has shifted to the functions of the state: social justice, inclusive growth, and peacebuilding. Unrest is the result of a misalignment between citizens' perceptions of what they are getting from the social contract compared to what they expected. Government repressive responses to unrest produces a feedback cycle of conflict. Dr. Cloutier recommended specificity in describing dysfunctions within the social contract, as opposed to referring to it as "broken." His three suggestions were to: 1) collect comprehensive and reliable data and improve two-sided dialogue to build contextual awareness around the social contract; 2) use the social contract to help institutions balance their programs resulting in better citizen support; and 3) pursue a bottom-up approach to represent citizens the way they want to be represented and engage in for a where people actually engage, not just state institutions.

Dr. Ndlovu spoke to his analysis of the Africa Integrity Indicators, which focus on African governance in practice. He highlighted five specific integrity indicators: freedom of labor and trade unions to organize; citizen freedoms of association; government censorship of online content; mechanisms for citizens to report police misconduct or abuse of force; and citizen access to financial records associated with national resource exploitation. Across the 14 African countries studied of those countries with the gravest security issues (Libya, Sudan, South Sudan, Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, Central African Republic, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Niger, Mali, and Chad), at least 70% performed poorly on all indicators and those that performed well still struggled in areas of citizen-state relations. He noted successes in health campaigns related to COVID in terms of informing citizens, but that COVID regulations were also weaponized to stifle freedom of expression and assembly through the jailing of journalists and the employment of excessive states of emergency. The media also began to self-censor. He noted that attention and funding is currently focused on other global issues, such as the Ukraine conflict. Dr. Ndlovu recommended: 1) Utilizing data more in conflict prevention, such as think tanks using their research to create and refine early warning systems; 2) civil society should reconsider adversarial approaches, instead adopting softer, more holistic approaches in order to be more effective; and 3) States should work to restore the social contract through collaboration between government, businesses, and labor. He reiterated the importance of collaborative approaches, including in stepping up national intelligence capabilities to anticipate potential eruptions of chaos; addressing violent extremism at the local, regional, and international levels; and enhancing regional platforms.

In the subsequent discussion the speakers answered questions regarding gender power structures and where human capital fits in the social contract, how citizen-state trust can be built, subnational social contracts, feasibility of regional military intervention, legitimacy of local leaders, and the value given to democracy when compared to security and stability.

Session 8 - Women and the African Peace and Security Agenda

Speakers:
- **Dr. Christopher Isike,** Professor of African Politics and International Relations, University of Pretoria and Director of the African Centre for the Study of the U.S. (ACSUS), University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg
- **Ms. Miriam Mukalazi,** Visiting Researcher, Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, and Security

Moderator:
- **Dr. Helen Kezie-Nwoha,** Director, Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC)

The goal of this public session was to assess how global developments have impacted the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda and what this means for inclusive peacebuilding. Looking beyond "hard security," this session also addressed how peacebuilding can or should be adapted to more effectively support WPS and peacebuilding in Africa.

Dr. Kezie-Nwoha opened the session by acknowledging that it has been over 20 years since the adoption of the women, peace, and security (WPS) agenda in the UN. Progress has been made, such as with the AU's Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, the appointment of a special WPS envoy, and the establishment of the Women's Mediator Network of which Dr. Kezie-Nwoha is a member. The EU Action Plan on WPS and the U.S. Strategy on WPS are further steps in a positive direction. However, the effects of these initiatives have not yet been adequately measured. This session will take stock of the current state of the WPS agenda and its effects on inclusive security and how peacebuilding can be adapted to better address the WPS agenda. Dr. Kezie-Nwoah advocated for recognizing informal, grassroots peacebuilding efforts led by women.

Dr. Isike noted that the AU and EU have incorporated the UN WPS agenda, such as with the AU's 2019 launch of the AU Continental Resource Framework, an important measure toward implementing WPS. As a challenge he noted African states' weak resource mobilization to accomplish their national action plans. Specifically: 1) not recognizing women in formal peacebuilding agencies despite women's considerable informal involvement in the sector and 2) failing to address the psychological aspect of gender-based violence. Further challenges include the disproportional impact COVID had on women by exposing them to more sexual and gender-based violence. Dr. Isike emphasized that women are not just victims of conflict but also actors in conflict and in peace. Furthermore, the environments women operate in, how feminized those environments are, and their expected gender roles (e.g., if women face pressure to act like men) affect women's performance. To make the WPS agenda more effective, Dr. Isike offered the following recommendations: 1) establish high level of engagement between non-governmental organizations and states; 2) develop implementation that puts research at the forefront; 3) localize security and peace discussions; 4) focus resilience strategies on local solutions; and 5) include women as actors, not just victims, in national action plans' peace curriculums.

Ms. Mukalazi discussed her research, examining the AU and EU WPS frameworks and level of understanding of the WPS agenda on the African continent. Ms. Mukalazi recommended that the EU learn from the AU's inclusion of context, culture, and diverse identities in their WPS framework. She also highlighted the AU WPS envoy's background in gendered civil society

work and suggested the EU appoint people with civil society backgrounds to work on WPS. She noted how the AU explicitly linked its WPS agenda to its Silencing the Guns campaign and offered this as an example of how the EU can overcome its challenges of linking WPS more effectively to other agendas, topics, and programs. Ms. Mukalazi posited that the EU overemphasizes the hyper-vulnerability of women and girls. This can perpetuate gender stereotypes. Therefore, she advocated for an emphasis on the multiple identities women can have, especially as agents of change. When considering how the WPS agenda has evolved, Ms. Mukalazi applauded the adoption of survivor-centered and holistic wording. A negative development was the assumption by some institutions that including one woman in an institution meets the benchmark of inclusivity. Regarding funding, Ms. Mukalazi acknowledged the benefits and limits of receiving external funding to include WPS in national action plans. The national government is in charge of implementation, but this is only the start. Ms. Mukalazi urged national action plans to examine their accountability mechanisms, budgeting, and placement of responsibility on ministries for implementation. In terms of peace education, her recommendations included emphasizing the importance of oral history in defining feminism and recognizing the interplay between gender identity and dynamics in informing gender hierarchies.

The following discussion focused on comparing the AU and EU's movement on WPS, how the international WPS agenda has been localized, agency of women to also perpetuate violence and be involved in driving conflict, issues with implementation of national action plans, and feminism in Africa.

DAY 3: Wednesday, 14th September

Session 9 - Digital Transformation, Governance, and Peacebuilding: New Threats and New Responses

Speakers:
- **Ms. Kay McGowan,** Senior Director of Policy and Advocacy, Digital Impact Alliance (DIAL), United Nations Foundation
- **Mr. Will Ferroggiaro,** Senior Specialist on Peace and Technology, Independent
- **Prof. Fredrick Ogenga,** Head of the Department of Communication, Journalism and Media Studies and the Founding Director of the Center for Media, Democracy, Peace and Security (CMDPS)

Moderator:
- **Dr. Terence McNamee,** Global Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

This public session assessed the current state of play for Africa's digital transformation, including the current threats and opportunities; highlighted lessons learned in the digital space for peacebuilding and key issues of concern; and proposed recommendations for how African countries and their partners can best prepare and take advantage of digital tools to transform peacebuilding in Africa.

Ms. McGowan set the context by focusing on how the rapid spread of mobile infrastructure and broadband access can be leveraged. She noted that technology is not neutral; it can be harmful or a value add. More than 96 percent of Africa is within access of mobile networks, but most of this access is provided through underseas cables which are potential barriers to accessible and affordable access to information. Ms. McGowan recommended that digital transformation be conducted through socioeconomic inclusion to encourage government responsiveness and build transparency into the system. This entails equality in 1) digital identity; 2) inexpensive payment to remove cost barriers to connectivity; and 3) robust data exchange. She advocated for giving the private sector a chance to profit from investments and decentralizing access to digital infrastructure to build in buffers from government's ability to restrict access, and for strengthened peer networks and information exchange. She noted that Africa needs to invest in data scientists and put in place domestic rules for data governance and data rights protection in order to have more agency over foreign technology infrastructure investment, such as from China. Her two takeaways were the promotion of radical inclusion across societies in digital public infrastructure investments and giving people rights over their data so that they feel like they have control over how their governments use this information.

Mr. Ferroggiaro noted three threats to digital peacebuilding in African economies. First, information disorders in the form of hate speech, misinformation, and disinformation. Governments have not yet been able to enforce a rules-based information system without infringing on rights. Second, in education for twenty-first century digital citizens, media and digital literacy are often neglected. Third, local accountability of technology, of social media in particular, is lacking. This is due to the absence of technology company offices in countries of operation, decreasing the power of civil society. COVID has exacerbated information disorders, disrupted formal education, and hindered social cohesion. Mr. Ferroggiaro presented two lessons learned: 1) global and regional norms remain relevant in the digital age, and 2) development principles of peacebuilding are relevant to inclusiveness in the digital age.

