

Demystifying the Power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding in Nigeria

Oluwasegun Ogunsakin, Samuel Seyilola Olawale and Temitope Elijah Akinola

Abstract

Artificial intelligence (AI) is increasingly positioned as a strategic resource in contemporary conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts, yet its deployment within Nigeria's volatile security landscape remains nascent and undertheorised. This study investigates the role of AI in Nigeria's conflict prevention and peacebuilding programming, with particular attention to its connection to existing conflict dynamics, its operational benefits, the barriers to its adoption, and the infrastructural requirements for its effective deployment. A quantitative survey design was employed, with structured questionnaires administered to 46 participants drawn from academic, governmental, non-governmental, and community sectors across Nigeria. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics to identify patterns in stakeholder perceptions and experiences. Findings indicate that although AI literacy is relatively high among respondents, practical integration of AI into peacebuilding programming remains significantly limited. AI demonstrates measurable potential across early warning systems, hate speech detection, and evidence-based conflict analysis. Critically, the study finds that AI's impact is governance-dependent: responsibly deployed within rights-respecting and data-governed frameworks, AI strengthens de-escalation and preventive capacities; where governance is weak or absent, it risks reinforcing surveillance overreach, disinformation, and communal polarisation. The study concludes that unlocking AI's full peacebuilding potential in Nigeria demands coordinated investment in digital infrastructure, context-sensitive and multilingual AI tools, and a robust legal-ethical governance architecture anchored in Nigeria's Data Protection Act 2023.

Keywords: AI, machine learning, conflict prevention, peacebuilding, Nigeria

Oluwasegun Ogunsakin, segunogunsakin4r@gmail.com, Department of Peace and Security, Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria. Samuel Seyilola Olawale, olawaleseyi5@gmail.com, Department of Political Science, Tai-Solarin Federal University of Education, Ijagun, Nigeria. Temitope Elijah Akinola, akinolaelijah290@gmail.com, Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

The Nigerian Journal of Business and Social Sciences, Volume 13, 2026 (Special Issue)
A Journal of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos, Nigeria
© 2026

1. Introduction

Nigeria continues to face complex and interconnected security challenges across its regions, reflecting diverse patterns of violence and instability (ACLED, 2022). These security threats can be broadly categorised into four thematic areas: insurgency and violent extremism, separatist agitations, resource-based militancy, and communal conflicts over land and livelihoods. In the northeast, the persistent threat of Islamist insurgency remains a major concern. Although military operations have weakened some extremist groups, the security landscape shifted significantly in 2021 with the growing strength and influence of the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) in the Lake Chad Basin (Maclean & Alfa, 2021). In the southeast, separatist violence associated with the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and its armed wing, the Eastern Security Network (ESN), has intensified. Established in December 2020, ESN claims to protect Igbo communities from perceived threats posed by Fulani militias and state violence. Still, its activities have contributed to rising insecurity and political violence across the region. A second category of insecurity is resource-driven militancy in the Niger Delta. Initially rooted in demands for political inclusion, environmental Justice, and equitable access to oil revenues, militant activities have increasingly evolved toward criminal enterprises, including oil theft, kidnapping, and organised violence. This transformation has complicated state responses and prolonged instability in the oil-producing region. A third category involves farmer-herder conflicts and militia violence, particularly across Nigeria's Middle Belt and north-central regions. Competition over land, water, and grazing routes—exacerbated by desertification, rapid population growth, and youth unemployment—has intensified clashes between predominantly Muslim pastoralists and Christian farming communities (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development BMZ, 2024). The devastating attacks on communities in Plateau State between December 2023 and January 2024, which resulted in more than 250 deaths, underscore the growing severity of these conflicts. The fourth category comprises armed banditry and criminal violence in the northwest and parts of north-central Nigeria. These groups have demonstrated increasing sophistication, including the ability to target military assets, evade security operations, and expand their activities across multiple states (Ewokor, 2021). Civilians continue to bear the greatest burden of these conflicts, often facing violence from both armed groups and security forces. For example, military operations targeting insurgents have occasionally resulted in civilian casualties, including the deaths of scores of non-combatants during airstrikes in 2021 (Chason & Alfa, 2021; Reuters, 2021). The diversity, frequency, and geographic spread of these security threats highlight the need for more proactive, predictive approaches to conflict prevention. Traditional security responses often respond to violence after it occurs, whereas data-driven early warning systems seek to identify risk indicators before crises escalate. In this regard, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is emerging as a transformative tool for conflict prevention and peacebuilding (Mandokhail, 2024). By integrating data from social media platforms, satellite imagery, mobile communications, incident reports, and community-based monitoring networks, AI can help identify emerging conflict hotspots, detect patterns of violence, forecast potential outbreaks, and support timely interventions. Various organisations increasingly utilise data-capture technologies, predictive analytics, and intelligence-gathering systems to understand recurring conflict dynamics and anticipate future crises. However, the growing reliance on digital technologies also raises concerns regarding data governance, privacy, accountability, and the role of private technology actors in security management (UNDPPA & Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, 2019). Recent advances in AI, particularly generative AI and machine learning technologies, have expanded the possibilities for conflict analysis, information

management, and peacebuilding. The rapid global adoption of tools such as ChatGPT demonstrates the transformative potential of AI-driven systems in processing and disseminating information (Albrecht, Fournier-Tombs, & Brubaker, 2024). For Nigerian security practitioners and peacebuilding actors, these technologies can enhance the collection, digitisation, storage, and analysis of data obtained from open sources, community informants, and monitoring platforms (Abilova & Novosseloff, 2016). AI can also support the monitoring of evolving armed groups, track online hate speech and incitement, identify emerging threats in cyberspace, and strengthen community-based early warning mechanisms.

Given Nigeria's complex security environment, integrating AI into conflict prevention frameworks offers significant opportunities to enhance early warning, risk assessment, and peacebuilding interventions. Therefore, this study examines the role of Artificial Intelligence in strengthening conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts in Nigeria, with particular attention to its capacity to support data-driven early warning systems and sustainable peacebuilding outcomes.

In understanding the issue of demystifying the Power of AI in conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria, the following research questions are considered for the study:

- i. To what extent does AI integration align with Nigeria's existing conflict prevention and peacebuilding frameworks, and what gaps exist in its current application?
- ii. What are the measurable benefits of AI tools in enhancing early warning systems, hate speech detection, and evidence-based decision-making for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria?
- iii. What institutional, infrastructural, and governance barriers constrain the effective deployment of AI tools in Nigeria's conflict prevention and peacebuilding programming?

2. Conceptual Clarifications

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to computational systems capable of performing tasks that typically require human intelligence, including learning, reasoning, pattern recognition, prediction, decision-making, and language processing (Russell & Norvig, 2021). In the context of conflict prevention and peacebuilding, AI is increasingly valued not merely as a technological innovation but as a strategic tool for anticipating, monitoring, and responding to security threats. For a country such as Nigeria, where insecurity manifests through insurgency, banditry, farmer-herder conflicts, separatist agitations, and communal violence, AI offers opportunities to strengthen early warning systems and support evidence-based interventions.

Several AI subfields are particularly relevant to conflict prevention. Machine Learning (ML) enables systems to identify patterns and trends from large datasets without explicit programming (Goodfellow, Bengio, & Courville, 2016). In Nigeria, ML can be applied to analyse historical conflict incidents, displacement patterns, crime reports, and socioeconomic indicators to predict potential hotspots of violence. Neural networks further enhance predictive capabilities by processing complex and multidimensional data, including satellite imagery and geospatial information, thereby supporting conflict mapping and risk assessment (LeCun, Bengio, & Hinton, 2015). Natural Language Processing (NLP) allows security agencies and peacebuilding organisations to monitor social media conversations, detect hate speech, identify inflammatory narratives, and track early signs of mobilisation toward violence (Jurafsky & Martin, 2021).

Similarly, AI-enabled surveillance technologies and autonomous systems can improve situational awareness in conflict-prone regions and support rapid responses to emerging threats (Siciliano & Khatib, 2016). Despite its potential, the deployment of AI in conflict settings raises concerns regarding privacy, algorithmic bias, misinformation, and accountability (Binns, 2018). In Nigeria's diverse socio-political environment, poorly designed AI systems could reinforce ethnic, religious, or regional biases if not carefully regulated. Consequently, effective governance frameworks are essential to ensure that AI contributes to human security, social cohesion, and sustainable peace rather than exacerbating existing tensions (Topol, 2019).

Conflict

Conflict is a dynamic process arising from perceived incompatibilities in interests, identities, values, resources, or goals among individuals and groups (Fisher, 2000). Within the Nigerian context, conflict extends beyond interpersonal disagreements to encompass communal, political, ethnic, religious, and resource-based struggles that shape the country's security landscape. Understanding conflict as a multidimensional phenomenon is essential for designing effective prevention strategies. The most significant forms of conflict in Nigeria are intergroup and societal conflicts. These include farmer-herder clashes across the Middle Belt, separatist movements in the Southeast, insurgency in the Northeast, and resource-related disputes in the Niger Delta. Such conflicts are often driven by competition over land and resources, identity-based grievances, political exclusion, environmental pressures, and weak governance structures (Hocker & Wilmot, 2017; Pruitt & Kim, 2004). Climate change, desertification, population growth, and unemployment further intensify these tensions by increasing competition for scarce resources. From a conflict prevention perspective, understanding conflict patterns is critical for identifying risk indicators and designing targeted interventions. AI-enhanced conflict analysis can support this process by detecting recurring patterns, mapping actor networks, analysing conflict narratives, and forecasting potential escalation points. Rather than viewing conflict solely as a security problem, contemporary prevention approaches recognise the need to address both immediate triggers and underlying structural drivers. This analytical understanding provides the foundation for preventive action and sustainable peacebuilding.

