



**KAIPTC**  
...where peace begins

# 2025

## ANNUAL REPORT



**KAIPTC**

...where peace begins

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
20 25



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# ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AACC</b>	All-Africa Conference of Churches		Operations
<b>ACHPR</b>	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights	<b>ERP</b>	Enterprise Resource Planning
<b>APSACO</b>	African Peace and Security Annual Conference	<b>ESSMGB</b>	ECOWAS Stabilisation Support Mission in Guinea-Bissau
<b>ASR</b>	Advance Stabilisation and Reintegration	<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>AU</b>	African Union	<b>FOSD</b>	Foundation for Security and Development in Africa
<b>AU-CHHS</b>	AU Centre for Humanitarian and Health Services	<b>GAFSCC</b>	Ghana Armed Forces Command and Staff College
<b>AU-CPAPS</b>	African Union Commission on Political Affairs, Peace and Security	<b>GBV</b>	Gender-Based Violence
<b>BPST-A</b>	British Peace Support Team–Africa	<b>GCSP</b>	Geneva Centre for Security Policy
<b>CAF25</b>	Challenges Annual Forum 2025	<b>GFPs</b>	Gender Focal Persons
<b>CAN</b>	Capacity Needs Assessment	<b>GHANAP</b>	Ghana's National Action Plan
<b>CRF</b>	Continental Results Framework	<b>GYWC</b>	Global Youth Workers' Conference
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organisations	<b>HAWA</b>	Humanitarian Assistance and Peacebuilding in West Africa
<b>CSW</b>	Commission on the Status of Women	<b>IGF</b>	Internally Generated Funds
<b>ECOMIG</b>	ECOWAS Mission in The Gambia	<b>IPSTC</b>	International Peace Support Training Centre
<b>ECOWAS</b>	Economic Community of West African States	<b>JCP</b>	Joint Campaign Planning Course
<b>EMCPS</b>	Executive Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace and Security	<b>KAIPTC</b>	Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre
<b>EPSAO</b>	ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and	<b>KNUST</b>	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
		<b>LDD</b>	Learning Design and Development
		<b>LFAF-PS</b>	Leadership Training

	Programme for Francophone African Women in Peace and Security	<b>VE</b>	Violent Extremism
<b>LMS</b>	Learning Management System	<b>WIMOWCA</b>	Women in Maritime in West and Central Africa
<b>MDPO</b>	Multidimensional Peace Operations Course	<b>WMCPS</b>	Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace and Security
<b>MELPAC</b>	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning for Peace Support Operations in West Africa	<b>WMGPS</b>	Master of Arts in Gender, Peace and Security
<b>MSTOC</b>	Maritime Security and Transnational Organized Crimes Course	<b>WPS</b>	Women, Peace and Security
<b>MTT</b>	Mobile Training Team	<b>WYPSI</b>	Women, Youth, Peace and Security Institute
<b>NAP</b>	National Action Plan	<b>YPS</b>	Youth, Peace and Security
<b>NDU</b>	National Defence University	<b>YSwY</b>	Youth Starts With You
<b>OIF</b>	Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie		
<b>OSCE</b>	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe		
<b>POC</b>	Protection of Civilians Course		
<b>PSO</b>	Peace Support Operations		
<b>PSOD</b>	Peace Support Operations Division		
<b>REC</b>	Regional Economic Communities		
<b>SALW</b>	Small Arms and Light Weapons		
<b>SIDA</b>	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency		
<b>SO</b>	Strategic Objective		
<b>SSR</b>	Security Sector Reform		
<b>ToT</b>	Training of wwTrainers		
<b>UN</b>	United Nations		
<b>UNITAR</b>	United Nations Institute for Training and Research		
<b>UNOWAS</b>	United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel		
<b>UNSCR</b>	UN Security Council Resolution		

● **MESSAGE FROM THE  
MINISTER FOR DEFENCE AND CHAIR OF THE KAIPTC GOVERNING  
BOARD – HON DR CASSIEL ATO FORSON**



**HON DR CASSIEL ATO  
FORSON**

It is my honour to present the 2025 Annual Report of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), a year that reflected steady progress in the implementation of the Centre's Strategic Plan (2024–2028).

In a global and regional context marked by evolving security threats, geopolitical uncertainty, and complex governance challenges, the relevance of institutions such as KAIPTC remains indispensable. The Centre continues to serve as a critical platform for advancing Africa's peace and security agenda through capacity building, policy engagement, and strategic partnerships.

During the year under review, the Governing Board provided strategic guidance to ensure that the Centre remained focused on its mandate while adapting to emerging realities. I am pleased to note that KAIPTC made significant strides across its five

strategic priority areas, particularly in strengthening the capacity of stakeholders, advancing evidence-based research, and deepening contributions to the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agendas.

The Centre's commitment to strengthening partnerships was also evident in its sustained engagement with key stakeholders, including ECOWAS, the African Union, the United Nations, development partners, and civil society organisations. These collaborations continue to enhance the Centre's relevance, reach, and impact across the continent.

Notwithstanding these achievements, the year also highlighted important challenges, particularly in relation to funding sustainability, growing demand for services, and the need to accelerate digital transformation. The Board remains committed to supporting Management in addressing these challenges through strengthened oversight, resource mobilisation efforts, and the promotion of innovative approaches to programme delivery.

As we look ahead, the Board will continue to prioritise strategic positioning, institutional sustainability, and impact-driven programming. We are confident that with the continued support of our partners and stakeholders, KAIPTC will further consolidate its role as a centre of excellence in peace and security training, research, and policy support in Africa.

On behalf of the Governing Board, I commend the Commandant and staff of the Centre for their dedication, professionalism, and commitment throughout the year.

**HON DR CASSIEL ATO FORSON  
ACTING MINISTER FOR DEFENCE.  
MINISTER FOR FINANCE, GHANA**

## ● MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT



**AIR VICE MARSHAL DAVID  
ANETAY AKRONG**

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2025 Annual Report of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), highlighting a year of consolidation, progress, and impact in the implementation of our Strategic Plan (2024–2028).

Throughout 2025, the Centre remained steadfast in its mission to deliver globally recognised and context-specific capacity for actors in African peace and security through training, education, research, and policy dialogue. Guided by our five strategic priority areas, we translated our plans into concrete actions and measurable outcomes across all core areas of our work.

Our training programmes continued to build the capacity of military, police, and civilian personnel from across Africa and beyond, enhancing their readiness to respond to complex peace and security challenges. At the same time, our research and policy engagement efforts provided critical insights to inform decision-making and strengthen governance

and security interventions.

We also made significant progress in advancing the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agendas. Through targeted programmes, strategic partnerships, and advocacy initiatives, the Centre contributed to strengthening inclusive approaches to peacebuilding and security across the continent.

Institutionally, we took deliberate steps to enhance our sustainability and operational effectiveness. This included strengthening partnerships, expanding our engagement with stakeholders, and advancing our digitalisation agenda to improve efficiency and broaden access to our programmes.

Despite these achievements, we remain mindful of the challenges ahead, including the need for more predictable funding, increased institutional capacity to meet growing demand, and the continued translation of knowledge into policy and practice. Addressing these challenges will remain a priority as we move forward.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Governing Board for their strategic guidance and oversight, to our partners for their continued support, and to the dedicated staff of the Centre for their professionalism and commitment.

As we look to the future, we remain committed to strengthening our impact, expanding our reach, and contributing meaningfully to sustainable peace and security in Africa.

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "DAVID ANETAY AKRONG".

**AIR VICE MARSHAL DAVID ANETAY AKRONG  
COMMANDANT, KAIPTC**

## ● THE KAIPTC

# WHO WE ARE

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) is mandated to train military, police, and civilian personnel for multidimensional peacekeeping and peace support operations in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region, Africa and beyond.

Since the first peacekeeping course in 2003, KAIPTC has run over 400 courses for individuals from more than 90 countries and major organizations in Europe, North and South America, Asia and Africa.

Participants come from various backgrounds including the peacekeeping community, security sector and civil, diplomatic and non-governmental agencies. Core peacekeeping courses are complemented by specialized training, train-the-trainer courses, seminars, conferences and workshops. All these initiatives are designed to reflect regional needs and stakeholder requirements.

While English is the primary language for instruction, some training courses are also offered in French. Specifically, small arms and light weapons courses are delivered in Portuguese, French and English.

The KAIPTC also boasts of a Field Training Team, that conducts pre-deployment training courses for units of Ghana's Armed Forces, military observers and other staff officers designated for UN/African Union (AU) missions. This team trains over 3,800 individuals annually at the Bundase Training Camp.

ECOWAS recognized the quality of KAIPTC's work by designating it as one of three regional Training Centres of Excellence (TCE) for training and research in conflict prevention, management and peacebuilding. This recognition came through a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2007, which tasked KAIPTC with the mandate to designing and delivering individual and collective training at the operational level.



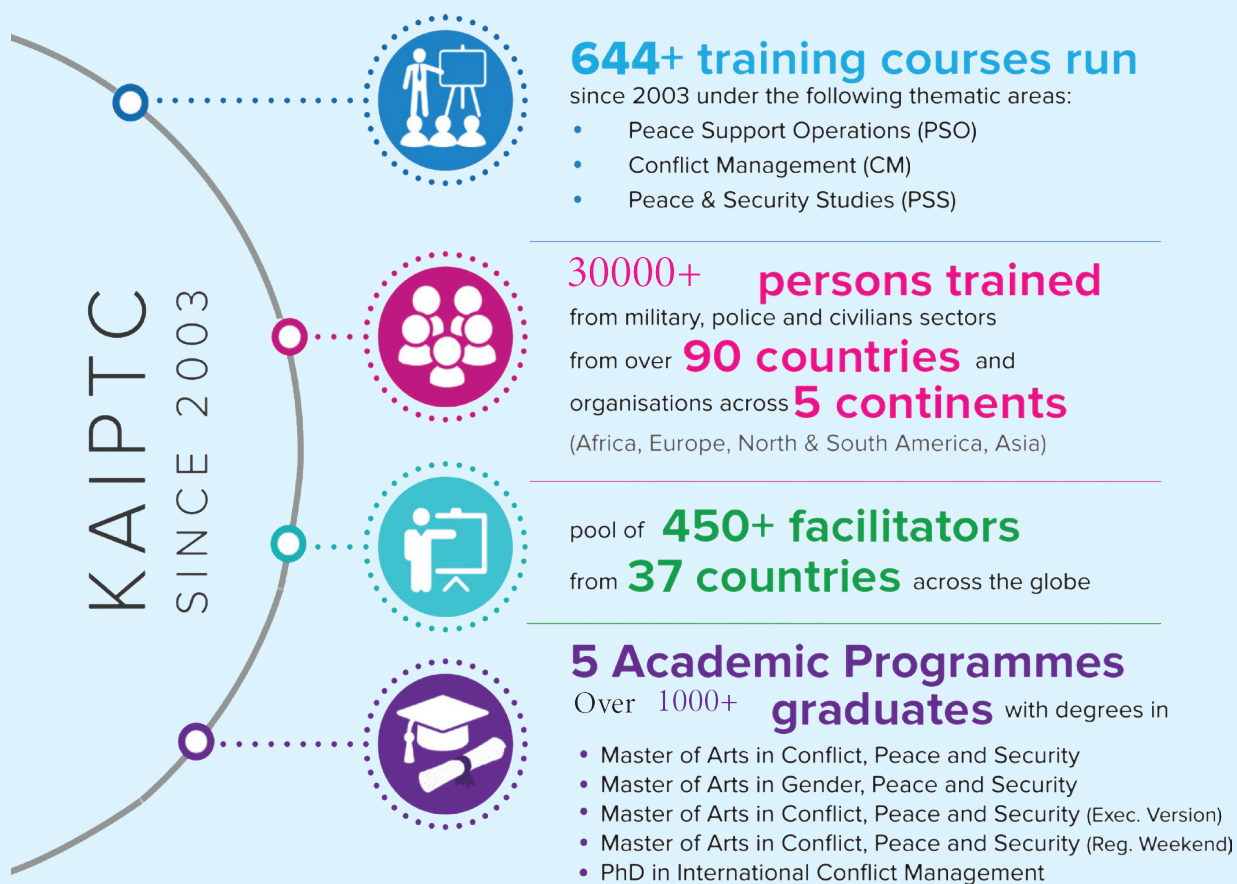
## VISION

**KAIPTC seeks to become the leading and preferred international Centre for training, education and research in African peace and security.**

## MISSION

**KAIPTC provides globally-recognised capacity for international actors on African peace and security through training, education and research to foster peace and stability in Africa.**

## KEY STATISTICS ON TRAINING AND ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES



## INTRODUCTION

The year 2025 marked a period of steady progress in the implementation of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre's Strategic Plan (2024–2028). Building on the strong foundation established in 2024, the Centre intensified efforts towards achieving its overarching goal of contributing significantly to improved performance and outcomes of ECOWAS, other Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the African Union (AU), the United Nations (UN), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and African Member States in their governance, peace and security mandates.

Anchored on five strategic action areas, the Strategic Plan continued to guide the Centre's programming, partnerships, and institutional development. Throughout 2025, the Centre translated these strategic priorities into concrete interventions, delivering measurable results across its core mandates of training, research, education, and policy engagement.

The five strategic action areas and their corresponding intermediate outcomes remained central to the Centre's work:

Enhanced capacities and state of readiness of the UN, AU and ECOWAS structures, CSOs, and Member States to implement well-coordinated interventions and missions in governance, peace and security across West Africa and the African continent.

Evidence-based research leveraged to design and deliver training, capacity building, postgraduate academic programmes, and policy support that address governance, leadership, peace and security gaps in Africa.

Enhanced contributions to continental and global frameworks, particularly in advancing the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda in line with the African Union Continental Framework and UN Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015), as well as strengthening implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, including the Maputo Protocol and UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and its subsequent resolutions.

Improved financial and institutional sustainability of the Centre through strengthened partnerships and innovative programming.

Strengthened strategic partnerships, networks, collaboration, and visibility to advance peace and security in Africa.

This Annual Report highlights the key activities, achievements, and outcomes recorded in 2025, structured in alignment with these five strategic areas. It demonstrates the Centre's continued commitment to delivering globally recognised and context-specific capacity for actors in African peace and security through training, education, research, and policy dialogue, in pursuit of lasting peace and stability on the continent.

## 2025 Highlights

- 01** 24 specialised training programmes delivered across peace and security thematic areas 
- 02** 1,600+ participants trained from across Africa and beyond 
- 03** New research publications produced to inform policy and practice 
- 04** Stronger regional influence in shaping peace and security discourse in Africa 
- 05** 35 countries represented in training and academic programmes. 
- 06** Increased women's participation in peace and security programming 
- 07** Expanded youth engagement under the Youth, Peace and Security agenda 
- 08** 8 strategic partnerships strengthened through new collaborations and MOUs 
- 09** 12 policy dialogues and conferences convened on regional security issues 
- 10** Enhanced digital visibility across website and social media platforms 

## 1. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: TO ENHANCE THE CAPACITY OF ECOWAS, AU, AND THEIR RELEVANT STRUCTURES TO PERFORM THEIR MANDATES IN ENSURING PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA

### OVERVIEW

Aligned with this Strategic Objective, the Centre continues to strengthen local, national, and regional capacities in African peace and security through targeted training programmes and activities. This includes the design and delivery of capacity-building programmes informed by jointly identified needs of the African Union (AU), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and relevant United Nations (UN) structures engaged in advancing peace and security on the continent.

In 2025, the Centre implemented the following interventions in pursuit of this objective.

### STRENGTHENING PEACE SUPPORT OPERATIONS IN THE REGION

Our collaboration with ECOWAS and our reaffirmation as a regional Centre of Excellence was reinforced when we partnered ECOWAS to conduct in-mission training for staff officers serving in the ECOWAS

peace support mission in Guinea-Bissau. The four-day course aimed to standardize operational procedures, enhance coordination, and improve mission effectiveness across ECOWAS Peace Support Operations (PSOs).

The training was based on the ECOWAS Staff Officers Handbook, jointly developed by the ECOWAS Peace Support Operations Division and the KAIPTC with support from the ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and Operations (EPSAO) Project. The handbook provides step-by-step operational guidance to support integrated mission structures comprising military, police, civilian, and mission support components.

A total of fifty-three participants drawn from mission headquarters staff, contingent commanders, and officers from the national police and military of Guinea-Bissau took part in the training.

A similar four-day in-mission training took place in The Gambia from 25–28 November 2025.



In-Mission Training for Staff Officers in Guinea-Bissau

## PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS CAPACITY IN GUINEA-BISSAU AND THE GAMBIA

Again, to enhance the capacities of ECOWAS, to perform its mandate in ensuring peace and security in Africa, the Centre partnered ECOWAS to successfully conduct two in-mission trainings in Guinea-Bissau and The Gambia on the Protection of Civilians (PoC), with support from the European Union (EU) and GIZ-EPSAO.

The training formed part of ongoing efforts to enhance the operational effectiveness of ECOWAS peace support operations and national security institutions in protecting civilians in complex and fragile

environments. The PoC courses brought together peacekeepers deployed under ECOWAS missions and personnel from host-country security agencies. Participants were equipped with practical knowledge and skills on key PoC concepts, relevant international legal and policy frameworks, child protection, gender integration, and operational planning for civilian protection.

Fifty-one (51) participants from the ECOWAS Stabilisation Support Mission in Guinea-Bissau (ESSMGB) and national security agencies and 46 participants from the ECOWAS Mission in The Gambia (ECOMIG) and Gambian security services were trained.



Protection of Civilians Capacity in Guinea-Bissau

The in-mission engagements in Guinea-Bissau and The Gambia reflect KAIPTC's broader approach in 2025, delivering demand-driven, operationally relevant training that responds directly to evolving peace and security challenges on the continent.

While these targeted interventions strengthened specific ECOWAS missions, they also form part of a wider institutional effort to enhance the readiness, professionalism, and effectiveness of peace and security actors across Africa.

## 2025 TRAINING & CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AT A GLANCE

KAIPTC continued, in 2025, to serve as a continental hub for capacity development, equipping peace and security actors with the knowledge and practical skills required to respond to complex and emerging threats

Overall, a total of fifty-one (51) training courses were conducted. This represents a decline from the sixty-five (65) courses delivered in 2024. The decline is attributable largely to funding constraints experienced during the year.

The breakdown of courses conducted in 2025 is as follows:

**Table 1**

Srl	Training Course	Number conducted
1	On-site Courses	38
2	KAIPTC Mobile Training Team (MTT) Courses	13
3	Police Training Courses	6
	Total	57

The cancelled courses included the following

**Table 2**

Srl	Course Title	Duration	Funding Partner
1.	Child Protection Course (AU)	2nd – 6th June 2025	African Union
2	Conflict Prevention Course	2nd – 13th June 2025	Core Funded
3	Human Rights Course	18th – 22nd August 2025	GIZ
4	CPBL Course	6th – 10th October 2025	Core Funded
5	Joint Campaign Planning Course – 2	2nd – 16th October 2025	France
6	MELPAC Course	3rd – 7th November 2025	GIZ
7	HAWA Core Course	3rd – 14th November 2025	Austria

The detailed summary of courses held under the various components can be found in the Tables below.

