Maximizing Diplomacy, Peace-Making and Peace-Keeping for Sustainable Development in Africa

Kariuki Muigua

Table of Contents

Maximizing Diplomacy, Peace-Making and Peace-Keeping for Sustainable Development in Africa

Kariuki Muigua[*]

Abstract

Realizing Sustainable Development is a key priority in Africa as set out under the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Africa Union's Agenda 2063. However, the continent's progress towards the SDGs has been slow. It is therefore necessary accelerate efforts to ensure that the continent meets the SDGs and the aspirations, goals, and targets of Agenda 2063. One of the key approaches that is vital in fast-tracking Sustainable Development in Africa is enhancing peace and diplomacy. This paper critically discusses the role of diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping in the Sustainable Development agenda in Africa. It argues that fostering these concepts is necessary in accelerating the continents journey towards the SDGs. The paper defines diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping and examines their role in the Sustainable Development agenda. It also suggests ways through which Africa can maximize diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping for Sustainable Development.

1.0 Introduction

Sustainable Development refers to development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs[1]. This concept seeks to foster inclusive development which incorporates environmental protection, economic development and social progress[2]. According to the United Nations, Sustainable Development requires an integrated approach towards

---

[*] *PhD in Law (Nrb), FCIArb (Chartered Arbitrator), OGW, LL. B (Hons) Nrb, LL.M (Environmental Law) Nrb; Dip. In Law (KSL); FCPS (K); Dip. in Arbitration (UK); MKIM; Mediator; Consultant: Lead expert EIA/EA NEMA; BSI ISO/IEC 27001:2005 ISMS Lead Auditor/ Implementer; ESG Consultant; Advocate of the High Court of Kenya; Professor at the University of Nairobi, Faculty of Law; Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) [March, 2024].*

[1] World Commission on Environment and Development., 'Our Common Future.' Oxford, (Oxford University Press, 1987)

[2] Fitzmaurice. M., 'The Principle of Sustainable Development in International Development Law.' *International Sustainable Development Law.*, Vol 1

development that takes into consideration environmental concerns along with economic and social development[3].

Achieving Sustainable Development has become an urgent concern throughout the world. This is in light of problems facing the planet including environmental challenges such as climate change, pollution, and loss of biodiversity together with issues of poverty, increasing disparity between societies and the tensions brought by social inequalities[4]. Therefore, Sustainable Development is necessary in order to create and maintain the conditions under which humanity and nature can exist in productive harmony to support present and future generations[5].

The need to realize Sustainable Development is envisaged under the United Nation's *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*[6]. The Agenda represents a shared blue print for peace and prosperity for people and the planet in the quest towards the ideal of Sustainable Development[7]. It envisions attainment of the ideal of Sustainable Development through 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which seek to strike a balance between social, economic and environmental facets of sustainability[8]. Achieving the SDGs is vital in fostering Sustainable Development and ensuring harmony between human and nature for the benefit of present and future generations[9].

---

[3] United Nations., 'Sustainability' Available at https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/sustainability (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[4] Giovannoni. E., & Fabietti. G., 'What Is Sustainability? A Review of the Concept and Its Applications.' In: Busco, C., Frigo, M., Riccaboni, A., Quattrone, P. (eds) Integrated Reporting. Springer, Cham. Available at https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-02168-3_2 (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[5] United States Environmental Protection Agency., 'What is Sustainability.' Available at https://www.epa.gov/sustainability/learn-about-sustainability (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[6] United Nations General Assembly., 'Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.' 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1., Available at https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[7] Ibid

[8] Ibid

[9] United States Environmental Protection Agency., 'What is Sustainability.' Op Cit

Sustainable Development is also a key priority in Africa as enshrined by Africa Union's *Agenda 2063*[10] which sets out the continent's shared strategic framework for inclusive growth and Sustainable Development that takes into account past achievements, challenges and opportunities at the national, continental and global levels to provide the basis and context in which the continent's transformation is being designed and implemented[11]. Agenda 2063 sets out several aspirations, goals, and targets which mainly cover the areas of: social and economic development; integration, democratic governance and peace and security towards Sustainable Development in Africa[12]. Actualizing the aspirations, goals, and targets of the African Union's Agenda 2063 is vital in accelerating the Sustainable Development agenda in Africa[13].

