PEACE RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP
United Nations Conference Centre, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
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Final Report

Prepared by: Fana Gebresenbet & Fitsum Andargachew
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List of Acronyms

ANOVA Analysis of Variance
APCJ Africa Peace and Conflict Journal
CBOs Community Based Organisations
CDS/UZ Centre for Defence Studies of University of Zimbabwe
CEWARN Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism of IGAD
CIPEV Commission of Inquiry into the Post Election Violence
COMESA Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CPA Comprehensive Peace Agreement
CSOs Civil Society Organizations
DDR Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
DRC Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC East African Economic Society
ECOWAS Economic Community Of West African States
EVRI Electoral Violence Response Initiative
FCRC Former Child Rebel Combatants
GDP Gross Domestic Product
IDP Internally Displaced Persons
IDRC International development Research Centre
IGAD Intergovernmental Authority for Development
IREC Independent Review Commissions
LRA Lord Resistance Army
MNCs Multinational Companies
NGO Non Governmental Organisation
NTEs Non-Traditional Exports
RIA Regional Integration Arrangements
SADC Southern African Development Community
SADSEM The Southern African Defence & Security Management Network
SALW Small Arms and Light Weapons
SAS Statistical Analysis Software
SPSS Statistical Package for Social Sciences
TJRC Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission
UNMIL United Nation’s Mission in Liberia
UPEACE University for Peace
WTO World Trade Organisation
I.  Executive Summary

The Africa Programme of the University for Peace (UPEACE) organized a “Peace Research Capacity Building” Workshop from 10 to 14 May 2010 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Workshop is one of the activities of a project on Peace Research Capacity Building that is financially supported by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). Twenty seven participants, who came from various African based universities and civil society organizations, attended the Workshop. All these participants have taken part in one of the three major categories of the Peace Research Capacity Building Project: Doctoral Research Awardees (PhD candidates at the final stage of their studies), PhD Fellows (PhD candidates at the beginning stage of their studies) as well as Peace Researchers (Researchers both in and outside of academics supported to build their capacities of publishing). The first graduate of the UPEACE-IDRC Doctoral Research Award Programme also took part in the Workshop.

The Workshop had two main focuses, to evaluate participants’ draft research papers that will be considered for publication in the African Peace and Conflict Journal (APCJ) and provide an advanced level Peace Research Training. Presentation of research papers by twenty seven participants and the ensuing deliberation consumed the first and half of the second day. The presenters came from Universities in every corner of the continent: Universities of Jos, Ibadan (in Nigeria) and Buea (in Cameroon) in the West to University of Kenyatta (in Kenya) and Makerere University (in Uganda) to the East and others in South Africa. The themes covered are wide ranging and very relevant to Africa: some focus on oil related environmental policy in Nigeria while others focused on land ownership issues. Quite a few study the return and reintegration process of IDPs (mostly in Northern Uganda and one in South Sudan), some narrowing the focus further to women and children and others to psychological aspects of it. Papers on the nexus between proliferation of small arms and deterioration of the natural environment with conflict was also presented. Study entitled “An Educational Law and Policy Strategy for Improving the Schooling of Disabled Children in Selected African Countries” and “The Impact of EAC and COMESA Regional Integration Arrangements on Uganda’s Economic Growth” were also presented. Moreover, the geographic focus of the researches was also Africa wide: ranging from the Casamance conflict (in Senegal) and Niger delta conflict to that of the South Sudan, Northern Uganda and Kenya’s election related conflict in East Africa. The great lakes region, especially DRC was a focus of many presentations as well. After each presentation, extensive feedback was given to strengthen and improve the presented papers.

The other session, advanced level Peace Research Training, focused on qualitative and quantitative research methods. In this regard, topics relevant to the capacity building process of the researchers were covered including differentiating between method and methodology, principles, and steps that should be followed in designing, researches in peace building and conflict resolution, and quantitative (including training on the use of SPSS) and qualitative data analysis. Writing (thesis/dissertation and for publication in a peer-reviewed journal) and defence techniques were also covered.
II. Introduction

The University for Peace (UPEACE) was established in December 1980 as a treaty organization by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 35/55. Based in Costa Rica, UPEACE offers eleven Master of Arts (MA) Degree Programmes in Peace and Conflict Studies. The University also implements global initiatives aimed at building the capacity of international institutions to educate, train, and undertake research on critical matters of peace and security around the world. UPEACE has regional programmes in different parts of the World.

One of these programmes is the Africa Programme, which is based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Programme was officially launched in January 2002 after extensive and continent-wide consultations, that aimed to develop a programme that would respond to the true needs, aspirations and obstacles in building peace in Africa. From its inception, the Programme has focused on stimulating and strengthening the capacity in Africa to teach, train and conduct research in areas of peace and conflict studies. The current focus of the Programme is Teaching, Training and Learning; Research and Outreach.

In support of the Programme’s effort in building peace research capacity in Africa, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) extended financial assistance to run a project on Peace Research Capacity Building for three years (2008 – 2010). Ongoing activities under this project include offering Doctoral Research Awards (for candidates at the final stage of their dissertation), PhD Fellowships (for candidates at the beginning stage of their PhD Programmes), organizing three consecutive Peace Research Capacity Building Workshops and publishing a dedicated Journal, Africa Peace and Conflict Journal (APCJ).

Parallel to this project, the UPEACE Africa Programme also runs a Peace Research Training Programme that focuses on building capacities of researchers from Eastern Africa both in and outside of the academic. These researchers have been attending Peace Research Capacity Building Workshops together with the Doctoral Research Awardees and PhD Fellows. In addition, they have been provided with financial support as well as connected with mentors. Thus, each of the researchers is expected to publish at least one article in the APCJ. This Project is also financially supported by IDRC.

The objective of both Projects is to build capacity and develop a network of expert researchers from academic and research institutions as well as civil society organizations, who will contribute to efforts toward building peaceful and secure communities, inform policy, mediate political conflicts and prevent the initiation and escalation of violent conflicts through research, information dissemination and dialogue. Under both projects, thirty-seven participants have been taking part: twenty-two Doctoral Research Awardees, four PhD Fellows and eleven Peace Researchers.

III. Welcome Remarks

The workshop was opened by welcoming remarks from Dr. Jean-Bosco Butera, Director of the UPEACE Africa Programme. He started his remarks by welcoming participants and expressing the pleasure of UPEACE Africa Programme in organizing and hosting the workshop. He stated that all
the fellows were being supported by UPEACE and International Development Research Centre (IDRC) with the intention of building research capacity in Africa. He then went on to congratulate Dr. Fidelis Allen, the first graduate of the UPEACE-IDRC Doctoral Research Award Programme. Dr. Allen received his PhD from the University of Kwazulu Natal in April 2010. The Director further thanked Professor Amr Abdalla, Vice Rector of UPEACE, for his willingness to participate and share his experience and also see how this endeavour is going. He also thanked the organizers for their hard work and making this a reality. He concluded by wishing all a productive and pleasant stay in Addis Ababa.

The next speaker was Mrs. Njeri Karuru, Senior Programme Officer of the Peace, Conflict and Development Programme of the IDRC. She began her remarks by stating her pleasure in seeing so many familiar faces that have gone through the programme from 2008 onwards. She also appreciated those who published their articles on APCJ and contribute towards publications for Africa by Africans. This, she reiterated, is a welcome change and one of the reasons for starting the programme in the first place. She noted that IDRC is going through an evaluation and plans to broaden its areas of focus to include thematic areas such as governance. When the evaluation is complete and its future is well defined, the input of the recipients’ will be sought and incorporated. She concluded her remarks by wishing all participants a productive workshop.

Mrs. Karuru was followed by Professor Ayele Meshesha who was the evaluator for the workshop. He explained that participant’s reflections are important for such kind of programmes. He stressed the significance of the evaluation by reminding participants that some of the gaps identified in the October 2009 workshop are being addressed in the current workshop. Thus, their comments will contribute a lot to make similar future workshops much better. He further stated that the participant’s observation on how well their suggestions have be included is crucial, as well as their expectation from this workshop. For this purpose, questionnaires were distributed, at the beginning and at the end of the workshop.

Following the evaluator, Professor Amr Abdalla, Vice Rector of UPEACE, welcomed all the participants and expressed his delight in participating in the workshop. He said this project is a source of pride for UPEACE community, and that all are happy to be working with PhD candidates from all over Africa. He then stated that throughout the workshop, Dr. Elias Cheboud and himself will try to link the abstract theories of research to a more practical perspective through their various and respective experiences in the field. He concluded by thanking the IDRC for their continued support, Dr. Elias Cheboud for the invitation to participate in this workshop and the UPEACE team for putting it together.

This was followed by self introduction of the participants and instruction of the pre-workshop evaluation forms.
IV. Introduction of the Workshop

By Dr Elias Cheboud

The first training that brought together peace researchers, PhD fellows and doctoral researchers was conducted in March 2008. This was followed by subsequent workshops in December 2008 and March 2009. So far nine peace researchers, five doctoral researchers and two PhD fellows have already submitted or published their work in the African Peace and Conflict Journal (APCJ). And others are expected to submit their work for publication by July 2010. Because of the programme’s previous activities and accomplishments the IDRC has extended its support for another batch until 2011.

He noted that the workshop has been framed according to the needs of the participants as gathered from their suggestions at the end of the previous training workshop. Accordingly, he stated that the workshop would focus on research method and methodology, use of SPSS and thesis/dissertation/research article writing, defence and publishing.

He pointed out that the training will not be offered in a of form lecture but in a participatory and collaborative way with inputs and reflections from the trainees. The objective of the workshop is to create a platform for sharing the participants’ research agenda and experiences and provide general methodological applications and peace research skills and also to enrich the peace research teaching and learning capacity of the participants. He further stressed that by the end of the workshop the participants are anticipated to have shared their experience and learned new skills and increased their peace research teaching and learning capacity.
V. Summary of Sessions

DAY 1: Monday, 10 May 2010

Research Paper Presentations by Trainees

Presentation by: Dr. Fidelis Allen

Title: Implementation of Oil Related Environmental Policy in Nigeria: Government Inertia and Conflict in the Niger Delta

This research was inspired by a previous research which allowed the researcher to have some insight into the Niger Delta crisis. Though extensive researches have been carried out in the area, none explained the interaction between government activities, oil, environment and public policy. Thus, it was carried out with the intention of contributing something to solve this crisis which needs an immediate workable solution. The research uses qualitative information and an explanatory approach. Extensive content analysis is employed to get the data for the research.