**Table 3**

Srl	Category	COURSES	DATE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1	PEACE OPERATION, STABILISATION AND PEACEBUILDING	Joint Campaign Planning Course (JCP 2025-1)	11 to 21st February 2025	17	1	18
2		Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Foundation Course 2025	24th to 28th March 2025	10	5	15
3		Protection of Civilians Course (POC 25-1)	31st March to 11th April 2025	16	13	29
4		African Union PSO Staff Officer Course 2025	12th to 23rd May 2025	15	9	24
5		Political Advisor Course for Peace Support Operations in Africa.	12th to 23rd May 2025	11	10	21
6		Advance Stabilisation and Reintegration (ASR) Course	16th to 20th June 2025	14	3	17
7		Investigating Sexual and Gender Based Violence 2025	16th to 27th June 2025	4	30	34
8		Military Observers Pre-Deployment Training Course 2025	23rd June to 11th July 2025	17	8	25
9		Child Protection Course 2025- Nigeria	7th to 18th July 2025	26	23	49
10		Peace Operations Course for Cadets of Ghana Military Academy	21st to 25th July 2025	183	33	216
11		Hostile Environment Awareness Training 2025	25th to 29th August 2025	18	9	27
12		Specialized Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Course for UNDP 2025	25th to 29th August 2025	27	3	30
13		Multidimensional Peace Operations Course (MDPO25)	1st to 12th September 2025	16	12	28
14		United Nations Military Peacekeeping Intelligence Course 2025	8th to 19th September 2025	24	6	30

15		Logistics in Peace Support Operations 2025	15th to 26th September 2025	17	13	30
16		Investigating Sexual and Gender Based Violence 2025 - 2	6th - 17th October 2025	12	23	35
17		ECOWAS Protection of Civilians Course (POC 25)	20th to 24th October 2025	18	5	23
18		United Nations Staff Officers Course	13th- 31st October 2025	19	10	29
19		ECOWAS Protection of Civilians Course (POC 25) - Gambia	5th -7th November 2025	37	9	46
20		Criminal Justice Course 2025	3rd -7th November 2025	19	12	31
21		ECOWAS Protection of Civilians Course (POC 25) - Guinea Bissau	11-14th November 2025	45	6	51
22		ECOWAS STAFF OFFICER - GUINEA BISSAU	17-20th November 2025	46	4	50
23		ECOWAS STAFF OFFICER - Gambia	24-27th November 2025	42	7	49
24		Protection of Civilians Course (POC 25-2)	17-28th November 2025	16	14	30
		<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>669</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>937</b>

Table 4

SRN	Courses	Date	Male	Female	Total
1	<b>CONFLICT, GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP</b>				
1	Election Observation Training (EOT24)	10th to 15th March 2025	4	14	18
2	Formation Sur Le Développement D'une Culture De La Sécurité Maritime Dans Le Golfe De Guinée (Senegal)	7th to 16th April 2025	26	8	34
3	Maritime Security and Transnational Organized Crimes Course (MSTOC 2025)	28th April to 9th May 2025	20	7	27
4	Conflict Assessment and Mediation -- CC - 2025	5th to 9th May 2025	4	6	10
5	Security Sector Reform 2025	19th to 30th May 2025	18	13	31
6	Appui Au Renforcement Des Capacités Pour Promouvoir La Prévention Et La Lutte Contre L'extrémisme Violent Et Le Terrorisme En Afrique De L'ouest Et Au Sahel - Mali	26th May to 03rd June 2025	9	7	16
7	Leadership and Management Police - 2025 (Senegal)	19th to 30th May 2025	32	19	51
8	Corporate Security Officers Course - CC - 2025	9th to 13th June 2025	16	4	20
9	Election Observation Training Course for Retired Parliamentarians 2025	16th to 21st June 2025	18	1	19
10	Election Management Training EMT 25	14th to 25th July 2025	7	4	11
11	AU Training for Women & Youth on Election Observation and Democracy 2025	22nd to 24th July 2025	9	30	39
12	Collaborative Policing Course 2025 -SL	8th to 19th September 2025	19	34	53
13	Women in Leadership Development Program 2025	22nd Sep - 2nd October	5	29	34
14	Acteurs Du Secteur De La Défense Et De La Sécurité Et Les Cours Sur L'evt	27-31 October 2025	34	2	36
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>221</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>399</b>

Table 5

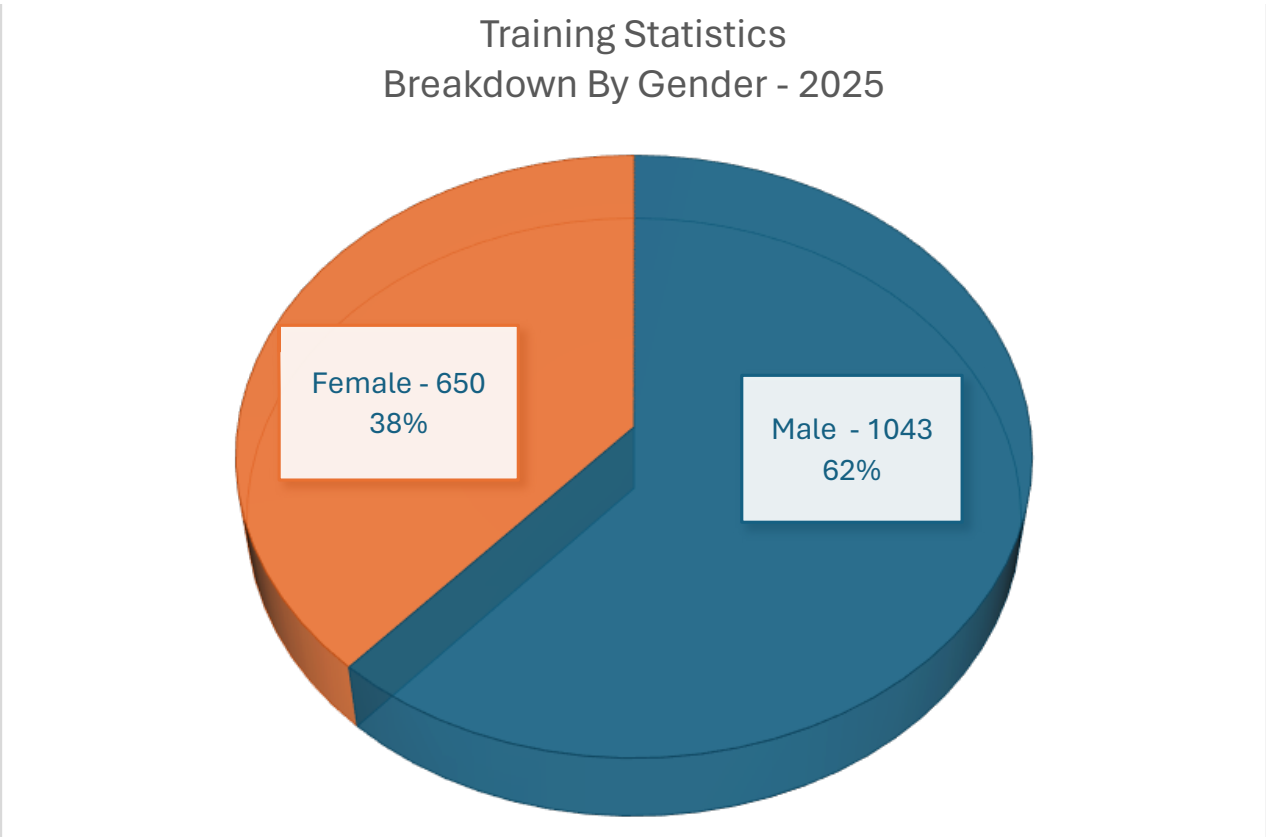
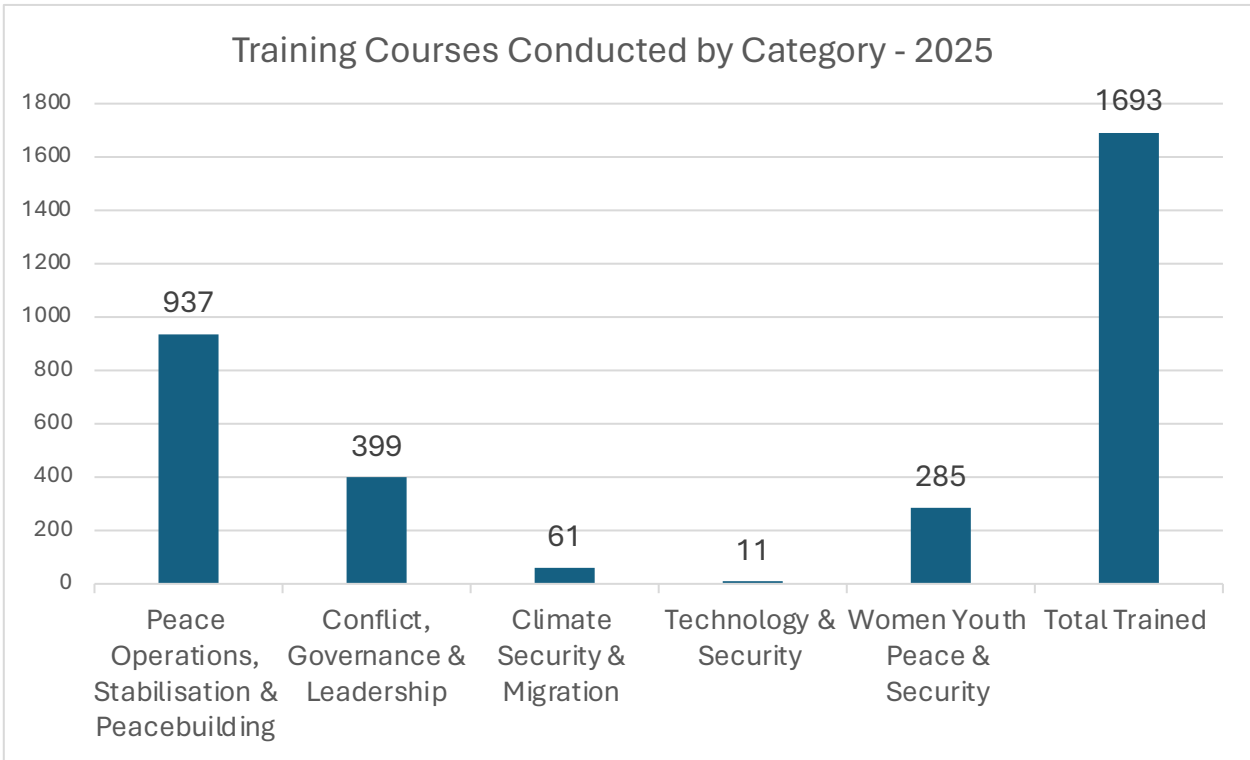
SRN	Category	COURSES	DATE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1	CLIMATE SECURITY & MIGRATION	Migration Management Course 2025	4th to 14th February 2025	18	12	30
2		Climate and Environmental Security Course 2025	15th to 19th December	27	4	31
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>48</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>61</b>

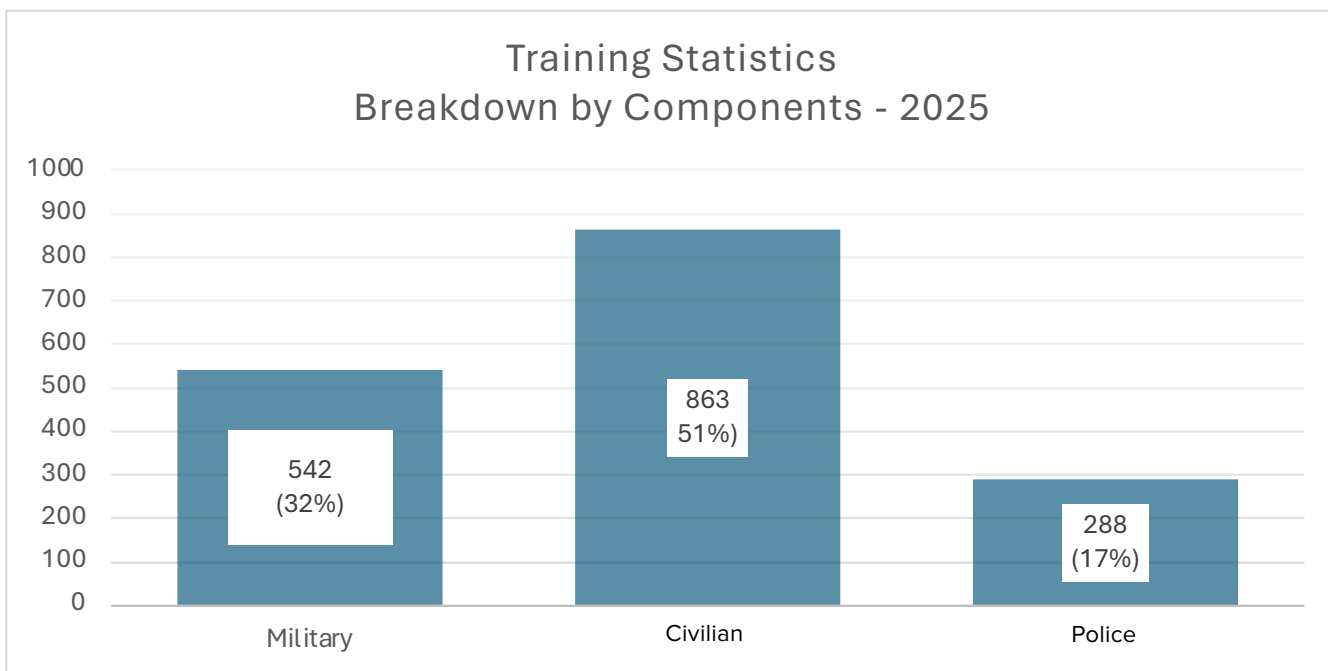
Table 6

SRN	Category	COURSES	DATE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1	TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY	AI in Peacebuilding	17th to 21st March 2024	5	6	11
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>

Table 7

SRN	Category	COURSES	DATE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1	WOMEN YOUTH PEACE AND SECURITY	Gender Mainstreaming Training for KAIPTC Gender Focal Points-1	24th to 28th February 2025	15	17	32
2		Gender Mainstreaming Training for KAIPTC Gender Focal Points-2	3rd to 7th March 2025	21	12	33
3		Youth in Leadership and Peacebuilding	12th to 16th May 2025	22	23	45
4		Gender Adviser Course	27th to 30th May 2025	7	18	25
5		Women, Youth & Violence Extremism & Terrorism Course 2025 - Senegal	27th to 30th May 2025	11	15	26
6		Programme de Formation des Femmes Africaines Francophones en Leadership pour La Paix Et La Sécurité 2025	23rd June to 4th July 2025	0	20	20
7		Women, Youth & Violence Extremism & Terrorism Course 2025-2 - Sierra Leone	22nd-25th July 2025	6	18	24
8		Prevention et Reponse a la Violence Sexiste en Afrique 2025 - Chad	25th to 29th August 2025	8	23	31
9		Strategic Leadership For Coordinated WPS Implementation In Member States	17-21st November 2025	11	20	31
10		Programme de Formation des Femmes Africaines Francophones en Leadership pour La Paix Et La Sécurité 2025-2	24-28 November 2025	0	18	18
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>101</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>285</b>





Of the 1,693 participants trained in 2025, 542 (32%) were military, 863 (51%) were civilian and 288 (17%) were police personnel, reflecting the Centre's

continued commitment to building multidimensional peace and security capacity across key sectors.

### REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

Africa, 24 from North Africa, 26 from South Africa, 1511 from West Africa and 19 were from non-African countries. The highest level of participation was

recorded from West Africa, with a total of 1,511 trained participants.

Srl	Regions	Number 2024
1	North	4
2	South	14
3	East	14
4	West	1953
5	Central	156
6	Non-African	23
	Total	2164

Srl	Regions	Number 2025
1	North	24
2	South	26
3	East	75
4	West	1511
5	Central	38
6	Non-African	19
	Total	1693

## IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF CONFLICT PREVENTION COURSE CONDUCTED

As part of efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of its training programmes, KAIPTC conducted an impact assessment of its Conflict Prevention Course through a structured focus group discussion with participants.

The assessment revealed tangible improvements in community-based conflict prevention and peacebuilding practices. Participants reported increased community ownership of peace initiatives, driven by inclusive approaches that actively engage local stakeholders. The strategic involvement of traditional and religious leaders emerged as a key success factor, strengthening dialogue, trust, and reconciliation processes.

The course was indicated to have contributed to enhanced early warning and response mechanisms, with several communities establishing functional response networks to prevent the escalation of disputes. In addition, participants highlighted improved civil-security collaboration, noting that coordinated efforts among military, paramilitary, and police actors have strengthened conflict management at both local and regional levels.

A notable outcome was the integration of youth and women into peacebuilding efforts, supported by life skills training, small grants, and livelihood opportunities. These interventions have reduced vulnerability to recruitment into violent conflict while improving community resilience.

Participants further pointed to growing adoption of innovative tools, including artificial intelligence and drones, to support surveillance and peace support operations. At the structural level, initiatives such as the establishment of regional development commissions and sustained support from international partners were recognized as contributing to addressing root causes of conflict and sustaining interventions.

Despite these gains, the assessment identified persistent challenges, including weak surveillance systems, limited logistical capacity for security agencies, and ongoing difficulties in managing ethnic,

religious, and resource-based tensions. Issues such as community resistance to reintegration programmes, lack of trust in leadership, and the impact of poverty, unemployment, and corruption further continue to undermine progress.

To consolidate gains, participants emphasized the need for strengthened community intelligence systems, greater investment in early warning mechanisms, and improved civil-security relations. They also called for increased government presence at the local level to address underlying drivers of conflict, as well as sustained funding and follow-up support to ensure long-term impact. Enhancing surveillance capacity through modern technologies was further highlighted as critical to advancing conflict prevention efforts.

Overall, the assessment demonstrates that the KAIPTC Conflict Prevention Course is contributing to measurable improvements in community resilience, coordination, and proactive conflict management, while highlighting priority areas for strengthening future interventions.





## IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF COURSES

### a. Multidimensional Peace Operations Course (MDPO)

In 2025, the Centre conducted an impact assessment of its Multidimensional Peace Operations (MDPO) Course, covering nine iterations delivered between 2015 and 2024. The assessment, which engaged alumni across 39 countries through surveys and fieldwork in Nigeria and The Gambia, reaffirmed the course's strong relevance and contribution to peace operations capacity.