Despite the ideal of Sustainable Development in Africa, the continent continues to face numerous challenges such as poverty, hunger, food insecurity, drought, water scarcity, climate change, unemployment and inequalities which threaten the attainment of the SDGs[14]. It has been noted been noted that Africa's progress on the SDGs and the aspirations, goals, and targets of the African Union's Agenda 2063 has been uneven, with significant differences among sub regions, countries, and rural and urban areas[15]. As a result, there is need for accelerated efforts to ensure that the continent meets the SDGs targets by the 2030 deadline[16].

---

[10] African Union., 'Agenda 2063: The Africa we Want.' Available at https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/33126-doc-framework_document_book.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[11] Ibid

[12] Ibid

[13] Ibid

[14] United Nations Development Programme., '2023 Africa Sustainable Development Report.' Available at https://www.undp.org/africa/publications/2023-africa-sustainable-development-report (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[15] Ibid

[16] Ibid

One of the key approaches that is vital in fast-tracking Sustainable Development in Africa is enhancing peace and diplomacy[17]. This paper critically discusses the role of diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping in the Sustainable Development agenda in Africa. It argues that fostering these concepts is necessary in accelerating the continent's journey towards the SDGs. The paper defines diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping and examines their role in the Sustainable Development agenda. It also suggests ways through which Africa can maximize diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping for Sustainable Development.

2.0 The Role of Diplomacy, Peace-Making, and Peace-Keeping in Sustainable Development

Diplomacy has been defined as the art, the science, and the means by which nations, groups, or individuals conduct their affairs, in ways to safeguard their interests and promote their political, economic, cultural or scientific relations, while maintaining peaceful relationships[18]. It can also refer to a method that governments use to influence the actions of foreign governments through peaceful tactics such as negotiation and dialogue[19]. Diplomacy has often been utilized as a soft skill to shape mindsets and influence international and national agendas as well as the workings of governments[20]. It has been noted that with the application of political support and concerted diplomacy, international cooperation can be forged to handle both longstanding and emerging global challenges[21].

---

[17] United Nations., 'Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa' Available at https://www.un.org/osaa/sites/www.un.org.osaa/files/docs/2109875_osaa_sg_report_web_new.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[18] What is Diplomacy? Available at https://www.cyber-diplomacytoolbox.com/Diplomacy.html#:~:text=Diplomacy%20is%20the%20art%2C%20the,relations%2C%20while%20maintaining%20peaceful%20relationships. (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[19] Ibid

[20] Mabey. N., Gallagher. L., & Born. C., 'The Evolution of Climate Diplomacy and the International Climate Regime.' Available at https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep17706.6?seq=1 (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[21] Ibid

Peace-making is a term used to label and identify activities that work to restore peace in situations of conflict[22]. It is focused primarily on civil war and international conflict, although its methods are closely related to counseling models used to restore harmony within families and local communities[23]. Peace-making is necessary in violent or severe nonviolent conflicts[24]. It employs approaches such as negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, use of regional agencies or arrangements, and sanctions in order to foster peace[25]. Peace-making therefore involves stopping an ongoing conflict[26]. It aims to accomplish reconciliation among parties to a conflict towards mutual understanding, peace, and stability[27]. The idea of peacemaking envisages the use of diplomatic efforts to end conflicts[28].

Peace-keeping entails activities intended to create conditions that favour lasting peace[29]. According to the United Nations, peace-keeping has proven to be one of the most effective tools available to assist host countries navigate the difficult path from conflict to peace[30]. The United Nations notes that peace-keeping has unique strengths, including legitimacy, burden sharing, and an ability to deploy and sustain troops and police from around the globe, integrating them with civilian peacekeepers to advance multidimensional mandates[31]. Peace-keeping aims to protect civilians during armed conflict, actively prevent conflict, reduce violence, strengthen security and empower national authorities to assume these responsibilities during and after conflicts[32].

