

Building Relationships for Peace



**WANEP**

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding

annualreport 2010







# WANEP

annual report  
2010



West Africa Network for Peacebuilding



# a *not-for-profit* making organisation working in collaborative peacebuilding

WANEP—West Africa Network for Peacebuilding

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- ECOWAS
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- MDG3 IFOR/WPP PROGRAM
- G-RAP CORE PROJECT
- GTZ
- IBIS
- MacArthur Foundation
- NPI
- SIDA
- ECCP-GPPAC

## Board Members



Michel Mian  
Board Chair

On behalf of the Regional Board, "I am delighted to express our appreciation to all the member-organisations of WANEP, the National Boards and National Secretariats, the Regional Secretariat and the WANEP-Management Team.

Vice Chair



Lydia Umar

Member



Isaac Albert

Member



Christiana Thorpe

Member



William Awinador  
Kanyirge

Member



Fatoumattou  
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Member



Seth Kluvia



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- ❑ WANEP–Senegal
- ❑ WANEP–Sierra Leone
- ❑ WANEP–Togo

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

| Acronyms  | Meanings   |
|-----------|--|
| AGM       | Annual General Meeting                                       |
| AHSI      | African Human Security Initiative                            |
| CENA      | National Electoral Commission                                |
| CSOs      | Civil Society Organizations                                  |
| CSTs      | Community Surveillance Teams                                 |
| ECOSAP    | ECOWAS Small Arms Programme                                  |
| ECCP      | European Centre for Conflict Prevention                      |
| GANSA     | Gambia Action Network on Small Arms                          |
| GPPAC     | Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict      |
| IFES      | International Foundation for Electoral Systems               |
| KAIPCTC   | Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre        |
| MARWOPNET | Mano River Women's Peace Network                             |
| OSIWA     | Open Society Initiative for West Africa                      |
| PPLM      | Pain Pour Le Monde   |
| TRC       | Truth and Reconciliation Commission                          |
| TJRC      | Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission                 |
| USIP      | United States Institute of Peace                             |
| UNDP      | United Nations Development Programme                         |
| WIPNET    | Women in Peacebuilding Programme                             |
| WAPI      | West Africa Peacebuilding Institute                          |
| GTZ       | German Technical Co-operation                                |
| ACCORD    | Africa Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes    |
| ISS       | Institute for Security Studies                               |
| CIDCM     | Centre for International Development and Conflict Management |
| EDWARDS   | Early Warning and Response Design Support                    |
| PACWA     | Peace and Conflict in West Africa                            |
| MOWAC     | Ghana Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs               |
| EWD       | Early Warning Directorate                                    |
| SCONPA    | Strategic Conflict and Peace Assessment                      |
| JAES      | Joint Africa–EU Strategy                                     |
| AMISOM    | Africa Union Mission in Somalia                              |
| EPLO      | European Peacebuilding Liaison Office                        |
| UNDEF     | United Nations Democracy Funds                               |
| ECOSAP    | ECOWAS Small Arms Programme                                  |
| CMC       | Cluster Munitions Coalition                                  |
| GAP       | Ghana Alert Project  |
| WAPP      | West Africa Peacebuilding Project                            |



# About WANEP «««

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) is a leading Regional Peacebuilding organization founded in 1998 in response to civil wars that plagued West Africa in the 1990s. Over the years, WANEP has succeeded in establishing strong national networks in every Member State of ECOWAS with over 500 member organizations across West Africa.

## 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.”

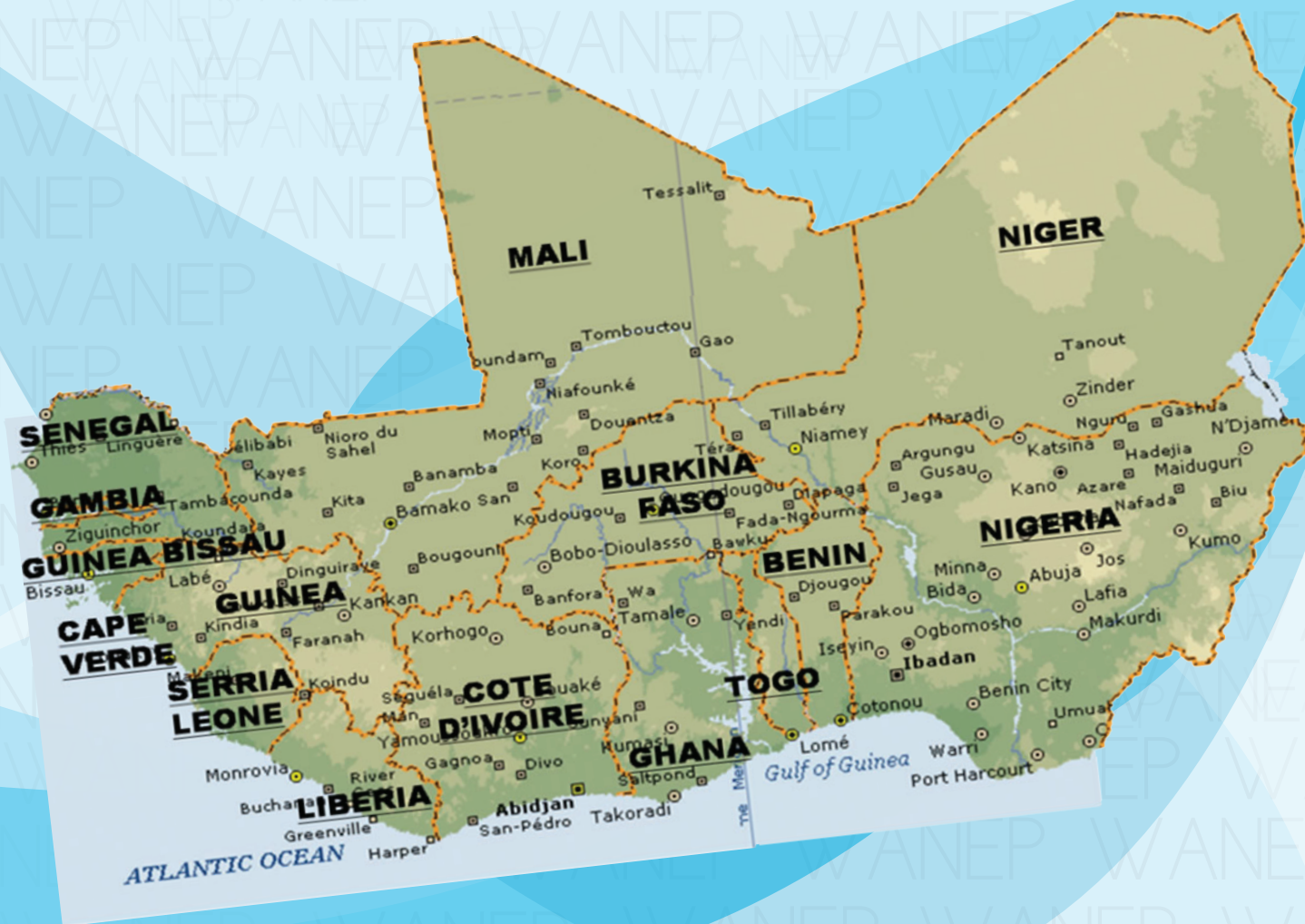
## MISSION

“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.”

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- ✓ Strengthen the capacity of peacebuilding organizations and practitioners in West Africa to engage actively in the transformation of violent conflicts through the use of non-violent strategies
- ✓ Develop a conflict prevention mechanism in West Africa to monitor, analyze and respond to conflicts
- ✓ Engender peacebuilding policy and practices in West Africa
- ✓ Promote a culture of non-violence and social responsibility among young people in West Africa
- ✓ Strengthen the conceptual base of WANEP programs through research, documentation and Monitoring and Evaluation.
- ✓ Enhance policy formulation and influence on peace and human security through regional and international linkages and advocacy.

# WANEP MAP





# Message from the **WANEP** Board Chair«««

## Michel Mian

On behalf of the Regional Board, "I am delighted to express our appreciation to all the member-organisations of WANEP, the National Boards and National Secretariats, the Regional Secretariat and the WANEP-Management Team. Over the past year, the Governance structure of WANEP has provided mutual accountability within the organisation and enhanced the institutional performance of the Network. We must sustain good governance and a high level of institutional performance within WANEP in order to optimise our effectiveness of peacebuilding and conflict prevention in West Africa."

**T**he past year has witnessed several activities through which WANEP contributed to enhance human security. These activities continue to raise the profile of WANEP at national and regional level as well as in the international peacebuilding community. WANEP's contribution to the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Mechanism through the Early Warning System-ECOWARN continues to be highly appreciated. WANEP also increased its contribution in the work of the African Union Peace and Security Commission under the "Make Peace Happen" declaration of the Africa Union. I take particular note of WANEP's contribution to the Dili process on international dialogue and statebuilding and WANEP representation as one of the four civil society organisations on the working group on Political Dialogue of the Dili process. While commending WANEP's efforts, the emerging threat to peace and stability in West Africa during the year under review has been around the organisation of credible and peaceful elections. This is a new frontier in which the integration of peacebuilding and statebuilding informs the West African context much more forcefully. More than ever before, WANEP must coordinate and play a leadership role in enhancing the capacity of civil society in the promotion of human security, conflict prevention and peacebuilding.





—Michel Mian

The experiences of building peace and the challenges in this effort during the year make it imperative to work towards building internal state capacity for political dialogue. How state institutions especially those who manage elections can be supported to perform their roles professionally and with all sense of impartiality without any hindrance is a critical component of statebuilding. In-country political dialogue should be nurtured with the development of state institutions that have integrity and the respect of citizens. While these institutions will work to promote dialogue, the environment for building better state-society relations will increase trust, cohesion and inclusive democratic practices which all enhance the organisation of peaceful political transitions. I urge all member organisations and the national networks to integrate this important need at national levels in the design of national programs while the regional secretariat provides the support and sustains the international linkages and advocacy to push this further.

The year 2010 was a very rewarding one. Albeit the challenges, Niger succeeded in completing all the necessary preparations for the conduct of elections in early 2011. Guinea-Conakry demonstrated resilience and succeeded in the first ever democratic transition in that country. This happened with great difficulty at a time some international institutions wrote Guinea off and issued alerts of “ethnic cleansing”. Cote d’Ivoire did not succeed as Guinea did and yet we must remain hopeful that a transition that respects the will of the people in Cote d’Ivoire will be upheld. On behalf of the Board, I urge you all to continue with the hard work and commitment of peacebuilding in 2011 with renewed energy and dedication. I wish all staff of WANEP at Regional and National levels, Happy New Year. God bless WANEP. God bless Africa.