Conflict Prevention

Conflict prevention refers to deliberate actions aimed at reducing the likelihood of violent conflict or preventing existing tensions from escalating into violence (Lund, 2011). In Nigeria, conflict prevention is particularly relevant given the recurring nature of insecurity across multiple regions and the limitations of reactive military responses. Effective prevention requires both operational measures that address immediate threats and structural interventions that tackle the underlying causes of violence. Operational conflict prevention focuses on early warning, mediation, preventive diplomacy, and rapid response mechanisms. AI significantly enhances these efforts by improving the collection, analysis, and interpretation of real-time data from diverse sources, including social media platforms, community reports, satellite imagery, and security databases. Machine learning algorithms can identify unusual patterns, emerging threats, and geographic concentrations of violence before they escalate into large-scale crises. Such predictive capabilities strengthen existing early warning systems by enabling security agencies, policymakers, and peacebuilding organisations to intervene proactively rather than reactively. Structural conflict prevention addresses the root causes of violence, including poverty, inequality, political exclusion, unemployment, and weak governance (Krause, 2016). AI-generated insights can assist policymakers in identifying vulnerable communities, monitoring development indicators, and

allocating resources more effectively. By integrating technological innovation with governance reforms, social cohesion initiatives, and inclusive development programmes, conflict prevention efforts can become more targeted, evidence-based, and sustainable.

Peacebuilding

Peacebuilding encompasses long-term processes and interventions designed to address the underlying causes of conflict, strengthen social cohesion, and establish conditions for sustainable peace (Schirch, 2018). In Nigeria, peacebuilding extends beyond the cessation of violence to include rebuilding trust between communities, promoting inclusive governance, addressing grievances, and fostering social and economic resilience in conflict-affected areas. A central objective of peacebuilding is the transformation of relationships and institutions that contribute to recurring violence (Lederach, 1997). This objective is particularly relevant in regions affected by farmer-herder conflicts, communal violence, insurgency, and separatist tensions, where mistrust and social fragmentation often persist even after active violence subsides. Effective peacebuilding therefore requires continuous engagement among communities, traditional leaders, civil society organisations, government institutions, and security actors. Artificial intelligence can strengthen peacebuilding by providing data-driven insights into conflict dynamics, public perceptions, and community grievances. Through sentiment analysis, social network analysis, and predictive modelling, AI can help identify emerging tensions, evaluate the effectiveness of peace interventions, and support reconciliation efforts. Furthermore, AI-enabled platforms can facilitate communication among stakeholders, improve monitoring of peace agreements, and provide evidence to inform policy formulation. However, technological solutions must complement rather than replace local ownership and community participation, which remain essential for sustainable peace outcomes (Lee & Özerdem, 2015; Mac Ginty, 2022). In Nigeria's complex security environment, successful peacebuilding requires integrating AI-supported analysis with locally driven approaches that address structural inequalities, strengthen governance institutions, and promote inclusive development. Such a combination offers greater prospects for preventing the recurrence of violence and building resilient communities capable of managing disputes peacefully.

3. Related Literature Review

3.1 Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Nigeria's conflict prevention and peacebuilding issues

Nigeria has undoubtedly experienced unprecedented levels of insecurity over the last few years. Increased funding to the security and defence sectors to combat the current peace and security concerns is needed to win the war against insurgency, banditry, kidnapping, and other crimes, the Nigerian government has said (Jimoh, Okwe, Abuh, Daka & Afolabi, 2021). This has led the government to consider the threat to national security a major concern. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to revolutionise peacebuilding and conflict-resolution initiatives, according to Professor Ali Isa Pantami, former Minister of Communications and Digital Economy (Guardian Nigeria, 2024). The application of artificial intelligence (AI) is proving significant for preventing conflict and advancing peacebuilding in Nigeria in three ways: early warning, information integrity, and rights-aware governance. One data-driven capacity for early-warning systems is being built into national and regional systems in Nigeria. The National Early Warning Centre in Abuja, created by presidential decree on June 10, 2022, to operationalise ECOWAS obligations, serves as the hub where event reports, risk indicators, and geographic data are combined and evaluated to predict violence and guide swift action (Odunsi, 2022). That fusion layer can be strengthened with AI techniques, such as anomaly detection on event streams and NLP on incident

narratives, to help prioritise preventive action. AI models can be used to mine risk data across the ECOWAS region, such as ECOWARN data, to build pipelines that can detect escalation signals, including farmer–herder conflict, electoral violence, and climate-induced displacement.

Secondly, AI plays a key role in addressing misinformation and disinformation that fuel community conflict. Criminal actors like Boko haram, bandits, and others have long used social media like TikTok, Facebook, and X (formerly Twitter) to disseminate hate speech, incitement, and misinformation that incites intercommunal violence, ranging from polarised civic influencers to Boko Haram propaganda hubs (Whitfield, 2024). Large-language-model (LLM) tools and machine-learning classifiers can be used to help fact-checkers locate sources, to assist with pre-moderation, or to aid in the initial identification of dehumanising narratives in several major languages, including Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo, and Pidgin (Fontana, Zuccolotto, and Pierri, 2025). Based on the report and findings, coordinated online harms influence offline mobilisation. For example, there are focused digital peacebuilding efforts, such as the social media code of conduct agreed upon by communities in Plateau State, indicating that, together with AI-supported monitoring and rapid counter-speech, platform governance and mediation can prevent escalation and diffusion. (Adama 2021). Third, humanitarian & geospatial analytics facilitate safer, earlier interventions. Computer vision applied to satellite imagery, in addition to crowdsourced alerts, can help detect event-related burnings, abnormal nightly changes in Light, or shifts in cattle routes that precede a conflict. The signals are, in turn, fed to predictive models that trigger dialogue, de-escalation in the security sector, or protective actions. Policy studies emerging from Nigeria argue for mainstreaming AI-powered early warning systems into peacebuilding training and doctrine, emphasizing scenario-based exercises and human-in-the-loop verification to avoid false alarms.

Winning Nigeria's struggle against insurgency is becoming increasingly challenging. This is because insurgencies are primarily an information competition rather than a territorial ideology (Meserole, 2018). Nonetheless, the use of AI in Nigeria's conflict with armed herders and Boko Haram may be crucial to the outcome of the conflict (Nsude, 2022). For example, AI could speed up and scale military operations, enable autonomous operations, and improve military decision-making (Congressional Research Service [CRS], 2020). In practice, the most promising approach is "augmented peacebuilding," which involves AI tools that draw insights from patterns, alert to anomalies, and propose context-specific options while maintaining local decision-making authority for local peace actors and ensuring that the system meets ECOWAS–Nigeria's crisis response criteria with transparency, inclusive language, civil society oversight, and conformance (Olaoye, 2022). However, the use of AI for peace comes with risks. Imbalanced data, inadequate surveillance, or unclear evaluation of "risk communities" can all buttress discrimination and discourage freedom of expression. The importance of a strong legal framework that safeguards the individual and their privacy should be highlighted. For example, the Data Protection Act 2023 in Nigeria establishes a national commission, outlines data-subject rights, and provides guidelines for cross-border data transfers (KPMG, 2023). President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR (Banwo & Ighodalo, 2023), signed the Nigeria Data Protection Act, 2023, popularly referred to as 'the Act' or 'NDPA', into law on June 12, 2023. The Act replaces the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) Act's Nigerian Data Protection Regulations (NDPR) 2019 and the NDPR Implementation Framework 2019, providing the legal basis for data protection in Nigeria. The Nigeria Data Protection Commission (the Commission) and its Governing Council (the Council) are the key features of the Act. While the Council is tasked with formulating and providing overall policy direction for the affairs of the NDPC, the Commission will oversee the

implementation and enforcement of the rules and regulations outlined in the Act, regulate the processing of personal information, and handle other related matters. Policymakers and AI experts should conduct Data Protection Impact Assessments, minimise the use of personally identifiable information, and implement auditable model risk controls. These measures are crucial given the declining cost of generating fake and synthetic media, as generative AI can ratchet up tensions more quickly than authorities can respond.

3.2 The benefits of AI in conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria

To strengthen the analytical depth of this section, the discussion should move beyond the opportunities offered by AI and critically examine adoption gaps, institutional readiness, governance constraints, and unequal technological capacities across Nigerian stakeholders. The revised version below incorporates these dimensions. Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to the application of computer systems to tasks traditionally associated with human cognition, including learning, reasoning, planning, prediction, and decision-making. Increasingly, AI is shaping governance, security, and development processes worldwide, with growing implications for conflict prevention and peacebuilding (Amani Africa, 2024). In Nigeria, government institutions, civil society organisations (CSOs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and international development partners are beginning to explore AI applications to improve data analysis, service delivery, crisis response, and peacebuilding interventions (Asiegbu & Okolo, 2024). Recent advances in machine learning, a subset of AI that enables systems to learn patterns from large datasets and generate predictions without explicit programming, have particularly expanded opportunities for preventive action in fragile and conflict-affected settings. In the peace and security sector, AI has the potential to transform conflict prevention through enhanced early warning, risk forecasting, and conflict analysis. By processing large volumes of structured and unstructured data from social media, community reports, satellite imagery, security databases, and open-source intelligence, AI systems can identify emerging threats, detect patterns of violence, and support evidence-based decision-making. Such capabilities are particularly relevant in Nigeria, where multiple and overlapping threats, including insurgency, banditry, separatist violence, farmer-herder conflicts, communal clashes, and organised criminal networks, characterise insecurity.

One of the most significant applications of AI lies in improving forecasting and early warning mechanisms. Machine learning models can analyse historical conflict data and identify conditions associated with the escalation of political violence. Research on African conflict datasets demonstrates that machine learning approaches, including random forests and predictive analytics, often outperform traditional forecasting methods in identifying areas at heightened risk of violence (Musuma, Fatema, & Kibriya, 2021; D'Orazio & Lin, 2022). In Nigeria, such systems could assist government agencies, peacebuilding organisations, and humanitarian actors in anticipating conflict escalation in high-risk states and deploying preventive interventions before violence occurs. AI can also strengthen Nigeria's engagement with regional early warning frameworks. Through the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Early Warning and Response Network (ECOWARN), Nigeria participates in One of Africa's most extensive conflict-monitoring systems (Haken, Nasri, & Reece, 2024). AI technologies offer opportunities to integrate diverse data streams from platforms such as ACLED, Nigeria Watch, community monitoring networks, and humanitarian databases. Enhanced data fusion and automated analytics could improve the speed, accuracy, and relevance of early warning alerts while strengthening connections between warning systems and response mechanisms at federal, state, and community

levels. Another emerging application is Human-in-the-Loop AI (HITL), which combines automated data analysis with expert human oversight. Rather than replacing human decision-makers, HITL systems enable analysts to verify algorithmic findings and contextualise risk assessments. This approach is particularly relevant in Nigeria, where misinformation, hate speech, inflammatory narratives, and coordinated disinformation campaigns frequently contribute to political tensions and electoral violence. AI-assisted monitoring of social media platforms could help identify indicators of escalation, while human analysts ensure that local cultural, linguistic, and political contexts are adequately considered. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) have demonstrated the utility of such approaches for violence prevention and risk anticipation (UNDP & IEO, 2025).

