

# SOUTHERN VOICES IN THE NORTHERN POLICY DEBATE



## **A CONFERENCE REPORT**

HOSTED BY

THE AFRICA PROGRAM & THE PROJECT ON LEADERSHIP AND BUILDING STATE CAPACITY

## CONTENTS

I.	Executive Summary	2
II.	Opening Remarks	4
III.	Conference Proceedings	6
IV.	<b>Annexes I-IV</b> Conference Agenda Organization Profiles Participant Biographies Facilitator and Staff Biographies	12

## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**On May 22 and 23, 2011, The Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity, a program of** the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, successfully carried out the first of two conferences for its new initiative focused on the integration of Southern or developing countries voices into the predominantly Northern or Western, industrialized nations policy debate. This consultative conference, funded by the generous support of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, brought together 17 individuals, representing 10 policy and research institutions from five sub-Saharan African countries—Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal and South Africa.

In his opening remarks, Steve McDonald, the Director of the Leadership Project, stated, "There are issues on which the Global South has an entirely different perspective from the North, historical and cultural context, set of objectives, and impetus, by which I mean policy drivers, such as public opinion, economic stakes, regional relationships, and perceived domestic and international threats or consequences." He argued that it is imperative for American policymakers to understand this difference, even if it does not change final policy decisions.

Africans also need to address these differing perspectives and inform the Northern policymakers of their point of view in a manner that is not confrontational, but evidence-based, offering a new normative framework around which a U.S. policymaking audience has formed their previous opinions. The purpose of the Southern Voices initiative, therefore, is not to deny the validity of a Northern view, but rather show that there are different ways of looking at the same problem and encourage a greater understanding of multiple perspectives.

The conference unfolded over the two days in a loosely-structured and flexible format. The participants took the lead on deciding which thematic topics they felt were most essential to present to a U.S. policy audience and discussed how best to structure the research and production of those topics. Facilitation was provided by Mr. McDonald and Francis Kornegay, Senior Research Officer of the Institute for Global Dialogue in Pretoria, South Africa. The first order of business was an introduction of the individuals and organizations in the room, followed by a brief overview of the abstracts that each organization prepared in advance of the issues on which they felt it most imperative to focus.

Through two days of fruitful and spirited exchanges, there was broad agreement on the theme of the project and the intended outcomes, with enthusiasm by all participants to be involved. As one participant put it, the North must undo the notion that African countries have no capacity to speak on behalf of their constituency – the BRICS countries, the G20, greater representation on the IMF, and so on. On issues such as climate change, for instance, global initiatives and conventions becloud the voices of Africa as victims of the subject, which leads to non-implementation of public-private partnerships between African and international organizations. Affected stakeholders are, therefore, excluded from the discussion and decision-making processes related to it. Again, by way of example, it was stated that "energy" is defined differently by the North and the South, the former being defined as oil and other mineral ("brown") resources and the latter comprised of water, land and electricity, "green" resources. One final example was the fact, brought out in the discussion, that the global North views increased immigration as a security issue to them because of the additional strain on resources and employment opportunities, but that it might also be a threat to African countries since the most educated populations are opting to live elsewhere and creating "brain drains" on Africa countries.

At the close of the breakout group discussion, the plenary identified five areas of policy research that they feel are important and that fit the criteria of differing North/South perspectives: 1) Global realignment of politics; 2) Climate change and technology transfer; 3) Conflicts and conflict resolution; 4) Migration and brain drain; and 5) Energy and food security. Cross-cutting issues, such as technology and communications capacity-building, gender and youth, and diaspora participation were also identified as applicable to all of the major research topics.

The conference concluded with a discussion of next steps. It was agreed that once the Woodrow Wilson Center has received confirmation from the participants of their organization's commitment to continue being engaged in this process, it would consult with the organizations to decide who would like to work on what topic and with whom. Following this step will be the actual research of the topics and a presentation of findings early next year to a US policy audience at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, DC. The research papers will be published along with a conference report. Mr. McDonald will subsequently inform all participants as individuals and organizations on the terms of reference surrounding the research phase.

It was suggested that a major outcome of the two days of intense interaction, getting acquainted, and sharing ideas and information should be used as the foundation for building a more organized network of research and policy institutions. There was broad agreement on the fact that those "think tanks" that do exist around the continent, whether long established or newly originated, large or small, often do not know each other and seldom work together, share information or opportunities, engage individual resources for joint project planning and bidding, or present a unified professional profile to the Northern policy community. It was felt that by working together, in partnerships or through information-sharing, the sum would be larger than the individual parts. Several ideas were suggested that would begin to address this deficiency, including the development of an information-sharing portal where projects, bidding opportunities, employment opportunities, resources, and a bulletin board on issues and institutional news are shared. This is currently being looked into by the Leadership Program at the Wilson Center. This portal will allow for and strengthen communication among participants as we move forward with next steps.

It was also suggested that a formal alignment of institutions, such as those represented in Dakar, should be considered and an African Think Tank Network (ATTN) be established to broaden the reach to the entire Global South. The Wilson Center staff agreed to investigate this possibility, both to review what other efforts at African think tank cooperation were being encouraged on the continent and to see if it could secure funding from potential donors in order to help establish and sustain engagement with the ATTN.

## II. OPENING REMARKS

Steve McDonald, Director Africa Program, and The Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity



Delegates and Friends,

Let me first of all welcome you to Dakar and the inaugural Consultative Conference of the Woodrow Wilson Center's project on Southern Voices in the Northern Policy Debate. I have previously met with many, if not most of you, and have had the pleasure of working with some of you in the past. I am pleased to have all of you here, and look forward with great anticipation to the conversations we will have over the course of the conference.

In the 42 years that I have been living in and/or working on Africa, I have had the privilege of getting to know countless Africans fully engaged and experienced in issues of development, governance, conflict resolution and prevention, and social justice. I have lived among you, worked with you, and relied upon your energies, talents, initiative and good judgment. I have, therefore, been amazed over the years that when the problems and issues of Africa are being discussed, there is seldom even a single African in the room, much less one who is being asked to define the problem and set the agenda. This is all too often true of work I have done with NGOs, particularly at the decision-making level. But, where it really concerns me is in policy making circles and, again too often, among those often self-appointed analysts and interpreters of Africa to the Northern public.

Let me give one prime example that I know to be true. In September 2007, when President George W. Bush announced the formation of AFRICOM, the continent was taken by surprise and there was a vociferous backlash of criticism. In a meeting to which I was invited in Washington, which included high-level US government officials that tried to make the rationale and justification for the new Command to key civil society stakeholders, there was no African invited. When I asked the question about why there was no consultation with Africans, the response was, "We intend on doing that." This was already two months after the announcement by President Bush. Months later at another meeting, it was stated that South African Minister of Defense Lakota supported the Command—and this was when it was still being suggested that AFRICOM be on African soil. I countered that in a recent private meeting in South Africa with the Minister, he had told me quite the opposite, that he was against AFRICOM and would urge his president to make that objection public. The response was, "Well, he says different things in private than he says in public."

The decision on AFRICOM was driven by perceived American needs, mainly to consolidate the unwieldy and expensive three separate commands of Department of Defense that covered Africa. Originally, there was no agenda for development, capacity-building, or any other purpose, just to streamline America's response to the War on Terror. That all came later as the Department of Defense launched a public relations campaign to repair the damage done by the announcement and seek African cooperation. However, in reality it was getting African acquiescence to a *fait accompli* long after the decision was made. There was no turning back on AFRICOM and African opinion had not mattered in its formation. This is just one of many examples I could provide on the indifference to African views and opinions on things seen to be in the national interest of the US, and the industrialized north in general, whether these are conversations and decisions being made in inner policy circles of the U.S. Government or at the G-20, G-70, World Trade Organization, during the Kyoto Summit on climate change, in the Security Council, the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund.

Thus, when I had an opportunity in a conversation with a major donor, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, I introduced the idea to strengthen the network of existing policy and research institutes on the continent, as well as to commission select papers from those organizations on policy issues of shared interest to North and South for presentation to the policy community in the US. My understanding, formed over the years, was there are issues on which the Global South has an entirely different perspective from the North, historical and cultural context, set of objectives, and impetus, by which I mean policy drivers, such as public opinion, economic stakes, regional relationships, and perceived domestic and international threats or consequences. It is imperative that American policymakers understand this difference. It may not change final policy decisions, but it would mitigate the dismay they often feel over African response to policy decisions.

With the Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity, we began to conceptualize a project that would provide an opportunity for Africans to address these differing perspectives and inform the Northern policymakers of their point of view in a manner that is not confrontational, but evidence-based. A key component of the project is to ensure that the presentation of views is unemotional and well-reasoned, thus offering a new normative framework around which a US policymaking audience has formed their previous opinions. The intent is not to deny the validity of a Northern view, but rather show that there are different ways of looking at the same problem and encourage a greater understanding of multiple perspectives.

Starting in October 2010, we began our consultations with African think tanks, and were encouraged that every African we spoke with agreed with the project's premise. From those meetings, we recognized the frustration of the African policy and research institutions with their inability to be heard by Northern policymakers and, more remarkable, that often African governments and regional institutions did not invite their own organizations to the table for policy recommendations. We also heard that individual African voices were often muted because a strong network of cooperation and reinforcement amongst African think tanks does not yet exist. Often, I was told, you do not know each other, and almost always, you are locked into projects that do not include the opportunity to reach across national borders for consultation and cooperation on defining and presenting the issues.

