

# WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING

## QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2015



***A Group Photo - WANEP Regional Management, Regional Board and the National Boards across the National Networks @ Inaugural Board Retreat***

*WANEP is a leading Regional Peacebuilding organization founded in 1998 in response to civil wars that plagued West Africa in the late 1980s. We place special focus on collaborative approach, working alongside major actors, particularly governments, intergovernmental bodies and women in a bid to establish a platform for dialogue, experience sharing and learning, thereby complementing efforts at ensuring sustainable peace and development.*

## OVERVIEW OF PEACE AND SECURITY OF WEST AFRICA:

**Burkina Faso:** Elections in Burkina Faso scheduled for October 11, 2015 did not take place due to the September 17 coup orchestrated by the former Presidential guard (RSP) of ousted President Blaise Compaore, with the support of some loyalists over allegations of exclusion from the electoral process. Following the putsch, 14 people were killed and another 251 people were injured<sup>1</sup>. The September 17 coup d'état was firmly condemned by the International Community and after negotiation led by the ECOWAS Chairman, President Macky Sall with the coup makers, President Micheal Kafando's government has been reinstalled and elections have been rescheduled to November 29.

**Mali:** Since the signing of the peace accord between the Malian government and the main rebel group, the Coordination of Movement for Azawad in June 20, 2015, the peace and security situation in Mali remains fragile with sporadic attacks on military camps and unarmed civilians. On July 20 during the celebration of the Eid-ul-Fitr, the Islamic religious festival, seven civilians were killed by unidentified gunmen at Kobou and Niagassadiouat markets in Mopti region, near the Burkina Faso border. A similar attack on a military camp at Gourma-Rharouss near Timbuktu on August 3 claimed the lives of 10 Malian soldiers.

**Nigeria:** At least 47 people lost their lives and 50 others severely wounded<sup>2</sup> in a bomb blast by suspected Boko Haram insurgents on July 11. The incident happened at the weekly market in the village of Sabon Gari, about 135 kilometers south of Maiduguri the Borno state capital. The insurgents had

earlier killed four people and abducted five others in a highway ambush in the same area. It is arguable that Boko Haram has been weakened in its strategy since the launch of the regional joint forces by Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon, Niger and Benin to combat the insurgent group. However, the group is still carrying out sporadic attacks in some areas in Nigeria, Niger Chad and Cameroon.

**Guinea:** The presidential campaigns in Guinea were characterized by high tensions and violence. President Alpha Conde who has ruled Guinea since 2010 was in race with seven other candidates including his main rival Cellou Dalein Diallo. Opposition parties threatened to boycott election over alleged irregularities in the voter registration process. Supporters of the two main political rivals clashed in some prefectures of the country including Conakry and N'Zerekore resulting to the deaths of 8 people, hundreds injured and destruction of properties<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.modernghana.com/news/443331/1/burkina-faso-remembers-coup-victims.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://news.yahoo.com/least-47-dead-market-bomb-blast-ne-nigeria-165920305.html>

<sup>3</sup> <http://news.yahoo.com/least-two-dead-guinea-pre-election-violence-105255503.html>

## REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

### 1.0. CAPACITY BUILDING AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

courses are held on a regular basis for staff across the region towards the actualization of the organization's



*Group photograph of WANEP National Networks Staff who were participants at WAPI*

#### 1.1.a Staff Capacity Building

In the reporting period, a number of WANEP staff both at the regional and national offices benefitted from numerous training opportunities in programming, financial management, strategic communications as well as monitoring and evaluation. WANEP conducts regular capacity building initiatives for staff in its continuous efforts to strengthen and position the organization as a leading professional peacebuilding institution in the region and ensure that all staff are familiar with WANEP thematic areas. Every year, new and old staff are taken through WAPI while refresher

vision and mission and in the quest to transform from a project to vision-driven organization.

