

PREVENTING CONFLICT TRANSFORMING JUSTICE SECURING THE PEACE

A Global Study on the
Implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325

FACT SHEET THE GLOBAL STUDY ON 1325: KEY MESSAGES, FINDINGS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In resolution 2122 (2013), the Security Council invited the Secretary-General to commission a global study on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), highlighting good practice, gaps, challenges, emerging trends, and priorities for action. [*Preventing Conflict, Transforming Justice, Securing The Peace: A Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325*](#) is the result of a year-long process managed and coordinated by UN Women. The study was authored by an independent expert, Radhika Coomaraswamy (former Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women and Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict) with the support of a seventeen-member high-level advisory group.¹ Consultations were held from January to June 2015 in all regions of the world.² UN Women commissioned research papers for the study that will be published separately in an accompanying volume. More than 60 Member States, regional organizations and UN entities responded to requests for submissions, and 47 civil society organizations, academics and research institutions provided inputs via a public website. A survey of civil society organizations managed by the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders, Cordaid, and the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security generated responses from 317 organizations in 71 countries. **Below is UN Women's chapter-by-chapter summary of the highlight findings and recommendations of the study.**



Mainly, the study represents the most comprehensive and updated compilation of all the growing evidence that women's empowerment contributes to the success of peace talks and the achievement of sustainable peace, accelerates economic recovery, strengthens our peace operations, improves our humanitarian assistance, and can help counter violent extremism. According to the Global Study, the main reason for the gap between the robustness of our normative frameworks and the weakness of our implementation on the ground is lack of political will, accountability and resources, and the existence of institutional and attitudinal barriers. In the last 15 years, there have been long lists of recommendations but few sticks and carrots to induce compliance, and the Global Study suggests new ideas for these in a number of areas.

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(Finland), Ms. Igballe Rogova (Kosovo), and Ms. Yasmin Sooka (South Africa). Ms. Maha Abu Dayyeh (State of Palestine) served as a member of the High-level Advisory Group until her passing on 9 January 2015.

² Including Brussels, The Hague, Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Vilnius, Tirana, Guatemala City, San Salvador, Kampala, Cairo, Addis Ababa, Kathmandu, and Suva.

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WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION:

Key messages:

Actors involved in mediation and conflict resolution remain resistant to including women, claiming success is judged on effectiveness, not inclusiveness. Yet the history of traditional peacemaking is littered with examples of failed mediation attempts and broken peace agreements. Conversely, a growing body of evidence shows unequivocally that women's participation contributes to the conclusion of talks and the implementation and durability of peace agreements.

Since the adoption of resolution 1325, there has been a substantial increase in the frequency of gender-responsive language in peace agreements and the number of women, women's groups and gender experts who serve as official negotiators, mediators, or signatories. Nonetheless, in many contexts, women's official participation may be temporary, their delegated roles may be more symbolic than substantive, and their capacity to influence may be directly resisted by local cultural norms.

The most important effect of women's engagement in peace processes is not just greater attention to gender-related elements in the deliberations and the text of peace agreements, but a shift in dynamics, a broadening of the issues discussed –increasing the chances of community-buy in and addressing root causes-, and greater pressure on the parties to reach an agreement or go back to the negotiating table when the talks had faltered.

The international community neglects 'track 2' negotiations at the local or sub-national level, where many women are already brokering peace or shoring up community resilience, while narrowly investing in 'track 1' negotiations with political and military elites that are predominantly male, rather than investing in civic voices and supporting 'track 2' processes.

Facts and figures:

Women's participation increases the probability of a peace agreement lasting at least two years by 20 percent, and by 35 percent the probability of a peace agreement lasting 15 years.

Analysis of 40 peace processes since the end of the Cold War shows that, in cases where women were able to exercise a strong influence on the negotiation process, there was a much higher chance that an agreement would be reached than when women's groups exercised weak or no influence. In cases of strong influence of women an agreement was almost always reached.

Peace agreements are 64 percent less likely to fail when civil society representatives participate.