Similarly, AI-enabled analysis of satellite imagery and geospatial data can support the identification of climate-security hotspots, migration pressures, and resource-related tensions. In regions such as the Middle Belt and Northwest Nigeria, where competition over land, water, and grazing resources often fuels conflict, predictive mapping can assist policymakers, mediators, and humanitarian actors in targeting interventions before disputes escalate into violence (Anand & He, 2023). AI can also support ceasefire monitoring, humanitarian corridor planning, population displacement tracking, and crisis-response coordination in conflict-affected communities.

Beyond prediction and monitoring, AI offers opportunities for more efficient allocation of peacebuilding resources. AI-powered dashboards can prioritise cases, model alternative intervention scenarios, and support decision-making regarding mediation, dialogue, and reconciliation initiatives. Emerging approaches such as digital twin simulations allow policymakers and practitioners to test the potential effects of different interventions before implementation, thereby reducing costs and improving programme effectiveness (Gilbert, 2023). AI can also facilitate organisational learning by synthesising large volumes of evaluation data and identifying patterns regarding what peacebuilding interventions are most effective under specific conditions. Such capabilities could strengthen feedback loops between early warning systems and response mechanisms in conflict-affected states such as Benue, Plateau, Borno, and Zamfara. Nigeria's 2024 National Artificial Intelligence Strategy provides an important policy framework for advancing responsible AI adoption through investments in data infrastructure, governance systems, skills development, and innovation ecosystems. The strategy's emphasis on partnerships, ethical standards, and institutional capacity-building presents opportunities for adapting AI technologies to conflict prevention and peacebuilding objectives. If effectively implemented, these initiatives could support collaboration among security agencies, the Ministry of Interior, civil society organisations, research institutions, and regional partners such as ECOWAS. However, the transformative potential of AI must be balanced against significant adoption challenges and institutional constraints. Despite growing enthusiasm around AI, institutional readiness across Nigeria's peace and security ecosystem remains uneven. Federal government agencies generally possess greater access to technical expertise, digital infrastructure, and financial resources than state governments, local authorities, civil society organisations, and community-based peace actors. Many local organisations operating in conflict-affected areas lack the computational resources, data management systems, and specialised personnel required to deploy advanced AI tools effectively. Consequently, there is a risk that AI adoption could reinforce existing inequalities between well-resourced national institutions and under-resourced local actors who are often closest to emerging conflicts. Data quality and availability present additional challenges. Effective AI systems depend on reliable, representative, and continuously updated datasets. However, conflict

data in Nigeria often suffers from underreporting, geographic imbalances, political sensitivities, and inconsistent collection methodologies. In remote and insecure communities, limited internet connectivity and weak digital infrastructure further constrain real-time data collection. These limitations may reduce the accuracy of AI-generated predictions and risk assessments, particularly in underserved regions where conflict prevention is most needed.

Institutional coordination also remains a significant barrier. Existing early warning systems frequently struggle to translate risk information into timely action due to bureaucratic fragmentation, overlapping mandates, and weak coordination among government agencies, security institutions, humanitarian actors, and civil society organisations. AI can improve the generation of warnings, but it cannot automatically resolve political and institutional obstacles that hinder preventive responses. Without clear governance structures and accountability mechanisms, improved prediction may not necessarily translate into improved prevention.

Moreover, AI introduces new risks that could undermine peacebuilding objectives if left unregulated. Generative AI technologies can facilitate the creation and dissemination of misinformation, deepfakes, hate speech, and inflammatory content that can exacerbate existing tensions. During elections and periods of political instability, manipulated audio, video, and text content may intensify polarisation and erode public trust. AI systems may also reproduce existing social biases if trained on incomplete or discriminatory datasets, potentially leading to biased threat assessments or unequal treatment of certain communities. Concerns regarding privacy, surveillance, cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and the militarisation of AI technologies further highlight the need for robust ethical safeguards and regulatory oversight.

Therefore, while AI offers considerable opportunities for strengthening conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria, its effectiveness will depend not only on technological innovation but also on institutional readiness, data governance, human capacity development, and inclusive access. Addressing disparities in technological capability between government agencies, civil society organisations, and local peace actors is essential if AI is to contribute meaningfully to sustainable peace and security. Rather than viewing AI as a substitute for human expertise and local knowledge, its greatest value lies in complementing existing conflict prevention mechanisms through responsible, context-sensitive, and inclusive implementation.

3.3 Challenges in applying AI tools in conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria.

Emerging AI technologies offer significant opportunities for conflict prevention and peacebuilding; they also present complex challenges that may undermine peace efforts if not carefully governed. In Nigeria, local peacebuilding initiatives have historically relied on dialogue, trust-building, community mediation, and inclusive governance mechanisms to address drivers of conflict and promote social cohesion. The introduction of AI into these processes presents a paradox. On the one hand, AI can strengthen conflict analysis, facilitate communication, and improve early warning systems. On the other hand, it can intensify polarisation, amplify misinformation, and weaken trust if deployed without adequate safeguards. Consequently, the effectiveness of AI in peacebuilding depends not only on technological capability but also on institutional readiness, governance frameworks, and the broader political context in which these tools operate. One major challenge concerns language barriers, data poverty, and data quality. Effective AI systems require large volumes of representative, accurate, and continuously updated data. However, conflict-related information in Nigeria remains fragmented across multiple platforms, including ECOWARN, WANEP, ACLED, Nigeria Watch, the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), security agencies, and civil society monitoring networks. Differences

in data collection methodologies, reporting standards, verification procedures, and geographic coverage often complicate data integration and validation processes. As a result, AI systems may struggle to generate reliable predictions when trained on incomplete, inconsistent, or biased datasets. Existing regional analyses indicate that a significant gap remains between data collection processes and operational response mechanisms, raising concerns about the practical utility of predictive models in conflict prevention (Haken, Nasri, & Reece, 2024).

The limited availability of high-quality linguistic datasets in Hausa, Yorùbá, Igbo, Fulfulde, Kanuri, Tiv, and other Nigerian languages compounds these challenges. Most AI and Natural Language Processing (NLP) systems remain heavily dependent on English-language data, limiting their ability to detect local idioms, coded language, rumours, hate speech, and incitement that frequently precede outbreaks of violence (Inuwa-Dutse, 2025). Since many conflict signals emerge through informal community communication rather than formal digital channels, linguistic underrepresentation creates blind spots in AI-driven early warning systems.

Digital inequality further constrains AI adoption. Effective conflict-monitoring systems rely on timely digital reporting from affected communities. However, internet access, smartphone ownership, digital literacy, and access to AI-enabled platforms remain unevenly distributed across Nigeria. Rural populations, women, low-income households, and communities most affected by farmer-herder conflicts often have limited access to digital infrastructure. As of early 2024, household internet penetration remained uneven, while gender and urban-rural digital divides continued to affect participation in digital information ecosystems (Kemp, 2024; De Simone & Manolio, 2024). Consequently, AI systems risk overrepresenting the perspectives of digitally connected populations while underrepresenting communities facing the highest levels of insecurity. Another major concern involves adversarial manipulation, misinformation, and disinformation. Armed groups, political actors, and criminal networks increasingly exploit social media and generative AI technologies to disseminate false information, spread hate speech, manipulate public opinion, and incite violence. AI-generated content, including deepfakes, synthetic audio, and fabricated images, can undermine trust in information ecosystems and complicate conflict-monitoring efforts. Moreover, adversaries continuously adapt their tactics to evade detection, creating an ongoing technological arms race between peacebuilding actors and those seeking to exploit digital platforms for destabilising purposes (Africa Centre for Strategic Studies, 2022; 2024). These dynamic highlights the limitations of relying solely on automated detection systems and reinforces the need for human oversight and contextual analysis.

The use of AI for monitoring and surveillance also raises important human rights concerns. In contexts where citizens already experience distrust toward state institutions, poorly regulated AI systems may contribute to perceptions of surveillance, profiling, or political targeting. False positives generated by predictive models may stigmatise entire communities, increase social tensions, or expose informants and vulnerable populations to retaliation. Without robust safeguards relating to transparency, proportionality, accountability, and due process, AI-enabled monitoring tools risk undermining public trust and weakening the legitimacy of peacebuilding interventions (U.S. Department of State, 2024; African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, 2025).

Governance and privacy challenges further complicate AI adoption. Although the Nigeria Data Protection Act (2023) provides an important legal foundation for responsible data management, implementation and compliance capacities remain uneven across government agencies, civil society organisations, and private-sector actors. The requirements for informed consent, data minimisation, secure storage, and privacy protection can complicate the sharing of sensitive

conflict data among institutions. Recent enforcement actions and investigations conducted by the Nigerian Data Protection Commission (NDPC) illustrate the growing importance of compliance and accountability in data governance (Aimuengheuwa, 2025). Yet many organisations engaged in peacebuilding lack the technical expertise to conduct Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs), implement role-based access controls, or securely manage sensitive datasets (Ugbedeajo, 2025). Beyond technical and governance challenges, institutional fragmentation represents One of the most significant obstacles to effective AI-enabled conflict prevention in Nigeria. The country's conflict prevention architecture involves multiple actors, including security agencies, the National Orientation Agency, the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), state peacebuilding agencies, civil society organisations, traditional institutions, humanitarian actors, and regional organisations such as ECOWAS and WANEP. These actors often operate under different mandates, reporting structures, and operational procedures. As a result, information sharing is frequently inconsistent, response responsibilities remain unclear, and opportunities for coordinated action are often missed. AI can improve risk detection, but it cannot automatically resolve institutional fragmentation or political coordination failures. Without clearly defined responsibilities, response thresholds, and accountability mechanisms, early warning systems risk becoming sophisticated alert-generation platforms with limited practical impact.