## Management Report««

### Management

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) continued in 2010 with determined efforts to sustain itself as a viable and credible civil society peacebuilding organisation in West Africa. These efforts increased WANEP's leverage and capacity to enhance and contribute to Peacebuilding initiatives across the sub-region. I am delighted to present in the following pages, a summary account of WANEP's contribution to Peace and Human Security in West Africa in 2010.

At the Regional Secretariat, Chukwuemeka Eze, the former National Coordinator for WANEP-Nigeria replaced Takwa Suifon as Program Director. Mr. Suifon joined the African Union Peace and Security Commission at the end of 2009. WANEP's strategic plan was revised informing regional programs while maintaining core program objectives and enhancing their implementation at national levels. The benefits of such reorganisation are remarkable as regional programs have impact in a vertical capability from community to national and regional levels. National Networks are now optimising responses to national specific issues informed by peacebuilding practice experiences of other national networks. Such cross fertilisation and exchange is contributing enormously to the promotion of human security in the sub-region from the generation of local knowledge and practice. There is huge satisfaction of increasing capacity at national level. WANEP's presence is therefore manifested more in local communities and national levels while coordination from the regional level provides professionalism and efficiency. A direct outcome is increasing complementary support and work with National Governments and ECOWAS. In some countries, WANEP was invited to play intermediary roles and provide mediation in sensitive political and inter- as well as intra-communal conflicts.

At the level of National Networks, WANEP expanded with the setting up of national network structures and secretariats in Cape Verde and Mali. As a result, WANEP's presence at national level through well-structured national networks has increased to fourteen. WANEP anticipates completing national network structures with the setting up of a national secretariat in Niger in the coming year. The WANEP institutional structure and its comparative advantage thereof enabled WANEP's efficient contribution to the promotion of human security. Through its West Africa Early Warning and Response Network program (WARN), WANEP increased the efficiency of data collection and conflict analysis in its partnership with ECOWAS for the implementation of the Early Warning Mechanism otherwise known as ECOWARN. During the year under review, WANEP designed the National Early Warning Systems (NEWS) to further enhance early warning for conflict prevention at national levels. This will further improve early warning at the regional level through ECOWARN. Under the Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET), a thorough review of the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 was undertaken. Women peacebuilding practitioners through a regional conference in Cote d'Ivoire added impetus to the role of women in Peacebuilding. The West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI) was successfully



organised bringing together participants from up to 17 countries across Africa with the participation of UN staff.

WANEP took a step further in its partnership with the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) for the implementation of WAPI with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The two institutions will work more closely in designing and implementing quality training in peacebuilding to respond to the need of increasing the number of peacebuilding practitioners in West Africa and beyond. Within the framework of the Dialogue and Mediation program, WANEP during the year undertook various initiatives in responding to crises while building synergy with the other programs to sustain conflict prevention efforts.

In Bawku in the Upper East Region of Ghana, WANEP worked with Members of Parliament from the Region and convened an Inter-Communal Dialogue that brought together community leaders to the table to talk and to end inter-communal violence and feuding that had reignited in December 2007. The effort has now sustained itself with the reinvigoration of a functional inter-communal peace committee that meets regularly to deliberate and respond to threat to peace, and other emerging issues that could likely lead to violence. In Jos, Plateau State in the Federal Republic of Nigeria, efforts were initiated and will continue next year to engage key stakeholders in a dialogue process to respond to inter-communal violence and killings.

Contributing to peaceful elections has featured prominently in WANEP activities in the year under review. In Guinea-Conakry, beyond engaging in policy influencing through policy briefs, WANEP together with its national network organised a series of roundtables and working within the framework



of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC). The major actors managing the Guinean elections interacted with civil society, political parties, religious leaders and other interests groups to inform one another adequately on measures and common strategies to ensure violence free elections and a peaceful transition. The elections were organised under enormous difficulty and stress but Guinea pulled through in one of the most contested transitional experiences ever in the country's 52 years history since independence. Similar efforts were deployed in Cote d'Ivoire at a much higher scale. WANEP-Cote d'Ivoire was the lead agency for the coordination of civic education within the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI) for peaceful elections. WANEP worked with other civil society organisations, ECOWAS and the UNDP all directed at credible and peaceful elections. At the close of the year when the final run-off was conducted, it appeared apparent that Cote d'Ivoire was heading for a post-election crisis mainly as a result of the refusal of the incumbent President to comply with the outcomes of the elections and concede defeat. WANEP will be unrelenting in its efforts in contributing to the promotion of a peaceful transition in Cote d'Ivoire.

WANEP-Executive Director in 2010 and continuing in 2011 worked as the Chair of GPPAC at the crucial time of the transformation of the Global Platform. GPPAC increasingly has provided a wider scope and leverage for engaging global decision makers on promoting peacebuilding and conflict prevention. During the year, WANEP entered into a partnership for the first time with the Swedish Development Agency-SIDA. WANEP is very grateful for the confidence and support of SIDA towards enhancing WANEP peacebuilding and conflict prevention activities in West Africa.

Over the years, WANEP has grown and established itself as a key civil society voice and institution contributing to conflict prevention and peacebuilding in West Africa and beyond. This is all possible because WANEP Partners have supported

and funded WANEP and its program activities. We are indebted to all of them.

We make special mention of SIDA for their significant contributions to WANEP's efforts in enhancing civil society capacity in human security, conflict prevention and peacebuilding in West Africa. WANEP appreciates EDWARDS grants funded by USAID for institutional support. This has improved WANEP's early warning and early response program and particularly WANEP contribution to the ECOWAS early warning mechanism-ECOWARN. We thank the people and Government of Finland through the Foreign Ministry of Finland for grant support that has contributed enormously to WANEP's response capacity to crisis. We are equally grateful to the Ghana Research and Advocacy Project (G-RAP) for core institutional support, IBIS-West Africa for important interventions and special initiatives around dialogue and mediation as well as monitoring political intimidation and promoting peaceful elections. The German Technical Co-operation-GTZ supported WANEP's West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI), while the MacArthur Foundation provided important support to WANEP's Women in Peacebuilding Network program (WIPNET).

During the year, we worked with partners and appreciated collaboration with them on specific program areas. They include, to name a few, the Kofi Annan International Peace Keeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) in Nigeria, The United States Institute of Peace (USIP), The Nairobi Peace Initiative –Africa (NPI-Africa) and the Africa Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD) and the Institute for Security Studies (ISS). We are most grateful to all the partners that have supported our national networks and its programs and finally to all those who voluntarily participated in our programs and activities at various levels and times.







# Introduction

The 2010 annual report presents the activities of WANEP at the regional and national secretariats. While each national network develops its programmes and projects on the basis of the realities and national context, the Regional Secretariat work closely with its National Networks to address broader issues at regional and international level.

In this report, following a brief report on the peace and security situation in West Africa in 2010, the activities of the Regional Secretariat and national networks are presented. To complement the annual report, WANEP presents on a quarterly basis report of its activities, called 'Quarterly Highlight' which is posted on its website ([www.wanep.org](http://www.wanep.org)).

# 2010 West Africa Peace And Security In Perspective«««

Following the adoption of the “Tripoli Declaration on the Elimination of Conflicts in Africa and the Promotion of Sustainable Peace by the Special Session of the AU Assembly”, on 31st August 2009, the African Union declared the year 2010, the **Year of Peace and Security in Africa**. In West Africa sub-region, 2010 was characterised by successes in consolidating peace and stability in many countries and a huge setback in Cote d'Ivoire as the year came to a close.

**T**he Republic of Guinea successfully organised a genuine democratic transition for the first time in the country's 52 years history since independence. Ethnically motivated attacks and skirmishes were mitigated; rescuing the country from experiencing a full blown civil war. Niger, a country under ECOWAS sanction after a military coup d'état, was successful in organising a referendum on a new constitution which received a resounding approval, setting the path to a return to democratic rule with the presidential election scheduled in January 2011. Togo and Burkina Faso conducted their presidential elections without much violence.

In spite of the setback in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa is demonstrating increasing capacity and expertise in transforming conflict at community and national level. There were many political tensions which in the past could have led to a conflagration of violence engulfing countries. Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso, was the Mecca of peace agreements in West Africa. Guinea was brought back on track through the Ouagadougou Peace Agreement brokered by President Blaise Campaore after an assassination attempt on the life of the junta leader, Dadis Camara threatening to derail the transition process. The Ivorian elections were finally organised thanks to the Ouagadougou Political Peace Agreement that created the situation for power-sharing between the

government of Laurent Gbagbo and the leader of the rebellion, Guillaume Soro.

Below is a snapshot of the peace and security situation in West Africa in the course of the year. Countries are grouped in four clusters according to the early warning categorization of ECOWAS.

**In Zone One** (Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Senegal), the general political and security situation were somewhat stable save for Guinea Bissau and Senegal. **Guinea Bissau** came close to another military take-over exposing the fragility of the country and the intransigence of the military against civilian rule. The European Union announced in August, 2010 the discontinuation of its support to reform the security forces in Guinea Bissau. The mutiny leader, Maj.-Gen. Indjai was appointed the new Chief of General Staff of the armed forces and promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General. His appointment was widely criticized by the international community including ECOWAS. In nearby **The Gambia**, while there is significant progress on the economic fronts of the government, the issue of national concern was the detention and treason trial of the former Chief of Defence staff of the Gambia Armed Forces Lang Tombong Tamba and seven others, which ended in a death penalty for the accused. Soon after, there was the detention and continued trial of the Inspector General of Police and the Director General of the National Drug

Enforcement Agency (NDEA). Political observers are worried about the political situation in The Gambia given the spate of arrests, detentions and disappearances of top civil servants, journalists and human rights defenders. Equally worrisome was the announcement of The Gambia Government in May about the seizure of two tons of cocaine worth over a billion dollars reinforcing claims that the West African sub-region has become the transit hub for drug trafficking from South America and Asia to Europe and America.

The socio-political landscape in **Senegal** was marked on the one hand by a historic vote in Parliament in favour of the Parity Law to attain gender equity. On the other hand, the country experienced protracted power outages that forced people into the street in protests against the lack of electricity especially in Dakar. The protests were contained without any recorded cases of death or damages to property. However, President Abdoulaye Wade's bid for another term in office and his alleged attempts to have his son succeed him have triggered lot of political tensions and malice, which could threaten the country's democratic credentials and enviable stability. In short, the political imbroglio in Guinea Bissau, the perceived human rights violations in the Gambia and continued strikes and demonstrations in Senegal over power outages and high cost of living belie the stability of this zone.

