

UN WOMEN PEACE, SECURITY AND RESILIENCE ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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ONU
FEMMES

Femme
lève-toi avec
ton Art au
Service de la PAIX
et SECURITE PAIX



Ambassade de Norvège

RESOLUTION

1325 et 2

ARTS 823

Photo: UN Women/Carlos Ngeleka

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

PAIVI KANNISTO, CHIEF,
PEACE, SECURITY &
RESILIENCE



Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

2022 was an extremely difficult year for far too many women and girls around the world. The world witnessed a dramatic surge in violent conflicts and a rise in military coups, environmental and human-caused catastrophes and crises.

In Afghanistan, 2022 saw a steady increase in violations of the human rights of women and girls, with the Taliban issuing more than 50 edicts to suppress women's and girls' rights, returning to the oppression of the 1990s. Six countries experienced military coups between 2020 and 2022. The number of women and girls living in conflict-affected countries reached 614 million in 2022. There were 2,455 UN-verified cases of conflict-related sexual violence in 2022. The coups and crises of 2021 spilled over into 2022, resulting in increased demand for UN Women to act, while also exacerbating instability and tensions and resulting in a tremendous strain on resources—human, financial, emotional.

The war in Ukraine has shaken global food chains and increased food insecurity in places that rely on exported grain and fertilizers from Ukraine. Global military expenditure skyrocketed to an

all-time high of \$2.24 trillion dollars in 2022.¹ At the same time, the number of those in need of humanitarian aid increased by 25 per cent over the last year as the world faces largest global food crisis in modern history.

In Ukraine, as in Myanmar, Sudan, Colombia, and countless other situations grappling with the devastating consequences of violent conflicts and crises, women and girls suffer disproportionately.

Even in post-conflict countries and countries not experiencing active conflict, we have born witness to a considerable—and often well-coordinated—backlash against gender equality and the advance of women’s human rights. Women’s rights activists, women journalists, LGBTIQ+ and indigenous peoples and communities in Latin America also faced ongoing threats and violence during the year, often coinciding with an erosion in democracy and an excessive use of force by authorities to restrict social and political participation. There is an active attack on space for civil society and advocacy for gender equality and peace.

But threats to women don’t come only from conflict and war. In 2022 alone, 387 natural hazards and disasters struck 185 million people, causing 30,704 deaths, and costing economies over \$223.8 billion, and disproportionately impacting the lives and well-being of women and girls.² Climate change is a growing threat to us all and will only make these heart wrenching figures worse.

Across the board, from life expectancy, to education, health, violence, and nutrition, women are

adversely and disproportionately impacted by conflicts and disasters. Yet women remain largely excluded from disaster risk reduction (DRR) and peace and security decision-making processes.

In this challenging landscape, UN Women continues to Stay and Deliver, even in the most difficult situations. UN Women remains unfaltering in our commitment to achieve peace, security, and gender equality for all. We will not stop until women’s full, meaningful, and active participation in the decisions that govern their lives—whether in times of peace or times of crisis—is achieved. UN Women understands that the key to achieving peaceful, resilient, inclusive and sustainable societies is through women’s leadership, insight, experience and knowledge to create a world that looks different than the one we saw in 2022.

This 2022 Annual Report aims to capture some of the positive changes that have come about as a result of UN Women’s efforts to promote peace, security and resilience over the years.

As we are approaching new year and are one year closer to the 25th anniversary of the UN Security Council resolution 1325, I can promise that UN Women will continue to promote and protect women’s human rights, gender equality and feminist principles in peace and security and disaster resilience spaces. We will be working every day towards sustainable peace and resilience for all.

This is UN Women’s “Triple Mandate”, and UN Women capitalizes on this triple mandate to enhance participation, protection, implementation

1. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Fact Sheet (https://www.sipri.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/2304_fs_milex_2022.pdf)

2. See The Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), together with the Université Catholique de Louvain (UCLouvain), and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (2023). 2022 Disasters in numbers.

and accountability for commitments to achieve more peaceful and gender-equal societies. UN Women's normative function is advanced through the provision of policy advice and advocacy at multiple levels, from local to regional to international decision-making spaces. This technical support and advice are often founded on UN Women produced research, data and analysis, as well as programme results and lessons and joint messaging developed through UN coordination mechanisms and collaborations with civil society.

