

# PEACE BUILDERS NEWS



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## Working towards a Secure Peace Support Operations Environment in the Eastern Africa Region

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## Working towards a Secure Peace Support Operations Environment in the Eastern Africa Region

The centre embarked on the third quarter activities that saw a number of training and field work activities being accomplished. The field research whose focus was aimed at Enhancing Strategies and Mechanisms of Countering Violent Extremism and Protection of Civilians saw researchers visit Mombasa, Kwale, Kisumu, Busia and Kakamega counties this enabled researchers and collect data that will be useful in analysis of various topics that had been identified during the research agenda workshop held on 04 April 2017. The topics included. An Appraisal of the Responsiveness of Countering Violent Extremism Measures in Mombasa and Kwale Counties, the Role of Ideology in youth radicalization in the Coastal Region, An assement of maritime insecurity along the Kenya maritime Domain and an Analysis of women participation in Vilolent extremism in kenya.

During the same period reseachers and curriculum designers were also able to do a Training Needs Assessment for a Maritime Security course which enabled them to visit Ethiopia and Djibouti in addition to inland water basement areas of Country in Kenya with aim of identifying training needs and gaps that may need to be addressed.





**Anwar J Hateem (Centre) India's Defence University (NDU)  
during a visit to IPSTC on 23 May 2017**

The continued effort of training that is aimed at creating and improving interoperability between forces saw some Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) staff undergo a Bilateral predeployment military training Code named Swift Eagle in the month of September in preparation for joint training in the kingdom of Jordan with The Royal Jordanian Defence Force. In addition to the same effort for the region, an Engineering Plant Operation course drawing participants from the East African region was conducted. Further more, a course on Improvised Explosive Devices was conducted during the period so that it addresses threats caused by the devices in addition to AMISOM predeployment course for preparing KDF troops to be deployed to Somalia.

The guiding theme for this third issue is *"Working towards a Secure Peace Support Operations Environment in the Eastern Africa Region"*. The theme encompasses a wide range of activities by the Peace and Conflict Studies School (PCSS), Humanitarian Peace Support School (HPSS) and Peace and Security Research Department (PSRD) that are aimed at making the region secure.

Finally, PCSS and HPSS as the platforms centre's training also conducted other courses bringing together the military, police and civilians. The courses included Child Protection Course, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Course, Rule of law Course, Staff officers Planning Course, Protection of Civilians Course, Rule of Law Course, Engineering Plant Operation Course, AMISOM Pre Deployment Course and Improvised Explosive Device Disposal (IEDD) Course among others.

**Thank you.**

**Brigadier Patrick M Nderitu**

**Director, IPSTC**

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## Staff Induction Seminar 2017



*Newly posted Staff Induction held on 29-31 August 2017*

As is the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) tradition, newly posted staff are taken through an induction course which enable them familiarize themselves to how the organization operates. Speaking on behalf of the Director during the opening ceremony for the three day course (29-31 August 2017) Col JC Sitienei emphasized the need to have such an activity for staff that have just been posted to the Centre. She indicated that the induction programme was to enable the new staff settle into their new positions quickly so that they become productive and efficient members of staff as soon as possible while avoiding costly mistakes by staff not knowing the procedures or techniques of their new jobs. She also highlighted the need of it providing them with an overview of the Centre and enable each member of staff to see where they fit in the big picture of IPSTC. She further noted that the induction is also intended to assist in reinforcing the Centre's management style which emphasizes on core values and ultimately enable them to understand the Centres culture and the overall

framework within which it operates. In attendance were eleven officers who had been posted to the centre.

She further informed the participants that the Centre has over the years fully developed structures and capabilities that now place it as the key leader in Peace and Security not just in the Eastern Africa region but internationally. She averred that the Centre's relevance is premised on the need to professionalize peacekeeping within the context of the requirements for UN Peacekeeping and the development of African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) towards global peace and stability. Thus the Centre has enhanced engagements and linkages with other PSO training institutions and stakeholders in the continent and is in collaboration with national and international academia in Peace and Security.

It is worth noting that participants for the course are newly posted officers from the Kenya Defence Forces and the British army who have a

vast experience from their previous assignments which will be valuable to the institution.

The Director IPSTC Brig Patrick Nderitu during the closing ceremony for the course urged the staff to make use of what has been learnt and also look at the current strategic plan (2016-2020) which indicates the direction the centre wants to take in the next few years. This includes the expansion of the Counter Improvised Explosive Device wing and the coming up of a University as part of the National Defence University. He underlined the importance of the Centre in maintaining an international outlook in the staff composition while not forgetting the gender representation at all levels. He also reminded the staff that in addition to their current appointments they should expect additional tasks to be given to them. He finally underscored the need for team work as a critical factor of ensuring that tasks are accomplished.

**Maj G O Misiiani**  
Assistant Researcher, PSRD



## The Nexus Between Maritime and Human Security on Development



*Maritime security writing board 9 - 13 October 2017*

The dynamics that surround maritime security are diverse and broad in nature. In the past decade, the concept of Maritime security has started to be included in international security debates. The term Maritime Security has no particular definition, some scholars have described and discussed Maritime security in terms of frameworks that relate to other security concepts; the securitization of threats that surround it as well as the security practice theory where every security actors has a role to play in enhancing Maritime security according to their own capacity (Burger 2015).

It is until recently that the African Union and the European Union launched their Maritime Security Strategies (Africa Integrated Maritime Strategy aims 2050 and the European Union Maritime Security Strategy). The strategies advocates for an all comprehensive and cross-sectoral approach to maritime security threats.

