WELCOME MESSAGES
Greetings from APSA
It is with great appreciation that I thank Dorothy and Sethunya for their hard work and dedication in serving as co-editors of this newsletter for the past two years. Their enthusiasm for the concept of an alumni e-newsletter, even when I first approached them about the idea back in 2012, has made this an enjoyable and collaborative project. Thank you both!

With their two-year term now coming to an end, we are looking for a new team of alumni to lead this important publication. Do read the Call for Newsletter editors found in this issue and consider whether this is a position you may be interested in. Especially with this summer’s Africa Workshop being the last in our series, there is a lot of opportunity to take the newsletter forward in new and exciting ways.

As always, I encourage you to contribute to future newsletters through announcements in the “Alumni News and Publications” section, through research submissions under “Featured Articles,” and with your feedback on how we can continue to improve this publication for future editions.

If any alumni will be in Nairobi at the end of July, I invite you to come to USIU for our public panel presentation and closing reception. Please contact me for details. Similarly, for anyone who will be in San Francisco, CA this September for APSA’s Annual Meeting, I look forward to seeing you there. Best to all in the coming months and stay well!

Andrew Stinson; astinson@apsanet.org
Manager, APSA International Workshops
Greetings from the University of Botswana Editorial Team

Warm greetings from Botswana in the spirit of Pan Africanism! We hope that 2015 has started well for you all and you have been able to take advantage of all the opportunities in terms of research, networking, attending and presenting in various conferences.

This newsletter’s theme is different as it deals with issues of Pan-Africanism and regional integration through the use of water as an energy pool. The emerging concept of hydro-diplomacy is explored in this issue, where water is viewed as a new method for regional integration and an alternative mechanism to develop and transform our continent and attract foreign direct investment by using water which is one of the abundant natural resources in Africa.

We hope our readers will appreciate the idea of hydro-diplomacy and explore it further to change the livelihoods of many communities by availing hydro-power at a reasonable cost particularly in remote areas. We welcome comments on the featured article, which will give the next editors a chance to include a ‘letters to the editor’ section in future newsletters. Letters to the Editor can be sent to africanewsletter@apsanet.org.

Please feel free to let us know your views and suggestions in order to make the next issue even better. Thank you.

Co-editors:
Dr. Dorothy Mpabanga; mpabanga@mopipi.ub.bw
CESPAM Director/Senior Lecturer in PAS, University of Botswana

Dr. Sethunya Mosime; mosimest@mopipi.ub.bw
Lecturer in Department of Sociology, University of Botswana
FEATURED ARTICLE

HYDRO-DIPLOMACY: The use of Water Pan-Africanism to Integrate Africa – The Case of Eastern African Power Pool

Arka Abota Aynako, abotaarka@yahoo.com
School of Journalism and Communications, Addis Ababa University

Introduction: Africa is one of the world’s richest continents in water resource and water has the potential to contribute to infrastructural development through hydropower production at lower investment cost. Africa’s hydropower potential can be used to electrify rural and urban areas of the continent in order to alleviate lack of access to power in many Africans countries, especially in remote areas. Regional development regarding water nurturing infrastructures as millennium goals are being initiated by many regional governments and the use of electricity as one of the basic needs and one of the factors contributing to economic development can be attained through integrated efforts to utilise the East Africa Power Pool.

There are several regional power pool arrangements in Africa. The scope of this succinct paper, however, is limited to the study of the East African Power Pool (EAPP). The EAPP is an important institution of cooperation supporting member countries to develop their water resources and share the excess power with members that lack reliable power resources through inter-connected system of transmission grids at a lower price. The study anchored on qualitative methodology and the data was collected from secondary sources such books, journals, government policies, strategies, power pool documents, Internet and was critically scrutinized to produce the paper. The purpose of this paper is also to illuminate briefly the role the EAPP plays in integrating the East Africa region through the instrumentality of hydro-diplomacy of Water- Pan-Africanism.

