



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

COORDINATING SECURITY SECTOR RESPONSES TO ILLEGAL LOGGING *ACADEMIC PROGRAM* BIOGRAPHIES

Leadership

Ms. Amanda Dory is the Director of the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, located at the National Defense University in Washington, DC. Prior to this appointment, she held the position of Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs. Ms. Dory is a career member of the Senior Executive Service. Ms. Dory has served in multiple leadership roles in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy, including Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, and acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Plans and Posture. She also served on the National War College faculty and as associate dean for outreach. She is an alumna of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and received a master's degree with concentrations in international economics and African studies from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Dr. Catherine Lena Kelly is Associate Academic Dean and Associate Professor of Justice and Rule of Law, and faculty lead for the Africa Center's portfolios on rule of law/security sector governance, as well as countering transnational organized crime. Her work focuses on citizen security, party politics and democratization, the rule of law, and transnational organized crime. She is also a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Dr. Kelly was an advisor at the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative, where her work took her to Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. She designed and taught courses on contemporary Africa and democracy as a postdoctoral fellow at Washington University in St. Louis. At the State Department's Foreign Service Institute, Dr. Kelly taught the West Africa course and co-taught the governance and religion modules in the Area Studies course. She has been awarded numerous fellowships and grants, including a Fulbright Fellowship, a Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies Public Fellowship, a West Africa Research Association grant, several Harvard University grants, and two U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowship for the Wolof language and eighteen months of doctoral research in Senegal. Her work has been published extensively, both in book form and in policy and academic journals.

Dr. Kelly holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in government from Harvard University, a Graduate Certificate in international politics (Europe, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding) from the Université Libre de Bruxelles, and a B.A. summa cum laude from Washington University in St. Louis.

Facilitators and Panelists

Dr. Nathaniel Allen is an Associate Professor for Security Studies, responsible for overseeing the Africa Center's academic programming on cybersecurity and peace support operations and integrating these considerations into the Center's research and outreach. His work focuses on cyber issues, emerging technology, civil-military relations, and regional security partnerships across Africa. Prior to the joining the Africa Center, Dr. Allen was a policy advisor at the U.S. Institute of Peace Task Force on Extremism in Fragile States. He has also worked at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations, for the Foreign Affairs and the Armed Services Committees of the U.S. House of Representatives, and with NORC at the University of Chicago's International Projects Department. Dr. Allen's research has been published in leading policy journals and newspapers. He has received fellowships from American University, the Robertson Family Foundation, and the U.S. Institute of Peace, where he was a 2016-2017 Williams Jennings Randolph Peace Scholar. He is a Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Dr. Allen holds a Ph.D. in international relations and African studies from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, an M.A. in development studies from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School, and a B.A. in political science from Swarthmore College.

Ms. Christiana Assambou is Deputy Public Prosecutor at the Special Prosecutor's Office. Since her integration into the judicial corps, she has held the positions of magistrate, investigating judge, Director of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Justice, Deputy Public Prosecutor at the First Instance Court of Libreville, before taking responsibility for these same functions within the Special Prosecutor's Office. After obtaining her high school degree, she enrolled in the Faculty of Law and Sciences and Economics of the OMAR BONGO University, where she obtained a Master's degree in Private Law. Passionate about justice and legal professions, she gained admission into the National Magistrates Training School (ENAM) and earned a diploma in judicial studies. Native of Port-Gentil in the province of Ogooué Maritime, Christiana NGOUANGA married ASSAMBOU born on December 17, 1978, is the eldest of a large family.

Mr. Martin Ewi is Technical Coordinator of the ENACT (Enhancing Africa's Response to Transnational Organized Crime) Project at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) in Pretoria, South Africa. In this capacity, he conducts research and analysis; coordinates and manages the five regional organised crime observatories in Africa; monitors trends, issues recommendations, and provides training and technical assistance. Previously, he served as a senior researcher at the ISS on terrorism, counterterrorism, radicalization, and violent extremism in Africa. Prior to joining the ISS in 2010, Martin also served as Political Affairs Officer at the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague and as the officer in charge of the African Union strategic security unit and counter-terrorism analysis.

