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VISION

A West Africa region characterized by just and peaceful communities where the dignity of the human person is paramount and where the people can meet their basic human needs and decide their own direction.

MISSION

To enable and facilitate the development of mechanisms for cooperation among civil society based peacebuilding practitioners and organizations in West Africa by promoting cooperative responses to violent conflicts; providing the structure through which these practitioners and institutions will regularly exchange experience and information on issues of peacebuilding, conflict transformation, social, religious and political reconciliation; and promoting West Africa's social cultural values as resources for peacebuilding.

GOAL

To build sustainable peace; thereby creating an enabling environment for development in West Africa.

OBJECTIVES

WANEP seeks to . . .

1. Strengthen the capability of peacebuilding organizations and practitioners in West Africa to engage actively in the peaceful transformation of violent conflicts
2. Increase awareness on the use of nonviolent strategies in responding to conflicts in West Africa
3. Develop a conflict prevention network in West Africa to monitor, report and offer indigenous perspectives and understanding of conflicts in West Africa
4. Harmonize peacebuilding activities in West Africa through networking and coordination of WANEP members.
5. Develop the justice lens of peacebuilding to create understanding of the impact of truth, justice, and reconciliation on peacebuilding in West Africa.
6. Build the capacity of West African Women to alterly participate in peacebuilding processes at all levels.

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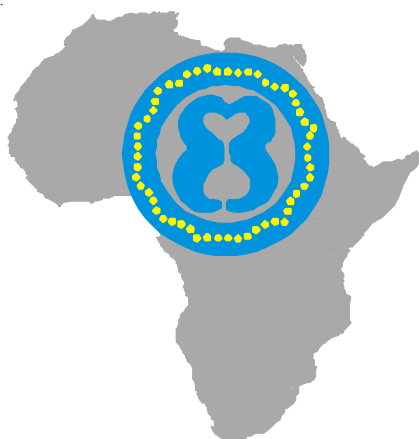
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“The most sustainable and effective intervention in any conflict is one internally generated and externally supported”.

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Message from the Chairman



New possibilities and renewed hopes for a more durable peace attended West Africa when Charles Taylor was pressured to let go his terrible grips on particularly Liberia and generally the Mano River basin countries of Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia including Cote d'Ivoire in August of the year under review. Fifteen years ago, a new brand of warfare unknown to West Africa began in Liberia led by Charles Taylor and soon spread in West Africa to countries such as Sierra Leone and later La Cote D'Ivoire.

The people of Sierra Leone remained consistent in their rebuilding exercise after 10 years of mayhem that left 27,000 civilians killed, thousands disfigured for life, and the state brought down to its knees. Sierra Leone's success so far is the pride achievement of the gallant men and women of West Africa through the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and later the overwhelming support from the United Nations led by a fellow West African, Kofi Annan. I will be wrong if I stop at praising the soldiers. They played their role very well but ordinary people, peacebuilding organizations in the sub region led by WANEP,

and members of the international community from all walks of life descended on Sierra Leone to restore peace to the beleaguered country. Every little contribution is acknowledged.

Troubles in Cote d'Ivoire still pose a challenge to the budding peace in the sub region but ECOWAS and the international community is unrelenting. Backed by peacebuilding, development, and humanitarian organizations including WANEP the success story will not be disrupted. Cote d'Ivoire will polish the rough edges of the peace pact and rediscover the glory that made that country an envy of all West Africans for more than 4 decades.

As Liberians resettle in their war-ravaged country they and all West Africans are aware that the task will not be easy. The depth of the destabilization and the pervasive culture of violence are beyond measure. Liberians are under no illusion that things will become better in the short term. What is hopeful however is the incredible resilience and life-loving character that is so prominent in the Liberian culture. Such character will come handy and make their struggle a bit bearable. All West Africans must rally around them in their rebuilding. In fact it was our sheer indifference to our neighbor's burning house that spread the fire, engulfing other houses including our own. We cannot afford to make the same mistake.

WANEP is active and well at the frontlines of all these conflicts. Its national structures supported by the United States Agency for International Development West Africa Regional Program (USAID-WARP) and the European Union through the Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid (CORDAID), the Catholic Relief Services West Africa Regional Office (CRS-WARO) and DKA are not only fully established, they now lead as we wage peace together. We particularly remember the Liberian chapter of WANEP. All international actors including international media could not afford to ignore them during the recent heat in Liberia. The Women in Peacebuilding Network of WANEP-Liberia led women to provide the moral force needed to reawaken the degenerated country. That force followed the warlords to Ghana and ensured that they signed a peace deal.

It is clear that there are a lot of challenges that WANEP would have to face in the future. This requires a strong and well-structured WANEP and therefore during the year its regional secretariat held a retreat to deliberate on recommendations from the Fifth Annual General Meeting and has proposed an alternative structure for the Regional Secretariat, which would be discussed at the Sixth Annual General Meeting.

I extend on behalf of the Advisory Council and members of WANEP deepest gratitude to all our donor partners and friends as well as the men and women at the regional Secretariat who continue to lead. We cannot be content with peace being in sight. As you know peace in poverty-stricken West Africa is fleeting and must not be taken for granted. It must be guided with vigilance. That is why WANEP is ever more engaged at all levels.


David Kangah
Board Chair

Management Report

Three years ago WANEP developed its first Strategic Plan. As a young organisation, it was more driven by ideas that were yet to live in concrete terms. In those years we faced many challenges especially from the sceptics. Some said that our so-called idea to organize civil societies in West Africa as cohesive forces for Peace and Security and critical independent variable in the state equation was an illusion. They said that the notion of civil society could only apply if there was a meaningful institutional separation between a well organised and enlightened civil society and a relatively autonomous bureaucratic state.

Most of the Civil Society groups we met in West Africa were service deliverers especially in rural communities and apathetic to the state. Those who engaged the state did so with confrontation and suspicion. Patrick Charbal cited by most sceptics argued in his book *"Africa Works- Disorder as political institute"* that relationship between civil society in Africa are essentially plural, fragmented and above all, organised along vertical lines. The assumption of a civil society in Africa, therefore, is eminently misleading and a wishful thinking.

What we have achieved at the end of our first three year plan simply throws to the dustbin Chabal's and the other sceptic's theories and doubts:

- WANEP was granted a liaison office in ECOWAS with a prominent role on human security. The leaders at the ECOWAS Secretariat have indicated that the partnership with WANEP shows that there can be constructive engagement between government and CSO. They have since established a CSO desk and held their first ECOWAS-CSO Summit.
- There are at least 300 organisations that benefit from collectivity; age to engage public dramatically even in as Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Côte d'Ivoire. WANEP is fully institutionalized in 12 countries from governments and governments (in the case of Nigeria) for the role of and security promotion.
- Institutionalizing peace and making peace and non-violence a culture in a sub-region with notoriety in violence also was dramatically received. Civic education departments and ministries of education are on board.
- Governments of some countries wait for WANEP's policy briefs and early warning reports. Some asked us when we began, "how we were surviving in West Africa with our strict-talk" policy briefs. That we are still alive and not disrupted in all the 12 countries where we have offices should send a hopeful message that cracks are happening in autocratic regimes and democratic ones are becoming partners.
- The hen is now crowing in West Africa, thanks to WANEP's Women in Peacebuilding program. In Liberia, the coordinator of the Program is an advisor to the leader of the National Transitional Government and leaders of all the warring factions have made it know publicly that they want the women represented at all disarmament sites.

If you think any good thing could not come from West Africa – the poorest sub-region in the world, the most destabilized, and home to some of the oldest dictators in Africa – then think again!

As the reports herein demonstrate, the vision is clearer, the possibilities are greater, the number of actors is bigger, and the odds against us are far fewer. There can be no turning back.



Sam G. Doe
Executive Director



Emmanuel H. Bombande
Programme Director

Program Report 2003

Non-violence and Peace Education

Levinia Addae-Mensah

The first eighteen months of the Nonviolence and Peace Education Program engaged various actors from the peacebuilding and education field across West Africa to develop pedagogic tools. The Active Nonviolence and Peace Education program is supported by the European Union through CORDAID and DKA-Austria. It continues to address the crisis of identity and culture of violence that is spreading in the sub-continent. The program began in August 2000. The focus of the Active Non-violence and Peace Education programme in the third year under review was to strengthen the capacity of teachers in the area of peer mediation and to establish peer mediation programmes in selected schools in seven countries in West Africa.

Objectives:

- Translate draft curriculum, teacher's guide and sourcebook into French
- Train francophone country team members
- Train 30 teachers per country in the theory and practice of teaching for peace and in peer mediation
- Train 72 peer mediators per country
- Form/Inaugurate peace clubs in 84 schools in 7 countries

Highlights of Activities

The activities carried out this year are part of a three-year programme, which began effectively in May 2001. The focus of the programme was to test the materials developed by WANEP through the training of teachers and students.

Training of Teachers in the Anglophone Countries

Nigeria: the workshop took place in Enugu on 24-28 March 2003. There were 30 participants including 12 females and 18 males.

Ghana: The workshop took place in Dodowa on 26-30 April 2003. There were 26 participants including 14 males and 12 females.

Liberia: The workshop took place in Monrovia on 17-21 March 2003 and there were 30 participants, 20 males and 10 females.

Sierra Leone: The workshop took place in Freetown on 24-28 March 2003 and there were 31 participants, 21 males and 10 females.

Training of Teachers in the Francophone Countries

Côte d'Ivoire: The workshop took place on 2-6 June 2003. 33 participants were present including 17 males and 16 females.

Togo: The workshop took place on 19-24 May 2003. 26 participants took part including 21 males and 5 females.

Guinea Conakry: The workshop took place on 5-9 May. 31 participants took part including 20 males and 11 females.

Training workshops for Peer Mediators in the Anglophone Countries

Nigeria: The workshop took place in Enugu. 72 students took part, 38 males and 34 females.

Ghana: The workshop took place in Accra on 23-27 June and 28 July to 1 August respectively. 72 students took part, 36 males and 36 females.

Sierra Leone: The workshop took place on 21-25 July in Freetown. 65 students took part including 24 males and 31 females.

Training workshops for Peer Mediators in the Francophone Countries

Côte d'Ivoire: The workshop took place in Anyama on 25-29 August 2003. 60 students took part including 31 males and 29 females.

Togo: The workshop took place in Bagbe on 7-12 October 2003. 73 students took part including 42 males and 31 females.

Guinea: The workshop took place in Conakry on 22-25 November 2003. 71 students took part including 40 males and 31 females.

Inauguration of Peace Clubs

The inauguration of Peace clubs took place in informal ways in the various schools in all the countries throughout the last quarter of the year. However in Nigeria a special ceremony to commemorate this activity was organised bringing together various students from all the schools involved in the programme in Enugu on 6 November 2003.

TOT workshop for Francophone country teams

This workshop took place in Lome, Togo on 10-14 March 2003. 15 teachers took part including 10 males and 5 females.

Outputs

- 15 peacebuilding francophone practitioners and educationalists trained in a Francophone Regional Workshop
- French versions of peer mediation manual, curriculum, teacher's guide and source book for primary and secondary schools produced.
- 7 Training of Trainers (TOT) workshops organised for teachers.
- 14 Peer mediation training workshops organised for students from first and second cycle schools in the seven countries.
- 5 member country teams formed in all seven countries in the programme
- 204 teachers from a minimum of 84 schools in seven

Program Report 2003

Highlights of Activities



countries in West Africa were trained in the theory and practice of teaching for peace and in peer mediation

- 485 students from primary, secondary and tertiary schools in seven countries in West Africa trained to be peer mediators
- Peace clubs established in at least 60 schools in seven countries in West Africa
- An increased awareness among students of non-violent means of dealing with conflicts

Indirect Outputs

- In Cote d'Ivoire, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OCHA, has partnered with WANEP's network in that country to train peer mediators from both urban centres and from rebel-controlled territories where formal educational programmes have been disrupted.
- Again in Cote d'Ivoire, both the ministries of Reconciliation and of Education have accompanied the process of implementing the programme.
- In Guinea, the vision, mission and objectives of the programme have not only been shared by the National Civic Education Department of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Guinea, but have been integrated into the national civic education programme as a key part of that programme which aims at

fighting the high levels of violence among youths in that country.