#### 1.1.b Inaugural Board Retreat

WANEP held its first Board Retreat under the theme: ***“Strengthening the WANEP Governance Architecture”*** at the Coconut Groove Regency Hotel, Accra, from August 12 to 13, 2015. The inaugural Board retreat brought together WANEP Regional Management, Regional Board and the National Boards across the National Networks to deliberate and



*WANEP Regional Management, Regional Board and the National Boards across the National Networks @ Inaugural Board Retreat*

proffer strategies for the effective governance and continued sustenance of WANEP. The retreat also sought to improve WANEP's credibility and capacity to deliver on its key mandate in the promotion of peace and security in the region. WANEP took a landmark decision at the 2010 General Assembly to transform the Board from a representative to a Professional Board thus making the Board the second highest decision making organ in the organization charged with the responsibility of providing general oversight on behalf of the General Assembly and in line with the principles of transparency and accountability.

The inaugural board retreat therefore was to orientate the regional and national board Chairpersons or their representatives on their expected roles within the WANEP structure as well as expose them to peacebuilding practice within the broader vision of African Union and ECOWAS peace architectures. The board members deliberated and took major decisions on issues of finance, relationship between national and regional board and between the regional and national secretariat, as well as the roles and responsibilities of the board among others.

### 1.2. West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI)

The 14th Session of the West Africa Peacebuilding Institute, WAPI held from August 24 to September 4,

year in collaboration with the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, KAIPTC, Accra-Ghana. However, due to the Ebola outbreak, which led to ECOWAS and the Ghana government placing a ban on travels within West Africa in the second half of 2014, two sessions of WAPI were held this year bringing to a total of 99 trained peacebuilders in the year.

The WAPI faculty consisted of seven distinguished peacebuilding practitioners; four males and three females who facilitated the courses on Conflict Analysis in Early Warning; Peacebuilding Program Design, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation; Dialogue and Mediation; and Human Security Issues in Natural Resource Governance. Key recommendations reached at the end of the session included the need for facilitators to share their course materials with the WAPI coordinators prior to starting the course and the need to produce a WAPI coordination handbook to ensure effective coordination of the programme as well as producing an abridged reader-friendly course handbook for participants.

*Some of the participants had this to say about WAPI 14th session:*

"I found the Conflict Analysis in Early Warning course very good and relevant for us who work on Early Warning. Particularly, the Stakeholders Analysis was very well presented, from which I grasped new and



2015 with a total of 53 participants comprising 23 females and 30 males drawn from civil society, regional and sub-regional organizations. WAPI is the capacity building programme of WANEP held every

important ideas. I am recommending this training to my Situation Room colleagues here at the African Union (AU) so that they broaden their perception in analyzing conflicts." **Fisseha Abraham (Situation**

**Room Assistant at African Union Continental Early Warning System – CEW)**

“The objective of the African Union concurs very much with that of WANEP and KAIPTC via the development of Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (CPMR) programs and with the MOU recently signed by AU and WANEP, the two institutions would be able to work effectively towards preventing and managing violent conflicts in the continent. Given its imperatives to peacebuilding on the continent, I will highly recommend the course to colleagues; as well as advocate for the deepening of collaborations between the AUC and WANEP/KAIPTC.” **Dr. Kwaku Asante-Darko (Senior Expert on Conflict Prevention Peace and Security Department, African Union)**

“ECOWAS deeply commends WANEP and KAIPTC's role in building the capacity of Civil Society Organizations and Regional Economic Communities in CPMR to ensure the prevention and resolution of conflicts on the continent. I will strongly recommend that ECOWAS continue to work with WANEP to ensure the capacities of key stakeholders in peacebuilding are enhanced.” **Brown Odigie (Program Officer, Capacity Building at the Mediation Facilitation Division, Department of Political Affairs of ECOWAS)**

**1.3. Other Capacity Building Initiatives in the Quarter**

**WANEP-Benin** conducted capacity building sessions on “Personal development and leadership” for its staff and member-organisations in the quarter. A total of 32 participants from member-organisations were trained on **“conflict analysis and peacebuilding”** with a focus on gender mainstreaming in a two-day workshop held on July 29 and 30, 2015 in Bohicon in Benin. The activity was funded by GIZ and the participants are expected to replicate the training in their localities.