Therefore, we turn the agenda over to you. We want to hear from you, as to your strengths and capacities as organizations and individuals. We want you to review for us your preliminary thinking on the policy issues on which North and South share concerns, but not perspectives. We then want you to develop a dialogue surrounding these issues, adding ideas and new thoughts, honing the focus, and defining the priorities in your minds. Once complete, we want to you to propose thematic topics around which we will commission research that will result in the production of papers laying out the Southern perspective and suggesting ways in which the US and other Northern policymakers can respond to it. We will also ask you to suggest consortia of two or three amongst your institutes who want, and are well-placed, to take responsibility for each topic. We have purposefully sought out both larger and well established institutions with a pan-African reach, and smaller, more nationally- or functionally-focused institutions with the hope that this will provide an opportunity for you to join hands, reinforce each other's capacities and complement each other's strengths.

## III. CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

The first day of the conference was devoted to Mr. McDonald's opening remarks, as well as participant introductions, organizational descriptions, and brief summaries of their respective abstracts. The individual and organizational profiles can be found at the end of this report as Annexes I and II.

The second day began with a presentation by Facilitator Francis Kornegay, who had analyzed the abstracts and developed a list of thematic topics around the various issues identified within them. They are as follows:

- 1. Global Governance & Africa's International Relations: Reform, Dialogue and Security
- 2. African Perspectives on Climate Change
- 3. The Development-Trade-Investment Nexus
- 4. Human Security in the North-South Equation

After some discussion, it was proposed to combine the four topics into two:

- 1. Global Governance and Climate Change
- 2. Economic Development and Human Security

Since Mr. McDonald had posited that the discussion would be guided by the participants, the focus of the first interventions in the preliminary plenary session following Mr. Kornegay's presentation was on procedure and process. There was concern from some participants over clustering topics together. Dr. Udesh Pillay of the South African Human Science Research Council warned, "Thematic issues are important, but when one feels a sense of consumption to integrate a number of issues, some other smaller important issues fall through the cracks." It was then clarified that the intention of the thematic topics was not about merging multiple issues together, but more about how to structure the discussions. How Africans develop proactive positions to identify the major thematic issues is one of the underlying purposes of the conference, taking into consideration that Africa, asserted that there needs to be a consensus amongst the participants on the terms of reference and the need to agree on terminology. He also said that although it is admirable to be ambitious, everyone should remain cognizant about not taking on too much at once.

Participants noted that this raises the question about what the key priorities are between the North and the South. By identifying those issues that are of mutual interest, a more effective and strategic presentation will be able to be made to a U.S. policy audience. Kevin Urama, Director of the African Technology Policy Studies Network in Kenya, elaborated on this point:

"We cannot just select issues based on strategic interest for us because they will not make it to the priority table in the North. Considering that, we also have a lot of issue focuses here that may be strategic for an organization, but may not be strategic for the African strategy. Our task here is to be very strategic in deciding on priority issues that we will take moving forward from here." Some countered that it is not only important to know what the North is interested in, but also for them to understand what Africa finds imperative. Keeping that in mind, a consensus emerged that no matter what priority issues are selected by the conference participants, it is important to recognize who the audience is and strategize accordingly.

Mr. McDonald stated the projected outcome of the conference, which is to select 3-5 focus areas on which everyone expresses interest in conducting research followed by the production of a comprehensive document that will contain the outcomes and recommendations of the research that will be presented by the participants to a US policy audience in Washington, DC one year from now. Aifa Ndoye Niane, of the Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale in Senegal, pointed out that many of the international policy issues that might be raised among the organizations present at the conference are complimentary and relate to each other on some level. Following this train of thought, Dimpho Motsamai, Researcher at the Institute for Security Studies, offered a suggestion to ensure clarification of short- versus long-term objectives pertaining to the Southern Voices initiative.

"We need a roadmap," she said, "for how to move forward so that the document remains a living document."

The fruitful and interactive morning discussion on procedural processes of the conference led to the plenary dividing itself into two small groups in order to delve into the thematic issues more in depth. The groups were as follows:

Group 1	Group 2
Violet Murunga	Aifa Fatima Ndoye Niane
(Kenya)	(Senegal)
Kevin Urama	Chirag Shah
(Kenya)	(Kenya)
Dimpho Motsamai	Turner Isoun
(South Africa)	(Kenya)
Ndiaga Mbaye	Emerta Asaminew
(Senegal)	(Ethiopia)
Fritz Nganje	David Zounmenou
(South Africa)	(South Africa)
Udesh Pillay	Kathy Addy
(South Africa)	(Ghana)
Eugenie Maiga	Joe Kieyah
(Ghana)	(Kenya)
Ebrima Sall	Abdoul Mijiyawa
(Senegal)	(Ghana)
Benedict Yiyugsah	
(Ghana)	

Group 1 focused on Global Governance and Climate Change, while Group 2 took on Economic Development and Human Security.

Upon reconvening after lunch in the main conference room, both groups gave a brief presentation summarizing their discussion. Kevin Urama, spokesperson for Group 1, began his synopsis by stating that issues of global governance cannot be reduced to solely climate change. He argued that there are multiple themes found under the umbrella of global governance and outlined them as follows:

- 1. Global realignment of politics
- 2. Climate change
- 3. Food security
- 4. Resource use energy, water, biodiversity
- 5. Conflicts and conflict resolution

With regard to global realignment of politics, Group 1 believed that the North must undo the notion that African countries have no capacity to speak on behalf of their constituency – the BRICS countries, the G20, greater representation on the IMF, and so on. They recognized that a readjustment in the status quo is currently taking place and is moving towards multilateral relationships (US-Africa-China-EU) rather than bilateral ones. Therefore, engagement of emerging economies in Africa should be perceived as positive re-configuration of global governance institutions and reflected in reforms of global institutional architecture, including the World Bank, IMF, UN, and others. Group 1 argued that there needs to be a harmonization in international governance regimes that are mutually reinforcing instead of competitive. During this process, it is imperative to dispel any misperceptions that may exist within

Africa is an emerging market, growing at over 5% annually for the past several years and representing one of the highest returns on investment in the world the debate. Africa is an emerging market, growing at over 5% annually for the past several years and representing one of the highest returns on investment in the world, and therefore, should be viewed as an optimal place in which to invest.

Moving onto climate change, Group 1 provided a few observations, followed by recommendations. First, global initiatives and conventions on climate change becloud the voices of Africa as victims of the subject, which leads to non-implementation of public-private

partnerships between African and international organizations. Affected stakeholders are, therefore, excluded from the discussion and decision-making processes related to it. Africa is more interested in adaptation mechanisms rather than reinventing the wheel, and places significant value on the relationship between indigenous knowledge practices and modern technologies. Taking these insights into consideration, Group 1 proposed a strategy for addressing climate change, listed as steps below:

- 1. Development first
- 2. Technology transfer and intellectual property issues
- 3. Communications & the African voice
- 4. Science, technology, and innovation capacity-building

The third and fourth issues that Group 1 discussed were food and energy security, both of which are global issues and are interrelated. They acknowledged that "energy" is defined differently by the North and the South, the former being defined as oil and other mineral resources and the latter comprised of water, land and electricity. However, both views affect one another. For example, Africa is endowed with substantial amount of arable land, containing over 20% of the world's unused arable land, but land policy rarely includes participation from local stakeholders, creating an atmosphere of disenfranchisement and resentment. Furthermore, agricultural policies and subsidies from the North are seen as undermining the effectiveness of agriculture as a vehicle for economic growth, poverty reduction and protection of the environment. As such, African countries have looked to trade reforms from WTO negotiations for redress when it comes to the agricultural policies and subsidies of the North. These are concerns that go beyond food needs. They address the opening up of economic growth opportunities while leveling the playing field between North and South in terms of agricultural exports.

Concerns raised in agriculture carried over into the energy–food crisis predicament that exacerbates and disenfranchises the poor, such as the needed trade-offs in balancing energy security with food security. While the tendency for biofuels is to contribute to a rise in food prices at the expense of the poor, energy is fundamental to development; and therefore, development policies must prioritize energy infrastructure. In this regard, it was suggested that Africa needed to be encouraged to use both green and "brown" energy. Here, capacity-building for promoting science and technology innovation was crucial.

Conflict resolution was the final issue discussed in Group 1. There is an evident lack of a homogenous perspective on conflict and conflict resolution strategies between the North and South. It is important for the North to understand the nature of conflicts in Africa, as well as the need to focus on preventive diplomacy. Respect and support for regional and continental conflict resolution mechanisms are crucial. In order to build a thriving democracy and civil society, the North should focus on engaging local populations and ensure their participation throughout the entire process. Obtaining buy-in is pivotal, not just from the upper echelons of state power, but all the way down the chain of leadership to the

most local of representatives. One way to try to achieve this is by focusing on capacity-building of the citizens through support for NGOs, civil society, and other nongovernmental agencies. Transparency within Northern processes of development assistance and democracybuilding is also important in building trust from various stakeholder groups. However, the bottom line for Group 1 was for Northern countries to respect African priorities and not just their own when developing and implementing conflict prevention and resolution frameworks.