- The Regional UN office for Disarmament and Integration in Togo has expressed interest and is developing a partnership with the program.

- In Sierra Leone, the

training workshops for teachers and the pedagogic tools produced by WANEP have served as an integral part of the peace education programme of the Children Learning Services, an NGO that engages in reducing violence among youths in Sierra Leone and providing hope for young victims of the just-ended war.

- At the international level, the appreciation of WANEP's work in Active non-violence and Peace Education led to WANEP being invited to play key roles in regional and international initiatives relating to peace education.

Key challenges

- Problems associated with the setting up of functional national network structures impacted in the organisation of activities.
- The lack of incentives for teachers to conduct extra-curriculum activities is beginning to reduce the enthusiasm of some of the teachers involved in the program.
- The success of any peer mediation programme in schools is to a large extent dependent on an efficient coordination of the programme in the schools concerned. However, the initial design of the programme did not make provision for supporting the peace clubs and the peer mediation programmes.

Lessons learnt

- Though WANEP has refrained from high visibility through the media, recent involvement of the media in covering some of the activities of the peace education programme in countries such as Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea has contributed immensely to the positive impact of the programme in those countries. The media is therefore an important partner for maximum impact of this program.
- The Anglophone and Francophone mix in WANEP is providing opportunities to learn key lessons about the francophone culture of education and learning and this continues to inform the shape of the programme for the three-francophone and four Anglophone countries involved in the programme.
- Even though conducting peer mediation training workshops for primary school pupils has been very challenging as some of the concepts of peacebuilding are difficult to break down to that level, with the appropriate methodology, the effort has been worthwhile and goes to prove that it is never too early to begin to adopt non-violent means to dealing with conflicts.

Follow-Up Activities

A comprehensive evaluation of the Collaborative Peacebuilding Program in West Africa of which the Active Non-Violence and Peace Education Program is a major program has been done in December 2003. The second phase of the program will be informed by the outcomes of the evaluation. In the meantime, there will be monitoring visits to selected schools, education ministries and other relevant educational institutions in 2004. The programme will begin a process of research to gather empirical evidence on issues relating to violence and youth. This will reinforce the design of the next phase of the Active non-violence and Peace Education programme.

Program Report 2003

West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI)

Ecoma Alaga

The West Africa Peacebuilding Institute, (WAPI), is an initiative of WANEP and its strategic partners. It is a peace institute designed and set up to provide specialized, intensive training in conflict transformation and peacebuilding, at a reduced cost, to practitioners from across West Africa and beyond. It provides the space and platform for the actualization of WANEP's schema for the resolution of conflicts in Africa by Africans. It is also the learning centre at WANEP for exchange of best practice and research in peacebuilding in West Africa.

Objectives:

WAPI was launched in September 2002 with the following objectives:

- To increase the number of competent, informed and active peacebuilding practitioners in West Africa.
- To provide quality training (similar to trainings in Europe and America) at a reduced cost
- To develop mechanisms that will integrate other models with local, indigenous models to address the contextual realities of issues of conflict, peace and human security within West Africa in particular, and Africa in general.

Highlights of Activities

WAPI 2003 took place at the Coconut Grove Beach Resort, Elmina, Ghana. It was officially opened by Dr Antwi Vladimir Danso on Sunday, September 7th. The Paramount Chief of Elmina, the town that hosted the WAPI campus, Nana Kondua, was present to give his blessings to the program. Also in attendance were Mr. Tayib Thomas from the Catholic Relief Services and Rev. Fr. Clement Aapengnou of the Northern Ghana Peace Project who chaired the occasion.

The Executive Director of WANEP, Mr. Sam Doe, gave the welcome address and Mr. Emmanuel Bombande, the Director of Programs (WANEP), formally introduced WAPI to participants and invited guests. Participants were given a run down of the campus schedule by the WAPI coordinator, Ms. Ecoma Alaga.

The training program ran from September 8th to 26th with three sessions, each with two 5-day intensive courses running concurrently. Courses were sequenced for practitioners at various experience and skill levels.

50 participants (18 females and 32 males) were drawn from practitioners working with religious institutions, civil soci-

ety organizations involved in humanitarian/relief aid, development, peacebuilding, human rights and advocacy, social welfare, as well as government institutions. Fifteen nationalities were represented from different countries in West

Africa and from East Africa and Madagascar. All participants brought personal knowledge and experiences of living or working in areas involved in protracted conflicts. They also came keen, willing and motivated to learn.

The teaching method was highly participatory, providing space for extensive participant contribution and group discussion, role plays and simulation,

in combination with formal tutor inputs. The curriculum encouraged reflective learning and participants worked in learning sets that took advantage of their range of experience in different political, social and cultural contexts, thereby blending theory and practice.

Building Community in a Learning Environment

The WAPI family was one of mutual respect and learning. Participants, faculty, staff and guest lecturers explored issues of concern within the sub region through classroom interaction and weekend seminars. Informal sharing of personal anecdotes created trust, friendship and built hope

Program Report 2003

Highlights of Activities



as participants relaxed together over weekend dinners, recreational outings, variety nights, sporting activities, martial art drills, picnics, dance parties and worship. Bonds of personal and collegial friendship were established across national, regional and continental boundaries.

Variety/Cultural Nights

On Wednesdays, variety nights were organized. These featured cultural displays from different countries, depicting the rich cultural heritage of Western Africa. Western Africa folklores and jokes were also shared. There were also displays from East Africa (Uganda and Kenya) and Madagascar.

Excursions/Weekend dinners

On Saturdays, tours were organized for interested participants. These took participants to the famous Elmina castle and the Kakum canopy walkway. Others chose to either explore the Cape Coast environs on their own or stayed back on the beach to enjoy the ocean view. In the evenings, participants reconvened to attend weekend dinners. These took place in the Elmina Beach Resort and the Cape Coast Hotel. The climax of each of these weekend dinners was seminar presentations by invited guest speakers, who drew their themes from issues of conflict, peace and development in Africa.

Inter-religious Peacebuilding Service

On Thursday, the 25th of September, an inter-religious peacebuilding service was organized. All participants (Muslims, Catholics and Protestants alike) came together to

worship. The climax of this was the lightening of candles as a symbol of peace and a pledge to stay committed to the quest for just peace.

Outputs of WAPI 2003

- 50 informed trained and equipped practitioners.
- The formation of an Alumni body as a base for networking and exchange of information on issues of peace and conflict.
- Development of action plans on Active Non-violence and Peace Education for schools in the different countries participants were drawn from. *Participants have reported that they have begun developing and planning activities on these.
- Launch of the WAPI Journal which provides participants the literal space to articulate their views and share their experiences.
- Production of a WAPI documentary.

Key Challenges

- Non-availability of core funds, especially in the area of sponsorship
- Untimely submission of course documents which delays timely production of course packs
- Limited number of computers, printers and photocopiers in the WAPI campus
- Inability to provide Francophones with all readers available to the Anglophones.

Lessons Learnt

- After a two year experience, it will be useful to advertise WAPI at both the regional and national levels through the national networks to increase the participation of grassroots peacebuilders
- As a means of engendering the training, more effort should be put in encouraging women and assisting them financially to attend WAPI. The women who participate in WAPI should be active in the women's program of WIPNET.

WAPI 2004 Planning

The planning for WAPI 2004 is exploring increasing the number of courses from 6 to 8, organising an annual symposium and a research on a specific topical issue. The volume of a WAPI journal is forthcoming while discussions towards affiliation with an identifiable institution for accreditation to WANEP will be initiated.

Program Report 2003

West Africa Early Warning & Response Network (WARN)

Takwa Z. Suifon

The West Africa Early Warning and Early response Network (WARN) is a pivotal programme in the context of the West Africa Preventive Peacebuilding Strategy of WANEP. WANEP is a member of the Forum on Early Warning and Early Response (FEWER), a global non-governmental organization with a particular focus on conflict prevention. WARN is therefore at the forefront of civil society early warning in Africa, with an initial emphasis on West Africa. WARN's visibility and recognition has taken WANEP into a major collaboration with the sub-regional inter-governmental structure, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Objectives:

WARN's overall objective is to institutionalize a culture of prevention in West Africa through an appropriate and effective early warning and early response mechanism. WARN therefore envisages the following objectives:

- Develop community, national and sub-regional capacities/structures for early detection, early warning and early response through training, data base development, and technical assistance.
- Identify and monitor context specific conflict and peace indicators and analyse them for preventive purposes.
- Foster collaborative relationships with/between civil society and existing national, sub-regional/regional and international early warning, conflict prevention, and peacebuilding organizations.
- Share early warning reports, policy briefs, preventive instruments, mechanisms, tools, and strategies with partners, stakeholders, policy makers/actors potential interveners.
- Promote proactive/pre-emptive and integrated approaches to conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

Highlights of Activities

Nigerian Trainings:

2003 began with a major training of trainers in conflict analysis in Abuja, the Federal Capital of Nigeria. It brought together heads of NGOs, academics, lawyers and community leaders from five out of the six geopolitical regions of Nigeria. The five day intensive training (January 6-10) generated a lot of enthusiasm among the participants who were determined to take the acquired skills to the field given the challenge posed by inter-communal and religious conflicts, resource based conflicts and the threat posed by the rise in vigilante and 'area boys' phenomenon that have undermined peace and stability in Nigeria especially in the past decade. Replication workshops have since followed and Nigeria is gradually but surely laying the ground work for preventive peacebuilding. Funding came from the German based *Bread for the World*.

Early Warning Policy Briefs, Liberia

The challenge posed by the fourteen year long Liberian civil war rekindled the WARN resolve. Highly appreciated policy briefs were written as WANEP's

contribution to peace in Liberia. WARN policy briefs became the working documents during the Liberian peace talks in Accra as scores of copies were printed and distributed to participants from all sides of the divide and mediators drew a lot from them. In recognition of WARN's insights and analysis, the draft copy of the peace agreement was shared with WANEP for perusal, comments and inputs.

Guinea Policy Brief

There is a justifiable cause for concern given the precarious situation in Guinea Conakry with rising indicators of violent conflict in a region already rendered vulnerable and fragile by wars in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire. Bent on its objective of pursuing a preventive culture, WARN embarked on data collection in an attempt to pre-empt yet another imminent catastrophe in West Africa. A policy brief

to sound the alarm was prepared in prelude to attempts at a round table conference between the major actors and stakeholders in Guinea. The planned round table was put on hold with a rapid deterioration of the security situation in Guinea at the time of writing this report. A policy brief was however circulated on the eve of the general elections.

Outputs

- Over 25 Conflict analysts trained in Nigeria, a strategic country for peace and stability in West Africa.

Program Report 2003

Highlights of Activities

- More than 100 monitors already trained in the various geo-political regions of Nigeria with different conflict potentials.
- Three major policy briefs on Liberia greatly influenced the August 2003 Liberian peace agreement. It put an end to the rebellion as Charles Taylor bowed out of power, into exile in Nigeria.

Major Outcomes

- *Media Solicitations:* As a result of WARN's authoritative breakthroughs and hallmarks, media solicitation in 2003 was overwhelming. Ghanaian radio stations such as *Joy FM*, *Choice FM*, *Radio Ghana*, and *Ray Power* in Nigeria as well as television stations in these countries (*Metro TV*, *TV Three*, and *GTV Ghana*, *Africa Independent Television-AIT Nigeria*) were regular hosts to WARN on a wide range of issues in the sub-region. The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC World Service) and Voice of Germany (*Radio DeutscheWelle*) consistently sought WARN analyses on burning issues in Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Ghana. The UN information website, IRIN solicited WANEP's authorization to publish WARN's

reports.

