Welcome to this Special Edition of the ASSN Newsletter

This issue marks one year since the launch of The ASSN Quarterly. The inaugural edition was published in October 2011. Four more have since followed, with this edition dedicated to profiling the work of the Next Generation of African Security and Justice Reform (S&JR) scholars and practitioners. These are young Africans from across the continent who are already making a contribution in the pursuit of African participation and ownership of S&JR programmes on the continent.

This edition also highlights the importance of leadership to development in Peace, Security and Justice by highlighting the contributions of the African Leadership Centre (ALC), a core institutional member of the ASSN that has been the foremost breeding ground for this Next Generation of S&JR practitioners and thinkers.

As expected, the ASSN continues to provide a platform for gendered debates on the Security Sector in Africa. On 2-3 October, the ASSN held a stakeholders’ forum on The Impact of and Persisting Challenges to Effective Gender Mainstreaming in African Security Institutions, in Accra, Ghana, in collaboration with the Women Peace and Security Institute (WPSI) based at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAPTC). This event marked the end of the ASSN’s Gender and SSR project (sponsored by DFID).

The ASSN has also maintained its contribution to the debates on the state of SSR in the increasingly strategic East Africa Region. On 2-3 October, Professor Eboe Hutchful represented the ASSN at an inward/ outward panel (IWP) discussion on Challenges and Opportunities for Security Reform in East Africa in Nairobi, Kenya, co-sponsored by the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Nairobi, the African Development Bank, the UN DCAF’s International Security Sector Advisory Team (ISSAT) and the ASSN.

In addition, the ASSN Executive Committee met over 16-18 October in Juba, where members also attended the launch ceremony of the South Sudan National Security Policy (NSP) Development Process. Professor Hutchful addressed the high-profile gathering alongside other speakers. As part of these activities, an Induction Course for the South Sudan NSP Drafting Committee was conducted by the Centre for Policy Research and Dialogue (CPRD), also in Juba. The CPRD is the ASSN’s regional hub in the Horn of Africa.

These ASSN activities reinforce the significance of the intellectual and policy leadership on the Security Sector that is driven by African scholars and policy experts who can prioritise the lived experiences of Africans as the evidence-base for their work. The significance of various strata of leadership to Peace and Security in Africa cannot be overstated, as is clear with recent developments across the continent in Libya, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa and Sudan, as well as globally in Syria and most recently, China and Japan. In all these theatres of conflict, leaders have central roles; from boundary disputes in China, Japan and Sudan; to the breakdown of social contracts in South Africa and Syria; to leadership practiced by the international community in Libya; and to the struggle for political leadership in Mali and Nigeria.

The resulting (in)security fallout are also due to leadership within intellectual and policy spaces that drive dominant approaches to Peace, Security and Development across the world and not least in Africa. The very topical issue of terrorism is a case in point where discourse is steered by interests of the most economically and politically powerful parties. Although this is often at the expense of African interests it tends to be acquiesced by African leaders and raises questions about their commitment to the continent vis-à-vis transnational elite structures.

African scholars and actors, more broadly, need to engage these dominant discourses and challenge them, first to produce knowledge that is grounded in African realities, and second to present concepts that draw from grounded realities in Africa that can and should speak to the continent as well as to other contexts with shared realities. This need underscores the importance of the work of the ASSN, the largest indigenous network of security and justice experts, in highlighting African thought on Peace and Security in Africa, as well as how this is applied through policy engagement.

The ALC is a Pan-African Centre of Excellence with a focus on high quality academic and policy-relevant research, academic postgraduate training and professional training focused on Peace, Security and Development as it relates to Africa and the world. At the heart of its work is the training of a new generation of African leaders through a series of Fellowship programmes and the provision of a forum for exploring a transformative discourse on Peace, Security and Development that is grounded in African realities. The ALC is anchored on the core values of: the pursuit of excellence; African-led ideas and processes of change; respect for diversity in terms of gender, race, class and beliefs; independent thinking; recognition of youth agency; and integrity. It was founded by King’s College London and is based at permanent offices in Nairobi and the Global Institutes, King’s College London.

Institutions and actors that are working to drive the continent forward must prioritise joining efforts to fulfill the task at hand and make the best use of the limited resources available. The ASSN has been instrumental to the work of the ALC in a number of ways. First, the innovative and extensive mentoring programme at the heart of the ALC Fellowships is populated with members of the ASSN serving as mentors. Second, the ASSN and a number of its partner organisations, have been important institutional destinations for ALC-trained emerging experts on Peace, Security and Development. Third, the ASSN is an important source for groundbreaking work on the management of the security and justice sectors driven by African ideas.

African engagement on Peace and Security must be representative of all those who are affected, that is, African scholars, intellectuals, policy makers at international, regional and national levels as well as with activists, is central to the dynamism and excellence of its work. This approach reinforces the notion that those that have tended to be left out of strategic interaction on Peace and Security must be brought to the forefront. The ALC is set up to bring two particular constituencies to the proverbial decision-making table on peace and security: women and young people. It recognises the extant agency of these groups historically and politically. Crucially, their remarkable knowledge bases and immense capacity to contribute to Africa’s socio-economic and political transformation.

In this regard, the Fellowship programmes have impacted on the Peace and Security community in Africa by strengthening the participation of young Africans, especially women, in Peace and Security processes in Africa. Specifically, 20 Fellows (13 of them female) have since 2008 contributed to Peace and Security policy formulation and implementation at regional institutions in Africa, including the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), African Union (AU) and Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). They have worked on policies including: the Women, Peace and Security component of the ECOWAS conflict prevention framework; the development and implementation of the ECOWAS SSR agenda; the operation of the ECOWAS Early Warning system; the implementation of the ECOWAS Small Arms programme; the formulation of the AU SSR agenda; the operation of the AU Early Warning facility; and the deployment of the IGIID-Conflict and Early Warning system.

Fellows have also engaged the critical space of knowledge transfer and production on the continent critically. They are beginning to make marks in different ways including: by creating undergraduate and postgraduate degree modules and programmes on African Peace and Security in universities in Africa including the University of Ghana and Gulu University in Uganda; and producing high-quality publications such as five chapter contributions on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Liberia, Sudan, ECOWAS and SADC in Olonisakin, Barnes and Ilpe (eds) Women, Peace and Security: Translating Policy into Practice, Routledge 2011.

The point of ‘African solutions to African problems’ is at the heart of the matter. However, this does not eschew the fact that the wellbeing of the African continent is in the interests of various parties (many of who are well-meaning), at home and abroad. Indeed the ALC has been firmly supported by a range of organisations across the world including the African Women’s Development Fund, Open Society Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

In the end, it is only those that nurture the continent’s innate ability to respond to its challenges, and those of the world at large, that will be called the true friends of Africa.

With the very best wishes,

Eka Ilpe, PhD
Guest Editor, African Leadership Centre, King’s College London.

The views expressed in the articles published in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the African Security Sector Network.
South Sudan National Security Policy Development Process Launched

On the morning of 17 September 2012, members of the ASSN Executive Committee attended the launch of South Sudan’s National Security Policy (NSP) Development Process in Juba, South Sudan.

President Salva Kiir of South Sudan had been scheduled to preside over the ceremony but was unfortunately unable to attend the event. He nevertheless sent his apologies and was represented by his Legal Advisor, Mr. Tella Ring Deng.

The ASSN Chair, Professor Eboe Hutchful, was among speakers at the high-level launch ceremony, attended by Government Ministers, State Governors, Military Officers from the Sudan People’s Liberation Army (SPLA), members of the Diplomatic Corps, policy experts, religious leaders, representatives of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and the media.

