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APN Announces Research Grant and Fellowship Recipients

Brooklyn, NY, September 26, 2014—The **African Peacebuilding Network** (APN) of the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) has awarded ten individual research grants, two residential postdoctoral fellowships, and two collaborative working group grants to twenty-four African scholars and practitioners to support and promote high-quality, policy-relevant social science research focusing on peacebuilding in Africa.

APN grants and fellowships are awarded through a rigorous peer-review process involving two rounds of evaluation—the first drawing on the expertise of African scholars and researchers, and the second convening members of the [APN's Advisory Board](#). Finalists are chosen for their proposed projects' originality, quality, and relevance to policy on the continent, as well as for their potential to make significant contributions to the social sciences and produce publications through international scholarly forums.

The individual research grantee cohort will undertake six months of field-based research throughout Africa on a broad array of topics, including gender and peacebuilding in Uganda, political mediation in Zimbabwe, environmental scarcity and conflict in a pastoral region of Ethiopia, media and security in Kenya, and commoditized conflict in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria.

Residential postdoctoral fellows, scholars just setting out on their professional careers, will spend two months at an African institution and one month at an American institution completing ongoing research projects, with an expectation that they will produce research-based knowledge that is relevant to, and has a significant impact on, African peacebuilding policy and practice. This cohort's projects will focus on protracted violence in Sierra Leone and on ethnic insecurity in Lagos, Nigeria.

Collaborative working groups will work in teams over an eighteen-month period, undertaking joint research projects that focus on the design, implementation, and impact of peacebuilding mechanisms and processes in conflict-affected African countries and subregions. Research topics include peacekeeping and intervention in Africa, as well as the challenges faced by member states in implementing decisions made by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union. Groups are composed of six members, all of whom are either junior or senior African scholars and practitioners based at, or affiliated with, universities or regional organizations, government agencies, or nongovernmental, media, or civil society organizations on the continent.

The complete cohort for each competition, with institutional affiliations and project titles, is listed on the SSRC website:

- [APN 2014 Individual Research Grantees](#)
- [APN 2014 Residential Postdoctoral Fellows](#)
- [APN 2014–2016 Collaborative Working Group Grants](#)

About the African Peacebuilding Network (APN)

The African Peacebuilding Network promotes independent African research and analysis on peacebuilding in or near countries and regions affected by violent conflict on the continent. It seeks to infiltrate that knowledge with those who can play an important role in the shaping of an Africa-centered peacebuilding agenda, including global and regional



centers of scholarly analysis and practical action as well as key policymakers at the United Nations and other multilateral, regional, and national policymaking institutions. Visit [Kujenga Amani](#) (Swahili for “building peace”), the APN’s online forum for the exchange of ideas and information on peacebuilding in Africa. You may also follow the program on Twitter ([@KujengaAmani](#)).

The APN is funded by Carnegie Corporation of New York.

About the SSRC

The [Social Science Research Council](#) (SSRC) is an independent, international, nonprofit organization founded in 1923. It fosters innovative research, nurtures new generations of social scientists, deepens how inquiry is practiced within and across disciplines, and mobilizes necessary knowledge on important public issues.

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