- *UN, UNDP, EU, and ECOWAS Recognition:* The UN Regional Office for Africa based in Addis Ababa has entered into an agreement with WANEP to strengthen the E C O W A S Early Warning

System beginning in 2004. The EU Commission President, Romano Prodi did not mince words when he recently referred to WARN's report as "...one of the best reports I have ever read from Africa". ECOWAS personnel have equally appreciated WARN's analysis and anxiously look forward to more collaboration with WANEP in the area of early warning.

- *Partners and Collaborators' Feedback:* WANEP partners, both individuals and institutions have continued to appreciate WARN reports. The Institute for Security Studies (ISS) South Africa, FEWER have all appreciated the quality of WARN reports and have published some of them on their websites while also sharing with varied stakeholders.

Key Challenges

- WARN as a program did not have a budgetary allocation. Most initiatives were ad hoc, borne out of the professional commitment. Thus sustainable sponsorship in 2004 would revive and revitalize the program and confirm WARN's strategic role in conflict prevention in West Africa.
- *Early Warning Euphoria:* Despite the limited means, many countries are soliciting special trainings in

early warning and early response. The solicitations and questions "...what are you doing in Guinea, Togo, Burkina Faso and Niger" by various partners and members of the international community is a major challenge.

- *Security Context/Risk management:* Given the very nature of early warning and the continuous misperception of early warning as intelligence reports, the risk posed to monitors and analysts is enormous especially in a region that still has some dictatorial regimes. Political early warning therefore remains a challenge though our collaboration with ECOWAS may constitute a bulwark against some government repressive machinery.

Follow-Up Plans for Year 2004

The WARN program envisages several major activities in 2004. Training activity will resume in January in the in the Senegambia region, followed by the ECOWAS-UNDP-WANEP cooperation agreement trainings/consultations. As part of the Capacity Building in Conflict Prevention Program for ECOWAS and Civil Society Organizations in West Africa, WANEP shall support ECOWAS to write four zonal early warning reports and two sub-regional reports under the auspices of WARN.

WARN in 2004 will seek to institutionalize the early warning policy briefing sessions on an alternative basis in the WANEP secretariat in Accra and ECOWAS Secretariat in Abuja as a way of soliciting views and engagement of key response actors and stakeholders. It would bring together members of government; diplomats; representatives of international organizations; the media, NGO, civil society and opinion leaders and the academia.

Program Report 2003

Natural Resource and Conflict Management

Ruby Dagadu

In its first year and tested in Ghana as a pilot project, the Natural Resource Conflict Management Program (NRCMP) was conceptualised and designed to understand conflicts that arise over natural resource management. It is an integral part of a sustainable livelihoods approach to development. As more flexible, people centred and collaborative approaches to poverty alleviation and resource management are developed, the changes that follow naturally generate conflicts. The challenge is to deal with these conflicts in a constructive way by creating opportunities for understanding between disputants. The NRCMP has been putting emphasis on the collaborative management of natural resource conflicts through "interest based negotiations."

The NRCMP is part of a bigger program on Improving Support for Enhancing Livelihoods of the Rural Poor supported by the United Kingdoms Department for International Development (DFID). WANEP is the host institution as well as implementation agency for the program. Trainees are drawn from various institutions while an advisory board has been constituted for collaborative management of the program. The following are key stakeholders in the NRCMP.

- CARE International
- Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA/DAES)
- Action Aid Ghana
- Natural Resources Management Platform
- University of Development Studies, Ghana
- Directorate of Fisheries (MOFA)
- SNV/Netherlands Development Organization
- Forestry Commission, Ghana
- World Vision Ghana

Objectives:

- With support from partner agencies, enable the FAO field and regular programmes become more effective in the application of sustainable livelihood approaches.
- In collaboration with its partners such as WANEP, contribute directly to the promotion and application of enhanced sustainable livelihood approaches within the FAO and sub-programme partner agencies through improved conflict management methods and approaches
- Reduce the vulnerability of selected stakeholder groups.
- Conduct a training of trainers (TOT) programme on conflict management.

Highlights of Activities

The reporting period for the NRCMP is from May to December 2003:

First Training Workshop

Between August 22 to 30 2003 at the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA), 22 participants (19 males: 3 females) were trained on the key steps in the collaborative approach to managing conflict in community-based forest management. Participants were introduced to the first five steps of the map of a collaborative process. The purpose was to equip participants with skills to handle each of the steps of a collaborative approach to conflict management within a Sustainable Livelihood Approach (SLA)

Field Mentoring

The participants in Training one together with the Trainees selected eight training sites across Ghana where the Trainees applied the sharing, skills and knowledge acquired from the first training. Between September and November, the Trainees travelled to the training sites and mentored Trainees in the application of the tools in real natural resource conflicts identified in each training site.

Training two

From November 13 to 22, 19 participants (15 males: 4 females) were present throughout the period of the second training. It was a follow up to training one and also a continuation of

steps 6-9 of the collaborative approach to conflict management.

The first two days were used to give feedback and share experiences from the field. There were inputs, group discussions, exercises, role-plays and a field trip to one of the conflict sites at Assin Akropong where one of the Teams of Trainees is applying tools and knowledge of conflict management. The workshop ended with the development of action plans by the various teams.

Case study Writing and Journaling

Each of the 22 Trainees working in teams on selected conflicts are writing case studies of the conflicts they are working with as well as keeping a

Program Report 2003

Highlights of Activities

journal of their activities. The Journal will help to re-adapt the materials and tools used. It is anticipated that the program would be extended to other West African countries through the WANEP Networks.

Outputs

- Eighteen participants/Trainees have formed a network of experts. They will share their experiences with others, exchange technical information on natural resource conflict issues, and build a strong resource base for the management of Natural Resources Conflicts.
- At end of the third training, the number of Natural Resource Conflict Management Trainees will increase by 20
- During the period under review, a conflict involving communities living on the Wetlands of the Amazuri in the Western Region has been mediated and outcomes agreed by all the communities will be implemented beginning January 2004
- During the reporting period, a fisheries conflict around a community based project supported by the FAO in Saltpong in the Central Region of Ghana has been resolved.
- During the period of reporting, progress has been made in resolving a major forestry conflict in Assin Akropong in the Central Region of Ghana.

Key Challenges

- There is still a misunderstanding of the role played by the partner agencies and their contribution to the programme.
- Time allocated for field mentoring work out of other duties and schedules in the institutions of Trainees is inadequate. A lot more on the field could

have been achieved as a direct impact of the program.

- There is a lack of gender balance in the selection of Trainees. Trainees are not well sensitized on gender issues and the need to include gender considerations in natural resource conflict management is important.
- There is the need to make more explicit to the various institutions of the participants what the programme stands to achieve and how it can be institutionalised in the participating partner agencies.

Lessons Learnt

- It is important to involve partner agencies in the design of programs such as the NRCMP in order to get their full cooperation for the successful implementation of such programs
- The keenness of participants to learn made teaching sessions highly participatory.
- The field mentoring of Trainees coupled with field trips during training provided unique learning opportunities.

Follow-up Activities

A second phase of field mentoring will commence in January as Trainees work on Natural Resource Conflicts in Ghana from December 2003 to March 2004. Between January to March 2004, there will be a follow-up on conflicts where communities are implementing agreements reached during negotiations. The NRCMP is being discussed at various levels with partners and WANEP is developing strategies for its implementation in other national networks.

Program Report 2003

Civil Society Coordination & Programs

Victoria Kunbour

The civil society desk was set up in May 2003 and placed under the Capacity Building Program (CBP) to coordinate and facilitate the civil society component of the program which is to strengthen and enhance the capacities of civil society for effective collaboration in conflict prevention, good governance and peacebuilding in the West Africa sub-region. The desk is also the focal point for partnership with the European Center for Conflict Prevention (ECCP) and WANEP.

Objectives:

- Develop a common platform for effective action in conflict prevention from the community to the global level
- Establish regional thematic conflict prevention and peacebuilding networks composed of key NGOs, CSOS, CBOS, sub-regional networks, practitioners and academics.
- Strengthen and enhance national networking through civil society consultations Create national civil society forums for effective advocacy, lobby and partnership with governments
- Organise a regional civil society conference to develop a regional action plan for conflict prevention, peacebuilding and good governance in the sub-region.

Highlights of Activities

Meetings to Create National CSO Thematic Groups and Civil Society Forum (CSF)

In the year under review, CSOS have been active in conflict prevention, good governance and peacebuilding, through consultative meetings. The Program Coordinators made field visits to ten countries and held discussions with key CSOS on the formation of a broader national civil society forum. Meetings held during the field visits sought to highlight problems and lessons learned on the role of civil society organizations in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and good governance. The extent to which civil society organizations are engaged with their respective governments and the ECOWAS representatives in their respective countries was also assessed.

With the exception of Guinea, preparatory meetings for the formation of Civil Society Forum were held. Various peacebuilding, conflict prevention, good

governance and other thematic organizations participated in these meetings at the respective country levels. As an outcome of these preparatory meetings, working groups have been selected to support the processes, which will lead to the holding of National Consultations and finally a re-

ing into account country specific needs and realities, and the role of civil society in these processes.

WANEP-Fund for Peace Regional Civil Society Consultation

The Fund for Peace (FfP) in collaboration with WANEP held a regional workshop in Accra on 27-28 October 2003 on the role of civil society in building regional capacities to protect civilians from conflicts in West Africa. At the civil society, national and regional levels, key issues and problems were identified, and recommendations for improvement were made in order to better address conflict and humanitarian crisis in the region. The role of ECOWAS in preventing conflict

and undertaking military interventions was also explored and concrete recommendations were put forth to improve its operating and coordinating role with and alongside the efforts of civil society organizations.

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ratory meetings in 11 countries

- Effective collaboration with Fund for Peace established

Key Challenges

- At WANEP Regional, integrating the mobilization of Civil Society Organizations through the Civil Society Desk to partici-

pate actively in WANEP programs requires streamlining.

- Funding is a major challenge to the implementation of the civil society programs. Even though WANEP planned to organize a Regional Civil Society Forum it now has to take into account other initiatives particularly, the integration of WANEP's Civil Society Program activity with WACSOF.

Lessons learnt

- A WANEP civil society desk is providing the platform for CSOS mobilization. WANEP

is seen as a leader of CSOS in the sub-region and should have the capacity for such mobilisation.

- The establishment of national forums and regional bodies like WACSOF implies a redesign of WANEP civil society program and active collaboration with those structures in order to achieve its objective of creating a platform for civil society advocacy.
- During the year under review, the need for advocacy by WANEP is evident and the Civil Society Desk should incorporate advocacy capacities and implementation.

West Africa Civil Society Organizations Forum (WACSOF)

WANEP played a key role in assisting ECOWAS in collaboration with Center for Democratic Development (CDD) and International Alert to hold a meeting of civil society organization across West Africa in Accra on 11-12 December 2003. There were up to 100 participants with about 60 male and 40 female. The civil society desk assisted in the selection of viable and credible CSOS from the WANEP national networks. During the meeting participants ratified and adopted the Charter of the West Africa Civil Society Forum and issued a communiqué which was presented to the ECOWAS Council of Ministers for onward presentation to the ECOWAS Heads of States submit held in Accra on 19th December 2003.

Outputs

- An emerging active desk for civil society activities at WANEP Regional for effective civil society mobilization across West Africa
- Of the 100 participants 30 WANEP network leaders participated in WACSOF
- 173 CSO participated in prepa-

Follow-Up Activities

The Civil Society Desk will intensify broader consultations to complete the organisation of national CSOS forums and organise a regional consultation in March to form a Regional Steering group as part of WANEP's role as Regional Initiator in West Africa in the Global Partnership for Armed Conflict Prevention partnership with the European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP).



Program Report 2003

Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET)

Thelma Ekiyor

In 2003, the Women in Peacebuilding program (WIPNET) focused on strengthening and broadening initiatives implemented in the pilot year. A strategic programmatic decision was made to develop and strengthen the capacity of rural and urban women at the national level aimed at localizing issues of peace and conflict affecting women, involving women's groups in policy frameworks on peace and security and ensuring that all WANEP's initiatives mainstream gender components.