In 15 of 16 national dialogues examined, decision-making was left to a small group of male leaders.

Key recommendations:

All actors involved in official peace processes should make quantifiable, time-sensitive commitments to ensure women's direct and meaningful participation during specific phases of the process, to include women's perspectives and gender-responsive provisions in all meetings, consultations, and agreements, to train all parties on their gender-responsive obligations within their area of expertise, and to acknowledge and provide holistic support for women's groups that are engaged in 'track 2' diplomacy efforts.

Member states supporting specific peace processes must offer the negotiating parties incentives for women's participation —training, logistical support, or adding delegate seats for example.

Support for women's systematic engagement in peace talks must be included in the terms of reference of every mediator, envoy, and leader of peace mission, and performance in this regard should be regularly reported on in all forums, including the Security Council.

Desist from using observer status as a substitute for real and effective participation for women. Women should not be on the sidelines observing, but an integral part of negotiations and decision-making on the future of their country.

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

Key messages:

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Humanitarians, development workers, the international and regional human rights system, and the interventions of our peace and security actors must address the full range of violations of the rights of women and girls protected by international humanitarian, refugee and human rights law, including, but not limited to, their right to life and physical integrity.

Women's rights to education, to health, to land and productive assets, and rights of participation, decision-making and leadership in village or community matters are strongly linked to women's security.

Increased attention has been paid to violence against women and girls, particularly sexual violence in conflict, resulting in greater visibility, high-level advocacy, and the development of technical tools. However, too little funding is allocated to programming and services for survivors.

We are still far from genuinely embracing gender equality as an organizing principle of our humanitarian work, and this undermines the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance.

Facts and figures:

Prioritizing women in food distribution is strongly correlated with greater dietary diversity and, in some cases, a 37 percent lower prevalence of hunger.

The inclusion of women in water and infrastructure committees can make women and girls 44 percent less likely to walk more than 60 minutes each way to access drinking water.

The ten worst performing countries on maternal mortality are all either conflict or post-conflict countries, and girls' net enrolment rate in primary education in these contexts is 17 points below the global rate.

Currently 27 countries across the world have laws that discriminate against women in their ability to confer nationality to their children, leading to statelessness, particularly in conflict settings.

Key recommendations:

Gender equality and women's human rights must be both a focus area of the World Humanitarian Summit and be integrated throughout the other themes.

Expressly mandate that all programmes adopt and apply the gender marker and relevant IASC guidance on gender and gender-based violence throughout the entire project cycle, and require it in all funding applications.

Current levels of approximately 1 percent funding for local women's organizations, including women's human rights defenders, should be increased until they reach at least 5 percent in the next three years, before setting progressively more ambitious targets in the following years.

Fund the establishment of an independent monitoring mechanism run by women's civil society groups and women's human rights defenders to track the performance on gender equality of humanitarian assistance (e.g. collection of sex-disaggregated data and gender-sensitive analysis to the systematic application of the gender marker and the engagement of local women).

Ensure that UN Women is a member of all relevant high-level inter-agency forums on peace and security and humanitarian response, including the IASC and the Senior Advisory Group on peace and security.

Commit to creating a humanitarian workforce that is 50 percent women and 100 percent trained in gender equality programming and women's rights.

TOWARD AN ERA OF TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE

Key messages:

Justice must be transformative in nature, addressing not only the singular violation experienced by women, but also the underlying inequalities which render women and girls vulnerable during times of conflict and which inform the consequences of the human rights violations they experience.

The focus on impunity and perpetrators –demonstrated in positive steps taken by the ICC, national war crimes courts, and the increasing use of commissions of inquiry-

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must be matched by an equal focus on reparations, services, and redress for victims.

While investment has increased in ensuring informal justice systems deliver equal protection of rights for women and girls, this remains an under-resourced and underserved site of engagement.