**WANEP-Senegal** trained six women groups in Ziguinchor in Gender and Peacebuilding aimed at equipping the group with skills for effective analysis and identification of the needs of women in conflict situation.

**WANEP-Liberia** trained a total of 100 participants

drawn from five targeted communities under the Civil Society and Media Leadership project. The training was specifically to enhance participants' capacity in constructive advocacy to engage their respective leaders and demand accountability especially on how the Ebola resources were utilized.

**WANEP-Guinea** trained women leaders from government institutions and civil society from the Fria municipality from August 6 to 7, 2015. Following on this training, the women embarked on advocacy visits to the municipal authorities for the involvement of women in decision making and committed to creating a platform for conflict prevention and protection of women's rights with the support of the Social Welfare department of the area.

**2.0. EARLY WARNING AND EARLY RESPONSE NETWORK (WARN)**

**2.1. Training of Conflict Analysts:** With support from the JFA partners and USAID, a total of 21 analysts including from the African Union were trained on conflict analysis in early warning. A significant outcome of the training is the enhanced capacity for the generation of quality analytical products, which have been submitted by the analysts since the training.

**2.2. Training of Conflict Monitors:** In the quarter under review and in accordance with the USAID project “Mitigating Electoral Violence via NEWS”, refresher trainings were conducted for a total of 24 community conflict monitors from the 12 districts in Cote d'Ivoire and 26 monitors from the 13 Administrative regions in Burkina Faso on conflict monitoring and reporting. The reports submitted by the monitors on the NEWS Portal facilitated the generation of robust analysis on major human security threats in the countries. Plans are underway to replicate the same training.

**2.3. Launch of NEWS Steering Committees:** As part of efforts to enhance response strategies to mitigate electoral disputes, WANEP with support from USAID established Steering Committees in Burkina Faso and Cote d'Ivoire. Members of the Steering

Committee include senior officials of the Electoral Management Bodies, National Infrastructures for Peace, Security Agencies, Civil Society Organizations and the International Development Partners etc. The launch of the Steering Committee in Burkina Faso and Cote d'Ivoire was followed with a debriefing by WANEP to the Committee on the threats to peaceful conduct of elections as well as possible options for response to avert or mitigate crisis. The Committees are expected to evaluate the response strategies in tandem with electoral laws, policies of the targeted countries and in line with best practices.

### 2.4. Early Warning Products: Below are the list of products produced within the quarter:

- i. Press Release on Sierra Leone: "Call for Peaceful Resolution to Intra-Party Violence"
- ii. Press Release on Burkina Faso: "WANEP concerned about the Political Instability and Military Incursion in Burkina Faso".
- iii. Situation Tracking Reports on Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire

## 3.0. WOMEN IN PEACEBUILDING (WIPNET)

### 3.1. Violence against Women Activities

**WANEP-Sierra Leone** organized a Community Dialogue in Moyamba town, Southern province on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) to raise awareness and understanding on SGBV and the Sexual Offences Acts (2012) of Sierra Leone. Moyamba district is perceived as one of the hardest hit for rape and SGBV cases. Participants to the dialogue made up of women, men and service providers brainstormed on the rising tide of rape and SGBV crimes and ways to curb it. The network through its WIPNET program joined other women's groups in a candle light procession to protest against the rising tide of unprecedented rape in the country.

**WANEP-Liberia** held four community dialogue sessions in the quarter with project staff in Tubmanbrug, Todee, Kakata and Buchanan communities under the Ending Gender Based Violence project funded by Kivinna Til Kivinna, a

Swedish-based organisation. A total of 25 project staff and selected stakeholders including volunteers participated in the dialogue and shared field experience on trauma counseling with Ebola victims and survivors.

