



KAIPTC
...where peace begins



2023

ANNUAL REPORT





KAIPTC

...where peace begins

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ABBREVIATIONS

ATMIS	African Union Transition Mission in Somalia	NAPs	National Action Plans
ECOMIG	ECOWAS Mission in the Gambia	NIMASA	Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA),
EIF	Elise Initiative Fund	PSO	Peace Support Operations
EGDC	ECOWAS Gender and Development Centre	RECs	Regional Economic Communities
EPSAO	ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and Operations Project	RIFONGA	Femmes des ONG et Associations Africaines
ESF	ECOWAS Standby Force	RMs	Regional Mechanisms
FBA	Folke Bernadotte Academy	RADDHO	Rencontre Africaine Pour La Defense Des Droits De L'homme
GAC	Global Affairs Canada	SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
GBV	Gender-Based Violence	SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women Empowerment	SSMGB	Security Stabilization Mission in Guinea-Bissau - ECOWAS
IAWL-PS	Inspiring African Women Leaders in Peace and Security	ToT	Trainer of Trainers
ICPS	Independent Corrupt Practices Commission	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
ICT	Information, Communication and Technology	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
IPCR	Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution	UNOAU	United Nations Office to the African Union
KAIPTC	Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre	UNPOL	United Nations Police
KAPS	Kofi Annan Peace and Security Forum	UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
MCPS	Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace and Security	UNSOC	United Nations Staff Officers Course
MGPS	Master of Arts in Gender, Peace and Security	WANEP	West Africa Network for Peace building
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	WPS	Women, Peace and Security
MILOB	Military Observers	WMCPS	Weekend Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace and Security
MMT	Mobile Training Team	WYPSI	Women, Peace and Security
MOWIP	Measuring Opportunities for Women Peace Operation		

● MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE AND CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF KAIPTC



**HONORABLE DOMINIC
NITIWUL (MP)**

Esteemed members of the Board, Distinguished members of the KAIPTC, Executive Management Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to firstly, wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year. I also welcome you to a good reading of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre's (KAIPTC) Annual Report for the year 2023. It is an honor and a privilege for me, as the Board Chair of KAIPTC, to share the remarkable achievements and progress made through the past year.

At the outset, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the members of the Board, our partners and stakeholders for their unwavering commitment, guidance, and support throughout the year. Your commitment, support and dedication have been instrumental in driving the success of the KAIPTC. I would also like to extend my gratitude to our exceptional Commandant, the management team, and the entire staff of KAIPTC, whose tireless efforts have contributed to our achievements for the year 2023.

As we examine this year's Annual Report, it is evident that the Centre has continued to make significant strides in fulfilling its mandate of promoting peace and security

in Africa. Our training programmes have reached new heights, with us exceeding the target of 3,064 trained individuals from diverse backgrounds benefiting from our courses and workshops. We have expanded our capacity-building initiatives to encompass a broader range of peace and security issues in collaboration with the African Union Commission and ECOWAS Commission, ensuring that we are well-equipped to address emerging challenges in the region.

A key achievement for the Center in 2023 was the successful completion of the implementation of our 2019-2023 strategic plan. This plan served as our roadmap over the past five years, directing our efforts towards achieving the Center's vision and mission. We took the opportunity to evaluate our strengths, weaknesses threats and consolidated our gains, achievements and opportunities to enable us forge ahead into a new strategic period. With this, we were able to develop a new strategic plan 2024 – 2028, giving us a renewed sense of direction.

Furthermore, our research and policy development endeavors have yielded invaluable insights into critical peace and security issues facing the continent. Our researchers have delved into topics around conflict prevention, peacebuilding, migration, and terrorism, violent extremism, maritime security, among others, producing evidence-based recommendations to influence policy at both national and regional levels.

In addition, I am aware the year 2023 was also a pivotal year for KAIPTC in terms of regional and international collaborations and partnerships. We have deepened our engagement with regional organizations, such as the African Union and ECOWAS to strengthen the effectiveness of peace support operations and enhance peacebuilding processes. Additionally, we have expanded our cooperation with international stakeholders, including the United Nations and the various Governments and institutions represented on our Governing Board to foster a more comprehensive and inclusive approach to peacebuilding and security across Africa.

In line with our commitment to innovation and technological advancements, KAIPTC has embraced digital platforms to enhance our training programmes and knowledge-sharing initiatives. We have successfully launched eight (8) course through e-learning, enabling individuals across Africa to access our courses remotely. This digital transformation has proven crucial, particularly with lessons learnt from

the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing us to continue our work unhindered and reach even more peace practitioners amidst the challenges posed by different global crisis.

Looking ahead, 2024 holds great promise for KAIPTC as we embark on the implementation of a new Strategic plan 2024 - 2028. We recognize that the peace and security landscape is ever-evolving, and we must continuously adapt to meet emerging needs to continue to remain relevant. The new plan will define our course of action for the next five years, embracing innovation, strengthening capacity development, enhancing evidence based research, engaging in policy dialogues and advocacy and forging, nurturing and sustaining partnerships as fundamental pillars of our endeavors. We are committed to remaining at the forefront of peace and security on the continent, ensuring that Africa's peace support operations and peacebuilding capacities are both robust and effective.

I am aware the issue of funding and financial sustainability of the Centre still remains a matter of concern. As we enter into a new strategic period, I urge the Centre to reflect deeply and implement the different ways it has identified as diversifying its funding streams to be financially viable and sustainable. I firmly support the ideas aimed at operationalizing its Business Development Office, enhancing its cost recovery measures, strengthening its Alumni contributions, forging new strategic partnership, engaging vigorously in resource mobilization and continuously exploring innovative approaches and entrepreneurial initiatives among others. By embracing

innovation and entrepreneurial thinking, KAIPTC will tap into new opportunities to secure sustainable financial resources.

Lastly, I must mention the tremendous support and trust we have garnered from our stakeholders, including governments, regional organizations, and donor agencies. We are deeply grateful for their unwavering belief in our mission and their continued financial and technical support. Your contributions have been instrumental in enabling us to achieve our goals, demonstrate our impact, and uphold our commitment to fostering peace and security in Africa. In conclusion, I extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who has been a part of our journey. It is through your collective efforts that KAIPTC has become a beacon of excellence in peace and security training, research, and policy development. Together, let us forge ahead with renewed determination, knowing that our work is essential in ensuring a peaceful and prosperous future for Africa.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my best wishes for a successful and peaceful year ahead.

Thank you.

Honorable Dominic Nitiwul (MP)

Minister for Defence and Chairman of the Governing Board of KAIPTC



● MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT



RICHARD ADDO GYANE
MAJOR GENERAL

I present to you the 2023 Annual Report of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre's (KAIPTC). The year 2023, marked the final year of the implementation of our Strategic Plan, 2019 to 2023 and it gives me great pleasure to share with you the significant milestones and accomplishments we have achieved throughout the year.

First and foremost, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Board Chair, the Minister for Defence, Honourable Dominic Nitiwul and all the distinguished members of the Governing Board for your unwavering guidance and support. Your invaluable insights and strategic direction have been instrumental in charting the course of KAIPTC's remarkable journey. I would also like to extend my deepest appreciation to the dedicated staff at KAIPTC, whose passion and commitment have been the bedrock of our success.

It is evident that KAIPTC has continued to play a transformative role in advancing peace and security in Africa. Our training programmes, research, policy dialogues and academic programmes have been at the forefront of our efforts, equipping thousands of individuals from across the continent with the knowledge, skills, and values required to navigate complex peacekeeping and security challenges. We are very proud to state that, we worked so hard this year to exceed our targets for 2023 and these have manifested themselves in the areas as

stated below.

1. Training Programmes

In 2023, the Center successfully conducted a wide range of specialized training courses in different areas, including peace support operations trainings, conflict analysis and resolution, gender-sensitive, and leadership as well as election in Africa courses. These programs equipped participants with essential skills, strategies, and knowledge to effectively respond to diverse peace and security challenges in the region. The diverse range of participants who have benefited from our courses reflects the inclusive and multidimensional approach we have adopted in our training offerings.

2. A focus on Election Security

KAIPTC played a crucial role in supporting the preparation, conduct, and management of peaceful and inclusive elections in Africa. The Center provided specialized training in election security to election management bodies, security agencies, and civil society organizations in Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Liberia. This support contributed to building the capacity of stakeholders involved in ensuring secure and transparent electoral processes, thereby reducing electoral violence and fostering democratic governance.

3. Research and Publications

KAIPTC continued to produce valuable research and publications that contribute to the academic understanding and practical implementation of peace and security initiatives. In 2023, the Center released several research papers, policy briefs, and publications on topics such as post-conflict reconstruction, maritime security, climate change and its connectedness to human security, and countering violent extremism among others. Through collaboration with different institutions, KAIPTC's research outputs have helped in shaping policy dialogues and interventions in the field of conflict prevention and peace and security in Africa.

4. Policy Dialogues and Conferences

KAIPTC hosted numerous policy dialogues, conferences, and seminars during 2023 to provide a platform for robust discussions on critical peace and security issues. These events brought together high-level policymakers, military personnel, academics, and civil society representatives from across Africa and beyond. Notably, the Center organized a high-level conference on transnational organized crime, focusing on maritime piracy and illegal

fishing in the Gulf of Guinea, and women in leadership within the peace and security sector. The conferences facilitated dialogue among stakeholders and generated strategies for combatting transnational crime in the region.

5. Women and Youth Peace and Security

KAIPTC continued its efforts to promote gender parity and mainstream the inclusion of women in peace and security processes. In 2023, the Center advanced its gender-sensitive training, research, and policy recommendations to strengthen the meaningful participation of women and address gender-related security challenges. KAIPTC's Women Peace and Security Institute spearheaded initiatives to train female military personnel and advocated for more recruitment of female into the military and empowering participants to effectively contribute to peacebuilding efforts. Expanding on the women, peace and security agenda, the Centre, this year, further elevated the Institute into a full-fledged Department, to be known as Women, Youth, Peace and Security Institute (WYPSI), and expanded its mandate to include the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda in line with the African Union's Continental Framework for Youth, Peace and Security and the UN Security Council Resolution UNSCR 2250 (2015).

6. Partnerships, Collaboration and Cooperation

KAIPTC's commitment to bilateral and regional collaboration was evident in its active engagement with various regional and international partners. The Center fostered strong linkages with organizations to contribute to peace and security on the continent. In addition to strengthening partnership with ECOWAS, the AU and the UN, KAIPTC has continued to foster strong partnerships and cooperation with the Governments of Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America among others. These partnerships and collaborations facilitated joint training programmes, research projects, and knowledge sharing, strengthening the institutional capacities of KAIPTC and enhancing its regional impact.

7. Improving upon the Centre's Infrastructure

Management invested a lot of time and energy towards improvement of the KAIPTC's physical infrastructure and other logistics to make the facilities more fit for purpose and enhance the Centre's effectiveness. This was especially critical, given the Centre's proximity to the sea and the havoc that the weather could wreak on our equipment if due care is not taken to keep them in the best of shape. To this end, the Centre's Multi-purpose Court and Gymnasium were completely rehabilitated to provide our students and participants with the space and opportunities to stay healthy whilst on course at the Centre. The roofs of the Mess and Accommodation Block have been repaired to ensure their integrity and protect the structures from deterioration on account of

the rains. Again, a containerized structure is currently under construction to accommodate the new Alumni Office, the Inventory Unit and additional office space for staff. The grounds have been greatly improved in line with Management's initiative to "Green KAIPTC", but also to ensure the health and safety of staff and participants. One of the most significant additions to the infrastructure, however, is the reconstruction of the Main Entrance to include state-of-the-art electronic systems. The aim is to enhance the professionalism of staff at the Main Entrance as well as the security of visitors to and from the Centre.

Looking ahead into a new strategic period with the development of our new strategic plan 2024 – 2028, we are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for KAIPTC. The year 2024 holds immense potential for us to build upon our achievements and take on new challenges. We remain steadfast in our commitment to excellence, innovation, and the continuous improvement of our training, research, and policy development efforts. We shall also continue to enhance our partnerships, forge new alliances and leverage emerging technologies to deliver impactful solutions to the most pressing peace and security issues in Africa.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our partners, stakeholders, and donors for their unwavering support. Your trust and belief in our work have been pivotal to our success. I would like to reiterate my gratitude to the KAIPTC team for their outstanding dedication and resilience throughout the year.

Together, let us continue to build a better future where peace prevails.

Richard Addo Gyane

Major General
Commandant



● GENERAL OUTLOOK ON PEACE AND SECURITY IN WEST AFRICA - 2023

West Africa has long been grappling with several peace and security challenges, ranging from regional conflicts, terrorism, transnational crime, and political instability. In 2023, the sub region faced significant challenges in the outlook on peace, violent extremism, maritime security, and the women, peace, and security situation. These issues have deep-rooted implications for the region's stability and development, requiring concerted efforts to address them effectively.

The region's complex and volatile peace can be attributed to ongoing conflicts and simmering tensions in several countries. Political instability, socio-economic grievances, and ethnic and religious tensions continued to fuel violence and armed conflicts. Countries such as Nigeria, Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Cameroon grappled with insurgencies, terrorist attacks, and intercommunal conflicts, which posed severe challenges to peacebuilding efforts. The lack of a comprehensive and inclusive approach to conflict resolution have hindered progress towards sustainable peace.

Violent extremism remained a persistent threat in the region, as extremist groups such as Boko Haram, Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), and Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) continued their operations. These groups exploited governance gaps, socio-economic disparities, and political grievances to recruit and radicalize vulnerable populations. The region's porous borders and weak security infrastructure also facilitated the movement of arms, fighters, and illicit activities, exacerbating the challenges of combating violent extremism.

In additionally, there appears to be a risk of 'spillover' in Benin and Togo, of the activities of violent extremist groups operating in the core Sahelian states of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. This is because Benin experienced some of its deadliest attacks in its northern borders "Point triple", a border area between Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger resulting in some deaths. What is also evident is the growing links between criminal networks operating in the coastal states that are providing the logistics for violent extremist groups operating across the region. In Ghana, for instance, there is a strong suspicion that some extremists might have infiltrated through the country's borders, while others may be using some border and other nearby communities as transit points, safe havens and for sourcing and transporting logistics such as arms, recruits and funds.

Despite the significant challenges these groups pose to

regional stability, there is growing optimism regarding the effectiveness of counterterrorism and counterinsurgency efforts. Multinational task forces, such as the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF), have successfully conducted joint military operations against these extremist groups, leading to significant territorial losses and weakening their capabilities.

Maritime security issues further compounded the security challenges in West Africa in 2023. The Gulf of Guinea, one of the most strategically important maritime regions globally, faced rampant piracy, illegal fishing, smuggling, and other transnational maritime crimes. Weak maritime governance, the lack of robust maritime law enforcement capacities, and limited cooperation among coastal states contributed to the escalation of these challenges. The threats to maritime security not only undermined economic activities such as fishing and trade but also hindered the region's prospects for sustainable development.

National, regional and international authorities are making some efforts to reduce maritime crimes. At the regional level, ECOWAS adopted its Integrated Maritime Strategy (EMIS) and collaborated with the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) to launch the Yaoundé Declaration, Yaoundé Code of Conduct and the Protocol Additional to the Yaoundé Code of Conduct. At the national level, member states have also made commitments to ensure safety and security in the GoG. Nigeria and Togo have anti-piracy laws. Nigeria in particular is deemed to be the first African country to pass an anti-piracy law, the Suppression of Piracy and Other Maritime Offences Act, 2019 (POMO Act). Additionally, the Nigerian government has commissioned the Falcon Eye Maritime Intelligence Facility in Abuja in order to champion the provision of maritime intelligence. La Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana, have also established a number of strategies to address marine offenses along their coast. Key among these strategies are: (a) La Cote d'Ivoire's action d'etats de la mers (state action at sea) framework with the aim of providing a maritime domain awareness mechanism and (b) Ghana's National Maritime Strategy.

Additionally, the women, peace, and security situation in West Africa faced persistent obstacles in 2023. Despite international commitments and national frameworks promoting gender equality and women's participation in peace and security processes, women remained largely marginalized from decision-making platforms. Women's rights and their inclusion in conflict prevention, resolution, and post-conflict reconstruction were limited, constraining

efforts to achieve sustainable peace. Gender-based violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, continued to be prevalent, posing significant challenges to the protection and empowerment of women in the region.

Addressing these challenging outlooks required comprehensive and multi-faceted approaches. It necessitated strengthening regional and international cooperation to enhance peacebuilding efforts, counter violent extremism, and promote maritime security. Building the capacities of national security forces, improving intelligence sharing, and harmonizing legal frameworks are key strategies to combat violent extremism. Effective governance structures, investment in socio-economic development, and engaging local communities are critical in preventing the spread of extremist ideologies.

In addition, to tackle maritime security challenges, West African states needed to enhance maritime domain awareness, strengthen their naval capabilities, and improve regional cooperation. Collaborative initiatives, such as joint patrols, information sharing, and coordinated responses, were essential to combat piracy and other maritime crimes effectively. Furthermore, addressing the root causes of these challenges, such as poverty, unemployment, and environmental degradation, would contribute to long-term stability in the maritime domain.

Further, promoting women, peace, and security requires political will, institutional reforms, and capacity-building initiatives. Governments need to mainstream gender

perspectives into conflict prevention, resolution, and peacebuilding efforts. Increasing women's representation in decision-making positions, improving access to justice for survivors of gender-based violence, and supporting women-led peacebuilding organizations are crucial steps towards achieving gender equality and empowering women in the region.

In conclusion, West Africa continues to face significant peace and security challenges related to peace, violent extremism, maritime security, and women, peace, and security among others. Addressing these issues demand concerted efforts and strategies. ECOWAS has a crucial role to play in promoting regional peace and stability through lasting interventions. Additional strategies should include enhanced regional cooperation, strengthened institutions, counterterrorism efforts, conflict resolution mechanisms, and addressing underlying socio-economic development initiatives to provide a solid foundation for achieving lasting peace and security. By addressing these challenges effectively, West Africa could pave the way for sustainable peace, security, and development in the region.

• THE KAIPTC

WHO WE ARE

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) is mandated to train military, police, and civilian personnel for multidimensional peacekeeping and peace support operations in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region, Africa and beyond.