---

[22] Lineham. P., 'Peace-Making in History' *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*, 2nd Edition, 2015, pp 637-642

[23] Ibid

[24] Malek. C., 'Peacemaking' Available at https://www.beyondintractability.org/coreknowledge/peacemaking (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[25] Ibid

[26] Khan. A., 'Peace-Making, Peace-Keeping, and Peace-Building' Available at https://mgcub.ac.in/pdf/material/20200428092734eaba7dc2d0.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[27] Ibid

[28] Ibid

[29] Ibid

[30] United Nations., 'What is Peace-Keeping' Available at https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/what-is-peacekeeping (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[31] Ibid

[32] Ibid

Diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping are necessary for Sustainable Development[33]. It has been argued that diplomacy at both the governmental and corporate level has a vital role to play if the world is to achieve the SDGs[34]. It has been correctly opined that achieving the SDGs requires cooperation among key players within the international political, business, and diplomatic spheres[35]. Diplomacy in both the political and business world can enhance public-private partnerships, sustainable investment, international trade, cross-border education, soft power, intercultural and artificial intelligence, and digital transformation towards achieving the SDGs[36].

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development embraces the use of diplomacy towards meeting the SDGs[37]. It embraces the idea of global partnership in the Sustainable Development agenda[38]. SDG 17 focuses on strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing global partnership for Sustainable Development. It identifies key areas for diplomacy and global cooperation towards Sustainable Development including finance, technology, capacity-building, trade, institutional and policy reforms, and multi-stakeholder partnerships[39]. Embracing diplomacy can therefore foster Sustainable Development. For example, environmental diplomacy has led to the adoption of key instruments on Sustainable Development including *Agenda 21*[40] a daring program of

---

[33] Ibid

[34] Kenneth-Divine. P., 'The Role of Diplomacy in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals' Available at https://www.investmentmonitor.ai/comment/sdgs-role-of-diplomacy-in-achieving-the-sustainable-development-goals/#:~:text=The%20role%20of%20diplomacy%20in%20achieving%20the%20Sustainable%20Development%20Goals,the%20SDG%20targets%20by%202030.&text=The%20Sustainable%20Development%20Goals%20will,used%20on%20a%20global%20level. (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[35] Ibid

[36] Ibid

[37] United Nations General Assembly., 'Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.' 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1., Op Cit

[38] Ibid

[39] Ibid

[40] United Nations Conference on Environment & Development Rio de Janerio, Brazil, 3 to 14 June 1992., 'Agenda 21.' Available at https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/Agenda21.pdf?_gl=1*9uipp7*_ga*MjA2ND

action calling for new strategies to invest in the future to achieve overall sustainable development in the 21st century; the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[41]* which seeks to balance the interests of states in exploiting their natural resources for development and environmental conservation with the aim of achieving Sustainable Development; and the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[42]*. Further, climate diplomacy has led to the adoption of key international legal instruments such as the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)[43]*; and the *Paris Agreement[44]* which have strengthened the global response towards climate change. It is therefore vital to maximize diplomacy in its various forms including economic diplomacy, cultural diplomacy, environmental diplomacy, climate diplomacy, digital diplomacy, sports diplomacy, corporate diplomacy, soft power diplomacy, and multilateral and bilateral diplomacy in order to achieve Sustainable Development[45].

Peace-making and peace-keeping are also key in promoting Sustainable Development[46]. These processes are vital in transforming conflicts into more sustainable and peaceful relationships[47]. Peace-making and peace-building lay the foundation for sustainable peace and development[48]. Conflicts especially those that are violent in nature are an undesirable occurrence since they affect peace, sustainability and development[49].It has

---

[k2MDMxMS4xNjcxMjU5NTEw*_ga_TK9BQL5X7Z*MTY5NDU5NjE3MS41NS4xLjE2OTQ1OTgzODUuM C4wLjA](#) (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[41] United Nations General Assembly., 'Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development: Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.' A/CONF. 151/26 (Vol.1)

[42] United Nations General Assembly., 'Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.' 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1., Op Cit

[43] United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change., United Nations, 1992., Available at https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/conveng.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[44] United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change., 'Paris Agreement.' Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[45] Kenneth-Divine. P., 'The Role of Diplomacy in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals' Op Cit

