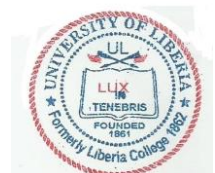




Activity Report 2018 – 2020

*Kofi Annan Institute
for Conflict Transformation*

16 May 2021



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1. Introduction

This report shortly introduces KAICT and documents the activities conducted by the institute from 2018 to 2020. The first section serves to familiarize the reader with KAICT as an institution, outlining its history, purposes, fields of activities and introducing the small but efficient team. The following sections then list in detail what the institute undertook in its various fields of activities. Distinguishing it from classical university institutes, KAICT is not only active in academic teaching and research but also maintains an extensive civic education and specialized training program targeting the interested public and professionals. As in most countries, the COVID-19 pandemic had a major impact on educational institutions and public events in Liberia. While most of KAICT's regular activities came to a standstill, the institute re-oriented and engaged in pandemic awareness raising efforts. These will be presented in a separate section at the end.

1.1. About KAICT

In 2006, the University of Liberia initiated the establishment of a specialized institute—the *Centre for Peace Studies*—to serve as a centre of excellence for producing the appropriate human capital required for national recovery. It was renamed *Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation* (KAICT) through an act of the Legislature in December 2006, when UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan visited Liberia on his farewell tour at the end of his term. Kofi Annan had headed the United Nations when Liberia's civil war ended in 2003, and Liberia honoured him to express its appreciation of the support given to the peace-building process by the international community through the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL).

Rooted in the overall mission of the University of Liberia, KAICT “strives to create an academic environment in which outstanding students and scholars from around the world are continually challenged and inspired to do their best possible work.” KAICT is a destination designed for academic excellence in policy research and dialogue on gender, equality, social justice, human rights, security, peace and development.

KAICT accomplishes student success by developing well-informed and creative scholars capable of contributing research-based knowledge to social progress. The institution and its governing board are committed to fostering a learning-centred community that celebrates diversity and inclusion by empowering and engaging students, faculty, and staff.

KAICT envisions a future where public dialogue and rigorous research and analysis are endemic to policy making and implementation in Liberia. It is a future in which a new generation of Liberians, endowed with abilities for critical and innovative thinking, lead in the definition, reconstruction, and administration of the Liberian state.

Subscribing to Humboldt's ideals of transferring academic knowledge broadly into society, KAICT extensively engages in extra-curricular activities in addition to its MA program. These range from specialized courses for professionals to our weekly public information and debate events.

1.2. Mission

As proclaimed by the University of Liberia, we "strive to create an academic environment in which outstanding students and scholars from around the world are continually challenged and inspired to do their best possible work."

The Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation is an institution of academic excellence for policy research and dialogue on gender relations, equality, social justice, human rights, security, peace, and development. The Institute accomplishes student success by developing well-informed and creative scholars capable of contributing research-based knowledge for the progress of society.

1.3. Vision

KAICT envisions a future where public dialogue, rigorous research and thorough analysis are endemic to policy making and implementation in Liberia. It is a future in which a new generation of Liberians, endowed with abilities for critical and innovative

thinking, lead in the definition, reconstruction, and administration of the Liberian state.

1.4. Core Values

KAICT subscribes to the [core values of the University of Liberia](#). In addition, we uphold the following:

Diversity: Cognizant of the multi-ethnic, multi-religious, and politically pluralistic Liberian context, KAICT is committed not only to the respect for difference but to cultivate the unique values of all groups in society so as to enrich learning and at the same time eliminate vices such as prejudice and stereotypes from the learning environment and, by extension, the Liberia society.

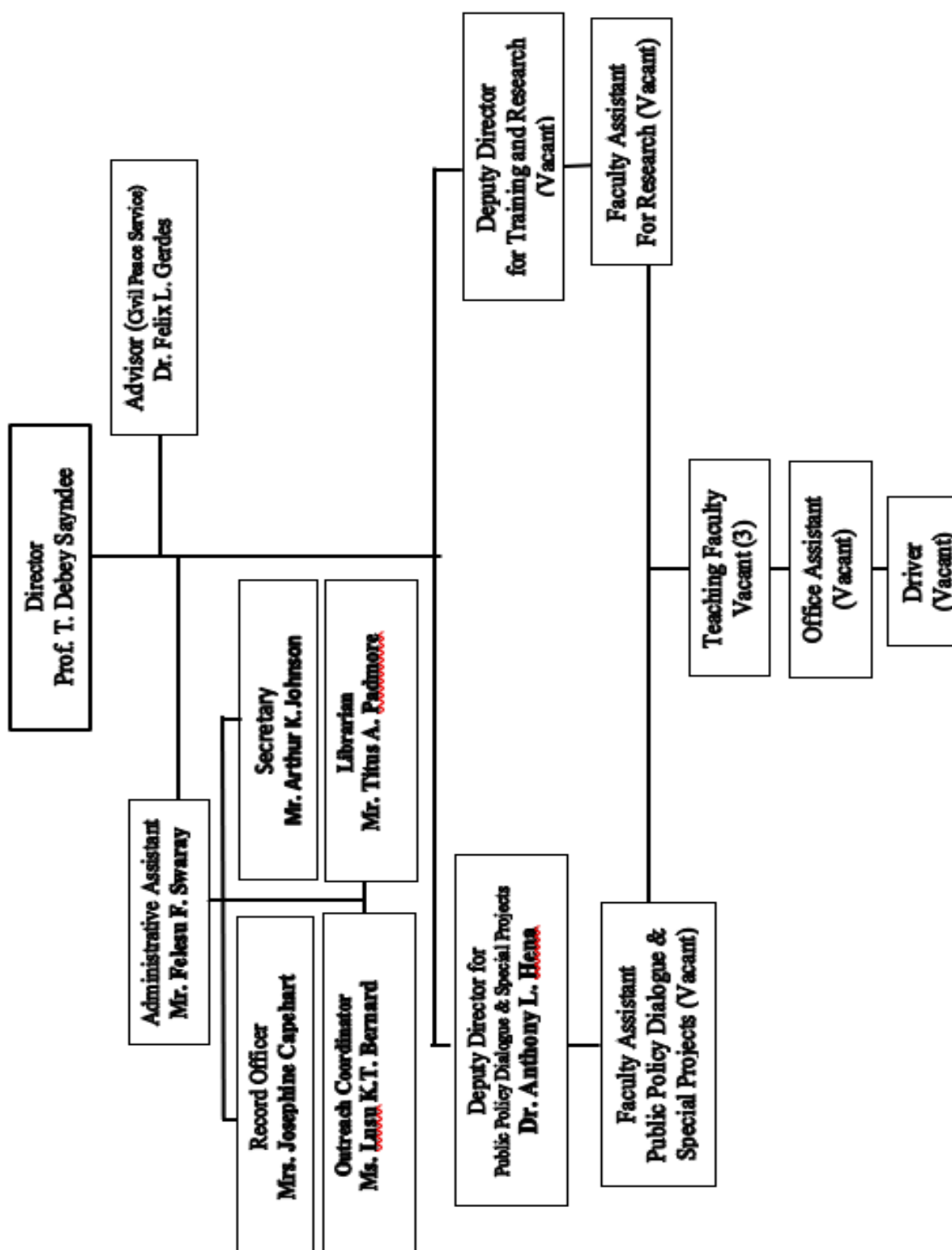
Excellence and Merit: KAICT values excellence in all its endeavors. Students and researchers are awarded based on their abilities and performance.

Objectivity and Critical Thinking: The Institute shall ensure that policy research and conclusions are backed by rigorous analysis and not colored by any political, religious, or ethnic interests.

Local Knowledge and Ownership: While cross fertilization of knowledge in today's globalizing world is inevitable and necessary, KAICT believes durable solutions to local problems are those that have their basis in local knowledge and experience, which may be supported by external knowledge and resources.

Collaboration and Collegiality: KAICT values distinctiveness and interdependence of knowledge, expertise, and experience. The Institute shall therefore promote mutual respect and partnership in all learning activities.

1.5. Organogram: The Institute, Faculty and Administrative Staff



1.6. What We Do

1.6.1. M.A. Program

As an institute of the Graduate School of the University of Liberia, KAICT offers a regular study program leading to a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree in *Peace Studies and Conflict Transformation*. The M.A. degree requires achieving 42 credit points. Taking the full course load and completing the M.A. thesis along with the courses, students may graduate after three semesters. All KAICT courses take place at evening hours and most of our students are professionals working full-time in government, civil society and churches.

1.6.2. The Kofi Annan Dialogues

Kofi Annan Dialogues is the brand under which KAICT's various public discussion and debate events are organized. The *Wednesday Seminar on Peace, Politics and Society* takes place weekly during the lecture period. It is an extra-curricular information and discussion event for the student population and the interested public. It is flexible in format and can accommodate a broad range of topics on politics, economics and society. By regularly organizing the seminar, we aim to provide a space for informed and reasoned debate on issues and trends in Liberia and beyond. The event is open to diverse styles of knowledge transfer. Often, external experts or KAICT faculty present on current events or academic debates and discuss their insights with the audience. Panel discussions or student model debates are among the alternative formats. Screening and discussion of documentaries, movies or online lectures by third parties also take place within the seminar framework. The *Wednesday Seminar* takes place in the cozy atmosphere of the Graduate School's grand lecture hall and attracts approximately 30 to 60 visitors from the student population and the public.

