



# ATPS CONFLICT ANALYSIS POLICY

This policy outlines the principles, methodologies, and strategies for managing conflicts effectively.





# **ATPS CONFLICT ANALYSIS POLICY 2015**

## **African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS)**

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### Introduction and Rationale

The African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) is committed to fostering the generation, dissemination, and utilization of science, technology, and innovation (STI) for sustainable development in Africa. A crucial aspect of this commitment is understanding and mitigating conflicts that may arise within the contexts we operate. Conflicts, whether social, environmental, or economic, can significantly impede development efforts. This policy outlines the principles, methodologies, and strategies that ATPS will employ to analyze, prevent, and manage conflicts effectively, ensuring that our initiatives contribute positively to sustainable development and societal harmony.

### Definition of Key Terms

- **Conflict:** A serious disagreement or argument, typically a protracted one, that can arise from differences in interests, values, or objectives.
- **Conflict Analysis:** The systematic study of the profile, causes, actors, and dynamics of conflict.
- **Conflict Prevention:** Measures taken to identify and address potential sources of conflict to prevent escalation.
- **Conflict Management:** The process of limiting the negative aspects of conflict while increasing the positive aspects.
- **Stakeholders:** Individuals, groups, or organizations that have an interest or concern in the conflict or its resolution.
- **Mediation:** A method of conflict resolution in which a neutral third party helps the conflicting parties to reach a mutually satisfactory agreement.
- **Peacebuilding:** Activities undertaken to address the root causes of conflict and promote sustainable peace.

### Goals and Objectives

#### Goals

1. **Promote Peaceful Development:** Foster an environment conducive to peaceful and sustainable development.
2. **Understand Conflict Dynamics:** Gain a comprehensive understanding of conflict dynamics within our areas of operation.
3. **Enhance Conflict Sensitivity:** Integrate conflict sensitivity into all ATPS programs and activities.
4. **Support Conflict Resolution:** Provide tools and strategies for effective conflict resolution and peacebuilding.

## Objectives

1. **Establish Conflict Analysis Guidelines:** Develop and disseminate guidelines for conducting conflict analysis.
2. **Capacity Building:** Train staff and stakeholders on conflict analysis, prevention, and management.
3. **Implement Early Warning Systems:** Develop systems to detect and address emerging conflicts promptly.
4. **Engage Stakeholders:** Involve stakeholders in conflict analysis and resolution processes.
5. **Promote Collaborative Solutions:** Encourage collaborative approaches to conflict resolution and peacebuilding.
6. **Monitor and Evaluate:** Continuously monitor and evaluate conflict dynamics and the effectiveness of conflict management strategies.

## Policy Framework

### Conflict Analysis Guidelines

- **Contextual Analysis:** Conduct thorough contextual analyses to understand the historical, social, economic, and political factors contributing to conflicts.
- **Stakeholder Mapping:** Identify and map all relevant stakeholders, including their interests, relationships, and potential roles in the conflict.
- **Conflict Drivers:** Identify the primary drivers of conflict, including resource competition, governance issues, social inequalities, and external influences.
- **Conflict Dynamics:** Analyze the dynamics of the conflict, including escalation patterns, power balances, and potential triggers.
- **Impact Assessment:** Assess the potential impact of conflicts on ATPS initiatives and the broader community.

### Capacity Building

- **Training Programs:** Develop and implement training programs for staff and stakeholders on conflict analysis, conflict sensitivity, and conflict management.
- **Workshops and Seminars:** Organize workshops and seminars to share knowledge and best practices in conflict analysis and resolution.
- **Resource Materials:** Provide access to resource materials, guidelines, and tools to support conflict analysis and management efforts.

### Early Warning Systems

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- **Monitoring Mechanisms:** Establish mechanisms for monitoring conflict indicators and early warning signs.
- **Data Collection:** Collect and analyze data on potential conflict triggers and dynamics regularly.
- **Rapid Response Teams:** Develop rapid response teams to address emerging conflicts promptly and effectively.

### Stakeholder Engagement

- **Participatory Approach:** Engage stakeholders in the conflict analysis process to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the conflict.
- **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Build partnerships with local, national, and international organizations to support conflict prevention and resolution efforts.
- **Community Involvement:** Involve community members in conflict resolution processes to ensure that solutions are contextually appropriate and sustainable.

### Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding

- **Mediation and Facilitation:** Provide mediation and facilitation services to help conflicting parties reach mutually satisfactory agreements.
- **Dialogue and Negotiation:** Promote dialogue and negotiation as primary tools for conflict resolution.
- **Peacebuilding Initiatives:** Implement peacebuilding initiatives to address the root causes of conflict and promote long-term stability.
- **Reconciliation Processes:** Support reconciliation processes to rebuild trust and relationships between conflicting parties.

### Implementation Strategy

- **Leadership Commitment:** Ensure commitment from ATPS leadership to uphold and enforce the Conflict Analysis Policy.
- **Resource Allocation:** Allocate necessary resources, including funding and personnel, to support conflict analysis and management initiatives.
- **Policy Integration:** Integrate conflict analysis and management measures into all aspects of ATPS operations and decision-making processes.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Regularly review and update the policy to reflect evolving best practices and emerging threats.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

#### Monitoring

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- **Regular Audits:** Conduct regular audits to ensure compliance with conflict analysis and management policies and procedures.
- **Feedback Mechanisms:** Implement feedback mechanisms to gather input from staff, partners, and stakeholders on the effectiveness of conflict management measures.
- **Performance Indicators:** Develop and track performance indicators related to conflict analysis and management efforts.

### Evaluation

- **Annual Reviews:** Conduct annual reviews of the Conflict Analysis Policy and its implementation to identify areas for improvement.
- **Impact Assessment:** Assess the impact of conflict analysis and management initiatives on ATPS programs and the broader community.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Engage with stakeholders to evaluate the effectiveness of conflict analysis and resolution processes.

### Scope of Application

This policy applies to all ATPS staff, partners, and stakeholders involved in ATPS operations and activities.

Compliance with this policy is mandatory, and any breaches will be addressed promptly and decisively.

### Conclusion

The ATPS Policy on Conflict Analysis underscores our commitment to understanding and addressing conflicts that may arise within our operational contexts. By fostering a culture of peace, implementing robust conflict analysis methodologies, and engaging collaboratively with stakeholders, ATPS aims to contribute to sustainable development and societal harmony in Africa.



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## SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT

The African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) is a transdisciplinary network of researchers, policymakers, private sector actors and the civil society promoting the generation, dissemination, use and mastery of Science, Technology and Innovations (STI) for African development, environmental sustainability and global inclusion. In collaboration with like-minded institutions, ATPS provides platforms for regional and international research and knowledge sharing in order to build Africa's capabilities in STI policy research, policymaking and implementation for sustainable development.