Facts and figures:

Charges for gender based crimes have been brought in 6 of the 9 situations under investigation by the ICC, and in 14 out of 19 cases. However, in the three verdicts issued by the Court so far, there have been no convictions for gender-based crimes

From 1993-2004, in every case before the ICTY resulting in significant redress of sexual violence crimes perpetrated against both women and men, women judges were on the bench.

Of the 122 State Parties to the Rome Statute in 2014, 95 had introduced subsequent domestic legislation that addressed violence against women.

Surveys in conflict-affected areas reveal that women tend to be less informed and report lower levels of access to both formal and traditional justice mechanisms than men.

Approximately 80 percent of claims or disputes are resolved by parallel justice systems, indicating that most women in developing countries access justice in a plural legal environment.

Evidence suggests that increasing the number of women judges and other front line justice sector officials can create more conducive environments for women in courts and make a difference to outcomes in sexual violence cases.

Key recommendations:

Invest in strengthening national justice systems to investigate and prosecute international crimes, including SGBV, in accordance with the principle of complementarity.

Advocate for State ratification and domestic implementation of the Rome Statute; and adoption of national legislation in line with international standards on

women's rights, including specific legislation on sexual and gender-based violence crimes.

Prioritize the design and implementation of gender-sensitive reparations programmes with transformative impact, including through implementation of the Guidance Note of the Secretary General on Reparations for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.

Support increasing the participation of women at all levels in justice service delivery, across both formal and informal systems, through measures that can include quotas and support to women's legal education, including scholarships.



KEEPING THE PEACE IN AN INCREASINGLY MILITARIZED WORLD

Key messages:

Women's presence in the security sector has been found to significantly lower rates of complaints of misconduct, significantly lower rates of improper use of force, or inappropriate use of weapons, and are less authoritarian in their interactions with citizens and lower ranking officers. Women in peacekeeping operations have been found to increase the credibility of forces, gain access to communities and vital information, and lead to an increase in reporting of sexual and gender based crimes.

Many security actors have introduced a range of reforms, policies, guidance, training, advisory positions and in some cases, a very sophisticated apparatus to mainstream gender. This is a welcome development, but it is still a nascent phenomenon that has not yet led to impactful transformations in military structures and military cultures, beyond greater awareness of the importance of this issue and the emergence of a

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professional cadre of gender advisors embedded in military institutions.

A gender perspective is much more prominent in peacekeeping operations today. This includes an entire normative and institutional architecture that did not exist 15 years ago, and tangible changes in the way that peacekeeping missions approach human rights monitoring, training, force generation, support to rule of law, security sector reform, and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes. However, these efforts are ad-hoc and remain limited in scope and scale, constrained by the systematic under-resourcing of gender-related requirements and expertise within peacekeeping budgets, and the uphill climb to tackle entrenched gender inequality in mission contexts.

While much of the work of missions remains virtually invisible to affected populations and the general public, incidences of sexual exploitation and abuse continue to grab the attention of both the international community and communities where peacekeepers are deployed. It is crucial that the UN take more decisive action to address this issue once and for all.

Facts and figures:

On average, only 3 percent of the military in UN missions are women, and the majority of these are employed as support staff. This number has not changed since 2011, and has changed little from the 1 percent of women peacekeepers in 1993.

There are almost 7,000 international civilian staff in field missions, and less than 30 percent are women (and only 20 percent in senior management positions). Among national staff, which make up an even larger share of the workforce in missions, the percentage of women is only 17 percent.

Out of a total of 33 benchmarks adopted by five peacekeeping missions, none specifically referred to gender-specific issues or gender equality. Out of 105 indicators attached to these benchmarks, only 5 refer to gender issues, and of these most relate to sexual violence.



Key recommendations:

Encourage Member States to deploy more female military officers to UN peacekeeping missions by adopting financial incentives, such as a gender balance premium.

Ensure gender-responsive budgeting and financial tracking of investments on gender equality in missions by requesting peacekeeping budget experts and planning officers, along with gender-responsive budget experts, to review mission budgets and make a recommendation on methodology and capacity needed.