The research investigated the role of the Nigerian government in the implementation of the state's oil-related environmental policy in the Niger Delta. The specific objectives of the paper are to identify and explain the pattern of relationship between the Nigerian government and oil companies on the one hand and justice and environmental movement organisations on the other hand in the implementation of environmental public policy in the Niger Delta. And also to determine the extent to which oil and environmental policy are related to conflicts between justice and environmental movement organisations and government and oil companies.

Literature review has revealed that the existing and extensive studies on the three thematic areas of focus, i.e., sustainable development, implementation of environmental policy and conflict in the Niger Delta, do not link violence in the region to failure by government to implement oil-related environmental legislations. Furthermore, it has shown there aren’t sufficient studies to show the extent of compliance by oil companies to the existing legislations.

The research has established that oil and environment related conflicts in the Niger Delta are reflections of the failure of various Nigerian governments to implement pertinent environmental policies meant to ensure sustainable development. The net consequence of this is reflected in the frustrations of local justice and environmental movement groups with the political processes which deter their agitation for improvements in local living conditions and development in the Niger Delta. Over time, those frustrations began to manifest at different levels including aggressive and violent behaviours against oil companies and government security agencies for their contributory roles.
Presentation by Sadiki Maeresera


The study was prompted by the lack of scholarly, objective and systematic study on the various arguments brought forward in regard to the linkage between the intervention in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the interests of the intervening states. Furthermore, there is an absence of in-depth research and analysis that explains the motivation of the allied coalition of the willing to intervene in the conflict. It will also systematically and logically ascertain the central motives of the intervening states with a view to determine the principal factors that informed their decision to intervene in the DRC between 1998 and 2002. And finally offer policy suggestions on the execution of future military interventions in African conflicts, particularly at the SADC sub-regional level, as part of conflict management.

Historical and qualitative research approaches are used to develop an understanding of the past through the examination and interpretation of evidence which may exist (or be collected) in the form of texts and recorded data, and interviews. Data analysis of primary and secondary data will then be used.

So far the data collection has been conducted in South Africa and Zimbabwe and will soon move to field research in the DRC. Preliminary findings reveal the hesitance of officials to be interviewed. On the other hand, organizations such as SADSEM/UZ and CDS have cooperated and provided assistance. It has also revealed that the “allies at war” were once “allies in war”. Furthermore, the existence of behind the scenes coordination during the decision making process prior to intervention with non allies has become clear.

Presentation by Shilaho Westen Kwatemba

Title: Kenya’s 2007 Election: Issues and Opportunities for Comprehensive Reforms in Kenya

The disputed presidential elections almost plunged Kenya into unmitigated civil war which is unprecedented in the country’s post-colonial history. At the same time, it presented Kenya with a unique opportunity to lance post-colonial festering wound by effecting constitutional, institutional & legal reforms. The research discusses Kenya’s post-colonial crisis that among other challenges, includes issues such as institutional weaknesses, dispersal of violence, elite fragmentation, systemic corruption, ethnic bigotry, unfair land allocation system & impunity. The hypothesis is that institutional, legal & constitutional reforms are sine quo non to competitive multiparty politics devoid of fraud & the concomitant ethnic violence.
The main objectives of the research are to find a link between Kenya’s historical antecedents and the 2007-08 maelstroms; to explore the views of various constituencies in Kenya: political entrepreneurs, the clergy, civil society practitioners & the general populace about 2007 elections; and to point out Kenya’s political prognosis based on lessons derived from the disputed 2007 elections.

Review of the available literature has shown that political tribalism, to borrow Lonsdale’s words, is one of the challenges to Kenya’s political stability. It was the vector along which political mobilization took place, resulting in the debilitating politics of inclusion & exclusion that rendered Kenya a virtual democracy.

Interviews with politicians, the clergy, civil society, the general populace and review of newspaper articles, archival information, and government reports to gather information of the topic are used to collect data.

Preliminary findings show a pervasive sense of mendacity. Political tribalism and its attendant features were denounced and blamed on the ethnic groups or constellation of ethnic groups. Both lumpens & the elite were prey to the ‘othering’ mentality. This shows that to reengineer Kenya’s polity, institutionalization of governance is an absolute prerequisite. This is likely to address rampant impunity. It is noted that if the opportune moment presented by the 2007 post election violence is lost, oligarchs riding on the crest of ethnicity could easily sink Kenya.

Presentation by Sidonia Angom

Title: Women’s Involvement in Peacemaking and Peace Building Processes in Northern Uganda

The specific objectives of the research are to document the peace making and peace building efforts which have been made in Northern Uganda between 1986 and 2011 with particular emphasis on the role women have been allowed to play; to examine how successful these various peacemaking and peace building efforts have been; to assess women’s potential in peace making and peace building processes by examining a number of successful women’s initiatives and; to assess the extent to which the lack of success of previous peacemaking and peace building efforts in Northern Uganda might be explained by the lack of women’s involvement.

Literature review for the research focuses on feminist theory on what women offer to peace making and peace building which men do not, explaining women’s lack of involvement and gender explanations of this and case studies of successful women’s participation in the peace processes around the world.

Non-random sampling (purposive and snowball), focus group discussions and individual interviews with representatives of the three levels of women actors, i.e. the top, middle and grass roots levels, are used to collect data.
One of the most interesting surprises that the researcher noted during data collection is seeing women make their analysis, link their past to the present while appreciating their circumstances and challenges.

**Presentation by Olajumoke Yacob-Haliso**

**Title: Gender and the Governance of Returnee Refugee Reintegration in Liberia**

The violence experienced in Liberia was extensive and varied in nature. Generalized violence – those that affect the general population, such as robbery; gender specific – those that affect women alone such as rape and incest; and pre conflict, conflict related and post conflict violence are some of the types of violence the returnees had to go through.

The main objective of the paper is to investigate Liberian returnee refugee women’s involvement in their own reintegration. It examines the violence Liberian returnee refugee women experienced in private and public life and what strategies women employ to cope with the violence they experience in their everyday lives.

Various methods of data collection, such as fieldwork, qualitative methods such as individual interviews, focus group discussions, semi-structured interviews, observation, documents review and mixed methods of data analysis: grounded theory processes/thematic coding, SAS software are used.

The study revealed that the returnees employ various methods of coping such as change of location, starting small businesses, internal dependency on family and friends, joining small groups: women, youth, agricultural and church groups, external dependency on aid agencies such as United Nation’s Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), community activities, awareness raising, and reliance on God. Others, however, have not managed to cope with the violence they have been through and resort to bitterness and regret. The researcher endeavours to explain these differences in coping and suggest solutions.

In conclusion it was pointed out that although women are directly and indirectly affected by violence in the post war environment, they continue to find ways of coping and contribute to peace and development in Liberia. Culturally, women have been settling disputes on a much smaller scale in the family their whole lives and thus are already peace makers.

**Presentation by Shimelis Tsegaye Tesemma**

**Title: An Educational Law and Policy Strategy for Improving the Schooling of Disabled Children in Selected African Countries**

Estimates put the number of disabled children at 10 per cent of all children worldwide. Between 1999 and 2006, 35 per cent of 2-9 year-olds in Djibouti, 31 per cent in Central African Republic and 23 per cent in Sierra Leone lived with at least one reported disability. Despite their large number,
fewer than 10 per cent of disabled children in Africa receive education. This staggering level of exclusion is a result of laws and policies, funding, attitudes and discursive factors and school level factors.

The research evaluates the various approaches to dealing with the disabled, i.e., disability theory of individual pathology which includes biomedical and functional approach; and the theory of social pathology which includes environmental and human rights approach. However, the research will mainly focus on the human rights approach to disability.

The main objective of the research are to improve the domestication and implementation of international and regional human rights instruments related to the education of disabled children in Africa. This would lead to the development of an appropriate legislative, policy, financing and pedagogic strategy for the education of children with disabilities in Africa.

The research is of a qualitative nature and the main data collection instruments will be document reviews, in-depth (key informant) interviews and observations (school visits). These will be analysed using thematic-content analysis, legislative and policy genealogy, and to a certain extent discourse analysis. The qualitative analysis will be enriched through a systematic collection of quantitative (statistical and demographic) data from secondary sources. The research is ongoing, thus too early to identify findings and conclusions.

Presentation by Sone Patience Munge

Title: The Concept of Equality and Access to Land: The Case of Anglophone Regions of Cameroon

Issues of equal access and control of land by women has been a contentious and perennial problem in Cameroon both at the family and community levels, particularly when it comes to absolute ownership.

The objectives of the study are to investigate why, in spite of the equality provisions in the land laws, majority of the female population do not own land; to investigate if the laws are not well implemented or there exist elements of the laws that are discriminatory to women; to examine the socio-economic challenges women face in the domain of land right and to compare them with the situation of men who are similarly situated; to ascertain whether there is a link between the land related outburst of violence and the unequal land holding pattern in the regions; and to examine the impact of restricted equal access to land to development and peace in Cameroon.

Literature review has revealed that there is very limited or no study carried out on issues relating to the application of land laws and how to address the unequal access to land that women have been experiencing for generations in the country.

Both primary and secondary sources of information are used in the research. The existing legislations, case laws, policy documents, and parliamentary proceedings (although the very poor
documenting system made it a very difficult job) relating to access to land are used as the primary source of information for the study, while journals, textbooks, and the internet (online information) are used as secondary sources. Instruments such as structured interview guide are used to ascertain land distribution by gender in the country.

Findings show that there is conflict of laws in the existing legislations. The study also revealed that, to date, the government has not instituted any meaningful machinery to address the unequal access to land and its related conflict at the family and community levels. Furthermore, in most instances customary land rules dominate, as land is mostly accessed through inheritance, purchase and men control the process and often restrict women from inheriting or buying or registering land in their names. There exists an unequal gender representation in the Land Consultative Board in charge of land registration and disputes and also in the proportion of land owned by the male population.

The study recommends a new land reform that will greatly respect and enhance the institution of equal access to land which is needed in a democratic country like Cameroon.