Cross-border coordination challenges further affect the effectiveness of AI-supported early warning systems. Many of Nigeria's contemporary security threats—including terrorism, arms trafficking, cattle rustling, human trafficking, and transnational organised crime—operate across national borders and involve actors moving between Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Cameroon, and the Benin Republic. Although ECOWARN provides a regional framework for monitoring conflict trends, differences in national reporting systems, data-sharing regulations, technological capacities, and political priorities often limit the seamless exchange of information. Variations in data quality and reporting frequency across member states can reduce the effectiveness of AI models that depend on integrated regional datasets. Consequently, strengthening AI-supported conflict prevention requires not only national investments but also greater regional interoperability, harmonised reporting standards, and stronger institutional cooperation among ECOWAS member states. Closely linked to these challenges is the issue of data standardisation. AI systems function most effectively when datasets are structured according to common definitions, indicators, and classification systems. However, conflict data generated by ECOWARN, ACLED, Nigeria Watch, security agencies, humanitarian organisations, and community monitoring networks often differ in terminology, coding practices, temporal coverage, and verification procedures. These inconsistencies create significant barriers to data fusion and machine-learning applications. Without greater standardisation of conflict indicators, event classifications, metadata protocols, and reporting formats, AI-driven analytics may produce inaccurate or conflicting outputs, reducing their value for operational decision-making.

A further challenge concerns the transition from warning to response. The effectiveness of conflict prevention depends not only on detecting risks but also on ensuring timely and coordinated interventions. In Nigeria, response mechanisms are frequently constrained by bureaucratic delays, resource shortages, overlapping mandates, and unclear operational procedures. The absence of clearly defined protocols specifying who should act, when, and how they should respond can undermine the utility of even the most sophisticated AI-generated alerts. Strengthening feedback loops between early warning and early response actors, therefore, remains a critical priority for both Nigeria and the wider ECOWAS region (Haken et al., 2024).

Finally, sustaining AI-enabled peacebuilding requires substantial investments in human capital and institutional capacity. The successful implementation of Nigeria's National AI Strategy will depend on the availability of specialists in machine learning, geospatial analytics, conflict analysis, local-language NLP, monitoring and evaluation, data governance, and human-in-the-loop operations. However, such expertise remains scarce within many peacebuilding organisations and government institutions. Reliance on externally funded pilot projects also raises concerns regarding long-term sustainability, local ownership, and institutional resilience once donor support ends.

Taken together, these challenges demonstrate that the principal barriers to AI-enabled conflict prevention in Nigeria are not purely technological. Rather, they involve interconnected issues of institutional fragmentation, cross-border coordination, data standardisation, governance capacity, digital inclusion, and public trust. Unless these structural constraints are addressed, AI risks becoming another layer of technological infrastructure that generates sophisticated forecasts without substantially improving preventive action. The future effectiveness of AI in Nigeria's peacebuilding architecture will therefore depend on its integration into coordinated institutional frameworks, standardised regional data systems, inclusive digital ecosystems, and clearly defined response mechanisms that connect early warning to meaningful action.

4. The infrastructure in making AI viable tools for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria

Conflict prevention and peacebuilding programming in Nigeria can be effective when the right approach and infrastructure for artificial intelligence (AI) are in place. The effectiveness and deployment must be evaluated in Light of critical foundations that have made the following infrastructure available to Nigeria: Connectivity to deliver action and receive data. AI systems are only useful if there is reliable connectivity to share action and receive data among security agencies, local peace committees, and field monitors. While mobile networks are improving in Nigeria, conflict-prone local government areas (LGAs) still lack robust 4G and last-mile coverage, with low 5G penetration and uneven rural reach (Africa Telecom Review, 2025). While operators report high "availability", there is a service disparity between urban and rural areas, and peace networks need to be ready for multi-carrier SIMs, offline-first apps and fallbacks for USSD/SMS (Wyrzykowski, 2025). In-country (and regional) compute and cloud capacity: Scalable GPUs/TPUs and secure hosting to run NLP models for Hausa, Yorùbá, and Igbo, and geospatial pipelines for hotspot mapping (Mordor Intelligence, 2025). With the expansion of Nigeria's data centre presence in Lagos (e.g., Equinix, Africa Data Centres, Rack Centre), latency has decreased, and sensitive workloads can remain onshore, which is crucial for lawful processing and confidence. To reduce the risk of concentration in a single city, public policy must continue to support Tier III/IV facilities outside Lagos. Early warning and response-regulated data layer: Interoperable data from ECOWARN, the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), state commissioners, and CSOs (such as WANEP) are vital to Peace AI. Standards schemas, Application Programming Interfaces (APIs), deduplication, and quality assurance were needed to feed incident, misinformation, displacement, and climate data into common models and return actionable tasks in Nigeria. Regional research identifies the challenge of linking early warning to early response, rather than dashboards (Haken, Nasri, and Reece, 2024), meaning data architecture needs to capture "who acts when" – not only the "who" and "when" of the warning and response.

Collecting ground reports alongside satellite imagery (rainfall/vegetation stress, access routes, settlement changes): Government, CSOs, and other actors involved in peacebuilding are increasingly combining ground reports with satellite imagery. While Nigeria demands reliable pipelines, storage, and trained analysts embedded within state and federal institutions, Nigeria can benefit from the Digital Earth Africa offerings such as Sentinel, Landsat derivatives and national Earth-observation initiatives like nationwide mapping of farmland using Artificial Intelligence (AI) under NASRDA (Adepoju, 2025; Digital Earth Africa, 2025).

Workflows for Machine Learning Operations (MLOps) and institutional "situation rooms": The government of Nigeria (including state governments) must house the hardware and models in early-warning situation rooms that use human-in-the-loop triage, versioned models, continuous review, and ticketing to send alerts to responders. The rooms were introduced and updated in Nigeria through IPCR and its allies, which include incident taxonomies, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and safe integration with state peace commissioners, all of which are required to scale the rooms (IPCR, 2024; Abeku; Ani, 2024). Privacy-preserving designs (e.g., role-based access, DPIAs, consent records, encryption) and data governance: For sensitive reports to be shared legally, trustworthy peace tech requires privacy-preserving designs, including but not limited to role-based access, DPIAs, consent records, and encryption. Enforcement – such as fines and thorough investigations – suggests a higher standard of compliance in the future for any AI pipeline processing private or sensitive data, with the NDPC and Nigeria's Data Protection Act 2023 providing the framework. The first step in designing for compliance is for program teams to incorporate it into their processes from the beginning. Language AI tools and resources: To make AI useful for hate-speech monitoring and mediation, investments are needed in open corpora, speech-to-text models, diacritical tokenisers, evaluation sets, labelling algorithms, and community reviewers. This means that classifiers are consistently used across Hausa, Yorùbá, Igbo, Pidgin, and minority languages. A recent report by Inuwa-Dutse (2025) highlights the resource gap and the need for shared, public datasets and benchmarks. Interactive labs and talent pipelines: Engineers, data stewards, geospatial analysts, and domain experts need to work together to achieve AI for peace. The National AI Strategy and the 3 million Technical Talent (3MTT) initiative can provide resources for practitioners when linked to actual concerns of conflict data (Kaduna's EWER work provides a framework) (NITDA/NCAIR, 2024; 3 million Technical Talent, n.d; United Nations, 2024). AI has the potential to become a viable and sustainable solution for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria, but this will require the right infrastructure to be put in place. Providing adequate infrastructure for AI will facilitate the implementation of action-oriented objectives in the conflict prevention and peacebuilding (CPPB) agenda, especially in Nigeria, which is considered a high-risk zone for attacks and humanitarian crises. While algorithms are powerful tools for risk prediction, early warning signal detection, and quick response, more than just algorithms are required. There is a need for robust geospatial and sensing systems, adequate computer and data centre facilities, reliable connectivity between rural and urban areas, and robust language resources for Nigeria's multilingual environment.

5. Methodology

This study employed a quantitative research design to investigate stakeholder perceptions of artificial intelligence (AI) in conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria. The quantitative approach was selected for its capacity to measure the breadth and distribution of opinion across a defined population of peacebuilding and security actors, generating evidence that is both comparable across respondent categories and relevant to policy discourse at national and subnational levels. Primary data were collected through a structured questionnaire administered via an online Google Form. The instrument was organised around four thematic clusters corresponding to the study's research questions, covering AI's alignment with Nigeria's conflict prevention frameworks, its operational benefits, the institutional and infrastructural barriers to its adoption, and the governance conditions necessary for its responsible deployment. Content validity was ensured through expert review, whereby scholars and practitioners in peace and security studies assessed all questionnaire items for relevance, clarity, and alignment with the study's objectives prior to administration. Participants were selected through purposive sampling, yielding a total of 46 respondents drawn from four institutional categories: academic researchers, government officials, non-governmental organisation practitioners, and community-based peacebuilding actors. Purposive sampling was adopted, given the specialised nature of the subject matter, to ensure that all participants possessed direct knowledge of or operational engagement with AI technologies, conflict prevention, or peacebuilding programming in Nigeria. This criterion-driven approach prioritised analytical depth and sectoral representativeness over probabilistic generalisability. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, specifically frequency counts and percentage distributions, to identify patterns in respondents' perceptions across all thematic areas. Findings are presented through figures and frequency tables that document stakeholders' views on AI's peacebuilding potential, adoption barriers, and governance requirements in Nigeria's conflict-prevention landscape.

6. Analysis and Discussion of Findings

This section presents the findings and discussions on demystifying artificial intelligence in conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria. Forty-three (43) participants responded to the shared Google survey. The participants include academics, AI experts, nongovernmental organisations, individuals, and community leaders. This diversity ensured that the data captured perspectives from practitioners, scholars, and individuals directly engaged in policy formulation and technology application. The analysis and discussions also require demographic data to ensure critical issues are addressed, including recommendations that support the study's national conflict prevention and peacebuilding programming.

6.1 Respondents' Demographics

Figure 4.1 illustrates the age distribution of the respondents, with the largest share of respondents being young people (between 25 and 34 years) and middle-aged adults (between 35 and 44 years), highlighting the active participation and contributions of young people and middle-aged adults in the field of technology, peacebuilding and conflict prevention in Nigeria. The very small number of participants in the under-25 and 45-and-over age bands indicates that this group is an important subset of those using AI for conflict prevention. Figure 4.2 shows that most respondents were male, while a smaller but significant proportion were female. The age and gender distribution of the survey indicate that a substantial number of young males dominate the conversation towards artificial intelligence (AI), conflict prevention, and peacebuilding programming in Nigeria. Moreover, the contributions of female respondents and participants highlight the benefits of

inclusive involvement in shaping technology-driven conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the country.