Integration Theory: The planet we are living is parcelled into several regions and national sovereignties with different political orientations and economic systems. Of the existing 200 nation states no single state in an absolute term is self-sufficient and can live in isolation from others. The world is interdependent and interconnected; thus, states’ cooperation in international relations (IR) is sine quo non to promote or achieve national objectives from bi-laterally or multilaterally established institutions of cooperation by bargaining. Hence, the fundamental objective of regional integration is to facilitate cooperation between countries in economic, political, environmental, security and other spheres of societal life through established institutional structures or bilateral negotiations.

The concept of integration is as old as nation states but it got more prominence after World War Two. Mitrany (2014:11) in furthering the above argument says that “intergovernmental cooperation is by no means a recent phenomenon”. He specifically highlights that “its intellectual origins goes back to the Kantian idea of European integration or Winston Churchill’s view of United States of Europe” (Ibid.). Furthermore, regional integration can be defined along three dimensions: (i) geographic scope; (ii) the substantive coverage and (iii) the depth of integration (Niekerk, 2005:4 ). Membership of
a regional integration arrangement is based on preference of any country that likes to be a member and be governed by the rule of the institution. Membership is detrimental for success or failure of an organization. Multiple memberships are a problem to the cohesion of the institution for decision making and loyalty of a member state to its organization. The member to its organization and the organization to its member are always in unity. However in African regional integration endeavours members’ loyalty to different and competing institutions is one of the challenges. The table below shows multiple memberships of countries to different regional organizations in Africa.

Table 1: Countries with mono and multiple memberships

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Source: Niekerk, L. (2005:4)
African Integration: Pan-Africanism: Pan-Africanism has laid basis for the development of integrative ideology of continental unity, anti-colonial struggles and developmental framework for the then newly emerging independent African states. Its ideology was conceived in the diaspora as a movement with a common objective to struggle for social justice, political equality, freedom from oppression, and exploitation. Five consecutive Pan-African conferences were held abroad of all the last fifth was the historic one in which the leadership was passed from the hands of African Diasporas to African Pan-Africanists that brought the ideology to home: Africa.

However, from the inception the movement was cracked into three ideological groups: Casablanca, Monrovia and Brazzaville. Negotiating the warring groups to bring to establish an integrated continental institution was tiresome job but attained through tough diplomatic work of the founding fathers of Africa. Thus, in 1963 the then independent states of African Heads of States and Governments assembled in Addis Ababa and signed the first Pan-African Charter that had established the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and “the dream of Pan-Africanism is destined to come true” (Azikiwe, 1965: 152). The OAU as the first continental institution of integration “has enabled leaders to consult as well as act together” (Haile Selassie in Patterson, et al, 1970: VII)). Furthermore it paved a way for the establishment of different integrative regional economic blocks such as Economic Community of Central African States, the Arab Maghreb Union, and the Preferential Trade Agreement for East and Southern Africa, later the Common Market for East and Southern African States (COMESA) were inspired by this Pan-Africanists vision. There are other initiatives that evolved outside this framework, such as the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), the Southern African Development and Coordinating Conference, later known as the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and the New Partnership for Economic Africa’s Development (NEPAD), East African Power Pool (EAPP), West African Power Pool (WAPP) and Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) to mention a few to tackle cooperatively different societal problems of the continent (Qobo, 2007).

The OAU functioned under interwoven challenges of internal, regional and international relations and came to its end after the launching of the African Union (AU). The AU was established in 2001 in Addis Ababa but officially launched in 2002 in South Africa. One of the major objectives of the AU as stipulated in Article 3(c) of its Constitutive Act is to “Accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent” (Emphasis added). The formation of the AU is “the first step towards promoting continental unity” (UNECA, 2010:7). In this light one of the major objectives of the AU as stipulated in Article 3(c) of its Constitutive Act is to “Accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent” (Emphasis added). Hence it came up with 16 areas of integration projects of creating a United States of Africa. The establishment of different regional power pools, promotion of water harnessing projects and development of interconnected transmission grids is one of its hydro-diplomatic strategies of employing the water Pan-Africanism as an instrument of regional integration amongst others to underline.

