



## WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING

Progress Report  
JULY- SEPTEMBER 2022

## OVERVIEW OF QUARTER THREE (Q3) PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

### PEACE AND SECURITY OVERVIEW OF WEST AFRICA

The peace and security landscape of the region remains precarious with the situation in the Sahel region and Nigeria described as “extremely volatile”. WANEP National Early Systems (NEWS) also point to a geographic expansion of extremist attacks in Mali from North and Centre westwards towards Senegal’s Kedougou and Tambacounda regions. Furthermore, there is an increase in the frequency of attacks and fatalities in Northern Cote d’Ivoire, Togo and Benin bordering Burkina Faso.

In the third quarter of 2022, WANEP's 550 community monitors recorded a total of **1804** human security-related incidents. These incidents resulted in 2554 deaths, injuries to 3116 others and extensive property damage. The data indicate a decrease of 540 incidents compared to the 2344 incidents recorded in the second quarter of 2022. The decrease could be explained by the fact that existing interventions are addressing the identified issues.

### Organised Crime and Violent Extremism

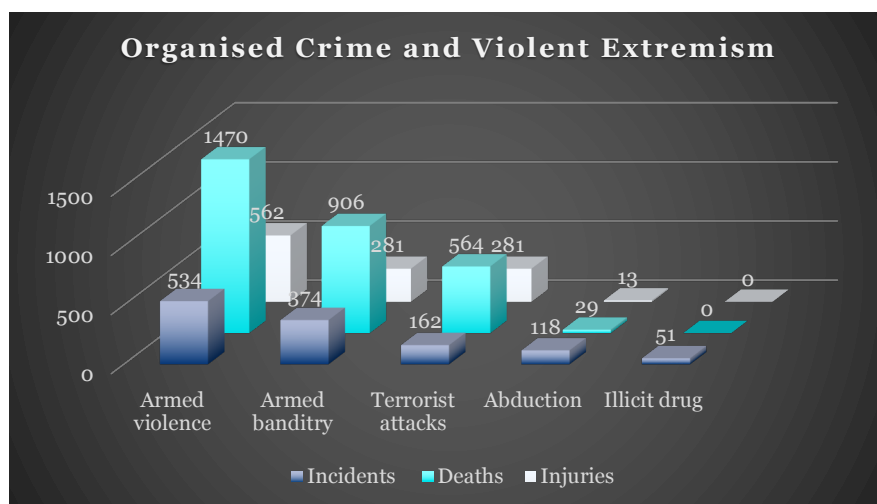


Figure 1

Gun violence continues to threaten the safety and security of citizens in the region. WANEP’s NEWS recorded **534 incidents** of armed/gun violence that led to 1470 deaths and injuries to 562 others across the region. This type of crime was followed by armed banditry with **374 incidents** recorded. The incidents resulted in 906 deaths and injuries to 281 persons. **162** Terrorist related incidents were recorded across Burkina Faso, Mali, Benin, Nigeria and Niger. The incidents led to 564 fatalities and injuries to 281 others. As regards abduction and kidnapping<sup>1</sup>, **118** incidents were reported. 484 people were abducted, 29 of whom were killed, and 13 others were injured by the kidnappers. Illicit drug trafficking recorded the lowest number of incidents: **51** cases were recorded and culminated in the seizure of over 6 460.2 kg of Indian hemp/cannabis, 270.1 kg of cocaine, 2750 tablets of Tramadol among other harmful substances across the region.

<sup>1</sup> Majority of the abduction/kidnapping incidents occurred in Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Mali, Guinea, Liberia, Niger and Togo.

## Women, Peace and Security

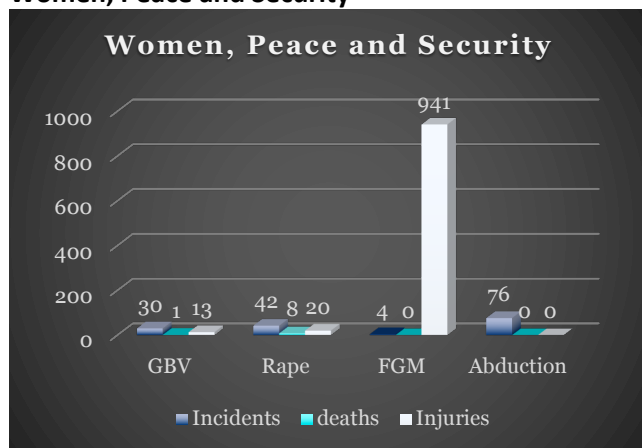


Figure 2

WANEP recorded **30** incidents of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) that resulted in the death of one (01) and injured 13 others. Over **42** rape cases that led to eight (08) deaths and 20 others injured were recorded across the region. In Liberia, **four** (04) incidents of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) were reported with 941 women and girls mutilated. Abduction/kidnapping cases were also reported in Nigeria, Niger, and Burkina Faso. Over **76** women and girls were abducted/kidnapped for ransom by members of criminal networks operating in the region.

## Democracy and Governance

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) continued its diplomatic efforts in Guinea Conakry and Mali to achieve peaceful political transitions in these countries. Through ECOWAS' mediation efforts, the political actors in Guinea Conakry have agreed to a 24-month transition period<sup>2</sup>. Several protests and demonstrations were reported during the quarter. Over **157** protests and demonstrations were organised by Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Labour Unions to draw State authorities' attention to the acute economic situation confronting citizens. The protests resulted in 32 deaths and injuries to 466 others.

## Environmental security

Rainstorms/thunderstorms, flooding, diseases, and fire outbreaks were among the major anthropogenic and environmental hazards recorded in the third quarter of 2022.

