



UNILAG African Cluster Centre
(Africa Multiple)
Centre of Excellence in African Studies

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON SECURITY

THEME:

SECURITY CHALLENGES IN
WEST AFRICA
MULTIFORMS & PERSPECTIVES.

Date: 27th - 28th July, 2021

Venue:

THE INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN AND DIASPORA STUDIES (IADS)
J.P. CLARK BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS





THE LAGOS AFRICAN CLUSTER CENTRE (LAGOS ACC)

In 2018, the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence, University of Bayreuth, Germany made a call for joint research initiatives with African Universities. Fifty-five African Universities and Research Institutes responded with their letters of intent. After a rigorous selection process, four winners were declared in 2019. The four partner institutions are: Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya; Rhodes University Makhanda, South Africa; Université Joseph Ki-Zerbo, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; and the University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria. These institutions have the status of African Cluster Centres (ACC). All the ACCs, including the Lagos ACC, serve as a node for joint research initiatives and networks within the cluster. Their responsibilities include: initiating and conducting research projects linked to the cluster, connecting its members to the large cluster network in Africa and beyond, organizing and hosting international conferences, workshops and seminars and providing a platform for academic exchange, among others. The overarching agenda of the ACCs is to reconfigure African Studies through transdisciplinary approaches by creating new insights into the multiplicity of Africa and beyond. The Lagos ACC, ably led by Prof. Muyiwa Falaiye, is situated within the Institute of African and Diaspora Studies (IADS) at the J.P. Clark Building. The Lagos ACC is equipped with a full complement of competent staff working assiduously to achieve the overall aim of reconfiguring African Studies.

ACC Lagos Website: <https://iads.unilag.edu.ng/lacc/>



THE WORKSHOP

In recent times, West African States, from the Atlantic shores to the Sahel region and the Lake Chad Basin, have been facing enormous security challenges. These challenges have resulted in all kinds of insecurity that manifest in adverse political, socio-economic and cultural effects on the sub-region. Addressing these manifold challenges demand that security issues in the sub- region be examined from a plethora of perspectives and approaches which reflects the multidisciplinary nature of modern security. Consequently, this workshop involves the research sections of Affiliations, Learning and Morality as well as methods from the Social Sciences, Law, Humanities, Health and Environmental Sciences, Military Science and Technology. A multi disciplinary approach is adopted in this workshop to develop a synoptic view of the multiform and perspectives of security challenges in West Africa and the modalities for transforming the prevalent systems within the security sector and managing peace and stability.

The objectives of the workshop are first, to interrogate through history, the evolving nature of security in West Africa; second, to re-examine the forms of security challenges and develop a comprehensive and in-depth knowledge of insecurity in the sub region; third, to identify key areas that feed into the development of a multidisciplinary regional approach to peace and stability; fourth, to establish an appropriate ground for a convergence of views aimed at achieving a synergy of strategies through multiplicity, relationality and reflexivity; and finally to contribute to knowledge from the standpoint of various disciplines, methodologies and epistemologies. In essence, the goal of this workshop is to bring together scholars from the sub-region to discuss issues of common interest. It is expected that the outcomes of the workshop will change individual and societal perspectives on security with the aim of establishing a more secure West Africa.



REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON SECURITY

THEME: SECURITY CHALLENGES IN WEST AFRICA: MULTIFORMS AND PERSPECTIVES.

PROGRAMME

DAY ONE

8.00-9.00:

Registration

09.15-9.25

Welcome Remarks:

The Vice- Chancellor, University of Lagos.

09.25- 09.35

Remarks: The Director, Institute of African and Diaspora Studies.

09.35-9.45

Interlude

09.45-09.55

Group photograph

THEMATIC SESSION ONE: HISTORY, INSURGENCY AND THE WEST AFRICAN SUB REGION-HISTORY

09.55-10.30

Keynote speaker 1:

The History of Insurgency in West Africa.

Prof. Benson Osadolor, Acting Vice - Chancellor,
Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Edo State.