In his speech, Professor Hutchful lauded South Sudan for emerging as a leader and a visionary in pursuing the development of an NSP, thus moving in a direction other African countries were only beginning to understand. Professor Hutchful said while governments developed policies for other sectors such as agriculture, health and education, they often left out the Security Sector, which was actually integral in underwriting the success of the other developmental sectors.

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS), Dr. Hilde F. Johnson, told the gathering that the NSP would significantly help entrench Security, the Rule of Law and the long-term development of South Sudan and its people.

South Sudan’s Minister for National Security, General Oyay Deng Ajak, said the NSP was a necessary tool that would safeguard the Security of the people of South Sudan and the country’s resources.

The Minister then introduced the ten members of the Drafting Committee, as well as the International Advisory Group (IAG), which comprises of advisors from the CPRD, UNMISS and Adam Smith International (ASI).

And speaking on behalf of President Salva Kiir, Mr. Deng said the development of the NSP would be based on consultations encompassing the entire South Sudanese nation, both in the national capital, Juba, and at the State and County levels. He said it was imperative for the process to be driven by South Sudan, while simultaneously resonating with global, economic and regional frameworks.

Immediately following the launch ceremony, the AIG began a three-day induction course for the Drafting Committee to prepare them for the important task of developing a Zero Draft. The NSP will be drafted by a team of Committee of officials drawn from all of South Sudan’s ten States, led by Major General Kuol Deng Abot.

On 16-18 September 2012, the African Security Sector Network (ASSN) also held a meeting of its Executive Committee at the Aron Hotel in Juba. The three-day meeting of the ASSN ExCo was hosted by the CPRD, which is the ASSN’s regional hub for the Horn of Africa.
Stakeholders’ Dialogue on Challenges facing Gender Mainstreaming in African Security Institutions

A stakeholders’ forum on The Impact of and Persisting Challenges to Effective Gender Mainstreaming in African Security Institutions was held on 2-3 October at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana.

The forum, co-convened by the ASSN and the Women Peace and Security Institute (WPSI), marked the end of the ASSN’s Gender and SSR project under the sponsorship of the UK Department for International Development (DFID). It brought together 30 participants from West Africa, Southern Africa and Europe, among them representatives of security institutions, research institutions, local UN offices (UN Women and UNDP), governmental institutions, Civil Society Organisations involved in Women, Peace and Security issues and independent consultants.

Proceedings began with an opening address by the Deputy Commandant of KAIPTC, Brigadier-General Benjamin Freeman Kusi, who highlighted similar efforts by KAIPTC to mainstream Gender within the Security Sector.

Brigadier-General Kusi informed participants that KAIPTC had so far conducted baseline studies on Gender mainstreaming within security institutions in 11 African countries, and that WPSI had been founded as a result of some of the recommendations of the baseline studies, its mission being to support the full implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on Women, Peace and Security. He expressed his delight at the collaboration that had made the forum possible and pledged KAIPTC’s full support, saying he hoped the outcome of the forum would have an impact on the broader African Gender and SSR agenda.

General Nii Carl Coleman, Co-Executive Director of African Security Research and Dialogue/ASDR (the ASSN’s regional hub in West Africa) also delivered a speech on behalf of the ASSN network, thanking the participants for taking the time to participate in the forum and welcoming them to freely deliberate on the objectives of the gathering.

The ASSN’s Jane Abubakar then outlined the core objectives of the stakeholders’ forum, which were as follows:

1. To provide a platform for information and data sharing on the status of Gender Mainstreaming between African Security Institutions;
2. To stimulate discussion on the impact of and persisting challenges to Gender Mainstreaming in the African Security Sector; and
3. To identify useful and timely strategic policy actions for advancing best practices and overcoming the challenges identified.

The first day centred on presentations about the findings of baseline studies conducted by the ASSN and partner institutions. In recognition of the diverse backgrounds of the participants, the WPSI/KAIPTC while Kristi Valasek from the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) made a presentation on her organisation’s baseline studies. This session was moderated by Dr. Cheryl Hendricks of the Institute of Security Studies (ISS).

The second day focussed on presentations on international policies relating to Gender mainstreaming within the context of SSR. These included a presentation on UN mandates on Gender and SSR by Kristi Valasek; the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Policy Framework on Gender and SSR by Dr. Cheryl Hendricks; and the African Union SSR Policy Framework by Dr. Awino Okech. These presentations were followed by discussions on the Gender and SSR related policies in a session moderated by Dr. Justina Dugbazah of the Africa Union’s New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).

Participants then entered a plenary session to discuss the impact of and challenges to effective Gender Mainstreaming in African Security Institutions, followed by another session on policy recommendations and next steps. These sessions were moderated by General Coleman, Dr. Justina Dugbazah and Afua Ansre of the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

The second half of the day dwelt on a third plenary session centring on the following two core questions:

1. What practical steps can be taken to rally political support for Gender-related work in SSR at the national, regional and global levels?
2. How can female enrolment in security institutions be improved, and how can the numbers be sustained?

This session was moderated by Abratha Doe, the National Coordinator of the Women, Peace and Security Secretariat in the Liberian Ministry of Gender and Development, while Dr. Cheryl Hendricks captured the salient points of the discussions.

The forum was formally closed by General Coleman, who thanked the participants for their insightful ideas and engaging discussions, and for making it possible for the objectives of the stakeholders’ dialogue to be met. A full report of the proceeding will be forthcoming in due course.
A two-day High Level Panel (HLP) on Challenges and Opportunities for Security Sector Reform (SSR) in East Africa was held on 2-3 October at the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON).

The HLP was organised in a partnership between the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Nairobi, the African Development Bank (ADB), the UN, DCAF’s International Security Sector Advisory Team (ISSAT) and the African Security Sector Network (ASSN), as well as the Governments of Burundi, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan, the African Union (AU), the East African Community (EAC) and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

Chaired by Dr. Michal Mlynár, Ambassador of Slovakia with Residence in Nairobi and Chair of the ISSAT Governing Board, the HLP brought together over 200 SSR policy makers and practitioners, senior government officials, regional and continental SSR experts, key donors, regional and multilateral organisations and representatives from among the Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). The ASSN was represented by its Chair, Professor Eboe Hutchful.

The central focus of the HLP was to consider the unique challenges and opportunities in engaging and supporting sustainable Security and Justice (S&J) programming in East Africa, as well as to share and identify best practices and lessons learnt from the region. The three case studies of Burundi, Somalia and South Sudan provided the core basis for the discussions, given the starkly different political, economic, social and security contexts in the three countries. The HLP also gave the AU Commission an opportunity to present the AU SSR Policy Framework. Panelists and other participants discussed the opportunities, challenges and implications for the implementation of the AU SSR Policy, both for the African continent as a whole and East Africa in particular.

The importance of SSR to peace, stability and development was underscored at the HLP. It was recognised that beyond improving the delivery of Security and Justice (S&J) services to citizens, SSR should target the transformation of S&J institutions into more accountable, effective formations that are as critical in situations of post-conflict peace building and development as they are to the establishment of both short-term stabilisation and long-term stability. Rather than be perceived as a reactive process, SSR should also link with other sectors in identifying and addressing future security challenges, such as youth unemployment and conflict over resources.