These Strategies as well as the need for integration tend to enhance dynamism, coordination and cooperation among the stakeholders. Integration is the process of accomplishing close relation and unified coordination between several departments, ministries, nation states and systems. The 2050 AIMS strategy view maritime threats and vulnerability as aspects that hinder the human security of the people. In its seven missions, the AU insists on the promotion of good governance and respect to the rule of law and above all upholding the principles of human security.

This can only be achieved if nation states focus on the quality of life of its people through socio-economic empowerment and an integrated, all comprehensive approach to deal with security threats. Findings have shown that communities that live near large water bodies have high levels of poverty hence are socio-

economically under-developed. This has increased insecurity in those regions in terms of robbery, diseases and productivity.

With the threats being more diverse and dynamic, this paper will give an array of current and emerging threats to Maritime security from maritime piracy, armed robbery at sea, maritime pollution, Oil and Gas exploration, maritime disasters, drug and human trafficking terrorism among others. These threats have gone beyond national security and have greatly contributed to human and global insecurity. Human security here can be defined as the redefined way of security that no longer entails purely military terms of regime and border protection; rather, it encompass other aspects of **economic development, social justice, environmental protection, democratization, disarmament, and respect for human rights and the rule of law** (Koffi Annan, 2005).

On the other hand, global security refers to the peaceful inter-relations of all nations in order to achieve an equivalent development of individuals to societal well-being and quality of life. It also entails the actions taken by nations to guarantee a shared sustainability, safety.

The Tokyo International Conference of Africa's Development (TICAD VI) that was held in Nairobi (Aug 2016); advocated for Maritime Security and Development of Blue economy for Eastern Africa under Pillar 3 (Promoting social stability for shared prosperity): The conference fortified the importance of upholding regional and international synergies that are related to maritime security in accordance with the principles of international law.

As part of their enablers to achieve this pillar; TICAD VI advocated for the empowerment of the youth, women and persons with disabilities as a way to contribute to structural economic transformation, industrialization and

build on social stability of the people. The forum also championed for the strengthening of institutions that enhance good governance as a way of promoting democracy, respect to human rights and the key doctrines of development.

The concept of blue economy featured prominently under pillar 3 of (TICAD VI) and recognises that oceans and inland waters have a major role to play in human development and future progress. The sustainable use of those resources will help empower and strengthen economic empowerment of the people. In order for this vision to be achieved there is need to promote technology, science and innovation that will help protect the marine environment and encourage quality growth, create job opportunities and foster partnerships. In the recent past, findings have shown that humans have seriously impacted human development in the region. For instance, the substandard use of fishing materials and the continuous

use of heavy pollutants on land has contributed greatly to the destruction of hatcheries along the Lake Victoria basin and the persistent growth of water hyacinth. This has affected productivity of the lake by suffocating the fish, blocking boat access and increased health concerns.

### Conclusion

The clear nexus between human and maritime security cannot be over emphasized. Security threats affect human development which in turn affects national security. In order for states to appreciate security in its broader sense, they must concentrate on the progress of its people, strengthen institutions that will support the rule of law and respect the principles of human rights. This will automatically support the progress and political economy of the nations.

**Monica Musyoni,**

**Curriculum Designer, IPSTC.**



*Training Needs Assessment in Mombasa the Wildlife Service on 20 August 2017*



## Ceding Ground: The Forgotten Host in Refugee Crisis



**South Sudanese Refugees queuing for food rations (UNHCR)**

The host population in a refugee hosting country especially the poorer and most vulnerable ones bear heavy responsibility in regards to the adverse impact of refugee settlement. According to previous reviews, the impact is viewed only from the national economy and services rather than the people who make up the host population. Whereas refugees have been grouped according to the integrated and those in camps, the host population among them is seen as one entity summarized as 'host communities'.

Some of the effects of refugees is that they are likely to deplete local food supplies and drive food prices upwards due to their influx.

This benefits the surplus farmers who have stored food to sell but affects the subsistence farmers and landless laborers who may be forced to buy food. When it comes to land, labour and wages, the primary interest of the local people in being accommodative to refugees is the refugees labour as it is readily available. However, the poorer hosts are denied a source of livelihood due to low wages and competition

from the cheap labour.

Services for both refugees and hosts are visible and seen as avenues for integration. This is because the facilities are shared and donor funding is availed to supplement any shortages of the facilities. However, the influx of refugees can put a strain on these services especially in the health and education sectors. Competition for Common Property Resources (CPR) can affect the rural host communities as a new refugee population without adequate land is forced to use the available resources at hand. This is because the rural communities rely on the CPR as they tend to be immobile and the resources are a significant part of their livelihood. This localized pressure can be seen when the refugees are settled in camps. There is more visible and rise in conflict for CPR than in competition for wages or work due to the fact that exploitation of these resources is tangible and visible and hurts both divides. Economic development can be affected by an influx of refugees both negatively and positively.

Negatively, where there is a strain on food supplies and services as well as increasing effects of drought. This influx can have a positive effect where food aid supplements any shortage of food, and where there is cheap labour and refugee trading.

The adverse effects from refugee settlement are not the major cause of suffering on the poor host communities. They might put a strain on the available resources available but the government is responsible for the root cause of inadequate socio-economic facilities. This is because the government is responsible for availing these resources adequately to the population. This then makes it easier for the agencies responsible for refugee settlement to offer supplementary services like funding of additional healthcare and educational facilities.

Therefore, the notion that the people are overlooked at the expense of the government and the economy is absurd as the government is in charge of availing service delivery to the population. However, since the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has the mandate to provide for the refugees basic requirements more emphasis should be put on ensuring that this agency and other Non-Governmental Organizations help the host country shoulder the bigger burden of providing other essential services.