Objectives

- Build capacity in policy analysis, advocacy and lobbying skills, advanced negotiation and mediation
- Translation of training methodologies into indigenous West African languages
- Mainstreaming of gender into peace studies programs in West Africa
- Involvement of women's groups in formal peace processes in the region

Highlights of Activities

Capacity Building:

In 2003, the following capacity building initiatives were implemented: A training workshop in specialized peacebuilding techniques was organized for 20 women on the 24 – 28 March in the Republic of Benin. This workshop paved the way for the women in peacebuilding program in Benin. As a result of the workshop, key women working under the umbrella of WIPNET are working towards key peace initiatives for rural women in the country.

A regional training workshop in leadership and teambuilding, advocacy, advanced mediation and negotiation skills for 11 WIPNET focal persons was organized in Côte d'Ivoire on August 19 – 23, 2003 with support from the Global Fund for Women and the Catholic Relief Services.

Consultative meetings:

Women in peacebuilding as a distinct field is in its formative stages. Consultative meetings organized during the year under review provided opportunity for women's groups across the sub region to input into how the field is shaping. WANEP also uses these consultations when intervening in a country for the first time. This enables actors to work with WANEP in designing appropriate strategies to suit the countries needs. In 2003, consultative meetings were organized in:

- Jos, Nigeria in collaboration with CBD-NGO forum; an umbrella NGO organization working in the middle belt region of Nigeria. The aim of the consultation was to form a coalition

of women's groups working for peace in the ethnically divided region. A key outcome of the consultation was that CBD-NGO forum and WANEP committed their institutions to ensuring that women's groups in this coalition would have the requisite skills to enable them work as actors in peacebuilding.

- A re-strategizing consultation for 20 women from various civil society groups was organized in The Gambia on 6 November 2003. Though WIPNET has had members in The Gambia since 2002, the aim of this consultation was to review the goals of the program in The Gambia within the newly formed WANEP structure and to identify actors that would work with the program in the formulation of a wider SeneGambia women's agenda for peace. A 3-year plan of activities for the country commences in 2004.

- On July 31st, WIPNET organized consultative meeting for 28 women leaders in Côte d'Ivoire. This meeting was organized to identify the role of women in the post conflict era in Côte d'Ivoire and the needs and challenges of women in peacebuilding in Côte d'Ivoire.

- In July 2003, a strategic planning meeting was organized for WIPNET members in Senegal to develop a plan of action for the implementation of initiatives in the country. This meeting helped WANEP and its partner, Oxfam America to have a clearer understanding of key areas of focus

for women in Senegal. The goal of the members was to work with groups across the country to find a long lasting solution to the Casamance conflict.

Translation of Manual:

Women in rural communities do not often benefit from training initiatives in peacebuilding because existing training tools are in French and English. To facilitate applicability, and linguistic relevance, in 2003 the women in peacebuilding program embarked on a 3-year project to translate the specialized training tools and methodologies to indigenous West African languages. The first phase of this project translated the manual into Krio, Hausa and Dioula.

Mainstreaming gender into peace studies program:

The conflicts in West Africa necessitated the development of indigenous conflict study programs. Though women make up the majority in local populations, these new peace studies programs do not have programs that address issues of gender in peacebuilding. WIPNET approached the Peace and Conflict Studies program at the University of Ibadan and pointed out the gaps and imbalance excluding gender would create in students' learning. The University appreciating the existing gap partnered with WIPNET to organize a symposium on "Engendering peace studies programs in West Africa. The symposium had a range of objectives including raising the awareness of the importance of a gen-

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der perspective in peacebuilding course and deliberating on avenues to engender existing courses being taught at institutions.

Various topical papers were presented including: *"Towards Gender and Peace building Curriculum for West Africa"* and *Engendering peacebuilding courses; "Opportunities for learning"*. A third paper examined *"Developing a workable curriculum in Gender and peacebuilding in West Africa."*

This multi-disciplinary symposium was well attended by Academics from the fields of Law, Education, International Relations and Economics. Peacebuilding practitioners provided practical examples of the importance of including gender in peacebuilding.

The main outcome of the symposium was a 4-point working document on the process of developing a curriculum for course on gender and peacebuilding in West African institutions of learning. The thorough outcome of the symposium led University authorities to develop a pilot course on gender and peacebuilding to commence in 2004.

Mano River Union (MRU) Women's peace summit:

WIPNET organized the MRU women's peace summit on August 17 – 18 2003 in Cote d'Ivoire with support from the Urgent Action Fund. The summit was organized in response to the looming humanitarian and security threats posed by the Liberian crisis to neighbouring countries. Over 200 delegates from Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea Conakry deliberated on spreading wars in the region and the roles women can play in fostering peace. Specifically, the summit examined the prospects of women's groups working on peace forming a common advocacy agenda that would influence policies on peace and security in the region. A concrete outcome of the summit was the decision of all the delegates that an observatory for women's groups be formed across the sub region to serve as a watchdog for peace and security policies in the region. WANEP was nominated as the coordinating organization for this observatory. The communiqué issued at end of the summit was disseminated to NGOs, intergovernmental institutions, and the donor community. This document has facilitated the inclusion of WIPNET members in the key peace process in Cote d'Ivoire where members were part of a peace delegation that went to

the rebel held city of Bouake to promote the reconciliation process in the country.

Liberia women's mass action for peace:

The Liberian crisis erupted in April 2003, and the focus of WIPNET shifted to ensuring that women played a key role in peace process. The women of Liberia under the auspices of WIPNET embarked upon a long term, large-scale peace advocacy campaign known as the "Mass action for peace". The campaign, which began in Liberia, saw thousands of women conducting mass demonstrations and sit, ins dressed in sack cloth (white t-shirts, lappas and head scarves). Demonstrations were held at the airfield, embassies and United Nations compound.

The presence of thousands of women on the streets of Liberia pressured the then President Charles Taylor to seek an audience with the women. At this audience, the women clearly articulated their concerns on the growing violence in the country. A position statement was presented to President Taylor in which they spelt out measures to be taken. With support from the Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Urgent Action Fund, African Women Development Fund

(AWDF), and Oxfam GB, the women of Liberia took the Mass Action to peace talks in Akosombo and Accra, Ghana, where they demonstrated outside the venues. Interviews were held with local and international media where the women asked for regional and international intervention in the Liberian crisis. Akosombo also presented the women of Liberia with the rare opportunity to meet with all sides in the conflict. WIPNET members liaised on a regular basis with rebel leaders, government representatives and opposition leaders from the Diaspora. The message to all sides was the same; the women of Liberia wanted an immediate cease-fire, the deployment of Intervention Force, that all sides should engage in fruitful dialogue and finally, that the International community should monitor the cease-fire.

The vocal and consistent position of the women under the Mass Action for peace led to Liberians appreciating the women as the conscience of the people and they became a rallying point for civil society mobilization in Liberia. Due to the involvement of women in the peace process, WIPNET has been

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Highlights of Activities

invited by the Transitional government in Liberia to play an active role in the Disarmament Demobilization and Rehabilitation (DDR) process.

Women in peacebuilding course at WAPI:

The first women in peacebuilding course was offered at the West African Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI). The class, which had 7 men blended theory and practice on women in peacebuilding. Using mini lectures, simulations, role plays and group work the course covered the following topics: women & religion, gender mainstreaming in peacebuilding, violence against women, national, regional and international protocols and instruments on women, peace and security. Participants at the course particularly the men, claim that the course broadened their understanding of women, peace and conflict. In the words of one of the participants, *"what women are saying they want in peacebuilding should be something that we should all want; we need all hands on board to build peace"*.

Annual conference:

The 2003, WIPNET annual conference; "women's leadership in peacebuilding in the 21st Century" was held on November 2003 in Banjul, The Gambia. The Gambia was selected as the venue in honour of Satang Jobarteh, an active member of WIPNET in The Gambia who died in 2003. The conference brought together WIPNET delegates from 8 countries and invited guests from the African Union (AU), and the private sector. Several papers were presented and experiences shared. The conference also gave WIPNET delegates a chance to plan for 2004 activities.

"Voices of Women" radio program:

In November 2003, WANEP with support from Oxfam America launched the first region wide women's radio program called *"voices of women"*. The concept of the radio program was developed with the aim of reaching rural women who do not usually benefit from training and empowerment programs. The radio program will be aired in target locations in local dialects and will cover issues of democracy & governance, violence against women, peacebuilding enlightenment, and post conflict reconstruction issues. WANEP estimates that approx. 50,000 women will be reached annually through this radio program. *Airing commences in January 2004.

HerStory Journal

In 2003, WANEP published the maiden edition of the women's journal called HerStory. This journal is dedicated to women and focuses on giving women literary space to write about issues affecting their lives and peace. The colorful journal has intellectual, inspirational, poetry, report and picture gallery sections. It portrays what is beautiful, intelligent and unique about African women. This first journal was very well received and has motivated scores of women to submit articles for subsequent journals.

Outputs

The network (WIPNET), which is one of the thematic areas of focus at WANEP and one of the deliverables of the women's program, grew to 160 women's organizations as members. This growth has contributed to women being very present and active in WANEP's initiatives. A women's desk at all WANEP's national offices has been created. There is now an increasing and tangible visible role of women in all peace processes in West Africa.

Key Challenges

Funding was a constant problem in 2003. Women's initiatives are still low on donor funding priorities. The human face of peacebuilding which the involvement of women is based on is not seen as strategic for most funders. The program had to rely on the commitment of key partners but it is clear that the size of the program requires more assistance and commitment from other donors.

Women in peacebuilding in its unique character is still difficult for certain sectors of society to accept. WANEP has had to work extra explain the important roles women play in peacebuilding and to ensure that there is no misunderstanding that WIPNET is an emerging separate organization.

Key Lessons learned

- Women's roles in peacebuilding need to be documented more professionally to ensure that their contributions are not lost or sidelined
- Peacebuilding training tools and materials have to be in indigenous languages for relevance in rural communities
- A strong staff of women working at WANEP national offices is necessary to sustain the program at the national level
- Key linkages need to be made with women's groups working outside West Africa for information sharing and lessons learned

Follow-Up Activities in 2004

WIPNET programs planned for 2004 are diverse and include the airing of the Voices of Women radio program on community radio stations across West Africa and the completion of the Manual Translation project in other West African languages; Yoruba, Twi, Kpelleh, Wollof, Bambara. A *"Never Again"* advocacy campaign will be implemented in Liberia while WIPNET plans to extent its programs to 2 new countries; Mali and Guinea Bissau. Other activities are to conduct regional assessment of National Women/Gender Ministries to engage in peacebuilding and engage in advocacy campaigns in Cote d'Ivoire. A regional consultation with ECOWAS gender directorate on mainstreaming gender issues into ECOWAS activities is also envisaged during the year.

Program Report 2003

Capacity-Building in Conflict Prevention and Good Governance

C. Gnacadja & W. Saa

The Capacity Building Program (CBP) seeks to work with ECOWAS and CSOS to undertake effective conflict prevention activities in West Africa in order to create a conflict sensitive environment for development programmes. Apart from improving early detection and response mechanisms and enhanced capacities of ECOWAS and Civil Society Organisations (CSOS) to undertake conflict prevention activities, this program is directly strengthening the capacities of WANEP national networks in 10 countries, namely, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. The implementation of CBP revolves around a strategic partnership between WANEP and the West Africa Regional Office of the Catholic Relief Services (CRS-WARO) with funding support from the USAID.

OBJECTIVES:

The Capacity Building Program has the following three strategic objectives:

- Increased conflict prevention capacity and effectiveness of ECOWAS;
- Increased participation of, and collaboration between civil society organizations in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and good governance;
- Increased collaboration between ECOWAS and civil society organizations in the areas of conflict prevention, peacebuilding and good governance.

Highlights of Activities

Several activities were implemented during the year under review. The following are some of the highlights of these activities.