[46] Khan. A., 'Peace-Making, Peace-Keeping, and Peace-Building' Op Cit

[47] Ibid

[48] Ibid

[49] Muigua. K., 'Reframing Conflict Management in the East African Community: Moving from Alternative to 'Appropriate' Dispute Resolution.' Available at

been noted that development is not feasible in a conflict situation[50]. Effective, efficient and expeditious conflict management is therefore a desirable ideal in order to spur peace, development and sustainability[51]. It has been noted that the impact of conflict and violence on Sustainable Development can be significant and long-lasting[52]. For example, in areas affected by conflict and violence, development efforts are often disrupted, and essential services such as education, healthcare, and sanitation severely compromised[53]. Conflicts can also result in the displacement of populations, resulting in loss of livelihoods, increased poverty, and social fragmentation[54]. In addition, violent and armed conflicts can also result in environmental degradation, destruction of infrastructure, and the breakdown of institutions necessary for Sustainable Development[55]. Peace-making and peace-keeping are therefore vital in managing conflicts and establishing conditions for peace, security, and stability which are necessary for Sustainable Development[56].

From the foregoing, it emerges that diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping are vital in the Sustainable Development agenda. It is therefore necessary to maximize these concepts in order to achieve Sustainable Development.

---

https://kmco.co.ke/wpcontent/uploads/2023/06/Reframing-Conflict-Management-in-the-EastAfrican-CommunityMoving-from-Alternative-to-Appropriate-Dispute-Resolution (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[50] Muigua. K & Kariuki. F., 'ADR, Access to Justice and Development in Kenya.' Available at http://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/ADR-access-to-justice-and-developmentinKenyaRevised-version-of-20.10.14.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[51] Ibid

[52] Gray Group International., 'Peace and Sustainable Development: Synergies for Global Prosperity' Available at https://www.graygroupintl.com/blog/peace-and-sustainable-development (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[53] Ibid

[54] Ibid

[55] Ibid

[56] Khan. A., 'Peace-Making, Peace-Keeping, and Peace-Building' Op Cit

3.0 Maximizing Diplomacy, Peace-Making, and Peace-Keeping for Sustainable Development in Africa

Africa has been highly susceptible to intra and inter- state wars and conflicts for many years[57]. There have been frequent conflicts across the Africa which are fueled by various factors, including but not limited to natural resources, fight for political control, poverty, negative ethnicity, religion, environmental causes, and external influence, among others[58]. Numerous civil wars have occurred in several countries in Africa resulting in deaths and displacement of people creating a crisis of internally displaced persons, refugees and asylum seekers[59]. Military coups have also been a common occurrence in some African countries further fueling the incidences of conflict, civil war, political instability, and insecurity[60].

Conflicts and wars are a major threat to Sustainable Development in Africa[61]. The United Nations notes that conflicts and wars have worsened instability, human rights abuses and humanitarian crises in Africa[62]. Further, it has been pointed out that social conflicts in Africa have affected national and social development in unprecedented ways that have resulted in mass exodus of people to other areas, as refugees[63]. Wars and conflicts in

---

[57] Olaosebikan. A., 'Conflicts in Africa: Meaning, Causes, Impact and Solution.' *African Research Review*., Volume 4, No. 4 (2010)

[58] Muigua. K., 'Towards Effective Peacebuilding and Conflict Management in Kenya.' Available at https://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Towards-Peacebuilding-and-Conflict-Managementin-Kenya.docx-Kariuiki-Muigua-MAY-2021x.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[59] Africa Center for Strategic Studies., 'African Conflicts Displace Over 40 Million People.' Available at https://africacenter.org/spotlight/african-conflicts-displace-over-40-million-people/ (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[60] Africa Center for Strategic Studies., 'Africa's Crisis of Coups.' Available at https://africacenter.org/infocus/africa-crisis-coups/ (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[61] United Nations., 'UN-African Union Cooperation a Must, As Landscape of Conflict Shifts' Available at https://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/october-2023/un-african-union-cooperation-must-landscape-conflict-shifts-0 (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[62] Ibid

[63] Muigua. K., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice in Kenya.' Glenwood Publishers Limited, 2015

Africa have had adverse economic, cultural, political, social, and environmental costs[64]. According to the United Nations, across the world, but notably in Africa, instability and conflict continue to generate and exacerbate poverty and institutional fragility, which in turn decrease resilience and the prospects for peace[65]. It further notes that it is necessary to prioritize conflict prevention and sustaining peace in order to remove the greatest obstacles to the implementation of both the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063 of the African Union[66]. Due to frequent conflicts in some African countries, peace has become more challenging to sustain and protracted and recurring conflict more difficult to prevent or resolve, often because their underlying causes are not well understood or addressed[67]. Strengthening peacebuilding efforts across Africa is therefore key to achieving inclusive, Sustainable Development[68]. Diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping have a major role to play towards peacebuilding in Africa[69].