He recommended that 1) governments maintain a focus on a resilience mindset, specifically in building resilience to information disorders; 2) governments, financial institutions such as the World Bank, and the private sector further develop the private sector base and attract capital to technology education and training; 3) youth be put at the forefront of the digital transformation; and 4) civil society be protected and promoted. On the last point, he noted that international NGOs can support local civil society efforts alongside government to combat digital hate speech.

Prof. Ogenga outlined that digital inclusion, especially of marginalized communities, is a vulnerable space that can be taken advantage of. This can be done though weaponizing social media for electoral conflict, violent extremism, and populating sites with bad information. A lack of data contributes to a gray zone when trying to measure the role of digital tools in peacebuilding. A major challenge is the lack of agreement on what constitutes social media harm and hate speech. Prof. Ogenga recommended 1) adopting local evidence mapping of, among many things, electoral violence and mobilization, and local action to aid future intervention; 2) addressing the causal interaction between events occurring online and offline in interventions; 3) governments spending to build digital infrastructure; and 4) governments working with the technology sector on regulation of the digital information space.

Session 10 - Misinformation, Disinformation, and Peacebuilding in Africa

Speakers:
- **Dr. Mark Duerksen,** Research Associate, Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS)

Facilitator:
- **Dr. Nancy J. Walker**, Public Policy Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

The objective of this private policy session was to discuss information disorders in Africa and their effect on peacebuilding efforts, and present recommendations to combat misinformation and disinformation. Dr. Duerksen's presentation was followed by a roundtable discussion.

Dr. Duerksen opened the discussion of disinformation and its challenges to peace and security by sharing research and examples from disinformation campaigns in Nigeria, Kenya, and South Africa. He noted that 60 percent of mis- and disinformation campaigns are externally sponsored from actors such as Russia, China, and the Gulf states. Mis- and disinformation are also being used by domestic actors and terrorist groups, often sharing Anti-West messages. The scale and sophistication of these campaigns are growing and being contracted out to local Africans. As seen in the case of Libya, these campaigns are used to encourage people to disengage from the political process by crowding the space. By doing so, these campaigns are anti-communication, preventing Africans from accessing good information required for decision-making in democratic societies. Dr. Duerksen had five recommendations to combat disinformation: 1) greater research and awareness building led by Africans; 2) urgent initiatives for capacity-building programs; 3) support from democratic partners regionally and internationally; 4) imposition of costs for spreading disinformation by democratic bodies; and 5) real-time fact checking through rapid multisector reaction forces. Dr. Duerksen argued that these strategies will build societal resilience and target sources sponsoring disinformation.

Roundtable participants were asked to discuss current challenges to peacebuilding in the mis- and disinformation space and to offer recommendations to improve responses. Input included:

- Danger of "influencers" promoting extremist views in seemingly innocuous ways.
- Difficulties in navigating an information space with the perception of truth as a matter of perspective but facts as objective.
- Mistrust of conventional media causing people to turn to social media; perception that "regular" people can be trusted more.
- Neglect of education in digital literacy in peacebuilding.
- Whether the unpopularity of fact-checking restricts its growth.
- Using disinformation to target and attack women's political participation and leadership.
- The role of the diaspora contributing to information disorders.
- Intervention guided by great-power competition instead of African needs.
- How governments approach responses to information disorders.
- Whether government responses to mis- and disinformation are perceived as unbiased.
- The credibility gap in American responses.

Session 11 - Localization and Adapting Humanitarian and Development Interventions for Peacebuilding

Facilitator:
- **Dr. Nancy J. Walker**, Public Policy Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

During this private session, Dr. Walker invited SVNP participants to share their localization recommendations for U.S. policymakers. USAID is currently exploring how to better implement localization into its work, projects, and grantmaking processes. The SVNP can serve as a forum for sharing information on how to improve USAID's operations in Africa. Among the many important issues raised were the following:

- Provide capacity building for local African institutions.
- Supply greater funding for local institutional research.
- Recognize and address the power of the "development industrial complex."
- Embrace the need for greater development capacities in local organizations.
- Institutions should be explicit about their goals and transparent about their funding.
- Partnership assessments provide a space for feedback and improvement.
- Institutional checks and balances are essential.
- Needs and capacity assessments should be conducted.
- Priorities between donor and recipient organizations must align. This can be aided by the use of technology.
- International organizations often pressure local organizations to conform to their systems.
- Donors should not drive organizational priorities.
- Funds should be localized.
- Peer learning can strengthen localization strategies.
- Leveraging network resources can help to circumvent gate keeping.

Session 12 - Terrorism in Africa: State of Play and Solutions

Speakers:
- **Ms. Oge Onubogu**, Director, West Africa Program, United States Institute of Peace (USIP)
- **Mr. Mark Stamilio**, Principal Director for African Affairs, United States Department of Defense (DoD)

Moderator:
- **Dr. Nancy J. Walker**, Public Policy Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

In this public session, speakers discussed the state of play of terrorism in Africa, how it has evolved, and the impact of global developments on terrorism; considered the current responses and strategies while analyzing their effectiveness; and provided practical recommendations and options to build sustainable peace in Africa.

Ms. Onubogu noted that the landscape for violent extremists is evolving in two ways: 1) violence has increased and 2) citizens, even in rural areas, are directly involved. Examining current responses to terrorism, Ms. Onubogu made four points; first, framing of the issue has been in terms of external conflict, which causes reactionary responses. Second, local communities should inform responses and policies already implemented and should be flexible to changes in actors and situations on the ground; current approaches are not sufficiently long term. Third, current understanding comes from an ideological perspective, but there is also an economic aspect of terrorism. Fourth, too much focus is given to threats and not enough attention is given to opportunities. Ms. Onubogu emphasized the importance of governance, urging more research in this area to determine the favorability of peacebuilding partnerships with states that are part of the political economy problem. Another concern is placing importance on addressing root causes alongside stability. Ms. Onubogu concluded by recommending that inclusive economic processes be a prominent part of peacebuilding.

Mr. Stamilio presented the two African challenges that most concern the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and DOD's "3 D's" rubric for responding and supporting peace and stability in Africa. Of concern he noted, 1) violent extremism and 2) destructive activities of malign actors. These sources of fragility interact. Regarding DOD's approach, he discussed the "3 D's" of defense, diplomacy, development, and their interactions and the need to address each simultaneously to address root causes and inform terrorism responses. The DoD's approach is by, with, and through partners, meaning that while DoD is not on the ground in Africa, the DoD attempts to operate in a supportive role in the work of international and local people, governments, and organizations in Africa. Going forward, DoD aims to create 10-year plans in order to implement longer-term solutions. Two challenges of importance are the stability problems caused by mercenary groups and response fatigue that goes beyond donor fatigue.

In the subsequent discussion, the speakers answered questions regarding how the 3Ds interact, the role of development, political economy, defining terrorism, approaches to China's involvement in the African continent, privatization of counterterrorism, donor fatigue, follow-through on U.S. initiatives in Africa, and U.S. strategy in Africa.

DAY 4: Thursday, 15th September

Session 13 - Economic Integration, the Private Sector, and Peacebuilding

Speakers:
- **Mr. Edward Burrier,** Senior Advisor for Private Sector Engagement, Africa Center, United States Institute of Peace (USIP)
- **Dr. Vuyo Mjimba,** Acting African Institute of South Africa Coordinator, Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)
- **Dr. Olusegun Sotola,** Executive Director, Initiative for Public Policy Analysis (IPPA)

Moderator:
- **Dr. Terence McNamee,** Global Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

This public session addressed the impact of global challenges, particularly concerning peacebuilding; provided options and recommendations for economic integration; and discussed the role of the private sector to secure sustainable peace in Africa.

Mr. Burrier discussed the Biden administration's emphasis on the importance of elevating African voices. COVID's economic impact and the Russia-Ukraine war have caused inflation to rise and investors to leave. Mr. Burrier suggested a focus on bringing investment back to Africa. He noted that 1) private sector and U.S. investment are vitally important to African development; 2) the U.S. is now allowed to invest in companies outside the U.S. through the Development Finance Corporation; and 3) the type of investment matters. Mr. Burrier recommended that 1) investment in capital overseas be prioritized over just investment in businesses to have the most significant development impact; 2) African voices shape the future of U.S.-Africa relations with the 2025 renewal option for the landmark Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA); 3) Africans should work with G7 countries to identify game-changing investments.

