

# *Strengthening the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region's (ICGLR) Capacities for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, and Peace Building*

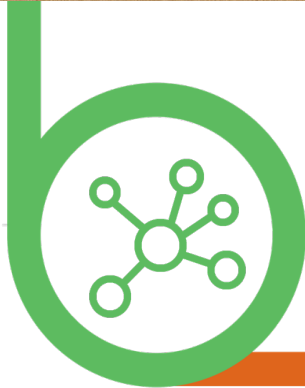
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## CONTEXT & BACKGROUND

- About the ISS
- The ICGLR and instability in the Great Lakes



## ABOUT THE PROJECT

- Activities, indicators and expected results
- EU support



## CONCLUSION



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Oldest and largest African think tank working on human security, ISS partners to build knowledge and skills that secure Africa's future

Our mission is to enhance human security as a means to achieve sustainable peace and prosperity for all in Africa

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- African futures
- Gender equality
- Africa in the world
- Governance, peace & security
- National & transnational crime & violence
- Climate change & human security



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- Countries in the region experience varying degrees of instability;
- The ICGLR is the only Regional Mechanism exclusively dedicated to peace and security in the GL region; Created in 2004 by the UNSC;
- The Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the GL Region is the ICGLR's main guiding document that defines the way in which the Conference aims to establish peace in the region;
- While enjoying high levels of legitimacy from Member States, the ICGLR is also underfunded and faces difficulties in achieving its ambitious goals;



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## Conflict Early Warning:

Early warning for conflict aims to identify and prompt actions that mitigate the initiation, duration, intensity, and consequences of various types of political violence, ranging from communal strife to full-scale warfare.

## Main Actions:

- Design a proposed early warning system for the Great Lakes Region anchored on the ICGLR
- Monitor and conduct timely investigations on security incidents by establishing Situation Rooms in the ICGLR and its decentralized organs
- Develop joint reports, policy briefs, and papers on conflict prevention, peace building, and conflict early warning and response informing decision making on threats to peace and security



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## Project Implementation and Stakeholders:

- Project implemented in partnership with multiple stakeholders.
- Main stakeholder: ICGLR (Regional Mechanism focused on peace and security in the Great Lakes region and member states).

## Frameworks and Reference:

- The project aligns with AU's Agenda 2063, EU-AU Joint vision for 2030, The EU Strategy for the Great Lakes Region (2023) and the UN Strategy for the Great Lakes Region (2020).
- Implemented in partnership with ICGLR Secretariat, EU Delegation to Burundi, EU Delegation in ICGLR Member States, and in collaboration with the United Nations.
- Duration of 48 months, signed on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

## Enhanced Early Warning:

- Achieved through providing technical and institutional support to ICGLR's organs.
- Involves support for ICGLR Peace and Security Department, Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism (EJVM), the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre (JIFC), Levy Mwanawasa Centre for Peace and Security Research, and the development of an Early Warning System.

## Enhanced Regional Response:

- Achieved through boosting national and regional capacities in regional diplomacy, mediation, and conflict resolution.
- Also involves enhancing capacities of ICGLR and selected stakeholders (including women, youth groups, and civil society) in regional diplomacy, mediation, and conflict resolution.

## Impact on ICGLR's Role:

- ICGLR expected to play a valid mediation role in the region.
- Activities include defusing tensions and resolving open conflicts through strategic convening and active diplomacy.
- Followed by delivery of training and capacity-building workshops.





## European Union Support for Second Phase:

- EU collaborates with ICGLR to support the second phase of the regional project "Peace and Security in the Great Lakes Region."
- The first phase of the project concluded in 2022.

## Objectives of the Second Phase:

- Aim: Contribute to the consolidation of peace, security, and mineral resource governance in the Great Lakes region.

## Focus Areas:

- Strengthen ICGLR's contribution to conflict prevention and resolution in the region.
- Two main components:
  - Reinforcement of the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism (EJVM).
  - Development of the ICGLR Early Warning Mechanism and mediation-focused crisis management capacity.



## Overall Objective:

- Consolidate peace and security in the Great Lakes Region.

## Main Outcome:

- Strengthened the enhance joint verification mechanism and effective conflict prevention and regional response governance in the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region's and decentralised organs (ICGLR).

