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COVID-19, climate change, commodities, credit and coups are some of the trends in sub-Saharan Africa that 2021 will be remembered for. It was during this year also that the continent launched the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and emerged from recession, sparked for many by low commodity prices, but worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic. Elevated commodity prices, a recovery in global trade and easing of stringent pandemic measures, despite anxieties over the Omicron variant and low rates of vaccination, signal a trajectory of slow economic recovery and a subdued investment climate for much of Africa in 2022.

Once again, it’s the non-resource-rich countries that are rebounding quicker – Côte d’Ivoire and Kenya in particular – compared with the continent’s three largest economies, Angola, Nigeria and South Africa. Better politics also contributes to growth, as democratic advances in Niger and Zambia in 2021, and in Malawi in 2020, have attracted increased investor curiosity – as demonstrated at Chatham House this year when Presidents Bazoum, Hichilema and Chakwera spoke to physical and virtual audiences, including representatives from the private sector.

Democratic reversals, such as coups in Chad, Guinea, Mali (again) and Sudan are reminders of the fragility of Africa’s democratic journey and the importance of national politics. The war in Ethiopia shattered its reputation as a safe destination for foreign direct investment, although its opening of the telecommunications industry to the private sector has been applauded.

Before its coup, Sudan had also embarked on much needed political and economic reforms, such as the unification of the exchange rate and debt relief, but the civilian transition has now stalled. Nigeria is also attempting
to cut-back on fuel subsidies, a necessary step to build up a viable domestic, greener energy industry – although the final passing of the Petroleum Industry Bill sent a mixed message.

Credit and liquidity challenges will carry on into 2022 as a key concern for many African governments. Rising debt levels will require international partners to find better pathways for cancellation and suspension, through the G20’s Common Framework and other initiatives.

The COP27 climate change summit will be hosted by Egypt and will give Africa a stronger voice in calling for funds from developed nations to unlock investments in climate-smart infrastructure that can help create green jobs. Decarbonization is an opportunity to foster manufacturing activity on the continent, but it requires foreign direct investment, grants and loans. Companies and governments in Africa are already providing training for jobs in solar energy (such as in Togo and South Africa), but a lot more needs to be done.

This year, the Africa Programme has once again expanded its projects and activities. It held regular virtual and hybrid meetings from London, Lagos and Maputo, reaching global audiences. The Programme produced 44 publications, including seven peer reviewed papers, book chapters, and academic journal articles, and Programme staff were cited over 2,000 times in the global media including 21 opinion or comment pieces.

In 2022 the Africa Programme will continue to partner with African stakeholders and institutions to provide expert analysis and policy solutions that help to stimulate equitable economic growth, reduce poverty, promote peace and security and mitigate climate change.

Dr Alex Vines OBE
Director, Africa Programme, Chatham House
Regional integration and foreign relations

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), under which African countries began trading in January 2021, marks a significant milestone in implementing the African Union’s vision for greater regional integration and pan-African prosperity and resilience under Agenda 2063. New demands for regional COVID-19 vaccine manufacturing added further impetus to the drive for integration and cooperation, while the re-opening of travel and global engagements brought opportunities for African countries to re-craft relations with international partners.

In 2021, the Africa Programme convened discussions and analyzed Africa’s regional integration trajectory in terms of trade and labour mobility; the continent’s collective influence and interests in relationships with its trading and development partners; regional resilience; and emerging digital cooperation models.

Regional trade and labour mobility

A panel event with a keynote speech by HE Wamkele Mene, Executive Secretary-General of the AfCFTA Secretariat, discussed the priorities for implementation of the AfCFTA and how it could benefit Africa’s diverse economies and populations, particularly its youth and the most socio-economically marginalized.
The Africa Programme also convened a discussion in partnership with the African Foundation for Development (AFFORD) on policy approaches to promoting regional labour and skills mobility.

**Partnerships for sustainable development**

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed an urgent need for multilateral partnerships to tackle development inequalities and vulnerabilities. An Africa Programme panel event in December examined the changes in policy needed to accelerate progress towards the SDGs and the African Union’s Agenda 2063.

**Regional resilience and cooperation in the Lake Chad Basin**

In partnership with the World Bank Group, the Africa Programme hosted a series of multi-stakeholder virtual roundtables and a public webinar on the Lake Chad Basin, exploring how state and non-state development actors can support factors of resilience in the region.