Based on the three country case studies, the following lessons were drawn from the discussions at the HLP:

- **Normative frameworks** are a necessary tool in the process of guiding the SSR process because they ensure that the principles of accountability, effectiveness, respect for the Rule of Law and national ownership are embedded. One such tool would be the AU SSR Framework, which is adaptable to the country context and can be dovetailed with overarching security policy frameworks at the country level;

- **Partnerships** are very important for the delivery of SSR. These include strategic partnerships between countries and intergovernmental organisations such as the UN, AU, the European Union (EU), Regional Economic Communities, other regional organisations and entities, as well as greater South-South exchange of expertise/skills, lessons learned, and good practices;

- **The political nature of SSR**: SSR is a political undertaking that requires technical capacity. As such, technical practitioners need the capacity to manage political challenges, such as the engagement of the political leadership, changing institutional cultures and vested interests, such as those of donors and multi-lateral partners;

- **Political will**: A strong political will is indispensable for SSR. It creates an understanding of what the SSR process will entail, the power shifts that may occur, the resources that must be allocated for the process, and the capacity to identify and involve people with long-term commitment and vision;

- **Synergies**: Successful SSR needs to resonate with the country’s development policy frameworks and create strong synergies between the actual security situation and related factors such as development, the Rule of Law and job creation. The link with public sector reform and expenditure should also be taken into consideration.

- **SSR requires sustainable support**: Donors need to ensure that the support they provide for SSR initiatives is sustainable and sufficient enough to facilitate the entire process all the way to completion.

Speaking at the HLP, Kenyan Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka called on fellow East African leaders to support SSR, saying such reforms would enable regional countries to effectively guarantee the security of their respective populations.

The Director General of the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON), Ambassador Sahle-Work Zewde, pledged the cooperation of UN agencies with all the East African countries in the enhancement of peacebuilding, in partnership with the AU and other stakeholders.

ASSN Chair Professor Eboe Hutchful (left) at the Nairobi High Level Panel on SSR in East Africa.
Next Generation Profiles

As the ASSN newsletter marks one year since its launch, we have decided to dedicate this Special Edition to an emerging crop of scholars and practitioners in the areas of Security and Justice reform and other closely related fields. They come from various parts of Africa and have different backgrounds and experiences, but a common thread that runs through their profiles is that they are young, vibrant and have demonstrated either the capacity or potential to form the next generation that will steer the wheel of African ownership and participation in Security and Justice initiatives implemented across the continent. The ASSN wishes these 22 young Africans well in this journey that they have embarked on with such remarkable promise.

Ebenezer Asiedu

Nationality: Ghanaian
Main fields of interest: Peace and Security; Early Warning, Conflict Prevention and Preventive Diplomacy.

Education: MA in Conflict, Security and Development; MA in International Relations; MSc in Industrial Relations and Personnel Management; BA in Philosophy and the Study of Religions.

Alma Mater: London School of Economics (LSE); King’s College London / African Leadership Centre (ALC); University Of Ghana.

Ebenezer Ofosu Asiedu is a Senior Analyst on Early Warning, Conflict Prevention and Preventive Diplomacy with the African Union Peace and Security Department. He has a background in Peace and Security, research, international relations and banking.

Awici Churchill

Nationality: Ugandan
Main fields of interest: Human Rights; Social Justice; Peace Education; Security and Development.

Education: MA in Conflict, Security and Development; MA in Peace Education; Postgraduate Diploma in Project Planning and Management; Postgraduate Diploma in Conflict Management and Peace Studies; BA in Philosophy; Diploma in Philosophy and Religious Studies.

Alma Mater: King's College London/African Leadership Centre; The University for Peace (UPEACE); Gulu University; The Pontifical Urbaniana University; Uganda Management Institute.

Awici has for many years been involved in academia and the civil society in Uganda. He has since 2007 taught a number of courses in peace, security and development at Gulu University, and has successfully carried out a number of consultancies involving research, facilitation and development of training manuals. On the civil society front, he has been practically engaged in human rights and advocacy in emergency and post-conflict settings, playing key roles in establishing programmes and linking them with key networks and stakeholders. As Project Manager of the Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA) Programme of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) in Uganda for instance, Awici contributed to the development and implementation of land conflict resolution strategies in Uganda’s restive North. He later founded the Africa Community Development Network (ACODEN), a Ugandan-based NGO formed to promote access to land and to equip communities with the knowledge and skills to lead peaceful, prosperous and dignified lives within a socially and environmentally sustainable framework.

Motivated by his background working in conflict regions, he recently completed an MA programme in Conflict, Security and Development at King’s College London / the African Leadership Centre. He also holds an MA in Peace Education from the University for Peace (UPEACE) in Costa Rica, a BA in Philosophy from the Pontifical Urbaniana University, Postgraduate Diplomas in Conflict Management and Peace Studies and Project Planning and Management respectively, and a Diploma in Philosophy and Religious Studies. He has also participated in various global leadership programmes, including the UNESCO Inter-generational Leadership Programme, Peacebuilding and Good Governance for African Civilians.

Awici speaks fluent English and has a basic command of Spanish and Latin. He won the 2012-2013 Social Science Research Council (SSRC) African Peacebuilding Network (APN) Grant to carry out a research project in Northern Uganda and South Sudan.

Titi Ajayi

Nationality: Nigerian.
Main fields of interest: Post-Conflict State Legitimacy.

Education: MA in International Affairs; BA in French and Political Science.

Alma Mater: University Of Ghana

Titiolope Ajayi-Mamattah is a Research and Documentation Officer with the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) in Accra, Ghana. She is a researcher and analyst with over eight years experience in conflict prevention and SSR in West Africa.

Titi joined WACSI in October 2012. Until September 2012, she was an analyst with the West Africa office of the International Crisis Group (ICG) in Dakar, Senegal, focussing on Liberia, Sierra Leone and Northern Nigeria. She has since hit the ground running in her new role at WACSI. Over the next few months, and in following with WACSI’s commitment to the provision of targeted capacity enhancement for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in the region, she will be working to expand WACSI’s database of CSOs and experts working in various areas, in addition to acquiring more publications for the organisation’s resource centre, helping design research courses based on identified needs and starting to document CSO experiences in their engagements with regional policy makers. She has previously worked as a Research Associate at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra; Regional Project Officer with Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) in Nigeria; Senior Program Assistant with the African Security Dialogue & Research (ASDR) in Accra; as well as a Visiting Research Fellow with the Nordic-Africa Institute in Sweden and FES in the United States, in both cases researching topics within the realm of African peace and security; She was also an election observer with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) during the 2011 Liberian General election.

Titi holds an MA in International Affairs from the Legon Centre for International Affairs (LECIA) at the University of Ghana and a BA in French and Political Science from the same University. She is a member of the African Security Sector Network (ASSN) and the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) WestAfrica.

Sample Published Articles


Paschal Badong

Nationality: Ghanaian.
Main fields of interest: Security provision and management.

Education: MSc in Security and Risk Management; MA in Gender and SSR. She has eight years experience on issues of Gender, Governance, Peace and Security, particularly in West Africa. Her experience transcends academia and policy making, and she is highly skilled in policy, programme and project formulation, implementation, management and supervision at the grassroots, national and regional levels.

Alma Maters: King's College London / African Leadership Centre; United Methodist University; Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA).

Paschal Anyanwulo Badong is a Field Security Coordination Officer with the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), deployed with the UN/African Union Mission in Darfur.