The triple mandate is also applied to strengthen the resilience of women and girls to disasters and threats by advancing their leadership and meaningful participation in disaster and climate resilience policies, processes and systems. This includes coordination with UN entities implementing the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience, and programmatic and normative support to Member States for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. As is evidenced in this report, it is the very work in which all three of these mandates are activated that some of the most impactful and sustainable results are achieved.

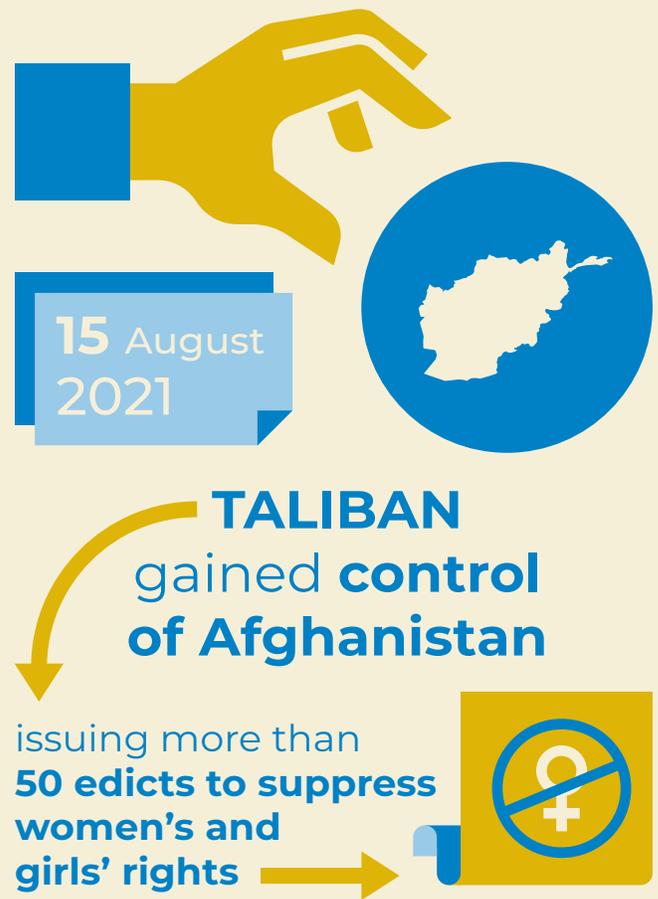
This is UN Women's "Triple Mandate", and UN Women capitalizes on this triple mandate to enhance participation, protection, implementation and accountability for commitments to achieve more peaceful, resilient, and gender-equal societies. UN Women's normative function is advanced through our policy advice and advocacy at multiple levels, from local to regional to international decision-making spaces. This technical support and advice is often reinforced by UN Women's own research, data and analysis, as well as programme results and lessons and joint messaging developed through UN coordination mechanisms and collaborations with civil society.



Photo: Heba Naji

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY AND RESILIENCE IN THE CURRENT GLOBAL CONTEXT

Across the board, from life expectancy, to education, health, violence, and nutrition, women are adversely and disproportionately impacted by conflicts and disasters. These and other inequalities and barriers undermine women's ability to prevent, withstand and recover from disasters and armed violence and negatively affect women's resilience.



6 military coups between 2020 and 2022

614
MILLION
WOMEN AND
GIRLS
living in conflict-affected
countries

+50%
higher than
2017

100
MILLION



fleeing war, violence
and persecution^a

2,455
reported cases of
conflict-related sexual
violence in 2022^b

+25%



need of
HUMANITARIAN AID^{cd}

a. Women and peace and security: Report of the Secretary-General (S/2023/725).
b. See <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/factsheet2022-2.pdf>
c. UN Women (2023). In Focus: War in Ukraine is a crisis for women and girls: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/in-focus/2022/03/in-focus-war-in-ukraine-is-a-crisis-for-women-and-girls>
d. Women and peace and security: Report of the Secretary-General (S/2023/725).