**Presentation by Chris Kawaja**

**Title: Security Sector Reform and the Peace Building Process in Liberia**

In light of Liberia’s history of conflict and devastation this research is organized around the central argument that security sector reform is critical to an effective post-conflict peace building in Liberia.

The main objective of this research is to evaluate the impact of security sector reform on the peace building process in Liberia. It examines the nature of the security sector in pre-conflict Liberia and the extent to which it was affected by the conflict; the nature and content of the post-war security sector reform in Liberia; the impact of the security sector reform on the peace building process in Liberia; identify and analyze the challenges of the security sector reform on the peace building process in Liberia; and identify lessons from the Liberian experience with respect to security sector reform for other countries, and vice versa.

A considerable volume of the discourse in the literature does not highlight the linkage between the two variables, the research takes a critical look at literature, identify the gaps that exist therein, and try to bridge them. While the available literature highlights the imperativeness and challenges of security sector reform, all fail to analyze its impact on the peace building process in Liberia as far as the search for peace, security and stability is concerned.

Data for this research is generated from both primary and secondary sources. The primary sources include focus group discussions (FGDs) and interviews with key stakeholders such as the armed forces, who have undergone Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), security sector reform office of the United Nations, members of parliament, officials of the Liberian government, peacekeepers, civil society and others. Secondary sources will be generated through reviewing existing literature on the issue under investigation. Thematic content analysis and some elements of discourse analysis will be used for this study.
One major limitation identified is difficulty in terms of accessing data from government sources as well as the unwillingness of some of the respondents to give information during the field work.

Presentation by Alex Kamwaria

Title: Integration of Indigenous Social Healing Approaches into Western Models of Psychosocial Healing for the Southern Sudan Victims of Armed Conflict

The universal nature of physiological experiences of trauma and afflictions is not disputed, but the way people express, embody and give meaning to these experiences is highly contingent upon their socio-cultural contexts. Thus, it is imperative that culture-specific healing approaches be applied. Therefore, application of western biomedical and psychotherapeutic techniques in Africa will be challenging. Similarly, the trauma healing approach used among the Southern Sudan victims of war (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) discourses) raised numerous questions. The major objective of the research is, therefore, to identify indigenous healing approaches that should be integrated into the Western psychosocial healing programs for the Southern Sudan victims of civil war.

Data will be collected through semi-structured and structured interviews, focus group discussion and child mapping. Further literature review will be conducted on local diaries, periodicals, bulletins and official reports. Findings stipulate that a patient’s rich culture and worldview can reveal a better understanding of the meaning of illness as well as expected recovery process: thus the need for emic perspectives in developing diagnostic criteria. Furthermore, cultural idioms of distress and culture-bound syndromes should be studied and understood, so that healing approaches characteristic to a culture are appropriately integrated into the Western biomedical approaches.

Presentation by Sarah Kamya

Title: Interventions for Sexually Abused Formerly Abducted Children in Conflict Areas of Uganda: A Case of Gulu District

The girl child is often the victim of sexual violence and exploitation and often recruited into fighting forces. The experiences they undergo in the fighting fields are quite different from those of boy soldiers, as they also become victims of rape, gang rape and sexual slavery, thus necessitating special rehabilitation and reintegration efforts to meet their needs. The research is conducted with the general objective of analyzing the existing intervention programs for sexually abused formerly abducted children in conflict areas of Uganda and identifying existing “best practice” as a possible model of interventions that aims to rehabilitate and reintegrate these children.

The literature review revealed that there is serious scarcity of works on services that address the physical and emotional effects of sexual violence and the challenges faced by the service providers in the rehabilitation and reintegration of the victims. The lacuna is also seen in the effectiveness of
integration of traditional rituals in the interventions for sexually abused children. Moreover, what happens to the sexually abused children once they complete the treatment is not clear.

Both qualitative and quantitative methods were used in the research: qualitative to contribute to a deeper understanding and exploration of children’s experiences related to sexual violence in war situations and quantitative to elicit data about the background information of the girls. Qualitative methods produced in-depth knowledge about the nature of interventions in place and description of both processes and outcomes from stakeholders’ perspectives. And, the quantitative data collection gave insights on the distribution of problems faced by girls upon return and distribution of rehabilitation services in different organizations. Self anchoring scale, a simple and adaptable technique for tapping the unique reality of an individual’s world, was used to measure the level of satisfaction of the girls after receiving the services. It was also used to make comparisons between the girls’ aspirations and level of satisfaction and different variables.

Recurrence of psychological problems, and conflict over which approach (western or traditional) to use, were evident in the research area. Children who never went through the reception centres envied those who did, but not only for the treatment they got in the services. The envy was also aroused by the economic benefits one garners by passing through the centres. It is recommended that service providers should utilize the most appropriate approach and include economic support for girls. There is also an urgent need to commence/promote community based services to assist and support the returnee girls.

Presentation by Kizito Sabala

Title: Small Arms, Conflicts and Environmental Security among the Pastoral Communities in Kenya: The Case of the Turkana

Illicit small arms, unfavourable environment and conflict characterize the lives of pastoralists in the entire IGAD region. Some studies have suggested that the Turkana community is the most militarised pastoralist community in Kenya. Coupled with this, the geographical centrality of their location (in Karamoja Cluster of CEWARN) makes them an ideal community to study. The main research question under investigation is “what is the nature and implication of the relationship between small arms, conflicts and environmental security on the livelihood of pastoral groups?”

For data collection both primary and secondary sources will be used. As human security approach is a multidisciplinary one and relevant in the context, a conceptual framework based on it will be used in carrying out the research.
Presentation by Malick Sane

Title: Women, Conflict and Conflict Resolution in Africa: Example of the Regional Association of Women for Peace in Casamance "Kabonketoor"

The conflict in Casamance is among the least reported conflicts in Africa, although it has grave consequences for the local people. A Women’s association, however, arguably drawing its strength from its roots in local tradition, is striving to put an end to the conflict. Women of Casamance should be commended for this. The study tries to understand the real reasons of women in the quest for peace and the strategies they use. Another objective of the study is to draw lessons from the Casamance example and scale it up for application at continental level.

Both quantitative and qualitative data collection techniques were used to compensate for the biases inherent in each approach. Data was collected on the themes of identification, organization and functioning of the Association, targets and achievements, challenges, role of women in the conflict, and the like. Results demonstrate the centrality of women (as actors and victims) in the conflict and that the involvement of women in the resolution of the Casamance conflict is multifaceted.

Presentation by Rosemarie Aurore Umurerwa

Title: Reintegration of Female Ex-Combatants: The Case of Rwanda

The issue of female ex-combatants is a new phenomenon that grew exponentially in recent years. As a result, there is a lack of systematic data and studies: the only sources information being biographies and sensational news stories, which cannot act as a basis to compare cross countries. It is argued that Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) programmes can be good entry points if designed as a part of the national poverty reduction programme. This study has been designed to investigate the effectiveness of reintegration of female ex-combatants into the mainstream Rwandan society.

A combination of both primary (interview and questionnaires) and secondary (books, internet, journals, and government reports) data sources will be used and both qualitative (case studies and focus group discussions) and quantitative data analysis approaches will be employed. The research is expected to show the extent to which DDR programme determines the success of reintegration of female ex-combatants into civilian life.
Presentation by Mazembo Mavungu Eddy

Title: Provincial Boundary Disputes in the Post Apartheid South Africa: Critical Analysis of Khutsong, Matatiele and Bushbuckridge Cases

Local government restructuring process in post-apartheid South Africa has been very problematic and a source of much violence. A process of consolidation introduced in 2000 reduced the number of municipalities from 843 to 284, and resulted in the formation of 16 cross-boundary municipalities. As the later were found to be ineffective, process of dissolution started in 2005. This resulted in disputes and violence. However, no scholarly discussion of how functional and territorial regional planning models can be reconciled is evident to date. Additionally, there is little scholarly discussion on the politics of territorial demarcation in post-apartheid South Africa and merely economic and materialistic explanations of post-apartheid boundary disputes are given. Therefore, this research tries to critically account on justifications of provincial boundary conflicts and discuss various strategies mobilized in the course of the dispute. Moreover, it also tries to develop a socio-political explanation of post-apartheid provincial boundary disputes. To this end, qualitative methods (semi-structured interviews, focus group discussion, participant observation and case studies) will be used. The

The presentation focused on two case studies: Khutsong and Matatiele. Various justifications are given by residents and government officials for their behaviour. It was found out that residents justify their actions on special entitlement and popular democracy based social services and economic development arguments (in Khutsong) and on popular democracy based social services and economic development arguments versus culture and history based arguments (in Matatiele). On the side of the government, there was no policy justification at the start for both municipalities, but currently there is an “equitable share and rationalization based argument” for Khutsong region only.

Findings show that strategies employed by the government include reliance on loyal lower party officials, reliance on the police forces to coerce protesting residents, special treatment to attract residents favour, portraying the new ANC leadership, electoral opportunism (in Khutsong) and re-negotiating with unhappy residents. While residents of Matatiele used only democratic and non-violent actions, those in Khutsong used a strategic combination of democratic and undemocratic lobbying mechanisms and violent and non-violent actions.

Presentation by Kalyango Ronalid

Title: Returning Home: Gender and Choice among Internally Displaced Persons in Gulu District, Northern Uganda

The more than two decades old conflict in Northern Uganda has resulted in the concentration of people in IDP camps. Despite a return to normalcy in 2007, many still remain in the camps. The research, therefore, tries to answer the question: “What influences women and men’s decision to
return home?” The overall objective of the study was to examine the gendered nature of conflict and the early transition phase towards a post-conflict situation, and its impact on women and men in Gulu district.

Feminist theory and methodologies are used in the study. Dominant perspectives presuppose return to be a problem free process, as informed by the relative return to normalcy, spontaneous return of some IDPs as early as 2005, and the successful return of people in other war affected regions like Teso sub-region. Thus return was supposed to be a linear progression from IDP camp through a transit site to final resettlement in original villages and it was promoted after the signing of the cessation of hostilities through information campaigns. However, by the end of 2008, in Gulu district alone 60% of IDPs remained in camps, 27% in transit sites and only 13% returned to their original villages. However, the government resorted to coercing people to return (by setting deadlines, systematic reduction in food rations, camp phase out and closure procedures and home construction in return sites) rather than interrogating why the majority don’t want to return.

