



International Peace Support Training Centre Nairobi, Kenya

REPORT OF IPSTC RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM 2016 GENDER IN PEACE SUPPORT OPERATIONS



Held at The Central Lecture Hall (CLH), Westwood Park Road, Karen Nairobi, Kenya
On 25 November 2016

Creating an Enabling Environment for Peace and Security in Eastern Africa

IPSTC RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM 2016 REPORT

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Participants pose for a Symposium Group Photo

Executive Summary

The mission of the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) is to be an independent Eastern African research, training and education centre in Eastern Africa that is responsive to peace operations training and education needs of the African Peace and Security Architecture. The research conducted at IPSTC covers a broad spectrum ranging from Conflict Prevention, Conflict Management to Post Conflict Reconstruction.

Each year, IPSTC focuses on a Research Agenda that will not only inform but also enhance the promotion of peace, security and stability in Eastern Africa and Africa as whole. In 2016, the Research Agenda was ***“Creating an Enabling Environment for Peace and Security in Eastern Africa”***.

The Symposium was held on the 25th of November 2016 with the aim of presenting research papers on Gender issues in Peace Support Operations focusing on Security Sector Reforms, and Cross Border Communal conflicts. The case studies focused on Kenya and Ethiopia. The intercepts between gender, peace and security has received wide international focus since the adoption of the UNSCR 1325. Literature identifies need for continued research at macro and micro level. The Centre, through its Gender Policy commits to promote the application of the United Nations Security Council mandate under Resolution 1325 on women peace and security across the entire spectrum of peace operations. Undertaking research is one way towards achieving this commitment.

The research papers presented were peer reviewed by a panel of distinguished discussants as well as invited guests comprising of academicians and Subject Matter Experts in these two areas of research. They made recommendations on improving the research papers and on future research topics that would inform the 2017 research agenda. This report succinctly documents the activities of the Symposium.

1. The Symposium Concept

The International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) is a training and research institution whose focus is capacity building at strategic, operational and tactical levels for peace operations within the context of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). The research at IPSTC contributes to capacity building of Peace Support Operations (PSO) and responds to the PSO needs in the region.

The Peace and Security Research Department (PSRD) at IPSTC, is charged with the responsibility of conducting research on peace and security issues in Eastern Africa. The department has produced a number of Occasional papers and issue briefs over the last 7 years. The publications focus on Conflict Prevention, Conflict Management and Post Conflict Recovery.

The Research Department at IPSTC undertakes research for two main purposes:

- a. Informing Policy at various levels and the design of training curricula to support peace support operations; and
- b. Contribute to the debate towards the enhancement of regional peace and security.

Every year the PSRD begins its calendar by formulating an agenda to inform its activities as one of its key responses to emerging issues in conflict, peace and security in Eastern Africa. This is done through a Research Agenda workshop. The IPSTC research agenda 2015 featured thematic areas related to women, peace and security and understanding emerging conflict trends, dynamics and the response strategies and mechanisms.

In 2016, the Centre has undertaken to conduct research on various proposed topics as part of the 2016 Research Agenda, whose overarching theme is: *“Creating an Enabling Environment for Peace and Security in Eastern Africa”*.

The IPSTC Research Symposium on Gender in Peace Support Operations was organized to provide a forum for peer reviewing, and discussing pertinent knowledge gaps in the research findings on the topics below:

- *Cross Border Conflict and Gendered Implications on Local Communities: The Case of Kenya – Ethiopia Border*; and
- *Assessing Gender Mainstreaming in Security Sector Reform in Kenya: The Case of National Police Service*.

The research conducted was peer reviewed by Subject Matter Experts drawn from academic experts and relevant stakeholders in order to ensure that the research conducted by the centre was not only relevant and implementable, but also addressed the 2016 research agenda.

The symposium was aimed at:

- Consolidating views from stakeholders including but not limited to practitioners and academia that will inform the centre’s research;
- Serving as a platform for dissemination of the results of the research conducted;
- Strengthening networks of collaborations with different organizations, institutions and partners in peace and security; and
- Serving as a forum for the Research Department to identify possible Research Areas for the subsequent year

1.1 Objectives of the Research Symposium

The symposium was aimed at fulfilling the following objectives:

- a. To guide activities carried out by the research department;
- b. To serve as a platform for dissemination of the results of the research conducted;
- c. To consolidate views from stakeholders including but not limited to practitioners and academia that will inform the centre's research;
- d. To provide a structured response to the development partner's priorities; and
- e. To provide a basis for evaluating the performance of the department.