IRAN



- The tragic death of Mahsa Amini
- Demonstrations and protests
- Security forces killed, injured and detained many people, including women and children.^e

LATIN AMERICA

Women's rights activists, women journalists, LGBTIQ+, indigenous peoples and communities **faced threats and violence**, restricting social and political participation



172

women human rights defenders were intimidated and threatened

due to their collaboration with the UN



At least

34

women human rights defenders were killed

May 2021-April 2022

e. https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1128111?utm_source=UN+News+-+Newsletter&utm_campaign=659bc25dc0-E-MAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_09_27_03_46&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_fdbf1af606-659bc25dc0-108114430



90-95%
are estimated to be climate-related hydrometeorological hazards

disasters increased **14%** in the past decade^g

-  **FLOODING**
-  **DROUGHTS**
-  **STORMS**
-  **WILDFIRES**

In this challenging landscape, UN Women continues to Stay and Deliver, even in the most difficult situations. This **2022 Annual Report** aims to capture some of the positive changes that have come about as a result of UN Women’s efforts to promote peace, security and resilience over the years.

f. 2022 Disasters in numbers, <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/2022-disasters-numbers>
g. Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT) and Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). 2022.

HOW WE WORK

UN Women effects change in three ways:

We undertake **operational and programming activities at the country and regional levels**, including supporting Member States in developing and implementing gender-responsive laws, policies and strategies that take into account women's lived realities.³



We promote **coordination across the UN system** to enhance accountability and results for gender equality and women's empowerment.

We support UN Member States to **strengthen global norms and standards** for gender equality and women's empowerment, and to include a gender perspective when advancing other issues

3. See: UN Women. "Strategic Plan 2022-2025." p. 4. Available at: <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/Library/Publications/2021/UN-Women-Strategic-Plan-2022-2025-brochure-en.pdf>.

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and normative support to Member States for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. As is evidenced in this report, it is the very work in which all three of these mandates are activated that some of the most impactful and sustainable results are achieved.



Photo: UN Women/Luke Horswell

WHERE WE WORK

91

COUNTRIES

Albania
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Georgia
Kazakhstan
Kosovo*
Kyrgyzstan
Montenegro

North Macedonia
Republic of Moldova
Serbia
Tajikistan
Turkmenistan

Ukraine
Uzbekistan

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Barbados
Belize
Bermuda
Bolivia
Chile
Colombia

Ecuador
Grenada
Guatemala
Guyana
Haiti
Jamaica

Mexico
Panama
Saint Lucia
The Bahamas
Trinidad and Tobago
Turks and Caicos Islands

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

Angola
Cameroon
Central African Republic
Côte d'Ivoire

DR of Congo
Liberia
Mali
Niger

Nigeria
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Sierra Leone

A world map in shades of blue with white outlines of continents and countries. Four yellow circular icons containing a flag are placed on the map: one in Europe, one in the Middle East, one in Africa, and one in East Asia. Dotted white lines connect these icons to their respective regional lists.

ARAB STATES

- Egypt
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Morocco
- Occupied Palestinian Territory
- Tunisia
- Yemen

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- Fiji
- India
- Indonesia
- Kiribati
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Pakistan
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- Samoa
- Sri Lanka
- Solomon Islands
- Thailand
- Tonga
- Vanuatu
- Vietnam

EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

- Burundi
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Rwanda
- Somalia
- South Africa (Multi-Country Office)
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Timor Leste
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

*All references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in full compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999)

FUNDING FOR PEACE AND RECOVERY

SUPPORT FOR UN WOMEN WORKING IN CONFLICT-AFFECTED CONTEXTS IN 2022

Our offices working in these contexts help lay and strengthen the foundations for peaceful, sustainable, and gender-equal societies across all of our programme areas. These efforts are essential to preventing conflict and recovering from crises.