This is because the government feels the strain when dealing with allocation of resources to the refugee camps or areas where amenities like schools and healthcare facilities can no longer cater for a bloated population.

In addition, scattered refugees can be a great cause of concern for the well being of host communities as due to the grueling effects of travel as they escape conflict, some contract communicable diseases which could spread to their hosts.

Furthermore, children who do not get immunized may be a great threat to infants and young children within the host communities. This can be catastrophic especially for scattered refugees who live among the host communities.

Competition for available socio-economic resources between the refugees and their host communities could be a source for conflict. This is due to the invasion of the refugees' dire need for livelihood into the host community livelihood. The tension between these two divides could lead to more conflict thus placing the refugees between a rock and a hard place. Therefore, refugee camps should not be places of permanent residency but transitory foundations where they should not be a source of threat to the

livelihood of community hosts, their culture, economy and sovereignty. If at all, the camps should be a step to assimilation of the refugees into these countries subject to Refugee Status Determination.



**Watson Karuma, PSRD.**

## Refugees in Kenya: Burden, Threat or Asset?

It is from the 1990s that Kenya begun to witness a significant refugee inflow into its own territory from neighboring countries, mainly Somalia, South Sudan and Ethiopia. For more than two decades Kenya has gradually become home for vulnerable people fleeing conflicts while providing them with a secure living environment. So a hotly debated question comes to the fore: Are refugees here a burden, a threat or an asset?

First of all, in more general terms, the overall global view with regard to refugees cannot be overlooked. Refugee studies - as a discipline has maintained a political colour since its inception. It can be perceived mainly as an issue related to border/national security for host countries, just as it can be emphasized as an obligation of the international community to protect people forcefully fleeing conflict zones. Despite recent efforts in employing a multi-disciplinary approach to this issue, it is unfortunate that public opinion often perceive and label refugees as being either dangerous, weak or incapable of looking after themselves. It is clear that refugees fall into a framework that encompasses international law, international responsibility in humanitarian crisis, as



***Refugees singing happily and finding strength from music and food in Kabiria village, Nairobi***

well as moral and/or legal obligation for the receiving countries. However, the overwhelming legal perspective might sometimes blind our eyes and cover our ears, thus preventing us from listening and observing the real experiences of refugees themselves, their tears and sufferings. Persecution cannot be divorced from poverty. Indeed, it is necessary to differentiate "refugees" from "economic migrants" (as-a-matter-of-fact they

fall into separate categories requiring different treatment), but nonetheless many empirical data in literature do demonstrate that such demarcation is imaginary in politics and thus doomed to be futile.

Every one of us is different. It is quite obvious and natural to see differences among individuals in terms of age, sex, ethnicity, religious belief as well as working and educational experiences.



This diversification should become applicable to refugees as well, so as to avoid presenting them as a homogeneous whole. This unavoidably holds true in Kenya's incoming refugee flows that reflect a combined outcome of wars, persecution, extreme poverty, hunger and climate changes, that is, all critical factors interconnected among themselves. No single factor can stand on its own.

Specifically, Kenya's Northern counties are hosting a substantial portion of refugee population from Somalia. This presence can have strong implications to Kenya's national security as the government is actively involved in combating terrorism fueled by extremist groups such as Al-Shabaab (connected with ISIS). In Dadaab there does not exist so many economic activities, reflecting lack of prosperity and hope. Resettlement of Somali refugees to a third country also appears to be lengthy. Their extreme vulnerability can be risky since the ideal recruitment base for terrorist groups such as Al-Shabaab is indeed among the vulnerable ones. The more vulnerable and marginalized they are, the higher will be their chances to be recruited and manipulated by those terrorists who constitute the real threat to national security. The Somali refugee population, as such, cannot be criminalized and perceived as a threat to security: they can indeed be involved in what can be regarded as "refugee economy," thus being allowed to contribute to the hosting country's prosperity.

In another case, refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo in Kenya mainly live in urban settings and the general public does not really relate them to threats. But they can still be vulnerable in a different way, since they live in cities without being recipient of assistance from any international/national organization. I was involved in assisting these Congolese refugees

every Saturday for about four months at their community in the Kabiria village in Nairobi. I noted that refugee children cannot go to school in a systematic manner due to their parents' financial disadvantages. Most of their fathers cannot find a proper job and relief from hunger is still a daily struggle for most. Nonetheless, their desire to engage in an income generating activity is consistent, just as it is the case for the Somali refugees settled down in camps and for many other refugees elsewhere in the world.

One refugee woman from DR Congo explaining how she succeeded in producing many handmade products:

*"They are not normal products. They show the strength of women in difficult situations. They also represent hope for the whole family."*

Refugees' needs are endless as they face one problem after another. Externally, they need to deal with the public perception and often face social stigma. At the same time, they try hard to fulfill their social role struggling to provide the best to their children and to increase their livelihood. In conclusion, and also on the basis of my personal observation in the Kabiria village, let me emphasize the sociological approach in refugee studies. I believe that both policymakers and the public in general should focus more on the refugees' motives that prompt them to flee their own country, on their displacement either as individuals or as a family, on their chosen routes as well as on their day and night struggle in the countries where they seek asylum.

Of course, we are not dealing with international tourists travelling for pleasure to wonderful beaches, national parks and mountain resorts,

thus contributing substantially to the revenue every year. We are dealing with human flows moving towards decent and sustainable ways of life.

And after all, is there so much difference between refugees and "us"? You can identify yourself in their stories! They are sons and daughters who want to learn in the classrooms and dream high. They are husbands/wives who struggle to find a job and continue to be providers to their family members. Refugees are groups of people who best practice human agency when facing strict structural constraints. They deserve no social stigma, but a fresh eye and a comprehensive understanding from every one of us!