At a subsequent event held in partnership with the UNDP, HE Ambassador Mamman Nuhu, Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC), delivered a keynote address on how the LCBC can support regional resilience and cooperation on development planning and delivery.

We need to take the time to understand how people feel, seeing them as actors and not only as observers – this is how we guarantee the creation of a new societal model that is resilient.

Béatrice Odountan Abouya, Country Director, Niger, Search for Common Ground
South Africa’s foreign policy
HE Dr Naledi Pandor, South Africa’s Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, reflected at an Africa Programme event on South Africa’s two-year tenure on the UN Security Council and one year of chairmanship of the African Union (AU).

Africa’s collective influence and interests in climate policy
Africa Programme Associate Fellow, Bob Dewar, highlighted in an expert comment the need to re-cast the spotlight on climate change in Africa, outlining the importance of integrating community-based projects into global climate decisions and developing a sustainable vision for green transition.

Africa and the EU: Collaboration for clean water
The Africa Programme co-hosted the Republic of Slovenia’s 10th Africa Day conference with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia and the European Commission. The conference took place under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Slovenia, His Excellency Mr Borut Pahor. Expert discussions at the conference examined collaborative links between Africa and Europe in accelerating progress on a comprehensive approach to water that contributes to the peace-development-humanitarian nexus.
The Africa Programme in 2021

Africa-UK relations

Following the publication of the UK’s Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy, published in March 2021, the Africa Programme hosted a discussion to reflect on the implications of the Review for the UK’s relations and engagement with Africa. An Africa Aware podcast episode, with Alex Vines and Shuvai Nyoni, further explored the implications of the Review and how the pivot to East Africa can provide an opportunity for countries in the region to leverage the burgeoning interest for the benefit of citizens.

Events with the former UK Minister for Africa, James Duddridge MP, and current Minister, Vicky Ford MP, also discussed the trajectory of UK-Africa relations, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the priorities for engagement going forward.

International support for Sudan’s transition

With the support of Humanity United, our project on international support for Sudan’s transition engaged Sudanese and international policymakers and decision-takers for discussions on the priorities and challenges of Sudan’s transition and reform. Written outputs and events, including with Hon. Khalid Omer Yousif, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, and Hon. Dr Nasredeen Abdulbari, Minister of Justice of Sudan, provided nuanced understanding of the complexities and the urgency of international support for Sudan’s transition towards civilian rule, sustainable peace, democratic governance and economic stabilization.

The biggest and most pivotal change facing Sudan’s transition is security sector reform. Rather than being viewed as a threat to the democratic transition, we genuinely believe that the military has a role to play.

Khaled Omar Yousif, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Republic of Sudan
A South-South approach to cooperation on technology governance

With the support of Omidyar Network, a series of knowledge exchange workshops were convened by the Africa Programme in collaboration with Chatham House’s Asia Programme. The series brought together a cross-section of experts, stakeholders and policymakers to exchange on the conceptual underpinnings of digital technology governance and the main priorities and key gaps in developing governance systems at national and transnational levels, and where shared cross-country learning can add most value.

Common Futures Conversations (CFC)

A series of online dialogues and webinars were convened as part of our Common Futures Conversations (CFC) project, which is a Chatham House second century initiative that aims to deliver innovative ways for young people in Africa and Europe to engage in policy and share perspectives on key global challenges. This year’s dialogues discussed climate change and migration, modern slavery, gender equality and green energy transition.
Inclusive economic growth, governance and technology

The pandemic has accelerated the unequal treatment of Africa, driven by the rules and systems of global economic governance.

Dr Carlos Lopes, Africa Programme, Associate Fellow

Following recession in 2020, induced by the COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 marked a challenging but important year for Africa as countries made concerted pushes for recovery against new and lingering health and economic challenges. Discussions, podcasts and articles focused on the varied impacts of COVID-19 and the responses of African countries to the economic difficulties posed, and the dynamics of bilateral and private lending to African countries.

In partnership with the Regional Programme for Africa of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Africa Programme launched the Policy for Recovery in Africa series exploring core policy issues and debates on post-COVID-19 recovery.