**In Zone 2** (Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger), the issue of political transition was of primary concern. In **Burkina Faso**, the election passed off peacefully and President Compaoré was reelected with wide margin. While President Compaoré played the statesman in West Africa, at home he seeks to perpetuate himself in power and reduce the political space of the opposition. His re-election was marred by allegations of fraud. In **Mali and Niger**, the activities of the Al-Qaida Islamic extremists in the Maghreb (AQIM), a group affiliated to the Al-Qaida network, dominated the news. Several kidnappings were reported including mostly French citizens and few other foreign nationals. Some of the kidnappings prompted military intervention by France with the support of West African army to free hostages. The presence of the terrorist cell is creating

the environment for cross-border criminality and banditry to thrive in this zone.

In **Cote d'Ivoire**, the much-awaited election that was postponed six times in five years was finally organised. The first round of the elections took place in a relatively peaceful environment with President Laurent Gbagbo leading the poll and Alassane Dramane Ouattara coming second. However, the second round of election between President, Laurent Gbagbo and Alassane Ouattara resulted in a political stalemate pushing the country to the brink of reactivating the civil war. Alassane Ouattara is recognised by ECOWAS and the International Community as the legitimate winner of the elections as declared by the Independent Electoral Commission and certified by the Special Representative of UN Secretary General. Laurent Gbagbo refused to relinquish power thereby creating economic, social and emotional stress and forcing a large number of people to seek refuge in neighbouring countries. The political stalemate in Cote d'Ivoire risked destabilizing the fragile peace in neighbouring countries of the Mano River Union.

**In Zone 3** (Ghana, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone), the spotlight was more on the democratic transition in **Guinea-Conakry**. The organization of the presidential elections had been of concern. There were skepticism and grave concern that the elections might not hold. Nonetheless, the election was held with serious violent incidents resulting in some deaths and displacement of people from their community. Finally, Alpha Conde won the presidential elections and was sworn in as the first democratically elected president of Guinea. The losing candidate, Cellou Dalein Diallo was persuaded to concede gracefully in order to save the country from descending into inter-communal and ethnic violence of disastrous consequences.

In **Liberia**, President Johnson-Sirleaf passed the Freedom of Information (FOI) bill improving the image of her government as promoter and defender of human rights and freedom of expression. On the other hand, violent clashes between the Mandingos and the Lormas in Lofa County and the Mandingos and the Gio-Mano group in Nimba County showed that the reconciliation process was



far from being yet an *uhuru*. There are concerns that high risk communities may be engulfed in violent confrontations in 2011 as the country organizes its presidential and legislative elections. In **Sierra Leone**, the growing political divide in the country along regional and ethnic lines was of great concern for the fragile peace of the country. Allegations of rampant corruption still bedeviled the government of the day.

**In Zone Four** (Benin, Nigeria and Togo), the issue of election and succession was of concern. In **Benin**, the bickering between the Constitutional Court and the National Assembly revealed the polarization along partisanship which has serious implications in the conduct of the forthcoming elections, as the Ivorian situation has shown. Fears were raised that the voter registration exercise might not be completed in time for the 2011 elections thereby disenfranchising a good number of potential voters. In **Togo**, the incumbent President Faure Gnassingbe won the presidential elections amidst allegations of fraud by the Togolese opposition parties. Tensions and clashes followed the announcement of the results. Notwithstanding, there were rapid response initiatives taken by the government, civil society and ECOWAS to contain the situation from not assuming the same proportion of atrocities as the last presidential elections. So far, President Faure Gnassingbe had made some attempts to reach across the divide in the spirit of reconciliation and dousing the political tension.

In **Nigeria**, the ailment of President Yar' Adua created a temporary power vacuum considering his long absence from office. In his absence, the vice president did not have the constitutional authority to govern the country. The eventual death of President Yar' Adua gave way to Vice-president Goodluck Jonathan to take the reins of power. It was the first time the president of Nigeria was from the minority south south geo-political zone. The candidacy of President Goodluck Jonathan as the flagbearer of the Peoples Democratic Party would be challenged by big wigs of the party especially former President Ibrahim Babangida and former Vice President Atiku Abubakar who officially declared their intentions to contest for the presidential primaries of the PDP and accusing President Goodluck of not adhering to

the party's "gentleman" agreement on zoning the presidency thereby making the primary election a key event to monitor in 2011.

In addition to the increasing cases of kidnapping, the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the country's independence was marred by bombings in Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory. Alongside the terror bombings for which no armed groups had claimed responsibility, the armed attacks of Boko Haram Islamic sect (meaning "Western education is forbidden" in Hausa) notably at the Bauchi Central Prison where it freed about 721 prison inmates were on the increase. The attacks of the sect led to the death of at least 400 people and left over 4,000 displaced before police shot dead Yusuf Mohammed, the group's leader in July 2010. In Jos, the security situation had degenerated into a high-intensity conflict with open and clandestine killings of Christians and Muslims. Some analysts think the sectarian violence had more to do with popular anger and frustration with prevailing political and economic conditions than religion or ethnic identity.

WANEP as a leading civil society network for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in West Africa intervened at various levels in close collaboration with its national networks, other CSOs, ECOWAS, AU, the UN system and its agencies to mitigate violent conflicts while working towards the achievement of the Livingston Formula. Civil society organisations in West Africa are more than before networking and collaborating to intervene at different levels in promoting peace and stability in the region.

Below is a presentation of activities of WANEP Regional Secretariat and National Networks across West Africa.



## WANEP Regional Secretariat Activities◀◀◀

The activities of WANEP Regional Secretariat are multilevel and diverse. WANEP worked closely with its national networks to provide technical support and ensure compliance to administrative and governance measures making the networks robust and more professional. At regional level, WANEP continued to work with the Early Warning Directorate of ECOWAS in implementation/ operationalization of the regional early warning program called ECOWARN. At continental level, WANEP is actively involved in the activities of the Economic, Social and Cultural of the African Union through the Peace and Security Cluster. Alongside these partners, WANEP collaborates with other regional and global organizations like the GPPAC, KAIPTC and participates in UN-organised meetings and events around the world.

## Justice Lens Program«««

WANEP conducted impact assessment of the **West Africa Human Rights and Democratisation (WAHRD)** project under the Justice Lens Program, funded by IBIS West Africa, in the MRU countries: Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The evaluation missions carried out in the first quarter of 2010 measured the direct and indirect impacts of the project, looking at the extent to which it contributed to the individual and wider human rights issues in these countries especially as they relate to peace and security. The lessons learned informed the second phase of the implementation of project in the three countries excluding Guinea. WANEP alongside member organizations of the alliance for the implementation of WAHRD, Media Foundation for West Africa and Foundation for Security and Development in Africa (FOSDA) participated in a retreat organised by IBIS-West Africa to develop specific activities of the second phase of the WAHRD project (2010 – 2014) and action plan for 2010.

## WARN Programme«««

WANEP produced **policy briefs and press releases** as part of its early warning products to draw the attention of policy makers and interested actors on issues of concern regarding peace and stability of countries in West Africa. Two policy briefs were produced on Guinea, one on Cote d'Ivoire, one on Nigeria and one on Liberia. Political crisis in Cote d'Ivoire warranted WANEP to send out two press releases calling for a **Mediated and Negotiated Settlement Approach** to resolving the crisis.

Under the WARN Programme, WANEP collaborated with other NGOs and CBOs with the facilitation of the Centre for International Development and Conflict Management (CIDCM) of the University of Maryland in the United States to conduct a conflict assessment exercise in Jos (Nigeria), Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia. The conflict assessment was done within the framework of the USAID-funded project, **Early Warning and Response Design Support (EWARDs)** looking at conflict risk factors and proposing actionable recommendations to prevent or mitigate the possibility of outbreak or escalation. The Jos assessment was the first conducted in the first quarter of

2010 followed by the Ivorian conflict assessment in the second quarter and the Liberian in September through October. The reports are widely distributed.

Under the EWARDs project, a workshop on **“Typology and Design of Response to Conflict in West Africa** was organised to discuss ways that conflict early warning data and signs of conflict could be acted upon more expeditiously and systematically within a tripartite partnership among interstate, governmental and civil society actors.





The response workshop, which was exploratory and foundational, aimed at establishing an overview of the early warning and response landscape to inform the content of subsequent workshops seeking to build response capacity in West Africa and to link it more effectively to early warning systems.

In addition to the conflict assessment, WANEP organised a training seminar, facilitated by the University of Maryland (UMD) in the United States, for its early warning staff at regional secretariat and the four zonal coordinators on the production of a biannual report entitled **Peace and Conflict in West Africa (PACWA)** under the EWARDS project. The training seminar was the first of two training workshops by UMD in a bid to transfer the technical know-how and expertise to WANEP for subsequent production of the PACWA report which provides risk scores pertaining to the structural vulnerability of each country in West Africa.





## Inter and Intra-Community Dialogue Program«««

WANEP intervened in the Bawku chieftaincy conflict to promote dialogue as way of finding peaceful solutions to the conflict. WANEP organized strategic meetings bringing together the parties to the conflict. Following the first Bawku stakeholders forum in March with support from IBIS West Africa, another **Bawku Stakeholder's Consultative Meeting** was held in May in Kumasi with the support of UNDP.







The Stakeholder Consultative Meeting, on the theme ‘**Searching for and the Restoration of Peace in Bawku**’, brought together a total of Seventy (70) participants including nine (9) Honourable members of Parliament in Ghana, representatives of UNICEF, UNDP, IBIS, the Northern Development Forum and the National Peace Council. WANE was the convener of the meetings and facilitator of the sessions. This meeting led to the reactivation of the Inter-Ethnic Peace Committee to seek a non-violent means to resolving the conflict.

A capacity building workshop was organised in August for members of the **Bawku Inter Ethnic Peace Committee** and the Upper East Regional Minister and his Deputy. The training aimed at enhancing the capacities of the Inter-Ethnic Peace Committee on Dialogue and Mediation to mitigate and prevent violent conflicts, strengthening collaborative approaches to peacebuilding and conflict prevention amongst members of the Peace Committee, promoting mutual ownership of the search for lasting peace in Bawku and assessing the efforts so far in reconciling the communities.





## Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET) Program«««

With the support of MacArthur Foundation, the **6th Regional Conference of the Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET)** of WANEP was organized in July 2010 in Cote d'Ivoire under the theme: *'10 years of Domesticating UNSCR 1325 and Women's Participation in Peace Processes –An Appraisal of National Efforts in West Africa'*.



A total of fifty-one (51) participants representing women's organisations, UNIFEM, Office of the United Nations in Cote d'Ivoire (ONUCI), the African Union, ECOWAS and government ministries and agencies responsible for women affairs converged in Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire to take stock of national efforts in West Africa. Reports were presented from each of the fifteen member countries of ECOWAS

appreciating the efforts and initiatives of member countries as well as the disparity in the level of progress across member states. The conference learned that it was only three countries in West Africa, namely: Liberia, Sierra Leone and Cote d'Ivoire that had established National Action Plan to domesticate Resolution 1325.