\$638,070 El Salvador	\$8,655,178 Ethiopia	\$1,235,254 Guatemala	\$4,408,838 Haiti
\$1,993,737 Honduras	\$6,194,753 Iraq	\$1,041,121 Kosovo	\$571,048 Kyrgyzstan
\$4,388,690 Lebanon	\$7,163,702 Liberia	\$1,393,259 Libya	\$11,325,972 Mali
\$5,159,590 Myanmar	\$5,937,443 Niger	\$23,413,856 Nigeria	\$2,519,354 North Macedonia
\$14,097,409 Papua New Guinea	\$3,337,369 Senegal	\$2,777,982 Serbia	\$616,777 Sierra Leone
\$3,158,225 Somalia	\$6,503,870 South Sudan	\$5,424,385 Sudan / Abyei	\$7,147,432 Ukraine
\$2,529,055 Yemen	\$7,820,709 Occupied Palestinian Territory		

TOP 20 FUNDERS SUPPORTING UN WOMEN WORKING IN CONFLICT-EFFECTED CONTEXTS IN 2022

UN Women counts nearly 80 donors supporting our work on gender equality in fragile and conflict-affected contexts, contributing over USD 142 million in 2020 and USD 153 million in 2021, totaling nearly USD 300 million over two years. We want to thank all of our donors for their dedication and support of gender equality when it matters most.

Total Resources in 2022
\$22,283,261



Swedish Int'l Development Cooperation
 \$8,298,409



Unwomen Australia National Committee
 \$11,485



Dept. of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development
 \$300,321