Capital markets and debt management

At the start of the year, in the first podcast episode of Africa Aware, Professor Carlos Lopes discussed the state of debt on the continent, the role of ratings agencies in influencing African risk perception and how current financial systems must be transformed to ensure they deliver for Africa. A panel discussion held as part of the Policy for Recovery in Africa series discussed multilateral and bilateral initiatives for debt cancelation, debt relief and debt restructure.
African infrastructure-linked debt

The Africa Programme embarked on a new project examining debt sustainability in Africa and infrastructure-linked borrowing from China. Discussions examined the status of multilateral debt relief initiatives and their place in Africa-China relations, as well as policy options to strengthen links between debt financing, infrastructure development and growth returns.

Climate change in Africa

Ahead of COP26, in an episode of the Africa Aware podcast, Dr Lee White, Minister of Water, Forests, the Sea and the Environment of the Republic of Gabon, discussed climate change and sustainability, and the role of infrastructure development, the private sector and local community structures in climate policymaking in Gabon.

Resource governance

In an expert comment in August 2021, Christopher Vandome and Sheila Khama analyzed the state of the South African mining sector, highlighting how challenges of policy and regulatory uncertainty are being compounded by large-scale civil unrest. Ahead of Zambia’s elections in August, Kopo Mapila reflected on the potential for long-term socio-economic benefits to be garnered in Zambia from the effective capitalization of the rising demand for copper.
Angola Forum 2021
In October, the Africa Programme held the 2021 edition of its Angola Forum in partnership with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the Centro de Estudos de Investigação (CEIC) of the Catholic University of Angola, and Afrobarometer. The virtual conference brought together policymakers and stakeholders, including from the Angolan president’s economic advisory council, academia and international chambers of commerce, to discuss Angola’s economic and governance developments.

Inclusive prosperity in Malawi
A hybrid event with the President of the Republic of Malawi, HE Dr Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, explored the priority areas of policy implementation for positive change in Malawi, including the pathways to deliver and support quality education for the country’s young population.

Business and human rights in Mozambique
Following signalling by the government of Mozambique of its intent to engage with the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VP), an Africa Programme report, published in English, Portuguese and Swahili, outlined the VP’s potential utility in promoting best practice in human rights across the extractive industry in Mozambique.
Energy transition in Mozambique

At a private roundtable meeting in London, HE Ernesto Max Elias Tonela, Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy of Mozambique, addressed international investors on potential for investment, the government’s responses to the ongoing instability in the north of the country and prospects for Mozambique’s energy transition.

Vaccine access and manufacturing

A panel event with a keynote address by the Rt. Hon. Dr Michel Sidibé, African Union Special Envoy for the African Medicines Agency, explored the policies, financial capital, international support, and regional cooperation required for developing vaccine manufacturing capacities and supply chains on the African continent.

Priorities for Nigeria’s post-COVID-19 recovery

Over the course of 2021, the Africa Programme hosted a series of discussions and podcast interviews with key policymakers, including HE Yemi Osinbajo, Vice President of the Republic of Nigeria who discussed priorities for the country’s recovery post-COVID-19.

Ethiopia’s economic reforms and development agenda

A panel including Ethiopia’s minister of planning, Dr Fitsum Assefa Adela, and state minister of finance, Dr Eyob Tekalgn Tolina, discussed Ethiopia’s economic reform trajectory and long-term developmental vision, and how efforts to build a more conducive and inclusive environment for economic policy delivery can contribute towards a reduction in political turbulence and instability in the long term.
The Africa Programme in 2021

Sudan’s economic stabilization
Ahead of the Sudan investment conference in Paris in May 2021, Dame Rosalind Marsden outlined the entwined priorities for Sudan’s political transition and economic stabilization, including implementing the Juba Peace Agreement (JPA), addressing shortages in basic commodities, improving public communication of the government’s plans for remedial action, and creating fiscal space for more social spending.

Zimbabwe’s economic recovery
The Africa Programme continued its stream of work on Zimbabwe’s economic recovery and pathways for cultivating more inclusive development, convening discussions on the role of women in Zimbabwe’s economy and policy priorities for Zimbabwe’s informal economy. Speakers included representatives of Zimbabwean microfinance banks, start-ups, women’s groups, and vendors’ and traders’ associations.

In Zimbabwe, we see an evolving economy in which formality and informality fuse together, with the real source of growth at the intersection between the formal and informal.

Charles Dhewa, CEO, Knowledge Transfer Africa

A draft report of initial findings from the series was launched at a Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI) conference in Harare.
The Africa Programme’s Social Norms and Accountable Governance (SNAG) project, funded by the MacArthur Foundation, uses a social norms methodology to diagnose the social drivers of different corrupt practices and propose evidence-based options to address those drivers.