Through its WIPNET Programme, WANEP took part in a **Policy Review on UNSCR 1325 within the Ghana Prison Services Institution**. The review meeting was jointly organised by the Canadian High Commission in Ghana and the Women in Peace and Security-Africa (WIPSEN) in August, 2010 attracting over twenty participants. The purpose of the policy review was to identify capacity gaps and entry-points for mainstreaming the provisions of UNSC Resolutions 1325 (2000) 1820 (2008) on Sexual Violence, 1888 (2009) and 1889 (2009) within Ghana's security sector and proffer policy recommendations for practical guidance on the implementation of these Resolutions.

Under its WIPNET Program, WANEP commenced the development of a training program on **Masculinities, Violence and Peace** to enable male allies to work together with their women counterparts in addressing the issues of masculinities in the field of peacebuilding and active nonviolence. This development came after a staff member of WANEP took part in the Women Peacemakers Program (WPP) first Training of Trainers Program exclusively for men on the theme "Overcoming violence – Exploring Masculinities, Violence and Peace" held in the Netherlands. As part of the follow-up plan, WANEP replicated the training in May at the WANEP conference hall in Accra for nine (9) men in Ghana drawn from civil society organisations and the academia.

The second cycle of the multiplier training was requested and funded by the **Ghana Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs (WOMAC)** which was implemented on September 6-7 for MOWAC staff and the victims' support unit of domestic violence. WANEP's partnership with MOWAC is an endeavor to broaden its scope of intervention and provide leverage to influence transformation at the political level.

At the level of gender mainstreaming and policy; WANEP reviewed its gender policy in line with current developments and realities around the globe.



# West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI)«««

2010 Edition of WAPI took place from 30th August to 17th September at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana. It was the 9th training session organised in collaboration with its partners, the GTZ and KAIPTC. A total of 30 participants from 15 countries attended the training. In addition to participants from West Africa, some were from Chad, Cameroon, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, USA and Switzerland.





## Meetings, Events and Partnership Engagements



## ECOWAS–WANEP Partnership«««

As the implementing partner of the regional early warning system otherwise known as **ECOWARN**, WANEP took part in various activities organised by the Early Warning Directorate (EWD) in particular and the ECOWAS Commission in general.

**A**n annual **Coordination/Review Meeting** was held between EWD and WANEP in Bamako, Mali. The meeting brought key staff of the EWD and WANEP working on ECOWARN to deliberate on how to enhance the ECOWARN system. A **biannual technical meeting** bringing together governments and civil society focal points of ECOWARN across ECOWAS Member States was organised in Dakar in March and Abidjan in August. The technical meeting brought together 40 participants drawn from the fifteen West African countries comprising personnel of EWD, government monitors/reporters as well as concerned WANEP regional secretariat staff, the four Zonal Coordinators and civil society monitors. The meetings were also used to train the field monitors on updated features of the ECOWARN System.

WANEP participated in an ECOWAS expert meeting on **Risk Assessment of Member States** in May 2010 in Cotonou, Republic of Benin to create a risk profile database of all fifteen member states of ECOWAS. WANEP was charged with the responsibility to share with ECOWAS its risk assessment framework known as SCONPA (Strategic Conflict and Peace Assessment). The risk assessment project is part of the broader conflict prevention framework of the ECOWAS Early Warning Department. In December in Cotonou, WANEP was invited by EWD to take part in mapping out a **Conflict System** in West Africa.

WANEP Regional staff took part in an **ECOWAS/InWent Consultation Workshop** to develop a strategic direction for the EWD/InWent partnership for the next two years (2010–2012) in the operationalisation of ECOWARN. InWent is the capacity building arm of the German Ministry of Cooperation and Development and has been partnering with ECOWAS in crisis management since 2002 and specifically with the EWD and WANEP in providing training in information gathering, conflict analysis, report writing and response development.

WANEP participated in a workshop to review a **Study on ECOWAS Preventive Diplomacy** funded by the HD Centre in Switzerland. The workshop assessed the challenges and opportunities of applying preventive mechanisms using early warning data. Participants explored ways and means of strengthening the inter-relationship between early warning and early response for greater proactive actions in the prevention and mitigation of conflicts in West Africa.

WANEP was invited to make a presentation at the **Regional Strategy Meeting on ECOWAS Interfacing and Engagement of Civil Society Organizations** in August 2010. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a strategic framework for a comprehensive ECOWAS interfacing and engagement with CSOs.

The WANEP-ECOWAS relationship through the Early Warning Directorate was lauded as a successful model. WANEP's presentation shared the lessons learnt from that experience. At the end of the three-day meeting, a roadmap/framework for effective regional cooperation between the ECOWAS Commission and regional civil society organizations and platforms was developed.

WANEP was part of the **ECOWAS Election Observation Mission in 2010** in Togo, Guinea, Burkina Faso and Cote d'Ivoire. This Mission is part of the mandate of ECOWAS to support democratisation processes in West Africa within the remits of the ECOWAS Supplementary Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance. WANEP developed a program to monitor signs and risk factors for electoral violence to be reported for early interventions.

## African Union—WANEP Partnership«««

**A**s a member of the Peace and Security Cluster of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the African Union (ECOSOCC) of the African Union, WANEP was invited in July 2010 to make a presentation on the emerging threats to peace and security in West Africa at the **African Union—Civil Society Pre-summit Meeting of African Heads of State** held in Kampala, Uganda. WANEP provided actionable recommendations relating to preventive peacebuilding through early warning and early response mechanisms that were included in the declaration submitted to the African Union for onward transmission to the Summit of the African Heads of States and Government.

In August in Accra, WANEP participated in a **Technical Meeting of African CSOs on the Draft African Governance Architecture and Human Rights Strategy for Africa**, organized by ECOSOCC. The purpose of the meeting was to provide key African CSOs working in the area of governance and human rights the opportunity to review and make input into the draft African Governance Architecture and the draft Human Rights Strategy for Africa before the adoption of both documents by the Assembly of Heads of States and Government at their 16th Ordinary Session in January 2011. ECOSOCC, as the AU civil society organ, convened the meeting to

ensure that the views of civil society are reflected in critical continental policy documents.

At the invitation of the Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union, the Executive Director of WANEP participated in a retreat of **Envoys for Peace in Africa** in Cairo Egypt in August 2010. The meeting provided a unique opportunity to exchange views on current efforts towards the promotion of peace, with specific attention paid to situations of concern pertaining to conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding, such as unconstitutional changes of government, peace, justice and reconciliation, DDR and security sector reform, power sharing arrangements and management of natural resources. The meeting discussed ways through which the different organizations of the envoys and AU missions on the ground can contribute to the realisation of the Africa Year of Peace initiative.

WANEP was part of an experts meeting on **Mapping of African Civil Society Organizations** organised by the **Citizens in Diaspora Directorate of the African Union**. The meeting was to design a framework for the mapping of Civil Society Organizations in Africa with the view of strengthening CSOs representation, participation, engagement and foster partnership globally within the African Union framework.



WANEP participated in the first **African and European Civil Society Consultation** in Brussels in September on the **Joint Africa–EU Strategy (JAES)** which would enter in its second phase from 2011 to 2013. The key objectives were to assess the progress of the first action plan developed after the Lisbon AU-EU summit in 2007 and to review the expected outcomes of the Action Plan 2011–2013. It emerged that from the lessons and experiences of implementing the first JAES action plan on Peace and Security, a new approach for the implementation of the second action plan was required.

WANEP is engaging with EPLO to explore the opportunities provided in the second action plan to address the weaknesses identified and to align the activities of the Peace and security Partnership with the expected outcomes.

The **Africa Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)** invited WANEP amongst other CSOs and media to an expert meeting on the Somalia situation in November in Bujumbura, Burundi to share its experience in West Africa and push for more support from governments in West Africa to contribute troops to the Mission.

## United Nations—WANEP Activities«««

**W**ANEP took part in an UN-organised meeting in consultation with civil society organisations on **Review of the 1998 Report of the UN Secretary-General**. The theme of the meeting was “the Comprehensive Review of the Recommendations contained in the 1998 Report of the Secretary-General on the Causes of Conflict and the promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa.”

The meeting, held in June 2010 in Nairobi, examined the status of the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report, with the aim of bringing attention to the full scope of new and old security challenges facing Africa. The meeting also endeavoured to propose new and creative ways to generate political, human and financial resources as well as and technical support with innovative and effective partnerships to address the causes of conflict and promote durable peace and sustainable development in the 21st century.

In June 2010, WANEP participated in a **Regional Seminar on Parliament’s role in Crisis Prevention and Recovery** organised by UNDP. The theme of the seminar was “Towards Strengthening the Role of Parliaments in Crisis Prevention and Recovery in West Africa”. The seminar provided a platform for reflection on past capacity development activities in the field of crisis prevention, armed violence and community security and accounted for what was successful, and the impact of such activities in the region. WANEP participated in a panel discussion and made a presentation of its experiences working with members of parliament at national and regional level in West Africa.

## Regional CSO—WANEP Partnership»»»

**W**ANEP is hosting the Africa Desk of the [International Fellowship of Reconciliation's Women Peacemakers Programme](#), **IFOR/WPP-AFRICA**. The Africa Women Peacemakers Program held its Southern Africa Training of Trainers (ToT) in Gender Sensitive and Active Non Violence in March 2010 in Johannesburg, South Africa. WPP partnered with WANEP-Togo to hold a week Advocacy Training for 19 women peace activists selected from 13 African countries to promote Gender-Sensitive Active Non-violence.

In a bid to enhance understanding of Gender in Active Non-Violent Peacebuilding, and to encourage African peacebuilding organizations to mainstream gender within their organizations, WPP-Africa held a Gender Mainstreaming Training in August, 2010. The training introduced twenty women and men heads of organizations from fifteen African countries to the issue of gender mainstreaming. The WPP-Africa Regional Coordinator participated in an AU meeting to deliberate on the mandate for **Enhanced Women Participation in Peace and Mediation** in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

In April 2010, WANEP renewed its partnership with the Kenya-based **Nairobi Peace Initiative (NPI-Africa)** in the implementation of the second phase of a project assessing transitional justice in Africa. The

project was a follow-up to the field research carried out in the first phase on the topic, *Transitional Justice Experiences in Africa and the Rise of the TRC Model: Emerging Lessons and Implications for Post-Accord Societies* in Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone and South Africa. Under the second phase, WANEP and NPI-Africa conducted **dissemination seminars** in Sierra Leone in August and in Liberia in September 2010 to share the findings of the research and discuss its implications for Sierra Leone and Liberia's transitional justice agenda—while identifying gaps for further research.

WANEP, as partner of the **Africa Human Security Initiative (AHSI)** led by the Pretoria-based **Institute for Security Studies (ISS)**, participated in the dissemination of the findings of a study jointly conducted in 2009 on criminal justice system in West Africa (Benin, Mali and Sierra Leone), in East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia). The dissemination of the reports and training on advocacy for reform of the criminal justice system were held in Benin in March and Zambia in August 2010.