Though several regional integration institutions mushroomed the changes they brought to the people were minimal. The reasons for weak integration are many and can include external and internal reasons. The external environment of the cold war as well as the post-cold war period of globalization was harsh towards Africa. The introduction of SAP and harsh conditionalties of the post-cold war period added up with deep entrenched corruption,
undemocratic governance, lack economic liberalization, wars, intra and inter-ethnic conflicts internally have adversely impacted integration process in Africa. In addition as Mistry (2000:554) contends that Africa’s commitment to integration appears to have been visceral rather than rational, more rhetorical than real. He added that “it is political will and commitment that determine whether regional integration is embarked upon with serious intent and whether it succeeds or fails” (Ibid:74).

Water Pan-Africanism and East African Integration: Water is peaceful unless aggrieved and is the only substance without which nothing can be done. It is one of the basic needs of life and a cross-cutting resource at all levels and spheres of life. Human existence and civilization is centred on water and without it nothing can be done. King (1953:3) clarifies that “Life and water on this planet are inseparable….Our bodies are more than three-fourths water and our world is what water has made it”. “The life and welfare of man are inextricably bound to water” (Ellipsis mine). Africa has abundant water resource for the production of hydropower and is estimated to have hydropower potential of 4,000, 000 GWh per annum and the currently installed capacity is 21, 000 MW that is a fraction of the available potential (King, 1953). It is puzzling that more than 95 percent of its citizens rely on biomass and live in the dark. Africa has utilized about 7 percent of its available water resources for electricity production. The hydropower cost of production is the least minimum in the world (McClain, 2013). Africa’s hydropower resource potential is untouched and there are ample opportunities for governments to nurture its abundant resources to attain rapid development for its citizens. Hydropower is the most preferred source for electrification in Africa because of its availability and low cost of production that has comparative advantages over other kinds of energy sources. Most of African rivers fall from high to low elevation that sometimes does not even need building of massive dams to create large artificial reservoir that can be expensive.

Today oil producing countries prefer to export their oil for high financial returns and develop their hydropower resources for domestic supply because of its minimum cost of production, environmental cleanliness, reliability, dependability, and affordability to urban and rural poor citizens as well as to expand industries with cheap priced power. Electricity is an unequivocally detrimental input for the development of the Africa continent. Thence, the existence of reliable energy supply, interconnected system and pooling of power for the region’s development is sine qua non for Africa to industrialize, expand domestic investment, invite foreign direct investment and attain a meaningful change in the life of the people.

The Eastern African region of the continent is gifted with abundant water resources for the production of cheap hydropower that can play cross-cutting roles in all sectors of social and economic transformations. That is unequivocal for societal transformation. For instance the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), as a member of the EAPP alone, has 51 river basins and this makes the country prominent in the region and third in the world next to China and Russia. The Congo River is the biggest of all the rivers in the DRC and its basin area is 4,014,500km$^2$ and discharges in the ranges of 21,000m$^3$/second to 75,000m$^3$/second (Pourtier, 2014:1). It is the deepest river (220 meters) and the 9th longest (4,700 km) in the world, second in water volume to Amazon River and empties into the Atlantic Ocean; that is estimated 50,000m$^3$/second. The river has many rapids and falls very closely to its mouth and this gives it a unique feature. These features create a positive environment to produce energy without diversion through
construction and this can enable the country to produce power with minimal estimated cost of US$ 0.03 per kilowatt per hour. The hydropower potential of the Congo River makes up 13 percent of the entire potential of Africa and if fully developed could provide enough power to the whole of sub-Saharan Africa.

Despite the abundant endowment, only one in ten Congolese people have access to electricity (Pourtier, 2014:1). Thus, the DRC government has dedicated itself to raise power supply to address the ever increasing demand through building of cascades of dams. Currently there are about 40 hydropower plants over the Congo River of which cascades of dams over the Inga Falls in the southwest of the capital are the major ones. Inga Fall has vast untapped hydropower potential of more than 45,000 MW. Inga I and II with 14 turbines were completed and commissioned in 1972 and 1982 with capacities to produce 351 MW and 1,424 MW respectively (Dams, 2006:3).

Inga III is the third cascade and its construction is scheduled to begin in 2016. The Grand Inga is the fourth cascade and is the biggest of them all and has 52 turbines with the capacity to produce 39,500 MW. This is a third of the total electricity currently produced in Africa. The project requires the construction of a new transmission line to integrate EAPP members. The Grand Inga project is believed by donors and proponents of dam industries as the “magic bullet to electrify the entire African continent and export energy as far as southern Europe and Middle East (Congo, 2014). Pictures 1 and 2 below show the magnificent Congo River and the Inga Falls.


