From Protection to Prevention: Sustaining Peace Through Community-Led Action in Africa

Summary Report



Date: 21 April 2026
Venue: UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa, Addis Ababa (Hybrid)
Hosts: United Nations Development Programme and Nonviolent Peaceforce

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I. Introduction

Held at a time of mounting global instability, rising military expenditure, and declining investment in prevention and peacebuilding, the policy dialogue "From Protection to Prevention: Sustaining Peace Through Community-Led Action in Africa" brought together practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and peacebuilding actors to examine how Africa's peace and security agenda can move beyond reactive crisis response toward sustained, community-led prevention.

Convened jointly by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Service Centre for Africa (RSCA) and Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP), the dialogue explored how community-based protection and peacebuilding mechanisms are already functioning in some of Africa's most fragile and conflict-affected settings. Drawing on field experience from Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Cameroon, and regional policy perspectives, the event challenged traditional assumptions that peacebuilding can only begin after conflict mediation or formal political settlements.

The dialogue was framed against the backdrop of the UN Secretary-General's New Agenda for Peace, the Pact for the Future, the African Union's Agenda 2063, the revised AU Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development Policy, and the Silencing the Guns initiative. Participants emphasized that while normative frameworks for prevention already exist, implementation remains constrained by chronic underinvestment, institutional fragmentation, and a continued preference for reactive crisis management.

A strong consensus emerged throughout the discussion: local communities, particularly women, youth, displaced populations, and community-based organizations, are not passive recipients of protection but are often the first responders and primary agents of peacebuilding in contexts of insecurity. Participants stressed that prevention, protection, and peacebuilding must therefore be understood as interconnected and continuous processes rather than separate sequential phases.

The policy dialogue also highlighted the growing relevance of community-led and nonviolent approaches such as Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP), community early warning systems, trauma-responsive engagement, and local mediation structures. These approaches were presented as practical tools capable of reducing violence in real time while simultaneously strengthening social cohesion, trust, and resilience.

Ultimately, the dialogue underscored the urgent need to bridge the gap between policy commitments and operational realities by increasing investment in prevention, strengthening local ownership, and integrating humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding approaches from the onset of crisis.

The dialogue was attended by more than 40 participation in-person and more than 100 online. The participants represented peace-building practitioners, CSOs, the AU, UN-agencies, academics, and the diplomatic corps, mainly from African countries.

II. Opening Remarks

Dr. Matthias Naab

Director, UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa



Dr. Matthias Naab opened the policy dialogue by welcoming participants and reaffirming UNDP's commitment to advancing integrated and forward-looking approaches to prevention and peacebuilding across Africa. He noted that the event, jointly organized with Nonviolent Peaceforce, reflected a broader effort to connect policy, practice, and partnerships in response to increasingly complex conflict realities across the continent.

Framing his remarks within the context of growing geopolitical instability, Dr. Naab highlighted the widening imbalance between global military expenditure and declining development assistance. Referencing recent international data, he noted that global military expenditure had risen sharply while Official Development Assistance (ODA) and humanitarian financing continued to decline. At the same time, debt burdens, rising food prices, climate pressures, displacement, and inequality were intensifying fragility across multiple regions of Africa.

He emphasized that these crises are deeply interconnected and particularly visible across the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, and the Great Lakes region, where intercommunal violence, armed group proliferation, environmental stressors, and weak state institutions reinforce one another. Yet despite these challenges, Dr. Naab pointed to the emergence of localized resilience and innovation, arguing that communities themselves are increasingly developing adaptive and sustainable responses to insecurity.

Dr. Naab stressed that prevention lies at the core of UNDP's mandate and must be understood fundamentally as a development imperative rather than solely a humanitarian or security concern. He underscored that inequality, exclusion, weak governance, and lack of economic opportunity are among the structural drivers of conflict and that these issues must be addressed before they escalate into violence.

Drawing on the UN's New Agenda for Peace and African Union frameworks such as Agenda 2063 and AU's revised Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development policy, he emphasized that prevention is already embedded in continental and global normative agendas. However, despite strong evidence that prevention is significantly more cost-effective than crisis response, investment in prevention remains extremely limited.