Meetings, Events and Partnership Engagements

# Global CSO—WANEP Partnership«««

(Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict-GPPAC)

## Peace Education conference and Working Group Meeting, San José, Costa Rica

The Ministry of Public Education, Costa Rica in collaboration with the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) organized a peace education conference and two-day working group meeting of teams of governmental and non-governmental organizations from around the world to examine best practices in infrastructure development and the role of governmental/non-governmental partnerships at a national/regional

level to address youth violence/conflict and issues of peace education on November 9th and 10th, 2010 in San José, Costa Rica. The theme of the meeting was, **“Sustainable Regional Education Efforts for Safer More Inclusive Communities”**. WANEP serves on the GPPAC Peace Education Working Group and was therefore represented at the conference.

## GPPAC International Steering Group (ISG) Meeting, 22—26, November, 2010, Beirut, Lebanon

GPPAC held its annual International Steering Group Meeting (ISG) in Beirut, Lebanon from 22 to 26 November, 2010. The meeting was hosted by the Permanent Peace Movement (PPM), the Middle East and North Africa Regional Secretariat of GPPAC. The meeting brought together about 55 peacebuilding practitioners and partners from around the world. The opening ceremony was officially opened by a Special Representative of the Lebanese President, His Excellency Saad Hariri.

The key agenda of the ISG was the restructuring of GPPAC into a more functional and professionally oriented global civil society network that seek to achieve greater and better results in its role as a global civil society network in the prevention of armed conflict.

Field visits were also organised to meet and engage with parties to the Lebanese conflicts and to support where possible the road to dialogue for Lebanon. The visits took the participants to the Palestinian refugee camps, United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), and Political parties including the Ex Lebanese President, Mr. Amine Gemayel representing the Kataeb Party; Dr. Ghassan Mukhaiber representing the Free Patriotic Movement; the Minister of Agriculture Hussain Hajj Hassan representing Hezbollah Party and Ex Prime Minister Fouad Saniora representing the Future Movement.





## WANEP National Networks Activities«««

WANEP now operates 14 national networks in the 15 ECOWAS Member States. Cape Verde and Mali are the new networks established in September and December 2010 respectively.

Niger is the only ECOWAS country with only a focal point which will be transformed into a network in 2011. Below is an abridged version of activities of national networks across West Africa. For detailed annual report of each national network, kindly contact the concerned network/its websites.

## WANEP—Benin«««

Under its **Election Programme**, WANEP-Benin joined forces with labour unions, NGOs and key personalities in creating a CSO coalition, named FORS-Elections, with the objectives to carry out effective advocacy strategy in view of influencing necessary reforms to ensure transparent and peaceful elections in 2011 as well as to promote popular participation in the electoral process. The secretariat of WANEP-Benin is hosting the CSO consortium serving as the lead agency in coordinating the activities. As part of the strategy, FORS-Elections set up a parallel electoral commission of civil society called *Commission Electorale Citoyenne Autonome Alternative (CECA)* (Alternative Independent Citizens' Electoral Commission) to monitor, observe and supervise the elections in Benin.

As part of their activities, the CSO consortium worked alongside the national electoral body on the implementation of LEPI (Permanent Computerized Electoral Register) accessible on the link [www.fors-lepi.org](http://www.fors-lepi.org). The CSO consortium conducted a two-day country-wide observation missions to monitor the door-to-door registration of voters and organised three-day massive sensitization campaigns in May in 12 regions of the country including various press conferences to inform the public about the findings of their observation missions during the registration process and on other issues of national concern.

In partnership with other stakeholders, WANEP-Benin contributed in the publication of a report entitled **"Benin on the Cross Roads"** to inform actors in the reduction of the risk of violence in the upcoming 2011 elections. 1,000 copies of the published report were printed and disseminated.

Under the **WIPNET program**, WANEP-Benin joined other women's networks and organisations countrywide to increase the participation of women in decision making processes. As an outcome, the group created a platform called **"the platform for the participation of women in decision making processes"** to increase the representation of women in decision making. The platform was registered as a legal entity. In addition, the WIPNET programme of WANEP-Benin with financial support of the Finnish Government carried out a series of radio programmes with a view of addressing the tense socio-political context triggered by heated debates regarding the 2011 Presidential elections. The radio programme provided the space for women to contribute to the political discourse at community level.

In enhancing the data collection and reporting under **ECOWARN**, staff members of WANEP-Benin attended a training workshop on *Basic Relational Data Management System: ACCESS in interactive method*. The training, delivered by FRIDINE Computer, was aimed at equipping the personnel with the skills to deal with numerous challenges of data management and the establishment of an online library which WANEP-Benin is currently working on to make accessible on its website. The monitors, under the BeWARN, were trained on the collection, analysis and reporting of early warning data.



*In enhancing the data collection and reporting under ECOWARN, staff members of WANEP-Benin attended a training workshop on Basic Relational Data Management System: ACCESS in interactive method.*



## WANEP—Burkina Faso«««

Since the death of the zonal coordinator who was acting as the national network coordinator, the secretariat of WANEP-Burkina Faso has not been as vibrant as envisaged. In April 2010, following a recruitment process, a substantive National Network Coordinator (NNC) and a Zonal Coordinator (ZC) in charge of zone II - Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger were recruited. A General Assembly was held in April electing a new Board of Directors that was inaugurated in June.

**B**oth coordinators were brought to the Regional Secretariat in Accra for induction and orientation trainings on the WANEP-ECOWAS early warning system and proposal writing and financial management.

With the financial support of the Government of Finland, WANEP-Burkina continued its radio programme on the theme: **‘the prevention of agro-pastoralist conflicts in Burkina Faso’**.

The radio programme was aired in the three major languages (French, Mooré and Fulfuldé) at the Burkina Faso Rural Radio with nationwide coverage. The panellists were selected from state institutions (e.g. Ministry of Animal Resources, Ministry of Agriculture etc.), NGOs, member organisations of WANEP-Burkina.

## WANEP—Cape Verde «««

WANEP-Cape Verde became the 13th national network of WANEP in the 15 ECOWAS member states in West Africa. WANEP has been represented through a focal point in Cape Verde, Mali and Niger. The process of establishing the national network started with a national consultation of a cross-section of civil society organizations in Cape Verde.

With financial support from USAID under the *Early Warning and Response Design Support (EWARDs)*, and contributions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Finland under the project “*integrated and Collaborative Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management in West Africa*”, WANEP held a consultative meeting and training in Praia, Cape Verde on April 30th and May 1st 2010, to establish a fully functional national network.

The opening ceremony of the meeting to establish WANEP-Cape Verde was presided over by **Mrs Claudia Rodrigues; President of Cape Verdean Institute for Gender Equality and Equity (ICIEG)** and the closing remark was delivered by **Mrs Orlanda Ferreira; Parliamentarian of MPD constituency**. While the President of ICIEG appreciated and welcomed the WANEP initiative to establish WANEP-Cape Verde, the Parliamentarian pledged full commitment and support on behalf of the Government for the establishment of WANEP-Cape Verde and its subsequent engagements in resolving conflicts and building peace, thereby creating an enabling environment for sustainable development in the country. The meeting developed a six-month action plan. A steering committee was elected to implement the action plan and organise a General Assembly for the inauguration of the newly established network.

WANEP-Cape Verde was finally established at a general assembly meeting held on 17th and 18th September 2010 in Praia. During the two-day

constitutive assembly, twenty-three (23) participants made up of 15 women and 8 men revised and adopted the constitution and by-laws and elected the Executive Board of the General Assembly with M. Francisco Souto Amado as president, the National Administrative Council with Mrs Lourença Tavares as president, and the Financial Control Council (internal audit) with Carla Bettencourt as president.





## WANEP—Cote D'Ivoire (WANEP-CI)◀◀◀

Central to the activities of WANEP-CI was ensuring the implementation of the Ouagadougou Peace Accord and the organization of a peaceful and credible presidential election in Cote d'Ivoire after five years of consistent postponement. WANEP-CI partnered with other CSOs in monitoring the implementation of the Peace Accord and issued monthly statements on the status of the Accord, drawing attention to key issues and provided recommendations in dealing with the political crisis in the country. The final report was published on August 20th, 2010.

**A**longside monitoring the implementation of the Peace Accord, WANEP-CI designed an initiative named *Civil Society Engaged for Democracy and Good Governance*, to strengthen democracy and good governance through the reinforcement of civil society participation in governance on the one hand, and to stimulate cooperation by bridging the gap between parliamentarians and other local elected leaders and the people they represent on the other hand. The project, funded by United Nations Democracy Funds (UNDEF), was officially launched to inform the authorities and the general public about the existence of the program as a way to solicit their cooperation for its success.

Over 80 people attended the launching ceremony representing national and international institutions, NGOs, community-based organisations identified as partners in the implementation process of the project and the media. The launching ceremony was presided over by the National Secretariat for Good Governance under the chairmanship of the Metropolitan and Communal Union of Cote d'Ivoire —l'Union des Ville et Commune de Côte d'Ivoire (UVICOCI).

Following the launch of the project, WANEP-CI met with the administrative authorities, political parties, local leaders particularly city mayors and opinion leaders from civil society to lobby for their endorsement of the ideals and implementation process of the project. During the various meetings, WANEP-CI was able to identify members of the **Monitoring Committee for Democracy and Good Governance** to be in charge of monitoring government institutions and departments in enhancing citizen participation. A series of capacity building trainings for members of the Committee established in all the five geopolitical regions of Cote d'Ivoire (East, West, North, Central and South) was organised. The training was to strengthen the capacity of the Monitoring Committee members on the prevention and management of conflicts and the decentralization process in view of facilitating their oversight roles in their communities. The training sessions were facilitated by experts from the Interior Ministry.



The Committees held monthly meetings to discuss issues and develop intervention strategies for the purposes of advocacy and sensitization. They organized radio programmes every month.

With support from the United States Institute for Peace (USIP), WANEP-CI worked closely with the Independent Electoral Commission in collaboration with other CSOs for the success of the electoral process in 2010. As part of its activities, WANEP-CI organised a training workshop aimed at involving one hundred Ivorian women in election observation in Cote d'Ivoire to mainstream their effective and active participation in the Presidential and Parliamentary elections. Six months to the election, WANEP-CI established at national level a monitoring team. The observatory group was composed of thirteen field monitors stationed in different localities in the interior of the country and in Abidjan (Anyama, Adzopé, Bondoukou, Bouaké, Daloa, Divo, Gagnoa, Korhogo, Man, San Pedro for the interior of the country and Adjamé, Abobo and Yopougon for Abidjan). The observers monitored the behaviour of political actors, the media and civil society for a period of six months covering the Presidential and Legislative elections. Monthly situation reports and incidents reports were produced as outputs of the project.