Findings stipulate that return is not viewed as a linear process by the displaced, from their perspective it is a cyclic process. Additionally, they have a number of determinants of return: information on viability of return, scepticism over end of conflict, gender norms and values, land access, agency and optimality of return, security and safety issues, food (in)security in return areas, phasing out of food assistance in camps, availability of water and social services in return areas. It is further proved that return is not an optimum solution to displacement and livelihood concerns and gendered questions determine return.

Presentation by Joseph Peter Ochogwu

Title: The Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons and Its Control Mechanism in Nigeria

The menace of small arms and light weapons (SALW) proliferation and rapid diffusion in local communities in the West African sub-region is very worrying. The proliferation of SALW leads to the spread and easy access of arms to unauthorized end-users. This is notwithstanding the control mechanisms and regulatory agencies in place. The extensive literature review conducted showed that much has been done in a global context, but proliferation of SALW and why in spite of its control mechanism, the problem remains prevalent in Nigeria is under-studied and requires interrogation to provide an understanding that will help fill existing gaps.

Finding out the factors responsible for the proliferation of SALW in Nigeria, identification of likely sources of SALW, evaluating the existing control mechanisms and finding out why they fail are the set research objectives.

The research used both primary and secondary data sources. The methods of data collection were observation, in-depth interviews and key informant techniques (for primary data) and review and content analysis of library and archival materials, government gazettes and documents and websites,
e-journals and books. The study population includes government officials of Nigerian Armed Forces, Nigeria’s Customs Office, Nigerian Police Force, National Commission on Small Arms, ECOWAS and specialized NGOs and academics. Purposeful sampling (to select the 25 interviewees) is used to ensure the study captured diversity of opinions and the need to reflect the diversity of population in drawing the sample.

Although the collation and analysis of the collected data is on-going, from the preliminary findings it is evident that there are about a thousand illegal routes along the Nigeria-Benin border which smugglers use to bring illicit goods into Nigeria. As there is no scanning equipment SALW could easily make it into Nigerian markets. Custom officials complain of understaffing and related working condition inconveniences and the fact that smuggling is a livelihood strategy by local communities for the unabated flow of contraband into Nigeria. What is more interesting is that divisional Police Stations in conflict affected areas (for example Wukari and Shendam) have no official record of arms and seizures; this has made the task very arduous. Although police sources maintained that most communities have stocks of arms, interviewees from both cities denied it.

Presentation by Owomugasho Daisy

Title: The Impact of EAC and COMESA Regional Integration Arrangements on Uganda’s Economic Growth

The 1990’s witnessed a surge in Regional Integration Arrangements (RIA) that by 2010 the World Trade Organisation (WTO) enumerated around 400 RIAs worldwide. The main impetus behind this is the notion that RIAs can accelerate growth through increased trade, exports, and bringing hostile countries together. Uganda is a member of two prominent RIA’s; East African Economic Society (EAC) (since 2000) and Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) (since 1994). The main research questions are: “How much of Uganda’s growth can be explained by Uganda’s joining COMESA and EAC?” and “To what extent was Uganda’s growth due to trade created/diverted, export diversification, reduction in vulnerability and peace created through joining EAC & COMESA?” The research objective is to examine the impact of the EAC and COMESA on Uganda’s economic growth and achieving peace and security.

A case study of non-traditional exports (NTEs) –excluding coffee, cotton, tea and tobacco—in the EAC and COMESA was undertaken. A non-experimental quantitative secondary panel data (duration between 1981 and 2007) was used. Methodology further relied on the versatile gravity framework.

Findings show that joining both RIAs has a positive effect on Uganda’s economy, but COMESA was more beneficial and has higher trade diversion tendency than joining EAC. Moreover, NTEs to both schemes have a negative contribution to Uganda’s economy. As expected from the model used, Uganda is found to be better off trading with its bigger (GDP and population wise) and nearer countries. Furthermore, the two RIAs have aided Uganda diversify into NTEs, thus reducing the
vulnerability of the economy. Increasing trade within the COMESA reduces military expenditure, unlike the case of EAC.

Results show mixed results regarding each RI, common threads being the significantly positive effect of the size of the GDP and population, and the fact that distance has negative effect on trade but positive effect on peace. Thus, trade negatively influences military expenditure. Currently, more analysis is being conducted to enable more definite conclusions and recommendations.

Presentation by Igeme Katagwa

Title: From the Bush to the Community: Framework for Reintegration in a Post-Conflict Situation; Experiences of Former Child Rebel Combatants in Northern Uganda.

The overall objective of the work is to investigate how the process of reintegrating former child rebel combatants is organized in post conflict context in Uganda. Literature review had revealed that works on reintegration concentrate on few thematic areas: like institute counselling or psychotherapy programs, development of strategies to disarm young soldiers, provision of vocational and skills trainings to former combatants, establishment of programmes to reunite family members and service provision to young people suffering from psychological disorders. In-depth interviews with key informants and former child rebel combatants (FCRC) and focus group discussion are the main methodologies employed in data collection. Self anchoring striving scale was also used to evaluate how the FCRC see themselves.

Some early findings of the research show that although reintegration is more than having skills or family reunion or passing through psychotherapy rituals, the mere post conflict insertion back in to the community is taken to be synonymous with reintegration. Community neglect is also clearly evident, and this ignoring of community interactivity, the basis for any community cohesion, will have dire consequences in the future. Conclusions emanating from the work show the discrepancy between the Western and Ugandan phenomenology, and the reductionism oriented analysis informing reintegration endeavours by actors. Shift of focus in post conflict reintegration efforts from the individual to the community, is thus recommended.

Presentation by Jephias Mapuva

Title: Civil Society and Citizen Participation in Governance Processes in Zimbabwe, 1997-2010

The research was motivated by the unprecedented civil society activity—with renewed interest in issues of governance—in Zimbabwe in recent years, most of them clamouring for political reform, and the first constitutional reform. Human Rights and good governance have also taken centre stage in state-civil society engagements.
The main objective of the research is to investigate the extent to which selected Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have influenced political developments from 1997-2010, especially in line with the objectives which they have set to achieve—that of influencing political developments in the country.

Review of the available literature revealed that more donors have tended to show interest in the political developments in Zimbabwe, hence explaining the sudden upsurge and mushrooming of CSOs whose interest is on issues of governance, democracy and human rights. There are also suggestions that donors call the shots in the decision-making processes of CSOs and CBOs.

Data is collected mainly through interviews with both secretariat and general members of selected CSOs, the former are quite useful as they have inside information on the operations, objectives of their respective organizations.

Preliminary findings show that many CSOs/CBOs share donors and a slump in funding for one would equally be applicable to others as donor fatigue is widespread and that areas of interest for most donors are similar i.e., human rights and governance.
DAY 2: Tuesday, 11 May 2010

Research Paper Presentations by Trainees
Presentation by Sister Jacinta Nwaka

Title: The Catholic Church and Conflict Management during the Nigerian Civil War

The Nigerian Civil War was the first major conflict in Nigeria in which religion as a free-floating phenomenon was highly manipulated. Ever since then, religion has been excessively exploited overtly and covertly by ethnic, religious and political groups in Nigeria leading to violence particularly in the north. Thus, the role of religious bodies in the management of such conflict has become necessary. It is in this context that the study of the Catholic Church in the management of the Nigerian Civil war has become vital. The failures and success of the Catholic Church interventions and also extent of involvement will also be studied. Lessons from this will be of immense help in the management of the 21st century manipulation of religion in conflict situations in Nigeria, and Africa at large.

The time scope of the study (1966-70) is very significant: as it coincides with the two major military coups and subsequent massacres in Nigeria, as it was a period of transition and experimentation of self-rule in Africa and as the period is preceded by the second Vatican Council, which reiterated and redefined its mission of peace to the modern world clearly and explicitly. Given the delicate religious configuration and the incipient rivalry between the two major religions in Nigeria, the literature paucity on the involvement of Catholic Church shouldn’t be allowed to continue.

The research heavily relied on qualitative method and data was collected by in-depth interviews on sample selected both purposefully (for key informants) and through random sampling (for ordinary men and women). Archival sources and other secondary sources were also used. Content analysis was undertaken later, using a historical-analytical method. Findings show that, although the tone was largely dictated by central authorities in Europe, the Church was involved in conflict management before the war. Five stages needing active church involvement were identified. In spite of the fact that the hierarchy of the Church in Nigeria was dominated by foreign missionaries, these missionaries before the outbreak of the war were more inclined to the positions of the areas where they operated. For instance, the two statements of the Nigerian Bishops Conference on the Nigeria crisis in 1966 failed to receive the approval of those bishops who felt that their regional government will antagonize them for ratifying such document. These statements were therefore buried in the archives in spite of their huge potential to address to some extent issues involved in the crisis that led to the war.
Presentation by Jonathan Madu

Title: Peace through Equity: Analysis of Conflicts from Gender Discrimination in Land Property Rights in Enugu State of Nigeria

To the Igbo, life without land is unimaginable, as they believe that land forms the link between the ancestors and generations yet unborn. Despite the different promulgations guaranteeing women rights to own land, culturally they are prohibited and, as a result, suppressed, especially in rural areas. This research, therefore, tries to investigate the problems and nature of conflicts resulting from gender discrimination in land property rights in Enugu State of Nigeria and to discover how to resolve the conflicts non-violently in order to achieve sustainable peace and development.

Data was collected using individual semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions and transcend method. And data analysis was performed using different lenses: political economy approach, basic needs approach, community action cycle-process framework and gender-analysis approaches. From the preliminary research findings, it became evident that sincere dialogue is a very powerful tool in resolving cultural violence and intractable conflicts in the research area.

Presentation by Denis Musinguzi

Title: Conflict Resolution and Sustainable Peace in Northern Uganda Using Lederach’s Integrated Framework for Peace building

The Lord Resistance Army (LRA) conflict in Northern Uganda is the most protracted and devastating conflict in the history of post-independence Uganda. The ensuing social, economic and political destruction is incalculable. Both military and peaceful attempts to solve the crisis were not fruitful. This failure is due to mistrust between the government and LRA, government’s preference for military option, limited leverage for local peace initiatives, influence of external forces and conflict entrepreneurship. Therefore, there is a need for alternative approach for peaceful resolution of the conflict.

