

# UNDP

## Study Guide

The Issue of Recovery from  
Intra-State Conflict in Africa



UN  
DP

**PREPMUN  
2022**



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# UNDP

## Introductions



Welcome letter  
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## Welcome Letter

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to PREPMUN 2022! It is our greatest pleasure working as the dais of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with you.

The UNDP is the lead UN agency for international development, focusing on three main areas: sustainable development, democratic governance and peace building, and climate and disaster resilience. This year, the topic for discussion is **The Issue of Recovery from Intra-State Conflict in Africa**. Africa is the continent riddled with the most intra-state conflicts. This has adversely affected the many vulnerable communities in Africa, especially civilians. As such, delegates should consider ways to increase UNDP's support to conflict-ridden states.

The dais hopes that the study guide will provide delegates with the basic understanding of the topic. Delegates are also encouraged to conduct further research to ensure productive council sessions for all.

The dais understands that PREPMUN 2022 may be the first conference for many delegates, and so welcomes all to the MUN circuit. We look forward to seeing delegates step up in council, as well as gain knowledge and confidence along the way. For any queries, please feel free to contact us at [prep22.undp@gmail.com](mailto:prep22.undp@gmail.com). We wish you all the best in your preparation and see you at PREPMUN 2022!

Warm regards,

Dais of United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

PREPMUN 2022

## **Chair Introductions**

### **Head Chair: Tan Jin Yi**

Jin Yi is a 15-year-old student who has a long list of 'to read' and 'to watch' in her notes app. She particularly enjoys the romance genre, be it on paper or on screen. She also enjoys indulging in her Chinese and Korean dramas, though she feels otherwise for real life drama. At PREPMUN 2022, Jin Yi hopes to be an approachable and helpful chair for all delegates. It would be her greatest wish to see all delegates participating actively and creating a fruitful experience together.

### **Deputy Chair: Lauren Tok**

Whilst trying to fix her sleep schedule, Lauren is looking forward to her long list of to-read books, debating videos and winter season anime, all of which will deter her from doing so. At PREPMUN 2022, Lauren aims to make it an experience that will make delegates return.

### **Deputy Chair: Radiance Tan**

Radiance, being an indecisive person, still does not know what she wants in life. Despite many complaints against her lack of time, she has yet again overcommitted herself for the 5th time. She tries to live her life to the fullest by attending different things and exposing herself to various items. She hopes to make good memories with the delegates in the short time that they have together, and inspire them to continue their MUN journey in the MUN circuit.

## **Council Introduction**

Created through the merger of the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the United Nations Special Fund in 1966 by the General Assembly of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) works in 170 countries in an effort to reduce inequality. Leading on international development, the UNDP aids countries in policy development, leadership skills, partnering capabilities, institutional abilities and resilience building.

The UNDP's mandate revolves around ending poverty and supporting democratic governance, rule of law and inclusive institutions.<sup>1</sup> In particular, the UNDP has resolved to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—thirty objectives which were adopted in 2015 as a call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity—by 2030.<sup>2</sup>

In line with the SDGs, the UNDP concentrates upon sustainable development, peace building, and climate and disaster resilience. As a result, significant change has been brought forth by the UNDP. For example, the UNDP has assisted in establishing key infrastructure for more than 30,000 people in South Sudan.<sup>3</sup> However, progress remains limited for other objectives such as the elimination of poverty. This is especially so in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, where 80% of the global population living in extreme poverty reside.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> UNDP, "About Us." UNDP, n.d., <https://www.undp.org/about-us>.

<sup>2</sup> UNDP, "The SDGs In Action." UNDP, n.d., <https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals>.

<sup>3</sup> UNDP, "Fast Facts: UNDP and Crisis Prevention and Recovery in Africa: United Nations Development Programme." UNDP, March 26, 2013, <https://www.undp.org/africa/publications/fast-facts-undp-and-crisis-prevention-and-recovery-africa>.

<sup>4</sup> UNDP, "The SDGs In Action." UNDP, n.d. <https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals>.



# UNDP

The Issue of Recovery from Intra-State  
Conflict in Africa



## **Topic Introduction**

In his address at the UN Security Council's Open Debate on Peace and Security in Africa on 19 May 2021, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres pointed out conflicts perpetuated by violent extremist groups such as those affiliated with Al-Qaeda and ISIL<sup>5</sup> as a prominent challenge for African societies and governments.<sup>6</sup>

Today, our world is laden with conflicts, especially in Africa. When the European nations fully colonised the African continent in 1914,<sup>7</sup> they left it severely underdeveloped.<sup>8</sup> This has led to many insecurities in the region that have hurt economies, cultures, and labour forces.<sup>9</sup> Economic policies adopted by the colonial governments destroyed their colonies since the profit-incentivised Europeans had no interest in the African way of life nor the people; natural resources were extracted while human labour was exploited. All crops were exported and prices were set by the colonies, where Africans were not allowed to grow the crops independently to benefit themselves, nor were they allowed to trade amongst themselves. Political developments were also halted, and colonial rule is said to have decreased the amount of accountability local elites had towards their citizens.<sup>10</sup> All of these have contributed to the current situation of Africa today.

Africa's ethnic diversity on the continent has also increased the probability of intra-state conflicts. Different ethnicities have various different practices and beliefs that may result in clashing ideologies which causes conflict. Additionally, the transnational influence of violent extremist groups has led to internal state actors inciting terrorism.<sup>11</sup> For example, Boko Haram has been actively fighting in Nigeria, Chad, Niger, and Northern Cameroon to establish a Sharia-ruled state.<sup>12</sup> The violent extremism of these groups further perpetuate instability.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> **Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant:** a militant Islamist group and former unrecognised quasi-state that follows the Salafi jihadist branch of Sunni Islam.

<sup>6</sup> United Nations, "Remarks to UN Security Council Open Debate on Peace and Security in Africa: Addressing root causes of conflict while promoting post-pandemic recovery in Africa" United Nations. May 19, 2021, <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/speeches/2021-05-19/remarks-un-security-council-open-debate-peace-and-security-africa>.

<sup>7</sup> Facing History and Ourselves, "Colonial Presence in Africa" Facing History and Ourselves. July 2022, <https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/image/colonial-presence-africa>.

<sup>8</sup> WorldAtlas, "Colonialism in Africa" WorldAtlas. N.d. <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/colonialism-in-africa.html>.

<sup>9</sup> LCSNC, "Effects of Imperialism in Africa", Page 1. Lincoln County Schools North Carolina. <https://www.lcsnc.org/cms/lib/NC01911169/Centricity/Domain/1414/Effects%20of%20Imperialism%20in%20Africa.pdf>.

<sup>10</sup> Leander Heldring, James Robinson, "Colonialism and Development in Africa" VOXEU. January 10, 2013. <https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/colonialism-and-development-africa>.

<sup>11</sup> Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, "Armed Conflict and peace processes in sub-Saharan Africa" SIPRI. 2020, <https://www.sipri.org/yearbook/2020/07>.

<sup>12</sup> Andrew Walker, "What is Boko Haram?" USIP. June 2012. <https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/SR308.pdf>.

<sup>13</sup> USIP, "Violent Extremism." USIP. n.d. <https://www.usip.org/issue-areas/violent-extremism>.

These conflicts led to millions refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons (IDPs) fleeing from their home countries.<sup>14</sup> These communities often face internal conflict driven by a combination of state weakness, corruption, ineffective delivery of basic services, competition over natural resources, and inequality. In addition, due to a lack of resources and capacity, displaced persons often fail to seek a safe sanctuary in other parts of Africa. As such, more and more displaced Africans have a poor standard of living, from lacking basic necessities like water and shelter to education for their children.

As conflicts rise, newer generations of Africans see their home to be a less viable option for employment, with many unable to find jobs in such a poor economy even with experience and education. They have instead opted to leave Africa in search of a better life. The lack of human capital has further compounded the vicious cycle of conflict and economic regression. In order to sustain the survivability of these states, efforts must be made towards conflict recovery, where basic infrastructure and services can be provided, along with increasing social mobility and access to physical or mental help.<sup>15</sup>

Africa's conflict-driven displacement remains pertinent today. Delegates should be conscientious in identifying the intricacies of conflicts and strive to further the UNDP's success in supporting conflict-stricken states, by ensuring that conflict recovery is most efficiently carried out.

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<sup>14</sup> Statista, "Number of immigrants from Africa from 2000 to 2020." n.d. <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1231600/number-of-emigrants-from-africa/>.

<sup>15</sup> Vincent Owino, "Half of Young Africans want to leave their countries in next three years." ZAWYA. June 29, 2022. <https://www.zawya.com/en/economy/africa/half-of-young-africans-want-to-leave-their-countries-in-next-three-years-moleonmz>.

## **Background**

### **Definitions**

**Aid:** Grants or loans to recipient countries that are undertaken by the government for the promotion of economic development.<sup>16</sup>

**Asylum:** As defined by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, asylum refers to “the grant, by a State, of protection on its territory to persons from another State who are fleeing persecution or serious danger”.<sup>17</sup> Asylum provides refugees a number of rights, “including non-refoulement, permission to remain on the territory of the asylum country and humane standards of treatment”.<sup>18</sup>

**Intra-state conflict:** A state of violence between or among one or more minority or majority groups, and one or more of these groups and the political/juridical state, to gain either a greater share of resources and/or control over the territorial state.<sup>19</sup>

**Internally displaced persons (IDPs):** People forced to leave their homes due to conflicts or persecution, but have yet to cross a border to find safety.<sup>20</sup>

**Post-conflict recovery:** Transformation that requires a combination of extensive reforms that allow countries to re-establish the foundations for self-sustaining development following a war.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Anke Hoeffler, Syeda Shahbano Ijaz, and Sarah von Billerbeck, “Post-Conflict Recovery and Peace Building,” Open Knowledge Repository, October 10, 2010, [https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/9184/WDR2011\\_0010.pdf](https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/9184/WDR2011_0010.pdf).

