

OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY, ILE-IFE, NIGERIA

In partnership with

ARUA COE FOR POST CONFLICT SOCIETIES, ADDIS-ABABA UNIVERSITY

REPORT OF A ONE DAY STAKEHOLDER VALIDATION MEETING

3rd October, 2022.

AT

MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTING SEMINAR ROOM

FACULTY OF ADMINISTRATION

OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY

ILE-IFE, NIGERIA.

Validation Workshop: Rationale, Attendance and Highlights

As part of the ARUA three year project hosted by the University of Addis Ababa in conjunction with a host of 5 other African Universities including the Obafemi Awolowo University, a one day stakeholders' validation meeting was held on Monday 3rd of October, 2022, at the seminar room of the Management and Accounting Department, Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU). The meeting was organised to review the impacts of grants provided to support research works aligned with ARUA's theme on post-conflict societies. In addition to awardees, the meeting brought together a rich and diverse participants including academic, policy and industry experts on peace, security, peacebuilding and sustainable practices.

Under the section anchored by Ms. T. Agbalajobi, head of the Department of Political Science, each of the eleven beneficiaries presented report on the impact of the grant on their research while the experts from across different disciplines and backgrounds provided valuable assessment/input. For the team of organisers, the meeting provided opportunity to take stocks and identify lessons learned for improved management of the next phase of the project.

Key Presentations

Asides the aforementioned, there were two important presentations highlighting the conflict and policy environments in Africa as well as the opportunities for early researchers to engage more robustly in the peace and security space. The first presentation titled "A Situation Analysis of Nigeria's Post-Conflict Environment: Policy Issues, Challenges and Forward-looking Propositions". The second presentation focused on "Research Pathways in a Post-Conflict Society: Opportunities and Challenges". In summary, the two presentations speak to the contexts, dynamics and trends in peacebuilding in Africa and the enduring implications for peace studies and peacebuilding in practice.

A Brief Review of the First Phase of ARUA-OAU Project on Post-Conflict Societies

Professor K. O. Olayode, the Principal Investigator of the ARUA Project in OAU, gave a review report of the first year project implementation. He pointed out that the OAU Project was able to sponsor six Ph.D. students, six journal articles and four policy briefs. He acknowledged the tough conditions under which the ARUA-OAU project team have had to accomplish the first year targets including Covid-19 regulations, internal bureaucracy and most especially, the 8-months long industrial action in Nigeria's federal universities. Despite the strains and difficulties, set objectives for the first phase were successfully implemented with quite positive results.

The Next Phase: Looking Forward

As an agenda setting for the future, the Principal Investigator announced the end of the first phase and informed participants of the agenda for the second and third years which will run concurrently.

Participants were encouraged to continue to engage on issues related to post-conflict societies in Africa especially in the area of cutting edge collaborative research. Also, the multi-disciplinary focus of the project was re-emphasized especially disciplines outside International Relations and Political Science because peace research is an inter-disciplinary enterprise. The next phase of the project would be more comprehensive including participatory research, extensive media engagement and accelerated implementation of targets. It is hoped that the next phase will receive more applications from females whose PhD theses or research activities are centered around peace, security and peacebuilding.

Concluding Remarks

ARUA projects aimed at capacity building of member institutions on topical areas where research is currently limited or underexplored. Specifically, this project targets early careers and helps in honing their research skills thus complementing and ultimately, strengthening the universities. Listed below are the names of the participants of this project, their research work title and feedback from them on how the grant from ARUA Project has been of benefit to them.

ARUA GRANTS BENEFICIARIES, FEEDBACKS AND CURRENT STATE OF WORK

S/N	Name of Grantees	Title of Research Work	Gender	Type of Grant	Benefit of Grant to Researcher	Current State of Research Work
1	Oyeyoade Stephen Femi	Developing Conflict Projects in the Educational System.	Male	Policy Brief	The grant enabled the researcher to travel for data gathering.	Under review.
2	Chidiebere James Onwutuebe	Inter-Group Conflict between Pastorals and Villagers in Nigeria.	Male	Journal Article	Enabled access to online journals and conduct interviews.	Accepted for publication.
3	Lamidi Kazeem	Land Dispute In Nigeria.	Male	Journal Article	The grant has supported his financial need.	Journal article submitted for editorial review.

4	Olamide Adetayo Sowale	Towards an All-Inclusive Peacebuilding Architecture in the Niger Delta Region: Civil Society in Focus And National Youth Policy (2019-2023) and Youth Inclusive Peacebuilding in the Niger Delta Region	Male	PhD Grant and Policy Brief	Travel cost for data gathering and interviews.	One journal article due for publication. One journal article and policy brief are under review.
5	Oluwatunmise Paimo	Implementation of Digital Technology on Counter Insurgency Operations in Nigeria.	Female	PhD Grant	Travel cost for pilot study.	Third year on PhD and two journal articles submitted for review.
6	Adedeji Ademola	Exploration of Citizen-Led Action against Insurgency in Nigeria and Cameroon.	Male	PhD Grant	Candidate was able to conduct literature review, and conduct pilot study as well as access online journals.	Writing phase of research thesis.
7	Olapada Daramola	Addressing Land Violence Conflict in Lagos, Nigeria.	Male	Policy Brief	Data gathering and in-depth interviews.	Article submitted for review.
8	Ayanwole Grace	Evolution of Security Brief and the Peoples' Contributions towards Security Service.	Female	Policy Brief	Access to important online journals.	Submitted for review.
9	Olawale Olusola	Peacebuilding Strategies in Northeast Nigeria: A Statist Perspective.	Male	Journal Article	Data gathering and access to online journals.	Submitted for review
10	Sunday Omotuyi	Operation Safe Corridor on Counter	Male	Journal Article	Enabled the conduct of in-depth interviews	Published.

		Terrorism Strategy.			and data gathering.	
11	David Ibukun David	Globalization and Radicalization among Youth in the North-East Nigeria.	Male	PhD Grant and Journal Article.	Extensive data gathering and field travel expenses.	Writing phase of thesis and submission of article for review.