### 3.2. Promoting sustainable involvement of women in peace building

**WANEP-Benin** On August 12, 2015, the network validated the evaluation report of its "Training on Income Generating Activities, Leadership, Management and Conflict Prevention." The report, in addition to evaluation of knowledge received and its application, also identified success stories of the beneficiaries and their opinions on the various training courses attended.

**WANEP-The Gambia** held a one day training for women with disabilities and other vulnerable groups at the National Nutrition Agency (NaNA) to enhance their capacities on gender, peacebuilding and conflict resolution mechanisms. The training, which took place on September 16, was also to raise awareness on UNSCR 1325, CEDAW and the national Women's Act and brought together 20 participants; 10 from Disabled People's Organization and 10 from Civil Society Organizations. It was a platform for interaction, experience sharing and networking to highlight the need for the inclusion of persons living with disability in decision-making processes. This led to the establishment of Women in Peacebuilding Network at the Gambia Federation for the Disabled (GFD) – a network of ten Disabled Peoples Organizations (DPOs).

**WANEP-Togo** sensitized market women from Tsévié and Tokoin Novissi and trained mediators on health-related issues under the theme: "My health counts for the development of the country". The exercise was attended by 44 women and facilitated by a medical assistant.

### 3.3. Implementation of UNSCR 1325

**WANEP – The Gambia** joined other Networks to celebrate the 15th year anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security on

September 17, 2015. The celebration held at TANGO brought together 25 CSOs working on women's issues including the Women's Bureau and Ministry of Women's Affairs. The aim of the forum was to provide an opportunity for dialogue and experience sharing among Stakeholders on UNSCR 1325, identify implementation gaps, challenges and priorities for action. The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Women Affairs delivered the keynote address at the occasion.

**WANEP-Togo** facilitated a workshop for gender focal points of the ministries of Togo on "Domestication of Resolutions 1325 and 1820: Issues and Challenges for Togo," on September 22, 2015 in Lomé. This workshop which was attended by 22 participants, provided the opportunity to emphasize the responsibility of each ministry in the ownership of the Togo NAP.

**WANEP-Guinea Bissau** marked the 15th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 with a reflection meeting which witnessed a strong participation of women from different civil society groups to brainstorm on progress and status of the resolution in Guinea and the way forward.



partnerships for peace and also underscores WANEP's principle of collaborative approach to peacebuilding. A vox populi organized to elicit peoples' understanding of peace revealed variety of views and perceptions about peace.

At the national level, WANEP national networks facilitated various peace activities through the WIPNET program and Peace Education programs. Such activities included inter-school debates, drama and quiz competitions, art competitions, planting of peace trees and outreach programs to emphasise the message as well as entrench a culture of peace in the communities. The peace celebrations received wide media coverage as WANEP took part in various live panel discussions on radio and television and newspaper slots to broadcast the message of peace.

**WANEP-Sierra Leone** supported six selected Junior and Senior Secondary Schools in the Western Area and twelve in the districts to host debates on the Right to Peace, Reducing Domestic Violence and on the Constitutional Review Process. The students

### 4.0. ACTIVE NON-VIOLENCE AND PEACE EDUCATION

#### 4.1. 2015 Peace Day Celebrations

The 2015 International Day for Peace under the theme: "Building Partnerships for Peace," was celebrated with numerous activities both at the regional office and across the national networks. WANEP produced a peace banner with the message: "Our tomorrow is assured by the peace we aspire today: Let's silence the guns!" The banner has a picture of bunched hands depicting the theme of building



thereafter received displayed white handkerchiefs as a symbol of unity and commitment of the Government, International Community and People of Sierra Leone to maintain and sustain peace. The network further held awareness forum attended by 150 participants to deliberate on how society can work together for peace and to reduce gender inequalities. The forum was funded by GIZ.

