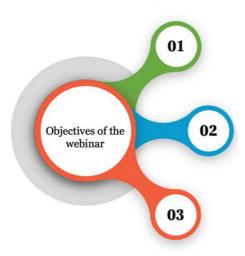




The 11th edition of the Youth Perspectives Webinar focused on the theme: From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Peace and Security in West Africa. It was in tandem with the focus of the International Youth Day (IYD) 2024. It highlighted the linkage between digitalization and accelerating progress of the Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), with youth being the key drivers of the process. Celebrated every year on August 12, IYD creates opportunity to bring attention to issues that impact young people and to promote their agency in creating a better world

OBJECTIVES

The 11th edition of the Youth Perspectives webinar sought to:



Enhance understanding of the nexus between digitalisation, peace and security

Promote existing digital innovations for peace, security and good governance in west Africa, with contributions from youth, that can be leveraged to enhance stability in the region

Make recommendations for policy influencing on youth digital innovations for peace and security



AGE RANGE OF PARTICIPANTS

A total number of 60 people participated in the webinar with about 80% between the age of 15 and 35.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS

EXAMPLES OF DIGITAL INNOVATIONS FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE, PEACE AND SECURITY IN WEST AFRICA DEVELOPED WITH THE CONTRIBUTION OF YOUTH



C-PAID is an online toolkit and mobile application designed to foster a culture of active citizenship and enhance assess to good

governance and development in West Africa. It was developed by WANEP in collaboration with the UNDP Regional Programme for Africa



Kakofo is an online application developed by Malian youth to fight corruption.



STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE PEOPLE'S CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN WEST AFRICA, THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

- **1. Strenghen partnership with youth web developpers** to design specific applications that respond to the peace and security challenges in the region
- 2. Enhance capacity of youth in the area of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to help address the challenges facing the region.
- **3. Improve access to internet for young people**: Only 5 per cent of children and young people in West and Central Africa have internet access at home compared to the 33 per cent global average. (Source: ITU)
- **4. Reduce costs for connectivity**: With the exception of few countries, the cost of 1-gigabit broadband internet data in most West African countries, could be sold for as much \$15.6. (Source : CitiNewsroom)
- 5.Increase funding: for youth digital innovations/ start-ups for peace and security6-Member states to regulate the digital space to reduce vulnerabilities to violence, including, violent extremism and cybercriminality

ABOUT YOUTH PERSPECTIVES

Youth Perspectives is an online dialogue platform initiated by WANEP under its Youth, Peace and Security Program to amplify young people's voices and contribution to peace and security in West Africa. In 2015, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 2250, to acknowledge the important role and contribution of young people to conflict prevention. It also urges member States to take specific measures to enhance youth participation in decision making and peace processes. Resolution 2250 identify five key pillars for action, including: Participation, Protection, Prevention, Partnership and Disengagement and Reintegration.

ABOUT THE PANELITS



Nestor Celestin KOTCHADJO, consultant lawyer, Youth Peace and Security specialist, Peace and Security Mediation Program Manager at the Legal and Social Expertise Clinic (CEJUS). Spokesperson for WANEP's Youth For Peace Togo platform, National Manager of the "School of Peace" Service of the Sant' Egidio Togo Community.



Bane Hawa, Director of the Research Innovations department at Tuwindi. She graduated from the national engineering school of Bamako, then from the



Bouba Atman is a Historian of Tics. He has a fairly rich background in digital communication, journalism, etc. Currently, he is an auditor in Cultural Heritage Management at Senghor University in Alexandria.





YOUTH PERSPECTIVES

E-BULLETIN

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