1.2 Expected Outcome

The symposium was intended to have four major outcomes:

- a. To provide critical input to the research products in order to improve substantive output;
- b. To serve as a platform for sharing lessons learnt over the period of research;
- c. To strengthen networks of collaborations with different organizations, institutions and partners in peace and security; and
- d. To serve as a platform for sharing ideas on emerging issues on peace and security;

1.3 Participants

The symposium brought together distinguished representatives from different institutions of Higher learning, Regional Economic Mechanisms, Regional Think Tanks, and Non-Governmental Organisations.

1.4 Venue and Date

The workshop took place at the International Peace and Training Support Centre, Westwood Park Road, Karen, Nairobi, Kenya on 25 November 2016.

1.5 Methodology

The researchers of the Peace and Security Research Department (PSRD) presented their key research findings. The findings were thereafter peer reviewed by distinguished academic experts and participants present.

2. Publications by IPSTC

The Peace and Security Research Department is responsible for among other things, the production of applied research products related to peace and security policy in Eastern Africa.

Applied Research is one of the major branches of the Peace and Security Research Department at IPSTC, which seeks to provide intellectual input to inform theory and practice through training, and policy formulation on peace and security.

The Centre has made considerable contribution in training and research on peace support operations issues across Eastern Africa through design of training curriculum, field research and publication of Occasional Papers, Issue Briefs and most recently the publication of the Africa Amani Journal.

Occasional papers are the centre's research products aimed at informing the IPSTC training as well as policy on regional peace and security. The Occasional papers are produced annually and consist of research papers developed by the centre's researchers. The Centre's *Issue Briefs* are quarterly short discussion papers which are demand led aimed at shedding more light on current peace and security issues in the region, but do not involve field research as occasional papers.

The Africa Amani Journal launched in December 2014, anchored on the strong desire of the IPSTC to share findings of peace and security research, as a way of diversifying and improving the centre's research products. The Journal is heavily backed up by the research in peace that the centre continues to undertake through its Peace and Security Research Department.

The purpose of the journal is to report on critical research findings that continue to impact peace and security in the region. The journal also expands the Centre's horizons in sharing knowledge and best practices in peace and security. IPTSC seeks to ensure that the Journal will be the key medium for scholars in Africa to exchange cutting edge knowhow on emerging peace and security trends and dynamics. The sharing of knowledge will boost the IPSTC standards of research in peace and security.

The Centre strongly encourages all relevant stakeholders in peace and security and those from related disciplines to contribute to the development of this very crucial academic instrument.

3. Opening Remarks



Col Modest Kombo, the Head of Research began by welcoming guests and briefly highlighting the significance of the symposium. Col. Kombo summarised the functions of the centre and informed participants of the strides that the centre had made in developing as a leading research centre, by outlining the history of the research centre. He explained that the purpose of the symposium was to implement the centre's core mission to conduct applied research, training and education of military, police and civilian personnel in all aspects of peace operations.

Col Kombo informed participants that the key objective of the Peace and Security Research Department was the production and dissemination of knowledge on emerging peace and security issues in Africa. This symposium would enable the centre an opportunity to improve and refocus its research on areas that would produce the most effective results and outcomes.

He further stated that the mission of IPSTC was to conduct applied research, training and education of military, police and civilian personnel in all aspects of peace operations. In addition, Col. Kombo highlighted the history of IPSTC in order to enable the audience to better understand its mission and objectives.

Col Kombo concluded by introducing the moderator of the symposium Professor Timothy Gatara. Professor Gatara provided greater insight into the two research papers and encouraged the need for active participation in evaluating the relevance of the research papers and the research questions and objectives of each paper. As the moderator of the workshop, Prof Gatara guided the events of the workshop.

Col Kombo finally invited the Director Brigadier Patrick Nderitu to make his welcoming remarks and to officially declare the symposium opened.

4. Welcoming Remarks

Brigadier Patrick Nderitu –Director, IPSTC



UN Women Representative, Discussants, Distinguished guests, Ladies and gentlemen. I am delighted to welcome you today to the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) for this important occasion. It is a great honour to host so many distinguished guests from various sectors, Governmental and Non-Governmental, who are concerned with regional peace and security. I do hope that you will enjoy your time here.

