



POLICY CENTRE FOR AFRICAN PEOPLES' 2015- 2016 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

POLICY CENTRE FOR AFRICAN PEOPLES

(PCAP) www.policycap.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

PCAP’s Board of Trustees 2015 – 2016.....	2
Chair’s Report.....	3
Executive Director’s Report.....	5
Policy Centre for African Peoples: Providing a platform for the engagement and education of African communities and the general public.....	7
PCAP’s Projects and Activities.....	8
I. 3 rd African Diaspora New Year Lecture.....	8
II. 3 rd African Diaspora Summer Festival.....	10
III. Question Time in Medway.....	12
IV. Pitching Africa to Young People.....	13
V. Advocacy: European Union and Media Engagement.....	14
PCAP’s Staff and Volunteers.....	15
Income and Expenditure Statement for Financial Year Ended 31 st March 2016.....	16
Contact Details.....	17

PCAP'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES – 2015/2016



Mohamed Rashid Hassan, PhD –Dr Mohamed Rashid Hassan became a Trustee of PCAP in May 2011. He is an internationally respected analyst on topics related to Africa, including African political engagement, history, economic development and international relations.



Mr Don Flynn, BSc (HONS) –Don Flynn has been a Trustee of PCAP since September 2008. He served as PCAP's Secretary from December 2009 till May 2011, when he became PCAP's Treasurer and Chairman in 2013. He is also an Associate and former Director of Migrants Rights Network.



Ms Goretti Kyomuhendo, MA –Goretti Kyomuhendo became a PCAP Trustee in May 2011. She is also one of the founding members of the Ugandan Women Writers' Association and Publishing House FEMRITE, and the Founder and Director of African Writers' Trust.



Ms Rose Nunu, BA –Rose Nunu became a PCAP Trustee in April 2013. She is the Founder and Director of Diaspora, a not-for-profit music foundation created to support and promote diversity in British music.

PCAP'S charity registration number: 1131139

CHAIR'S REPORT

I am filled with joy and pride as I look back on 2015-2016 to highlight the efforts and achievements of the trustees, unpaid staff, partners and supporters of the Policy Centre for African Peoples (PCAP). Our organisation has gone from strength to strength in terms of providing a platform for the engagement and education of African communities and the general public, and has brilliantly fulfilled this objective throughout this year.

PCAP continued to build on the success of two stellar projects launched in 2013, and hosted **the 3rd African Diaspora New Year Lecture** in January 2016, and **the 3rd African Diaspora Summer Festival** in July 2016, which included a screening and discussion of the film **Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom**. Both were very well-attended, and received coverage from UK and African media.

We carried on publishing the **Policy Centre for African Peoples' newsletter** throughout 2015-2016. A key indicator of the popularity of our newsletter is that the number of its subscribers is now nearly 2,000. We are delighted that the new subscribers were a mixture of people of African descent and non-Africans. This underlines the capacity of the Policy Centre for African Peoples to reach out to both members of African communities and other individuals.

In accordance with its vision to provide a platform for the engagement and education of African communities and the general public, PCAP organised, and participated in, many activities aimed at engaging and educating people on topics of relevance to African communities throughout 2015-2016. Among these were a debate with parliamentary candidates in the Medway towns, **Question Time in Medway** in April 2015, and a motivational and educational project, **Pitching Africa to Young People** at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London in June 2015.

PCAP also engaged in **advocacy activities including a visit to the European Commission** in July 2015. In addition, PCAP took part in numerous media discussions throughout 2015-2016, including an analysis of **Leadership Lessons from African Life Philosophy** published in the magazine We Are the

City in June 2016; a TV debate on **Education and the Legacy of Nelson Mandela** also in June 2016, and 2 TV discussions on **Leadership amongst African Communities** in September and October 2016.

We would like to wholeheartedly and warmly thank and congratulate **Sylvie Aboa-Bradwell** who carried on working as PCAP's unpaid Executive Director in 2015-2016: in addition to the African Diaspora Award for Leadership and Community Education she won in 2013, she was **selected as one of the 100 Diaspora ChangeMakers for 2015, and chosen for the Common Purpose Diaspora Leaders' Programme 2016-2017**. We also thank our volunteers, trustees, advisers, partners, and the many individuals who have supported us throughout this year.

Don Flynn
Chair

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The following headline work streams provide an overview of the projects and activities undertaken at the Policy Centre for African Peoples (PCAP) during the year 2015-2016. Further details are provided in the specific project and activity pages of the annual report.