Since the first peacekeeping course in 2003, KAIPTC has run over 400 courses for individuals from more than 90 countries and major organizations in Europe, North and South America, Asia and Africa.

Participants come from various backgrounds including the peacekeeping community, security sector and civil, diplomatic and non-governmental agencies. Core peacekeeping courses are complemented by specialized training, train-the-trainer courses, seminars, conferences and workshops. All these initiatives are designed to reflect regional needs and stakeholder requirements.

While English is the primary language for instruction, some training courses are also offered in French. Specifically, small arms and light weapons courses are delivered in Portuguese, French and English.

The KAIPTC also boasts of a Field Training Team, that conducts pre-deployment training courses for units of Ghana's Armed Forces, military observers and other staff officers designated for UN/African Union (AU) missions. This team trains over 3,800 individuals annually at the Bundase Training Camp.

ECOWAS recognized the quality of KAIPTC's work by designating it as one of three regional Training Centres of Excellence (TCE) for training and research in conflict prevention, management and peacebuilding. This recognition came through a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2007, which tasked KAIPTC with the mandate to designing and delivering individual and collective training at the operational level.

CORE VALUES

- The values which underpin the KAIPTC's work are:
- Collaboration and partnership
- Democratic governance and human rights
- Integrated approach
- Knowledge as an asset
- Motivated work force in a secure work environment

- Professionalism, excellence, honesty, integrity and accountability
- Respect for diversity, equality and fairness
- Sustainability

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES (2019 – 2023)

- To enhance the capacity of ECOWAS, AU, and their relevant structures to perform their mandates in ensuring peace and security in Africa.
- To ensure financial sustainability of the Centre.
- To build African capacity to fully implement the AU Protocol to the African Charter on the rights of women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) and the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and follow up resolutions on Women, Peace and Security in the context of Africa.
- To ensure an efficient, effective and responsive governance and management system in the Centre.
- To strengthen collaboration with CSOs, Think Tanks and Private Sector in advancing policy dialogues and improvement in peace operations in Africa.
- To ensure the sustainability of the Centre's Post-Graduate academic programmes and other knowledge generation initiatives in peace and security

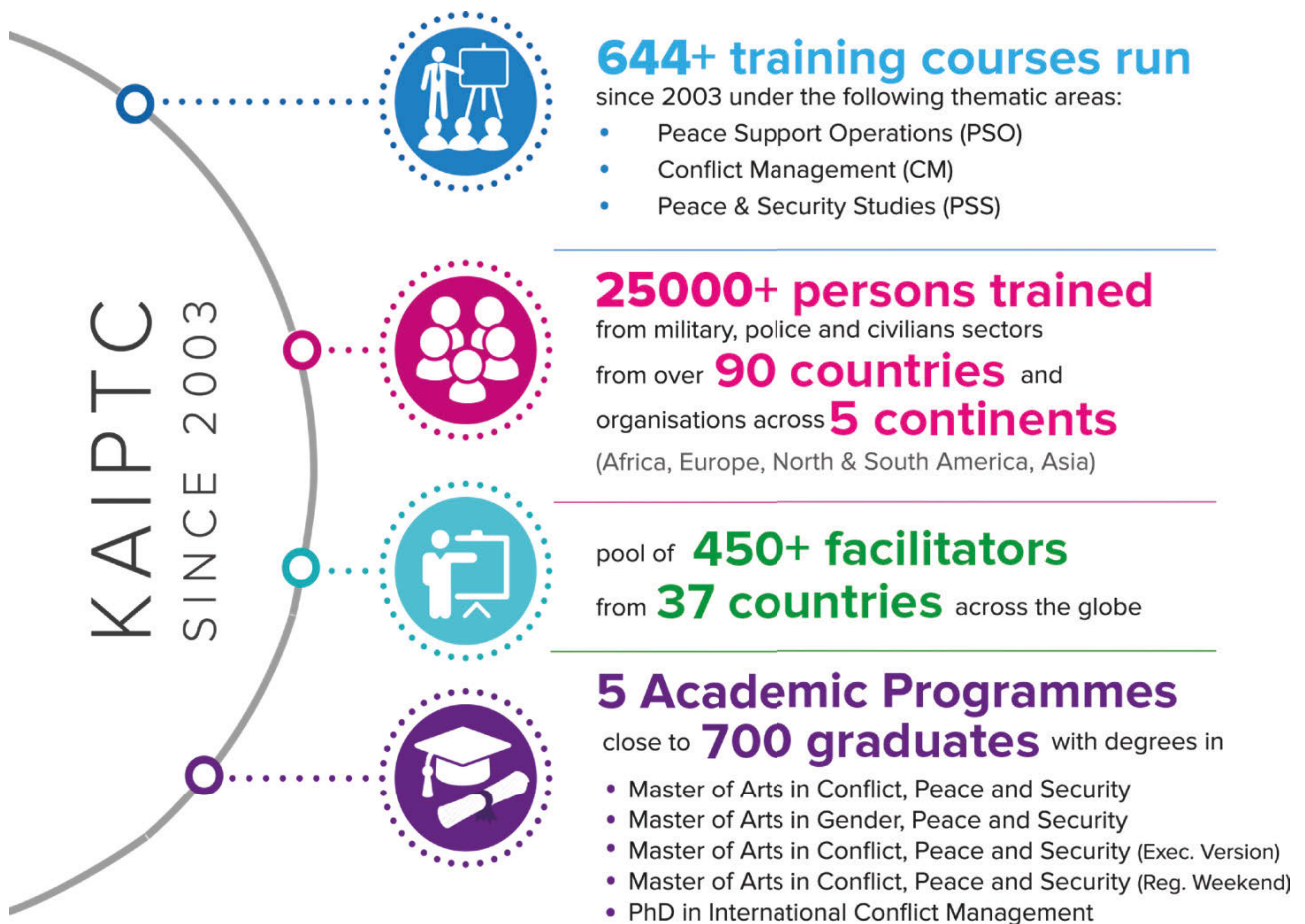
VISION

KAIPTC seeks to become the leading and preferred international Centre for training, education and research in African peace and security.

MISSION

KAIPTC provides globally-recognised capacity for international actors on African peace and security through training, education and research to foster peace and stability in Africa.

KEY STATISTICS ON TRAINING AND ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES



● OVERVIEW

2023 marked the final year of the implementation of the Centre's third Strategic Plan (2019-2023). The Centre envisioned in this Strategic Plan "to become the leading and preferred international Centre for training, education and research in African peace and security". Efforts were rallied to ensure this vision was accomplished as the Centre strategically focused its core activities in training, research and academic programmes in the region.

This Annual Report gives an account of how the Centre undertook its activities with guidance from the Strategic Plan and how the five key strategic priority areas ensured focus and attention was given to achieve the Centre's mission to provide globally recognised capacity for all actors on African peace and security, to foster peace and stability in Africa.

● SUMMARY OF KEY RESULTS

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: TO ENHANCE THE CAPACITY OF ECOWAS, AU, AND THEIR RELEVANT STRUCTURES TO PERFORM THEIR MANDATES IN ENSURING PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA

1. TRAINING

Training remains core to KAIPTC's mission year after year. In 2023, the Centre delivered training across departments to strengthen the capacity of regional institutions and organizations to fulfill their peace and security mandates effectively.

In this regard, the Centre conducted sixty-seven (67) Individual Training courses in its three (3) thematic areas: Peace Support Operation, Conflict Management; and Peace and Security Studies. The total number of participants trained reached 3,064, a significant increase from 1392 in 2022. The participants comprised 2019 males and 1045 females. Measuring by component, 889 were Military officers, 1468 Civilians and 689 police personnel. The majority of participants (2,904) came from West African with a smaller number from non-African countries.

The detailed summary of courses held and the various components can be found in the Table 1 below.

Table 1 Courses Conducted

SRN	PEACE SUPPORT OPERATIONS	COURSES	DATE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1		DDR Foundation Course	6th February to 17th February	11	6	17
2		Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Peace Support Operation Course 2023 (MTT Somalia)	16th April to 20 April 2023	27	13	40
3		Gender Advisors Course 2023	17th April to 21 April 2023	6	18	24
4		Security Sector Reform 2023 (SSR 23-1)	24th April to 5th May 2023	21	13	34

5		AU Compliance & Accountability (TOT) 2023	1st May to 12th May 2023	16	2	18
6		Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT 23)	2nd May to 6th May 2023	19	12	31
7		African Union PSO Staff Officer Course 2023	8th May to 19th May 2023	17	7	24
8		Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning In PSOs In Africa (2023)	15th May to 19th May 2023	16	7	23
9		Collaborative Policing 2023-1	22nd May to 2nd June 2023	19	14	33
10		Intelligence Support for Peace Operations (ISPO 23)	22nd May to 2nd June 2023	22	7	29
11		Child Protection Training of Trainers 2023	19th June to 30th June 2023	7	5	12
12		Multidimensional Peace Operations Course (MDPO23)	19th June to 30th June 2023	18	12	30
13		ECOWAS Staff Officer Course 2023- 1 - MTT GAMBIA	3rd July to 7th July 2023	31	3	34
14		ECOWAS Staff Officer Course 2023 - 2 - MTT Guinea Bissau	10th July to 14th July 2023	42	0	42
15		Child Protection Pilot Course For Law Enforcement Agencies 23	10th July to 21st July 2023	14	32	46
16		Political Advisor Course for Peace Support Operations in Africa Course-PolAd23	10th July to 21st July 2023	18	4	22
17		United Nations Staff Officer Course - GAF-UNSOC 2023	14th August to 31st August 2023	11	20	31
18		Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Terrorism Generic Pilot Course (PCVET23)	14th August to 18th August 2023	32	2	34
19		Defence and Security Sector Actors and Violent Extremism and Terrorism Pilot Course (DSSA -VET23)	4th to 8th September 2023	20	7	27
20		Collaborative Policing 2023-2	4th to 15th September 2023	19	12	31
21		Defence and Security Sector Actors and Violent Extremism and Terrorism Course	25th to 29th September 2023	39	3	42
22		African Union PSO Staff Officer Course 2023 – 2	25th Sept to 6th October 2023	19	8	27
23		Renforcement De Capacites Des Acteur Locaux Pour La Prevention Et Reponse A La Violence Sexiste En Afrique	25th to 29th September 2023	13	20	33
24		Security Sector Reform 2023 (SSR 23-2)	2nd to 12th October 2023	18	11	29

25		Peace Support Operation Course for Ghana Military Academy Cadets (PSOC 23)	2nd to 6th October 2023	234	76	310
26		United Nations Staff Officer Course - UNSOC 2023 - 2 (German)	9th to 27th October	17	13	30
27		Joint Campaign Planning Course (JCP 2023-2)	9th to 20th October	14	1	15
28		Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT 23-2)	23rd to 27th October	23	8	31
29		Police Middle Management Course 23 – 2	30th October to 10th November 2023	17	12	31
30		Maritime Security Reporting course 2023 - 3 (Lagos)	6th to 10th November 2023	18	8	26
31		Protection of Civilians Course (POC 23-2)	13th November to 24th 2023	15	12	27
32		Preventing Violent Extremism, Radicalization and Small Arms Proliferation in the Sahel and Adjoining Coastal States in West Africa Course	13th November to 24th 2023	16	8	24
33		Women Youth and Violent Extremism (Abidjan)	20th to 24th November 2023	21	14	35
34		Criminal Justice Course 2023 – 2	20th to 24th November 2023	48	20	68
35		United Nations Staff Officer Course - UNSOC 2023 - 3 (Canada)	13th November to 30th 2023	7	23	30
36		ECOWAS Civilian Foundation Course (CFC-23)	4th to 8 December 2023	10	8	18
37		Training of Trainers on Stockpile Management Course- 2023_Abidjan	4th to 8 December 2023	14	0	14
		SUB TOTAL		929	441	1370

SRN	CONFLICT MANAGEMENT	COURSES	DATE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1		Election Observation Training	6th February to 11th February 23	17	7	24
2		Humanitarian Assistance in West Africa-Core Course	13th February to February 24th	18	14	32
3		Humanitarian Assistance in West Africa-(Fr) TOT	27th February to 3rd March 2023	12	8	20
4		Military Observers Pre-Deployment Training	13th March to 31st March 23	14	7	21
5		Election Violence and Security Course (EVSC23- Group A) Sierra Leone	10th April to 14th April 2023	53	28	81
6		Election Violence and Security Course (EVSC23- Group B) Sierra Leone	17th April to 21st April 2023	56	21	77
7		FORMATION SUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT D'UNE CULTURE DE LA SÉCURITÉ MARITIME DANS LE GOLFE DE GUINÉE 2023-Togo	8th May to 12th May 2023	25	5	30
8		Military Observers Pre-Deployment Training (GAF) 2023	5th June to 23rd May 2023	6	21	27
9		GENDER RESPONSIVE CLIMATE ACTION IN HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE COURSE & HAWA TRAINING OF TRAINER COURSE	5th June to 9th June 2023	8	13	21
10		Humanitarian Assistance in West Africa Core Course (HAWA ToT 2023 Eng)	12th June to 16th June 2023	8	13	21
11		Investigating and Preventing Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Conflict 2023 (ISGBV23)	19th June to 30th June 2023	9	22	31
12		Election Management Training EMT23	26th June to 7th July 2023	11	6	17
13		Election Violence and Security Course (EVSC23-2-A) Liberia	10th April to 14th April 2023	64	18	82
14		Election Violence and Security Course (EVSC23-2-B) Liberia	17th April to 21st April 2023	64	44	108
15		Investigating Sexual and Gender Based Violence 2023 - 2 (ISGBV 23 - 2)	18th to 29th September 2023	9	27	36
16		Humanitarian Assistance in West Africa Core Course ENGLISH (HAWA CC 2023 - 2)	25th Spt to 5th October 2023	17	11	28
17		Criminal Justice Course 2023	23rd to 27th October 2023	20	11	31
18		Military Observers Training GAF - 2023 -3	27th Nov to 15th December	5	27	32
		SUB TOTAL		416	303	719

SRN	PEACE AND SECURITY STUDIES	COURSES	DATE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1		MIGRATION MANAGEMENT COURSE 2023 (MMC 23)	23 January to 3rd February 23	13	15	28
2		Joint Campaign Planning Course	13th February to 24th February	18	2	20
3		Conflict Analysis and Mediation Course	20th February to 3rd March	22	7	29
4		United Nations Civil-Military Coordination (UN-CIMIC23)	20th March to 31st March 23	14	6	18
5		Police Middle Management Course (PMMC) 2023-1	17 April to 28 April 2023	15	12	27
6		Protection of Civilians Course (POC 23-1)	08th May to 19th May 2023	14	15	29
7		Maritime Security and Transnational Organized Crimes Course (MSTOC 2023)- 1	22nd May to 2nd June 2023	22	11	23
8		Maritime Security Reporting course 2023 - 1 –Takoradi	22nd May to 26th May 2023	13	8	21
9		SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE FOR COMMUNITY ACTORS – HO	10th July to 14th July 2023	16	24	40
10		ICPNC trainings on peace monitoring and reporting and conflict analysis and mediation MTT(SIERRA	29th May to 9th June 2023	471	159	630
11		Developing Maritime Security Culture In the Gulf of Guinea- 2023 - Congo Brazzaville	11th to 20th September 23	225	5	30
12		Maritime Security Reporting course 2023 – 2	2nd to 6th October 2023	14	10	24
13		Inspiring African Women Leaders in Peace and Security 2023	16th to 27th October 2023	0	20	20
14		Maritime Security and Transnational Organized Crimes Course (MSTOC 2023)- 2	6th to 17th November 2023	17	7	24
		SUB TOTAL		674	301	975

GENDER REPRESENTATION

With respect to gender representation for 2022, male participants were 1,253 in 2022 compared to 1,109 in 2021, and female participants were 673 compared to 746 in 2021.

Representation by Gender in 2021

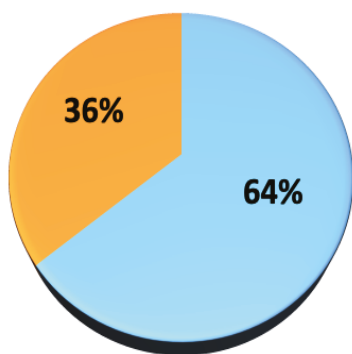
SRL	Gender	Number
1	Male	893
2	Female	499
	Total	1392

Representation by Gender in 2022

SRL	Gender	Number
1	Male	2019
2	Female	1045
	Total	3064

Percentage Representation 2022

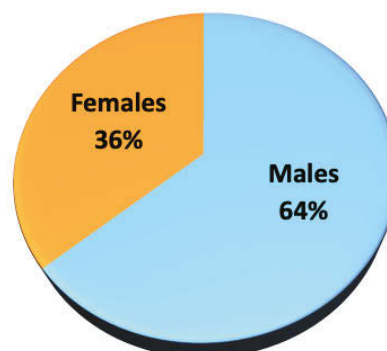
Gender Distribution



● Males ● Females

Percentage Representation 2023

Gender Distribution



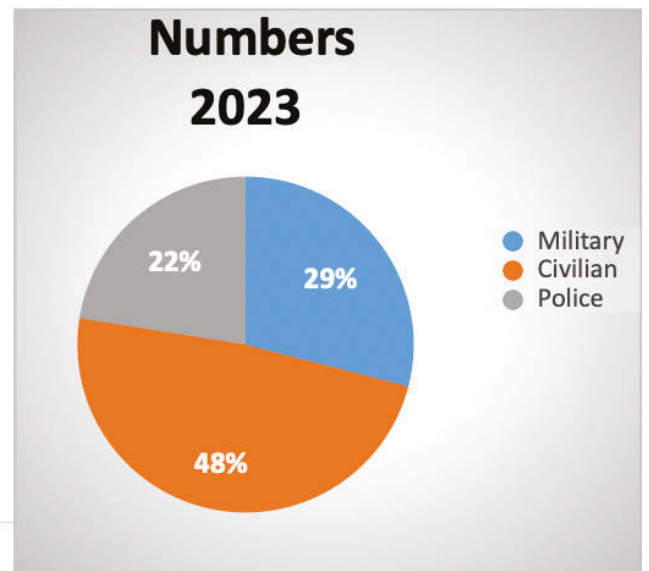
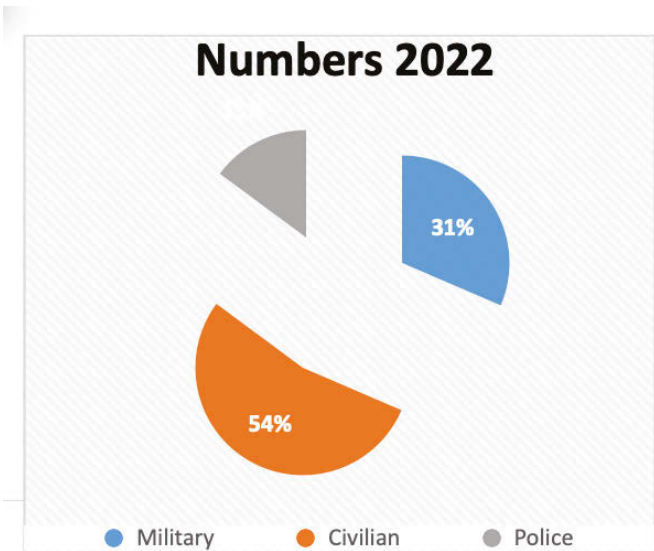
● Males ● Females ●

COMPONENT REPRESENTATION

The data below depicts representations by components. They are categorized into Military, Civilian and Police. Military attendance was 29.1 %, Civilian was 48.50 % and 22.49 % for the Police.

