

# Annual Report **2012**



a not-for-profit  
organisation working  
on collaborative  
peacebuilding

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## **About WANEP**

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) is a leading Regional Peacebuilding organisation founded in 1998 in response to civil wars that plagued West Africa in the 1990s.



# ABOUT WANEP

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) is a leading Regional Peacebuilding organisation 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 550 member organisations across West Africa.

WANEP places special focus on collaborative approaches to conflict prevention, and peacebuilding, working with diverse actors from civil society, governments, intergovernmental bodies, women groups and other partners in a bid to establish a platform for dialogue, experience sharing and learning, thereby complementing efforts at ensuring sustainable peace and development in West Africa and beyond.

In 2002, WANEP entered into a historic partnership with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in the implementation of a regional early warning and response system (ECOWARN). A memorandum of understanding between WANEP and ECOWAS was signed in 2004 for five years, and has since been renewed for another 5 years. This partnership constitutes a major strategic achievement for WANEP and West Africa civil society as it offers the much desired opportunity to contribute to Track I response to conflicts and policy debates.

At continental level, WANEP is a member of the Peace and Security cluster of the African Union's (AU) Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) representing West Africa and also chairs the thematic cluster on peace and security in the AU-EU Joint Strategic partnership. At international level, WANEP has a Special Consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and is the West Africa Regional Representative/current Chair of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC).

WANEP provides professional courses in conflict prevention and peacebuilding informed by several years of practice experience to governments, businesses, and practitioners throughout the sub-region and beyond. Underlying its work is a commitment to professionalism and a dedication to a world of mutual respect, tolerance and peace.

## Vision

"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 organisations 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."

“WANEP places special focus on collaborative approaches to conflict prevention and peacebuilding...”

## Operating Principles and Values

- ⊙ Belief in mutual respect for one another;
- ⊙ Transparency and accountability;
- ⊙ Gender equality and zero tolerance to discrimination (sex, tribe/ethnicity, race, HIV-AIDS status, etc.);
- ⊙ Teamwork and dedication to work;
- ⊙ Tolerance and respect for diversity;
- ⊙ Justice for all;
- ⊙ Quality delivery;
- ⊙ Collaboration and consultation.

## Strategic Objectives

- ⊙ Strengthen the capacity of peacebuilding organisations 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, analyse 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 programmes through research, documentation and Monitoring and Evaluation
- ⊙ Enhance policy formulation and influence on peace and human security through regional and international linkages and advocacy





“ The most visible of our attainments in 2012 was our contributions to election management in the sub-region. It would be recalled that for about ten years, the conduct of peaceful elections has been a great challenge for African nations. ”

## MESSAGE FROM THE WANEP BOARD CHAIR



The year 2012 has been a mixed grill for the peacebuilding community in the West African sub-region. It was a year in which a lot was done, more than ever before, by governmental and non-governmental organisations towards reducing destructive conflicts in the sub-region. On the other hand, it was a year when some new problems, such as the crisis in Northern Mali, returned the West African sub-region to a boiling point requiring deployment of troops. Towards the end of the year the international community including ECOWAS started contemplating the deployment of troops.

As the year 2012 ends and we launch into 2013, we have more to celebrate than regret. More than ever before, the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding established itself in the gone year as a great asset to the West African sub-region in terms of what has been achieved and the strategic goals we have set for ourselves as we contend with the security challenges in West Africa.



The accomplishments of WANEP in the period under review include playing a key role in the Jos (Nigeria) and the Bawku (Ghana) peace processes; strengthening the capacity of our national networks for election dispute management; opening an office in Niger; strengthening our staff capacity and professionalizing all units of the organisation and partnering with strategic organisations such as ECOWAS, Mediation Support Network, African Union, the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre and several others in the field of conflict prevention and management.

In November 2012, our efforts were recognized by the University of Ibadan which awarded to WANEP its 2012 Distinguished Corporate Award in Peacebuilding. This glorious occasion which I personally attended was graced by more than 1000 guests from different parts of the West African sub-region and the headquarters of the African Union where the keynote speaker was drawn from. In addition to this, WANEP was invited to play a strategic role at the ECOWAS consultative meeting for establishing a mediation unit in the regional organisation.

The most visible of our attainments in 2012 was our contributions to election management in the sub-region. It would be recalled that for about ten years, the conduct of peaceful elections has been a great challenge for African nations. WANEP studied this problem critically and in 2012 published an Election Dispute Management Practice Guide for West Africa which is now a reference material on strategies for reducing election-related violence in Africa. The Practice Guide which is designed to assist in the peaceful management of electoral processes was officially launched in February 2012 by the Most Rev. Prof. Emmanuel Asante, the Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church Ghana and Chair of the National Peace Council. Since the launch, thousands of copies have been distributed to all the Electoral Commissions in West Africa and to the National Commission on Civic Education, Political Parties, the National Architectures for Peace, the media and civil society organisations in West Africa and beyond. Many Departments of Political Science and Peace Studies around the sub-region use it for teaching purposes. What an outstanding way of touching hearts and minds!

The lesson of the Practice Guide is that we are not blind to the problems besetting our development in West Africa and we are not afraid of boldly confronting these problems with the little resources at our disposal. Taking the foregoing into deep consideration, I would like to commend the peaceful elections in Sierra Leone and Ghana in 2012. Ghana the host of WANEP has strengthened her democratic credentials and provided lessons for other states in Africa struggling to get over the problem of conducting free and fair elections. We also have to commend Sierra Leone for also setting good example. If the other countries of the sub-region can follow the Ghana and Sierra Leone example, one by one West African would become a peaceful sub-region of our dream.

It is apt here to commend my other Board Members for their sincere commitment to excellence. They all brought to the work of WANEP rich professional knowledge and sincerity of purpose that is not common in many African societies. But the hard work of the Board members flows readily from the exemplary competence demonstrated by the leadership of WANEP. It was wonderful and highly encouraging. I appreciate the Regional and National Networks for adhering to the board's directives following the systems audit conducted by SIDA which is also reflected as an improvement in the recent assessment of USAID. The WANEP we tried to build in the year 2012 is an organisation that would definitely affect the whole world. My expectation is that our best would be further bettered in 2013.

Finally let me on behalf of all the members of WANEP thank our partners who have generously supported our work and the communities we serve.





## MANAGEMENT REPORT

The details in our peace and security overview of this report indicate that West Africa is still confronted with complex peace, security and development challenges. Despite commendable collective efforts from both Governments and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in West Africa to sustain and consolidate peace following the ravaging civil wars and communal violence of the 1990s, the increasing number of security challenges has the potential to reverse feeble gains made over the last two decades. In the year under review the same socio-political and economic challenges that led to brutal civil war and internal strife over the last three decades is pervasive in some countries of the region. Crisis in Mali driven by violent extremism escalated posing a real threat to regional peace and security. Amidst all these challenges, West Africa is showing leadership within the region through ECOWAS and at the African Union and the United Nations to confront these threats head on. The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) in its leading peacebuilding role and function continues to galvanise CSOs in complementing the efforts of Governments and sustaining the progress made.



WANEP in the past year stepped up efforts in support of community peacebuilding through dialogue and mediation of conflicts while sustaining relationships with national governments and ECOWAS in providing support through field analysis and policy recommendations directed at dealing with the current complexities. WANEP continued to coordinate the CSO interface with ECOWAS in the operationalisation of ECOWARN. During the year under review, concrete efforts started in down-streaming early warning to national levels in the operationalisation of National Early Warning Systems (NEWS) in support of ECOWARN. The prospects of increasing conflict prevention efforts from the national to regional level is appreciated in the new policy initiatives to establish national infrastructures for peace in various West African countries. Governments have also increased levels of cooperation with CSOs in peacebuilding and governance.

Through other thematic programme areas, Non-violence and Peace Education and the Women in Peacebuilding Programme (WIPNET) WANEP continued to build community and national capacities for conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

At the level of Institutional development, WANEP strengthened the Network with the implementation of the key recommendations of a systems audit conducted by an international organisational development firm in 2011 and sponsored by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). The implementation of the recommendations repositioned programmes design, implementation and reporting to reflect more on results and outcomes achieved more than providing a narrative report of activities. The highlights of this report reflect the contributions of WANEP as the results of various activities undertaken indicate despite the numerous challenges confronting the sub-region. The outcomes of the audit also provided an important benchmark that informed a holistic development of WANEP's Strategic plan for the coming years. Such an institutional undertaking has brought much value in consolidating WANEP as a well-structured regional organisation with an efficient regulatory mechanism. In addition, WANEP engaged a Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator during the year to ensure a rigorous application of its monitoring and evaluation systems from national to regional level.

WANEP National Networks continue to grow from strength to strength with national human security reports and policy briefs generated at national levels in Ghana, Nigeria, Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone and Guinea. In Niger, the WANEP national network was launched with a functional national office and full time National Network Coordinator. WANEP-Mali was restructured to coordinate CSO efforts in the face of the enormous threats to national stabilisation. The conceptual discussions for enhanced cooperation amongst the national networks of the Sahelian countries have begun. They include the networks of Burkina Faso, Niger and Mali.

At the level of international partnership and collaborative engagements, WANEP continued to be active at various national and international levels in the year under review. Noteworthy of these efforts include SIDA and DANIDA which continue to appreciate WANEP's unique work and thus continue to support its efforts; hosting of the Annual General Meeting of the Mediation Support Network (MSN); the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed (GPPAC) which continues to grow into a formidable international platform for networking and regional exchange on policy

recommendations on peace and security; the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in the partnership with WANEP for building civilian capacities for peacebuilding.

WANEP continued to play its role as a member of the Peace and Security Cluster of the AU-ECOSOCC where it chairs the committee of the review of ECOSOCC Statutes and Rules of Procedure and was also elected to chair the Peace and Security thematic cluster on the Joint Africa European Strategy (JAES). WANEP's work continues to be recognised by the United Nations both at national and international levels. In Ghana, UNDP Ghana partnered with WANEP in building the capacity of Police and Electoral Commission Officers in Dialogue and Mediation as part of the contribution to peaceful elections in 2012 and democratic governance in Ghana. Similar WANEP Partnerships with UN Agencies were undertaken in Senegal, Guinea, Togo and Nigeria.

As part of its strategy for documenting lessons learnt and providing guidance for the implementation of various peacebuilding initiatives, WANEP in the year published and launched guidelines for managing electoral disputes in West Africa, guidelines for conducting mediation and dialogue, guidelines for implementing peace education in formal schools and guidelines for developing and implementing National Action Plans as it relates to the UNSCR 1325 among other very important publications. These publications are now putting WANEP in a pedestal of not only a practice based institution but also resource based.