Hiring of National Network Coordinators

WANEP recruited ten national network coordinators to head National Secretariats in ten countries. Office spaces were provided through which the national secretariats are functioning as the fulcrum for effective collaboration to mitigate and intervene in conflicts in West Africa. All the network coordinators participated in the West Africa Peacebuilding Institute.

Supporting the creation of new national networks

Up to 70% of the field work of WANEP's Program Coordinators was devoted to the support and creation of national networks. The existing loose networks were transformed into structured networks upon the completion of legal, financial, and organizational formalities. The National Networks were officially launched during envisioning workshops in the year under review. In some cases such as The Gambia, high level Government officials participated such as the Vice President partici-

pated in these launching events. The envisioning workshops reinvigorated the members of the Network and provided unique opportunities for sharing WANEP's regional vision. Boards of Advisors for the National Networks were elected to make fully functional the operations of these networks.

Organizational Capacity and Training Needs Assessments of WANEP Networks and CSOS

Except for Liberia where the civil war prevented an assessment and in Guinea where the National Network Secretariat had just been formed, a detailed assessment of training needs of WANEP Network Members and other Civil Society Organizations was carried out in 2003. These assessments explored a wide range of issues relating to administrative and financial management practices as well as intangible issues relating to organizational culture and identity. 131 Organizations actively participated in this exercise in 8 countries. Two other assessments will be conducted in 2004.

Providing Electronic Communication Capabilities to all WANEP National Networks

The process is well underway to provide all national network offices with electronic capabilities. Some Networks including Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo have already acquired such capabilities. Due to renewed fighting in Liberia prior to signing of the Accra Peace Agreement amongst the parties to the conflict, the Liberia Network office was vandalized and equipments belonging to the network office, including other valuable assets were looted by fighting gangs. Under these circumstances, WANEP undertook urgent steps to enable the secretariat to resume work.

Developing a Sub-Regional-Specific Training Manual

WANEP mobilized and constituted an experts team to develop a sub-region-specific training manual. The experts met in Accra, Ghana from 15 – 18. The first draft of the modules has been com-

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Highlights of Activities

pleted. The manual will be used to train ECOWAS' Conflict Prevention Mechanism Staff and CSO members and staff in the following three areas: Conflict, policy and human security analysis; Conflict, policy and human security monitoring; Conflict intervention and peace-building, including advocacy and good governance. Module themes include State Collapse and Cross Border Issues; Population Movement, Refugees and Internationally Displaced Persons; Elections and Electoral Violence; The Media and Conflict Prevention; Ethnic and Religious Instability; Small Arms Proliferation; Human Rights and Judicial Reforms; Response Mobilization and Peacebuilding.

Meeting to support the development and signing of WANEP/ECOWAS MOU

Several meetings were held with the ECOWAS Deputy Executive Secretary and Program Manager of the Conflict Prevention Unit to further review and discuss the implementation of the CBP. One of the outcomes of these discussions was that WANEP would draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and share it with ECOWAS for their input. This activity was completed before the end of the year paving the way for WANEP and its partners to sign an MOU in February 2004 with ECOWAS.

Assessment of ECOWAS' Conflict Prevention Mechanism, Training Needs and Capacities

Significant progress was achieved during the year under review to

complete this activity. However, due to the sudden shift of focus to Liberia and Cote D'Ivoire, which made it impossible to meet with or obtain the contribution of the key respondents including the Executive Secretary, Program Manager, Heads of the zonal bureaus and other staff who were on a prolonged official mission, the exercise could not be completed but will be fully

sultant from October 21 and 22, 2003 in Accra, Ghana. ECOWAS, USAID, CRS and WANEP participated in this review. There were 16 participants from the partner organizations, including two National Network Coordinators from Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia, respectively.

Outputs

- 13 new staff, 3 female and 10 male at the regional and national levels were recruited during the year. The national networks have professional and fully functioning structures.

- WANEP national network offices except Guinea and Liberia have acquired electronic capabilities.

- The WANEP-ECOWAS relationship has gained visibility. WANEP Liaison Officer relocated to

Abuja, Nigeria and set up the Liaison Office at the ECOWAS Secretariat. The Liaison Office within ECOWAS is immensely bridging the gap between civil society and government actors in the area of conflict prevention, peacebuilding and good governance.

- A WANEP-ECOWAS MOU has been reviewed and is ready for signing including the other project partners, USAID/CRS.

- The strategic partnership between CRS-WARO and WANEP Regional has strengthened and provided for the development of closer collaboration between CRS country offices and WANEP national networks.

implemented in 2004. Work done included a detailed review of the Protocol relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security and the additional protocol on Democracy and Governance. An assessment tool was designed and reviewed, and circulated to staff of the Conflict Prevention Unit at the ECOWAS General Secretariat and the four zonal Observation and Monitoring Centres in Banjul, Cotonou, Ouagadougou and Monrovia.

Mid-term review evaluation of the Capacity Building Program

Mid way through the Capacity Building Program, a review process was organised led by an independent con-

Highlights of Activities

Challenges

The implementation of the project during the year was not without challenges:

- The processes of recruiting national network coordinators and the creation of national networks have proven to be a challenge. In countries where emerging WANEP networks were being created, there was insufficient knowledge about WANEP's Mission and Vision.
- The development and growth of the respective national networks vary from one country to another, and subsequently, how to deal with these challenges also differ from one country to the other.
- The pressures and unpredictability of events in particular and the state of peace and conflict in West Africa (i.e. hostilities in Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire) have made it difficult to solicit the full involvement of ECOWAS at all stages of the implementation of the project.
- The growing interest by international organizations and governments to work with ECOWAS in the areas of peace, security, and good governance and apparent lack of coordination of these initiatives, will result in the duplication of efforts and wastage of resources and could complicate an already outstanding task for strengthening and bridging the gaps between ECOWAS and CSOS within the framework of a constructive and coordinated fashion
- Travel and communication between countries in the region is a serious challenge in terms of high expense and unpredictability. Arranging travels throughout the sub-region poses challenges and extra days are lost through delays, flight irregularities and connec-

tions.

- At the Regional level, WANEP needs to restructure itself to reflect the values of good governance as well as ensure National Networks own the network from the national through to the regional.

VI. *Lessons Learned*

- WANEP's visibility as a prominent peacebuilding organization in the sub-region, and its important link with the various national networks during the year under review has brought out the need to clearly define the nature of the relationship between WANEP Regional and National Networks in Memoranda of Understanding.
- The volatile situation in the sub-region and ECOWAS's increasing visible role has led to increased interest of many organisations to work with ECOWAS. The interface with Civil Society organisations in West Africa under this project is timely and appropriate.
- Developing Networks and managing them is difficult but they are the most effective mechanism to enhance collaboration in conflict prevention activities.

- The implementation of the program must take into account the process and procedures of ECOWAS and adhere to them at the earliest opportunity to ensure a timely response. Much effort has been placed on seizing the crucial moments and exercising great flexibility in the implementation of activities.

VII. *Follow-Up Activities for year 2*

A Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP) for year 2 of the CBP has outlined several activities. Some of these activities include assessing ECOWAS' current conflict prevention mechanism and its training needs and capacities. The strengthening of WANEP National Networks in institutional development and electronic communication capabilities will continue. WANEP will organize consultations with 33 ECOWAS and 42 WANEP/CSO analysts, monitors, and peacebuilders in data analysis, conflict monitoring, peacebuilding and conflict resolution as well as support ECOWAS Zonal Bureaus and WANEP analysts in the development of four zonal early warning and response reports.

Program Report 2003

Information & Communication Technology and Research *H. Calvin Birch*

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are increasingly filtering through into every day lives of people throughout the world. Not only has it transformed the way we live, it also has enhanced the way we work and perform. The ICT department ensures the smooth, efficient and effective technical maintenance of the website, e-mail and communication facilities of the regional secretariat.

Objectives:

- Manage resource centre at the regional secretariat
- Maintain and update website
- Conduct research
- Publish Quarterly Newsletters, Annual Report, Topical Papers, Monograph, Journals, Reports etc.
- Compile and publish members and resource persons directory

Highlights of Activities

Publications

During the period under review, the following publications were published: four quarterly newsletters (WANEP Links), three topical papers (From the Field), 2002 Annual Report, one WIPNET journal (HerStories), two WAPI in Retrospect (2002 and 2003), WAPI 2003 brochures. Efforts are being made to obtain an ISPN identity for our publications.

tributed and readership is increasing. Particular positive feedback is the emphasis on practice instead of theoretical discourse. Grass root organizations least known are now being exposed to the international community through these publications.

Challenges

One of the biggest challenges the department faced in the year under review was that, the department is vast and comparatively undermanned. This resulted in the delay in publication.

Resource Center

We are raising our voices higher in appeal for more books and other materials to fully equip our resource center.

Website

WANEP still maintains its web presence at (www.wanep.org). Not much change has been made to the site because of the reformation or our structure. But the site still receives a large number of visits from Africa, the United States, Europe and Asia for resource purpose. All is being put into place to give the site a face-lift in 2004.

Outcomes

Our web presence has provided a platform for an electronic resource center for peacebuilding practitioners and interested persons. The site has received an increase in number of ticks. The site contains publications, basic facts on WANEP, policy briefs and reports on conflict trends in West Africa. The website also hosts the West Africa Peacebuilding Institute at www.wanep.org/wapi.

Our quarterly newsletter (*WANEP Links*), topical paper (*From the Field*), women's work and experiences (WIPNET Journal) and WARN policy briefs series are helping in the cross-fertilization of knowledge and experience. The publications are widely dis-

Activities for the Next Project Period

- ❖ Publish 4 Quarterly Newsletters (WANEP Links)
- ❖ Publish 4 Topical Papers (From the Field)
- ❖ Publish 1 Annual Report 2004
- ❖ Publish WAPI journal
- ❖ Publish WIPNET journal
- ❖ Publish WANEP Directory for Member Organizations/Resource Persons
- ❖ Conduct and publish major research papers
- ❖ Restructure and update website
- ❖ Monitor and support national networks ICT structures
- ❖ Create electronic newsletter
- ❖ Equip resource center

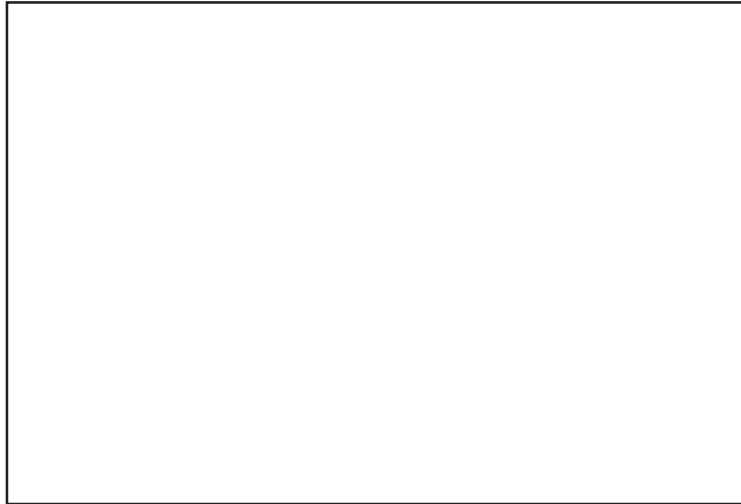
Enhancing the Culture of Peace in West Africa

by Emmanuel Bombande

Compared to previous years, in 2003, West African leaders were more proactive in mitigating conflicts in the sub-region. In Guinea Bissau, the military junta led by General Seabra Correia that overthrew the government of President Kumba Yalla was persuaded to allow a civilian transitional government to rule and prepare for fresh elections. In Liberia, Persistent efforts to promote dialogue and mediation yielded into the signing of the Accra Peace Accord which has ushered in a Transitional Government. Sierra Leone is steadily regenerating itself through the rebuilding of national institutions following a successful disarmament program. In Cote d'Ivoire, the New Forces have just rejoined the Transitional Government after strenuous efforts by West African leaders to resuscitate and compel all parties to abide by the Marcoussis Peace Accords. While all these efforts need to be sustained to ensure durable peace, the critical challenge is how to go beyond sustainability and enhance the culture of peace in West Africa.