The major research question is “Why has the LRA conflict in Northern Uganda not been peacefully resolved, and which lessons could be drawn from Lederach’s Integrated Framework for Peace Building to best inform engagements in conflict resolution and achieving sustainable peace in Northern Uganda?” A cross-sectional, analytical and case study research design will be used and a largely qualitative data will be collected. Method of data collection will include in-depth interviews, questionnaires, focus group discussions and document review.
Presentation by Patrick Magero

Title: Towards an Understanding of the Evolution of the Southern Sudan Conflict: A Case of Resource Distribution with Special Emphasis on Oil, 1972-2008

Conflict in Sudan has lasted many decades since pre-independence and has taken religious, ethnic and political dimensions which have been studied by other scholars. However, beneath these conflicts, natural resources have motivated the involvement of many actors to the historical conflict. It wasn't until oil was discovered that natural resources, particularly oil, were featured as conflict drivers.

The main objectives of the research are to investigate the foundations of the resource distribution antagonism in independent Sudan; to examine the influence of oil discovery and subsequent exploitation on the sustainability of the 1972 Addis Ababa Peace Agreement; and to analyze how the CPA handles the issue of oil resource distribution and subsequently influence on the sustainability of peace.

Literature review has revealed that though the Sudan conflict has been extensively studied along religious, ethnic and political lines, there seem to be a missing linkage between the historical resource struggles with the discovery of oil in analyzing the Sudan conflict. Data is collected through review and reflection on published works, archival sources, and interviews with various stakeholders in the conflict and focus group discussions.

The findings show that historical exploitation of the South (slavery and other resources like ivory) indicates the resource struggle between the North and the South. The discovery of oil has also resulted in the streaming in of multi-national companies who have been accused of human rights violation, environmental degradation and aggravating the already polarized state. It is, thus, clear that sustainable peace can only be realized in Sudan if resource distribution mechanisms attract legitimacy of the North and the South as well as other interested parties. In the absence of this, ethnic, religious and political peace processes will bear minimal fruits.

Presentation by Tom Ogwang

Title: The Security Challenges and Prospects for Resettlement of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Greater Northern Uganda

The long and complicated history of war in Northern Uganda has produced as much as 1.8 million IDPs by 2005. As of September 2008, that number stood at 562,000, most of them residing in the Acholi Sub-region and another 359,000 in transit sites. The major objective of this work is to analyze the centrality of state security Vs human security by examining the challenges for resettlement of IDPs in Northern Uganda.
The research design will be case study and both primary and secondary data will be collected through focus group discussions, interviews, document analysis and observations. A total of 100 respondents will be chosen by purposive sampling. Finally, content and thematic analysis will be performed.

Presentation by Susan Kilonzo

Title: Challenges of Peace Initiatives in Kenya after the December 2007 General Elections

The paper focused on the successes and failures of peace building processes in resettlement of IDPs, relief programmes, community based peace building activities, and addressing long-term issues (for instance land clashes). Emphasis was also be given to the successes and failures of the different Commissions: the Independent Review Commissions (IREC), Commission of Inquiry into the Post Election Violence (CIPEV) and Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC).

The data for the research was collected through personal in depth interviews using guides, tape recording and focus group discussions. Axial and open coding was also used to manage the data for interpretation and presentation. This was guided by literature and conceptions on conflict resolution and peace building processes.

Some of the reviewed literature helped set a background to examine the clashes that have occurred in the past just before or after elections. The paper examined, albeit briefly, the 2007/8 post-election violence and its effects. The peace building process involved the coming together of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) under the auspice of PeaceNet, a local Kenyan peace group. This group initiated an Electoral Violence Response Initiative (EVRI), which consisted of a number of organs.

The post election violence brought deep seated antipathy in those whose roots had been underestimated. It has revealed that the police were part of the criminal activities and did very little to curb violence. Furthermore, there was division within the government of coalition. After the violence the physical and psychological needs of affected citizens were inadequately addressed, while long term issues such as land were not addressed at all. There was also failure to address the four main agendas of national accord.

The findings show that for national synthesis to occur respect for democracy (voting process), institutional reforms, addressing root causes, civic education on civil and political rights and cracking the culture of impunity were necessary.
Presentation by Tumaini Minja


The research is aimed at exploring the use of customary practices in promoting transitional justice. It focuses on the Dinka and Nuer (Nilotic), and Zande (Bantu) ethnic groups. The Dinka and Nuer were selected because they were the most involved and the biggest groups while the Zande was selected with the intention of including the Bantu.

The research was motivated by the long history of war in Southern Sudan which involved serious crimes, loss of lives, physical infrastructure and the destruction of the social fabric. It focuses on the “south-south war”, fought mainly during the second civil war between the Dinka and the Nuer as the main participants and which was perpetrated by Khartoum. It was used to weaken the rebellion, displace the Dinka and Nuer from locations with known or suspected oil reserves, overcome shortage of troops using “friendly forces” as “surrogates”, justifying the propaganda that the confrontations were “tribal clashes” and evading accountability.

The main objectives of the research are to bringing to light transitional justice needs of victims which have been forgotten following the amnesty; to identify customary practices with a bearing on transitional justice and analyse their current and potential use within and across the groups; to analyze linkages in the current or potential use of the identified customary practices with the formal justice system or other reconciliation frameworks in the country; and to contribute to the theory of “bottom-up” transitional justice using non-state interventions and the use of restorative justice in transitional justice.

The research is qualitative in nature, hermeneutical framework using ethnographical tools. It uses unstructured interviews, focus groups, participant observation and case studies; data collection has been conducted in five locations in Southern Sudan: Rumbek and Tonj (Dinka), Malakal (Nuer), Yambio (Zande) and Juba (University of Juba).

Though data analysis is still ongoing, preliminary observations show that there are cultural practices with a potential to promote transitional justice. And that practice of revenge as a customary virtue of honour and dignity among the Dinka and Nuer is an impediment to reconciliation.

Presentation by Ayo Whetho

Title: Natural Resources, Profit and Peace: Multinational Corporations and Conflict Transformation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The research was motivated by the lack of systematic analysis of the role of the private sector or multinationals in the DRC conflict and peace process. Conflict research and peace processes in Africa mainly focus on formal (governmental) apparatus, mercenaries, rebel groups and militias. This research seeks to look into the role of powerful, non-governmental, profit-seeking actors, such as
multinational companies (MNCs). Thus, the objective is to interrogate the causalities and context-specific factors that undergird corporate behaviour in conflict zones.

Literature review has revealed the stupefying paucity of literature on the role of MNCs in conflicts. There are, however, works of fiction that attempt at exploring the nexus between business and conflict focused largely on Angola, Colombia, Nigeria, and Sudan. Scholarly analysis of the strategic behaviour on MNCs in DRC are not available except for the report of the United Nations Panel of Experts on the “Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources and Other Forms of Wealth of the DRC”.

Thus the research seeks to fill a gap in the literature on the political economy of war i.e. to break new grounds in conflict analysis by examining the motivations and roles of profit-seeking non-state actors in zones of conflict. The study is empirical in nature and uses both quantitative and qualitative methods. Data is collected both from primary and secondary sources. Data collection has been challenging, however the South Africa component has been completed and the DRC part will commence soon.

A surprising finding was the mining and market process of Columbite-tantalite (coltan), where MNCs carry out covert operations through “Artisanal” (informal) mining where by individual miners sell it to middle men who take it to Rwanda and sell it to the MNCs. Furthermore, the government has neglected the issue of coltan in its Mining Sector Reform and only focuses on diamond and gold.
Methodology and Method
By Dr. Elias Cheboud

The topic of discussion for this session was Methodology and Method. Usually, these words are used interchangeably, hence, the confusion in identifying their difference. Research methodology is like building a traditional African hut, one needs to have a foundation, a frame, a structure for the roof, and rails. The rails provide guidance as to where to put the mud, without it there is nothing to guide and the methodology is like the rail. It is the plan that guides the researcher to what is significant in the research and without this plan the research will not have an inquiry.

Methodology is a branch of philosophy that analyzes the principles and procedures of inquiry. It is a framework used to structure, plan, and control the process of developing information. It could also be defined as a body of practices, procedures, and rules used in an inquiry. It is the theory and analysis of how research should proceed. It deals with the whole process and all stages of the research from the formulation of the research questions to writing up the findings and the overall strategy and approach and procedure of the research undertaking.

One needs to examine the ideology being used. There are universal ideologies such as liberal or reforming ideology, conservative or conformist ideology and transformative or radical ideology that are not limited to the west or Africa or any particular culture. The methodology, which will be based on one of these or a mix of any of these, will define the research and explain why the research is being carried out, the type of research it will be and its goal (explaining, describing, exploring, investigating or another).

If the methodology is the frame of the research, what is done with that understanding is then the method. Methods are the set of concrete techniques used as well as number of steps one goes through to acquire evidence and accomplish the study. It is a technique of acting, in which the actor recalls emotions and reactions from past experience and uses them in identifying the character being portrayed. It is a specific technique used to get data or information such as interviews, questionnaires, and observing behaviours.

A research is a coherent, systematic set of activities (methodology), using a set of techniques (methods) to gather evidence for producing new knowledge (epistemology). This set of activities is interlinked through an approach of how these research activities should proceed.

Principles of Research in the Areas of Peace Building and Conflict Resolution
By Prof. Amr Abdalla

There are a few principles any researcher working in areas of peace building and conflict resolution should abide by. These principles were summarized into seven groups by Prof. Amr Abdalla. He led the session in a very interactive and attractive way, by infusing experiences he had in various African and South East Asian countries where appropriate.
1. **Purpose:** In peace research one deals with human life, therefore research for the sake of research is immoral. There should be a higher purpose to it, like to understand conflict causes and dynamics, and effective approaches to peace, by deconstructing oppressive and destructive structures, institutions, attitudes and behaviours; and promoting and developing ones that foster justice and peace.

2. **Holistic Epistemology:** Researches should acknowledge the benefits and shortcomings of conventional research approaches, with strong awareness and application of feminist and cultural theories and methods.

3. **Multiplicity of Disciplines:** The fact that peace and conflict studies and research is a relatively new field is a blessing, in the view that it could—and should—borrow from different fields of studies. Researches in the area should therefore be informed from various disciplines, such as sociology, cultural studies, communication, political science, economics and law.