The following pages highlight WANEP activities in 2012. These activities and sustaining the Institution could not have been possible without financial support from WANEP's grant partners. In a special way, WANEP acknowledges and with profound appreciation the financial support of its Partners key amongst them, the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) for supporting peacebuilding efforts in West Africa. We equally acknowledge and appreciate the contributions and support of the Governments of the Royal Kingdoms of Netherlands and Norway as well as the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) through the GPPAC framework; Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC). We are grateful to all the numerous partners that support our National Networks at various levels of activities and institutional sustainability. The partnership and support from ECOWAS is unique and WANEP remains forever grateful to work with the West Africa Inter-Governmental Organisation.



## **West Africa 2012 Peace And Security In Perspective**



WANEP through its networks in the 15 ECOWAS member states conducted an in-depth analysis of current conflicts dynamics in the sub region.



# WEST AFRICA 2012 PEACE AND SECURITY IN PERSPECTIVE

West Africa continues to face hydra-headed security and development challenges that have intensified the need for consolidating gains made in peacebuilding interventions over the years and the importance of more innovative and sustained interventions to prevent the derailment of the hard earned peace and security in many places as well as mitigate the emerging challenges in other parts of the region.

Just as the region was beginning to see some semblance of relative peace in Cote d' Ivoire, it witnessed the rise of complex humanitarian emergencies resulting from the food crisis in the Sahel belt exacerbated by the conflict in Northern Mali and its threat to peace and security of the sub-region. Piracy in the gulf of Guinea affected the West Africa Gas Pipeline leading to load shedding of electricity and massive economic losses in many countries.

Incessant and caustic floods affected Nigeria, Niger, Senegal, and Mali. Areas in these countries have been experiencing heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding. The rains and floods claimed many lives and property and left about 100,000 people homeless. Most of these people have found shelter with host families, while others have sought refuge in schools and places of worship.

The combined threat of drought, high food prices, displacement and chronic poverty has continued to affect millions of people in the Sahel region. Insecurity and malnutrition are recurrent in the region with more than 16 million people directly at risk. The condition is compounded by high food prices and a decrease in remittances owing to the global economic crisis, the return of migrants from Libya, the insecurity in Northern Mali that has compelled thousands to seek refuge in neighbouring countries, thereby aggravating the food crisis in those countries.

WANEP through its networks in the 15 ECOWAS member states conducted an in-depth analysis of current conflicts dynamics in the sub region.

The process involved the development of a framework for a common contextual analysis of the causes of conflict, on-going efforts towards addressing them, the gaps and challenges. In order to clearly put this process in perspective, the problem tree analytical framework was adopted by all national networks and harmonised at a programme design meeting held between the WANEP Regional Secretariat and all the national networks in Elmina, Ghana in August 2012. The conflict tree enabled WANEP to identify and trace evolving patterns of conflicts and their interdependency in addressing destabilising conflicts in West Africa.

WANEP observed through the problem analysis that of the 15 ECOWAS member states, four have had large scale civil conflicts and at least seven have experienced significant low-scale conflicts within the last 25 years. These conflicts were a consequence of multiple interconnected and interrelated factors, including:

- ⊙ Political system failures and issues around electioneering processes
- ⊙ Social exclusion and perceived marginalization
- ⊙ Glaring and persistent poverty and low levels of economic development
- ⊙ Poor natural resource management and corruption around its distribution
- ⊙ Regional dimensions and spill-over effects from neighbouring countries especially the fall of Gadhafi's regime in Libya.
- ⊙ Unemployment and unemployable youths
- ⊙ Small arms proliferation

These factors have given rise to a paradigm shift in the manifestation of conflicts from interstate to intrastate conflicts and have therefore challenged sub regional intergovernmental institutions such as ECOWAS and regional Non-Governmental Organisations such as WANEP to collaborate in seeking new creative and practical ways and means that will transform these instabilities among its member states. Juxtaposed to these factors are the rapidly interacting and emerging new challenges that make peace and security a priority concern in the region.

Some of these new challenges include:

- ⊙ The impact and legacy of previous conflicts;
- ⊙ Global trends and cross-border issues including organised crime;
- ⊙ Climate change and forced migration;
- ⊙ Religious radicalization and violent extremism
- ⊙ Maritime and piracy issues especially around the Gulf of Guinea

The Mano River sub-region, which comprises Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea (and Cote d'Ivoire, now politically associated with the region) has experienced wide scale violent conflicts. This started with the Liberian civil war (1989-1996, 1999-2003), followed by the civil war in Sierra Leone (1991-2002) and sectarian violence in Cote d'Ivoire in 2002 with a reoccurrence in 2011. In Liberia and Sierra Leone particularly, the conflicts were sparked by declining economic performance in the 1980s overseen by repressive, authoritarian regimes. This resulted in reductions in social spending and household income, the obliteration of the middle class, decline in healthcare delivery, growing number of school dropouts and a significant drop in school enrolment. Youths were particularly affected (Ikelegbe, A. and Garuba 2011).

On the other hand, the Casamance conflict is taking place in a West African country that is often noted as one of the most stable (Fall 2010). The uprising for self-determination in the Casamance region formally began in the provincial capital of Ziguinchor in 1982 as fallout of the Diola people (a minority ethnic group) grievances over political under-representation and economic underdevelopment (Ikelegbe, A. and Garuba 2011).

Conflict between the Malian government and the Tuareg rebels in northern Mali and also the conflagration of terrorism in northern part of Nigeria has been blamed on the perceived political and economic marginalisation and poor integration of development affected peoples.

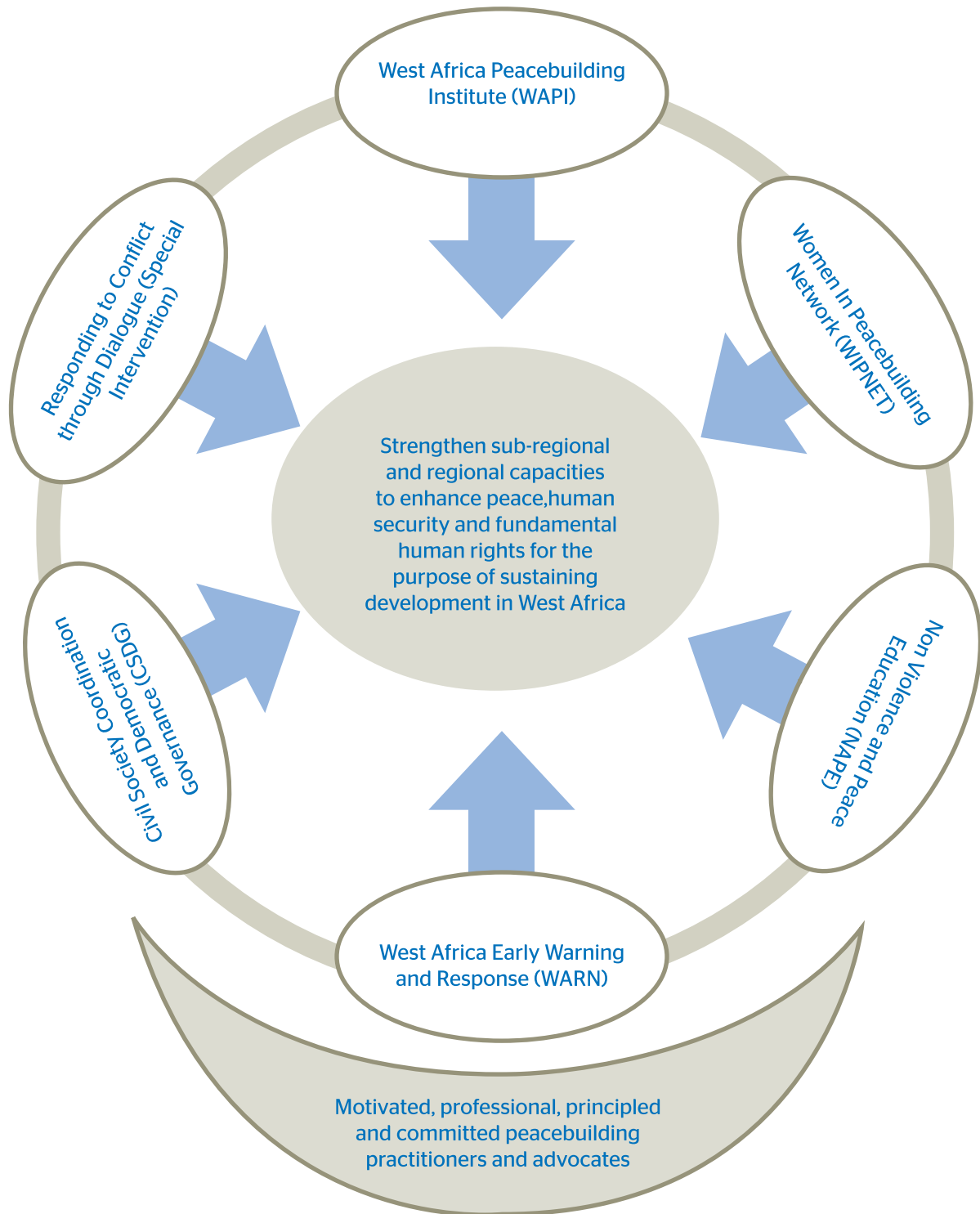
This has been aggravated by drought thereby increasing vulnerability of marginalised groups to seek militia options and terror acts which is threatening the continuous stability and existence of the respective countries.

The Niger Delta region, Nigeria's oil belt, is at the epicentre of numerous violent conflicts, the culmination of long years of neglect, underdevelopment and marginalisation of a region that earns Nigeria the majority of its foreign exchange. In the last few years, the nature of the problem has intensified, especially with the emergence of the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND). Since its inception, the organisation has presented the Nigerian government with its most serious security challenge in the Niger Delta (Alao 2011). Despite the brokered fragile peace process through the amnesty programme of the late President Umaru Musa Y'ardua, the Nigerian government has failed to implement the proposed Niger Development Plan. A situation that has gradually led to increasing oil bunkering, piracy, pipeline vandalism and the regrouping of militia groups in the region with possible disastrous consequences to peace and development in Nigeria within the coming years.

On the positive, the swift and smooth transition of power in Ghana after the demise of the sitting president yet again adds to Ghana's democratic credentials and a beacon of peace in West Africa. However, it is important to continue working to maintain and build on this peace. Sierra Leone despite all odds managed to pull through general elections. Same applies to Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Senegal, and The Gambia, that held relatively peaceful elections (presidential, legislative and local) in 2012. WANEP during the year through its unique network structure and support from its partners played a significant role in mobilising civil society efforts for peace and promoting human security at national and regional levels despite the challenges.