Brigadier General Dieudonné David Kitenge Amisi is an ecologist and military officer by training with twenty-six years distinguished service, including twenty years of military service in the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (1998 - 2018) and five years of paramilitary service with the Corps for the Protection of National Parks and Related Nature Reserves (CorPPN, from 2018 to the present). During his career, he has also been in charge of conferences on Environmental Issues and Nature Conservation at the Ecole de Guerre in Kinshasa, in charge of Administration and Logistics Courses OPS Basic Staff Course (CBEM), Head of Studies and Doctrine Department at the General Command of Military Schools (CGEM), Assistant Chief of Staff of the Land Force, Commander of the 8th Military Region (North KIVU) in Second in charge of Administration and Logistics 2006 to 2009, Director of Training member of the Integration Military Structure in 2006, and Military Advisor to the Minister of National Defense from 2003 to 2005.

General Kitengé holds an Executive Master's degree in International Security (Strategic and Operational Risk Management), a double diploma in Advanced Studies in Strategy and Defense from the China University of Defense and the College of Advanced Studies in Strategy and Defense / CHESD RD CONGO, and a Bachelors in Ecology and Nature Conservation from the University of KISANGANI/DRC. A polyglot, he expresses himself well in Swahili, Lingala, French and English.

Originally from Cameroon, **Denis Mahonghol** has 23 years' experience in forest governance and conservation in Central Africa. His main areas of work include forestry research, trade, timber traceability and legality, forestry and wildlife law enforcement, capacity-building for public institutions in decision-making and wildlife trade monitoring (flora and fauna). In his extensive career, he has also provided strategic support to indigenous peoples and local communities living alongside or owning forests, to ensure their involvement and participation in their sustainable management.

Between 2000 and 2005, Denis worked as an expert in community forestry development at national and international level. Between 2005 and 2008, he worked with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO: www.fao.org) as Associate Expert, Community Forestry and from 2009-2010, he worked with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP -www.unep.org) as Head of the Forest and Environment Component for the post-conflict environmental assessment of the DRC.

Since 2010, he has been working with the Wildlife Trade Specialists Network - TRAFFIC International where he monitors wildlife trade markets (fauna and flora) to ensure that this trade is legal and sustainable, in the interests of the planet and its populations. He has held the positions of Timber Trade Programme Officer and Senior Programme Officer for TRAFFIC's Central Africa Programme Office.

Since July 2020, he has been Director of TRAFFIC International's Programme Office for Central Africa, based in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Denis has a degree in Water, Forestry and Hunting Engineering and a Master's in Planning and Participatory Management of Forest Resources.

Police Colonel Michel Koua was named the Permanent Secretary of the Central African Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (CAPCCO), taking up duty at the Yaounde regional bureau of Interpol in 2018. He completed his service at CAPCCO in April 2023. From 2016-2020 he was Head of the INTERPOL Regional Bureau for Central Africa, having previously served at INTERPOL since 2012. Previously he had served since 1989 in a decorated career as in the Technical and Scientific Police (PTS) before being assigned to the Judicial Police where he spent most of his career.

In his educational, university and professional career, he obtained the following diplomas: the Certificate of Primary and Elementary Studies (CEPE), the Brevet d'Etudes Moyennes Générales (BEMG), the Baccalaureate series D, the diploma of Forensic expert for document investigations at the Criminology Institute of Berlin, the training diploma at the National School of Police of Congo where he taught courses on Technical and Scientific Police (PTS) and on police procedure writing, the INTERPOL Certificate in the Field of International Police Cooperation and the INTERPOL Instructor Certificate. He holds a Professional Bachelor's degree in HRM, obtained at the MATAMFEN Higher Institute in Yaoundé and a Professional Master's degree in Peace and Security, Peacekeeping option, obtained at the University of Maroua in Cameroon.

He is married and father of four children.

Makanatsa Makonese holds a PhD in Law from the University of Zimbabwe with a focus on women's law, environmental and land law and international human rights law. Her passion lies in using the law, national constitutions and international human rights frameworks to promote human rights and the rule of law, especially in relation to women's rights, land rights, environmental rights, equality and non-discrimination and access to justice.

She has worked as the Executive Secretary/Chief Executive Officer of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission, Executive Secretary/Chief Executive Officer of the SADC Lawyers Association (Botswana and South Africa), a Senior Environmental Lawyer and Gender Programme Coordinator for the Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association, an Advocacy Officer for the Child Protection Society in Zimbabwe and as a Magistrate in Zimbabwe.