Findings show that the MDPO course has had a significant influence on both individual careers and institutional effectiveness. An overwhelming majority of alumni reported improved job performance, with many attributing career progression and deployment opportunities to the knowledge and skills acquired.

Notably, the course has contributed to strengthening elements of national and regional security architectures, particularly in The Gambia, where its impact was most pronounced. Beyond deployments, the course remains valuable to professionals across the broader peace and security ecosystem, demonstrating its adaptability and enduring relevance.

The assessment also highlighted evolving dynamics in global peace operations, including a potential decline in large UN-led missions. However, it underscored the continued importance of MDPO-related competencies, particularly in areas such as conflict prevention, DDR, gender inclusion, and election management. Emerging needs, including cybercrime, data management, and trauma psychology, point to opportunities for course expansion and innovation.

Going forward, the Centre is taking steps to strengthen participant targeting, expand digital learning options, and refine course content to ensure sustained impact and accessibility, while maintaining the MDPO course as a flagship offering within its training portfolio.

### b. Migration Management Course

The Centre also undertook an impact assessment of the Migration Management Course delivered between 2023 and 2025, in response to partner interest and the growing strategic importance of migration governance in the region. The study combined fieldwork in Nigeria and Ghana with input from alumni across 13 countries.

The findings confirm that the course is highly relevant and impactful, particularly in supporting the adoption of human rights-based approaches to migration management. Participants reported enhanced capacity to address complex migration challenges, while institutions benefited from improved policy perspectives and stronger professional networks fostered through the course. In Nigeria, the course notably contributed to shaping more rights-based migration practices.

The assessment further revealed increasing demand for knowledge in managing emerging migration trends, including the rise in skilled migration, the reintegration of returnees, and the need for greater public awareness of migration risks. Persistent challenges, such as limited resources, weak coordination, and gaps in frontline knowledge, underscore the continued importance of targeted capacity-building interventions.

In response, the Centre is working to expand practical learning components, strengthen alumni engagement, and explore e-learning delivery models to scale access and enhance sustainability, while positioning migration management as a key pillar of its regional training agenda.

## 2. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: TO LEVERAGE EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH TO DESIGN AND DELIVER TRAINING, CAPACITY BUILDING, POST-GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES AND POLICY SUPPORT THAT ADDRESS GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP, PEACE AND SECURITY GAPS IN AFRICA

### OVERVIEW

SO2 focuses on a) the development of academic programmes and short professional courses that respond to evolving and emerging human security challenges. and b) prioritizing the integration of research into training delivery. These include areas such as climate security, artificial intelligence, natural resource governance, transnational organised crime, and structural conflict prevention.

Within this framework, the Centre undertook the following activities in 2025.

### ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES: STRENGTHENING AFRICAN AGENCY FOR PEACE AND SECURITY

In 2025, the Centre continued to advance its mandate of building human capacity for peace and security through its academic programmes, demonstrating impact across the full learning cycle, from enrolment to graduation.

On 30 January 2025, the Centre matriculated 174 postgraduate students into its flagship programmes: Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace and Security (WMCPS 7), Executive Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace and Security (EMCPS 9), and Master of Arts in Gender, Peace and Security (WMGPS 4). This intake significantly expanded the pipeline of professionals being equipped with the analytical, policy, and practical skills required to address Africa's complex and evolving security challenges.

The cohort, drawn from diverse professional and national backgrounds, enriched the Centre's learning environment through interdisciplinary exchange and peer learning, while strengthening cross-border networks essential for coordinated regional responses. The blend of regular and executive programmes ensured that both emerging and senior

practitioners were able to bridge policy, practice, and research, enhancing the relevance and application of knowledge within their respective institutions.

Importantly, sustained enrolment in the Gender, Peace and Security programme have reinforced efforts to mainstream gender perspectives in peace and security processes, contributing to more inclusive and sustainable approaches to governance and conflict prevention across the continent.

These efforts culminated in the successful graduation of 101 students from Ghana, Nigeria, and Zambia on 31 October 2025 during the Centre's 14th Joint Graduation Ceremony. The graduating cohort reflects KAIPTC's continued contribution to strengthening Africa's peace and security architecture through the development of highly skilled and context-aware professionals. Notably, the cohort included a female PhD graduate, the second since the programme's inception, highlighting incremental progress in advancing women's leadership in the sector.

Graduates of the Centre are equipped to address a wide range of challenges, including violent extremism, transnational organized crime, governance deficits, and democratic backsliding. Beyond individual competencies, they join an expanding alumni network spanning over 26 countries, enhancing collaboration, knowledge exchange, and collective action in addressing regional and global security threats.

The 2025 academic cycle, anchored on the theme "Building African Agency for Peace and Security in a Changing World," reinforced the imperative for Africa to take a leading role in shaping its own peace and security agenda.



*2025 MATRICULATING STUDENTS*



*2025 GRADUATING STUDENTS*



## REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCES FROM THE LAKE CHAD BASIN & WEST AFRICA

In February 2025, KAIPTC contributed evidence-based research to regional efforts aimed at strengthening prevention of violent extremism across West Africa and the Lake Chad Basin. At a high-level regional conference convening scholars, policymakers, and practitioners, the Centre advanced Ghanaian research perspectives in comparative discussions on the drivers of violent extremism and prevention approaches.

Through KAIPTC's presentation on "Madrasa Systems, External Support and Potentials for Radicalisation in Ghana," the Centre provided nuanced analysis that challenged narratives around Islamic education. The Centre's evidence highlighted the diversity of madrasa systems in Ghana and demonstrated how governance gaps, external funding dynamics, and socio-economic vulnerabilities can shape both risk and resilience. Importantly, KAIPTC's contribution reframed madrasas not as inherent security threats, but as community-rooted institutions with the potential to strengthen social cohesion when constructively engaged.

The engagement generated concrete policy-relevant insights on education governance and prevention strategies, enriching regional dialogue with grounded evidence from Ghana. It strengthened KAIPTC's role as a knowledge hub on religion, education, and security, while expanding partnerships with researchers and practitioners across West Africa.

The knowledge and networks gained from this engagement are being integrated into KAIPTC's training, academic programming, and policy advisory work on preventing violent extremism — ensuring that future capacity-building initiatives are informed by comparative regional evidence and locally grounded prevention approaches.

## JOINT REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON VIOLENT EXTREMISM (VE) IN WEST AFRICA HELD IN THE GAMBIA

To advance preventive approaches to Violent Extremism (VE) in West Africa, the Centre convened a joint regional workshop in Banjul, The Gambia, from 2–3 September 2025. The workshop shifted the discourse on VE from predominantly security-driven responses to governance-centred strategies, reinforcing the role of accountable institutions, inclusive leadership, and community resilience in preventing extremism.

Through expert panels, case studies, and facilitated dialogues, participants deepened their understanding of how governance deficits, marginalisation, identity politics, and weak border management create enabling environments for violent extremist groups. The discussions generated practical insights on strengthening civil society engagement, enhancing national and regional response mechanisms, and improving rehabilitation and reintegration frameworks to prevent recidivism.

A key outcome of the workshop was the consolidation of regionally grounded recommendations that link governance reform, local legitimacy, and community engagement to sustainable prevention efforts. By bringing together Sahelian and Gambian stakeholders, the Centre strengthened cross-border knowledge exchange and fostered collaboration among policy actors, practitioners, and civil society leaders working at the governance–security nexus.



*A team of facilitators and experts at the workshop in The Gambia – 2 September 2025*

## **CHALLENGES ANNUAL FORUM 2025 (CAF25)**

In 2025, the Centre hosted and strengthened its global policy influence through active participation and engagement in the Challenges Annual Forum, held from 14–15 October. Providing both technical and coordination support in close collaboration with the Challenges Forum Secretariat, the Centre contributed substantively to shaping discussions on the future of peace operations in a changing global security environment.

A major outcome of the Forum was the Centre's intellectual leadership on climate-security integration. Staff authored and presented a background paper titled "Integrating Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies into Peace Operations and Peacebuilding Efforts," advancing practical recommendations on embedding climate-sensitive approaches into mission planning, operational mandates, and peacebuilding frameworks. The paper positioned the Centre at the forefront of linking environmental risk factors to operational effectiveness and long-term stability.

Building on this momentum, the Commandant and the Director, Research presented the Forum's key outcomes and recommendations to the United Nations during Peace Operations Review Week in New York (3–7 November 2025). This high-level engagement elevated the Centre's contributions into global policy discussions, ensuring that climate-responsive peace operations featured prominently in deliberations on the future design and reform of UN peace operations.

Participation in Peace Operations Review Week further strengthened KAIPTC's engagement within the Challenges Forum network, a strategic partnership of over 50 organisations across 24 countries. Through these engagements, the Centre consolidated partnerships, expanded its global policy footprint, and reinforced its role as a trusted convener and knowledge partner shaping innovative and practical solutions for more adaptive, forward-looking peace operations.



*Participants at the Challenges Forum in a group picture at the forecourt of KAIPTC after the opening ceremony – 14 October 2025*



*AVM David Akrong, Commandant of KAIPTC and Dr Emma Birikorang presenting key takeaways from the Challenges Annual Forum (CAF25) at the UN – 3 November 2025*



## **REFLECTIONS ON SECURITY SEMINAR SERIES: GALAMSEY AS AN EXISTENTIAL THREAT TO GHANA: A CALL FOR REFLECTION AND ACTION**

On 23 October 2025, the Centre convened a high-level Reflections on Security Seminar on “Galamsey as an Existential Threat to Ghana.” At a time when illegal mining continues to devastate water bodies, degrade arable land, and fuel organised criminal networks, the seminar created a neutral and credible platform for frank, evidence-based dialogue on one of Ghana’s most pressing security and governance challenges. Bringing together policymakers, security actors,

environmental experts, civil society representatives, and researchers, the seminar reframed galamsey not merely as an environmental issue, but as a multidimensional security threat with economic, social, governance, and regional implications.

Discussions interrogated the political economy of illegal mining, enforcement constraints, regulatory loopholes, community-level complicity, and cross-border dynamics. Participants examined the links between galamsey and organised crime, corruption, youth unemployment, and weakened institutional accountability. The dialogue also highlighted the long-term national security implications, including threats

to food security, public health, and state legitimacy. Importantly, the seminar explored comparative lessons and best practices, emphasising the need for coordinated enforcement, community engagement, sustainable livelihood alternatives, and stronger institutional oversight.

The seminar strengthened national reflection on galamsey as an existential governance and security threat rather than a cyclical law enforcement problem. It fostered cross-sectoral consensus on the urgency of

integrated responses that combine security measures with socio-economic and governance reforms.

For the Centre, the engagement reinforced its role as a trusted convening space for addressing sensitive national security issues through dialogue rather than rhetoric. The insights generated are expected to inform future research, policy advocacy, and capacity-building initiatives aimed at strengthening environmental security governance in Ghana and the wider region.



*Panellists of the Reflections on Security Seminar on stage inside the KAIPTC Auditorium – 23 October 2025*

## **NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS**

Between 20 October and 5 November 2025, the KAIPTC convened three national consultations in Ghana to support the development of Ghana's National Action Plan (NAP) for the control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). The consultations responded to the growing proliferation of SALW and their increasing role in undermining public safety, political stability, and human security in Ghana and across West Africa and the Sahel.

Beyond their lethality, SALW were examined as enablers of emerging and evolving threats, including their use in illegal mining (galamsey), communal tensions, organised crime, and the public display of

firearms during festivals and cultural events — trends with significant implications for national cohesion and regional stability.

The consultations brought together government agencies, security services, civil society organisations, traditional authorities, and community representatives to ensure a transparent and inclusive framework for addressing the threat. Discussions focused on regulatory and enforcement gaps, cross-border trafficking dynamics, public awareness deficits, and the need for stronger institutional coordination.

Participants also examined the linkages between SALW proliferation and broader insecurity in the Sahel, recognising Ghana's vulnerability within a fragile regional security environment.

The consultations generated consensus-based

priorities to inform the drafting of the National Action Plan, ensuring that the framework reflects both national realities and community-level concerns. Key outcomes included:

1. A shared understanding of critical gaps in SALW control and enforcement mechanisms;
2. Strengthened coordination between government institutions and civil society actors;
3. Clear identification of prevention, regulation, and public education priorities for incorporation into the NAP.

By facilitating inclusive dialogue across geographic

and institutional divides, the Centre contributed to strengthening Ghana's preventive security architecture. The process not only advanced the development of a nationally owned action plan but also reinforced collaborative approaches essential to mitigating the destabilising effects of SALW proliferation in an increasingly volatile regional context.





*Participants in the Kumasi workshop in a family picture in the first frame and a conference hall picture in the second – 23 October 2025*



*Participants from West and Central African countries in a group picture – 6 November 2025*





*Participants of the conference in Liberia in a group picture – 12 November 2025*



## OTHER RESEARCH/POLICY DIALOGUE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN ARE LISTED BELOW

**Table 8**

Research/Policy Dialogue	Discussion	Key Outcome
12th Edition of the African Security Forum (ASEC 2025)	The Emerging security dynamics and coordinated responses across Africa.	<p>The discussions strengthened understanding of Africa's evolving security landscape and reinforced the need for coordinated, multi-level responses.</p> <p>The forum informed KAIPTC's efforts to align its training, research, and policy support with emerging cross-border and multidimensional threats.</p> <p>The forum further provided an opportunity for the Centre to expand partnerships that enhance regional cooperation in prevention, crisis response, and resilience-building through strategic discussions with the African Union Commission on Political Affairs, Peace and Security (AU-CPAPS), the AU Centre for Humanitarian and Health Services (AU-CHHS), and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for UNOWAS.</p>
Capacity Strengthening on the Accra Initiative for Critical Actors	Regional cooperation, operational coordination, and shared understanding of emerging security threats in the Sahel and coastal West Africa.	<p>Built practical skills, strengthened analytical capacities, and fostered collaboration among security and policy actors.</p> <p>The engagement contributed to improved knowledge exchange, reinforced professional networks among critical stakeholders, and supported the broader objectives of the Accra Initiative to strengthen collective responses to violent extremism and transnational security challenges.</p>

<p>One-Day Seminar on Environmental Issues and Peacekeeping</p>	<p>Explore the environmental dimensions of peacekeeping.</p>	<p>The seminar strengthened the integration of environmental sustainability into peacekeeping policy and practice by elevating climate–security considerations as a core component of mission planning, implementation, and drawdown.</p> <p>It reinforced KAIPTC’s role as a forward-looking Centre of Excellence aligned with emerging regional and global security dynamics, while deepening strategic partnerships with leading international actors in peace operations reform.</p> <p>By fostering dialogue among policymakers, practitioners, and researchers, the Seminar contributed to shaping more anticipatory, environmentally responsible, and operationally effective peace support missions in climate-vulnerable contexts.</p>
<p>Inauguration of the AU Disarmament Fellowship Programme</p>	<p>Develop a new generation of African experts with practical, policy-oriented skills in disarmament, arms control, and non-proliferation, reflecting the African Union’s commitment to advancing regional stability through capacity building and strategic diplomacy.</p>	<p>Participation in the programme provided an opportunity to engage directly with AU officials, fellows, and partner institutions on continental disarmament priorities and emerging security challenges. It also strengthened institutional visibility and contributed to knowledge exchange on best practices in arms control and conflict prevention, while creating avenues for future collaboration aligned with the AU’s peace and security agenda.</p>

<p>Fourth Maritime Security Conference: The Gulf of Guinea, The Western Indian Ocean and the Southern African Waters: Contemporary and Future Maritime Security Perspectives</p> <p>Jointly organised by the Royal Danish Defence College, the Security Institute for Governance and Leadership in Africa, Stellenbosch University, and the KAIPTC</p>	<p>Examined evolving threats and future governance responses across the Gulf of Guinea, the Western Indian Ocean, and Southern African waters.</p> <p>The conference provided a strategic platform to assess contemporary maritime threats, including piracy resurgence, illegal fishing, trafficking, and jurisdictional fragmentation</p>	<p>A central outcome of the session was a strong consensus on the urgent need to harmonise regional maritime legal frameworks and strengthen inter-agency and cross-border cooperation. Participants emphasized that without legal alignment and coordinated enforcement, maritime insecurity will continue to exploit jurisdictional loopholes across African waters.</p> <p>For the KAIPTC, this engagement reinforced its role as a convening and thought-leadership hub shaping normative and operational responses to maritime insecurity. The discussions are expected to inform future capacity-building programmes, legal reform dialogues, and partnerships aimed at strengthening maritime governance architecture across the continent.</p>
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<p>Salient Global Learning Event: Lessons Learned from SALW Control and Armed Violence Reduction Programming</p> <p>Brindisi, Italy, 30 September to 1 October</p>	<p>The Event convened policymakers, practitioners, donors, and technical experts to reflect on lessons from the SALIENT programme's pilot interventions on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) control and armed violence reduction. Discussions focused on the value of integrated, programmatic approaches that link weapons control to broader development, governance, and peacebuilding frameworks in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.</p> <p>A central theme was sustainability, particularly the need for predictable and sustained financing to scale up proven interventions and prevent regression in fragile contexts. The event also explored innovative and inclusive methodologies for small arms research and programming. Drawing from Ghana's experience, a presentation on "Inclusive Methods for Small Arms Studies" highlighted participatory data collection, community engagement, gender-responsive approaches, and evidence-based policymaking as critical enablers for effective SALW control.</p>	<p>The event reinforced the strategic importance of comprehensive, locally grounded, and inclusive approaches to SALW control as a cornerstone of armed violence prevention.</p> <p>By showcasing Ghana's experience, the Centre contributed to shaping global discourse on best practices, positioning the country as a credible knowledge partner in small arms governance.</p> <p>Importantly, the emphasis on sustained financing and long-term programming strengthened advocacy efforts for predictable support to SALW interventions. The lessons distilled from the engagement will inform ongoing national and regional strategies, enhance evidence-driven policy formulation, and support more coordinated responses to emerging security dynamics across Africa</p>
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<p>Technical Workshop on Embedding the ECOWAS Human Security Index (EHSI) into the ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture Strengthening ECOWAS Human Security and Environmental Resilience.</p> <p>17 to 19 November 2025</p>	<p>Embedding the ECOWAS Human Security Index (EHSI) into the Peace and Security Architecture. KAIPTC provided technical guidance, shared national and regional data practices, and outlined steps to operationalise the EHSI within existing monitoring, analysis, and early-warning systems.</p>	<p>The workshops delivered concrete technical and institutional gains for ECOWAS.</p> <p>First, they established a shared technical understanding among stakeholders on how to embed the EHSI within existing early-warning and analytical systems, moving the Index from a conceptual tool to an operational instrument for policy and response planning.</p> <p>Second, the engagements enhanced the analytical capacity of the ECOWAS Early Warning Directorate by equipping staff with practical guidance on integrating human security and environmental indicators into risk assessments, trend analysis, and reporting mechanisms.</p> <p>Ultimately, these interventions contributed to reinforcing ECOWAS' ability to anticipate, analyse, and respond to multidimensional risks, positioning human security and environmental resilience as central pillars of the regional peace and security architecture.</p>
<p>ECOWAS workshop on "Security and Environment: Strengthening Security Analysis and Environmental Resilience."</p> <p>24 to 28 November 2025</p>	<p>The links between security risks and environmental stressors and ways to enhance regional approaches to security analysis and resilience.</p>	<p>The workshop strengthened cross-sector understanding of the security-environment nexus, promoted collaboration among regional stakeholders, and supported the development of integrated approaches for incorporating environmental factors into ECOWAS security analysis and resilience planning.</p> <p>The engagement provided ECOWAS with targeted technical support to enhance early-warning systems, integrate human security indicators, and strengthen the region's capacity to address the intersection of security and environmental risks.</p>