## Thematic/Programmatic Presentation Of WANEP's Work In Peace And Security In West Africa





## Highlights Of Activities Of The Regional Secretariat



As part of its contribution to the mitigation of electoral disputes in Africa, WANEP launched in February 2012 a book titled “Election Dispute Management Practice Guide for West Africa”.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL SECRETARIAT

During the year under review the Regional Secretariat of WANEP undertook various activities in the sub-region to contribute to peace and security in the region. These activities cut across the thematic and programmatic areas as contained in the WANEP Strategic Action Plan for 2010–2015.

## Board Meeting And Staff Retreat:

In line with the constitutional provision of WANEP, the Regional Board met in January and in October, 2012 in Accra to provide supervision and guidance on the effective organisation of the network at both regional and national secretariats.

Furthermore, as part of its efforts to strengthen its institutional capacity for a better, well organised and highly professional peacebuilding organisation, WANEP had its 2012 retreat in February in Accra on the theme: *Consolidating WANEP's Institutional Capacity for Peacebuilding in West*

*Africa*". The Regional Board Members of WANEP, National Board Chairs, National Network Coordinators and Regional Secretariat staff engaged in reflections informed by the report on WANEP 2011 Systems Audit which was commissioned by the Swedish International Development Agencies (SIDA) on how WANEP should restructure and reposition itself strategically in the coming years. At the end of the retreat, major decisions bordering on institutional reforms for better delivery of impactful peacebuilding activities were taken.

## Recruitment

The WANEP Regional Secretariat following a systems audit recommendation for result based programme management and approval of the Regional Board recruited a Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator, Finance Manager, Accountant and a Programme Assistant at the Peace Monitoring Centre (PMC) respectively. The above recruitment has enhanced the

WANEP regional team and strengthened WANEP's place as the ECOWAS CSO partner as well as the leading peacebuilding organisation in West Africa. Moreover, the appreciation of WANEP's delivery of peacebuilding programmes and activities in the sub region has increased exponentially.



## Internship/National Service

Two interns were recruited at the Regional Secretariat for a period of three and six months; supporting the West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI) as well as the West Africa Human Rights and Democracy (WAHRD) Project.

The national service personnel recruited in 2011 to support the administrative department and Peace Monitoring Centre completed their service in the year under review.

## Repositioning WANEP's Programme Impact In West Africa

In the year under review, a 3-day Programme Planning meeting comprising of all the 15 National Network Coordinators and National Early Warning Systems (NEWS) Managers was organised to strategically reposition WANEP's Programme Impact in West Africa through Result Based

Management. Following a critical review and analysis of the conflict and destabilising issues in the sub region, a 3-year programme of activities was developed at the end of the meeting.



## WANEP–Niger Officially Opened

WANEP Niger, which hitherto operated as a focal point, was officially launched on July 13 in Niamey. The eminent persons at the launch expressed appreciation of the initiative to formally establish WANEP in Niger at a time when

the Sahel region is experiencing complex peace and security challenges. With the launching of WANEP Niger, WANEP can now boast of functional offices in all the 15 ECOWAS member states.

## Launching Of “Election Dispute Management Practice Guide For West Africa”

As part of its contribution to the mitigation of electoral disputes in Africa, WANEP launched in February, 2012 a book titled *“Election Dispute Management Practice Guide for West Africa”*. Supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), the practice guide serves as an important resource for the prevention, mitigation and resolution of electoral disputes. Dr. Christiana Thorpe, Chair of the National Electoral Commission of the Republic of Sierra Leone, the Executive Governor of the Niger

state of Nigeria, Dr. Mu’azu Babangida Aliyu and Rev. Prof. Emmanuel Asante, Chair of the National Peace Council (NPC) of Ghana, who were special guests of honour intervened at various stages during the launching of the Guide. They commended WANEP and its partners for coming up with such a timely and critical resource for the prevention, mitigation and resolution of election-related disputes. The impact of the guide is already reflected in the demand/ appreciation and the outcome of the ensuing elections in the sub region since the launch.



## Strengthening National Capacities For Managing Electoral Disputes

In the framework of the *Strengthening Transparency, Accountability and Responsiveness in Ghana* (Star-Ghana) project entitled: *Skills for Citizenship Awareness and Conflict Resolving Transition (S4CACRT)*, WANEP organised a two-day seminar to strengthen the mediation capacities of 20 Eminent Persons selected from the 10 regions of Ghana. The eminent persons utilised the skills acquired to intervene at

various levels in their communities in ensuring violence-free, transparent and peaceful elections in 2012. The Eminent Persons from the Northern Region for instance succeeded in ensuring that political parties did not use the Dagbon chieftaincy dispute in their campaigns as has been the case in the past.

## Election Observation

In line with the ECOWAS protocol on Democracy and Good Governance, WANEP participated in election observation missions particularly in Sierra Leone and Ghana in 2012 under the ECOWAS Election Observation Unit. The Executive Director of WANEP under the auspices of UNDP provided support to the UN system as part of its

contribution to ensuring a violence free election during the presidential elections in Senegal. WANEP-Regional also had her observation team in Sierra Leone and Ghana with specific mandate to monitor and report issues relating to peace and security in the two elections.





## Joint Party Election Results Monitoring (J-PERM) – Ghana 2012 Elections

In collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Catholic University College of Ghana (CUCG), WANEP monitored and mediated on the Ghana election results with representatives of the five major political parties. WANEP provided coordination and leadership in the management of the project and the running of the J-PERM Situation Room and worked with key stakeholders particularly the representatives of the political parties to mediate

disputes that occurred as an outcome of contestation from the results that were submitted. The J-PERM Situation Room provided the first line of a proactive and preventive mechanism of ensuring that a misunderstanding, misinterpretation or misrepresentation of election results from any polling station or collated results from a constituency did not escalate into violence or create public anxiety and fear in regards to how election results were reconciled.



## Meeting Between WANEP And Early Warning Directorate Analysts

Within the context of ECOWAS-WANEP partnership for the operationalisation of ECOWAS Early Warning Mechanism (ECOWARN), the analysts of the two institutions during the year held 4 quarterly meetings to share experiences, challenges and lessons learnt on Early Warning (EW)

analysis. At these meetings, they also discussed strategies to strengthen collaboration between the EW actors so as to improve the quality and quantity of outputs of early warning analysis by WANEP and the ECOWAS Early Warning Directorate.

## ECOWARN-NEWS Consultations

WANEP's engagement with other stakeholders such as ECOWAS is critical in implementing the Early Warning Early Response (EWER) Mechanism. In the year under review, WANEP participated in an ECOWAS organised workshop on the platform of West African Civil Society Organisations

Forum (WACSOF) engagement in EWER in June in Lomé, Togo. WANEP, as a founding member and leader for the Peace cluster of WACSOF, presented a work plan to be adopted by ECOWAS in its quest for engaging more CSOs in EWER mechanism.



## WANEP-ECOWAS Biannual Coordination Meeting:

As part of its effort to improve on the ECOWAS Early Warning System–ECOWARN, Benin hosted the first of its biannual coordination meeting, bringing together Focal Points, Zonal Coordinators, regional staff of implementing

partner WANEP, Government Focal Points and staff of the Early Warning Directorate (EWD). A second coordination meeting was held in Lagos, Nigeria in September.

## The JOS Dialogue Process—Role Of The Legislature

In a bid to restore lasting peace in Jos, there have been several initiatives and interventions at local, state and national levels, including the efforts of WANEP, in the area of promoting dialogue and mediation. However, it emerged that in all these efforts, the Legislators from the Plateau state, a very critical component in the peace process, have been left out. Yet, as the representatives of the people of Plateau, they have enormous leverage and potentials of contributing to the sustainable and durable peace in the Jos Plateau. WANEP in collaboration with the Institute for Peace and

Conflict Resolution (IPCR) with support from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), engaged the Plateau State House of Assembly members in March 2012 at Abuja in a consultative meeting as part of the roadmap towards a mediated and negotiated settlement to the conflict in Jos. All members of the House of Assembly including the Speaker, the Peace and Governance Adviser of the UNDP and a representative of ECOWAS participated in the consultation.

## The Bawku Peace Process:

In the build up to the 2012 elections and reflecting on the history of heightened tension associated with elections in the Bawku Municipality and its environs, WANEP convened a meeting of relevant stakeholders including the National Peace Council, UNDP-Ghana, Office of the Chief Imam, the Ahmadiyya Mission, the Catholic Secretariat, the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, the Evangelical Church, the Protestants, FOSDA, IBIS and the Media Foundation for West Africa to brainstorm on the security challenges in Bawku

and designed intervention strategies that helped to ensure a successful election and sustainable peace in Bawku. During the meetings, which took place in March and May, obstacles to the ongoing peace processes including the factors militating against the effective functioning of the Bawku Inter Ethnic Peace Committee were also identified and WANEP and the stakeholders committed to ensuring that these issues were responded to.





## WANEP Commemorates International Women's Day

Women's voices from around West Africa: *Women As the "BEDROCK" of Families, Societies and the World.*

Through its fifteen national networks across the West African sub-region, WANEP's WIPNET programme mobilised women and women groups and marked the 2012 International Women's Day through multiple activities including peace marches in Senegal and Togo; round table discussions on

reconciliation in Liberia; political participation of women in Ghana, and many other peaceful actions in Sierra Leone, Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, The Gambia, Nigeria, Burkina Faso and Senegal. WANEP dedicated the day to the Women of West Africa who lost their lives in conflicts in the sub-region in the quest for peace, respect of rights and dignity.

## Gender Based Violence And Mediation In West Africa

In the year under review, WANEP and the Crisis Management Initiative (CMI) continued with their project on gender-based violence (GBV) and mediation. Through field consultations and comparative analysis of experiences from West African conflicts and peace mediation processes, the project developed recommendations to address questions of GBV more effectively. Thus the project received the attention and support of ECOWAS Commission. Receiving a joint delegation of WANEP and CMI in his office, His Excellency

the Vice-President of ECOWAS, Dr. Toga McIntosh noted that combating Gender-based Violence (GBV) was central to peace negotiations and agreements, and commended WANEP and CMI for their efforts in promoting professional practices and peace mediation. He promised that the Commission would critically examine the recommendations of the research on Gender Based Violence and Mediation in West Africa. It will be recalled that since 2011, WANEP and CMI joined forces in order to promote professional practice in these areas.

## Framework For Developing National Action Plans For The Implementation Of UNSCR 1325 In West Africa

WANEP in its review of the various national efforts in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in West Africa in 2010 discovered some progress in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 with 5 countries (Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau and Cote d'Ivoire) adopting national action plans (NAPs) whilst Ghana, The Gambia and Nigeria are in the process of developing NAPs. Due to the slow progress in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 after 10 years of its enactment, WANEP was inspired to develop a framework that would

guide the development of National Action Plans through which the Resolution would be implemented.