Dr. Mjimba began by positing that COVID did not worsen but rather exposed the economic issues in Africa. He framed AGOA as an industrialization program driven through African primary commodities. What is needed is low-cost low-technology development, the space China often fills in Africa. Dr. Mjimba called attention to the problem that almost all the materials used for manufacturing in Africa are imported from Europe. That poses an issue when attempting to ensure that AGOA is "owned" by Africans. Dr. Mjimba recommended 1) investment in developing African industrialists in place of governments; 2) focusing on the exploration, development, excavation, and processing stages of natural resource collection because a) free trade may take years to realize, b) this is where African countries have failed to focus, and c) Africans can economically benefit; 3) that Africans take advantage of the opportunity AGOA gives the continent to advance African interests; 4) general pragmatism when addressing economic development in Africa.

Dr. Sotola advocated for a paradigm shift by significantly involving the private sector in peacebuilding. Private sector actors are nonconventional, non-neutral actors, but they can promote peace in communities. He posited that peacebuilding strategies should go beyond a military approach and encompass the economic sector. Companies are sometimes able to provide populations with access to services when and where governments cannot. While

AGOA has provided opportunities to this effect, travel restrictions within Africa have created tensions making the conduction of business more difficult. Dr. Sotola noted that this also provides an opportunity to open these economic spaces to more Africans. Dr. Sotola recommended 1) acknowledging the link between economics and peace and subsequently aligning macroeconomic policies with peacebuilding; 2) studying the positive economic developments in the region; and 3) that communities should harness the spillover benefits of big businesses.

Session 14 - Interlinked Challenges: Food Security and Peace

Speakers:
- **Dr. Nicholas Ozor,** Executive Director, African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS)
- **Ms. Eugenia Kayitesi,** Executive Director, Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR-Rwanda)
- **Dr. Laure Tall,** Director of Research, Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR)

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

The objective of this public session was to assess the food security landscape in the context of peace in Africa and evaluate the engagement and intervention of various stakeholders. Ms. Akuiyibo situated the discussion in the context of Russia war in Ukraine and its effect on food security in Africa.

Dr. Ozor opened by noting that a hungry man is an angry man, and that sufficient food and peace tend to accompany one another. Food stability comes from political and economic conditions conducive to food production. Only 6 percent of African land is used for agricultural production and this is not enough to feed three billion Africans. Issues of concern include 1) the underdevelopment of the agricultural sector and 2) forced movement of farmers and herders caused by climate change. Dr. Ozor recommended 1) food availability, in terms of production, accessibility, and sustainable utilization be prioritized and 2) food shelf life be increased. This can be achieved through adopting science and technology, such as artificial intelligence, to solve agricultural problems, and producing better policies to drive production.

Ms. Kayitesi presented the case of Rwanda. Rwanda is one of the leading African countries promoting food security and the best-performing African country in fulfilling their commitments to the African Union's Malabo Declaration. Hunger and undernourishment are rising in Africa. This is due to a lack of involvement from women and youth in the agricultural industry and conflict driving food insecurity and food insecurity driving conflict. Individual African countries have not made significant policy moves to link conflict and food security. To improve food security, Dr. Kayitesi suggested attention towards three areas: 1) technological capacity and innovations through online platforms; 2) good governance to produce political will; and 3) effective implementation mechanisms such as comprehensive annual performance contracts. Dr. Kayitesi recommended: 1) preparing for climate and conflict shocks; 2) refraining from increasing subsidies; 3) building institutions, which can counter climate, change and strengthen the agricultural and technological sectors; and 4) strengthening access for private sector investment.

Dr. Tall discussed food security projection forecasts, which predict that in 2030 most hungry people, will be in Africa, and Africa will be the only continent with an increasing number of hungry people. Global food production has been on the rise, but it is dominated by rich countries with heavy subsidies for the agricultural industry. When richer countries export this food to low-income countries with little support for farmers, these farmers cannot compete with farmers in richer countries. Therefore, Dr. Tall argues that the food crisis is a process of poverty: food is available, but people cannot afford it. This, along with negative effects from food trade bans from the Russia-Ukraine war, necessitates food sovereignty at the local and country levels. Further issues include the increasing price of food, inflation, and trade restrictions in Africa. People do not just want food security; they want food rights and food sovereignty. Food systems should be made more sustainable and open to more people. One challenge in achieving this is having a voice at the table, such as with the UN annual food security summit. Dr. Tall recommended 1) diversifying the industry and ending the oligopoly; 2) spending money on the agricultural sector through development aid; and 3) supporting food sovereignty through resilient, local food systems.

Session 15 - Youth and the Future of Peace and Security in Africa

Speakers:
- **Fr. Hyacinthe Loua S.J.,** General Director, Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP)
- **Dr. Augustino Ting Mayai,** Managing Director, The Sudd Institute
- **Ms. Ramatoulie Jallow,** Leadership and Advocacy for Women in Africa Fellow, Georgetown University

Moderator:
- **Ms. Ottilia Maunganidze,** Head of Special Projects, Office of the Executive Director, Institute for Security Studies (ISS)

The goal of this public session was to discuss youth's role as active stakeholders in peacebuilding; and address how global challenges of recent years, and those emerging on the horizon, impact the youth, peace, and security landscape. The session also assessed how well existing architectures incorporate youth, examined efforts to build cultures of peace and advance peace education, and provided options and recommendations for transforming and advancing the youth and peacebuilding agenda in Africa to build the future that young Africans want.

Fr. Loua S.J. characterized youth as the "door" to instruct people how to create peace in their homes. Education is the best route to create a peaceful culture among the youth. Fr. Loua presented the case of Côte d'Ivoire where political crises have mobilized youth to violence. Unemployed youth are especially vulnerable to manipulation by politicians. Consequently, there is a stigma against youth as drivers of violence. To change this perception, Fr. Loua S.J. recommended adopting projects his organization, CERAP, has pursued: 1) create safe spaces in schools for reconciliation discussions, 2) conduct training processes to build localized cultural peace, and 3) financially support the youth movement.

Dr. Mayai contextualized Africa as a youthful continent. He presented risks to this demographic: 1) This presents an economic burden. Many African youth are unemployed; 2) Youth can be manipulated and captured. African governments often do not provide physical

protection to their youth population. Consequently, youth are likely to perpetuate violence; 3) This begets a state of nature; 4) In the absence of inclusive institutions, youth "educated troublemakers" will become violent. He noted the success of USAID's Youth Camp in Kenya that empowered one million youth to expand their economic activities, contribute to their communities, and become responsible members of society. Dr. Mayai recommended 1) investment in human capital so youth can individually generate economic opportunities, 2) education, and 3) inclusive institutions.

Ms. Jallow discussed the negative characterization of African youth. Youth pursue economic rights and food security, often in regions experiencing conflict. They are villainized for speaking up. Youth are often victimized as being vulnerable, but youth are agents of change in their communities. Ms. Jallow argued that the youth bulge need not be scary, but instead provides a space to rewrite the status quo. Youth create forums for virtual and multisector dialogue though social media platforms. Ms. Jallow presented the following recommendations: 1) support capacity building of dialogue forums, 2) make national government structures more accessible to youth, 3) create forums for intergenerational dialogue, 4) include youth in national plans, 5) prioritize youth psychological health, 6) fund free spaces for youth to collaborate, and 7) adapt school curriculum to include peace education.

Session 16 - Good Governance and Institutional Strengthening in Africa

Facilitators:
- **Dr. Nancy J. Walker**, Public Policy Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)
- **Dr. Terence McNamee,** Global Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

The objective of this session was to draw on the collective expertise of the SVNP for a private roundtable discussion on the key issues relating to good governance and institutional strengthening in Africa. In particular, participants were asked to reflect on the conference sessions and give one message to an African policymaker and one message to a U.S. policymaker.

Among the many important issues raised for African policymakers were the following:

- Subnational governments can identify service-delivery projects incentivizing collaboration across conflicts.
- Invest in the trust-deficit in institutions meant to support governments.
- Leaders must stop cheating democratic norms.
- Improve service delivery.
- Strengthen capacity at the institutional level.
- Adopt responsible innovations.
- Peacebuilding is important everywhere in Africa because there is tension even in stable states.
- Promote inclusion in governments.
- Support local African research on peacebuilding and good governance.
- Strengthen 1) implementation of peace frameworks, 2) regional peacebuilding forces, and 3) regional infrastructure projects.
- Develop political will.
- De-ethnize politics by strengthening national identity.
- Integrate science into decision-making.

- Take a holistic approach.
- Incorporate citizens' views in policymaking.
- Invest in local peace infrastructures to decentralize peacebuilding responses.
- Address marginalization and distribution of resources.
- Take active agency and embrace pragmatism.
- Draw lessons from the experiences of other African countries.