<sup>17</sup> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, “Glossary,” UNHCR, 2005, <https://www.unhcr.org/449267670.pdf>.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> Waltraud Queiser Morales, “12. Intrastate Conflict and Sustainable Development,” Syracuse University, 1998, <https://surface.syr.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?filename=17&article=1022&context=books&type=additional>.

<sup>20</sup> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, “Internally Displaced People,” UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency, n.d., <https://www.unhcr.org/internally-displaced-people.html>.

<sup>21</sup> UNDP, “Crisis Prevention and Recovery Report 2008: Post-Conflict Economic Recovery - Enabling Local Ingenuity: United Nations Development Programme,” United Nations Development Programme, November 22, 2015, <https://www.undp.org/publications/crisis-prevention-and-recovery-report-2008-post-conflict-economic-recovery-enabling-local-ingenuity>.

## History

As the continent on which 44% of global conflict occurred in 2020, Africa has suffered from many violent conflicts since the 1960s, a significant proportion of which are intra-state conflicts.<sup>22</sup> Such conflicts can arise from a multitude of reasons: poor governance, historical hostility, exclusionary politics, challenged legitimacy, competition for resources, extremism, internationalised conflicts, and other external factors.<sup>23</sup> The Institute for Security Studies has claimed that African states tend to have a higher probability of descending into such conflicts due to the generally lower Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita and weaker institutions.<sup>24</sup> However, as various circumstances evolve with time, so do the causes and nature of the conflicts.

In the 1960s, many newly independent African states found themselves embroiled in conflicts perpetuated by the capricious imposition of borders. Ethnic conflicts between diverse sub-populations could not be contained, nor could common national identities be built.<sup>25</sup> Groups contested the legitimacy of post-colonial government structures, and these struggles for liberation and independence led to catastrophic losses of life. In the 1980s, Africa saw a second wave of violence against the backdrop of the Cold War. Proxy wars came to ravage the continent, such as in Angola and Mozambique; elsewhere, repulsive regimes were legitimised, including the apartheid regime in South Africa.<sup>26</sup>

More recently, extremist groups such as Al Shabaab and Boko Haram have led to an upsurge in conflicts in Africa since 2010. With the rise and expansion of ISIL, a total of nine African states have found themselves involved in conflicts with the Islamic State in 2019.<sup>27</sup> Recent events such as climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic have also aggravated the situation. Climate change has led to the decrease in resources like food, water and land, thus further driving displacement and migration. For areas receiving migrants, this may increase the likelihood of conflicts due to causes including greater

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<sup>22</sup> Ramatoulie Jallow, "Covid-19 and Intrastate Armed Conflicts in Africa," Global Campus of Human Rights - GCHR, October 7, 2021, <https://gchumanrights.org/preparedness/article-on/covid-19-and-intrastate-armed-conflicts-in-africa.html>.

<sup>23</sup> Raymond Giplin, "Understanding the Nature and Origins of Violent Conflict in Africa," Africa Center, 2019, <https://africacenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Understanding-the-nature-and-origins-of-violent-conflict-in-Africa-Raymond-Gilpin.pdf>.

<sup>24</sup> Jakkie Cilliers and Julia Schünemann, "The Future of Intrastate Conflict in Africa," Institutional Repository of the University of Pretoria, May 2013, [https://repository.up.ac.za/bitstream/handle/2263/56254/Cilliers\\_Future\\_2013.pdf;sequence=1](https://repository.up.ac.za/bitstream/handle/2263/56254/Cilliers_Future_2013.pdf;sequence=1).

<sup>25</sup> Ramatoulie Jallow, "Covid-19 and Intrastate Armed Conflicts in Africa," Global Campus of Human Rights - GCHR, October 7, 2021, <https://gchumanrights.org/preparedness/article-on/covid-19-and-intrastate-armed-conflicts-in-africa.html>.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Júlia Palik, et al, "Conflict Trends in Africa, 1989–2019," ReliefWeb, October 14, 2020, <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/conflict-trends-africa-1989-2019>.

competition for resources and ethnic tensions.<sup>28</sup> The economic decline from COVID-19 has also limited the capacity of the state to address the conflicts, which may be aggravated by the dissent from stringent lockdown measures.<sup>29</sup> Violent conflicts are more likely to be incited, including clashes between civil groups and the government, presenting a backdrop for intra-state conflicts to be further aggravated.

However, there has been some progress in the region. In 2003, 49 ceasefires were declared in 10 African states. Peacekeeping operations have also been on the rise; eight missions were conducted in 2010, during which about 80,000 peacekeepers were deployed.<sup>30</sup> Concurrently, international attention and active aid to intra-state conflicts is at an all-time high, such as that in Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Somalia, and Burundi.<sup>31</sup>

### Key Issues

#### *Impacts of the Conflict*

Conflict-driven displacement results in greater vulnerability and socioeconomic inequality in the population of the afflicted country. There are many adverse impacts due to conflict-driven displacement such as the destruction of property. Between 1980 and 2008, half of all maternal deaths worldwide occurred in six countries—India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)—all of which had been embroiled in or recently concluded some form of armed conflict at the time.<sup>32</sup>

In times of conflict, health consequences also arise due to health and social services being unable to work safely, and buildings like hospitals and clinics being destroyed. Additionally, the resultant dirty living conditions leads to a heightened risk of disease transmission. They remain in overcrowded and unhygienic environments without access to clean drinking water, food and sanitation. This is likely to increase malnutrition and diseases that originate from malnutrition, as well as water borne illnesses. For example, in Syria, the breakdown of healthcare infrastructure led to a rapid rise in infectious

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<sup>28</sup> Guy J. Abel et al., “Climate, Conflict and Forced Migration,” *Global Environmental Change* (Pergamon, January 21, 2019), <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959378018301596>.

<sup>29</sup> Ramatoulie Jallow, “Covid-19 and Intrastate Armed Conflicts in Africa,” *Global Campus of Human Rights - GCHR*, October 7, 2021, <https://gchumanrights.org/preparedness/article-on/covid-19-and-intrastate-armed-conflicts-in-africa.html>.

<sup>30</sup> Júlia Palik, Siri Aas Rustad and Fredrik Methi, “Conflict Trends in Africa, 1989–2019 .” *ReliefWeb*. ReliefWeb Mobile, October 14, 2020. <https://m.reliefweb.int/report/3678708/world/conflict-trends-africa-1989-2019?lang=ru>.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>32</sup> Sarah Moore, “The Impacts of War on Global Health” *News Medical Life Sciences*, September 15, 2021. <https://www.news-medical.net/health/The-Impacts-of-War-on-Global-Health.aspx>.

diseases.<sup>33</sup> These harms are disproportionately faced by women who are tasked with protecting their families and seeking out safety when the males have been roped into the conflict to fight.<sup>34</sup>

Since 2010, this has improved with UNDP's renewal of efforts to boost women and minorities. However, the council's inefficiency is also steeped in many of its programs. In a report conducted by the Canadian International Development Agency, (CIDA), UNDP systems and procedures were found to be overly rigid and bureaucratic, while program resources were spread too thinly across large geographical locations, leading to delayed and erratic funding. This also subsequently led to a slow delivery of aid to support their many projects while the administration has been viewed as getting more bureaucratic.<sup>35</sup>

### *Humanitarian Aid*

According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights' (OHCHR) 1998 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,<sup>36</sup> IDPs should “retain a broad range of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, including the right to basic humanitarian assistance, protection from physical violence and freedom of movement”. Humanitarian aid comes in two forms: short term and long term. In the short term, it comprises the building of temporary healthcare infrastructure, residential infrastructure and access to mental helplines, alongside humanitarian corridors. These offer basic and immediate responses to the needs of displaced persons, including health concerns, hunger and thirst. In the long term, humanitarian aid can come in the form of educational resources and reconstruction of houses.

Increasing the quality of life for displaced people is one of the council's primary concerns as it is part of effective post conflict recovery. In order to ensure these rights are able to be exercised by displaced people, the whereabouts of displaced persons should be efficiently tracked, so as to supply necessities to affected communities. One of the ways states have done this is through employing the help of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to carry out on-the-ground work to supply humanitarian aid.

However, this delivery of aid still faces obstacles due to the attacks on IDPs. In conflict-stricken areas, certain marginalised groups may face attacks or militant oppression. In early March 2022, a UN convoy of food headed towards the town of Berhale and other border areas in Afar was stoned, the drivers were beaten by local communities and the food was looted in an area under government

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<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.

<sup>35</sup> CIDA, “Development Effectiveness Review of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) 2005-2011.” CIDA, April 2012, <https://www.oecd.org/derec/canada/UNDP-final-eng.pdf>.

