Reconciliation Act, the government decided to create District Peace Committees in all of Kenya's districts given the wide consensus among researchers and observers that the peace committees have successful reduced violence and enabled dialogue to address conflicts, especially in the pastoralist areas. The Kenyan government also set up four commissions to address the causes and consequences of electoral violence. The Office of the President published the National Policy on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management, including the lessons learned from the Post-Election Violence of 2008, at the end of 2011. However, the efforts to address the root causes of Kenyan's grievances had not been addressed by 2013.

In preparation for another round of potential electoral violence in 2013, a variety of Kenyan organisations mobilised to prevent violence again. The Uwiano platform brought together the government's National Cohesion and Integration Commission with the National Steering Committing on Conflict Management, the UN Development Programme and Peace-Net, a civil society network of more than 500 Kenyan NGOs. Uwiano set up an extensive campaign via media and mobile phone texting to provide citizens with a way of providing early warning signs or reporting violence and to match requests for help with appropriate response mechanisms including civilian rapid response teams as a first resort and to the military and police as a last resort.[71] The Uwiano Platform prevented over a hundred incidents of potential violence in the volatile Rift Valley region alone.

The underlying tensions between tribal groups in Kenya still exist and may even be increasing over time.[72] While prevention efforts successfully convinced people to reject violence as a method for obtaining justice in the short term, the broader grievances regarding land distribution and political power still fuel anger. The international community, actively waging a counterterrorism campaign in east Africa with the help of the current Kenyan government, has shied away from pressing for deeper political and land reforms needed to address the drivers of conflict. The International Criminal Court trials, while attempting to provide a sense of justice, may actually become the trigger for future violence if the ICC trials favour one tribe or another.

West Africa: Early Warning and Early Response

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) is a civil society-based peacebuilding network operating across West Africa. WANEP collaborates on peace and security programme with the Economic Community of West African states (ECOWAS) and the African Union. Its multi-stakeholder approach recognises the need to focus at the policy level as well as community peacebuilding. WANEP is the civil society partner of ECOWAS in the operationalisation of the ECOWAS Early Response Network (ECOWARN). WANEP has trained ECOWAS staff in early warning and conflict assessment, negotiation, mediation and dialogue skills as well as community engagement and civil-military coordination.

WANEP founded and now runs the West African Early Warning and Early Response Network (WARN) as one of its conflict prevention mechanisms. It aims to improve human security in West Africa by monitoring and reporting socio-political situations that could degenerate into violent and destructive conflicts. WARN informs policy makers on options for response on one hand and WANEP's response strategies on the other hand. The WARN programme of WANEP is the forerunner of the ECOWARN.

ECOWARN's regional focus has led to a complementary National Early Warning System (NEWS). NEWS is setting up community-based conflict monitoring systems with local monitors to produce conflict and peace assessment reports, early warning reports, and policy briefs which are widely disseminated to CSOs, governments, intergovernmental bodies, partners, and

The challenge:
Violence in one part of the region can spill over to violence in other parts.

Theory of change:
Create local, national, and regional capacity for early warning and immediate response from skilled mediators and peace teams.

UN agencies. WANEP's 15 national country-based networks developed and validated their indicators to ensure effective culturally sensitive conflict monitoring. Building on the success of Ghana's National Peace Council which established a civilian first resort to preventing and responding to violent conflict, WANEP is working to building a national architecture for peace that builds a coordination system between security forces, governments and civil society to prevent and respond to conflict.[73]

The WANEP partnership with the Kofi Anan Peacekeeping Training Center in Ghana and WANEP's West African Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI) offer opportunities for WANEP staff to provide training to West African security forces from ECOWAS and the African Union, in addition to its training for civil society organisations and state institutions. WANEP trains new security officers to "know" human security, and what their role in achieving this is. WAPI offers a specific training for the security sector, where people in the army and police may attend WAPI through scholarships. The courses aim to discuss what conflict is and what causes it; security sector participants come to see how civilians view conflict and the role of security services.

Photo 41: Civil society meeting. Photo Credit: CC/Flickr

Senegal: The Armée-Nation as Indigenous Model for Peace

Written with Teresa Crawford, Hugh O'Donnell and Partners West Africa

In 2009, Partners West Africa (PartnersGlobal Affiliate based in Dakar, Senegal), made an innovative move in its work on human security when it hired Colonel Birame Diop, a colonel in the Senegalese Air Force and scholar and practitioner in the field of security in West Africa. Seconded by the Ministry of Armed Forces to Partners, Colonel Diop first served as the Director for Partners Africa Institute for Security Sector Transformation. During his three years with Partners Colonel Diop served as a bridge across the civil-military divide by hosting seminars on the role of military in society, as well as how the military and civilian populations in West Africa can cooperate.

As Director of the African Institute for Security Sector Transformation (AISST) Colonel Diop addressed the lack of integration of security sector actors (military, police, border patrol and intelligence services) into civilian authority structures and systems (legislative, executive and judiciary) in West Africa. AISST began with an initiative to capture the best practices and strategies for strong civil-military relations in West Africa.

The challenge:
The army had a history of violent relations with the public.

Theory of change:
Bring the security sector together with civil society to jointly develop a new model for civil-military relations.

Working in collaboration with AISST, the results of the initiative produced the report *Senegal's Armée-Nation: Lessons Learned from an Indigenous Model for Building Peace, Stability and Effective Civil-Military Relations in West Africa.*[74] Recognizing the profound challenges of development, and its relationship to security, Senegal's armed forces play key roles in supporting the development of the country – from health to education to vital infrastructure development. Senegal's top military leadership credits the military's good relationships with the population and its roles in development as responsible for Senegal's relative peace and stability compared to its neighbours. AISST