4. **Participation and Inclusiveness:** Effort should be exerted to make all research aspects inclusive of all those affected by a conflict, especially groups that have been traditionally marginalized, such as women, children, and the socio-economically disadvantaged. This has to be done in recognition of the fact that conflict, or consequence of conflict is not limited to the political and military elites, it reaches ordinary men and women. Therefore, participation and inclusiveness of all should be guaranteed starting from conceptualization of the research.

5. **Cultural Appropriateness:** Conflict causation and resolution are inextricably linked with culture. As a result, ensuring active cultural input and participation in all aspects of research—design, implementation, analysis and reporting - is mandatory. The fact is, most literature come from the West and the tendency to follow these literature written based on an “alien” culture would tend to compromise the quality of researches conducted in the South.

6. **Multiplicity of Research Methods:** A combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches should be used in order to thoroughly answer the *What, How and Why* questions and get a complete grasp of the reality. It is evident that most peace researchers, including those in the workshop, are wary of quantitative methods. But, as it adds insights, which otherwise could have been missed, it is worth doing what is taken as a difficult and challenging task: use quantitative methods more often.

7. **Replication and Sustainability:** The whole purpose of peace building and conflict resolution research is to advance peace. Thus, what is found to work to a certain place should be documented and replicated elsewhere. In other words, approaches to replicate effective peace building efforts and to sustain existing ones should be explored.

**Steps in Research Design on Peace Building and Conflict Resolution**

Steps followed in research design on peace building and conflict resolution are similar to those followed in other social science researches, with few special ones tailored to the topic. But research shouldn’t be taken as a step by step process, one should always think with the end in mind.
The first six steps are conceptualizing steps and are cyclic. It was argued that getting confused in these stages is the norm and that one should appreciate limitations faced and keep them to a manageable level. Reading literature will also help in conceptualizing the whole research idea, in addition to what gaps the research will fill.

After getting out of the cyclic conceptualization process, the next thing to do would be operationalization of the research. This would help guide the researcher in measuring only what is important, following what is written in the conceptual framework. In these steps (steps 7-14), the researcher takes the steps and translate them into something measurable. The measurement approach used should be systematic (it has to be a valid approach to measure the variable in question, so as to avoid debate over the validity of the measurements) and also reliable (measurement should be done in an objective manner).

The type of measurement taken could be qualitative or quantitative. In the case of quantitative the concern is to know how often the phenomenon in question happens, but in qualitative the focus is on the qualitative significance, even if there is a single case. Type of questions to be asked are also based on this.

Operationalization of a research starts with determining the type of research to be conducted (thus type of research questions to be asked) and includes identifying the target population and sample and partners. It was stressed that a sample should be a smaller size of the population: must be large enough to include a proportional representation of characteristics reflected in the population. After going through these steps, the researcher should conduct culture reality check, which would be followed by a pilot test and making the necessary adjustments based on the findings. After getting done with operationalizing of the research, what is left is collecting the data, storing it, analyzing it and writing the report and disseminating it.

Prof. Amr Abdalla discussed all the steps, aided by the experiences of the trainees and his own. The steps are:

1. Identify a Research Area
2. Define Research Topic(s)
3. Focus and Narrow Research Topic(s)
4. Develop your Assumption/Hypothesis
5. Determine Purpose (see principles above)
6. Do Literature Review
7. Determine Type of Research: Exploratory and/or Explanatory
8. Identify Initial Partners (ensure participation and inclusiveness, and cultural input)
9. Develop and Operationalize Research Questions, Variables, and Constructs
10. Identify Target Population(s) and Sample(s)
11. Develop Participatory, Inclusive Qualitative and Quantitative Methods
12. Conduct Cultural Reality Check
13. Conduct Pilot Tests

14. Make Adjustments Accordingly

15. Design Participatory, Inclusive, Culturally Appropriate Research Plans of Implementation

16. Gather Code and Store Date Properly

17. Conduct Qualitative and Quantitative Data Analysis

18. Write Report

19. Disseminate Results
DAY 3: Wednesday, 12 May 2010

Introduction to SPSS

From the need assessment of the trainees it was evident that there is a clear need to understand how the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software works. Training was given starting from data entry to analysis.

Data from a research done in January, 2002 in Sierra Leone on the “Human rights and HIV/AIDS Survey” was used for this exercise. After exercising on how to define variables and enter the collected data appropriately, the trainees were briefed on what the significance of—and when to use—t-test, chi-square test and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA).

T-test compares the actual difference between two means in relation to the variation in the data (expressed as the standard deviation of the difference between the means). It could be used when comparing the means of two groups: where one is an interval variable and the other is a nominal variable. Chi square test ($X^2$) is used when there are two nominal (categorical) variables and investigates whether distributions of categorical variables differ from one another. Experiments commonly have more than two levels of independent variable (if there are only two levels, t-test would do the job), therefore necessitating the use of ANOVA. Conceptually, ANOVA is the same as regression.

The training on the use of SPSS software on how to calculate t-test, chi-square and ANOVA took the whole afternoon.
DAY 4: Thursday, 13 May 2010

Qualitative Data
By Dr. Elias Cheboud

It is common to hear researchers say that their research is a qualitative research. There is, however, no such a thing as a qualitative research but qualitative data. In a qualitative data there is one central question that is associated with sub questions. The central question should also be related with specific qualitative strategy. To evoke qualitative data, research questions begin with what and how, not with why as it suggests cause and effect and leads to a quantitative data. The use of open ended questions and exploratory verbs is also recommended. Qualitative data collection should focus on a single phenomenon and is interested in cases rather than population and discover themes and relationships at the case level.

Language is a very important factor in collecting such data. Observation also plays a great role in understanding and is part of language. It is a means of generating collective meanings, actions, thoughts, feelings, social organization, express information, ideas, emotions, attitudes and identifying group membership, boundaries, etc. It shapes how one experiences the reality of the world around and is a means of cognitive development for children and conceptual development for adults. Language is very powerful especially in the African context as it can be manipulated in ethnic conflicts. Words can be an instrument of control, marginalization, and abuse.

Empathy is important when gathering such data; one should view the world from the subjects’ frame of reference. Thus researchers should try to develop empathic relationships with those they study. There are different kinds of empathy:

• **Basic empathy:** Experiencing the subjects’ world, i.e., moving into their frame of reference, it uses skills of paraphrasing, reflection and summarization.

• **Accurate empathy:** Accurately sensing and using skills of verbally sharing one’s understanding without losing boundary.

• **Additive empathy:** Influencing skills which add congruent ideas from another frame of reference in order to facilitate the intended exploration.

• **Relational empathy:** The ability to consider the impact of identity, culture, religion in relation to differences; and the context and society in which both the researcher and the subjects live.

Qualitative data collection is about lived experience, “the personal is political”. Reality is not only complex, it is also subjective. There are chances that the researcher will get emotionally involved during interviews and interactions with the subjects. When a research becomes emotionally immersed with the interviewee total objectivity is very difficult. And at times this involvement and
the researcher’s sentiment might affect the process and outcome of the interview thus the researcher should try to control involvement and emotionality.

Various types of researches use qualitative data, its use depends on the nature of the questions that oblige the undertaking of the research. Some examples are: ethnographic, interpretative or hermeneutic, autobiographic, narrative, heuristic, descriptive, action and exploratory. All of which are fundamental to human knowledge and culture.

There are different strategies associated with the qualitative approach:

- Case studies: explores events, activities, and processes, through one or more individuals.
- Phenomenological: identifies the "essence" of human experiences concerning a phenomenon, as described by participants in a study.
- Narrative: asks one or more individuals to provide stories about their lives.

There are different types of qualitative sampling, such as convenience sampling, snowball sampling, purposive sampling and theoretical sampling. In qualitative data collection there are no criteria or rules for sample size as in quantitative research, it is determined based on informational needs.

**Action Research**

Action research was also discussed in this session. It is one that stimulates action as opposed to just using words. It is a research about what action to take and one should be careful that one’s own ideology doesn’t impact the other person. Action research is usually done by the actors themselves; for example by community developers’, counsellors’, and policy makers. The most important thing is to bridge the academic work and the truth on the ground. It facilitates the need to move from just writing and documenting the research findings in the library to implementation. It is usually used in researches on groups that have been historically or culturally oppressed. Feminist researchers have contributed greatly as they realize their research will be pointless unless implemented and thus used this approach. Every research will translate into action, and recommendations can be linked to create a relationship to what should be changed on the ground.

**Content Analysis**

Content analysis is usually quantitative data analysis as it looks at the frequency of the themes, the number of pages, and the size of the overall document and makes an interpretation. It can be accessed through a primary source, such as personal documents like diary and autobiographies, or secondary sources such as media reports. It is both a technique for data collection as well as data analysis. This analysis should be done carefully and contain clear and defined criteria.

The participants were then separated into six groups of five persons each and given a content analysis exercise. The data used was, again, from the “Human Rights and HIV/AIDS Survey in
Sierra Leone” conducted in January 2002. Each group was given raw data and asked to analyze the information and then present their findings to all the participants of the workshop after thirty minutes.
DAY 5: Friday, 14 May 2010

The Writing, Publication and Defence Process
By Dr. Elias Cheboud

The writing process, structure of a dissertation/thesis, defence and publication were the focus of the last session. Various ways and methods were raised and discussed by the participants.

The first issue discussed was whether dissertation or thesis is the appropriate way of referring to research work produced for PhD Studies. It was pointed out that different institutions and countries call it either a dissertation or a thesis. For instance, in the United States a PhD research is referred to as a dissertation and Masters research as a thesis. On the other hand, one participant noted that if the PhD is based on research work only it’s called a thesis while if the PhD also involves course work, it’s called a dissertation. The difference in the Francophone and Anglophone world was also pointed out. It was also explained that the world is in transition when it comes to the requirements for PhD, some are traditional and require the conventional research while others are moving away from this and give various options such as writing a specified number of shorter articles or getting practical experience.

**Structure**

The structure of the dissertation might also depend on the institution one is writing for. The first chapter is where readers understand where the paper is going and its purpose. It may include the broader area of the dissertation (introduction), research question, literature review, methodology, and conceptual framework. These may also be separated into different chapters. In social science research, for example, the first chapter gives the description of the field work conducted and the above mentioned parts form the second chapter.