Group 2, which focused on Economic Development and Human Security, was represented by David Zounmenou. They began their presentation by providing guidelines on how they would structure their discussion and choose the research topics most important to them. Those guidelines are as follows:

- 1. The topic should be new.
- 2. The topic must be researchable.
- 3. The topic must be strategic for both the North and South.

When applying these guidelines to their decision-making process, Group 2 first asked themselves, "Are we bringing anything new to the debate and, if not, could we utilize the old one?" From this point, they identified three areas of research, the first being food security. They argued that food security within a state is dependent on multiple factors, including social cohesion, political stability and socio-economic development. When one of these ingredients falters, the potential for food crisis increases. This has been the experience all across Africa.

Recognizing that land tenure also plays a role in agricultural output levels, Group 2 begged the question, "What is driving the land grab and what impact might this have at local and national levels within African countries?" Considerations for related factors must be taken into account when addressing the issue of land, such as water irrigation, agricultural subsidies, private-public partnerships, fertiliser, food processing, and the impact of policies on food security (i.e. family planning policies), gender roles, property rights, storage and post-harvest losses, and opportunities in marketing and transportation.

The second issue that Group 2 discussed was technology transfer in Africa. They viewed this as critical to facilitating job creation and stable markets, which in turn serves to promote self-reliance and democratic governance. Knowledge transfer of already existing technologies is also crucial when linking African institutions of higher learning to technology development. But how does knowledge transfer of technology take place and under what framework? Other benefits of technology transfer are the value addition to raw materials, increased manufacturing exports, and the reduction of vulnerability and dependency on external powers. It is important to stay cognizant of the impacts of technology on biodiversity.

Migration of people in terms of security was the final topic that Group 2 identified during their discussion. They clarified that migration was not only those who leave their homeland, but also populations that move from rural areas to urban enclaves within a country. They drew the linkage between external migration with the issue of the "brain drain syndrome," which is defined as the large scale emigration of a large group of individuals with technical skills or knowledge. Due to this on-going challenge, Group 2 pondered if migration was really a threat to stability.

It is important for the North to understand the nature of conflicts in Africa, as well as the need to focus on preventive diplomacy. Respect and support for regional and continental conflict resolution mechanisms are crucial. They then posed the question: is it possible to reverse migration, particularly with Diaspora communities, in order to reverse the trend from "brain drain" to "brain gain?" They explained that the global North views increased immigration as a security issue because of the additional strain on resources and employment opportunities, but that it might also be a threat to African countries since the most educated populations are opting to live elsewhere. Taking this notion a step further, they analysed whether productivity within African countries was a factor in why people leave. If so, they argued that increasing output and

employment opportunities could potentially stave off migration to the West, creating a win-win situation for both. They hope that it might eventually be possible to reverse the trend so that individuals begin to migrate *to* Africa. They recognized that currently, most African countries do not have this capacity, but it might be something to consider through offering incentives such as educational scholarships.

Following the presentations of both groups, the plenary began an open dialogue process that provided the space for participants to raise concerns, make comments, or suggest ways to move forward with the project objectives. Kathy Addy of CDD-Ghana mentioned that during her small group session, there were some issues that they tabled because the time allotted was limited and other issues took priority. However, one of them was that of civil society empowerment, which exercises oversight to serve as a check on government and therefore, becomes a governance issue. She argued that one can find parliamentarians throughout Africa who have strong technical backgrounds, but no space to utilize their strengths.

Ebrima Sall from CODESRIA, Senegal, elaborated on the theme of the earlier group report on immigration and found a linkage between governance and migration. He posed the argument that the majority of African migrants remain within the continent, moving from one African country to another,

compared to those who migrate to the global North. This, he says, is something to take into consideration when discussing the issue of migration, particularly with regard to brain drain and gain.

Kevin Urama offered an anecdotal concept that he says ATPS is currently developing called, "FIFAization." He explained, "When people leave to study, they stay there. The home country does not invest in capacity-building and development, which does not incentivize them to come back. With footballers, everything is provided for by the home country—uniforms, salary, etc." FIFA-ization, therefore, is a policy concept aimed at reversing migration by providing incentives to stay or return through the continued development and capacity-building of the home country.

Abdoul Mijiyawa of African Center for Economic Transformation in Ghana reminded the participants that one must think of how to finance any sort of remittance or other incentive for migrants to return. He said that one must think about how to invest through public-private partnerships or through government bonds in order to save money through consumption.



An area of research related to migration that should be developed is technology, which would aid in balancing communication and civil participation between Diaspora and local populations. Turner Isoun, ATPS board member and former Nigerian government minister, argued that in Nigeria, a significant portion of investment goes towards broadband and internet access via a communications satellite and other means. The value-added comes from the technological infrastructure that links Diaspora communities around the world with Nigeria so that they can still be part of sustained development and government processes.

The discussion then switched course from migration and technology to food security and its link to technology transfer. Reiterating the point that food security is a global issue, Udesh Pillay stated that changing agricultural practices is only one dimension. He reasoned that while this may open the door to active engagement and increased influence with policymakers at various levels of government, one must also consider another conversational dimension—technology transfer. "You cannot have a discussion on technology transfer without mainstreaming issues of social mobilization and adaptation," he said, asserting that one cannot integrate technologies into communities without mobilization.

## ANNEX I: CONFERENCE AGENDA

#### Dakar, Senegal Sunday, May 22, 2011

15:00H	<i>Opening Plenary</i> Damel Conference Room
	Le Ndiambour Hotel
	Welcoming Remarks
	Steve McDonald, Director
	Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity
	Africa Program
	Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
	Steve McDonald will welcome delegates, introduce staff, describe program conceptual framework, objectives, and conference design. Feedback from Plenary will be invited for procedural or substantive issues or suggestions.
15:30H	Introduction of Participant Delegations
	Delegations will be asked to introduce themselves, profile their institution and share their preliminary thinking as reflected in the pre-conference Abstracts they provided. Presentations will be no longer than 10 minutes and in the order below:
	<u>Ethiopia</u> Ethiopian Economic Association <u>Ghana</u> African Center for Economic Transformation Ghana Center for Democratic Development
	<u>Kenya</u> African Institute for Development Studies
	African Institute for Development Studies
	African Technology Policy Studies Network Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis
	Kenya msulule idi kubil koncy nesedilih dhu Andiysis
16:35H	Coffee/Tea Break
16:45H	Presentations Continued:
	<u>Senegal</u> Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa
	12

	Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale
	South Africa
	Politics and Research
	Human Sciences Research Council
	Institute for Global Dialogue
	Institute for Security Studies
17:50H	Close of Session
	Francis Kornegay
	Conference Facilitator
	Research Associate
	Institute for Global Dialogue, Johannesburg
	Francis Kornegay will present thematic links of the Abstracts and
	suggest some ways forward for the Day Two discussions.
	Feedback will be invited.
	Guidance for Day Two from Steve McDonald
19:00H	Opening Dinner
	Hotel Restaurant
	(No formal program)
Monday, May 23, 2	2011
9:00H	Second Plenary
	Damel Conference Room
	Open discussion on critical issues of mutual concern to North and
	South and grouping them into thematic categories. Plenary will
	seek to reach consensus on set of 5-6 issues upon which the
	project will be based.
10:45H	Coffee/Tea Break
11:00H	Breakout Sessions
	Damel Conference Room
	Conference will break into 5-6 separate thematic groups which
	will convene individually to discuss in greater depth the issue they
	have chosen and prepare a report back to the Plenary. Each group will appoint a rapporteur who will be responsible for recording
	13

	their findings and leading the report back to the Plenary.
12:30H	Informal Lunch Hotel Restaurant
14:00H	<i>Third Plenary</i> Damel Conference Room
	This session will be devoted to open discussion of the conference proceedings with the objective of finalizing a consensus on the themes that will be the focus of the project; and, importantly, to identify and select which institutions will take responsibility for the research on each issue theme and the presentation at the Policy Conference to take place in Washington, DC in 2012.
	If it is the will of the Plenary, a discussion on creating a network of research and policy institutions across Africa could also be on the discussion agenda.
17:00H	Conference Close

## ANNEX II: ORGANIZATION PROFILES

#### African Center for Economic Transformation

#### **Our Vision**

By 2025, an African continent where countries are successfully driving their own growth and transformation agenda, supported by capable institutions and best policies for the benefit of all.

#### **Our Mission**

Promote policy and institutional reforms for sustained economic growth and transformation in Africa.

#### **Our Services**

#### • Conduct transformational studies

ACET studies are designed to inform policy discussions and actions on economic growth and transformation in Africa. These studies, which consist of country case studies, sub-sector studies, thematic studies and regional studies, analyze the growth performance of African countries, identify successes and draw lessons from emerging economies. Study findings form the basis for policy recommendations and measures to accelerate progress in 14 countries.

#### • Advise governments on managing economic transformation

ACET supports African governments in their efforts to strengthen institutional capacities for long-term growth and transformation. Areas covered are: designing and implementing aid policies, improving public investment programs, rationalizing the planning and budgeting functions, and supporting effective long-term planning. Currently engaged in Ghana, Liberia, Rwanda, and Sierra Leone, we are planning to expand the service to other countries.