<sup>36</sup> United Nations, “About internally displaced persons” United Nations, n.d., <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-internally-displaced-persons/about-internally-displaced-persons>.

control. This occurred due to the conflict between Tigrayan and Afar forces in Ethiopia.<sup>37</sup> It is also alleged that the pro-government forces opened fire and looted a UN convoy carrying food to Tigray in July.<sup>38</sup>

Lastly, although the International Humanitarian Law (IHL), guided by the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, states that humanitarian workers have a right to the freedom of movement as well as accessibility to aid regardless of conflict, the amount of humanitarian and medical workers who have been hurt in conflict have increased over the last ten years.<sup>39</sup> In late March, Ethiopia's government and Tigray rebel forces agreed on a humanitarian ceasefire to prevent mass starvation in the country. Although this is the beginning to sustaining peace and delivering aid, obstacles remain in ensuring that other states in Africa can do the same, or in maintaining peace through a long term agreement. Only through the guarantee of the safety of these workers might humanitarian aid be effective for the local population.

### *Reasons for Unsustainable Peace*

Currently, many regions in Africa continue to return to conflict even after conflict resolution. This can be attributed to a multitude of reasons.

One of the largest reasons is a depressed quality of life due to sustained poor economic conditions in the community. War-torn regions are particularly vulnerable to this, as war costs (as well as the impacts of war on economic output) will bear a heavy toll on local economies where insufficient financial support is given – especially in the immediate postwar years. Depressed economic growth can also be due to marginalisation, corruption, political instability, as well as external wars and crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. This, altogether, fuels public dissatisfaction against governments, which results in easier rebel recruitment and an increased likelihood of rekindled conflicts.<sup>40</sup>

Another reason would be the marginalisation of minority communities, particularly communities which were previously targets of war. In many cases, when these communities continue to suffer from a lack of public participation and representation in national politics, their needs will not be met.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>37</sup> Humeyra Pamuk and Daphne Psaedakis, “U.S. focused on delivery of humanitarian aid to Ethiopia's Tigray.” Reuters, March 24, 2022, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-ethiopia-conflict-usa-idUSKCN2LK1ZL>.

<sup>38</sup> Declan Walsh, “This Ethiopian Road Is a Lifeline for Millions. Now It's Blocked.” New York Times, July 29, 2021, <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/29/world/africa/ethiopia-tigray-aid-crisis.html>.

<sup>39</sup> European Commission, “International Humanitarian Law” European Commission, [https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/humanitarian-aid/international-humanitarian-law\\_en](https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/humanitarian-aid/international-humanitarian-law_en)

<sup>40</sup> Barbara F. Walter, “Does Conflict Beget Conflict? Explaining Recurring Civil War.” *Journal of Peace Research* 41, no. 3 (2004): 371–88, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/4149750>.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid.

More worryingly, cases in Somalia have shown that even humanitarian aid meant for minority IDPs failed to reach them due to dysfunctional social hierarchies and power dynamics.<sup>42</sup> This again results in widening disparities and, understandably, a sense of injustice which manifests in insurgencies.

Finally, the misuse of public funds plagues recovery efforts and national stability after conflicts regardless of the amount of foreign aid provided. Research has shown that additional foreign aid will counterproductively decrease the quality of life and stability within a country where corruption is rampant<sup>43</sup> – funding will more likely be used for personal gain and cement the standing of the political elite, instead of being invested in necessary social and civil infrastructure. As such, war may return when the people become discontent with the government or when different political parties fight over the funds. For example, whilst Somalia is one of Africa’s largest recipients of foreign aid, the funding is used for personal gain. This has led to a constant change of government, which also subsequently caused a myriad of economic policies from different governments that neither align with state interest nor appear to function, causing the country to be plunged into a perpetual civil war.<sup>44</sup>

These problems lead to greater social and economic costs, such as humanitarian violations and a renewed cessation of trade. Additionally, the funding from the UNDP and relevant UN sources placed into conflict resolution is wasted as the continuity of peace is not sustainable. This represses economic growth and perpetuates a lack of stability in the region, creating a negative feedback loop that may result in conflicts in the future. Ultimately, without a long-term recovery plan that addresses the fundamental drivers of conflict in Africa, recovery efforts are unlikely to succeed.

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<sup>42</sup> Nisar Majid, “Somalia on the Brink of Famine: Aid Efforts Risk Failing Marginalised Communities Yet Again,” *The Conversation*, November 1, 2022, <https://theconversation.com/somalia-on-the-brink-of-famine-aid-efforts-risk-failing-marginalised-communities-yet-again-190174>.

<sup>43</sup> Stephen Knack, “Does Foreign Aid Promote Democracy?” SSRN Scholarly Paper, Rochester, NY, September 1, 2000, <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.260047>.

<sup>44</sup> Deborah Brautigam and Stephen Knack, “Foreign Aid, Institutions, and Governance in Sub-Saharan Africa.” *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 52 (January 1, 2004): 255–85, <https://doi.org/10.1086/380592>.

## Past UN Action

The UNDP is involved in conflict prevention, recovery, stabilisation and transition to development in the 57 states most vulnerable to intra-state conflict as identified by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2020. Beyond that, the UNDP works alongside the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) to support countries in conflict prevention, with 61 Peace and Development Advisors and 6 Regional Specialists deployed thus far.<sup>45</sup> They serve to provide guidance and implement conflict prevention strategies, as well as aid in political and conflict analysis.<sup>46</sup>

### *UNDP Recovery Frameworks*

Firstly, the following frameworks are constructed with the intention of efficiently deploying help to the countries who need it.

In order to act swiftly in times of crisis, the deployments follow UNDP's operational framework – the Standard Operating Procedures for Immediate Crisis Response.<sup>47</sup> To date, there have been over 500 deployments supported by more than 300 SURGE advisors in more than 50 countries. UNDP also partners with 7 organisations to deploy a greater pool of technical experts when needed, so as to increase its crisis response capacity.<sup>48,49</sup> Another major organ of the UNDP is the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR), which is tasked with supporting crisis prevention, early warning systems and conflict resolution, on top of bridging the gap between emergency relief and long-term development.<sup>50</sup> A trademark solution for rapid and effective conflict response, the Immediate Crisis Response Initiative (SURGE) was launched by BCPR in 2006. Once activated, SURGE advisors would be deployed as First Responders to aid UNDP Country Offices in providing immediate conflict response.<sup>51</sup>

In 2011, Libya experienced a civil war following an uprising against Qaddafi's rule, where 13 experts were sent to help with recovery and stabilisation programmes. Likewise, in 2011, UNDP assisted 50

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<sup>45</sup> Asako Okai, "UNDP Support to Conflict-Affected Countries: United Nations Development Programme," UNDP, February 3, 2021, <https://www.undp.org/speeches/undp-support-conflict-affected-countries>.

<sup>46</sup> UNDP, "Issue Brief: Peace and Development Advisors: United Nations Development Programme," UNDP, May 11, 2016, <https://www.undp.org/publications/issue-brief-peace-and-development-advisors>.

<sup>47</sup> UNDP, "Consultant - Team Building for SURGE Advisors with a Focus on Belbin Team Roles," UNDP Jobs, n.d., [https://jobs.undp.org/cj\\_view\\_job.cfm?cur\\_job\\_id=64063](https://jobs.undp.org/cj_view_job.cfm?cur_job_id=64063).

<sup>48</sup> UNDP Digital X, "Crisis Response," UNDP, n.d., <https://digitalx.undp.org/challenges/crisis-response.html>.

<sup>49</sup> UNDP, "Deployment Mechanism," UNDP, n.d., <https://www.undp.org/crisis-response/deployment-mechanism>.

<sup>50</sup> UNDP, "Preventing Crisis, Enabling Recovery: BCPR Annual Report 2011: United Nations Development Programme," UNDP, November 22, 2015, <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/crisis-prevention-and-recovery/preventing-crisis--enabling-recovery--bcpr-annual-report-2011/>.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid.

political parties in Tunisia to secure a consensus-based transition, following the deposition of the former government. More recently, in 2021, a team of SURGE advisors were sent to Cabo Delgado in Mozambique to support the growing displaced population and promote stability. They were also involved in setting up a UNDP office in the Mozambican capital of Pemba, supporting locals' livelihoods and social services projects.<sup>52</sup>

Secondly, the frameworks often align with the UN goals, such as the 17 sustainable goals. For example, the UNDP helped amend laws in Malawi to clarify election administration and build trust in fair polling in 2021. Corruption that remains prevalent is curbed with digital monitoring to reform public procurement in Nigeria.<sup>53</sup> Concurrently, a platform was formed to share geospatial data on renewable energy in Africa. Many of these projects require a large amount of resources and time to complete.

In more developed states like Mauritius, Algeria, and Egypt,<sup>54</sup> the UNDP has been able to achieve more progress. For example, Algeria has welcomed foreign investment with a huge focus on the production of solar panels to channel their development of sustainable energy.<sup>55</sup>

### *Post-Conflict Recovery*

In conflict-stricken states, the UNDP serves to aid local governments in the repair and reconstruction of key infrastructure, such as hospitals, schools, and roads. To help households bring in income, the UNDP also offers assistance in cash-for-work activities, which operate alongside endeavours like the provision of mobile phones and unconditional cash transfer.<sup>56</sup> In 2018 alone, the UNDP spent more than \$1 billion in crisis response, recovery and protection.<sup>57</sup> Additionally, in order to ensure the effectiveness of re-development, the UNDP also upscales stabilisation interventions in conflict zones. This aims to respond efficiently to insurgencies by supporting existing structures that protect civilians, or to identify and resolve loopholes in current structures. The million-dollar fund supporting these efforts is backed by countries like Germany, Sweden and the United Kingdom.<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>52</sup> Craig Castro, "The Road to Macomia: Notes from a Surge Advisor's Diary," UNDP Medium, November 5, 2021, <https://undp.medium.com/the-road-to-macomia-notes-from-a-surge-advisors-diary-a0de6cf718b1>.

