



MR. FRANCIS ACQUAH-AIKINS, JNR.

A Peacebuilding Practitioner with over 14 years of experience in coordinating Peacebuilding programmes, conducting and facilitating training programmes, Francis Acquah-Aikins effective May 2018 was seconded to the ECOWAS Commission to serve as the Coordinator of the WANEP Liaison in Abuja, Nigeria. Prior to this, he served as WANEP's Regional Coordinator for Network & Institutional Development from July 2015 to April 2018. Francis, from 2005 was Coordinator of the West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI) of WANEP, (which trains averagely 45 participants annually from all over Africa, USA, Europe Middle East and Asia) and also served as its Communication and External Relations Officer.

He is an expert in Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding; and peacebuilding programme management; a trainer in peace and security with key focus on Infrastructures for Peace, Electoral violence prevention programming, Peace Education, and Youth in Conflict Transformation. He has also worked on a number of projects including providing technical assistance in the development and production of WANEP's Election Dispute Management Practice Guide for West Africa; edited its French version for publication; led a team to review and publish WANEP's Peer Mediation Manual (English and French versions). Supported the Curriculum Research and Development Division of Ghana Education Service, in 2010, to develop modules in Peace Education for training of teachers in Northern Ghana; co-consultant for the development of a training manual on Natural Resource Conflict Management for the Christian Council of Ghana. From 2006 to 2018, he also serves as the West Africa Regional Liaison Officer for the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), coordinating activities related to policy advocacy for conflict prevention frameworks, Peace Education, as well as human security programmes. He regularly serves as a television panellist on peace and security issues in Ghana; and a regular Resource Person on issues of Youth and Conflict, and Peace Education at the Annual International Conference on Conflict Resolution Education in the USA from 2007 to 2015

Francis has a Master's Degree in Conflict, Peace and Security from the Kofi Annan

International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) and the Ghana Institute of Management & Public Administration (GIMPA). His dissertation topic was on *“The Role of the National Peace Council in the Management of Elections Disputes in Ghana”*

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from Uppsala University, Sweden. First degree in Social Sciences (French and Geography) from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana and a Higher Diploma (French Language) from the Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal. He has pursued other professional courses in conflict resolution and peacebuilding from the Centre for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University, Virginia, USA. An advanced postgraduate certificate in Diplomacy and International Relations from the Graduate School of Governance and Leadership (GSGL), Ghana; a Certificate in Qualitative Research Methods from the School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, USA, a course sponsored by The Mitchel Group (TMG) and USAID. Francis speaks and writes excellent French and English.