KAICT further organizes larger events about once a month. These usually take place in the University of Liberia Auditorium and target an audience of 60 to 250 persons. Most often, they take the form of panel discussions but also may be conferences, screening and discussion of audiovisual material, performances or a mix of all. A

special series of panel discussions are the *Security Sector Reform Dialogues* held about six times per year.

1.6.3. Training Courses

KAICT also offers extracurricular training courses for practitioners. These are usually developed based on a specific request and may be further developed and repeatedly taught thereafter. Personnel from the security sector and civil society activists are among the prime beneficiaries of these trainings. The courses range from intense, full-time courses over several weeks to acquaintance workshops of a few hours. KAICT has built special expertise in extra-curricular training on gender and security, community-based development and mediation.

1.6.4. Research

KAICT's research focus is on the evolution of the security sector, gender-based violence and dispute resolution. KAICT does research independently and in collaboration with other institutions. KAICT also regularly serves as a host institution for visiting researchers pursuing their projects.

1.6.5. The Security Sector Reform Think Tank

The *Security Sector Reform Think Tank* (SSRTT) seeks to strengthen civil society – security sector relations and create knowledge on Liberia's security challenges. SSRTT thereby strengthens Liberian capacities and ownership of security institutions, and promotes an accountable, democratically oriented and human rights protecting security sector. Within the framework, KAICT is undertaking research on the development of the security situation and the justice sector.

SSRTT is dedicated to promoting dialogue between security sector and society. Since 2016, KAICT has regularly held the public *Security Sector Reform Dialogues*, which take place about six times a year. These usually feature senior security sector officials and civil society as panelists engaging in discussions with an audience from security sector,

civil society and the student population. The *Dialogues* create opportunities for debate and cooperation between security sector professionals, civil society and academia. They are intended to stimulate reflection within the security sector, provide an opportunity for exchange of opinion between civil society, security actors and academia, and thereby promote a culture of open debate of security matters and contribute to civilian oversight.

SSRTT also offers training courses, in particular for security sector personnel and civil society activists. The SSRTT trainings focus on strengthening democratic attitudes, respect for human rights, and sensitivity to gender disparities.

1.6.6. Kofi Annan Living Memorial

The *Kofi Annan Living Memorial* (KALM) is a pan-African initiative to commemorate and sustain the legacy of the late UN Secretary-General. Rather than erecting a monument, the memorial consists in education initiatives seeking to promote peace and the Sustainable Development Goals. KAICT participates in the initiative with three projects. The first one is a course for *Kofi Annan Young Diplomats for Conflict Prevention and the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*. This consist in a 46-hours certificate program taught to two cohorts in 2019. It targets an educated population segment, i.e. senior high school students, university students, professionals in the security sector, civil society, NGO, Government and private sector.

KAICT further envisages to organizes *Kofi Annan Clubs for Conflict Prevention and Realization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*. This program targets High School and Junior High School students as well as out of school youths and will require community service at grassroots level.

Also in the pipeline is the *Kofi Annan Youth Leadership Training in Conflict Prevention and the SDG's*, which is a 6 weeks exposure course. This program will reach out to out-of-school youths. Training will be geared toward rehabilitation, de-traumatization, and self-exploration.

2. M.A. Teaching

The reporting period stretches across five semesters during which KAICT taught the following regular courses.

1st Semester of the Academic Year

Extracurricular	Seminar: Peace, Politics and Society
PSCT 500	Introduction to Peace and Conflict Studies
PSCT 511	Introduction to Peacebuilding and Development
PSCT 516	Leadership and Governance
PSCT 524	Language Studies II - French
PSCT 538	Non-Violence, Trauma Healing and Reconciliation
PSCT 601	Research Methodology
PSCT 631	International Relations and Peace
PSCT 712	Thesis Project

2nd Semester of the Academic Year

Extracurricular	Seminar: Peace, Politics and Society
PSCT 502	Statistics for Decision Making

PSCT 523	Language Studies I - French
PSCT 535	Defense, Security and Peacebuilding
PSCT 601	Research Methodology
PSCT 615	Community Development
PSCT 627	Ethnology, Gender and Human Rights
PSCT 712	Thesis Project

Students enrolled during the reporting period

Academic Year	Semester	Students
2017-2018	1	50
2017-2018	2	44
2018-2019	1	40
2018-2019	2	47
2019-2020	1	35
2019-20	2	35

2.1. M.A. Graduations

The following numbers of students graduated during the reporting period:

	Male	Female	Total

2018	17	6	23
2019	8	6	14
2020	8	9	17

3. Public Events

3.1	10 January 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Talking Human Rights in Liberia Ricarda Roesch
<p>According to estimations, between 50 and 70% of the Liberian land mass have been awarded to investors since the end of the civil war in 2003. These concessions inevitably interfere with the collective land rights of rural Liberian. On the international plane, it has increasingly been recognised that communities shall be consulted (or even consent) before extinguishing their collective land rights and, also in Liberia, the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) has become an important buzzword. The presentation explores the implementation of FPIC in three different sectors: mining, palm oil, and forestry. It comes to conclude that, even though FPIC is mandatory at least in the forest sector, its implementation lags behind international law standards.</p> <p>Ricarda Roesch, LL.M., is PhD student and faculty member at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Faculty of Business, Economics, and Law. Her PhD research focusses on the gender impact of the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) in sub-Saharan Africa. Since March 2017, her PhD is funded by the Heinrich-Böll Foundation. In 2017 and 2018, she spent several months as a visiting researcher at the Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation and in a USAID-funded community forest project in Liberia.</p>			

3.2	17 January 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	The Evolution of Multi-party Democracy in Liberia Franklin Siakor
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Liberia's struggle for democratic governance has a long history. Hon. Siakor's talk focuses on the period of the 1970. It details the emergence of progressive forces in Liberia's politics and explains the ideas and aspirations it expressed. The government, torn between more liberal and more recalcitrant forces, found it difficult to engage these new actors and ended up in a confrontation. Lack of political experience and populism on the part of some progressive leaders contributed to aggravating the situation. The crises that followed undermined the quest for democracy in the long run.

Hon. Franklin Siakor was an activist of the progressive movement of the 1990s. He founded and heads one of Liberia's best reputed educational NGOs, the *Development Education Network – Liberia* (DEN-L) based in Gbarnga. He served as Senator for Bong County from 2005-2011 and ran as vice-presidential candidates in the elections of 2011.

3.3	24 January 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	The Role of the African Union in the 2017 Democratic Elections in Liberia, The Role of the African Union in the 2017 Democratic Elections in Liberia Prosper Nii Nortey Addo
<p>Elections in Liberia passed peacefully despite several challenges with the electoral registration process, the electoral Code of Conduct, alleged irregularities and fraud in the first round of polls, as well as its attendant legal challenges involving the two major political parties and the Liberian National Election Commission (NEC). Liberian international partners played active roles in facilitating the redress of these challenges which eventually resulted in the election of a President Elect. In this forthcoming seminar, Mr. Prosper Nii Nortey Addo, Deputy Head of <i>Mission of the AU Liaison Office in Liberia</i> (AULOL) will do a presentation on the topic "The</p>			

Role of the African Union in the 2017 Democratic Elections in Liberia”. This will afford students and the general public an opportunity to gain insight into some of the activities of the AU in Liberia, but with particular focus on its role in contributing to the just-ended peaceful and successful elections in Liberia.

3.4	7 February 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Why the Land Rights Act Needs Improvement Ali Kaba (SDI)
<p>In the midst of the current political transition hangs the draft Land Rights Act (LRA), passed by the Lower House in August 2017. The LRA aims to protect the land rights of all Liberians, especially people living in rural places with weak tenure security. However, the version of the Bill passed by the House of Representatives would severely and unduly undermine the land rights of ordinary citizens, particularly rural Liberians. It includes troublesome provisions concerning Tribal Certificates, Government claims to Public and Protected Lands, and lacks a Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) provision within the law. Collectively, these provisions could spark tensions and increase conflict in the country, rather than assuring ordinary citizens’ property rights.</p> <p>Ali Kaba is a Program Manager and Senior Researcher at the Sustainable Development Institute (SDI), a Liberian non-governmental organization working to transform decision-making processes in relation to natural resources. Mr. Kaba coordinates SDI’s Community Land Protection Program activities and directs a national CSO advocacy effort promoting the passage of a pro-community land rights bill.</p>			

3.5	29 March 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues ECOWAS & KAICT	The Role of Religious and Traditional Authorities in Liberia's Stability
This event is a panel discussion. It is one of three events organized in cooperation with the ECOWAS Mission in Liberia under the theme <i>Enhancing Post-Election Political Stability in Liberia</i> .			

3.6	5 April 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues ECOWAS & KAICT	Roles and Contributions of Youth in the Preservation of Liberia's Peace and Stability
This event is a panel discussion. It is one of three events organized in cooperation with the ECOWAS Mission in Liberia under the theme <i>Enhancing Post-Election Political Stability in Liberia</i> .			

