



**WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR  
PEACEBUILDING**

**Progress Report  
JANUARY-MARCH 2022**

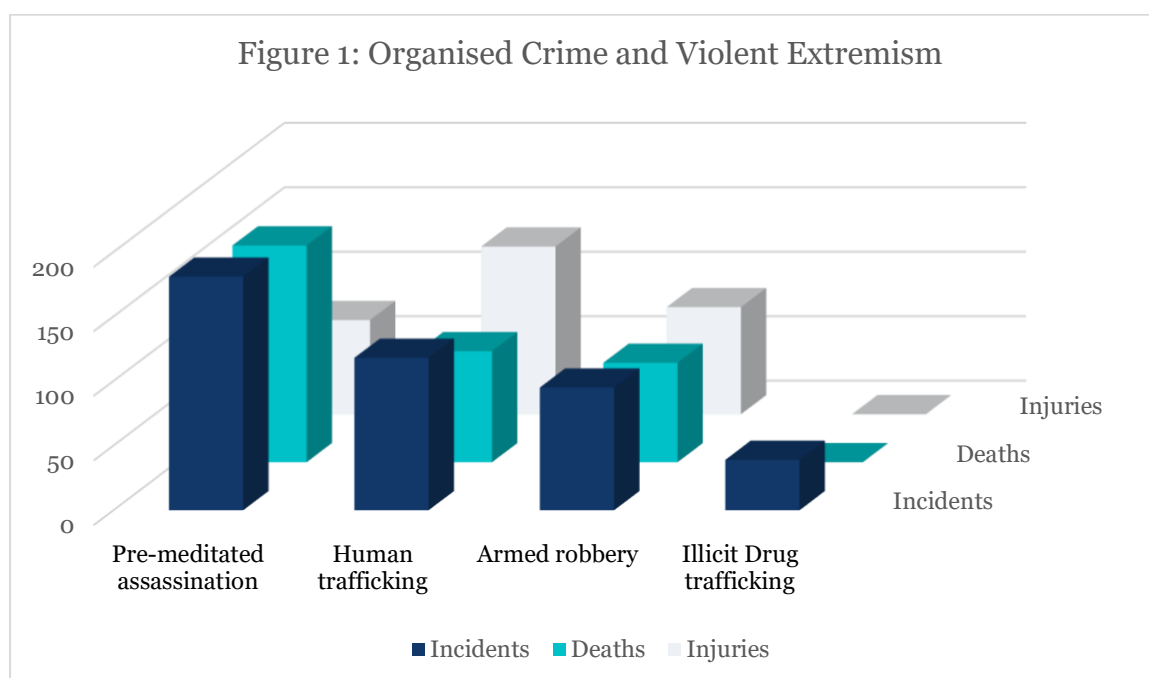
## OVERVIEW OF QUARTER ONE (Q1) PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

### PEACE AND SECURITY OVERVIEW OF WEST AFRICA

In the first quarter of 2022, a total of **1932** incidents were recorded by WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) representing an increase of **174** incidents as compared to **1760 incidents** recorded in the last quarter of the year 2021(October to December 2021)

#### Organised Crime and Violent Extremism

In the quarter under consideration, WANEP's 550 community monitors across West Africa recorded **over 260** terrorist related attacks. Other types of incidents recorded included pre-meditated assassination, armed robbery, human trafficking, and illicit drug trafficking. These incidents resulted in **1,255** deaths and **363** injuries.



As shown in figure 1, pre-meditated assassination had the highest number of incidents with **181** cases which resulted in **168** deaths and **73** injuries.

This type of crime was followed by human trafficking which recorded **118** cases. The cases involved **292** people including 89 women and children. **86** of the victims were killed and **130** others injured by kidnappers.

In terms of armed robbery, **95** incidents were recorded which resulted in **77** deaths and **83** injuries. Illicit drug trafficking however had the least number of cases: **39** incidents were recorded and over **5443kgs** of cannabis were seized by security operatives across the region. Most of the Illicit drugs seized were cannabis, cocaine, tramadol, methamphetamine, codeine, opioids among others. Suspects were apprehended in Nigeria, Niger and Guinea leading to the seizure of **532.75kgs** of cocaine.

#### Women, Peace, and Security

The implementation of the women, peace and security agenda continued to gain grounds in the region. There have been deliberate efforts by Governments and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) across the region to promote women's protection and participation in decision making in the region. For instance, WANEP's Performance Indicator Tracking Table (PITT) indicates that **318** women and **134** women are occupying positions of leadership at the community and national levels respectively in 8

west African countries.<sup>1</sup> However, despite these efforts, women and girls remain marginalised and suffer economic hardship, Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) as well as various forms of domestic violence.

In the period under review and as illustrated in figure 2, **66** rape incidents<sup>2</sup> were recorded across the region resulting in **33** injuries and four (**04**) deaths. Two (**02**) Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) cases<sup>3</sup> that led to two (**02**) deaths were recorded in Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone.