Dr. Naab further argued that traditional linear approaches to peacebuilding no longer reflect the realities of protracted conflict. Communities do not experience humanitarian response, protection, and peacebuilding as separate phases, but simultaneously. Therefore, peacebuilding must begin during crises rather than after their resolution.

A central theme of his remarks focused on local ownership. He emphasized that women, youth, and community actors are often the first line of defense against violence and therefore must be positioned at the center of prevention strategies. While local initiatives have proven effective in

building trust and reducing violence, they remain underfunded and insufficiently integrated into broader policy and financing frameworks.

Concluding his remarks, Dr. Naab reaffirmed UNDP's commitment to strengthening partnerships, supporting community-led prevention efforts, and advancing sustainable peace across Africa.

III. Framing the Conversation

Ms. Lesley Connolly

Regional Policy and Advocacy Manager (African Union), Nonviolent Peaceforce



Ms. Lesley Connolly provided the opening framing for the discussion by challenging conventional approaches to peacebuilding and humanitarian response. She emphasized that the dominant international model continues to treat humanitarian action, protection, mediation, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding as sequential and disconnected phases. However, in practice, communities living in protracted crises experience these realities simultaneously.

She argued that waiting for formal political settlements before investing in peacebuilding delays recovery, weakens resilience, and allows cycles of violence to deepen. Instead, she stressed the need to recognize peacebuilding as a continuous process that begins from the earliest signs of crisis.

Drawing on Nonviolent Peaceforce's field experience, Ms. Connolly highlighted how communities across fragile settings are already engaging in violence reduction, local mediation, trust-building, and protection efforts during active conflict. She particularly emphasized the leadership role played by women and youth in sustaining social cohesion and community resilience.

Ms. Connolly also introduced Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP) as a practical approach that combines immediate civilian protection with long-term peacebuilding objectives. She explained that UCP relies on relationship-building, protective presence, local mediation, trauma-responsive engagement, and violence de-escalation rather than armed intervention.

She concluded by emphasizing that African leadership and locally grounded approaches will be essential in reshaping how prevention is understood, financed, and operationalized across the continent.

IV. Panel Discussion: From Protection to Prevention

Moderator: Ms. Nirina Kiplagat, Governance and Peacebuilding Coordinator, UNDP RSCA



The panel discussion brought together practitioners and policy experts from Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, and regional research institutions to explore how community-led protection and peacebuilding approaches function in active conflict settings.

Rather than treating prevention and peacebuilding as post-conflict activities, the panelists collectively argued that these processes must begin during crises and remain grounded in local realities.

Panelists

1. Mr. Anselme Muzalia Wimye, Area Project Coordinator, Nonviolent Peaceforce DRC
2. Mr. Chris Ogbonna, Head of Programme, Nonviolent Peaceforce Sudan
3. Ms. Surayo Buzurukova, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Sudan (online)
4. Mr. Christian Acheleke, Executive Director, Local Youth Corner Cameroon (online)
5. Mr. Jesutimilehin O. Akamo, Coordinator, Research and Policy Analysis Unit, Africa Peace and Security Programme (APSP), Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS)

Prevention as a Development and Governance Imperative

Several panelists emphasized that violent conflict is fundamentally linked to governance failures, exclusion, inequality, marginalization, and weak institutions. Prevention was therefore framed not only as a security concern but as a structural development imperative.

Participants stressed that current international responses remain overly reactive, with resources often mobilized only after violence has escalated and institutions have already weakened or collapsed. This pattern, they argued, perpetuates cycles of displacement, humanitarian dependency, and social fragmentation.

The discussion highlighted the need to move beyond fragmented humanitarian-development-peace approaches toward integrated responses capable of addressing root causes while simultaneously responding to immediate protection needs.

Community-Led Action and Local Ownership

A recurring theme throughout the panel was the importance of local ownership. Panelists consistently emphasized that communities are not passive beneficiaries of international support but active agents of protection and peacebuilding.

Women, youth, religious leaders, displaced populations, and local civil society organizations were identified as central actors in violence prevention and social cohesion efforts. Participants noted that community-based initiatives often succeed because they are contextually grounded, trusted locally, and capable of adapting quickly to changing conflict dynamics.