SRL	Component	Number
1	Military	483
2	Civilian	747
3	Police	207
	Total	1392

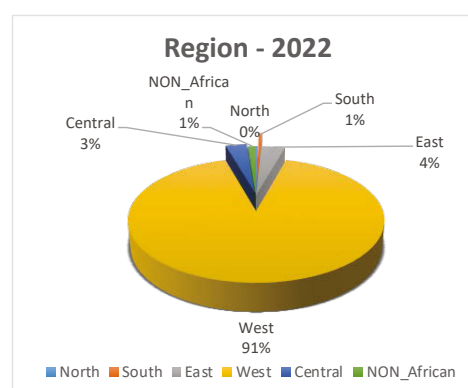
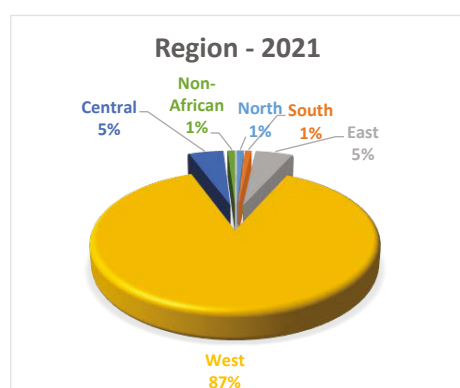
SRL	Component	Number
1	Military	889
2	Civilian	1486
3	Police	689
	Total	3064



Consistent with the Centre's vision and mission to concentrate on fostering peace and stability in Africa, majority of participants to the training programmes in 2022 were from the region. Out of a total of 3,064 individuals trained, only 11 were from outside the African continent. The detailed breakdown in terms of regional representation in Africa are as follows: 46 course participants were from Central Africa; 48 from East Africa; 28 from North Africa; 27 from South Africa; 2904 from West Africa. A high attendance was recorded from West Africa with a total of 2,904 trained participants.

Regions	Number
North	6
South	8
East	67
West	1239
Central	53
Non-African	19
Total	1392

Regions	Number
North	28
South	27
East	48
West	2904
Central	46
Non-African	11
Total	3064



2. ONLINE COURSES

The KAIPTC continued to draw maximum benefits from its online courses in 2023 and effectively rolled out eight (8) virtual pre-courses to support on-site training and stand-alone courses during the period. The achieved aim was to broaden the Centre's reach and take advantage of new trends in training delivery.

The Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support and Security Sector Reform online courses developed in 2022 were piloted under the year in review. The total number of participants that enrolled on the online courses in 2023 were 4,129. The breakdown per course are as follows; PICR – 1,296, ICIMIC – 1,926, HRFO – 36, DDRF - 104, MHPSS – 85, EOT - 70, EMT - 531, SSR - 81.

Online Course	Number of Enrolments	Male	Female
Peacekeeping and International Conflict Resolution (PICR)	1,296	937	359
Integrated Civil-Military Coordination (ICIMIC)	1,926	1,396	530

Human Rights for Field Officers (HRFO)	36	23	13
Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration Foundation (DDRF)	104	70	34
Security Sector Reform (SSR)	81	46	35
Election Observation Training (EOT)	70	48	22
Election Management Training (EMT)	531	402	129
Mental Health & Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS)	85	35	50
TOTAL	4129	2957	1172

BELOW ARE SOME TESTIMONIALS FROM ONLINE COURSE PARTICIPANTS:

“I believe the course objectives were achieved because; the modules are very pertinent and applicable to contemporary conflict resolution. Taking into consideration that conflicts have many dynamics and with constant research on contemporary peacekeeping, this course would remain a source of valuable information not only for peacekeepers but also for scholars.”

Anonymous, Kenya – PICR online course

“I have enjoyed every part of the course content and progression. I have also enjoyed the way it was structured and the valuable information it presented. Above all, I have learnt a lot to help me in my job as I keep dealing with lots of people within the domestic violence community. It has improved my mental and psychological stability and my outlook at life as a whole.”

Anonymous, Ghana – MHPSS online course

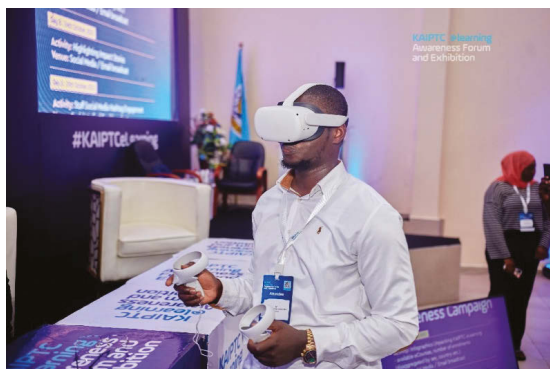
3. KAIPTC ELEARNING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The Centre organised a four-day eLearning awareness campaign in October 2023 under the theme: The Future of KAIPTC Learning! Developing Capacities through Innovative Learning Technologies.

The first 3 days were used for online sensitisation activities that showcased the successes and impact of KAIPTC’s eLearning programme. A forum and exhibition were held as part of the activities to further highlight and showcase the Centre’s eight (8) eLearning courses, which had attracted more than 3000 participants. The climax of the event were the discussions with panelists from the Rainbow Consult, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), KAIPTC, the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC), and the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITCILO).

The event was sponsored by GIZ through the ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and Operations (EPSAO) project and the Norwegian government and brought together development partners, government, training institutions, academia, the security sector, the private sector, and media.

The Centre intends to improve its eLearning infrastructure in order to broaden access to training, research and academic programmes, following the rapid rise in technology-based learning



4. TWO (2) ONLINE COURSES DEVELOPED FOR THE GHANA ARMED FORCES

Still within the strategic context of enhancing capacity of relevant institutions and structures to effectively perform their mandates within the region, the KAIPTC developed the Gender Advisors and Gender Focal Persons courses as part of the ongoing Elsie Initiative project with the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF) to mainstream gender efforts in the Ghana Armed Forces.

The courses were developed and rolled out to equip GAF's appointed Gender Advisors and Focal Persons with the requisite knowledge, skills and tools required to effectively perform their duties. These courses have introduced participants to the various frameworks and resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (WPS), concepts in gender, the GAF's gender mainstreaming activities and provided insights to the duties of Gender Advisors and Focal Persons including communication skills and handling resistance.

5. MOBILE TRAINING

Mobile training is key to the work of the KAIPTC as it enables the Centre to reach out to additional participants using fewer logistics and resources. The KAIPTC's Mobile Training Team facilitated a number of such training programmes in 2023 to train personnel specifically for the AU and ECOWAS, ultimately aimed at building the capacity of these regional institutions to effectively perform their mandate to ensure a peaceful Africa.

Some of the trainings facilitated by KAIPTC Mobile Training Team are highlighted below.

a. MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT FOR PEACE SUPPORT OPERATIONS COURSE - SOMALIA

Given the volatile and violent nature of the conditions under which AU PSO personnel are deployed, their exposure to many variable demands for adjustment, and various maladaptive responses if not properly addressed, the KAIPTC Mobile Training Team held the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) for Peace Support Operations (PSO) course, in Mogadishu from 16th to 20th April 2023 for the staff of the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS).

It was crucial for both the leadership and personnel of AU PSOs to have a comprehensive understanding of the factors that affect mental health and the emerging patterns of responses. The course was therefore held so participants could understand the basic concepts, and strategies of dealing with the psychological and psycho-social impact of violent conflict; understand the extent to which violent conflict shatters the social fabric of the family unit, community and nation; understand the impact of trauma and post-traumatic stress on peacekeepers and mission as a whole; and develop skills to manage stress in a mission theatre;

The African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) nominated 40 participants (military, police and civilian staff) within the mission area from ten countries to participate in the course. Participants comprised twenty-eight (28) males and twelve (12) females.

By organizing this course and fostering cooperation among various stakeholders, the African Union, along with the support of international organizations like the United Nations, demonstrated a commitment to promoting the mental health and psychosocial support of its peacekeeping personnel. These efforts contribute to building a more resilient and effective peacekeeping force, capable of meeting the complex demands of their missions.

The course was sponsored by the GIZ's ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and Operations (EPSAO) project, the United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS) and the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS).

b. ECOWAS STAFF OFFICERS COURSE – THE GAMBIA

Growing political instability and security challenges in West Africa explains the need for the deployment of Peace Support Operations (PSOs) activities in the region as mandated by the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government. The ECOWAS multidimensional and integrated PSO structures requires the setting up of Mission Headquarters as well as Sector Headquarters (in some cases) and these structures are normally manned by personnel from the Military, Police, Civilian, and Mission Support Components.

To enhance the performance of such personnel at the mission headquarters, the ECOWAS Peace Support Operations Division in collaboration with the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), and funding from the GIZ's ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and Operations (EPSAO) Project developed an ECOWAS Staff Officers Handbook to ensure standard operating procedures within ECOWAS Peace Support Operations.

Further to this, the KAIPTC's Mobile Training team organized the Staff Officers Course for staff at the ECOWAS Mission in the Gambia (ECOMIG) in Banjul. The course was held from 3rd - 7th July 2023 to enhance the understanding of personnel of the broader framework in which they work. The training was further meant to help individuals to carry out the correct operational procedures appropriate to their roles; and serve as a critical requirement to ensure that the Operating Procedures of both ECOWAS Headquarters and the ESF Mission Headquarters are organized, standardized and documented to simplify information flow and access for staff officers.

ECOMIG nominated 34 participants within the mission for the course and they comprised thirty-one (31) males and three (3) females.

c. ECOWAS STAFF OFFICERS COURSE - GUINEA BISSAU

Similar to the course organized in The Gambia for personnel of the ECOWAS Mission, another Officers Course was organized for Staff of the ECOWAS Stabilization Support Mission in Guinea-Bissau (SSMGB) from Tuesday 11th - 14th of July 2023. The course, also sponsored under the EPSAO project, aimed at training personnel deployed in ECOWAS Peace Support Operations (PSOs) to enhance their understanding of the broader framework in which they work. Other objectives for delivering the course were to:

- a. Enhance the knowledge and skills of the participants for day-to-day usage of the Staff Officers Handbook previously designed for the ECOWAS Peace Support Operations.
- b. Assess the relevance of the various modules of the ECOWAS Staff Officers Handbook to current and emerging needs in contemporary PSOs;
- c. Determine relevant issues/areas that need to be covered/included in the Handbook to make the course responsive to the emerging needs of ECOWAS PSOs.
- d. Address relevant issues related to training for the effective usage of the Handbook in ECOWAS-mandated PSOs.
- e. Update the Handbook contents in accordance with a, b, and c above.

The ECOWAS Security Stabilization Mission in Guinea-Bissau (SSMGB) nominated 42 participants for the course, all of whom were male.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: TO ENSURE FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF THE CENTRE

1. RESOURCE MOBILISATION

Two resource mobilization efforts were initiated and proposals developed during the first half of the year 2023 to explore opportunities to ensure the Centre is financially sustainable. These proposals were to GIZ and SIDA.

2. COMMERCIALIZATION OF COURSES

The Centre, in addition to this, has commercialized selected courses and opened it up for participation by stakeholders who need these courses to build their capacity and can afford to pay to enroll. Three courses are being piloted in this regard and they include Artificial Intelligence in Peacebuilding; Conflict Analyses and Mediation; and Leadership and Management in Security Organizations.

3. DEVELOPMENT OF NEW M.A PROGRAMMES

To ensure financial sustainability and in conforming to KAIPTC's commitment to academic excellence innovation and addressing emerging security challenges, the Faculty of Academic Affair and Research developed two new Master of Arts (M.A) programs in 2023.

The M.A in Elections and Security Administration is designed to provide students with comprehensive appreciation of the essence managing security dynamics during an electoral process. With an anticipated enrollment of 50 students, this program is set to provide students with the skillsets needed to ensure the integrity, transparency, and security of electoral systems, thereby contributing to the promotion of the tenets of democracy good governance and political stability.

The M.A in Intelligence and Development seeks to bridge the gap between intelligence gathering and sustainable development initiatives. Anticipating an enrollment of 50 students, this program will explore the interplay of data collection, intelligence analysis, security, and development, equipping participants with the knowledge and skills to address complex and dynamic security challenges while promoting sustainable development agendas. As these new M.A

programs undergo accreditation processes, we anticipate significant interest from the public seeking to enhance their expertise in these fields. Once accredited, these programs will contribute to the broader mission of KAIPTC in promoting peace, security, and stability in Africa.

4. OTHER RESOURCE MOBILIZATION ACTIVITIES

The following engagements were undertaken also in an effort to improve on the coordination and collaboration for improved resource mobilization of the Centre,

- a. Led by the Commandant, a delegation paid a courtesy call on Dr. Kwame Pianin, an astute economist and former government official in February 2023 to discuss KAIPTC sustainability issues
- b. Led by Commandant, the Centre paid a working visit to Hon. Shirley A. Botchway, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration to strengthen institutional collaboration and seek the Ministry's support for funding and for the KAIPTC to play a key advisory role to the Government of Ghana in matters of peace and security.



Meeting with Honorable Minister for Foreign Affairs Madam Shirley Ayorkor Botchway in her Office, Accra on 27th February 2023

c. A KAIPTC delegation held discussions with officials at the Goree Institute in Senegal leading to the signing of an MOU on joint programming and research related activities.

d. To explore alternative sources of funding for the Centre's Women, Youth, Peace and Security Institute and other critical areas of the Centre's activities, the KAIPTC and ECOWAS Gender Development Centre (EGDC) held a two-day session on 18th & 19th May 2023 to work out modalities for partnership between both institutions. The parties identified areas of collaboration to promote gender mainstreaming, increase leadership capacities for women, and ways to sustain the women, peace and security (WPS) agenda in West Africa and beyond.



e. Also to explore new areas of partnerships and resource mobilisation efforts, the leadership of the Centre paid working visits to Abuja and Addis Ababa, to engage Civil Society Organizations whose interests are aligned to the that of the Centre's to explore possible partnerships in the next strategic phase.

Institutions visited in Abuja included the UN Women and Mercy Corps where the focus of the discussions were on Climate change and its impact on women. GBV, harnessing the role of traditional and religious leaders, working with the youth and women in unconventional networks amongst others.



f. While in Abuja, the team also held meetings with Life and Peace Institute, All Africa Conference of Churches (AUCC), Brot Fuer die welt (Bread for Life) and Amani Africa Media Foundation in Addis Ababa. Issues discussed focused partnerships and collaborations on women, youth, peace and security agenda, democratic governance and unconstitutional governments, policy engagement with the AU, peacebuilding and humanitarian development, transitional justice, climate change and capacity building

g. KAIPTC hosted H.E Dr. De Groof Bart, Belgium's Special Envoy to the Sahel on 5th June 2023 to explore possible areas of partnerships and collaborations. The meeting also discussed security issues in the Sahel and the spill overs in neighbouring countries. The discussions also highlighted the competing roles of non-state actors in the Sahel Region, the limitations of MINUSMA, the Accra Initiative and entry points for collaboration between Belgium and the KAIPTC. The Special Envoy cited possible areas of collaboration in the area of research, education, policy advising and joint programming for peace and security actors.

h. Discussions were held with the US Embassy Press Attaché to discuss training security forces and actors to use more innovative and complex methods to achieve effective communication and outreach in local communities.



i. The KAIPTC held fruitful discussions with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Discussions focused on the outcome of the evaluation of the phase 1 of the project, 'Operationalization of the Women Peace and Security Agenda' implemented by KAIPTC's WYPSI. Other areas of discussions were on issues of radicalization, violent extremism, terrorism, the unending gender-based violations in member states and the monitoring of member states in implementing their gender mainstreaming activities. The Swedish Government announced its continued support to the Centre and extended its cooperation to the KAIPTC for another three (3) years through the implementation of the 'Operationalization of the Women Peace and Security Agenda' phase 2.



KAIPTC Delegation with Madam Ulla Andrèn, Head of Regional Development Cooperation in Africa, Embassy of Sweden

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3: TO BUILD AFRICAN CAPACITY TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE AU PROTOCOL TO THE AFRICAN CHARTER ON THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN AFRICA (MAPUTO PROTOCOL) AND THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION (UNSCR) 1325 AND FOLLOW UP RESOLUTIONS ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE CONTEXT OF AFRICA).

The KAIPTC, having recognized the need to strengthen its capacity building, policy discourse, research and field work in the area of women, peace and security, affirmed its commitment to promote Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) through this third strategic objective.

In view of this, the Women, Youth, Peace and Security Institute (WYPSI) has been mandated to build African capacity to fully implement the AU Protocol to the African Charter on the rights of women in Africa (Maputo Protocol); the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and its follow up resolutions on Women, Peace and Security in the context of Africa. WYPSI has over the years promoted gender parity and inclusive participation of women in peace processes through capacity building, research, policy dialogues, gender advisory and advocacy and 2023 was no exception.

WYPSI continued to work with various national, regional, continental and international stakeholders to promote Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE), towards the achievement of the WPS Agenda in Africa.



1. PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN AFRICA COURSE

As part of activities in line with the SIDA Project “Enhancing the Operationalization of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Africa”, WYPSI delivered the Prevention and Responding to Gender-Based Violence course in partnership with West African Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), Togo.

The training, held in Lomé from 25th to 29th September 2023, brought together, various GBV actors made-up of middle-level officers from the Police, Gendarmerie, Judicial Service, Media, Civil Societies Organizations, Health Professionals, Faith-Based Organizations, Religious and Traditional Leaders in Togo.

It created a platform to provide relevant local actors with knowledge and skills to enhance their capacity to effectively prevent and respond to issues of GBV in Togo. Additionally, the training provided actors with knowledge on the status of GBV in Togo, the existing national, regional and international legal framework for GBV prevention and the roles of various actors in preventing and responding to GBV. It also created an opportunity for the judiciary to educate and sensitize participants on their roles in facilitating the prosecution of GBV offenders.



Participants had the opportunity to network and understand the role of each actor, the challenges the various actors face in their work, as well as the support they can receive in the fight against GBV. The 5-day interactive training program brought together a cross-section of thirty-three (33) local actors including 19 males and 14 females engaged in the prevention and response to GBV in their respective communities within Togo. It was expected that the training program would contribute to curb the prevalence of Gender-Based Violence in both countries.

In line with the same objectives, a second GBV training was replicated in Ho, Ghana, in collaboration with Ghana's Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection. A total of 39 (13 males and 26 females) GBV actors selected from Western, Eastern, Central, Greater Accra and Volta Regions of Ghana benefited from the training. These trainings were fully sponsored by the Government of Sweden.

This GBV training has contributed to raise awareness on the impacts of this unlawful acts mostly perpetrated against women and girls, while building a sense of teamwork and collaboration among the local actors to effectively prevent and respond to GBV in both countries. Participants gained knowledge on the roles of key institutions such as the Police and the Judicial Services in prosecuting GBV issues. The knowledge gained will enhance the capacity of actors to educate communities with a trickle-down effect on the need to preserve evidence and provide relevant information to enable the prosecution of perpetrators.

The training would contribute to reduce the prevalence of GBV in Ghana and Togo.

2. GENDER ADVISORS COURSE

In partnership with the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA), WYPSI delivered a five-day Gender Advisers Course for participants drawn from continental, regional and national entities as well as UN and AU missions. The training was held from 17th – 21st April, 2023 at the KAIPTC. It was designed to meet the diverse needs of Gender Advisers who want to become more effective in supporting gender mainstreaming in their various organizations.

Additionally, the training aimed at providing participants with knowledge, practical tools and skills that will enhance their ability to support gender mainstreaming in their individual organizations.

The course contents covered the following areas: Working as a Gender Adviser; International and Regional Gender Policy Frameworks; Gender mainstreaming; Gender Analysis; Theory of Change and Gender Action Planning; Communication and Handling Resistance; Gender Capacity Building & Training; Gender Markers and Gender Sensitive Reporting. A total of twenty-four (24) participants (6 Males and 18 Females) were drawn from thirteen (13) African countries namely; Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa and Togo.

The training has addressed the specific needs of Gender Advisers assigned with specific responsibilities to support and facilitate gender mainstreaming in international organizations across Africa. The course contextualized from African perspectives, was delivered for the third time in Africa jointly by the KAIPTC and FBA. The course was fully sponsored by the Government of Sweden.



3. CAPACITY TRAINING FOR WYPSI STAFF AND FACILITATORS

The Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) and Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) over the past two years have collaborated in organizing the Gender Adviser Course as a means to strengthen the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Africa. Prior to the delivery of the course at the KAIPTC and in a bid to strengthen a joint approach in delivering the course, the FBA organized a facilitators retreat in Cape Town, South Africa from 13 -17 February 2023. The retreat was attended by staff of KAIPTC and FBA.

Two pedagogical experts with extensive experience in facilitation led the workshop. The retreat enhanced the skills and knowledge of facilitators in delivering an adult learning training and fostered a closer collaboration between the FBA and KAIPTC team. Additionally, the retreat contributed to enhance facilitator capacity to deliver various sessions on the GAC, taking into consideration the content of sessions and key adult learning principles; Enhance facilitator capacity to engage participants and deliver highly interactive sessions as well as develop a strong team spirit among the facilitators.



4. INSPIRING AFRICAN WOMEN LEADERS IN PEACE AND SECURITY (IAWL-PS) PROGRAMME

WYPSI continues to enhance leadership capacity of women to increase their leadership roles and meaningful participation in peace and security spaces to achieve sustainable peace and security in Africa and beyond.

As a result, WYPSI has organised the year-long Inspiring African Women Leaders in Peace and Security Programme, in collaboration with Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) and fully funded by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through its implementing agency GIZ-EPSAO. Since its establishment in 2019, it has produced three cohort participants who are spearheading the WPS agenda at the community, national, regional level, as well as in various peacekeeping operations. The third cohort (2022-2023 programme year) of participants were made up of 19 African peace and security women leaders from 12 African countries namely; Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Sierra Leone, Swaziland and Uganda.

Participants included civilians working in government departments, peace support operations, peace and security oriented civil society and community-based organisations, as well as uniformed personnel (police and military). The objectives of the IAWL-PS programme among others is to build the capacity of African women to take up leadership in African peace and security and promote the implementation of the WPS Agenda as well as the Maputo Protocol.

Under the third cohort of the IAWL-PS programme, 20 mid-level African women, from 11 African countries were selected as programme participants. Participants were engaged in the first activity under the programme, the “Inspiring African Women Leaders in Peace and Security Course” which was organized in partnership with the Geneva Center for Security Policy and fully funded by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through its implementing agency GIZ-EPSAO.

The course held in October 2023 at the KAIPTC, equipped participants with training on leadership to enhance their capacity to influence the implementation of the WPS agenda in Africa. The leadership training focused on the 7 themes of leaderships developed by the GCSP (which includes Mindsets to Lead, focusing on your purpose, Authenticity and adaptability, owning your power, Giving and receiving effective feedback, Enhancing emotional intelligence, etc.). Additionally, participants were also equipped with relevant knowledge in project design, personal branding, conflict mapping and analysis, advocacy etc. which will be useful in implementing their various leadership change initiatives as part of the programme.

The 2-week IAWL-PS course was the first activity under the yearlong leadership programme. The programme planned to subsequently engage participants in webinars, coaching and finally organize a course on mentoring at the KAIPTC to sharpen the mentoring skills of participants. It is expected that the mentoring skills gained by participants will also enable them to serve as key leadership instigators in their various spaces and build up other young women leaders who also work to contribute to promote the WPS agenda in the context of Africa and beyond. Participants recognized the progress they have made in their personal leadership growth through participating in the programme with a number of participants already taking up greater responsibility and higher positions within their organizations.



5. TRAINING OF PEACE MONITORS AND MEDIATORS IN SIERRA-LEONE

Sierra Leone experienced a brutal civil conflict, which lasted from 1991 to 2002. To address the consequences of the war, an Independent Commission on Peace and National Coercion (ICPNC) was established in 2020 to devise strategies and measures to prevent and resolve conflicts and to promote and maintain sustainable peace through national cohesion in Sierra Leone. The Commission, in its efforts to ensure violence free June 2023 national elections partnered with the KAIPTCs Women, Youth, Peace and Security Institute (WYPSI) to organize a series of workshops on peace monitoring, elections observation, personal safety, conflict analysis, management and resolution as well as mediation for Peace Monitors and Mediators.

The workshop was organized to sensitize participants on the need to promote peace and foster national coercion in the communities. Participants further enhanced their capacity to observe the upcoming national elections, detect and report any potential threats, and address any conflict that may lead to insecurity in the country.

Targeting national and districts peace monitors and mediators, a total of 630 participants, comprising 470 males and 160 females selected from 5 regions in Sierra Leone benefited from the trainings. Among the participants were paramount chiefs, religious and traditional leaders, youth, and women's groups.



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Peace Commission Ends Nationwide Training of Peace Monitors

By Abubakarr Harding
The training of Peace Monitors across the country by the Independent Commission on Peace and National Cohesion (ICPNC) in partnership with the Women, Peace and Security Institute (WPSI) of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) on conflict mediation and reconciliation has been completed. 10 mediators per district participated in the training. In all a total of 120 Mediators; 64 males and 56 Females were trained so far. The training for mediators in the Western Urban and Western Rural district was held in Freetown, while the training sessions for the districts were held in the regional headquarter towns of Bo, Kenema, Makeni and Port Loko. The two-day training for the Southern Region took place at the Gallinest Paradise in Bo City and brought together 40 participants drawn from Bonthe, Moyamba, Pujehun and Bo districts to be trained as peace mediators ahead of the National June 24 General Elections. Participants comprised Paramount Chiefs, Traditional and Religious leaders, market women, Office of National Security (ONS), Youth Representatives, Civil Society Organization, etc. According to Madam Agnes Afi Agbevedi, Acting Head of Women Peace and Security Institute at the KAIPTC, the training aims at enhancing the capacity of national and district mediators to effectively prevent and resolve any potential conflict that may arise before, during and after the General Elections in the country. "It is expected that the mediators will use the skills and knowledge acquired to ensure they effectively mediate any potential conflict that may arise. We do not foresee any threat but we are training the mediators ahead of time so that in the case of any potential conflict they will be able to deal with it in their various regions," she noted.

Speaking on the partnership with the ICPNC, Madam Agbevedi underscored it has been a great time experience as both organizations have the same mandate to ensure peace and security. Escalating the training in 5 regions in Sierra Leone, she stated has given them the opportunity to discover the country a little bit and has also enhanced their scope of network as they engaged with the various stakeholders within these regions.

"The Women Peace and Security Institute at the KAIPTC urges all national stakeholders to integrate women's perspectives and full participation in the electoral processes. The Institute also calls for a concerted and collective effort especially at the community levels to ensure that there is violence free election in Sierra Leone," she said. "We do not condone any violence that may affect especially women and children before, during and after the elections in Sierra Leone. We wish 'Mama Salone' the very best in the forthcoming elections," she said. She expressed on behalf of the KAIPTC her sincere appreciation to the Government of Sweden for their continued support to ensure sustainable peace and security in the West African Sub Region. Kojo Mensa-Buall, Senior Programs Manager, Conflict Mediation and Resolution at the Independent Commission for Peace and National Cohesion (ICPNC) disclosed, the training in Bo is part of their nationwide drive of training mediators across the country especially at a moment the country is heading towards the Multi-tier elections. "Mediation is more important when there are scuffles or issues of conflict you need to



have a mediator, but you can't just take anyone to meditate. So we deemed it fit to carefully select these participants represented here to capacitate them with the best of knowledge that will secure the peace of the nation. "We are therefore expecting the mediation team members to go back to their respective communities and contribute towards the furtherance of peace and national cohesion in the country. Again we are calling for dedication and patriotism from our mediators and with concerted effort continue to uphold the peace in our beloved country," he urged. Participants from the training described the engagement as timely whilst pledging their unflinching commitment to upholding the peace within their various communities. "This training is very excellent. I'm grateful to be here as a participant to be taught and trained as a mediator of peace in my community. It's really apt, going through social media and seeing what some political parties are saying that is not resonating with the peace in our country. I think it's but fitting to come and have this training so that when we go back to our communities we can help in consolidating our peace" "So my message from what I

have learnt here is we should have one common interest that is Sierra Leone, and that's what we've been taught and that's what we should preach to our brothers and sisters," said Reverend Father Lappia from Mattru Jong, Bonthe District. Doris Fambuluch a trader from Bo said: "This training is really timely because we know what we've experienced from past elections with incidences of violence and hate speeches among party leaders and supporters but with this training we are now ready to reach out to constituents with messages of peace". Some of the topics covered in the training include: conflict and conflict analysis, conflict theory, conflict mediation and reconciliation etc. The training also saw role plays, scenarios, group work and a question and answer session. The Independent Commission for Peace and National Cohesion is a creation of an Act of Parliament in February 2021 and was officially launched on Thursday 20 April, 2023. The Commission's mandate is to promote national cohesion and address the root causes of conflict which are vital for ensuring the country's continued progress towards sustainable peace and development.

6. ENHANCING THE CAPABILITY OF THE GHANA ARMED FORCES TO ADDRESS BARRIERS TO WOMEN IN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS: ELSIE INITIATIVE FOR WOMEN IN PEACE SUPPORT OPERATIONS.

In 2017, the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial in Vancouver, Canada, launched the Elsie Initiative for Women in Peace Operations. The initiative represents a global effort to increase women's meaningful participation in peace operations. In line with this, WYPSI collaborated with the Geneva Centre for Security Governance (DCAF) and Cornell University to implement the Barrier Assessment Research for the Ghana Armed Forces under the Elsie Initiative. The data collection in Ghana began in 2019 and was completed in January 2020.

In April 2021 the final report from the research, dubbed 'Measuring Opportunities for Women in Peace Operations (MOWIP)' was released. The report identified a number of areas that Ghana needed to enhance in its gender mainstreaming activities. These areas included its Eligibility Pool, Gender Roles and Social Exclusion. To address the gaps and as part of the bilateral agreement between Canada and Ghana, a project aimed at "Enhancing the Capability of the Ghana Armed Forces to Address Barriers to Women in Peacekeeping" was initiated in 2022. After the project kick-off workshop, a number of activities were undertaken including sensitization tours in 10 garrisons of Ghana to mainstream gender in GAF.

In 2023, as part of the project deliverables, WYPSI supported GAF to develop a comprehensive gender policy. The gender policy aimed at shaping the gender mainstreaming agenda of GAF to create an equal opportunity to rights for both male and female personnel to achieve gender equality. The policy touched on issues of recruitment and enlistment, promotion, sexual harassment, retention, maternity and paternity leave, deployment, accommodation among others. In addition to the gender policy, WYPSI also supported the development of online courses for Gender Focal Points and Gender Advisors of GAF. The objectives for developing the online courses, among others, was to ensure gender capacity development for the existing and newly appointed Gender Advisors and Focal Points to be able to deliver on the mandate to support the gender mainstreaming agenda of GAF.

Additionally, WYPSI supported the development of Gender Standardized Training packages to integrate gender perspective into GAF training manuals. Four (4) different levels of training packages were developed, validated and piloted. These included Level 1 – Recruit Training Schools and Military Academy; Level 2 – Basic NCOs Courses and Young Officer's Courses; Level 3 – Advanced NCOs Courses and Staff College Jnr Division and Level 4 – Sergeant Majors Courses and Snr Staff College).

It is expected that selected Training Instructors from GAF will be trained (ToT) to be able to use the manuals in their respective schools.

The Media Campaign has raised awareness and generated public interest in efforts to promote gender mainstreaming within the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF), especially the recruitment of women into combat units of GAF. The school sensitization, programmes have also contributed to the education of young women in Senior Secondary Schools on career opportunities in GAF. This has addressed stereotypes and misconceptions about taking up a career in the GAF and would enable female students, especially, to make informed decisions about join the GAF.



7. MILITARY OBSERVERS (MILOB) AND UNITED NATIONS STAFF OFFICERS (UNSOC) COURSES

The Measuring Opportunities for Women in Peace Operations (MOWIP) Report identified that though GAF has a considerable number of female uniformed personnel, many of them are not eligible for deployment on international Peace Operations as they lack capacity to play strategic roles when deployed. This ineligibility is mainly due to the lack of specific required skills, as a result of the absence of some specialized training programmes such as Military Observer's Courses (MILOB) and Staff Officers Course (UNSOC).

To address these gaps, both courses were organized at the KAIPTC in 2023. The courses aimed at promoting and equipping 80% Female and 20% Males Officers with requisite knowledge, skills and techniques to make them deployable and play strategic roles in United Nations Peace Operations.

A total of 27 targeted participants for the MILOB Course made up of 6 males and 21 females and 31 Officers for UNSOC, made up of 11 males and 20 females, have been trained and this has increased the pool of available female uniformed personnel with requisite knowledge and skills ready for deployment in Peace Operations.

Again to support the gender mainstreaming agenda in GAF, the KAIPTC worked with GAF under the Elsie Initiative Project to establish the Gender Advisors Office to the Chief of Defense Staff (CDS). Gender Advisors and Focal Persons were also nominated to lead, coordinate and support the gender agenda of GAF. These focal persons have been supported with the needed logistics to support their new roles in the GAF.

8. MEDIA CAMPAIGN AND SCHOOL SENSITIZATION - ELSIE INITIATIVE FUND (EIF)

In line with the Elsie Initiative objectives, GAF received a second funding from the Elsie Initiative Fund (EIF) through the UN Women to develop strategies to address identified barriers under the project: Increasing Women's Recruitment into the Ghana Armed Forces for Increased Participation in UN Peace Operations. A media campaign was identified as one of the strategies to address the barrier of limited pool and gendered roles. The campaign aimed at breaking down gender stereotypes and emphasized the importance of women's participation in traditionally male-dominated roles within the military. It highlighted the opportunities and benefits available to women in combat roles within GAF. Ultimately, the objective of the campaign was to create a more diverse and inclusive armed forces, where women can contribute their skills, talents, and dedication to national security and defence.

In connection with this, the KAIPTC's WYPSI and GAF team undertook a sensitization tour of second cycle schools in the Eastern and Central regions of Ghana in 2023. The objectives of the school sensitization among others, were to engage young girls especially, in these schools to educate them on career opportunities in GAF and address stereotypes and misconceptions about taking up a career in GAF in order to enable them make an informed decisions.

The sensitization tour also presented an opportunity to generate interest of young women to pursue a career in the combat units of GAF.

Nine (9) schools were covered in the Eastern and Central regions of Ghana and a total of 17,163 students made up of 6,195 boys and 10,968 girls were sensitized.



9. KAIPTC GENDER POLICY ASSESSMENT AND REVISION

The KAIPTC seeks to promote gender equality and protect the rights of men and women within its core practice. In line with this, the Center in 2013 developed and adopted a comprehensive gender policy for its staff and participants covering all activities of the Center both on premises and during mobile training. To support full operationalization of the Policy, Gender Focal Points were selected

across all departments within the Centre. A decade after the implementation of the policy it became critical to assess the policy and a three-day workshop was therefore organized from 11th – 13th September 2023 for the review of the policy.