As part of this project, in 2021 the Africa Programme research team, working with the Center for Social Norms and Behavioural Dynamics of the University of Pennsylvania, provided support to individuals and organizations working on behaviour change approaches to tackling corruption in Nigeria through a series of knowledge exchange workshops.

Local understandings, expectations and experiences survey

In October, a bespoke survey instrument was deployed, and research was carried out in Kano state. The survey, of 800 households across the state, was conducted by a team of six enumerators from the Nigerian National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

Ahead of the survey, a research team from Chatham House travelled to Kano to implement a training workshop on the social norms methodology, as well as to help
arrange a series of four focus group discussions with local participants from across Kano state. This was held in collaboration with researchers from Bayero University in Kano, who facilitated the focus groups.

**Collective action on corruption in Nigeria: The role of religion**

Drawing upon household survey research conducted as part of the SNAG project in 2018, this briefing paper explores how shared beliefs, expectations and behaviours relating to corruption in Nigeria are influenced by the role of religion.

**Pass-mark bribery in Nigerian schools**

As underinvestment and corruption in Nigeria’s education sector continue to create a context where providers of education services are presented with routine opportunities to demand and expect bribes from parents, this briefing paper, building on the insights offered by the 2018 survey results, identifies opportunities for targeting this form of petty bribery in Nigerian schools.
2021 saw elections take place across the continent, including general and presidential elections in Uganda, the Central African Republic, Niger, the Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Benin, Chad, Ethiopia, Cape Verde, and the Gambia. Electoral and political transitions continued to be influenced by COVID-19 but also by the sudden deaths of heads of state, namely President John Magufuli of Tanzania and President Idris Deby of Chad.

In 2021, the Africa Programme continued to convene debates and produce analysis on electoral developments and democratic consolidation, including in Niger and Zambia, and reflected on the political and constitutional foundations for political systems, including in Nigeria.

**Zambia’s political and economic reform**

The Africa Programme welcomed back HE Hakainde Hichilema, the recently elected president of the Republic of Zambia, to Chatham House. The event built on the Africa Programme’s long-standing stream of work on elections and political systems, including an event held in 2017 with the President on ‘Political Opposition and Policy Alternatives in Zambia’ while he was an opposition party leader.
A vision for Niger’s development and evolving regional role

At a roundtable in July, HE Mohamed Bazoum, the recently elected President of the Republic of Niger, discussed his vision for Niger’s development and long-term democratic consolidation, and outlined the country’s role in promoting regional stability and cohesion, and its evolving influence as a key regional and international security partner. The Programme previously hosted President Bazoum while he was Minister of Foreign Affairs in Niger in 2015.

Ethiopia’s political transition

A series of webinars, roundtable meetings and written and multimedia outputs have been produced by Africa Programme analysts with the aim of enabling effective support for Ethiopia’s transition towards peace, democratization and economic recovery. The series supports understanding of the dynamics and actors shaping Ethiopia’s political transition, internal conflicts, elections and regional relations.

In an expert comment ahead of the June 2021 elections, Ahmed Soliman highlighted the urgent need for a commitment to ending conflict and a return to genuine dialogue as a means to address increasing insecurity, as well as ethnic and regional polarization in Ethiopia.

Somalia’s elections

Former Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Somalia, Hassan Ali Khaire, discussed at an Africa Programme event the election delays, as well as possibilities for finding common ground and moving the political process forward.
Leadership and transition in Tanzania
Following the unexpected death of President John Magufuli early in his second term, and Samia Suluhu Hassan’s instatement as Tanzania’s new president, Fergus Kell examined Magufuli’s legacy in a comment piece. A follow-up article, co-authored with Sammy Awami, assessed the need for President Hassan to define her own political vision that can offer concrete policy options for addressing Tanzania’s deep-rooted challenges.

Chad after President Deby
After the sudden end of the 30-year rule of President Idriss Déby Itno following his unexpected death, Paul Melly outlined in an expert comment the uncertainty faced by Chad, the future of its role as a military actor across the region; and its partnership with Nigeria, Cameroon and Niger in the struggle to contain Boko Haram, and as a strategic ally for France.