**Yajun HU, Intern – PSRD.**



## Key Visits and Events at IPSTC

During the third quarter of 2017, the International Peace Support Training Centre welcomed key personalities across the globe to various events. This included various delegations from other institutions, partners and other dignitaries.



**Farewell party for the IPSTC out-going Chief of Staff  
Lt Col Paul Gilby (Shoove) on 14/8/2017**



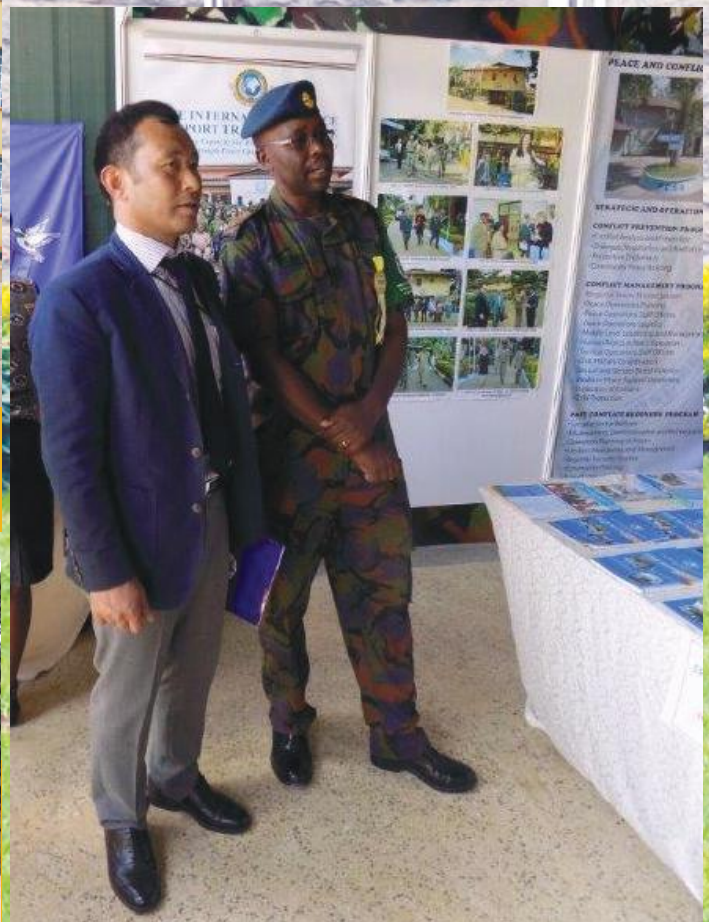
**A section of schools that visited the IPSTC Stand during  
the 2017 Nairobi International Trade Fair**



**The Director IPSTC (Centre) posing for a group  
photo with participants from the Maritime Security  
Learning and Sharing Workshop on 30 Nov 2017**



**Farewell party for the outgoing Japanese Defence  
Attaché Commander Tomohiro Tomimatsu at IPSTC  
on 05 July 2017**



**Commander Masaki Nakagome, The new Defence  
Attache, Japan gets a tour of the IPSTC Stand from Lt  
Col R. Kiptoo, Head of Applied Research, during the  
2017 Nairobi International Trade Fair**



## Disaster Communication and Early Warning in Countering Violent Extremism



*A group photo for the Disaster Communication and Early Warning course participants at the IPSTC Humanitarian Peace Support School*

Increasingly, it is recognized that disasters are linked. The impacts of many types of violent extremism do not happen in isolation, but recognition of such cause and effect on a global and regional scale is leading to the creation of early warning systems that can accommodate multiple hazards and cross-boundary impacts. At the same time, governments are becoming aware that a paradigm shift from crisis management to risk management is necessary if the finite resources available are spent in the most efficient way to assist the populations at risk to prevent or mitigate disasters.

Early warning systems have limitations in terms of saving lives if they are not combined with people-centered networks. To be effective, early warning systems must be understandable, trusted by and relevant to the communities that they serve. Warnings will have little value unless they reach the people most at risk and who need to be trained to respond appropriately to an approaching hazard. The approach to Countering Violent Extremism emphasizes the strength

of local communities. We begin with the premise that well-informed and equipped law enforcement, families, communities, and local institutions represent the best defense against violent extremism and preventing violent attacks.

Training for Countering Violent Extremism; development, implementation, and/or expansion of programs to engage communities that may be targeted by violent extremist and radicalization cannot be over emphasized. The advent of violent extremism has seen the whole globe having concerted efforts among various partnerships in coming up with strategies some of which have the specific aim of countering violent extremism (CVE).

The development and implementation of projects to partner with local communities to prevent violent extremism in accordance with the Strategic Implementation Plan has also Empowered Local Partners to Prevent Violent Extremism. The Kenya National Strategy on CVE

identifies violent extremism as primarily social and political, not merely security, phenomena. The Strategic End State of this strategy is to rally all sectors of Kenyan social, religious, and economic life to emphatically and continuously reject violent extremist ideologies and aims in order to shrink the pool of individuals whom terrorist groups can radicalize and recruit. The UNDP's Regional Strategy on Preventing Violent Extremism which seeks to support countries to prevent and respond to violent extremism using a development approach, has one of the key outcomes of the strategy as to ensure that national institutions (including government, police and justice systems and communities) are capacitated to be able to prevent and address violent extremism. The UNDP Strategy again is anchored on Pillar 6 of the National Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism, which focuses on ensuring that all institutions, political and religious leaders, and all actors who are mandated to undertake CVE possess the right skills and knowledge for the task.