Government of Germany
 \$1,949,352



Australian DFAT
 \$1,363,917



Government of France
 \$105,250



Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office
 \$3,395,669



UNOCHA
Central Emg Resp Fund

\$276,636



MPTF-Elsie
Initiative Fund

\$905,561

BHP

BHP Billiton
Foundation

\$1,635,432



Government
of Netherlands

\$334,185



Austrian
Development Agency

\$103,340



Multiple Donors
to MDTF

\$300,000



MPTF-Spotlight
Initiative Fund

\$110,000



Government
of Australia

\$25,000



UNDP Norway:
Uncdf only

\$1,500,000



European
Union

\$144,293



Government
of Japan

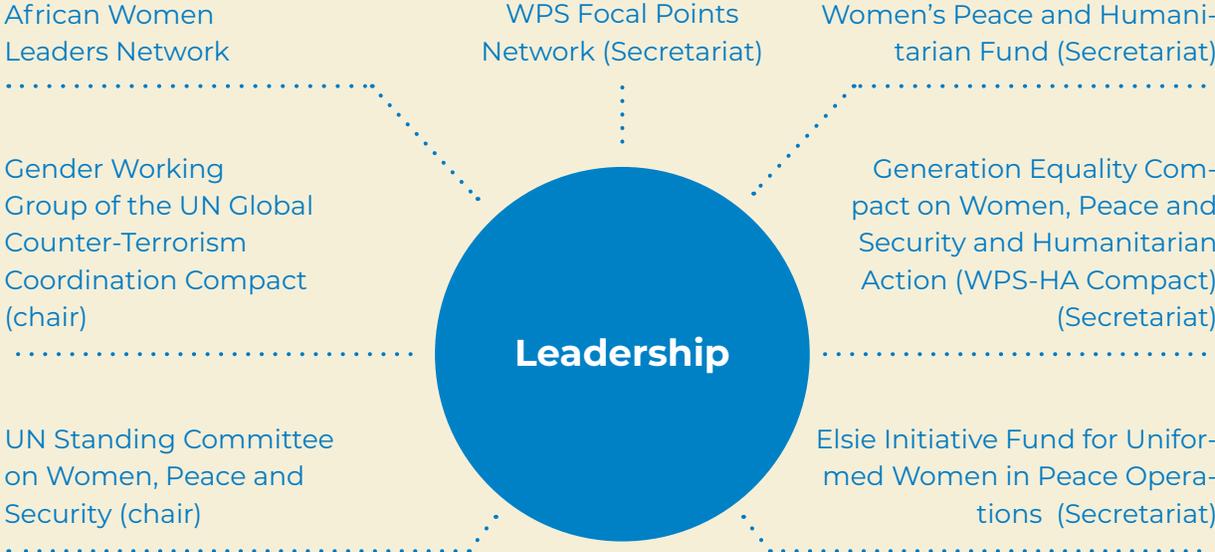
\$120,800



Government
of Canada

\$1,403,611

WHO WE WORK WITH



WHAT WE WORK TOWARDS

WOMEN'S FULL AND MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION

UN Women supports gender equality advocates, women leaders, mediators, peacebuilders and their organizations with resources, opportunities, connections and strengthened capacities to exercise their leadership, meaningfully engage in mediation and peace processes and contribute to the achievement of gender equality and sustainable peace. One key role that UN

Women plays is to support local, regional and global networks of women to support peer-to-peer learning, joint advocacy and build consolidated movements of women leaders to prevent conflicts and build peace. We also organise opportunities for women's voices to be heard, to be taken into account and to influence peace and security processes. UN Women supports regional women's mediator networks in their efforts to ensure more women are ready to participate in peace negotiations and processes, while also putting pressure on those designing peace processes to include women and those in the security sector to ensure uniformed women's full, equal and meaningful participation.



Photo: UN Women Philippines/Louie Pacardo

Globally, average percentage of women negotiators in major peace processes ⁴



16% of negotiators are women

Women constituted 44% of UN mediation support staff

Women as Chief Mediator in 2 of the 5 peace processes

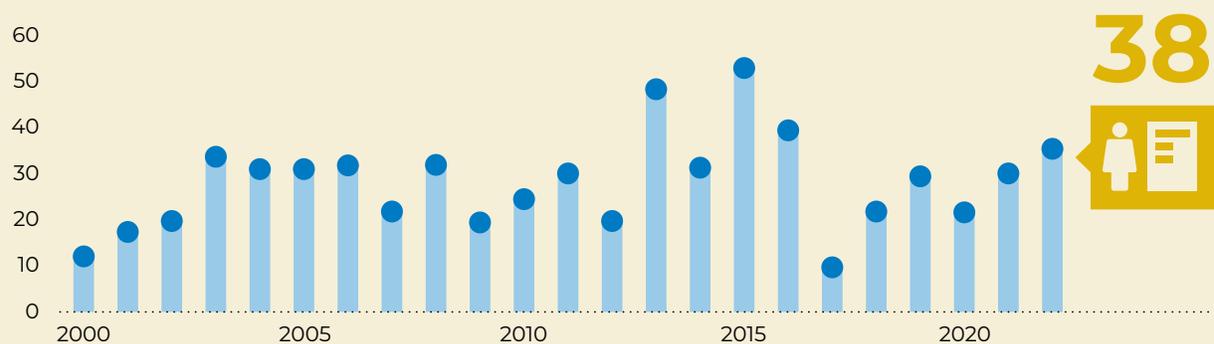
Women participated as negotiators or delegates in 4 of the 5 peace processes

100% of peace processes were supported by gender experts

100% of peace processes had consultations with women's organizations



Global percentage of peace agreements with provisions referencing women, girls, and gender, 2000-2022 ⁶



4. UN Women calculation based on data from the Council on Foreign Relations' Women's Participation in Peace Processes (<https://www.cfr.org/womens-participation-in-peace-processes/>)

5. Data comes from UN DPPA

6. Data from PA-X Peace Agreement Database, version 7. Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform, University of Edinburgh (accessed June 2023)..

UN WOMEN DRIVING CHANGE: IMPACT STORY - **AWLN**

“AWLN is a cross-national network lobbying to influence, inform, and promote women's rights and benefits throughout the African continent. AWLN connects young women with more experienced women, rural with urban activists and social, economic and political leaders from different backgrounds and makes them visible. Without AWLN, Africa would miss out on the many important contributions of women leading towards more prosperous and peaceful societies through strategic partnership, including with UN Women.”