As an important priority, Civil Society should compliment the work of Governments to establish and build the conditions of peace in order to enjoy the fruits of peace and stability. The most significant threat to peace in West Africa continues to be the persistence of extreme poverty, the disparity of incomes between and within societies, the spread of infectious diseases and environmental degradation. A recognition of and concerted efforts

to minimise this threat will enhance peace. Governance under the Rule of Law can be a means to achieve stability in West Africa, but it is not enough. The constant recourse to militarism will be abated when such concerted effort is made to build social justice, ensure equity and the inclusion and participation of all in governance and decision



making processes that affect the lives of the entire citizenry.

A lot of effort is still required in our sub-region to enhance a culture of peace. It is simply not enough to elect leaders through elections but also to ensure that the possibility for changing our leaders exists and that these possibilities are real. The need to limit the terms of Heads of States is therefore important in order to effectively manage transitions, ensure continuity through the institutionalization of good governance. The work to nurture West Africa's fledgling democracies should anchor around the critical roles of Civil Society. The building of informed robust civil societies complimented by objective and critical media will ensure that civil liberties are respected and en-

joyed by the people of West Africa.

Another threat to peace as we observed in the past year has been the continuation of the proliferation of small arms which augment armed conflicts and diminish the opportunities for human development. The reconstruction of Liberia which is interwoven with how we sustain stability in the greater Mano River Union Basin will be difficult when small arms are widely available in the sub-region. At WANEP, we anticipate that there should be no errors in the

disarmament exercise in Liberia. It is desirable indeed that at the level of the Heads of States of ECOWAS, a real commitment is undertaken to put in place all the steps for an entire West Africa Regional disarmament process. Such process may sound overwhelming and yet if it were done in the context of enhancing the culture of peace in West Africa, it could be a unique opportunity to guarantee collective peace and security in the sub-region.

Undoubtedly, our hopes are high that stability and durable peace will return to West Africa. Such hope is however moderated by our current economic plight and that is why the agenda for accelerating the economic integration of our sub-region should be pursued vigorously because there in may lay our survival.

When Mediation Becomes Manipulation

Sam Gbaydee Doe

Some years ago in graduate school I participated in an interesting class discussion. It was an Advanced Mediation course. The Professor was brilliantly sharing with the class the process of mediation especially in political conflicts—the ethics involved and what to watch for. The captivating lecture caught the attention of all the class members except one. While all seemed excited there was a friend from Rwanda who sat quietly and a bit subdued. He did not seem impressed at all. As the professor continued with his impressive lecture my friend raised his hand and asked, “When does brainstorming become brainwashing and when does mediation become manipulation?” Everybody in the class spontaneously burst into laughter. After a few minutes of laughter he still insisted that he needed a response. The rest of the 3-hour class was consumed in the discussions that followed.

It is 8 years since that class but the question still haunts me especially as I traverse conflict fields and participate in political negotiations in West Africa. Recent efforts to bring peace to Liberia remain fresh in my mind and it is what has lifted this troubling question from my sub conscience. The parties to the Liberia conflict were here in Accra, Ghana for 75 days in one of Ghana’s five-star hotels. They had left behind them a country in ruins for the comfort and elegance the international community provided. The mediators were optimistic that the process would be smooth. After all, Liberians should be really tired with war. But the experience was different.

The first challenge the mediators faced was accreditation. Who is qualified to sit at the table as parties? When I was in that advanced mediation class, it seemed obvious that the parties were those in conflict. The Liberian situation challenged my learning. Who are the parties in conflict and what conflict? There were clamours at the mediation site. Every Liberian argued that he/she was qualified by virtue of the fact that they have suffered immensely. They are a party because it is their country that is being contested. They wanted to have a say. My professor said that every con-

flict has parties. This conflict seemed to have 3 million persons who argued convincingly that they are the parties. The parties with the gun argued that they were the primary parties. They are the ones who could decide whether war continued or not and therefore must be the only parties to the mediation. Does one come to the table because you decide when the gun is shot or does one come because the conflict as defined makes one a party? In these wars where a few gangsters are checkmating a whole nation, should political negotiation be limited only to warlords?

Then there was the second challenge of issue definition. The Mediator was so frustrated that there was not a single time when the parties indicated exactly why they were at war? All that was said was that President Charles Taylor was the reason for the war. They wanted Taylor out. Taylor himself started his war because he wanted President Doe out. Wanting somebody from power was not what my Professor told me was an issue in conflict! This is a position. Roger Fisher and his colleague in their famous book, “Getting to Yes” said emphatically that one must not negotiate position. The parties had no issues—no reason for going to war except to remove Charles Taylor. Why Taylor must be removed which are the core issues really did not matter. If he is removed how to avoid those issues from taking Liberia back to war did not make the agenda at all.

I have learned since I started practical political mediation here in West Africa that issues really do not matter at all. It is the stakes of the parties that are critical and these they find difficult to make public because they lack moral and political grounding. Should we provide the space where stakes are tolerated and negotiated in practical political mediation?

The third challenge is genuineness of the parties. In fact WANEP was approached before the mediation began here in Accra to help one of the parties so that they are prepared to negotiate professionally. In our first meeting the representatives indicated to us, “just teach us the tricks of negotiation so that we can outsmart the others.” With this

comment WANEP declined. The group got angry and since they had little skills to negotiate they resorted to what they know best—violence. They walked out when they could not understand or suspected others were outsmarting them; they commanded their soldiers back in Liberia to attack when they could not get their way at the negotiation table. Negotiating with tricks and not with core issues? Where does this leave the “neutrality or impartiality” of the mediator? Should mediators tolerate this when they know that parties are not genuine?

Interestingly in most cases the mediators themselves resort to tricks. In the case of Liberia when things got tough or when the parties were becoming unreasonable, the mediators would secretly signal to the Liberian women who were the moral force at the mediation site. The women would storm the room to the apparent surprise of the mediators, sit on the floor and cry. The mediators would then negotiate with the women and they would insist until the point was resolved between the parties. Once the parties agreed to the point the women would go out and take their position again. In one of the previous mediation processes on Liberia I remembered one incidence when the Mediator tricked the parties to sign a peace deal after giving the parties alcoholic drinks! By the time they realized it the agreement was announced to the world and the parties found it difficult to renege. That agreement never lasted a day before it was violated.

These are the dramas that challenged the theories I had read in textbooks and in my advance mediation class. It would seem, as my friend who had witnessed a terrible genocide that took place because of poor mediation in Rwanda insinuated in our class, the textbooks are yet to capture the reality of political negotiation and my professor’s brilliant lecture was only theory. I have seen and now appreciate my friend’s cynicism. Practical mediation truly has elements of manipulation that collide with the ethics and principles defined in the textbooks. Mediators need to begin the process knowing that tricks and manipulations will take place on all sides. Whether accepted or not it is a fact in Africa’s senseless wars.

Summary of Events 2003

5 – 11 January

WANEP conducted a five-day workshop on Preventive Peacebuilding in Nigeria to establish a civil society early warning system in Nigeria.

12 – 16 January

WANEP organised its second staff retreat during which policies and procedures of operation of the organisation were reviewed.

19 – 23 January

WANEP facilitated a four-day workshop on how Bawku District Assembly members will be pro-active in contributing to peace in Bawku.

21 – 25 January

WANEP attended the First Annual General Meeting of WANEP-LIBERIA.

26 – 30 January

WANEP organised its fifth Annual General Meeting to Review and Reinvent the structure required to sustain its rapid growth, develop understanding and draft indicators for monitoring and evaluating peacebuilding intervention

3 – 4 February

WANEP helped in the designing of a framework for comprehensive Peacebuilding in Dagbon in Ghana.

3 February

WANEP conducted a training at the University of Legon in Ghana on Peacebuilding and Good Governance for African civilian Peacekeeping Personnel.

6 – 7 February

WANEP conducted another training at the University of Legon, Ghana on Peacebuilding and Good Governance for African civilian Peacekeeping Personnel.

9 – 15 February

WANEP conducted a 5 day training workshop for Peace Animators from four Districts in the North Eastern corridor of the Northern Region of Ghana. It was estimated that after the training, the Peace Animators will work with communities using drama and theatre to bring out conflict issues for community level analysis and resolution.

13 February

The African Women Development Fund (AWDF) brought the funding partners Comic Relief to WANEP to showcase the Women in peacebuilding program as a successful regional women's initiative

16 – 22 February

WANEP accompanied its long time partner NPI-Africa in conducting a TOT workshop for Early Warning Methodology and Application.

14 – 26 February

As part of the staff development scheme in WANEP, the ICT Officer attended an intensive training on Web Designing and IT troubleshooting in South Africa.

19 – 21 February

WANEP together with its partners namely USAID and CRS met with General Cheick Diarra, Deputy Executive Secretary at ECOWAS to introduce the Capacity Programme and request the partnership of ECOWAS in the implementation of the programme. Also, the establishment of the WANEP Liaison office in ECOWAS was discussed during this meeting.

22 – 28 February

WANEP through the CBP programme conducted an assessment in Sierra Leone to find more about their structure, legal status etc. This study was in preparation for the implementation of the support of the CBP to the network.

23 February – 2 March

WANEP conducted a training for the Education Programme in the University of Readings in the UK.

24 – 28 February

WANEP conducted a recruitment process in WANEP-LIBERIA for a network coordinator as part of the CBP programme.

3 – 7 March

WANEP through the Capacity Building Programme organised a training needs assessment in Burkina Faso.

4 – 8 March

WANEP in its consultation work to the Swedish International Development Agency conducted a case study on Burkina Faso.

4 – 9 March

WANEP through the Capacity Building Programme assessed the Network capacity and training needs and launched the recruitment of the network coordinator in Guinea.

3 – 14 March

WANEP supported 2 of the replication training of the TOT for teachers under the Active Non-violence Programme in Nigeria

4 – 9 March

WANEP conducted a training and capacity assessment study on WANEP-GUINEA and launched the recruitment of the network coordinator.

10 – 14 March

WANEP through the Active Non-violence and peace Education Programme conducted a 5-day TOT for 3 francophone country team members as part of the pilote project of implementing Peace Education and Peer Mediation in schools. It was expected that the various teams will organise TOT for teachers in their various countries as a continuation of the process.

10 – 15 March

WANEP produced the draft for the consultancy work for the Swedish International Development Agency.

13 March

The Coordinator of the women in peacebuilding program and **Liberian** coordinator participated in a **Radio** talk show in Liberia called "women talks" on the role of women in regional peacebuilding

13 – 19 March

WANEP conducted the TOT for teachers under the Active Non-violence programme in Sierra Leone

16 – 21 March

WANEP through the WIPNET regional office provided a link between Liberian Christian Women Initiative and Discovery for Women leadership program and a rally was organised in Monrovia with over 3,000 women in attendance each day.

Summary of Events 2003

16 – 21 March

WANEP supported the replication of TOT for teachers under the Active Non-violence Programme in Liberia.

21 – 28 March

WANEP trained a research workgroup on PME in Sierra Leone.

24 – 28 March

Women in peacebuilding program organised a Training of Trainers workshop for women's leaders of Women's NGOs and associations in Republic of Benin

30 March – 2 April

WANEP conducted a TOT for monitors under the Proventive Peacebuilding programme.

29 March – 3 April

WANEP provided organisational and institutional to SEP in Cameroon.

30 March – 2 April

WANEP conducted a Training of Trainers under the Proventive Peacebuilding programme in Nigeria

31 March – 4 April

WANEP revised the module for Training of Monitors in Lagos, Nigeria

9 – 13 April

WANEP facilitated a capacity building workshop in Burkina Faso.

25 – 30 April

WANEP conducted a 5-day training workshop for 20 Teachers in Ghana under its Active Non-violence and Peace Education programme.

27 April – 3 May

WANEP assisted the piloting committee to continue the process of setting up the Senegal Network under the Capacity Building Programme of WANEP.