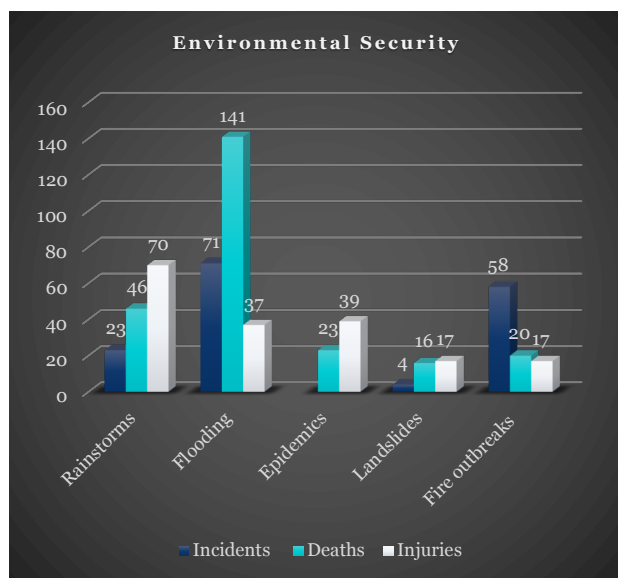


Figure3

**23** rainstorm/thunderstorm incidents were recorded, resulting in 46 deaths and injuries to 70 others

In terms of flooding, **71** incidents were recorded, resulting in 141 deaths, injuries to 37 people, and damage to property.

On the health front<sup>3</sup>, epidemics in Nigeria, Liberia, and Sierra Leone killed 23 people and left 39 others infected.

There were **four** (04) landslide incidents, resulting in 16 deaths and injuries to 16 persons.

There were **58** documented fire outbreak incidents resulting in 20 fatalities and injuries to 17 others.

<sup>2</sup> Some political actors in the country, however, have expressed concerns about the lack of inclusivity during the process that led to the agreement on the transitional period.

<sup>3</sup> Major diseases reported include Lassa fever, meningitis, tuberculosis, measles, poxes, and the Marburg virus

## PRODUCTION AND DISSEMINATION OF EARLY WARNING OUTPUTS:

A total of **5629** 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 Q3

S/N	TITLE	QUANTITY
1	NEWS SITUATION TRACKING	-
2	MONTHLY BULLETIN	42
3	NEWS SITUATION REPORTS	232
4	WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS	168
5	NEWS QUICK UPDATE	-
6	NEWS INCIDENT REPORTS	1804
7	CEWS INCIDENT REPORTS	1522
8	CEWS SITUATION REPORTS	89
9	ECOWARN INCIDENT REPORTS	1701
10	ECOWARN SITUATION REPORTS	71
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5629</b>

## REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

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

1.1 As part of the GIZ ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and Operations (ESPAO) project<sup>4</sup>,

- **WANEP** hosted a series of multi-stakeholder consultations and training sessions on alternative dispute resolution for political parties, in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and The Gambia, in July 2022.
- **WANEP**, the ECOWAS Early Warning Directorate (EDW) and the Directorate for Political Affairs (DPA), held a reflection meeting from 29 to 30 August 2022 in Ghana. The meeting sought to develop a joint strategic approach to contribute to credible elections and political transitions in West Africa.
- **WANEP** held a workshop on applied analysis and scenario building, learning, and practice on election-related disputes in West Africa, from 12 to 13 September 2022. The event, which took place in Lagos, Nigeria, was aimed at strengthening regional and national early warning and response architectures in order to mitigate electoral violence and disputes in West Africa. 31 participants (eight of whom were women) from the ECOWAS Early Warning Directorate, National Centres for the Coordination of Response Mechanisms, and National Early Warning Systems in five (05) West African countries<sup>5</sup> benefitted from the workshop.

1.2 On 19 July 2022, WANEP's Executive Director, together with WANEP's NEWS Managers participated in an introductory meeting with the new Vice President of the ECOWAS Commission, H.

<sup>4</sup> The project is co-funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

<sup>5</sup> The five countries are Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, the Gambia, and Nigeria

E. Damtien Tchintchibidja and the ECOWAS Early Warning Network. WANEP briefed the Vice President on the collaboration between WANEP and the ECOWAS Early Warning Directorate (EWD).<sup>6</sup>

**1.3** On 14 September 2022, **WANEP**, in collaboration with its national secretariats, organised a refresher training for National Early Warning Systems (NEWS) Managers and community monitors on early warning systems. NEWS Managers from five (05) national networks<sup>7</sup> were trained on incident and situation reporting on the NEWS and ECOWARN systems.

**1.4** On 5 July 2022, **WANEP Togo** and other stakeholders in Togo's fight against Violent Extremism (VE), attended a validation workshop on the National Strategy for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism. Participants provided valuable contributions based on strategic priorities and current terrorist threats which enriched the document.

**1.5 WANEP TOGO** participated in a regional workshop on vulnerabilities to VE organised by the International Republican Institute (IRI) from 30 August to 1 September 2022, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The 23 participants<sup>8</sup> (including 8 women) produced a regional strategy for preventing and countering violent extremism.

**1.6 WANEP Guinea** carried out two supervision missions in the Kindia and Boké regions as part of the operationalisation of the Early Warning and Response system of the *Agence Nationale de Financement des Collectivités Locales* (ANAFIC) project, in order to ensure the project's effective implementation.

**1.7 WANEP Senegal**, in collaboration<sup>9</sup> with the Gorée Institute and its partners (Charter Project Africa, European Union), trained 15 monitors on indicators for monitoring dangerous and hate speech in an electoral context from 21 to 22 July 2022, ahead of Senegal's 2022 legislative elections. The results of the monitoring of hate speech were shared at a press conference on 4 August 2022.

## **2STRENGTHENING WOMEN AND GIRLS' CAPACITY FOR POLICY INFLUENCING**

**2.1 Providing Coordination and Supervision Support:** In its capacity as the convener of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) initiated Working Group on Women, Youth, Peace, and Security, WANEP held a coordination meeting on 5 July 2022. The coordination meeting was an avenue to review the progress<sup>10</sup> made so far in the implementation of the 2022 activity plan and provide an update on upcoming activities. A women's peace conference is being planned for the end of the year and to this end, the Group has commenced resource mobilisation with key partners.

### **2.2 Strengthening Platforms for Effective Implementation of the WPS Agenda**

**2.2.1 National GenderTalk Series #1:** The first edition of the national GenderTalk series held on 2 August 2022, was led by the national networks of Ghana and Nigeria under the theme: "Leveraging Partnerships to Advance the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda". Over 50 people were reached across all WANEP social media platforms. The theme was timely and provided the platform

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<sup>6</sup> WANEP's partnership with ECOWAS has been a long-standing relationship since the first signing of the MoU in 2003 for the implementation of the ECOWAS early warning and response system (ECOWARN) in line with the 1999 Protocol Relating to Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security.

<sup>7</sup> The five networks are WANEP Nigeria, WANEP Liberia, WANEP Niger, WANEP Sierra Leone, and WANEP Burkina Faso.