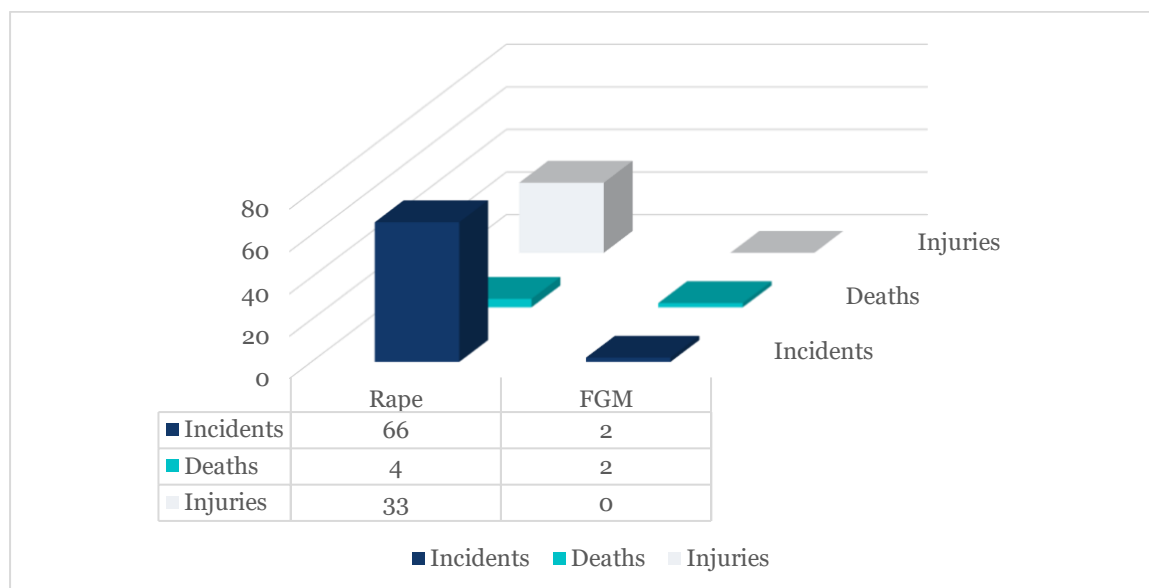


Figure 2: Women, Peace and Security

### Democracy and Governance

The governance and democratic landscape in West Africa in the quarter under review was largely dominated by incidents of coup d'états. A successful coup d'état, on 24 January 2022 overthrew the democratically elected President of Burkina Faso, Roch Marc Christian Kabore and an attempted coup in Guinea-Bissau, in February 2022, led to **11** deaths and several injuries.

Another issue of concern was the deterioration of state-citizen relations. Inadequate social services and unemployment continued to fuel rural-urban migration, urban crimes, and increased demonstrations. WANEP's monitors recorded **130** demonstrations that led to **52** deaths and **30** injuries across the region in the first quarter of 2022.

### Environmental security

The West African ecosystem continued to experience the effects of climate change. Harsh weather conditions have not only affected the patterns of rainfall but have also affected crop production in many communities across the region.

There were incidents of fire outbreak mostly caused by bad weather conditions and electrical malfunctioning. Data from the NEWS indicated over **70** fire incidents (wildfire) due to bad weather conditions that led to **55** deaths and **30** injuries. **43** other fire incidents were caused by electrical malfunctioning resulting in the death of **66** people and **20** injuries.

<sup>1</sup> Data from WANEP's Performance Indicator Tracking Table in Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Mali, Liberia, Guinea Bissau and Ghana (March 2022).

<sup>2</sup> Majority of the raped victims were children between the ages of 1 to 14. For instance, on 22 March 2022, a two-year-old baby girl was raped to death by a 39-year-old man at Pleeto city in Maryland county, in Liberia

<sup>3</sup> The victims were an 18-month-old baby girl (who died on 27 March 2022 at Solenzo in Burkina Faso) and a 21-year-old woman (who died on 7 February 2022 at Sanda Magbolontor District in Northern Sierra Leone)

There were **28** incidents of communal violence including agropastoral conflicts and land disputes in several communities that resulted in **38** fatalities, **48** injuries and destruction of properties.

On issues related to health, **97** confirmed cases of COVID-19 with **96** deaths were reported across the region. In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, there were reported cases of epidemics such as Lassa Fever, Diarrhoea, Measles, Leprosy and Avian influenza in Nigeria, Senegal, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana respectively.

## REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

### 1. TO ENHANCE THE USE OF EARLY WARNING IN SUPPORT OF RESPONSE INITIATIVES

#### 1.1 Election Monitoring, Analysis and Mitigation (EMAM)

**1.1.1** Within the framework of the Electoral Violence Monitoring, Analysis and Mitigation (EMAM) project currently financed by the European Union (EU),

- **WANEP** hosted an Election Situation Room (ESR) in Dakar from 22 to 24 January 2022, during the local elections in Senegal. 14 connected satellite rooms across the 14 regions of the country were also operational. The satellite rooms were managed by the Regional Election Response Groups (RERG). 160 observers (93 men and 67 women) were deployed around the Hotspots and 120 other persons were mobilised to work in the main situation room in Dakar as well as in the satellite rooms.
- WANEP participated in a debriefing session with a team of Political Affairs Advisors from the EU country office in Dakar on 25 January 2022.
- WANEP organised a National Lessons Learned Conference in The Gambia on 16 February 2022. The meeting sought to review the implementation of the EMAM Project in the country and share lessons learned from the Gambian presidential election held on 4 December 2022. The event was attended by 23 participants (14 men and 9 women) including representatives from the European Commission Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (EU-FPI) in Dakar, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS). Prior to the national conference, the Regional Working Group (RWG) held a debriefing meeting on 14 February 2022. 11 participants (7 men and 4 women) including representatives from the EU-FPI in Dakar, ECOWAS and UNOWAS took part in the deliberations.
- On 10 March 2022, a National Lessons Learned Conference was also held in Dakar, **Senegal** focused on the review of EMAM activities organised in the context of the local elections held on 23 January 2022. 29 participants (18 men and 11 women) were in attendance.

**1.2.** From 12 to 28 February 2022, **WANEP Guinea** facilitated 31 capacity building sessions for 540 local actors from the Early Warning and Response System (EWRS) of the *Agence Nationale de Financement des Collectivités Locales* (ANAFIC<sup>4</sup>) project in the communities of Lower Guinea.

**1.3.** From 13 to 19 January 2022, Conflict Early Warning and Early Response Systems (CEWERS) were installed and operationalised in Nasarawa, Benue and Taraba States in Nigeria. In addition, the

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<sup>4</sup> Or in English "National Agency for the Financing of Local Authorities". ANAFIC contributes to the implementation of national public policies, particularly in the areas of education, health, water supply, natural resource management, rural development, and land -use planning in local communities.

capacity of 90 community monitors and analysts (85 men and 5 women) was enhanced in the areas of monitoring and reporting of early warning signals for response. The initiative falls under a project funded by UNDP in collaboration with **WANEP Nigeria** and the Governments of Benue, Nasarawa and Taraba States in Nigeria.

**1.4.** On 26 March 2022, **WANEP Sierra Leone** and other CSOs observed the by-elections in Constituency 005, Kailahun District and Constituency 073 in Port Loko District. The credibility of the electoral process was thus enhanced by the CSOs involvement.

**1.5.** At the request of one of its member organisations “African Movement for Justice and Solidarity” (AMJS), **WANEP Togo** provided a training for 10 trainers (4 women and 6 men) of the said organisation. The theme of the training was “Capacity building of MJS trainers on early warning mechanisms to prevent violent conflicts in Togo” and was held in Atakpame, in south-central Togo.

**1.6.** The Coordinator of WANEP’s Liaison office to the African Union provided early warning reports and analysis to support the African Union (AU) early warning unit. He also generated weekly and monthly early warning reports (January – March 2022) to support the Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS) of the AU Commission.

#### **PRODUCTION AND DISSEMINATION OF EARLY WARNING OUTPUTS:**

A total of **2773** early warning outputs were produced and disseminated across West Africa and beyond, in the quarter under review as shown in the table below:

#### **EARLY WARNING OUTPUTS PRODUCED IN Q1**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>QUANTITY</b>
<b>1</b>	NEWS SITUATION TRACKING	4
<b>2</b>	MONTHLY BULLETIN	42
<b>4</b>	NEWS SITUATION REPORTS	627
<b>5</b>	WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS	168
<b>6</b>	NEWS INCIDENTS REPORTS	1932
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2773</b>

## **2. TO STRENGTHEN WOMEN AND GIRLS CAPACITY FOR POLICY INFLUENCING**

### **2.1. State and non-state actors/institutions supported for the enhancement of gender-sensitive analysis and response actions in ECOWAS Member States**

**2.1.1. GenderTalk Series #7:** The seventh in the series of the Women Peace and Security (WPS) webinar aptly tagged: “GenderTalk Series<sup>5</sup>” was held virtually on 30 March 2022 under the theme: BREAKING GENDER BIAS: Challenges and Prospects. The edition was part of WANEP’s activities in commemoration of the 2022 International Women’s Day (IWD) and brought together 50 participants from across the region. Five (05) selected speakers drawn from the field of gender, education, human rights and peacebuilding shared practical experiences about their interventions and contributions to

<sup>5</sup> The Gender Talk Series holds every quarter and provides the platform to advance women’s meaningful participation and inclusion in leadership, decision-making and peacebuilding. Recommendations from the conversations serve as lessons learned and provide needed material for other stakeholders in their field of work while major outcome of the discussions will be published in ‘Gender Connect,’ a quarterly publication of the WPS Desk.

breaking gender biases that hinder women from attaining their full potential. Discussions also focused on the challenges, opportunities and prospects for achieving gender parity.