Ensure that all UN peacekeepers are provided scenario-based training on gender mainstreaming in peace operations, preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence and sexual exploitation and abuse by calling on Member States to invest in the capacity of national peacekeeping training centers from the largest troop contributing countries, so that they become permanent features in their pre-deployment training curriculum.

Address impunity and lack of assistance for victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by fully implementing the recommendations of the High-Level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations and the SG's report on sexual exploitation and abuse. In addition, countries that repeatedly fail to live up to their written assurances to investigate and prosecute their soldiers should not be allowed to contribute troops to peacekeeping missions. Victims Assistance Mechanisms should be funded through pooled funds in each country or from the operating budget of the entities that employ the accused.

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Scale up support to unarmed civilian protection (UCP) in conflict-affected countries, including working alongside peace operations.

BUILDING INCLUSIVE AND PEACEFUL SOCIETIES IN THE AFTERMATH OF CONFLICT

Key messages:

Women in conflict-affected and recovering countries lack economic opportunities necessary for survival, remain confronted by daily violence in their homes and communities, struggle to cope with heavy burdens of care and dependency, and continue to endure the emotional and physical scars of conflict, without support or recognition. In the aftermath of conflict, violence against women often increases, underlining the importance of rebuilding rule of law institutions.

Experience and evidence show that women are more likely to spend their incomes on family needs including health care and education, thus making a proportionately larger contribution to post-conflict social recovery.

Since the adoption of resolution 1325, women's participation in national level governance bodies in post-conflict countries has increased, often as a result of temporary special measures. However, more investment is needed to achieve gender parity in local governance structures, as well as in the design, monitoring and evaluation of public service programs.

Facts and figures:

Conflict-affected communities that experienced the most rapid economic recovery and poverty reduction are those that had more women reporting higher levels of empowerment.

Evidence shows women's participation in high numbers in the front line of service delivery—whether as polling agents, police officers, registration officials, judges, court clerks, teachers, medical attendants, or agricultural extension agents—leads to better quality services for both men and women.

In Sierra Leone, 55 percent of male ex-combatants identified women in the community as the most important actor in their reintegration.

In Rwanda, as a result of measures to ensure women's participation in land commissions, 83 percent of private land was jointly owned by married couples, 11 percent by women, and 5 percent by men.

Data from 40 countries shows a positive correlation between the proportion of female police and reporting rates of sexual assault.

The percentage of benefits from temporary employment activities received by women has risen to 35 percent in recent years. The target of the Secretary-General's seven-point action plan on gender-responsive peacebuilding is 40 percent.

By July 2015, in conflict and post-conflict countries with legislated electoral quotas, women represented almost 23 percent of parliamentarians, compared to 15 percent in countries without quotas.

The percentage of women entering DDR programmes has increased significantly, but there is no data on the proportion of benefits received by women and no data on the differences on quality and coverage of benefits.

Key recommendations:

Consult with local women leaders, including women's human rights defenders, on concessions agreements negotiated as part of post-conflict reconstruction efforts, and ensure a minimum level of 30 percent women's representation in all decision-making bodies with regards to the country's natural resources.

Design programmes for economic recovery that target women's empowerment, challenge rather than entrench gender stereotypes, and are forward-looking on the transformative role women can play in an economy for the future.

Develop guidance on post-conflict macroeconomic policies that take into account gender dimensions, and prioritize public expenditure to reconstruct vital services for women.

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Establish quotas for women of a minimum of 40 percent of service delivery employment opportunities at local level.

Provide women and girls with identity documents as a matter of priority during and after conflict, in order to register to vote, access land and avail themselves of social services and benefits, including education and health services.

Continue to ensure that technical assistance to post-conflict elections includes advice on temporary special measures. Elections basket funds should allocate a minimum of 15 percent of their funding to women's participation.

Develop and implement strategies to increase participation and leadership of women within armed forces, police services, defense institutions, the penal system and the judiciary.