#### • Support effective management of extractive resources

ACET helps African governments to effectively manage their extractive resources for the benefit of their people. We assist governments in overcoming the policy and institutional barriers to the effective management and regulation of oil, gas, and mineral resources by supporting the formulation of fiscal policy regimes, crafting laws for licensing extractives operations, negotiating and enforcing contracts, managing resources and containing the risks that undermine sustainable practice.

#### Our team

ACET currently has a staff of 23 from 8 African countries who work from our Accra-based secretariat. In addition we have also developed a roster of dozens of African professionals and other experts with broad experience and solid reputations as policymakers at the national level, senior staff of international organizations, seasoned private-sector specialists and world-class academics that we draw upon to support our work.

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

Africa Center for Economic Transformation 50 Liberation Road Ridge Residential Area Accra, Ghana Phone: +233 (0)302 253 638, +233 (0)302 258143 – 5 Fax: +233 (0)302 258140 Website: http://acetforafrica.org

#### Africa Institute for Development Policy

#### **Institutional Aims**

AFIDEP is non-profit policy think tank whose purpose is to translate research evidence and use it to advocate for improved policies and program effectiveness in Africa. The Institute seeks to ensure that policy makers and program managers at national, regional, and international levels have consistent and sustained availability of timely, relevant, trusted, and accessible evidence to enable them to set proper priorities, increase investment, and enhance effectiveness of intervention programs in these areas. The ultimate goals are to contribute to the improvement of the wellbeing of Africans by reducing unplanned pregnancies, reducing maternal and child deaths, slowing population growth, and improving sexual and reproductive health outcomes of young people.

#### **Program Focus and Approach**

AFIDEP's work currently focuses on three issues: 1) Population change and development; 2) Maternal and child health; and 3) Adolescent Reproductive Health and Development. The Institute uses three interrelated program approaches:

#### Knowledge Generation and Translation

AFIDEP translates research evidence to demonstrate the investment case and scalable lessons for strengthening the capacity of programs in addressing barriers that limit equitable access to services in the region. AFIDEP generates and translates new knowledge through: a) systematic reviews, synthesis, and translation of evidence; b) analysis of secondary data to assess policy scenarios and monitor budget allocations and equity dimensions in delivery of services; and c) analyses of policy and program environments to identify gaps in service delivery and opportunities for improving the effectiveness of programs.

#### Evidence Based Advocacy

AFIDEP works various partners to advocate for investment and action in addressing population and health issues in Africa in selected countries (currently Kenya, Malawi, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Rwanda) and at regional level. It facilitates knowledge transfer at the regional level through its involvement in and partnership with key regional networks and organizations such as the African Union, regional development communities, parliamentary health committee networks, and reproductive health networks. At the international level, AFIDEP participates in international conferences, high-level experts panels, and organizes meetings with key development partners to ensure that evidence and perspectives of African professionals inform their programs for Africa.

#### Capacity Building

In order to have sustained evidence-based decision-making in Africa, AFIDEP optimizes the capacity of researchers, advocates, and policymakers in translating and using research and related forms of evidence through training workshops, fellowships, and direct knowledge transfer during collaboration. AFIDEP strengthens skills of researchers in knowledge translation, policy analysis, scenario building, and

effective communication; and works with advocates and end users of evidence to optimize their capacity in accessing and using research information.

#### **Expertise and Governance**

AFIDEP brings together a multidisciplinary team of scholars that constitute its core staff as well as a network of Associate Fellows who contribute to the Institute's work and seek to strengthen the impact of their own work through AFIDEP's programs and connections. A Board of Directors, composed of a multidisciplinary team of internationally reputable professionals, provides advice to the leadership of AFIDEP on institutional development issues, program development, and fund-raising.

#### Partners

AFIDEP forges collaborative partnerships with national think-tanks, regional economic blocks, international research organizations, civil society organizations, advocacy networks, and professional associations in order to enhance the scope and impact of its work, optimize synergies, and leverage resources, expertise, and experiences. AFIDEP works closely with local research and advocacy partners to ensure that knowledge translation is locally owned, driven, and sustained.

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) Suite #29, Royal Offices, Mogotio Road, off Chiromo Lane, P. O. Box 14688-00800, Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya Phone: +254-20-203-9510 Website: <u>www.afidep.org</u>

#### The African Technology Policy Studies Network

**The African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) is a multidisciplinary network of** researchers, policymakers, private sectors and civil society actors promoting the generation, dissemination, use and mastery of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for Africa's development, environmental sustainability and global inclusion. It was established in 1994 and was incorporated as an independent African organization in August 2001. Subsequently, the ATPS Secretariat was accorded full Diplomatic status in Kenya on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2003. ATPS operates through chapters in 29 countries across Africa and the Diaspora in Europe and USA.

The overall objective of the ATPS is to build Africa's Science Technology and Innovation (STI) capacity today for sustainable development tomorrow. The strategic vision is to become the leading centre of excellence and reference in science, technology and innovation systems research, training and capacity building, communication and sensitization, knowledge brokerage, policy advocacy and outreach in Africa. The institution's mission is to improve the quality of science, technology and innovation systems research and policy making in Africa by strengthening capacity for science and technology knowledge generation, communication and dissemination, use and mastery for sustainable development in Africa.

The overall policy-making body of ATPS is the international Board of Directors comprising African and non-African scholars, policymakers and private sector actors, who formulate and monitor the implementation of ATPS policies and procedures designed to fulfill the network's objectives. The ATPS

Secretariat has an independent and dynamically evolving staff that provides executive direction, administrative implementation and physical infrastructure to the network. The Secretariat is led by a Secretariat Management Committee (SMC) chaired by the Executive Director.

The ATPS has been funded by several donors and sponsors, among which include the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Royal Dutch Government, the Rockefeller Foundation, African Development Bank (AfDB), Technical Centre for Agriculture (CTA/Netherlands), Ford Foundation, Coca-Cola Eastern Africa, Carnegie Corporation, World Bank, OPEC Fund, Federal Government of Nigeria, World Bank- infoDev, UNESCO, UN-IDEP, NEPAD, OSF, and UNEP among others.

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

African Technology Policy Studies (ATPS) Network 3rd Floor, The Chancery, Valley Rd. Nairobi, Kenya P.O Box 10081 00100 Tel: 254 020 2714092, 2714168, 2714498, 2723800 Fax: 254 020 2714028 Website: <u>www.atpsnet.org</u>

#### The Center for Democratic Development

**Rates of economic growth in some African countries are among the fastest in the** world, potentially creating vast development opportunities. Yet the challenges of improving the continent's educational and health systems, advancing good governance and democratization, protecting and conserving the environment and increasing respect for human rights remain as pressing as ever. Appalled by these, there was and is still the need for Africans and their partners to find and implement innovative solutions to all these challenges if we are to accelerate the pace on development. It is in response to this urgent call that the Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana) was established in 1998 as one of a new breed active Think Tanks across Africa to nurture and encourage a global pool of local knowledge and experts to address the aforementioned development challenges confronting Ghana and the African continent at large.

CDD-Ghana is an independent and non-partisan non-governmental research-based and policy-oriented institute. The *Center's corporate mission is to promote democracy, good governance and economic openness in Ghana in particular, and Africa in general. Its vision is a free, peaceful and well governed society based on the rule of law, justice, integrity in public administration and equal opportunities for all in Ghana and Africa.* It pursues these twin corporate philosophies through high-quality policy research, technical analyses and widely disseminated publications and documentation. It also organizes roundtables, seminars and conferences, issue press statements, and engages in extensive networking with relevant state and non-state stakeholders to inform and educate, to foster public and policy-maker awareness, and to support advocacy and stimulate policy reform on a broad range of democracy, governance and economic issues. Its core values are non-partisanship, independence, integrity, accountability, objectivity and equal opportunity.

Indeed, the Center aims to be a leading continental and regional institution dedicated to comparative research, analysis, documentation, information sharing and consultancy services in the areas of good

governance and democratic development, respected for its objectivity as well as the quality of its research and advocacy outputs. With current staff strength of more than thirty-five full-time workers, the Center is headed by an accomplished Executive Director and includes program and research officers and professional accountants and Administrators. A host of visiting scholars, researchers, interns and local and international consultants routinely complement and enrich the work of the Center.

The Center undertakes major research and consultancy programs to support Ghanaian and African democratic development and good governance such as:

- The governance and anti-corruption diagnostic research (2000),
- The Economic Commission for Africa's/ UNDP's Africa Governance Report I, II & III in 2002, 2007 & 2011 respectively
- Afrobarometer surveys (since 1999),
- The World Bank's social accountability in Ghana report (2006)
- The Ghana "Drivers of Change" analysis in 2004/5
- The political governance and democracy component of Ghana's African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) in 2004/5

On the international front, CDD-Ghana engages in extensive international networking and collaborations. The Center is a member of...

- The Network of Democracy Research Institutes (NDRI)
- World Movement for Democracy/Africa Democracy Forum (ADF),
- The Steering Committee of the Community of Democracies (CoD)
- African Transitional Justice Research Network/West African Transitional Justice Network;
- Global Network of Local Governments (GNLG)
- Consortium for Development Partners (CDP) and;
- The Power, Politics and Policy in Africa research consortium.