Diplomacy can play a key role in fostering peace and Sustainable Development in Africa[70]. It has been noted that forums for regional dialogue and development cooperation can play a major role in tackling fragility brought about by wars and conflicts and strengthening integration in Africa towards Sustainable Development[71]. Africa has numerous opportunities to maximize diplomacy for Sustainable Development. For example, it has been noted that Africa is increasingly embracing climate diplomacy that is enabling the continent to embrace a coordinated common position in international

---

[64] Uwazie. E., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution and Peace-building in Africa.' Available at https://www.cambridgescholars.com/resources/pdfs/978-1-4438-5707-9-sample.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[65] United Nations., 'Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa' Op Cit

[66] Ibid

[67] Ibid

[68] United Nations Development Programme., 'Strengthening Peacebuilding Efforts Across Africa Key to Achieving Inclusive, Sustainable Development' Available at https://www.undp.org/africa/news/strengthening-peacebuilding-efforts-across-africa-key-achieving-inclusive-sustainable-development (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[69] Ibid

[70] Pillai. V., & De. Corral. M., 'Tackling Fragility and Promoting Integration in the Horn of Africa through Development diplomacy' Available at https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/nasikiliza/tackling-fragility-and-promoting-integration-horn-africa-through-development-diplomacy (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[71] Ibid

climate change negotiations and to design robust policy approaches for a collective effort in confronting complex climate change challenges[72]. Climate diplomacy can also enable African countries to attract investments, financial support, and technology necessary for strengthening the continent's response towards climate change[73].

The establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area and the presence of several Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and inter-governmental organizations in Africa including the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA); the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA); the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD); the East African Community (EAC); the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS); the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) further presents opportunities for economic diplomacy which can strengthen Intra-African trade for Sustainable Development[74].

Environmental diplomacy is also an available tool that can enable Africa strengthen environmental governance towards Sustainable Development[75]. It has been noted that within the African Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development (AU/NEPAD) framework, African leaders have adopted an Environment Action Plan (EAP) to confront the environmental challenges of the continent[76]. African countries should therefore continue tapping into these among other opportunities in order to maximize diplomacy

---

[72] AUDA-NEPAD., 'Climate Diplomacy in Africa' Available at https://www.nepad.org/climate/publication/climate-diplomacy-africa#:~:text=Climate%20Diplomacy%20is%20the%20interface,finds%20the%20space%20for%20agreement. (Accessed on 30/03/2024)
[73] Ibid
[74] Muigua. K., 'Strengthening Intra African Trade for Sustainable Development' Available at https://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Strengthening-Intra-African-Trade-for-Sustainable-Development.pdf
[75] Lisinge-Fotabong. E et al., 'Climate Diplomacy in Africa' Available at https://www.nepad.org/file-download/download/public/15646#:~:text=Through%20the%20engagement%20of%20Heads,environmental%20challenges%20of%20the%20continent. (Accessed on 30/03/2024)
[76] Ibid

for Sustainable Development. It is also necessary for African countries to strengthen their capacity in diplomacy through measures such as appointment of envoys responsible for spearheading their regional, continental, and global agenda on climate change, finance, trade, peace, international relations among other key areas[77].

It is also necessary to enhance peace-making and peace-keeping in Africa. Peace-making is required in Africa in order to foster inclusive development, security and stability[78]. It has been argued that in order to enhance peace-making in Africa, root causes of conflicts must be addressed[79]. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms can therefore play a key role in peace-making and peace-building in Africa by addressing the root causes of conflicts[80]. These processes have a pertinent role in building peace in Africa by preventing and managing conflicts and enhancing stability[81]. ADR mechanisms have been practiced in Africa for many centuries[82]. They are well suited to the African conception of justice and its core values of reconciliation, harmony, togetherness, social cohesion and peace as expressed by the African philosophy of *'ubuntu'[83]*. Conflict management in African societies has throughout the years taken the form of informal negotiation, mediation, reconciliation and arbitration among other techniques which were administered by institutions such as the council of elders[84]. ADR processes can strengthen conflict management systems and bridge the gap between formal legal