## **2.2. Women, Peace and Security platforms and forums established to engage duty bearers to advance the Women Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda, Agenda 2063 and the SDGs**

### **2.2.1. Fourteen-Day Campaign in commemoration of 2022 International Women's Day (IWD)**

The Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Desk of **WANEP** organised a fourteen-day campaign to mark the 2022 IWD under the theme "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow," with the hashtag: #BreakTheBias. The campaign profiled women's contributions and resilience in breaking bias to achieve gender parity in their localities/communities<sup>6</sup>. Several media and digital platforms were used to showcase and recognise the contributions of women and girls who are leading the change in challenging biases and misconceptions in their various areas of intervention including peacebuilding, education, climate change, advocacy, communication, governance, community development among others.

**2.2.2.** As part of activities to commemorate the IWD 2022, **WANEP Nigeria** engaged in the creation of a live Youtube video (<https://bit.ly/38tOFpc>). The live session was to raise awareness on the relevance of promoting gender equality and breaking all forms of bias and discrimination against women in the society.

**2.2.3.** In commemoration of the IWD 2022, **WANEP Guinea-Bissau** organised an awareness raising campaign on 8 March 2022. The aim of the campaign was to inform and educate people on the importance of women's leadership in the context of COVID-19 and contribute to a greater awareness of gender equality and women's emancipation in society.

**2.2.4.** On 8 March 2022, **WANEP NIGER**, the Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC) and representatives of the Defence and Security Forces of the Niger Armed Forces celebrated IWD 2022 under the theme "Protection of civilians in conflict zones in the Sahel: roles and contributions of women".

**2.2.5.** **WANEP Sierra Leone** took part in radio programme discussions on 8 and 22 March 2022 respectively aimed at enhancing communities' awareness on the inclusion and participation of women in electoral processes.

**2.2.6.** **WANEP Togo** run a digital campaign from 8 to 17 March 2022 on the IWD 2022 through the production of four (04) videos focused on the promotion of gender equality in Togo.

### **2.3. Regional Lessons Learned Conference**

Within the framework of phase II of the UNDP supported project titled "Building an Inclusive Post Covid-19 Recovery, Crises Transitions and Governance Reforms in The Sahel"<sup>7</sup>, **WANEP** held a Regional Lessons Learned Conference in Accra, Ghana from 24 to 25 February 2022. The conference provided a platform for the direct beneficiaries of the project to discuss the impact, gaps, opportunities and make recommendations to consolidate women's contribution to development, peace and security in the Sahel and in Côte d'Ivoire. Key agenda items included the presentation of the findings from the appraisal of post COVID-19 economic recovery of women cooperatives, using the Continental Results Framework (CRF) and experience sharing by the National Women Coalitions (NWC) on observable changes from phase II of the project. The event was attended by 35 participants (27 women and 8 men) who joined virtually and in-person.

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<sup>6</sup> These achievements were captured in the form of video clips, photo galleries, posters and profiles of women and girl achievers.

<sup>7</sup> The project, which sought to build inclusive socio-economic reforms in the target countries of Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and the border country of Cote d'Ivoire, was implemented by WANEP in collaboration with UNDP and ECOWAS.

**2.4.** From 19 to 20 January 2022, **WANEP Côte d'Ivoire** hosted a training for 24 persons (14 men and 10 women) who are to provide psychological counsel to the victims of the 2011 post-electoral crisis in the country. The capacity building programme falls under the project funded by the *Fonds au Profit des Victimes (FPV)* titled: "*Soulager les victimes de la commune de Yopougon et d'Abobo de la crise de 2011 pour contribuer à la cohésion sociale en Côte d'Ivoire: Graine de la paix*"<sup>8</sup>

**2.5.** In March 2022, **WANEP Liberia**, with support from Irish-Aid, organised a dialogue session with 30 participants (26 women and 4 men) made up of women political leaders, traditional leaders, representatives of women and youth groups, in Todee, Montserrado County. The purpose of the engagements was to reflect on issues of violence faced by women during election and campaigning periods and to map out opportunities for increasing women political representation.

**2.6.** **WANEP Liberia** organised open space dialogues in three (3) spotlight counties (Lofa, Grand Gedeh and Nimba) on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAW/G). This activity, organised with support from UN Women, brought together 299 participants (157 women and 142 men) and focused on key issues such as Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) and the various instruments (Domestic Violence Laws, SGBV Prevention Strategy, Rape Law and the Referral Pathway) on EVAW/G.