Ethiopia is second to DRC in hydropower potential in the eastern Africa region. The gross hydropower potential of the country is estimated 650,000 GWh per annum of which only one percent is tapped up to 2002 (Semu Moges et al in Worku, et al., 2010:77). The country annually gets about 123bcm runoff when clustered creates 12 major river basins of which the Abbay (Blue Nile) River Basin with 52.62bcm water volume is the biggest one (Yacob, 2007:145). The basin is studied and 132 potential hydropower sites have been
identified (Semu Moges, et al in Worku, et al., 2010:78). Though owning abundant resources about 95 percent of energy sources come from traditional energy sources such as wood, dung and grain residues that are unfriendly to human health and environment.

Henceforth, the incumbent government has come up with hydropower policy “to enhance efficient and sustainable development of the water resources and meet the national energy demand as well as cater for external markets to earn foreign exchange” (FDRE, MoFA, 2005:167). Thus, since 1960 eight hydropower projects were completed that generate 663.6 MW in late 2006 (Worku, et al., 2010:79). Besides, the Tekeze Dam (300 MW), Gibe I (184 MW), Gibe II (420 MW) are completed and have become operational. The construction of Gibe III (1870MW) has been completed and a reservoir of 155 km long filling has started and is estimated to be completed in two to three years.

GIBE III that is 246 meters tall with reservoir capacity of 14bcm that stretches for 155km upstream of the dam site and with installed capacity to produce 1870 MW (6, 400 GWh) per year is completed and reservoir filling is estimated to take two to three years. It has ten turbines and each turbine produces 187 MW. Besides, the Renaissance dam (6,000 MW), Baro I&II (500 MW), Mandaya Dam (2000 MW), Karadobi Dam (1,600 MW) and Genji Dam (200 MW) are some of the hydropower infrastructures under rapid development and once completed the country’s power supply will triple and Ethiopia can export power to the pool members as well as to others within the continent and beyond.

In this interconnection power trade agreements have been signed between Ethiopia, Djibouti, Sudan and Kenya that are members of the Pool to export 200MW, 200MW and 500MW respectively (Zelalem, 2013). The transmission lines interconnecting Sudan and Djibouti are completed and power is exported to member countries while transmission line connecting Ethiopia and Kenya is jointly under construction. Once the 1068 km long transmission line has been completed, Ethiopia will connect with other nine African countries without the need to construct any new grid. This is strategic ideal of integrating many countries and share from a natural source of continental water that will contribute to integration and development.

Uganda is another EAPP country with substantial water resources for hydropower production. Its total hydropower capacity is 3, 000 MW and less than ten percent of it has been harnessed. About 97 percent of the population does not have access to power and only about 2 percent of rural dwellers have access to light (MBendi, 2015). The government has come up with a policy to nurture the existing hydropower potential and raise the supply from the present level of 3 percent to 61 percent by 2017 (Ibid.).

There are several hydro projects under construction and these are found at different levels of development in Uganda. Some of the big hydropower projects include Murchison Falls (600 MW), Rippon falls (200 MW), Bujagali falls (250 MW), Karuma falls (600 MW), Ayago fall (600 MW and Isimba falls (180MW). Besides, Uganda has numerous medium sized hydropower projects over rivers such as Nalubaale Dam (180 MW), Kiira Dam (200 MW), Owen falls (180 MW) and Bujagali Dam (250 MW). Furthermore, Uganda is undertaking steps to strengthen and expand grids to facilitate power export to Rwanda and Kenya during peak hours, 9MW to Tanzania and 5MW to Rwanda (Ibid.)

Most eastern African countries are striving to minimise power poverty by aggressively
harnessing their abundant natural water resources and trading the surplus with Pool members through integrated transmission grids. The water resource poor members of the Pool buy power with minimum price that is win-win hydro-diplomacy attained through multilateral institution of cooperation: the EAPP. Achieving reliable and dependable power access is viewed as the first step to industrialization and change of living standards of poor populace of Africa.