---

[77] Ibid

[78] United Nations., 'Root Causes of Conflicts in Africa Must Be Addressed beyond Traditional Response, Special Adviser Tells Security Council Debate on Silencing Guns.' Available at https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15249.doc.htm (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[79] Ibid

[80] Uwazie. E., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution in Africa: Preventing Conflict and Enhancing Stability.' *Africa Security Brief*, No. 16 of 2011

[81] Ibid

[82] Muigua. K., 'Resolving Conflicts through Mediation in Kenya.' Glenwood Publishers Limited, 2nd Edition, 2017

[83] Muigua. K., 'Heralding a New Dawn: Achieving Justice through effective application of Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms (ADR) in Kenya.' Available at http://kmco.co.ke/wpcontent/uploads/2018/08/Heralding-a-New-Dawn-Access-to-Justice-PAPER.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[84] Kariuki. F., 'Conflict Resolution by Elders in Africa: Successes, Challenges and Opportunities.' Available at http://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Conflict-Resolution-by-Elderssuccesseschallenges-and-opportunities-1.pdf (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

systems and traditional modes of African justice[85]. It has been noted that these processes may have particular value in stabilization and state building efforts especially when judicial institutions are weak and social tensions are high[86]. It is therefore necessary to embrace ADR techniques for effective peace-making in Africa.

The United Nations plays a key role in peace-keeping in Africa through its peace-keeping operations[87]. Under this process, peace-keeping missions have been deployed to conflict-affected regions with the aim of maintaining peace, facilitating political dialogue, and supporting post-conflict reconstruction[88]. It is also necessary to embrace Africa-led peace operations[89]. These operations have been successfully deployed for peace-keeping in various part of Africa by the African Union and RECs including ECOWAS, EAC, and SADC[90]. It has been noted that African-led peace operations have shown more doctrinal flexibility than United Nations sponsored peacekeeping missions, which are rarely deployed in the absence of a peace process or agreement[91]. In addition, it has been pointed out that African-led peace operations have helped African security forces significantly improve coordination with one another in addressing cross-border security challenges, another area that has been neglected by state-centric United Nations peacekeeping operations[92]. Therefore, effective peace-keeping in Africa often requires collaboration between the United Nations, the African Union, and other international

---

[85] Uwazie. E., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution in Africa: Preventing Conflict and Enhancing Stability.' Op Cit

[86] Ibid

[87] United Nations., 'Peace, Dignity, and Equality on a Healthy Planet' Available at https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/africa (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[88] Ibid

[89] Allen. D., 'African-Led Peace Operations: A Crucial Tool for Peace and Security' Available at https://africacenter.org/spotlight/african-led-peace-operations-a-crucial-tool-for-peace-and-security/ (Accessed on 30/03/2024)

[90] Ibid

[91] Ibid

[92] Ibid

partners and regional organizations[93]. Such coordinated efforts can help to build local capacities, strengthen institutions, and promote sustainable peace and stability[94].

Through the foregoing initiatives, it is possible to maximize diplomacy, peacemaking, and peace-keeping for Sustainable Development in Africa.

4.0 Conclusion

Conflicts and wars are a major to Sustainable Development in Africa[95]. These incidences have worsened instability, human rights abuses and humanitarian crises in Africa[96]. Wars and conflicts in Africa have had adverse economic, cultural, political, social, and environmental costs which hinder the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the goals and aspirations of Africa Union's Agenda 2063[97]. It is therefore necessary to prioritize conflict prevention and sustaining peace in Africa in order to remove the greatest obstacles to the implementation of these two agendas[98]. Diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping have a major role to play towards peacebuilding in Africa for Sustainable Development[99]. It is therefore necessary to maximize diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping for Sustainable Development in Africa. This can be realized through embracing and strengthening the capacity for diplomacy[100], utilizing ADR processes for peace-making and peacebuilding in Africa[101], and enhancing collaboration between the United Nations, the African Union, and other international partners and regional organizations for effective peace-keeping in Africa[102].