1. Third African Diaspora New Year Lecture

We were delighted to host our third African Diaspora New Year Lecture at University College London on 21st January 2016. The theme of the Lecture was **'Highlighting the Positive Contribution of the African Diaspora'**. PCAP was delighted to have **Sorious Samura**, a multi-award-winning journalist and filmmaker of international renown, as keynote speaker. The meeting, which had more than 150 attendees, was chaired by the broadcaster and journalist **Henry Bonsu**. The CEO of the African Media Initiative, **Eric Chinje** also spoke, and I was honoured to speak on behalf of PCAP.

2. Third African Diaspora Summer Festival

PCAP organised its third African Diaspora Summer Festival at the Africa Centre, London, on 22nd July 2016. The Festival included a **screening of the film 'Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom'** – a film based on Nelson Mandela's autobiography and starring Idriss Elba. There was also a debate on the topic **'Promoting the Social Engagement of African Diaspora Youths'** with myself and the Africa Director of the Washington-based National Democratic Institute, **Dr Christopher Fomunyoh**.

3. Question Time in Medway

We provided a platform for the engagement of Medway African community members and other Medway residents with local politicians by organising a Question Time-style event to discuss the

2015 election with parliamentary candidates in the Medway towns. The event, titled **Question Time in Medway**, took place in the Medway town of Gillingham in April 2015.

4. Pitching Africa to Young People

We built on the success of our 'Pitching Africa' series of research and briefings, which we started in 2011, to organise a briefing titled **Pitching Africa to Young People** in London in June 2015. The main aim of this project was to help young members of African and other communities become more aware of the economic and professional opportunities offered by African entrepreneurs in the UK.

5. Advocacy: European Union and Media Engagement

PCAP engaged with the European Union throughout 2015-2016, and **briefed European Commission staff on its work during a visit to Brussels in July 2015**. PCAP also greatly increased its media presence throughout 2015-2016, thanks to its newsletter, blogs on its website (www.policycap.org), as well as media appearances and publications. These included an analysis of **Leadership Lessons from African Life Philosophy** I published in the magazine *We Are the City* in June 2016; and a TV debate on **Education and the Legacy of Nelson Mandela** in which I participated at the end of that month. I was also honoured to represent PCAP at 2 TV discussions on **Leadership amongst African Communities** in September and October 2016, and have my paper '**Entrepreneurship, Social Engagement and African Development**' included in the book *The Economics of International Development*, published in October 2016 by the Institute of Economic Affairs.

My sincere thanks are extended to PCAP's trustees, volunteers, supporters and partners, who have all played a crucial role in strengthening our work.

Sylvie Aboa-Bradwell
Executive Director

POLICY CENTRE FOR AFRICAN PEOPLES:

Providing a platform for the engagement and education of African communities and the general public

The Policy Centre for African Peoples (PCAP) was founded in September 2008 in the United Kingdom following the initiative of **Ms Sylvie Aboa-Bradwell**, with the assistance of like-minded African Diaspora members. The impetus for PCAP's creation was the desire to provide a platform for the engagement and education of African individuals and the general public on topics that are of relevance to African communities.

To fulfil this objective, PCAP carries out educational, research and social engagement projects in the areas of education, human rights, social justice and leadership.

Our Mission:

The mission of PCAP is to provide a platform for the engagement and education of African individuals and the general public on topics that are of relevance to African communities.

Our Vision:

PCAP envisions a world where African individuals and the general public are educated and engaged on topics that are of relevance to African communities.

Our Motto:

The platform for African engagement.

PCAP'S PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The projects and activities of PCAP throughout the year 2015 – 2016 included:

I. Third African Diaspora New Year Lecture

Held on 21st January 2016, 5.30 pm – 8 pm, Room LG04, University College London, 26 Bedford Way, London, WC1H 0AP

The activity, organised by the Policy Centre for African Peoples (PCAP) and kindly hosted by University College London, proved to be an outstanding success. More than 150 people including young African Diaspora members; civil society, media, academia, politics and business representatives, as well as members of the general from a wide variety of backgrounds, came to engage with speakers on the theme **'Highlighting the Positive Contribution of the African Diaspora'**.



The event was brilliantly chaired by the widely respected journalist and broadcaster **Henry Bonsu** (pictured left). Mr Bonsu congratulated our organisation for its dynamism and leadership, and expressed his approval of our efforts to foster a much-needed exchange of ideas, and

provide a platform for African Diaspora members to showcase their achievements.



PCAP was thrilled to have the multi-award-winning filmmaker and journalist **Sorious Samura** (pictured left) as keynote speaker. He began by thanking PCAP for the opportunity it gave him to address the UK African Diaspora as well as other people, and urged PCAP to continue its outstanding work. Mr Samura then told attendees how, as he was growing up in his native Sierra Leone, he was inculcated with the values of hard work, appreciation of education and commitment to collective progress. He encouraged young attendees to adopt these values, and called on parents to inculcate these principles in their children too.