<sup>53</sup> UNDP, "Annual Report 2021," UNDP, 2021, <https://annualreport.undp.org/assets/UNDP-Annual-Report-2021-en.pdf>.

<sup>54</sup> World Population Review, "Most Developed Countries in Africa 2022," World Population Review, OAD, <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/most-developed-countries-in-africa>.

<sup>55</sup> International Energy Forum, "Algeria Powers Ahead with Huge Renewable Energy Plans," International Energy Forum, June 21, 2021, <https://www.ief.org/news/algeria-powers-ahead-with-huge-renewable-energy-plans>.

<sup>56</sup> UNDP, "Leaving No One Behind," UNDP, November 5, 2021, <https://www.undp.org/mozambique/stories/leaving-no-one-behind>.

<sup>57</sup> UNDP, "Annual Report 2018," UNDP, 2018, <https://annualreport.undp.org/2018/>.

<sup>58</sup> Ibid.

## **Scope of Debate**

### **Improving the Efficacy of Aid**

While aid is one of major forms of support the international community can provide to promote post-conflict recovery, oftentimes the aid is mismanaged or abused and in some cases has resulted in African countries becoming overly reliant on aid for their survival.<sup>59</sup> To ensure a more sustainable post-conflict recovery, delegates need to consider how aid can be most effectively directed.

Conditions should be attached to aid, technical assistance and potentially debt forgiveness to commit the African countries to a sustainable recovery. Currently, the consistent flow of aid has resulted in complacency of African institutions and businesses as they use aid to create “white elephant” projects instead of pursuing effective development and infrastructure.<sup>60</sup> Combined with high levels of corruption that syphon away aid, there is a significant lack of growth or poverty reduction in Africa and high amounts of aid wasted. Delegates may consider tying aid to efforts by African governments to use the aid to drive economic development and create a more sustainable economy and should discuss what this might look like. For instance, this could be encouragement of forays into manufacturing and technology, away from an agricultural economy.<sup>61</sup> Ultimately, what is best for Africa is a solution that weans them off aid and delegates ought to decide how aid may play a role in achieving this goal.

On this note, considering that aid can come in the form of humanitarian, economic or military aid, it is salient to consider what kinds of aid should be delivered, and through what modus. Since the 1990s, Administrator of the UNDP Gus Speth has pushed to halt the provision of weapons and military aid to African nations.<sup>62</sup> Such military aid often encourages funds to be directed towards defence, leaving social infrastructure like healthcare to be neglected. Moreover, this has the tendency to spark tensions with neighbouring nations and further perpetuate conflict, providing a strong case for limiting it. However, presently, the United States, China, Turkey and Russia all heavily provide African nations with military aid.<sup>63</sup> Meanwhile, economic aid by itself can come in different forms including debt

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<sup>59</sup> Emmanuel Rincón, “How International Aid Failed Africa and Made Poverty Worse: Emmanuel Rincón.” FEE Freeman Article. Foundation for Economic Education, December 28, 2021, <https://fee.org/articles/how-international-aid-failed-africa-and-made-poverty-worse/>.

<sup>60</sup> Tigist Mekonnen Melesse, “International Aid to Africa Needs an Overhaul. Tips on What Needs to Change - World.” ReliefWeb. ReliefWeb, May 18, 2021, <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/international-aid-africa-needs-overhaul-tips-what-needs-change>.

<sup>61</sup> Ibid.

<sup>62</sup> Patrick McAuslan, “Good Governance and Aid in Africa.” *Journal of African Law* 40, no. 2 (1996): 168–82, <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0021855300007749>.

<sup>63</sup> Jahara Matisek, “International Competition to Provide Security Force Assistance in Africa: Civil-Military R.” Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Defense Exports and Cooperation, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Defense Exports and Cooperation, October 21, 2020, <https://www.dasadec.army.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/2390283/international-competition-to-provide-security-force-assistance-in-africa-civil/>.

relief, financing or direct transfers of supplies. Providing the right kind of aid will be a key determinant in the effectiveness of any aid programme by the UNDP.

Furthermore, delegates ought to evaluate how they can supervise the provision of aid. For instance, the Danish government insisted on an audit that investigated missing funds that were intended for a Kenyan rural development project and held back on aid until the audit was completed.<sup>64</sup> Another case for improving the evaluation of aid is in Ghana, where there was low quality of reporting due to a weak monitoring and evaluation framework which resulted in the provision of inappropriate guidance and aid.<sup>65</sup>

To this end, delegates may examine cases like Malawi, where the UNDP successfully promoted sustainable human-centred development underpinned by poverty reduction, equity, fairness and justice in the Malawi Programs. In these programmes, the UNDP also demonstrated its responsiveness to emerging needs, with special attention paid to gender equality, women's rights and vulnerable communities as well.<sup>66</sup> How can these best practices be expanded and made a key part of the UNDP's thrust in Africa?

### Improving Governance

Weak governance in many African states results in instability and hinders progress. Corruption that plagues governments syphons away aid and leads to inefficiency in the bureaucracy, while issues with the justice system can further contribute to local dissatisfaction alongside limited legitimacy of elections. Delegates need to find ways to promote good governance amongst African states to increase stability and growth on the continent.

Many African states have poor governments, consisting of leaders unwilling to consult perspectives, anticipate threats or invest sustainably in the future. Additionally, the weak governmental structures and a lack of rule of law means governments have little power to stop ethnic-induced violence.<sup>67</sup> Authoritarian African leaders that are not held accountable and thus not incentivised to effectively manage their countries.<sup>68</sup> Hence, peace and security, key components to recovery from conflict and

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<sup>64</sup> Patrick McAuslan, "Good Governance and Aid in Africa." *Journal of African Law* 40, no. 2 (1996): 168–82, <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0021855300007749>.

<sup>65</sup> Canadian International Development Agency, "Development Effectiveness Review of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) 2005-2011." OECD, April 2012, <https://www.oecd.org/derec/canada/UNDP-final-eng.pdf>.

<sup>66</sup> Ibid.

<sup>67</sup> John Mukum Mbaku, "Good and Inclusive Governance Is Imperative for Africa's Future." Brookings, Brookings, March 9, 2022, <https://www.brookings.edu/research/good-and-inclusive-governance-is-imperative-for-africas-future/>.

<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

development are hampered. Delegates can debate how the UNDP can advocate for stronger institutions that promote good governance and a more effective and inclusive governmental system that can leverage the population and provide a conducive environment for recovery. This could also be extrapolated towards establishing a stronger bureaucracy that can support its aims.

Low corruption is also one of the hallmarks of good governance and the problem is especially pertinent for Africa. Analysis by the International Monetary Fund indicates that good governance can raise the GDP of sub-Saharan Africa by 1-2 percentage points per year.<sup>69</sup> Some African countries have started pushing back against corruption, such as when Angola charged managers that stole billions of dollars from its sovereign wealth fund in 2017.<sup>70</sup> Delegates might consider how the UNDP can support countries in their fight against corruption and promote supporting institutions like independent anti-corruption agencies. Furthermore, the role of the international private sector in corruption needs to be dealt with, as studies indicate that a major contributor to corruption was multinational corporations.<sup>71</sup> Hence, the question of developed countries' role in reigning in corruption is also a key part of the solution. By reducing corruption, African nations would be able to better utilise international aid and public resources in the promotion of post-conflict recovery and development.

### Health and Safety of Internally-displaced Persons

In the midst of conflicts and violence, IDPs tend to be more vulnerable, especially since they are not exclusively protected under international law.<sup>72</sup> As exemplified by the most extreme case in Somalia, IDPs face a crude mortality rate as high as fifty times that of the general population.<sup>73</sup> This is because the new environments IDPs in which find themselves may expose them to new hazards, such as pathogens that may contribute to infection. Access to healthcare is also often limited or denied to IDPs due to the deliberate exclusion by conflicting parties.<sup>74</sup>

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<sup>69</sup> Nelson Sobrinho and Vimal Thakoor, "Tackling Corruption in Sub-Saharan Africa – IMF F&D." IMF, IMF, September 2019, <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/fandd/issues/2019/09/tackling-corruption-in-sub-saharan-africa-sobrinho>.

<sup>70</sup> Reuters, "Son of Angola's Ex-Leader Sentenced to Five Years Jail in \$500 Mln Graft Case: Lusa," Reuters (Thomson Reuters, August 14, 2020), <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-angola-dossantos-idUSKCN25A1T6>.

<sup>71</sup> Patrick McAuslan, "Good Governance and Aid in Africa." *Journal of African Law* 40, no. 2 (1996): 168–82. <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0021855300007749>.

<sup>72</sup> Romola Adeola, "The Internally Displaced Person in International Law", Edward Elgar Publishing Limited, 2020, <https://academic.oup.com/ijrl/article/33/2/366/6482812>.

<sup>73</sup> David Cantor, Jina Swartz, Bayard Roberts, Aula Abbara, Alastair Ager, Zulfiqar A. Bhutta, Karl Blanchet, et al. "Understanding the Health Needs of Internally Displaced Persons: A Scoping Review." *Journal of Migration and Health* 4 (January 1, 2021): 100071, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmh.2021.100071>.

<sup>74</sup> Xavier Leus, Jane Wallace, and Alessandro Loretti, "Internally Displaced Persons: Prehospital and Disaster Medicine," Cambridge Core (Cambridge University Press, June 28, 2012), <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/article/abs/internally-displaced-persons/D9C8C21795A9A76F0D50CFB0FE743B2F>.