At the beginning of this year, IPTSC together with experts such as you developed a research agenda for which we began implementing immediately. Five areas of research were prioritized. Of these, three have been addressed in the form of issue briefs and two as occasional papers. Today we will peer review the two occasional papers our researchers have worked on. The purpose of this symposium is to bring together academic and peace and security researchers with shared interests in issues related to women and peace building with the aim of disseminating IPSTC research findings to wide range of actors, receiving critical input of improving the research products and ultimately/strengthening networks with like-minded institutions and individuals.

In spite of growing efforts to raise awareness and knowledge of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 of the year 2000 on Women, Peace and Security among international actors and national institutions, many still struggle with applying a gender perspective to peace and security.

The importance of gender is often underestimated and its potential to influence peace and conflict seldom recognized. The interests, roles and rights of all gender groups are still not equally considered or used especially in conflict and security situations. Understanding gender and the connections between gender identities and violent conflict is key to designing effective peace and security strategies and programmes.

Our deliberations therefore today will focus on these areas of regional importance. I hope that you will examine what our researchers have come up with and provide them with valuable input to improve their final products. I am sure the topics they have researched on will provide insights on regional peace and security.

At this juncture, I would like to most sincerely thank the Government of Japan and UN Women (Kenya) for sponsoring these research activities.

Last but not least, I wish to thank our invited guests for joining us in this very special event.

I wish you all a productive and stimulating symposium.

5. Presentation of Research Papers

Three researchers from the Peace and Security Research Department (PSRD) presented the two papers. Members of the audience were requested by Symposium Moderator Professor Timothy Gatara to keenly make observations and note the important issues raised by the presenters, in order to effectively critique each presentation during the plenary session.

5.1 Assessing Gender Mainstreaming in Security Sector Reforms in Kenya: The Case of the National Police Service

Presenters: Col Donatien Nduwimana and Dr. Eunice Njambi



The National Police Service is the main institution in charge of maintaining public order, protection of life and property, and responding to different forms of insecurity faced by men, women, girls and boys. Clear policies and codes of conduct are needed, in order for the police service to be effective and efficient. This can be achieved through Security Sector Reforms (SSR) and gender responsive approaches. The concept SSR was introduced 10 years ago by the United Nations. This study was conducted in five Counties which included Nairobi, Nakuru, Isiolo, Kisumu and Mombasa.

Statement of the Problem

Globalization, radicalization, a growing youth population, increasing levels of poverty and inequality, have transformed the complex context in which the National Police Service operates. The Constitution of Kenya 2010 gave momentum for reforms in the National Police Service. The current Revised Police Reforms Program Document 2015–2018 is a continuation of the previous Program Document 2011–2014. Kenya National Police Service, reforms prioritized the improvement of policing and security as fundamental prerequisites of economic growth and peace building. The comprehensive gender mainstreaming into NPS activities and programs of SSR is critical to ensuring local ownership, effective delivery of justice and security services, and strengthened inclusion, oversight and accountability. A gender responsive approach to SSR recognize that men, women, girls and boys have different biological characteristics and social roles which leads to different security needs and priorities.

Objectives of the Research

- To examine Gender Mainstreaming achievements in Security Sector Reform Programs of NPS; and
- To identify challenges and opportunities of enhancing Gender Mainstreaming in NPS

Research Questions

- What are the Security Sector Reforms achieved in NPS?
- How has the Security Sector Reforms program incorporated gender issues in NPS?
- What are the challenges and opportunities for Gender Mainstreaming in NPS?

Justification

The integration of gender issues into SSR is recognised as providing a variety of concrete benefits, including local ownership, effective delivery of security and justice services and enhancement of human rights observation

The integration of gender issues into SSR programmes contributes to the operational effectiveness of NPS. It therefore helps to ensure that benefits from the reform process are cascaded across the gender divide.

The adequate representation of women in security institutions is crucial to ensure peace, to build trust, ownership and act on gender specific concerns such as GBV and SGBV.

Research Methodology

This study used various data collection tools namely Key Informant Interviews (KII), and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) with the main respondents being County Police Commanders. An exit survey was conducted to establish client satisfaction with the police services. A total of 15 KIIs, 5 FGDs and 100 exit survey interviews were conducted.

