



AFRICA

Center for Strategic Studies - Newsletter

Africa Center Provides U.S. Government Officials With Enhanced Understanding of African-Security Issues

The Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS), located at the campus of the National Defense University at Fort Lesley J. McNair, welcomed 43 U.S. government officials at its "Introduction to African Security Issues" seminar. The four-day program, conducted 6 to 9 September, was designed to help U.S. government personnel who work on some aspect of U.S.-Africa security policy, but possess limited experience or training in African issues, to learn more about the political, social, military, and economic aspects of security in Africa. Participants also received an overview of major U.S. policies and programs on the continent.

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Sierra Leone Forms a Community Chapter



Members of the newly formed Community Chapter in Sierra Leone

Senior members of Sierra Leone's government and diplomatic corps were among the 47 people who attended the ceremony to launch ACSS's 29th Community Chapter, August 17, in Freetown. The new chapter provides a forum for community members to develop independent programs in support of common defense and security interests, maintain communication with the Africa Center and in-country U.S. Embassy colleagues and have networking opportunities with military and civilian colleagues in their country and region.

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Professor David Shinn presenting to IASI attendees

Swaziland Launches an ACSS Community Chapter



Members of the newly formed Swaziland Chapter

The Kingdom of Swaziland officially launched an ACSS community chapter on 23 July in Mbabane, Swaziland. This is the 28th ACSS community chapter to be established in Africa and ACSS is honored that so many community members have come together to create chapters, which are mechanisms for continuing dialogue and networking on the continent. Senior government officials and members of U.S. Embassy in Swaziland attended the ceremony and the symposium that followed.

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National Defense University's New Vice President Visits the Africa Center for Strategic Studies



NDU Senior Vice President Ambassador Nancy McEldowney

Ambassador Nancy McEldowney, the new Senior Vice President for National Defense University (NDU), visited the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) on September 16. Ambassador McEldowney was the guest of ACSS Director Ambassador William M. Bellamy (ret.). ACSS Deputy Director Michael E. Garrison presented an overview of the Africa Center's mission and programs during the visit.

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Africa Center Releases Latest Research Paper—Stress-Testing South Africa: The Tenuous Foundations of One of Africa's Stable States

Political violence in South Africa is worsening and indicates the country's potential fragility. Since the end of apartheid, steadily rising inequality has deepened the divide between a wealthy minority and a poor majority. Frustration with an uneven pace of change often ignites into violent protest. Elite competition for financial and political resources available through the state also drives violence within and between competing political parties, usually at the local level where intimidation and assassination are sometimes used to ensure electoral success. Much competition exists in a grey area where the distinction between politics and crime is blurred.



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Africa Center Releases New Brief on Insecurity in the Sahel



Concerns over instability in the Sahel have been on the rise with the return of mercenaries and flow of arms from Libya, the persistence of al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, and the growing presence of narcotics traffickers in the region. In this just released Africa Security Brief, Cédric Jourde cautions against responding to these threats based solely on what is observable on the surface.

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GlobalNET is coming soon!



The Africa Center is proud to announce that GlobalNET will be launching soon.

GlobalNET, the secure, trusted, and collaborative platform joining defense and security experts across the globe, will be replacing the existing ACSSCommunity.org site. It will be offering a much more robust experience and foster collaboration within the Africa Center and the greater GlobalNET community. By using GlobalNET, users can access focused resources, research, and people to advance professional and personal goals for security cooperation.

To learn more about GlobalNET, please click the link below to watch our introduction video

[View Video](#)

ACSS Community News



Ghana

Captain **Stephen Kwaku Darbo** of the Ghana Armed Forces (Navy) has been promoted to Commodore. Commodore Darbo participated in the 2011 Senior Leaders Seminar in Washington, DC. He is a member of the Ghana chapter.



Namibia

Colonel **Kongeni Nghoshi Shikufa I** recently completed his studies at the University of Namibia and obtained a Master's Degree in Strategic Security Studies. Colonel Shikufa was a participant in the Next Generation of African Military Leaders Program in April, 2005.



Swaziland

Mr. **William Dlamini** has been promoted to Assistant Commissioner in the Royal Swaziland Police. Mr. Dlamini participated in the 2007 Managing Security Resources in Africa seminar. He is a member of the Swaziland Chapter.

Upcoming Events

- **Topical Outreach Program Series (TOPS)**
Central & Southern Africa — September 2011
- **Managing Security Resources in Africa**
Washington, D.C. — October 2011
- **CJTF-HOA Core Staff Training**
Norfolk, VA — October 2011
- **Partnership on National Security Strategy Development**
West Africa — October 2011
- **SSR/T Consultative Session**
West Africa — October 2011

Please contact our [Registrar's Office](#) should you have a question about a particular program.



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