## Outputs:

- The understanding of threat of peace, security in the Great Lakes Region of national and regional stakeholders is enhanced
- The technical capacities in conflict resolution, peacebuilding and migration dynamics of ICGLR are strengthened.
- The capacities in regional diplomacy, mediation and conflict resolution of ICGLR and decentralized organs are strengthened.



1.Supporting ICGLR CS and decentralized organ's institutional and technical capacities in conflict resolution, prevention and management Mediation, regional diplomacy and Transitional Justice...): In practice, training seminars on these issues will be organised throughout the project for stakeholders in the region.

2.Support the creation of a functional EWM anchored to the ICGLR and linked to EJVM, the LMW Center, to monitor conflict dynamics and produce timely analysis. This will be achieved through the provision of quality equipment adapted to needs, in particular for EJVM missions and the setting up of 4 crisis rooms, the development of methodological tools and training in their application, as well as the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

3.Support the ICGLR CS and selected stakeholders in deploying regional diplomacy, mediation and conflict resolution (high-level retreats, advocacy meetings, consultative visits): Finally, the ICGLR needs to engage in active diplomacy to ensure that decision-makers use the results of its efforts. The ISS will also undertake strategic convening and active diplomacy



## Outcome level indicators:

**SO.1.** Status of conflict early warning systems

**SO.2.** Number of recommendations from ICGLR Early Warning System and Decentralized Organs integrated into the decisions of the ICGLR

**SO.3.** Number of early action policy options implemented on the basis of early warning information (OPSYS core indicator 220)

**SO.4.** Number of monitoring and verification missions undertaken by the Enhance Joint Verification Mechanism (EJVM)

**SO.5.** Number of missions and verification reports submitted to the statutory receivers (Committee of Chief of Staff of Defense and the Peace and Security Division (Director)





## Output level indicators:

OP.1.1. Number of strategic documents produced and presented to key stakeholders to increase understanding on peace and security in the Great Lakes Region

OP.1.2. Number of people attending dissemination events with increased knowledge on peace and security issues in the Great Lakes Region

OP.1.3. Number of policy makers attending briefings with increased knowledge about peace and security in the region organised by the EU-funded intervention

OP.1.4. Number of state institutions and non-state actors supported by the EU on security, border management, countering violent extremism, conflict prevention, protection of civilian population and human rights



## Expected Results:

- **Informed Decision Making:** Organizing briefings for decision makers is a crucial step in bridging the gap between academic or expert knowledge and practical policy implementation. By presenting research findings in a clear and actionable manner, this activity empowers decision makers with the information they need to make informed choices.
- **Effective Policy Responses:** Ultimately, this activity aims to empower decision makers with the information needed to create more effective governance and policy responses. It bridges the gap between knowledge and action, guiding decision makers toward policies that can lead to peace and security in the Great Lakes region.
- **Gender Inclusivity:** The strong commitment to gender diversity within this activity, with 15 of the 25 decision makers being women, reflects a broader commitment to diversity and inclusivity. This emphasis recognizes the importance of different perspectives and experiences in the decision-making process, promoting a more holistic approach to governance and policy.



- This project adopts a strategic and structured approach to promote peace and security in the Great Lakes Region.
- Research, development, and dissemination activities are meticulously planned, ensuring a consistent flow of information on conflict prevention and peacebuilding.
- Technical support is a focal point, emphasizing the enhancement of institutional and technical capacities for conflict resolution, prevention, and management within the ICGLR and its decentralized organs.
- The establishment and equipping of the ICGLR Situation Room and EJVM are key components, providing essential tools for efficient conflict monitoring and response.
- Conflict management and regional diplomacy are prioritized, with activities aimed at preventing, managing, and resolving conflicts in the Great Lakes region.
- Training sessions on regional diplomacy, mediation, and conflict resolution are strategically scheduled for continuous capacity building.
- Platforms for consultation, including high-level retreats and advocacy missions, are outlined to foster collaboration and dialogue.
- The comprehensive approach, detailed timelines, and carefully planned activities demonstrate a commitment to sustained peace, security, and governance in the Great Lakes Region.



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