He is a retired Major of the Ghana Army. During his 13-year military career, he served in several peacekeeping and enforcement missions in various parts of Africa and the Middle East, including the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (1996, 1999, and 2003); ECOMOG in Liberia (1998); the UN Missions in the Democratic Republic of Congo (2001) and ivory Coast (2004); and finally with the AU Mission in Darfur in 2007. His current work with the UNDSS in Darfur mainly involves carrying out security threat assessments, conducting security surveys, as well as preparing and implementing security and contingency plans. All these activities are geared towards enabling the safe implementation of UN mandates and programmes in the region, and to ensure the personal safety and security of personnel of the UN and International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs) working in the region.

In March this year he was re-deployed to establish and operate a Security Cell in the newly-created state of El Daein in Darfur, bordering the Republic of South Sudan. This Cell is meant to carry out a thorough security needs assessment for the whole of Darfur and to work with all UN Agencies and INGOs working in the new state. His challenging responsibilities involve the recruitment of staff and working with various sections and agencies to get the Cell up and running.

Paschal possesses an firm grasp of the African security environment. His extensive field experience is buttressed by rigorous academic training and sound experience as a security researcher and practitioner. He holds two masters degrees, one in Security and Risk Management and the other in Conflict, Security and Development. Prior to joining the UNDSS, he worked with the African Security Sector Network (ASSN) as Programme Manager. He has previously served as the Global Coordinator for the Working Group on the Privatisation of Security, an initiative of the Global Consortium on the Transformation of Security (GCST); as a Researcher with the ECOWAS Small Arms Control Programme in Bamako; and a Consultant for the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, conducting a field study to examine the extent of proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in West Africa. He has contributed several articles to the journal of the UNDSS and is exploring the idea of enrolling for PhD studies. His main field of interest is security provision and management, with a focus on the provision of security by non-state actors, particularly in the developing world. His cites his motivation as resulting from his previous career in the military and the exposure it gave him to the important roles played by security sector actors in the daily lives of ordinary people. Paschal is bilingual in English and French.

Sample Published Work

www.africanleadershipcentre.org/attachments/article/92/ALC%20Report%20No%20%20%205%20Badong.pdf

Valkamiya Ahmadu

Nationality: Nigerian.
Main fields of interest: International Security; Terrorism.

Education: MA in International Security and Terrorism; BSc in International Relations.

Alma Maters: University of Nottingham; Covenant University.

Valkamiya Mary Ahmadu was born in Wukari, Nigeria, but grew up in various parts of the country. Her family moved a lot because her father served in the Nigerian Police Force for over 30 years until his retirement in 2010 as a Deputy Inspector General of Police. She credits her father's career and the regular transfers it necessitated with exposing her to the ethnic, cultural and religious diversity of her home country. She describes her passion for security sector affairs as an offshoot of this exposure, saying it nurtured her love for travelling, meeting people from different backgrounds and discussing politics, as well as a sense of curiously as to what it will take for the world to be at peace. She went on to graduate with a degree in International Relations from Covenant University, Nigeria, then pursued a career in security with the UNDSS. In March 2007. His current work with the UNDSS in Darfur mainly involves carrying out security threat assessments, conducting security surveys, as well as preparing and implementing security and contingency plans. All these activities are geared towards enabling the safe implementation of UN mandates and programmes in the region, and to ensure the personal safety and security of personnel of the UN and International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs) working in the region.

Abrasra Doe

Nationality: Liberian.
Main fields of interest: Gender, Peace and Security.

Education: Post-Graduate Non-Degree in Conflict, Security and development; BSc in Economics and Accounting. Currently pursuing an MA in Gender, Peace and Security.

Alma Maters: King’s College London / African Leadership Centre; United Methodist University; Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA).

Abrasra Patience Doe is a young African feminist, researcher and peace activist currently serving as the National Coordinator of the Women, Peace and Security Secretariat in the Liberian Ministry of Gender and Development. She is also the Ministry’s focal person on Gender and SSR. She has ten years experience on issues of Gender, Governance, Peace and Security, particularly in West Africa. Her experience transcends academia and policy making, and she is highly skilled in policy, programme and project formulation, implementation, management and supervision at the grassroots, national and regional levels.

Abrasra worked with the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the Lutheran Information Centre (HIC/IUN OCHA) on the Refugees, Internal Displaced Persons and village mapping project ahead of the 2005 Liberian General Election. She later became the Senior Executive Secretary and Special Assistant to the Minister of State and Chief of Staff of the President of Liberia. She also served as Programme Coordinator of Girls Empowerment Program (GEP), a local Community Based Organisation that promotes development through the education of girls and promotes community peace efforts in post-conflict Liberia. She also founded an informal Knowledge Building and Mentoring Programme (KMBP) for young women and girls in three disadvantaged and underprivileged communities in Monrovia.

She has served as a Special Assistant and Researcher in the Political Affairs and International Cooperation Unit at the ECOWAS Commission, where she provided a weekly analysis on the security situation in the Mano River Union countries (Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Côte d’Ivoire). She also served as Gender Advisor to the Director of Gender Development, Youth, Sports, Civil Society, Employment and Drug Control at the ECOWAS Commission. In this capacity, she helped identify and develop projects to accommodate UN Resolutions 1325 and 1820 within the Women, Peace and Security component of the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework. She also assisted in developing an ECOWAS Regional Action Plan for Gender engagement in Liberia; a Post-Graduate Non-Degree in Conflict, Security and Development from King’s College London/African Leadership Centre and two post-graduate Certificates in Public Administration and Women in Management, respectively, from the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA). She is presently pursuing a MA in Gender, Peace and Security at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC). She has also been a research fellow and junior professional with the International Peace Institute (IPI) in New York, where she was exposed to various key global Peace and Security Institutions.

Sample Published Work

www.africanleadershipcentre.org/attachments/article/92/ALC%20Report%20No%20%20%205%20Badong.pdf
**Lina Imran**

**Nationality:** Ethiopian.

**Main fields of interest:** Peace and Security Sector Reform (SSR).

**Education:** MA in Peace and Security Studies; BA in Political Science and International Relations; Diploma in Public Administration and Development Management.

**Alma Mater:** Addis Ababa University.

Lina Imran Abdullahi is an emerging expert on issues of Peace and Security from Ethiopia. She is a graduate of Addis Ababa University, with an MA in Peace and Security Studies and a BA in Political Science and International Relations.

She joined the African Union Youth Division in 2009, as an intern tasked with following up on continent-wide youth programmes. Her interest in SSR began from a purely academic perspective; particularly on the topics of people-centred approaches to SSR, local ownership of SSR processes and the general security arrangements in post-conflict countries. As she got more steeped in SSR theory, she gained an awareness of the practice involved. Between 2010-2012 she worked with the African Security Sector Network (ASSN), initially as an intern and later a research assistant seconded to support the African Union SSR Policy Framework Development Process. In these roles, Lina participated in research activities and engaged in project design and the management processes of the AU SSR policy development process. At the end of the project she joined the African Union Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration Capacity Building Programme (AUDRCP), where she is currently helping to establish an AU DDR resource and research centre.

Lina has attended several training programmes on Peace and Security. Two key training experiences she has undertaken are the Conflict Prevention, Resolution and Reconciliation Programme at the International Peace and Security Institute (IPSIs) in conjunction with John Hopkins University; and the Peace and Security in Africa Programme at the University of Uppsala. She has used her training and expertise to address greater participation by the youth in decisions that affect them and their environment, both directly and indirectly. She describes herself as a young pan-Africanist with a firm belief that the African continent needs a professional and democratically-governed Security Sector to underwrite its development. Her main area of interest is Security Sector Reform, with particular regard to Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector.