In the light of this, WANEP organised a consultative meeting with experts and practitioners across West Africa to develop a Guideline for the development of NAPs that can inform governments, civil society and other stakeholders in developing National Action Plans for the implementation of the UNSCR 1325. The guideline was developed, reviewed, validated and published and now being distributed to all relevant stakeholders across West Africa and the continent.



## Regional Seminar On The Roles Of The Police And The Media In Managing Early Warning Information

As part of its collaborative effort in the operationalisation of the ECOWAS Early Warning Mechanism (ECOWARN), WANEP and ECOWAS with support from (SIDA) and the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) organised a regional seminar for the police and media in September 2012 in Lagos, Nigeria. The objectives of the seminar were to:

- ⊙ sensitise the police and the media on the workings and operations of the ECOWARN and NEWS;
- ⊙ establish partnership with the media and the police on how to manage and disseminate early warning information emanating from NEWS and ECOWARN;
- ⊙ create a close collaboration and synergy between the media, the police, ECOWAS

Early Warning Directorate and WANEP on conflict prevention and peacebuilding;

- ⊙ develop mechanisms for including the police and media in the list serve for ECOWARN and NEWS products and outputs.

A major indicator for sustainable impact is the comment by Mrs. Florence Iheme, Acting Director of ECOWAS Early Warning Directorate: *“The relationship with WANEP has been very useful to the Commission, because the early warning mechanism of WANEP complements the responses and feedback from various communities and states to the Commission; it has also helped communities and citizens to get more involved in early warning programmes.”*



## Preventive Action Training And Multi-Stakeholders' Workshop In Freetown And Monrovia

In the framework of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), WANEP as the West Africa regional secretariat conducted a series of activities under the Austria Development Agency (ADA) funded project on “Enhancing Regional Response Capacity for Conflict Prevention”. One of such key activities, the Preventive Action Training and Multi-stakeholder workshops were held in Monrovia and Freetown in March and June respectively to promote synergy amongst ECOWAS, national CSOs, the AU

and the UN to collectively act to prevent violent conflict. The meeting provided an opportunity for key stakeholders from the Peace and Security sector to discuss and debate the ADA Project document, which was presented to them. In addition, they reviewed the Conflict Assessment Framework, with emphasis on the preventive action tools and how these tools can be adapted in the context of Sierra Leone and Liberia as well as other Mano River Union countries.



## Preventive Action (PA) Core Group Meeting In New York

WANEP participated in the PA Working Group meeting in New York. The Preventive Action Working Group (WG) emanated from the Early Warning & Early Response programme, initiated in 2006. The major aim of the meeting was to engage in high-level consultations on the PA tools, processes and concrete engagement on the ground.



## Mediation Support Network (MSN) Meeting

WANEP hosted the annual general meeting of MSN in Accra in October to discuss the roles of Regional Intergovernmental Organisations and the Complementary roles of International Actors in mediation efforts; as well as review the United Nations Mediation guidance for effective mediation.



## Advocacy Through Communiqué/Press Release

On the occasion of the celebration of the International day of Peace, 21st September 2012, WANEP through a press release widely publicized, joined the African community of

Civil Society Organisations, the African Union and ECOWAS to advocate and appeal for Peace and justice in West Africa and Africa at large.

## Experts Meeting To Develop A Guide For The Implementation Of Peace Education In West Africa

WANEP organised an experts meeting bringing together educators, curriculum developers and practitioners from various countries in West Africa, to share experiences, lessons learnt, and best practices, focusing on practical guidelines for setting up or inte-



grating peace education programmes in schools. The two-day meeting was made up of interactive plenary presentations, daily summaries and feedbacks to bring out a framework to ensure effective implementation of peace education programme informed by experiences of West Africa.

## West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI)



WANEP in collaboration with the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) successfully organised the 11th annual three-weeks training session of WAPI in September 2012 at KAIPTC with 50 participants from about 17 countries across Africa and beyond. WANEP through WAPI continues to build and contribute to human resource capacity development in peacebuilding and conflict prevention across the world with over 450 peace practitioners and advocates trained since its establishment in 2002.

## Research And Publications

The following publications were produced in 2012:

1. Democracy, Elections and Stability in Post War States. Proceedings of National Consultative Meeting on Peaceful Elections in Sierra Leone: WANEP 2012
2. Peer Mediation Manual (French version)– English Already published in 2011, WANEP 2012
3. 10 years of influencing Policies in West Africa: A Compendium of WANEP's Policy Briefs 2000–2010, WANEP 2012
4. Development and Implementation of National Action plans on UNSCR 1325 and Related Resolutions: A Guideline, WANEP 2012
5. Mali: Managing the Damage of a Complex Context–Policy Brief, WANEP 2012
6. Sierra Leone: Gauging the Temperature for a Peaceful Election–Policy Brief, WANEP 2012
7. Practitioner's Guide for Political Dialogue and Mediation, WANEP 2012
8. Guideline for Implementing Peace Education Programme in West Africa, WANEP 2012
9. Contemporary Issues in Peacebuilding: Anthology of WANEP Concept Papers, WANEP 2012





## Highlights Of National Network Activities



“In conformity with the WANEP structure, which gives ownership to peacebuilding work at national level, WANEP National Networks championed peace work in their respective countries. The activities at national level are contextualized to reflect the realities in each country, while the regional secretariat provides the leverage to globalize local issues”

# HIGHLIGHTS OF NATIONAL NETWORK ACTIVITIES

In conformity with the WANEP structure, which gives ownership to peace-building work at national level, WANEP National Networks championed peace work in their respective countries. The activities are contextualized to reflect the realities in each country, while the regional secretariat provides the leverage to globalize local issues. The snapshots contained in this section of the report highlight WANEP's consistent monitoring of conflict issues and advocacy with policy makers across West Africa on critical issues to promote peace and security. Details of National Network activities are contained in their respective annual reports.

## WANEP-Benin

In accordance with WANEP Benin's constitution, the Board of WANEP Benin met twice in February and March to review the network's programmes; and address institutional issues of the network focusing on membership and ways to effectively implement the network's strategic plan.

### CSO Experts workshop on the review of the 1990 Benin constitution

WANEP - Benin in partnership with the Benin Association of Constitutional Rights organised a two-day workshop in March in Cotonou to review and analyse different propositions expressed on the constitutional reform and provide CSO perspectives to address gaps.

The recommendations of the workshop were publicized through a press release on March 15th, 2012.

### Seminar on the application of electoral codes in West Africa

An experience-sharing seminar on the application of electoral codes in West Africa was held in February in Cotonou to highlight the lessons Learned, challenges and Perspectives. The practice guide on electoral violence was also launched and highly appreciated.



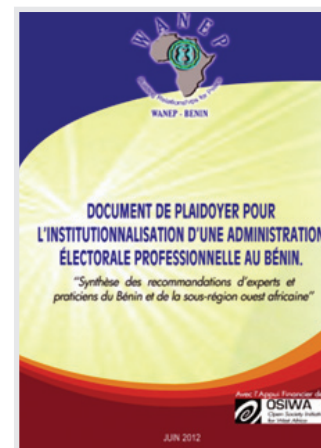
### Seminar on Political Dialogue and Elections in West Africa

An experience sharing seminar on political dialogue and election in West Africa was held in February. The seminar recommended the institutionalisation of a professional electoral management body in Benin with a mandate longer than that of the President; and the creation of a platform for electoral dialogue involving all registered political parties following the example of Ghana.

### Publication of an advocacy paper on the professional administration of the electoral process in Benin

In the implementation of the project on *"Consolidation of the democratic process in Benin through an informed citizens' participation"* and with financial support from Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA), a paper titled *"Advocacy for the Institutionalisation of a professional electoral administration in Benin"* was published. Over a thousand copies have been produced to support the process.

WANEP Benin again under its democracy programme organised three regional consultations of opinion lead-



ers in Natitingou, Lokossa and Porto-Novo respectively. The consultations focused on the theme: *Challenges of consensus building on the constitutional review project of the December 1990 constitution*. At the end of the consultations, a roadmap was developed to help all the stakeholders in understanding the need for consensus building in order to achieve a smooth review process of the 1990 constitution.

## WANEP-Burkina Faso

### International Women's Day (IWD)

In commemoration of the IWD, a communiqué was issued to educate the public on the importance of the day; the existence of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and sensitise the citizenry on the importance of the development of National Action Plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325.

### Courtesy Call on the Minister for Human Rights and Civic Promotion

During the year a delegation from the WANEP-BF secretariat and supported by the Regional Coordinator for Network Development from the Regional Secretariat and WANEP-BF board members paid a courtesy call on the former board chair of WANEP BF, Prof. Albert Ouédraogo now the Minister for Human Rights and Civic Promotion. The Minister on his part thanked the WANEP delegation for the call and appreciated WANEP's work in the country while encouraging the network to do more to help in managing conflicts confronting the nation.

### Solidarity visits at the Malian Refugees Camp

In June 2012 the Ministry for Human Rights and Civic Promotion organised a solidarity visit to Malian refugees in partnership with some civil society organisations including WANEP-BF.

### Policy brief

A Policy Brief titled '*Bénin, les indicateurs d'un Etat qui perd ses repères*' (Benin, a nation losing its bearings) was published. The Policy Brief presents analysis of the socio-economic and political situation of the country and proffers policy recommendation as part of its contributions for the consolidation and preservation of peace in the country.

The network was part of about twenty civil society organisations who took part in the solidarity visit. As part of its contribution to alleviate the plight of the refugees, WANEP BF donated an amount of One Hundred thousand CFA Francs (100,000 CFA) in response to the call by the Ministry.

### Awareness and Sensitisation campaign on the role of Women in the electoral process

In appreciation of the vital roles played by women in governance, a sensitisation campaign was organised in Saaba municipality with over 50 participants from various women associations, to raise awareness on the active roles women can play in the electoral process especially the legislative and municipal elections held in December.

### Launching of the Election Dispute Management Practice Guide for West Africa

As part of its continuing efforts to support the electoral process in the country, WANEP Burkina launched in-country the Elections Dispute Management Practice Guide as a critical resource to support the country's democratic development with regards to its electoral process.

The major impact of the launch was the huge demand for the publication in the country and a sponsorship from USAID extended to the National Network Coordinator for a working tour of the United States.





## WANEP-Cape Verde

### Sensitisation campaign on Non-violence and Peace Education

During the year under review, WANEP CV undertook several activities; key amongst them, the training of youth peer educators in conflict and peace with the aim of strengthening social cohesion among the youth and also encourage a violence-free street culture.

### International Women's Day celebration

WANEP CV dedicated this IWD celebration to the young boys and girls. The idea is to build right from young age a

mindset of positive attitude and respect from the young boys towards their "sisters". With this kind of education at an early stage, WANEP CV believes that it will go a long way to contribute towards the prevention of gender-based violence and respect for women's rights. An interactive and participatory session was held during which the history of IWD was presented and discussed, gender equality in education was discussed and music was used to showcase the exploits of Cape Verde women as well as women in the world.