Conceptual Framework

The research paper was premised on the theoretical assumption that gender equality is necessary for effective security sector reforms. Secondly, *Gender equality is a human right*. This is supported by various international instruments such as The Convention on the elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), The Declaration on elimination of Violence against Women and The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Gender equality is a democratic principle. Democracy requires equal Participation of all people and discrimination undermines this principle. In addition, *Gender Equality is Fundamental for the Rule of Law*. Gender based Discrimination Violates the requirement for Equality before the law. Finally, *Gender Equality is Essential to effective and Accountable of Security provision*. A security Sector that practices discrimination in neither effective nor accountable.

Literature Review

Different models national and international frameworks gender policies were reviewed and analysed. They included:

The Equality model: This model focuses on gender inequality in the public sphere and seeks to address allocation of positions within a given hierarchy (Rees, 2005).

The Positive action model: This model is based on positive action towards women. The basic assumption is that

women/men starts from an unequal position & should be compensated for it to reach equality, (Rees, 1998).

The Transformation model: Gender Mainstreaming is assumed to transform institutions, organizations and their hierarchies and feminise the mainstream (Rees, 1998:41, 46, Wallaby, 2005b). Transforming involves designing programmes and projects informed by knowledge of the diversity of needs of potential participants (Rees, 1998:46).

Conclusion

NPS has undertaken deliberate efforts to roll out gender sensitive programs including gender desks, models of gender friendly service delivery points and in considering gender in operational activities. However Despite these important efforts in gender mainstreaming, the NPS still facing internal and external challenges that hinder the effectiveness of service delivery on gender issues. The lack of gender balance and its implications still affecting the development of Gender Mainstreaming practices in National Police Service

To manage these challenges and achieve Gender Mainstreaming goal, NPS need to embrace existing opportunities including the on-going SSR, all national gender laws and Acts of parliament as well as the level of awareness of the Kenyan community.

Recommendations

- Harmonisation of National Police Service basic trainings for the Administrative Police and Kenya Police for enhancing unity and operational effectiveness and efficiency
- Establish capacity building (knowledge, skills, authority & resources) measures that will enhance women's progression into decision making positions in NPS and increase the current level of the one third rule
- Merger of the forces to avoid duplication of work and waste of resources
- Launch and disseminate the gender policy at all levels of service delivery
- Increased community based education on SGBV legal procedures to enhance Gender Mainstreaming service delivery and community policing
- Scale up Gender friendly service delivery models to all police county headquarters to improve efficiency and effectiveness of gender based services
- Establish professional psycho-social support at the county level to manage psychological trauma
- Enhance partnership with stakeholders dealing with gender, research, peace and security (UN Women, IPSTC) for scaling up gender mainstreaming

5.2 Cross Border Conflict and Gendered Implications on Local Communities:

The Case of Kenya – Ethiopia Border

Presenters: Dr Eunice Njambi and Maj. Geoffrey Misiiani



The Kenya-Ethiopia border has faced historical conflicts emanating from communities along the border. These communities have ethnic, social, economic and political relations, despite the conflict, which has resulted to hundreds of deaths, displacements, abduction and loss of livelihoods (Kumssa et al., 2011). Marsabit County border with Ethiopia stretches over 500 km from Moyale to Illeret at the top of Lake Turkana. Moyale is basically two towns in one; the smaller Kenyan Moyale and the bigger Ethiopian Moyale. It's strategically located, has a vibrant regional flourishing trade. The main objective of the study was to analyse the cross border conflict and gendered implications. In addition assess the conflict; nature, dynamics, and suggest gender transformative approaches for addressing the conflict.

Statement of the Problem

The causes of Moyale-Kenya and Moyale-Ethiopia border conflict are complex and intertwined. Despite the abundance of information on the conflict, gender implications of the conflict are not adequately addressed. This is critical in peace and conflict studies, since it highlights the needs of men, women, boys and girls and provides guidance for appropriate response and interventions, (Kumssa et al, 2011; Huka 2014).

Research Objectives

- To analyse the cross border conflict and gendered implications on local communities the case of Moyale Kenya/ Ethiopia border
- Assess the nature and dynamics of the cross border conflict.
- Evaluate Community Conflict management Strategies.
- Explore gender transformative approaches for addressing the conflict.
- Analyze determinants of gendered implications in cross border conflicts.

Justification

Conflicts have negative implications & disastrous effects, (Kumsaa et al, 2011). Despite the abundance of information on Moyale and the Kenya-Ethiopia border conflict studies on the region rarely analyse gender implications.