Among the many important recommendations for U.S. policymakers were the following:

- Africans are plugged into the conversations being had about them. Draw from what the African community expresses they need as opposed to imposing specific policy positions.
- Leverage comparative advantages as opposed to counterproductive undermining of rivals.
- The Women, Peace, and Security plan should recognize the important work African women do and draw from what they express they need. Funding should go toward Africans working in Africa not Americans working in Africa.
- Removing funding for civil society during democratic decay is counterproductive. This is when civil society especially needs support.
- Structure funding around issues raised and solutions suggested by Africans.
- Approach peacebuilding as a process.
- Genuinely engage Africans in projects on African soil.
- Respect the different ways local civil society organizations address peacebuilding.
- Instead of constantly pulling out and jumping back into African economic ventures and then lamenting China's presence, pursue sustained, competitive business ventures on the continent.
- Prioritize economic and political integration.
- Be less prescriptive, less biased, and less divisive in involvement in African conflicts.
- Prioritize the capacity building of African youth.
- Prioritize consistency in human rights and democracy support.
- U.S. policymakers should be more consistent in their peacebuilding support. The support given to Ukraine has been of a significantly greater magnitude than peacebuilding support given to African countries.
- Come to the table with an open mind when it comes to engagement so there is mutual understanding and cooperation.
- The U.S. engagement should not be based around "picking winners."
- Talk to Africans on the ground; go to African research institutions as opposed to listening to lobbyists.
- Open U.S. markets to Africa.
- Establish an African endowment for democracy.
- Reform international institutions to give Africans a voice.

Session 17 - Group Dinner at Fogo de Chão Restaurant

SVNP participants had a meal at a well-known DC restaurant. During the dinner, participants had the opportunity to relax over a meal, network, and strengthen relationships. On behalf of the SVNP participant organizations, Fr. Alain Nzadi-a-Nzadi gave a vote of thanks to the Wilson Center for facilitating and supporting the SVNP.

DAY 5: Friday, 16th September

Session 18 - SVNP 10+: Key outcomes from Impact Assessment, and Next Stage of the SVNP: Grant Renewal Status and Key Parameters

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

Short Address:
- **Dr. Monde Muyangwa,** Assistant Administrator in the Bureau for Africa, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Announcement of Grant Renewal:
- **Mr. Mwangi Thuita**, Program Assistant, International Peace and Security Program, Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY)

Ms. Akuiyibo began the session with an overview of the key outcomes from the SVNP impact assessment. In 2020, the Wilson Center Africa Program hired an external contractor to conduct a comprehensive, length-of-project assessment of the activities and impact of the SVNP ahead of its 10-year anniversary. The goal of the evaluation was to assess the impact of the Network and its activities in achieving its goals to:
  i. generate knowledge that informs policy on peacebuilding in Africa;
 ii. build the knowledge, skills, and capacities of the next generation of African peacebuilders;
iii. enhance collaboration among members; and
 iv. provide lessons learned from a decade of collaboration on policymaking and peacebuilding efforts in Africa.

The key outcomes from the evaluation were that the network has been able to successfully generate relevant research on peacebuilding and state building in Africa by bridging the gap in knowledge on peace building in Africa; foster dialogue with policymakers within and outside of Africa; and help build the next generation of African peacebuilders through the SVNP scholarship program. Areas for improving the network that derived from the study included: enhancing SVNP collaboration, including SVNP alumni into more network activities, and improving dissemination of SVNP research products.

Ms. Akuiyibo thanked the SVNP members for meeting with the contractor and providing their feedback.

Former Wilson Center Africa Program Director, Dr. Monde Muyangwa, now Assistant Administrator in the Bureau for Africa at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) visited the group and gave a short address. She recognized that the work of SVNP is incredible, and how the discussions at USAID about peace, security, and fragility make the group exceptionally relevant and their voice in formulating and implementing policies important. She noted that USAID has been tasked with localization and how to bring it to life and make it real. She spoke to the need for giving agency and ownership and the role of SVNP in doing this. She thanked the SVNP participants for their support and noted that she looks forward to seeing the next stage of the network and to staying in touch with the members.

Ms. Akuiyibo concluded the session by introducing Mr. Thuita to start the discussion regarding next steps for the SVNP. He announced that the Carnegie Corporation of New York just approved the proposal to renewal the SVNP. The next grant cycle will run from October 2022 – September 2025.

Ms. Akuiyibo then outlined the core deliverables of the new grant, as follows:

- Host 9 SVNP scholars
- Conduct 9 internal events and 9 public events
- Publish 18 SVNP scholar papers
- 27 Scholar Mentorship Meetings
- 1 Updated SVNP Alumni Database
- Host 2 Annual Conferences and release 2 Conference Reports
- Host 1 SVNP Alumni Conference
- Host 3 regional policy workshops
- Host 2 Congress/USG Meetings or Engagements
- Have at least 2 partnership or collaborations with other CCNY grantees.
- Translate 6 SVNP papers
- Migrate/Redesign Africa Up Close blog
- Publish joint research papers and award 1
- Publish 26 Network Blog
- Publish 2 Joint research papers
- Publish 10 Scholar Alumni papers
- Produce 12 Quarterly Analytics reports
- Improve policymaker outreach and uptake tracking

Session 19 - Visit: Tour of the National Museum of African American History and Culture

On the afternoon of Friday, December 16, the Wilson Center Africa Program organized a visit for conference participants to the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). Ms. Gamuchirai Mhute presented background information about the museum before participants began self-guided tours of the museum.

Ms. Mhute highlighted facts about the museum. As described on the NMAAHC website, it was established by an Act of Congress in 2003, following decades of efforts to promote and highlight the contributions of African Americans in the U.S. The building design was the product of a collaboration of four design firms led by Ghanaian-American designer David Adjaye and architect Philip Freelon. The design of the building features two distinct design elements—the "Corona" the signature exterior feature that consists of bronze-colored cast-aluminum panels, and the "Porch," which serves as the location for the main museum entrance. The Corona draws on imagery from both African and American History, reaching toward the sky in an expression of faith, hope and resiliency. The three-tiered shape is inspired by Yoruba art and features a traditional wooden column that features a crown or corona at its top. The pattern of the exterior panels evokes the look of ornate 19th-century ironwork created by enslaved craftsmen in Louisiana, South Carolina, and elsewhere and allows daylight to enter through the openings. The openness to light is symbolic for a museum that seeks to stimulate open dialogue about race and help promote reconciliation and healing. From the topmost corona, the view reaches upward, reminding visitors that the Museum is an inspiration, open to all as a place of meaning, memory, reflection, laughter, and hope. Last, Ms. Mhute highlighted the museum's Contemplative Court located on the ground floor as a place to sit in your thoughts, meditate, contemplate, and reflect on what you have seen throughout the museum as much of the content can be overwhelming.

Session 20 - Conference Recap, Completion of Surveys, Closing Ceremony

Facilitators:
- **Dr. Nancy J. Walker**, Public Policy Fellow, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)
- **Ms. Hannah B. Akuiyibo**, Senior Program Associate, Africa Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWICS)

Dr. Walker discussed the importance of the annual conference in strengthening and reestablishing connections since COVID's outbreak. She highlighted a continuing focus on recognizing and respecting African peacebuilding approaches. Dr. Walker then invited participants to share their reflections and perspectives on how the SVNP has been most beneficial to their organizations. Their comments included focusing sessions on countries in crisis, including African policymakers, and sustaining connections and creating a collaborative space. Suggestions for next year's conference included inclusion of a brainstorming session on intra-network collaboration, co-publishing a paper by next year's conference, and ensuring our message does not become diluted.

Dr. Walker thanked the network members for their participation and contributions and congratulated them on the success of the conference.

Dr. Walker and Ms. Akuiyibo presented each member with a certificate and a copy of the SVNP peacebuilding book signed by the editors, Dr. Monde Muyangwa and Dr. Terence McNamee.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Participant Biographies

SOUTHERN VOICES NETWORK MEMBER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Richmond Commodore is a Research and Policy Analyst at the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) in Ghana. He is a former Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding (SVNP) Scholar, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Chukwuemeka B. Eze is the Executive Director of West Africa Network for Peacebuilding and manages the strategic partnership between AU, ECOWAS and WANEP by which WANEP provides early warning data, analysis, assessments, and recommendations. In 2016, he served as Senior Adviser on Mediation to the SRSG in Guinea Bissau and led the development of the Early Warning System of the Government of South Sudan in 2009. He holds a Ph.D. in Peace and Strategic Studies and a life Governing Council member and 2nd Deputy President of Institute for Chartered Mediators and Conciliators, Fellow of Society for Peace Studies & Practice, and Fellow of the Danish Fellowship program.