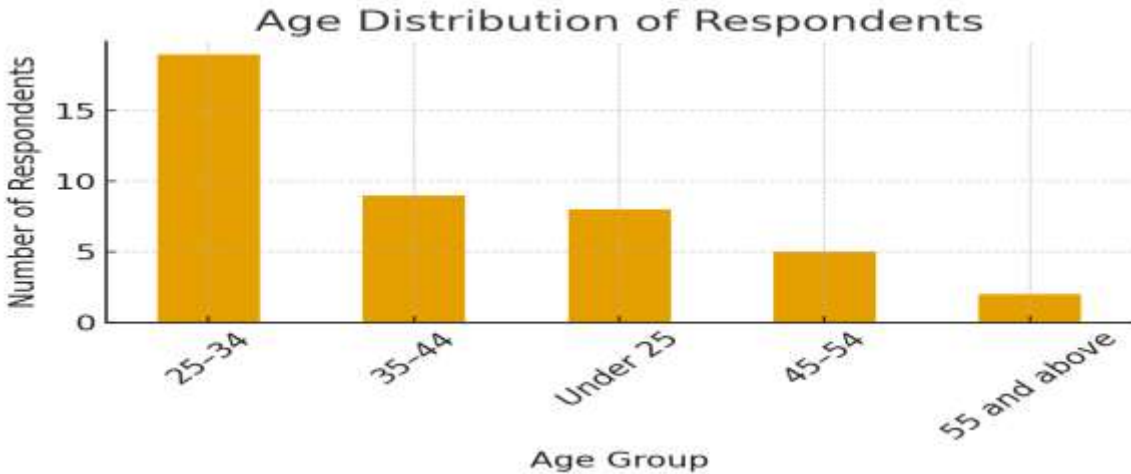


Figure 4.1: Age Distribution of Respondents

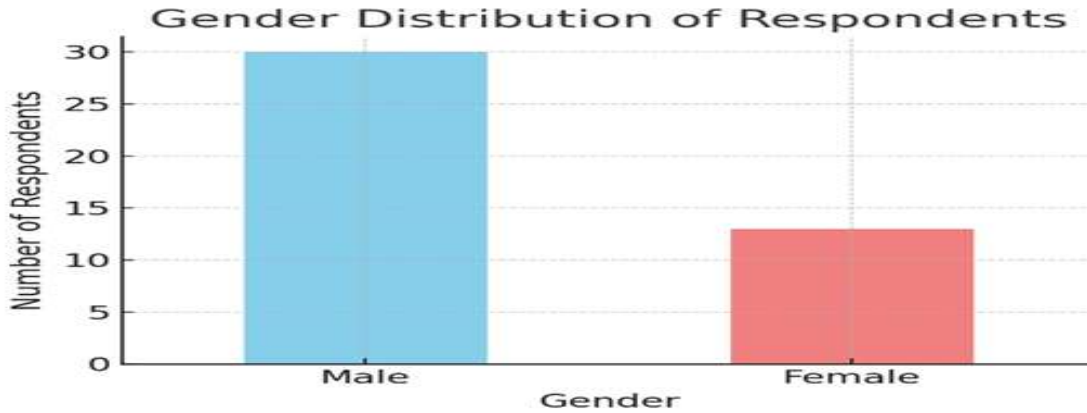


Figure 4.2: Gender Distribution of Respondents

6.2 To what extent does AI integration align with Nigeria's existing conflict prevention and peacebuilding frameworks, and what gaps exist in its current application?

Findings show that while awareness of AI is high among respondents, its practical application in peacebuilding in Nigeria remains limited. A large majority of participants (72.1%) reported being "very familiar" with Artificial Intelligence, and the remaining 27.9% described themselves as "somewhat familiar", indicating strong conceptual knowledge of AI among the sample (See Figure 4.3). However, only 37.2% said they had seen or heard AI being used in peacebuilding or conflict-prevention programming in Nigeria, while 44.2% said no, and 18.6% were unsure (See Figure 4.4). Additionally, when asked whether they had seen or heard of AI being used in peacebuilding or conflict prevention in Nigeria, a significant number answered "Yes". Examples cited include the use of AI in border surveillance, airport security, and during movements like #EndSARS.

How familiar are you with Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

43 responses

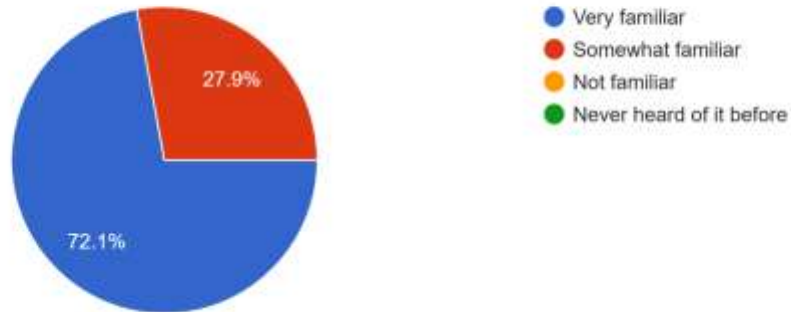


Figure 4.3: How Familiar are you with AI?

However, this indicates that while AI adoption in peacebuilding is still on the rise, respondents recognize its connection to security technologies and digital monitoring tools that are already in use in Nigeria. The responses suggest that AI is not an abstract concept but a practical tool that can complement early warning systems, digital surveillance, and social media monitoring to prevent conflict escalation.

Have you seen or heard of AI being used in peacebuilding or conflict prevention programming in Nigeria?

43 responses

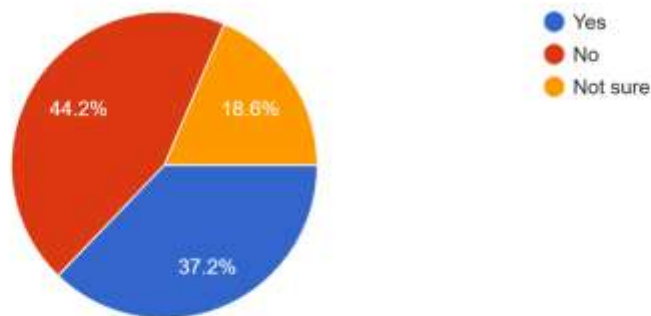


Figure 4.4: Have you seen or heard of AI being used in peacebuilding and conflict prevention programming in Nigeria?

Despite this gap, confidence in AI's potential is high. Over 90% of respondents described AI as either "very helpful" (58.1%) or "somewhat helpful" (32.6%) in addressing conflict-related issues (See Figure 4.5). Similarly, 72.1% rated AI's potential as high or very high, showing a strong belief that it could transform Nigeria's peacebuilding landscape. Respondents noted AI's usefulness in early-warning systems, monitoring online hate speech, and data-driven policymaking, all of which

align with scholarly arguments that AI can support conflict prevention through predictive analytics and surveillance (Ndzana, 2025; Kimaita; Irungu, 2024).

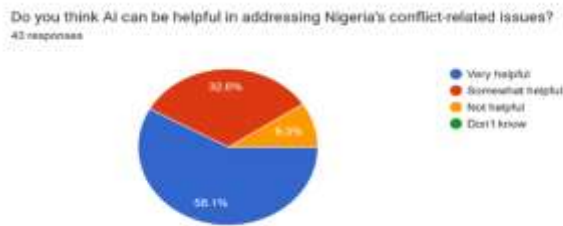


Figure 4.5: Opinion on Usefulness of AI in addressing Nigeria's conflict-related issues

Figure 4.6 reflected that respondents' insights indicated the global development and acceptable usefulness of AI in conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria. For example, adopting AI systems such as ViEW and the ACLED Conflict Alert System (CAST) can support the prediction of instability and other conflict-sensitive programming in Nigeria (ACLED, n.d.). In the Nigerian context, civic-tech platforms such as Bimi, an AI-powered chatbot created by BudgIT to make government data more accessible, and the Misinformation Early Warning System (MEWS) (Oludiran; Odetayo, 2025; Oluyori, 2025). According to Oluyori (2025), the MEWS tool provides real-time fact-checking, language accessibility, and learning engagement to regular users, particularly those in vulnerable groups and homes where English is not the primary language. It is powered by artificial intelligence and is built for low-cost deployment.

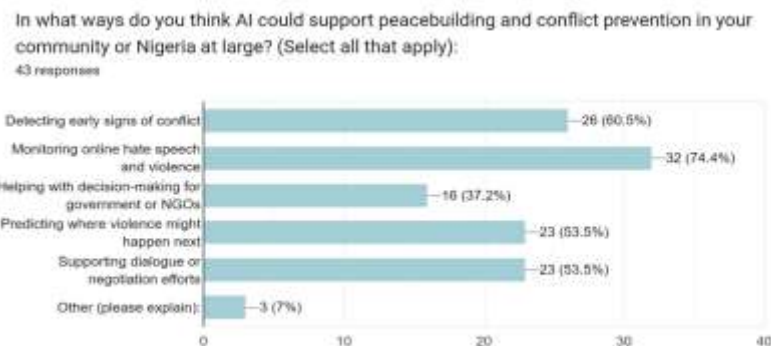


Figure 4.6: Ways AI support peacebuilding and conflict prevention in Nigeria

4.3 What are the measurable benefits of AI tools in enhancing early warning systems, hate speech detection, and evidence-based decision-making for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria?

Figure 4.7 data indicate that respondents see Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a valuable tool for advancing Nigeria's conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts. A substantial 69.8% of respondents strongly identified a better understanding of the causes and patterns of conflict as a

core benefit of AI. In comparison, 58.1% emphasized its vital role in making reliable, informed decisions and generating more accurate data and analysis. Similarly, 48.8% agreed that artificial intelligence (AI) could reduce dependency on human bias and opinions, making conflict prevention and peacebuilding more evidence-based. Furthermore, 46.5% believed that AI could significantly aid local nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) and government agencies in planning more effective interventions.