Literature Review

Conflict is perceived to be essentially a difference of opinion, but it extends to the presence of violence and intolerance, Search for Common Ground (2013).

Most of the studies on conflict focus on generic causes, effects and impacts of the conflict on local communities without due consideration of gender dynamics, (Pavanello & Levine, 2011), (Huka , 2014) & (Kumssa et al, 2011).

Methodology

A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted using both quantitative and qualitative data collection methods. 300 household heads participated in the study and were drawn from 14 villages both in Kenya (Bunye, Goromuda, Heilu, Manyatta, Odda, Sessi, Township) and Ethiopia (Ola Wako, Shawbare, Talemado, Olla Wako, Chamuk, Waqa Dhogo, Aba Golle, Bolle).

Conclusion

Nature and dynamics of Moyale cross border conflict are complex and the actors involve all genders. The community has established traditional Early Warning Systems with measurable indicators and the men are mostly involved. Early Warning Systems are not linked to conflict management. The ranking of the first five variables determining gendered implications during cross border conflict includes: conflict pattern, region, level of conflict, cause of conflict.

Recommendations

Program and Partnership: National and County governments should strengthen Early Warning Systems and link them to conflict management and also enhance joint social cultural events to promote peace building.

Policy: Review the peace building policy and develop strategic paper that will be age specific for in and out of school children and youth. Develop strategic policy paper to focus on community based peace building activities for the out of school youth, young adults and women who are mostly affected by the conflict.

6. Discussant Remarks

After the Centre's researchers had made oral presentations on the research papers, Prof. Gatara invited the discussants to comment. The discussants were:

- a.) Dr. Connie Mumma-Martinon; and
- b.) Dr. Sally Wangamati

6.1 Dr Connie Mumma-Martinon - *Assessing Gender Mainstreaming in Security Sector Reforms in Kenya: The Case of the National Police Service*



To begin with, IPSTC Applied research focuses on policy issues related to conflict prevention, management and post conflict recovery. Therefore, any research conducted must help policy makers think critically, ask critical questions, anticipate and interrogate issues and existing mechanisms.

Minor changes in the document included the need to capitalise words such as the “UN”, mentioning of words in full such as SSR and moving from just defining key concepts to “**operationalization**” of these key concepts. There was also a lack of consistency in abbreviation such as with the word Chapter. In addition, the research paper had quite a number of sweeping statements such as:

- *In many countries SSR policies fail to involve men and women pg. 16. (Which countries are these?)*
- *Men who experienced armed violence in pg. 16. Who are these men?*
- *The Kenyan Government has always ensured the existence of comprehensive legal environment, e.g.?*
- *Many international policies have fundamentally shifted the basis for Kenya National policing, like which ones?*
- *New constitution or latest pg. 18. (Which is which?)*

Substantive Changes

- ***Introduction - Need for research questions***

Instead of just giving the objectives, have a number of research questions at the introduction, which then you answer in the Paper e.g.

- *What is gender mainstreaming?*
- *Why gender mainstreaming?*
- *Which are the SSR in NPS related to gender mainstreaming?*
- *What are the gender mainstreaming practices in SSR programs? / what are the existing mechanisms that ensure that this happens?*
- *What are the challenges and opportunities in enhancing gender mainstreaming in NPS?*

We must acknowledge the fact that integrating gender dimension in the domain of “hard security” has been a major challenge for the international community. Even today, still many countries reject the notion that gender equality has a decisive role to play in making our world more secure for everyone, men and women alike.

To create a basis for this study, we must hear the voice of the UN at the global level and the AU at the continental

level (What does the UN say through its many security council Resolutions? Is there need for proper implementation of the UNSCR 1325?).

The research paper should also indicate what the AU says about, The Gender Parity Principle AU (50/50 % policy) – 2002, The Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA) – 2004, The Agenda 2063 – 2013 and The AU five-year Gender, Peace and Security Programme 2014 etc.

The Objectives should clearly indicate whether it was examining gender-mainstreaming achievements, practices or whether it was investigating mechanisms in place to ensure gender mainstreaming. The objectives as currently stated are unclear.

The paper only gives a policy justification for the research and not an academic justification. The paper must state what other scholars have said about this issue to create an academic gap to fill. The researchers selected five counties of study, but there is no explanation or justification as to why these five counties have been selected and not others. 100 men and 51 women were interviewed, but it is unclear how this number came about. What was the selection criterion? It would be useful to give different clear categories of people interviewed starting from those most important for this study.