PREVENTING CONFLICT

Key messages:

The world has lost sight of some of the key demands of the women's movement while advocating for the adoption of resolution 1325: reducing military expenditures, controlling the availability of armaments, promoting non-violent forms of conflict resolution, and fostering a culture of peace.

States that have lower levels of gender inequality are less likely to resort to the use of force. Stronger recognition is required of the depth of the influence of gender norms, gender relations and gender inequalities on the potential for the eruption of conflict.

The women, peace and security agenda is about ending conflict, not about making conflict safer for women.

Prevention requires both a short-term approach which includes women's participation and gender based violations within early warning measures, as well as longer term structural approaches to address the root causes of conflict, including inequality, and address new sources of conflict, including the impacts of climate change and natural resources.

Facts and figures:

In 2014, violence had a global cost of 13.4 percent of world GDP — USD\$14.3 trillion. In 2014, the world's global military spending was estimated at USD \$1776 billion, some 2.4 percent of global GDP. There was a notably sharp increase in 2014 in the number of States with a military expenditure of more than 4 percent of their GDP.

The value of the global trade in small arms and light weapons almost doubled between 2001 and 2011, from USD 2.38 billion to USD 4.63 billion

While global spending on public education amounts to 4.6 percent of global GDP, massive funding gaps remain on broad human security needs and measures, particularly women and girls' empowerment, reproductive health and rights, health and education.

In countries with high rates of violence related to arms, the percentage of women killed with arms is higher.

Recent large-scale research projects show that the security of women is one of the most reliable indicators of the peacefulness of a state.

An assessment of UNDP's Peace and Development Advisors, working on crisis prevention in fragile countries, showed that women fill only 6 out of 34 posts.

Key recommendations:

As a part of States Parties' obligations to implement the Arms Trade Treaty's provision on gender-based violence, require arms-producing corporations to monitor and report on the use of their arms in violence against women.

Prioritize the consultation and participation of women in the implementation, monitoring and accountability of the SDGs.

Adopt gender-responsive budgeting practices as a strategy to address, highlight and mitigate militarized state budgets and their destabilizing impact on international peace and security and women's rights.

Include women's participation and gender-responsive indicators in all early-warning processes, conflict prevention and early-response efforts.

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Work with the private sector to develop and use new technologies which increase women's physical security and strengthen conflict prevention.

Work in partnership with affected women and girls when designing, implementing and monitoring climate-change and natural resource-related strategies.

Provide financial, technical and political support, to strengthen the capacity of women's civil society to organize and play a greater role in national and community-led election monitoring and electoral violence prevention, dispute resolution and mediation initiatives, and wider preventive diplomacy work.

COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM (CVE)

Key messages:

Across regions, a common thread shared by extremist groups is that in every instance their advance has been coupled with attacks on the rights of women and girls—rights to education, to public life, and to decision-making over their own bodies.

Counter-terrorism and CVE overlook the spectrum of roles that women play in both preventing and participating in violent extremism. The women peace and security agenda provides a framework for a de-militarized and preventive response to terrorism and violent extremism, and several recent international mandates acknowledge this correlation.

The risk of co-opting and instrumentalizing women's rights is high. Where women's advocacy becomes too closely associated with a government's counter terrorism agenda, the risk of backlash against women's rights defenders, in often already volatile environments, increases.

Women are also impacted by counter-terrorism tactics: securitization can increase women's insecurity and stricter banking procedures and donor policies can impact women's organizations adversely. As such, women are 'squeezed' between terrorism and counter-terrorist responses.



Key recommendations:

Protect women's and girls' rights at all times and ensure that efforts to counter violent extremism strategies do not stereotype or instrumentalize women and girls.

Allow local women autonomy and leadership in determining their priorities and strategies in CVE.

Invest in research and data on women's roles in terrorism, such as identifying the drivers that lead to their radicalization and involvement with terrorist groups and the impacts of counterterrorism strategies on their lives.