<sup>8</sup> Participants were representatives from Civil Society Organisations (CSOS) from Togo, Burkina Faso, and Benin; MINUSMA; G5 Sahel.

<sup>9</sup> The collaboration is part of the project titled "Electoral Violence Monitoring, Analysis and Mitigation-Jeune (EMAM-J) par les outils civic tech"

<sup>10</sup> The regular coordination meetings also serve as a capacity building platform for generating awareness on UNSCR 1325 towards the promotion of the WPS Agenda. They are critical to linking the WPS interventions as well as providing directions and guidance for the effective and efficient implementation of the agenda across board.

to deliberate on opportunities for effective collaborations and partnerships between state and non-state actors in advancing the WPS agenda<sup>11</sup>. The event brought together representatives from women focused CSOs in Ghana and Nigeria to share their experiences, challenges, and lessons learned in implementing peacebuilding initiatives through partnering with different stakeholders at the community level.

**2.2.2 Capacity Building for the Sahel Women Influencers Portal (SWIP) System Administrators:** This activity was held on 13 July 2022, as part of the continued efforts to strengthen the capacity of the system administrators for effective data collation and input into the Sahel Women Influencers Portal (SWIP). The system administrators were drawn from the project<sup>12</sup> countries of Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger, and are charged with regularly uploading and updating the contents of the portal with data.

**2.2.3 Capacity Building on the Continental Results Framework (CRF):** Towards the actualisation of this activity, WANEP met with the German Agency for International Development (GIZ)/ ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and Operations (EPSAO) focal point to map out strategies for a consultative meeting with key partners including ECOWAS, African Union (AU) and the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) on the training of member states on the Continental Results Framework (CRF). The planned CRF training was a key recommendation by WANEP from the survey conducted in 2018 and updated in 2021 to ascertain the status of the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325). The activity was a collaborative effort between WANEP and ECOWAS.

**2.3 Second Lecture Series:** The second edition<sup>13</sup> of the WANEP Lecture Series (WANEP LS) was a hybrid event, which was held on 27 and 28 September 2022. The theme of the workshop: "Gender, Security and Climate Change: Building Strategic Action for Sustainable Peace", sought to explore the linkage between climate change and sustainable development and how it impacts the WPS agenda. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Angela Lusigi, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative in Ghana. Her paper enumerated the interconnected issues of gender, climate and security in the region and recommended the following: i) amplifying the voices of women, youth and other vulnerable groups, ii) promoting of an integrated climate, peace and development response and iii) holistic support to the implementation of policies against sexual and gender-based violence, among others. It brought together experts and professionals in the field of gender, women peace and security, research, academia, civil society as well as development partners.

**2.3.1 Pre-Lecture Session:** The Lecture Series was preceded by a virtual segment held on 27 September 2022 to harness youth perspectives on climate change aptly tagged: Intergenerational Solidarity in Tackling Climate Change. This segment covered the theme: "Engendered responsive climate action: Amplifying the voice of youth" which allowed the-all youth panellists to share experiences on adaptive technology for addressing climate change, discuss approaches for resilience building as well as proffer workable strategies for enhancing intergenerational space for climate action.

**2.4 Under the Female Leadership Programme, WANEP Mali,** with support from Danish Refugee Council (DRC), the European Union (EU), and Global Affairs Canada (GAC) spearheaded the following:

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<sup>11</sup> The topic was selected to highlight the advantages of partnerships in the implementation of WPS interventions, especially in the face of scarce resources and declining donor funds due to pandemics.

<sup>12</sup> The portal, which was designed based on the African Union Continental Results Framework (CRF) pillars serves as a women's directory, an appraisal tool, and a resource platform to promote the visibility and empowerment of women at national and community levels towards the actualisation of the WPS agenda in the Sahel. The portal was a key output of phase II of the project titled "Building an Inclusive Post Covid-19 Recovery, Crises Transitions and Governance Reforms in The Sahel and Côte d'Ivoire" implemented by WANEP and ECOWAS with funding support from the UNDP.

<sup>13</sup> This series was dedicated to climate change action in recognition of the impact of climate change on sustainable peace and development.

- A meeting with 11 members of the Pool of Female Leaders on 14 July 2022. The objective of the meeting was to develop a strategic plan and advocacy messages for the Pool. Other key competencies covered the following fields: research, webography, and data collection.
- Training for six (06) members of the Pool from 16 to 17 July 2022. The training sought to equip participants with knowledge and skills in data collection and analysis, specifically in qualitative and quantitative methodology, to help them improve their advocacy efforts aimed at supporting security sector reform (SSR) processes.
- Workshop on a training manual organised from 18 to 19 July 2022, for 24 participants from Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger including 21 members of the Pool. The two-day training allowed the participants to acquaint themselves with the content of the manual and gain the relevant skills to be able to train others.

**2.5** On 21 July 2022, the Pool of Female Leaders, with oversight from **WANEP Mali** organised an advocacy session to ensure the inclusion of female expertise in issues of security in Mali. The meeting was attended by 40 participants, including decision-makers at both national and local levels (representatives of ministries working on SSR, traditional and religious leaders) women leaders who are experts on issues of peace, human security, gender, human rights, and social cohesion in Mali.

**2.6** As part of the project titled "Establishment of Advisory Committees (CCS) ", **WANEP Mali** organised an orientation session for 12 community relays in the project's target communes<sup>14</sup>, from 23 to 24 July 2022. The participants were equipped with information on how to facilitate the implementation of the project's activities.

**2.7** Members of the Pool of Female Leaders (**Mali**) spearheaded two step-down training workshops on the role of CSOs in security sector governance. The trainings took place in Koulikoro and Kayes on 7 September 2022 and on 10 September 2022 respectively and were attended by 63 participants.

**2.8** **WANEP Mali**, with support from Adam Smith International (ASI), organised a capacity building training from 8 to 9 September 2022. The objective of this activity was to strengthen the technical capacity of 25 members of the Communal Security Advisory Committees in Gao to better analyse and respond more effectively to requests and recommendations made by the Regional Security Advisory Committees.

**2.9** **WANEP Mali** participated in the following activities hosted by the Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Children, and the Family:

- A National validation workshop for the Training of Trainers manual on decentralisation and localisation of the National Action Plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325, on 27 September 2022
- A Meeting of key actors working on the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, on 28 September 2022.