<p>Workshop on Unlocking Sub-Saharan Africa's Demographic Future: From Youth Bulge Curse to Demographic Dividends</p>	<p>The workshop explored the strategic shift from viewing Sub-Saharan Africa's youth population as a "youth bulge risk" to recognising it as a potential demographic dividend for peace, security, and development.</p> <p>Discussions focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reframing dominant narratives that associate large youth populations with instability, and instead highlighting the structural conditions that enable youth to become drivers of peace and resilience.</li> <li>• Examining the linkages between demographic trends, governance, employment, education, and conflict dynamics across Sub-Saharan Africa.</li> <li>• Identifying policy gaps that limit meaningful youth participation in peace and security decision-making processes.</li> <li>• Exploring evidence-based research on youth agency, mobilisation patterns, and pathways to constructive civic engagement.</li> <li>• Strengthening collaboration between researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to translate demographic research into actionable policy recommendations.</li> </ul> <p>The sessions, co-coordinated with the Women, Youth, Peace and Security Institute (WYPSI), emphasised practical approaches to integrating youth perspectives into national and regional peacebuilding frameworks.</p>	<p>The workshop generated several important outcomes.</p> <p>First, it strengthened interdisciplinary dialogue between academics, policymakers, and practitioners, creating a more cohesive platform for aligning demographic research with peace and security programming.</p> <p>Second, it contributed to a more balanced and evidence-informed understanding of Africa's demographic dynamics—shifting the discourse from risk-centred narratives toward opportunity-driven policy responses.</p> <p>Third, the engagement advanced practical recommendations aimed at enhancing youth agency, expanding inclusive governance mechanisms, and positioning young people as partners in peacebuilding rather than subjects of intervention.</p> <p>Ultimately, the workshop reinforced the strategic importance of embedding youth-responsive policies within peace and security architectures, supporting long-term stability by harnessing Africa's demographic potential as a force for resilience and sustainable peace.</p>
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*Participants of the AU Youth and Women's Training in Election Observation*



*Dignitaries and Participants of the Workshop in a group photo after the opening ceremony – 17 November 2025*





*Participants of the technical workshop to embed the ECOWAS Human Security Index (EHSI) into the Peace and Security Architecture, Mr Ernest Lartey, facilitator and staff of KAIPTC (in the front row, sixth from left to right) – 17 November 2025*



*Participants of the workshop on Security and Environment: Strengthening Security Analysis and Environmental Resilience – 24 November 2025*

## WEBINARS

### A: Electoral Processes and Democratic Consolidation in West Africa

In response to evolving electoral dynamics and democratic pressures across the sub-region, the Centre convened a high-level webinar on “Electoral Processes and Democratic Consolidation in West Africa” on 16 July 2025. The engagement strengthened regional dialogue on safeguarding electoral integrity and enhancing institutional resilience ahead of critical electoral cycles.

The five-panel discussion generated forward-looking insights on how upcoming elections could shape West Africa’s political trajectory and stability landscape. Participants underscored that credible elections remain central to democratic consolidation and conflict prevention, highlighting the need for strengthened citizen participation, improved governance indicators, and sustained institutional reforms.

A key outcome of the webinar was the consolidation of practical recommendations to enhance the

operational independence and technical capacity of Election Management Bodies (EMBs), while reinforcing the complementary role of domestic and international election observation missions in promoting transparency and accountability. The discussions further reinforced the importance of targeted capacity building for political and electoral stakeholders as a preventive tool against democratic backsliding and electoral-related instability.

By convening policymakers, scholars, civil society actors, and election practitioners, the Centre deepened multi-stakeholder collaboration and positioned itself as a neutral platform for policy-relevant dialogue on democratic governance in West Africa. The engagement strengthened knowledge exchange between continental, regional, and national actors, contributing to evidence-informed approaches to electoral reform and democratic resilience.

The webinar featured expert panellists from the African Union, the Kofi Annan Foundation, the Centre for Democratic Development, and the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training.



Flyer of the Webinar on Electoral Processes and Democratic Consolidation in West Africa



## B: Misinformation/Disinformation: A Threat to Regional Stability in West Africa

The Centre convened a high-level webinar on December 15, 2025 on “Misinformation/Disinformation: A Threat to Regional Stability in West Africa” in response to the growing destabilising effects of false and manipulated information across the region.

Set against persistent insecurity, including terrorism, unconstitutional changes of government, and governance deficits, the dialogue examined how digital platforms have amplified harmful narratives that erode trust in public institutions, democratic processes, and regional organisations such as ECOWAS. Discussions underscored the intersection between information disorder and broader structural vulnerabilities, including youth disengagement, political polarisation, and weakened institutional legitimacy. Panellists framed misinformation, disinformation, and malinformation as emerging non-

traditional security threats capable of undermining peacebuilding gains and regional cohesion.

The webinar generated consensus that countering information disorder requires a whole-of-society approach anchored in coordinated national and regional action. Participants identified four priority areas for sustained engagement:

1. Strengthened collaboration between governments, regional bodies, civil society, media institutions, and technology platforms;
2. Investment in digital literacy and civic education to build societal resilience;
3. Support for fact-checking networks and independent media; and
4. Development of balanced regulatory and strategic communication frameworks.

Beyond raising awareness, the engagement positioned the Centre as a responsive knowledge hub addressing evolving security threats.

## DATA COLLECTION MISSIONS

The Centre, led by its Research Directorate, undertook the following data collection and field-research missions.

S/N	RESEARCH TOPIC/ PROJECT	STAFF	LOCATION	DATE
1	Gender Mainstreaming in Maritime Security Institutions in West Africa: Insights from Navies of Ghana and La Côte d'Ivoire/ Danish Maritime Security Project	Dr Naila Salihu	Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire	January 2025
2	“Navigating the Nexus: Fisheries Governance Amidst Evolving Maritime Dynamics in Ghana”/ Danish Maritime Security Project	Sheila N. Tetteh and Rahima Moomin	Takoradi, Ghana	July 2025

3	Guardians of the Coast, Non-state Actors and Hybrid Maritime Security in Ghana	Mustapha Abdallah and Lydia Amedzrator	Keta and Tema, Ghana	July 2025
4	Small Arms and Narcotics Trafficking in the Gulf of Guinea/ Danish Maritime Security Project	Dr John Pokoo and Dr Anna Mensah	Pointe Noire, Republic of Congo	August 2025
5	Gendered Dimensions of Anthropogenic Drivers and Human Security Implications of Climate Change in Coastal Communities in West Africa/ Danish Maritime Security Project	Dr Emma Birikorang and Dr Godfred Bonnah Nkansah	Monrovia; New Kru Town; and West Point, Liberia	September 2025
6	“Navigating the Nexus: Fisheries Governance Amidst Evolving Maritime Dynamics in Ghana”/ Danish Maritime Security Project	Sheila N. Tetteh and Rahima Moomin	Senegal	October 2025
7	Small Arms and Narcotics Trafficking in the Gulf of Guinea/ Danish Maritime Security Project	Dr John Pokoo and Dr Anna Mensah	Takoradi, Ghana	November 2025
8	Safety and security implications of illegal mining in Ghana/ Spanish Embassy	Ernest Lartey, Augustine Owusu, Mustapha Abdallah and Lydia Amedzrator	Western and Ashanti Region, Ghana	December 2025

## PUBLICATIONS

### A. PUBLISHED FOR 2025

S/N	Type	Author	Year	Title
1	Web Article (external)	Aning, K.	2025	West Africa's Bold Trade Experiment Turns 50: An ECOWAS Report Card
2	Policy brief (external)	Aning, K.	2025	Countering Extremism in West Africa: What Options Are Left?
3	Book chapter (external)	Aning, K. & Salihu, N.	2025	Conflict Preventions as a tool for Poverty Mitigation in West Africa: The Role of the Economic Community of West African States. In: Durajaye, E, Mukundi, G, Iyi, J.M, & Assim, U.M. (Eds). Conflict and Poverty in Africa.
4	Book chapter (external)	Salihu, N. & Aning, K.	2025	Ghana, Togo and Benin. In: K. Kleyhams, E. & Wyss, M. (Eds). The Handbook of African Defence and Armed Forces.
5	Occasional Paper (internal)	Birikorang, E. & Salihu, N.	2025	Democratic Reversals and Threats of Violent Extremism in Senegal.
6	Book chapter (external)	Aning, K	2025	Eliciting Compliance with ECOWAS's Normative Framework as an Expression of Soft Power
7	Book chapter (external)	Doke, V	2025	Ghana's security and the threat of terrorism in West Africa
8	Policy brief (internal)	Aning, K. & Tetteh, N. S.	2025	A house divided against itself? ECOWAS, Accra Initiative and security cooperation in West Africa
9	Policy brief (internal)	Mensah, A. & Amedzrator, L.	2025	"In the eye of the storm: building resilient communities to resist violent extremist organizations
10	Research report	Aning, K. & Abdallah, M.	2025	Illegal mining and implications on peace, community resilience and national security in Ghana" in Impraim, K. (ed), Research Report for the High-Level Stakeholders Dialogue on Solutions to the Galamsey Crisis in Ghana: Mobilising Citizens consensus (Accra: Media Foundation for West Africa), pp. 179-198.

### B. UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS

S/N	Type	Author	Title
1	Occasional paper	Lamptey, A. & Salihu, N.	Long Way to the Top: Lessons and Opportunities for Women's Representation in Ghana's Democratic Processes
2	Policy brief	Kappert, S.	Between Peace and Paradox: Democratic Resilience and the Challenge of Violent Extremism in Ghana
3	Occasional paper	Buck, G. & Nkansah, G. B.	Illegal Mining Settlements in Forest Reserves as Emerging Threats to Human and National Security
4	Policy brief	Adusei, M. A. A. & Nkansah, G. B.	A Decade of UNSCR 2250 Implementation in West Africa: Progress, Challenges and Way Forward

### 3. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3: TO ENHANCE GENDER EQUITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION WITH A FOCUS ON WOMEN AND YOUTH IN FOSTERING PEACE, STABILITY, AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA.

#### OVERVIEW

The pathways to this strategic objective are for the Centre to:

1. Build African capacity to fully implement the AU Protocol on the African Charter on the rights of women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) and the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 (2000) and follow up Resolutions on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.
2. Support the operationalisation of the African Union's Continental Framework for Youth, Peace and Security and the UN Security Council Resolution UNSCR 2250 (2015)

The following activities were undertaken to ensure these objectives were met.

#### YOUTH IN LEADERSHIP AND PEACEBUILDING: THE LEARNING, DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT (LDD) PROCESS

As part of its commitment to strengthening youth participation in leadership and peacebuilding, WYPSI/KAIPTC supported a Learning Design and Development (LDD) process for the Youth in Leadership and Peacebuilding Course. This strategic intervention sought to develop a structured, accessible, and context-responsive learning package tailored to the evolving needs of young people engaged in peace and security across Africa.

The course design process was anchored in broad-

based consultations with subject matter experts, practitioners, and youth stakeholders. This inclusive approach ensured that the curriculum reflects both normative policy frameworks and lived operational realities. The resulting curriculum integrates key thematic areas, including youth participation in governance, conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda, with deliberate emphasis on African contexts and practice.

WYPSI provided technical leadership to ensure alignment with continental and global frameworks, particularly United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 and related resolutions, as well as African Union policy instruments relevant to youth engagement in peace and security. The Institute contributed substantively to the formulation of learning objectives, session structures, and assessment methodologies, ensuring that the course moves beyond knowledge transfer to strengthen practical competencies and leadership capabilities.

The outcome of the LDD process is a comprehensive and operationalised course package designed to enhance the capacity of young leaders to contribute meaningfully to peacebuilding processes at community, national, and regional levels. Beyond curriculum development, the process strengthened cross-departmental collaboration within the Centre and reinforced WYPSI's institutional role in advancing youth-responsive training, thought leadership, and capacity development in support of the Youth, Peace and Security agenda.



## EMPOWERING FOCAL PERSONS TO DRIVE GENDER-RESPONSIVE PRACTICES AT KAIPTC

As part of efforts to institutionalise gender mainstreaming across the Centre, the Women, Youth, Peace and Security Institute (WYPSI) convened a targeted gender mainstreaming session for focal persons and selected staff. The intervention was designed to strengthen internal capacity to systematically integrate gender perspectives into planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation processes across departments.

The session equipped participants with practical tools and analytical approaches to apply gender analysis within their respective programmes and functional areas. Key thematic areas included gender concepts and frameworks, gender-responsive planning, and the integration of gender considerations into peace and security programming. Particular emphasis was placed on translating institutional policy commitments into measurable practice within KAIPTC's training, research, and advisory mandates.

Through interactive discussions and scenario-based exercises, participants deepened their understanding of how gender dynamics shape conflict patterns, peacebuilding outcomes, and security sector responses. The platform also facilitated peer learning, enabling focal persons to identify coordination gaps, share departmental experiences, and develop strategies to enhance coherence in the Centre's gender-related initiatives.

By strengthening the technical competence and coordination capacity of focal persons, WYPSI advanced institutional ownership of gender mainstreaming within the Centre. The session reinforced the role of focal persons as internal drivers of accountability and contributed to embedding the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda more systematically within KAIPTC's internal operations and external programming.





## STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGH GENDER POLICY LAUNCH

The Centre launched its revised Gender Policy on 14 March 2025 as a strategic step toward deepening gender equity and social inclusion across the Centre. Anchored in the Centre's Strategic Objectives Plan (2024–2028), the revised policy reinforces KAIPTC's commitment to empowering women and youth as critical actors in advancing peace, stability, and sustainable development.

The revised framework moves beyond policy intent to operational accountability. Twenty (20) Gender Focal Persons (GFPs) were appointed across units and departments to drive implementation and monitor progress in gender mainstreaming. By institutionalising this coordination mechanism, the Centre strengthened internal ownership and positioned GFPs as catalysts for embedding gender-responsive approaches within training, research, and policy engagement processes.

The policy establishes a clear mandate to promote equal representation and meaningful participation of women in decision-making structures, while reinforcing safeguards against Gender-Based

Violence (GBV), discrimination, harassment, and exclusion. Through proactive preventive measures and strengthened reporting mechanisms, the Centre has taken concrete steps to foster a safer and more inclusive work environment.

In terms of implementation and oversight, the policy introduces gender-sensitive monitoring frameworks to track progress and measure institutional impact. Regular performance reviews, coupled with advocacy for gender-responsive budgeting, aim to ensure equitable resource allocation and sustained integration of gender perspectives across KAIPTC's programming. Collectively, the revised Gender Policy marks a significant institutional milestone, advancing accountability, strengthening governance systems, and reinforcing the Centre's leadership in operationalising the Women, Peace and Security agenda within both its internal structures and external engagements.



## VALIDATION MEETING - IMPLEMENTATION OF GHANA'S NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON UNSCR 1325

A validation meeting held on 13 March 2025 marked an important milestone in strengthening oversight and implementation of Ghana's National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (GHANAP II). The meeting formed part of the Monitoring GHANAP II Project implemented by the Foundation for Security and Development in Africa (FOSDA) with support from Global Affairs Canada, aimed at promoting effective and accountable implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda across Ghana.

Building on a second independent evaluative monitoring exercise conducted in 2024, the validation meeting provided a structured platform for stakeholders to review, interrogate, and formally confirm the assessment findings. Beyond validation, the convening enabled critical reflection on implementation progress, institutional gaps, and the distribution of responsibilities among state and non-state actors.

The assessment revealed encouraging progress at the national level. Government agencies and security institutions demonstrated strong awareness of GHANAP II and a clear understanding of their institutional mandates. Gains were noted in policy development, gender-sensitive security training, institutional reforms, and increased representation of women within security structures. However, disparities in awareness and engagement were evident at

the grassroots level, where local communities and community-based organisations reported limited familiarity with the Action Plan and unclear implementation roles. These gaps were particularly pronounced in rural areas.

Key structural constraints were also identified, including limited budget allocations, weak inter-agency coordination, and persistent socio-cultural barriers that impede full operationalisation of the Action Plan. The findings underscored the need for strengthened monitoring systems, sustained financing, and deeper multi-stakeholder collaboration to translate policy commitments into measurable community-level impact.

Importantly, the discussions informed strategic direction for the development of GHANAP III. Participants recommended the establishment of a dedicated funding mechanism, formalised coordination frameworks, strengthened monitoring and evaluation systems, and district-specific implementation plans to enhance local ownership. There were also calls to broaden the scope of the next Action Plan to include sectors such as agriculture, migration, and the environment; incorporate a dedicated pillar on emerging and emergency security threats; digitalise monitoring processes; and systematically integrate intersectionality across all pillars.

Collectively, the validation process strengthened evidence-based accountability, reinforced stakeholder ownership, and contributed to shaping a more responsive and context-sensitive framework for the next phase of Ghana's implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda.



## STRENGTHENING SECURITY SECTOR REFORM CAPACITY IN MALI

From 10–21 March 2025, the Centre delivered a two-week specialised training on Security Sector Reform (SSR) aimed at strengthening the capacity of practitioners engaged in reform processes in post-conflict and transitioning contexts, including Mali. The programme brought together professionals from government institutions, international organisations, civil society, and non-governmental organisations involved in the design and implementation of SSR policies.

The training provided participants with a comprehensive and practice-oriented understanding of SSR principles, governance standards, and reform challenges. Core thematic areas included democratic oversight and accountability, the roles and mandates of security institutions—such as the police, military, and intelligence services, legal and regulatory frameworks, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess reform effectiveness.

Through applied case studies and scenario-based discussions, participants examined the complex political and operational realities that shape reform processes. Critical issues such as corruption, human rights compliance, gender integration, institutional legitimacy, and political instability were explored within context-specific frameworks. This practical engagement strengthened participants' ability to navigate reform dynamics while promoting transparency, inclusivity, and rule of law.