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" (Routeledge Press 2015). He is author of 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. Christopher Isike is a professor of African politics, African development, and international relations at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. A political scientist and Africanist, his research interests include diaspora diplomacy of African diaspora in America, peace and conflict studies, women and political representation in Africa, rethinking state formation in Africa, African immigration to South Africa, and the science and practice of politics in a digital era. Isike is the president of the African Association of Political Science (AAPS), having just completed a term as vice president of the International Political Science Association (IPSA). He also is editor-in-chief of Africa's foremost political science journal, *Politikon: South African Journal of Political Studies*, and has been editor of *Ubuntu: Journal of Conflict and Social Transformation* since 2017. He serves on the editorial board of several reputable international journals, including the International Political Science Abstracts.

Ms. Eugenia Kayitesi is the Executive Director of the Institute of Policy Analysis and Research IPAR-Rwanda. She is an Honors Graduate of Social Sciences from Makerere University with an MBA from Maastricht School of Management, Netherlands. She is pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Business Administration specializing in Strategic Management from Jomo Kenyatta University. She is an Advisory Board member of Africa Portal, a research repository and an expert analysis hub on African Affairs based in South Africa, a Board Member of KIM University in Kigali, and a

member of the Board of Directors for the Commercial Bank of Africa (CBA Rwanda). She sits on the National Independent Review Panel (NIRP) for the Rwanda Public Procurement Authority (RPPA). She has worked with both public, private, and civil society organizations with a focus on capacity building, organizational development, policy analysis, and research and has featured in regional and international workshops and conferences both as a participant and a panelist. She is a God fearing wife and a mother of four.

Father Hyacinthe Loua, S.J. Ph.D. is a Jesuit born in Nzérékoré (Guinea). After his university studies in philosophy, sociology of development, pastoral theology and systematic theology and history in Congo, Burkina Faso, Kenya and Canada, Father Loua has been Deputy General Director and is currently President of CERAP/Jesuit University in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. He is also the author of several publications in education, conflict and peace management, sociology, anthropology, and more.

Ms. Faith Mabera is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Global Dialogue, where she oversees the Foreign Policy Analysis programme. She holds a BPolSci International Studies and M.A. in International Relations (*cum laude*) from the University of Pretoria. Her research interests include the Responsibility to Protect (R2P), African diplomacy, foreign policy analysis, African peace and security issues, norms dynamics in international relations, and global governance. She is also a regular commentator on South African media covering foreign policy issues, geopolitical trends, and international politics pertinent to South Africa and Africa. She is also the co-editor of the book *Africa-China Cooperation Towards an African Policy on China?* (Palgrave, 2020).

Ms. Ottilia Maunganidze joined the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) in 2009, and is currently head of special projects in the office of the executive director, where she explores new areas of work for ISS and informs institutional strategy. She is a member of the Climate Security Expert Network. Her areas of interest are international criminal justice, international human rights law, and migration trends and policy. Her work covers the African continent and is aimed at advancing human security. A lawyer, strategist and analyst, before joining the ISS, Ottilia worked as a legal advisor in Makhanda and human rights education officer for Amnesty International South Africa.

Fr. Rigobert Minani is the Head of the Research and Socio-Political Department for the Centre d'Etudes pour l'Action Sociale (CEPAS), the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He received a Sylff fellowship in 1996-1997 at Institute of Political Education "Pedro Arrupe." He is a founder and a representative of NGO "Groupe Jérémie" that is engaged in promoting human rights and civic education in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the African Great Lake region. He is also the founder of the Christian-based NGO network RODHECIC and CDCE through which he contributed to the successful monitoring of the presidential and general elections in 2006. From 2011, he was appointed as the social justice coordinator of Jesuits in Africa and the director of the Jesuit Africa Social Centres Network (JASCNET). He is a former Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding (SVNP) Scholar, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Vuyo Mjimba is an international development researcher who brings more than 10 years commercial enterprise experience and insights to his work. An analytically clear and innovative thinker, Dr. Mjimba specializes economic development sustainable industrialization, mining and industrialization nexus, climate change and green economy where he has worked in and with trans, inter, and multidisciplinary research and teams. He has proven ability in translating broad objectives into cost-effective, practical and measurable results through efficient organization and deploying of resources and establishing rapport within diverse disciplines. Vuyo has links and has work in trans-border, trans-, inter and multidisciplinary projects with researchers in Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Ghana, Zambia, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The links are in a variety of organizations that include the private and the public sectors, universities, the World Bank, African Academy of Sciences and AfricaLics.

Dr. John Peter Mugume is a Lecturer at the University of Rwanda's Centre for Conflict Management (CCM).

Dr. Mziwandile Ndlovu is a Research and Policy Analyst working with the African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP). He currently works on the Africa Integrity Indicators (AII) project as Anglophone Africa Project Manager. AII focuses on African governance, examining how policies are implemented to support states, citizens, and civil society in assessing key socio-economic and political mechanisms across the continent. He has a decade's experience working in various capacities of African civil society on democratic governance and peacebuilding. His research interests center on African decolonial frameworks that assess the contributions of African actors to international democratic norms, institutions, and practices.

Dr. 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 Leonne 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 is a Jesuit from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Born in 1977, he joined the Society of Jesus in 1998. He holds a B.A. in Philosophy (from Loyola University/Kinshasa), a M.A. in Francophone Literature (University of Lubumbashi, DRC), a B.A. in Theology (from Hekima-University College, Nairobi, Kenya), and a M.A. in Biblical Theology from Centre Sèvres-Facultés Jésuites de Paris (France). Ordained a priest in 2013 in Kinshasa, he is, since September 2015, the Chief Editor of *Congo-Afrique* review and Managing Director of *Centre d'Etudes pour l'Action Sociale-Research Center for Social Action* (CEPAS) in Kinshasa. His recent publications include articles in *Congo-Afrique* review (on DRC and African sociopolitical and cultural situation) and a book in literature (March 2018), "*Redécouvrir Madame Bovary de Gustave Flaubert. Une lecture sociocritique.*"

Prof. Fredrick Ogenga is an Associate Professor of Communication and Media 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 holds 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) in Nairobi, Kenya—Africa's leading Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy Think Tank. He was formerly a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Extension, University of Nigeria, Nsukka. Dr. Ozor has led and is currently leading many internationally funded research projects bordering on STI; agriculture and food systems; climate change; policy development, analysis and advocacy; technology management and transfer; and private sector engagements among others. He is a member of many professional organizations, and he has published over 120 articles in reputable international peer-reviewed journals and other multimedia channels. Dr. Ozor has raised over 50 million dollars (USD) in grants to support development work in Africa.

Dr. Edem Selormey is the Capacity Building Director for the Afrobarometer Network. Dr. Selormey has worked with Afrobarometer in various capacities since 1999. She is based at the Ghana Center of for Democratic Development in Accra, where she works as Director for Research. She received a Ph.D. in Development Studies from the University of Sussex, UK. Her interests include governance, social accountability, media and development, public service delivery and performance in sub-Sahara Africa.

Mr. Olusegun Sotola is a governance and policy researcher and a Senior Researcher with the Initiative for Public Policy Analysis (IPPA), an independent policy think tank based in Lagos, Nigeria. He contributes regularly to policy debate in Nigeria and Africa through policy-relevant research, media interviews and legislative public hearing. He has been part of several policy research projects and dialogues. He holds a Ph.D. in Public and Development Management from Stellenbosch University South Africa and Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Lagos Nigeria.

Dr. Laure Tall is the Director of Research at Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR). an agroecologist and holds a Ph.D. in ecology from the University of Montreal (Quebec, Canada). Previously, Dr. Tall was also a researcher at the Senegalese Institute of Agricultural Research (ISRA) from 2014 to 2020 and the director of the National Laboratory for Research on Plant Production at ISRA from 2019 to 2020. Dr. Tall conducts research on ecological intensification and the impact of climate change on agrosystems.

Dr. Augustino Ting Mayai is the Managing Director of the Sudd Institute. He is a founding Research Director of the same institution, serving in this capacity for a decade. He holds a Ph.D. in Sociology, with concentrations on demography and development from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He currently studies how state effectiveness affects child health outcomes in South Sudan and Ethiopia. Dr. Mayai has written extensively on South Sudan's current affairs.