## WANEP-Cote d'Ivoire

### Project launch on Democracy, Non-violence and Peace Education

The project entitled "*Democracy, Non Violence and Peace Education in schools*" was launched in February in Abidjan. In attendance were representatives from the Ministry of National Education, Ministry of Family, Women and Children's Promotion, the National Human Rights Commission, the UN Mission in Cote d'Ivoire, the US Diplomatic Mission, and CSOs. This was followed with a training for 45 Primary and Secondary school teachers who served as trainers for their students. In order to trickle down the knowledge and skills acquired during the training, five trainings were conducted in the following schools: Groupe scolaire Santigui Sangaré of IEP Adjamé 2; groupe scolaire Agbékoi of Abobo; groupe scolaire Sogefia of Yopougon; scolaire Mamadou Koné and IEP 2 of Adzopé.

Monitoring and evaluation visits were conducted during the year in the clusters of schools in Adjamé, Abobo, Yopougon and Adzopé during which training manuals were distributed to the trained teachers.

WANEP-CI produced a short film on awareness and sensitisation on social cohesion and national reconciliation titled "*All for Peace*". This was aired on national television two times weekly.

### International Women's Day

Held under the theme; "*Women and Men, Together for a Reconciled Cote d'Ivoire*", WANEP-CI in collaboration with the organisation YE YO KUN, celebrated the International Women's Day on March 08 at Aboisso.



### Conference on Gender mainstreaming in conflict prevention

In June, WANEP-CI in partnership with the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), and the Women Peacemakers Programme (WPP) organised an international conference to reflect on gender mainstreaming into conflict prevention effort.





### Restoration of the rights of victims of sexual violence project

As part of its contribution to restore and promote the rights of women who suffered sexual violence during

the 2011 political crisis, a feasibility study tour in Danané, Duekoué and Man was organised for the introduction of the project to traditional authorities and relevant stakeholders and strategise on ways to implement it.

## WANEP-Ghana

### Youth in Elections Project (YIEL): Training for IPYDC's in Tamale, Ghana

WANEP-Ghana, as part of the capacity building of the Inter Party Youth Dialogue Committees to deal with issues that could trigger violence in their communities, organised a three-day training workshop in Tamale on "Building Party Youth Capacity for Peace in 2012"

### Media Responsibility Project (MEREP)

A media responsibility project to encourage accountable journalism amongst local media for the promotion of peace and non-violence in the run up to elections in 2012 was organised.

### Celebration of the International Women's Day (IWD):

Through its WIPNET programme, WANEP-Ghana commemorated the IWD on March 15th with emphasis on the provision of support to vulnerable women in the society to intensify their voices on issues that affect them; which would in turn enhance their rights.

### Meetings with Security Councils

With support from *STAR-Ghana and IFA/Zivik*, series of meetings with Regional, Municipal and Metropolitan Security Councils in hotspots to present and discuss GHANAWARN—WANEP Ghana's Early Warning System was organised.



### Quarterly meeting and Training workshop for WIPNET groups

With support from *Ifa/Zivik and SIDA*, the Quarterly meetings of WIPNET brought together women from the eight different WIPNET groups to discuss their achievements and their challenges, as well as provide training in mediation and conflict management and analysis.

### Training for Women and Youth in Western region

In an effort to build the capacity of women and youth to participate in the peacebuilding process in the Western Region, WANEP Ghana in partnership with *USAID/LOGODEP* undertook a two-day training workshop in September in Takoradi to equip the participants with an in-depth understanding of concepts of peace, conflict, mediation, non-violent communication and early warning.

### Production of a short film to support violence-free elections

In order to promote sustainable peace during the 2012 general election and with support from GIZ, WANEP Ghana produced a short drama that was publicly screened. The short film sought to advocate for a violence-free and peaceful election. Copies were circulated to various media outlets for wider broadcast.



### Exchange visit/review meeting between the Inter-Party Youth Committees (IPYDCs)

With support from *IBIS, SIDA, GIZ, Christian Aid, British High Commission and Australian High Commission*, a one-day exchange visit and review meeting aimed at sustaining the collaboration among the various committees was held

between the IPYDCs from Buiepe, Yendi, Bimbilla, Gushiegu, Tamale, Wa, Bolgatanga and Bawku. Major outcomes of the meeting are the existence of a Facebook page in Tamale and also the ability of NDC and NPP youth to visit each other. Members also contacted the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC) for appearance on GTV local dialect news to discuss peace.

## WANEP-Guinea

### Celebration of the International Women's Day (IWD):

Through its WIPNET programme, WANEP-Guinea commemorated the IWD in March with the support of the Regional Secretariat through a SIDA grant. The focus of the celebration was on providing support to vulnerable women in society with the objective of promoting their rights and providing the space for them to amplify their voices on issues that affect their lives. WANEP gave a symbolic support to the women in the Commune de Matoto by distributing food items and a token amount of cash. Representatives of the Local Government authorities, the Ministry in charge of Social Affairs, Women Promotion and civil society were in attendance.

### Production of a policy document on national reconciliation titled "Mechanisms for Transitional Justice":

As part of its contribution to the urgent call for national reconciliation, WANEP Guinea produced a policy document to guide policy makers in the establishment of a national reconciliation mechanism that would address the social and political polarisation that has characterised Guinea on the basis of regionalism and ethnicity. The document presents policy options and clearly identifies the best ones to adopt and situates the roles and responsibilities of the main actors.

WANEP Guinea also carried out the following:

- ◉ Training of local trainers on conflict prevention, management, mediation, early warning and early response in Mamou;
- ◉ Replication workshops on early warning and early response, conflict management and mediation in four regions of the country;
- ◉ Awareness and sensitisation sessions at prefectural and municipal level and appearance on TV programme for the advocacy and promotion of a culture of peace;



## WANEP-Guinea Bissau

In keeping up with its mission of promoting peace in the country, WANEP Guinea carried out several activities during the year both at the national and sub-regional level, key among which are, commemoration of the International Women's Day on March 8th; Training of mediators on indigenous mechanism for election dispute management

and conflict prevention; Review of the indicators of the National Early Warning System (NEWS); Submission of incidents and situation reports for the ECOWARN; Participation in the stakeholder consultation on the cross-border project in Sierra Leone.

During the political turbulence that ensued after the coup d'état, civil society organisations including WANEP Guinea Bissau and its partner organisations INTERVENTION FEMININE, PLACON-GABU and Justice and Peace actively engaged in the mediation process that sought to restore calm and peace in the country. To sustain the process, WANEP Guinea Bissau equally contributed financial and technical support to INTERVENTION FEMININE for the establishment of regional and district peace councils under the project called "GUINE TERA DI PA", i.e. Guinea, Land of Peace.



## WANEP-Nigeria

### Training workshop for women leaders on community conflict monitoring and early response to community conflict and disaster

A workshop in accordance with Humanitarian Emergency Response and Development (HERD) phase 3 was organised for community women leaders in Kwande LGA of Benue state and Jos in Plateau state to enhance the participants knowledge on the components of early warning and response.

### Implementation of HERD zonal activities in 12 selected states.

Advocacy visits to Local Government Area (LGA) authorities were undertaken to sensitise the leadership on engaging LGA officials in data gathering for the National Early Warning System (NEWS) of WANEP-Nigeria; and training of the Community Development Department officials of all the LGAs on conflict monitoring/early warning and early response and consultative meeting with critical state institutions with the capacity to respond to issues of conflict and disaster at the state level were organised respectively.

### Monthly Early Warning Bulletin:

The Early Warning Bulletins produced during the year were all shared with state actors including ECOWAS and uploaded on WANEP-Nigeria's website for the use of state and non-states actors responding to conflict and disaster in Nigeria.

### Weekly Highlight:

The production and circulation of the weekly highlights were also undertaken. The weekly highlight is made available to both local and international stakeholders to respond to the issue of conflict and natural disaster in Nigeria.

### Action Plan with National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

WANEP Nigeria in a bid to improve its working relationship with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) during the year signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a joint action plan for the prevention and mitigation of conflict and disaster in the country.

### Training workshop on conflict monitoring

A conflict monitoring training workshop was held for selected Ikorodu women leaders on monitoring of conflict and disaster related issues in Ikorodu and its environs.



### Development of a draft trainers' manual on climate change adaptation in agriculture for small scale farmers

As an implementing partner of OXFAM GB, an experts meeting to develop a trainer's manual for climate change adaptation for agro producers in Nigeria was organised to brainstorm on the contents and the general outlay of the manual; and subsequently a harmonisation meeting to facilitate a presentation of the draft module for assessment, revalidation and amendment. This was followed with a Training of Trainers on climate change adaptation in agriculture for small scale farmers in Abuja for 25 participants from 3 states to build farmers resilience to the realities of climate change; as well as to create a pool of experts at grassroots level to promote farmer to farmer direct learning.





### International Day of Peace seminar

The WANEP South West Zone in collaboration with Women Advocate Research and Documentation Centre in Lagos commemorated the International Day of Peace under the theme: “*sustainable peace for sustainable future*”. This created the opportunity for exchange of ideas on the ideals of peace and the roles of individuals in building peaceful coexistence as well as interrelationship between peace and development especially in Nigeria.

### Expert Development Roundtable

An Expert Development Roundtable aimed at developing a framework for the inclusion and participation of women in peace processes in the Niger Delta was organised in Benin in September. This led to a continued collaboration with the State Ministries of Women Affairs and other relevant stakeholders to sustain the relationship with WIPNET members on their involvement in issues of peace and security in the Niger Delta Region.



## WANEP-Senegal

WANEP Sénégal in the year under review received its certificate to officially commence work in the country; and it immediately engaged in a process to re-launch the network into a more dynamic and functional civil society organisation. Though the network struggled to mobilise adequate funding to contribute to peace and security

efforts in the country, it nevertheless with the support from Regional Secretariat undertook some activities under the WIPNET programme with a training on UNSCR 1325 for 30 women leaders from Kolda, Ziguinchor and Sédhiou regions. It also continued to submit on regular basis incident and situation reports onto the ECOWARN system.

## WANEP-Sierra Leone

### National consultative meeting on peaceful elections in Sierra Leone

A two day National Consultative Meeting was organised in collaboration with the Regional Secretariat to identify challenges that could confront the conduct of peaceful and credible elections in Sierra Leone with a view to collaboratively address them through multi-stakeholders approach. At the end of the meeting, a communiqué was issued by the participants recommending measures to

prevent and mitigate the challenges. One of the major highlights of the meeting was the invitation of the WANEP Programme Director alongside the British High Commissioner in Sierra Leone, the Chair of National Media Commission as guest panelists to discuss the polls on the GOOD MORNING SIERRA LEONE TV programme.