It was stated that the structure of a dissertation is not cast in stone and will depend on different factors such as the institution and field of study. Furthermore, the research advisors will have great influence on the structure as well as the research as a whole.

**Literature Review**

Literature review should not be confused with a historical account. It should focus on the research objectives and questions and be connected with the conceptual framework. It is where the issue is reviewed as it has been analyzed by others and used to frame the conceptual framework or to explain the already existing conceptual framework.

It is where the researcher appreciates previous writers and identifies the gaps in these works and show what his/her research will contribute in filling these gaps. It is where the research’s departure from already existing works is defined. It discuses topical current scholarly debates, furthermore since this part of the research is at the abstract or theoretical level, it should look into concepts and theories that can help in explaining the issue. All this is driven by the objectives of the research,
sometimes it might not be about filling in gaps but to investigate if a certain theory is working or not.

The literature review should be as up to date as possible, this is not, however, to mean older, classic theories and writings should be ignored. This will also vary depending on the topic one is researching. Literature review is a continuous process that will continue until the very last minute, researchers are bound to keep on going back and adding and changing this chapter.

**Conceptual Framework**

Conceptual framework should not be confused with a theoretical framework, though the two are connected and often used synonymously. The latter is used when one uses a previously stated theory as it applies to the topic at hand, while the former is integrating two or more theories to build meaningful references about issues under investigation. It is the process of building a concept in reference to existing theories and is no different from operationalization of the research. It shows how one understands the topic and link ideas borrowed from theories to the study. It shows the flow of ideas and may use models and data matrix tables.

**Defence**

It was pointed out that every defence is unique, and the time allotted for the presentation and the process varies from institution to institution. During the presentation one should capture the essence of the research and highlight the most important points, as questions from the examiners will probably revolve around what the researcher highlights.

When starting the presentation, one should start by mentioning the title, why the topic was chosen and the purpose of the research. Then follow with the steps of the research design and show what the study is contributing to the field, its key findings and what makes it different from other studies already out there. Then the researcher should focus on the objectives of the research and explain the methodology. Explain the design, data collection methods, samples and justify their use to the research. The researcher should demonstrate his/her understanding of the topic of research while at the same time acknowledging the limitations of the research.

With regard to responding to questions and suggestions of the panel of examiners, it was pointed out that one should be aware of the dynamics of the panel. There are times when the researcher should accept suggestion and show that the suggestions will be taken into consideration. However, the researcher should show one’s competence and knowledge of the topic and defend his/her work. In responding to the panel, one shouldn’t disagree out right, accept the comments and deflect them carefully and respectfully.

By the time of defence, the candidate is expected to be familiar with his/her advisor and the panel, and should be able to set the dynamics of the defence process. One can create a friendly or amicable ambience, make it a metaphor of peace as opposed to war, as the word defence implies. It is stressed that defence is a show of the PhD candidate; therefore, he/she is the major actor that has the leading role in determining the outcome. In this regard, factors like body language, choice of words,
displaying culturally appropriate behaviour and acts acceptable in the context of the defence play a significant role.

**Publication**

The University the candidate is attending might publish the work or the writer might have to look for publishers. In this case UPEACE is giving all the participants an opportunity to publish in the APCJ. In general, there are a number of points the writer should consider when deciding how to publish. Before sending his/her manuscript to a journal for publication, the researcher should be pragmatic and research the available journals, and get to know the journal. The journal of choice should be where the research will be well received. It is advisable to look into journals that are published more frequently. It was mentioned that one way of getting one’s work published quickly is to present part of it on various conferences and getting the work out there.

When publishing, one should be very careful about citation. It was also noted that if the writer is not a native English speaker, the work should be edited by a professional. No matter how good the writer’s English may be editing is very important as errors might affect how well the paper is received.

It was stressed that the only good dissertation is a finished dissertation and the only good publication a published one.

This session was followed by reflections and concluding remarks by the participants. The participants appreciated the inclusion of their suggestions in the training process. They also stated that the training has helped them resolve various issues they were grappling with. They have been thought new skills like SPSS and realized the benefit of using quantitative methods alongside the qualitative. They thanked Prof. Amr Abdalla and Dr. Elias Cheboud for their excellent method of approach and stated they have profited from their extensive experience and the real and practical examples they used. They stated they have benefited from each other’s experiences as well. They also appreciated the UPEACE team for their superb organizational skill and their patience and warmth and thanked the IDRC for the fund and assistance. They accepted the need for Africans to research for Africa and stated that UPEACE has done its part in this endeavour and it is now their turn to take it forward.

**Closing Remarks**

Professor Amr Abdalla thanked all the participants for the affirming and assuring comments. He stated that he wasn’t sure what to expect when he came especially since the participants are at different levels of their research. This was partly resolved by the assessment carried out in the beginning of the workshop which also made the whole process participatory. He appreciated the participants’ eagerness and interest in the SPSS training and stated his pleasure in watching them break their fear of quantitative analysis. He concluded by stating that the training was as beneficial for him as there was a wealth of knowledge in the room and noting his hope that the UPEACE Africa Programme and the IDRC will find ways of engaging those that have completed their work.
Professor Amr was followed by Mrs. Njeri Karuru of IDRC, who reiterated her commitment to the project and her pride in it. This programme began in 2007 and is now in its final year. She noted that it will hopefully continue somehow, especially since research is critical and most universities in Africa lack the capacity. She concluded by encouraging them to look for research funds from IDRC and other institution rather than only looking to UPEACE.

Dr. Elias Cheboud followed Mrs. Njeri with a few words. He appreciated the opportunity to work with Prof. Amr and the high calibre interaction and collaboration from all in the course of the workshop. He reminded the participants that the whole workshop was not only about writing their dissertation but also an input to their teaching methods and passing the acquired skills on to their students.

The final remark was made by Dr. Jean-Bosco Butera. He started by thanking Prof. Amr for facilitating the training despite his busy schedule. He stated that there is a need for keeping this network of peace researchers to help and nurture the next generation of researchers. He thanked IDRC for their generous financial support and the UPEACE Africa Programme team that made this workshop a reality. He concluded by noting that certificate of participation will be issued to participants soon.
VI. Annex

Annex 1: Participants Profile

Mr. Alex Namu Kamwaria
Kenya

P. O. Box 65617-00607
Nairobi, Kenya
Mobile: +254-715-453990
E-Mail: akamwaria@yahoo.com

Mr. Ayo Whetho
Nigeria

School of Politics
University of KwaZulu-Natal
Private Bag X01, Scottsville 3209
Pietermaritzburg, South Africa.
Tel: +27 33 260 5892
Fax: +27 33 260 6479
Mob: +27 82 220 5456
E-Mail: ayowetho@yahoo.co.uk

Mr. Chris, M.A. Kwaja
Nigeria

Centre for Conflict Mgt.& Peace Studies
University of Jos,
P.M.B.2084
Jos, Nigeria.
Tel: +234-803-6054165
Mob: +234-803-6054165
E-Mail: kwajac@unijos.edu.ng,
kwaajaamc@yahoo.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Daisy Owomugasho</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Makerere University</td>
<td>P.O. Box: 7062, Kampala, Uganda</td>
<td>Tel: +256-772-472 064, Fax: +256 414 532 355, E-Mail: <a href="mailto:dowomugasho@yahoo.com">dowomugasho@yahoo.com</a>, <a href="mailto:dowomugasho@fema.mak.ac.ug">dowomugasho@fema.mak.ac.ug</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Jephias Mapuva</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>University of the Western Cape</td>
<td>B25 Hector Peterson Residence, Private Bag X17, Bellville, Cape Town, South Africa</td>
<td>Mob: 076 252 3393, E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mapuva@coolgoose.com">mapuva@coolgoose.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Kizito Sabala</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>University of Nairobi</td>
<td>PO Box 56557, 00200, Nairobi-Kenya</td>
<td>Tel: +254-2-3742240, 3752539, Dir line 3743884, Fax: +254 3742267, Mob: +254-722 850282, E-Mail: <a href="mailto:kizito.sabala@igad.org">kizito.sabala@igad.org</a>, <a href="mailto:sabalakizito@hotmail.com">sabalakizito@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Mrs. Umurerwa Rosemarie Aurore</td>
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<th>Mr. Sadiki Maeresera</th>
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<td>Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:sadikimm@yahoo.com">sadikimm@yahoo.com</a>, <a href="mailto:207528091@ukzn.ac.za">207528091@ukzn.ac.za</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Mr. Shimelis Tsegaye Tesemma</th>
<th>Ethiopia</th>
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<td>Mob: 251-911-614386</td>
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<tr>
<td>E- Mail: <a href="mailto:stsegaye@africanchildforum.org">stsegaye@africanchildforum.org</a>, <a href="mailto:shimelis.tsegaye@yahoo.com">shimelis.tsegaye@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mrs. Sidonia Angom  
Uganda

University of KwaZulu-Natal  
P.O. Box:7646  
Kampala, Uganda  
Tel:+ 256 772 414391  
Fax:+256 41 342903  
Mob: +256 772 654 784  
E-Mail: sidoniaa@yahoo.co.uk

Mr. Denis Musinguzi  
Uganda

Lecturer,  
Uganda Martyrs University  
Department of Good Governance and Peace Studies  
P.O Box: 5498, Kampala, Uganda  
Tel:+ 256 382 410611  
Fax:+256 382 410100  
Mob: +256 712 963569  
E-Mail: dmusinguzi@umu.ac.ug

Mr. Tom Ogwang  
Uganda

Makerere University  
P.O. Box: 29735  
Kampala, Uganda  
Tel: +256-712-831-116/+256 -714-259-085  
E-Mail: togwang@umu.ac.ug, ogwangtom@gmail.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Ronalid Kalyango</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>PhD Student</td>
<td>University of Kwa-Zulu Natal Durban 4041,</td>
</tr>
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<td>Tel: 234 (0)42-256644</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Jonathan Madu</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>PhD Student</td>
<td>Dept of Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies,</td>
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<td>University of Kwa-Zulu Natal Durban 4041,</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jnthn.madujchiamaka@gmail.com">jnthn.madujchiamaka@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Njeri Karuru</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Senior Program Specialist-PCD</td>
<td>IDRC-ESARO</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Mr. Igeme Katagwa  
Dep. of Sociology 
Makerere University  
P.O. Box: 7062  
Tel: +256-772-467706 or +256-414-540650  
Email: igemekatagwa@ss.mak.ac.ug/igemek@yahoo.com