3.7	12 April 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues ECOWAS & KAICT	Liberia's Multi-Party Democracy and the Future of its Political Stability
This event is a panel discussion. It is one of three events organized in cooperation with the ECOWAS Mission in Liberia under the theme <i>Enhancing Post-Election Political Stability in Liberia</i> .			

3.8	6 June 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Panel Discussion	Book Launch of: Understanding West Africa's Ebola Epidemic: Towards a Political Economy (Zed Books)
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			Ibrahim Abdullah & Ismail Rashid (Eds.)
<p>This panel discussion served to introduce and discuss the most comprehensive publication so far on the West African Ebola epidemic. The editors Ibrahim Abdullah and Ismail Rashid provided an overview over core themes of the publication.</p> <p>Panelists commenting on the presentation were:</p> <p>Tolbert Nyenswah (Director General and Chief Executive Officer, National Public Health Institute)</p> <p>Norris Tweah (Deputy Information Minister during Ebola crisis)</p> <p>T. Debey Sayndee (Director, KAICT)</p>			

3.9	20 June 2018	4th Natural Resource Day, Gbarnga	County Perspectives on Natural Resource Management
<p>The <i>Natural Resource Day</i> is a one-day information and learning event held annually between 2015 and 2018. It is aimed at creating an understanding of opportunities and challenges of natural resource governance among high school students. The 2018 program was held in Gbarnga, Bong County and focused on local opportunities, concerns and interests. It featured a morning session, which explained basic facts and provided an overview over the state of the Liberian natural resource economy. The afternoon session consisted in a panel discussion, in which the audience could engage stakeholders from local government, the local agricultural research institution CARI, the Ministry of Gender, KAICT and the community college. Professionals from civil society, public sector and academia</p>			

were invited to join the audience and enrich the panel discussion. The event was visited by 201 registered participants.

3.10	4 July 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Screening and Discussion of documentary “Kinshasa Symphony”
<p><i>Kinshasa Symphony</i> is a great tale about the people of Congo's capital, their ingenuity and determination, and the power of music. In the documentary, people in an extremely challenging environment organize an extraordinarily demanding undertaking: a symphony orchestra. The orchestra is planning a major open-air concert to mark the anniversary of independence for the Democratic Republic of the Congo. An audience of several thousand is expected to attend. Many of the artists work long hours to survive and struggle with private issues in addition to rehearsing until late into the night. Further, numerous logistical problems from procuring and repairing hard-to-get instruments to organizing costumes have to be overcome. And with great creativity, they are.</p>			

3.11	11 July 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Peacebuilding and Reconciliation Context of Liberia, Pt. 1 Edward K. Mulbah
<p>In this talk, Edward Mulbah will speak on approaches to and state of reconciliation in Liberia, explaining the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation and results of the Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index (SCORE) assessment.</p> <p>The Government of Liberia and partners in December of 2012 launched the Strategic Roadmap as a national framework designed to achieve sustained peace and reconciliation, and to address the root causes of the Liberian civil war. It</p>			

defined reconciliation as a multidimensional process of overcoming social, political, and religious cleavages; mending and transforming relationships; healing the physical and psychological wounds from the civil war, as well as confronting and addressing historical wrongs including the structural root causes of conflicts in Liberia. It contains 12 thematic areas based on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations.

Edward K. Mulbah is Executive Director of the Peacebuilding Office (PBO) at the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

3.12	18 July 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Peacebuilding and Reconciliation Context of Liberia, Pt. 2 Edward K. Mulbah
This session continued the previous session of 11 July.			

3.13	1 August 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Culture and cultural activities to bridge long divisive gaps: A case study of Liberia Jerry Boweh
Mr. Boweh argues that political violence is promoted by cultural norms that further confrontational attitudes and bestow privileges on those in positions of power. Boweh suggest to tackle a culture of violence by focusing on disenfranchised youths. Cultural activity projects can inspire creativity, build linkages and create prospects for marginalized youths beneficial for society in the long run.			

3.14	8 August 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Inform Women, Transform Lives Cerue Konah Garlow & Thomas Doe Nah (Carter Center)
<p>A recent study undertaken by Carter Center and partners demonstrated that women are not able to exercise their right to information with the same ease, quantity, and rate of success as men. The main obstacles include illiteracy, lack of awareness of the right and how to ask for information, time/mobility, and culture/fear. Following the study, Carter Center organized a joint stakeholder meeting with government representatives, traditional community leaders, and civil society champions to discuss the findings and identify potential solutions for overcoming the barriers women face in exercising their right to information. The discussion resulted in a joint effort by various stakeholders to improve women's access to information. This talk will explain why Freedom of Information has different effects for men and women, how obstacles and solutions were identified, and how actors seek to improve women's access to information.</p>			

3.15	22 August 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Panel Discussion	The Exchange Rate Crisis: Background and Policy Options
<p>The value of the Liberian Dollar drastically deteriorated since August 2017. This manifested itself in rising prices for basic necessities. The impact is broadly felt, with particularly drastic effects on the poor, and is a major cause of public discontent. In this panel discussion, we seek to identify causes of the crisis and explore policy options.</p>			

The event was moderated by KAICT Director T. Debey Sayndee.

Panelists were:

Hon. Wilson Tarpeh, Minister of Commerce and Industry

Prof. Geegbae A. Geegbae: University of Liberia Vice President for Institutional Development; Director of Access Bank; former Dean of College of Business and Public Administration

Prof. David Farhat: Director of Graduate Program Business and Public Administration; former Minister of Finance

Dr. Paul Collins, Former Internal Audit Chief of Central Bank of Liberia and Dual Currency Regime Expert

Moderators:

Prof. T. Debey Sayndee & Dr. Felix Gerdes, KAICT

3.16	21 September 2018	International Day of Peace	The Right to Peace
<p>The International Day of Peace was established by the UN General Assembly as a commemoration day dedicated to education and public awareness on issues related to peace. KAICT organized a one-day event at the University of Liberia targeting a broad audience of university and high-school students as well as civil society and security sector. It included an outdoor program with a march for peace and an indoor program of cultural performances and a panel discussion in which the audience could discuss with delegates from security sector and UNDP. About 250 guests participated in the event.</p>			

3.17	28 September 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Security Sector Reform Dialogue	Processes and Mechanisms for the Development of SSR Policies
<p>The Security Sector Reform Dialogues are a public discussion series of KAICT's SSR Think Tank. They create opportunities for debate between security sector professionals, civil society and academia.</p> <p>In this Dialogue, Mr. Peter F. Zayzay, fmr. Deputy Commissioner of Immigration, talked on the impact of the change in government on the security sector reform process. Hon. Asatu Bah Kenneth, Deputy Commissioner of Immigration, outlined progress made in capacity development.</p>			

3.18	12 October 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Panel Discussion	The Preservation of Liberia's Natural Resources for Future Generations
<p>The Kofi Annan Dialogues are information and discussion events usually held in the early evening. The event on the future of natural resources in Liberia was a panel discussion conducted by Mr. Jackson Speare (CSO Consortium on Natural Resource Management), Mr. Myer Saye (LEITI) and Mr. Aaron Weah (Search for Common Ground). The event was visited by 94 registered participants.</p>			

3.19	17 October 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Security Sector Reform Dialogue	National Ownership of the Security Sector Reform
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The Security Sector Reform Dialogues are a public discussion series of KAICT's SSR Think Tank. They create opportunities for debate between security sector professionals, civil society and academia.

In this Dialogue, Brig. Gen. Geraldine J. George, Deputy Chief of Staff, AFL, explained how coordination between security institutions had evolved. Police Inspector-General Patrick Sudue outlined dimensions of police-citizen relations. The Director of Prevention at the Liberia Drugs Enforcement Agency, Robert K. Akoi, gave insights on inter-agency cooperation.

3.20	14 November 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Screening and Discussion of Movie "Timbuktu"
<p>The award-winning movie "Timbuktu" (2014) shows life under the Islamist occupation in the legendary desert city and its environs in northern Mali. No more music, no tea, no cigarettes, no bright colors, no laughs. The women have become shadows. The religious fundamentalists are spreading terror in the region. In the dunes, away from the chaos, Kidane enjoys a quiet life with his wife Satima, his daughter Toya and Issan, his little shepherd. But his peace is short-lived. After accidentally killing Amadou, a fisherman who stroke down his favorite cow, Kidane must face the law of the new foreign rulers determined to defeat an open and tolerant Islam. Against the humiliations and acts of brutality performed by these complex men, "Timbuktu" tells the story of the silent struggle of the people, the fight for life of little Issan, and the uncertain future of the children.</p> <p>Since 2013, the Armed Forces of Liberia support the UN Stabilization Mission (MINUSMA) at a base in Timbuktu. Major General Prince Charles Johnson, Chief</p>			

of Staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia, gives an update on the situation in Timbuktu.

Subsequent Q&A with

-Major-General Prince Johnson, AFL Chief of Staff

-Major Thomas Nimely fmr. Special Assistance, Office of Deputy MINUSMA Force Commander

-Captain Alvin Hayes, fmr. Quick Reaction Force Commander, Timbuktu

3.21	5 December 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Security Sector Reform Dialogue	The Effects of Political Transition on the Security Sector
This Security Sector Reform Dialogue examines the extent to which smooth turn-over took place in the security sector between past and current public officials, following the political transition in January 2018. It seeks to determine the gaps in terms of understanding and operationalizing the policies that were developed over the SSR period.			