Mme. Bineta Diop, Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security, African Union

The African Women Leaders Network (AWLN) was officially launched in 2017 with the support of UN Women, and the **African Union (AU) Commission**. It has since grown into a multi-level network with

thousands of members, focusing on key areas like governance and political participation, WPS, finance and entrepreneurship and supporting young women in leadership, agriculture and social mobilisation. The Network has expanded rapidly, with national chapters in over 30 countries. In 2022, in particular, AWLN made a significant difference on the African continent in promoting women's leadership in high-level bilateral and multilateral meetings and using its convening power to issue joint solidarity statements. For example AWLN supported **ECOWAS** in their review of the political developments in **Mali**⁷, and hosted a solidarity mission to **Kenya** in August to support efforts by Kenyan women and promote their leadership and participation in conflict prevention for peaceful democratic elections.⁸ AWLN also held innovative transgenerational exchanges, including by engaging men in violence prevention and response, increasing women's leadership in peacebuilding and being one of the few regional actors to formulate fast COVID-19 responses involving women leaders.

EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN IN ETHIOPIA THROUGH A NATIONAL AWLN CHAPTER

The AWLN **Ethiopia** Chapter's Young Women's Caucus was established in 2022 with the support

7. See AWLN Press Releases. “Passionate Plea of Solidarity by the African Women Leaders Network (AWLN) to the Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).”

8. African Union. “African Women Solidarity Mission to Kenya.” Press release, 5 August 2022. Available at: <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20220805/african-women-solidarity-mission-kenya#:~:text=The%20African%20Women%20Leaders%20Network,prevention%20for%20peaceful%20democratic%20electionshttps://au.int/en/pressreleases/20220805/african-women-solidarity-mission-kenya#:~:text=The%20African%20Women%20Leaders%20Network,prevention%20for%20peaceful%20democratic%20elections>. African Union. “African Women Solidarity Mission to Kenya.” Press release, 5 August 2022. Available at: <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20220805/african-women-solidarity-mission-kenya#:~:text=The%20African%20Women%20Leaders%20Network,prevention%20for%20peaceful%20democratic%20elections>

of UN Women. The caucus brings together young women leaders from the government, civil society, private sector and academia to engage with government and other stakeholders and enhance their leadership and decision-making roles. UN Women has been providing continuous coordination support for the AWLN Ethiopia Chapter since its establishment in 2019 in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs and ensured that the AWLN General Assembly and Youth Caucus include women from different sectors and parts of the country with an open call for applications.⁹

In countries such as **Kenya** and **Mali**, UN Women supported women's participation and protection during electoral periods. Advocacy campaigns and awareness raising on women's leadership, and gender responsive conflict prevention efforts, including successful campaigns to create quotas and reform discriminatory laws, have led to more peaceful environments and an increase in women in political decision-making processes.

UN Women has been instrumental in supporting a range of activities that support inclusion and push for women's direct participation in all peace processes, across negotiation tracks. Beyond Track 1 mediation/dialogue processes, investing in local mediation (Track 3) is critical for advancing sustainable infrastructures for peace. In **Myanmar**, for example, there were no women in the delegations for the formal negotiation or subsequent review of the Five-Point Consensus on Myanmar. However, UN Women supported local women in Yangon, Rakhine State and elsewhere across Myanmar who played a critical role in efforts to social cohesion among women

from different ethnic and religious communities, which complements and contributes to the success of the formal negotiation efforts, even though this may not have been formally recognized.

Where peace processes and mediation efforts are stalled, women engage at the local level to open up opportunities for peace from the ground up. As an example, UN Women has supported the diverse roles that women mediators in **Iraq, Libya, Syria and Yemen** have taken on to resolve conflicts and restore social cohesion in their communities despite being largely excluded from formal mediation roles. These women peacebuilders have mediated ceasefires and a halt to violations against civilians, brokered the release of political prisoners, prevented and resolved tribal conflicts and engaged in crossline negotiations to secure access to water and other vital resources.¹⁰ The report provides key recommendations on how to support the work of women mediators in these diverse contexts.

Building on the success of women's participation in the UN-led peace negotiations for the truce process in **Yemen**, UN Women supported the local women mediators involved in talks to reopen the roads in Taiz as part of that the truce process. Additionally, a partnership was established between the conflict parties at the governorate level to demilitarize captured water tanks in order to restore access to water for local communities. Through the initiative, 10 young women activists from Taiz were trained in mediation processes to support the next generation of women's engagement in local mediation.