Prof. Ayele Meshesha Gebreyes  
Ethiopia

Associate Professor  
Department of Psychology  
Addis Ababa University  
P.O. Box: 30022  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
Tel: (Home) 011-663-76-68  
Office 011-122-59-49  
Mob: 0911-68-08-80  
E-Mail: ayelemeshesha@hotmail.com

Dr. Jean Bosco Butera  
Ethiopia

Director  
University for Peace (UPEACE)  
Africa Programme  
Tel: +251 11 618-0991/251 11 618 0992  
Fax: +251 11 618-0993  
Mobile:+251 911 681080  
E- Mail: jbutera@upeace.org  
Website: www.africa.peace.org

42
Dr. Elias Cheboud
Ethiopia

Research Coordinator
University for Peace (UPEACE)
Africa Programme
Tel: +251 11 618-0991/251 11 618 0992
Fax: +251 11 618-0993
Mobile:+251 913 368936
E- Mail: echeboud@upeace.org
Website: www.africa.upeace.org

Mrs. Rahel Getachew
Ethiopia

Administrative and Finance Assistant
University for Peace (UPEACE)
Africa Programme
Tel: +251 11 618-0991/251 11 618 0992
Fax: +251 11 618-0993
Mobile:+251 911 899550
E-Mail: rgetachew@upeace.org
Website: www.africa.upeace.org

Mr. Tewodros Assefa
Ethiopia

Assistant Research Coordinator
University for Peace (UPEACE)
Africa Programme
Tel: +251 11 618-0991/251 11 618 0992
Fax: +251 11 618-0993
Mobile:+251 911 428790
E-Mail:
tedylishes@yahoo.com/tassefa@upeace.org
Website: www.africa.upeace.org
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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Contact Information</th>
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| Ms. Fitsum Andargatchew   | University for Peace (UPEACE)         | Ethiopia | Tel: +251 11 618-0991/251 11 618 0992  
Fax: +251 11 618-0993  
Mobile: +251 911 137691  
E-Mail: papiti29@gmail.com  
Website: [www.africa.upeace.org](http://www.africa.upeace.org) |
| Mr. Fana Gebresenbet      | Research Assistant                    | Ethiopia | Tel: +251 11 618-0991/251 11 618 0992  
Fax: +251 11 618-0993  
E-Mail: fanagst@yahoo.com,  
fgbresenbet@upeace.org  
Website: [www.africa.upeace.org](http://www.africa.upeace.org) |
| Mr. Tumaini Minja         | PhD Student                           | Tanzania | Tel: +44 844 307 4850  
Mobile: +44 791 9371 502  
E-mail: tumainiminja@yahoo.com/tam503@york.ac.uk |
Sarah Kamya
Uganda

Lecturer
Department of Social Work and Social Administration
Makerere University
P.O. Box 7062
Tel: +256 414 534114
Cell: +256 772 611 771
Email: skamya@ss.mak.ac.ug,
sarah_kamya@yahoo.co.uk

Mr. Malick Sane
Senegal

Assistant Lecturer du CIERVAL
Sociologue/ Chercheur de l’universite Gaston Berger
De st-Louis du Senegal
Quartier Santhiaba de Manguilne Prés du Rond Point Emile Badiane de Bignona.
Tél.: 77645 14 86/339941157
E-Mail: lickmasane@yahoo.fr, nesa-lik@hotmail.com

Mr. Joseph Peter Ochogwu
Nigeria

Department of Political Science
University of Jos
Tel: +234 9 6712261
Cell: +234 8062573667
E-mail: ipochogwu@yahoo.com
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Fidelis Allen</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>School of Politics</td>
<td>University of Kwazulu Natal, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa</td>
<td>Mobile: 234-8075111856 Email: <a href="mailto:fidallencanada@yahoo.ca">fidallencanada@yahoo.ca</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Susan Kilonzo</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Dept. Religion, Theology and Philosophy, Maseno University, Kisumu, Kenya, PO BOX 333</td>
<td>Tel:+254 057 351622/351620 Fax:+254 057 351221 Mobile:+254 271 259239 Email:<a href="mailto:mbusupa@yahoo.com">mbusupa@yahoo.com</a> Website:www.maseno.ac.ke</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Mazembo Mavungu</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td></td>
<td>University of the Witwatersrand</td>
<td>Tel. +27 0788120189 Mobile : Fax : Email <a href="mailto:mazemb_eddy@yahoo.fr">mazemb_eddy@yahoo.fr</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Olajumoke Yacob-Haliso</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>PhD Student/Lecturer</td>
<td>Dept. of Political Science, Babcock University, P.M.B 21244, Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria</td>
<td>Tel:+234-802-306-5842/ 234 (1) 7610-221 Mobile:+234-802-306-5842 Email:<a href="mailto:jumoyin@yahoo.co.uk">jumoyin@yahoo.co.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.babcockuni.edu.ng">www.babcockuni.edu.ng</a></td>
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<td>Mr. Patrick Leo Kamau Magero</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>PhD Student</td>
<td>Dept. History and Archeology, University of Nairobi,</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Nairobi, Kenya, P.O BOX 30197</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Shilaho Westen Kwatemba</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Department of Political Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof. Amr Abdalla</td>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>Vice Rector, UPEACE</td>
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<td>Sone Patience Munge</td>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Assistant Lecturer, PhD Student</td>
<td>Department of Law</td>
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Reverend Sister Jacinta Nwaka  
Nigeria

Assistant Lecturer  
Dept. History and International Studies,  
University of Benin, Nigeria  
Tel: 234 803 422 1832  
Mobile: 234 803 422 1832  
Email: jchiamaka@yahoo.com  
Website: www.uniben.waeup.org

Dr. Marcel Leroy  
Ethiopia

Senior Research Associate  
University for Peace (UPEACE)  
Africa Programme  
Tel: +251 11 618-0991/251 11 618 0992  
Fax: +251 11 618-0993  
Mobile: +251 911 897349  
Email: mleroy@upeace.org  
Website: www.africa.upeace.org

Mrs. Tsion Tadesse  
Ethiopia

Programme Assistant  
University for Peace (UPEACE)  
Africa Programme  
Tel: +251 11 618-0991/251 11 618 0992  
Fax: +251 11 618-0993  
Mobile: +251 911 964658  
Email: tabebe@upeace.org  
Website: www.africa.upeace.org
Mr. Bealem Amdissa
Ethiopia

Workshop Assistant
University for Peace (UPEACE)
Africa Programme
Tel: +251 11 618-0991/251 11 618 0992
Fax: +251 11 618-0993
Mobile: +251911252328
Website: www.africa.upeace.org
# Annex 2: Agenda

## Day One: Monday, May 10, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07:00-08:15</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:15-08:30</td>
<td>Participant Pick-up from the Jupiter Hotel to UNCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:30-09:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>Welcome Remarks – Dr. Jean Bosco Butera</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30-09:35</td>
<td>Remarks by Mrs. Njeri Karuru, IDRC</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:40-09:45</td>
<td>Remarks by Prof. Amr Abdalla, Vice Rector, UPEACE</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:45-09:50</td>
<td>Introduction on Workshop Evaluation by Prof. Ayele Meshesha</td>
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<td>09:50-10:30</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
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<td>Introduction of the workshop and Participant’s self-introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30-11:30</td>
<td>(Dr. Elias Cheboud)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paper Presentation</td>
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<td>Mr. Fidelis Allen</td>
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<td>Sadiki Maeresera</td>
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<td>Shilaho Westen Kwatemba</td>
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<td>Sidonia Angom</td>
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<td>Mrs. Olajumoke Yacob-Haliso</td>
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<td>Shimelis Tsegaye Tesemma</td>
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<td>Paper Presentation</td>
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<td>Time</td>
<td>Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>15:30-16:00</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
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### Day Two: Tuesday, May 11, 2010

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-10:30</td>
<td>Paper Presentation</td>
<td>Jephias Mapuva</td>
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<td>Sister Jacinta Nwaka</td>
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<td>Jonathan Madu</td>
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<td>Denis Musinguzi</td>
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<td>Patrick Magero</td>
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<td>10:30-11:00</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
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<td>Paper Presentation</td>
<td>Tom Ogwang</td>
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<td>Susan Kilonzo</td>
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<td>Tumaini Minja</td>
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<td>Ayo Whetho</td>
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<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>14:00 – 15:30</td>
<td>Methodology and Methods</td>
<td>Dr. Elias Cheboud</td>
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<td>15:30 – 16:00</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00 – 17:30</td>
<td>Principles of Research in the Areas of Peace Building and Conflict Resolution</td>
<td>Prof. Amr Abdalla</td>
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Day Three: Wednesday, May 12, 2010

9:00 – 10:30 Principles of Research in the Areas of Peace Building and Conflict Resolution (Continued)
By Prof. Amr Abdalla

10:30 – 11:00 Tea Break

11:00 – 13:00 Introduction to SPSS
By Prof. Amr Abdalla

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 15:30 Introduction to SPSS (Continued)
By Prof. Amr Abdalla

15:30 – 16:00 Tea Break

16:00 – 17:30 Introduction to SPSS (Continued)
By Prof. Amr Abdalla

Day Four: Thursday, May 13, 2010

9:00 – 10:30 Qualitative Data
By: Dr. Elias Cheboud

10:30 -11:00 Tea Break

11:00 – 13:00 Content Analysis Exercise, Group Work and Presentations

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 17:30 All Participants:
Visit to the African Union Peace and Security Department

Day Five: Friday, May 14, 2010

9:00 – 10:30 The Writing, Publication and Defence Process
By Dr. Elias Cheboud
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<td>10:30 - 11:00</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 13:00</td>
<td>The Writing, Publication and Defence Process (Continued)</td>
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<td>By Dr. Elias Cheboud</td>
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<td>13:00 – 14:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>14:00 – 15:00</td>
<td>Reflection</td>
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<td>15:00 – 16:00</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
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<td>Closing Ceremony</td>
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<td>18:30 – 21:30</td>
<td>Closing Dinner at Yod Abyssinia Cultural Restaurant, Sarbet Branch</td>
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