3.22	19 December 2018	Kofi Annan Dialogues Security Sector Reform Dialogue	Traditional Methods of Justice and Security
This Security Sector Reform Dialogue brings together bring together key traditional actors and stakeholders to discuss justice and security issues in the society. It			

serves to examine traditional methods of justice and security, build the capacity of traditional actors on how to deal with justice and security issues, discuss the limitations of traditional leaders on the types of cases they should adjudicate, to link the traditional method of justice and security to that of statutory methods of justice and security and discuss the impact of traditional justice and security methods on the society.

3.23	6 February 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	What in Fact is Development? A Contested Concept
Presenter : Mr. Jackson Fayiah			

3.24	17 April 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues	Road Safety – Improving Safety of Liberia’s Roads
<p>Liberia features one of the highest per-capita rates of traffic fatalities in the world. The event is intended to create awareness on extent and sources of traffic accidents and discuss possible remedies. It targets an audience of high school and university students.</p> <p>The event is organized by Save Life Liberia in collaboration with the Liberia National Police (LNP), Ministry of Public Works (MPW), Millennium Challenge Account-Liberia (MCA-L), German Cooperation, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation, and other partners as part of the commemoration of Safe Streets Festival in Liberia that also coincides with the 5th UN Global Road Safety Week</p>			

2019. Inspector General of Liberia National Police Patrick T. Sudue will deliver welcoming statement to open the floor for discussion.

3.25	15 May 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues	When Paul Came over the Sea- Screening and discussion of migration documentary
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The event started with the screening of the documentary *When Paul Came Over the Sea* by Jakob Preuss.

Paul has made his way from his home in Cameroon across the Sahara to the Moroccan coast where he now lives in a forest waiting for the right moment to cross the Mediterranean. Paul manages to cross over to Spain on a rubber boat. He survives - but half of his companions die on this tragic 50-hour odyssey. Held for two months in a deportation centre, upon his release Paul meets Jakob again at a shelter for migrants in Southern Spain. When Paul decides to continue on to Germany, Jakob has to make a choice: will he become an active part of Paul's pursuit of a better life or remain a detached documentary filmmaker?

Following the screening, two young Liberian migrants who had made the journey to Algeria but did not succeed in crossing to Europe narrated their experiences and discussed with the audience.

The event was organized in cooperation with Friends of Liberia e.V..

3.26	22 May 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Rural Development Planning Prof. Francis Marweah
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Rural areas are facing challenges today which arise mainly from globalization, demographic change and the rural migration of young, well-trained people. These

challenges include strengthening agricultural production, providing health care and education, building and protecting infrastructures and protecting the rural environment. Policies and plans for rural areas aim to contribute to recognizing and making use of strengths and opportunities, hence rural development planning. In most countries, rural development has become a controversial issue since it became part of national development programs. There has been criticism and counter-criticism by professionals, specialists and politicians on the issues, with regards to strategies and approaches applied in developing countries. While many approaches have been discussed both locally and internationally, there is no consensus on which is the most successful one. The purpose of this presentation is to provide information on these debates and thereby guidance about rural development planning processes and the delivery of services to the rural clients.

Associate Prof. Francis N. Maweah is Director of Regional Science Program and Acting Vice President for Graduate Studies, University of Liberia.

3.27	29 May 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	The Nature of the African State and Conflicts Thomas Jaye
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If politics is contested then so are the words associated with it. This is particularly true for the notion of the state. Far from the Weberian ideal-type state, which most people seem to imagine for all societies, in the global south including Liberia, the way in which the state manifests itself is certainly different from the state of the 'developed' world. Hence, state ideas as they stand do not really provide frameworks or tools for understanding and explaining the actual conditions in many states in the global south. Further, the way we think about the state shapes the different approaches to development, governance, security and peacebuilding; but it can also be an obstacle to understanding and explaining the dynamics of

political community in post-colonial states. Indeed in the global south, especially in post-colonial Africa, the notion of the state should be seen within the framework of a hybrid political order. The modern state exists side-by-side the traditional institutions and even in some cases, they complement each other but the relationship can also be conflictual.

The state bequeathed by colonialism has not only been a source of accumulation but also a source of insecurity and hence conflicts. The nature of the state is therefore linked directly with conflicts but if reconfigured, the state could play a major role in conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

Dr. Thomas Jaye is Director of the Liberia Institute of Policy Studies and Research, University of Liberia.

3.28	12 June 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Lecture Screening and Discussion: Why Civil Resistance Works: Nonviolence in the Past and Future Erica Chenoweth
<p>Renowned scholar Erica Chenoweth explains the surprising results of her research, showing that between 1900 and 2006, campaigns of nonviolent resistance were more than twice as effective as their violent counterparts. Attracting impressive support from citizens that helps separate regimes from their main sources of power, these campaigns have produced remarkable results, even in the contexts of Iran, the Palestinian Territories, the Philippines, and Burma. Combining statistical analysis with case studies of these specific countries and territories, Erica Chenoweth details the factors enabling such campaigns to succeed-and, at times, causing them to fail. She finds that nonviolent resistance presents fewer obstacles to moral and physical involvement, information and education, and participator commitment. Higher levels of participation then contribute to enhanced resilience,</p>			

a greater probability of tactical innovation, increased opportunity for civic disruption, and shifts in loyalty among opponents' erstwhile supporters. She finds successful nonviolent resistance movements usher in more durable and internally peaceful democracies, which are less likely to regress into civil war.

3.29	19 June 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Towards the Middle Income Country Goal: The Human Capacity Issue Matthew B. Kollie
<p>With the end of the civil war and the return to democratic governance, successive Liberian Government Administrations have espoused a determination to lead the nation out of extreme poverty, socio-economic stagnation and general backwardness. This desire to see Liberia become a developmental state is manifested in the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS), the Vision 2030, and the Agenda for Transformation (AFT). The George Weah Administration launched its own version of the national development plan called the Pro-poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD). The PAPD (2018 to 2023) is the second in the series of 5-year National Development Plans (NDP) anticipated under the Liberia Vision 2030 framework and builds upon the AFT (2012-2017).</p> <p>This presentation is about how Liberia could actualize its goal of becoming a middle-income country by 2030. The presentation will primarily focus on the human capacity issues that are germane to reaching the middle-income country goal.</p> <p>Matthew B. Kollie is Program Manager at the Governance Commission.</p>			

3.30	26 June 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Security Sector Reform Dialogue	Security Sector Reform in the New Political Dispensation
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In January 2018, the government of President George M. Weah took over, replacing the Unity Party-led administration that had governed Liberia since the re-establishment of constitutional rule in 2006. Such a change in government implies a re-orientation of policies. One and a half years into the term of the new government, it is time to reflect on the path security sector reform has taken, and discuss progress and challenges. The panel discussion features renowned Liberian experts with long-term experience in the sector, who have witnessed the evolution of security policy across the two administrations.

Panelists:

Hon. Daniel D. Ziankahn - Minister of National Defense (tbc)

Ms. Maude M. Somah - Ministry of Justice, Gender Task Force Coordinator

Ms. Victoria Wollie - West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, National Coordinator

Hon. Saint Jerome Larbelee - fmr. Deputy Minister of National Defense

Mr. Samuel G. Ford, Director - Liberia National Police, Chief of Community Services Section

3.31	20 September 2019	International Day of Peace KAICT & ONPA	Climate Action for Peace Liberia's Response to Climate Change
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The International Day of Peace was established by the UN General Assembly as a commemoration day dedicated to education and public awareness on issues

related to peace. International topic in 2019 is *Climate Action for Peace* and KAICT dedicated its event to *Liberia's Response to Climate Change*. In collaboration with the *Office of the National Peace Ambassador* (ONPA), KAICT organized a one-day event at the University of Liberia targeting professionals from government, civil society. The aim was to establish what is known about the impact of climate change on Liberia, what policies are pursued to mitigate the impact and what the long-term prospects are.

The event started with an awareness-raising march in the morning. In the afternoon, two panel discussions took place. The first one focused on government policy and the second on alternative perspectives from civil society and academia. The event was visited by about 200 participants.