Hydro-Diplomacy: The Eastern Africa Power Pool: The concept of Pan-African power pooling is a recent phenomenon to the countries in the Eastern Africa region though bilateral hydro diplomacy of power trading had existed for a long time. Developing energy projects and integrating their power system through regional planning is a priority agenda for members of the community to create secured power supply for citizens. It was in light of this visionary formula that the Eastern Africa Power Pool was conceived as an institution of hydro-diplomacy integrating mem through hydro-power.

The Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP) was established on the 24th of February 2005 with the signing of an Inter-Governmental Memorandum of Understanding (IG-MOU) by Energy Ministers of seven countries, viz.: Burundi, DRC, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and Sudan. On the same day, the Inter-utility Memorandum of Understanding (IU-MOU) was signed by the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs)/ Managing Directors (MDs) of Power Utilities countries that were signatories to the IG-MOU. In 2006 the 11th Summit of Heads of States and Governments of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) held in Djibouti approved the establishing documents of the Pool and adopted the EAPP as its specialized institution to foster power system interconnectivity within the region. Thus, the IG-MOU, IU-MOU and the adoption by the Heads of States and Government laid a legal framework for the EAPP. Later on Tanzania, Libya and Uganda have joined the EAPP in 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively. The table below shows the present members of the EAPP.

Table 1: Members of the EAPP: 2013

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Source: Wright, 2014
The EAPP is a multilateral intergovernmental institution of hydro diplomacy that plays significant roles in coordinating the hydro-politics of the region. Diplomacy in general “is the art of negotiating agreements in precise and rectifiable forms” (Nicolson, 1950:101). Berridge (2002:1) further contends that diplomacy is a “political activity and well-resourced and skillful, a major ingredient of power.... its purpose is to enable states to secure the objectives of their foreign policies without resort to force, propaganda or law” (Ellipsis mine).

Hydro diplomacy specifically is a negotiated manner of handling water politics in transboundary water basins over which hydro power projects are built for virtual water trading. It is a manner of coordinating, managing, and developing the affairs of water and the sharing of benefits among the members in the spirit of win-win diplomacy, using the give and take principles and cooperative approach. Yacob Arsano (2015:122) further augments that “Hydro diplomacy is an essential aspect of hydro-politics” and it is about skillful interactions and processes exercised between riparian states over the use, management, protection and conservation of shared water resources.”

The creation of EAPP is an important step to foster member countries harness their resource potentials and pool their electricity outputs within the broader framework of continental integration and by that enable members share regional resource benefits through the win-win hydro-power diplomacy. All members of the pool do not have abundant water resources to produce hydroelectricity neither to satisfy domestic demand nor export to gain foreign currency. Many members of the Pool are water scarce to produce power which is critically important for domestic consumption or foreign export while countries such as DRC, Ethiopia and Uganda, have substantial potential to export hydropower to member countries while others are supposed to import cheap hydropower (Hamad, 2010:20). Therefore, nurturing of the available hydropower potential and cross-boundary trade has equitable benefit to countries in the region through coordinated efforts of EAPP.

Thus, the mission of the EAPP is to facilitate and secure reliable power supply to the countries of members of the Pool at the lowest possible cost through a fully integrated and interconnected regional system (Zelalem, 2013). Power pooling has multidimensional advantages to the communities of the region. When the Eastern African countries are fully integrated they will save 33 billion USD annually (EU, 2007).