By undertaking these and many more activities, CDD-Ghana continuously devises innovative solutions built on local research and local thinking to change the way development policy is developed and pursued in Ghana and Africa. Without a matter of doubt, the Center's work is testimony to the fact that local research can drive real policy change and its outputs by the same token, lend ample credence to the fact that thriving local Think Tanks on the continent are making a difference by giving local research an increasingly influential place in policymaking processes in the global south. The work of CDD-Ghana can finally be described as a democratization of research and a new way of searching for innovative development solutions to address the ever pressing needs of the continent.

#### **Organization Contact Info:**

Ghana Center for Democratic Development P.O. Box LG 404 Legon-Accra, Ghana Phone: 233-(0)302 776142 Website: www.cddghana.org

#### The Council for the Development of Social Sciences Research in Africa

The Council for the Development of Social Sciences Research in Africa (CODESRIA) was established in 1973 as a joint initiative of social science institutes. It was prompted by a commitment to pan-Africanism, intellectual freedom, scholarly autonomy, professionalism, and academic integrity. CODESRIA's principal objectives, as spelt out in its Charter, include the facilitation of multidisciplinary research, the promotion of research-based publishing, the building of capacity amongst African researchers at all levels through a strong training programme, the promotion of the principle of academic freedom, and the creation of multiple fora for the exchange of views and information amongst African researchers. CODESRIA challenges the fragmentation of research and knowledge through the creation of thematic research networks that cut across regional, disciplinary and linguistic barriers. It encourages the African social research community to strive for the achievement of a more holistic understanding of the historical and contemporaneous experiences of the continent through multidisciplinary interventions that draw on a variety of traditions and approaches, integrate gender perspectives, and tap into the insights of different generations of scholars. In this sense, the Council can also be seen as playing a critical role in promoting a dialogue among the disciplines, the four generations of African social researchers, and male and female scholars. Furthermore, the Council is mandated to support the strengthening of the institutional basis of knowledge production by developing programmes of collaboration with other centres of social research in Africa whether they are national or (sub-) regional, university-based or independent.

In encouraging collaborative work among African scholars through the various research networks which it promotes, and through the training and publishing activities it undertakes, the Council is required and strives to be open to all the contending theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches represented in the African academy. Conscious efforts are also made to tackle the obstacles that stand in the way of an increased participation by women and younger scholars in the activities of the Council, these efforts being reflective of the determination of the Council to achieve a greater gender balance in its work and a genuine inter-generational dialogue in the African academy. As the pioneer and leading pan-African social research organisation, the Council bears the historical responsibility of not only giving voice and visibility to the intellectual production of African scholars but also serving as a voice for African scholars in the international arena.

Grants and fellowships facilitate the pursuit of intellectual excellence at the Masters, doctoral and postdoctoral levels. Research results are disseminated through a range of publications including books, journals, monographs and working papers. The CODESRIA web-site (<u>www.codesria.org</u>) offers regularlyupdated information on past, present and future activities of the Council. The web-site is also increasingly becoming a forum for the publication of various research articles. CODESRIA collaborates with and supports other regional and sub-regional research institutions. True to the wishes and aspirations of its founding members, the Council's activities remain organically tied to the needs and concerns of the universities and centres of advanced research. Similarly, the vast majority of participants in the programmes initiated and/or supported by the Council are drawn from African universities and research centres. CODESRIA's funding comes from donations made by African governments which are so inclined; contributions requested from bilateral aid agencies and private foundations, the fees collected annually from members, and revenues from the sale of the publications produced by the Council." (CODESRIA and Its Activities – Extending the Frontiers of Social Research and Knowledge Production in Africa, Dakar, 2002, pp 7-8).

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

Avenue Cheikh Anta Diop X Canal IV BP 3304, CP 18524, Dakar, Senegal Phone: (221) 33 825 98 22 or (221) 33 825 98 23 Fax: (221) 33 824 12 89 Website: www.codesria.org

#### **Centre for Politics and Research (CPR)**

Unlike Europe and North America, South Africa and the African continent as a whole suffer a shortage of Think Tanks dedicated to conducting research and providing advisory services to clients in the public and private sectors on politics, policy and other related areas. The Centre for Politics and Research was established to fill this critical gap. Its research methodology is based on political economy tools. We have a wide network of technical experts within and outside South Africa in all areas of our work who are highly qualified and have vast experience and impressive pedigree. We give our clients the best-trained and experienced specialists in the area of their need.

#### Research:

- Preparation and analysis of background information for options on policy options
- Advisory services in policy development
- Feasibility studies for project and/or policy implementation
- Review of policy implementation and assessment of impact
- Field studies on issues of interest
- Conference, strategic planning or workshop facilitation and report writing

#### Leadership and institutional development:

- Motivational advice to leaders
- Leadership nurturing and mentoring
- Advice on strategic thinking
- Writing skills development
- Development of professionalism within organizations
- Facilitation of strategic planning and workshops
- (Annual) Report writing
- Communication advisory services
- Team Building

#### Politics and communication:

- Political analysis
- Opinion polling
- Media and communication strategy development
- Elections advisory services
- Manifesto development

- Speech writing
- Public relations, Image and brand management
- Strategy development and implementation

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

Center for Politics and Research 622 Jacqualene Drive, Garstfontein, Pretoria East, 0043 South Africa Tel: (012) 993 0343

#### The Ethiopian Economic Association

**The Ethiopian Economic Association (EEA) was established as a non-profit making,** non-political and non-religious professional Association in 1991 at the end of the First Annual Conference on the Ethiopian Economy. The Conference was organized by the Department of Economics of the Addis Ababa University (AAU) in collaboration with the Institute of Development Research of the AAU and sponsored by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung of Germany. The Association has established, under it, the Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute (EEPRI) in July 2000 as its research wing. The Institute is involved in research and in organizing short term trainings on various issues that are of critical importance to Ethiopia's economic development.

The vision of EEA is to become the premier economic association in Africa, renowned for its excellence in membership services and economic policy research. Its organizational mission is to represent the professional interests of our members, advance the discipline of economics and contribute to the development of the Ethiopian economy. EEA is formally registered with the Ministry of Justice to accomplish the following objectives:

- to contribute to the economic policy formulation capability and broadly to the economic advancement of Ethiopia;
- to promote the professional interest of its members;
- to promote the study of economics in the country's educational institutions;
- to promote economic research and assist in the dissemination of the findings of such research in Ethiopia;
- to provide fora for the discussion of economic issues, and
- to promote professional contacts between Ethiopian economists and those of other countries.

The Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute, which is a subsidiary of EEA, is organized under four research divisions—Agriculture and Rural Development, Trade and Industry, Social and Human Resource, and Macroeconomics. An Executive Director, who is appointed by the Executive Committee, provides leadership to the institute supported by several administrative staffs. Each division is staffed with at least one full time senior researcher and one researcher.

In addition to research, EEA organizes annual conferences, workshops, lectures, and other discussion forums. Since 2003, EEA has been organizing a forum called "Vision 2020 Ethiopia" in which long term developmental issues are discussed on a monthly basis. EEA/EEPRI has the culture of organizing public lectures by inviting prominent and renowned local or expatriate economists to speak on different

thematic and timely issues with the aim of creating platforms for sharing their experiences. The research findings of EEPRI and the outcomes of workshops, conferences and discussion forums are published and distributed to the different stakeholders in various formats.

EEA/EEPRI is often engaged in collaborative works with international organizations, the government of Ethiopia, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and civil society organizations in addition to providing policy advices for such organizations. EEA plans to establish a Training Institute that will provide graduate level trainings in Economics and Business Management and short-term trainings on regular basis. It also strives to strengthen its research and consulting capacity to meet the growing demands of such services.

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

Ethiopian Economic Association Yeka Sub-city, Kebele 19 CMC area adjacent to Michael Church Tel: +251 - (0)11 - 645 32 00 Fax +251 - (0)11 - 645 30 20 P.O. Box 34282, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Website: <u>http://www.eeaecon.org</u>

#### Human Sciences Research Council

The main objective of the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) is to conduct large-scale, policy-relevant, social-scientific projects for public-sector users, non-governmental organizations and international development agencies. We do this by partnering with researchers from around the world, but focus more specifically on partnership opportunities in Africa. Our commitment to cutting-edge research—which supports development nationally, in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and in Africa—is evident, but it is our commitment to the dissemination of that research that

As the national social science council of South Africa, the HSRC wishes to serve as a knowledge hub to bridge the gap between research, policy and action; thus, increasing the impact of research. This is achieved through collaboration with key constituencies, including government, other research organizations, multinational agencies, universities, non-government organizations, and donor and development organizations.

With a dedicated staff of almost 500 individuals consisting of professional researchers, as well as technical and administrative support staff based in six offices in four different provinces across South Africa, the HSRC is well equipped to respond flexibly and comprehensively to current and emerging needs. Its six multi-disciplinary research programs and research centers are focused on user needs. The following units make up the HSRC.

#### **Research programs:**

Education and Skills Development Economic Performance and Development Population Health, Health Systems and Innovation HIV/AIDS, STIs and TB (including the Africa-wide research network, SAHARA)

demonstrates the remarkable and measurable impact of our work.

Democracy, Governance and Service Delivery Human and Social Development.