Mr. Yared Debebe Yetena is a Ph.D. candidate in Peace and Security Studies at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. Since 2012, he has been a lecturer and researcher in Peace and Security Studies at the University of Gondar. He is also a DAAD alumnus and a 2021 Civil Society Scholars Award fellow. His wider research interests include nationalism, social movement, peacebuilding, and post-conflict reconstruction. He is a former Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding (SVNP) Scholar, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Getachew Zeru is an Assistant Professor in Peace and Security Studies at the Africa Institute of Governance and Development of Ethiopian Civil Service University (ECSU). Currently, he is serving as a head for Africa Institute of Governance and Development in the University. Prior to joining ECSU, he was an academic staff of Merkelle University and Federal Meles Zenawi Leadership Academy. He also served Addis Ababa University as a researcher. Dr. Getachew has also provided short-term trainings to Ethiopian Diplomats and peace support operations staff. Dr. Getachew has prior experience as visiting Scholar at National University of Public Service in Budapest (Hungary) and Danish Institute for International Studies in Denmark. He was also a guest researcher at the Institute of African Studies (IAS), Zhejiang Normal University, China. He was also a Southern Voices Network Scholar with the Wilson Center Africa Program in United States in 2015. Dr. Getachew has published a number of journal articles, a book chapter and a book manuscript. He holds PhD in Peace and Security Studies, MA in International Relations and BA in Political Science and International Relations.

EXTERNAL SPEAKERS

Ms. Lauren Ploch Blanchard is a Specialist in African Affairs with the Congressional Research Service, where she provides nonpartisan analysis on African political, military and diplomatic affairs, and on US policy toward the region, to Congress members. Ms. Blanchard's portfolio has focused on East Africa, Chad, and Nigeria, and on security issues and military engagement on the continent. Previously, Ms. Blanchard managed democracy and governance programs in East and Southern Africa. She holds a master's degree in National Security Studies from Georgetown University and a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Classical Studies, with a minor in African Studies, from the University of Florida.

Mr. Edward Burrier is the senior advisor for private sector engagement in USIP's Africa Center. In this role, Burrier examines the intersection of economic growth and peace and security. Prior to joining USIP, he served as executive vice president of the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC). Beginning in July 2017, he served as chief operating officer and vice president of External Affairs at the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) before its transformation to DFC. Before arriving at OPIC, Burrier served on Capitol Hill for 18 years, including as deputy staff director of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. In this role, he advised the chairman on all policy matters before the committee and provided leadership on formulating legislative and communications goals. Burrier earned his bachelor's degree in political science from Mary Washington College and a master's degree in national security and strategic studies from the U.S. Naval War College.

Dr. Mathieu Cloutier is an economist in the francophone West Africa unit of the World Bank's Governance Global Practice. His operational and lending supervision work includes decentralization, service delivery, and public finance management projects with a special focus on the Sahel and fragile countries such as Mali and Niger. He has also been involved in knowledge and analytics products centered on political economy, citizen engagement, domestic resources mobilization, and state-owned enterprises. Recently, he led the development of an empirical framework for social contract diagnostics for the regional report, Social Contract for Stability, Equity and Prosperity in Africa. The empirical framework is currently being applied in multiple settings for country assessments and Systematic Country Diagnostics. Before joining the World Bank in 2017 as a Young 4 Professional, Mathieu obtained a PhD in economics from the University of Chicago. His doctoral research investigated the impact of decentralization on corruption and bribes paid by firms to local officials.

Dr. Mark Duerksen is a research associate at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. His research focuses on Africa's unparalleled urbanization and the security challenges and opportunities this presents. Dr. Duerksen's projects at the Africa Center include tracking security-related news and strategic trends across the continent and creating analytic maps and infographics to visualize spatial patterns and historical precedents. His background includes training in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and writing on African art and architecture. Dr. Duerksen holds a Ph.D. in African History from Harvard University and a BA in Political and Social Thought from the University of Virginia. His dissertation research on the history of Lagos's ecology, housing, and politics was funded by a Boren Fellowship (National Security Education Program) and a Frederick Sheldon Fellowship (Harvard). Previously, he taught at Hunter College in New York and the African School of Economics in Benin. He has a working knowledge of French and Yoruba.

Mr. Will Ferroggiaro is a democracy, rights, and governance consultant focusing on media and conflict. Most recently, as Mercy Corps' specialist for peace & technology, he produced frameworks and policy briefs for analyzing and responding to social media and conflict, co-authored the working group paper Social Media, Conflict, and Peacebuilding, and advised programs in Iraq, Ethiopia, and Kenya. Earlier, as Internews' conflict and media lead, he co-authored guidance used for USAID's atrocity prevention guide and developed a toolkit for journalists reporting during mass atrocities. Ferroggiaro has been a consultant for the UN on hate speech and for the OSCE on media and radicalization, while for PeaceTech Lab, he co-designed hate speech lexicons on Sudan, Nigeria, and other countries. He has presented his research in UN, government, and civil society fora, and he participates in the Prevention and Protection Working Group and the Wilson Center's Sudans Working Group.

Ms. Ramatoulie Isatou Jallow is an emergent youth peacebuilder from Botswana and the Gambia with a keen focus on conflict prevention in Africa. She is an attorney with 5 years experience in civil and public interest litigation as well as human rights. In line with her focus, she is also the founder of an initiative titled 'Peace by Peace' which is dedicated to creating a sustainable peace culture through curated dialogues, community education as well as advocacy in Botswana. Complementary to this, Ramatoulie is also a Master of Laws candidate with Georgetown University where she currently pursues academic research around the creation of national conflict prevention frameworks and the role women in Africa can play in furthering them. She is also a Leadership and Advocacy for Women in Africa Fellow and has two publications addressing conflict and conflict prevention with regard to the pandemic entitled *COVID-19 and Intrastate Armed Conflicts in Africa and Beyond the Outbreak: Creating a Sustainable Peace Culture in Botswana*.

Ms. Kay McGowan has a long history as a diplomat and digital development expert from her two decades with the U.S. government. Notably, Kay drove the shift across USAID and U.S. Treasury to proactively support safe and trusted digital financial services worldwide, working with country governments in some of the most vulnerable geographies including Haiti and Afghanistan. Kay brings deep expertise in policy, and a track record of conceptualizing and launching enduring partnerships, including the UN's Better Than Cash Alliance and Smart Africa's peer learning network for data/digital policymakers.

Ms. Miriam Mona Mukalazi is a visiting researcher at the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security in Washington D.C and a research fellow of the European Charlemagne Academy. As a Ph.D. researcher at Heinrich-Heine-University in Germany, she is studying the African Union's and the European Union's Women, Peace and Security agenda. Most recently, Miriam has worked for the World Bank, UN Women Germany and the Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy. In 2020, the German Bundestag invited her to speak as an expert about Germany's WPS policies and challenges.

Ms. Oge Onubogu is the director of the West Africa program at the U.S. Institute of Peace or USIP, 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, 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.

Ms. Lisa Peterson joined the U.S. Foreign Service in 1989. She joined the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary in December 2020. She served as Acting Assistant Secretary for DRL from January 20, 2021 to September 2022. She served as the Senior Official for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights (J) from January 20-July 14, 2021. She served as Ambassador to the Kingdom of Eswatini (Swaziland) from 2016 to 2020. Prior to this current assignment, she served as Director for the Office of Multilateral and Global Affairs in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor from 2012 to 2015. From 2009 until the summer of 2012, Lisa served as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Yaounde, Cameroon. Prior to that, she served in political, public affairs and consular positions in Nigeria, Kenya, Zambia, Zaire/Democratic Republic of Congo, South Africa, and the Central African Republic.

Mr. Mwangi Thuita is a program assistant for the International Peace and Security program, reporting to Stephen J. Del Rosso. Thuita's work focuses on peacebuilding in Africa and bridging the gap between academic and policy communities. Prior to joining the Corporation, Thuita was a technical advisor at the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations. He has also served as a program assistant at the African Peacebuilding Network of the Social Science Research Council. Thuita holds an MA in public policy from the University of Chicago, where he was a fellow at the Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts. He edited the international section of a student-run journal, translating complex empirical policy studies into succinct and accessible articles and also produced and cohosted a podcast on the causes of global conflicts. He received his BA from Cornell University, where he majored in political science and philosophy.

Mr. Mark Stamilio is the Principal Director OSD Africa at the Department of Defense.

<u>WILSON CENTER STAFF</u>

Ambassador Mark Green (ret.) serves as the President 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.

Dr. Nancy J. Walker, Public Policy Fellow with the Africa Program at the Wilson Center, has served as a senior career U.S. government official, occasional visiting professor, political organizer, community volunteer, UN consultant, guest lecturer, and mentor. Dr. Walker was the founding Director of the Africa Center for Strategic Studies at the Department of Defense, maintaining ties with African civilian, military, academic, and civil society leaders. Most recently Dr. Walker mentors young women and men, especially those pursuing public service careers. Dr. Walker holds a D.Phil. in politics from Oxford University (Nuffield College) and an A.B. from Harvard/Radcliffe. She was a Bosch Fellow in Germany and completed MIT's Seminar XXI program on national security. Nancy speaks fluent German, French, and rusty Spanish, Turkish. Dr. Walker was awarded the Senegalese Order of the Lion in recognition of her work in U.S.-Africa relations.