The training enhanced participants' capacity to:

1. Understanding the core principles of SSR and its role in promoting peace and stability.
2. Exploring the relationships between security institutions, government, and civil society in the reform process.
3. Identifying common challenges and best practices in SSR implementation.
4. Building participants' capacity to design and implement effective SSR strategies that are contextually appropriate.
5. Strengthening inter-agency collaboration and knowledge sharing to advance SSR goals.

A key outcome of the programme was the reinforced recognition that effective Security Sector Reform depends on inclusive, multi-stakeholder engagement. Sustainable reform requires strong partnerships between national authorities, security institutions, civil society actors, and international partners to ensure legitimacy, accountability, and long-term resilience.

By equipping practitioners with analytical tools, strategic frameworks, and collaborative approaches, the training contributed to strengthening reform-oriented leadership and institutional capacity. The intervention supports ongoing efforts to build transparent, accountable, and responsive security institutions capable of promoting stability and public trust in fragile and transitional contexts.



## KAIPTC CONTRIBUTES TO GENDER-RESPONSIVE PEACEKEEPING TRAINING IN AFRICA

From 17–21 February 2025, experts from across the continent came together at the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) in Nairobi, Kenya, for a curriculum writing workshop aimed at strengthening gender mainstreaming in Peace Support Operations (PSOs). Convened by the African Union Commission's Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD) and supported by the British Peace Support Team–Africa (BPST-A), the workshop addressed critical gaps in monitoring, evaluation, and reporting on gender equality outcomes in peace operations.

Over five days, participants collaboratively developed a draft training manual to equip practitioners with the skills and tools to apply gender analysis, integrate gender perspectives into M&E processes, and utilize sex-disaggregated data for evidence-based decision-making.

In line with its mandate to advance the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, the Women, Youth and Peacebuilding Institute (WYPSI) at KAIPTC played a pivotal role. Represented by Mrs. Agnes Agbevadi, Senior Programme Officer at WYPSI, the Centre provided expert technical input, ensuring the training curriculum is comprehensive and context responsive.

Participants agreed on next steps, including finalising the manual, creating facilitator guides, developing scenario-based exercises, translating materials into African Union working languages, and conducting a Training of Trainers course later in 2025—laying the groundwork for more gender-responsive peace operations across Africa.



## STRENGTHENING YOUTH LEADERSHIP FOR PEACE AND GOVERNANCE

In response to the growing need for meaningful youth participation in governance and peace processes, KAIPTC, through WYPSI, developed and delivered a specialised course to empower emerging young leaders across Africa. Supported by the Swedish Government through SIDA, the initiative was informed by extensive stakeholder consultations conducted in Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Kenya, and Uganda, which identified critical gaps in youth capacity, knowledge, and coordination.

To ensure relevance and quality, KAIPTC convened a Learning Design and Development (LDD) workshop that brought together subject matter experts to produce a comprehensive, context-responsive training manual. This process laid a strong foundation for the delivery of the five-day Youth in Leadership and Peacebuilding Course, held from 12–16 May 2025 at KAIPTC.

The training convened 45 young leaders (23 females and 22 males) from Ghana, Senegal, Nigeria, Kenya, South Sudan, and Sierra Leone, strengthening regional peer learning and cross-border collaboration. The course was designed to enhance participants'

capacity to engage effectively in peacebuilding and governance processes within their respective contexts.

Participants deepened their understanding of the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) Agenda and strengthened competencies in transformational leadership, strategic communication, resilience building, conflict prevention, advocacy, ethical leadership, and resource mobilisation. Practical simulation exercises enabled participants to apply learning to real-world conflict scenarios, reinforcing skills in mediation, early warning, and project management.

The course significantly enhanced the readiness of participating youth leaders to contribute meaningfully to peace and security efforts at community and national levels. Participants left with strengthened technical knowledge, improved leadership and advocacy skills, and expanded professional networks across the region. The initiative also contributed to advancing the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda by building a critical mass of empowered young actors equipped to influence policy processes, drive community-based peace initiatives, and foster inclusive governance.



## BUILDING A STRONG CADRE OF GENDER ADVISERS FOR EFFECTIVE PEACE OPERATIONS

To strengthen the integration of gender perspectives in peace and security operations, the Centre delivered a specialised Gender Adviser's Course from 26–30 May 2025 at the Centre. The training responded to the persistent gap between progressive gender policy commitments and their practical implementation in peacekeeping and peacebuilding environments.

While international and regional actors, including the United Nations (UN), European Union (EU), Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), and African Union (AU), have made significant advances in gender policy development over the past decade, effective field-level mainstreaming continues to depend on well-trained Gender Advisers. KAIPTC's intervention therefore focused on building the technical and advisory capacity required to translate policy into measurable operational outcomes.

The five-day course brought together 25 participants (18 women and 7 men) from Ghana, Mali, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Zimbabwe, fostering cross-regional learning and

professional exchange. The programme equipped participants with practical tools and analytical skills to strengthen gender mainstreaming within their respective institutions and operational environments.

Through a structured and highly practical curriculum, participants enhanced their competencies in gender analysis, advisory functions, results-based management, monitoring and accountability, gender-sensitive reporting, and strategies for managing institutional resistance. The course also strengthened participants' capacity to support implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda across operational, policy, and programme levels.

The training contributed to building a more capable and responsive network of Gender Advisers across Africa, better positioned to institutionalise gender mainstreaming within peace and security frameworks. Participants left with strengthened advisory skills, clearer action plans for their organisations, and improved capacity to influence decision-making processes. By bridging the gap between gender policy and practice, the course reinforced KAIPTC's role in advancing gender-responsive peace operations and supporting the effective implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.



## EQUIPPING YOUNG LEADERS TO DRIVE COMMUNITY PEACEBUILDING IN EAST AFRICA

From 23–27 June 2025, WYPSI-KAIPTC, delivered a five-day Youth in Leadership and Peacebuilding course in Nairobi, strengthening the capacity of emerging youth leaders to play more effective roles in governance and peacebuilding.

Developed with support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the course

was informed by a rigorous Learning Design and Development (LDD) process. This process engaged subject matter experts and drew on stakeholder consultations across Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Kenya, and Uganda, ensuring the training directly addressed identified capacity gaps among young peace actors.

The programme brought together 30 youth leaders from Kenya and Uganda, equipping them with practical tools to enhance their influence in peace and governance processes. Through highly participatory and reflective sessions, participants strengthened

competencies in:

1. Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) advocacy
2. Leadership and strategic communication
3. Resilience building
4. Youth-led conflict prevention
5. Ethical leadership
6. Resource mobilisation and project management

A practical simulation exercise further enabled participants to apply classroom knowledge to real-world conflict scenarios, sharpening their problem-solving and collaborative decision-making skills.



## **KAIPTC ADVANCES FRANCOPHONE WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN PEACE AND SECURITY**

To significantly expand KAIPTC's reach to Francophone Africa, and address long-standing linguistic and capacity gaps in women's leadership development within peace and security sectors, WYPSI-KAIPTC, in partnership with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), and with support from the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) and the French Government, undertook the first French-language edition of the Leadership Training Programme for Francophone African Women in Peace and Security (LFAF-PS) from 23 June to 4 July 2025.

The 12-month programme combined six months of in-person and online learning, targets mid-career Francophone African women working across civilian and uniformed peace and security institutions, including government, international organisations, civil society, and academia. The inaugural phase began with a two-week intensive course that strengthened participants' understanding of the

The training has expanded a growing network of empowered young leaders equipped to drive peace initiatives within their communities. Participants left with concrete action plans to advance youth-led peacebuilding and governance efforts at the local level.

By investing in youth leadership, WYPSI-KAIPTC is helping to strengthen inclusive peace architectures in East Africa, reinforcing the role of young people not merely as beneficiaries but as active agents of change in building resilient and sustainable peace processes across the region.



Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda while sharpening their leadership competencies. Twenty (20) women participated in this foundational training.

Through structured learning, mentorship, and peer exchange, the programme is designed to:

1. Strengthen leadership and mentoring skills among Francophone women professionals
2. Equip participants to champion and support women's advancement within their institutions and communities
3. Support the design and implementation of personal leadership change initiatives linked to the WPS agenda
4. Build a sustainable network of Francophone African women for knowledge sharing and inclusive peacebuilding

Participants are expected to implement practical leadership change initiatives within their respective institutions, creating multiplier effects that advance women's meaningful participation in peace processes. By combining training, mentorship, and applied

learning, the programme is cultivating a pipeline of influential Francophone women leaders positioned to strengthen inclusive and effective peacebuilding across the continent.

The training builds on KAIPTC’s broader efforts since 2019 to widen opportunities for African women in peace and security, reinforcing the Centre’s role as a continental hub for advancing the Women, Peace and Security agenda.



**TRAINING OF TRAINERS SESSION STRENGTHENS CAPACITY TO MONITOR AND REPORT ON THE WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY AGENDA IN THE GAMBIA**

From 7–11 July 2025, KAIPTC, in collaboration with The Gambia’s Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare and with support from the Government of Sweden, delivered a five-day Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop on Monitoring and Reporting on the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda using the Continental Results Framework (CRF) in Banjul.

The training directly strengthened national capacity to implement, track, and report on WPS commitments. A total of 29 participants drawn from government institutions, civil society, and security agencies enhanced their technical competencies in gender-responsive data collection, analysis, and evidence-based reporting.

Through expert-led sessions and practical exercises, participants deepened their understanding of global and regional WPS frameworks, The Gambia’s National Action Plan (2021–2025), and the CRF monitoring indicators. Particular emphasis was placed on operationalising the four pillars of the WPS Agenda—Participation, Protection, Prevention, and Relief and

Recovery—within national monitoring systems. The workshop also advanced institutional coordination. Stakeholder mapping and action planning sessions enabled participants to identify gaps, strengthen accountability mechanisms, and align national reporting processes with continental standards. High-level engagement from government officials, UNDP, ECOWAS, and KAIPTC leadership reinforced political commitment to gender-responsive peacebuilding.

The training delivered the following outcomes:

- An enhanced national pool of trainers capable of cascading WPS-CRF knowledge across institutions
- Improved technical capacity for gender-responsive monitoring and reporting
- Strengthened inter-agency coordination and accountability mechanisms
- Renewed national commitment to resource mobilisation and data-driven implementation of the WPS Agenda

The training concluded with the establishment of implementation timelines, national coordination arrangements, and concrete institutional commitments by participants. The initiative represents an important step in consolidating The Gambia’s leadership in advancing gender equality and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda through coordinated, data-driven action.



## YOUTH STARTS WITH YOU MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME CULTIVATES THE NEXT GENERATION OF AFRICAN PEACEBUILDERS

WYPSI - KAIPTC, with support from the Norwegian Embassy in Ghana, successfully undertook the Youth Starts With You (YSWY) Mentorship Programme, a six-month initiative designed to strengthen youth leadership, promote intergenerational learning, and accelerate professional growth among young African peacebuilders.

Building on the success of the 2024 pilot, the programme provided a structured and results-focused platform for sustained capacity development and peer-led learning. A total of 30 participants — comprising 15 mentors and 15 mentees — engaged in guided mentorship exchanges aimed at transferring practical knowledge, strengthening leadership competencies, and deepening understanding of the

Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) Agenda.

The programme directly contributed to KAIPTC's efforts to institutionalise meaningful youth engagement by equipping mentees with real-world insights from seasoned practitioners within the Centre. It has further strengthened leadership and professional competencies of 15 young peacebuilders; established a structured intergenerational knowledge transfer mechanism within KAIPTC; expanded youth professional networks in the peace and security sector; and advanced institutionalisation of the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda at the Centre.

The Youth Starts With You Mentorship Programme marks an important milestone in KAIPTC's long-term strategy to nurture a pipeline of skilled, confident, and impact-driven young leaders contributing to sustainable peace and security across Africa.

The YSwY Mentorship Programme has since been reviewed as part of efforts to enhance the programme.



## AU TRAINING ON ELECTION OBSERVATION FOR YOUTH AND WOMEN

To strengthen regional capacity for inclusive and credible electoral processes by equipping women and youth with practical observer skills, the African Union, in partnership with the Centre and with support from the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa, delivered a three-day specialised training on election observation and democratic engagement at KAIPTC from 22–24 July 2025.

A total of 39 participants from across the continent, including Ghana, Ethiopia, South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Sahrawi, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Cameroon, Gabon, Central African Republic, The Gambia, and Chad, were trained and prepared for deployment

as election observers. The programme directly advanced the AU's strategic objective of broadening participation of underrepresented groups in electoral processes.

The training delivered three key outcomes:

- Enhanced technical capacity of women and youth in short-term election observation methodologies
- Expanded AU roster of deployable observers drawn from youth and women demographics
- Strengthened understanding of electoral systems, standards, and operations across Africa

The training has significantly strengthened the pipeline of qualified women and youth election observers in Africa, contributing to more inclusive electoral missions and reinforcing democratic accountability and resilience across AU member states.



## PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE TRAINING – CHAD

From 25–29 August 2025, KAIPTC, through WYPSI, delivered a five-day capacity-building training in N'Djamena, Chad, aimed at strengthening national and community responses to gender-based violence (GBV). The programme was implemented in partnership with Chad's Ministry of Women and Early Childhood.

The training convened 30 frontline stakeholders drawn from security services, the judiciary, civil society, faith-based organisations, media, health services, and community leadership across five regions of Chad. This multi-sector composition was designed to strengthen coordinated prevention and response mechanisms at both institutional and community levels.

Supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the training delivered targeted skills in:

- GBV case investigation and documentation
- Survivor-centred response and referral pathways
- Responsible and ethical media reporting on GBV
- Community sensitisation, including engagement with traditional leaders
- Cross-sector coordination mechanisms

The intervention formed part of WYPSI's broader continental support to African states implementing Women, Peace and Security commitments, including United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and the Maputo Protocol.

The training strengthened Chad's national GBV response architecture by equipping a cross-section of frontline actors with practical tools to improve prevention, reporting, and survivor protection.

Participants are expected to cascade knowledge within their institutions and communities, contributing to more coordinated and effective GBV mitigation efforts nationwide.

## STRENGTHENING GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

KAIPTC, in partnership with UN Women, successfully implemented a capacity-building project titled "Gender Mainstreaming in the Daily Activity of Military Actors and Civil Society Organizations in the Central African Republic."

The initiative aimed to strengthen the systematic integration of gender perspectives into the daily operations of military personnel, while enhancing democratic and civilian oversight of defence forces to support sustainable, inclusive, and people-centred peace.

The project was delivered through a series of targeted engagements:

### 1. Validation Workshop (13–14 November)

The first activity focused on validating a training manual on gender mainstreaming and capacity building for strategic cadres of the defence and security forces. The workshop brought together 20 senior military commanders at the ranks of colonel and general, whose inputs helped refine the training framework.

### 2. Training for Unit Commanders (20–22 November)

The second phase convened 50-unit commanders, from the rank of captain to commander. Participants strengthened their practical skills to integrate gender considerations into operational planning and command responsibilities.

### 3. Civilian Oversight Training

The final activity engaged 70 representatives from institutions responsible for democratic and civilian oversight of the defence forces, reinforcing accountability and inclusive security governance.

Through this multi-level approach, KAIPTC and UN Women continue to advance gender-responsive security sector practices in the Central African Republic, contributing to more inclusive and sustainable peace outcomes.

### STRENGTHENING LOCAL CAPACITY TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN NAMIBIA

KAIPTC, in partnership with the Young Women of Africa (YWOA), Namibia Chapter, successfully delivered a four-day training on Preventing and Responding to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Namibia from 11–14 November 2025.

The training brought together 25 key stakeholders drawn from government institutions, civil society organisations, faith-based groups, traditional authorities, youth organisations, media practitioners, and frontline service providers. The training was designed to deepen participants' understanding of the root causes and impacts of GBV, strengthen knowledge of relevant legal and policy frameworks, and build practical survivor-centred skills for prevention, investigation, response, advocacy, and coordination.

Participants highlighted underreporting driven by stigma, uneven access to survivor services, limited community-level awareness of legal protections, and coordination challenges among response actors. The discussions also brought needed attention to the heightened vulnerabilities of persons with disabilities, men and boys, and other marginalised groups in accessing justice and support.

A strong emphasis was placed on inclusive community engagement, behavioural change, and trauma-informed responses. Participants were encouraged to strengthen the role of traditional leaders, faith actors, and youth as frontline champions in GBV prevention. Dedicated media sessions further reinforced the responsibility of journalists to report ethically and in ways that protect survivors while shaping positive public attitudes.

Concrete outcomes emerged from the workshop. Participants have jointly developed for implementation, a practical advocacy and action roadmap prioritizing stronger enforcement of GBV laws, improved and more accessible survivor services, standardised referral systems, expanded frontline capacity-building and community-based prevention initiatives

Overall, the training significantly enhanced technical capacity, cross-sector collaboration, and shared accountability among stakeholders. It marks an important step toward building a more coordinated, survivor-centred GBV prevention and response system in Namibia.



## STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP FOR COORDINATED WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY ACTION IN WEST AFRICA

The KAIPTC advanced regional implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda by strengthening the leadership and coordination capacities of national focal points from ECOWAS Member States. A five-day training programme brought together 33 stakeholders (22 women and 11 men) from 11 countries, representing government institutions, security services, civil society organisations, and regional women's networks.

The programme responded to persistent coordination gaps that continue to slow effective implementation of national WPS commitments. By enhancing participants' ability to design and operationalise inclusive coordination systems, the training directly contributed to improved alignment with the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan and the African Union Continental Results Framework.

Through practical leadership simulations, stakeholder mapping, strategic communication exercises, and peer learning sessions, participants strengthened competencies in institutional coordination, multi-stakeholder engagement, and results-based reporting.

The training also facilitated cross-country knowledge exchange, enabling participants to identify common challenges and share context-specific solutions for advancing gender-responsive peace and security processes.

A key outcome was the development of draft national coordination action plans by each country's delegation. These plans outlined concrete steps to strengthen national coordination structures, enhance monitoring and reporting mechanisms, and improve accountability for WPS implementation. Several delegations introduced innovative approaches, including digital monitoring tools, structured multi-stakeholder coordination platforms, and time-bound implementation targets.

By fostering regional collaboration and reinforcing leadership for coordinated action, the programme contributed to building more effective national systems to support inclusive peace processes. The strengthened networks and action plans developed during the training provide a foundation for sustained follow-up engagement and improved implementation of WPS commitments across West Africa.

The programme was sponsored by the Government of Germany through the German Development Corporation.



## ADVANCING WOMEN'S TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP FOR PEACE AND SECURITY IN FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

The KAIPTC strengthened women's leadership and influence in peace and security processes across Francophone Africa through a year-long capacity-building programme targeting emerging and established women leaders from public institutions, security services, and international organisations.