Mr Samura then went on to tell the audience how his love of storytelling, which he developed in his childhood while listening to community storytellers, led him to become a journalist and a filmmaker. He mentioned his award-winning films, including **Cry Freetown; Exodus from Africa** and the **Africa Investigates**. Mr Samura encouraged members of the African Diaspora to make a positive contribution to the UK and Africa. He concluded by urging African Diaspora members to tell their stories, and actively shape narratives about themselves, their history and their communities.



Ms **Sylvie Aboa-Bradwell** Director of PCAP, and the CEO of the African Media Initiative, Mr **Eric Chinje** (speaking left) outlined their respective contributions as community educator, and media as well as African development activist.

Many attendees expressed their interest in building on the success of this event. Several PCAP trustees agreed to **explore the possibility of having a programme in which older and successful members of the African Diaspora will provide mentorship and motivational sessions to less established and younger ones.**

II. Third African Diaspora Summer Festival

The Festival, organised by the Policy Centre for African Peoples (PCAP), took place on 22nd July 2016, 5pm -9pm at the Africa Centre, London SE1 0BL

The Festival's **overarching theme was "Promoting the Social Engagement of African Diaspora Youths"**. The event, brilliantly chaired the Sky News Social Affairs and Education Editor **Afua Hirsch**, was attended by over 300 people. The **screening of the film 'Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom'**, proved to be one of the main highlights of the evening.

Most attendees were full of praises for the film, which narrates Nelson Mandela's life journey from his childhood in a rural village, through to his inauguration as the first democratically elected president of South Africa. Many people who spoke after the screening thanked and congratulated PCAP for this initiative. Several attendees urged our organisation to seek to implement a leadership and self-development programme that could inculcate young members of African communities with the values of courage, integrity, human dignity and staunch defence of racial equality embodied by Nelson Mandela. It was noted that following the Brexit vote, there was a climate of hostility towards African and other ethnic minorities in the UK and, as a result, **there was an urgent need for programmes aimed at promoting social engagement amongst African Diaspora youths, and leadership development sessions to enable them to be determined to fight racial prejudice and injustice as bravely as Nelson Mandela did.**



The screening was followed by speeches on the theme **'Promoting the Social Engagement of African Diaspora Youths'** by the PCAP Director, **Ms Sylvie Aboa-Bradwell** and the Africa Director of the National Democratic Institute, **Dr Christopher Fomunyoh** (both pictured left). Ms Aboa-Bradwell stressed that

as an organisation whose motto is “The platform for African engagement”, PCAP had already carried out programmes aimed at promoting the engagement of members of African communities. She pledged to spend the summer consulting people about what concrete projects PCAP could design and implement to foster leadership and social engagement amongst young members of African communities in the UK.

Dr Fomunyoh used his speech to debunk the myth that democracy was alien to African communities. He cited democratic practices that had been established throughout Africa for hundreds of years such as the election of village chiefs and the discussion trees which he called “village parliaments”, to highlight the fact that democracy is intrinsically African. He urged young members of the UK African Diaspora to get involved in advocacy and social projects, and make their voices heard by voting.



After the debate, there was a Q&A session. Many attendees spoke to express their desire to see projects aimed at promoting civic and social engagement amongst UK African communities in the near future. Afterwards, were several thrilling, outstanding performances by the dancer, actor and storyteller **Usifu Jalloh** (pictured left)

including 2 entertaining and educational stories, and 3 dances.

The event concluded with attendees having African food and drinks, networking and dancing to the irresistible music of Usifu Jalloh.

III. Question Time in Medway – 17th April 2015, 6.00pm -8.30pm, Sunlight Centre, 105 Richmond Road, Gillingham ME7 1LX

The event was organised by the Policy Centre for African Peoples. It provided a unique opportunity for Medway residents to ask questions on immigration and other topics to local parliamentary candidates including: [Paul Clark](#), Labour candidate for Gillingham and Rainham; [Kelly Tolhurst](#), Conservative candidate for Rochester and Strood; [Rehman Chishti, MP](#) and Conservative candidate for Gillingham and Rainham; [Clive Gregory](#), Green Party candidate for Rochester and Strood; and [Tristan Osborne](#), Labour candidate for Chatham and Aylesford.



Nearly 100 Medway residents including young members of the African Diaspora, professionals from a wide variety of backgrounds, and other attendees asked candidates questions on topics such as **education, immigration, the cost of living and the NHS**. The international broadcaster and Ben TV presenter [Priscilla Nwikpo](#) (pictured left with Rehman Chishti and Tristan Osborne), who was chairing the debate, expertly managed to highlight differences between the different candidates.