3.32	2 October 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Security Sector Reform Dialogue	Strengthening Coordination for Operational Efficiency of Core Security Institutions in Liberia
<p>The Security Sector Reform Dialogues are a public discussion series of KAICT's SSR Think Tank. They create opportunities for debate between security sector professionals, civil society and academia.</p> <p>At this Dialogue, four panelists made presentations in front of 114 participants. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Thomas Jaye. Panelists were:</p> <p>Hon. Steve Zargo, Senator, Chair, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Security</p> <p>Brig. Gen. Geraldine J. George, Deputy Chief of Staff, AFL</p> <p>Mr. Cecil Griffiths, Coordinator, Liberia National Law Enforcement Association</p>			

Mr. Eric Freeman, National Security Agency
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3.33	30 October 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Security Sector Reform Dialogue	Understanding and Explaining the Role of Oversight Institutions in Security Sector Governance
The Security Sector Reform Dialogues are a public discussion series of KAICT's SSR Think Tank. They create opportunities for debate between security sector professionals, civil society and academia. 142 participants			

3.34	13 November 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Upcycling – A Metaphor for Conflict Transformation Dr. Marian Stewart
<p>It is so easy for us to throw up our hands in frustration as we travel the streets of Monrovia or perhaps any growing metropolis in Liberia and view the garbage, trash, waste that seems to overflow our cities. In the same way, we throw up our hands in frustration as we consider conflict and wonder how we can alleviate the negative effects of those conflicts that are past, and avoid, contain or settle those conflicts that are and will come in the future. In this presentation, I will seek to remind us of another way to look at conflict by using the metaphor of upcycling – making something new out of something old so that the new item created is of greater value than the previous one. It is hoped that this will help propel us into a new paradigm for peacebuilding and sustainability.</p> <p>Dr. Marian Stewart develops programs and implementation strategies with special emphasis on helping organizations and institutions reinforce their vision and</p>			

mission focus through leadership development and staff engagement. Dr. Stewart has written papers on Ethics, Cross-cultural Education, Strategic Planning, Leadership Development, and Christian counseling. She is the president of Faith and Deeds Ministries and began serving in Liberia in 2006 and has been a resident since 2011.

3.35	27 November 2019	Information and Awareness Session	Information session on the European Union's Erasmus+ Scholarship Programme
In cooperation with the Delegation of the European Union to Liberia, KAICT organized an information session on Erasmus+ scholarship opportunities for Liberians. The session was facilitated by the EU's Mr. Juan Antonio Frutos-Goldaratz and Ms. Lorpu Scott.			

3.36	20 November 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Security Sector Reform Dialogue	Update and Status on Implementing UN Security Council: Resolution 1325 in the Security Sector Reform: Challenges and the way forward
<p>The Security Sector Reform Dialogues are a public discussion series of KAICT's SSR Think Tank. They create opportunities for debate between security sector professionals, civil society and academia.</p> <p>In this dialogue, delegates from UNDP (Ms. Vivian N. Innis), Ministry of Defense (Gen. Joseph Palay), UN WOMEN (Ms. Ghoma Karloweah), Ministry of Health (Cllr. Abba Gadegbeku Williams) served as panelists. Challenges for increasing women's influence in security institutions were found to be in lack of resources</p>			

dedicated to women promotion, quota goals are absent or not met because they do not have binding legal status, insufficient monitoring of women promotion. To improve security sector response to SGBV, more standardized training should be offered.

3.37	27 November 2019	Kofi Annan Dialogues Panel Discussion	Improving Governance in Liberia: What is the Way Forward? KAICT Alumni and Students
<p>At this Dialogue, outstanding students and alumni of KAICT presented their analysis of the governance challenges and prospects.</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Ms. Cerue Konah Garlue, Carter Center</p> <p>Ms. Comfort Gray, Independent Consultant</p> <p>Mr. Kabbah Trawally, Inter-religious Council of Liberia</p> <p>Maj/Gen Prince Charles C. Johnson, AFL</p>			

3.38	22 January 2020	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Screening & Discussion: Abhijit Banerjee & Esther Duflo: “After Poor Economics”
<p>In 2019, Banerjee and Duflo were jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics. The Nobel Committee thereby chose to highlight the work of scholars working on</p>			

the challenges faced by developing countries. Banerjee and Duflo had been highly influential in academic debates on poverty and development, both for the findings and their contribution to methodology. Their jointly authored “Poor Economics”, first published in 2011, integrated many results of their previous academic studies, challenged many conventional views on development and has become a major point of reference in the debate on development.

This Wednesday, we screen a lecture entitled “After Poor Economics” (2017), in which they reflect on their work, the debate it has generated and insights that followed. This lecture thus as well introduces perspectives that are elaborated on in details in their just published new book, “Good Economics for Hard Times” (2019). In this Seminar, we will watch the lecture and discuss it with a view to the lessons it might contain for Liberia.

3.39	22 January 2020	Kofi Annan Dialogues Security Sector Reform Dialogue	Security and Justice: Challenges and the Way forward
<p>The Security Sector Reform Dialogues are a public discussion series of KAICT’s SSR Think Tank. They create opportunities for debate between security sector professionals, civil society and academia.</p> <p>This special engagement in Benthol, the capital city of Montserrado County, discussed challenges in the semi-urban setting and provided an opportunity for local residents, local authorities police officers to exchange their points of view.</p>			

3.40	26 February 2020	Kofi Annan Dialogues Wednesday Seminar	Kolokwa: Where did it come from and where is it headed? Prof. em. Dr. John Singler, NYU
<p>The English of modern Liberia, in particular Kolokwa, reflects Liberia's history. The settlers brought English with them when they came from the United States, but many people along the coast were already speaking a pidginized variety when they arrived. Modern Kolokwa grammar reflects the language of both of its "parents," that is, African American English and West African Pidgin English. The rise in this century of the term "Kolokwa" captures the variety's uniqueness and its power as a marker of Liberian identity.</p> <p>Dr. John Singler is Professor Emeritus of linguistics and former department chair at New York University. While teaching at St. Joseph's School in Greenville, Sinoe County, in 1969-1970 and the Episcopal High School in Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount County, in 1971-1975, he grew interested in the English of Liberia. He has written An Introduction to Liberian English, has co-edited The Handbook of Pidgin and Creole Studies, and co-edited a new edition of Guanya Pau: The story of an African princess, by Joseph Jeffrey Walters. He has published more than forty articles on language in Liberia. He is one of the founders of the African Linguistics School.</p>			

4. Extracurricular courses and trainings

4.1	24 November 2017 – 31 January 2018	Extracurricular Training Course SSRTT	Women, Peace and Security, Cohort 1
<p>The course provided participants with an understanding of gender concepts, the challenges arising in development of gender and security sector policies, international standards such as the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000); and built the capacity of security institutions in responding to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).</p> <p>50 participants from security sector and civil society took part in the training.</p>			

4.2	January 24– March 9, 2018	Extracurricular Training Course	Building IRCL’S Conflict Mediation Capacity After UNMIL
<p>This training was conducted for the Inter-Religious Council of Liberia (IRCL). It provided eight training sessions of three hours each for junior religious leaders.</p>			

4.3	January 29 – February 2, 2018		Building IRCL’S Conflict Mediation Capacity After UNMIL
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This training was conducted for the Inter-Religious Council of Liberia (IRCL). It provided five days (15 hours total) of training in mediation for 20 senior executive religious leaders of Liberia. The training was held in Gbarnga City, Bong County.

4.4	14-15 February 2018	Extracurricular Training Course Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) & KAICT	Training on Land Rights and “Land Grabbing” Fr. John Paul Pezzi Felix Gerdes
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This training course aimed to promote understanding and civic competence on land grabbing (LG) issues. It provided an overview over global trends, the situation in Liberia and international legal and corporate norms meant to address land right insecurity. The target participants included representatives of Civil Society organisations working on land rights, academic scholars, diplomatic missions, religious leaders, and the National Commission for Justice, Peace and Caritas (NCJPC). 40 participants took part in the training.

The general parts of the course were developed and taught by Fr. John Paul Pezzi and the parts on the Liberian situation by Felix Gerdes. KAICT partnered with CAFOD in organizing this training.

Fr. John Paul Pezzi, Mccj, is a VIVAT International associate and an international activist promoting peasant land rights. Felix Gerdes is CPS staff at KAICT.

4.5	12 May 2018	Community Organization Training	Community Capacity – Patterns of Organization for Block and Community Leadership in 12 th Street
<p>Since 2016, KAICT has been working with the 12th Street Community to strengthen organizational capacity. This workshop at the A. Glen High School in the community was part of the long-term cooperation. 12th Street is a very large community. It is difficult to establish an organization representing the interests and concerns of so many residents, and it is difficult for the leadership to communicate to so many people, e.g. inform them of initiatives. The workshop is meant to establish the way forward to overcome these challenges. It is meant to form a shared understanding of the purposes and tasks of the community organization, the role of the community blocks in these, and the relations between the blocks and the central leadership. The expected outcome is that we get to a shared understanding of what should change and which steps and initiatives can be taken to get there. 37 persons from various constituencies in the community visited the workshop.</p>			

4.6	20 July – 26 October 2018	Extracurricular Training Course SSRTT	Women, Peace and Security, Cohort 2
<p>The course provided the participants with an understanding of gender concepts, the challenges arising in development of gender and security sector policies, international standards such as the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000); and built the capacity of security institutions in responding to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).</p>			

58 participants from security sector and civil society took part in the training. Of these, 28 were male and 30 female.

4.7	24 August 2018	Community Organization Training	Community Capacity – Patterns of Organization for Block and Community Leadership in 12 th Street
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Since 2016, KAICT's has been working with the 12th Street Community to strengthen organizational capacity. This workshop at KAICT was part of the long-term cooperation. It followed up on the workshop of 12 May 2018, discussed the steps taken so far to create effective Block level association structures and the way forward. 56 persons from various constituencies in the community visited the workshop.

4.8	18 March 2019	Kofi Annan Living Memorial (KALM)	KALM Launch
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Under the auspices of the Resident Coordinator of the UN, Yacoub El Hillo and graced by the presence of the President of Liberia, H.E. George M. Weah, the KALM initiative was launched in a festive celebration held at the One UN Building.