**2.7.** In February 2022, **WANEP Mali** in partnership with the United Development Programme in Africa (UNDP AFRICA), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the National Women Coalition of Mali, and the Association of Bloggers of Mali (ABM) launched a digital campaign to create awareness on the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, gender and GBV. More than 1800 people were reached on social media.

**2.8.** On 5 February 2022, **WANEP Mali** with support from the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF) and in partnership with the *Cooperative multifonctionnelle des Femmes de Kabala* (COFEKA) through the National Coalition of Women of **Mali**, produced a documentary movie<sup>9</sup> (<https://bit.ly/3PTPpFc>) on the nexus of gender, security and climate change.

**2.9.** From 3 to 9 March 2022, **WANEP Niger**, with support from Institute for Security Studies (ISS) organised an experience-sharing roundtable with 18 women involved in the project titled: "Women's local contribution to conflict analysis in the Tillabery region".

**2.10.** **WANEP Nigeria**, with support from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) produced and aired Women Voices for Peace radio programme. The radio programme focused on creating awareness of the UNSCR 1325 and key issues affecting women in the society. The programme was aired for three (3) months, from 1 January to 31 March 2022.

**2.11** **WANEP Nigeria** took part in localization "writeshops" to review the draft local Action Plans on UNSCR 1325 for Balanga and Kwami Local Government Areas (Gombe State); and Katagum and Toro LGAs (Bauchi State). These activities were conducted from 14 to 23 February 2022 and in partnership with Bauchi and Gombe State Ministries of Women Affairs, Norad, Balanga, Kwami, Katagum and Toro community actors, women groups etc.

**2.12.** In January 2022, **WANEP Togo** shared several funding opportunities and other resources with the Women Community Mediators of Togo.

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<sup>8</sup> In English ". "Relieving the victims of the 2011 crisis in Yopougon and Abobo to contribute to social cohesion in Côte d'Ivoire: Seed of peace."

<sup>9</sup> The documentary movie is available in French and is titled "Une Question de Survie"

### **3. TO BROADEN THE PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAMME AND SUPPORT YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND VOICE IN ISSUES OF GOVERNANCE, PEACE AND SECURITY**

#### **3.1 Amplifying Youth Voices on Strategies to Address Unemployment and Instability in West Africa**

##### **3.1.1 ECOWAS Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Strategy<sup>10</sup>**

On 20 January 2022, **WANEP**, Foundation for Security and Development in Africa (FOSDA), and the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief Ghana (Oxfam Ghana) organised a joint webinar to discuss challenges of the implementation of the ECOWAS TVET strategy and make recommendations for its effectiveness. Panelists of the webinar comprised representatives of governments agencies in charge of the TVET program, including experts in technical/vocational education and youth leaders from across the region. About 40 people attended the highly interactive webinar. Key recommendations included the following: i) the need for member States to plan and allocate appropriate funding for the implementation of the TVET plan of action, ii) the need for collaboration with the private sector to support skills development and help absorb the critical mass of available skills among others, iii) the need for gender considerations as an integral part of the various processes and iv) a call for a strong political will in terms of policy implementation.

##### **3.1.2 Youth Perspectives Webinar Series #6**

The 6th edition of the 'Youth Perspectives' webinar series focused on the theme: Youth Employment and Stability in West Africa: Challenges and Opportunities. It was held on 25 and 26 February 2022 respectively for anglophone and francophone audiences and brought together 65 participants, including youth leaders and experts on the subject matter. Conversations at the webinar established the correlation between youth unemployment and peace and security in the region and deepened understanding of the root causes of youth unemployment and their implications on regional stability. Key recommendations included the following i)- the review of the educational system to ensure acquired skills meet the market demand; ii) sensitization and education as resilience factors to youth violence and instability.

#### **3.2 Reinforcing Youth Contribution to Conflict Prevention in West Africa**

**WANEP**, in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission and the Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS) of the African Union Commission held a three-day regional capacity building and inter-generational workshop for youth leaders across the region on conflict prevention and International Humanitarian Law/International Human Rights Law. The capacity building workshop was in accordance with the Continental Framework on Youth, Peace and Security, ECOWAS policies on youth and the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2250. In total, 21 youth benefited from the programme, held from 29 to 31 March 2022 in Abuja, Nigeria. The workshop also provided a platform for further discussions on bridging the intergenerational gaps in conflict prevention as a key strategy to deconstruct stereotypes and perceptions.

#### **3.3. Fostering Partnership on Youth, Peace and Security in West Africa**

On 15 March 2022, **WANEP** and the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY Peacebuilders) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to foster collaboration and partnership towards domesticating the UNSCR 2250, the AU Continental framework on Youth, Peace and Security and the ECOWAS Youth Policy and Conflict Prevention Framework (ECPF). Other areas of collaboration identified included the following: Curriculum development and capacity building for youth on conflict

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<sup>10</sup> In 2019, ECOWAS developed a regional plan of action for its Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) strategy for skills improvement and employability (ESSTIE). The TVET strategy forms part of efforts to address youth unemployment and instability in the region.



prevention, management and resolution, peacebuilding and peace education; advocacy and awareness-raising to strengthen young people’s meaningful participation in peace and security processes, research, knowledge sharing and networking to improve practices in the implementation of the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda in West Africa.