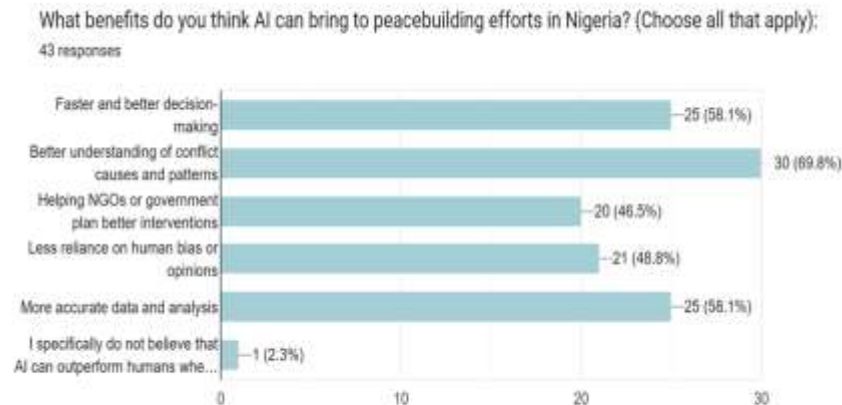


Figure 4.7: Benefits of AI to Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention in Nigeria

The above findings demonstrate that respondents view AI as a technical innovation and a strategic enabler of conflict-sensitive and peacebuilding programming in Nigeria. For instance, One respondent noted that artificial intelligence's (AI's) ability to process vast datasets quickly could support the tracking of early warning signs of violent conflicts and monitoring of online hate speech, complementing human-based intelligence. Another respondent emphasized that AI could provide policymakers with timely insights to de-escalate tensions before they escalate into full-blown conflicts, particularly in regions such as Nigeria's Middle Belt.

4.4 What institutional, infrastructural, and governance barriers constrain the effective deployment of AI tools in Nigeria's conflict prevention and peacebuilding programming?

Figure 4.8 shows some barriers/challenges that might affect the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the conflict prevention and peacebuilding process in Nigeria. The lack of digital infrastructure, including stable networks, internet connectivity and reliable electricity, was among the main obstacles mentioned by many respondents. The challenge is especially stark in rural and conflict-affected communities, where AI-powered monitoring and early warning systems are most needed. Likewise, there was a high level of awareness of the need for sufficient local data to train AI systems. AI tools can only be accurate and effective when trained on Nigeria-specific data, particularly in local languages. There were concerns about the potential for misuse or bias, with some respondents fearing that AI could be exploited for surveillance or exacerbate social disparities if not properly controlled. Additionally, a low level of understanding of AI among local actors was identified as a major barrier, with 65% noting this, and the high cost of implementing AI tools was also cited as another challenge, at 47%. In line with that, Scholars such as Binns (2018) argue that while AI promises great benefits, the absence of data governance, inclusivity,

and infrastructure can turn it into a liability. Autesserre and Leymah (2021) also emphasise that peace technologies must be tailored to local realities to prevent exclusion and mistrust.

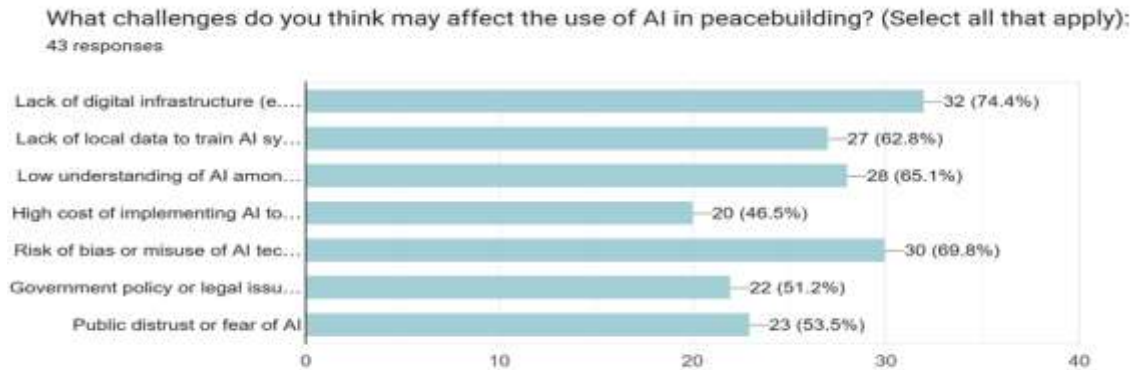


Figure 4.8 Challenges affecting the use of AI in peacebuilding in Nigeria

4.5 What is the infrastructure for making AI viable tools for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria?

The survey results offer a few critical enablers for the successful use of AI to prevent and build peace in Nigeria. The importance of political commitment, long-term investment, and good governance was highlighted by many respondents, who saw fragmentation and instability as potential risks if there is no government support for AI implementation. Others stressed the importance of training local personnel and building capacity to design and adapt AI systems to Nigerian realities. Others noted that the government should partner with countries that are successfully integrating AI for peacebuilding. A notable response noted "Support Peace Education and Digital Literacy Initiatives: Inclusivity of IT Education and peace Education at all levels should empower the people on how they can be fitted into the global reality of artificial intelligence. This is particularly important, as practitioners' capacity needs to be strengthened to adapt to the use of these AI tools.

The Creation of strong digital infrastructure, such as secure data storage systems, reliable and accessible electricity, and other key elements, was also a key recommendation. Respondents' representatives said these fundamental elements are essential for the effective use of AI tools, such as early warning systems, real-time conflict monitoring, and hate speech detection on social media. Another demand was for locally oriented AI designs, as per the respondents. Some highlighted the need for AI tools to be contextually relevant, including the use of Nigerian languages (Yoruba, Igbo, Hausa and others), socio-cultural perspectives, and indigenous conflict-resolution mechanisms. This is undergirded by Lederach's (1997) peacebuilding approach, which focuses on local ownership and cultural sensitivity.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Conclusion

This study reviewed the potential contribution of Artificial Intelligence (AI) toward conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria, which is beset by several overlapping security challenges such as insurgency, banditry, farmer-herder conflicts, separatist agitations, communal violence and organised criminal activities. The analysis shows that AI has great potential to boost conflict prevention through predictive analytics, data mining, geospatial mapping, social media monitoring, and early warning systems. AI can help sift through information from different sources to identify conflict risks better, support timely action, and allocate scarce peacebuilding resources more effectively. The study also found that AI can enhance Nigeria's conflict prevention architecture by ensuring linkages between early warning and early response, supporting regional early warning systems such as ECOWARN, and providing evidence-based support for peacebuilding in Nigeria. Machine learning, natural language processing, geospatial analytics and Human-in-the-Loop (HITL) systems present opportunities to identify emerging threats, track hate speech and disinformation, map climate security threats, and assess and refine peacebuilding programmes. The capabilities suggest that AI can support ongoing peace and security efforts by providing analytical assistance more rapidly, accurately, and at a larger scale. The results indicate that despite AI's potential to reduce the likelihood of violent conflict, major structural, institutional, and technological barriers remain. The lack of data fragmentation, fragmented tools for conflict monitoring, lack of local-language datasets, uneven digital access, institutional fragmentation, weak coordination among stakeholders, and poor governance frameworks continue to inhibit the usefulness of AI-based systems for operations. A key finding of the study is the issue of privacy, algorithmic bias, misinformation, surveillance risks, and the potential for misuse of AI technologies by state and non-state actors. AI should not be considered a techno-solution to conflict on its own, but rather a complementary tool, in which human judgment, local knowledge, institutional capacity, and political commitment are the key factors that ensure the effectiveness of its use. The analysis also shows that, for AI to be adopted in Nigeria, technological readiness is not the most immediate issue; rather, the larger ecosystem in which the technologies operate is. More robust data governance systems, harmonisation of conflict data standards, better cross-border information sharing, investment in digital infrastructure, and improved multi-sectoral cooperation and collaboration among government, civil society, research institutions, and regional actors will be essential for successful deployment. Another crucial aspect is the Creation of local knowledge to design, adapt, and manage AI systems in a culturally and linguistically responsive manner in Nigeria. This study is subject to several limitations, however. First, the research consists mainly of quantitative data. It is largely based on numbers and graphs, policy documents, and the literature, rather than on mixed-methods interviews. It focuses on implementing AI-enabled peacebuilding initiatives in Nigeria. Second, the study is largely confined to Nigeria and ECOWAS-related projects, making it difficult to extrapolate its findings to other conflict contexts with varying institutional and technological contexts. Lastly, the available data and their quality in the context of conflict in Nigeria remain inconsistent, limiting the possibility of robust conclusions about the long-term impacts of AI interventions in real-world peacebuilding. The study, however, finds that AI has great potential to enhance conflict prevention and peacebuilding when used responsibly and inclusively in Nigeria. The Nigerian government should adopt strong legal and regulatory measures to foster transparency, accountability, and the protection of human rights, while ensuring ethical governance of AI. The Nigerian government should create a robust legal and regulatory framework to support transparency, accountability, human rights protection, and the ethical governance of AI. Funding for the development of digital infrastructure, locally based

datasets, AI Education, and technical capacity-building also needs to be prioritised to reduce reliance on foreign technologies and increase indigenous innovation. In addition, AI programs must be consistent with community-based peacebuilding practices; technology should not supplant, but rather support and strengthen human interactions, community-based ownership and participatory conflict-resolution practices. In the end, the future of AI in Nigeria's peacebuilding efforts will also depend on the nation's capacity to build institutional trust, governance processes, and collaborative networks that enable the use of early warnings to create effective, lasting peace.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are made to improve the effective use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria based on the results of this study. The recommendations are organised into a set of staged implementation actions to make them feasible, sustainable, and policy-relevant.

Phase 1: Foundational Infrastructure and Digital Inclusion

i. Improve digital infrastructure and connectivity in conflict-prone areas.

The Federal Government, in cooperation with the State Governments and development partners, should focus on increasing broadband infrastructure, network coverage, and reliable communication systems in rural and conflict-affected areas. This is crucial for capturing data in real time and for making early warning systems and peacebuilding interventions available with AI support.

ii. Encourage public–private partnerships (PPPs) for digital expansion.

An effective and efficient way to mobilise private and corporate investment in digital infrastructure through structured PPPs, especially in underserved and high-risk areas. Partnerships should focus on scalable, sustainable and equitable access to digital tools for early warning and crisis response.

Phase 2: Capacity Building, Education & Local Innovation

iii. Incorporate AI literacy and peace Education into national Education curricula. Implement the integration of AI literacy and peace Education into national Education curricula.

Basic, secondary, and tertiary Education programmes should include AI literacy, digital skills, and peace Education to build the nation's long-term capacity. This will ensure that future generations are prepared to contribute to peace and governance through responsible use of AI.

iv. Collaborate with local partners to create locally developed AI solutions.