Additionally, IDPs tend to arrive in host countries in large waves, which puts a strain on the local health system. With no vaccines specifically provided for IDPs, most are unvaccinated and become more susceptible to preventable infections like polio.<sup>75</sup> IDPs also experience higher levels of mental health disorders including PTSD, depression and anxiety, which can last beyond the conflict and intergenerationally.<sup>76</sup> Prolonged displacement, impoverishment, unemployment, poor living conditions all contribute to increased trauma within IDPs.<sup>77</sup>

IDPs are also at greater risk of physical attack, sexual assault and abduction, which disproportionately affect women and children.<sup>78</sup> In a research conducted in Nigeria, 20% of IDPs reported physical violence and 33% reported sexual violence. Just recently in 2016, 13 internally displaced women and girls were abducted from the Kalma IDP camp in Sudan, allegedly by Janjaweed militias.<sup>79</sup> It is evident that the capacity of the health team and security personnel needs to be urgently improved so as to protect the safety of IDPs. Delegates may thus consider how the UNDP can support the health and safety of IDPs.

### Safety of Humanitarian Workers

Each year, tens of thousands of humanitarian workers (HWs) are deployed into the volatile conditions of humanitarian corridors,<sup>80</sup> which are pathways for HWs to deliver other necessities to civilians. The UN has a history of helping to set up such corridors, such as in the Second Sudanese Civil War.<sup>81</sup> However, without ceasefires and security guarantees, such corridors may not be effective.<sup>82</sup> In 2021, 460 HWs were victims of major attacks, where 140 were killed, 203 were wounded and 117 were

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<sup>75</sup> David Cantor, Jina Swartz, Bayard Roberts, Aula Abbara, Alastair Ager, Zulfiqar A. Bhutta, Karl Blanchet, et al. "Understanding the Health Needs of Internally Displaced Persons: A Scoping Review." *Journal of Migration and Health* 4 (January 1, 2021): 100071, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmh.2021.100071>.

<sup>76</sup> Ibid.

<sup>77</sup> Ibid.

<sup>78</sup> United Nations. "About internally displaced persons," United Nations, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-internally-displaced-persons/about-internally-displaced-persons>.

<sup>79</sup> OMCT, "Sudan : Abduction of 13 Internally Displaced Women and Girls (IDPs) from Kalma IDP Camp," OMCT, November 16, 2004, <https://www.omct.org/en/resources/urgent-interventions/sudan-abduction-of-13-internally-displaced-women-and-girls-idps-from-kalma-idp-camp>.

<sup>80</sup> Eric J. Nilles, Brian D. Gushulak, and Stephanie Kayden, "Humanitarian Aid Workers." In *CDC Yellow Book 2020: Health Information for International Travel*, Oxford University Press, 2019, <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2020/travel-for-work-other-reasons/humanitarian-aid-workers>.

<sup>81</sup> Kirsten Gelsdorf and Jacob Kurtzer, "Humanitarian Corridors Could Help Civilians Safely Leave Ukraine – but Russia Has a History of Not Respecting These Pathways." *The Conversation*, October 17, 2022, <https://theconversation.com/humanitarian-corridors-could-help-civilians-safely-leave-ukraine-but-russia-has-a-history-of-not-respecting-these-pathways-178840>.

<sup>82</sup> Marisa Iati, "Humanitarian Corridors Are Meant to Evacuate Civilians in War. but They Can Be Dangerous." *The Washington Post*, WP Company, March 18, 2022. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/03/17/humanitarian-corridors-ukraine-explained/>.

kidnapped.<sup>83</sup> It is alarming that this is a new high since 2013, and South Sudan remains as the most dangerous place for HWs.<sup>84</sup> In February, five HWs working for the medical charity Doctors Without Borders were also kidnapped in Northern Cameroon, which is currently experiencing attacks from Boko Haram.<sup>85</sup> It is thus imperative for the safety of HWs to be protected through the reinforcement of humanitarian corridors, which would also aid fleeing civilians as well.

### Economic Development

Africa is the world's least developed continent and the sole continent in the world where official aid inflow is far greater than private capital inflow.<sup>86</sup> African countries have an aid-reliant economy, with a lack of strong domestic industries or potential in the market due to the lack of resources to develop these sectors. Their economies are thus more unstable, where economic declines and recessions can lead to conflicts. Conflicts further hurt the economy, in turn creating a vicious cycle where African countries are trapped in a cycle of conflict. In order to ensure long term conflict recovery, a stable economy is one of the factors to ensure its economic legitimacy to other international actors and gain more edge over neighbouring African states.

Beyond merely aid, the UNDP can weigh other methods that focus on three main areas of redevelopment in conflict-stricken states: the stabilisation of income generation and emergency employment; local economic recovery for employment opportunities; sustainable employment creation and decent work, including a framework for constructive dialogue.<sup>87</sup>

Within these three areas, there is a general idea of promoting resilience in the economies of the African countries which can help to counteract some of the key causes of instability. For instance, addressing the human capital issues by implementing mechanisms that bolster local employability, especially displaced persons, would create a strong workforce that can grow the economy in the long term.<sup>88</sup> Meanwhile driving trade and strengthening their economy against the impacts of climate

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<sup>83</sup> Humanitarian Outcomes, "Aid Worker Security Report: Figures at a Glance 2022 - World," ReliefWeb, July 30, 2022, <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/aid-worker-security-report-figures-glance-2022>.

<sup>84</sup> Ibid.

<sup>85</sup> Reuters, "Five MSF Aid Workers Kidnapped in Northeastern Cameroon." Reuters, February 26, 2022, <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/five-msf-aid-workers-kidnapped-northeastern-cameroon-2022-02-25/>.

<sup>86</sup> Tigist Mekonnen Melesse, "International Aid to Africa Needs an Overhaul. Tips on What Needs to Change," ReliefWeb, May 18, 2021, <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/international-aid-africa-needs-overhaul-tips-what-needs-change>.

<sup>87</sup> UNDP, "United Nations Policy for Post-Conflict Employment Creation, Income Generation and Reintegration," June 2009, [https://www.enterprise-development.org/wp-content/uploads/PCEIR\\_PolicyEnglish.pdf](https://www.enterprise-development.org/wp-content/uploads/PCEIR_PolicyEnglish.pdf).

<sup>88</sup> UNDP, "Sharing new ground in post-conflict situations: The role of UNDP in support of reintegration programmes": January 2000, [http://web.undp.org/evaluation/evaluations/documents/postconflict\\_march2000.pdf](http://web.undp.org/evaluation/evaluations/documents/postconflict_march2000.pdf).

change,<sup>89</sup> which has been recognised to exacerbate traditional resource based conflicts,<sup>90</sup> can have a joint effect of increased resilience and sustainability, and security. Ultimately, these measures need to be carried out against the backdrop of an economy that has the necessary infrastructure in place to support work and adapt to changes in the global economy. Hence, delegates can look for ways that the UNDP has a comparative advantage in supporting economic recovery post-conflict.

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<sup>89</sup> UNDP, “UNDP SUPPORT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8”, 2016, [https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/publications/es/8\\_Growth\\_Jan15\\_digital.pdf](https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/publications/es/8_Growth_Jan15_digital.pdf).

<sup>90</sup> Christian von Soest, “A Heated Debate: Climate Change and Conflict in Africa.” German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA), 2020. <https://www.giga-hamburg.de/en/publications/giga-focus/a-heated-debate-climate-change-and-conflict-in-africa>.

## **Potential Solutions**

### **Maintenance of Humanitarian Corridors**

Humanitarian corridors are agreements between belligerents in an armed conflict to allow for temporary safe passage in a specific geographic area. They allow civilians to leave, humanitarian assistance to enter, or provide means of evacuation for the infirm or dead.<sup>91</sup> This is necessary when certain areas are cut off from basic necessities like food, water and electricity. They also provide crucial relief in the event of disasters.<sup>92</sup> For example, in Ethiopia, the Tigray People's Liberation Front promised to leave occupied territories should humanitarian corridors be provided and the government blockade be lifted.<sup>93</sup> This solution then served as a basis for further negotiation.

However, there remains space for improvement. The regular maintenance of humanitarian corridors should be increased to ensure the safe passage of civilians and HWs. Funding can be obtained by member states or through requests for donations. For manpower, humanitarian aid from various countries and volunteers could be recruited. Relevant resources can be gathered through donation banks made specifically to supplement the corridors and through appeals to the UN.

Additionally, humanitarian corridors are useful when the conflicting parties involved respect the corridors as protected spaces. However, there have been instances of how this respect is not given, such as an attack on a UN convoy in Ethiopia in early March 2022.<sup>94</sup> In order to ensure civilians are not harmed, a monitoring network on a shared information bank may be set up during such crises and monitored by an impartial third party such as the UN. The monitoring network may come in the form of digital tracking, regular reports by UN envoys and surveillance. This allows authorities to take faster action to help more civilians in the event that a problem arises as well as deter more parties from harming the civilians.

Another solution would be to send forth a few staff to patrol the area to ensure the safety of civilians and to prevent incidents such as the above mentioned from occurring by guarding the corridor. Similar to the monitoring network, it would act as a deterrence against any parties with such motives. They would also be able to help and defend the civilians if an issue arises or simply aid during medical emergencies. Those patrolling can look out for the well-being of the civilians. Basic first-aid training

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<sup>91</sup> International Committee of the Red Cross. 2022. "How Humanitarian Corridors Work to Help People in Conflict Zones." International Committee of the Red Cross, September 2, 2022, <https://www.icrc.org/en/document/how-humanitarian-corridors-work>.