On elections day, WANEP-CI deployed about 139 election observers countrywide. A mediation committee made up of religious leaders was also trained on November 19th and 20th to address electoral conflicts.

Under the USAID-funded project the **Early Warning and Response Design Support (EWARDS)** WANEP-CI carried out conflict assessment to evaluate the risk factors for armed conflict. At the end of the assessment, WANEP-CI increased its early warning monitors in the 'Wild West' with support from EWARDS. The assessment revealed the high risk factor of the presidential election to destabilize the country.

As part of its community development project, WANEP-CI commenced the rehabilitation of a public primary school in Goetifla village in the Upper Region of Sassandra with the financial support of the US Embassy in Cote d'Ivoire. Part of the project is the construction of pit latrines for the school, reroofing, painting and procurement of school furniture including table and benches for the pupils.



## WANEP—The Gambia

Under the **Small Arms and Light Weapons Programme**, supported by the Canadian International Development Agency through Oxfam GB and CECI and the ECOWAS Small Arms Programme (ECOSAP), WANEP-The Gambia collected a total of 18 illicit weapons plus five local hunting rifles surrendered anonymously to the local military camp in the project location at the Upper River Region for storage and subsequent destruction.

Under the same programme, WANEP-Gambia constructed a Vet Drug store on the request of the community under the initiative of arms in exchange for development project. The drug store will be beneficial for the communities in terms of time and cost to travel to the main town which is approximately 42km away or in Tamba Kunda, a community in Senegal to purchase drugs for their sick animals. It further eliminates the risks of buying fake drugs at weekly markets. In addition to monthly supervision, monitoring and evaluation, WANEP-Gambia conducted a training seminar by a management consultant for members of the Management Committee on the administration of the various micro projects as well as provided three month support to the Committee for the operation of the drug store following its inauguration in June 2010. Through the programme, registration of hunting rifles and guns increased significant over the years.

With the support of UNDP Gambia Office, WANEP-Gambia organised a synergy workshop for member organizations of the Gambia Action Network on Small Arms (GANSA) to fight against the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in the country and to pressure the government to sign regional and international instruments. The workshop was timely as it coincided with a large seizure of weapons at the Gambian border with Senegalese region of Casamance relating to the protracted secessionist conflict impacting on the Gambian district of Foni Berefet, in West Coast Region.

The synergy workshop brought together the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defense, Office of the Vice President, and security agencies, customs and immigration as well as civil society organizations. The legal framework governing small arms internationally and nationally were considered during the forum. The Forum ended with concrete steps and strong recommendations as in the fight against the SALW menace in the Gambia in light of emerging issues such as increased crime rate, drug trafficking, money laundering and proliferation of illicit weapons. As part of the recommendations participants urged the government to speed up the ratification of the ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons.



As an active member of the Cluster Munitions Coalition (CMC), WANEP-Gambia joined the international community in celebrating the **Entry into Force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CMC)** in Basse, in the Upper River Region in a form of drum beat, march past and a seminar calling on all governments of ECOWAS including the Gambia, that are yet to ratify the Convention to do so as a way of contributing to peace and security in the world.

Under the **WIPNET programme**, WANEP-The Gambia organised a two-day training seminar supported by ActionAid for community women from all the five regions of the country to popularize the United Nation's Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 in The Gambia. The forty five (45) women representatives from the various regions participated in capacity building training in peacebuilding and conflict resolution at community level. The training was to enhance their knowledge and skills as well as raise awareness for effective monitoring of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in the Gambia. As an outcome of the training, a 16-day of Activism was organized to create a critical mass of women to enhance their role in peace building in their communities and to work as partners with men in promoting peace and security in their respective regions.

Under the Youth and Peace Education programme, WANEP-Gambia commemorated the International Day of Peace in the Gambia despite lack of external support. This time, instead of commemorating the day in the urban areas, it was held at main town of the Regional Headquarter of North Bank Region of the Gambia which shares boarder with Northern Senegal - a region affected by cattle theft and armed robbery as a result of its proximity to the border which provides easy escape for bandits. The two-day celebration included an hour radio talk show at Kerewan Community Radio centre on youth, peace and development and women's role in peacebuilding in their communities.





## WANEP—GHANA»»»



As part of its early warning system, WANEP-Ghana secretariat designed the **Ghana Alert Project (GAP)**. Under this project, WANEP-Ghana launched the Ghana Peace Watch, a bi-annual publication that reports on some of the activities of the network. The latest issue of 500 copies included about 13 stories and distributed to all network members, partners and stakeholders.

**U**nder the national early warning program, **Ghana-Warn**, the national secretariat organized a National Security Brief on issues emerging in each quarter to highlight security threats in concerned communities. The briefing sessions were attended by the Northern Regional Coordinating Council, Northern Regional Peace Advisory Council, WANEP-Ghana members, NGOs, the Security Services, and the media to name but a few. The security brief raised concern about the worrying situations of the issue of chieftaincy-related conflicts, resistance to the choice of chiefs in certain cases resulting in youth hooliganism, the barbaric murders of chiefs, kidnapping of chiefs, issuing of death threats to chiefs including physical assaults perpetrated by the youth in various quarters of the country including Accra, the three Northern Regions (Upper East, Upper West and Northern Region) and in the Ashanti region.

The brief equally reported on the high numbers of highway road accidents resulting in massive loss of lives. It provided some recommendations to the appropriate enforcement agencies to deal with the security threats.

In addition to national security brief, regional Interface meetings were organized. Over fifteen regional interface meetings attended by over 250 people including security agencies and other governmental bodies were held in five regions of Ghana. A number of security threats were identified at the regional levels and shared with the

relevant stakeholders in order to mitigate them. To complement the regional interface meetings, more than twenty radio discussions were held in local dialects in the five regions to discuss security threats identified and to appeal for peaceful coexistence in the regions.

As part of its efforts to build a closer relationship between WANEP-Ghana and the Northern Regional Police command, a one-day workshop for 15 police officers was held. The session introduced the Police authorities to the WANEP-Ghana early warning system and sought the perspective and collaboration of the Police especially on response with a view to strengthening the system.

Under the **Human Security Program**, funded by the UNDP and UNICEF, WANEP-Ghana facilitated a peacebuilding and human security training for the Tamale Metropolis and Yendi Municipality. The Human Security programme of the UN for Northern Ghana was launched in 2009 by His Excellency, the Vice President of the Republic of Ghana in Tamale. It aims at reducing violence, the negative effects of violent conflicts, building local capacity among members of the assemblies for peace and drawing up strategies to ensure that peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts are mainstreamed into the Medium Term development plans of four assemblies in the Northern, Upper East and Western regions. The research component of the programme is handled by WANEP-Ghana, UDS and University of Ghana.



The program aimed at complementing past and existing efforts of peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts by both civil society and state actors. The purpose of the two-day training for each assembly was to allow for the communities within the districts to come up with their own strategies and interventions on peace building/conflict resolution and human security initiatives that would be mainstreamed into the medium term development plans of the District Assemblies. The participants undertook group discussions and developed Community Action Plan (CAP) for their communities.

In intervening in **the Sheriggu/Yikene land conflict** in the Upper East region which witnessed a series of violence in March 2010 resulting in the destruction of property, WANEP-Ghana appointed a nine member committee to identify key stakeholders to mediate in the conflict. The committee met with the various stakeholders individually to hear their side of the story and their suggestions on how the conflict could be resolved. The committee recommended WANEP-Ghana and the District Coordinating council facilitate the process.

**Both feuding chiefs commended WANEP-Ghana for the initiative and their involvement in reconciling the community.**

WANEP-GHANA embarked on non-violence and peace sensitization activities in **Banvim/Dohini** in the Tamale Metropolis where violence erupted in 2008 between two chieftaincy areas led by Yahaya Manguli and Haruna Abu. The violence resulted in a tense atmosphere in the community between October and December 2009. One of the response options was the need to ease the tension by increasing interaction among the youth. WANEP-Ghana organised a football match under an initiative **“Soccer for Peace”** as recommended by the Dohini community members to promote the peace. The match was attended by the Regional Sports Council, Ghana Red Cross Society, Action Aid Ghana, and representatives of both community chiefs making the activity a huge success.







The activities of WANEP-Guinea throughout 2010 were geared towards ensuring a **peaceful democratic transition** in Guinea after 52 years of successive authoritarian system of governance. WANEP-Guinea with the technical support of the Regional Secretariat held two national consultations in the run-up to the presidential elections in March and June bringing together diverse stakeholders including the Transition Government.

While the first consultation focused on issues of concerns around respecting the Ouagadougou Agreement and the eventual organization of the election, the second consultation was aimed at designing strategies with Guinean civil society organisations on the prevention and mitigation of electoral violence resulting from the keenly contested 27th June presidential election. The June national consultation was the third in a series. The theme of the consultation was **“Peaceful and Credible Democratic Transition”** within the framework of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) attracting 53 participants drawn from the Office of the Prime Minister, the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI), the Ministry of Defense, MATAP, the National Council for Transition (CNT), the Special Representative of ECOWAS, the National Workers Union (CNTG-USTG), the National Council for Communication responsible for capacity building of the media, local authorities, the National Umbrella of Civil Society Organisations (CNOSCG) and other non-governmental organizations.

Alongside the consultations, WANEP-Guinea conducted sensitization activities on violence-free elections. Part of the strategy of the campaigns was to celebrate and validate traditional values promoting peace and perform cultural activities emphasising on peaceful co-existence. **With financial support from the local government authorities**, WANEP-Guinea was able to bring together some women and youth groups at the volatile *Commune de Ratoma* in Conakry to raise the awareness of members of the communities about the danger of ethnic politics and

the ensuing violence. Under the **Radio Programme**, various radio discussions were aired at Sabari FM and Liberty FM Radio stations stressing on the need and importance of peaceful elections. These radio programmes were funded with support from the Government of Finland to WANEP for peace consolidation and crisis management in West Africa.

Following the second and third consultations, WANEP Regional Secretariat joined the **ECOWAS election observation mission** to observe the conduct of the Presidential elections while the WANEP-Guinea deployed a group of monitors to report signs of electoral violence for rapid interventions.

WANEP-Guinea entered into a partnership with UNDP and ACCORD to implement a **Capacity Building Project** on local mechanisms for the prevention and management of conflicts in Guinea. Also, at the invitation of the UNDP in Guinea, WANEP participated in a **consultative meeting on strategies for reforming the security sector**. The meeting was facilitated by an expert on Peace and Security of the United Nations and WANEP-Guinea made contribution in mapping out conflict situations in Guinea. As an outcome, WANEP-Guinea was listed among the capable organisations that would be involved in reforming the Guinean security sector.