Involving Nigerian tech companies, universities and innovation hubs in the development of AI systems that are grounded in local languages, cultural contexts and realities of conflict. Enhanced utilisation of Natural Language Processing (NLP) tools for Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo, and other local languages should be prioritised to strengthen the accuracy of early warning.

v. Facilitate capacity development of CSOs, NGOs and peace actors.

AI-powered tools for data collection, analysis, and conflict monitoring should be made available to CBOs and frontline peacebuilding actors, with targeted funding and training to support their use. This will help to close the capacity gap between national institutions and community-based actors.

Phase 3: Governance, Regulation, and Ethical Safeguards.

vi. Enforce a strong legal and ethical approach to the use of AI in peacebuilding.

To enhance digital governance frameworks in Nigeria, it is essential to establish clear AI-specific regulations that promote transparency, accountability, respect for human rights, data privacy, and ethical use of AI in security and peacebuilding settings.

vii. Improve data management and information sharing processes.

It is advisable to establish a standardised national data governance architecture to facilitate interoperability and enable data sharing among key data actors, such as government agencies, CSOs, NGOs, and regional organisations. This should involve clear procedures for consent, data protection and the classification of sensitive conflict information.

Phase 4: Coordination, Sustainability and regional integration.

viii. Enhance coordination and data sharing among actors.

Formalised processes and procedures need to be put in place to enhance coordination among the actors involved in conflict prevention, including ECOWARN, IPCR, security agencies, and civil society networks. Implementing standardised reporting formats and interoperable systems can further improve the effectiveness of AI-driven early warning systems.

ix. Strengthen linkages between early warning and early response systems.

Operational protocols need to establish roles, responsibilities, and thresholds for AI-generated alerts to ensure timely, coordinated responses. This will avoid making early warning systems more of a 'dashboard' than a tool for action.

x. Facilitate financing for sustainable peace using AI tools—Rally sustainable funding for AI-driven peacebuilding.

Funding plans should be established on a long-term basis, drawing on government budgetary allocations, donor partnerships, and private-sector investment, to sustain funding for AI-based conflict prevention programmes. Support and development of infrastructure, capacity building and system maintenance should be given priority.

Cross-Cutting Priority

xi. Promote the inclusion and conflict-sensitive use of AI.

Designing all AI applications for peacebuilding needs to be done sensitively with respect for Nigeria's linguistic, cultural, and regional diversity. Special care must be taken to avoid excluding rural populations, minimize algorithmic bias, and protect vulnerable communities from the misuse of surveillance or the exploitation of their data.

In summary, these recommendations call for a coordinated, phased, and inclusive strategy to effectively adopt AI for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Nigeria, while also highlighting the importance of robust governance, human capacity building, and institutional partnerships to ensure the technology's responsible use.

References

- Abeku, T., & Ani, O. (2024, October 29). *Nigeria and the US established a conflict early-warning situation room*. [https://guardian.ng/news/nigeria-us-sets-up-conflicts-early-warning-situation room/](https://guardian.ng/news/nigeria-us-sets-up-conflicts-early-warning-situation-room/)
- Abilova, O., and Novosseloff, A. (2016 July). *Demystifying Intelligence in UN Peace Operations: Toward an Organizational Doctrine*. International Peace Institute. https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/1608_Demystifying-Intelligence.pdf
- Armed Conflict Location & Event Data (ACLED). (n.d.). *CAST methodology*. [https://acleddata.com/methodology/cast-methodology#:~:text=The%20ACLED%20Conflict%20Alert%20System%20\(CAST\)%20is,months%2C%20in%20every%20country%20around%20the%20world.](https://acleddata.com/methodology/cast-methodology#:~:text=The%20ACLED%20Conflict%20Alert%20System%20(CAST)%20is,months%2C%20in%20every%20country%20around%20the%20world.)
- Armed Conflict Location & Event Data (ACLED). (2022). *Multiple security threats persist around the country*.

- <https://acleddata.com/10-conflicts-to-worry-about-in-2022/nigeria/#1644921169748-ca58a54a-3d268b7e-e4ea> 2022
- Adama, D.S. (2021, July 23). *Fulani, Irigwe, and Bache youths sign social media peace agreement*. 2021, July 23. <https://dailytrust.com/fulani-irigwe-bache-youths-sign-social-media-peace-agreement/>
- Adepoju, M.O. (2025). *National statement of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on General Activities*. The sixty-second session of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, Vienna, 3–14 February 2025.
https://www.unoosa.org/documents/pdf/copuos/stsc/2025/Statements/3_Nigeria.rev3.pdf
- Africa Center for Strategic Studies. (2022, April 26). *Mapping Disinformation in Africa*. <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/mapping-disinformation-in-africa/>
- Africa Center for Strategic Studies. (2024, March 13). *Mapping a Surge of Disinformation in Africa*. <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/mapping-a-surge-of-disinformation-in-africa/>
- African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. (2025). *Draft Study on the Implications of AI for Human Rights in Africa*. <https://achpr.au.int/sites/default/files/files/2025-04/draft-achpr-ai-study-march-2025.pdf>
- Africa Telecom Review. (2025, May 14). *Airtel Nigeria Targets Rural Reach and 5G Rollout*. <https://www.telecomreviewafrica.com/articles/telecom-operators/11899-airtel-nigeria-targets-rural-reach-and-5g-rollout/>
- Aimuengheuwa, J. (2025, August 25). *NDPC Launches Probe into 1,369 Organisations Over Data Protection Breaches*. https://techeconomy.ng/ndpc-investigation-1369-organisations-data-protection/?utm_source
- Albrecht, E., Fournier-Tombs, E., & Brubaker, R. (2024). *Disinformation and Peacebuilding in Sub-Saharan Africa. Security Implications of AI-Altered Information Environments*. United Nations University Centre for Policy Research.
- Amani Africa. (2024, June 12). *Looking into the future: Artificial intelligence and its impact on peace and security in Africa*. <https://amaniafrica-et.org/looking-into-the-future-artificial-intelligence-and-its-impact-on-peace-and-security-in-africa/>
- Anand, A., and He, W. 2023, May 1). *The 2022 Innovations Dialogue: AI Disruption, Peace and Security*, Conference Report, Geneva, Switzerland: UNIDIR,
- Anderson, M.B. (1999). *Do no harm: How aid can support peace – or war*. Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- Asiegbu, C., & Okolo, C.T. (2024, May 16). *How AI is impacting policy processes and outcomes in Africa*. <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/how-ai-is-impacting-policy-processes-and-outcomes-in-africa/> Accessed on 7 January, 2026.
- Autesserre, S., & Leymah, G. (2021, February 18). *The Frontlines of Peace: An Insider's Guide to Changing the World* (New York, 2021); online edn, Oxford Academic, <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780197530351.001.0001>, accessed 7 January 2026.
- Banwo & Ighodalo. (2023, June 22). *Nigeria Data Protection Act: What Individuals, Businesses and Organizations Should Know*. <https://www.banwo-ighodalo.com/grey-matter/nigeria-data-protection-act-what-individuals-businesses-and-organizations-should-know/?utm> Accessed 7 January 2026

- Binns, R. (2018). *Fairness in machine learning: Lessons from political philosophy—proceedings of the 1st Conference on Fairness, Accountability and Transparency*, PMLR 81:149-159.
- Boutros-Ghali, B. (1992). *An agenda for peace: Preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping*. United Nations.
- Curtis, D. (2022). *International peacebuilding: Between past and future*. Routledge.
- Chason, R., & Alfa, I. (2021, September 16). *After initially denying responsibility, Nigeria's air force admits to strike in area where civilians were reported killed*<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2021/09/16/nigeria-airstrike-civilians/> Accessed 7 January, 2026.
- Congressional Research Services [CRS]. (2020, November 10). Artificial Intelligence and National Security, [online]. <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R45178.pdf> Accessed 7 January, 2026.
- D'Orazio, V., & Lin, Y. (2022). Forecasting conflict in Africa with automated machine learning systems. *International Interactions*, vol. 48, Iss. 4, pp. 714–738.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/03050629.2022.2017290>
- Data Guidance. (2024, August 6). *Nigeria: NITDA's NCAIR publishes draft national AI strategy*.
<https://www.dataguidance.com/news/nigeria-nitdas-ncair-publishes-draft-national-ai>
Accessed 7 January, 2026.
- De Simone, M.E., & Manolio, F.A. (2024). Digital skills in Nigeria: A summary of the population's skills and the availability of digital infrastructure in schools. World Bank.
- Deutsch, M. (2006). *Cooperation and competition*. In M. Deutsch, P. T. Coleman, & E. C. Marcus (Eds.), *The handbook of conflict resolution: Theory and practice* (2nd ed., pp. 23–42). Jossey-Bass.
- Digital Earth Africa. (2025, February 25). *Annual Report 2024 and platform overview*.
<https://digitalearthafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/DE-Annual-Report-2024-English.pdf>
- Eboh, C. (2024, August 22). *Nigerian data agency fines Fidelity Bank for breaches*.
<https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/nigerian-data-agency-fines-fidelity-bank-breaches-2024-08-22/> Accessed 8 January, 2026.
- Ewokor, C. (2021, July 19). *Nigeria fighter plane shot down by bandits - military*.
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-57893662> Accessed 8 January, 2026.
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development BMZ. (2024, February 2). Conflict in many parts of the country. <https://www.bmz.de/en/countries/nigeria/security-situation-55708> Accessed 8 January, 2026.
- Fisher, R.J. (2000). *Interactive conflict resolution*. Syracuse University Press.
- Fontana, N., Corso, F., Zuccolotto, E., & Pierri, F. (2025, March 7). *Evaluating open-source Large Language Models for automated fact-checking*. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2503.05565>
- Gilbert, D. (2023, November 2). *The UN Hired an AI Company to Untangle the Israeli-Palestinian Crisis*.
https://www.wired.com/story/culturepulse-ai-israeli-palestinian-crisis/?utm_source
Accessed 8 January, 2026.
- Goodfellow, I., Bengio, Y., & Courville, A. (2016). *Deep learning*. MIT Press.
- Guardian Nigeria. (2024, October 25). *Pantami advocates the use of AI for conflict resolution and peacebuilding*. <https://guardian.ng/technology/pantami-advocates-use-of-ai-for-conflict-resolution-peacebuilding/>