Demands for democratic reforms in eSwatini
A comment piece by Fundile Maphanga and Christopher Vandome assessed pressures for democratic reform in eSwatini and argued that Africa’s last absolute monarchy must recognize the country’s changing dynamics and calls for democratic reform or face a political stalemate and recurring violence.
Efforts to build and sustain peace in conflict-affected areas continued to face significant challenges in 2021, with conflict evolving in some areas of Ethiopia and Mozambique, political transitions being disrupted by coups including in Sudan, maritime insecurity rising in the Gulf of Guinea, and instability persisting across the Sahel. Amidst these developments, the programme sought to reflect on the evolution of thinking and practice of peacebuilding and peacekeeping in Africa through consultations, research papers, events and conferences.

Outputs produced as part of a project examining how conflicts connect across borders, and the drivers of violent and peaceful behaviour, supported policy thinking on protracted conflicts in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel.

**Conflict in Ethiopia**

As the conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia intensified and expanded to the Amhara and Afar regions, the Africa Programme convened a series of events bringing together policymakers and experts to discuss the dynamics of the conflict, the humanitarian context, and implications for Ethiopia’s elections and political transition. A series of written outputs also assessed options for averting the deepening of the conflict and working towards a political settlement that addresses the country’s festering grievances.
Military coup in Sudan
Following the military coup in Sudan, Ahmed Soliman published a piece exploring the necessary steps that needed to be taken by domestic and international actors in order to return the country’s post-revolution civilian-military transitional government and strengthen civilian institutions in the long-term.

Transitional justice in Sudan
The outstanding warrants against former President Omar al-Bashir, and whether and how these can be executed, was assessed in an article by Ahmed Soliman, who also argued that cooperation with the ICC is just one part of a comprehensive transitional justice process required to address atrocities committed before, during, and after the revolution.

Rethinking the response to jihadist groups across the Sahel
A research paper published in March outlined the need for a change in response to the ongoing insurgency in the Western Sahel. Dr Marc-Antoine Pérouse de Montclos outlined the need for a shift away from ‘hard’ counterterrorism towards a more holistic view of human security, with an emphasis on tackling underlying challenges of governance, impunity and development.
Risk and resilience series
The Africa Programme, in partnership with the World Bank’s Fragility, Conflict & Violence Group, conducted a series of consultation processes to develop a baseline understanding of the structural causes of fragility, and factors of risk and resilience, in Chad, Niger, the Lake Chad Basin and South Sudan. The consultations supported and informed the World Bank’s Risk and Resilience assessments of those countries.

Military reform in Nigeria
Following the appointment in February of Lt. Gen. Ibrahim Attahiru and Gen. Lucky Irabor as Nigeria’s Army Chief and Chief of Defence Staff respectively, Matt Page, wrote on the opportunity these appointments presented for changing the strategic approach, embracing reform, and moving beyond past failures.

Maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea
During a visit to the region, the Africa Programme convened a senior leadership forum on maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea that was held onboard the UK navy’s patrol vessel HMS TRENT while it was docked in Lagos port. Discussions at the forum included an evaluation of scenario projections on maritime futures, based on Alex Vines and Fergus Kell’s chapter for the European Union Institute of Security Studies (EUISS) Chaillot paper ‘Africa Futures 2030’.

A conference on maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea was hosted in Lagos in partnership with the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA). The event convened a diverse range of stakeholders – including
from the Nigerian navy, government agencies, industry, and legal sector, as well as regional and international bodies such as the Inter-Regional Coordination Centre in Yaoundé – to examine the interlocking factors contributing to insecurity in the Gulf of Guinea’s maritime space.

**Policy approaches to tackling kidnap and ransom**
A series of panel discussions were held to reflect on approaches to kidnap and ransom, including piracy and kidnapping off the coast of Somalia and key insights and opportunities for responses in the Gulf of Guinea. A panel discussed the Chibok abductions and the impact of the hashtag #BringBackOurGirls with a focus on lessons for the ever-growing influence and implications of digital activism on policymaking.