#### Centers:

Centre for Africa's Social Progress Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators Centre for the Study of the Social and Environmental Determinants of Nutrition

The HSRC Press, the organization's publishing arm, is South Africa's only open access publisher and is committed to the dissemination of high quality, social science, research-based publications in print and electronic form. HSRC Press publishes the research output of the HSRC, as well as externally authored works. A formal peer-review process guarantees the highest academic quality and the Press has a very active local and international marketing program, in addition to collaborating with foreign publishers on specific titles.

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

Human Science Research Council Private Bag X 41 Pretoria 0001 134 Pretoruis Street Tel: (012) 302 2528 Fax: (012) 302 2515 Website: www.hsrc.ac.za

#### The Institute for Global Dialogue

The Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD) is an independent South African-based foreign policy think tank dedicated to the analysis of, and dialogue on the evolving international political and economic environment and the role of Africa and South Africa. It advances a balanced, relevant and policyoriented analysis, debate and documentation of South Africa's role in international relations and diplomacy. The Institute aspires to become a foreign policy think tank of choice through cutting-edge policy research and analysis, catalytic dialogue and stakeholder interface on global dynamics that have an impact on South Africa and Africa.

The IGD was founded at an opportune time during the evolution of the new South Africa in 1994 with the assistance of former president, Nelson Mandela, and the former German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl. It was initially established as a foundation to study social, economic and political dynamics in the global environment that would have an impact on South Africa and Africa. After a strategic review in the 1990s, the IGD became an Institute, and crystallized its research agenda around three broad programmatic focuses in order to strengthen its analytical and dialogue focus. These include South Africa's foreign policy analysis, African dynamics, as well as multilateral governance analysis.

The IGD boasts a small, highly-competent team of researchers and project administrators. This team is complemented by a network of fellows and associates that work part-time for IGD as and when there are funded projects. IGD's research staff teaches at universities and training colleges, and also frequently participates in media commentary on international developments and foreign policy.

Besides the proceeds from the investment account built over many years of scrupulous financial management, the bulk of the IGD's revenue is from major consultancy work for the South African government and international organizations, as well as project funding from foundations and trusts. Recently, the IGD's socio-political research, especially the analysis of actor dynamics in countries within Africa has attracted funding from some of the major SA corporations investing in emerging markets.

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

Institute for Global Dialogue 3rd Floor UNISA Building 263 Skinner Street Pretoria South Africa Tel: +2712 337 6082 Fax: +2786 212 9442 Website: www.igd.org.za

#### The Institute for Security of Studies

The Institute for Security of Studies (ISS) is a pan-African applied policy research institute headquartered in Pretoria, South Africa with offices in Cape Town, South Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Dakar, Senegal. The ISS is an established think tank working in the area of African human security. It seeks to mainstream human security perspectives into public policy processes and to influence decision makers within Africa and beyond. The objective of the Institute is to add critical balance and objectivity by providing timely, empirical research and contextual analysis of relevant human security issues to policy makers, area specialists, advocacy groups, and the media.

The ISS was founded in 1991 by the current Executive Director, Dr. Jakkie Cilliers and P. B. Mertz as the Institute for Defense Policy, which was renamed in 1996 as the Institute for Security Studies. The vision and mission statements, organizational structure, and governance mechanisms of the ISS are depicted below.

#### Vision Statement

As a leading African human security research institution, the ISS works towards a stable and peaceful Africa characterized by sustainable development, human rights, the rule of law, democracy, collaborative security and gender mainstreaming. The ISS realizes this vision by:

- Undertaking applied research, training and capacity-building;
- Working collaboratively with others;
- Facilitating and supporting policy formulation;
- Monitoring trends and policy implementation;
- Collecting, interpreting and disseminating information; and
- Networking on national, regional and international levels.

#### **Mission Statement**

To conceptualize, inform and enhance the debate on human security in Africa in order to support policy formulation, implementation and decision-making at all levels.

#### **Core Values**

The core values of the ISS are: Sustainable Development; Democracy; Human Rights; Rule of Law; Collaborative Security; and Gender Mainstreaming.

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

Institute for Security Studies 361 Veale Street First Floor, Block D, Brooklyn Court New Muckleneuk Tshwane (Pretoria) Tel: +27 12 346 9500/2 Fax: +27 12 346 9570 Website: www.iss.co.za

#### **Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale**

**Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR) is a Think Tank that emerged from the** willingness of women and men to offer agricultural and rural sector stakeholders a framework of research, prospective thinking and inclusive dialogue. IPAR is accepted as association with public interest in August 2008 after a long process of institutional building.

IPAR is comprised of four organs: the general assembly, the board, the scientific committee and the executive secretariat. IPAR brings together a diverse membership, including researchers, university lecturers, policy-makers, parliamentarians, leaders of farmers' organizations, and civil society representatives.

The vision of IPAR is to be a strong institution with strategic and prospective analysis able to influence, at national and sub-regional levels, agricultural and rural policies, as well as the process of economic and rural transformations. IPAR mission is to contribute to the social and economic development of Senegal and the sub-region through the creation of a space for exchange and debate sustained by a strategic and prospective research dealing with the concerns of the policy decision makers and the rural population and its connections with urban population.

The main research themes of IPAR, as defined in its 2015 strategic plan, are connected to (i) demography, employment and migrations, (ii) performance of agriculture, (iii) land and other natural resources management, (iv) public policies and (v) other emerging interesting topics of interest.

So far IPAR gathers about 40 members and has at its disposal an executive secretariat consisting of a team of 3 researchers and 3 administrative staff. In case of need and depending on the project implemented, IPAR will hire on a temporary-basis some experts who are members of IPAR as well as some interns. The main donor of IPAR is IDRC with some additional partnerships with the World Bank, GRET/EU and AFD.

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale, IPAR 7657, Mermoz VDN Rue MZ-112, BP : 16788 Dakar Fann, Senegal Tél: (221) 33.869.00.79 Fax: (221) 33.825.95.09 Website: www.ipar.sn

#### The Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis

**The Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) was established** under the provisions of the State Corporations Act through Legal Notice No. 56 of the Kenya Gazette of 9th May 1997. The Institute commenced operations in June 1999. In January 2007, the KIPPRA Bill was passed into law and the KIPPRA Act No. 15 of 2006 commenced on 1st February 2007.

#### **Principle focus**

The principle focus for which KIPPRA was established is to develop human and institutional capacities for policy analysis and research, economic forecasting, and formulation of medium and long-term perspective for the economic and social development of Kenya.

#### Institutional goal

KIPPRA aims at improving public policy making for economic growth and poverty reduction. This is achieved through policy research and analysis, capacity building for government and private sector, and dissemination of research findings. KIPPRA also facilitates public policy debate between government, private sector and civil society, and maintains a reservoir of research resources on public policy and related issues for use by the Government, the private sector and learning institutions in Kenya.

#### Capacities

The Institute has seven research divisions: Macroeconomics, Productive Sector, Social Sector, Infrastructure and Economic Services, Private Sector Development, Governance and Development and Trade and Foreign Policy. In addition, the Institute has one research unit called Environment for Development (EfD). The research divisions are supported by KIPPRA Information and Documentation Centre (KIPDOC), modern Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure and the Finance and Administration Division. KIPPRA was awarded ISO 2008:9001 Certificate in October 2010.

KIPPRA has a work force of 59 staff, of which 50 per cent are researchers. A third of the researchers are PhD holders and the rest have Masters degrees. Every year, the Institute recruits 10-12 interns under the Young Professionals (YPs) program. In addition, the Institute has a database of research associates and research assistants and networks to complement the staffing capacity.

#### Resources

KIPPRA's activities are supported by the Government of Kenya, European Union (EU), the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), and the Think Tank Initiative of IDRC. Other partners who have often supported research projects at the institute include the United Nations Environmental Program

(UNEP), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Department for International Development (DfID), and United Nations Development Program (UNDP), among many others.

#### **Organization Contact Information:**

Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis P.O. Box 56445-00200 Nairobi Tel: +254-20-2719933, 2719934 Cell phones: 0724-256078, 0736-712724 Fax: +254-20-2719951 Website: <u>http://www.kippra.org</u>

## **ANNEX III: PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES**

#### ACET:

**Abdoul Mijiyawa** is currently economist at the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET). He was a consultant at the World Bank, working on the 2010 MENA Regional Development Report. Dr. Mijiyawa worked on several projects with the Global Development Network, including the UNDP-GDN-AERC research project "Institutional Capacity Strengthening of African Public Policy Institutes to Support Inclusive Growth and the MDG's". His articles have been published in international economic journals and he has presented his research papers at several conferences in USA, Europe, and Africa. He is the winner of the 2010 CEDIMES award for outstanding Ph.D. dissertation on the process of economic development. Abdoul holds a Ph.D. degree in economics from CERDI, France.

**Eugenie Maiga** joined the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) in 2010. She previously worked as a short term consultant for the World Bank on two projects: one on education and economic growth in Sub-Saharan Africa and a project on school management reforms in Madagascar. Eugenie holds a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics from Oklahoma State University, and a Ph.D. in Applied Economics from the University of Minnesota. She was a Fulbright Scholarship and University of Minnesota Graduate School Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship recipient. Her graduate research focused on health outcomes, investments in education, and investments on soil and water conservation.