**WANEP-Ghana** and **WANEP-Togo** supported the peace clubs to hold art competitions with drawings depicting peace symbols. In addition, WANEP Ghana through the teachers of the ten pilot schools in the Tamale metropolis facilitated the incorporation of peace education into Social Studies, Religious and Moral Education lessons in their respective schools.

### 4.2. Peer Mediation and Peace Club Activities

**WANEP-Benin** held a validation workshop on the implementation of the curriculum on non-violence and peace education in schools in Benin on July 15, 2015 at the Hotel Les Oliviers Porto-Novo. Participants at the workshop comprised educational inspectors and pedagogical advisors, representatives of parents, NGOs working in the field of education who validated the report and proffered recommendations.

**WANEP-Togo** on August 12, 2015, organized in Atakpamé, a TV show hosted by children of school mediation clubs with the participation of parents and supervisors. This activity was intended to popularize the values of peace and especially, to acquaint the viewing public with the peace project which commenced in July 2014. From July 16 to 17, 2015 the network trained 20 parents and 6 school supervisors in psychological developmental stages in children, parents' role in monitoring children's behavioral changes as well as conflict prevention and management in households.

**WANEP-Senegal** Trained Leaders of Sports and Cultural Associations (CSA) with the aim of inculcating a culture of peace and non-violence among youth associations through sports.

**WANEP-Liberia** officially launched peace clubs in various schools in the metropolis as part of its strategy to foster a better understanding of the Peace

Education program in the respective schools. The occasion was used to formally introduce the trained peer mediators and guidance counselors, their basic functions and the significance of the program in their schools. The peace club initiative is to “promote the culture of non-violence and peaceful co-existence in schools and communities through trainings, dialogue and awareness raising. The network also presented assorted training materials to the schools such as peer mediation manuals, mediation logs and other stationery and supplies.

**WANEP-The Gambia:** A total of 20 teachers comprising 8 females and 12 males, from 13 Upper Basic Schools within the Greater Banjul Area underwent refresher training on July 7 as part of the pilot program for the Peace Education program for teachers and coordinators. The refresher training was necessary to bridge the existing gap with the exit of the earlier trained teacher coordinators of the peace education program due to frequent transfers and dismissals thereby contributing to poor functionality of the peace clubs. In addition, WANEP The Gambia held a Training of Trainers (TOT) for 24 (15 females and 9 males) peer mediators from July 23 to 24, 2015 in order to strengthen the Peace Clubs. The theme of the TOT was “Catching them young”.

## 5.0. RESPONDING TO CONFLICTS THROUGH DIALOGUE AND MEDIATION

### 5.1. Jos Peace Process Review

In the review quarter, WANEP in collaboration with the Centre for Peace Advancement in Nigeria (CEPAN) and the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) held a meeting to review the peace processes in Jos, Plateau state of Nigeria. The meeting, which held on September 8, 2015 is in line with WANEP's underlining principles of ensuring local ownership of peacebuilding and conflict transformation and



reinforces its belief in collaborative approach to the promotion of peace in the region. In 2011, WANEP and IPCR initiated a dialogue process to design workable intervention strategies that can address the conflict and provide direction for sustainable peace in the state.

**5.2. WANEP-The Gambia** coordinated the Civil Society Coalition on Elections in The Gambia. The organization is a coalition of civil society organizations who meet regularly to discuss their involvement and contribution towards the upcoming election cycle of 2016 – 2018. On July 4, UNDP conducted a needs assessment with members of the Coalition and held consultative meetings with members of the coalition to discuss the coordination challenges and strategize on ways of overcoming these challenges in the run up to the next electoral cycle.