The assessment revealed that the KAIPTC had made significant strides to mainstream gender into policies, programs, courses, and structures. A scholarship scheme for women was instituted to increase women's participation in the KAIPTC's course. The assessment also revealed management's commitment to promote gender equality by supporting and allocating budget for the execution of gender sensitive activities/program. However, lack of adequate resources for continued capacity building of the Gender Focal Points and the need to integrate gender sensitive monitoring and evaluation into the overall monitoring and evaluation system of the Centre were the major challenges revealed by the assessment.

Based on the assessment carried out on the implementation of the Gender Policy, the work-friendly and sexual harassment policies of KAIPTC have been revised and validated in November 2023. The policy made provision for inclusion of youth and differently abled persons. Consideration was also given to current perspectives and normative frameworks on women peace and security. Additionally, the updated Policy has a clear and concise implementation plan to be adopted by all staff and departments to guide the mainstreaming processes in their programming and reporting activities. The roles and responsibilities of the Gender Focal Points were revised to support the implementation of the Policy as a Centre-wide strategy for effective coordination.



10. ELEVATION OF THE WPSI INTO A DEPARTMENT

To deepen its networks and partnership and accelerate the implementation of the Women, Youth, Peace and Security Agenda in Africa, the Executive Management of the KAIPTC elevated WPSI to a Department with additional focus on Youth, Peace and Security Agenda. WPSI became WYPSI (Women, Youth, Peace and Security Institute), a full-fledged department within the KAIPTC to accelerate the implementation of the WYPS agenda in Africa and beyond. The capacity of the department has been enhanced with new staff while a new office structure and equipment are being procured to support the operations of the new department.

11. TECHNICAL CAPACITY SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIP

a. Connected to the elevation of WPSI into a full department, the Centre undertook some engagement activities with institutions in Geneva to deepen existing collaborations and develop new partnerships to support the Youth Peace and Security programme of the department. The following organizations were engaged in Geneva: The Ghana Embassy; Kofi Annan Foundation; InterPeace; Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCPS); Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF); Youth Friendly Governance and Plan International.

The capabilities of two staff from WYPSI were also enhanced when they attended the Inspiring Women Leaders training programme at the GCSP. The training was aimed at building staff capacity to support facilitation on the Inspiring Africa Women Leaders in Peace and Security Course which is organized by the Women Youth Peace and Security Institute. The course was held over a two-day period on the theme of Leading Self and Leading Others. The learning and engagement provided the staff an opportunity to reflect on their personal leadership journeys and offered useful insights into their personal leadership competencies.



b. WYPSI further provided technical support to a number of partners in the year under review. One staff and the Commandant participated in a regional technical dialogue on the production of knowledge and data on Women, Peace and Security in the ECOWAS region, organized by the ECOWAS Gender and Development Centre (EGDC). The meeting, held in Dakar-Senegal from 19th to 21st December, 2023, formed the first phase of activity under ECOWAS' project to produce knowledge and data on Women Peace and Security in the sub-region. It provided a platform for knowledge and experience sharing, and an analysis of the issues and challenges associated with operationalizing women peace and security processes in the ECOWAS region. The meeting presented opportunities to deepen existing collaborations between the WYPSI KAIPTC and the EGDC.



c. Furthermore, WYPSI participated in a workshop organized by DCAF in Turkey and attended by representatives of Elsie Initiative implementing partner institutions, DCAF, the Elsie Initiative Fund (EIF), Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and Cornell University. The workshop sought to take stock of the lessons learned so far in implementing the MOWIP in numerous countries; provide a platform for the exchange of lessons learned to build on and strengthen a MOWIP network of practitioners; to further strengthen the MOWIP methodology as well as to provide an opportunity to exchange views on how to develop MOWIP recommendations into concrete changes in policy and practice. Additionally, the workshop presented an opportunity for the implementing partners and research institution to share their experiences on conducting the barrier assessment under the global Elsie Initiative project using the MOWIP. Key highlights of the discussions at the meeting included the following:

d. In July 2023, WYPSI participated in a stakeholder consultative meeting organized by the Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection, Ghana, which aimed at soliciting input for the development of a National Report on the Maputo Protocol. The meeting was attended by over 25 representatives of government ministries, civil society organisations and other institutions working on the implementation of the Maputo Protocol in Ghana. At the meeting, WYPSI worked on Cluster 6 which focused on making input on Article 10 of the Maputo Protocol on the Right to Peace. The team identified Legislative, Administrative, institutional as well as policies and programme developed within Ghana to address the right to peace.

e. WYPSI participated in the annual meeting of the Working Group on Women, Youth, Peace and Security in West Africa and the Sahel, organized by the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) in Accra. The meeting was held under the theme: “Unconstitutional take-over of governments and transitions in the Sahel region”. The meeting provided a platform for actors to share experiences on the involvement of women and youth in political transitions within the region and proposed strategies for greater incorporation of women and youth perspectives in /ongoing political processes and decision-making. WYPSI moderated a Panel Discussion on “Unconstitutional take-over of governments and transitions: what is the role and position of women and young people”, with presentations from Burkina Faso, Mali, Guinea, Mali and Niger. Recommendations from the discussion included the need to strengthen mechanisms for sustainable democracy; develop strategies to resolve challenges in countries with fragile peace; and the need for the working group to develop an action plan to promote coordination and interventions to enhance women and youth participation in peace building processes in the Sahel region.

12. MARITIME CODE OF PRACTICE FOR WOMEN

The African Code of Maritime Practice for Women (ACMPW) in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) maritime domain is a strategic initiative aimed at guiding initiatives and processes to advance women’s roles in the maritime sector. Its overarching objective is to promote gender mainstreaming within the maritime security sector of GoG countries. The ACMPW will utilize insights from women in the maritime domain to formulate a comprehensive code of practice. This code is intended to be adopted by national, regional, and inter-regional entities, including the Interregional Coordination Centre (ICC) in Yaoundé, Cameroon, to guide inclusive national policy formulation among Member States of the Yaoundé Code of Conduct (YCC). Two consultants with expertise in the maritime sector were engaged for the initiative. A draft document was submitted in September 2023. A validation workshop is scheduled for March 2024. This effort reflects a commitment to fostering gender inclusivity and empowering women in the GoG maritime domain, aligning with broader objectives of diversity and equity within the maritime security sector.

13. TRAINING MODULE ON WOMEN IN MARITIME

The inclusion of a module on Women in Maritime within the Integrated Responses To Threats To Maritime Safety And Security In The Gulf Of Guinea Maritime Domain In West And Central Africa project’s framework stems from a strategic imperative to mainstream women’s issues across all courses conducted under the project. This initiative is motivated by the evident underrepresentation of women’s perspectives at decision-making levels, notwithstanding the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325. The current landscape in top management positions within maritime security reflects a disconcerting dearth of women. Consequently, a concerted effort is being made to address this disparity and enhance the presence, agency, and inclusion of women in maritime security through targeted capacity-building, training, coaching, and mentoring initiatives. In alignment with this objective, a Training Module for Women (TMW) in maritime security was developed in September 2023. The primary goal of this module is to illuminate the valuable contributions, roles, and experiences of women in the field of maritime security. The TMW will actively contribute to ongoing initiatives aimed at increasing the visibility of women in maritime security, serving as an integral and cross-cutting component across various maritime security courses within the project.

The development of the TMW is underway and is expected to be finalized. This proactive measure underscores our commitment to fostering gender diversity and empowerment within the maritime security domain, reinforcing our dedication to creating an inclusive and equitable environment.

14. DIALOGUE SERIES

In an effort to contribute to gender inclusivity and women empowerment in Maritime Security, the KAIPTC-Denmark project implemented two impactful dialogue series focused on women in maritime security. These dialogues, which convened a total of 83 women, served as a testament to the partnership's dedication to fostering diversity and acknowledging the vital role women play in the maritime sector. The first of these dialogues took the form of a comprehensive two-day seminar hosted in Cotonou, Benin. This event successfully brought together 48 participants, featuring a diverse group comprising 36 women and 12 men from 10 countries in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) region. Subsequently, the second dialogue was held in Cameroon, with the participation of 35 individuals. This session comprised 27 women and 8 men, reinforcing the emphasis on amplifying the voices and contributions of women in the maritime security domain. The representation reinforces KAIPTC's dedication to addressing gender imbalances and promoting a more equitable participation of women in the maritime sector. A key highlight of these dialogues was the significant impact on reinforcing the critical role and potential of women in both the Blue Economy and maritime security. By facilitating open discussions and knowledge exchange, the dialogue series actively contributed to shaping a more inclusive and sustainable maritime industry.

15. SEMINAR ON HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF WOMEN IN THE BLUE ECONOMY

The seminar organized by KAIPTC under the theme 'Harnessing the Potential of Women in the Blue Economy' aimed to recognize and explore the agency and potential of women in contributing to the Blue Economy. It addressed existing challenges where women predominantly occupy lower roles and emphasized promoting women's agencies through initiatives like career guidance and counseling. Recognizing the patriarchal nature of the maritime sector, it stressed the importance of building a network of male allies to support women's career development. Discussions highlighted the necessity of valuing women's contributions and creating an inclusive environment that appreciates their diverse roles. The seminar also emphasized addressing gender inequality by targeting youth, especially girls, with sensitization and mentoring programs. Participants adopted an 11-point communiqué calling for policies to dismantle patriarchal structures, promote women's leadership, and create equal opportunities. Overall, the seminar demonstrated KAIPTC's commitment to advancing gender equality and inclusivity in the Blue Economy, contributing to an equitable and supportive maritime industry for women.



Participants to the High level consultative meeting on women in maritime Security, Yaoundé, Cameroun, September 2023

16. HIGH LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON WOMEN IN MARITIME

The three-day High-Level Consultative Meeting for Women in Maritime, held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, aimed to address gender disparities and promote women's empowerment in the maritime sector, particularly in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) littoral states. Key stakeholders, including industry leaders and decision-makers, attended the meeting, which focused on knowledge sharing, policy dialogue, and collaboration. A notable outcome was the presentation of a draft maritime code of practice for women in maritime security in the GoG, receiving significant support. The meeting emphasized the need for gender-responsive policies and encouraged participants to advocate for change and mentor the next generation of women leaders. The commitment of the Yaoundé Architecture to integrate a gender approach into maritime security policies signifies a step forward in fostering gender equality in the sector. Overall, the meeting reflected KAIPTC's commitment to driving positive change in the maritime sector and advancing gender equality and women's empowerment within it.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4: TO ENSURE AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN THE CENTRE

The KAIPTC sought to deepen its governance and management systems as it pursued its Strategic Objectives in 2023. A number of activities were undertaken as a result and these are highlighted below.

1. DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN (2024 – 2028)

To rally the departments at the Centre in a focused direction for maximum impact and to continue to provide strategic guidance to the work of the KAIPTC, a new strategic plan has been developed for the Centre following the end of the implementation of the Centre's third Strategic Plan (2019-2023).

Using a consultative approach to the development of the new plan, a staff durbar was first held on 28 June 2023 to create awareness about the new plan and how it would best serve the needs of the Centre. This was followed by a reflection workshop from the 12 - 14 July 2023 to discuss the findings of the mid-term review of the old strategic plan, reflect on the current trends and emerging issues on peace and security in the region and brainstorm on possible priorities of the new Strategic Plan (2024 – 2028)

Development and Institutional partners were also consulted for their input to this new direction. The 2024 to 2028 strategic plan seeks to address pressing challenges in the ever-evolving landscape of peace and security. This plan sets KAIPTC on a path towards a more resilient, inclusive, and secured future, with a focus on financial and institutional sustainability; improved governance systems; promoting gender equality and youth development; and the interconnectedness between governance, leadership, peace, security, and human development.

Building on the last 5 years, the Centre will continue to use research and various forms of stakeholder engagements to deliver high-quality training programs, research, and capacity-building initiatives in peacekeeping and security, which are responsive to new challenges.

Related to this, a Centre-wide human resource capacity needs assessment commenced last year concurrently with the development of the new strategic plan to ensure the Centre's human capital needs were aligned with the new direction. While, the strategic plan has been concluded, the needs assessment remains ongoing. A human resource strategic plan would be developed as part of the outcome of the needs assessment to ensure competencies not only match objective requirements but facilitate the achievement of set goals.



2. ENGAGEMENTS & PARTNERSHIPS (UNOAU; AU Commission, ECOWAS Commission and other Key Partners)

Engagements and partnerships have been at the core of the Centres sustainable efforts over the years and a number of these activities were undertaken in 2023. With funding support from the Government of Norway, the Commandant and a 6-member delegation, paid a working visit to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to engage with some key partners. A key result is the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the KAIPTC to support the United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU) with training and research activities.



To identify areas for collaborations and support to key institutions in the sub region, a KAIPTC delegation led by the Commandant paid a working visit to the ECOWAS Commission to discuss the priority areas of the commission. The meeting which was held with H.E. Mrs. Damtien L. Tchintchibidja, the Vice-President of the ECOWAS Commission and H.E. Ambassador Dr. Abdel Musah-Fatau, the Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, (CPAPS) and other officials at the Commission emphasized the need to strengthen border security in member countries to address transnational organised crime and violent extremism. The discussions also focused on the strategic role of KAIPTC and other Training Centre's of Excellence (TCEs) to promote peace and security in the sub region. These discussions are expected to feed into KAIPTC's new strategic plan for implementation through its training and research activities.

Similar meetings were held with the African Union Commission to discuss issues arising from the tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between ECOWAS and its Training Centre's of Excellence (TCE's). There were discussions with Mr. Zinurine Alghali, Ag Head of PSOD and H.E Bineta Diop, the Special Envoy on Women Peace and Security for a review of the Training Needs Assessment (TNA) which ascertains the training needs of ECOWAS. Discussions also focused on collaborations on relevant research areas on mediation, violent extremism and joint efforts to prevent the spill over of terrorism from the Sahel.



Vice President of the ECOWAS Commission

KAIPTC hosted the Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria, HE Karl Nehammer during a historic visit to Ghana on 26th April 2023. His visit to the KAIPTC consolidated the near-decade fruitful relations between Austria and KAIPTC, which began in 2014. He announced that the cooperation agreement with KAIPTC has been extended for five (5) more years and also used the occasion to announce the second edition of the Kofi Annan Award for Innovation in Africa (KAAIA) scheduled for 2024, which was instituted through a collaboration between the Kofi Annan Foundation, the Austrian Development Agency, and the World Food Program Innovation Accelerator.



The KAIPTC hosted five (5) former African Presidents, namely H.E Dr. Jakarta Mrisho Kikwete, Former President of Tanzania, H.E Dr. Moncef Marzouki, Former President of Tunisia, H.E Thomas Yayi Boni, Former President of Benin, H.E Ernest Bai Koroma, Former President of Sierra Leone, and H.E Hailemariam Dessalegn Former Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on 26th May 2023. The former presidents who were attending the 7th Edition of the African Leadership Forum (ALF) in Accra, planted a tree each to memorialize their visit to the Centre and to symbolize the strong relations between their respective countries and Ghana. They were accompanied by H.E Wamkele Mene, Secretary- General of the African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat (AfCFTA) and the CEO of the UONGOZI Institute, based in Tanzania.



The Federal Chancellor of Germany, His Excellency Olaf Scholz paid a visit to the KAIPTC in 2023. He was accompanied by Ghana's president, Nana Akufo-Addo. The visit was a testament of the close collaboration between Germany and the KAIPTC and nearly two decades of partnership and support from Germany to the Centre.

Chancellor Scholz in his remarks applauded Ghana for its respect for the rule of law and said Ghana is a beacon of hope for the sub region and would continue to be a close partner to Germany. He also spoke about threats of terrorism in West Africa which he mentioned remains complex and challenging and would need highly trained and well-equipped security personnel and strengthened collaboration between member states in West Africa.



The KAIPTC participated in the 77th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights in Arusha, Tanzania. The forum held under the theme “The Year of AfCFTA: “Acceleration of The African Continental Free Trade Area Implementation” brought together African and international NGO’s, human rights organisations, human rights defenders, the African Commission to share updates on human rights, democracy, and the rule of law in Africa as well as adopt strategies for improvement of human rights situation on the Continent.

The KAIPTC in partnership with the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) Liaison Office to the Africa Union, held a panel discussion on the 17th of October, 2023 on the theme: Analysing the Implications and Impacts of Anti-Constitutional Changes in African Nations: Promoting Peace, Security, towards effective implementation of AfCFTA. The aim was to engage in objective discussions on the governance and security situation in Africa in line with the African Union’s objective of accelerating the implementation of the AfCFTA and identify ways of engaging with AU Member States and Organs to address the surge in Unconstitutional Change of Governments and its negative effects on Agenda 2063.

The panel discussions and other engagements gave the Centre a great opportunity to increase its visibility as well as showcase its products and services at the 42nd African Human Rights Book fair. Participants from the Centre also took part in multiple side events on pertinent human rights issues.



KAIPTC team with Dr. Solomon Derso Founding Partner – Amani Africa and Madam Tefesehet Hailu (first from left)

The Centre undertook the following activities to further ensure its governance and management systems are efficient, effective and responsive.

3. STAFF CAPACITY AND DEVELOPMENT TRAINING AND TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Staff capacity and development training programmes support the achievement of KAIPTC’s overall strategy. They sustain attitudinal and behavioural changes when held periodically and keep staff relevant in the provision of services in their professional roles.

Relevant Standard Operating Procedures were successfully incorporated into the revised KAIPTC SOPs in 2023 to ensure work processes were efficient at the Centre and keep abreast with national and international best practices.

In pursuit of the provisions of the Centre's strategic plan and with support of Norwegian funding for capacity building, a number of staff development training programmes were undertaken to reposition staff to advance the implementation of the Centre's strategic objectives. The trainings were aimed at equipping middle managers and operational staff with skills and knowledge to work more efficiently, keeping abreast with national and international standards and best practices from procurement and financial processes to ICT skills upgrading.

The Centre made substantial investments not only in training staff but also to improve their wellbeing by providing health and wellbeing programmes that provided a platform for staff and management to de-stress and build stronger working teams. These activities especially encouraged teambuilding and multi-cultural bonding amongst the diverse mix of staff at the Centre.