Dr. Terence McNamee is a specialist in development, governance and security issues. After completing his Ph.D. at the London School of Economics, he worked for 8 years at the Royal United Services Institute in London. Then as Deputy Director of the Johannesburg-based Brenthurst Foundation until the end of 2017. In 2006 he was a visiting expert to the Prism Group, ISAF IX based in Kabul, Afghanistan. From 2008 to 2009, he was a Delegate on the Government of Denmark's Africa Commission. He is published in Foreign Policy, The New York Times and The Financial Times. As well as Editor or co-Editor of numerous monographs and books. In 2013 he served as an advisor in Malawi to then President Joyce Banda. He was Head of Mission for an international election observation mission for Lesotho's national elections in 2017. McNamee is also writer and historian of the acclaimed photographic history of the twentieth century, CENTURY (Phaidon Press, 1999, edited by Bruce Bernard).

Ms. Hannah B. Akuiyibo is the Senior Program Associate with the Wilson Center Africa Program, where she manages the Africa Program's daily activities, grants, and projects. She holds an M.A. in Democracy and Governance from Georgetown University, with a research focus on Africa, a B.A. in Political Science from Bob Jones University, and is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP). Originally from Alaska, Hannah has studied German at the Goethe Institute in Göttingen, Germany, and worked in Kenya and Uganda with International Justice Mission.

Ms. Gamuchirai Pamela Mhute is the Program Associate with the Wilson Center Africa Program where she previously worked as a Program Assistant (Director's Office). Prior to joining the Wilson Center, Gamuchirai served as an International Programs Intern with the International Peace and Security Institute. She received her B.A in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland, College Park. She recently received her M.A. in International Peace and Conflict Resolution from American University. Originally from Zimbabwe, Gamuchirai is fluent in Shona and is interested in peacebuilding in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Ms. Cheri Ayers is the Program Assistant (Communications) with the Wilson Center Africa Program. She obtained a Master of Mass Communications from Louisiana State University with an emphasis in Strategic Communications. She also received a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and pursued a minor in Graphic Communications from the University of Southern Mississippi. Cheri's multifaceted experience as a creative includes design, advertising, social media management, and copywriting. Her inspiration as a creative is to promote awareness, knowledge, and understanding about Africa globally.

Ms. Dalya Berkowitz is a fall 2022 Stafford Capacity Building Intern at the Wilson Center Africa Program. She is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Security Studies at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service. She recently received a B.A. with honors in Political Science (concentrating in International Relations) and Psychology from the University of Pittsburgh, where she also studied French. Her interests include integrating psychology with international security studies with a focus on ethnic conflicts and peacekeeping in Africa.

Ms. Tori Neal is a fall 2022 Stafford Capacity Building Intern at the Wilson Center Africa Program. She is currently completing both her bachelor's degree and master's degree in a dual enrollment format at the University of Alabama. She is in her final semester of a B.A. in International Studies with a concentration in International Relations, and in her third semester of an M.P.A. with a concentration in Global Affairs and Security. Her interests include U.S. foreign policy regarding international cooperation and global security and defense initiatives.

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, D.C.

Appendix 4: 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	• SVNP Director's to return conference feedback survey to Dr. Muyangwa	• August 1, 2021	• Received
2. Share/Nominate for the SVNP Scholarship Application	• 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	• Extended to Aug. 30	• Resent/Complete
3. Share the impact assessment findings	• Dr. Muyangwa will reach out to the SVNP with a briefing event and/or written readout	• Late 2021	• Assessment completed. Findings shared during the 2022 SVNP Annual Conference.
4. Confirm topic and host country 2022 Annual Conference	• 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.	• 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.	• Complete. Washington, D.C. received the most votes from members.

5. Follow-up re: North Africa and Central Africa Regional Policy Workshops	• 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)	• Sept 2021 (dates) • Nov. 2021 (Location/co-hosts)	• Ongoing • Central Africa took place from 16-17, June 2022 in Kampala, Uganda • North Africa will move to the next iteration of the grant and will be held in early 2023
6. Follow-up re: intra-SVNP collaboration	• AFR will send the collaboration notes from the SVNP conference discussion • Director's to add-on, comment on the document for sharing with CCNY	• September 2021 • October 2021	• Complete
7. SVNP Blog Contributions	• AFR will send a 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	• Ongoing from August 21	• Complete, the Network meet the required number of blog submissions for this grant cycle • *Good work!*
8. AFR to propose and share enhanced SVNP scholar alumni engagement ideas	• AFR will draft ideas from conference and share with Directors for comment	• September 2021	• Ongoing
9. Follow-up regarding CCNY Alumni Database	• Africa Program will re-send form to Directors to gather information needed for CCNY Alumni Database • Directors to return the Alumni Database Spreadsheet updates	• September 2021 • October 2021	• Ongoing

10. Africa: Year in Review Submissions	• AFR to send Call for Submission for AYIR 2021 to SVNP	• October 2021	• Complete, received and published 9 submissions from the Network • *Great job!*

Deliverables

DELIVERABLE	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE
1. 2021 Annual Conference report and Session Readout	• Wilson Center Africa Program will draft the Annual Conference report • Wilson Center Africa Program will finalize the report and disseminate to all conference participants	• September 2021 • Complete
2. Africa Year in Review 2021	• Send Call for Submission for AYIR 2021 • Publish January 2022	• October 2021 • January 2022 • Complete

2021 SVNP Annual Conference Action Items and Deliverables

Action Items

ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE
1. **SVNP Conference Surveys**	• SVNP Director's to return conference feedback survey to Wilson Center Africa Program	• September 2022
2. **Confirm topic and host country 2023 Annual Conference**	• SVNP Director's shared 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 2023) • Directors from Southern Africa will coordinate and propose the location and co-hosts.	• Wilson Center Africa Program will send out email to all members requesting suggested topics proposed conference dates with the Conference Report in November 2022 • Directors to propose host country and dates by December 2022.
3. **Follow-up re: North Africa Regional Policy Workshop**	• AFR to send proposed dates • Host: Sadeq Institute with assistance from other members • Location: TBC	• Early 2023
4. **SVNP Blog Contributions**	• AFR will send a call for submissions with each member org ideally submitting 2 blogs over the next grant cycle October 2022 – September 2025.	• Ongoing from August 21
5. **Africa: Year in Review Submissions**	• AFR to send Call for Submission for AYIR 2022 to SVNP	• October 2022
6. **SVNP Scholar Applications**	• AFR to update applications and distribute	• November 2022

Deliverables

DELIVERABLE	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE
1. **2022 Annual Conference report and Session Readout**	• Wilson Center Africa Program will draft the Annual Conference report • Wilson Center Africa Program will finalize the report and disseminate to all conference participants	• November 2022
2. **Africa Year in Review 2022**	• Send Call for Submission for AYIR 2022 • Publish January 2022	• October 2022 • January 2022

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

1. **Continue the scholarship program**
  a. **Host 6 scholars**
  b. **Conduct 6 internal events and 6 public events**
  c. **12 publications (research papers and policy briefs)**
  d. **12 blogs**
	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.
	b. Scholars strengthen scholarly research and policy formulation skills in producing papers for U.S., African, and international policymakers
	c. Scholars build broader networks through mentorships opportunities and build skills through social media and interview training.
	d. Build the communications capacities and portfolio of scholars
	
	Measures: event RSVP/attendee lists, webcast views, engagement with policymakers; scholar surveys, publication dissemination, readership and views, analytics
		Status September 2022
		- *5/6 scholars hosted*
		- *6 scholars were selected but unfortunately one of them was unable to secure a visa in time due to COVID-19 delays U.S. embassies experienced. The scholar will complete the Program during the next grant cycle (1 internal event, 1 public event, 2 blogs, 1 research paper, and 1 policy brief.*

2. **Host 2 annual conferences**
  a. **2021 & report**
  b. **2022 & report**
	a. Capacities of and connections among SVNP member organizations built and opportunities for collaboration developed.
	b. SVNP as a go-to resource for the peacebuilding policy and practice field bolstered.
	c. Senior-level engagement on critical peacebuilding issues, including with U.S. and international policymakers facilitated.
	Measures: RSVP/attendee lists, attendee survey responses, engagement with policymakers
		Status September 2022
		- *Implementation of 2021 and 2022 conferences complete*