<sup>92</sup> Deutsche Welle, "What Are Humanitarian Corridors?" Dw.com, Deutsche Welle, March 6, 2022, <https://www.dw.com/en/what-are-humanitarian-corridors/a-61030061>.

<sup>93</sup> Tesfa-Alem Tekle, "Ethiopia's Peace Pegged on Humanitarian Corridors." The East African, The East African, April 24, 2022, <https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/rest-of-africa/ethiopia-peace-pegged-on-humanitarian-corridors-3791594>.

<sup>94</sup> Ibid.

could also be provided for those patrolling. Furthermore, if deemed necessary, security measures like clearing the area and having small security posts at projected intervals will also be helpful. This will ensure that if harm were to occur, staff can quickly be dispatched to ease the situation. Civilians would also be able to use these posts as a resting point or to receive immediate help.

Besides that, there is also a risk of military and political abuse. For example, corridors could be used to smuggle in weapons and fuel.<sup>95</sup> To combat this issue, there ought to be transparency and accountancy in the corridor. Those patrolling could also be sourced from both sides or from parties that are not directly involved to ensure that there will not be a conflict of interest. Furthermore, frequent and random checks could also be set in place to deter against misuse of the corridor.

### Extensions to the UN Recovery and Peacebuilding Programme

The United Nations Recovery and Peacebuilding Programme, helmed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), focuses on 3 key areas: economic recovery and restoration of critical infrastructure, local governance and decentralised reform, and community security and social cohesion.<sup>96</sup> Currently implemented in Ukraine, it can be expanded to include the African countries with some improvements.

### *Economic Recovery Policies*

Economic recovery includes ensuring that the people have job opportunities to be able to have a steady income. Currently, Africa is the world's poorest inhabited continent.<sup>97</sup>

The situation, however, has improved, due to advancements across national and international policies.

One example of a successful national policy is the South African Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan, which is involved in mass public employment programmes, infrastructure development, macro-economic interventions, green economy and food security, etc. These are all areas that are in dire need of redevelopment and help to create a more sustainable and forward-looking economy that is more resistant to crises.<sup>98</sup> Another important learning point is the applicability of

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<sup>95</sup> Ibid.

<sup>96</sup> UNDP, "Inclusive Development, Recovery and Peacebuilding: United Nations Development Programme," UNDP, n.d., <https://www.undp.org/ukraine/inclusive-development-recovery-and-peacebuilding>.

<sup>97</sup> McGill University, "Economy of Africa," Economy of Africa, n.d., [https://www.cs.mcgill.ca/~rwest/wikispeedia/wpcd/wp/e/Economy\\_of\\_Africa.htm](https://www.cs.mcgill.ca/~rwest/wikispeedia/wpcd/wp/e/Economy_of_Africa.htm).

<sup>98</sup> South African Government, "South African Economic Reconstruction and Recovery," South African Government, n.d., <https://www.gov.za/economy>.

restarting major sectors in the country and/or upskilling current citizens to be equipped with skills in such sectors, which could also help with opening up job opportunities for citizens.<sup>99</sup>

Foreign aid is also a quintessential component of economic recovery. It is to be noted that as much as foreign aid may benefit such countries, foreign aid may also backfire if not used appropriately by the recipient of the foreign aid, and that foreign aid on its own only has a positive impact if the recipient country's environment is stable.<sup>100</sup> Conditions linked to provision of aid – such as strict conditions on how the money is spent, economic performance-based targets, and transparency – ought to be put in place to minimise potential for negative impact.<sup>101</sup> These conditions can help with minimising corruption by ensuring the proper use of the aid given. Delegates of the recipient and provider countries may wish to discuss such matters and conditions that may be included when considering foreign aid.

An additional plausible frontier to be worked on are the liberalisation of regional policies; the most pertinent example would be the African Continental Free Trade Area. Its implementation would increase Africa's income by \$450 billion and help 30 million Africans break out of extreme poverty.<sup>102</sup> By trusting multilateralism, there would be an increase in trade, investment and growth opportunities – as it reduces tariffs that add to trade costs. and makes it easier for African businesses to connect to the global economy.

### *Rebuilding of Critical Infrastructure*

With regard to rebuilding critical infrastructure, Africa is lagging behind in terms of coverage of critical infrastructure like power grids, road and rail transportation. Currently, investors are partnering with African governments to explore or have already taken on major new infrastructure projects over the next 10 years. However, as more than 50% of such projects are still in feasibility stages, their success remains to be seen as most of them could fail due to the financial burden. Also, most of these projects are limited to six countries.<sup>103</sup> It is important for this movement of better infrastructure to be

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<sup>99</sup> OECD, "South Africa: Improve Productivity and the Efficiency of Public Spending to Bolster Living Standards, Says OECD." OECD, August 25, 2022, <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/south-africa-improve-productivity-and-the-efficiency-of-public-spending-to-bolster-living-standards.htm>.

<sup>100</sup> Mary Izobo, "The Impact of Foreign Aid in Africa: A Case Study of Botswana and Somalia," n.d., <https://www.luc.edu/media/lucedu/prolaw/documents/volume-5/2020%20PROLAW%20Journal%20Mary%20Izobo.pdf>.

<sup>101</sup> Ibid.

<sup>102</sup> World Bank Group, "The African Continental Free Trade Area," World Bank (World Bank Group, August 30, 2022), <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/trade/publication/the-african-continental-free-trade-area>.

<sup>103</sup> Kannan Lakmeharan et al., "Solving Africa's Infrastructure Paradox," McKinsey & Company (McKinsey & Company, October 20, 2020), <https://www.mckinsey.com/capabilities/operations/our-insights/solving-africas-infrastructure-paradox>.

expanded to all of the continent and for the process to be expedited if possible. The UNDP can work together with construction companies and banks to employ and provide funding and resources to rebuild the most critical infrastructure – like hospitals, schools, hostels and administrative buildings – which allows for further development to take place. A bottom up development plan would also be able to be taken up to ensure needs of the people are met. This would further be discussed below.

### *Improving Local Governance and Decentralised Reform*

Decentralisation refers to “the transfer of powers and responsibilities from the central government level to elected authorities at the subnational level”.<sup>104</sup> It has shown to be largely beneficial to public sector efficiency, democratisation and political stability, all of which are key factors in preventing conflicts.<sup>105</sup> However, a poorly designed framework can lead to failure, such as in South Africa. 25 years after its adoption in the constitution, the quality of local provision of basic needs and services remains poor, especially in rural, far-flung districts; this has increased income and quality-of-life disparity instead. This has occasionally spilled over to become national protests: in 2011, over a six-month period, there were over 600 service delivery protests in South Africa.<sup>106</sup> Such a failure can be attributed to inadequate administrative apparatus and a lack of accountability.<sup>107</sup>

To mitigate this, local organisation needs to be improved, where a civil service is established rather than a body of political appointees.<sup>108</sup> This encourages the building of administrative, technical or strategic capacities of local citizens and members, through the process of ‘learning by doing’.<sup>109</sup> By doing so, more benefits can be reaped— one such example is the increase of local government bodies’ knowledge of fiscal decentralisation, which can ensure the elimination of wasteful expenditures and the more efficient collection of debt owed to local government bodies.<sup>110</sup>

In addition, corruption remains an issue when there are neither legal nor other consequences to deter political elites from circumventing local accountability systems.<sup>111</sup> As a result, funds are

<sup>104</sup> OECD, “Making Decentralisation Work,” OECD, 2019. [https://www.oecd.org/cfe/Policy%20highlights\\_decentralisation-Final.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/cfe/Policy%20highlights_decentralisation-Final.pdf).

<sup>105</sup> Ibid.

<sup>106</sup> Guy Martin, “900 Service Delivery Protests in South Africa over Six Months,” defenceWeb, April 20, 2021. <https://www.defenceweb.co.za/featured/900-service-delivery-protests-in-south-africa-over-six-months/>.

<sup>107</sup> Koelble, Thomas A., and Andrew Siddle. “Why Decentralization in South Africa Has Failed.” *Governance* 26, no. 3 (2013): 343–46. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gove.12022>.

<sup>108</sup> Ibid.

<sup>109</sup> OECD, “Making Decentralisation Work,” OECD, 2019. [https://www.oecd.org/cfe/Policy%20highlights\\_decentralisation-Final.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/cfe/Policy%20highlights_decentralisation-Final.pdf).

<sup>110</sup> UNDP, “Scaling up Decentralisation Reforms - Strengthening Local Self-Governance: United Nations Development Programme,” UNDP, <https://www.undp.org/ukraine/scaling-decentralisation-reforms-%E2%80%94-strengthening-local-self-governance>.

<sup>111</sup> Thomas A. Koelbe and Andrew Siddle, “Why Decentralization in South Africa Has Failed,” Wiley Online Library, January 7, 2013, <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/gove.12022>.

misappropriated, services are insufficiently provided, corruption ensues, thereby hurting the citizens.<sup>112</sup> By engaging in transparent, participatory and gender-responsive strategic planning and budgeting processes, as well as instituting anti-corruption practices (such as government audits or coordination with non-governmental or the UNDP),<sup>113</sup> the lack of accountability can be mitigated.

### *Incentivising Bottom-up Development*

The UNDP can also include a bottom-up rebuilding and development to ensure that the local communities are included and can receive what is most necessary to them. Bottom up development has a higher likelihood of forming success stories than constant funding into top-down, sometimes unnecessary development programmes— this is because bottom-up development takes into account the needs and contexts of a society, which ensures that more citizens (especially from historically-divided communities) are content with the resources given. As conflicts disrupt community security, incentivising the people to work together and pilot projects is a form of building social cohesion, one of the key factors of an effective society.