29 April – 3 May

WANEP's through the women's program facilitated Gender, peacekeeping & peacebuilding training sessions for UNITAR in South Africa on Consultancy basis.

5 – 10 May

WANEP facilitated a workshop on Conflict Prevention organised by CARITAS In-

ternational Training for Francophone West Africa.

12 – 16 May

WANEP conducted an MRU Assessment through a preparatory training for researchers in the MRU for the CWS assessment project in consultation with the Christian and inter-religious councils in Guinea, Conakry

12 – 19 May

WANEP gave support to the National Collaborative Peacebuilding Sierra Leone (NCP-SL) Office, Freetown in the recruitment of a National Network Coordinator under the Capacity Building Programme of WANEP

18 May – 1 June

WANEP participated in a conference in Canada on Collaborative Peacebuilding in West Africa.

24 – 28 May

WANEP was invited by the University of Ibadan to present a paper on lessons learned from building women's peace networks.

26 – 28 May

WANEP made a field trip to Togo and facilitated an envisioning workshop for the WANEP-Togo National Network.

25 – 31 May

WANEP conducted a Training of Trainers workshop for 22 its Active Non-violence and Peace Education programme.

30 May – 3 June

WANEP through its women's programme, WIPNET was invited to facilitate sessions on UN resolution 1325 on women peace and security in Kenya, a workshop organized by Urgent Action Fund.

1 – 5 June

WANEP through its Capacity Building Programme helped finalise efforts for the location of a WANEP-Ghana (GHANEP) office, to orientate and introduce the newly appointed National Network Coordinator to GHANEP members, and facilitate the constitution of an interim Advisory Council/Board pending a formal AGM.

2 – 6 June

WANEP through its Active Non-violence

and Peace Education programme conducted a 5-day Training of Trainers workshop for 22 Teachers in Abidjan.

4 June

WANEP through its women's programmes organised a Peaceful Mass Action during the Liberian Peace Talks in Accra, Ghana. 120 women attended the Mass Action.

4 – 8 June

WANEP participated as West Africa Regional Initiator for the "Role of Civil Society and NGOs in the Prevention of Armed Conflict Programme" at the International Preparatory meeting in Soesterberg, the Netherlands under the partnership with the European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP).

5 June

WANEP-Benin was launched through the financial support of CRS-Benin.

9 – 13 June

WANEP through its Capacity Building Programme conducted induction and orientation for the newly employed National Network Coordinator and procured and supplied communication equipment (Computer, Printer) and office furniture.

11 June

WANEP through its women's programme, WIPNET organised a Forum for the Liberian Women present at the Peace talks in Akossombo, Ghana.

11 – 19 June

WANEP conducted a field assessment of progress of WIPNET-Senegal programme and had a strategic meeting with Oxfam America to discuss and plan for the next phase of Oxfam America's support for the programme.

17 June

WANEP hosted the first major Advisory Committee meeting of the NRCMP.

21 June

WANEP held a formal dinner meeting with the Deputy Executive Secretary for Political Affairs of ECOWAS and Program Manager of the ECOWAS-WANEP partnership under its Capacity Building Programme.

Summary of Events 2003

23 – 27 June

WANEP through its Active Non-violence and Peace Education programme conducted a 5-day Peer Mediation training for 36 students in Sierra Leone.

22 June – 1 July

The Programme Manager of the CBP programme attended a Summer Course sponsored by CRS at the Kroc Institute for International Peace at the University of Notre Dame, USA.

1 – 3 July

WANEP attended the official launch of the Strategic Conflict Monitoring Club of West Africa supported by the Club de Sahel in Bamako, Mali. The new club has resolved to focus on conflicts in Côte d'Ivoire, Togo and Guinea Bissau.

7 – 11 July

WANEP conducted an experts meeting for the development of the draft Peacebuilding Monitoring and Evaluation Manual in Elmina, Ghana.

7 – 11 July

WANEP through the Capacity Building Programme facilitated the inaugural Board Meeting of WANEP Nigeria Board and facilitated the training of Monitors Workshop in Preventive Peacebuilding at Ibadan, Nigeria.

24 – 25 July

WANEP organised a teambuilding workshop for its Staff at the Regional Secretariat.

21 – 22 July

WANEP Conducted comprehensive strategic planning session with all members of WIPNET-Senegal.

21 July – 25 July

WANEP through its Active Non-violence and Peace Education Programme organised a Peer Mediation workshop for students in Sierra Leone. 65 participants were drawn from selected Primary / Secondary schools and vocational centres across the country.

28 July

WANEP through the WIPNET programme conducted a Consultation on *"the role of*

women in peacebuilding in the middle belt region of Nigeria" for 20 women's groups.

28 – 29 July

WANEP was invited by the EU Italian Presidency to a special consultation on Africa. The focus of the meeting was on Violent Conflicts and their impact on development in Africa. The EU Presidency committed itself to accompany Africans as they confront violent conflicts.

31 July

WANEP Conducted a one-day consultation with women's groups in Côte D'Ivoire through the Women's programme.

27 July – 1 August

WANEP organised two Peer Mediation workshops for Primary school pupils who were drawn from six (6) out the ten (10) regions in Ghana, namely, Ashanti, Upper East, Volta, Eastern, Central and Greater Accra. These workshops were run simultaneously in Legon and Dodowa in Ghana.

3 August

WANEP's Executive Director delivered the keynote address of the 2003 Agenda for Reconciliation Conference of the Initiative of Change, Caux, Switzerland. Over 300 persons from 70 countries attended the Conference.

3 – 8 August

WANEP conducted a Peacebuilding Training for Peace Animators in North Eastern Corridor of Ghana.

6 – 9 August

WANEP through the Capacity Building Programme implemented support to the network in Sierra Leone.

7 – 8 August

WANEP facilitated the creation of the national Network in the Gambia.

11 August

WANEP held a meeting with a representative of UNDP to exchange ideas on how the two institutions can enhance partnership and collaboration with ECOWAS

26 – 27 August

WANEP facilitated the hiring of a national Coordinator for the Guinea Network.

4 – 5 September

WANEP facilitated the hiring of a national Coordinator for the Senegal Network.

14 August

WANEP mediated a conflict between Cassava Farmers, Quality Assurance Team and Exporters at the initiative of the Food Research Institute of Ghana.

14 – 16 August

WANEP through the CBP programme organised an envisioning workshop for the Ghana Network to develop a strategic plan and organise the CSF.

18 – 22 August

WANEP through the Active non-violence and Peace Education programme organised 2 peer mediation workshops. The two workshops will be held simultaneously.

19 – 24 August

WANEP through the Women's programme organised a MRU Summit to address the Liberia Crisis and a Leadership training for all WIPNET desk officers.

20 – 23 August

WANEP through the CBP programme developed a Strategic plan for the Gambia Network and hosted a day Civil Society Forum Consultation.

21 – 30 August

WANEP in partnership with FAO organised the first Training in Natural resource Conflict management.

24 – 27 August

WANEP through the CBP organised an envisioning meeting in Mali to mobilise the CSOs in order to create National Thematic groups.

25 August

WANEP conducted an Awareness workshop at Anyama in la Cote d'Ivoire, for Educational administrators, Teachers and parents with the view of introducing the Peer Mediation programme to these authorities in order to seek their support.

Summary of Events 2003

This workshop brought together 50 adults and 200 children.

25 – 29 August

WANEP organised a Peer Mediation workshop for primary and secondary schools students at the « Pensionnat Protestant d'Anyama » in Côte d'Ivoire. 28 children between the ages of 7 and 12 from the Primary schools and 32 students from the secondary schools between 11 and 21 participated.

25 – 29 August

WANEP through the CBP programme held a Compilation workshop for a regional specific training Manual.

26 August

WANEP organized the recruitment of national network coordinator for Guinea-conakry network.

27 – 30 August

WANEP through the CBP programme developed a Strategic Plan for the Liberia Network and organised a one-day consultation.

31 August

WANEP through the CBP organised a working session for strategic planning.

1 – 5 September

WANEP through consultation helped in developing a long term intervention plan for the Niger Delta.

6 – 26 September

WANEP organised its Second West Africa Peacebuilding Institute.

14 – 16 September

WANEP attended an International conference on conflict resolution in schools organised by ECCP in Soesterberg in the Netherlands. This conference brought together experts from both academia and the field of practice from various countries to share experiences and best practices focusing on practical guidelines for setting up conflict resolution programmes in schools.

13 – 18 September

WANEP through the Capacity Building Programme organised a Civil Society Forum and an Envisioning workshop in Senegal.

28 – 30 September

WANEP through the Capacity Building Programme organised an Orientation workshop for all the National Coordinators of the various networks.

28 September – 3 October

WANEP Co-Facilitate a training workshop for Anglophone and Francophone CARITAS Agencies.

29 – 30 September

WANEP held a partnership meeting with ECOWAS and UNDP to strategize the operationalization of the ECOWAS early warning system.

7 – 12 October

WANEP through the Active Nonviolence and Peace Education programme organized 2 workshops for peer mediators in primary and secondary schools. 72 peer mediators were trained.

9 - 10 October

WANEP held an envisioning workshop for the national network in Guinea through the capacity building programme.

13 – 15 October

WANEP through the Capacity building programme organized an envisioning workshop for the national network in Ghana.

14 – 17 October

WANEP assisted in a training organised by UNITAR in Addis-Ababa. Served as resource on mainstreaming gender into peacebuilding.

15-17 October

Workshop with Zonal Bureau heads of the Monitoring and Observation Center and hierarchy of ECOWAS.

20 – 25 October

In collaboration with voices for women, WANEP attended a leadership and motivational seminar in Sierra Leone.

21 – 22 October

The Capacity Building programme of WANEP had its first mid-term review.

25 – 31 October

Organised an envisioning workshop for the national network in Senegal to ex-

plain the vision of WANEP and form thematic groups.

27 – 28 October

In collaboration with Fund for Peace, WANEP organised a Civil Society Forum in Accra.

3 – 5 November

Organised the Second Annual Conference of WIPNET in the Gambia. 38 delegates attended.

2- 7 November

Active nonviolence and Peace Education workshop for peer mediators in Guinea. 72 peer mediators were trained.

4 November

In partnership with Oxfam America, WANEP through the WIPNET programme launched the radio programme in the Senegambia region dubbed 'Voices of Women'

5 – 8 November

Organised an envisioning workshop for the national network in Benin. Also put in place office equipment for the national network in the Gambia.

6 November

Active Nonviolence and Peace Education inaugurated Peace clubs in schools in Enugu, Nigeria.

6 November

WANEP through WIPNET held an assessment and strategic planning meeting for women in the Gambia.

1 – 6 December

WANEP in partnership with the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) organised a workshop for the Civil Society in Liberia.