In 2009, Elom was recruited by UNREC as a programme assistant under UNREC’s ‘Regulation of Small Arms and Light Weapons Brokers in Africa Project’ and the ‘African Security Sector Reform Programme’ (ASSEREP). In this role he dealt directly with national and international security institutions and participated in various other security initiatives, such as the fight against Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), especially on its Brokering aspect in Eastern Africa; the elaboration of the Brokering Software (and its user guide in English and French) to help register arms brokers and brokering licenses in compliance with the Best Practice Guidelines; and the implementation of the Nairobi Protocol for the Prevention, Control and Reduction of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa. He also conducted a survey on the impact of SALW in Togo under a project organised by the ECOWAS Small Arms Control Programme (ECOSAP) and the National Commission on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of SALW in Togo. He later coordinated the publication of the book, La Réforme des Systèmes de Sécurité et de Justice en Afrique Francophone.

Elom Kossa Khambwio is a Senior Programme Assistant with the African Security Sector Network (ASSN). He describes himself as a young pan-Africanist with a firm belief that the African continent needs a professional and democratically-governed Security Sector to underwrite its development. His main area of interest is Security Sector Reform, with particular regard to Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector.

He began his professional career with an internship at the Togolese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, followed by another internship at the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC) in Lomé, Togo. Under the auspices of the UN High Commission for Human Rights (UNHCR) and UNREC, he participated in the UN observer mission during Togo’s 2007 parliamentary elections, focussing on the human rights and security aspects.
Johnstone Kibor

Nationality: Kenyan.

Main fields of interest: Human Security, Justice and Governance.

Education: Diploma in Social Work/Community Development. Currently enrolled for an MA in International Studies and Diplomacy.

Alma Maters: International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC); Pan-Africa Institute for Development (Cameroon); Government Development Institute (KCAL).

Johnstone Chepkonga Kibor is a Senior Researcher with the Nairobi-based Security Research and Information Centre (SRIC). He is also the Project Manager of the joint SRIC/ASSN project in Kenya, entitled 'Leveraging Political Space in the New Kenyan Constitutionalism: Enhancing Civil Society and Community Engagement with the Agenda Four Reforms'. The project seeks to facilitate dialogue towards the full implementation of the "Agenda Four Reforms", aimed to address the historical grievances that precipitated Kenya's 2007/2008 postelection violence.

He has previously worked as a Project Development Manager with the NGO ChildFund International as well as with various Civil Society Organisations, including Maendelelo Ya Wanawake (MYW), the Centre for Social Reintegration and Enterprise Promotion (CESREP) and the Kenya Coalition Against Landmines (KCAL).

Johnstone traces his interest in the areas of human security, justice and governance to his childhood days.

He was born and raised in the Kerio Valley, a part of Kenya he describes as having a "permanent and palpable sense of insecurity" owing to intermittent armed conflict between his farming Marakwet tribe and the pastoralist Pokot tribe. Further from this background, he has witnessed several displacements as a result of internal strife in Kenya, the worst of which he cites as the internal refugees crisis that followed the country’s 2008 postelection violence.

On the continental level, Johnstone expresses concern at the fact that most African countries still lack National Security Policy (NSPs), which would have made the youth activism more responsive in addressing emerging security threats. He finds this situation unfortunate, given the existence of fairly formidable regional blocs across the continent, such as ECOWAS, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Economic Commission for Central Africa States (ECCAS), the Southern Africa Development Commission (SADCC) and a number of other groupings on the sub-regional and inter-governmental level.

Johnstone is currently enrolled for an MA in International Studies and Diplomacy at Washington International University in the US. He has over the course of his career produced various concept papers, research papers and situation reports.

He has also had the chance to travel extensively, attending conferences, presenting papers on security and related issues as well as attending various professional training workshops.

He has reported for local newspapers like The Reporter, The Sub-Saharan Informer and Capital, and later freelanced for the Chinese international news agency, Xinhua. His final posting as a journalist was with the German international broadcaster, Deutsche Welle, based in Bonn, Germany. As a young man looking for a purpose in life, he found an interest in researching politics and security, spurred by the conviction that research helps create a public that can access scientific information about the various challenges they face as a society.

Hallelujah Lulie Wondimu is a researcher with the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, attached to the Peace and Security Council Report Programme (PRP). He has researched, written and published work on the African Peace and Security Architecture, the AU Peace and Security Council, AU sanctions, Security Sector Reform (SSR) and Media and Democracy in Ethiopia and Africa. He is currently working on a number of projects, including the AU's response to the threat of terrorism in Africa.

He was initially a media and communications practitioner before joining the ISS. He began as a reporter with a private weekly newspaper before covering the African Union (AU) as well as the political and security dynamics in the Horn of Africa for various Ethiopian and international media houses.

Hallelujah Lulie has an MA in Peace and Security from the University for Peace (UPEACE), an MA in Journalism and Communication and a BA in English and Law, both from Addis Ababa University. He is very passionate about politics and governance, and aspires to see a free, just and peaceful Ethiopia and Africa within his lifetime. In contribution to this ideal, he is a member of the Interfaith Peace Dialogue Initiative that works to build good relations between followers of different religions in Ethiopia and also coordinates an informal grouping of young Ethiopians with a shared political aspiration to develop the culture of dialogue and discussion.

He was recently selected for US President Barack Obama’s Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) in recognition of the various voluntary community service and youth activism activities he has led over the past few years alongside his professional work.
Lensah Kwadjo

Nationality: Ghanaian.
Main fields of interest: The role of global transnational crime in fuelling social and violent conflict in Africa.
Education: BA in International and Area Studies.

Lensah Akua Kwadjo was recently an intern at the African Union’s Continental Early Warning System (CEWS) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where her role involved, among other duties, monitoring news events in the AU Situation Room and producing daily reports on Central Africa for expert analysis. Most notably, she drafted a policy brief for coordination between the Continental Early Warning System and the AU SSR Unit to address long-term structural causes of violence. She postulates in the policy brief that through enhanced coordination, the Continental Early Warning Systems can optimise the AU SSR Unit’s capacity to develop strategies that would effectively shield post-conflict countries from relapsing into conflict.

Lensah’s passion lies in the role of global transnational crime in fuelling social and violent conflict in Africa. She says her experience with the AU’s burgeoning early warning system has motivated her to pursue a deeper insight into how the AU can better assist its member states to identify and root out criminal elements with transnational reach before they can destabilise fragile parts of the continent. As a result, she is preparing to begin her masters studies in the fall of 2013. She will study International Security Studies, focusing on African transnational security threats. She currently holds a BA in International and Area Studies from the New College of Florida and has written several independent study projects addressing the historical and political development of the AU and comparative SSR strategies in West African countries.

Amadou Moktar

Nationality: Beninese.
Main fields of interest: Issues of criminality (all forms); Conflict prevention, management and resolution.
Education: PhD in Law and Criminal Sciences.
Alma Mater: University of Parakou.

Amadou Moktar is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law and Head of the Department of Private Law at the University of Parakou in Northern Benin, as well as a Visiting Professor at the University of Burgundy in France. He is also an active member of the Alloine Blondin Beye Academy for Peace (ABBAP), an institutional member of the ASSN network. He has authored or co-authored several reports on issues of conflict management, governance, internet scamming and private security companies in Africa.

A holder of a doctorate degree in Law and Criminal Sciences, Amadou has taken part in several workshops, trainings and seminars in Africa and around the world on issues related to the reform of the security sector.

In 2010 he was one of 12 young African experts identified by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) to under go training with ECOWAS in Nigeria, the European Union in Belgium and the United Nations in Switzerland on issues relating to the security architecture of these institutions. He has also taken part in the observation of several elections in West Africa as part of the ECOWAS delegation.