At launching of the **Peace and Security Network of Women in the ECOWAS** region, WANEP-Guinea was elected as the secretariat of the national chapter in Guinea. In order to fast track the process of establishing the local chapter of the women's network, WANEP-Guinea hosted a meeting in its office on March 22nd 2010 to identify the priority areas for the network and establish a database of women organisations. The inauguration of the local chapter took place in September 2010.





## WANEP—Guinea Bissau»»»



The national secretariat of WANEP-GB experienced significant administrative and managerial lapses from the national network coordinator (NNC), which halted the implementation of activities for the better part of the year as investigations were carried out.

At the end of the investigation, the NNC was found wanting and went through a disciplinary process that led to his dismissal. An acting NNC was appointed while a recruitment process was set in motion. Under the acting NNC, WANEP-GB was able to continue the **Radio Programme** with the financial support of the Government of Finland.

## WANEP—Liberia»»»



In the course of the year, WANEP-Liberia engaged its various partners, local, regional and international, to build local capacity, enhance security especially women and girls and drive further the reconciliation process at community level with the aim of consolidating the fragile peace in Liberia. In recognition of the work and contributions of WANEP-Liberia, eminent personalities visited some of its project sites across the country.

**T**he Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Gender visited Liberia and was escorted by the **Executive Director of UNIFEM Liberia** as well as a programme staff from the WANEP-Liberia secretariat to the **Peace Hut in Totota** constructed under the **WIPNET programme**. During her visit, she was able to witness a mediated case of wife abandonment and inheritance. They graced the start of the construction of a 'peace hut' branch (Women Center) of Totota, in Bong County (one of the communities devastated by the civil war). Out of 16 peace

huts in four counties expected to be constructed, two are already completed in Zwedru, and in Grand Gedeh, while 4 were still under construction. The locations of remaining 10 huts were identified by the Ministry of Gender and Development and UNIFEM.

Following on the visit of the SRS on Gender, a **documentary team of UN Staff from UNIFEM** New York, Liberia and UNFPA paid a visit to the Totota and Gbarnga WIPNET Branches in Bong County to engage with the women, learn and carry



out some interviews with regards to the use of their Peace Huts and their community policing project.

Also, there was a visit of a **High level UN delegation comprising of Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al Hussein**, the Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations, as Chairperson of the Country Specific Configuration together with the **Deputy Secretary** General of the UN, and Liberia's Ambassador to the UN among others.

**Under the Rural Women Peace Initiative Project**, funded by the American Jewish World Service (AJWS) for the fifth year, community members were supported to undertake local initiatives for peace in three communities in three counties namely, Bong, Bomi and Bassa. Key components of the project included (a) an educational package that provides financial support to 30 young women and men (including boys and girls) within the targeted communities to have access to formal education; (b) a community empowerment package that provides financial support to community groups to undertake special projects such as agricultural and community policing activities and (c) an economic

empowerment package that aims at providing direct financial support to community women to enable them set up their own local community cooperatives for micro-credit.

Though the project came to an end in 2010, AJWS remained interested in the work of WANEP and for the sixth year approved another grant for general support for the institution while the project beneficiaries continue to be engaged through other programs, projects and structures for ensuring continuity and progress.

The WIPNET program collaborated with the Ministry of Gender and Development to commemorate the International Women's Day. As one of the highlights during the event, Her Excellency Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, President of the Republic of Liberia commended the WIPNET program of WANEP-Liberia and the Mano River Women's Peace Network: MARWOPNET for the level of work and advocacy being carried out across the country.





In the wake of the Truth and Reconciliation Report (TRC) report, the WIPNET program of WANEP-Liberia, with funding from CAUSE Canada, worked on issues of transitional justice and reconciliation with focus on developing strategies for peace consolidation. Under the **West Africa Peacebuilding Project (WAPP)** bringing together countries of the Mano River Union, a regional peacebuilding conference was organized by the Sierra Leone team. The conference brought together about 100 participants from Liberia, Sierra Leone, the Ivory Coast and Canada to deliberate on national and regional issues of peacebuilding. A key outcome of the conference was an agreement to adopt a regional approach to engage key stakeholders at national and regional levels to support the ongoing peacebuilding and reconciliation initiatives. In spite of the end of the funding of CAUSE Canada in the third quarter of 2010, WANEP-Liberia and its partners continued to hold dialogues and discussions on the possible establishment of a National Peacebuilding Commission for Liberia to take on specific recommendations on peace and security from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission process.

WANEP-Liberia set up peace committees in six communities within six districts in Nimba under its **Peace Education - Platform for Dialogue (P4DP) project** funded by the Peacebuilding fund through

Interpeace and UNOPS. In these communities, WANEP worked with the Inter Religious Council of Liberia (IRCL) as one of its partner organizations in carrying out an awareness raising campaign to promote non-violence activities in the county. The project seeks to enhance peace and security of community women through radio program airing in selected communities

Under the **Supporting Rural Women Learning and Leadership Development project**, funded by TrustAfrica, WANEP-Liberia intervened at community level to address the issue of local capacity building with special focus on income generation and adult literacy. The project targeted the 23 WIPNET sub-branches located in the ten operational counties. At the start of the project, a baseline survey was done in five of the ten counties targeting 84 persons to help inform the programme delivery and evaluation strategies over the one year period. Then, a small business management training for 22 persons was organized in Gbarnga, Bong County to enhance income generation; an Adult Literacy training of 30 Adult Literacy Facilitators in partnership with ALPHALIT (An international Adult Literacy Institution) was conducted; and a training programme was organized for 11 members of the WIPNET programme (10 from the sub-branches and 1 from the Secretariat) at the Krokobiety Institute

in Ghana for a period of one month on basic income generation and livelihood skills in making basket weaving, glass beads/recycled jewelry/solar oven construction and Kente weaving and a demo in flower arrangement and horticulture. As a result of this event some of the community women involved had for the first time travel documents to leave the country.

The Open Society for West Africa (OSIWA) provided funding to WANEP-Liberia to enhance women and youth participation in the political process. The project was jointly managed with the women and youth coalition comprising of the Federation of Liberian Youths (FLY), while the Liberia Democratic Institute (LDI) serving as the coordination body. WANEP together with the Coalition was able to mobilize youths and women to push for the passing of the controversial **Threshold Bill** following several press conferences and sit-in actions at the Capitol Building.

Under the **Strategic Partnership Project**, initiated by WANEP-Liberia and Amnesty International Secretariat with financial and technical support from the Amnesty International Secretariat and the Swedish Sections, a three-day **Access to Justice workshop** was organized for women-led groups and organizations with specific focus on the international human rights framework, International legal systems and justice mechanism at national & local level. Another three-day Gender Justice workshop was organized for community radio stations. WANEP-Liberia's promotion of women's access to justice focused as well on issues of sexual and gender-based violence in rural and urban communities. The program followed closely and reported on two important cases namely: the Angel Tokpa Case since 2007 (an alleged murder case of a 13 year old girl by her guardian) and since 2009, the case of a 17 year old girl allegedly burnt to death by her boy friend. With the constant engagements, pressure and follow up on the said cases by the women and members of WIPNET, the alleged perpetrators of both cases were found guilty and received the death penalty by hanging. However, the perpetrators filed appeals for a lesser punishment.

With the approval of two new grants by UNIFEM and the UN Peacebuilding Fund through the Liberia Peacebuilding Office and UNHCR, for a short term advocacy campaign on the passage of the **Gender Equity Bill** and for support to enhance

**“Community Women Peace and security Initiative”**, WANEP-Liberia through its WIPNET program collaborated with the Women's Legislative Caucus, the Association of Female Lawyers and women organizations to reactivate the campaign for the passage of “the Gender Equity Bill”, previously called “The Fairness Bill”. In the past, this bill caused uproar and consequently was not accepted or passed by the Legislature. Women groups did not give up on the Bill and restarted the process as the country prepared for elections in 2011. The Gender Equity Bill calls for a minimum of 30% quota for women and not more than 70% of any gender in political leadership. WIPNET worked closely alongside with the Ministry of Gender and Development to produce and distribute 2000 copies of the Bill and mobilize more than 300 women in support of the Bill at the House.

In an attempt to continue to build partnerships for peace within and beyond Liberia, WANEP Liberia signed a partnership agreement on a project named **Leadership with Integrity** with Les Aspen Institute, a project funded by the United States Department of State through the United States Embassy for Public Affairs for a period of two years beginning 2009. The project officer from the Secretariat led a team of 11 Young Liberians in April 2010 to attend a three week exchange program in the United States of America in Washington DC. The exchange visit gave the participants the opportunity to learn about issues of governance, leadership development, rule of law among others. 14 Americans would be hosted by WANEP-Liberia for the same period geared towards promoting cross cultural learning on leadership.

In recognition of the leadership of WANEP-Liberia, the National Coordinator was awarded a three-month **Senior Chevening Fellowship** on Conflict Resolution and Prevention by the **Foreign Commonwealth Office through the British Council in England**. While in England, the NNC established new relationships with some UK-based organizations and consolidated partnership with the International secretariat of Amnesty International resulting in a 6 months funding for the WIPNET program.





## WANEP—Mali◀◀◀

WANEP-Mali became the 14th national network of the WANEP family in December 2010 with the support of USAID under the EWARDS project. In the past, WANEP operated in Mali through a focal point. The process of establishing WANEP-Mali got underway at the start of the year with several meetings which culminated in the recruitment of the national network coordinator and the holding of the first General Assembly to elect the Board and inaugurate the network.



# WANEP—Nigeria«««

In 2010, WANEP-Nigeria strengthened its **National Early Warning System**, a model to be replicated in all WANEP national networks starting in 2011. WANEP-Nigeria enhanced the features and capacity of its system and provided mobile phones and SIM cards for reporters across the thirty six (36) states in Nigeria including the FCT. The SIMs were networked and toll-free lines. The phones are meant to be used as 'crises lines'. The service is post-paid under contract in partnership with Globacom communication service provider. The phones and accessories were purchased with support from the USAID/EWARDS institutional support.



The Early Warning department of WANEP-Nigeria commenced the production and publication of a monthly report called **Early Warning Bulletin**. The bulletin provides analysis of proximate conditions and risk factors of humanitarian crisis, generated from the data on WANEP-Nigeria online Early Warning system covering all the states of Nigeria. The Bulletin was widely circulated to relevant government agencies and non-state actors working on issues of conflict and humanitarian crisis towards early response to natural or human-induced crisis in Nigeria.