### Community conflict early warning monitors trained in four chiefdoms

A training of 160 local peace monitors including youth, women and persons with disabilities (PWDs) on skills for community early warning monitoring and reporting was organised and has been completed in four targeted chiefdoms.



### Launching of consultation report on peaceful elections 2012

WANEP-Sierra Leone launched the report on the National Consultative Meeting on peaceful elections in Sierra Leone, held in June 2012 to the media and general public. The Launch was attended by relevant stakeholders. The chair of the occasion, Ms. Miatta French, Commissioner of the Electoral Commission for the Western Region described WANEP's contribution as a laudable initiative in its efforts at ensuring that peace prevails in the November 17 general elections. The Commissioner and other stakeholders present appreciated the recommendations contained in the report and indicated their resolve to work towards achieving peaceful elections.

The outcome of the polls eventually demonstrates to a large extent that the adherence to the recommendations in the report by the National Electoral Commissions and the other relevant stakeholders contributed to the successful organisation of the elections considering the fact that this is the first elections conducted by Sierra Leoneans without external supervision since the end of the civil war in 2001.

### Training of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) on policy advocacy

A two-day training for 25 participants from civil society organisations and other stakeholders on policy advocacy was held in Freetown in September. The training strengthened the CSOs capacity to design well-articulated advocacy messages in their programmes especially in the build up to the general elections in November 17, 2012.

### ELECTIONS 2012

WANEP Sierra Leone as a leading peacebuilding network in the nation apart from the various consultations it held early in the year to contribute to violence-free and peaceful elections did not rest on its oars but again mobilised itself and engaged in active sensitisation and awareness campaigns and other activities; key among which were:

- ⊙ Road Show for Non-violence and Peaceful Elections in Kono District with over 400 participants from all walks of life including especially the youth from various associations;
- ⊙ A Door-to-Door Campaign for Violence-Free 2012 Elections to about 1800 homes in Tankoro, Gbense and Nimikoro Chiefdoms;
- ⊙ Election Observation; WANEP deployed 62 Election Observers (60 local and 2 international) in the Western Area and in the Kambia, Kono and Pujehun Districts.



## WANEP-The Gambia

### United Nations Democracy Fund project (UNDEF) "Enhancing the participation of women in democracy"

The network under the UNDEF project designed to increase the number of women elected into decision making bodies such as National Assembly and local Government Councils conducted series of activities such as women mentorship training workshops, radio programmes, open forums etc. in the year under review.

### The Coalition of Civil Society Organisation on elections

As preparation kicked off in March for the National Assembly Elections, WANEP-The Gambia coordinated the Civil Society Coalition on Elections in The Gambia to discuss their involvement and contribution towards the 2012 National Assembly Elections.

### International Women's Day

WANEP-The Gambia and its partners on March 8th joined the rest of the world to celebrate the International Women's Day through the organisation of a conference on *"Women in Decision Making"*.

### Australian Agency for International Development's (AusAID) project

In the framework of the Australian Agency for International Development's (AusAID) project, a two-day consultative meeting on the promotion of grassroots democracy and effective decentralisation was held in two target regions of Upper River and North Bank regions in June, to introduce the project and seek the opinion of all stakeholders on Local Government Decentralisation process. Courtesy visits were also paid to relevant actors to ensure proper implementation of project. An essential outcome was the pledge made by the Minister of Regional Administration, Lands and Traditional Rulers, to the project that his office was always ready and willing to work with organisations that are working towards national development.

The AusAID project was at 50% of its implementation cycle in the last quarter of the year and a midterm review report has been submitted to the donor.

### Australian High Commission visits WANEP The Gambia

The Australian High Commissioner during a working tour visited WANEP secretariat in October 2012. Strategies for implementation, challenges and the way forward for the AusAID project were discussed. The High Commissioner expressed the interest of his office to participate in some of the activities.



### Cluster Munitions project

To commemorate the 2nd anniversary of the Convention on Cluster Munitions on August 1st, WANEP-The Gambia issued a press release to raise awareness on the anniversary of the entry into force of the convention, and the problems caused by cluster bombs; and organised a 2-day stakeholders dialogue meeting to raise awareness of stakeholders and solicit government support to join the global team in the fight against cluster munitions.

## WANEP-Togo

### Capacity development in non-violence and peace education for pupils

Through workshops, capacity development programmes were organised for Kindergarten pupils in February, to experience the art of drawing and painting to bring out the hidden skills and talents in them.

### Meeting with teachers and guardians

A stakeholders meeting was also organised in February at Kpalime with teachers, parents and school inspectors aimed at discussing the strategies and modalities to adopt for the training of parents on non-violence and peace education processes.

### Peace Exhibition

On the occasion of a three-day meeting held in March at the Diocese of Kpalime, 53 peace clubs represented by 53 pupils competed through games, songs, poems and sketches aimed at depicting the values of peace and non-violence. Major indicators of progress on NAPE show Youths acquisition of useful life skills that would allow them to be responsible adults. Also, the wider community has been exposed to activities that promote peace and non-violence.

### International Women's Day

In commemoration of IWD, a capacity building workshop was held for market women of Adidogomé and Tsévié as well as selected women from the member organisations of the network on the theme: *"The United Nations Resolution 1325: What do Women hold of its Understanding?"*

### Strengthening capacity for parliamentarians in conflict prevention

WANEP Togo facilitated a capacity building training on conflict prevention for Togo parliamentarians. The training brought to the fore the dynamics of the internal political strife and the human security situation. This was to expose the parliamentarians to strategies that would help them to appreciate and resolve conflict and ultimately consolidate the democratic process in the country.

### African Women's Day

In Commemoration of the African Women's Day on 31st July, WANEP Togo organised a seminar on the theme: "The role of the woman in preventing conflict at home." The participants were mainly market women from Adidogomé and Tsévié.









## **Programme Results/Outcomes**



With the expertise of WANEP, it is no wonder that it has been able to successfully negotiate and mediate for peace in very protracted conflicts.

# PROGRAMME RESULTS/OUTCOMES

Below we present some results/outcomes/success stories of the various activities presented across the thematic strata of WANEP. It is worthy to note that WANEP experienced in 2012 some outcomes from activities undertaken in previous years. These reflect WANEP's continuous invaluable contributions to peace and security efforts in West Africa.

## I. West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI)

The 2012 training session enrolled a total of 50 participants across the region and beyond. WAPI has not only increased the capacity of CSOs in peacebuilding, conflict transformation, gender mainstreaming and early warning but has also enhanced the capacities of government and inter-governmental institutions such as [ECOWAS](#) and the [AU](#) in peace mediation, conflict prevention and other peacebuilding and human security issues. This is aptly captured by:

Mr. El Ghasim Wane, Director, Peace and Security of the AU: "permit me to commend you for the excellent job that WANEP has been doing in harnessing civil society peace building in West Africa as well as your exemplary commitment to complementing efforts of governments and inter-governmental organisations such as ECOWAS and the AU in the area of peace and security" He went ahead to describe WAPI as being "instrumental for Cote d'Ivoire as the country pursues its march towards reconstruction and reconciliation..."

Mr. Claude Kondor, an analyst from ECOWAS who was fully sponsored by WANEP for the 2012 training had this to say: "These skills acquired at WAPI are very significant in the Early Warning Directorate's interventions in Member States which is in compliance with the ECOWAS Vision 2020 of moving from ECOWAS of States to ECOWAS of People."..... "It is my hope that WANEP will encourage ECOWAS to embark on sending more staff for training of this nature; as apart from capacity building of staff, it also strengthens collaborative efforts and facilitates networking for sustainable peace and stability in the region"

The Head of the Electoral Commission in the Bawku Municipality of the Upper East Region, Mr. Owusu who participated in the Dialogue and Mediation course at WAPI 2012 made the following observation after the 2012 elections. "Thank you for the training you provided to us and particularly the EC. Bawku is well known to be a municipality with protracted violent conflicts and political polarisation. As the Head of the EC, I worked as a Mediator with all the Political Parties. The outcome was that Bawku unlike in former elections experienced a very peaceful election in 2012"



## II. Women In Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET) Programme

Through the championing of the development of National Action Plans (NAP) for the implementation and promotion of UNSCR 1325 at national levels, WANEP through the WIPNET programme has managed to make West African governments commit to the development and implementation of UNSCR 1325. Since 2010, WANEP has provided technical support to the Governments of Cote d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea, Nigeria and Ghana in the development of NAPs. Thus in 2012 WANEP developed a guide to support the development and implementation of national action plans for implementing UNSCR 1325. Copies have since been shared with all governments in West Africa, ECOWAS and AU. Governments have lauded the development and have promised to use the guide in supporting their processes.

The Ghana Government has completed the development of its plan and implementation is taking off in 2013 after the launching of the plan in October 2012. During the launch of the guide, Hon. Hajia Gariba Boya, Dep. Minister for Women and Children's Affairs noted: "I want to thank WANEP for their support through the entire process of developing our NAP in Ghana and the guideline they have published will greatly help us in the implementation of our Plan."

In The Gambia, Ms. Bintou Gassama of the Gender Ministry commented that "the guide developed by WANEP is a great tool which will help develop the national Action Plan in The Gambia. I would be grateful if WANEP could use the guide to build our capacity so we can quick start the process. We have lot of work to do in The Gambia and we are holding discussions on this guideline so we can start the process immediately."

In Liberia, a meeting was convened at the instance of the President, Johnson Sirleaf to plan the operationalisation of the guide to enhance the implementation of Liberia's NAP which is being led by Hon. Magdalene Dagoseh, Deputy Minister.

In Guinea, the guide for the development and Implementation of National Action Plans on UNSCR1325 and Related Resolutions was launched. The guide is currently being used to guide the development of Guinea's NAP which will be completed in early 2013.

The President of Liberia, Her Excellency Ellen Johnson Sirleaf identified WIPNET as a key factor of Liberia's exploits in terms of the achievements made in minimizing violence against women in the country and in peacebuilding in general: "the role of Liberian women has similarly evolved from peacemaking to peacebuilding. This peacebuilding role was facilitated by institutional frameworks such as the Manor River Women's Peace Network, comprising peace activists from Sierra Leone, Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia; the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) through its WIPNET programme which has established strong national networks in every ECOWAS member state....."

President Sirleaf's commendation of WANEP is corroborated by local women from the counties who participated in WANEP trainings: "Through WIPNET, we are able to send information to each other concerning things that are happening in our communities. Everyone in our communities respects us now and they know what we as women can do. We will not keep quiet for things to go wrong in our communities again." - Mussu Topa - Lofa County

"Some people think we have forgotten the pain we went through during the war, but platforms like WIPNET allow us to share our stories and through it, we continue to heal; I am happy I am sharing my story today again" - Christiana Wayon, Gbarnga.