Ensure gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation of all counter-terrorism and CVE interventions. This should specifically address the impact on women and girls, including through use of gender-related indicators and collection of sex-disaggregated data.

KEY ACTORS FOR WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY (including HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS)

Key messages:

Since 2000, the UN has integrated WPS commitments into its entity-specific work and many Member States have adopted national plans to address and monitor implementation of the WPS agenda.

The implementation of the women peace and security agenda is the duty of many stakeholders, who have different interpretations, requirements and approaches to

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this agenda. Although a set of indicators was designed to measure progress on 1325, many of these actors currently fail to compile data and report on their progress towards these commitments. Most of the available data refers to processes and UN efforts to implement this agenda, while outcomes at the country level remain largely unmeasured.

The UN still has a long way to be “fit for purpose” when it comes to women, peace and security, and must improve its gender balance, accountability, and coordination among relevant actors, including between UN Women and gender specialists in peace missions.

Facts and figures:

A review of 47 national action plans on women, peace and security in 2014 showed that only 11 had a budget.

In a landmark study that looked at 70 countries over four decades to examine the most effective way to reduce women’s experiences of violence, the most important factor was the strength of women’s organizations or the women’s movement in that country.

The UN Secretariat’s gender balance in conflict and post-conflict field settings is significantly worse than that of other large UN entities such as UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA, and UNDP, and underperforms NATO, the World Bank, the EC, and IOM in the overall percentage of women working in conflict and post conflict locations.

As of May 2015, only 39 percent of UN Resident Coordinators were women. This number drops even further, to 19 percent, in conflict and post-conflict settings.

Only 13 percent of stories in the news media on peace and security-related themes included women as the subject, and women were central to the story in only 6 percent of cases. Regardless of the topic, only 4 percent of the stories portrayed women as leaders in conflict and post-conflict countries and only 2 percent highlighted gender equality or inequality issues.

A survey of civil society organizations revealed that almost two thirds (63 percent) of civil society organizations receive support from UN Women for their work on women, peace and security. Approximately one in four organizations received support from UNDP (26

percent), followed by OHCHR (18 percent), UNFPA (16 percent) and UNICEF (16 percent).

Key recommendations:

Appoint high-level women, peace and security representatives to drive implementation at the regional level, building on the experience of the AU and NATO.

Facilitate the establishment by the UN Standing Committee on WPS of a comprehensive and accessible database of NAPs to share good practices, lessons learned, and ensure transparency and accountability.

To improve gender balance, invest in making mission life and spaces safer and friendlier for women (special family or leave arrangements, adequate and appropriate mission facilities, special medical and gynecological care), and consider revising experience requirements and childcare policies and facilities for national staff.

Until parity is reached, allow current P5s to be directly eligible for D2 positions if they are eligible for D1 positions, and for D1s to be eligible to apply for ASG positions. Audit missions who have remained stagnant or regressed, instituting a system of sanctions and rewards for performing and under-performing missions.

Inclusion of concrete performance measures in senior managers’ Compacts between the SG and his/her Special Envoys, Representatives, Advisors, and revision of senior managers’ Terms of Reference to reflect women, peace and security as a key priority. This should include Resident Coordinators in conflict-affected countries.

Place Senior Gender Advisors in all peace operations missions, from the outset and for the whole duration of missions, situated directly in the office of the SRSG, supported by hybrid gender expertise in each of the technical units of the mission (e.g. rule of law, human rights, DDR, SSR, elections).

Establish a formal cooperation arrangement between DPKO, DPA, UN Women so that existing missions have access to UN Women’s technical, political and policy expertise. Pilot an integration model in two future missions with UN Women.

Establish the position of Assistant Secretary-General at UN Women, with responsibility for work in the area of

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conflict, crises and emergencies. This ASG would drive the implementation of the recommendations of this Study, help scale up the programming good practice described, and strengthen UN Women's field presence in conflict and emergency settings, with the support of Member States and partners.

The CEDAW Committee should consider expanding the extraordinary reporting function and hold special sessions to specifically examine conflict countries and their implementation of General Recommendation 30.