**2.10** With oversight from **WANEP Togo**, under the *Brot für die Welt* funded project titled: "Economic Resilience to Violent Extremism", members of the cooperatives established under the project were trained on improved guinea fowl rearing techniques. A total of 98 people (of whom 76 were women) benefitted from the training, organised from 27 to 31 July 2022.

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<sup>14</sup> The 13 communes covered are as follows: Bankass, Konna, Sio Koro, Macina, Markala, Nara, Niore, Timissa, Saye, Guidimé (Yélimané), Diéma and Yorosso.

**2.11** In commemoration of International African Women's Day (IWD), **WANEP Togo** produced a video on women's contributions to peacebuilding. The video was disseminated across the network's social media platforms and is available at: <https://bit.ly/3TsjDQv>

**2.12** As part of its working relationship with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Togo, **WANEP Togo** led two training workshops from 10 to 11 August 2022, for the young beneficiaries of the UNFPA internship programme. Eleven (11) young girls and four (04) young men had their knowledge enhanced on UNSCR1325 and UNSCR2250.

**2.13** Members of the Regional Committee for Peace and Security-Savanes (CRPS-Savanes) in partnership with *Femmes Rurales et Entrepreneuriat* (FRE), a member organisation of **WANEP Togo** led a sensitization session on 23 September 2022, in the Tône prefecture; in the Savanes region. A total of 49 women and two (02) men in that rural community were sensitised on conflict prevention and management.

**2.14** **WANEP Guinea Bissau** was invited to share its experiences on cross-border peace promotion, at a workshop organised by the Women's Council in collaboration with UNDP under the theme: "The role of women for peace, security, and governance stability in Guinea-Bissau." The workshop, which took place from 15 to 16 July 2022 sought to: i) strengthen women's capacities for effective participation in decision-making processes, ii) promote gender equality and iii) brainstorm ideas for the revision of the parity law.

**2.15** **WANEP Liberia**, in collaboration with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the National Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia, monitored the activities of the Sande<sup>15</sup> secret society in several bush schools of Montserrado, Grand Cape Mount, and Lofa counties. The exercise revealed a significant level of violation despite a moratorium on the practice of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). It was discovered that 1200 schoolgirls were forced to undergo the traditional practice of FGM.

**2.16** On 29 August 2022, **WANEP Sierra Leone** and the International Labor Organisation (ILO) carried out a scoping exercise and peace and conflict mapping as part of the "Women for Water and Peace project," with funding from the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund. The exercise, which took place in five (05) Freetown communities, sought to identify, and comprehend the level of existing and potential conflict drivers related to gender-specific access to water resources and livelihoods in the communities.

**2.17** On 31 August 2022, **WANEP Sierra Leone** held a capacity-building programme on women's rights and justice in Sierra Leone for women leaders in the informal sector. The programme specifically aimed to raise women's awareness on the importance of advocating for their rights in their communities.

**2.18** "The Women Voices for Peace programme", supported by **WANEP Nigeria** and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), was broadcast on various radio channels in five (05) states of Nigeria (Borno, Bauchi, Lagos, Gombe, and Delta) in the quarter under review. Not only did the programme allow women's voices to be heard in a variety of languages, but it also highlighted the importance of women in peacebuilding.

**2.19** **WANEP Nigeria** held its first GenderTalk Series under the theme "leveraging partnerships to advance the women, peace, and security agenda." The programme was attended by 55 participants

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<sup>15</sup> Sande is a secret female society that prepares girls for womanhood. Sande is led by zoes, traditional practitioners who lead the bush schools, perform FGM and act as birth attendants



(one of whom was male). The importance of networking and partnerships among women, as well as ways to increase inclusivity in peacebuilding, were key topics of discussion.

**2.20** On 21 September 2022, **WANEP Nigeria**, organised a peace march in collaboration with Urgent Action Fund Africa, United Women Peacebuilders Network, Ossiassa Delta State and other CSOs. Over 100 community women were involved in the march. Through songs, the women educated the community about the importance of eliminating all forms of discrimination against women to promote peace.

**2.21 WANEP Nigeria**, in collaboration with Urgent Action Fund Africa (UAFA), the Commissioner of Women Affairs, traditional leaders, and CSOs conducted a conflict assessment and local peacebuilding initiatives within communities in September 2022. Visits to key female leaders<sup>16</sup> in Delta State were also undertaken.

### **3. BROADENING THE PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAMME AND SUPPORTING YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND VOICE IN ISSUES OF GOVERNANCE, PEACE AND SECURITY**

**3.1 International Youth Day 2022:** In keeping with its mandate, **WANEP** commemorated the day with a 14-day campaign (from 11 August to 25 August 2022) centred around the theme: “Intergenerational Solidarity in Shaping Policies and Sustaining Peace in West Africa.” The campaign served as a platform for raising awareness about the significance of intergenerational dialogue and inclusive governance for long-term peace and development. Additionally, WANEP Regional Secretariat and National Networks collaborated<sup>17</sup> with Youth4Peace Networks across ECOWAS member States to draw attention to issues related to youth, peace and security. They also carried out advocacy visits to relevant policy-makers to promote intergenerational solidarity in policy designs and implementation and used social media channels to spread awareness about the UNSCR 2250.

**WANEP Regional** issued a statement that can be found at: <https://bit.ly/3bPM1vD>

**3.2 Amplifying Youth Voices in Global and Regional Policy Dialogues<sup>18</sup>:** The ECOWAS Youth and Sports Development Centre nominated five West African youth delegates, including **WANEP** Youth and Peace Education Programme Officer, to represent the region at the hybrid World Youth Development Forum, held in China from 21 to 23 July 2022. The Forum, which was attended by over 400 youth delegates across the globe, provided an opportunity to share knowledge and best practices on youth development to build consensus on setting youth development agenda as international, regional, and national priorities towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A key outcome of the Forum was the drafting of the international advocacy document for prioritising youth development.<sup>19</sup>

**3.3 WANEP’s Youth Perspectives E-Bulletin:** In the quarter under review, **WANEP** published an e-bulletin<sup>20</sup> on the topic: “Rethinking Regional Strategies to Address the Threat of Violent Extremism (VE) in the Coastal Countries of West Africa”. Key elements covered in the bulletin include the following: i) the dynamics of VE in the region; ii) the responses by various actors at national, regional, and international levels and their limitations; iii) the threat of VE in coastal areas and iv) the

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<sup>16</sup> The female leaders are 1. The Omu of Anioma in Asaba, Delta State, is a female traditional ruler. 2. Hon. Commissioner, Delta State Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, and Social Development

<sup>17</sup> The various activities undertaken included spot videos, Vox Pops, webinars, radio, and television broadcasts.