Member Organisations

BENIN

- AHAVA
- Alliance Biblique du Bénin (ABB)
- Amis de l'Islam
- Ateliers ORISHA
- Droits de l'Homme, Paix et Développement (DHPD)
- I.A.J.P
- Institut Biblique du Bénin (IBB)
- Nouvelle Ethique
- Services Mennonite du Bénin
- Union des Femmes Musulmanes du Bénin (UFMUB)

BURKINA

- AB3P
- ACAT
- CITOYENS DU MONDE
- COA/FEB
- CRS
- FBACU
- FEME
- GERDESS BURKINA
- OCADES
- ODE
- TOCSIN
- UCAP/B

COTE D'IVOIRE

- AFMCI
- Afrique Démocratie et Développement (ADD)
- Club Moammar Al-Quaddafi pour U.A
- Club UA / CA
- COFEMCI
- Démocratie Paix et Développement (D.P..Dev)
- Doux Soleil d'Afrique D.S.A
- Education Communautaire
- EECO
- FCI / PC
- FDC / CUE
- Femme Cote D'Ivoire Expérience
- FF.PM
- Green Light Cote d'Ivoire
- Le Riof (miffed)
- PHENIX
- Positive Africa
- SOS / DVH
- VAFAG
- VICAS

GAMBIA

- African Centre for Democracy

and Human Rights Studies

- Christian Children Fund
- Concern Universal
- Foroyaa News Paper
- Forum for African Women Educationalists
- Gambia Christian Council
- Gambia Red Cross Society
- Gambia Workers Union
- Hope for Children Gambia
- International Centre for Human Rights
- National Women Farmers Association
- National Youth Council
- Stay Green Foundation
- Youth for Better World International

GHANA

- Action Aid Ghana
- Action Aid Ghana Upper East Region Development Program
- Action Aid Ghana Upper West Program
- Action Aid-Ghana (Tamale Office)
- Action Child Mobilisation – Ghana
- Action for Transire (ACTFORTAN)
- Assemblies of God Relief and Development
- Bawku East Women's Development Association - BEWDA
- Bela-Bela Association of Self-Help Interest Women
- Business and Development Consultancy Centre (BADECC)
- Care International
- Catholic Relief Services
- Centre for Communication and Advocacy Development (CENCAD)
- Centre for the Development of People (CEDEP)
- Christian Children's Fund of Canada (CCFC)
- Christian Council of Ghana
- Christian/Muslim Dialogue Commission
- Dawah Academy
- Development Alternative Services Foundation (DASF)
- Frafra Traditional area

- Consortium
- Help Foundation
- House of Hope Mission Ghana
- IBIS Ghana Northern Office
- Northern Ghana Network for Development
- Northern Ghana Peace Project (NGPP)
- Northern Region Youth and Development Association
- Northern Sector Office
- Oxfam Ghana
- Partners In Participatory Development
- Peace Seekers International
- Progressive Youth Organisation.
- Rural Media Network
- Rural Media Network
- SEND Foundation of West Africa
- Services (AGREDS)
- Social Development Agency
- Suntaa-Nuntaa Rural Development Programme
- The Human Help and Development Group (THUHDEG)
- UNICEF
- Upper West Rural Women's Assoc
- Wa Diocesan Justice & Peace Commission
- Wa Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission
- Wa Peacebuilding Team (WAPET)
- Women in Conflict Prevention (WINCOPAR)
- Women in Conflict Prevention and Peace building
- Women In Peacebuilding and Conflict Management (WINPEC)
- World Vision International
- Youth Network for Human Rights and Democracy
- Youth Network For Human Rights and Democracy

GUINEA

- Abc Développement
- Association Pour La Défense Des Droits de La Femme Guinéenne
- Club Unesco Université De Conakry
- Conseil Des Eglises De

Member Organisations

Guinée

- Eglise Anglican
- Journaliste A Horoya Enceute Rtg
- Journaliste HORAYA
- Kadiatoul Koubra
- Lingue Islamique Nationale
- Organisation Guinéenne Pour Le Développement Communautaire
- Organisation Catholique Pour La Promotion Humaine
- Organisation Guinéenne Pour Le développement Communautaire
- Réseau Africain Pour Le Développement Local
- Union Des Jeunes Pour Le Développement De Dixinn
- Université De Conakry

Liberia

- Archdiocesan Trauma Counseling Program
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS)-
- Center for Justice and Peace Center
- Center for Trauma Healing and Reconciliation (CTCR)
- Christian Empowerment for Sustainable Program (CESP)
- Christian Health Associations (CHAL)
- Christian Women for Peace
- Community Empowerment Program
- Development Education Network –Liberia
- Edward Peal Center of Renewal
- Flomo Theater Production (FTP)
- Inter-Religious Council of Liberia
- Justice and Peace Commission (JPC)
- LCL-LWF-Ws Trauma Healing Program (THRP)
- Liberia United To Serve Humanity
- Liberian Women Initiative (LWI)
- Mother Pattern College Of Nursing
- Muslim Women for Peace
- National Association of

Palaver Managers (NAPAM)

- New African Research Development Agency (NARDA)
- Peace Building Resource Center
- Press Union of Liberia
- Rural Human Rights Activist Program
- Save My Future Foundation (SAMFU)
- Young Men's Christian Association of Liberia (YMCA)

NIGERIA

- Academic Associates Peacework
- African Youth Development Foundation (AFRYDEF)
- Akpabuyo Bakassi Green Movement (ABGREMO)
- Alfacare Organization
- Arewa Youth Forum Zaria
- CAREFOR
- Centre for American Studies (CAST)
- Centre for Development, Constitutionalism and Peace Advocacy
- Centre For Education And Rural Development
- Centre for Peace & Development Action (CPDA)
- Centre for Peace and Development
- Centre for Peace in Africa
- Centre For Peace Initiative & Development Ent. (CEPID)
- Centre For Peoples Health and Progress "3P"
- Centre For Sustainable Democracy & Mass Empowerment
- Christian Association of Nigeria
- Christian Association of Nigeria
- Christian Rural and Urban Development Association Of Nigeria (CRUDAN)
- Civil Resource Development & Documentation Centre (CIRDDOC)
- Civil Rights Concern (CRC)
- Committee for Advancement Of Justice (CAJ)
- Community Action For Popular Participation
- Community Partners for

Development (CPD)

- Country Women Assistant Of Nigeria (COWAN)
- Dutse Youth progressive Urioar
- Empower Citizen Organization
- Friends of Nigerian Women
- Gender Action Team
- General Action Against the Violation of and Child Right
- Girls Guard Association
- Grassroot Women Foundation (GWF)
- Grassroots Development Organ. (GRADO)
- Human Aid Corps
- Human Rights Centre (HRC)
- Impact for Change and Development
- Information Aid Network
- Institute For Media Society
- Institute of Church & Society
- Inter –Faith Mediation Centre
- Jigawa Women Network Assess to Justice
- Justice Development & Peace Commission
- Justice Development & Peace Commission
- Justice Development & Peace Commission
- Katsina Youth Forum
- Kawo Youth association
- Legal Defence And Assistance Project (LEDAP)
- Love and Peace Advocacy
- Man and Water Survival Project
- Mediation Center International
- N. C. W. S.
- National Women Peace Group, Anambra State Chapter
- Negotiation Conflict Management Group (NCMG)
- Niger-Delta Leadership Forum
- Ogoni Youth Development Project
- Organisation for Labour and Environmental Development, Africa (OLENDA)
- Peace & Conflict Studies U.I
- Peace and Conflict Studies Programme, University of Ibadan
- Peace Campaign and Initiative
- Peace Development Organi-

Member Organisations

- zation
- Peace Transformation
- Raising Hope For The Woman & Child
- Socio-political Research & Development
- Southern Kaduna Youth Action for Peace Team
- Staywell Foundation
- Visions Of Peace And Civic Education
- Wise Women Development Association
- Women and Children Support Initiative
- Women Forum
- Women in teaching
- Women Support and Development
- Women's Right to Education Program
- Yakasai CBO

SIERRA LEONE

- Action Aid
- African International Mission Services (AIMS)
- Association for the Well being of Communities and Development (ABC Development)
- Campaign for Good Governance (CGG)
- Catholic Relief Service (CRS)
- Centre for the Coordination of Youth Activities (CCYA)
- Children's Welfare and Community Development Programme (CWADEP)
- Christian Health Association of Sierra Leone (CHASL)
- Current Evangelism Ministries (CEM)
- Destiny Agriculture & Development Association S.L (DADA-SL)
- Dominion Skills Konnection
- Evangelical fellowship of Sierra Leone (EFSL)
- Feed the Homeless International-S.L (FEETHLESS)
- Forum for African Women Educationalist (FAWE)
- GEKO Sierra Leone
- Grace Land Counselling Services (GLCS)
- Grassroots Empowerment for Self-Reliance (GEMS)

- Independent Youth Forum (IYF)
- Love One another Campaign (LOAC)
- Lutheran World Federation/ World Services (LWF/WS)
- Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD)
- OXFAM
- Patriotic Alliance Network Services (PANS)
- Peace Links
- Search for Common Ground – Talking Drums Studio
- Sierra Leone Association of University Women (SLAUW)
- Sierra Leone Market Women's Association (SLMWA)
- Sierra Leone Red Cross Society (SLRC)
- Sierra Leone Youth Empowerment Organisation (SLYEO)
- Society for Peace and Reconciliation
- Women in International Peace and Arbitration (WIPA)
- World Conference on Religion and Peace (WCRP)
- World Peace Prayer Society – Sierra Leone (WPPSSL)
- Youth Movement for Peace and Non-Violence (YMPNV)

SENEGAL

- A Maaraweee
- AMA
- ANAFA
- APIC
- Association Culturelle Agoune-Diabone (ACAD)
- Association Pour La Promotion Rurale De L'Arrondissement De Nyassia/Solidarite, Devt (APRAN)
- Carrefour Des Initiatives Citoyennes (CIC)
- Comité Clérical
- Comite Regional De Solidarite Des Femmes Pour La Paix En Casamance (CRSFPC)
- CRS
- Direction Des Oeuvres Catholique
- Enfant De Paix
- FODDE

- Fondation Wagaabou
- Groupe De Reflexion Et D'Action Pour La Paix En Casamance (GRAPAC)
- Handicap International
- Kabonketor
- MJPI
- Ong Justice Et Paix
- Ong Pacte
- Organisation Nationale Des Droits Des L'Hommes (ONDH)
- Programme Du Sud/ CONGAD
- RECCIDHUP
- Rencontre Africaine Pour Des Droits De L'Homme (RADDHO)
- USAID
- World Education

TOGO

- ACEET
- CALPSO
- CNSC
- COADEP
- CONGREMA
- Conseiller En Communication
- DAV
- Ecole Instrument De Paix
- EIP, TOGO
- GF2D
- GRAF, TOGO
- JEC, LOME
- MIS / URM
- Novation Internationale
- OCDI
- ONG La Colombe
- Paroisse Saint Augustin D'Amoutive
- RESOKA
- UCF/YWCA
- UCJG/YMCA, TOGO
- Union Musulmane
- UONGTO
- VIVRE MIEUX

Financial Report

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2003

	2003 US\$	2002 US\$
INCOME		
Collaborative Peacebuilding in W/A		
Cordaid	547,761	431,835
DKA	40,977	29,784
Early Warning		
Westminster - FEWER	-	14,773
International Alert	-	2,819
Justice Lens: Cordaid	32,467	-
ISIP (CRS/WARO)	79,580	143,205
Liberia Dance Troupe: War Child Canada	3,526	-
Collaboration Dev't Action	-	14,760
Proventive Peacebuilding in Nigeria		
Bread for the World	59,975	44,801
Misereor	-	9,479
FAO-NRCMP	5,336	-
Fund for Peace	19,954	-
WAPI	54,521	53,718
WIPNET		
Oxfam America	100,735	-
CRS/WARO	17,000	26,840
Global Fund for Women	10,000	-
Tides Foundation	10,000	-
African Women's Dev't Fund	2,000	-
General Support		
Mennonite Board	2,475	5,000
Community House Church	1,000	1,000
William & Flora Hewlett Foundation	100,000	-
CRS	5,000	2,975
Capacity-Building in Conflict Prevention		
USAID	332,887	-
CRS	74,760	-
TOTAL INCOME	1,499,954	780,988
EXPENDITURE		
Program Expenses		
Network & Coordination	69,865	144,895
Nonviolence & Peace Education	134,692	49,311
Impact Assessment	9,710	-

Financial Report

Justice Building in W/A	25,882	21,000
Collaborative Peacebuilding in Sierra Leone	1,671	27,798
Early Warning	2,451	80,188
ECCP	3,239	-
WAPI	153,991	38,908
Liberia Dance Troupe	1,862	1,313
WIPNET	108,217	158,935
Support for Liason Offices	9,473	44,679
Proventive Peacebuilding in Nigeria	88,188	12,572
Capacity-Building in Conflict Prevention	442,458	5,457
FAO-NRCM	2,245	-
ISIP	-	7,014
Mano River Civil Society	-	17,675
Swiss Contract	-	3,482
Fund for Peace	16,597	-
General & Administrative	251,437	259,155
	1,321,978	872,381

Surplus / (Deficit) for Year Transferred

to ccumulated Fund Account	177,976	(91,393)
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