As part of the activities of the ongoing six months WANEP-OXFAM GB partnership on capacity building for **Disaster Risk Reduction in Nigeria**, WANEP-Nigeria compiled all State and Non State actors working on various levels of humanitarian assistance and disaster management in Nigeria. The conflict prevention department organized a two-day training at Abuja for key organisations



and agencies working on conflict management, disaster management, humanitarian assistance and emergency response in Nigeria on DRR. The training provided the opportunity for non-state actors in the field to network and build linkages essential for coordinated effort in situation of humanitarian crisis in Nigeria. As part of its ongoing **Peer Mediation and Peace Education Project** in Delta and Rivers State, WANEP-Nigeria facilitated the organization of a **Week Peace festival** for primary and secondary schools at Delta and River States. The programs culminated in a day fanfare. The **Peace Education Program** was established in thirty (30) selected primary and secondary institutions in Rivers and Delta States. Under the program, WANEP-Nigeria produced the ***Voice of Peace Magazine*** to provide a forum for each participating school to share their thoughts and ideas through poems, jokes, essays, articles, etc and to present the profile of members of the Peace/Peer Mediation Clubs.



In June, an evaluation and impact assessment of the peace education project in the pilot schools was carried out. The evaluation reviewed the impact of the project as well as the challenges for its sustainability in the pilot schools. It offered insight into possible opportunity for its expansion and institutionalization in Delta and Rivers States and beyond. At the end of the evaluation WANEP-Nigeria published a lessons learnt document on its experiences in implementing the project. It highlighted the successes as well as challenges of implementation.



Under the **WIPNET Programme**, a lessons learnt seminar on the **Peace Education Project** supported by United States Institute of Peace (USIP) was organized at Calabar. Participants to the seminar were mainly representatives of State Ministries of Education in the 6 States of the south-south geo political zone as well as a representative of the Federal Ministry of Education.

As a strategy to push for the implementation of UNSCR 1325, the WIPNET programme of WANEP-Nigeria held a **National Consultative Meeting with critical stakeholders on UNSCR 1325** in Nigeria, with support from Oxfam Novib Netherlands, to establish a steering committee to oversee and channel implementation strategies. The first meeting of the steering committee took place in Abuja in the first week of May, 2010. It provided a platform for deliberations on effective strategies for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Nigeria. The committee worked on strategies to push for the development of a national policy that incorporates UNSCR 1325 for Nigeria.

As a follow up to a three-day *National Consultative Meeting for Security Institutions* on gender sensitive approaches to peace and security in Nigeria, the WIPNET program conducted visits to four security institutions, namely: Police Academy in Wudill, Police Staff College in Jos, National Defence College in Abuja, and Nigeria Defence Academy in Jaji. The visits were aimed at advocating for women's inclusion and participation in peacebuilding within the security sector. The visits were targeted at developing effective strategies for engendering trainings and infusion of gender sensitive curricula in security institutions of the country.



**A Policy Review Meeting with the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and other Relevant Stakeholders** was organized aiming at adopting the provisions of the UNSCR 1325 into the draft National Peace Policy and the National Gender Policy. The review meeting was an avenue to look into the clauses and explore possible areas to expand and to incorporate basic elements of the resolution as a means of implementing the instrument in Nigeria.

**A Field Survey on the Impact of Violence on Women** was conducted in Benue, Bornu, Ebonyi and Delta States to generate data on women groups that were directly and indirectly affected by conflict in their communities. The assessment covered a series of ethno-religious violent conflicts that occurred in the city of Jos from January 17 in Jos North to March 7, 2010 at Dogo Ha Hauwa in Jos South Local Government Council resulting in the death of over 500 persons.



## WANEP—Senegal«««

**W**ANEP-Senegal intensified its engagement with other partners in promoting non-violent means in resolving the protracted conflict in Casamance. WANEP-SENEGAL organized a training seminar for representatives of the **Justice and Peace Commission of the Diocese of Ziguinchor** on the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts. The training was financed by the Episcopal Commission on Justice and Peace in Senegal.

The Justice and Peace Commission was set up by the Episcopal Diocese of Senegal a year ago to promote the social doctrine of the Church, and educate people on issues of justice with respect to truth and reconciliation including training on the mechanisms of human rights.

The National Coordinator of WANEP-Senegal attended a seminar jointly organized by the Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces of Geneva, the Defence and Security Commission of Senegal and the Alliance for Migration, Leadership and Development. The seminar discussed the role of **National and Regional Parliaments** in the search for dialogue to end the conflict in the Casamance region.

Under its **Peace Education Programme in Schools**, WANEP-Senegal facilitated the launching ceremony of a peace club to support the peace processes in the Casamance region. During the launching ceremony, the efforts of veteran peacebuilders such as Abraham EHEMBA were celebrated for their contributions in stabilizing the Casamance region. The commemoration of role models was used as a strategy to spur others especially the youths to emulate their good examples.



WANEP National Networks Activities««

## WANEP—Sierra Leone««

**W**ANEP-SL held its **9th Annual General Meeting (AGM)** at Makeni, the administrative capital of the North of Sierra Leone with the theme: **Agenda for Change—Rebuilding Hope**. Out of 58 member organizations, 50 members were in attendance. At the two-day meeting, member organizations received presentations of the Management Report, Board Reports, Audited Financial Report and Annual Budget. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Christiana Thorpe, the Chairperson of the Sierra Leone Electoral Commission and a WANEP Regional Board member. Certificates of membership were given to all fully registered and paid member organizations.

WANEP-SL with other peacebuilding civil society organizations met with the **UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon** during his visit to Sierra Leone. The CSOs appealed to the UN head for their inclusion in peace, security, governance and related sustainable development issues at all levels.

WANEP-Sierra Leone actively took part in the development of the **Sierra Leone National Action Plan (SiLNAP) for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820**. The two broad objectives of the National Action Plan are; 1) to ensure that women and girls are by no means threatened by gender-based violence and 2) to collectively ensure that the needs of survivors of sexual violence are recognised and addressed. SiLNAP document was launched both at the CSW 54th session held at the UN Headquarters in New York in March 2010 and locally.

WANEP-Sierra Leone and Partners in Conflict Transformation (PICOT) with sixty (60) representatives from the 12 Districts and from the Western Area met at its 12th Semi-Annual Peace and Development (PaD) Forum in Kambia District to widen the discourse on peace and development, taking into account the need to integrate rights-based approach. The theme was **“Accountability for All—Examining chieftom Governance and Tribal Administration in Sierra Leone”**. The objectives of the PaD forum include critiquing the conduct of the 2010 paramount chieftaincy elections and reviewing the war victims’ reparations program. As an outcome of the PaD forum, a communiqué was issued on corruption, democracy and the rule of law including the relevance of customs and traditions in the 21st century.

In the run-up to the **2010 Fourah Bay College Students Union elections** which are usually characterized by violence and malicious language, WANEP-SL conducted a Peace Education and Non-Violence Training at Fourah Bay College, the University of Sierra Leone. It was fulfilling to note that 2010 Students Union election was peaceful.



## WANEP—Togo«««

The 2010 presidential election in Togo was a target for WANEP—Togo to ensure that the outcome was not as explosive as it was in the last presidential election. WANEP-Togo organized capacity building seminars and sensitization campaigns in seven prefectures (districts) with financial support from the European Union and its partners. Following an evaluation exercise of the sensitization campaigns, the initial success encouraged WANEP-Togo to reach out to other target populations. Six additional villages at the **Adélé zone (in the Blitta Prefecture)** were included in the **sensitization campaigns and civic education project**.



**W**ith support from IFES, WANEP-Togo organized a series of trainings for 20 participants selected from the five prefectures to serve as monitors for **prevention of electoral violence** using early warning tools. WANEP-Togo organized three training workshops for local election observers with financial support from the British High Commission. WANEP-Togo monitored the campaign activities of the presidential candidates and observed the election. On Election Day, March 04, 2010, WANEP-Togo deployed 351 election observers countrywide.

Under its *Civic Education Programme*, WANEP-Togo carried out a project entitled '**Citizenship Education for youth in the Maritime region**' financed by the European Union in June 2010 for 12 months. Through the citizenship education project, WANEP-Togo visited the 18 targeted schools with the objective of involving the beneficiaries in identifying the criteria for the selection of secondary school youth as members of the peace clubs. In all, 18 peace clubs were to be formed to engage the youth in promoting non-violent culture.

The **National Network Coordinator of WANEP-Togo** was appointed as member to the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission. To raise awareness about the work of the Commission, WANEP-Togo organized sensitization meetings in seventeen (17) districts of Bocco and Zio prefectures. In all, a total of one thousand nine hundred and thirty (1,930) people participated in the meetings with an average of one hundred and seven (107) people attending per session.

Under the **Peace Education and Non-violence Program** in junior schools which started in February 2009, various activities were implemented in the course of 2010.

A training session was organized for teachers and inspectors in the targeted junior schools on the **importance of the culture of peace in schools**. Meetings between peace clubs were organized. The meeting was to bring the children of the peace clubs to exchange their experiences. A prize-winning competition was organised on the theme; '**Non-Violence in schools**'. This competition allowed the children in the peace clubs to demonstrate knowledge and practical experiences in applying what they learned through mentoring by their teachers on the values of peaceful co-existence. The activity marked the end of an 18-month pilot project. WANEP-Togo later received an extension agreement of the project for five months. Under the extension phase, a workshop was organized on July 13th 2010 at Kpalimé to present the evaluation report highlighting the challenges and impacts of the pilot project.

At the end of the pilot project, WANEP-Togo paid a working visit to **School Inspectors and the Ministry of Education** to officially inform them about the outcomes of the peace education programme. With positive feedbacks on the pilot phase, WANEP-Togo was encouraged to commence the second phase of a three year (2010–2013) programme. An action planning workshop was held on October 7th with eight key staff (school inspectors and pedagogical advisors) at Kpalimé for the implementation of phase two of the peace education programme.

In commemorating the **International Day of Peace**, WANEP-Togo in collaboration with Danica GOELLER and mobile communication, initiated "SMS action" as early warning and peace education strategy with Togo cell. Through SMS, messages of peace were sent out to one thousand four hundred and eighty seven (1487) Togo cell subscribers promoting the use of active non violence as a way of life.



## MILESTONES«««

- ❑ Establishment of National Networks in Cape Verde and Mali bringing the number of **WANEP** networks to 14 in the 15 Member States of ECOWAS
- ❑ **WANEP** entered into partnership with the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) that will reinforce the institutional and programmatic capacity of WANEP over three years
- ❑ **WANEP** contributed to the first democratic transition in Guinea promoting peaceful outcome of the presidential election.
- ❑ **WANEP** contributed to the successful outcome of the presidential election in Togo
- ❑ **WANEP** developed a program to monitor and respond to electoral violence.
- ❑ **WANEP** rejuvenated the peace process in Bawku and reactivated the Inter-Ethnic Peace Committee to continue the dialogue process.
- ❑ **WANEP** certificated its active member organisations



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