Panelists also stressed that outside actors should support existing local protection mechanisms rather than attempting to externally impose solutions. However, despite their effectiveness, local initiatives remain chronically underfunded and insufficiently integrated into national and international policy frameworks.

Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP)

The panel devoted significant attention to the role of Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP) as a practical and scalable prevention approach.

Drawing on experiences from Sudan and the DRC, representatives from Nonviolent Peaceforce explained that UCP operates through nonviolent methods such as protective presence, accompaniment, local mediation, trauma-responsive engagement, and relationship-building.

Panelists emphasized that UCP challenges traditional assumptions that security depends primarily on armed responses. Instead, it focuses on reducing violence through trust, local legitimacy, and community-based protection mechanisms.

Experiences shared from active conflict settings demonstrated that UCP can operate effectively even in volatile and rapidly changing environments where formal peace agreements are absent.

Rethinking Linear Approaches to Peacebuilding

Panelists strongly challenged the assumption that humanitarian response, mediation, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding occur in linear sequence.

Several speakers emphasized that communities experience protection needs, trauma, displacement, and governance failures simultaneously. Therefore, peacebuilding cannot be postponed until after violence subsides.

The discussion highlighted the need for prevention efforts to begin early and continue throughout crisis cycles. Trauma healing, local mediation, social cohesion, and violence reduction were described as essential components of sustainable prevention strategies.

Youth and Women as Peace Actors

The role of women and youth emerged as a major cross-cutting theme throughout the discussion.

Panelists stressed that women and young people are often disproportionately affected by conflict while simultaneously serving as frontline responders, mediators, and organizers within communities.

Participants called for greater investment in women-led and youth-led peace initiatives and argued that prevention strategies will remain incomplete unless these actors are fully integrated into decision-making processes and financing mechanisms.

Structural Barriers and Financing Challenges

Participants identified fragmentation between humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding systems as a major obstacle to effective prevention.

Separate donor streams, institutional mandates, and implementation timelines often create operational silos that undermine integrated responses. Panelists argued that while normative frameworks supporting prevention already exist, financing and implementation continue to lag behind.

The discussion repeatedly returned to the imbalance between rising military expenditure and declining investment in prevention and peacebuilding. Participants stressed that without sustained and flexible financing for local prevention initiatives, the international community will continue to spend significantly more responding to crises than preventing them.

V. Audience Reflections

The audience engagement session generated a dynamic exchange around the operational, political, and financial dimensions of prevention and community-led peacebuilding.

Prevention Financing and Donor Priorities

Several participants raised concerns regarding the persistent underfunding of prevention and peacebuilding despite growing evidence of their effectiveness. Questions were raised about why international financing systems continue to prioritize reactive humanitarian interventions over early action and locally driven prevention.

Participants also discussed the need for more flexible funding mechanisms capable of supporting adaptive, community-based initiatives operating in rapidly changing environments.

Integrating Humanitarian and Peacebuilding Approaches

Audience members reflected on the structural separation between humanitarian action and peacebuilding. Participants questioned how institutions can better operationalize integrated HDP nexus approaches in practice rather than merely at policy level.

The discussion highlighted the importance of ensuring that immediate humanitarian interventions do not unintentionally undermine long-term resilience and social cohesion.

Local Ownership and Community Trust

Several interventions focused on the importance of trust and legitimacy in prevention efforts. Participants noted that community-led initiatives often succeed because they are rooted in local realities and social networks.

At the same time, questions were raised about how international actors can better support local leadership without co-opting or distorting community processes.

Youth Engagement and Political Inclusion

Participants also highlighted the importance of meaningful youth participation in governance and peacebuilding processes. Several interventions emphasized that youth exclusion, unemployment, and political marginalization continue to fuel instability across multiple contexts.

Audience members called for stronger pathways to integrate youth-led organizations into both national prevention strategies and international financing mechanisms.

Measuring Prevention Impact

A recurring question concerned how to better demonstrate the effectiveness of prevention and community-led peacebuilding to donors and policymakers.

Participants stressed the importance of improving evidence generation, documentation, and communication around prevention outcomes to strengthen political and financial support for early action.

VI. Key Recommendations

Across the discussion, participants identified several strategic and operational priorities for strengthening prevention and community-led peacebuilding across Africa.

