

PDA Fellowship Programme – 1st Cohort ***Inclusive Dialogue*** **Profile of the participating PDAs**

Lucy Wanjiru Ndungu

Lucy is the UN PDA in the Resident Coordinator's Office in Uganda and provides strategic guidance to the UNCT on politics, peace and development of Uganda and the region as well as to support the development of coherent and functioning peace infrastructure in the country. Currently, she is providing technical leadership to the Steering Committee of the National Dialogue process in the country. Prior to joining the UN in Uganda, Lucy served as the National Coordinator for Partnership for Peace and Security, a national civil society network in Kenya. She played a crucial role in development of the Peace Infrastructure in Kenya, that was credited with a peaceful referendum in 2010, and peaceful elections in 2013. She has consulted for UNDP and the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary General to the Great Lakes in building national capacities for peace. A Fellow of the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Ms. Ndungu holds a Bachelor's Degree in Management, Masters Degree in International Studies and post-graduate qualifications in Transitional Justice, Conflict Analysis, Interfaith Conflict Resolution; Negotiation, Mediation and Conflict Management; Conflict Sensitive Development and Civil-Military Coordination.



Gita Sabharwal



works at the UN Resident Coordinator's Office as the Peace and Development Adviser to progress reconciliation and support sustainable peace in Sri Lanka. She has over 18 years of development experience having worked with bilateral, multilateral and civil society organizations and engaged at the highest levels of government to develop and influence development policy and practice. She brings depth and breadth of development practice from across countries in Asia, including Vietnam, India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives. Sound political acumen and ability to build relationships with political leaders, backed by technically sound and politically feasible development approach has been a particular strength. Her decade long experience with Department for International Development, a global leader in development policy

and practice, has equipped her with the skills to work across a range of sectors and aid instruments, guided by the principles of aid effectiveness.

Rebecca Adda-Dontoh (known as Becky by friends and colleagues)

is currently a Peace and Development Advisor (PDA) with the UN in Malawi, where she is supporting the UN Resident Coordinator and Country Team to build National Capacities for Conflict Prevention. She has a combined 27 years' experience from public service, NGOs and the UN. She traces her peacebuilding and conflict transformation roots to over 15 years of public service work with Ghana's National Commission on Culture, where she gained insights into Ghana's chieftaincy traditions and the conflicts therein; and acquired hands-on mediation experience. She founded the civil society organization 'Mothers for Active Non-Violence' (MOFAN-V) in 2005 and with other 'women in peacebuilding' activists, advocated for and trained women and youth to actively participate in peacebuilding and peace processes in Northern Ghana. In her capacity as national consultant for UNDP Ghana in 2006-2007, she was actively involved in the establishment and training of Ghana's nascent National Peace Architecture and its Regional and District Peace Councils. As Conflict Prevention Program Manager and Peace Advisor in Mindanao, Philippines and North Eastern Nigeria respectively, she worked in support of local peacebuilding organisations in some of the worst conflict affected areas of these places. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Public Communication and Public Relations from the University of Westminster, London, and has received extensive Conflict Transformation training from various institutions. She is a proud mother of two amazing young adults.



Gregory Attila Connor



is the Senior Regional Peace and Development Adviser covering Cameroon and the neighbouring sub-region. In his role, Gregory works closely with national governments, UN Country Teams, the UN Department of Political Affairs, the UN's special political mission, UNOCA, and other partners to support peace and development in the region. Prior to his current role, Gregory served as the Peace and Development Adviser in Timor-Leste, where, together with the UN Secretary-General's Special Adviser, he helped ensure a peaceful transition of political power while repositioning the UN in its new post-mission context. Before that, Gregory supported the National Dialogue in Libya, risk management in Central Asia, and served as a Peace and Development Adviser in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia where he helped implement various parts of the country's peace agreement while supporting the UN Good Offices' ongoing negotiations. Previously, Gregory was Chief Technical Specialist for a Joint UN Programme on conflict prevention & peacebuilding and served as a Regional Adviser for UNDP covering Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Before joining the UN, Gregory served in Director positions for an international think tank in Brussels and New York, where he helped launch new initiatives in preventive diplomacy. Earlier in his career, Gregory worked for international organizations (including The World Bank and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) and NGOs working on conflict prevention. Gregory holds advanced degrees from the London School of Economics and Political Science, HEC Paris, and New York University. He also holds a Master of Arts degree from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service as well as a post-graduate certificate in Refugee and Humanitarian Emergencies.