The theoretical framework must be re-examined. Theories are meant to explain a phenomenon and help in the understanding of the study. In this study, different theories/ approaches have been mentioned, i.e. Realists and Neo-realist approaches, feminist approach etc, but no proper explanations has been given. What are the assumptions of these theories? What are their limitations? To what extent does each help us in understanding the study? There are also different models there (pgs. 22 – 23), but no link to the theoretical framework or to the conceptual framework. In the conceptual framework the dependent and the independent variables must be clear and well explained.

The literature review failed to review continental frameworks (AU). This should be done in a chronological manner beginning with International instruments, continental, regional and national.

Other Challenges that need to be addressed include:

- *Conceptualization of key terms;*
- *Measurement of mainstreaming and feedback;*
- *The criteria/yardstick used for measuring mainstreaming;*
- *Determination of the right moment and stage of mainstreaming;*
- *The different biases and stereotypes against women;*
- *The social dimensions of gender and the link between what happens in the society and how this impacts positively or negatively on what happens within the police force; and*
- *The capacity of the NPS to fully carry out the mainstreaming in each county and within the time frame required.*

Recommendations

The research paper must be clear and practical. The paper should focus less on theoretical recommendations and focus more on practical recommendations that can be implemented by policy makers. For this particular study, we should look beyond the police force into the community/Society at large since there are many external influences that might make some of the things being proposed not viable.

6.2 Dr. Sally Wangamati: *Cross Border Conflict and Gendered Implications on Local Communities: The Case of Kenya – Ethiopia Border*

The Study is relevant and will contribute to knowledge in various disciplines – gender, women and security, development. However, the topic should be situated within a certain context for instance, leadership, security, socio-



economic development, health, and agriculture among others. The researchers should consider the topic cross border conflict and gender implications on local leadership, security, socio-economic development/ health/agriculture among communities on Ethiopia-Kenya Border

In the introduction, the research should unpack gender implications in a specific context and should seek to address the changing roles of gender power relations. In addition, it should highlight the different levels of participation and how gender affects the access to and control of resources and decision-making in the

communities. The justification of the research should clearly indicate whether there are policy or academic gaps. It has failed to do so.

The objectives have concentrated more on the conflict itself without linking it to gender implications. This is a rich area that needs to be tapped into. The objectives must address the gender implications. How does the nature and dynamics of conflict affect the different genders? What are the gender dynamics and implications of this nature of conflict?

The literature review should probe more books on gender and more so on African scholars. It should also critique and identify important gaps that show the need to conduct the research. The theories must be relevant to the problem that the research seeks to address and must inform the study.

The methodology of the research needs to clearly spell out the target population, sample size, sampling techniques of the research in order to enhance clarity and outcomes.

The research findings should be geared towards influencing policy and contributing to knowledge. It must clearly articulate how it is linked to other researches in the region. The findings should also be interpreted effectively. The paper also lacked qualitative findings, which would have been useful in addressing the gender dynamics.

Some Suggested Areas of Focus include:

- *Masculinity theme in post conflict phase;*
- *Link between changing roles and gender power relations;*
- *Conflict and its influence on participation;*
- *Changing spaces for both male and female; and*
- *Challenges faced by both gender in various phases of conflict*

The study did not bring out the importance of the role of different genders, how they participate, the challenges, the efforts made and why it persists as a problem. This would set the tempo for the research and makes people interested in that particular work.

7. Summary of Plenary Session

After the presentation of the research papers by the centre's researchers and the remarks by the discussants, the participants were divided into groups of three for purposes of further critiquing the proposed topics. The feedback generated by these three groups on the proposed topics occasional papers would enable centre to improve on the overarching theme as well as the topics proposed by taking into account the responses of anticipated readers.