**3.4 WANEP Côte d'Ivoire** in partnership with *Réseau Ivoirien des Leaders (RIL)*<sup>11</sup> and the National Youth Council of Côte d'Ivoire organised a training for the youth on the theme "Initiating young people to the prevention of security challenges in Côte d'Ivoire". The training was held on 26 March 2022.

**3.5** From 10 January to 31 March 2022, **WANEP Nigeria** and School-Based Management Committees (SBMC) in Lagos State visited 15 Secondary schools in Lagos State. The visits sought to provide training to students on Peace Education and Peer Mediation. Specifically, the students were equipped with basic skills to wade into disputes in schools involving their peers within and outside their schools.

**3.6.** On 9 and 23 March 2022, **WANEP Sierra Leone** participated in a radio advocacy and awareness raising programme focused on violence and crime among youths. The aim of the programme was to educate the people on the effects of drug abuse and violence in communities.

**3.7 WANEP Togo** convened inter-youth meetings on peace, security and access to justice, from 11 to 12 February 2022 under the theme "Combating violence against women and girls: what role for young people?". The meetings were held in six (06) localities in Togo<sup>12</sup>. These meetings followed up from the first inter-youth meeting organised in December 2021 under the project "Support to youth organisations for participation in conflict prevention and the strengthening of social cohesion for sustainable peace in Togo".

**3.8.** From 17 to 18 January 2022, 11 young people from the **YouthforPeace Togo** led rich discussions on the topic "Are taboos obstacles to social peace?". The discussions were held on the social media platform WhatsApp.

**3.9.** As part of the project titled "Support to youth organisations for their participation in conflict prevention and the strengthening of social cohesion for sustainable peace in Togo",

- **WANEP Togo** carried out 20 radio broadcasts during the period December 2021 to January 2022. The first broadcast was aired in December 2021. Key thematic areas included the following: i) social cohesion for peace: the role of young people and the involvement of women and girls ii) combating violence against women and girls: what role for young people? iii) youth participation in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts and iv) the role and challenges of young people in the prevention of community conflicts and the consolidation of social cohesion.
- **WANEP Togo** produced an awareness-raising skit in French on the importance of the peaceful resolution of conflicts. The skit was then translated into 3 indigenous languages namely Mina, Moba and Tchokossi and broadcast on various social network platforms from 13 to 19 January 2022.

#### **4. TO EXPAND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND BUILD THE CAPACITY OF INSTITUTIONS TO PERFORM THEIR MANDATE EFFECTIVELY IN HUMAN SECURITY**

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<sup>11</sup> In English: The Ivorian Network of Leaders

<sup>12</sup> The 6 localities are Mandouri, Dapaong, Mango, Gando, Vogan and Lomé.

**4.1. In order to strengthen WANEP’s institutional capacity and its member organisations to deliver on their mandate,**

- a team from the regional office paid a monitoring visit to **WANEP Senegal** on 11 March 2022;
- the regional office supported WANEP Senegal in the recruitment of a NEWS Manager;
- the regional office provided orientation and technical support to its national secretariats in The Gambia, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone. Key areas of support included Finance, Human Resource Management, Partnership building processes and Resource Mobilisation.

**4.2. Under the project funded by Wellspring Philanthropic Fund US, titled “Strengthening a gender-sensitive early warning and response mechanism for the West and Central Africa region, WANEP organised the following:**

- a hybrid Training of Trainers (ToT) for 11 focal points of the Coalition of Civil Society Organisations for Peace and Conflict Prevention in Central Africa (COPAC), from 15 to 17 February 2022. The ToT sought to train COPAC focal points on the use and implementation of their early warning system to strengthen civil society capacity for gender sensitive monitoring, analysis and reporting of human security threats in Central Africa.
- a training on administrative, financial and programme management for members of the COPAC Steering Committee, from 22 to 24 March 2022. The capacity building programme focused on the institutional strengthening of COPAC to enable it deliver on its mandate.

**4.3.** From 21 to 24 February 2022, **WANEP** held its 2022 Participatory Review and Analysis Processes (PRAPS)<sup>13</sup> under the theme: “Adapting Resilient Approaches and Synergies to Peacebuilding in the New Normal”. The event provided an opportunity for WANEP (Regional office and its national networks) to review WANEP’s response to peace and security challenges in the new normal through a reflective process. Additionally, WANEP’s Organisational Development Index (WODI)<sup>14</sup> assessment results for 2021 were communicated at the event, placing WANEP Benin first with 89.9%, followed by WANEP Guinea (88.8 %) and WANEP Togo (87.4%) for the second and third positions respectively.