Strategic Recommendations

- Increase financing for prevention and peacebuilding through dedicated and flexible funding streams that prioritize early intervention and community-led approaches.
- Institutionalize integrated humanitarian-development-peace nexus programming to break down silos between humanitarian response, civilian protection, development, and peacebuilding sectors.
- Scale up Unarmed Civilian Protection models as viable prevention tools in fragile and conflict-affected settings.
- Strengthen local ownership by directing greater resources toward women-led, youth-led, and community-based peace initiatives.
- Improve alignment between regional and national policy frameworks and field-level implementation.
- Promote political advocacy to reposition prevention as both an economic and operational priority.
- Integrate trauma healing, psychosocial support, and social cohesion into prevention frameworks.
- Strengthen evidence generation and communication on the measurable returns of prevention investments.

Immediate Operational Priorities

- Expand partnerships between UNDP, Nonviolent Peaceforce, civil society organizations, and local governance actors.
- Mainstream prevention into crisis response from the onset of emergencies.
- Increase donor flexibility to support adaptive and community-based interventions.
- Strengthen linkages between grassroots innovation and policy-level decision-making.

VII. Conclusion

The policy dialogue concluded with a strong and growing consensus that prevention and peacebuilding can no longer be treated as secondary or post-conflict activities.

Participants repeatedly emphasized that communities living through conflict do not experience humanitarian response, protection, and peacebuilding as separate phases. Instead, these processes occur simultaneously and must therefore be addressed through integrated, continuous, and locally grounded approaches.

The discussion reaffirmed that local communities, particularly women and youth, are already leading efforts to reduce violence, rebuild trust, and sustain resilience in some of Africa's most fragile environments. However, these efforts continue to face major political, institutional, and financial constraints.

Participants agreed that the international community already possesses sufficient normative frameworks to support prevention, including the UN's New Agenda for Peace, the Pact for the Future, AU Agenda 2063, the revised AU Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development framework, and the Silencing the Guns initiative. The central challenge now lies in implementation, financing, and operational integration.

The dialogue ultimately called for a decisive shift away from reactive crisis management toward sustained investment in prevention and community-led peacebuilding. Participants stressed that prevention must begin from the earliest signs of crisis and continue throughout conflict cycles rather than waiting for formal peace agreements or post-conflict recovery phases.

The event concluded with a renewed call for political commitment, operational innovation, and sustained partnerships capable of moving prevention from rhetoric to action and placing communities at the center of Africa's peace and security future.

Annexes

- Annex I: Concept note
- Annex II: Agenda
- Annex III: Bios

Annex I: Concept Note

FROM PROTECTION TO PREVENTION: SUSTAINING PEACE THROUGH COMMUNITY-LED ACTION IN AFRICA

A Joint Policy Dialogue hosted by UNDP and Nonviolent Peaceforce

Tuesday, 21 April 2026

15:00–17:00 (Addis Ababa / EAT)

Hybrid — UNDP offices, Addis Ababa, with online participation

English and French (simultaneous interpretation)

Background and Rationale

Conflict prevention is widely recognised as the most cost-effective way to reduce violence, as reaffirmed in the United Nations (UN) New Agenda for Peace and the UN Pact for the Future. According to the UN-World Bank Pathways for Peace report, every dollar invested in prevention saves sixteen in crisis response - yet prevention remains chronically underfunded. Only 2% of ODA across eight countries in the Sahel, Sudan, and Somalia was directed toward peacebuilding over a ten-year period, while humanitarian aid constituted up to 50% of ODA in extreme fragile settings. Global military expenditure reached USD 2.7 trillion in 2024, while humanitarian financing collapsed to its lowest level in a decade. On the normative front, the African Union's broader peace and security framework, including the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and the Continental Early Warning System (CEWS), formally commits to conflict prevention, yet in practice the tools deployed remain largely reactive.

This sustained underinvestment has made Africa home to some of the world's most complex and protracted conflict environments. From the Sahel to the Horn of Africa, from the Great Lakes Region to the Lake Chad Basin, civilians face overlapping crises: intercommunal violence, armed group proliferation, state fragility, the spread of violent extremism and the erosion of traditional protection structures, affecting mostly women and youth. External support is shrinking, and humanitarian space continues to contract. The OECD's States of Fragility 2025 identifies 61 contexts globally with high or extreme fragility, home to 2.1 billion people - a disproportionate share of them in Africa.