---

[93] United Nations., 'Peace, Dignity, and Equality on a Healthy Planet' Op Cit
[94] Ibid
[95] United Nations., 'UN-African Union Cooperation a Must, As Landscape of Conflict Shifts' Op Cit
[96] Ibid
[97] United Nations., 'Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa' Op Cit
[98] Ibid
[99] United Nations Development Programme., 'Strengthening Peacebuilding Efforts Across Africa Key to Achieving Inclusive, Sustainable Development' Op Cit
[100] Pillai. V., & De. Corral. M., 'Tackling Fragility and Promoting Integration in the Horn of Africa through Development diplomacy' Op Cit
[101] Uwazie. E., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution in Africa: Preventing Conflict and Enhancing Stability.' Op Cit
[102] United Nations., 'Peace, Dignity, and Equality on a Healthy Planet' Op Cit

Maximizing diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping for Sustainable Development in Africa is an agenda we must prioritize and achieve.

References

Africa Center for Strategic Studies., 'Africa's Crisis of Coups.' Available at https://africacenter.org/infocus/africa-crisis-coups/

Africa Center for Strategic Studies., 'African Conflicts Displace Over 40 Million People.' Available at https://africacenter.org/spotlight/african-conflicts-displace-over-40-million-people/

African Union., 'Agenda 2063: The Africa we Want.' Available at https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/33126-doc-framework_document_book.pdf

Allen. D., 'African-Led Peace Operations: A Crucial Tool for Peace and Security' Available at https://africacenter.org/spotlight/african-led-peace-operations-a-crucial-tool-for-peace-and-security/

AUDA-NEPAD., 'Climate Diplomacy in Africa' Available at https://www.nepad.org/climate/publication/climate-diplomacy-africa#:~:text=Climate%20Diplomacy%20is%20the%20interface,finds%20the%20space%20for%20agreement.

Fitzmaurice. M., 'The Principle of Sustainable Development in International Development Law.' *International Sustainable Development Law.*, Vol 1

Giovannoni. E., & Fabietti. G., 'What Is Sustainability? A Review of the Concept and Its Applications.' In: Busco, C., Frigo, M., Riccaboni, A., Quattrone, P. (eds) Integrated Reporting. Springer, Cham. Available at https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-02168-3_2

Gray Group International., 'Peace and Sustainable Development: Synergies for Global Prosperity' Available at https://www.graygroupintl.com/blog/peace-and-sustainable-development

Kariuki. F., 'Conflict Resolution by Elders in Africa: Successes, Challenges and Opportunities.' Available at http://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Conflict-Resolution-by-Elderssuccesseschallenges-and-opportunities-1.pdf

Kenneth-Divine. P., 'The Role of Diplomacy in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals' Available at https://www.investmentmonitor.ai/comment/sdgs-role-of-diplomacy-in-achieving-the-sustainable-development-goals/#:~:text=The%20role%20of%20diplomacy%20in%20achieving%20the%20Sustainable%20Development%20Goals,the%20SDG%20targets%20by%202030.&text=The%20Sustainable%20Development%20Goals%20will,used%20on%20a%20global%20level

Khan. A., 'Peace-Making, Peace-Keeping, and Peace-Building' Available at https://mgcub.ac.in/pdf/material/20200428092734eaba7dc2d0.pdf

Lineham. P., 'Peace-Making in History' *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*, 2nd Edition, 2015, pp 637-642

Lisinge-Fotabong. E et al., 'Climate Diplomacy in Africa' Available at https://www.nepad.org/file-download/download/public/15646#:~:text=Through%20the%20engagement%20of%20Heads,environmental%20challenges%20of%20the%20continent.

Mabey. N., Gallagher. L., & Born. C., 'The Evolution of Climate Diplomacy and the International Climate Regime.' Available at https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep17706.6?seq=1

Malek. C., 'Peacemaking' Available at https://www.beyondintractability.org/coreknowledge/peacemaking

Muigua. K & Kariuki. F., 'ADR, Access to Justice and Development in Kenya.' Available at http://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/ADR-access-to-justice-and-developmentinKenyaRevised-version-of-20.10.14.pdf

Muigua. K., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice in Kenya.' Glenwood Publishers Limited, 2015