The initiative responded to persistent structural barriers limiting women's meaningful participation in conflict prevention, mediation, crisis response, and post-conflict recovery. By equipping participants with transformative leadership, mentoring, and strategic management skills, the programme contributed to advancing gender-responsive governance and more inclusive peacebuilding approaches in participating countries.

Implemented in partnership with the International Organisation of La Francophonie and supported by the Government of France, the programme combined residential training sessions, individual coaching, thematic webinars, and a mentorship course. Twenty women leaders benefited from tailored learning opportunities designed to strengthen their capacity to lead institutional reforms, mentor younger women, and drive community-level peace initiatives.

A key outcome of the programme was the development and presentation of seventeen peace and leadership initiatives by participants from nine countries. These projects addressed priority challenges including prevention of gender-based violence, youth engagement in peace processes, community mediation, political inclusion, digital security, and post-conflict recovery. The initiatives demonstrated practical application of acquired skills and positioned participants as catalysts for change within their institutions and communities.

Beyond individual capacity gains, the programme fostered the emergence of a sustainable regional network of Francophone women leaders, strengthening cross-border collaboration and peer support for Women, Peace and Security (WPS) implementation. The emphasis on mentoring, emotional intelligence, resilience, and strategic communication enhanced participants' ability to influence decision-making spaces and promote inclusive leadership models.

By translating training outcomes into concrete peacebuilding initiatives and strengthening institutional leadership capacities, the programme contributed to advancing the WPS agenda in Francophone Africa. The collaboration between KAIPTC, the International Organisation of La Francophonie, and the Government of France underscored the value of strategic partnerships in building long-term capacity for inclusive peace and stability across the region.



## RETREATS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

The following retreats, conferences and meetings were undertaken to enhance gender equity and social inclusion with a focus on women and youth in fostering peace, stability, and development in Africa.

**Table 9a**

Conference/Meeting/Retreat	Discussion	Key Outcome
<p>The Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Conference, held in Nairobi, Kenya from 12 to 14 March 2025.</p> <p>Organised by the British Peace Support Team–Africa (BPST-A)</p>	<p>The conference discussed strategic approaches, and practical measures to strengthen implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and related resolutions</p>	<p>The conference has strengthened momentum for advancing Women, Peace and Security (WPS) in Ghana by spotlighting the strategic need for women’s meaningful participation in peace processes and gender integration within security institutions. By acknowledging achievements while identifying persistent gaps, it provided a clear roadmap for translating commitments into measurable outcomes.</p> <p>Participants’ recommendations, including institutionalising gender-responsive policies, expanding leadership pathways for women, and reinforcing accountability mechanisms, are expected to enhance the effectiveness of both state and civil society actors in WPS implementation.</p> <p>The emphasis on capacity-building and aligning National Action Plans with UNSCR 1325 ensures that progress is not only sustained but scalable.</p>

<p>Retreat on the implementation of the gender policy of the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF)</p> <p>18 to 20 March 2025</p>	<p>Review the implementation of the GAF Gender Policy, which serves as a strategic framework for promoting gender equality and inclusivity within the military</p>	<p>The three-day retreat has strengthened the Ghana Armed Forces' institutional capacity to implement its Gender Policy by aligning key actors around clear priorities for gender mainstreaming. Bringing together Gender Advisors, Focal Points, and partners fostered shared understanding of progress, gaps, and operational needs, ensuring a more coordinated approach.</p> <p>Peer learning and experience sharing enhanced participants' ability to integrate gender-responsive approaches in operations and decision-making, while highlighting the importance of ongoing training and internal sensitisation across all ranks.</p> <p>The retreat also catalysed tangible institutional action, including the creation of a dedicated Gender Policy Implementation Committee to oversee execution and accountability.</p> <p>Overall, the retreat positions the Ghana Armed Forces to systematically advance gender integration, strengthen leadership oversight, and embed inclusive, operationally effective practices across military structures.</p>
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Table 9b

Conference/ Meeting/Retreat	Discussion	Key Outcome
<p>Workshop to review the implementation of the 2nd edition of the Ghana National Action Plan and the development of a 3rd Ghana National Action Plan.</p>	<p>Participants conducted a comprehensive stocktaking of progress made under GHANAP II (2020–2025). Institutional presentations highlighted implementation gains and weaknesses.</p>	<p>The high-level workshop has significantly advanced Ghana’s transition toward the Third National Action Plan (GHANAP III) by aligning key stakeholders around a shared evidence base and clear strategic priorities. By validating progress under GHANAP II while candidly identifying persistent gaps, the process has strengthened accountability and sharpened the national focus on results.</p> <p>The engagement deepened multi-stakeholder ownership of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, fostering stronger collaboration among government institutions, security services, civil society, and development partners. This renewed coordination is expected to improve policy coherence, resource mobilisation, and implementation effectiveness under GHANAP III.</p> <p>Importantly, the workshop repositioned emerging risks — including climate-security linkages, regional spillovers, and youth vulnerabilities — within Ghana’s WPS planning architecture. This forward-looking approach enhances Ghana’s preparedness to respond to evolving peace and security dynamics.</p>

**Table 9c**

Conference/ Meeting/Retreat	Discussion	Key Outcome
<p>High-level dialogue on Framing Gender-Responsive Leadership In Peace Operations Approaches In NATO, The EU and The OSCE Brussels, Belgium 16 May 2025</p>	<p>Key Discussions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Defining and advancing gender-responsive leadership</li> <li>2. Embedding gender across institutional structures</li> <li>3. Lessons, good practices, and operational challenges</li> <li>4. Accountability and structural reforms</li> </ol> <p>Participants shared experiences from their organizations (EU, NATO, OSCE, AU, UN), discussing both successes and challenges in institutionalizing gender responsiveness and fostering meaningful participation of women in leadership roles.</p>	<p>The dialogue strengthened understanding of gender-responsive leadership across regional and alliance organizations, providing actionable insights for embedding gender considerations into operational and strategic decision-making.</p> <p>By sharing good practices and lessons learned, the interaction fostered institutional learning and promoted cross-organizational collaboration, equipping mission leaders with strategies to enhance women's participation and leadership in peace operations.</p> <p>Importantly, the dialogue reinforced the integration of gender expertise into all mission functions and highlighted the necessity of accountability mechanisms to ensure structural inequalities are addressed. This contributes to more inclusive, effective, and resilient peace operations across multiple operational contexts.</p>

<p>Youth4Peace Forum 27–29 May 2025</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthening youth engagement in peacebuilding</li> <li>2. Peer-led learning and strategy development</li> <li>3. Institutional support and integration</li> <li>4. Accountability, monitoring, and inclusivity</li> <li>5. Sustained political will, institutional reforms, and inclusive financing</li> </ol>	<p>The Youth4Peace Forum reinforced the central role of youth in driving peace and security across West and Central Africa. By fostering peer-led exchanges and strategic dialogue, the Forum equipped youth leaders with practical tools and approaches for implementing NAPs and Local Action Plans.</p> <p>Through recommendations on coalition-building, gender inclusion, legislative engagement, and resource allocation, the Forum advanced a shared agenda for institutionalizing youth participation in peace processes. It also highlighted the need for structured monitoring, annual reporting, and inclusive mechanisms to ensure no youth group is left behind.</p> <p>Ultimately, the Forum positioned young leaders as capable, determined agents of transformative peacebuilding, demonstrating that with political support, proper tools, and recognition, youth can lead sustainable and impactful change in their communities and beyond.</p>
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Conference/ Meeting/Retreat	Discussion	Key Outcome
The Global Youth Workers' Conference (GYWC)	<p>Discussions focused on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mainstreaming youth voices in peace processes</li> <li>2. Institutional approaches to youth empowerment.</li> <li>3. Persistent barriers to youth engagement, particularly limited funding for grassroots initiatives and the continued exclusion of marginalized youth groups from decision-making spaces.</li> <li>4. Innovative youth engagement tools, including mobile storytelling, WhatsApp-based civic education, and community-driven digital platforms as cost-effective mechanisms to broaden reach and participation.</li> <li>5. The importance of cross-sector collaboration, highlighting the need for stronger partnerships between state institutions, etc.</li> </ol>	<p>The conference reinforced KAIPTC's leadership in operationalizing the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) Agenda and generated momentum for more structured youth inclusion in peacebuilding processes.</p> <p>Specifically, the engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elevated KAIPTC's Youth Leadership and Peacebuilding Training Program as a credible capacity-building pipeline for young peace actors.</li> <li>• Strengthened multi-stakeholder collaboration, particularly between youth practitioners, security institutions, and development partners.</li> <li>• Promoted scalable digital innovations for grassroots peace education and civic engagement.</li> <li>• Catalysed policy attention toward formally embedding youth roles within national peace and security frameworks.</li> <li>• Reinforced the shift from dialogue to action, with a clear call for sustained mentorship, dedicated funding streams, and institutional reforms to support youth-led peacebuilding.</li> </ul>

Table 9d

Conference/ Meeting/Retreat	Discussion	Key Outcome
ECOWAS Regional Youth Conference, 2025.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deliberations were informed by extensive youth consultations conducted across Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Benin.</li> <li>2. Participants identified unemployment, skills mismatches, digital inequality, and limited access to education and economic opportunities as major barriers to youth development.</li> <li>3. Discussions stressed the urgent need to align education systems with labour market demands, expand entrepreneurship support, and close rural–urban development gaps. Particular attention was drawn to the exclusion faced by young women and persons with disabilities, reinforcing the call for more inclusive and targeted policy responses.</li> <li>4. Thematic panels further explored youth engagement in the green economy and digital innovation, as well as youth roles in security, governance, social protection, and health.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The process strengthened structured youth–policy engagement within the ECOWAS region by providing a credible platform for young people to influence regional development discourse. Outcomes from the national forums have directly shaped the Regional Youth Conference agenda and contributed to evidence-based, youth-driven policy recommendations.</li> <li>• The conference reinforced regional commitment to integrating youth priorities into ECOWAS development strategies and enhanced collaboration between youth actors and ministerial representatives. Importantly, it advanced a shared regional agenda for youth empowerment, inclusive economic participation, and strengthened youth roles in governance and peacebuilding, positioning young people as active partners in shaping sustainable development across West Africa</li> </ul>

Table 9e

Conference/ Meeting/Retreat	Discussion	Key Outcome
The ECOWAS National Training Workshop on The Prevention and Response To Gender-Based Violence (GBV) And Sexual Harassment	The workshop, organised by the ECOWAS Gender Development Centre, focused on strengthening institutional capacity to prevent and respond to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and sexual harassment.	<p>The major outcome was the development of a practical roadmap for GBV prevention and response across different sectors. Core results included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved knowledge and skills of participants to address GBV and sexual harassment</li> <li>• Agreement on establishing safer reporting and referral mechanisms</li> <li>• Commitment to stronger stakeholder coordination and partnerships</li> <li>• Proposed institution-specific action plans (schools, workplaces, informal sector)</li> <li>• Renewed regional commitment to gender equality and survivor protection</li> </ul> <p>The workshop moved beyond theory to action, producing concrete recommendations and strengthening collaboration to improve GBV prevention and response systems in Ghana and across the ECOWAS region.</p>

Table 9f

Conference/Meeting/Retreat	Discussion	Key Outcome
8th East Africa Youth Parliament, Arusha, Tanzania	Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) priorities in East Africa. Discussions were specifically on: Strengthening youth participation in peacebuilding and governance; Enhancing youth leadership roles in regional decision-making; Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR); Youth access to information and services; Digitisation and youth engagement; Leveraging technology for youth mobilisation, advocacy, and governance; Strengthening governance systems and leadership capacity	KAIPTC's technical support has contributed to strengthening the institutional effectiveness of the East Africa Youth Parliament, enabling youth leaders to engage more coherently in regional peace, governance, and policy processes.
National Youth Conference, Ghana	The National Youth Conference focused on youth leadership in national development, advancing Ghana's Youth, Peace and Security Agenda, and fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration to enhance youth participation in peace and governance processes.	KAIPTC's engagement advanced awareness, partnerships, and policy support for youth-led peacebuilding initiatives, contributing to more structured youth participation in Ghana's development and security discourse.

Table 9g

Conference/Meeting/Retreat	Discussion	Key Outcome
Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) Agenda for youth leaders and practitioners, Ghana	The workshop engaged youth leaders and practitioners in exploring the global, regional, and national Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) frameworks. Key discussions centered on challenges facing youth in peace and security, including unemployment, political manipulation, gender disparities, misinformation, and limited participation platforms	<p>KAIPTC provided technical leadership and facilitated the workshop using its Collaborative Problem-Based Learning approach, combining presentations, case studies, group work, and structured reflection tools. The Centre enhanced participants' understanding of the YPS agenda, strengthened youth capacity for advocacy and leadership, and guided the co-development of practical inputs for the NAP.</p> <p>KAIPTC's expertise fostered multi-stakeholder collaboration, reinforced the Centre's credibility as a knowledge hub, and catalyzed concrete commitments from participants to advance YPS initiatives at community, regional, and national levels.</p> <p>Impact:</p> <p>The workshop empowered youth leaders with knowledge, skills, and tools to actively contribute to peacebuilding and governance. It reinforced national ownership of the YPS agenda, strengthened partnerships, and laid the foundation for translating workshop outcomes into tangible actions for Ghana's YPS National Action Plan.</p>
WPS Regional Conference. Held in partnership with the UNODC and Women in Maritime in West and Central Africa (WIMOWCA), with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	The WPS conference, held under the theme "Advancing Women's Leadership and Inclusion in Maritime Security and Governance in the Gulf of Guinea for a Sustainable Future", provided a platform for the WPS 25th anniversary celebration on 6 and 7 November 2025.	Strengthened regional collaboration, raised awareness on women's leadership in maritime security, and produced actionable recommendations to advance gender inclusion in governance, policy, and decision-making processes.

Conference/Meeting/Retreat	Discussion	Key Outcome
Women in Maritime Security Conference  Monrovia, Liberia, on 12 and 13 November 2025	The conference, themed “Steering Towards Progress: Women’s Contributions to Maritime Innovation”, brought together stakeholders to identify barriers, address gender equity and harassment issues, and develop strategies for effective women-focused mentorship programs aligned with industry needs.	The conference raised awareness of challenges facing women in the maritime sector, fostered collaboration among stakeholders, and generated actionable recommendations to promote gender inclusion, mentorship, and leadership development for women in the industry.

## WOMEN, YOUTH PEACE & SECURITY INITIATIVES FOR 2026

SRL	ACTIVITY
1	Leadership training for grassroots women and queen mothers
2	Train 150 youth leaders across Africa on the foundational course on YPS
3	Technical support for the Development of National Action Plan on YPS for Ghana
4	Organise Trimester Webinars on YPS
5	Engagements at 2026 ECOSOC Youth Forum
6	Organise a dialogue on YPS
7	Participate in UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and stakeholder engagements
8	Organise one (1) webinar on the role of WPS & YPS agenda on climate change adaptation
9	Organise a Gender-sensitive leadership training in peacekeeping for Uniformed Women

## PHOTO GALLERY



## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4: ENHANCE THE FINANCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY OF KAIPTC THROUGH EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMES**

### **OVERVIEW**

The focal areas of action under this Strategic Objective are to

- Strengthen financial sustainability
- Develop and maintain infrastructure to support operations
- Build a productive, innovative, and well-incentivised workforce
- Enhance governance systems for efficiency, responsiveness, and long-term sustainability
- Consolidate gains to improve monitoring, evaluation, learning, and visibility
- Operationalise a robust M&E system to track impact and inform decision-making
- Leverage the alumni network and expand structured internship opportunities
- Promote innovation and technology to improve efficiency; and
- Develop market-responsive products to support resource mobilisation.

The activities outlined below advanced these priority areas under Strategic Objective 4.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

During the reporting period, the Centre strengthened the reliability and functionality of its critical infrastructure through the implementation of structured maintenance and upgrade measures. Regular servicing of essential systems, including power generation, water treatment, cooling, and electrical installations, significantly improved operational efficiency and reduced downtime across facilities.

Targeted refurbishment of key amenities, including washroom facilities within the VIP, Mess, and Administration areas, enhanced user experience and supported a more conducive working and learning environment.

Also, in line with its expansion and sustainability agenda, the Centre secured a 2.5-acre parcel of land for the development of a Campus Annex to accommodate

the growth of its academic programmes. Strategic civil works, comprising stormwater drainage systems, perimeter fencing, and access control infrastructure, have been undertaken to safeguard the site, mitigate environmental risks, and prevent encroachment.

Additionally, ongoing ground and rainwater harvesting initiatives have contributed to improved resource management and environmental sustainability.



## ENHANCED DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANDS E-LEARNING REACH

The Centre strengthened its digital training infrastructure in 2025 through the acquisition of advanced ICT equipment under the ECOWAS Peace and Security Architecture and Operations (EPSAO) Project, co-financed by Germany and the European Union.

The new equipment, comprising live-streaming systems and audiovisual tools, has significantly enhanced the Centre's e-learning capabilities, enabled the delivery of high-quality virtual training and expanding access to peace support operations courses across the region.

This upgrade has improved KAIPTC's ability to train civilian, police, and military personnel in critical areas such as gender, youth, security sector reform, early

warning, and elections. It also positions the Centre to scale up its virtual engagements, foster knowledge-sharing, and respond more effectively to evolving security challenges in West Africa.

Overall, the intervention has strengthened KAIPTC's role as a leading regional training hub by modernizing its infrastructure and increasing the reach, efficiency, and impact of its capacity-building programmes.

Additional digital infrastructure was provided through a strategic collaboration with the Government of Germany through UNITAR. This intervention has also enhanced system reliability and expanded access to modern digital learning tools, enabling more seamless delivery of virtual training programmes. Collectively, these improvements have reinforced the Centre's position as a leading institution for technology-enabled peace and security training.



### EXPANDED ALUMNI NETWORK STRENGTHENS REGIONAL PEACEBUILDING IMPACT

KAIPTC expanded its continental alumni network with the establishment of a second National Alumni Chapter in The Gambia, following the successful launch of the Sierra Leone chapter in 2024. This initiative has strengthened the Centre’s engagement with its alumni, transforming them into an active network of practitioners contributing to peace and security efforts across the region.

The chapter provides a structured platform for continuous professional development, knowledge-sharing, mentorship, and collaboration among alumni working in government, civil society, and international organisations. It has enhanced the Centre’s ability to sustain long-term impact beyond training by fostering a community of skilled professionals who actively promote peace, security, and good governance.

Overall, the intervention has reinforced KAIPTC’s institutional influence by leveraging its alumni as ambassadors and partners, thereby extending the reach and sustainability of its capacity-building efforts across West Africa.



## IGF GENERATION & SERVICE DELIVERY - TRANSLATION & INTERPRETATION UNIT

Translation & Interpretation recorded strong performance in 2025, delivering 91 translation assignments and interpretation services for 15 major events, thereby contributing to the Centre's internally generated funds (IGF). The Unit's dual service model, combining high-quality translation with real-time interpretation, positioned it as a reliable revenue-generating support function while enhancing programme delivery across the Centre.