#### AFIDEP:

**Chirag Shah** is a Research Fellow at AFIDEP. He has cross-disciplinary experience in biological and social sciences research, writing, data analysis, and data presentation. At AFIDEP, he leads quantitative projects, drawing on his training in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Before arriving in Nairobi, Shah studied HIV/AIDS epidemiology and health policy for the California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, where he examined trends in patient discharge data, surveillance data, and health policy and developed policy briefs for the State of California. Prior to that, he researched novel treatment modalities for brain and liver cancer and led a community-based needs assessment of the rural and urban school children of Kutch, India, focusing on helminthiasis prevalence disparities. Shah has two peer-reviewed publications. He holds a Master of Public Health, Epidemiology and a Bachelor of Science in Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior (with Honors), both from the University of California, Davis.

**Violet Murunga** has over 6 years of experience in research, monitoring and evaluation and health planning in Kenya and the US. She has a Master of Public Health (Epidemiology) from Florida International University, US and a Bachelor of Science (Biotechnology) from University of Newcastle, Australia. Her interest lies in promoting the use of research to inform public policy. She has experience conducting primary and secondary research. Most recently she coordinated two KAP studies focusing on SRH and HIV among in-school youth 15-19 years. In the past she has been involved in several other research studies and assessments focusing on a range of health issues including access to healthcare for vulnerable populations and chronic disease prevention. Currently she is working as Research Officer at AFIDEP on several projects focusing on sexual and reproductive health and maternal and child health. Prior to joining AFIDEP, she was Monitoring and Evaluation Officer at I Choose Life Africa (ICL), a nonprofit organization focusing on HIV prevention programs targeting youth 15-24 in Kenya.

#### ATPS:

Kevin C. Urama, B. Agric (First Class Honors); MSc (Nig.); MPhil (Distinction, Cambridge); Ph.D. (Cambridge) is an Environmental and Ecological Economist developing trans-disciplinary and integrated tools for sustainable management of social, economic and ecological systems. He is the Executive Director of ATPS and is also the Inaugural President of the African Society for Ecological Economics (ASEE) - the African chapter of the International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE). He has a longstanding experience in developing and managing collaborative research projects and research networks for effective technology / knowledge sharing amongst relevant institutions and networks in Europe and Africa. Dr. Urama sits on many international Governing Boards, Advisory Boards and Advisory Councils for many science, technology and innovation-based initiatives, including the International Science, Technology and Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation (ISTIC); the Responsible Innovation (MVI) of the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research, (NWO), Division of Humanities program of the Government of the Netherlands; the ISEE, the ASEE, etc. He is member of the Editorial (Advisory) Boards of many international journals, including Science and Public Policy, Ecological Economics; and Environmental Policy and Governance, etc. He is a member of the UNEP International Panel for Natural Resources Management, and a Lead Author for the sustainable development chapter of the IPCC Working Group (WG) III Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation (SRREN), and member of the World Bank STEP B Project International Advisory Board. He has over 70 publications in various media including international journals such as Land Economics, Ecological Economics, Journal of Environmental Management, Journal of Agricultural Economics, International Journal of Sustainable Development, etc. He has a longstanding experience in science policy integration, policy analyses and policy advocacy with a focus on Europe, Africa and Asia.

Turner T. Isoun is a member of the ATPS Board and was the Minister of Science and Technology of the Federal Republic of Nigeria between October 2000 and May 2007. During his tenure, he initiated policies that promoted both high-tech and low-tech science for development and specifically guided the NigerSat I (a land observation satellite) and NIGCOMSAT 1 (an advanced communication satellite) projects from development to launch. Prof. Isoun holds a BSc (hons), D.V.M. (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine), and PHD in Veterinary Medicine and Pathology from Michigan State University. His research findings have been recorded in over 50 scientific publications and scholarly journals. His early career includes lecturing at the University of Nigeria and University of Ibadan where he taught at undergraduate and post-graduate levels. Prof. Isoun is a fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Sciences and the African Academy of Sciences. He has also served on the academy's Executive Board and was the first Executive Editor of the pan-African science journal, Discovery and Innovation, a publication that promotes science and technology, applied and theoretical, academic and commercialized in Africa. Prof. Isoun is widely travelled in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Africa, and is conversant with the physical, political, and S&T challenges of these continents. He has met and networked with many academics, policy makers and representatives of major international organizations in the course of his travels.

#### CDD-Ghana:

**Benedict Yiyugsah** is a Researcher with the Tamale office of the Ghana Center for Democratic Development. He initially joined the CDD-Ghana in 2008 as a Research and Program Intern and has since progressed to assume the position of a Researcher with the Center's newly opened office in Northern Ghana, Tamale. Hitherto joining the CDD-Ghana in 2008, Mr. Yiyugsah worked with the opportunities Industrialization Centers (OIC) International in Ghana as a Community Development Officer on a joint Gold Fields Ghana Limited/ OIC International sponsored SEED Program upon successful completion of his Bachelor's degree. Mr. Yiyugsah is a Public and Development Policy specialist by training as he holds

twin Master of Arts degrees in Public Administration and Public Policy from the University of York, UK and the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary. By the same token, he holds a joint certificate in Community Development from the Trent University, Ontario – Canada and the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Development Studies from Ghana. Mr. Yiyugsah's current areas of research interest include but not limited to the following: environmental variability and climate change mitigation and adaptation in Africa; states delivering for the poor, basic services & social protection strategies in Africa; the role of super markets and standards on the changing structure of the global agri-food system in Africa; agriculture commercialization and its impact on food security, poverty reduction, and sustainable livelihoods, land grabbing and agrarian change in Africa and the new geopolitics of food.

**Kathleen Addy** is currently a Communications and Outreach coordinator with the Afrobarometer Project, a public opinion survey project that is regularly conducted in over 20 African countries. The Project is based at the Center For Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana). She Holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Ghana, Legon as well as a Master's degree in communications from the same institution. Prior to her current appointment, she worked at the Centre for Policy Analysis (CEPA), in Accra as a research officer with particular focus on Women's Economic Empowerment and Economic Partnership agreements. Ms. Addy is a Communications Strategist with extensive experience as a trainer and facilitator and particular interest in Development. She has expertise in different fields including Gender, HIV AIDS and Local Economic Development. Her current research interest include Strengthening The Role of Civil Society in Ensuring State Accountability; Improving Competitiveness of local Industry; and Education Policy as a tool for development.

#### **CODESRIA:**

**Ebrima Sall** is currently (since April 2009) the Executive Secretary of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA). He has worked for CODESRIA since 1994, as Program Officer in charge of the Academic Freedom and Child & Youth Conflict Program (1994-2000), and as Senior Program Officer and Head of Research (2003-2009). From February 2001 to January 2004, he was a Senior Fellow and Research Program Coordinator, program on Post-Conflict Transition, the State and Civil Society in Africa at the Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala, Sweden. Ebrima Sall holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Paris I-Sorbonne (1992). He also taught at the University Gaston Berger of Saint-Louis (UGB) in Senegal for five years and was promoted 'Maitre de Conférences/Senior lecturer in "Sociology-Demography" by the French National Universities Council (CNU) in 1992. He is also a beneficiary of the post-doctoral fellowship of the Yale University Program in Agrarian Studies. His most recent publications include the following books: Human Rights and the Dilemmas of Democracy in Africa (co-edited with Lennart Wohlgemuth), Citizenship and Violence in Cote d'Ivoire (co-edited with Jean-Bernard Ouedraogo) and Women in Higher Education: Gender and Academic Freedom in Africa and the Social Sciences in Africa. Dr. Ebrima Sall is Gambian.

#### EEA:

**Emerta Asaminew** is a Junior Research Officer at the Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute (EEPRI)/Ethiopian Economic Association (EEA). He has also worked for the National Bank of Ethiopia at the Economic Research and Monetary Policy Department. His interests include issues of climate change and the financial sector.

#### HSRC:

Udesh Pillay is the executive director of the Democracy, Governance and Service Delivery (DGSD) research program. He holds a PhD in geography from the University of Minnesota, and an MA in geography (cum laude) from the University of Natal. Prior to heading DGSD and the Centre for Service Delivery, Dr. Pillay was executive head of the HSRC's Surveys, Analyses, Mapping and Modeling (SAMM), and Urban, Rural and Economic Development (URED), research programs. Dr. Pillay has been in executive management for over ten-years. Before joining the HSRC, Dr Pillay was the general manager of the Delimitation and Planning Directorate of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), overseeing the 1999 national and 2000 municipal elections. Prior to that, he was a senior manager at the Centre for Development and Enterprise (CDE). He has previously lectured at the Universities of Natal and Durban-Westville, and has consulted widely, including sustained involvement in the development of the white papers on urban development and local government in the mid-1990s. As an urban and economic geographer, Dr. Pillay's key areas of expertise include urban development and renewal, local government reform and restructuring, local economic development, service delivery, urban policy and electoral geography. His PhD dissertation dealt with local economic development initiatives in South Africa, with specific reference to the case of Durban. Recent interests also include research into the impact of mega-sporting events on urban areas and livelihoods, and public opinion and attitudinal research. Dr. Pillay has strong research design, methodology and quantitative analysis skills. Dr. Pillay's publications in peer-reviewed books and journals have dealt mainly with issues of urban development and social change in South Africa, urban policy, global city competitiveness, and the uniqueness of 'locality.' He is the co-editor of South African Social Attitudes: Changing Times, Diverse Voices, HSRC Press, 2006; Democracy and Delivery: Urban Policy in South Africa, HSRC Press, 2006; and Development and Dreams: Looking at the urban development implications of the 2010 Soccer World Cup, HSRC Press, 2009.