In Benin, as a result of WANEP sensitisation campaign through WIPNET, the women groups analysed conflicts in the country and realised gaps in their understanding of conflicts, causes, and what to do in their context to curb conflict. They therefore decided to commission a research to identify the causes and manifestations of conflicts in order to provide solutions to help women deal with the problem. The women from 15 groups and associations of the Sô-Ava municipality and its surrounding communities have

formed themselves into a strong advocacy group using their livelihood and income generation activities and common interest in preventing conflicts.

In Togo, Market Women in Adidogomé and Tsévié, who have benefited from WIPNET have been able to do their own analysis of the causes of conflict in their context and developed mechanisms for preventing the causes of conflict. Part of the solution they developed was to commence literacy classes so they can stop conflict that emanate from the inability to read simple messages and prices of goods in the market. The literacy classes offered them through the

SIDA support has enabled them to learn the basic names and prices of products they sell or buy from each other and also do simple additions. They also established a mediation and negotiation committee which mediates in times of conflict. Conflicts in the markets of Adidogomé and Tsévié have therefore reduced drastically.

The ECOWAS and AU Gender Directorates see WIPNET as an ally in the implementation of its gender programmes and this is collaborated in the number of invitations and exchange programmes between the WIPNET programme and the two bodies during the year under review.

### III. Civil Society Coordination And Democratic Governance (CSDG) Programme

The soaring credibility of WANEP from its professionalism has resulted in WANEP playing key roles in Ghana's 2012 elections. As indicated in the regional secretariat activities, WANEP led a joint-Party Election Results Monitoring (J-PERM) project aimed at ensuring mediation when results are disputed. This mechanism supported by the UNDP and all key players in the process especially the political parties. WANEP was prominent in "behind-the-scenes" mediation before Ghana's election 2012 results were officially declared. These behind-the-scenes processes helped calm tensions and contributed largely to preventing a violent conflict situation.

The AU Council of the Wise and the ECOWAS Panel of the Wise both consulted WANEP on the Ghana elections to ensure they were better prepared for the elections.

Furthermore most of the eminent persons from the 10 regions of Ghana who were trained have also used the skills acquired to engage in peacebuilding initiatives at flash points in their respective regions.

Nana Abena Nyarkoa, Queenmother of Twifo Hemang in the Central Region of Ghana who was one of the 22 eminent persons trained by WANEP in dialogue and mediation, averted violent clashes with her new found skills, among two feuding towns (Twifo Hemang and Twifo Mampong) in her region. "The two towns were fighting over the name Twifo. Before my intervention, the two towns were involved in violent clashes that led to hospitalization of many victims. Football matches would always lead to violence between these two and there were fears that the coming elections might lead to violence again. After my intervention however there is now total peace in the area and the two traditional

areas have pledged to live in peace and harmony"- Nana Abena Nyarkoa III.

In the Upper East Region of Ghana, another eminent person used his skills to avert violent clashes between students of the Nurses Training College and the school authorities. In the Volta region, the eminent persons championed the change in the human resource make-up of the National Peace Council. The group demanded that women are head hunted to occupy positions in the regional structures of the Council. The Council thus set aside the process and asked that qualified women were deliberately head hunted for the positions to ensure there was a good balance of male and female ratio on the Council.

In preparation towards Ghana's December 7 General elections, WANEP received over 30 invitations from media houses in the country to serve as professional analysts and educators to the listening public to ensure a violence-free election.

WANEP-Sierra Leone's series of peacebuilding initiatives and services in addition to monitoring the process contributed to the peaceful, largely free and fair elections in the country in November. Ms. Miatta French, Commissioner of the Electoral Commission for the Western Region in Sierra Leone, in one of the WANEP organised programmes, described WANEP's activities as a laudable initiative in its contribution to ensure that peace prevailed in Sierra Leone's elections.



In Benin 1000 copies of an advocacy paper titled: *“Advocacy Paper for the Institutionalizing of a professional electoral administration in Benin”* has been published to support Benin’s electoral reforms process to enhance its infant democracy.

### **Election Dispute Management Guide Reduces Election related Violent Conflicts**

The Publication and dissemination of the Election Dispute Management Guide for West Africa has largely been hailed as a contributor to the reduction in election related violent conflicts in West Africa and Africa. In Burkina Faso, the guide was hailed by the authorities as a timely project that is needed to ensure peace in the country. The Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission, Mr. Barthélémy Kéré requested that the guide be distributed widely among all communities to ensure that the important messages in the guide reach all citizens and pledge to collaborate with WANEP Burkina Faso in their work to ensure peace before, during and after electioneering processes.

WANEP responded positively to this request and dispatched the needed copies in November, 2012 which were widely distributed.

Key actors in the sub-region have commended WANEP for such a resource and requested it to increase the distribution of the Guide. These commendations and calls came from the President of Benin, The Commissioner of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in Nigeria and the UNDP. UNDP Guinea for instance has asked WANEP for a reprinting of French copies of the Guide. They will serve as resource material for impending legislative elections in Guinea. The guide is currently a reference material for Universities in West Africa and is being considered by the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) as a resource for training on Election Dispute Management.

Through the recommendations of a WANEP consultation in late 2012, the Ad Hoc Parliament of Guinea (The National Transitional Council) was able to reform the electoral laws related to the composition of the Commissioners of the Electoral Commission without any disagreements.

## **IV. West Africa Early Warning And Response (WARN)**

The WANEP, ECOWAS and SIDA collaboration which led to the establishment of the National Early Warning Systems (NEWS) of WANEP and also enhancing ECOWARN has increased West Africa’s preparedness for response to conflicts. The WANEP Peace Monitoring Centre (PMC) has become the reference point for most governments for information on human security not only at the local level but also at the national levels. The system has improved ECOWAS’ ability to receive and act on critical information to protect and consolidate peace and security in the region.

Thus, at a seminar jointly organised by WANEP and ECOWAS for Police and Media practitioners in West Africa during the year, Ms. Florence Itheme, Acting Director of the Early Warning Directorate (EWD) of ECOWAS and representing the Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace & Security noted this : “The relationship with WANEP has been very useful to the Commission, because the early warning mechanism of WANEP compliments the responses and feedback from various communities and states to the Commission; It has also helped communities and citizens to get more involved in early warning programmes”

During the year ECOWAS sought the support of WANEP as in previous years in developing policy briefs on Mali and Cote d’Ivoire ahead of its various summits which underscores the growing confidence and enhanced partnership between ECOWAS and WANEP.

In Ghana, the Early Warning system has helped in easily identifying all flash points for close monitoring that helped prevent violent clashes especially in the December 7 elections. The system has received commendation from Ghana’s security agencies that rely on WANEP’s alerts and thereby improving their response to curb violent conflicts.





## V. Non Violence And Peace Education (NAPE)

The work on NAPE has been recognised not only in the region but elsewhere. WANEP serves as a resource institution at the Annual International Conference on Peace Education and Conflict Resolution Education at the Cuyahoga Community College in Ohio in the USA and its work has been greatly appreciated by governments and its agencies that pursue peace education in the formal sector.

### **ECOWAS endorses Peacebuilding/Peace Education in School Curricular**

To ensure there is a holistic approach in building peace among the youth and making peacebuilding part of the culture of the youth, WANEP has been advocating for the inclusion of NAPE in school curricular in West Africa. WANEP's call has finally paid off as Peace Education during the year was finally adopted by the West African Ministers of Education and recommended for the approval of the Authority of Head of States and Governments of ECOWAS. WANEP has actually taken the lead and produced during the year a guideline for the implementation of Peace Education in West African schools.

It is hoped that the operationalisation of NAPE in all schools will ensure a drastic reduction in school gangsterism; violence and above all sustainability of the programme as envisaged by WANEP in the region. The November 2012 election in Sierra Leone was largely peaceful and devoid of violent clashes partly because of the series of peace education activities targeted at vulnerable groups such as Student Unions, Commercial Bike Riders Associations, Ex-combatants Social Networks, Traders and youth miners. The process also led to the establishment of the Youth Peace Councils which continue to serve as mediators for election related conflicts in particular and other conflicts that are identified as possible triggers of communal violence.

In Cote d'Ivoire, school communities in WANEP's project areas are relatively more peaceful. This is attributed to the peace education activities embarked upon by WANEP among the youth and school communities which are violent prone.

The projects areas of note are the Abidjan and Adzopé districts. The school children have become advocates of peace not only in the schools but also in the communities they live.

For instance, a teacher who was trained in mediation, negotiation and other peacebuilding methodologies got his students to identify 54 different kinds of conflicts between the students and youth in the community. The students were able to resolve 85% of these conflicts by the end of the academic year using peer mediation skills they had acquired. This achievement did not only resolve the conflicts but also helped the teachers in the school to consider resolving school and community based conflicts that they had earlier on ignored until it deteriorated into full-blown community violence. The attitudes of the students towards each other also changed from that of hostility to harmonious living with each other.

In Togo, Parents of families in the project area revealed that the relationship between them and their children has greatly improved. Parents now make conscious effort to create a space of communication with their children at home which has helped in decreasing domestic violence. Eight-year old Hounou Monica was able to for the first time openly tell her mother that she preferred being talked to instead of being hit all the time. Monica and other children in the communities have now reached a state of self-confidence and aware of what to do to prevent violent conflicts in their families. Another example is; The Graines de Paix de Cassablanca, a project under NAPE by WANEP Togo, which gives the opportunity to children from age 5-12 to learn prevention of violence through painting, poems, songs and other artistic forms has resulted in the parents of those children not only supporting the efforts of the children at school but also becoming peace advocates in their communities. The parents testify that the children's peaceful behavior as a result of the peace arts has positively impacted on their own understanding of peace as against violence.

## VI. Responding To Conflict Through Dialogue (Special Intervention)

With the expertise of WANEP, it is no wonder that it has been able to successfully negotiate and mediate for peace in very protracted conflicts. Notably among these is Ghana's chieftaincy conflict zone (Bawku). There has been cessation of violence in Bawku since WANEP intervened in mediation and peace education. For instance the recent Ghana election which was of intense rivalry between two leading political parties did not result in any violence in the area.

WANEP is a resource organisation to Ghana's infant National Peace Council and supported the council to mitigate the potential for election related violence in Ghana's 2012 Presidential and Parliamentary elections.

WANEP also was instrumental in curbing violence in Senegal. It is worth noting that ECOWAS is in the process of establishing a Mediation Unit and WANEP is one of the few organisations who will be supporting this initiative and indeed was a resource during the year at a meeting for the design of the structure and modalities for its operationalisation.

### **Building Motivated, Professional, Principled And Committed Peacebuilding Practitioners In WANEP**

With the support of SIDA over the past three years, WANEP has enhanced the skills and professional capacities of its staff across West Africa. The systematized capacity building in the organisation has drastically improved the organisation's ability to perform with very high professional standards and as a result endeared itself to its key partners, ECOWAS, AU and to many organisations and governments.