She is currently the Country Director (South Africa) and Deputy Chief of Party for the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative's Southern Africa Human Rights Programme based in Johannesburg. She is a published author in the areas of land law and rights, environmental law, women's law and rights, customary law, judicial independence and the role of the legal profession in promoting human rights, access to justice and the rule of law.

Makanatsa has worked with United Nations entities in Botswana, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Kenya and Liberia in developing national frameworks for the promotion and protection of women and girls' rights, the promotion of gender equality and access to justice. She has also worked with the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) on women's participation and leadership in customary and informal justice systems.

Prior to his retirement in March 2022, **Captain (Navy) Loïc N. Moudouma** spent three years as the Deputy Chief of the Gabon Navy-Headquarters.

From 2017-2018, Captain Moudouma worked at the Joint Staff as the Deputy Director General of Gabon Armed Forces. While there, he dealt with Joint Force planning, maritime boarder's issues, illegal mining, poaching and all illegal activities at sea (Securing the Blue Economy). From 2014-2017, he was appointed as the Director of Operations for the Gabonese Navy and launched the ALBACORE Mission Bob Baker (Securing and Protecting the Blue Economy).

Previously, CAPT Moudouma worked at ECCAS (Economic Community of Central African State) as an Expert in Maritime Aspect. His policy contributions include 1) Safeguarding Strategy for the Vital Interests at Sea for Gulf of Guinea's ECCAS States; 2) Code of Conduct of Yaoundé process; and 3) Integrated Maritime Strategy of Gabon.

Currently, CAPT Moudouma works with UNODC Standards Operations for tackling maritime crimes at sea; contributes to the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Strategy of Gabon, and; is organizing the Gulf of Guinea Maritime Integrated Actions for the Safety and Security Operations regrouping local and foreign Navies. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College at Newport.

Dr. Martha Mutisi is an academic and a practitioner with more than 15 years of experience working at the intersection between peace, security, conflict resolution, governance, and development. Currently a Senior Programme Specialist in the Democracy and Inclusive Governance (DIG) Programme, with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). Her role is to support and undertake evidence-based research and political analysis that helps citizens and public authorities address the sources of violent conflict, insecurity, fragility and poor governance, while acknowledging the imperative for a gender-transformative approach to solutions.

Previously, Mutisi briefly worked with UN Women (Zimbabwe) as a Senior Programme Specialist on Gender, Peace, and Security. Before then, Mutisi was a Senior Researcher and Manager of the Interventions Department at ACCORD, where she coordinated strategic and operational plans of the department, apart from providing substantive and technical inputs. Dr. Martha Mutisi provided oversight towards activities within Peacebuilding, Peacemaking, Peacekeeping and Training Units as well as within ACCORD's Country Programmes. Mutisi worked extensively with post-conflict and transitional societies. She has played a role in training political parties, security and justice sector actors, well as civil society organisations in Burundi, Liberia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan and Zimbabwe.

Mutisi has also worked as a Consultant and Advisor, and with many multilateral organizations organisations, including the European Union (EU); United Nations, the African Union (AU); the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Intergovernmental authority on Development (IGAD), the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA and the East African Community (EAC); and the East African Standby Force (EASF). Mutisi has also consulted

for the University for Peace (UPEACE, Africa Program), the University of Zimbabwe-Center for Defence Studies; the National Defence University (Zimbabwe); the Open Society Initiative of Southern Africa (OSISA) and the Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy (IMTD), among others. Mutisi is also a Resource Person in the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (located at Addis Ababa University), where she teaches courses in the Executive Masters in Peace and Security Studies (MPSA) programme. Dr. Mutisi also facilitates various course at the SADC Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre, including the Civilian Foundation Course and the Protection of Civilians Course.

Mutisi was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship (2006-2010) and the Josh Weston Fellowship (2008-2010). She graduated with a PhD in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University (USA), a Masters in Peace and Governance from Africa University and a Masters in Sociology and Anthropology from the University of Zimbabwe. She co-edited a book titled, *“Deconstructing Women, Peace and Security: A Critical Review of Approaches to Gender and Women’s Empowerment”* (HRSC Press, 2016).