The audience were expected to answer the following pertinent questions:

1. *Give five suggestions on how the research topic can be improved; and*
2. *Given the state of peace and security in the region, suggest five priority areas for future research.*

Plenary discussions centred on questioning not only the research but their relevance, their link to the overarching theme and the research gaps that needed to be filled. Some of the issues raised included:

- Gender Mainstreaming must be contextualised when it comes to the National Police Service. For example, focus other on service delivery and how gender mainstreaming is achieved through the service charters, the structures, the capacity of the officers and the gender desks. The study was too broad and failed to address pertinent issues. The study should have various thematic areas.
- The research on Kenya-Ethiopia cross-border conflict should highlight key factors such as the factors that influence and increase conflict in this area? What are the policy gaps that have failed to address this conflict and why? Who are the conflicting parties?
- Both research papers failed to effectively and adequately conceptualise and operationalize gender. Men are also a gender also impacted upon on gender related issues. Masculinities have not been interrogated, as they should.
- The NPS Study was conducted in major towns in Kenya, which could not provide the full picture of gender mainstreaming especially in remote villages. Was there a specific reason why rural police stations were not subjected to the study?
- The study on the National Police Service should extensively address the capacity of the officers when it comes to staffing the gender desks and understanding the importance of gender mainstreaming.
- If we consider some of the reports coming in from various international sources, in rural areas, police are most times the ones who cause conflict. What is the role of the women in the police in terms of being drivers of conflict? How do they address Early Warning Systems and do they play a role in resolving community conflict?



A participant making comments in plenary

- Policymakers often struggle with research because it is not implementable. The research conducted by the centre should ensure that policy makers who often do not have a lot of time are able to quickly understand the document and find relevant and practical information that can be addressed. The research should be carried out with the relevant stakeholders in mind. Applied research must have specific recommendations giving direction to policy makers. This is what makes applied research different from theoretical research.
- Have the implementers of gender mainstreaming taken ownership of this process? If not, why? What are the gaps and how can they be addressed? When talking about gender, it should be where the roles are clear so that both the women and men understanding of gender issues are complimentary. This will make the implementers understand the roles. Emphasis should be placed on gender issues and not just women issues.
- There should be a clear reflection on the ethical dilemmas faced by the researchers. What are some of the ethical issues contended with? Who do you gain access to?



Participants in syndicate (group) discussions

- What implication does the research have on Kenyan law and is there need for amendment or development of new legislation? Understand the legislative frameworks that try to create affirmative action.
- While researching on the National Police Service, it is important to interrogate whether women make a difference in the service. The conceptualisation is focused on the numbers instead of capacity, which would better help dealing with gender mainstreaming. There is a problem because the understanding has remained at the numbers instead of questioning the contribution these women and men are making in gender specific matters. All they need is the capacity and training and gender lenses and to sensitively and responsibly do something about it.
- The research should clearly articulate the need for gender mainstreaming in the Service. Attitudes will begin to change when people begin to realise the benefits. The research should also interrogate what hinders women from joining the service.
- The research should address how Officers in the Service can be effectively trained in order to respond to issues such as Sexual Gender Based Violence, and Gender Based Violence.
- There was no clarity in the roles that gender takes in cross-border conflict. There is also need to understand the interaction of communities across borders.
- The outcomes of both papers should give specific recommendations to relevant audiences, actors and communities.

Future Areas of Research:

- The Radicalization of Gender: How both men and women are radicalized differently and why;
- How does conflict affect business and communities border towns such as Moyale? ;
- What is the role of good governance in peace and security? ;
- The participation of Persons with Disabilities in peace and security in Africa;
- Responding to and preventing violence against women; and
- Capacity in gender mainstreaming and gender awareness in peace and security operations.
- What is the role of Civil Society, Community based organisations and faith based organisations in enhancing peace and security in the region?
- What is the role of IDPs in peace and security in the region? How do they influence the stability of the region?



A participant presenting syndicate (group) findings

8. Closing Remarks

Prof. Gatara summarised the issues discussed during plenary and gave the audience feedback on the steps that the centre would take in reviewing the suggestions made by the discussants and the audience. Prof. Gatara then invited Col Modest Kombo, the Head of Research Department to give the closing remarks on behalf of the Director, Brigadier Nderitu.



Colonel Modest Kombo began by congratulating the audience for their invaluable support towards making the workshop a success and more so the discussants that helped the centre communicate and consolidate its ideas.

He acknowledged that the symposium had benefited greatly from the rich contribution and various views from policymakers, researchers, practitioners and INGOs on the peace and security challenges plaguing the East African region. In his evaluation, the objectives of the symposium were substantially attained. This was because those present gave the centre a clear direction on the areas that it needed to focus on in order to improve the two research papers.

He then officially closed the symposium by inviting guests for a cocktail at the Peace Banda.

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