Yet even as prevention is neglected, reactive humanitarian responses are becoming the default, and peacebuilding is assumed to be only a subsequent endeavor. However, the assumption that peacebuilding follows crisis mediation, then peacekeeping, then peacebuilding - does not reflect the realities of protracted conflict, as recently recognized in the updated African Union Policy on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development. There is growing recognition across the humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus that communities do not experience crisis and

recovery as linear phases. Protection, trust-building, and the repair of social cohesion work are already happening in the midst of insecurity, often led by women, youth, and community structures. Waiting for crises to end before investing in peacebuilding does not just delay recovery; it prevents a serious and sustainable engagement by addressing the root causes of violence. While emergency humanitarian responses are crucial to keep people alive in the immediate term, an investment in them alone will not work to interrupt the cycles generating the violence.

Hence, this moment calls for African leadership and for alternative ways of thinking about how emergencies are engaged, recognizing specifically the key role played by youth and women on these news of thinking. Wars are more protracted, more fragmented, and more deeply embedded in social, political, and economic systems. If Africa is to take greater ownership of its peace and security future, it must also rethink the tools it relies on, particularly the long-standing separation between emergency response, peace keeping and peacebuilding.

Drawing on field experience from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Cameroon and Sudan, this policy dialogue will explore both the possibility and the necessity of building peace while responding to an emergency conflict context or protracted crisis and examine how approaches such as Unarmed Civilian Protection; community early warning and response systems; and community-level peace structures function as real-time violence reduction and peacebuilding tools. Particular attention will be given to how these approaches adapt across different phases of conflict, how they interface with formal institutions and contribute to broader peace architectures, what enables them to take root in contexts of acute insecurity, and how they can be sustained. This will be done considering the relevant of the Youth and the Women, Peace and Security agendas.

Objectives

This policy dialogue has three objectives:

1. To examine the evidence that community-led protection and peacebuilding approaches can and do function in emergency contexts: Drawing on field experience from DRC(namely from Eastern DRC), Cameroon, and Sudan, demonstrate how local actors are already bridging the gap between emergency response and longer-term peacebuilding, namely women and youth-led organisations, and what enables this work to take root.

2. To interrogate the structural barriers (political, institutional, and financial) that keep humanitarian, protection, and peacebuilding work separate: And to explore practical entry points for greater integration within policy and funding frameworks.

3. To contribute to a shift in how African leadership, regional institutions, and international partners think about and invest in prevention: Moving away from the linear, reactive model toward approaches that recognise peacebuilding as a continuous, community-led process that must begin from day one of signs of a crisis, not after it ends.

Annex II: Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

- Dr. Matthias Naab, Director, UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa

Opening Framing

- Ms. Lesley Connolly, Regional Policy and Advocacy Manager (African Union), Nonviolent Peaceforce

Panel Discussion

- Mr. Anselme Muzalia Wimye, Area Project Coordinator, Nonviolent Peaceforce DRC
- Mr. Chris Ogbonna, Head of Programme, Nonviolent Peaceforce Sudan
- Ms. Surayo Buzurukova, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Sudan
- Mr. Christian Acheleke, Executive Director, Local Youth Corner Cameroon
- Mr. Jesutimilehin O. Akamo, Coordinator, Research and Policy Analysis Unit, APSP, IPSS

Moderator

- Ms. Nirina Kiplagat, Governance and Peacebuilding Coordinator, UNDP RSCA

Annex III: Bios

Nonviolent Peaceforce

UNDP

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FRAMING REMARKS

Ms. Lesley Connolly
Regional Policy and Advocacy Manager (African Union), Nonviolent Peaceforce

Lesley Connolly is the Regional Policy and Advocacy Manager at Nonviolent Peaceforce, where she leads the organization's engagement with the African Union and regional bodies to advance unarmed civilian protection (UCP) and community-centered approaches to peace and security. Based in South Africa, Lesley works to bridge the gap between grassroots protection efforts and continental policy processes, with a focus on strengthening civilian components in AU peace operations.