**Terrorism in Africa**
As terrorism remains a pertinent issue in Africa, Alex Vines explored how the Al-Qaeda bombings in Dar-es-Salaam and Nairobi supplied a launchpad for the 9/11 attacks, and a Chatham House explainer outlined the history of terrorism in Africa, its causes, and future efforts to bring peace and stability.
The Africa Programme in 2021

Africa Programme reports 2021

Rethinking the response to jihadist groups across the Sahel

Marc-Antoine Pérouse de Montclos

Africa Programme

March 2021

Summary

The threat to security in West Africa’s Sahel region is growing. A decade of increasing violence has led to a systematic displacement of civilians, however counter-jihadist efforts have been limited. A major new commitment from the United States government in March 2019 has been accompanied by an increasing reliance on military force. This report argues that measures to address the underlying grievances of the conflict are sorely lacking.

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Collective action on corruption in Nigeria

The role of religion

Leena Koni Hoffmann and Raj Navanit Patel

Africa Programme

March 2021

Summary

According to the second household survey conducted in 2018 by the Chatham House Africa Programme’s Social Norms and Accountable Governance (SNAG) project in Nigeria, Christians and Muslims in the country have similar beliefs with reference to corruption. This finding holds true whether the fictional person on whose actions the survey vignettes are based is Christian or Muslim. Of the survey respondents, 88 per cent said that the private appropriation of government funds (i.e. corruption) is unacceptable. Only around one in 10 thought it was acceptable.

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Pass-mark bribery in Nigerian schools

Strong incentives and weak consequences for corruption

Leena Koni Hoffmann and Raj Navanit Patel

Africa Programme

September 2021

Summary

Pass-mark bribery is common in Nigeria’s schools. However, according to the second household survey conducted in 2018 by the Chatham House Africa Programme’s Social Norms and Accountable Governance (SNAG) project, over 87 per cent of survey respondents thought parents should not pay bribes to secure a passing grade for their child in an examination, against eight per cent in favour.

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Mozambique and the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights

Incentives for engagement and implementation

Christopher Vandome and Alex Vines

Africa Programme

November 2021

Summary

Mozambique and the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights

Christopher Vandome and Alex Vines

Africa Programme

November 2021
The Africa Programme in 2021

Africa Programme speakers 2021

— Mohammed Abdiker, Regional Director for East and Horn of Africa, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

— HE Dr Nasredeen Abdulbari, Minister of Justice, Republic of Sudan

— Murtala Abdullahi, Climate & Security Writer, Humangle Media

— Béatrice Odountan Abouya, Country Director, Niger, Search for Common Ground (SFCG)

— Iman Abubaker, Urban Mobility Projects Manager, World Research Institute

— Husam Abudagga, Country Manager for South Sudan, World Bank Group

— Rear Admiral Abraham Adaji, Chief of Training and Operations, Naval Headquarters, Nigerian Navy

— Professor Ousmanou Adama, Professor of History, University of Maroua, Cameroon

— Dr Ernest Addison, Governor, Bank of Ghana

— Funmi Adebayo, Gal-Dem Magazine

— Mojisola Oyeronke Adegbile, Chief Research Officer, Marine Biology Section, Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR)

— Dr Fitsum Assefa Adela, Minister, Planning and Development Commission, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

— Professor Jideofor Adibe, Professor of International Relations and Political Science, Nasarawa State University, Nigeria

— Dr Edem Adzogenu, Director, AfroChampions

— Dr Mimi Ajibadé, Member of Council, Chatham House

— Aganran Ganiu Alao, Zonal Commander for Lagos State, National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)

— Juweria Ali, Doctoral Researcher, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Westminster

— Hamsatu Allamin, Founder and Executive Director, Allamin Foundation for Peace and Development
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— **Professor Innocent Chirisa**, Professor in the Department of Rural and Urban Planning at the University of Zimbabwe

— **Bob Dewar CMG**, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

— **HE Barbara Creecy**, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, Republic of South Africa

— **John Jal Dak**, Founder and Executive Director, Youth Social Advocacy Team

— **Abdou Mahaman Dango**, Head of Office, Farchana, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

— **Mahamadou Lawaly Dan Dano**, Former Governor, Diffa province

— **The Rt Hon Baroness Anelay of St Johns DBE**, Chair, International Relations & Defence Committee, UK House of Lords

— **Dr Mandeep Dhaliwal**, Director for HIV, Health and Development Practice, Bureau for Policy and Programme, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

— **Charles Dhewa**, CEO, Knowledge Transfer Africa

— **Amadou Allahoury Diallo**, Special Advisor to the President of the Republic of the Niger – Agriculture and Livestock Unit

— **Hlengiwe Portia Dlamini**, Historian, University of the Free State

— **Koen Doens**, Director-General, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission

— **Ambassador Jean-Michel Dumond**, Special Envoy of France to Sudan and South Sudan

— **Lieutenant Commander Kofi Ampomson Duodu**, Head of Maritime Security, Gulf of Guinea Maritime Institute

— **Rear Admiral Jürgen Ehle**, Managing Director for CSDP and Crisis Response, European External Action Service (EEAS)

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— **Anwar Elhaj**, Researcher and Political Analyst

— **Dr Sebastian Elischer**, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Florida

— **Dr Asha Elkarib**, Senior Strategic Advisor, Sudanese Organization for Research and Development (SORD)


— **Hon Sadiya Umar Farouq**, Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development, Nigeria

— **Admiral Narciso Fastudo, Jr**, Executive Director, Inter Regional Coordination Centre (ICC) Yaoundé

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- HE Dr Kayode Fayemi, Governor, Ekiti State, Nigeria
- Alice Fereday, Senior Analyst, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime
- Vicky Ford MP, UK Minister for Africa
- Dr Christopher Fomunyoh, Senior Associate and Regional Director for Central and West Africa, National Democratic Institute (NDI)
- Dr Hadiza Kiari Fougou, Head of Ecological and Environmental Monitoring Unit, Higher Institute in Environment and Ecology, University of Diffa
- Colin Freeman, Journalist and Author, Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea
- Jean-Denis Gabikini, Acting Director of Economic Affairs, African Union Commission
- Schwan Badirou Gafari, Secretary General of the Paris Club, French Treasury
- Dr Laurent Gagnol, Lecturer, University of Artois
- Dr Jason Gagnon, Development Economist, OECD Development Centre
- Anne Therese Gallagher AO, Director-General, Commonwealth Foundation
- Akuja de Garang, Team Leader, Cambridge Education
- Tefera Negash Gebregziabher, Postdoctoral Researcher, International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Dr Hafez Ghanem, Vice President, Eastern and Southern Africa, World Bank
- Dr Cristina Gherasimov, Head of the Office of the President of the Republic of Moldova; and Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to the President
- Meaza Gidey, International Relations Researcher and Activist
- Dr Raymond Gilpin, Chief Economist, Africa Bureau, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- Ladiba Gondeu, Lecturer and Researcher, University of N’Djamena
- Abderamane Ali Gossoumian, National Coordinator, Comité de Suivi de l’Appel à la Paix et à la Réconciliation (CSAPR)
- Astrid Haas, Consultant, African Development Bank (AfDB)
- Noura Hamladji, Deputy Regional Director, Africa Bureau, United Nations Development Programme
- Idayat Hassan, Director, Centre for Democracy and Development
- Drew Hinshaw, Senior Reporter, Wall Street Journal
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— Jibrin Ibrahim, Senior Fellow, Centre for Democracy and Development

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— Dzvinka Kachur, Researcher, Stellenbosch University

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— Professor Bernadette Dia Kamgnia, International Development Consultant

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— Mitiku Kassa, Commissioner, National Disaster Risk Management Commission, Ethiopia

— Dr Claire Kfouri, Operations Manager, Regional Integration Office, World Bank

— Hassan Ali Khaire, Prime Minister of Somalia [2017–2020]

— Natasha Kimani, Strategy and Research Lead, Africa No Filter

— Dr Nicki Kindersley, Lecturer, Cardiff University

— Dr Emmily Koiti, Human Rights Activist and Medical Doctor

— Rigmor Elianne Koti, Special Representative for the Sahel, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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— Sareen Malik, Executive Secretary, African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation

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- Professor Eghosa E. Osaghae, Director-General, Nigerian Institute of International Affairs
- HE Professor Yemi Osinbajo, Vice President, Federal Republic of Nigeria
- Seyi Osiyemi, Chief Specialist, Dubai Roads and Transport Authority
- Dr Linda Adhiambo Ochuchu, Executive Director, African Migration and Development Policy Centre (AMADPOC)
- Sani Ousseini, Liaison Expert – Niger, Alliance Sahel Coordination Unit (UCA)
- Malani Padayachee-Saman, CEO, MPAMOT, South Africa
- HE Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia
- HE Dr Naledi Pandor, Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Republic of South Africa
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— Dr Dossina Yeo, Head of Economic Policy and Research Division, African Union Commission

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— Hon Khalid Omer Yousif, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Republic of Sudan
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