#### IGD:

**Fritz Nganje** is a research assistant at the IGD. He holds an MA in Peace Studies and International Relations from the North-West University, South Africa. Before joining the IGD in January 2011, he served as a research analyst with Consultancy Africa Intelligence, and has also provided research support to local and provincial governments in South Africa. His specific research interests include African Peace and Security, African Diplomacy, South African Foreign Policy, as well as the diplomacy of non-central governments. He is currently doing a doctorate on the foreign relations of selected South Africa provinces.

#### IIS:

**David Zounmenou** is currently a senior researcher for West Africa in the Africa Conflict Prevention Program (ACPP) at ISS. He was appointed as senior researcher in the African Security Analysis Program at the ISS Tshwane (Pretoria) office in July 2007. Dr. Zounmenou is a graduate from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA-BENIN) - option Diplomacy and International Relations. He joined Wits University where he completed his postgraduate studies (BA Honors, MA Cum Laude and PhD) in International Relations. His areas of interest include Foreign Policy Analysis, Contemporary Development Issues, Democracy and Good Governance, Armed Conflicts and Human Security. Dr. Zounmenou tutored at Wits University and lectured at Walter Sisulu University before joining the ISS.

**Dimpho Motsamai** joined the ISS in November 2010 as a researcher in the Africa ACPP, based in Pretoria, South Africa. Under the ACPP's Southern Africa component, her work focuses on the institutional dimensions of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in relation to human

security, and South Africa's regional foreign policy. Ms. Motsamai was trained at the University of the Witwatersrand, (Johannesburg, South Africa) and holds a Masters degree in International Relations. Her previous post was at the Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD) as an analyst on policy issues related to security, development, governance and international relations in Southern Africa.

#### **IPAR:**

**Aifa Fatimata NDOYE NIANE** (Mrs.) is IPAR's program manager. Dr. Niane is a former researcher from BAME-ISRA, WARDA/Africa Rice, and Winrock International, as well as at the Agricultural Policy Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture. She is a member of African Women Leaders in Agriculture and Environment "AWLAE", and the International Association of Feminist Economists "IAFFE". She received her PhD in Development Economics and Gender, Agricultural Engineer, and specialized in Rural Economics. Dr. Niane's research interests and experience includes Agriculture, Rural Economics, Development Economics, Gender, Youth and Employment, Migration, Growth, Poverty and Food Security.

#### **KIPPRA:**

**Joseph Kieyah** is a Senior Policy Analyst and the Head of Private Sector Development Division and Acting Head of Governance Division. He holds a PhD and MA degrees in Economics from the University of Connecticut and the University of Missouri, respectively. He also holds a Juris Doctorate in Law from the University of Iowa, College of Law with a focus on Antitrust Law and International Law. Dr. Kieyah has published in international reputable journals like the American Law and Economic Review and Journal of Comparative Economics. His methodological approach to public policy research is based on Law and Economics focusing on: Competition law and Policy; Regulation; Governance-Constitution Economics, and Land Reforms Prior to joining KIPPRA, he was a faculty member at Pennsylvania State University.

### **ANNEX IV: PROGRAM & STAFF INFORMATION**

#### **Program Descriptions:**

The Africa Program was established at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in 1999 with the generous support of the Ford Foundation. Serving as a bridge for academics, diplomatic practitioners, policymakers, and the private sector, from Africa and the United States, the Africa Program is a nexus for developing informed and effective policy decisions on Africa and conducting conflict transformation and peace building programs in selected African countries. The Africa Program is predicated on the belief that Africa and Africa related issues are important to the United States and provide important experiences and models for the rest of the world. With the support of the World Bank's port conflict Fund, the Africa Program launched a major capacity building initiative in Burundi, designed to increase the ability of the country's leadership to advance the post-war transition and economic reconstruction. The strategies and techniques developed in Burundi are now being adapted to conflict and post-conflict situations in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia and other countries world wide. The Africa Program also oversees several fellowship and scholarship programs, supporting residential scholars, and works closely with the Wilson Center's other projects and programs on cross regional issues such as governance, the development of state capacity, crime and corruption, and pressing health and social programs such as the AIDS pandemic. Often resulting from these programs and conferences, the Africa Program publishes a series of occasional papers, reports and briefs, designed to highlight timely issues in Africa policy and expert analyses.

The Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity was established at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in 2005, by then Director Howard Wolpe and Consulting Director Steve McDonald. The Leadership Project seeks to promote holistic and sustainable approaches to international conflict resolution, prevention, and post-conflict recovery. The Leadership Project's founding methodology is based on the importance of inclusivity, interest-based negotiation training, and demonstration of interdependence to help rebuild fractured government systems and create greater collaborative capacity in post-conflict countries. Under the leadership of Steve McDonald, key Leadership Project programming consists of in-country training interventions for leaders in societies emerging from violent conflict, designed to rebuild trust and foster better communication and negotiation skills. Additionally, the Leadership Project convenes Washington-based public events and country-consultations on specific conflict-prone or affected states, which bring together experts, practitioners, and policymakers to provide clarity on complex issues and encourage informed decisionmaking on some of the most persistent policy challenges. Finally, the Project is currently undertaking a major research effort titled, "Southern Voices in the Northern Policy Debate: Including the Global South," funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. This initiative engages Africa-based research and policy institutions in providing a southern perspective for the American policymakers on the mutual challenges faced by North and South. The Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity works in close collaboration with the Woodrow Wilson Center's Africa Program, also under McDonald's direction.

#### **Conference Facilitator Biography:**

**Francis Kornegay is a Senior Research Associate at the Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD). He** is a political analyst on a range of foreign affairs and international relations, and widely published in the

following areas: South Africa's foreign policy and its African agenda; African continental and regional integration; U.S. foreign policy and U.S.-African/South African relations; South-South cooperation and emerging power alliances (IBSA, BRIC, BASIC) and global geopolitical dynamics. Kornegay, a graduate of the University of Michigan, holds Master's degrees in African Studies from Howard University and in International Public Policy from the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University, in Washington, DC.

#### Woodrow Wilson Center Staff Biographies:

**Steve McDonald is the Director of the Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity, as** well as the Africa Program, at the Woodrow Wilson Center. McDonald has worked with both the National Endowment for Democracy and with the African-American Institute in implementing democratization activities. He has personally led missions of elections observers to Ethiopia, Benin, Gabon, Sierra Leone, and Madagascar. He has worked on assessment teams to design civic education, monitoring and training for elections officials for elections in South Africa and Uganda and has done assessments of human rights situation in Nigeria. He initiated and organized a series of regional conferences with USAID, Department of Defense, World Bank and United Nations funding on the role of the military in democratization in Africa. McDonald also oversaw the African Regional Electoral Assistance Fund which engaged in training of elections officials, civic voters' education, observation and monitoring of elections throughout Africa, to include 34 separate country activities in partnership with the National Democratic Institute of International Affairs, the International Republican Institute, and the Carter Center at Emory University. McDonald holds an M.A. in African Politics from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London and a B.A. in French and Political Science from Southwest Missouri State University.

**Mame Khady Diouf is a Program Associate with the Africa Program and the Project on** Leadership and Building State Capacity at the Woodrow Wilson International Center. Ms. Diouf has been with the Woodrow Wilson Center since September 2007. As the Africa Program Associate, she coordinates all grant related activities and is responsible for fiscal oversight and reconciliation of program accounts, manages and oversees DRC, Liberia and Burundi projects. She also organizes public forums and conferences that focus on a range of issues pertaining to Africa. Prior to joining the Woodrow Wilson Center, Ms. Diouf obtained her Masters in International Affairs at American University in Washington DC. The program focused on issues such as governance, conflict resolution, development and leadership. She holds a Bachelor in Arts from the University of Michigan. Past experiences include a research internship with the National Council of Negro Women's (NCNW) International Development Center. As a Research Intern, she contributed to a report documenting the partnership between (NCNW) and African women's organizations. Ms. Diouf is fluent in English and French and conversational in Spanish.

Aly Lyons is the Program Assistant with the Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and has been with the Center in this capacity since September 2010. As Program Assistant, Ms. Lyons is responsible for organizing and executing major public and private events surrounding issues of leadership, state-building, peace-building and fragile states both at the Wilson Center and abroad; managing Leadership Project grants and grantrelated activities; and providing administrative and logistical support to the leadership training project in Liberia. Prior to this, Ms. Lyons interned with the Leadership Project from 2009-2010 while finishing up her MA in International Peace and Conflict Resolution at American University in Washington, DC. In 2009, Ms. Lyons interned with the Institute for Inclusive Security in Washington, DC where she worked with multiple teams on increasing women's participation in peacebuilding processes, including the planning of a major Gender-Sensitive Training of Trainers. In 2008, Ms. Lyons interned with the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria (GBC) in New York, NY where she assisted the Corporate Strategies and Member Services team with researching and liaising with potential members interested in tailoring, in part or in whole, their Corporate Social Responsibility programs to health-related issues.