Amadou is currently working on a project to investigate internet scamming in Benin (commonly known as ‘419 Fraud’) for the Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA), and is looking to conduct a research on the re-evaluation of traditional mechanisms of conflict prevention and management for the ECOWAS Security Policy.

Tendai Mtukwa

Nationality: Zimbabwean.
Main field of interest: The Role of Creative Arts in Peacebuilding.
Education: MA in Applied Drama; BA in Theatre Studies.
Alma Mater: The University of the Witwatersrand; King’s College London/African Leadership Centre; the University of Zimbabwe.

Tendai Mtukwa holds an MA in Applied Drama from the University of the Witwatersrand and a BA in Theatre Studies from the University of Zimbabwe. In 2011 she won the African Women Peace and Security Research Fellowship Award from King’s College London/ the African leadership Centre, where her research work contributed to the role that the creative arts can play in Peace and Security issues. Since then Tendai has now focused her research and career practice on theatre as pedagogy/andragogy for Peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation. Her research interests mainly focus on the use of arts and culture to facilitate the development and transformation of different communities, centring on the use of the creative arts as participatory interventions for community empowerment, transformation and development. She has had the opportunity to work on various research projects including: psycho-social support systems for women infected with HIV and AIDS; sexual and gender-based violence; conflict and mediation; as well as children’s rights. She also sees the creative arts as an avenue through which ordinary citizens can be made aware of ways in which they can play a role in shaping the Security Sector.

She is currently planning to pursue PhD studies with a focus on the use of theatre for peacebuilding and conflict transformation in communities affected by political violence. She is also working on a paper entitled: Informal Peace-building in Africa: Removing the Table, which she presented at the Second ALC Annual Alumni Conference and plans to publish.

Alfred Muteru

Nationality: Kenyan
Main fields of interest: State-building in Africa, with a focus on State Security Systems.
Education: MA in Conflict Security and Development; BA in Communication and Media.
Alma Mater: King’s College London/African Leadership Centre (ALC), Egerton University.

Alfred Nduomo Muteru is a Research Fellow at the African Leadership Centre, currently participating in an ongoing ALC research programme on peace-building and state-building in post-conflict African countries.

He has considerable experience researching conflict systems in the African Great Lakes Region, having previously worked for the Institute for Security Studies (ISS). He also worked with the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR), where he was part of a programme that assessed human rights violations that occurred during Kenya’s 2008 postelection violence, as well as extra-judicial killings, and killings linked to organised criminal networks in the country. At the moment, Alfred’s long term research interests mainly revolve around state-building in Africa, with a focus on State Security Systems. His other focus is on research and evidence-based policy formulation on Peace and Security issues in African countries, motivated by the drive to contribute ideas on how African countries can deal with security challenges that often manifest in form of State inability to monopolise violence, as well as to institute effective, credible and legitimate security institutions with the capacity to provide territorial, social and political order. He is also a strong advocate for the advancement of African led-perspectives by Security Sector actors.

Alfred holds a masters in Conflict, Security and Development from King’s College London / the African Leadership Centre, and a BA in Communication and Media from Egerton University, Kenya.

Sample Published Articles


- Hope of ending impunity in Kenya rises as panic sets in amongst perpetrators [http://www.iss.co.za/wpcontent.php?UID=7391]

Edefe Ojomo

NATIONALITY: Nigerian.

Main fields of interest: International Law; Regional Integration; Migration.

Education: MA in Conflict, Security and Development; Master of Laws (LL.M) in International and Comparative Law; Bachelor of Laws (LL.B).

Alma Mater: King's College London/African Leadership Centre, the American University in Cairo; the University of Lagos; the Nigerian Law School.

Edefe Ojomo is a lecturer in the Faculty of Law at the University of Lagos. She currently teaches international law and a number of other law courses, but her main interest is in international law and regional integration, in particular migration issues. She has previously lectured at the University of Uyo's Faculty of Law.

She credits her education in various parts of Nigeria, and afterwards in Egypt and the United Kingdom for giving her a wider spectrum of tolerance and a deeper understanding of diversity. Growing up, she says most of what she heard was about how much trouble her home country - Nigeria - was in.

Her focus early in her career was on children's rights. It began when she was involved in a project with Save the Children Norway (in Zimbabwe) and the University of Zimbabwe on the plight of children in difficult circumstances. The project resulted in the publication of a book publication on child labour, child rights and education. During that time, she played an active role in advocating for the rights of children.

Her biggest dream is to see an Africa that functions; an Africa that effectively caters for the needs of its citizens, with institutions that ensure an orderly society, promotes peace and ensures development for all citizens across all strata of the society. With regard to the security sector, the porosity of West African borders and the spread of terrorism in the region is an area she would like to explore for future research.

Michèle Pépé

NATIONALITY: Ivorian.

Main fields of interest: Gender and SSR; SALW; Sustainable Development; Journalism.

Education: MA in Journalism.

Alma Mater: Atlantic University of Abidjan.

Michèle Olga Pépé is a journalist and consultant on issues of Security, Small Arms and Gender. She started her career in the media as a sports reporter, but later transitioned into reporting social and political issues. Her profile as a political journalist specialising in issues of defence and security grew when she joined Fraternité Matin, Côte d'Ivoire's largest daily newspaper. This placed her on the frontline in the coverage of the various political and military crises that have afflicted Côte d'Ivoire over the past ten years.

She has since April 2012 served as the President of the Board of Directors of the Serenti Foundation, an NGO that works towards the achievement of sustainable development and human security, the promotion of peace, security, human rights, gender, solidarity, social cohesion, reconciliation and interfaith dialogue. She is also the President of the Network of Ivorian Peace and Security Journalists (RIPS).

From July 2007 to April 2012, she headed the Ivorian division of the West African Action Network on Small Arms (WAANSA) and is a member of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA). While she was head of the Ivorian division of WAANSA, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and UNDP mandated her to conduct a national awareness campaign on the dangers of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). This resulted in the creation of a National Commission to fight against SALW; Côte d'Ivoire's ratification of the ECOWAS Convention on SALW; and a general awareness among the public and State authorities of the need to decisively address the problem posed by the proliferation of SALW in Côte d'Ivoire.

For ten years she has simultaneously been engaged in the Ivorian civil society sphere, as well as in regional and international issues of Peace, Security, Development and Gender. She has also been involved in defending the rights of journalists and communication professionals, serving as a member of the Ivorian chapter of the Association of African Communication Professionals (APAC) and as Vice-President of the National Union of Ivorian Journalists (UNJCI). She is also affiliated with the Peace and Security Network of Women within ECOWAS (REPSSFECO) and is currently working on a project for the greater inclusion of Gender issues in the SSR process currently underway in Côte d'Ivoire.

In these different capacities, she has travelled extensively in West Africa, lobbying governments, political and military authorities, Civil Society Organisations, ordinary people and the media to rally support for a concerted fight against the proliferation and circulation of illicit SALW. In the same vein, she has been invited to participate in meetings at the international level, including at the UN in New York and Geneva. In 2007, she was bestowed the Knight of the National Order of Merit by the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

Tinashe Pfigu

NATIONALITY: Zimbabwean.

Main fields of interest: Conflict Resolution and Management; Community Policing; Security Sector Reform (SSR); Women and Children's Rights.

Education: PhD in Social Anthropology; MSc in Sociology and Social Anthropology.

Alma Mater: Stellenbosch University; University of Zimbabwe.