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) was implemented by the Kyoto Protocol as a way for countries to use clean energy and developing countries to benefit from its merit based foundation. When countries form projects proven to reduce greenhouse gases/produce less greenhouse gases, the programme gives them carbon credits they can then sell. However, this was proven to be less ideal for Africa as many states were either underfunded or unsuitable with differing interests, given the diversity of ethnicities, cultures and genders.<sup>114</sup> For example, women, who are pressured to be ‘keepers of culture’, may be more adamant towards changing their business approaches.<sup>115</sup> Hence, whilst top-down approaches may cease to be effective, individual states can use the bottom up approach to avoid these problems.

This can be done through the active surveying of public opinion and needs during conflict recovery by UN officers or staff from the local government, which allows governments to better rally efforts from the people when united by common goals. However, where inspiration is present, the general public continues to lack adequate experience and practical skills necessary to pilot projects. Hence, the

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<sup>112</sup> Ibid.

<sup>113</sup> UNDP, “Scaling up Decentralisation Reforms - Strengthening Local Self-Governance: United Nations Development Programme,” UNDP, n.d., <https://www.undp.org/ukraine/scaling-decentralisation-reforms-%E2%80%94-strengthening-local-self-governance>

<sup>114</sup> McGill University, “The Challenge of Developing Countries from the Bottom-Up,” March 2013, [https://www.mcgill.ca/isid/files/isid/isid\\_report\\_development\\_from\\_bottom\\_up.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/isid/files/isid/isid_report_development_from_bottom_up.pdf).

<sup>115</sup> Ibid.

UNDP can include mentors from the private sector to assist the general public.<sup>116</sup> For labour-based skills, the UNDP can also direct funding towards temporary vocational training during a short period when in conflict recovery in order to maximise manpower in Africa: whilst some are better equipped with knowledge, others can contribute as well.

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<sup>116</sup> Durando Ndongsok, “Bottom-up Approach Offers Hope for CDM in Sub-Saharan Africa,” Ecosystem Marketplace, November 23, 2009, <https://www.ecosystemmarketplace.com/articles/bottom-up-approach-offers-hope-for-cdm-in-sub-saharan-africa/>.

## Case Studies

### Cameroon

In December 2021, clashes broke out in Logone-Birni due to a dispute about water access from two people from different communities in the Ouloumsa village.<sup>117</sup> In December 2021. It had spread to the rest of Logone et Chari and Mayo-Danay divisions which are part of the Far North Province of Cameroon. A figure analysis also suggests that more than 131,000 people were internally displaced.<sup>118</sup> With 4.4 million people requiring humanitarian assistance,<sup>119</sup> the capacity to distribute aid was stretched by weaknesses in structural development, chronic vulnerabilities, and the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic which also negatively impacted quality of living.

Furthermore, the internal displacement has caused an influx in numbers in Northern Cameroon, resulting in food insecurity, fragmentation, increased land degradation and erosion in the region. In fact, a study carried out in April 2020 revealed a dire situation. It was reported that 2.6 million were facing acute food insecurity, a sharp increase from data retrieved the previous year.<sup>120</sup> Insecurity has spread from the victims affected by conflict to the entire country as a whole, creating a greater demand for humanitarian assistance.

As a response to this growing case, some actions taken include partnerships of the USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to provide cash-based transfers and food assistance to those vulnerable, host community members and refugees in various areas. Aid provided by other parties such as this helps with issues arising due to this, creating peace for citizens and refugees in the country without resulting in problems raised by officials. However, the international response has been patchy and uncoordinated, as highlighted by the incident where sacks of rice from WFP were allegedly sent to Sambissa, the centre of the Boko Haram territory in Nigeria.<sup>121</sup> Local organisations have thus criticised the minimal change seen in their lives, and even accused international actors for supporting Boko Haram.<sup>122</sup>

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<sup>117</sup> OCHA, "Cameroon Humanitarian Bulletin Issue N°28: December 2021 - Cameroon," ReliefWeb, January 20, 2022, <https://reliefweb.int/report/cameroon/cameroon-humanitarian-bulletin-issue-n-28-december-2021>.

<sup>118</sup> Clémentine André, "Figures Analysis 2021- Cameroon," Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, n.d., <https://www.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/figures-analysis-2021-cmr.pdf>.

<sup>119</sup> OCHA, "Cameroon: Humanitarian Dashboard (January to December 2021)," ReliefWeb, March 11, 2022, <https://reliefweb.int/report/cameroon/cameroon-humanitarian-dashboard-january-december-2021>.

<sup>120</sup> USAID, "Food Assistance Fact Sheet - Cameroon: Food Assistance," U.S. Agency for International Development, April 13, 2020, <https://www.usaid.gov/cameroon/food-assistance>.

<sup>121</sup> International Crisis Group, "Cameroon's Far North: Reconstruction amid Ongoing Conflict," Crisis Group, November 2, 2017, <https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/central-africa/cameroon/b133-extreme-nord-du-cameroun-le-casse-tete-de-la-reconstruction-en-periode-de-conflit>.

<sup>122</sup> Ibid.

Cameroon has placed an exclusive emphasis on the short term, life-or-death interventions, thus neglecting longer term issues like gender equality. Despite the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's (IASC) active appeals for gender transformative interventions, it unfortunately remains unrealised.<sup>123</sup> It is evident that long term recovery and development will be hampered, such as by increasing the amount of violence against women and girls.

Corruption also further undermines conflict recovery efforts. Despite Northern Cameroon being at the forefront of attacks from Boko Haram, its allocated share of funds in the Triennial Emergency Plan and in the Public Investment Budget remains as the lowest. Furthermore, these funds are said to have been embezzled.<sup>124</sup> The 34th most corrupt country in Africa,<sup>125</sup> corruption in Cameroon further drains its economy and reduces the availability of resources for conflict recovery.<sup>126</sup> This would slow down their progress in the plan launched in 2022 to reconstruct roads, schools, hospitals, markets, translating to poorer quality of life for civilians.

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<sup>123</sup> Delphine Brun, "Cameroon's underfunded crisis hampers action for gender equality" NRC, May 28, 2021, <https://www.nrc.no/expert-deployment/2016/2021/cameroons-underfunded-crisis-hampers-actions-for-gender-equality/>.

<sup>124</sup> Ibid.

<sup>125</sup> Business in Cameroon, "Transparency International Ranks Cameroon 34th in the List of Most Corrupted Countries in Africa," Business in Cameroon, January 28, 2016, <https://www.businessincameroon.com/public-management/2801-5952-transparency-international-ranks-cameroon-34th-in-the-list-of-most-corrupted-countries-in-africa>.

<sup>126</sup> Moki Kindzeka, "Conflicts and Corruption Drain Cameroon's Economy – DW – 01/23/2019." Dw.com, Deutsche Welle, January 23, 2019, <https://www.dw.com/en/conflicts-and-corruption-in-cameroon-drain-the-economy/a-47202553>.

## Mozambique

In Northern Mozambique, an insurgency has been threatening the lives of many civilians, specifically the province of Cabo Delgado. In an attempt to establish a separate Islamist regime, Ahlu al-Sunnah wal-Jamaah (ASJ), a Jihadist group affiliated with ISIS, has been fighting Mozambique's defence forces since 2017.<sup>127</sup> Thus far, an estimated 800,000 people have been displaced while over 3,700 have been killed amidst the conflict.<sup>128</sup>

The Muslim-majority province of Cabo Delgado, where the people are racially and ethnically marginalised, is one of the poorest and most weakly governed areas of Mozambique. The area also faces a lack of infrastructure and representation,<sup>129</sup> which has facilitated the spread of the conflict. Whilst religious ideals play a crucial role in the conflict, other socio-economic problems like unemployment and inequality have exacerbated it as well. Analysts believe that these are some of the reasons why Mozambican youths tend to be easily radicalised and eventually join the rebels.<sup>130</sup>

As the conflict grew increasingly violent in 2021, over 3,000 troops from Rwanda and Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states joined in the fight against the insurgents. Other states, including the United States and members of the European Union, have also provided equipment, soldiers, and military advisers to aid the government. Despite the combined forces facing some success in recapturing certain areas of Cabo Delgado, they are far from fully securing these areas, and even further from the end of the insurgency altogether. The insurgents are able to hide amongst the civilian population and have still been launching attacks in smaller groups in other parts of Cabo Delgado, which may worsen with any withdrawal of the foreign forces.

Natural disasters have also caused the situation to deteriorate. In 2022 alone, Mozambique has been hit by five tropical storms and cyclones, leaving shelters damaged and cutting off access from humanitarian groups to refugees and the internally displaced. For example, cyclone Gombe has

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<sup>127</sup> International Institute for Strategic Studies, "The Islamist Insurgency in Mozambique," IISS, August 2021, <https://www.iiss.org/publications/strategic-comments/2021/the-islamist-insurgency-in-mozambique>.

<sup>128</sup> International Crisis Group, "Winning Peace in Mozambique's Embattled North," Crisis Group, February 10, 2022, <https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/southern-africa/mozambique/b178-winning-peace-mozambiques-embattled-north>.

<sup>129</sup> Amélie Tulet, "Crise Au Mozambique: 'L'insurrection Au Cabo Delgado a Des Racines Locales Et Anciennes,'" Radio France Internationale, April 13, 2021, <https://www.rfi.fr/fr/afrique/20210413-crise-au-mozambique-l-insurrection-au-cabo-delgado-a-des-racines-locales-et-anciennes>.