<sup>18</sup> **WANEP** has consistently advocated for and facilitated youth meaningful involvement and participation in the promotion of peace and security in the region as part of its efforts to bridge the intergenerational gap.

<sup>19</sup> The West African Delegation was given the opportunity to contribute to the document.

<sup>20</sup> WANEP’s Youth Perspectives E-Bulletin is an online publication that highlights youth views or perspectives on peace and security issues in the region

opportunity offered by the Accra Initiative to mitigate its spread. Lessons learned from counter-terrorism strategies in West Africa and recommendations to prevent the expansion of VE in the coastal countries were also captured in the publication.

**3.4 Networking and Advocacy on Youth, Peace, and Security:** On 14 July 2022, **WANEP**, in collaboration with the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY) and ECOWAS, built the capacity of the Youth4Peace Networks across Member States in the areas of networking and advocacy. The training's overarching goal was to support advocacy on the Youth, Peace and Security agenda in West Africa for increased youth participation in peace processes. More than 100 young people were equipped with advocacy skills and tools. The Nigerian context was used to share experiences and best practices on advocacy for the development and implementation of National Action Plans on UNSCR 2250.

**3.5 WANEP Boosts Staff Strength on the Youth and Peace Education Programme:** **WANEP** welcomed two new staff members in charge of the Youth and Peace Education Programmes in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal. An orientation session for the two new staff was organised on 15 September 2022, in collaboration with the National Networks, to facilitate their understanding of the programme, and clarify their key responsibilities and expectations for the position. It was also an opportunity for colleagues from other networks to share their experiences and best practices for successful programme implementation.

**3.6** On 19 August 2022, **WANEP Guinea**, in collaboration with 50 young peace ambassadors, including 25 women from Matam commune, organised two (02) community meetings in the Koulé-Wondi district to commemorate International Youth Day. The meetings focused on educating youth about their role in preventing conflicts during Guinea's current era of transition, which is characterised by violent demonstrations.

**3.7** On 22 July 2022, a working and debriefing meeting was held under the United Nations Population Fund-Togo (UNFPA) funded project titled "Support to youth organisations for their participation in conflict prevention and strengthening of social cohesion for sustainable peace in Togo"<sup>21</sup>. The meeting made it possible for **WANEP Togo** and its member organisation CALYPSO to take stock of the progress made in achieving the objectives of the project. It also marked the end of the first phase of the project and opened the way to the second phase<sup>22</sup> which targets youth groups in market gardening and processing of local products as primary beneficiaries.

**3.8** From 11 to 17 July 2022, **WANEP Togo**, with support from UNDP organised a series of training workshops for cooperatives and youth and women groups in the target localities<sup>23</sup> of the project titled "Establishment of co-working spaces for the reinforcement of economic resilience of youth and women in 06 communes of the savannah, central and maritime regions". A total of 118 participants (of whom 55 were women and girls) acquired skills and knowledge in the effective management of income-generating activities and peacebuilding and social cohesion activities. They also developed a work plan that would enable them to conduct sensitisation actions and community dialogues focused on peace and social cohesion.

**3.9** Twelve educational talks were also held in **Togo** (from 26 August to 11 September 2022) in the target communes, under the same project. The Talks focused on youth entrepreneurship, issues of

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<sup>21</sup> The project was implemented by WANEP Togo and one of its member organisations CALYPSO, for 7 months. The project highlights the relevance of community interventions in peacebuilding for social cohesion with the youth as actors and partners for peace under United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250

<sup>22</sup> Project target areas are the communes of Tône, Oti, Oti sud, Kpendjal, Vo, and Agoè-nyivé. The second phase will cover 3 months.

<sup>23</sup> The six targeted communes include Gboto (maritime region), Kaboli, Tchébébé (central region), Tami, Mango, and Borgou (savannah region).

early marriage, rape of young girls, and drug abuse among others, and saw the participation of 579 people, including 238 women.

**3.10** On the occasion of the 16th Scientific and Cultural Festival of UNESCO Clubs of West African Universities (FESCUAO), **WANEP Togo** on 31 August 2022 provided leadership training to 130 young participants<sup>24</sup> (of whom 75 were women). Key topics covered include leadership, living together, and intergenerational dialogue.

**3.11** Under phase 2<sup>25</sup> of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) funded project titled: “Support to youth organisations for their participation in conflict prevention and strengthening of social cohesion for sustainable peace in Togo”, **WANEP Togo** supported the following youth organisations with various initiatives as follows:

- **Volontaire International pour la Vie Associative et Sociale: Les Fermiers du Monde (VIVAS-FM)**: On 9 August 2022, VIVAS-FM held a sensitisation session in Gbedepeme, in the maritime region of Togo. 71 women and 53 men were sensitised on principles of togetherness and social cohesion.
- **AJEDES** organised a sensitisation session for women of the Lotogou market on 19 August 2022, specifically on principles of togetherness and citizen participation for the strengthening of social cohesion.
- **JACDD** organised a debate on the theme "How to avoid violent political conflicts in Mango" on 26 August 2022. The session was attended by 28 people (18 men and 10 women) who got an insight into the causes and consequences of political conflicts in the township of Mango and their capacities strengthened on the universal principles of peace in times of political conflict.
- **JACDD** organised two (02) training sessions on conflict prevention and conflict management. A total of 25 motorcycle cab drivers and 63 youth in craft trades benefitted from the training workshops.
- In September 2022, **AJEDES, 2 ANH, JACDD, VIVAS FM and MJPP** with oversight from **WANEP Togo**, organised a series of awareness radio programmes in Dapaong, Mango, and Vogan with the youth. The radio programmes focused on youth participation in conflict prevention and management and peaceful management of electoral conflicts.
- **2ANH** organised a sensitisation session for the youth of the Tone prefecture on their involvement in community peacebuilding. At the end of the session held in Dapaong, 200 young people were reached, including 140 girls.
- **OJEDD** organised a capacity building workshop on conflict prevention and management for leaders of youth associations in Togblekope, in the Maritime Region of Togo. 25 people of whom four (4) were women, benefitted from the workshop held on 17 September 2022.