**Maj Luke Nandasava**  
Pre-Deployment Instructor,  
HPSS.

## Training on Protection of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

When it comes to safety and security in a peace support environment, current debate states that it is important to ensure ultimate protection of both civilians and those who provide protection. You might have heard the question “who protects the protector?” This enquiry is informed by the need to protect personnel who are risking their lives to protect civilians in a setting of conflict, distress and turmoil. These protectors include peace keeping personnel and others attached to agencies working in Peace Support Operations (PSO).

With full acknowledgement that protectors need protection, and very much so, the central thesis of this article is the protection of displaced populations; particularly refugees and IDPs. Both these groups require specific assistance and protection owing to their displacement status. However, although some of their protection needs may be similar, others are significantly different. As highlighted below, the definition of refugee and IDP somehow explains the variance in their needs and protection strategies.

A refugee is someone who has been forced to flee his/her country because of persecution, war, or violence. He/she has a justifiable fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group.

Whereas an IDP is someone who is forced to flee his/her home - often for the very same reasons as a refugee - but remains within his/her own country. To this end, given that IDPs do not cross an international border, their protection lies primarily with their government. In fact, IDPs are entitled to the same rights as ordinary citizen. However, having crossed

an international border, refugees' protection lies with the international community. Thus, their standards of treatment is based on a different set of guiding principles.

It is currently estimated that millions of civilians globally have forcefully been displaced due to armed conflicts among other factors. Global statistics highlight the Eastern Africa region as a major source and host for refugees and IDPs. Specifically, Kenya hosts over a million refugees due to its proximity to conflict-prone countries of Somalia and South Sudan among others. It is said to host the second largest refugee population in Africa after Ethiopia. Additionally, Kenya is home to IDPs who have fled their habitual residence due to conflict, drought, reforestation, or developed-induced displacement among others.

Refugees and IDPs in Kenya and the region, are faced with serious and inimitable socio-economic, political and legal challenges. In addition, there is documented evidence of a need to equip protection personnel with the right knowledge and skills to effectively address protection concerns of refugees and IDPs. Having recognized this need, IPSTC with support from the Government of Japan rightly decided to develop and deliver training on protection of refugees and IDPs in the region (Eastern Africa) and particularly in Kenya. The regional (generic) training will focus on refugee and IDP protection concerns in a PSO setting such as Somalia and South Sudan while the Kenya-specific course will address their protection needs in a non-PSO context. This split is based on the fact that refugee and IDP

protection in a PSO locale is different from a non-PSO environment as the former is more complex, arduous and challenging.

The IPSTC developed regional and Kenya-specific courses on protection of refugees and IDPs through a writing board held from 2-6 October 2017.

The courses aim to enhance participants' knowledge and skills on refugee and IDP protection in order to enable them intervene effectively. The target audience includes men and women from military, police and civilian institutions, undertaking refugee/IDP protection tasks at the strategic, operational and tactical levels. They could be drawn from the United Nations and African Union PSOs, regional bodies, governments, non-governmental organizations, community based organizations, faith based organizations and other humanitarian agencies.

To ensure achievement of course aim, the curriculums for the two courses have been organized according to learning outcomes and modules. Both courses have 6 learning outcomes covering key thematic areas in protection of



*Maj Luke Nandasava*



refugees and IDPs. There are 27 and 26 modules for the regional and Kenyan-specific course respectively, delivered in 10 days of instruction. The learning plans have been designed in such a way that background information on protection will be covered in the first few days of instruction to promote a common understanding among the participants. The remaining days will be dedicated to applied lessons and exercises.

Based on reviews from past courses, the writing board agreed that there was need to separate certain protection aspects of refugees and IDPs. For example, given that refugees and IDPs have different historical and legal concerns, it was decided that their historical and legal frameworks will be handled as distinct learning

outcomes and taught separately during training. This was thought as an alternate way to avoid confusion among the trainees.

The learning methodology for the courses has been designed to include both theoretical and practical sessions. The former will be delivered in a lecture format and in a limited fashion. While the latter will include participatory approaches such as syndicate based exercises, use of scenarios, case studies, experiential sharing, role plays, demonstrations, question and answers, and plenary discussions to draw participants own experiences.

Lastly, gender perspectives in protection of refugees and IDPs have been considered and incorporated

into the course content. This is mainly critical following IPSTC's decision in 2015 to officially adopt gendered approaches in all its courses. Moreover, this endeavour will contribute towards the support of gender mainstreaming efforts as articulated in various global, regional and national policy and legal instruments on protection of civilians. Also, the respective training school is encouraged to deliberately ensure gender balance in selection of course participants. The overall goal of gender integration in training is to ensure that participants are given a holistic learning experience with practical gender insights for effectual refugee and IDP protection.

**Margaret Cheptile**  
Curriculum Designer, IPSTC.



*A writing board for Protection of Refugees and IDPs at IPSTC held from 2 to 6 October 2017.*

## Deploying the Best: Enhancing Effectiveness of Africa Union and United Nations Peacekeepers

Among the many elements that determine the success or failure of African Union (AU) and United Nations (UN) peacekeeping operations, the effectiveness of individual peacekeepers plays a prominent, though often underestimated role. But "effectiveness" is an elusive concept. It is the product of a number of factors, ranging from the will of peacekeepers to the quality and suitability of their equipment; from timely deployment to strategic planning; from logistics to financial support. Ongoing efforts to improve the effectiveness of AU/UN peacekeeping cover all these areas and more including training, as a means to ensure that peacekeepers are adequately prepared to accomplish their tasks. The importance of training was also emphasized by the Brahimi Report (2000), which placed its role in peacekeeping effectiveness on a par with other crucial elements, such as political support and rapid deployment.