Key Outcomes and Revenue-Supporting Activities included support to E-Learning Content Development, providing end-to-end translation and proofreading of course modules, enhancing the Centre's digital learning products and expanding their accessibility to a wider, multilingual audience.

Through real-time interpretation at workshops, courses, and conferences, the Centre enhanced participant engagement and learning outcomes while generating additional IGF. Its integrated approach ensured consistency in technical terminology and maximised resource efficiency across assignments.

## STUDY TOUR: KNUST E-LEARNING CENTRE – ADVANCING DIGITAL LEARNING AND REVENUE OPPORTUNITIES

A KAIPTC team conducted a two-day study tour at the KNUST E-Learning Centre, exploring cutting-edge digital learning technologies, innovative online education methods, and best practices. The engagement facilitated knowledge exchange and identification of collaborative opportunities, aimed at strengthening the Centre's digital learning capabilities across the training and academic programmes.

By leveraging insights from the visit, KAIPTC is positioned to enhance its e-learning offerings, making training and academic programmes more accessible, interactive, and marketable. These improvements are expected to increase uptake, broaden participant reach, and boost internally generated funds (IGF), contributing directly to the Centre's financial sustainability and strategic objectives.



## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO DRIVE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

As part of efforts to strengthen digital infrastructure and enhance institutional efficiency, the Centre, with support from GIZ and technical partners including Switzerland and UNITAR, established a Technical Committee on Digitalisation to coordinate and guide its digital transformation agenda.

A key outcome is the creation of a centralized mechanism to address longstanding gaps in IT governance, risk management, cybersecurity, and compliance. The Committee has strategic oversight and ensures there is a coordinated and systematic approach to digital reforms across the Centre.

The establishment of the committee responds to findings from a 2023 IT audit, which revealed that KAIPTC's core digital platforms, including its Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), Learning Management System (LMS), WebMo, and other systems, operate in silos. The Committee is therefore tasked with driving system integration, improving interoperability, and enhancing overall operational efficiency.

## ADVANCING FINANCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH DIGITAL LEARNING

In 2024, KAIPTC trained a total of 737 (512 males and 225 females) participants through its blended and fee-based eLearning programmes, significantly surpassing the Centre's annual benchmark of 500 participants. This strong performance reflects the growing demand for KAIPTC's digital learning offerings and the increasing relevance of flexible, technology-enabled training within the peace and security sector across Africa. The expansion of fee-based online training also contributed to the Centre's efforts to diversify revenue streams, strengthen cost-effective programme delivery, and enhance institutional resilience, thereby supporting KAIPTC's broader financial and institutional sustainability objectives.

In 2025, the Centre enrolled 408 participants (224 males, 184 females) across its online programmes. While this figure was affected by delays in the rollout of two high-value courses, the Protection of Civilians Course and the Advanced Level Women Leadership

Building on earlier interventions, including hardware upgrades supported by UNITAR, the Committee will oversee the updating of the IT audit and lead a comprehensive mapping of KAIPTC's digital ecosystem. This will enable the identification of critical gaps, system interdependencies, and opportunities for innovation and optimization.

The establishment of the Committee further reflects priorities identified through internal stakeholder consultations in 2024 and the April 2025 ECOWAS Capacity Needs Assessment, which highlighted digitalization as a key area for institutional strengthening. Through the Committee, the Centre has institutionalized a coordinated and strategic approach to digital transformation, aimed at improving system integration, operational efficiency, and the delivery of digital learning and administrative services.

Development Course, both are now scheduled for implementation in 2026 and are expected to contribute significantly to future enrolment targets and revenue generation opportunities.

Across both reporting periods, KAIPTC's eLearning initiatives reached a combined total of 1,145 participants, demonstrating the scalability, resilience, and growing impact of the Centre's digital training portfolio. As the unit continues to expand its course catalogue and strengthen its production capacity, eLearning remains strategically positioned to deepen KAIPTC's reach, improve operational efficiency, generate sustainable income, and reinforce its role as a leading provider of peace and security training across Africa.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5: STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS, COLLABORATIONS, AND VISIBILITY FOR PEACE AND SECURITY

### OVERVIEW

To achieve SO 5, the Centre is implementing targeted actions to enhance collaboration, visibility, and resource mobilization across Africa and beyond. These include forging and strengthening relationships with international organizations, African governments, regional bodies, and civil society to leverage funding, programmes, and expertise.

Others are organising forums, conferences, and side events that advance policy dialogue and innovative solutions in African peace and security; exploring exchange programs, secondments, internships, and technical assistance opportunities to build staff capabilities; fostering partnerships with non-state actors, including civil society, community leaders, women's groups, and youth organizations, to promote peace and security at the grassroots level; deploying insights and knowledge products from monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessments to enhance visibility and inform strategic partnerships; improving communication strategies, public diplomacy, and media engagement to showcase the Centre's successes and support resource mobilization efforts.

The following were undertaken as the Centre sought to strengthen its role as a hub for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and advocacy, advancing sustainable peace and security across Africa.

### KAIPTC ANNUAL RETREAT 2025: STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION AND WELL-BEING FOR STRATEGIC IMPACT

The Centre hosted its 2025 Annual Retreat at the beginning of 2025, bringing together staff from all seven departments to reflect, strategize, and reconnect ahead of the new year. Aligned with the Centre's new five-year Strategic Plan, the retreat emphasized collaboration, staff well-being, and strategic alignment.

The 2025 retreat introduced a transformative approach, prioritizing mental health and team cohesion as drivers of workplace productivity. Staff participated in stress management sessions and a variety of team-building activities, including corporate aerobics, competitive and non-competitive

games, quizzes, and treasure hunts. These activities strengthened interpersonal relationships, bridged departmental gaps, and enhanced a collaborative spirit across the Centre.

#### Strategic Alignment and Planning

Departments convened prior to the joint retreat to develop 2025 work plans, ensuring that operational objectives were addressed alongside broader goals of unity and collaboration. The retreat provided a platform to revisit the Centre's Strategic Plan, emphasizing capacity-building for ECOWAS, the African Union, and the UN; evidence-based research; gender equity and youth inclusion; sustainability through partnerships; and enhanced visibility to advance peace and security across Africa.

By the close of the retreat, staff left re-energized, equipped with stress management tools, and with a renewed commitment to KAIPTC's mission. The retreat reinforced the Centre's focus on investing in its most important asset, its people, ensuring that teams are motivated and empowered to drive the Centre's strategic objectives and partnerships forward.

The retreat set a strong foundation for collaboration, well-being, and strategic alignment, reflecting KAIPTC's commitment to both its people and its mission to advance peace and security across Africa.



## KAIPTC AND GIZ STRENGTHEN REGIONAL COLLABORATION THROUGH CAPACITY ASSESSMENT AND JOINT PLANNING

KAIPTC, in partnership with GIZ, took significant steps in 2025 to strengthen regional collaboration among ECOWAS and its Training Centres of Excellence (TCEs) through a Capacity Needs Assessment (CNA) and a Joint Operational Planning Workshop under the ECOWAS Peace, Security, and Governance (EPSG) Project.

As part of efforts to enhance institutional sustainability and effectiveness, GIZ conducted a Capacity Needs Assessment in early 2025 to identify gaps and opportunities across the TCEs. The preliminary findings were presented and discussed during a joint stakeholder workshop held in Abuja from 8–10 April 2025, providing a foundation for coordinated action.

Building on these insights, KAIPTC and GIZ convened a Joint Operational Planning Workshop to translate

the assessment findings into practical, results-oriented interventions. The workshop brought together KAIPTC, ECOWAS, and GIZ staff to identify priority areas for collaboration, including staff capacity building, digital transformation, inclusive governance, and policy dialogue.

Speaking at the workshop, Brigadier General Ziblim Ayorrogo, Deputy Commandant of KAIPTC, underscored the importance of co-creating strategies that reflect regional realities and institutional needs. Ms. Teresa Krafft, Head of Component, GIZ/EPSG Project, highlighted that joint planning is critical to ensuring sustainable and impactful outcomes.

The assessment and planning processes marked a significant step toward enhancing coordination, strengthening institutional capacities, and promoting a shared vision for peace, security, and good governance in West Africa. The initiative reinforces KAIPTC's commitment to working closely with ECOWAS, TCEs, and development partners to deliver impactful regional solutions.





*Cross section of participants from the GIZ Workshop in Abuja.*



## LEADERSHIP TRANSITION AND INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

The Centre (KAIPTC) marked a key leadership transition on 8 May 2025, as Major General Richard Addo Gyane ended his tenure as Commandant. His leadership (2022–2025) delivered significant institutional transformation, including infrastructure upgrades, enhanced IT systems, and improved training delivery capacity.

The Centre advanced financial sustainability through

the commercialization of courses, expanded academic programmes, and strengthened donor engagement. Institutional reforms elevated the Women, Youth, Peace and Security Institute to departmental status, and expansion of digital learning, reinforcing inclusive peacebuilding efforts.

The transition to Air Vice Marshal David Anetey Akrong underscores KAIPTC's commitment to strong leadership, continuity, and sustained impact in regional peace and security.



## STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AFRICAN UNION

KAIPTC deepened its strategic partnership with the African Union (AU) through a high-level engagement between Acting Commandant Air Vice Marshal David Anetey Akrong and AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, Bankole Adeoye, in June 2025.

The engagement reinforced collaboration under the existing KAIPTC–AU framework, resulting in concrete programmatic outcomes, including the co-organization of a continental training on women and youth in election observation, hosted at KAIPTC for

participants across Africa. The AU further committed to sustaining this training initiative at the Centre.

Discussions also advanced cooperation in emerging priority areas, particularly technology, artificial intelligence, and cybersecurity in peace and security. KAIPTC reaffirmed its contribution to AU policy platforms, including NETT4Peace and the Silencing the Guns initiative.

The engagement reflects strategic partnerships, high-level engagement, policy collaboration, and institutional positioning at the continental level. The engagement strengthened KAIPTC's role as a key continental partner in advancing inclusive and forward-looking peace and security responses.



## FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND GOVERNANCE REFORMS DISCUSSED AT HIGH-LEVEL BOARD MEETINGS

KAIPTC took significant steps to strengthen its financial sustainability, governance structure, and strategic positioning following its first High-Level Advisory Board Meeting with partners and the 47th Governing Board Meeting held in March 2025.

A key outcome of the meeting was a strong directive for KAIPTC to accelerate efforts toward financial self-reliance in response to growing global funding uncertainties. The Centre was specifically tasked to operationalize innovative revenue-generation strategies, including leveraging its Business Development Unit (BDU) to position KAIPTC as a preferred retreat and conference destination for government and institutional clients. This is expected to diversify income streams and reduce dependence on external donor funding.

The Board deliberated on the implications of the newly approved 2024 Presidential Charter, which integrates KAIPTC's academic programmes and the Ghana Armed Forces Command and Staff College (GAF CSC) under the National Defence University (NDU). This reform is expected to enhance institutional coordination, strengthen academic delivery, and align training with evolving regional security needs.

The Governing Board approved KAIPTC's 2025 operational budget and work plan, ensuring continuity in the delivery of its training, research, and policy engagement programmes across Africa. This provides a clear strategic and financial framework for

the Centre's activities in the year ahead.

The meeting addressed partner concerns regarding the deployment of trained personnel, with assurances that most KAIPTC-trained officers are deployed within six to twelve months, which reinforced the practical relevance and impact of the Centre's training programmes in supporting peace operations and security sector effectiveness.

KAIPTC reaffirmed its commitment to prudent financial management and accountability, emphasizing robust mechanisms to ensure that both donor and government resources are used effectively and for intended purposes. This is expected to sustain partner confidence and strengthen long-term collaboration.

The discussions underscored KAIPTC's growing strategic role in addressing regional security challenges in the Sahel and ECOWAS sub-region. The Centre is expected to adapt its programming and partnerships to remain responsive to shifting geopolitical and security dynamics. The meetings reinforced KAIPTC's transition toward a more financially sustainable, strategically aligned, and governance-strengthened institution, while maintaining strong partnerships and ensuring continued relevance in Africa's peace and security architecture.

A subsequent second High-Level Advisory Board Meeting and the 47th Governing Board Meeting were held in December 2025 to present the draft 2026 workplans and budgets, as well as the 2025 Monitoring Report, for approval.





## 2026 STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

The Centre convened a Centre-wide residential workshop in November 2025 to develop its 2026 Work Plan and Budget, in alignment with the 2024–2028 Strategic Plan. The workshop brought together Heads of Departments and senior staff to review institutional priorities, harmonize departmental plans, and ensure coherence with the Centre’s strategic objectives.

The planning process took place within a significantly constrained financial environment, marked by a sharp reduction in projected core funding. In response, Management introduced a new planning approach that prioritized financial realism and sustainability. This included the adoption of a two-tier framework consisting of a core work plan limited to activities with

assured funding, alongside a supplementary “wish list” of unfunded but strategically relevant activities.

Discussions highlighted the need for improved transparency in budget allocation, stronger communication between Finance and departments, and clearer cost-recovery mechanisms. Departments were also encouraged to explore internally generated funding, expand commercialized training and services, and strengthen business development efforts.

Overall, the workshop marked a significant institutional shift towards disciplined, results-oriented planning and a renewed focus on financial sustainability. The outcomes will guide the implementation of the 2026 Work Plan and support KAIPTC’s continued delivery of its mandate under constrained resource conditions.



## STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND HIGH-LEVEL ENGAGEMENTS

The Centre deepened its strategic partnerships in 2025 through a series of high-level engagements with key bilateral partners, reinforcing long-standing relationships and advancing resource mobilization efforts.

The Centre engaged the Government of Norway in discussions focused on sustaining and enhancing core funding support. These engagements provided an opportunity to share updates on institutional progress, align strategic priorities, and strengthen mutual understanding. As one of KAIPTC's earliest partners, Norway's continued commitment remained critical to the Centre's operational sustainability. The engagements also facilitated a smooth diplomatic transition, as the Centre bid farewell to H.E. Ingrid Mollestad and welcomed H.E. John Mikal Kvistad.

Similarly, the Centre hosted the new German Ambassador to Ghana, H.E. Frederick Landshoft, reaffirming Germany's longstanding support spanning over two decades. The visit reinforced Germany's continued commitment to KAIPTC's work across training, research, policy engagement, and infrastructure development, while strengthening avenues for future technical and financial collaboration.

In addition, the Centre welcomed the new Danish Ambassador to Ghana, H.E. Jakob Linulf, whose visit further consolidated the strong partnership between Denmark and KAIPTC, established in 2009. Discussions focused on key institutional priorities, including resource mobilization, commercialization of courses, and the integration of technology to scale training delivery. The engagement also highlighted opportunities to expand collaboration in areas such as maritime security training and regional peacebuilding initiatives.

Key Outcomes of the engagements include the following

- Strengthened strategic alignment with key bilateral partners on KAIPTC's priorities and direction.
- Sustained confidence and commitment from strategic funding partners, particularly Norway and Germany.
- Enhanced prospects for resource mobilization and diversified funding streams.
- Renewed and expanded partnerships to support innovation in training delivery, including digitalization and course commercialization.
- Reinforced KAIPTC's position as a trusted partner in advancing peace and security across the region.





## KAIPTC STRENGTHENS STRATEGIC INFLUENCE AND PARTNERSHIPS AT APSACO 2025

The Centre strengthened its strategic positioning and partnerships through active participation in the African Peace and Security Annual Conference (APSACO 2025), held from 19–20 June 2025 in Rabat, with support from the Norwegian Government.

The Commandant, Air Vice Marshal David Anetey Akrong, contributed to high-level policy discussions as a panelist on “Counterterrorism and Defense Policies in Africa: From Vision to Capacity.” His intervention highlighted the persistent gap between strategic ambition and operational capability, reinforcing KAIPTC’s thought leadership in advancing practical and context-responsive security solutions. He further amplified the Centre’s visibility through a special studio engagement at the Policy Center for the New South on “Rethinking Security in a Changing Africa.”

Key Outcomes from APSACO 2025 included the following

1. **Enhanced Strategic Visibility:** KAIPTC strengthened its profile as a leading African institution shaping policy discourse on peace and security.
2. **Expanded Partnerships:** The Centre deepened engagement with policymakers, research institutions, and civil society actors, opening pathways for future collaboration and joint programming.
3. **Knowledge Exchange and Policy Influence:** Participation facilitated the exchange of practical insights and emerging perspectives, informing KAIPTC’s research and training priorities.
4. **Alignment with Strategic Priorities:** Engagements reinforced the Centre’s commitment to addressing the governance - security nexus, in line with its Strategic Plan (2024–2028).

Through its participation, KAIPTC leveraged APSACO as a strategic platform to influence continental security dialogue, strengthen partnerships, and advance its mandate of promoting peace, security, and stability in Africa.





## **KAIPTC ADVANCES POLICY DIALOGUE AND PARTNERSHIPS AT ACHPR NGO FORUM**

The Centre reinforced its role in advancing governance and human rights discourse through active participation in the NGO Forum preceding the 85th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), held in Banjul.

KAIPTC played a leading role by hosting the opening panel on "Reimagining Partnerships and Governance for Reparative Justice in Africa." The session convened high-level policymakers, civil society actors, and regional stakeholders to examine governance reforms, transitional justice processes, and the role of partnerships in advancing reparative justice.

Through this engagement, KAIPTC strengthened its policy influence by contributing to continental discourse on reparative justice, governance, and human rights, while also deepening strategic partnerships with policymakers, civil society actors, and regional institutions. The discussions underscored the importance of inclusive governance,

women's leadership, and accountability mechanisms, reinforcing the Centre's commitment to promoting participatory and evidence-based approaches to justice. Furthermore, the Forum's deliberations contributed to the adoption of 11 thematic resolutions and 7 recommendations presented to the ACHPR, addressing critical issues such as civic space, environmental justice, abolition of the death penalty, and human rights education. This engagement also aligned with the African Union 2025 theme on "Justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations," further positioning KAIPTC as a key actor in advancing governance and policy advocacy across Africa.

The Centre's delegation engaged with commissioners, parliamentarians, and civil society organizations during the ACHPR public sessions, strengthening the Centre's visibility and networks. Notably, meetings were held with the All-Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) and a Parliamentary Delegation from Ghana, exploring collaboration in areas such as election observation, human rights training, and parliamentary engagement on peace, security, and governance.





## PARTNERSHIPS ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE STRENGTHENED IN NAMIBIA

From 11–15 November 2025, KAIPTC deepened its regional engagement on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) through a series of strategic stakeholder consultations in Namibia, conducted alongside a capacity-building programme. The engagements formed part of the Centre’s broader efforts to advance the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda and strengthen coordinated responses to GBV.