The *Kofi Annan Living Memorial* (KALM) is a pan-African initiative to commemorate and sustain the legacy of the late UN Secretary-General. Rather than erecting a monument, the memorial consists in education initiatives seeking to promote peace and the Sustainable Development Goals. KAICT participates in the initiative with three projects.

4.9	20-22 March 2019	National Association of Community Leadership of Liberia - KAICT - LNP	Short-term training in “Community Development”
<p>On the request of the National Association of Community Leadership of Liberia (NACOLL), KAICT trained three groups of community leaders for half a day each. NACOLL mobilized two groups of community leaders from Montserrado’s District #6 and one from District #19. KAICT introduced the topic of Community Development by giving practical advice on community organization, elections and financial administration and provided a comprehensive overview over practices of mediation. An afternoon session on neighborhood security was facilitated by the Liberia National Police Community Services Section.</p>			

4.10	26 April 2019	National Association of Community Leadership of Liberia - KAICT - LNP	Community Capacity - Training of Trainers
<p>On the request of the National Association of Community Leadership of Liberia (NACOLL), KAICT trained ten delegates from NACOLL from Montserrado and Margibi counties, who are expected to train community leaders in their areas. The training covered community elections, organizational patterns, financial administration and mediation techniques.</p>			

4.11	23 May to 1 August 2019	Extracurricular Training Course	Anthropology of Conflict and Violence
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		SSRTT	
<p>The course (3h/week) is a complementary effort of KAICT's Security Sector Reform Think Tank (SSRTT) program which seeks to promote civilian participation and ownership of Liberia's security sector. Participants will become familiar with fundamental concepts, paradigms, and debates that have shaped our understanding of violence, within anthropology and the social sciences, as well as more broadly. It elaborates in particular on the state as a core actor limiting, abusing or legitimizing violence. The course targets professionals from the security sector, KAICT students, and UL faculty. It was taught by Felipe Neis Araujo. 50 participants enrolled and 20 successfully completed.</p>			

4.12	24 May to 23 August 2019	Extracurricular Training Course KALM	Kofi Annan Young Diplomats for Conflict Prevention Cohort 1
<p>The <i>Kofi Annan Living Memorial</i> (KALM) is a pan-African initiative to commemorate and sustain the legacy of the late UN Secretary-General. KAICT participates in the initiative with three projects. The first one among these is a course for "Kofi Annan Young Diplomats for Conflict Prevention". This consist in a 46-hours-certificate program. It targets an educated population segment, i.e. senior high school students; university students; professionals in the security sector; civil society; NGOs; Government and private sector. The course features five modules: Conflict Management; Leadership, Governance and Patriotism; Human Rights and Rule of Law; Community Development; The Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>The first course was visited by 34 participants, 20 of whom were female.³⁰</p>			

4.13	19 August to 13 September 2019	Extracurricular Training Course	Student Leadership Training
<p>Against the background of repeated violent clashes among student organisations as well as between these and the police, KAICT designed and conducted a training course for leaders of student organizations. It consisted of four modules:</p> <p>The first week was dedicated towards self-reflection and self-assessment. It was used to reflect on the personal challenges and experiences unconsciously impacting on behaviour and introduced ways to cope with trauma and stress. The second week was explicitly dedicated to styles of leadership. It focused on attributes of hierarchical and cooperative leadership. The third week treated subjects of civic education and focused on democracy, integrity/rule of law and nation-building. The fourth week had the theme of Conflict Transformation. The final Friday was used to climax the training by visiting nationally important sites, the National Museum and Providence Island.</p> <p>The course targeted 72 leaders representing 36 student organisations. The participants were divided into two groups, one of which attended Monday and Wednesday, the other on Tuesday and Thursday. The Friday training was organized as a joint session. Each session lasted 4 hours and the training in total thus took each participant 48 hours. 51 participants successfully completed the course.</p>			

4.14	30 October 2019 – 28	Kofi Annan Living Memorial (KALM)	Kofi Annan Young Diplomats for Conflict Prevention Cohort 2
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	February 2020		
<p>The <i>Kofi Annan Living Memorial</i> (KALM) is a pan-African initiative to commemorate and sustain the legacy of the late UN Secretary-General. KAICT participates in the initiative with three projects. The first one among these is a course for “Kofi Annan Young Diplomats for Conflict Prevention”. This consist in a 46-hours-certificate program. It targets an educated population segment, i.e. senior high school students; university students; professionals in the security sector; civil society; NGOs; Government and private sector. The course features five modules: Conflict Management; Leadership, Governance and Patriotism; Human Rights and Rule of Law; Community Development; The Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>A total of 64 students participated in this course, 34 of whom were female.</p>			

5. Consultancy

5.1	September 2018	Consultancy GIZ	Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment of GIZ health projects PEGGS and InSITU
<p>This consultancy consisted in developing a peace and conflict impact assessment of two health projects of GIZ in Liberia, the <i>Post Ebola Health Systems Strengthening</i> (PEGSS) in the southeast of Liberia and the <i>Integrated Severe Infections Treatment Units</i> (INSITU) in Fishtown and Monrovia.</p>			

6. Research Activities

6.1	10/2017- 12/2018	KAICT-SSRTT Research Project	Political Authority and Social Order in Monrovia: Gangs and order
<p>The project seeks to identify and explain structures of order and disorder in Monrovia. The research undertaken by the temporary KAICT researcher Julius J. Togba investigated the organization of drug-dealing youth gangs in urban social order. The case study found a single organization headed by a paramount leader controlling a number of the “ghettos”, i.e. facilities used for sale and consumption of illicit drugs, imposing a standardized pattern of order in an area of Monrovia. Authority is strongly hierarchical. The “ghettos” maintain a uniform structure, with several functionally differentiated “offices”. Among them is an enforcer charged with maintaining order. As the gang is not interested in conflicts with community dwellers that would disturb its business, stealing in the vicinity of the ghetto is forbidden and physically punished. Nonetheless, while drug money is also earned in various legal activities, a significant part is the proceeds of crime. Higher ranking gang members entertain strongly individualized ties to police, which limits law enforcement interference. The result is a pattern of inherently precarious order with significant gaps.</p> <p>The research was funded by the Civil Peace Service.</p>			

6.2	24-25 January 2018	KAICT-SSRTT Field Research	Community Justice and Security
<p>The research is designed to work with communities in a process of participatory action research. It is an evaluation of the roles being played by traditional leaders and institutions in the light of modern concepts of human rights (rule of law,</p>			

reconciliation and community development) in order to come up with recommendations for improving the roles played by traditional leaders and institutions with the overall goal of enhancing governance and access to justice in post-war Liberia. The field research was done in Totota and Salala Districts, Bong County. It was supported by the UNMIL Security Sector Reform Unit.

6.3	23-27 April 2018	KAICT Survey	Perceptions of Political Situation after Elections
This survey gathered perceptions on the work of the George Weah government, which took over in January 2018. Further surveys are planned to trace and explain the people's attitude towards the government. The survey was supported by the Civil Peace Service.			

6.4	13-19 October 2018	KAICT	Attitudes towards Resource Exploitation
<p>The study investigated to what extent and for what reasons Monrovia residents support natural resource exploitation. The study was meant to identify opportunities for sustainable exploitation and to identify entry points for politics and companies to improve the relationship between extractive industries, local communities, and society at large.</p> <p>The researchers were deployed in five localities in the greater Monrovia area, i.e. Central Monrovia area, Paynesville, Gardernersville, Brewerville, and Bushrod Island. The research was limited to Monrovia for capacity reasons and because the capital city has a disproportionate influence on national politics.</p>			

The study was supported by GIZ.

6.5	17 November 2018	KAICT-SSRTT IGC at LSE Round Table Discussion	The Root Causes of Fragility and Instability in Liberia; Pt 1
<p>The International Growth Center (IGC) at the London School of Economics and KAICT collaborate in a research project on <i>Root Causes of Fragility and Instability in Liberia</i>. The data gathering for the project proceeded in several steps, which extended into 2020 (see below). This Round Table was a first exploratory discussion session.</p> <p>KAICT and IGC organized this Round Table to solicit answers to the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do we already know about the drivers of fragility and instability in Liberia? 2. What could be the countervailing forces to neutralise the effects? <p>The roundtable was visited by 87 guests from government institutions, security sector, media, youth organisations, human rights advocates, religious organisations and academia.</p> <p>The event was funded by the International Growth Center.</p>			

6.6	20-22 June 2019	KAICT-SSRTT	The Root Causes of Fragility and Instability in Liberia, Pt. 2
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		IGC Field Research	
<p>The field research trip research gathered information on the development of the security situation after the withdrawal of UNMIL, the role and effectiveness of security actors, and the capacity of the statutory and customary justice systems. In townhall meetings assembling approximately 50 citizens, residents explained how they perceived the security situation and how they dealt with challenges. The meeting sessions included collecting recommendations, which were also meant to as an opportunity for the residents to develop solutions they could employ. The trip further served to enhance understanding of and popular support for security sector reform. Three teams concurrently conducted three days of research each in various localities in Margibi County, Grand Bassa County and Grand Cape Mount County. The research trip was supported by UNDP.</p>			

6.7	8–13 November 2019	KAICT-SSRTT IGC	Community Engagement on “The Root Causes of Fragility and Instability in Liberia”, Pt. 3
<p>These group discussion engagements in two of Liberia’s counties were the second major data gathering exercise for the “Fragility” joint research project. They were intended to discuss preliminary results of the fragility study with grassroots Liberians in semi-urban settings, thereby feeding back academic knowledge to communities and generating additional information. The participants were drawn from community structures and included community leaders, women group leaders, community youths, religious leaders, community watch forum members, farming group members, marketers, Government officials, traditional leaders, security apparatus, and others.</p>			

The group discussions were held in three Counties:

Robertsport (Grand Cape Mount)

Lackey Town, Dolo's Town, Weala, Kakata (all Margibi County)

Buchanan and Compound #1/Owensgrove (Grand Bassa).