**4.4.** Three of WANEP’s National Networks held their General Assembly (GA) Meeting in the first quarter narrative and financial reports as well as annual work plans and budgets for the year 2022.

**4.5.** As part of implementation of "Contribution of civil society to the reduction of post-electoral violence in 2020 in Côte d'Ivoire" project, **WANEP Côte d’Ivoire** organised a national seminar on reconciliation with the theme 'Assessment of the recommendations of the final report of the *Commission Dialogue Verité Réconciliation* (CDVR)<sup>15</sup>

**4.6.** During the quarter under review, **WANEP Guinea-Bissau** held several meetings with central and regional authorities in the fight against cattle rustling in the borderlands of Senegal and Guinea-Bissau. The meetings also sought to contribute to the restoration of security, economic recovery and social cohesion between populations.

**4.7.** As part of the implementation of the community engagement project on conflict sensitivity, gender and inclusion in Gao (Gao region), **WANEP Mali**, with support from Adam Smith International (ASI) spearheaded the following activities:

- A capacity building programme for 20 participants (including 07 women) from 7 to 9 February 2022;

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<sup>13</sup> PRAPS is one of the mandatory accountability and learning processes built into the organisation’s capacity development and Monitoring and Evaluation, learning and planning processes.

<sup>14</sup> WODI is an assessment and monitoring mechanism.

<sup>15</sup> In English: Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission

- A public awareness campaign with community leaders in Gao and Ansongo, from 9 to 20 February 2022;
- The production of six (06) radio programmes with community leaders (women and youth) in Gao and Ansongo (from 9 to 20 February 2022). 34,450 People of which 19,700 were women and 79% of young people were reached;
- Two (02) working sessions with community leaders and traditional authorities on the following areas: i) preparation of meetings, ii) the identification of security problems and iii) the notion of representativeness, from 12 to 13 February 2022;
- The implementation of 2 micro-projects as follows: one focused on careers in the cattle industry for youth organisations (Ould Moulouk fraction), the second on petty trade, storage of condiments and liquid soap making for women umbrella organisations in Ansongo from 16 to 18 February 2022. 95 young people and 100 women benefited from these projects.

**4.8.** On 16 February 2022, **WANEP Nigeria** and its partners (the Government of Nigeria, KEBETKACHE Women Development and Resource Centre, State Emergency Management Agency in Nigeria (SEMA), MOWA) paid a visit to Internally Displaced Persons living in the Jessu camp, in Balanga LGA Gombe State. Among other things, the visit sought to i) provide humanitarian assistance to the IDPs and ii) raise awareness on the protracted conflict between Waja and Lugunda ethnic groups.

**4.9.** On 3 March 2022, Staff, interns, and volunteers at the **WANEP Sierra Leone** secretariat were trained on the prevention of the COVID-19.

**4.10.** On 9 and 23 March 2022, the National Network Coordinator of **WANEP Sierra Leone** spoke at a radio programme to enhance the community awareness on the role of WANEP Sierra Leone in promoting peace and Security in Sierra Leone.

**4.11.** As part of its capacity building commitment, **WANEP Togo** organised a training for its finance team on the theme "SYSCOHADA Innovations applicable to NGOs and projects". This training was facilitated by the Cabinet 2EFINANCES. Members of the finance team were trained on the scope of the new accounting framework and its conceptual framework; the specific operations in relation to WANEP Togo's activities and steps involved in the preparation of financial statements.

**4.12.** **WANEP Togo** organised a training workshop for young leaders of political parties on peaceful and non-violent communication in Lomé and Tsévié on 6 January and 7 January 2022 respectively. 17 youth benefited from the workshop.

**4.13.** From 13 to 15 January 2022, **WANEP Togo** carried out a monitoring visit to Dapaong, in northern Togo, where the project titled: "Economic Resilience against Violent Extremism Project phase 1" is being implemented. The objective of the visit was to ensure compliance with administrative guidelines.

## **5. UTILISING RESEARCH CAPACITY TO SUPPORT POLICY ADVOCACY AND LEVERAGE PARTNERSHIPS**

**5.1.** From 20 to 22 February 2022, **WANEP Mali**, with support from ASI, conducted a mapping of the security governance, justice and land management frameworks of the communes of Gao and Ansongo.

**5.2.** **WANEP Togo** met with a team of two (02) German researchers on 24 February 2022. The objective of the meeting was to share knowledge products with the researchers on inter-religious relations and specifically on factors influencing inter-religious relations in Togo.