The EAPP is a voluntary association established on mutual consent to trade virtual water energy between the members. As observed at the extraordinary conference; the EAPP served as an additional platform to discuss hydro-political differences between the members of the region. The Pool’s great endeavour is to integrate the region through power trade is a pathway to regional and continental integration. However the road is not as smooth as one ideally thinks, as traditional maxim goes “a person who caught the tail of a tiger never releases, if he/she releases his/her fate is being eaten and therefore, the only fate is kill and be saved”. The water pool members are many and are caught in the tail of the tiger in integration and founders of the EAPP have to fight in unison to eliminate water poverty in Africa despite their differences. At this juncture Lebbi Changllah, the former Executive Secretary of the EAPP once said that his immediate duty was to fast track the ongoing bilateral interconnection projects, urge members to put aside political differences and target on technical issues to achieve objectives of the EAPP virtual (Mikias, 2015).
Conclusion: The Eastern Africa region faces immense challenges of ensuring energy security despite the abundant water resources. The prior development of the water sector is a choice less imperative to attain rapid economic growth and to meet environmental obligation such as reducing carbon emission for the members of the pool. Hydropower is green energy and environmentally friendly, reliable source of energy, is affordable due to its low cost of production, can boost industrialization, raise GDP, is useful in electrifying rural areas and improves quality of life of all citizens. Sharing power from interconnected transmission system has multiple benefits of which integrating the region as a pathway to continental integration is the contemporary hydro Pan-Africanism of our century.

The EAPP is an institution of hydro-diplomacy with lofty objectives to integrate the Eastern African region through hydro-development at lower investment cost, export virtual hydropower through integrated trans-boundary grids and avail reliable supply to the peoples of the region at a reduced price. This will promote mutuality of members and cooperation that will steadily lead to building trust, enhancing integration of the region as well as the continent through hydro-diplomacy. Water is a peaceful substance and employment of hydro-diplomacy for peaceful integration of the region is the EAPP’s fundamental principle that requires political vigilance, tolerance, transparency and cooperation of all its members through extended institutional sovereignty in the world of globalization.

Otherwise, what Kwame Nkrumah had long ago said “Africa must unite (Yalae, 2006), or disintegrate individually.” This was the slogan of the then generation of Africa but echoing in the present. If Africa does not integrate under the prevailing international and regional situations, countries of the continent will separately fall a prey in an increasingly globalizing world. Thus, the Eastern African region and its EAPP is an inter-governmental institution of cooperation that will contribute to water development, mutually benefiting from the available hydropower resources of Africa at a lower cost to Pool members in the region, and this can be achieved as pointed above through hydro-diplomacy and Water Pan-Africanism.

References

a. Books
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b. Documents


c. Internet sources

- McClain, M (2013). *Balancing water resources development and environmental sustainability in Africa: recent research findings and applications, A review of recent findings and applications.* available at [http://www.ncbi.nlm.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3698319](http://www.ncbi.nlm.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3698319), accessed on 29 April 2015
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Newsletter Editors
APSA is now accepting applications from alumni fellows and leaders interested in serving as co-editors of the Africa Workshop Alumni e-Newsletter. Co-editors will manage production of the bi-annual newsletter for a two-year period (fall 2015 – spring 2017). Co-editors will be provided a $1,500 grant for production, inclusive of a modest honorarium per issue, as well as two year’s APSA membership.

The editorial team should consist of at least one US-based and one Africa-based scholar. Alumni may submit a joint application or apply individually. Applicants with past experience managing a newsletter or listserv and an enthusiasm for encouraging interaction across multiple academic networks are encouraged to apply. Applications should be sent to astinson@apsanet.org no later than May 31, 2015, consisting of:
- Updated CV/resume
- 1-2 page cover letter highlighting the skills/experience you bring to the position, why you are interested in the position, and any ideas/plans for future issues of the newsletter.

Serving as co-editor of the Alumni e-newsletter is both an excellent networking opportunity and rewarding service to the alumni community. Feel free to contact Andrew with any questions.

Alumni Networking Grants
APSA invites all Africa-based workshop alumni to take part in the Alumni Networking Grants program. Made possible by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, grants of up to $12,000 are available to support alumni participation in activities as presenting at an academic conference, hosting a mini-workshop at your home institution, or finding support for advancing current research towards publication. Since August 2013, APSA has awarded over $86,800 in small grants to 28 Africa Workshops alumni. Recent recipients include:

November 2014
- Samuel Olugbemiga Afolabi (2014) - $2,000 Professional Development Grant
- Celso Monjane (2014) - $1,985 Professional Development Grant
- Edmond Mbala Elanga (2013) and Willy Kalala Kankonde (2013) - $11,500 Workshop Grant
- Felicia Safoa Odame (2012), Agnes Apusigah (2010), and Dominic Degraft Arthur (2014) - $11,400 Workshop Grant
- Sulaiman Balarbe-Kura (2009) and Mashood Omotosho (2009) - $10,000 Workshop Grant