6.8	4 December 2019	KAICT-SSRTT IGC	Community Engagement on "The Root Causes of Fragility and Instability in Liberia", Pt. 4
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The group discussion engagements were intended to discuss preliminary results of the fragility study with grassroots Liberians in semi-urban settings, thereby feeding back academic knowledge to communities and generating additional information. The participants were drawn from community structures and included community leaders, women group leaders, community youths, religious leaders, community watch forum members, farming group members, marketers, Government officials, traditional leaders, security apparatus, and others.

The group discussions were held in Brewerville (Montserrado).

6.9	Dec 9-13, 2019	KAICT-SSRTT	Security without the State, Pt. 1
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After a riot in which the police stations and the court building in Weala and nearby Beypolu were burnt down in April 2019, state law enforcement agencies vacated the towns. The research trip gathered data in Weala and Beypolue to investigate how the security situation developed and how security was provided in the absence of state security agencies. The research trip was supported by Civil Peace Service.

The research paper “Security Without the State – The Security Impact of State and Non-state Actors in Liberia” (Felix Gerdes) accepted for presentation at the Liberian Studies Association conference in April 2020, is based on data from this and other field research undertaken with KAICT.

6.10	24 February 2020	KAICT-SSRTT IGC Round Table Discussion	The Root Causes of Fragility and Instability in Liberia, Pt. 5
<p>The International Growth Center (IGC) at the London School of Economics and KAICT collaborate in a research project on <i>Root Causes of Fragility and Instability in Liberia</i>. The data gathering for the project proceeded in three steps between 2018 and 2020. This Round Table was a final discussion session to review preliminary results with Liberian and international experts before finalizing the draft study.</p> <p>The roundtable was visited by 15 experts from government institutions, security sector, civil society, and academia.</p> <p>The event was funded by Civil Peace Service.</p>			

6.11	17-18 December 2020	KAICT-SSRTT	Security without the State, Pt. 2
<p>A previous research trip undertaken in December 2019 had gathered data on the local security situation in District # 5 of Margibi as it had developed during the absence of state law enforcement in the aftermath of riots of April 2019 (see above).</p>			

In March 2020, state police forces returned to the area, and this research trip investigated what impact this had on the security mechanisms previously developed. The research trip was supported by Civil Peace Service.

7. Contributions to Third Party Conferences, Workshops and Events

7.1	5 February 2018	Armed Forces Day Symposium	Safe-guarding the Military's Integrity During Democratic Transitions to Promote Peace and Stability in Liberia – Discussion Input Felix Gerdes
<p>The input given by Felix Gerdes discussed the nexus between development and military security. Against the background of proposals to allow the armed forces to engage in economic activities for its funding, Gerdes argued that this risks to deflect military attention away from defense and towards profit seeking. Further, the military as a political actor is likely to obtain state backing for its interests. As a consequence, market distortions that may undermine development in the longer run are likely. The military best serves national development by providing security to the country and thus promoting lawful exploitation of its resources. In this regard, increasing the capacity of the Coast Guard to prevent illegal fishing and waste dumping potentially has particularly great pay-offs.</p>			

7.2	8 February 2018	Liberia Development Conference Anthology Launch Event	Security Sector and Trust in Community Relations T. Debey Sayndee
<p>The <i>Liberia Development Conference</i> (LDC), held at Monrovia City Hall, February 1-2, 2017, was well-attended by more than 400 stakeholders representing state institutions, academia, civil society organizations, the private sector, international organizations, development partners and donors that attended the two-day conference.</p>			

The Liberia Development Conference Anthology is a compilation of the 39 Analytical Papers, which were researched, written, presented and discussed by a wide range of Liberian stakeholders at the conference.

7.3	23 February 2018	National Reconciliation Conference Preparation	Reconciliation Needs: Comments by Felix Gerdes
<p>The event has been organized by the Peace Building Office, UNMIL, Search for Common Ground and Naymote, in preparation for the upcoming National Reconciliation Conference, which takes place on 8-9 March 2018.</p> <p>The purpose of the luncheon is to bring together key stakeholders who have been drivers of reconciliation in Liberia and provide an opportunity to discuss plans for the National Reconciliation Conference.</p>			

7.4	19-21 April 2018	Liberian Studies Association, 50th Annual Conference, Rochester Institute of Technology	Gender-based Violence and Challenges to Justice in Grand Bassa County, Liberia T. Debey Sayndee
<p>The LSA is the largest and most established association of academic experts working on topics relating to Liberia. This conference was held under the theme “LSA at Half Century: Reflections, Explorations, and New Discoveries.”</p> <p>The contribution made by T. Debey Sayndee offered an analysis of opportunities for justice available to SGBV survivors in Liberia. SGBV continued to be</p>			

widespread throughout Liberia, although expectation was that this would be tackled head-on under a female President. Addressing it under Liberia's dual legal system, which features separate statutory and customary processes, remains a challenge. Yet when GBV occurs in a community, mending the wedge created by the violence is often more important than a verdict. Finally, that both legal systems have challenges and would benefit from mutual support of each other.

7.5	23-26 April 2020 (postponed to 22-24 April 2021)	Liberian Studies Association, 52nd Annual Conference, Cornell University	Alternative Paths for Liberia's Post- Conflict Reconstruction T. Debey Sayndee Security Without the State – The Security Impact of State and Non-state Actors in Liberia Felix Gerdes
<p>The LSA is the largest and most established association of academic experts working on topics relating to Liberia. This conference was held under the theme “The Functional Liberian State: Historical Lessons, Current Best Practices and Future Paths”</p> <p>Felix Gerdes's paper investigated patterns of security in a district vacated by police forces. Core insights are that the non-state “Community Watch Teams” (CWT) established in fact are closely linked to the state. They function similarly to state law enforcement in that the arrangements are partly privatized and revolve around fees charged for security services. The absence of local police in fact strengthened links to the police in the provincial capital, whose support services and symbolic empowerment significantly contributed to rendering the local CWF more stable. Findings also point to a significant role of the police in informing an imagined order shaping people's behaviour.</p>			

Both papers were accepted for presentation. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference was postponed and will be held as an online event in April 2021. The papers will be finalized for publication after the conference.

8. Staff Qualification Measures

8.1	17-18 and 24 May 2018	Internal Teaching Workshop	Academic Didactic, Syllabus Development and Grading
<p>The workshop assembled KAICT's part-time and full-time teaching faculty and was facilitated by Prof. John S. Flomo from UL's Center for Teaching and Learning. The aims were to promote coherence in quality of teaching and grading. The workshop provided an opportunity to discuss course contents, teaching styles and grading criteria with and among part-time teaching staff.</p>			

8.2	26 - 30 November 2018	AGEH-CPS	Intercultural Communication Workshop, Mariapolis Centre, Nairobi
<p>The workshop on "Intercultural Communication" was organized by AGEH (now AGIAMONDO), the NGO implementing the Civil Peace Service program with KAICT and other partners, and targeted various CPS partner organizations in Africa. KAICT attended with Director T. Debey Sayndee, CPS staff Felix Gerdes and Administrative Assistant Felesu F. Swaray. The workshop elaborated on challenges in intercultural communication and provided an opportunity for exchanges of experiences between the CPS partner organizations.</p>			

8.3	6-7 December 2018	KAICT Staff Workshop	Office Communication & Peace and Conflict Studies adapted to the Liberian context", 6/7 December 2018
<p>The two-day internal workshop is dedicated to two distinct topics.</p>			

The first day is dedicated to communication and procedures at KAICT. It is primarily targeted at KAICT's full-time staff. Part-timers are, however, welcome to attend.

The twin developments of 2017 - the end of UNMIL and election of a new government - mark a new phase in Liberia's history, and the end of 2018 is an opportune time to reflect on trends and challenges.

The second day of the workshop is meant to discuss and identify current challenges, needs and trends regarding peace and conflict, and elaborate how needs can be addressed in KAICT'S curricular teaching and extra-curricular programs. By sharing perspectives and deliberating together, we seek to collect our knowledge and ideas and learn from each other.

8.4	18 April 2019	Internal Teaching Workshop	Course Syllabi and Coherence of the KAICT Curriculum
<p>The workshop assembled KAICT's part-time and full-time teaching faculty. The workshop consisted in presentations and discussion of the syllabi of five of KAICT's MA courses. The aims were mutual learning and enhanced communication with and among part-time staff on KAICT's teaching to avoid duplication and identify gaps. Faculty also discussed grading criteria to improve coherence of standards.</p>			

8.5	12 May – 15 December 2019	Peg Ködel, Gabriel Gabirol	Administrative Capacity Training
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Administrative staff of KAICT took training in office communication and information management for 2 hours/week.