Tinashe Pfigu is a researcher who has over the past five years focused on crime, community policing and gender violence. She has recently completed a PhD in Social Anthropology at Stellenbosch University under the prestigious Volkswagen Foundation Doctoral Scholarship. Her PhD thesis was titled Local Responses to a Travelling Model of Crime Prevention and Crime Management: Community Policing in Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Her main fields of research interest include conflict resolution and management, community policing, SSR, policy analysis, leadership and democratisation processes, strategic planning and management, women and children's rights.

Beyond her role as a full time researcher at Stellenbosch between 2007-2012, she has been involved in research with the Heinrich Böll Stiftung Foundation and also as a trainer and facilitator with the Brastwick Research and Consultancy Services. Her passion has made her take up serious roles as a women and children's rights activist over the past five years. Among other things, she has been an Independent Consultant on Gender and Development; has been involved in curriculum development for capacity building of women and youth in townships in South Africa, monitoring and evaluation of development projects, and has worked as a training facilitator on the topic of strategic planning and management.

She is currently working on a project on SSR in Zimbabwe. Through engaging with the African Security Sector Network (ASSN), Tinashe hopes to contribute to research that feeds into current developments on the African Security Sector landscape. She speaks English and French.
Okey Uzoechina

Nationality: Nigerian.

Main fields of interest: Regional Security Governance; Conflict/Prevention; Counterterrorism.

Education: MA in Conflict, Security and Development; Practice Diploma in International Human Rights Law and Practice; Practice Diploma in International Arbitration Law; Bachelor of Laws (LLB).

Alma Maters: King’s College London/African Leadership Centre; the University of Nigeria Nsukka; the College of Law of England and Wales; the Nigerian Law School.

Okey Uzoechina is a Programme Manager with the ECOWAS-FOREWARN Initiative. Although employed by the Humanitarian Futures Programme (HFP) at King’s College London (the lead implementing partner of the ECOWAS-FOREWARN Initiative), he is based at the ECOWAS Commission in Abuja where the FOREWARN Initiative has a project office.

He was called to the Nigerian Bar in November 2005. After his voluntary national service year, he joined DCON Consulting, an Abuja-based law and dispute resolution firm, where he became Programme Officer for Access to Justice. In 2007, under the auspices of the International Bar Association (IBA), he attended the International Practice Diploma Programme of the College of Law of England and Wales. In September 2007 he was admitted to the CSDG-ECOWAS Studentships and Mentoring Programme at King’s College London where he obtained an MA in Conflict, Security and Development.

He has worked with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) as DCAF Representative to ECOWAS, an engagement that enabled him to straddle a regional organisation and a hybrid-international organisation, each with different institutional cultures, capacities, needs and expectations, but with a mutual interest in promoting Security Sector Reform /Governance and preventing conflict. Honing his analytical skills and strategic-level engagement, he has grown a keen sense of African ownership of and participation in Security and Justice Sector Reform.

As Programme Manager of the ECOWAS-FOREWARN Initiative, he provides leadership to the Initiative’s overall objective to strengthen the capacity of ECOWAS and its member states towards anticipation, adaptation, collaboration and innovation aimed at reducing vulnerability to emerging threats in the region. Leading an ECOWAS-based team of five, Okey has facilitated better linkages and coordination across seven Directorates in the ECOWAS Commission. He also acts as a human link between the ECOWAS Commission in Abuja and the four FOREWARN implementing partners based in Geneva, London, Madrid and Nairobi. In one of his more recent activities, he supported the finalisation and adoption of the Supplementary Act relating to a Code of Conduct for the Armed Forces and Security Services of ECOWAS by the Committee of Chiefs of Security Services and the ECOWAS Council of Ministers in 2011, along side the development of an implementation plan for the Code of Conduct. He also supported the development of the ECOWAS Parliament-DCAF Guide for West African Parliamentarians, titled Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector, as lead author and associate editor, and facilitated its adoption by the ECOWAS Parliament.

Okey’s main field of interest and specialisation is Regional Security Governance, particularly the role that clear articulation of Regional Security objectives, political commitment to realising those objectives, and effective implementation of Regional Security policies can play in strengthening national institutions and engendering human security. His motivation lies in exploring and promoting how ECOWAS could better ensure Peace, Security and Development to its peoples, and how it could appropriately design and channel its support to each member state, bettering each country’s capacity to deliver Peace, Security and Development to their own citizens. His research interests include Regional Security Governance, Conflict Prevention and Counterterrorism. Through his writings and presentations, he has advocated for positive change in Democratic and Security Governance in Africa.

A firm believer in the potency of the African youth, Okey does not see himself as a “leader for tomorrow,” Rather, he sees himself as a leader today and engages in activities with established institutions, networks and professional bodies in Africa and beyond. As a way of giving back to the society, he has an interest in teaching for free in Africa and working to promote a system-wide infusion of competent and committed people into governance and education systems in Africa.

Sample Published Article

Revisiting Boko Haram: Changing the Rules of Engagement, Comments on Africa No. 10, September 2011:

Njoki Wamai

Nationality: Kenyan.

Main fields of interest: Women, Peace and Security.

Education: MA in Conflict, Security and Development; Post Graduate Diploma in Gender and Development; BSc in Food Science and Technology. Currently enrolled for a Ph.D in Politics and International Studies.

Alma Maters: King’s College London/African Leadership Centre; University of Nairobi.

E. Njoki Wamai is a feminist and pan-Africanist who is committed to working for the improvement of the African continent. Njoki has experience in research and advocacy, having worked as a research associate at the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue and the Kenya Human Rights Commission in Nairobi. Her main fields of interest are Women Peace and Security; mediation as a conflict prevention mechanism; East African security concerns; and connections between food security and conflict. Her research interests include: human security, human rights, governance, peace building, women, peace and security, diplomacy and mediation.

She is currently pursuing doctoral studies at the University of Cambridge’s Politics and International Studies Department on a Gates Cambridge Doctorate scholarship. Her focus is on recent mediation processes in Africa and how they could be improved to ensure sustainable peace. She has also written papers on why the African Union’s mediation efforts failed during the 2011 crises in Côte d’Ivoire and Libya. Professionally, Njoki still works closely with women, youth, peace and security movements in Kenya and around the world through research and membership in various organisations. She is a member of the steering committee on UNSCR 1325 in Kenya, as well as a member of various boards such as the Youth Congress, The Heptagon Post (an online editorial news site on international security) and ALC Opinions, an upcoming news analysis site on Africa.

Sample Published Work

http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=JrDAF1o2ZEC1&pg=PA52&dq=jsonki+wamai+dilemmas+and+challenges+in+liberia&source=bl&ots=FWucx6N8ys&ai

http://www.heptagonpost.com/Wamai/Are_the_Winds_of_the_Peoples_Revolution_Likely_to_Blow_to_Sub-Saharan_Africa%203P

Edmund Yakani

Nationality: South Sudanese.

Main fields of interest: Security and Justice Sector Reform; Accountability.

Education: Bachelor of Laws (LLB); Diploma in Financial Accounting; Certificate in Proposal Writing, Financial Accounting and Project Management.

Alma Maters: University of Khartoum; University of Juba.

Edmund Berilizious Yakani is the Programme Coordinator of the Community Empowerment for Progress Organisation (CEPO), an NGO working in South Sudan.

In this role he has participated in initiating dialogues between Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), the central government and grassroots communities, as well as dialogue on security issues among rural communities.

His main fields of interest are Security and Justice Sector Reform and accountability. He is motivated by the conviction that real democratic transformation is not possible without proper SSR, justice and accountability.