Training peacekeepers for service with the AU/UN is not the exclusive responsibility of the AU Peace and Security Council or the UN Secretariat. Member states also have a crucial role to play. The role of training in the success or failure of peacekeeping operations is generally understated. It is often taken for granted or considered less relevant to the outcome of an operation. Historical experience has shown that underprepared peacekeepers cost lives and endanger missions. In practice, special training is needed because peacekeeping involves more than the basic military tasks for which soldiers are - or should be - already trained. If soldiers might have managed in early UN observation missions, tasked with straightforward and limited mandates, this is not the



*A course coordinator takes Pre-Deployment Training participants through a practical mine awareness demo*

case in modern multidimensional operations, where a number of different and sophisticated skills are required. One of the early pioneers of peacekeeping, former UN secretary-general Dag Hammarskjöld, was keenly aware of the problem when he stated that "peacekeeping is not a job for soldiers but only soldiers can do it." The implication is that a typical soldier or police officer is not naturally a good peacekeeper, unless he or she acquires critical knowledge and skills that only specific peacekeeping training can provide. It is for the aforementioned reasons that the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) jointly with the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) ran a Pre-Deployment Training for the military officers due for deployment to the Africa Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). The officers comprised the Command Group elements of Kenyan Brigade Number 7 (AMISOM VII) due for deployment to AMISOM in Somalia

in the forthcoming troop rotation.

Every day, military personnel in peacekeeping missions are on patrol, providing vital security and stability in field missions. They work alongside Police and civilian colleagues to protect personnel and property; maintain close cooperation with other military entities in the mission area; and work to promote stability and security. They also work with the local community and the local military personnel to bring about greater mutual understanding and work together towards a lasting peace. The UN has been deploying military personnel for service in peace operations since 1948 when the Security Council authorized the deployment of UN military observers under UN Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO) to the Middle East to monitor the Armistice Agreement between Israel and its Arab neighbours. AU on the other hand started deploying military personnel for service in peace



operations fairly recently.

Modern peacekeeping operations are often very complex. Both current AU and UN peacekeeping missions, especially those mandated to address multidimensional challenges in a deteriorating or fragile security environment, present complicated and often dangerous working environments for peacekeeper's thus placing high demands on the personnel deployed.

High levels of training are therefore required before deployment, and both the AU and UN works closely with Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) and Regional Centres of Excellence to provide the best help and advice possible.

As the Eastern Africa Regional Centre of Excellence, IPSTC continually strives to provide future peacekeepers with the necessary skills and knowledge to enable them to effectively perform their roles in Peace Support Operations. As an institution, it is dedicated to enhancing operational capacity for peacekeeping through training, education and research for the benefit of military, police and civilian personnel in all aspects of peace operations.

The centre's programmes work towards improving the effectiveness of the international response to complex emergencies. IPSTC was therefore honoured to offer pre-deployment training to AMISOM VII Command Group elements as this is a step towards that end. The Pre-deployment training was conducted at the Humanitarian Peace Support School (HPSS) Embakasi, Nairobi, Kenya in two phases. Phase one of the training was conducted from 28th August to 8th September, 2017 and was sponsored by KDF. Phase two was conducted from 11th to 15th September, 2017 and was sponsored by United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS). The

aim of the training was to equip and prepare Brigade Command Group officers to take up command of peacekeepers in a multi-dimensional peacekeeping environment. The training was tailored to prepare officers for deployment specifically to AMISOM. The course comprised of sixty eight (68) participants in phase one and fifty (50) in phase two all of whom were drawn from the Kenya Defence Forces. The officers were from the ranks of second lieutenant to Brigadier with the three services Army, Airforce and the Navy represented.

The training was done through a combination of theory and scenario-based exercises. The theory training was undertaken in a Classroom environment whereas the Scenario-based exercises were conducted in syndicate rooms. As a professional and personal requirement for successful work in any peacekeeping operation, instruction was based on UN requirements of the Core Pre-Deployment Training Material (CPTM). However, the training was tailored to specifically give emphasis to the current situation in the republic of Somalia so as to prepare the participants specifically for AMISOM. The UNSOS sponsored training drew facilitators from experienced UNSOS staff who shared their knowledge and experience without reservations. In his keynote opening address, The General Officer Commanding Eastern Command (GOC EASTCOM) Major General Biwott congratulated the participants for being selected as the Command Group for AMISOM VII. He encouraged them to engage one another in discussions and debates and in the process add value to their knowledge of peace support operations. He advised them to tap from the wealth of experience of their facilitators and instructors.

The Predeployment training officially came to a close on 15th September, 2017 and the closing ceremony was once again graced by Major General Biwott. In his closing remarks, Major General Biwott advised the officers to remain focused once deployed, commit themselves to duty and to exemplify professionalism in handling the challenges that are pertinent to AMISOM operational environment.

He expressed his confidence and faith in their capabilities and wished them well in their tour of duty. He also reminded them to be good ambassadors of the Kenyan nation and its people.

Indeed, as former UN secretary-general Dag Hammarskjöld said, peacekeeping is not a job for soldiers but only soldiers can do it. And their effectiveness is as good as their training. IPSTC is proud to have trained the AMISOM VII Command Group as this contributes to the both the AU's and UN's desire to deploy the best in all peacekeeping missions worldwide.