- Haken, N., Nasri, P.T., and Reece, N. (2024 April). Linking Early Warning and Early Response Networks in West Africa. NO. 195 | United States Institute of Peace, Washington.
- Harff, B., Gurr, T.R. (2004). *Ethnic conflict in world politics (2nd ed.)*. Westview Press.
- Hocker, J.L., & Wilmot, W.W. (2017). *Interpersonal conflict (10th ed.)*. McGraw-Hill Education.
- Hull, J.C. (2018). *Risk management and financial institutions (5th ed.)*. Wiley.
- Inuwa-Dutse, I. (2025, February 27). *NaijaNLP: A Survey of Nigerian Low-Resource Languages*. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.19784> Accessed 8 January, 2026.
- Lederach, J.P. (1997). *Building peace: Sustainable reconciliation in divided societies*. United States Institute of Peace Press.
- Lee, S., & Özerdem, A. (Eds.). (2015). *Local ownership in international peacebuilding: Key theoretical and practical issues*. Taylor and Francis, 2015.
<https://www.routledge.com/products/9781138787544>
- IOM/MiCiC. (n.d.). *ECOWARN Overview*. <https://micicinitiative.iom.int/ecowas-early-warning-and-response-network-ecowarn-0> Accessed on 8 January, 2026.
- IPCR. (2024, October 31). *Stakeholders Unveil Early Warning Situation Room*. <https://ipcr.gov.ng/ipcr-stakeholders-unveil-early-warning-situation-room/> Accessed 8 January, 2026.
- Jehn, K.A., & Mannix, E. A. (2001). The dynamic nature of conflict: A longitudinal study of intragroup conflict and group performance. *Academy of Management Journal*, 44(2), 238–251. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3069453>
- Jimoh, A.M., Okwe, M., Abuh, A., Daka, T., & Afolabi, A. (2021, June 21). Worsening insecurity: Seven-year N8tr defence spending, fresh N762b loan worry Senate, CSOs. <https://guardian.ng/news/worsening-insecurity-seven-year-n8tr-defence-spending-fresh-n762b-loan-worry-senate-csos/> Accessed 8 January, 2026.
- Jurafsky, D., & Martin, J.H. (2021). *Speech and language processing (3rd ed.)*. Pearson.
- KPMG. (September 2023). *The Nigeria Data Protection Act, 2023. A Review of the Key Compliance Provisions and their Implications for Nigerian Businesses*. <https://assets.kpmg.com/content/dam/kpmg/ng/pdf/the-nigeria-data-protection-act-2023.pdf> Accessed 12 January, 2026.
- Kimaita, S., and Irungu, E.J. (2024). Frontiers in Conflict Prevention: Integrating Artificial Intelligence in Early Warning and Response Systems in Kenya. *The International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science (IJRISS)*, 8(11), 2331-2339.
- Krause, K. (2016). Towards a comprehensive architecture for conflict prevention in Africa. *African Security Review*, 25(3), 263–279. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10246029.2016.1216881>
- Lecun, Y., Bengio, Y., & Hinton, G. (2015). Deep learning. *Nature*, vol. 521, 436–444. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nature14539>
- Lewicki, R.J., Saunders, D.M., & Barry, B. (2016). *Negotiation (7th ed.)*. McGraw-Hill Education.
- Lund, M.S. (2011 July 7). Conflict prevention: Theory in pursuit of policy and practice. <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/publication/conflict-prevention-theory-pursuit-policy-and-practice> Accessed 12 January, 2026.
- Mandokhail, A.W.K. (2024). The Transformative Role of Artificial Intelligence in Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping. *NUST Journal of International Peace & Stability*, 7(1), 104–109. <https://doi.org/10.37540/njips.v7i1.166>

- Meserole, C. (2018, July 2). War of none: AI, big data, and the future of insurgency, [online]. <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/wars-of-none-ai-big-data-and-the-future-of-insurgency/> Accessed 12 January, 2026.
- Moore, C.W. (2014). *The mediation process: Practical strategies for resolving conflict (4th ed.)*. Jossey-Bass.
- Mordor Intelligence. (2025, June 19). Nigeria Data Center Rack Market Size & Share Analysis - Growth Trends & Forecasts (2025 - 2030). <https://www.mordorintelligence.com/industry-reports/nigeria-data-center-rack-market> Accessed 12 January, 2026.
- Musumba, M., Fatema, N., & Kibriya, S. (2021). Prevention Is Better Than Cure: Machine Learning Approach to Conflict Prediction in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Sustainability*, 13(13), 7366, <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13137366>
- Murithi, T. (2021). Transitional Justice and peacebuilding in Africa: Reflections on progress, problems, and prospects. *Journal of Peacebuilding & Development*, 16(2), 130–144. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1542316621992769>
- NITDA/NCAIR. (2024). *Nigeria's National AI Strategy (Draft/Release)*. https://ncair.nitda.gov.ng/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/National-AI-Strategy_01082024-copy.pdf Accessed 12 January, 2026.
- Ndzana, J.Y.N. (2025, March 26). Ndzana. *The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Conflict Prevention and Management in Africa*. <https://www.accord.org.za/analysis/the-role-of-artificial-intelligence-in-conflict-prevention-and-management-in-africa/#:~:text=Artificial%20Intelligence%20and%20Early%20Warning,the%20lack%20of%20AI%20databases>. Accessed 12 January, 2026.
- Maclean, R., & Alfa, I. (2021, October 15). *Key Leader of West African Terrorist Group Is Dead, Nigerian Army Says*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/15/world/africa/nigeria-islamic-state-abu-musab-al-barnawi-dead.html> Accessed 12 January, 2026.
- Nsude, I. (2022, February 15). Artificial Intelligence (AI), The Media And Security Challenges In Nigeria. *Communication, technologies et development* [Online], 11 | URL: <http://journals.openedition.org/ctd/6788>; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4000/ctd.6788>
- Odunsi, W. (2022, June 17). *Buhari approves the National Early Warning Centre and appoints Chris Ngwodo as DG*. <https://dailypost.ng/2022/06/17/buhari-approves-national-early-warning-centre-appoints-chris-ngwodo-as-dg/> Access on 1 January, 2026.
- Olaoye, L. (2022, June 18). *Buhari establishes National Early Warning Centre*. <https://newtelegraphng.com/buhari-establishes-national-early-warning-centre/> Accessed on 6 January, 2026.
- Oludiran, A., & Odetayo, I. (2025, April 22). *Bimi Unveiled: A New Era of AI-Driven Governance and Open Data in Nigeria*. <https://budgit.org/bimi-unveiled-a-new-era-of-ai-driven-governance-and-open-data-in-nigeria/> Accessed 12 January, 2026.
- Oluyori, I. (2025, August 16). *With AI-powered misinformation early warning systems, fake news can be tamed*. <https://guardian.ng/interview/with-ai-powered-misinformation-early-warning-systems-fake-news-can-be-tamed/> Accessed 12 January, 2026.
- Paffenholz, T. (2015). Unpacking the local turn in peacebuilding: a critical assessment towards an agenda for future research. *Third World Quarterly*, 36; 857 – 874.
- Schirch, L. (September 2018). *The ecology of violence: Perspectives on Peacebuilding & Human Security*. London: Rowman & Littlefield.

- Pruitt, D.G., Rubin, J., & Kim, S.H. (2004). *Social conflict: Escalation, stalemate, and settlement* (3rd ed.). McGraw-Hill.
- Reuters. (2021, September 19). *Nigerian air force kills dozens of civilians in northeast - sources*. <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/nigerian-air-force-kills-dozens-civilians-northeast-sources-2021-09-28/> Accessed 10 January, 2026.
- Russell, S., & Norvig, P. (2021). *Artificial intelligence: A modern approach* (4th ed.). Pearson.
- Siciliano, B., & Khatib, O. (2016). *Springer Handbook of Robotics* (2nd ed.). Springer.
- Thomas, K.W., & Kilmann, R.H. (1976). *Thomas-Kilmann conflict mode instrument*. CPP.
- Tjosvold, D. (2008). The conflict-positive organization: It depends upon us. *Journal of Organizational Behavior*, 29(1), 19–28. <https://doi.org/10.1002/job.473>
- Topol, E. (2019). *Deep medicine: How artificial intelligence can make healthcare human again—* Basic Books.
- Ugbedeoj, S.V. (2025, April 30). *Data Protection and Compliance in Nigeria: Challenges and Opportunities*. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=5236705> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.5236705>
- UNDP and Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue. (March 2019). *Digital Technologies and Mediation in Armed Conflict*. p. 18. <https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/DigitalToolkitReport.pdf>
- United Nations. *UN peacebuilding and sustaining peace: Report of the Secretary-General*. United Nations, 2020. <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding>
- United Nations. (April 2024). *Building Peace from the Ground Up: How Early Warning, Early Response Systems Are Preventing Conflict in Northwestern Nigeria*. <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/nigeria-success-story> Accessed 10 January, 2026.
- United Nations Development Programme [UNDP] and Independent Evaluation Office [IEO]. (2025). *Annual Report on Evaluation 2023 (AIDA 2.0)*. <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2025-02/undp-are-2023.pdf>
- U.S. Department of State. *2024 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Nigeria*. 2024. <https://www.state.gov/reports/2024-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/nigeria/> Accessed 10 January, 2026.
- Vanguard News. (2025, August 25). *Data protection breaches: NDPC to probe banks, insurance companies, others*. <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2025/08/data-protection-breaches-ndpc-to-probe-banks-insurance-companies-others/> Accessed 8 January, 2026.
- West Africa Network for Peacebuilding Nigeria (WANEP-Nigeria). (n.d.). *"Conflict Prevention": Early Warning/Early Response - WANEP-Nigeria*. <https://wanepnigeria.org/early-warning-early-response/> Accessed 8 January, 2026.
- Whitfield, T. (ed.). (February 2024). *Still time to talk: adaptation and innovation in peace mediation*, Accord 30 (London: Conciliation Resources).
- Wyrzykowski, R. (2025). *Nigeria. Mobile Network Experience Report*. 2025. <https://www.opensignal.com/reports/2025/07/nigeria/mobile-network-experience> Accessed 10 January, 2026.
- 3 Million Technical Talent. (n.d.). *Shaping the Future of Nigeria's Digital Workforce*. <https://3mtt.nitda.gov.ng/>