Thus in 2012, WANEP developed a monitoring and evaluation system, called *Network Accountability, Learning and Planning Systems (NALPS)* which is beginning to support in tracking and identifying results/outcomes from its work and enhancing accountability and the learning and improvement in programme delivery.

The capacity and visibility of all National Networks have improved with many of them becoming national resources for security institutions in their countries. Mr. Justin Bayor, the National Network Coordinator of WANEP Ghana has this to say:

"WANEP-Ghana has become the number one resource in the country when it comes to advice and guidance on peace and security issues. A few years

ago, the security services will not even respond to our invitation but they now proactively seek information and support from us and when we invite them, they are ready to send even more officers than we have planned for. We are also proud to say that our work has also attracted other funding agencies that are supporting us undoubtedly because of our professionalism and creativity in peacebuilding"

Mr. Ibrahim Coulibaly, Deputy Network Coordinator of WANEP-Cote d'Ivoire describes WANEP's present capacity as "great resource" for Cote d'Ivoire. WANEP in Cote d'Ivoire has been able to successfully coordinate the cooperation of the hitherto loose and uncoordinated NGOs and CSOs in the country. Now we represent a stronger voice in the country. We are also the lead support of all peace and human security issues in the country.

The development of a comprehensive Accountability, Learning and Planning system (M&E) with institutionalized principled processes has greatly improved the accountability processes of WANEP both at the regional level and at the national network level. The existence and operationalisation of a Network Accountability, Learning and Planning System (NALPS) has ensured the improvement of in reports from activity based to results based with great potential to improve further.

In order to build on the 2012 assessment and to enhance the building of institutional capacities of WANEP National Networks, a WANEP Sustainability Index (WSI) was also developed to appraise the National Secretariats annually. This will identify institutional challenges and will keep the regional board informed on the state of affairs of each National Network on a regular basis for strategic support and response planning.

All these activities and outcomes during the year have helped strengthen the sub-regional and regional capacities to enhance peace, human security and fundamental human rights for the purpose of sustaining development in West Africa. It is therefore envisaged that WANEP with the support of its partners in and out of the region, will consolidate the gains and innovate new ways of building peace despite the volatility of the region.





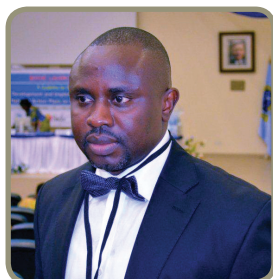


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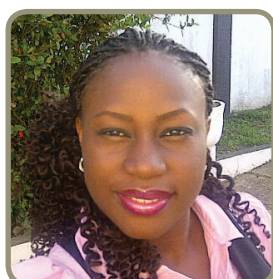
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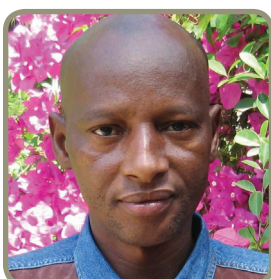
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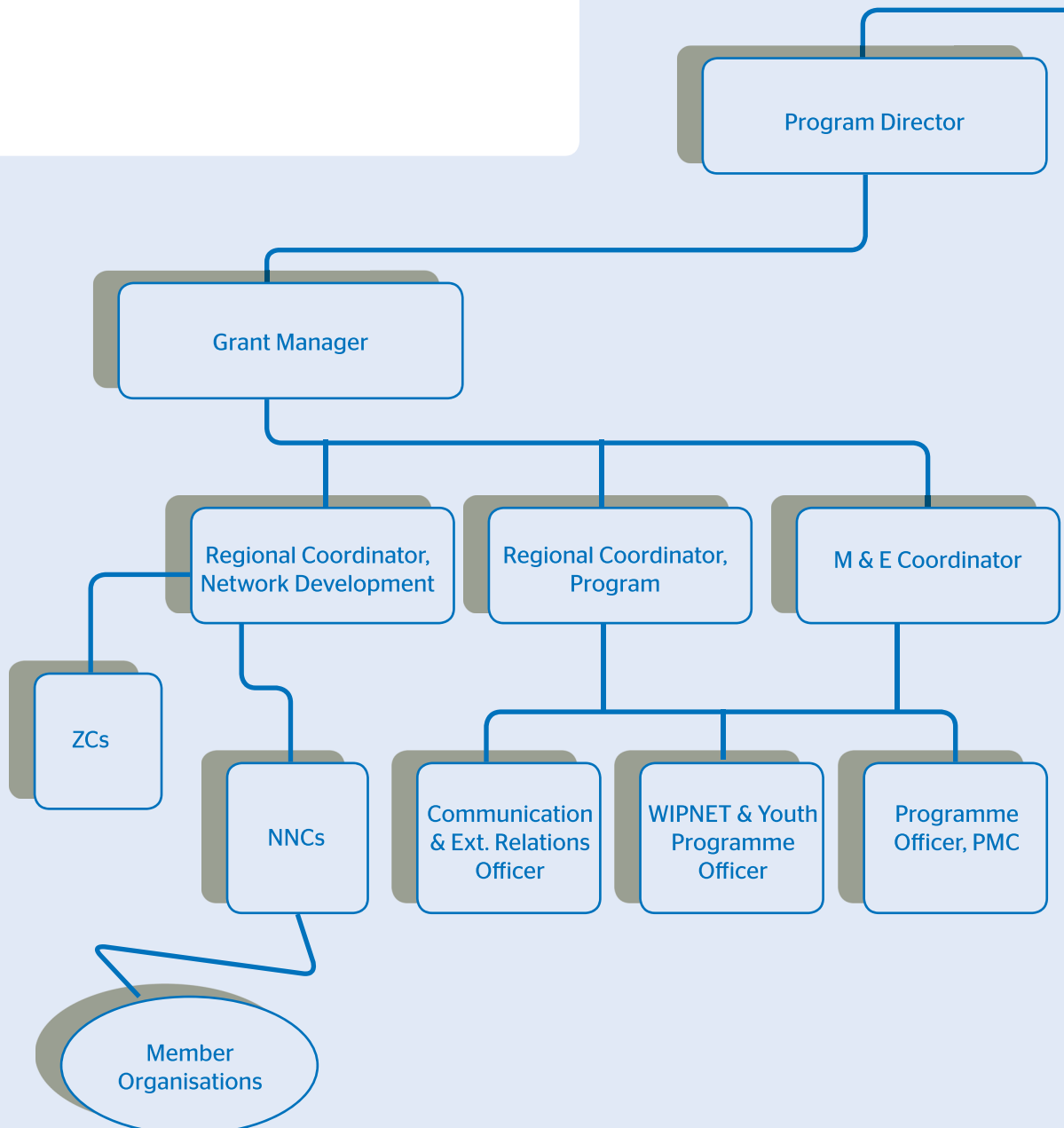


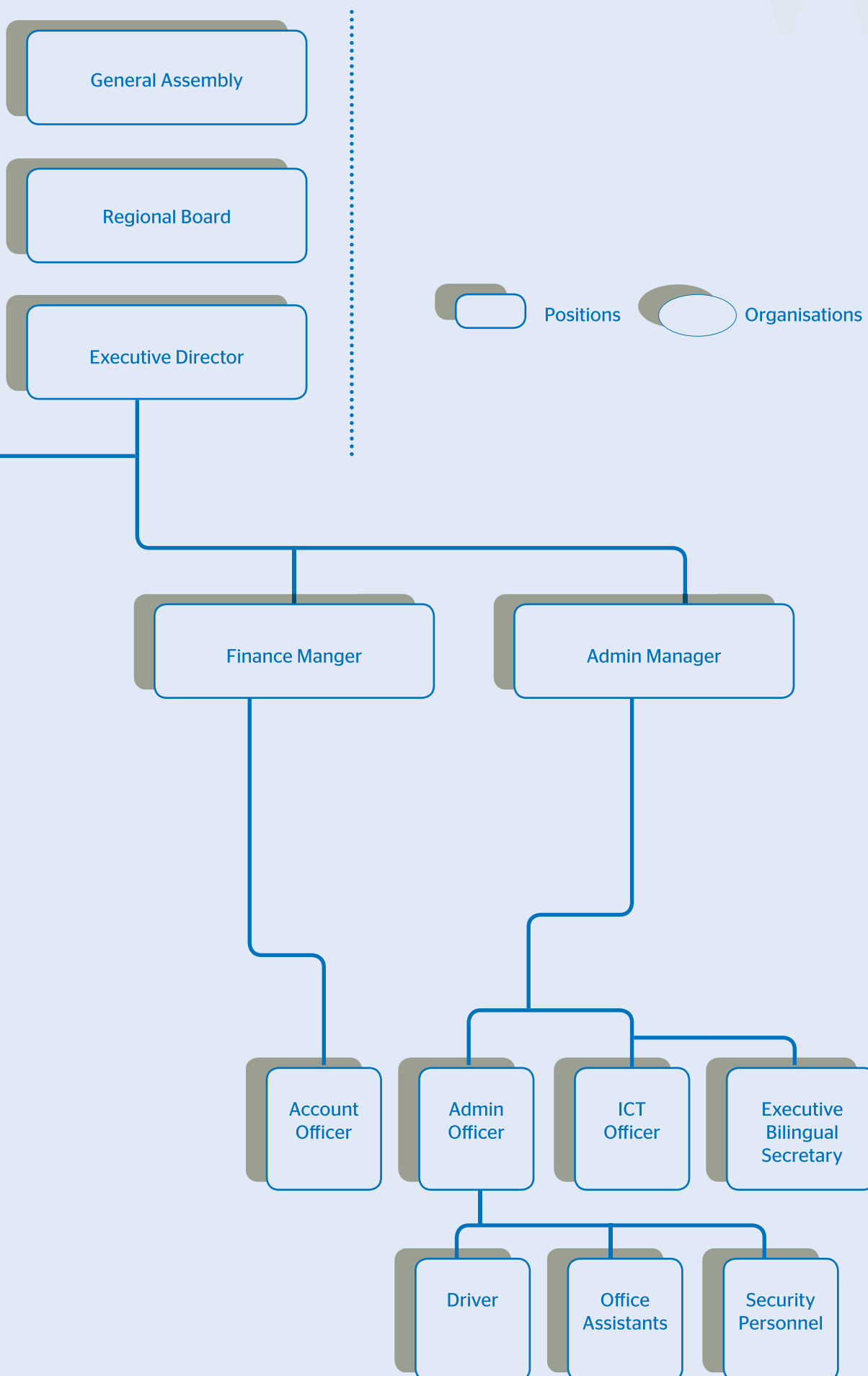


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