**Maj D Sitin**

**AMISOM VII PDT Course  
Coordinator, HPSS.**

## Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT)



**Participants of HEAT course during field exercise on 9 November 17 at HPSS**



**Participants of HEAT course during a simulation scenario on hostage taking field exercise on 9 November 17 at HPSS**

HEAT is an intensive 40 hour course usually delivered within a five-day period that aims at training professionals to deal effectively with risk-associated and emergency situations while deployed in hostile environment abroad. The training is expected to improve participants' understanding of the minimum behavioral field requirement when working as a team member of an international field operation irrespective of their national or professional background. This program is designed specifically for those whose work takes them to challenging, remote or hostile regions, where getting the job done can be a risky business. Kidnap, assault or natural disaster are very real dangers and medical facilities can be few and far between. This course equips learners to assess, recognize and avoid risks as far as possible. And, should the worst happen, they'll be ready to respond, maximizing the opportunity of a positive outcome. Designed to be enjoyable and exciting and therefore memorable, the course combines practical challenges with highly relevant theory, delivered by practitioner trainers with a wealth of field experience. Participants leave feeling energized and empowered, ready to operate outside their normal comfort zones.

The above training was conducted at the Humanitarian Peace Support School (HPSS), Embakasi – Nairobi,

Kenya from 28 Aug – 1 Sept, 2017. This training was sponsored by CARE/RSM and is one of the many similar courses that are held at HPSS across the year. CARE/RSM is an international disaster relief NGO which trains aid workers and provides skilled professionals to humanitarian programmes worldwide, helping to save and rebuild the lives of people affected by natural and man-made disasters.

The two primary course objectives are; to improve participants' knowledge of multiple threats present in hostile field environment and of ways and means of dealing with them in an effective manner, and to rehearse and practice safety and security procedures according to specific threats. While the specific learning objectives are; to be able to avoid certain dangerous and potentially dangerous situations, to know how to manage situations and stress once caught in dangerous circumstances, to be able to orientate oneself and communicate with others in hostile environment and to be able to adequately use available means of transportation, to be able to act as a team member in hostile, dangerous and stressful situations.

The HEAT course had a total of 26 participants who reported for the training and were drawn from

different countries. All participants after a successful completion of the training were awarded certificates. The training involved both theoretical and field exercises.

The facilitators used various methodologies to deliver the course content; participants were grouped in syndicates for presentation and practical exercise.

In conclusion hostile environment awareness training is essential to coping with internal and external security threats that an international mission can likely face on the ground and is conducive to, enhancing the resilience of personnel when working in hazardous environments, increasing the understanding of proactive security and of basic field measures to be taken before, during and after a mission in a conflict zone and providing personnel with the basic tools and techniques needed to avoid potentially dangerous situations or to cope adequately with actual endangering situations in the field.



**WO1 M N Osew  
Librarian, IPSTC.**



## ONE on ONE With Lisa Hu



WO 1 Michael Osew Interview with Yajun Lisa Hu on 18 December 2017

**Q.** Good afternoon Lisa. Thanks for finding time for this interview.

**A.** You're welcome Michael. I have also been looking forward to this to be able to express my gratitude to IPSTC.

**Q.** I acknowledge that you are the first International Intern we have had at IPSTC. Which is your country of origin?

**A.** I am Chinese, though I lived and studied in different cities of the world, such as Cairo, Damascus and Rome. I normally absorb good things from each city and from interaction with local people. So, I always find it difficult to describe where I come from. Nowadays, lots of people say that I am Kenyan and I do feel somehow Kenya too.

**Q.** When did you join IPSTC?

**A.** I joined the International Peace

Support Training Centre in the month of April 2017 as an intern.

**Q.** Was this your first time to visit Kenya?

**A.** Yes, it is. I had never been to Kenya before. In fact, it was also my first time to be in the African continent. Maybe you can now feel the importance of IPSTC in my heart, because everything I know about Kenya and Africa is through IPSTC. IPSTC is my first home in Kenya.

**Q.** How did you get know about IPSTC?

**A.** I undertook my master's degree at Sophia University in Tokyo Japan where I met Professor Higashi. This don had been invited many times to IPSTC to deliver lectures on United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in South Sudan. After my

graduation, I expressed to him my interest to work in Africa and he then recommended me for this internship position at IPSTC.

**Q.** Where else have you worked before joining IPTSC?

**A.** I worked in three different Chinese cultural institutions in Beijing dealing with promotion of Great Wall of China and with public Diplomacy. In the year 2009.

**Q.** Which is you training or professional background?

**A.** I studied English literature for my bachelor degree at Peking University. I worked in three different institutions to promote the great walk China and promote people to people communication.

I also studied Arabic in Damascus before going to Syria. As the war

gradually changed the Syrians' destiny, it also shaped my own identity. This is the reason why I decided to go back to the university to pursue my master's degree in Forced Migration and Refugee Studies.

**Q.** While at the research department, what are some of the duties you undertook?

**A.** I first worked in the curriculum design section where, together with a Kenya intern, I developed a research paper concerning auditing the refugee policy frameworks in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. I also took part in the developing and updating of learning plans for Protection of Civilian demonstrations, review of Protection of Refugee and IDP course as well as Integrated Maritime course

**Q.** How would you describe your experience at IPSTC? Helpful, interesting?

**A.** I learnt a lot. In particular, I deepened my knowledge about refugee issues from a legal perspective. I also appreciated working in an integrated set up inclusive of military officers and civilians. The military officers at IPSTC are highly disciplined and dedicated in their service.

**Q.** What was the most memorable thing that you encountered at IPSTC?

**A.** I loved the team building event held in December since it was my first time to participate in such. The activities were very enjoyable and indeed bonding as the groups cooperated and worked hard

as a team to be the best. Am happy my group became the winners of that day.

**Q.** Having been in other places in the world and many institutions, what do you find unique and outstanding about IPSTC?