Mr. Louis Sosthène Ndong Obiang is Senior Conservator in charge of the operations center at the National Parks Agency of Gabon. In the past, he has also served as Senior Conservator in charge of the Lope, Batéké Plateaux and Monts du Chaillu (Waka-Birougou) Parks, Conservator of the Lope National Park, and Conservator of the East Minkébé National Park, among other positions. Mr. Ndong Obiang has participated in several trainings and seminars; over the course of his commitments, he received a Certificate of Participation for his dedication to the success of the combined American-Gabonese seminar on civil-military operations in support of the fight against illicit trafficking (with Civil Affairs Team 8324, Bravo Company, 83rd Civil Affairs Battalion, US Army/US Embassy) as well as a Wildlife Investigation Court Certificate from the International Law Enforcement Academy, US Fish and Wildlife Service. Mr. Ndong Obiang is a founding member of the Gabon Rangers Association, member of the International Rangers Federation (IRF) and President of the Gabon Rangers Association.

Oluwole Ojewale obtained PhD in urban and regional planning. He possesses senior-level experiences in supporting policy influencing projects through advocacy, advisory, evidence gathering and dissemination across 17 countries in Africa, Europe and Middle East. At various times, he served as the project manager, team lead and component manager for large scale programs which have attracted funding from major international development partners in the global north.

Currently, he serves as the regional coordinator at the West Africa office of the Institute for Security Studies in Dakar, Senegal. On the ENACT program, he gathers and disseminates evidence through transnational research in eight countries, and provides strategic advice to the Central African Police Chiefs Committee. This is geared towards enhancing regional response to threats and trends of transnational organised crime.

He has clocked over 70 hours of media appearances on BBC, France24, CGTN, AP, VOA, Newzroom Africa, News Central, AIT, TRT WORLD UK and many local radio services. He

articulates policy solutions on broader issues of democracy & development, governance & security in West & Central Africa.

He served as an expert on 'Dynamics of Security and Development in Africa' at the 2021 Global Security Forum in Qatar. His contributions have improved public understanding of key international security issues; and informed policy debates on African security.

In 2021, he spoke on Harvard University's panel on the global militarization of police, black freedom and international solidarity. In 2022, he served as a faculty member at the Madeleine K. Albright Institute for Global Affairs, USA. He mentored 40 young fellows during three weeks intensive study on issues of international importance such as small arms trade and conflicts in Africa. At the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, he presented strategic policies to senior-level African security officials, on "Natural resource crimes and border governance in Africa" and priorities for protecting the Congo Basin rainforests from illegal logging.

He has published in peer-review journals, and co-authored "Urbanization and Crime in Nigeria", published with Palgrave Macmillan in 2019. His policy commentaries have featured in Daily Maverick, Premium Times, Africa Report, Harvard Bulletin, LSE Blog, ISS Today, The Brookings Institution & The Conversation among others.

Brigadier General (Ret.) Gaseikanngwe Ace Peke retired from the Botswana Defence Force in 2009 and worked on a 2 year Contract up to 2011 as a National Security Strategy Coordinator in the Office of the President.

His Subject of interest is "Security Sector Reforms and Governance" and has undertaken several consultancies on the Subject, both locally and for International organisations.

In the Botswana Defence Force, he served in various capacities ranging from an aircraft engineer to Assistant Chief of Staff of Personnel.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Botswana Lesotho and Swaziland and a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Auburn University, Montgomery USA.

Edward Phiri is an experienced wildlife conservation expert who spent 16 years working in Zambia's wildlife government sector. In 2012, he joined the Lusaka Agreement Task Force, based out Nairobi Kenya, where he has established a strong reputation for promoting and facilitating cooperation in the fight against illegal trade in wild fauna and flora. Currently serving as Director of the Lusaka Agreement Task Force, he leads the implementation of enforcement interventions aimed at combatting wildlife trafficking and other illegal activities, including poaching, illegal logging, and transnational organized wildlife crime. Edward has initiated and executed numerous capacity-building initiatives and has provided policy and technical expertise to decision-making bodies in the wildlife/forestry industry. He has also contributed to the development and enhancement of the Wildlife Enforcement Monitoring System (WEMS), a web-based system that enables the monitoring, analysis, and sharing of intelligence related to wildlife crime across member states to the Lusaka Agreement in Africa.

With a Master of Science Degree in Management and Conservation of Species in Trade (The International Framework), B-Tech in Nature Conservation, Diploma in multilateral environmental agreements and natural resources management, Edward brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his role in safeguarding our planet's precious wildlife.