He is at the moment focussing on researching the role of CSOs in bridging the gap between SSR experts, government and communities. In November he will be in South Sudan’s Lakes State, conducting a project on the role of the local government in SSR. Edmund is fluent in English and Arabic.
**Member Spotlight**

**'KEMI OKENYODO**

Our spotlight in this edition of The ASSN Quarterly turns to 'Kemi Asiwaju Okenyodo, who has been a member of the African Security Sector Network (ASSN) right from its inception. 'Kemi participated in the November 2003 meeting in Elmina, Ghana, that created the ASSN.

'Kemi is the Deputy Executive Director of the CLEEN Foundation based in Lagos, Nigeria. She holds a Masters in Humanitarian and Refugee Studies and a Bachelor of Laws degree, both from the University of Lagos. She has over ten years of practitioner experience on issues around public safety and security, justice and accountability, justice sector reform, civil society action and alliance-building. She also has immense experience in policy framing and the administration of civil society organisations.

Her main fields of expertise are Human Rights and Policing, with particular focus on Police Accountability. Upon graduating with a law degree, she practiced for three years after being called to the Nigerian Bar. Discontented with regular legal practice, she decided to pursue postgraduate studies in Humanitarian and Refugee Studies. In the course of undertaking her masters studies, she found a job as Programme Officer for Gender with the Cleen Foundation.

'Kemi worked closely with the Cleen Foundation’s Executive Director, Innocent Chukwuma, to successfully grow the Foundation’s external accountability project for which she had been hired. She was then given the responsibility of overseeing the Accountability and Justice Programmes, which comprise both internal and external accountability, as well as the Foundation’s legislative advocacy and gender projects. She has been with the organisation since then, rising to her current position as Deputy Executive Director. She later developed an interest in Monitoring and Evaluation with a focus on human rights projects, and recently completed a Professional Post Graduate Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation. In 2011 and 2012 she was a part of two European Union RoM (Results-oriented Monitoring) Missions in Nigeria.

Among her most recent activities, she led a project aimed at ensuring proper policing of Nigeria’s 2011 General Elections. She also conceptualised and led the implementation of the Informal Policing Project in Nigeria’s Federal Capital Territory, including the Development and publication of the code of conduct for Informal Policing Systems (IPS); Drafting the legal framework to regulate the activities of IPS within all the Area Councils in the Nigerian Federal Capital Territory; Organising trainings for the Informal Policing stakeholders in the Federal Capital Territory; and Organising interactive forums that brought together Informal Policing members, traditional rulers, police and other stakeholders in the Federal Capital Territory.

She was also part of a team that conceptualised, developed and raised funds for a project aimed at building the capacity of Informal Policing Groups to support the Formal Police during elections in four Francophone countries in West Africa, thereby expanding the CLEEN Foundation’s outreach to Francophone West Africa. She has additionally coordinated the annual Altus Police Station Visitors’ Week since 2008, expanding the participating countries beyond Nigeria to include Benin, Cameroon and Kenya.

In February 2012, she participated in a panel discussion at the National Defence University in Washington DC, USA, on the Rule of Law and Anticorruption Measures at a three-day conference organised by the Africa Centre for Strategic Studies (ACSS) in partnership with the Centre for Hemispheric Defence Studies (CHDS), the Near East South Asia (NESA) Centre for Strategic Studies and the George C. Marshall European Centre for Security Studies on the theme of Counter Narcotics and the Illicit Commons.

Kemi says her long-time membership in the ASSN has helped her network with a cross section of practitioners working on different areas of SSR/SSG. She also finds the reading materials and opportunities circulated by the ASSN very enriching, and describes the ASSN as the “go-to” place for information material and contacts in the areas of African SSR/SSG.

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**Support our Work**

The African Security Sector Network (ASSN) was founded in 2003 to help harmonise the various African organisations carrying out activities in the broad areas of Security and Justice Sector Reform/Transformation/Governance.

Our fundamental objective is to facilitate progress towards the achievement of Effective and Democratically-Governed Security Sectors across the African continent. We pursue this mission through programmes aimed at strengthening the capacities of African governments, National Security institutions, Parliaments, Intergovernmental Organisations and Civil Society groups to undertake and own Security Sector Reform (SSR) programmes. The ASSN also strives to expand the concept of African SSR through sustained research, publication and training. The driving vision of the ASSN is that of an African Security Sector that is Democratically Governed, People-Centred, Well Managed, Accountable and Effective in supporting and sustaining Human Security.

Our primary tools are:

- Advocacy and facilitation of emerging SSR and SSG networks;
- Promotion of inclusive dialogue and informed debate around issues of Security and Justice, designed to influence decision-makers and policy processes;
- Enhancement of Security literacy among the continent’s policy- and decision-makers and the general public, through training, education, and dissemination of resource materials;
- Support for policy and institutional development, via applied research and provision of advisory and consultancy services;
- Building of capacity within the Security Sector, as well as relevant policy and oversight organs;
- Promotion of an African-centred focus through dissemination of African ‘best practices’ in the areas of SSR/SSG; and
- Functioning as a continental information repository on SSR/SSG.

**Strategic priorities**

In the short to medium term, the bulk of the ASSN’s efforts will be channelled towards the following strategic priorities:

1. Assisting the African Union (AU) and various Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to develop and deliver on their SSR/SSG agenda, in accordance with the ASSN’s MOU with the AU, and a related tripartite agreement between the AU Commission, the UN and the ASSN;

2. Assisting African countries (particularly those undertaking SSR as intrinsic part of their transition from situations of conflict to peace) to plan and implement SSR programmes, and to better comply with AU/REC SSR frameworks and standards;

3. Addressing current gaps in SSR and integrating excluded programmatic elements, particularly those that strengthen Governance and improve Security and Justice for the poor and vulnerable such as the following:

   (i) Strengthening the Gender dimensions of SSR/SSG;
   (ii) Forging closer links between SSR, Justice and the Rule of Law;
   (iii) Integrating private, informal and customary Security and Justice institutions into SSR, in recognition of the often crucial roles they play in providing Security for the poor and ensuring social peace and stability;
   (iv) Engaging Intelligence organs and facilitating Intelligence reforms;

4. Building the capacity of National Legislatures and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to engage with SSR/SSG and to better conduct their Security Oversight responsibilities;

5. Running a ‘Next Generation of Security Analysts’ Programme, which entails building the capacities of young professionals in policy, research and advocacy around SSR/G.

If you are interested in supporting our work in any of these areas, or generally in collaborating with the ASSN on related projects, please contact our Donor Liaison Officer on info@africansecuritynetwork.org.
Our Regional Hubs

**In West Africa**

African Security Dialogue and Research (ASDR)
Accra, Ghana
Website: [www.africansecurity.org](http://www.africansecurity.org)
Regional Coordinator: Dr ‘Funmi Olonisakin

**In East Africa and the Great Lakes Region**

Security Research and Information Centre (SRIC)
Nairobi, Kenya
Website: [www.srickenya.org](http://www.srickenya.org)
Regional Coordinator: Lt Col Jerry Kitiku

**In the Horn of Africa**

Centre for Policy Research and Dialogue (CPRD)
Juba, South Sudan
Website: [www.cprdsr.org](http://www.cprdsr.org)
Regional Coordinator: Professor Medhane Tadesse

**In Southern Africa**

Southern African Defence & Security Management Network (SADSEM)
Johannesburg, South Africa
Website: [www.sadsem.org](http://www.sadsem.org)
Regional Coordinator: Professor Gavin Cawthra

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