### 5.3. Revisiting the Casamance Conference

From August 21 to 22, WANEP brought together major stakeholders and key partners to discuss



modalities for finding a lasting solution to the protracted Casamance conference. The meeting was specifically to explore possible contributions of civil society from the three countries of The Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Senegal to peace and security in the Casamance region. It provided a platform for stakeholders to galvanize collective initiatives that would address the challenges and the emerging issues in order to accelerate the economic prosperities of the region as envisaged by the founders of ECOWAS. Professor Oumar Ndongo, Special Representative of the President of ECOWAS Commission, delivered the keynote address aptly tagged; 'Context and Complexities of the Casamance Conflict: Rethinking the Transformative Approaches,' gave a rich historical perspective of the conflict tracing its origin from the colonial times, the key actors, the different strategies and initiatives, plus the traditional approaches that have been tried over the years to find peaceful solution. As a way forward, participants developed key strategies and action plans for civil society involvement in the peace process.

**5.4 WANEP-Sierra Leone** facilitated a National Consultative Conference on Infrastructure for Peace in Sierra Leone attended by 50 participants (26 females and 24 males) from the provinces and Freetown. The conference participants unanimously adopted a Civil Society Position Paper on the establishment of Infrastructure for Peace for submission to the Constitutional Review Committee.

### 5.5 Research Recommends Intensive Awareness on R2P

Findings of a baseline survey conducted by WANEP on the development and effective implementation of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) has recommended the need for a massive awareness creation and sensitization exercise to be undertaken to ensure that there is a buy-in from all stakeholders across the country in schools, traditional institutions, CSOs and faith-based organisations on R2P. The research which used Ghana as a case study was primarily to assess how existing R2P protocols have and are being implemented and how their implementation resonates and informs the implementation of R2P and the capacity of the state to infuse them into state laws, mechanisms and structures. WANEP in partnership with DANIDA commissioned a one-year long project (January 2015- December 2015) with a view of assessing the progress made so far and providing

strategic inputs to the development of an R2P policy especially as 2015 marks the 10th anniversary since the adoption of the concept.

### 6.0. CIVIL SOCIETY DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

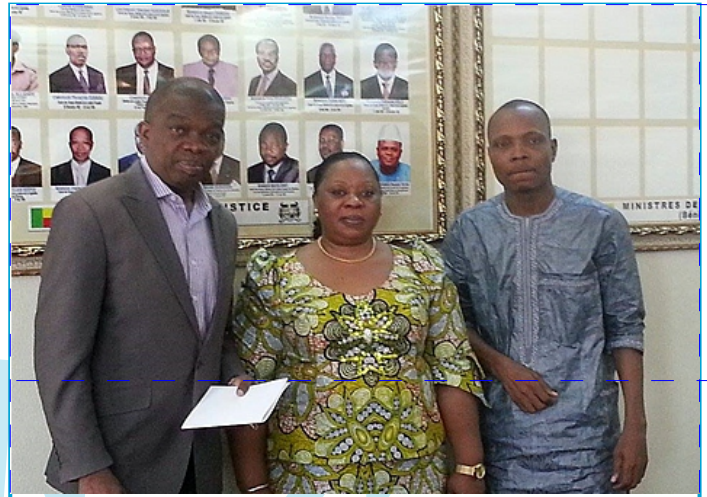
#### 6.1. Building Strategic Partnerships and Advocacy Visits

**6.1.1. In accordance** with its principle of collaborative approach to promoting peace and stability, the WANEP Regional office received delegates from civil society organizations as well as state and non-state actors in the review period. Representatives from the Swedish women organization, Kivinna Till Kivinna and delegates from South Sudan called on WANEP in the quarter. Kivinna is also supporting the WANEP Liberia national office on gender-based violence program. The South Sudan delegates came in the company of representatives of the Ghana National Peace Council on a fact-finding mission about WANEP's contribution to national peace architectures in the region. Other civil society partners including the Institute for Democratic Governance, IDEG, Media Foundation and the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) also visited WANEP.