Captain Joaquim Pacheco Santos is a retired naval officer who previously served as the Senior Portuguese Representative at the ACSS, and currently teaches as a guest lecturer on leadership and strategic management at several Portuguese Universities.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Captain Joaquim Pacheco Santos served as executive assistant and adviser of the Angola Naval Academy Commander in Luanda. From 2015 to 2017, he was the Commander of the Marine's School, and from 2017 to 2018 served as Deputy Commander of the Portuguese Marine Corps. Additionally, Captain Joaquim Pacheco Santos served as Cadet Corps Commander at the Portuguese Naval Academy from 2010 to 2013; Head of the Psychology Department at the Naval Academy between 2005 and 2010; and Lecturer on Organizational Behavior at the Naval Academy from 2005 to 2010. Captain Santos was the Head of the Department of Organizational Behavior and Leadership Training from 2002 to 2005, and Commander of the Landing Craft Unit, at the Marines Corps, from 1999 to 2002

Captain Santos holds a PhD in Management and Organizational Behavior (2015) from the Superior Institute of Work and Enterprise Sciences (I.S.C.T.E) in Lisbon, and a master's degree in Organizational Behavior (2002) from the Superior Institute of Applied Psychology (I.S.P.A) in Lisbon. Captain Santos was an Invited Lecturer on Leadership, Motivation and Corporate/Business Ethics at the ISCTE-IUL, University at Lisbon, from 2005 to 2023. He had published numerous scientific papers in the field of the team leadership development and training.

Brice Severin Pongui is a lawyer at the Brazzaville Bar and a mediator at the Congo Mediation and Arbitration Centre (Republic of Congo).

Since January 2020, he has been working with the US Forest Service's International Program as technical coordinator of a programme to combat illegal logging in the Republic of Congo and the associated timber trade, in collaboration with Cameroon and Gabon.

He is also Honorary Chairman of the Green Brain 2063 Institute, an NGO working to implement the African Union's Agenda 2063 at national level.

Mr Brice Séverin PONGUI is a graduate of the École Nationale d'Administration et de la Magistrature (ENAM), specialising in the Bar, and holds a Master's degree in "Environment and territory in the field of law, economics and management, specialising in international and comparative environmental law" from the University of Limoges in 2007. He also holds a number of certificates from internationally recognised institutions, and is the author of scientific articles and collective works in the fields of climate change, natural resources, security, renewable

energies, regional integration and justice. He is currently preparing a law thesis on the Sub-regional Agreement on Forest Law Enforcement in Central Africa.

Since 2009, he has been a consultant in environmental and sustainable development law and policy.

He has worked as a focal point for the Congo Basin Blue Fund, and as a consultant or associate expert in a number of legal, communication, training and strategic planning assignments for several organisations in the United Nations system, the government of the Republic of Congo, the private sector, non-governmental organisations, research centres such as CIFOR, training institutions and consultancies, including those specialising in environmental assessments. He is also a member of the Commission on Environmental Law of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Société française de droit de l'environnement and the Réseau africain francophone des juristes de l'environnement.

Ms Elisabeth Zé is Head of the Commercial Customs Brigade at the Timber Park in the Port of Douala and Permanent Secretary of the Joint Monitoring Committee for the MINFI/MINDEF agreement on customs surveillance of the water body. In the past, she has also been Head of the Import Manifest Processing Department at the Littoral II Customs Sector in Douala and Attachée to the Cabinet of the Director General of Customs, among other professional posts. She has attended a number of specialised training courses in the security field, including Training for Water and Forestry and Customs officers on SIGIF II tools (Open Timber Portal, Atlas Forestier Interactif and e-Cites); Environmental Crime Prosecution (International Law Enforcement Academy, Botswana) ; E-Commerce Control (Shandong Professional College of Foreign Trade, China); and several seminars of the Centre for Strategic Studies in Africa (Seminar for Emerging Leaders in the Security Sector, Aligning Resources with National Strategies, Managing Security Resources in Africa). She holds a Master's degree in Strategy, Defence, Security, Conflict and Disaster Management and a Master's degree in Public Law from the University of Yaoundé II Soa and was trained in the Customs Section of the Ecole Nationale d'Administration et de Magistrature (ENAM) with advanced military training.