**3.12** From 8 to 23 August 2022, **WANEP Togo** ran a digital campaign aimed at sensitising people on UNSCR 2250, 2419 and 2535 and the role of youth and CSOs in the implementation of the Youth Peace and Security programme. 8072 people were reached through the 15-day digital campaign.

**3.13** As part of activities commemorating International Youth Day 2022, **WANEP Togo**:

- held a webinar on 25 August 2022, on the theme "Intergenerational Solidarity in Policy Design and Peacekeeping in West Africa". 90 participants took part in the online session, 80% of whom were youth.

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<sup>24</sup> Participants were nationals from Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Togo, and Gabon

<sup>25</sup> An initial meeting was held with all eight youth organisations of the project to discuss the role of each stakeholder and expected deliverables for the successful implementation of phase 2 of the project.

- handed over project, market gardening, agricultural, and local product processing kits, worth a total of 47,865,010 XOF to 23 women groups and two (2) youth groups. The donation was aimed at strengthening the economic resilience of the beneficiaries.
- produced a video (<https://bit.ly/3MNIAnq>) in which its Coordinator explains the intergenerational dimension of the policies of the Network.

**3.14 WANEP Mali**, in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Security Sector Reform Commission (CRSS), commemorated International Youth Day with a sensitisation meeting<sup>26</sup> on the theme: “Establishment and operationalisation of the Consultative Security Advisory Committees (CCS): An inclusive and participative approach”. The purpose of the meeting was to inform and sensitise the communities on the mandate of the Communal Security Advisory Committees. The event was attended by 67 participants (including 28 young people, 10 women, and 5 representatives of the Security Forces)

**3.15** On 1 August 2022, **WANEP Guinea Bissau** and the presidents of the soccer clubs in various parts of Guinea Bissau's capital officially launched a youth soccer tournament. The event provided an opportunity to promote a nonviolent culture among youth. The youth were in turn motivated to promote civic engagement, physical fitness through sports, and peace in their communities.

**3.16** With support from Catholic Relief Services, **WANEP Liberia** facilitated a training in July 2022 to improve the knowledge and skills of disadvantaged youth in the use of the 3Bs and 4Ds approach to building social cohesion in their local communities. 35 individuals, of whom 17 were women, attended the event.

**3.17** In September 2022, a similar training was organised by **WANEP Liberia** for community youth (war-affected youth or zogos) and motorbike riders, including community members and leaders. 35 participants of whom 14 were women took part in the programme and gained information and abilities to handle conflict situations within their identity groups and act as change agents.

**3.18** On August 28, 2022, **WANEP Senegal**, in collaboration with *Organisme National pour la Coordination des Activités de Vacances* (ONCAV)<sup>27</sup> organised a youth sensitisation session to reduce violence during "Nawétane"<sup>28</sup> matches.

**3.19 WANEP Sierra Leone** continued its awareness-raising radio programming during the quarter under consideration. It broadcast a series of radio programmes: i)- to raise community awareness of the network's role in promoting peace and security in Sierra Leone. ii)- to raise youth awareness of violence and crime and iii)-to increase community awareness of the importance of women's participation in the electoral process.

**3.20 WANEP Sierra Leone** celebrated International Youth Day by engaging university students and teaching them about their role in promoting and shaping policies and sustaining peace in the country and subregion.

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

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<sup>26</sup> The meeting was held in Yelimané, a town and principal settlement of the commune of Guidimé in the Cercle of Yélimané in the Kayes Region of south-western Mali, near the border of Mauritania.

<sup>27</sup> In English: National Organization for the Coordination of Holiday Activities (ONCAV) Dakar

<sup>28</sup> They are local soccer championship in the districts

**4.1 WANEP** provided online training on communication advocacy to members of the Coalition of CSOs for Peace and Conflict Prevention in Central Africa (COPAC) as part of its efforts to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Coalition. The training took place from 25 to 26 July 2022, with funding from the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund US.

**4.2** From 20 to 22 July 2022, **WANEP Mali** and other consortium members from the Just Future Project attended a training on monitoring and evaluation and communications. A total of 18 members from the Consortium had their skills strengthened in monitoring and communication strategies that would aid in the effective implementation of the project.

**4.3** On 21 July 2022, **WANEP Togo** released a statement on the resurgence of terrorist attacks in the Savannah region. In the statement, WANEP Togo condemned the attacks perpetrated on security and defense personnel. It also praised the bravery of the defense and security forces, then encouraged joint and coordinated initiatives to face the phenomenon of transnational insecurity. Finally, it called on the population to be vigilant and to collaborate with the defense and security forces.

**4.4** Within the framework of the *Fonds au Profit des Victimes (FPV)*<sup>29</sup> project, **WANEP Côte d'Ivoire** undertook the following:

- Information Sessions on physical and economic rehabilitation in Anonkoua Kouté, Doukouré, Yao Séhi, and Abobo; from 13 to 16 and 21 September 2022. Each eligible victim/beneficiary was informed of the amount for their rehabilitation.
- Recruitment of 15 monitoring agents on 26 September followed by an information and orientation session.

**4.5** A working session was convened on 29 September 2022 by the Centre for the Promotion of Human Rights and Development in Africa (CPHDA) and **WANEP Côte d'Ivoire** to discuss the distribution of the kits for preventing violent extremism in Côte d'Ivoire. A dissemination strategy was developed at the end of the meeting to ensure an effective distribution of the kits.

**4.6** On 15 July 2022, **WANEP Guinea**, through *Alliance Citoyenne pour la transition*<sup>30</sup> (ACT) and with support from the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) held an advocacy meeting with the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization (MATD) as part of efforts to achieve a peaceful and inclusive political transition in the country.

**4.7** From 15 August to 25 September 2022, **WANEP Guinea** worked with the Ministry of Energy to conduct door-to-door awareness campaigns, roundtable discussions, and focus groups in communities in the Dubréka prefecture that were negatively impacted by various projects undertaken by Guinea's water company.

**4.8** On 22 August 2022, **WANEP Guinea** met with the ECOWAS mediator, H.E. Yayi Boni, to brief him on the country's sociopolitical and security situation, as well as early warning mechanisms that could aid in the development of a strategy for dialogue between political and social actors and the government in order to ensure a successful political transition in Guinea.