February 2015
- Aremu Fatai Ayinde (2012) - $916 Professional Development Grant
- Rasel Madaha (2010) - $1,000 Professional Development Grant
- Maryam Quadri (2014) - $1,936 Professional Development Grant

Congratulations to these alumni! The next deadline is in September 2015. Additional information can be found online at http://community.apsanet.org/Africa/alumnigrants.
Upcoming Africa Workshop on “Conflict and Political Violence”
The 2015 APSA Africa Workshop is scheduled to take place in Nairobi, Kenya from July 20-31 in partnership with United States International University. The two-week workshop will be led by John Clark (Florida International University, USA), Pamela Mbabazi (Mbarara University of Science & Technology, Uganda), Kennedy Mkutu (United States International University, Kenya), and Beth Elise Whitaker (University of North Carolina at Charlotte, USA).

The workshop on “Conflict and Political Violence” will examine research on the sources of armed conflict and mechanisms for resolving conflict. Through our discussions, we seek to situate research on African conflicts within the broader political science literature on peace and conflict and facilitate a dialogue between case-based and cross-national studies.

Co-leaders have selected 26 participants from twelve different countries to take part in the workshop program. I look forward to introducing these bright scholars to you as the newest members of APSA’s Africa Workshops alumni community. For more information, visit the 2015 Workshop page on our website: [http://community.apsanet.org/Africa/2015workshop](http://community.apsanet.org/Africa/2015workshop).

Alumni News and Publications

Please join me in congratulating the following alumni for their continued professional accomplishments. In addition, twenty-six former participants and co-leaders were invited to present their research at the African Studies Association’s Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana (USA) in November 2014. See “Project News” on the website for more information. If you would like to submit an announcement to be included in future Alumni News, send your updates directly to africannewsletter@apsanet.org.

2009 Alumni – Accra, Ghana
- Keith Weghorst (Vanderbilt University) co-authored the article “From Formlessness to Structure? The Institutionalization of Competitive Party Systems in Africa” appearing in the October 2014 issue of *Comparative Political Studies* 47, no. 12.

2010 Alumni – Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- Aili Tripp (University of Wisconsin-Madison) won the ASA Public Service award for her service to the African Studies Association. She also won a Fulbright Award for research and teaching in Morocco during the 2015-16 academic year. She is based at the Center for Women’s Empowerment at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane.

2011 Alumni – Nairobi, Kenya
- Yahaya Baba (Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto) presented his paper “Are Multiparty Elections in Nigeria Competitive or Confrontational? Interrogating the Democraticness of Political Parties in the Fourth Republic” at the 2015 MPSA Conference in Chicago, IL in April.

2012 Alumni – Gaborone, Botswana

• Jeffrey Paller accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Politics at University of San Francisco, starting fall 2015. His article “Informal Institutions and Personal Rule in Urban Ghana” appeared in the December 2014 issue of *African Studies Review* 57, no. 3.
• Innocent Chirisa, George M. Bob-Milliar, Kirk Harris, Parakh Hoon, Lauren MacLean, and Majuta Judas Mamogale had featured articles in the December 2014 special issue of *African Studies Quarterly* (ASQ 15.1) on Local Communities and the State in Africa.
• Joyce Ejukonemu completed her PhD in Political Economy and Development Studies this March at Federal College of Education (Technical) Bichi, Kano; Nigeria.

2013 Alumni – Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

• Augustin Loada (University of Ouagadougou) was appointed in November 2014 to serve in Burkina Faso’s transitional government as Minister of Public Service, Labor, and Social Security.
• Hassan Ndzovu (Moi University) published his book *Muslims in Kenyan Politics: Political Involvement, Marginalization, and Minority Status* with Northwestern University Press in October 2014.

2014 Alumni – Maputo, Mozambique

• Celso Monjane (ISAP) was awarded a three-year fellowship from Roskilde University in Denmark as part of a project on the political economy of natural resources in Mozambique and Tanzania.
• Michael Jana (Chancellor College, University of Malawi), graduated with a PhD in Political Studies from the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa in December 2014.