Muigua. K., 'Heralding a New Dawn: Achieving Justice through effective application of Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms (ADR) in Kenya.' Available at http://kmco.co.ke/wpcontent/uploads/2018/08/Heralding-a-New-Dawn-Access-to-Justice-PAPER.pdf

Muigua. K., 'Reframing Conflict Management in the East African Community: Moving from Alternative to 'Appropriate' Dispute Resolution.' Available at https://kmco.co.ke/wpcontent/uploads/2023/06/Reframing-Conflict-Management-in-the-EastAfrican-CommunityMoving-from-Alternative-to-Appropriate-Dispute-Resolution

Muigua. K., 'Resolving Conflicts through Mediation in Kenya.' Glenwood Publishers Limited, 2nd Edition, 2017

Muigua. K., 'Strengthening Intra African Trade for Sustainable Development' Available at https://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Strengthening-Intra-African-Trade-for-Sustainable-Development.pdf

Muigua. K., 'Towards Effective Peacebuilding and Conflict Management in Kenya.' Available at https://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Towards-

Peacebuilding-and-Conflict-Managementin-Kenya.docx-Kariuki-Muigua-MAY-2021x.pdf

Olaosebikan. A., 'Conflicts in Africa: Meaning, Causes, Impact and Solution.' *African Research Review*., Volume 4, No. 4 (2010)

Pillai. V., & De. Corral. M., 'Tackling Fragility and Promoting Integration in the Horn of Africa through Development diplomacy' Available at https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/nasikiliza/tackling-fragility-and-promoting-integration-horn-africa-through-development-diplomacy

United Nations Conference on Environment & Development Rio de Janerio, Brazil, 3 to 14 June 1992., 'Agenda 21.' Available at https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/Agenda21.pdf?_gl=1*9ui pp7*_ga*MjA2ND k2MDMxMS4xNjcxMjU5NTEw*_ga_TK9BQL5X7Z*MTY5NDU5NjE3MS41NS4xLjE2O TQ1OTgzODUuM C4wLjA

United Nations Development Programme., '2023 Africa Sustainable Development Report.' Available at https://www.undp.org/africa/publications/2023-africa-sustainable-development-report

United Nations Development Programme., 'Strengthening Peacebuilding Efforts Across Africa Key to Achieving Inclusive, Sustainable Development' Available at https://www.undp.org/africa/news/strengthening-peacebuilding-efforts-across-africa-key-achieving-inclusive-sustainable-development

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change., 'Paris Agreement.' Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change., United Nations, 1992., Available at https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/conveng.pdf

United Nations General Assembly., 'Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development: Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.' A/CONF. 151/26 (Vol.1)

United Nations General Assembly., 'Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.' 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1., Available at https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030%20Agenda%20 for%20Sustainabl e%20Development%20web.pdf

United Nations., 'Peace, Dignity, and Equality on a Healthy Planet' Available at https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/africa

United Nations., 'Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa' Available at https://www.un.org/osaa/sites/www.un.org.osaa/files/docs/2109875_osaa_sg_report_web_new.pdf

United Nations., 'Root Causes of Conflicts in Africa Must Be Addressed beyond Traditional Response, Special Adviser Tells Security Council Debate on Silencing Guns.' Available at https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15249.doc.htm

United Nations., 'Sustainability' Available at https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/sustainability

United Nations., 'UN-African Union Cooperation a Must, As Landscape of Conflict Shifts' Available at https://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/october-2023/un-african-union-cooperation-must-landscape-conflict-shifts-0

United Nations., 'What is Peace-Keeping' Available at https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/what-is-peacekeeping

United States Environmental Protection Agency., 'What is Sustainability.' Available at https://www.epa.gov/sustainability/learn-about-sustainability

Uwazie. E., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution and Peace-building in Africa.' Available at https://www.cambridgescholars.com/resources/pdfs/978-1-4438-5707-9-sample.pdf

Uwazie. E., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution in Africa: Preventing Conflict and Enhancing Stability.' *Africa Security Brief*, No. 16 of 2011

What is Diplomacy? Available at https://www.cyber-diplomacytoolbox.com/Diplomacy.html#:~:text=Diplomacy%20is%20the%20art%2C%20the,relations%2C%20while%20maintaining%20peaceful%20relationships.

World Commission on Environment and Development., 'Our Common Future.' Oxford, (Oxford University Press, 1987)