**5.3.** On 25 February 2022, an internal validation workshop of the National Strategy for the Prevention and Fight against Violent Extremism (SNAPLEV) was held in Lomé, Togo. The meeting brought together 31 participants representing the stakeholders of the project, namely Committee for the Prevention and Fight against Violent Extremism (CIPLEV), WANEP-Togo, the United States Embassy in Togo, and UNDP at the headquarters of the Inter-ministerial CIPLEV. The workshop falls within the context of the project titled: “strengthen Togo's resilience to violent extremism in a context of sub-regional insecurity”, implemented by **WANEP Togo**, with support from the United States Embassy in Togo.

**5.4.** On 28 February 2022, **WANEP-Togo** handed over kits worth 20,195,250 CFA to the 9 beneficiary groups of the Resilience Project. The beneficiaries who are made up of youth and women made commitments to use the kits in accordance with the objectives of the project.

## **6. COLLABORATIONS AND EFFECTIVE NETWORKING**

**6.1.** The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in collaboration with **WANEP** and GIZ-Ghana convened the second edition of the KAIPTC Annual Stakeholder Dialogue Series (SDS) under the theme: “Contributing to the Implementation of ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework (ECPF): Promoting Partnerships with Civil Society Organisations on Peace and Security in West Africa”. Specifically, the event was aimed at leveraging the strengths of WANEP and KAIPTC to engage with relevant CSOs in West Africa to contribute to the ECPF. The event<sup>16</sup> was held in Dakar, Senegal and Banjul, The Gambia on 22 March and 5 April 2022, respectively.

**6.2.** **WANEP** played host to the following stakeholders:

- The Deputy Director of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ms Martine van Hoogstraten on 21 March 2022
- The GIZ ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and Operations (ESPAO) team on 29 March 2022.

The visits led to renewed partnerships between WANEP and the partners and in some cases provided opportunities to explore areas of collaboration for joint planning and implementation.

**6.3.** A delegation from the CSOs concertation space coordinated by **WANEP Guinea-Bissau** and financed by UNDP Guinea-Bissau paid a visit to the President General Umaro Sissoco Embaló on 28 March 2022. The visit followed on from recommendations made at the first national forum on Security, Justice and Peace, held in Canchungo on 19 and 20 March 2022. The purpose of the visit was to officially hand over the Canchungo Declaration<sup>17</sup> on Security, Justice and Peace to the Head of State and to seek his support for its effective implementation.

**6.4.** On 26 January 2022, the Immigration and Border Management unit of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in Mali paid a visit to **WANEP Mali**. The meeting focused on synergies on areas of common interest such as the Security Advisory Committees (SACs) and the Prevention Committees supported by IOM.

**6.5.** **WANEP Togo** had two (02) working sessions (an online meeting on 18 March 2022 and a physical meeting on 30 March 2022) with a team from the USAID-Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) “*Progamme Régional d’Appui aux Pays Côtiers*” (PRAPC) project. Both meetings focused on WANEP

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<sup>16</sup> The event was also in keeping with the requirements enshrined in the framework of the five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the KAIPTC and WANEP and also with WANEP’s strategic objective to play a facilitation role in the implementation of the ECPF.

<sup>17</sup> The declaration and visit to the President resulted from the first national forum held in Canchungo on 19 and 20 March 2022 and recommendations made thereafter.

Togo's interventions in the fight against violent extremism and terrorism and specifically on the Resilience Project funded by the US State Department as well as areas of collaboration.

**6.6.** On 2 March 2022, **WANEP Togo** had a working session with the head of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Togo and Benin to discuss possible areas of partnerships between the two organisations.

**6.7.** A working session was held on Friday 11 March 2022 between **WANEP Togo** and the Country Representative of Humanity & Inclusion<sup>18</sup>. The meeting enabled the two organisations to learn more about each other's areas of focus and to consider the implementation of future joint projects.

**6.8.** From 18 to 20 January 2022, **WANEP Benin** facilitated a session on the methodology for Conflict Management at a capacity building workshop for pastoral agents on the peaceful management of conflicts. The event was organised by the *Artisans de Justice et de Paix* (IAJP) of Benin and brought together 19 participants, including 13 women and 06 men.

**6.9.** The Coordinator of **WANEP's** Liaison office to the African Union moved to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to continue his work. Osei Baffour Frimpong was assigned the role in 2020<sup>19</sup>, but had to operate from Accra, Ghana as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic related work and travel restrictions.

**6.10.** WANEP AU Liaison Coordinator paid courtesy visits to the following partners, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: i) The Sweden Regional Development Cooperation, ii) the Embassy of Sweden, iii) and the GIZ office at the African Union. Discussions centered on issues pertaining to bilateral engagements, and presentation on WANEP's peace and security outlook for 2022.

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<sup>18</sup> WANEP Togo and Humanity & Inclusion previously worked together on a humanitarian campaign for street children on 11 February 2022.

<sup>19</sup> He took over from Ms. Edwige Mensah who has been reassigned as the Coordinator of WANEP's Liaison office to the ECOWAS.