In **Nigeria**, after UN Women trained 500 women mediators in mediation, conflict prevention and

9. "Call for Applications for Women Leaders to become a member of the African Women Leaders Network (AWLN) Ethiopia Chapter." Available at: https://africa.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/AWLN%20Application_%20Announcement%5B71%5D%20G.pdf.

10 "Parry, J, (2022), Women's Participation in Local Mediation: Lessons from Iraq, Libya, Syria and Yemen; UN Women. https://arabstates.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/Local-Mediation-Paper_EN-1.pdf

peacebuilding during 2019 through 2021, and following UN Women's persistent advocacy to increase women's participation over the years 2022 saw the appointment of 486 women members/advisors in Adamawa, 246 women in Gombe and 107 in Plateau State, where there were previously no or very few women in these bodies. These women are supported by the network of Women Peace Mentors that was established by UN Women, some of whom are traditional council members themselves. These women are actively engaged in decision-making, including on conflict prevention and peacebuilding in their respective communities, and are contributing to the programme's ultimate goal of gender-inclusive and sustainable peace in Nigeria.

In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, women were completely absent in the first two rounds of the peace talks in **Nairobi**. However, UN Women supported the increased representation of women in the third round of the Nairobi talks in 2022 and for the development of a roadmap for their effective participation in the next steps of the peace process. Women accounted for 40 per cent of the civil society delegation in the third round of the peace talks (and more than a quarter of all participants).

“UN Women has helped us to promote participatory and collective leadership, to identify women leaders in some provinces and to create leadership to transform our environment and, above all, to encourage them for increased political participation.”

Mme. Marie Louise Mwange; Chair of DRC and the President for the AWLN National Chapters

YOUTH, PEACE AND SECURITY

In 2022, UN Women supported the participation of young women in 33 peacebuilding processes around the world, including in **Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Somalia, Tajikistan, Ukraine** and **Zimbabwe**. In August 2022, two more countries, the **Philippines**¹¹ and the **Democratic Republic of Congo**¹², developed and endorsed national frameworks on Youth, Peace and Security following in the footsteps of **Finland** and **Nigeria**. Both plans were supported by multi-stakeholder coalitions, including UN Women.

UN Women has also been working to help establish new networks of young women and girl activists and peacebuilders. In Chad, for example, a very active network of young women and girls (Réseau des Jeunes Femmes et Filles Leaders du Tchad -REJEFFT) was created in 2022 as a result of a UN Women training to support women's leadership and empowerment that was conducted as part of the development process of a new national action plan on WPS.

11. National Action Plan on Youth, Peace and Security 2023-2033.

12. Plan d'Action National de la Résolution 2250 sur Jeunesse, Paix et Sécurité 2022-2026. Available at: <https://gnwp.org/wp-content/uploads/DRC-NAP-2250-.pdf>