9. Academic Cooperation

9.1	15 October 2017 to 15 January 2018	Friedrich-Alexander- University of Erlangen-Nuremberg	The Gender Impact of the Right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in Plantation Agriculture Ricarda Roesch
<p>Ricarda Roesch, LL.M., is PhD student and faculty member at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Faculty of Business, Economics, and Law. Her PhD research focusses on the gender impact of the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) in sub-Saharan Africa. Since March 2017, her PhD is funded by the Heinrich-Böll Foundation. In 2017 and 2018, she spent several months as a visiting researcher at the Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation and in a USAID-funded community forest project in Liberia. KAICT hosted research associate Ricarda Roesch during her field study in Liberia, which was part of the project <i>Human Rights as Standards for Transnational Economic Law</i>.</p>			

9.2	2018	Bonn International Center for Conversion	Protected rather than protracted – Strengthening refugees and peace Markus Rudolf, Elke Grawert
<p>The project “Protected rather than protracted – Strengthening refugees and peace” was started by BICC as a response to the challenges posed by reintegration and local integration of displaced persons and their participation in peace processes. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in the framework of its Special Initiative “Fighting the causes of refugee movements, reintegrating refugees”. At the centre of the project</p>			

is the collection of empirical data from seven regions, their comparative analysis and the elaboration of concrete proposals for action.

KAICT organized a workshop with delegates from government, international community, civil society and refugee communities held on 19 April 2018 and logistically supported two separate research trips by Dr. Rudolf and Dr. Elke Grawert in 2018.

9.3	17 – 19 November 2018	Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA)	Research Workshop and Research- Policy Dialogue on Sustainable Peace
The Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation in collaboration with the Folke Bernadotte Academy, a Swedish government agency, organized the FBA Research Workshop and Research-Policy Dialogue on Sustainable Peace at the Royal Grand Hotel in Monrovia, Liberia. Prof. T. Debey Sayndee talked on <i>Challenges in Addressing GBV in the Dual Legal System In Liberia</i> .			

9.4	2018-2019	Tangaza College, Nairobi	Collaboration on Teaching Inter- religious dialogue
KAICT visited the Justice and Peace and Integrity of Creation, Encounter and Dialogue Centre, at the Catholic Tangaza College on 22-23 November 2018 to discuss experiences and cooperation opportunities in inter-religious dialogue. The institutions concluded to collaborate in teaching on inter-religious dialogue.			

9.5	11 July to 6 August 2019	Peace Culture Research Base in Hunan Province, China	Liberia's peacebuilding challenges and opportunities China's engagement in Liberia from 2003-2017 YANG Hong
KAICT hosted and supported Dr. Yang's research project funded by the Social Science Research Council.			

9.6	2019	Northeastern Illinois University	Teaching Collaboration: Community Development
NIU and KAICT both teach a Community Development course. The semesters partly overlap in January and February. Through use of shared online materials, chat rooms and Zoom sessions, students could exchange their experiences and discuss their insights across continents. On the part of NIU, Assist. Prof. Isidore A. Udoh is leading the project.			

9.7	27 July – 24 August 2019	Institut für Interkulturelle und Internationale Studien, University of Bremen	Cooperation of Liberian authorities and external actors on peace-building Zsolt Szabo
MA student Zsolt Szabo interned at KAICT and conducted field research for his MA thesis.			

10. Publications

Sayndee, T. Debey (2018): Security Sector and Trust in Community Relations, in: Engendering Collective Action for Advancing Liberia's Development, Liberia Development Conference Anthology, pp. 372-392
http://usaidliberiakmportal.com/resource_library/liberia-development-conference-anthology.

Sayndee, T. Debey (2019): The Task of Rebuilding Liberia, in: Kenneth Omeje (ed.), Peacebuilding in Contemporary Africa: In Search of Alternative Strategies, pp. 111-124 Routledge: Oxford

SSRTT Newsletter

KAICT has to date published 5 volumes of the „SSRTT Newsletter“. The publication series mainly features the highlights of the Security Sector Dialogues. The Newsletter further contains expert briefs contributed by Security actors and academics on issues of community-security relations.

11. COVID-19 Sensitization and Prevention Campaigns 2020

On 16 March 2020, the first COVID-19 case in Liberia was confirmed. Against the background of the Ebola experience and international practices, the authorities immediately suspended classes in schools and universities. KAICT's main routine activities – MA teaching, trainings, and public debate events – were not feasible for the remainder of the year. Together with partners in the German Civil Peace Service (CPS) network, KAICT engaged in activities aimed at countering the spreading of the disease. These took the form of a series radio talk shows and direct engagements targeting community leaders.

11.1 COVID-19 Sensitization Radio Talk Shows

The CPS COVID-19 Task Force included the Mother Patern College of Health Sciences (MPCHS), the Catholic Education Secretariat (CES), Youth Crime Watch Liberia (YCWL), Young Men Christian Association (YMCA), Liberia Opportunities Industrialization Center (LOIC), and the Center for Justice and Peace Studies (CJPS). Starting on 27 March 2020, the members ran three to four radio talk shows per week, usually via telephone. Two members of the network gave input by providing information on previously defined aspects of the pandemic and then responded to questions and comments from listeners calling in on the phone. KAICT staff featured in one to two of these talk shows per week. KAICT also organized a radio talk show specifically dedicated to gender issues affected by the pandemic, consisting in a bi-weekly live show and a weekly rerun.

11.2 Community Leader Engagement

Campaign 1, 20 June to 10 July 2020

KAICT's community engagement activities were launched in Thinker's Village, a COVID-19 hotspot, on the outskirts of Monrovia on 26 June 2020. Addressing community leaders in an open-air event under social distancing conditions, the campaign was officially announced with welcome remarks from Hon. Samuel

Anders, District #6 Representative. Other personalities that graced the occasion and made remarks included:

- Prof. T. Debey Sayndee provided overview of the program.
- For and on behalf of the Director General, National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL), Deputy Director General for Technical Services
- Dr. Moses M. Zinnah, Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Liberia.
- Dr. Rowland Cole, Program Manager, Rule of Law, representing the UNDP
- Madam Marion Koerbel, Coordinator, AGIAMONDO/ Civil Peace Service, Liberia.
- The Minister of Internal Affairs, Republic of Liberia
- The Chairman of the National Association of Community Leaders of Liberia (NACOL)

The first awareness campaign started being prepared on 20 June with an internal training of 25 community mobilizers and closed on 10 July 2020. The mobilizers were divided into four groups simultaneously reachign out in various communities.

During the period, 480 community leaders in Montserrado and Margibi Counties were trained. The communities targeted have a combined population of some 60,000 inhabitants. As part of the exercise, 1,350 hand washing buckets were distributed.

Health Districts visited in Montserrado were:

- Central Monrovia
- St. Paul River & Bushrod Island
- Somalia Drive
- Common Wealth
- Careysburg
- Todee

Localities visited in Margibi were:

- Kakata

- Weala
- Beypolu
- Lackey Town
- Cotton Tree
- Dolo's Town

Counties	No. Of Community Leaders Trained
Montserrado	280
Margibi	200
Total	480

In observance of the health protocols including social distancing, the trainings were divided into two sections for each community. Training message was uniformly disseminated across communities: COVID-19 is real, wash your hands with soap or chlorine water, avoid close contact with others, cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, self-isolate if you feel sick, and call 4455 for emergency response. Participants were also taught techniques of hand washing for mask wearing/removal techniques and chlorine measurement. The sessions were interactive with most community members relating to the several myths around COVID-19 usually expressed in communities.

[Campaign 2, 17 to 22 December 2020](#)

A follow-up campaign targeting a selection of the previously visited communities took place from 17 to 22 December 2020. A team of ten mobilizers, including core KAICT staff, was divided into two groups. A refresher and updating workshop for the team had previously been conducted on 15 December.

In Margibi, the team visited Baypolu, Weala, Lackey Town, Cotton Tree, and Fayou Town. In Montserrado, the team visited Goba Town and Nyehn (Todee District) as well as the Monrovia neighborhoods of Caldwell, Logan Town and Westpoint.

COVID-19 had not spread as widely in Liberia as initially feared and had less of an impact on public health than expected. As a consequence, there was significant mistrust among the population of official messages and limited preparedness to follow health protocols.

In response, the format of the second campaign was more deliberative and participatory. The mobilizing teams provided the community leaders with an update on the development of the pandemic in Liberia, the region and beyond, including prevention measures taken around the world. The core message was that while Liberia had not been as severely affected as many other countries, experience shows that risks remain. The mobilizers then facilitated discussions on how the participants evaluated the risks and what measures they would advocate for their communities.

The discussions showed that communication flows are strongly localized in many of the communities. Knowledge of the development of the pandemic globally, in the region and nationally was limited and the information sessions responded adequately to gaps. As was to be expected, perspectives on how to evaluate and respond to the situation differed. Yet risk avoidance proved broadly acceptable and low-cost measures such as washing hands, avoiding touching the face, sneezing into elbows, and avoiding unnecessary close contact were frequently advocated.