**4.9** From 12 to 13 July 2022, **WANEP Guinea Bissau**, with support from UNDP hosted a capacity building workshop for members of the Civil Society Dialogue Space to educate them on the negative impact of illegal market on the country's economy. Human Rights was another topic of discussion. The workshop drew more than 50 participants, including 21 women.

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<sup>29</sup> In English: Trust Fund for Victims project

<sup>30</sup> In English: Citizens' Alliance for Transition

**4.10** From 20 to 21 July 2022, **WANEP Niger**, with support from the National Democratic Institute (NDI) organised a training workshop for 20 members (of whom 11 were women) of the platform of Bloggers. The training centered on combating disinformation and fake news in a legislative process.

**4.11** On 30 August 2022, **WANEP Sierra Leone**, with support from the Africa Transitional Justice Legacy fund (ATJLF) held a capacity building training for traditional leaders on democratic principles and accountability to promote transitional justice in Sierra Leone. Traditional Leaders were better equipped to promote democratic governance, social cohesion, and peace in their communities.

**4.12** In July 2022, **WANEP Nigeria** in collaboration with the United States Institute for Peace (USIP) and the Centre for Peace Advancement (CEPA) organised a series of justice and security dialogues as follows:

- a justice and security dialogue for youth on election management as a pathway to a credible electoral process in Nigeria, on 17 July 2022. The youth developed an action plan to collaborate with police and other community security structures in policing their community during the 2023 electioneering period, which was a significant outcome of the event.
- a justice and security dialogue for Law enforcement agencies and community leaders on Election Security Management, in Adamawa State. The event aimed to improve the capacity of law enforcement officers on election duty to police the 2023 election, and to broaden participants' understanding of electoral policing acts and the role of law enforcement officers on election duty.
- justice and security dialogue for Police Officers on Conflict- Sensitivity and Do No Harm approaches, in Adamawa State. Police officers gained a better understanding of conflict sensitivity and Do No Harm principles in policing.
- A justice and security national level dialogue (15-16 August 2022) around the theme: "Sustaining Collaborative Efforts for Community Security: Lessons Learned from Implementing the Justice and Security Dialogue (JSD) approach in Northeast Nigeria".

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

**5.1** As part of the project titled: "Establishment of Security Advisory Committees", **WANEP Mali**, in partnership with UNDP and Security Sector Reform Commission (CRSS) organised the following:

- A debate focused on the role of the Communal Advisory Committees (CCS) and community policing, from 19 to 22 August 2022. The event brought together traditional leaders, women, youth, the Defence and Security Forces and the professional workers' guild.
- A radio programme in the commune of Konna, from 21 to 23 August 2022, to inform and educate the population of that community about the project. About 1500 people were reached.
- Information and awareness campaigns, from 20 to 24 August 2022 and on 22 September 2022 for security forces, schools, workers' guilds, civilians, traditional and religious leaders, in the project's target communes. The campaigns focused on the mandate of the CCS.
- a methodology workshop from 29 to 30 August 2022 for the 13 community relays under the project. Beneficiaries were trained on how to conduct a perception survey in their respective locality.

**5.2** From 1 to 30 September 2022, **WANEP Mali** initiated a perception survey across the target communes of the project titled: Establishment of Security Advisory Committees, specifically on a local security diagnosis that sought to analyze the security needs and crime statistics of those communes.

Focused groups and individual interviews were held with representatives of the Security Forces, elected officials as well administrative and customary authorities.

**5.3 WANEP Togo** became a member of the coalition fighting against violations of transnational corporations following its participation in the training workshop on documented examples of the impacts of the activities of multinationals on human rights organised by the NGO “Friends of the Earth” on 19 July 2022.

**5.4** In September 2022, **WANEP Togo** convened two capacity building sessions for entertainers/singers in the Oti prefecture on the importance of peace and social cohesion in Gando and Sagbiebou. A total of 62 young artists (of whom 41 were women) benefitted from the sessions and are expected to compose music in their local languages (Tchokossi and Gamgam languages) to promote peace and social cohesion in their regions.

**5.5 WANEP Togo** and *Clinique d’expertise juridique et sociale* (CEJUS) hosted a discussion on traditional and legal mechanisms for conflict management. The event aimed to shed light on the different traditional and jurisdictional mechanisms available for conflict management. The session was attended by 30 participants of whom 15 were young women.

**5.6** As part of the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) funded project titled "Fight Against Cross-Border Cattle Rustling in the Senegal-Guinea-Bissau Border," **WANEP Senegal** held a workshop on 17 August 2022, to review the baseline study and local security diagnosis. The goal of the workshop was to gather recommendations from stakeholders on how to improve and validate the study's findings.

## **6. STRENGTHENING WANEP’S INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY AND ITS MEMBER ORGANISATIONS TO DELIVER ON THEIR MANDATE**

**6.1** On 24 and 25 August 2022, **WANEP Regional** held online monitoring meetings with five (05) of its national networks (NNs) <sup>31</sup> as part of the WODI mid-term review of the NNs. Discussions focused on challenges encountered by those networks as well as practical suggestions for improving their performance.

**6.2** On 15 September, **WANEP Regional** organised the second orientation session focused on its organisational and institutional standards, specifically on financial standards. The session drew 85 participants from WANEP's networks.

**6.3 WANEP regional** provided technical support to: i) WANEP Benin (on proposal writing for resource mobilisation) and ii) WANEP Guinea-Bissau and WANEP Sierra-Leone (on contracting new staff).

**6.4** From 17 to 19 August 2022, representatives from WANEP National Networks across the region were among the 30 participants who attended the annual meeting of ECOWAS Civilian Focal Points in Lome, Togo. Participants' knowledge of the civilian dimension of the ECOWAS standby force was expanded.

**6.5** In September 2022, **WANEP Mali** led an advocacy session with community and traditional leaders for the inclusion of marginalised groups in Mopti and Djenné in the Mopti region. The session was part of the advocacy actions under pillar 3<sup>32</sup> of the Just Future programme. About 30 people representing a diversity of actors, took part in this session, including 12 women, four (4) youth representatives and

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<sup>31</sup> WANEP Senegal, WANEP Guinea-Bissau, WANEP Sierra Leone, WANEP Mali, and WANEP The Gambia

<sup>32</sup> Pillar 3 Inclusion is: “Improving the accessibility, responsiveness and accountability of security and justice institutions and inclusive peace and political decision-making processes”.