The Centre also rolled out two (2) wellbeing programmes for staff to increase engagement, teambuilding and multi-cultural bonding. Health screening on Hepatitis, Diabetes and High Blood Pressure was conducted for all staff.

4. INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS

Continuous assessment of the adequacy of the Centre's internal control systems and processes were done in 2023 to strengthen the KAIPTCs risk management and governance system processes.

Audits were conducted internally to test the effectiveness and efficiency of the Centre's governance, internal controls and risk management systems. These periodic tests continue to strengthen the Centre's financial and operational management systems & processes as well as compliance to MoUs. All procurement requests were thoroughly checked to ensure the requisite documentations and adherence to Public Procurement Act.

Regular audits were conducted in the Finance Unit to ensure financial records and reports are accurate and the Centre was adhering to its financial management system and processes.

Key risks facing the Centre were also assessed and recommendations made for management's attention and redress.

5. UPGRADE OF TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Maintaining or upgrading the Centre's facilities, equipment and ICT infrastructure periodically enable the Centre to deliver its programmes and activities effectively to meet internationally accepted standards. Systematic improvements of ICT infrastructure and technology demonstrate a proactive response to addressing identified capacity to ensure the Centre is supporting its core activities and effectively responding to security challenges in West Africa and Africa.

KAIPTC strives to invest in ICT infrastructure to support its systems and processes to enhance delivery of its services and this was consistently pursued in 2023. Of significance was the installation and configuration of the Sage ERP server to enhance the security of the Centre's ERP data.

Four (4) activations were completed in 2022, Sage-ERP application, Eset- Library system, the free LMS 365 and remote access to KAIPTC local resources.

6. UPGRADE OF PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The Centre embarked on the renovation of some of its infrastructure and revamped 40 rooms for students and participants at the Accommodation Block during the year under review

A section of the Accommodation block was also reroofed and the automatic change-over system for the 1000kva standby generator was repaired. The multi-purpose recreational facility at the Accommodation Block was also refurbished to ensure staff, students and participants had access to the recreational facility.

Other key activities were the refurbishment of the main entrance to the Centre, and the development of a new office space to accommodate the growing needs of the Centre.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5: TO STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION WITH CSOS, THINK TANKS AND PRIVATE SECTOR IN ADVANCING POLICY DIALOGUES AND IMPROVEMENT IN PEACE OPERATIONS IN AFRICA.

1. KAIPTC JAPAN PARTNERSHIP PROJECT ON PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM, RADICALISATION AND SMALL ARMS PROLIFERATION IN THE SAHEL AND ADJOINING COASTAL COUNTRIES IN WEST AFRICA

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), with financial support from the Government of Japan through the Japan UNDP Joint Partnership Program for Fiscal Year 2023, implemented a one-year initiative focused on **Preventing Violent Extremism, Radicalization, and Small Arms Proliferation in the Sahel region and neighboring Coastal Countries in West Africa.**

This initiative builds upon and extends the interventions implemented as part of the Joint Security and Border Management (JSB) program for 2023-24, which aimed to enhance the response capacities of state and civil society actors in preventing and countering violent extremism and terrorism in West Africa.

The primary objective of this project was to enhance knowledge and facilitate information-sharing among security personnel and civil society actors, fostering collaboration to prevent and counter terrorism, violent extremism, and the proliferation, diversion, and trafficking of small arms. The targeted geographic scope encompasses seven countries in West Africa: Benin, Togo, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso.

To achieve these objectives, the project employed a multifaceted approach, including capacity development initiatives, training of trainers, and the organization of a regional policy and experience-sharing seminar. The overarching goal was not only to enhance the capabilities of security and civil society stakeholders but also to contribute to the improvement of the Accra Initiative's activities. The project had 3 key components: generation of knowledge products; dialogue series; and capacity building.

a. DIALOGUE SERIES

The Steering Committee Meeting convened project partners and stakeholders including UNDP, Japan Embassy, Accra Initiative, Small Arms Commission, Counter Terrorism Units, Women groups, and Civil Society Organizations. The primary aim was to evaluate and endorse annual proposals submitted by the project team. These proposals encompassed commitments to various activities, narrative and financial reporting, project initiatives, and disbursements. The Project Coordinator presented a comprehensive overview of the one-year project, detailing the planned activities and their corresponding budget allocations within the specified timeframe. Subsequent discussions delved into the concerning security situation in the sub-region and strategies to mitigate the proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). The meeting also scrutinized the draft Terms of Reference (TORs) for the SCM and recommended convening another meeting, preferably in the first quarter of 2024, to provide updates on the progress of the work. With unanimous approval, the projects' activities and budget were given the green light for implementation. The Steering Committee Meeting concluded with a collective endorsement, empowering the project team to move forward with the planned initiatives.



Project Steering Committee Meeting June 2023 – A cross section of members from (L to R), Accra Initiative, KAIPTC, UNDP and Japan

b. THE LAUNCH OF THE PROJECT

The Project Launch heralding the onset of project activities was attended by notable partners such as the Japanese Ambassador, the Commandant of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), the Resident Representative of the UNDP, and a representative from Ghana's Ministry of Interior as well as representatives from various organizations such as the Japan Embassy, KAIPTC, UNDP, Accra Initiative, SALW Commission, National Peace Council, Immigration, Customs, Police, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, the media, UNODC, National Fusion Centre, and Civil Society Organizations. The project launch served as the official commencement of activities, concurrently enhancing awareness of the project's scope and recognizing the Government of Japan as the project's benefactor. Distinguished speakers highlighted the project's relevance in light of the escalating insurgencies and insecurity in the Sahel region, underscoring its significance in addressing humanitarian challenges. The Project Coordinator provided an overview of the one-year initiative, spanning from April 2023 to March 2024, delineating the planned activities. Subsequent deliberations elucidated key aspects of the project, fostering mutual comprehension among stakeholders.



Dignitaries from the Ministry of Interior, KAIPTC, UNDP and Japan at the Project launch held at the UNDP offices on July 2023

c. CONSULTATIVE VISITS

In 2023, three consultative visits were conducted in Togo, Niger, and Benin between June and July as per the project plan. These visits engaged various stakeholders, including state organizations like counter-terrorism units, customs, immigration, and non-state actors such as arms brokers, women organizations, youth groups, and religious leaders. The objectives were to introduce the project, identify training needs, assess policy interventions, and evaluate the extent of extremist activities in the visited countries. Observations indicated deteriorating security situations in Niger, Benin, and Togo, with Niger experiencing increased insurgencies leading to a coup. Contributing factors included poverty, religious exploitation, social inequalities, and weak government control in border areas. Hotspots for terrorist activities were identified in the tri-border regions of Niger and Benin, with Benin also facing challenges due to stateless populations and weak state presence in border communities. The proliferation of small arms was a shared concern, with artisanal manufacturing in Togo and Benin and weapons circulation from neighboring countries in Niger. Despite challenges, both state and civil society organizations were actively addressing issues within their capacities, highlighting the need for a comprehensive approach addressing socio-economic and political aspects. However, engagement with the Accra Initiative was challenging due to limited recognition and accessibility in the visited countries.



FAAR Research team with Groupe d'étude et de recherche sur la Démocratie et le développement économique et social au Burkina/ CSO organization during a field visit to Ouagadougou, June, 2023

d. GENERATION OF KNOWLEDGE/ RESEARCH OUTPUT

The project further developed a research paper to investigate the interconnections among violent extremism, radicalization, and the proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in Burkina Faso. The findings revealed that factors such as inter-ethnic conflicts, high unemployment, and ineffective local governance contribute to violent extremism and radicalization in certain communities. The crisis in Burkina Faso has been further intensified by the proliferation of SALW, with unauthorized routes facilitating the inflow of weapons into the country. This has posed a significant challenge to counteracting SALW proliferation, compounded by the sale of these weapons on the black market, as indicated by the research findings. The study also highlighted the active involvement of women in supporting extremist groups, either through providing intelligence or performing supporting roles. Women and children are disproportionately affected by these activities, often left to fend for themselves, internally displaced with limited humanitarian assistance, or becoming refugees in neighboring countries. While the security situation in Burkina Faso remains fluid, stakeholders are grappling with evolving security threats. Sensitization and education programs on the consequences of violent extremism and SALW proliferation have been implemented in schools and accessible communities, despite limited resources. State agencies responsible for SALW control in Burkina Faso face challenges in effectively managing these weapons and implementing appropriate marking systems to trace illegal arms entering the country. The regions in Burkina Faso affected by violent extremism are experiencing hindered development, leading to increased unemployment rates. Despite efforts by stakeholders to address violent extremism and SALW proliferation, state agency capabilities need strengthening, aligning with the seemingly inactive Accra Initiative.

e. CAPACITY BUILDING COURSES

KAIPTC organized two Capacity-building courses and one Trainer of Trainers Course focusing on preventing violent extremism, radicalization, and small arms and light weapons proliferation in the Sahel and adjoining coastal communities in West Africa. The courses, held in Accra and Cotonou, gathered 53 participants, made up of 12 women and 41 men, representing diverse backgrounds from Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Togo. The course provided a timely platform for delving into the complexities of security challenges in the region, fostering meaningful interactions and knowledge sharing.

Field visits, hands-on experiences and classroom sessions offered invaluable insights into maritime operations, emphasizing practical approaches in addressing security challenges. Participants praised the program's emphasis on information sharing, collaboration, and networking, expressing a renewed commitment to bolstering maritime security efforts in their respective nations.



L/R Participants with demo team at ACTS and National Police Training School

f. THE TRAINER OF TRAINERS COURSE ON STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT

This training also represents a pivotal response to the escalating challenges surrounding weapon stockpile diversions in West Africa. With terrorist groups increasingly intercepting arms from national armories for use in violent attacks, the need for comprehensive training initiatives has become imperative. The Trainer of Trainers course specifically targeted 14 individuals entrusted with the critical responsibility of managing arms and ammunition within Cote d'Ivoire. Through an adult learning problem-solving pedagogy, the course empowered participants with practical skills essential for effectively securing weapon stockpiles and preventing insurgent activities. This initiative, honed the expertise of state security personnel, and equipped them to confront the pressing security challenges arising from SALW proliferation head-on. By providing strategic insights and practical skills, the program achieved its aim of enhancing existing efforts aimed at safeguarding against potential threats, thereby contributing to regional stability and the enhancement of security efforts across West Africa.



Cross-section of participants during a breakout section

As part of the broader project initiative, 8 motorbikes (2 each) were donated to four security agencies in Ghana, Benin, Cote d'Ivoire and Togo. This contribution aims to strengthen their operational capabilities in combating terrorism and enhancing overall security measures within the nation. This aligns with the project's broader objectives in promoting peace and stability in the region.



Handing over of Motobike to Force de recherche et d'assistance de police de la Police (FRAP), Nationale Police- Cote d'Ivoire



Handing over of motorbikes to the Representative of the Minister of Interior and Public Security of the Republic of Benin Mr. Alassane SEIDOU, Benin

2. KAIPTC-DENMARK PROJECT ON INTEGRATED RESPONSES TO THREATS TO MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY IN THE GULF OF GUINEA MARITIME DOMAIN IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

The KAIPTC and the Danish Government is implementing a 5-year project on Integrated Responses to Threats to Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea Maritime Domain in West and Central Africa (2022-2026). The 5-year project leverages on the experiences of the previous 3-year project (2019-2021) on Enhancing regional research, capacity building and convening of stakeholders towards a safer maritime domain in the Gulf of Guinea. It seeks to provide a platform for maritime stakeholders in the GoG to better understand the maritime security landscape, deepen their collaboration and coordination and pool individual and collective resources in efforts at strengthening maritime security in the GoG. It continues along the lines of enhanced research, dialogue and capacity building from the previous project. The 5-year project, will broadly focus on women and vulnerable groups in maritime security, strengthen inter-agency collaborations among maritime stakeholders and improve the reportage of media practitioners on maritime security issues. A maritime code for women will also be done and eventually taught as a module on the capacity building courses, as well as in the long term expected to be domesticated in the legal texts of GoG member states.

Under this project, a comprehensive two-day Learning, Design, and Development (LDD) Workshop was organized to initiate the course design for Maritime Security Reporting (MSR). This was subsequently followed by a two-day course review on the Maritime Security Culture (MSC) Course. A cohort of 25 experts from relevant fields, including individuals sourced from the project's network of experts, convened to deliberate, discuss, and strategically shape the course content for both MSR and MSC. During the course review, existing modules were meticulously aligned with contemporary contexts and emerging realities, ensuring the relevance and effectiveness of the Maritime Security Culture course. Concurrently, the course design phase resulted in the creation of nine new modules, forming the foundational elements of the MSR course. The merger of theoretical and practical expertise contributed to a well-grounded process. Upon the conclusion of both sessions, a comprehensive outline of the course structure for both MSR and MSC was successfully developed. Subsequently, the outlined structure was contracted for module development, with plans for subsequent translation into French to enhance accessibility and effectiveness. This meticulous course design and review process underscored the commitment to delivering high quality and contextually relevant training in the field of maritime security.

a. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT COURSES

2 capacity development courses were successfully conducted in Lomé, Togo, and Takoradi, Ghana, respectively. The inaugural course, focused on Maritime Security Culture (MSC), transpired at the Ioka Hotel in Lomé from May 8th – 11th 2023, with the participation of 30 individuals representing 14 maritime institutions and civil society (comprising four women and 26 men). The MSC course, enriched with a freshly reviewed curriculum, adeptly addressed the evolving maritime security landscape in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG). The program highlighted Togo's noteworthy role as one of the pioneering nations to enact an anti-piracy law in 2016, preceding Nigeria's Suppression of Piracy and Other Maritime Offences (SPOMO) Act. Beyond classroom sessions, participants engaged in a visit to the Maritime Operations Centre (MOC) and a panel discussion featuring key stakeholders in the maritime security domain. The course's overarching goal was to deepen participants' understanding of information-sharing, networking, and their individual and collective responsibilities in safeguarding maritime security within the GoG. This included fostering collaboration both nationally and with external stakeholders. The successful execution of these courses reflects a commitment to continuous professional development. Thus, ensuring participants are well equipped to navigate the dynamic challenges of maritime security in the region.

The second course, focused on Maritime Security Reporting (MSR), took place at the Best Western Atlantic Hotel in Takoradi, Ghana, spanning from May 22nd – 26th, 2023. The program catered to a cohort of 21 participants, consisting of 8 females and 13 males, primarily comprising media practitioners and communication liaison officers working in maritime security agencies. This pilot course served as an enlightening experience for the media practitioners, shedding light on the inherent gaps in their reporting of maritime security issues. The diverse and engaging pilot group found immense value in the course content, which was delivered through a participatory and practical approach by facilitators from academia, the navy, and relevant maritime institutions. Participants benefitted from a sea trip and a visit to the Maritime Operations Centre (MOC) at the Sekondi-Takoradi Naval Base, providing a hands-on field experience complementing classroom lectures. As part of the course activities, participants collaborated through group exercises, presenting different approaches to reporting stories based on the knowledge acquired during the training.

b. RESEARCH OUTPUTS

Under this output, the first half of 2023 witnessed the successful completion of five research outputs, encompassing a comprehensive exploration across six countries within the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) region, namely Ghana, Cameroon, Nigeria, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal. Two of the research papers specifically delved into the role of women in maritime security. One concentrated on the integration of women into maritime security structures, utilizing Senegal as a case study, while the other documented the experiences of women in the maritime security sector,

spanning from grassroots to leadership levels. Additional research themes included an examination of the financing mechanisms of the Yaoundé Architecture, illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the GoG, and the broader scope of the Blue Economy. Methodologies employed encompassed desk research, interviews, focus group discussions, and, where necessary, telephone and online interviews for individuals not readily accessible. Diverse maritime security stakeholders, including representatives from the Interregional Coordination Centre (ICC), maritime authorities, the navy, fisheries, judiciary, women groups, fisher folk, academia, and ports and harbours, were engaged in the research process. The research outputs contribute valuable insights and knowledge to the maritime security landscape in the Gulf of Guinea.

c. RESEARCH SEMINAR

In an effort to promote maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG), a Maritime Security Research Seminar was organized with the primary aim of subjecting the project's empirical studies on maritime insecurity in the GoG to expert review and validation. The research, executed in 2022 across six GoG Member States—Liberia, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo—was conducted in collaboration with the Women Peace and Security Institute (WPSI) at the Centre. This collaboration allowed the incorporation of the WPSI's experiences in the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda (WPS) into the research, enriching the findings with insights on gender perspectives and conflict resolution strategies.

Key topics themes during the research included:

- Thinking Beyond Borders: Understanding the Domestic and External Sources of Maritime Insecurity in the Gulf of Guinea.
- Enhancing Maritime Governance in the Gulf of Guinea: Assessing Nigeria's Counter Measures against Maritime Piracy.
- Impact of Maritime Crimes on Women's Livelihoods.
- The Media as a Vehicle for Effective Maritime Security Information Dissemination in the Gulf of Guinea.
- Guarding the Sea, Pulling the Net, Salting the Fish: The Multiple Roles of Women in the Blue Economy.

d. SYMPOSIUM ON ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING IN THE GULF OF GUINEA

The symposium on "Trends and Impact of Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported (IUU) Fishing in the Gulf of Guinea: Stakeholders Response" launched a dialogue series in Côte d'Ivoire. Bringing together 38 stakeholders, made up of 7 women and 31 men, from various sectors, the symposium aimed to address the nature, scope, and impact of IUU fishing in the region. Over three days, participants exchanged experiences, shared best practices, and strategized toward sustainable fishing practices in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG). The dialogue produced innovative solutions to combat IUU fishing, contributing to ongoing efforts for sustainability. Representatives from several countries fostered a transnational understanding of IUU fishing. Key insights emphasized the need for stricter penalties, inclusion of grassroots women in policy decisions, and enhanced regional coordination. The symposium emerged as a pivotal initiative for collaborative strategies to combat IUU fishing in the Gulf of Guinea.

e. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT COURSES

To enhance interagency collaboration, promote information sharing, and raise awareness of the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) maritime domain, three specialized courses were conducted in strategic locations: Accra, Ghana; Brazzaville–Pointe Noire, Congo; and Lagos, Nigeria. Two courses focused on Maritime Security Reporting (MSR), stressing the significance of timely and accurate reporting, while the third course addressed Developing a Maritime Security Culture (DMSC) in the GoG. These courses aimed to equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to contribute effectively to regional maritime security efforts. Eighty-one personnel, comprising 24 females and 57 males, benefited from these capacity-building programs, highlighting KAIPTC's commitment to gender diversity and inclusive participation in maritime security efforts. The KAIPTC in Accra, Ghana, played a central role in hosting one of the courses, emphasizing its strategic importance in fostering regional collaboration and knowledge exchange. Additionally, courses held in Brazzaville–Pointe Noire, Congo, and Lagos, Nigeria, expanded the geographical reach of capacity-building initiatives, recognizing the multi-country and trans-national nature of maritime security concerns in the GoG. These courses not only provided technical expertise but also promoted a collaborative mindset crucial for effective interagency coordination. By strengthening personnel capacity in Maritime Security Reporting and instilling a Maritime Security Culture, these courses represent essential steps toward creating a more secure and resilient maritime environment in the Gulf of Guinea. The KAIPTC's investment in training and development actively contributes to improving maritime security capabilities in the region.