<sup>130</sup> Jasmine Opperman, "Op-Ed: Is Northern Mozambique Faced with an Emerging Extremist Threat?," Daily Maverick, May 30, 2018, <https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2018-05-31-is-northern-mozambique-faced-with-an-emerging-extremist-threat>.

damaged 80% of shelters in Maratane and affected over 736,000 people.<sup>131</sup> It is also worth noting that 70% of the population depends on climate-sensitive agricultural production for their food and livelihood. With poor infrastructure further wrecked by intra-state conflict, the economy is expected to be further devastated.<sup>132</sup>

Additionally, humanitarian and conflict recovery operations have been impeded by underfunding, and in Mozambique, the UNHCR estimates that an extra US\$36.7 million is needed in 2022.<sup>133</sup> Through money raised partially by the World Bank, the Mozambican government has been trying to rebuild livelihoods through programmes such as seed distribution to farmers and reconstruction of infrastructure in Cabo Delgado. Should underfunding remain unaddressed, the ability to respond to needs and rebuild livelihoods will be hampered. In the past two years, the World Food Programme (WFP) had to cut rations by 50% due to the lack of funds, subjecting around 1.1 million to food insecurity.<sup>134</sup>

However, in the long term, returning to their homes is no easy feat as well. For the hundreds of women and girls sexually abused and raped by the ASJ, they face challenges reintegrating and being accepted back into their communities.<sup>135</sup> As for former combatants, they can participate in the Maputo Accord's "disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR)" process. The UN aids this programme by involving local perspectives in planning and budgeting exercises, so as to promote peace and sustainable development.<sup>136</sup>

Whilst international involvement has been largely effective in mitigating the damage caused, the road to recovery is still a long path to journey. The UNDP will therefore need to take note of climate change, underfunding and integration as they tackle conflict recovery in Africa.

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<sup>131</sup> Madhumita Paul, "Climate Shocks, Conflicts Worsen Displacement in Mozambique: UNHCR," *Down To Earth*, May 12, 2022, <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/africa/climate-shocks-conflicts-worsen-displacement-in-mozambique-unhcr-82824>.

<sup>132</sup> Ibid.

<sup>133</sup> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, "UNHCR Raises Alarm over Mozambique's 'Invisible' Crisis as Climate Shocks Worsen Displacement," UNHCR (UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency, May 10, 2022), <https://www.unhcr.org/news/briefing/2022/5/627a6c404/unhcr-raises-alarm-mozambiques-invisible-crisis-climate-shocks-worsen-displacement.html>.

<sup>134</sup> Sierra Ballard, "Enhancing Humanitarian Aid and Security in Northern Mozambique - Mozambique," *ReliefWeb*, September 15, 2022, <https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/enhancing-humanitarian-aid-and-security-northern-mozambique>.

<sup>135</sup> Human Rights Watch, "Mozambique: Hundreds of Women, Girls Abducted," *Human Rights Watch*, December 7, 2021, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/12/07/mozambique-hundreds-women-girls-abducted>.

<sup>136</sup> "From Fighting to Farming: Supporting Peacebuilding in Mozambique | | IUN News." United Nations, United Nations, n.d., <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/07/1122172>.

## Key Stakeholders

### Countries Facing Conflicts

The African countries facing conflict have to deal with a plethora of issues such as internal displacement, destruction of property and infrastructure, poor economies, overcrowding and food shortages among others. Delegates of such countries would likely look favourably upon external support, such as financial and humanitarian aid. Delegates may also leverage on their diplomatic ties with countries with sufficient capability to extend aid, such as the USA. However, delegates should take note of the extent of influence by and reliance on other countries. Delegates should ensure that their ideologies and culture are maintained, rather than being influenced whilst its government is crippled and needs to be reformed. For instance, socialist countries like Eritrea would be wary and reject a change into a capitalist system, as espoused by most Western countries.<sup>137</sup>

### Countries Offering Aid

Many nations have provided aid to Africa over the years. These countries are often richer developed nations that can also provide technological assistance and large markets to Africa on top of just aid.

One of these major players is the EU, which has placed importance on its relations with Africa and played a prominent role in aiding in Africa's displacement crisis and recovery. For example, the Peace Fund headed by the AU, created in 1993 to facilitate support for the Protocol of Peace and Security (aforementioned), recognises the EU as an international partner.<sup>138</sup> In 2019, the EU supplied 800 million euros to support conflict prevention, architecture, and AU efforts to establish a continental Human Rights and international humanitarian law frameworks.<sup>139</sup> The European Commission has laid out plans pushing for increased economic ties with Africa. Economic Partnership Agreements and Association Agreements have enabled over 90% of African exports to enter the EU market without import duties, providing African countries much-needed export-led growth and the opportunity to develop their industries. The EU also demonstrated interest in developing academia and strengthening scientific cooperation with Africa, as well as bolstering entrepreneurship and building its infrastructure.

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<sup>137</sup> Connell, Dan. "Inside the EPLF." Marxists, 2009, <https://www.marxists.org/history/erol/eritrea/connell-eplf.pdf>.

<sup>138</sup> African Union, "Peace Fund," African Union, February 10, 2022, <https://au.int/en/aureforms/peacefund>.

<sup>139</sup> European Commission. "African Peace Facility: African Union Peace & Security Operations boosted by an additional €800 million from the European Union" European Commission." July 22, 2019, [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/it/ip\\_19\\_3432](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/it/ip_19_3432).

China has also supported infrastructural drives in Africa, such as the construction of the Foundiougne Bridge in Senegal and the Nairobi Expressway in Kenya.<sup>140</sup> Furthermore, it has supported the financial sector, having pledged \$10 billion of credit facilities to Africa.<sup>141</sup> Its Outlook on Peace and Development in the Horn of Africa also demonstrates its commitment to regional peace and security.<sup>142</sup>

Similarly, the US has been a major supporter of Africa through its programmes that promote private investment and more accountable democratic institutions.<sup>143</sup> In 2020, it provided \$8.5 billion in assistance to 47 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>144</sup>

### African Union

Forced displacement remains one of the highest agendas on the AU, promoting durable solutions, and spreading awareness of the issue of forced displacement in Africa. The AU believes in the need for solidarity and responsibility for all in order to put an end to the displacement of people in Africa. Therefore, the AU seeks to lead Africa in attaining long term peace,<sup>145</sup> as outlined by Agenda 2063. Members of the AU have affirmed their commitment to prioritising democratic governance as well as peace and security, thereby increasing Africa's influence globally.<sup>146</sup>

Guided by the Post-Conflict and Reconstruction Development (PCRD) policy, the AU develops policies and strategies to aid in the consolidation of peace, sustainable development and growth, and regenerations in countries recovering from conflict. Besides this, the PCRD goes beyond limited interventions. Effort has been poured in for negotiations and peaceful resolutions for on-going conflicts as well.

The AU acknowledges that in the early stages of transition from conflict to peace often are fragile and have a high chance of violence yet again taking over. With institutions and infrastructure destroyed, alongside a lack of good governance, democratic culture, law and order, respect of human rights, and

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<sup>140</sup> Wang Yi, "China and Africa: Strengthening Friendship, Solidarity and Cooperation for a New Era of Common Development." Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, August 19 2022. [https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/zxxx\\_662805/202208/t20220819\\_10745617.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/zxxx_662805/202208/t20220819_10745617.html).

<sup>141</sup> Ibid.

<sup>142</sup> Ibid.

<sup>143</sup> U.S. Agency for International Development, "Bureau for Africa." U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Agency for International Development, June 3, 2021. <https://www.usaid.gov/who-we-are/organization/bureaus/bureau-africa>.

<sup>144</sup> Ibid.

<sup>145</sup> Philomena Apiko, Lidet Tadesse Shiferaw, and Martin Ronceray, "Africa Day: The AU's Role in African and Global Affairs – Part 1," ECDPM, May 21, 2021, <https://ecdpm.org/work/africa-day-the-aus-role-in-african-and-global-affairs-part-1>.

<sup>146</sup> African Union, "Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want.," African Union, January 1, 2019, <https://au.int/en/agenda2063/overview>.

wide-spread poverty, the future outlook of countries emerging from or experiencing conflict remains bleak. Overall, the AU looks their eyes upon long-term, sustainable development as underpinned by the African vision of regeneration and growth.

Delegates ought to take note of the above concerns and push for solutions to reduce the risk of violence taking over, building good governance, democratic culture, law and order, human rights and reducing poverty. Members also ought to seek long-term solutions to benefit the respective countries for generations to come. Delegates should however take note that the interests of their country may affect their take on this as well.

### **Questions A Resolution Must Answer (QARMA)**

1. Given the limited amount of resources, how should resources be distributed equitably and effectively amongst states experiencing conflict?
2. How can aid be delivered efficiently and effectively to conflict-stricken states?
3. How should the health safety of internally-displaced persons and humanitarian workers be addressed in conflict zones and humanitarian corridors?
4. How should the UNDP and other relevant stakeholders aid in the conflict recovery and redevelopment of a conflict-stricken state?
5. How legitimate is it for UNDP member states to be involved in the decision making of a nation in times of conflict?

### **Conclusion**

Regrettably, intra-state conflicts in Africa are unlikely to be eradicated any time soon. Climate change, extremism and the COVID-19 pandemic have brought about continued deterioration of the situation. As such, it is imperative that the UNDP approaches the issue innovatively and efficiently so as to mitigate the fallout of these conflicts. This presents an urgent need for delegates to reevaluate the multidimensional issues of conflict prevention, mitigation and recovery. Only so, can the millions of civilians finally trudge nearer to their hope for peace.

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