KAIPTC engaged a diverse range of stakeholders, including civil society organizations, traditional authorities, and government institutions such as the 4x4 Initiative Foundation for the Boy Child, the Khomanin Traditional Authority, Lifeline/ChildLine Namibia, and the Ministry of International Relations and Trade (Namibia). Discussions focused on assessing existing GBV prevention and response systems, identifying capacity gaps, and exploring opportunities for sustained collaboration.

Engagements with government counterparts further

advanced institutional cooperation, particularly in operationalizing the Memorandum of Understanding between KAIPTC and the International Women’s Peace Center (IWPC). The Acting Director of the Women, Youth, Peace and Security Institute (WYPSI) during discussions highlighted KAIPTC’s strategic priorities and capacity-building initiatives, reinforcing the Centre’s commitment to long-term partnership and impact.

Through these engagements, KAIPTC strengthened relationships with key national and community-level actors, identified critical gaps in GBV prevention and response, including limited resources, weak coordination, and inadequate survivor support systems, and promoted more integrated, community-driven approaches. The consultations also highlighted growing interest in youth-led initiatives and the engagement of men and boys as partners in addressing harmful gender norms, positioning KAIPTC to support more inclusive and locally grounded GBV interventions in the region.



Meeting with 4x4 Initiative for the boy child



Meeting with Khomanin Traditional Authority



## ENHANCED VISIBILITY OF KAIPTC ACTIVITIES

In 2025, the Centre significantly strengthened its visibility and strategic communications, resulting in expanded reach, increased stakeholder engagement, and enhanced institutional reputation.

The Centre recorded notable growth across its digital platforms, with increased followership and engagement on Facebook, LinkedIn, X, and Instagram. In addition, KAIPTC diversified its digital presence by revamping its YouTube channel and establishing a presence on TikTok, broadening its ability to connect with new and younger audiences.

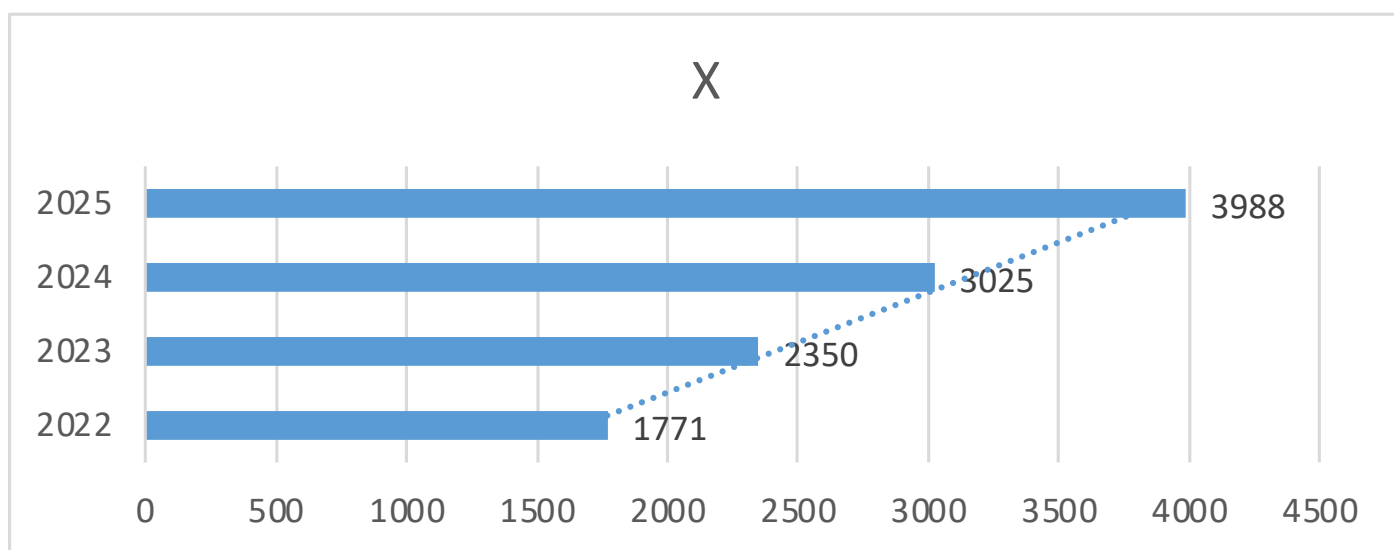
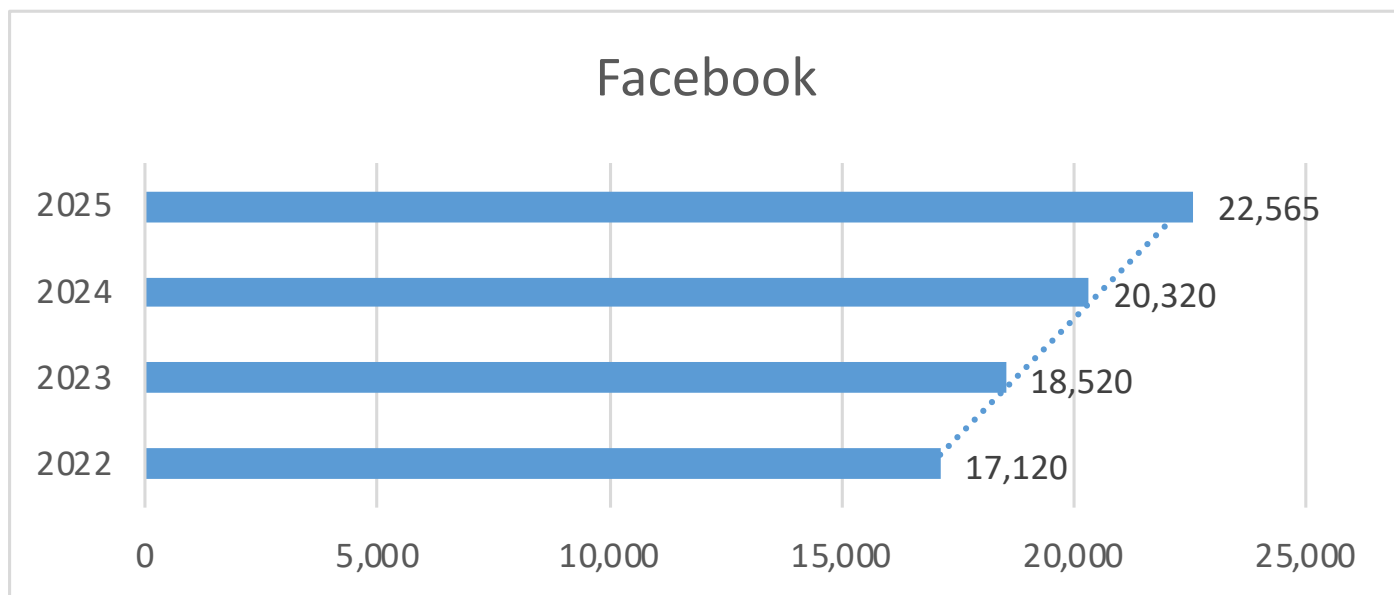
KAIPTC also achieved strong media visibility, with extensive coverage of its activities across local media

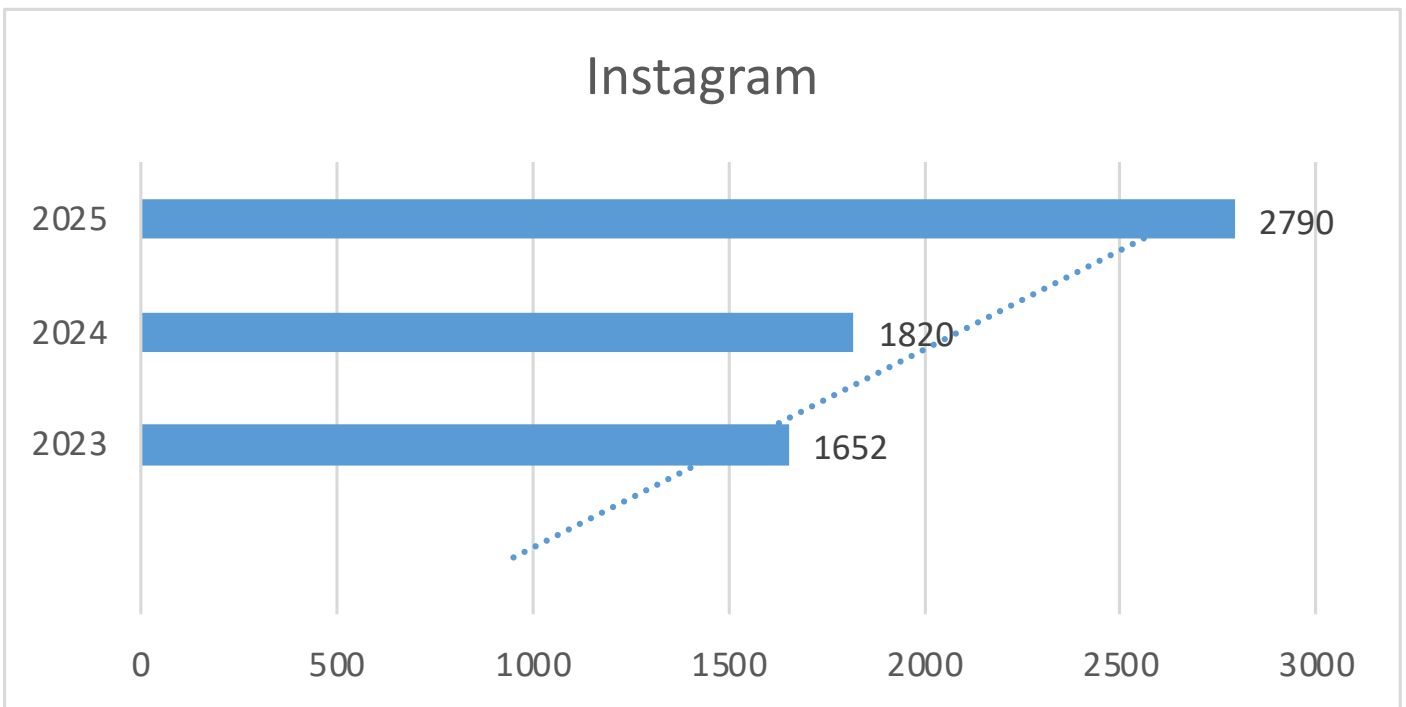
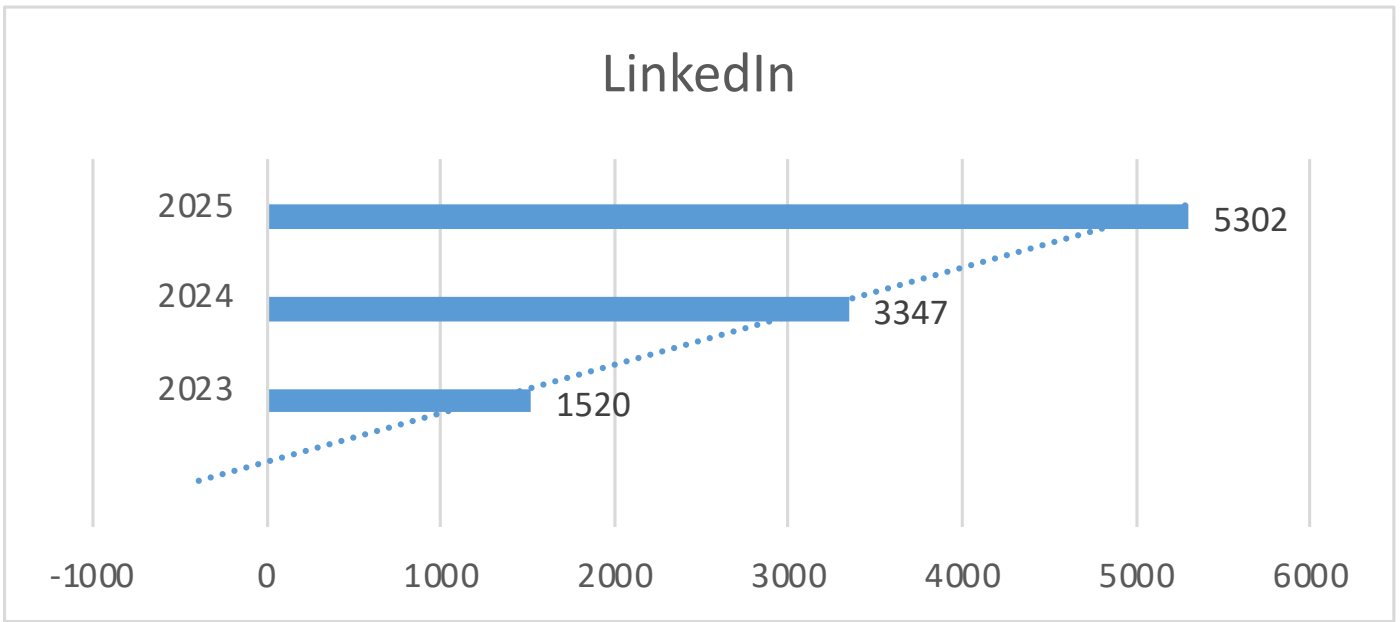
platforms. This sustained media presence contributed to keeping the Centre top-of-mind among national stakeholders and the general public.

These efforts have collectively led to:

- Increased public awareness and understanding of KAIPTC’s mandate and contributions to peace and security
- Strengthened credibility and institutional reputation within the peace and security ecosystem
- Enhanced positioning of the Centre as a leading voice and trusted partner in peacekeeping and security in Africa

The overall reach and performance of the Centre’s digital platforms, in terms of growth of followers in 2025, are illustrated in the charts below.





## VISITS TO THE CENTRE

The Centre leveraged high-level visits and stakeholder engagements to deepen awareness and understanding of its mandate and contributions to regional peace and security.

These interactions significantly enhanced the Centre's visibility and reputation among key stakeholders, while also strengthening partnerships, networks, and

collaborative relationships.

Importantly, the visits created concrete opportunities for future cooperation, including joint research initiatives, training and academic programmes, exchange and secondment arrangements, and the provision of technical assistance to build staff capacity. Below is the list of individuals and institutions that visited the Centre in 2025.

## BELOW IS THE LIST OF INSTITUTIONS THAT VISITED THE CENTRE IN 2024.

SRL	DATE	VISIT
1	29 JANUARY	THE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SCIENCE UNIVERSITY
2	31 JANUARY	A FRENCH DELEGATION LED BY LIEUTENANT COLONEL JEAN-DAVID PERIS
3	4 FEBRUARY	AN ISRAELI DELEGATION LED BY COLONEL AVIEZER SEGAL
4	20 FEBRUARY	THE NEW GERMAN DEFENCE ADVISOR LIEUTENANT COLONEL BORIS BOVEKAMP
5	24 FEBRUARY	A DELEGATION FROM US AIR WAR COLLEGE LED BY COLONEL THERESA E. WEEMS
6	4 MARCH	A DELEGATION FROM EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT
7	11 MARCH	A DELEGATION ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN MARITIME SECURITY IN THE GULF OF GUINEA LED BY MS MARIE GIBAT
8	21 MARCH	LT COL MARCUS OHM, GERMAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
9	29 JANUARY	THE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SCIENCE UNIVERSITY
10	31 JANUARY	A FRENCH DELEGATION LED BY LIEUTENANT COLONEL JEAN-DAVID PERIS
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16	21 MARCH	LT COL MARCUS OHM, GERMAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS)
17	3 APRIL	SOFIA HADELL PROGRAMME MANAGER, RESILIENCE PEACE AND SECURITY, SWEDEN EMBASSY, ADDIS ABABA.
18	28 APRIL	H.E ANGEL LOSSADA, SPANISH AMBASSADOR
19	30 APRILI	A DELEGATION FROM THE DALLAIRE INSTITUTE
20	12 MAY	THE AUSTRIAN COUNSELLOR

21	22 MAY	THE NIGERIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO GHANA
22	23 MAY	MR. EDEM BLEGE (UNOWAS, DAKAR)
23	29 MAY	DELEGATION OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE AND SECURITY FROM THE PARLIAMENT OF THE GAMBIA
24	3 JUNE	AIR COMMODORE OUSTRIC, FRENCH ARMED FORCES
25	16 JUNE	LT GEN WILLIAM AGYAPONG, GHANA'S CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE STAFF
26	17 JUNE	A DELEGATION FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES
27	24 JUNE	MS MITCH DUFRESNE, FORMER DIRECTOR, UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN SOMALIA (UNSOM)

## OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES & MITIGATION MEASURES OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

### 1. Funding Constraints and Resource Predictability

The Centre continued to face challenges related to the predictability and sustainability of funding, largely due to reliance on donor support. This affected long-term planning and the timely expansion of programmes.

### 2. Rising Demand Versus Institutional Capacity

An increase in demand for the Centre's training, research, and policy support services placed pressure on existing human, technical, and logistical resources, with implications for delivery timelines and staff workload.

3. Gaps in Digital Transformation and Systems Integration despite progress in advancing digitalisation, the Centre experienced limitations in fully integrating digital systems across training delivery, administration, communication, and knowledge management functions.

4. Limited Uptake of Research into Policy and Practice Ensuring that research output consistently informs policy and practice across member states and partner institutions remains a challenge, particularly in translating knowledge into actionable interventions.

5. Linking Visibility to Measurable Institutional Impact While visibility across traditional and digital platforms improved, systematically connecting communication efforts to measurable institutional impact and stakeholder influence remained an area for further strengthening.

## MITIGATION MEASURES

### 1. Strengthening Financial Sustainability and Resource Mobilisation

The Centre will prioritise the diversification of funding sources by expanding commercialised courses and fee-based services, while deepening engagement with non-traditional partners, including the private sector and philanthropic institutions. Efforts will also be made to secure multi-year funding agreements to enhance financial predictability.

### 2. Enhancing Institutional Capacity and Delivery Models

Measures will be implemented to expand the Centre's

pool of experts through structured faculty and resource person rosters, alongside targeted staff development initiatives. In addition, the Centre will scale up the use of blended and digital learning approaches to extend reach and ease pressure on physical infrastructure.

### 3. Accelerating Digital Transformation Efforts

The Centre will advance the implementation of a comprehensive digital transformation roadmap, prioritising the integration of key systems such as learning management platforms, stakeholder engagement tools, and internal workflow automation. Strategic technical partnerships will continue to support this process.

### 4. Strengthening Policy Engagement and Knowledge Translation

To enhance the uptake of research, the Centre will intensify policy engagement through targeted dialogues, stakeholder briefings, and strategic partnerships. Research outputs will be further repackaged into accessible formats to support wider dissemination and application.

### 5. Advancing Results-Based Communication and Impact Measurement

The Centre will develop and implement a results-driven Communication and Advocacy Strategy, supported by strengthened monitoring and evaluation frameworks. Greater use of data analytics will inform communication efforts and improve the measurement of institutional impact.

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