Some female participants on the capacity building course on Developing a Maritime Security Culture in the Gulf of Guinea in Pointe Noire, Congo Brazzaville. September 2023

f. MARITIME SECURITY REPORTING COURSES

The KAIPTC is thrilled to share the success and positive impact of the Maritime Security Reporting (MSR) course, which comprised two separate sessions for 51 participants. This comprehensive program was designed to enhance the knowledge and skill sets of media practitioners and communication officers in maritime security agencies, with a specific focus on accurate reportage of maritime security issues in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG). The first session, conducted at the multinational level at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana, involved 24 participants, with a balanced representation of 10 females and 14 males.

The second session, held at the national level in Nigeria, engaged 27 participants, with nine females and 18 males. This dual-level approach highlighted the commitment to addressing maritime security concerns both regionally and within specific national contexts. The course's main objectives were to improve participants' understanding of maritime security issues, refine their reporting skills, and foster transparency, inclusivity, and collaboration among stakeholders. The response from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with high praise for the caliber of the course, its content, timeliness, and the expertise of the facilitators. An innovative component of the course was the requirement for participants to develop stories for the media based on the modules taught. This practical application allowed participants to showcase their newly acquired skills by producing various presentations for online and print media.

The topics covered in these stories included the involvement of coastal communities in maritime security, illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and other maritime security challenges in the GoG. Furthermore, the course facilitated site visits to key maritime centers of interest, including ports and harbors, maritime authorities, and multinational coordination centers (MMCC). Participants were also given the valuable opportunity to embark on sea visits, providing them with firsthand experience and a deeper understanding of the dynamic maritime environment. In Nigeria, participants visited the Deep Blue Project (DBP) of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), gaining insights into the government's current efforts to ensure security in the GoG. This practical exposure reinforced the theoretical knowledge gained during the course and allowed participants to witness the tangible impact of security initiatives in action. In conclusion, the MSR course not only enriched participants' capabilities but also contributed to building a network of informed and skilled professionals dedicated to promoting accurate and insightful reporting on maritime security issues. The KAIPTC remains committed to advancing regional collaboration and capacity-building initiatives that enhance the overall security landscape in the Gulf of Guinea.



Participants on board a Navy Ship at the Tema Fishing Harbor during a Sea Trip for the course on Maritime Security Reporting, October 2023.



The Director General of NIMASA with the Director of FAAR at the Opening Ceremony of the MSR course in Lagos, Nigeria.

g. DEVELOPMENT OF MARITIME SECURITY CULTURE COURSE

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KA IPTC) organized a capacity-building course in Pointe Noire, Brazzaville, Congo, gathering 30 participants, made up of 5 females and 25 males. This initiative marked the first-ever of its kind in the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) region, focusing on maritime security challenges. Participants, representing state and civil society actors from Congo, Angola, Cameroon, and Gabon, engaged in cross-fertilization of ideas and best practices, fostering collaboration to address shared maritime security challenges. Interactions and field visits to key maritime infrastructure enhanced participants' understanding and commitment to advancing maritime security goals.

Feedback from participants highlighted the transformative impact of the course, affirming the importance of individual and collective roles in supporting maritime security efforts. The success of this initiative underscores KAIPTC's dedication to extending expertise and support to regions facing unique maritime security challenges, contributing to a more resilient and secure maritime environment in the ECCAS region.

h. RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND AFRICAN CODE OF MARITIME PRACTICE FOR WOMEN

The KAIPTC in demonstrating its commitment to advancing knowledge and addressing critical gaps in maritime policies published two research papers focus on financing the Yaoundé Architecture and Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) and the Blue Economy. The African Code of Maritime Practice for Women, aimed at promoting gender equality, empowerment, and diversity within the maritime sector was finalized in 2023. The Code serves as a comprehensive framework to bridge policy gaps and create secure environments conducive to women's participation. Emphasizing inclusivity, transparency, and accountability, the Code reflects the commitment of KAIPTC and the Danish Government to championing these principles in maritime peace and security efforts. Its completion marks a significant milestone, highlighting the company's dedication to fostering positive change and inclusivity in the maritime domain.

3. COLLABORATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in furtherance to promoting international collaboration organized a two-day training workshop titled 'Gender and Maritime Security in West Africa: Integrating the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda.' In collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). This workshop, held in conjunction with the launch of the UNODC Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP) updated book on pirates of the Niger Delta, aimed to support strengthening regional capabilities and capacities in maritime domain awareness (MDA) and response, as part of the Danish Gulf of Guinea Maritime Security Programme (GoG MSP) 2022-2026. Twelve participants from five beneficiary countries were selected for the workshop, focusing on empowering women in the maritime sector and integrating gender equality and equity into maritime governance and security. The workshop, designed in collaboration with WYPSI, UNODC, and a consultant, provided comprehensive training modules translated into French for accessibility. Participants expressed high satisfaction with the training, which also included the distribution of the updated study on pirates in the Niger Delta to enhance their understanding of piracy trends and legal frameworks in the Gulf of Guinea. This collaboration underscores a commitment to advancing gender equality, strengthening maritime security capabilities, and fostering international cooperation to address challenges in the Gulf of Guinea.

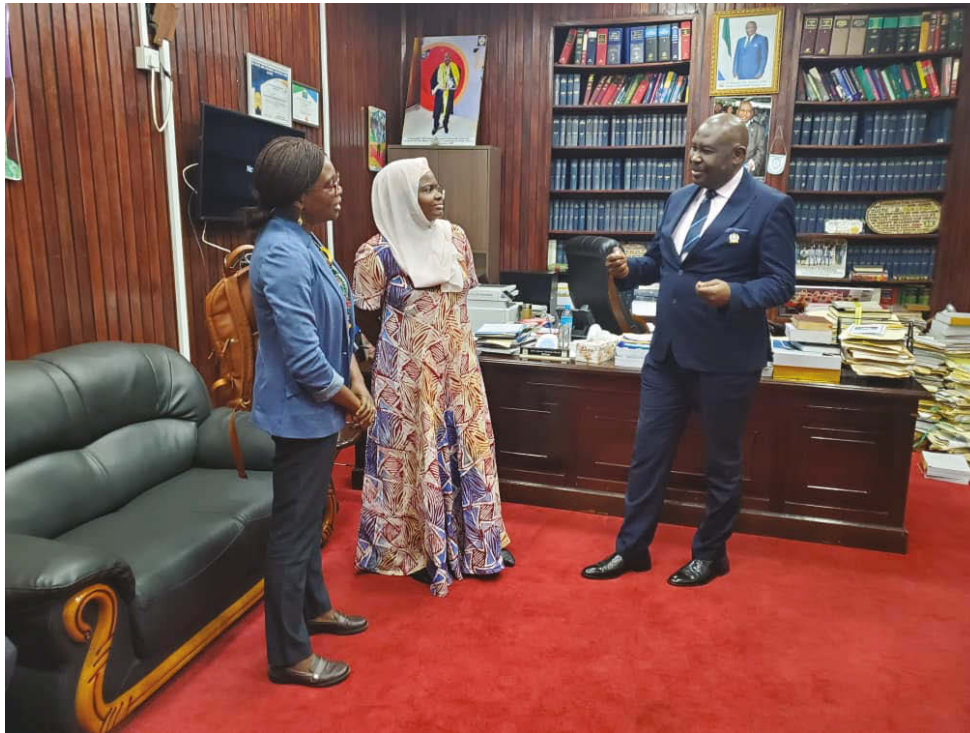
4. RESEARCH PROJECT ON CLIMATE CHANGE, MIGRATION AND INSECURITY WEST AFRICA

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), supported by the Government of Norway, conducted a research initiative on climate change, migration and insecurity in West Africa. This research aimed to unravel the complex connections between environmental degradation, climate change, migration, and demographic pressures in West Africa, particularly in Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Gambia, and Niger. The research recognized the vulnerability of agrarian societies in these nations to both natural and man-made disasters, with inadequate government responses often leading to conflicts. The study sought to provide a contextual understanding of climate change and migration trends, identify their impacts, examine climate-induced migration models, analyze resilient capacities, and propose policy recommendations and interventions. Through a qualitative methodology encompassing primary and secondary sources, the research produced detailed Country Reports. These reports provided comprehensive analyses and recommendations to address the challenges posed by the interrelated issues in West Africa. This research initiative highlights the importance of understanding and addressing the interconnected challenges of environmental degradation, climate change, migration, and demographic pressures for sustainable development and human security in the region.

5. KAIPTC INITIATES A RESEARCH PROJECT FOCUSING ON THE IMPACT OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES ON REGIONAL SECURITY IN WEST AFRICA

The on-going Impact of Demographic Changes on Regional Security in West Africa research addresses the imminent doubling of Africa's population by 2050, highlighting West Africa's high population density, youthful demographics, and significant mobility underpinned by regional protocols. Despite these trends, a comprehensive study linking demographic dynamics to human security in the region is lacking. Recognizing this gap, the Commandants of ECOWAS Training Centres of Excellence endorsed a study to investigate the impact of demographic changes on states and societies in West Africa.

The study aims to identify interlinkages between demographic trends and peace and security, focusing on governance, migratory patterns, and ecological dynamics, to inform policy interventions aimed at enhancing community resilience against conflict and instability. A mixed-method approach with a case study design is employed, involving secondary data analysis and primary data collection across West African countries, including Ghana, Liberia, Guinea Bissau, Cote d'Ivoire, and Sierra Leone. Each country team is tasked with producing a policy paper accompanied by policy recommendations with the overarching goal of providing actionable insights into the relationship between demographic changes and regional security in West Africa to facilitate informed policy decisions aimed at mitigating potential threats and fostering peace and stability.



KAIPTC Research Team with Chief Justice of Sierra Leone



6. BRENTHURST FOUNDATION ROUNDTABLE MEETING

The KAIPTC collaborated with the Brenthurst Foundation to host the Brenthurst Foundation Security Dialogue, a one-day security roundtable. As the inaugural event of a five-country effort in the region, the dialogue brought together esteemed guests including former African Presidents H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria, H.E. Ernest Bai Koroma of Sierra Leone as well as experts from across West Africa to explore the region's security landscape comprehensively. Policymakers, stakeholders, and security experts convened at KAIPTC to deliberate on anticipated security challenges in Africa for the next generation. The event provided a valuable forum for insightful discussions and the exchange of views on critical security concerns affecting the region. This collaborative initiative marked a significant step towards addressing the evolving security landscape in West Africa and building partnerships to effectively address shared interests and challenges.



L/R: Maj Gen Richard Addo-Gyane Commandant-KAIPTC, H.E. Ernest Bai Koroma, Former President- Sierra Leone, H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo, Former President- Nigeria, and Dr Gregory John Barrington Mills, Head of the Brenthurst Foundation.

7. KAIPTC-RDDC-SIGLA MARITIME SECURITY CONFERENCE (KAIPTC)

As part of efforts to address critical maritime security issues in the GoG by facilitating knowledge-sharing, constructive dialogue, and trust-building among stakeholders, the Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea conference, held in Accra, Ghana, was a collaborative effort organized by KAIPTC, the Royal Danish Defence College, and the Security Institute for Governance and Leadership in Africa of Stellenbosch University. Key subthemes, such as the Yaoundé Code of Conduct, capacity development, illegal fishing, cyber security, and women's participation in maritime security, were thoroughly examined. The conference yielded significant outcomes, including the signing of a Communiqué and the creation of a comprehensive conference report, contributing to increased awareness, strengthened cooperation, and the identification of future pathways for maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea.



Group picture of participants with the Chief of Naval staff and implementing partners from the KAIPTC, RDDC and SIGLA/Stellenbosch University

8. 2024 KOFI ANNAN PEACE AND SECURITY FORUM VISIT

Key stakeholder visits took place in late 2023 to promote cooperation and share information on the 2024 Kofi Annan Peace and Security (KAPS) Forum. A visit to the UN Resident Coordinator on November 22 provided a crucial chance to brief and interact with the UN regarding the goals and importance of the forthcoming KAPS Forum. The exchange of ideas and the guarantee of goal alignment between KAIPTC and the UN were made possible by this conference. Later, on December 14, talks took place at the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) with the Chief of Mission for Ghana, Togo, and Benin. This meeting's goal was to officially invite the IOM and explore opportunities for future collaboration between the KAIPTC and IOM. These interactions were essential for alerting interested parties to the upcoming event, developing strategic partnerships, and guaranteeing cooperation in tackling relevant security issues in the area. These exchanges will play a crucial role in determining the 2024 KAPS Forum's outcome and influence.

9. ELECTION OBSERVATION

KAIPTC participated in three election observation missions in West Africa in 2023, which helped to promote transparent electoral procedures and advance democratic values. Notably, the KAIPTC team took part in operations in Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Nigeria during election seasons. We conducted a critical examination of the Nigerian electoral process, which improved understanding of the country's democratic state and provided stakeholders with insightful information. In a similar vein, our involvement in election observation missions in Sierra Leone and Liberia allowed us to evaluate electoral environments, pinpoint challenges, and offer suggestions for enhancing the integrity of political processes. The KAIPTC election observation exercise is one of the approaches to contribute to African Union (AU) and ECOWAS overarching objective of promoting good governance and credible elections in Africa. It also seeks to draw useful lessons to improve election security and management in the region.



Cross-section of KAIPTC Election observers engaging key stakeholders

10. PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF FRANKFURT (PRIF) AUTHORS' WORKSHOP ON COERCION IN BUILDING

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), in collaboration with other institutions, organized a peacekeeping ministerial conference in December 2023. The conference focused on the evolution of African peace operations and best practices for future African-led peace support operations. Participants discussed the changing dynamics of conflicts in Africa and the adaptation of strategies by African states, UN Peacekeeping Operations, and African Union Peace Support Operations. Key themes included the effectiveness of peace operations, AU-UN partnership dynamics, and responses to insecurity by African armies. The conference provided a platform for robust discussions and insights that will contribute to shaping the future of peace support operations in Africa.

11. BRIEF ON AUTHOR WORKSHOP "COERCION IN PEACEBUILDING"

The Author Workshop "Coercion in Peacebuilding" was held on November 15-17, 2023, at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana. The author workshop follows an initial kick-off workshop in 2022 and is part of the joint project "The Role of Coercion in International Peacebuilding: Insights from Africa in an Interregional Perspective," a collaboration between three partner institutions: Ghana's Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), Germany's Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF), and Ethiopia's Institute for Peace and Security Studies. The "Avec et pour autres" Foundation, situated in Vaduz, Lichtenstein, has provided financing for this project. The research investigates the role of coercion in peacebuilding and evaluates peacebuilding interventions to determine their coercive nature. There is less research on the role of coercion in peacebuilding around the world, particularly in Africa. As a result, it is regarded vital to (1) reconsider and conceptualize coercion, and (2) concentrate on how different types of peacebuilding methods are seen as coercive by state and social actors in conflict-affected countries. While the exchange in 2022 sought to broaden the discussion of how coercion plays out in peacebuilding, the author workshop in November 2023 sought to bring together a more concentrated group of contributions with the goal of generating a collaborative book release. During the programme, 23 participants convened to discuss contributions that all attendees had prepared in advance and presented during the workshop.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 6: TO ENSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE CENTRE'S POST-GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES AND OTHER KNOWLEDGE GENERATION INITIATIVES IN PEACE AND SECURITY.

1. 2024 KAIPTC GRADUATION CEREMONIES:

KAIPTC on 7 June 2023 held its 11th Joint Graduation Ceremony on the theme, “Centering African Peace and Security Thought in a Multipolar World”. The ceremony marked a significant milestone in KAIPTC’s quest to empower African women through education and capacity building by graduating the first female of the Doctor of Philosophy in International Conflict Management programme. Dr Rebecca Yakubu Akatue graduated alongside two other Ph.D candidates. This brings to six the total number of Ph.D. Graduands KAIPTC has produced. The ceremony was graced by renowned Ghanaian Economist, Dr. Andrews Kwame Pianim as the Guest of Honor. 2022 Scientist of the Year; and Founder and Chief Executive Officer of COA Research and Manufacturing Company Ltd., Prof. Samuel Ato Duncan was the Guest Speaker. The graduating class comprised 71 Master of Arts Graduands and 3 Ph.D. Graduands. Out of the 74 Graduands 39 were females.

The 12th Joint Graduation was held on 9 December 2023. The Minister for Food and Agriculture; and Member of Parliament for Abetifi, Hon. Bryan Acheampong was the Guest of Honour. The theme for the Ceremony was, “Educating the Next Generation of Peacebuilders in Africa”. The graduating class comprised of 37 Master of Arts Graduands.

In a whole, KAIPTC produced 111 graduates in 2023, 57 of them were females representing 51% of the graduates.

2. ORIENTATION AND MATRICULATION CEREMONIES

KAIPTC ushered in 165 new students of three Masters programmes for the 2023/2024 Academic Year. This was made up of 70 females and 95 males. The Ceremony bestows on Matriculants all rights and privileges recognized by KAIPTC as well as an obligation on KAIPTC Management, to seek the welfare of our prized students. The ceremony also provides students with essential insights into academic requirements and available resources, fostering a sense of community and collaboration.