**WANEP-Benin** hosted a délégation from the WACSI/OSIWA Capacity Building Program on August 11 2015 under the learning assessment component of Phase I and II of the program to evaluate progress made in program implementation. The program covers civil society organizations in four Francophone countries in West Africa. The evaluators hailed WANEP's performance and success so far achieved in the implementation of the program.

**WANEP-Senegal** met with representatives from the Civil Forum and World Vision to explore partnerships for the revitalization of Integrity and Active Citizenship Clubs (CICA) in Public Schools in Dakar.

**WANEP-Benin** as part of its advocacy for a specific law on the Right of Access to Public Information in the



Republic of Benin funded by OSIWA, was received in audience, on 18 August 2015, by Ms Evelyne da SILVA, Minister of Justice, Legislation and Human Rights. The delegation led by the National Network Coordinator requested the assistance of the Minister of Justice to study the draft bill submitted to the Ministry by the Government. In this regard, the network has published bookmarks on communication and awareness through advocacy for the Right of Access to Public Information in the Republic of Benin.

**WANEP Guinea Bissau** has won a grant of \$ 4,600 from the "West Africa Drug Policy Network" in the quarter. The grant is to generate awareness on drug policy reform and for the creation of a national network to fight against human rights violations related to Drugs.

**WANEP-Benin** received a grant of USD 300,000 from the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) for the implementation of the project *"Support to the monitoring and control to citizens for free, transparent and peaceful elections in 2016 in Benin"*. This grant agreement is for a period of 15 months.

#### 6.2. Civil Society Project for Human Security Strategy in Mali

**WANEP-Mali** under the Civil Society Project for Human Security Strategy held four workshops on regional dialogue consultations and built capacity of 114 participants from civil society, including 31 women on the concept of human security in post-conflict situations. The role of civil society in promoting the concept as well as gender in a human security program was also emphasised. As a result of this training, there is now an active network of CSOs with branches in all administrative regions of Mali as a platform for information exchange between

authorities and CSOs for a common response to security challenges.

### 6.3. Election Monitoring and Mitigation

**WANEP-Guinea** in the review period signed an agreement with CENAFOD for the monitoring of electoral violence before, during and after the presidential elections of 11 October under the project “KAA FITINAA MATANKA”, which means preventing violence in the Maninka local language. This three-month project deployed 16 monitors in the field to monitor 30 indicators of electoral violence. The network also signed an agreement with the British Embassy in Guinea on 25 August 2015 in support of WANEP Guinea's non-violence and peace education programme during the electoral period in the hotspot areas of Conakry.

### Consultative Workshop to contextualize election indicators in Niger

WANEP on August 11 and 12 held a Consultative Workshop for the contextualisation of indicators for the mitigation of electoral violence and implementation of the National Early Warning System in Niamey. This project funded by USAID West-Africa



aims to strengthen the WANEP National Early Warning System with particular emphasis on monitoring, reporting, analyzing and communicating threats to

peaceful elections in Niger. The goal is to contribute to free, fair, transparent and participatory elections. During the workshop, participants diagnosed past elections and presented a current picture of future elections in Niger, before offering an array of indicators of electoral violence and suggested solutions for preventing and resolving electoral disputes

## 7.0. CONCLUSION

Despite the challenging human security context of the region, the third quarter of the year has been largely according to plan. The quarter's accomplishment takes WANEP to over 80% of its planned annual activities implemented in addition to some new activities that were introduced as a result of the new and related projects WANEP is currently implementing with other strategic partners.

The quarter has seen an increased collaboration with ECOWAS and the AU with the formalisation of the working relationship with the AU. This re-positions WANEP at a central point in the affairs of the AU and in playing key roles in peacebuilding in support of both the AU and ECOWAS. This will also support the coordination of work between ECOWAS and the AU in the area of Early Warning and related peacebuilding processes in the next quarter and in subsequent quarters and years.

**For more Information log on to [www.wanep.org](http://www.wanep.org)**