11 representatives of the “*Fédération Locale des Associations de Personnes en situation d’Handicapé* (FELAPH)<sup>33</sup> of Mopti and Djenné.

**6.6** As part of its commitment to staff development, **WANEP Togo**

- designated one of its staff members to participate in the training of Political Advisor for Peacekeeping Operations, organised by the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana from 4 July to 15 July 2022.
- welcomed three new interns on 14 July 2022. The interns benefitted from an orientation session and had their knowledge enhanced on how to accomplish a successful internship.
- trained five heads of its departments (including two female heads) on the importance of effective work delegation and training of collaborators.

**6.7** On 8 August 2022, **WANEP Guinea Bissau** launched its website (<https://wanepguineabissau.org>) to increase the visibility of its initiatives.

**6.8** In August 2022, **WANEP Liberia** met with five of its member organisations. The meeting focused on membership reactivation and strategies to strengthen collaboration and joint resource mobilisation (fundraising)<sup>34</sup>

**6.9** On 15 July 2022, **WANEP Sierra Leone** held a capacity building training for its staff and volunteers on how to write concept notes and proposals.

**6.10** **WANEP Côte d’Ivoire** received training on WANEP’s early warning systems on 11 and 25 August 2022. Nine individuals, including two (02) women are adept at using the early warning systems.

## **7. COLLABORATIONS AND EFFECTIVE NETWORKING**

**7.1** **WANEP** organised a three-day expert brainstorming workshop to develop and validate climate change indicators and other related drivers of conflict and crime in West African coastal areas<sup>35</sup>. The event, which was held in Lagos, Nigeria (15-17 July 2022), drew 50 participants, including representatives from the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), climate change experts, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

**7.2** **WANEP** joined leaders from 22 African organisations and US policymakers and international stakeholders to assess the state of peace and security in Africa. The Wilson Centre hosted the event, which took place in Washington, DC from 12 to 16 September 2022.

**7.3** **WANEP** took part in the AU workshop on the review of the institution’s Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development Policy, which was held in Accra, Ghana from 9 to 14 September 2022.

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<sup>33</sup> In English: Local Federation of Associations of People with Disabilities (FELAPH)

<sup>34</sup> The member organisations in attendance include Peace Building and Resource Center (PBRC), Action for Community Health Empowerment (ACHEM), Inter-Religious Council of Liberia (IRCL), Liberia Network Organization (LINO) and Save My Future Foundation (SAMFU).  
<sup>35</sup> This activity falls under the project titled “Coping with Climate Change as a Cause of Conflict in Coastal Communities of West Africa (C7-West Africa) funded by the European Union through a consortium. C7- West Africa aims at improving the resilience of coastal communities in Western Africa toward climate change and conflict, addressing in particular the inter-linkage between the two dynamics.



**7.4** On 21 September 2022, **WANEP** made a presentation at the Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators (ICMC) webinar. The topic of the presentation was "Mediating Complex Community Conflicts in Africa: Linking Research to Mediation Practice."

**7.5** As a member of the Just Future Alliance, **WANEP** participated in the annual planning workshop for 2023, which was held in Accra, Ghana, from 27 to 29 September 2022. Discussions focused on key priorities for 2023, including justice, accountable security, and inclusive governance.

**7.6** **WANEP** facilitated a Training of Trainers (ToT) convened by the National Peace Council of Ghana, at Tempene, in the district of Bolgatanga, from 12 to 15 September 2022. The event focused on civic participation, conflict prevention, early warning response, and prevention of violent extremism for operators of youth and women-led small and medium-scale enterprises in Tempene.

**7.7** **WANEP** made a presentation on the theme: "Conflict, Peace, and Security threats in West Africa" during a panel discussion at the launch of the West Africa Democracy Solidarity Network and Conference on Countering Threats to Democracy in West Africa (WADEMOS<sup>36</sup>) from 15 to 16 September 2022.

**7.8** **WANEP** was among the experts from the Africa Governance Architecture (AGA) organs, pan-African CSOs and the academia who took part in the maiden in-person stakeholders' convening hosted by the Data for Governance Alliance (D4GA)<sup>37</sup> in Accra, Ghana, from 19 to 23 September 2022.

**7.9** **WANEP** participated in an Expert Advisory Group Meeting convened by the Africa Centre at Institute for Comparative and Regional Studies (ICRS) in New York, United States of America, on 30 September 2022. The purpose of the meeting was to provide advice on a research project<sup>38</sup> titled: "Custodians of Peace? Evaluating UN-AU Special Political Missions for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding".

**7.10** The Coordinator of **WANEP's** Liaison Office to the African Union (AU) participated in the inaugural annual consultative meeting between the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). The goal of meeting was to reach an agreement with actionable strategies on how the PSC can best engage African CSOs to present a common plan to support the PSC's work and the implementation of both the Accra and Malabo outcome documents.

## **VISITS**

In the quarter under review, **WANEP** played host to:

- Ms. Ulla Andren, Head of Development Cooperation in Africa at the Swedish Embassy in Ethiopia, and Ms. Helena Badagard, Policy Advisor, at the Swedish Embassy in South Africa, on 14 September 2022. Discussions focused on the partnership between SIDA and WANEP.
- Mr. Rafiu Lawal, Executive Director of the Building Blocks for Peace Foundation, on 16 September 2022 to discuss areas of collaboration under the Youth, Peace and Security Programme.

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<sup>36</sup> WANEP serves on the steering committee of the WADEMOS network. The Network brings together over 30 CSOs and other civic groups in the ECOWAS region that are committed to working in solidarity with one another and collectively with regional institutions to advance democracy and constitutionalism in the region. WADEMOS is headquartered at the Accra office of the Ghana Centre for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana)

<sup>37</sup> The initiative seeks to enhance Pan-African Civil Society participation and engagement with the African Governance Platform (AGP) to protect and promote human rights across the continent.

<sup>38</sup> The study aims to assess the efficacy of multilateral organisations engagement in conflict prevention and peacebuilding through special political missions (SPMs)

- Ms. Tammy Palacios, Lead of the Nonstate Actors programme at New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy, on 20 September 2022. In the engagement with Ms. Palacios, efforts by CSOs to support peacebuilding efforts in West Africa were discussed.