10.30-11.00

Lead Presenter 1:

Trends of Insurgency and Military intervention in West Africa

Brig. Gen. Hassan Mamman Lai (Rtd)

Pioneer Chief of staff

Ecowas Community of West African States(ECOWAS)Standby force(ESF).

11.00:11.30

Questions and Answers

Chair: Prof. David Aworawo

11.30-11.40

Tea Break



THEMATIC SESSION TWO: MULTIFORMS OF SECURITY CHALLENGES IN WEST AFRICA

11.40-12.05

Youths and Security Challenges in West Africa. (Virtual Presentation)
Dr. Sharkdam Wapmuk, Department of Defence and Security Studies,
Nigerian Defence Academy.

12.05-12.30

State Security and Vigilante Groups in Burkina Faso (Virtual Presentation)
Prof. Ludovic Kibora, Director, Institut National des Sciences de la
Société, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

12.30-13.00

Questions and Answers
Chair: Dr. Kayode Eesuola

13.00 14-00

LUNCH

THEMATIC SESSION THREE: INSECURITY IN THE SAHEL: TRENDS AND FACTORS

14.00-14.30

The African Sahel region and the rising insurgencies: Any Way Forward ?
Dr. Joshua O. Bolarinwa, Ag. Director (Ad. Interim) and Head Division of Security
and Strategic Studies, Research and Security Department, NIIA.

14.30-15.00

Geopolitics and Security Challenges in the Lake Chad Basin
(Virtual presentation)
Prof. Boureima Amadou, Université de Diffa, République du Niger.

15.00- 15.30

Counter terrorism strategy in West Africa:
ECOWAS in focus
Dr. Moses Yakubu, IADS, University of Lagos.

15.30-16.10

Questions and Answers
Chair: Dr. Adewumi Falode
Recap of Day One : Dr. Peter Oni

16.10-16.30

Tea Break

End of Day One



THEMATIC SESSION FOUR: NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES: ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES

DAY TWO

9.00-9.30

Keynote speaker 2:

In search of the Civic State: Radical Islam, Sociopolitical Violence and the Challenge of Oligarchy in West Africa
Dr. Drissa Rahmane,
Centre for African Studies, Leiden University, Netherlands.

9.45-10.15

Lead Presenter 2:

Regional Instability in West Africa: The Polemology of Foreign Policy contradictions.
Prof. Bola Akinterinwa, Former Director General, NIIA .

10.15-10.45

Questions and Answers
Chair: Prof. Dr. Ayo Yusuff

10.45-11.20

Tea break

THEMATIC SESSION FIVE: SECURITY, INTELLIGENCE GATHERING, KNOWLEDGE GAPS IN WEST AFRICA.

11.20-11.40

Reconsidering the Psychomoral Issues in security Challenges
Dr. Anthony Okeregbe, Department of Philosophy,
University of Lagos

11.40-12.00

Thinking Language in Intelligence Gathering and Security
Dr. Peter Oni, Department of Philosophy,
University of Lagos.

12.00-12.20

Reassessing Insecurity in Africa :The Kenyan Experience
Prof. Dr. Mworì Benard Sorre ,Visiting Fellow ,Unilag ACC.

12.20-12.45

Questions and Answers
Chair: Dr. Akinmayowa Akin Otiko

12.50-13.50

LUNCH



SPECIAL SESSION: ROUND TABLE: INSECURITY AND THE CHALLENGES OF GOVERNANCE IN WEST AFRICA: TOWARDS A ROADMAP FOR REGIONAL STABILITY.

14.00-15.30

(Panelists)

Prof. O.A. Akinyeye
Prof. F. N.Ndubuisi
Dr. Drissa Rahmane
Dr. Wasiri Adisa

Prof. Bola Akinterinwa
Brig.Gen. Hassan Mamman Lai (Rtd.)
Dr. Adewumi Falode

Chair: Dr. Anthony Okeregbe

Recap of Day Two Dr. Moses Yakubu

15:30-16:00

**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION
GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE WORKSHOP AND CLOSING REMARKS**

Dr. Peter Oni
Prof. Dr. Ayo Yusuff

Workshop ends.