**A.** Every institution has its strengths and weaknesses. It is just up to every individual to adapt herself/himself to the new environment and make it as comfortable as possible. For example, when I just arrived, I was always getting woken up early in the morning by the noise made by someone weeding flowers around my room. Gradually my mind got used to it. That noise became a sound which expressed the hardworking spirit of that gardener. It then became my alarm every morning to wake up.

That is indeed the uniqueness of IPSTC. From the Director to military officers, from finance officers down to people taking care of grass and flowers, everyone is working hard in their own positions. The institutions endeavors to ensure smooth running of all courses and more importantly all efforts to create a comfortable home where the participants can fully enjoy and concentrate on the learning.

**Q.** How has your relationship been with staff at the research department where you were based and the entire IPSTC?

**A.** Undoubtedly, I had more interaction with all staff in the research building. I enjoyed discussing with my bosses

and colleagues about office matters. Since in I lived inside the compound, I enjoyed talking to the ladies who do room cleanings because they were like my sisters in my neighborhood with whom I shared personal feelings and emotions.

At this moment of my departure, I just feel sorry that I still do not know how to dance despite all the efforts made by colleagues and friends at IPSTC to teach me how to dance.

**Q.** Talk about your worst moment in IPSTC?

**A.** Ah..... I can't forget the anxiety during the two election weeks. Those were very silent moments staying indoors waiting to see how things will unfold given the high political temperatures that were there and fear of violence erupting.

There were also moments that I felt a strong sense of solidarity. Since probably other than myself, the duty officers and the guards on duty were the only people remaining in the camp. The duty officers sometimes could check on me. This gave me a feeling of care and concern from the officers. on certain occasions, I cooked Chinese food for the duty officers and our guards. It is such a pity that I can't even remember their names. The warmth given in most difficult moments will be forever remembered in my heart.

**Q.** Is there anything you would like to say about IPSTC?

**A.** IPSTC is an ideal institution for anyone who would like to



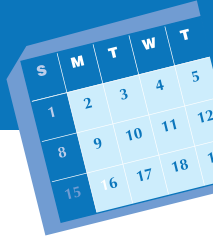
advance his or her thinking and knowledge related to peace and security. Ipstc is advanced in many aspects; from the cutting edge, professional delivery for military, police and civilian personnel, to its vibrant gender policy and rich networking with other like-minded organisations in the region. I feel proud having been a member of IPSTC.

**Q.** It was a great pleasure having you at IPSTC as the first international intern. If given chance, would you come back to IPSTC?

**A.** Am greatly happy to have been part of IPSTC for about eight months and wouldn't hesitate to come back if given another chance. The experience I have gained at IPSTC is enormous. This has been my greatest adventure and eye opener in many ways. I am glad I got the opportunity to come to this institution. Thank you so much for this interview.



# IPSTC Third Quarter Course Calendar 2017



## PEACE & CONFLICT STUDIES SCHOOL

S/No	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	TARGET AUDIENCE
1	<b>Protection of Civilians (POC)</b> 03 -14 July 2017	12 days course funded by Denmark	Multi-dimensional Staff to be deployed to mission.
2	<b>Sexual and Gender Based Violence Train The Trainers</b> 10 -21 July 2017	12 days course funded by Denmark	Selected officers/men/women who are trainers/be deployed as trainers.
3	<b>Intergrated Mission Support(IMS)</b> 17 – 28 July 2017	12 days course funded by EASF	
4	<b>Civilian Foundation (CF)</b> 24 -29 July 2017	6 days course funded by EASF	
5	<b>Child Protection (CP)</b> 14-25 August 2017	12 days course funded by UK/BPST	Selected individuals who are serving or will be serving in senior and middle level positions within PSO. They include military, police and civilian.
6	<b>Rule of Law (RoL)</b> 21 August - 01 September 2017	12 days course funded by UK/BPST	Multi-dimensional Staff to be deployed to mission.
7	<b>Staff Officers Planning Course (SOPC)</b> 28 August -01 September 2017	05 days course funded by UK/BPST	Selected officers who may be serving in a Brigade level headquarters within EASF or AU/UN Missions.
8	<b>AMISOM CIMIC Mission Planning</b> 04 - 08 September 2017	05 days course funded by Denmark	Selected officers who are/may be deployed as CIMIC officers in AU/UN Missions.
9	<b>Regional Law Enforcement (RLE)</b> 11 – 15 September 2017	5 days course funded by EU	
10	<b>Security Sector Reforms (SSR)</b> 18- 29 September 2017	12 days course funded by Switzerland	Selected individuals who are middle level practitioners working with International,Regional and Sub-Regional organizations,member states, ministerial directors and PSO in general.
11	<b>CIMIC</b> 18 – 29 September 2017	12 days course funded by UK/BPST	

## HUMANITARIAN PEACE SUPPORT SCHOOL

7	<b>AMISOM Pre Deployment Course</b> 01-15 September 2017	15 days course funded by KMOD	Selected officers who may be deployed to AU Missions
8	<b>Personnel Safety and Security in the Field (PSSIF)</b> 18-22 September 2017	5 days course funded by REDR(UK)	RED R UK.
9	<b>Hostile Environment Assistance Training (HEAT)</b> 24- 29 September 2017	5 days course funded by NRC	Staff working in various parts of the world.

## PEACE AND SECURITY RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

10	<b>Field Research</b> June -October 2017	Funded by UNDP/JAPAN	IPSTC Staff.
11	<b>IPSTC Staff Induction Course</b> 29-31 August 2017	3 days course funded by IPSTC	IPSTC newly posted Staff



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