3. **Host 4 regional policy workshops** a. **East Africa (2020)**	a. Give member organizations more ownership of the SVNP.	Status September 2022

b. Southern Africa (2021) **c. North Africa (2022)** **d. Central Africa (2022)**	b. Nurture organizational collaboration at the regional level c. Provide an avenue for SVNP members to engage in dialogue and inform policymakers on a key peacebuilding issue of significant relevance to their region. *Measures: workshop reports, surveys/evaluations, RSVP/attendee lists, engagement with regional and international policymakers*	- *Completed: East Africa, Southern Africa, and Central Africa workshops* - *Pending: North Africa will move to the next grant cycle* - *Select host/dates/location for North Africa*
4. Host 2 Director's roundtables	a. Policymakers and practitioners based in Washington, D.C. and working on peacebuilding issues hear from and engage with the SVNP at a senior level. b. SVNP directors deepen their connections in the Washington, D.C. policy space. c. Raise the visibility and profile of the SVNP in Washington, D.C. *Measures: event RSVP/attendee lists and webcast views, engagement with policymakers*	Status September 2022 - *Roundtables were initially planned to be stand-alone. However, due to COVID-related travel restrictions, amended format so that private roundtables between SVNP directors and policymakers were included in the SVNP annual conference. In addition, SVNP directors featured in the Wilson Center's 2021 Congressional Masterclass on Africa and a COVID-19 virtual public event.* - *Continuing virtual, targeted meetings may be necessary going forward.*
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**	a. Consolidate, build on, and leverage strategic partnerships with like-minded organizations to both amplify and extend the reach of the SVNP and those of the broader Africa peacebuilding community of practice. *Measures: event RSVP/attendee lists and webcast views, engagement with policymakers*	Status September 2022 - *1 event hosted in 2020 with APN.* - *APN + other CCNY grantees invited as speakers and participants to 2021 and 2022 SVNP annual conference*

6. **Increase the dissemination and uptake of SVNP research products among U.S., international, and African policymakers and officials** 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**	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 *Measures: publication dissemination, readership and views, analytics*	Status September 2022 - *Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4 comms reports completed* - *24 of 24 blogs published!* - *Blog redesign plan postponed to next grant cycle* - *4 Collaborative Research Papers submitted; external selection committee convened to review papers; 2 papers selected; all 4 papers were published.* - *Pending: Translation of 6 SVNP papers into FR and PT will move to next grant cycle* - *Updated analytics tools and plan with new Google Analytics metrics; Complete*
7. **Complete Impact Assessment**	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.	Status September 2022 - *Complete*
8. **Populate and continue to update the SVNP Databases (Fellowship, Alumni, Information)**	a. Provide CCNY with up-to-date contact information of our SVNP scholars and key developments (research and promotions, collaborations, etc.)	Status September 2022 - *Pending: all 2022 scholars for alumni database information need to be imported. Past alumni updated.*

	DELIVERABLE	QUALITATIVE
1.	**Continue the scholarship program** a. **Host 9 scholars** b. **Conduct 9 internal events and 9 public events** c. **18 publications** d. **27 Mentorship Meetings and networking opportunities (minimum)** e. **1 Updated SVNP Alumni Database**	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. b. Scholars strengthen scholarly research and policy formulation skills in producing papers for U.S., African, and international policymakers c. Scholars build broader networks through mentorships opportunities, and build skills through social media and interview training. *Measures: event RSVP/attendee lists, webcast views, engagement with policymakers; meeting trackers; anecdotal feedback, scholar surveys.*
2.	**Host 2 annual conferences** a. **2023 & report (Southern Africa)** b. **2025 & report (Washington, DC)**	a. Capacities of and connections among SVNP member organizations built and opportunities for collaboration developed. b. SVNP as a go-to resource for the peacebuilding policy and practice field bolstered. c. Senior-level engagement on critical peacebuilding issues, including with U.S. and international policymakers facilitated. *Measures: RSVP/attendee lists, attendee survey responses, engagement with policymakers*
3.	**Host 1 SVNP Alumni Conference** a. **2024 & Report**	a. Enhance alumni engagement and overall strength of the Network b. Invigorate policymaker connections c. Boost network capacity
4.	**Host 3 regional policy workshops** a. **North Africa (2023)** b. **East Africa (2024)** c. **Central Africa (2025)** d. **3 Workshop Reports**	a. Give member organizations more ownership of the SVNP. b. Nurture organizational collaboration at the regional level c. Provide an avenue for SVNP members to engage in dialogue and inform policymakers on a key peacebuilding issue of significant relevance to their region. *Measures: workshop reports, surveys/evaluations, RSVP/attendee lists, engagement with regional and international policymakers*

5.	Host 2 Congress/USG Meetings or Engagements a. 2 Meeting Readouts	a. Enhance Congressional and/or USG outreach (e.x., Congress Masterclass with SVNP experts) *Measures: event RSVP/attendee lists and webcast views, engagement with policymakers*
6.	At least 2 partnership or collaborations with other CCNY grantees.	a. Consolidate, build on, and leverage strategic partnerships with like-minded organizations to both amplify and extend the reach of the SVNP and those of the broader Africa peacebuilding community of practice. *Measures: event RSVP/attendee lists and webcast views, engagement with policymakers*
7.	Increase dissemination and uptake of SVNP products. a. Improve tracking metrics b. Translate 6 SVNP paper (carryover) c. Migrate/Redesign AFR Up Close blog d. Publish joint research papers and award 1	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 *Measures: publication dissemination, readership and views, analytics*
8.	Knowledge Generation a. 26 Network Blog b. 2 Joint research papers c. 10 Scholar Alumni papers d. 12 Quarterly Analytics reports	a. Build the communications capacities and portfolio of scholars *Measures: publication dissemination, readership and views, analytics*
9.	Populate and continue to update the SVNP Databases (Fellowship, Alumni, Information)	a. Provide CCNY with up-to-date contact information of our SVNP scholars

Appendix 8: Suggested Topics for the 2023 SVNP Annual Conference

Africa's Political Economy, Governance, Democracy, and Peacebuilding (9):

- The political economy of conflict
- Governance and accountability in Africa
- Democratic governance in Africa: progress and future challenges
- Promoting good governance as a means to build peace in Africa
- Governance and peacebuilding
- Building stronger institutions for peacebuilding in Africa
- Democratic decay
- Electoral violence and peace
- Change of constitutions in Africa

Regional, Continental, and International Actors and Peacebuilding in Africa (6):

- Regional integration
- Geopolitics and peacebuilding: actors, interests, and strategies in an evolving global order
- Addressing emerging local and global trends towards peacebuilding in Africa
- U.S.-Africa development partnership and peacebuilding in Africa
- Impacts of COVID-19 and Ukrainian-Russia War on African peace and security
- Internationalization of violent conflict

Conflict and Insecurity in Africa (4):

- Emerging conflict and violence: how is the conflict of violence nature evolving in Africa
- Conflicting narratives and the challenge of a coherent security policy in Africa
- Appraisal of current narrative parameters and its relevance for Africa's peace and security
- Ethnic conflict and peacebuilding in Africa

Human Rights and Peacebuilding in Africa (4):

- Human rights, security, and peacebuilding in Africa
- The link between peacebuilders and humanitarians: opportunities for common purpose
- Minority rights
- Human security challenges

Technology and Peacebuilding in Africa (3):
- Changing peace through digital technology
- Digital peacebuilding and social media literacy in Africa
- Technology and peace in Africa: the good and the bad sides

Civil Society, Localization, and Peacebuilding in Africa (3):
- Civil Society and peacebuilding
- Local evidence mapping and peacebuilding intervention in Africa
- Localization - how to implement it into our organization and sharing experiences with organizations that are in the process

Sustainability and Peacebuilding in Africa (2):
- Ensuring sustainable peace in Africa: the role of key factors
- SDGs and peacebuilding - evaluation of insecurity and conflict on attaining SDGs (focus on specific SDGs)

Water, Climate Change, and Peacebuilding in Africa (2):
- Water conflict and transboundary basin water diplomacy in Africa
- Climate change

African Population Trends and Implications for Peacebuilding (1):
- Youth, peace, and security

Gender Dynamics and Women's Role in Peacebuilding in Africa (1):
- Women and peace

Peacebuilding Methodology and Practice (1):
- Emerging issues and tools in peacebuilding

The Africa Program

The Africa Program works to address the most critical issues facing Africa and US-Africa relations, build mutually beneficial US-Africa relations, and enhance knowledge and 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 US-Africa relations.

The Africa Program focuses on four core issues:

i.   Good governance and leadership
ii.   Conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and security
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.

SVNP 2022 Conference Participants in the Memorial Hallway of the Woodrow Wilson Center