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PANELIST

Mr. Anselme Muzalia Wimye
Area Project Coordinator,
Nonviolent Peaceforce DRC-

From a background of civil society activist, Anselme Muzalia Wimye is a peacebuilding practitioner with twenty years of experience that allowed him to develop and apply diverse skills across various fields and themes, play a critical role in developing and implementing peacebuilding programs in the DRC mainly with Search for Common Ground. Working in the context of the DRC, Wimye interacted with multiple actors including local communities, civil society groups, national institutions, NGOs and INGOs, and UN agencies, and media, navigating themes such as governance, Protection of Civilians, deliberative democracy, natural resources related conflicts, human rights, environment, energy transition and critical minerals, the issue of gender-based violence addressed cross-cuttingly from the perspective of positive masculinity, child protection, trade for peace, youth participation in peace processes through the UN's Agenda 2250, Women Peace and security, the DRC security sector reform, dialog with armed groups and DDR that led to the actual national program (PDDRCS).

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PANELIST

Ms. Surayo Buzurukova,
Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Sudan (online)

Surayo Buzurukova bridges the critical gap between crisis response and sustainable transformation as Deputy Resident Representative for Programme at UNDP Sudan, where she leads initiatives that integrate humanitarian response, development programming, and peacebuilding frameworks. Her career spans two decades of working in multiple regions-from post-conflict transitions in Southeast Asia to protracted crises in the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa-positioning her uniquely to navigate the interconnections between political dynamics, institutional development, and sustainable change. Central to her approach is the humanitarian-development-peacebuilding nexus-a strategic framework enabling organizations to respond with greater coherence and systemic impact during protracted crises. She specializes in institutional resilience, rule of law advancement, and the structural conditions necessary for sustainable transformation in fragile and conflict-affected settings. Buzurukova's thought leadership extends to bridging the gap between immediate stabilization needs and long-term institutional development, ensuring that near-term interventions reinforce rather than undermine enduring governance frameworks.

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PANELIST

Mr. Chris Ogbonna,
Head of Programme,
Nonviolent Peaceforce
Sudan

Chris Ogbonna serves as Head of Program at Nonviolent Peaceforce in Sudan. He has over 15 years of experience working on peacebuilding, deradicalization, and reintegration programs across West and Sub-Saharan Africa. He has previously worked as the Head of Program Implementation and Head of Program Quality for Search for Common Ground and International Alert, respectively, in the Lake Chad Basin. As a Development Communication expert and with several certifications in Trauma Healing and Psychosocial Support, Chris has a passion for setting up and mentoring local and community-based organizations that work on peacebuilding, mental health and psychosocial support, and unarmed civilian protection. He holds a PhD in Development Communication and an MSc in Governance and Development.

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PANELIST

Mr. Christian Acheleke
Executive Director Local Youth Corner Cameroon (Online)

Achaleke is a multi-award-winning peacebuilding and violent extremism expert with over 17 years of experience working as a practitioner, researcher, and academic. He is a pioneer youth leader in the advocacy and advancement of the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) Agenda since 2013 and was part of the global advocacy team for the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2250 and subsequent resolutions. Achaleke has served in several advisory and leadership roles globally, including as the African Union Youth Ambassador for Peace representing Central Africa from 2022 to 2024. As the Executive Director of Local Youth Corner Cameroon, a national youth-led organization, he has led the implementation of over 600 projects in peacebuilding and related fields.

His work has earned several recognitions, including the Luxembourg Peace Prize (2018) and the Commonwealth Young Person of the Year (2016). He has also been featured five times on the list of the most influential young Africans.

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PANELIST



Mr. Jesutimilehin O. Akamo (MNIIA)
Coordinator, Research and Policy Analysis Unit, Africa Peace and Security Programme (APSP), Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS)

Jesutimilehin O. Akamo is the Coordinator of the Research and Policy Analysis Unit of the African Peace and Security Programme (APSP) at the Institute for Peace and Security Studies. He is also the Youth Focal Person of the Institute. He obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, and is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Modern War Studies at the University of Buckingham. Jesutimilehin is also a member of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA). The scope of his research interests broadly encompasses the following areas: peace and security interventions in Africa, peacebuilding, democratisation, theories of international relations, and African contributions to the philosophy of technology.