In July 2023, 26 students of the eighth batch of the Executive Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace, and Security (EMCPS) Programme took part in an Orientation and Matriculation Ceremony. The Orientation and Matriculation for the sixth batch of Weekend Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace, and Security (WMCPs 6) and the third batch of Weekend Gender, Peace and Security (WMGPS 3) was held in November 2023.

The number of students matriculated highlights a growing interest and demand for quality education in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, and gender-sensitive security in the African context. As these students embark on their educational journey, they are expected to excel academically and contribute significantly to scholarly discussions, ultimately making practical contributions to promoting peace and security in their respective communities.

3. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH UDS AND CERTIFICATE COURSES ADVERTISEMENT

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) and the University for Development Studies (UDS) in 2023 aims to enhance academic cooperation and improve the quality of education in conflict, peace, and security studies. This collaboration is expected to have a significant impact by leveraging the strengths and resources of both institutions to offer specialized training opportunities and promote research collaborations. The introduction of a Conflict, Peace, and Security certificate programme is a key outcome of this partnership, providing individuals with valuable knowledge and skills to address security challenges in Africa. Overall, the MoU signifies a commitment to excellence in peace and security education and holds promise for advancing peacebuilding efforts on the continent.



KAIPTC Team with UDS Team in a Group Picture in Tamale after fruitful discussions on the implementation of new Certificate Programme.

2023 CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Despite the achievements made in 2023, KAIPTC faced some challenges that impacted its ability to fully accomplish its goals in the year in question. These challenges are as follows:

1. SECURING SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

One major challenge for KAIPTC is securing sustainable funding for its programmes and initiatives. While the Centre has great financial support from different governments with whom there exist excellent cooperation, the heavy reliance on donor funding to sustain its operations, its training programmes, and research initiatives, is currently a challenge.

KAIPTC's efforts at diversifying its funding streams will continue to be a priority in 2023 and beyond. KAIPTC recognizes that securing long-term financial support can be challenging, as donors' priorities might change over time or funding may not be guaranteed year after year. In addition, disbursement of funds can sometimes delay and this situation can hinder KAIPTC's ability to plan and implement its programmes effectively, potentially limiting its ability to fully implement its objectives. With this, the Centre has therefore prioritized working on different initiatives towards ensuring its financial sustainability.

2. ENSURING THE RELEVANCE AND ADAPTABILITY OF TRAINING PROGRAMS AMIDST RAPIDLY EVOLVING PEACE AND SECURITY DYNAMICS

Another institutional challenge is ensuring the relevance and adaptability of training programs amidst rapidly evolving peace and security dynamics. The nature of conflicts and peacekeeping operations is constantly changing, requiring KAIPTC to continuously update its curriculum and training methodologies to address emerging challenges.

This demands substantial human and financial resources to research and develop new training modules, as well as regular training for staff to stay up-to-date with the latest trends. Failure to adapt may result in outdated training, reducing KAIPTC's effectiveness and credibility, hence KAIPTC tries to ensure a continuous relationship with the RECS and regional institutions on peace and security to undertake up to date needs assessment and updates its training curriculum with its evidenced based research.

3. MAINTAINING A DIVERSE AND COMPETENT FACULTY AND STAFF

Furthermore, KAIPTC faces the challenge of maintaining a diverse and competent faculty and staff. The Centre relies on a dedicated team of trainers, researchers, and support staff to facilitate its programmes. However, attracting and retaining experienced and skilled personnel can be a challenge, particularly in the competitive field of peace and security. Limited resources impact on KAIPTC's ability to offer and maintain competitive salaries and benefits, making it difficult to continuously retain talented individuals.

With this, management is continually prioritizing the diversification of its funding streams and undertake innovative initiatives to enable it maintain and retain its staff as much as possible.

4. COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Collaboration and partnerships are crucial for KAIPTC's success, but building and sustaining these relationships sometimes present institutional challenges. Collaborating with governments, regional and international organizations, CSOs and other academic institutions is essential to enhancing the Centre's reach and impact. However, differences in organizational cultures, priorities, and resources sometimes impacts on such partnerships.

In view of this, KAIPTC tries to strengthen collaboration, partnership and cooperation with its partners and stakeholders to meet their bilateral needs and priorities. KAIPTC understands that it must actively work to forge and maintain strong institutional partnerships to maximize its influence and effectiveness.

5. MANAGING INSTITUTIONAL GROWTH AND EXPANSION

Additionally, managing institutional growth and expansion presents challenges for KAIPTC. As an institution that has gained recognition and respect over the years, the demand for its services has increased. This growth may require additional physical infrastructure, such as classrooms, accommodation facilities, and research facilities.

Managing such expansion needs careful financial planning, resource allocation, and coordination to ensure that KAIPTC can meet the growing demands while consistently delivering high-quality programmes. With the limited financial resources, it is difficult for the Centre to meet these growing demands, hence the efforts at engaging different partners including the private sector to support these initiatives.

In conclusion, KAIPTC faces a range of institutional challenges that impact its operational capacity and effectiveness. And these challenges still exist in 2023. These challenges include securing sustainable funding, adapting to evolving peace and security dynamics, attracting and retaining competent staff, fostering collaborations and partnerships as well as managing growth and expansion. Addressing these challenges will require careful planning, strategic partnerships, continuous resource mobilization, and continuous adaptation to maintain the high standards and relevance of KAIPTC's work in promoting peace and security in Africa and beyond.

APPENDIXES – 2023 PUBLICATIONS FUNDED BY KAIPTC PARTNERS

1. Salihu N., Doke V., Aning K., (2023). Musings on Niger’s 2023 Coup d’état: Exploring Options for Engagement Occasional Paper 50, Accra: KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/occasional-paper-50.pdf>
 2. Birikorang E., Abdallah M.,(2023). The Accra Initiative: An Old Wine in a New Bottle? Occasional Paper 51, Accra: KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/occasional-paper-51.pdf>
 3. Birikorang, & Nelson, S. (2023). Climate Change, Migration and Insecurity in West Africa: The Case of Senegal: Occasional Paper 52, Accra, KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/occasional-paper-52.pdf>
 4. Salihu, N., & Tachie-Menson, E. A. (2023). Investigating Climate Change and Pastoralist-Farmer Conflicts in Nigeria. Occasional Paper 53, Accra, KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/occasional-paper-53.pdf>
 5. Lamptey, A. (2023). Securing the GoG: Evaluating Nigeria’s Anti-Piracy Initiatives for Enhanced Maritime Governance. Occasional Paper 54, Accra, KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/occasional-paper-54.pdf>
 6. Salihu, N., & Allotey-Pappoe, S. (2023). Impact of Maritime crimes on Women’s livelihoods. Occasional Paper 55, Accra, KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/occasional-paper-55.pdf>
 7. Danso, K., & Okyere, F. (2023). Thinking Beyond Borders: Understanding the Domestic and External Sources of Maritime Insecurity in the GoG. Occasional Paper 56, Accra, KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/occasional-paper-56.pdf>
 8. Edu-Afful, F., & Osei-Tutu, J. (Eds.). (2023). Guarding the Sea, Pulling the Net, Salting the Fish: The Multiple Roles of Women in the Blue Economy. Occasional Paper 57, Accra, KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/occasional-paper-57.pdf>
 9. Amedzator, L., & Akakpo, M. (2023). Climate change: A driver of insecurity in Niger? Occasional Paper 58, Accra, KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/occasional-paper-58.pdf>
 10. Abdallah, M., Okyere, F., & Lutterodt, B. (2023). Climate Change, Population Displacements and Conflicts in Northern Ghana: The Nexus, Implications and Policy Responses. Occasional Paper 59, Accra, KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/occasional-paper-59-1.pdf>
 11. Moomin, R. (2023). Violent Extremism in Burkina Faso: Examining Responses From the State Defence and Civil Self Defence. Policy Brief 13, Accra: KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/POLICY-BRIEF-13.pdf>
 12. Akakpo, M., Nelson, S., (2023). Conflict-Related Sexual Violence In Localised Conflicts In Burkina Faso. Country Report. , Accra: KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/crsv.burkina-faso-2.pdf>
- Salihu, N. (2022). Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in Localised Conflicts in Niger. Country Report. Accra: KAIPTC. Available at <https://www.kaiptc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/CRSV-NIGER.pdf>
13. Tetteh, S., & Danso, K. (2023). Understanding The Security Implications of Climate Change in The Gambia. Occasional Paper 53, Accra, KAIPTC.
 14. Lartey, E. A., Moomin, R., & Ankah, P. M. (2023). Climate Change and Land use Management in Liberia. Occasional Paper 55, Accra, KAIPTC.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEER REVIEWED JOURNALS AND BOOKS

1. Tachie-Menson, E.A. Assessing the Impact of the 'Silencing the Guns' Initiative in Strengthening UN-AU Cooperation for Sustainable Peace in Africa. In: NeTT4Peace, African Perspectives on The New Agenda for Peace, Policy Paper 1, 2023. Available at https://media.licdn.com/dms/document/media/D4E1FAQH3GIWMWiZdWQ/feedshare-document-pdf-analyze-d/0/1703312161172?e=1707955200&v=beta&t=QS3hY1f6YUTXBPBsLhRyVWw6JqFxFxNr9ehY6bjGea_Ek
2. Edu-Afful, F., et al. (Eds.). (2023). *Multidisciplinary Futures of UN Peace Operations*. PALGRAVE MACMILLAN.
3. Aning, K., & Frimpong, R. (2023). Partnerships for Implementation of African Union's Human Security Agenda. Wafula Okumu and Andrews Atta-Asamoah. (Eds). *African Perspectives and Assessments of the AU at 20: Progress, Challenges and Prospects*. Pretoria: ISS.
4. Aning, K. (2023). Review of Stephen Magu. Explaining foreign policy in post-colonial Africa. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, xvi 349 pp. in Elf Engel (Ed), 2001. *Yearbook on the African Union*, Vol.2 Leiden: Brill. pp. 240-242.
5. Edu-Afful, F. (2023). *Peacekeeping in Nonpermissive Environments: Assessing Troop-Contributing Countries' Perspectives on Capabilities and Mindsets*. The International Peace Institute. <https://www.ipinst.org/2023/03/assessing-tcc-perspectives-on-capabilities-and-mindsets>
6. Aning, K., & Ostaeyen, P.V. (2023). Status of ISWAP and ISGS in West Africa and Sahel. CEP-KAS_Paper 2_Status of ISWAP and ISGS in West Africa and Sahel_June 2023.pdf (counterextremism.com)
7. Aning, K., & Axelrod, I. Z. (2023) Resurgent coup d'états, democratic reversals, and geopolitical shifts in Africa, *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, Vol. 29, No. 4.
8. Aning, K., & Axelrod, I. Z. (2023). Hybrid Security Provision in African Post-Colonial Settings: The Cases of Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone. *International Spectator*, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03932729.2023.2176603>
9. Aning, K., & Edu-Afful, F. (2023). *Peacekeeping and Countering Violent Extremism*.
10. A shared commitment: African-Nordic peace and security cooperation: a report from the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and the Nordic Africa Institute (NAI). pp. 74-76 <https://nai.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1804242/FULLTEXT01.pdf>
11. Tachie-Menson, E.A., Jacobsen, K.L., Mensah, A. and Gyampo, R.E.V. (2023) *Challenges to Maritime Security Capacity Building*. The Gulf Spectrum, pp. 44-50.
12. Tachie-Menson, E.A. (2023). Investigating the Intersection of Maritime and Cyber Crime in the Gulf of Guinea. *Scientia Militaria*, pp. 89–112. Available at <https://scientiamilitaria.journals.ac.za/pub>
13. Aning, K., & Okyere, F. (2023). *Vulnerability Assessment on the Threats of Violent Extremism and Radicalisation in Northern Regions of Ghana*. Accra: UNDP

ENGAGEMENTS/CONFERENCES ATTENDED - REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUES FOR NETWORKING AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION

SRL	DATE	EVENT	STAFF
	Jan-March	Elsie Initiative Sensitisation Tour of GAF	Dr. Edu-Afful
	March 15	Enacting Change with Strategic Foresight	
	March 21	Amid a Global Rise of Authoritarianism and Democratic Backsliding: Electoral Integrity in Africa	Prof.Kwesi Aning
	August 22	Geneva Security Debate on “The New Agenda for Peace: An Opportunity to Reshape Peace Operation”	Dr. Emma Birikorang

OFFER TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO AU, ECOWAS, MEMBER STATES AND OTHER KEY ACTORS ON IMPROVING EFFECTIVENESS & EXISTING APPROACHES

SRL	DATE	INSTITUTIONS	ASSISTANCE	STAFF
	February 6-8	African Union	Participated in the African Union Network of Think Tanks for Peace and Inaugural Meeting of its Strategy Group	Mr. Mustapha Abdallah
	February 17-20	Mount Saint Vincent University	Presentation on “Transforming Military Culture in Peace Support Operations: The role of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre”	Dr. Anna Mensah
	February 22	LECIAD	Chaired the Harmonizing Legal Frameworks to Counter Maritime Security Threats in the Gulf of Guinea Seminar	Dr. Elvis Nana Kwasi Amoateng
	February 22	National Commission for Civic Education	Presented a paper on Arms Proliferation as a catalyst to the threats of violent extremism and terrorism in Ghana during a stakeholders dialogue on PCVET in the northernmost border communities of Ghana	Mrs. Afua Lamptey
	March 1-2	Inter-Religious Council of Sierra Leone (IRCSL)	Facilitated a Training for Members of the Inter-Religious Council of Sierra Leone (IRCSL) on Building a Peaceful and Cohesive Society	Mr. Mustapha Abdallah
	March 1	LECIAD	Participated in a Public lecture on the role of security partners in the Sahel and it's risk for Coastal West Africa	Dr. Victor Doke

March 11	Social Science Research Council	Delivered key note lecture on An Overview of Multidisciplinary Research in Peace and Development in West Africa	Dr. Fiifi Edu-Afful
March 16	Africa Centre for Strategic Studies	Presentation on Drug Trafficking and Border Governance: Responses to Countering it	Mr. John Pokoo
March 21	Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) Ghana	Meeting to assess Training Needs and explore possible areas of collaboration	Dr. Emma Birikorang Mrs. Serwaa Allotey-Pappoe
March 22	Media Foundation for West Africa	Participated in a Public Forum on "Misinformation, Peace & Democratic Consolidation in Ghana	Dr. Victor Doke
March 23	West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI)	Meeting to assess training needs and possible areas of collaboration	Dr. Emma Birikorang Mrs. Serwaa Allotey-Pappoe
April 25-26	Sahel Alliance	Presentation on "the role of decentralization for conflict prevention and resolution in the Sahel"	Dr. Anna Mensah
April 26	NCCE	Presentation on Anchoring Research in Media reportage in Countering Violent Extremism	Mrs. Afua Lamptey
April 26	WANEP & FBA	Facilitator on: Mediating Complex Conflicts: Multistakeholder Collaborative Approach in a Changing World Order (Folke Bernadotte Academy-swedish agency for Peace, Security and development)	Dr. Victor Doke
April 26	Good Governance Ghana / KAS	Resource Person: Peace and Security Panel discussion with Law Faculty Students	Ms. Elsie A. Tachie-Menson
May	KAIPTC	Development of Teaching Module for Gender, Livelihoods, and Maritime Security	Dr. Emma Birikorang Ms. Elsie A. Tachie-Menson
May 17	Centre for Strategic & International Studies	Participant: Workshop on 'Identifying & Monitoring Russian Private Military Company (PMC) Deployments in West Africa	Dr. Victor Doke Dr. Anna Mensah
May 23	Department of Defence Intelligence GAF	Delivered lecture on: Climate Change: Food Security and its Implication	Mr. Philip Makafui Ankah
		Regional: and Sub-Regional Security Arrangements	Prof. Kwesi Aning
		The New World Order: The World after the Cold War	Dr. Kwaku Danso

	May 24	ECOWAS	Participated in a validation workshop: ECOWAS SSRG Lessons Learned- Ghana	Dr. Fiifi Edu-Afful
	May 24	US Embassy Ghana	Participated in the Convening of champions working to advance gender equity, women's empowerment and combatting GBV	Dr. Fiifi Edu-Afful
	May 25-26	UONGOZI Institute	Participant in African Leadership Forum	Mr. Ernest Lartey
	29-31 May	KAIPTC	Presentation on Non-Traditional Security Threats-India National Defense College on 29 May & Zimbabwe National Defense University	Dr. Victor Doke
	July 20	WANEP and Institute for Security Studies	Experience sharing workshop on conflict early warning & early response systems-KAIPTC presented on Perspectives on Peace and Security Challenges in West Africa and Leveraging Regional Peace Architecture for Response	
	21-22 June 2023	Academic Council on the United Nations Systems (ACUNS)	Presentation on "Gender dynamics of child protection in UN peacekeeping"	Dr. Anna Mensah
	July 26	Goree Institute	Presentation on Strategies for lobbying and advocacy of CSOs for peacebuilding and conflict prevention in extractive industries during a workshop on Prevention and management of conflicts related to resources extractive in west Africa	Dr. Victor Doke
	June	Ghana Armed Forces Command and Staff College	Lecture in Civilian Control; Defence Management	Dr. Naila Salihu
		KAIPTC-RDDC-SIGLA Maritime Security Conference	Resource Persons	Dr. Kwaku Danso Mrs. Afua A. Lamptey Mrs. Serwaa Allotey-Pappoe
	September 26	All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC)	Panelist Evaluation of Implementation of Ten years of AU Agenda 2063	Ms. Elsie A. Tachie-Menson
	October	AICC	Participant in The 66th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference Workshop at Accra International Conference Center	Dr. Victor Doke
	October 19	Ministry of Information	Participated in a panel discussion on Disinformation, Integrity, and National Security	

	November 3	UNDP	Validation Meeting: UNDP Climate Change Study	Ms. Elsie A. Tachie-Menson
	December 11	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Represented KAIPTC in Preparatory Meeting Towards the 4th Ghana-Russia Permanent Joint Commission for Cooperation (PJCC)	Ms. Elsie A. Tachie-Menson
	December 12-14	GIABA-EGDC	Resource Person Regional Roundtable Engagement and Workshop	Ms. Elsie A. Tachie-Menson





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PMB CT210, Cantonments - Accra, Ghana | T: 233 (0) 302 718 200 ext 1082 | E: info@kaiptc.org



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