Special guests Her Royal Highness [Betty Makoni](#), a Princess from Manicaland in Zimbabwe recognised by CNN as one of their top 10 Heroes of 2009 for her outstanding promotion of girls' rights and education, and Her Royal Highness Princess ['Deun Adedoyin-Solarin](#) (pictured left with Paul Clark and HRH Betty Makoni in the centre) congratulated PCAP on this initiative, and urged the politicians to engage more with members of African communities.

Local Parish Councillor [Chris Buckwell](#), who has visited 19 African countries, also praised PCAP, and advised our organisation to seek to implement a programme that could promote the political engagement of African communities, whose voices are often unheard in the UK.

IV. Pitching Africa to Young People -30th June 2015, 7.30pm -9.30pm, Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, SOAS, University of London, WC1H 0XG

The Policy Centre for African Peoples organised this seminar to help young members of the African Diaspora and other young people discover the employment and personal development opportunities offered to them by African entrepreneurs in the UK. Once more, the meeting was expertly chaired by PCAP's longstanding media partner, the outstanding journalist and conference host **Henry Bonsu**.



attendees about internship opportunities.

Next to speak was the **CEO of DevelopingAfrica, Mr Ben Oguntala**. He introduced attendees to DevelopingAfrica, his online resource that allows international companies access to commercial

development opportunities in African countries. He outlined several employment and internship opportunities available to young people at his company.



The final speaker, **Ms Justine Lutterodt**, Director of the Centre for Synchronous Leadership (pictured left), outlined her experience working with leaders, managing teams, mentoring colleagues at the Centre for Synchronous Leadership a consultancy aimed at helping senior executives become more 'in sync' – with themselves. She expressed her willingness to advise young people seeking employment and self-development avenues.

During the Q & A session that concluded the event, many young people expressed the need for leadership and guidance lessons provided by African Diaspora members.

V. Advocacy: European Union and Media Engagement



PCAP engaged in a wide variety of advocacy activities amongst relevant policy and decision-makers. These activities included **a visit by the PCAP Director to the European Commission in July 2015**, to brief this body about new and effective ways of engaging with African Diaspora members. Ms Sylvie Aboa-Bradwell is pictured left with EU staff **Mr John McClintock**.



In addition, **PCAP participated in numerous media discussions** throughout 2015-2016. Among these was **a special debate on African Media** to discuss questions of representation and narrative with regards to Africa in the media at the School of Oriental and African Studies on 20th February 2015.

On 29th June 2016, the PCAP Director participated in an Africa Today TV programme in London to debate **Education and the Legacy of Nelson Mandela**. The debate was brilliantly chaired by **Vuyiswa Nggobongwana** (pictured left with the PCAP Director and Mr Xala) Ms Aboa-Bradwell's co-debater was the South African analyst **Xolani Xala**.

Other media appearances and input included an article on **Leadership Lessons from African Life Philosophy** published by the PCAP Director in the We Are the City magazine in June 2016; a discussion of **Leadership amongst African Communities** on Africa Today in September 2016, and another on the same topic on TV5 Monde October 2016. In addition, a paper written by the PCAP Director, **'Entrepreneurship, Social Engagement and African Development'** was included in the book *The Economics of International Development*, published in October 2016 by the Institute of Economic Affairs.

PCAP's STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS



This year, as in the previous ones, **Ms Sylvie Aboa-Bradwell** had overall responsibility for the day-to-day management of PCAP as an unpaid Executive Director. Her duties also included the implementation of the strategic goals and objectives of the organisation.

In addition, she participated on behalf of PCAP in many events and projects led by members of African communities. For instance, she is pictured above (second left) with fellow panellists at the launch of Sankofa Africa in February 2015, and below, handing out a prize as a judge of the British African Awards for Africa's Development in October 2015.



We are very grateful to the following individuals for helping PCAP as Research and Administration Volunteers throughout 2015-2016:

- **Ms Sophie Toke, BA:** March 2010 –present
- **Ms Sian Ndome Mafiamba:** February 2015 –present
- **Ms Nyasha Zororo:** Summer 2016

Policy Centre for African Peoples

Income and expenditure statement for the financial year 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016

<u>INCOME</u>	£	£
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Action for World Community: £501.29John McClintock: £1,800Sylvie A-Bradwell: £20.75		
Total Income		<u>2,322.04</u>
Sum Pre-existing in PCAP's Account	1.07	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
<u>3rd African Diaspora NY Lecture; Question Time in Medway; Pitching Africa to Young People</u>		
Transport, admin, publications and catering expenses related to the above projects	1,980	
Transport, general admin costs; telephone	340.36	
Total Expenditure		<u>2,320.36</u>
Money in PCAP's Account as of 31 st March 2016		<u>2.75</u>

CONTACT DETAILS

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