Establish, under the auspices of the UN Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security, a partnership comprising international, regional and national data producers for the creation of an online gender, conflict and crisis database to bring together and disseminate available data.

National statistical systems and regional organizations are encouraged to start compiling and reporting women, peace and security statistics at the outcome level in a consistent manner.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Key messages:

Over the past fifteen years, the breadth and quantity of women, peace and security language used by the Council has greatly increased. However, actual implementation of these mandates has been uneven.

The majority of the Security Council's work on women, peace and security has focused on protection of women and girls rather than prevention or effective participation.

The Council's implementation of the WPS agenda would be improved with dedicated high-level leadership on women, peace and security, as well as more consistent and accountable information flow from across the UN gender architecture.

Facts and figures:

In 2010, only 15.8 percent of all resolutions in the previous decade contained women and/or gender references. This has increased to almost 30 percent in 2015.

Of the currently 16 United Nations sanctions regimes, five have human rights and sexual violence related designation criteria. Out of more than 1,000 listings in these sanctions regimes, 15 individuals and four entities have been designated based on these criteria.

Key recommendations:

Establish an informal expert group on women, peace and security in the Security Council to deal with both the protection and participation aspects of the agenda in country-specific situations.

Allow for more frequent briefings by civil society, relevant SRSGs, UN Women, and the Human Rights Council-established Commissions of Inquiry and fact-finding missions.

Ensure stronger integration of women's rights violations and gender expertise in sanctions regimes (e.g. inclusion of experts in monitoring bodies, inclusion of gross women's rights violations in listing and delisting criteria).

FINANCING THE AGENDA

Key messages:

The failure to allocate sufficient resources and funds has been the most serious and persistent obstacle to implementation of women, peace and security commitments over the past 15 years.

Data shows that official development assistance to gender equality in fragile states and economies is on an upward trajectory, although only a tiny proportion of all aid to fragile states and economies addresses women's specific needs.

Despite the crucial contribution of women's organizations to conflict resolution and peacebuilding, these organizations remain underfunded, receive primarily short-term project support and spend a disproportionate amount of their time on donor-related activities such as preparing funding proposals and reporting results.

Facts and figures:

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Only 2 percent of aid to peace and security interventions in fragile states and economies in 2012-2013 targeted gender equality as a principal objective.

Between 2011 and 2014, less than two percent of all humanitarian programmes in OCHA's Financial Tracking System had the explicit goal of advancing gender equality or taking targeted action for women and girls.

OECD data shows that in 2012-13, only USD 130 million of aid went to women's equality organizations and institutions — compared with the USD 31.8 billion of total aid to fragile states and economies over the same period.

Regarding UN entities, only 15 (24 percent) out of 62 entities reporting data to the UN-SWAP in 2015 currently have systems to track resources for gender equality and women's empowerment. Among those, Departments of the UN Secretariat making up about 40 percent of all UN entities lag behind with very few entities tracking their resources spent on gender.

UNDP's proportion of allocations targeting gender equality as a principal objective in conflict and post conflict countries has largely remained constant since 2011, standing at 4.2 percent of funds in 2014.

Key recommendations:

Donors should adopt the UN's 15 percent target (the percentage of funds which should be earmarked for programmes that further gender equality and women's empowerment in peacebuilding contexts) within their own aid flows to conflict-affected contexts, with this percentage being the first, not final, target.

Increase predictable, accessible and flexible funding for women's civil society organizations working on peace and security at all levels, including through dedicated financing instruments such as the new Global Acceleration Instrument on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action.

Allocate USD 100 million or a symbolic 1 percent of the value (whichever is higher) of the total budget for peace operations to the Peacebuilding Fund; and ensure that, of this contribution, a minimum of 15 percent is allocated to peacebuilding approaches that promote gender equality.

Achievement of the SG's 15-percent target (for peacebuilding funds devoted to should be written into the SG's performance compacts with senior UN leaders, in mission and non-mission settings.