Photo: UN Women Liaison Office to the African Union

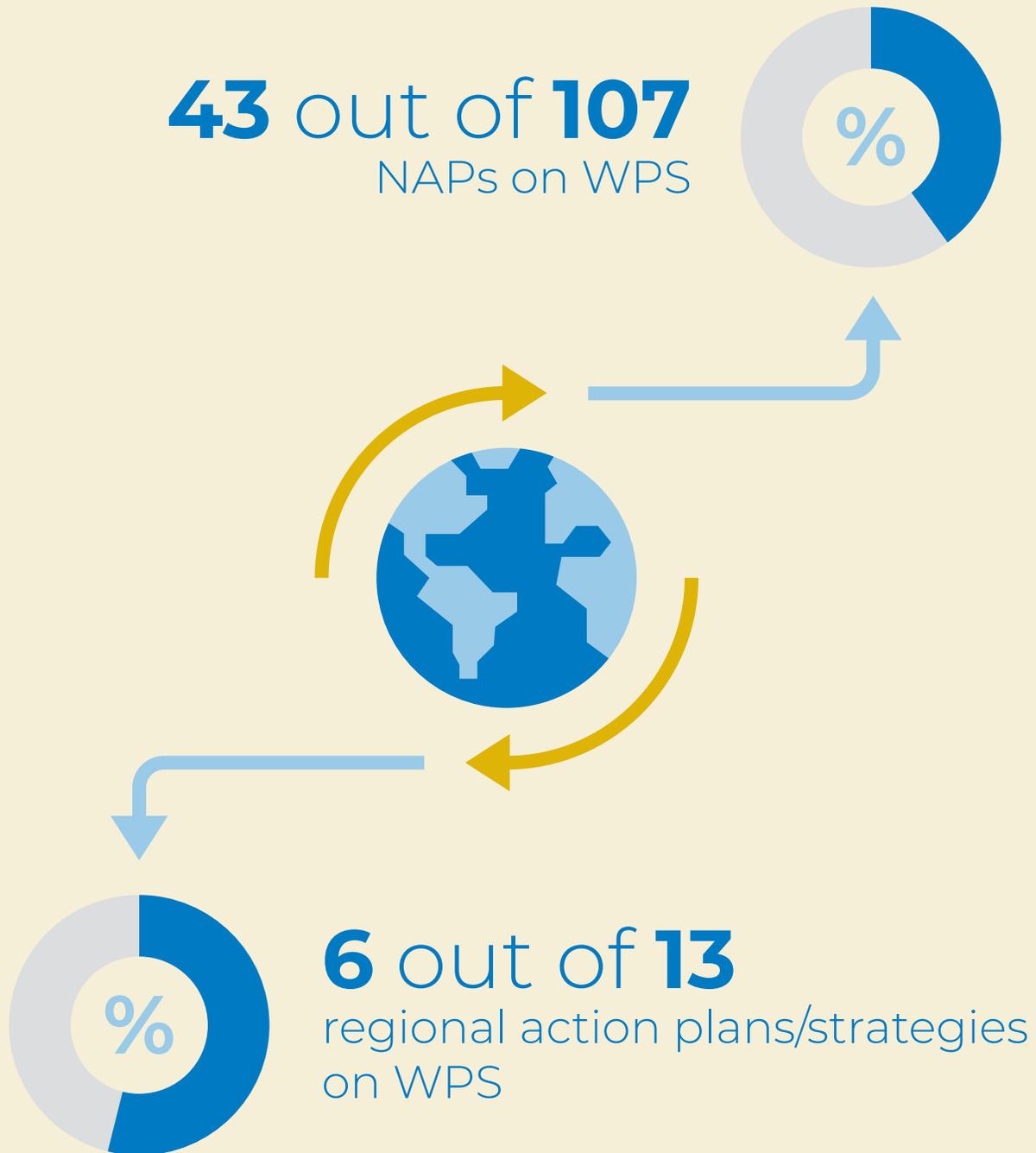
CLIMATE, PEACE AND SECURITY

UN Women has been actively raising awareness of the need to acknowledge these important links and to address them in both peace and security and disaster risk reduction policies, strategies

and plans. One clear example of the increased awareness of the gender, climate change and peacebuilding nexus is illustrated by the increasing inclusion of references to climate change in National and Regional Action Plans on WPS: 43 out of 107 (40 per cent) recently analysed NAPs include references to climate change; and 6 out of 13 (46 per cent) Regional Action Plans and Strategies include such references to climate change.¹³

13. Built on Smith's work (<https://www.sipri.org/sites/default/files/2020-06/sipriinsight2007.pdf>), UN Women reviewed the 107 most recent WPS NAPs from the website of the WPS Focal Points Network (<https://wpsfocalpointsnetwork.org/resources/>) and the 13 most recent WPS regional action plans as of July 2023.

Inclusion of references to climate change
in national and regional action plans/strategies
on WPS, 2022 ¹⁴



14. Women and peace and security: Report of the Secretary-General (S/2023/725)



FORGING A FUTURE OF PEACE AND EQUALITY: WOMEN'S INFLUENCE IN LEBANON'S TRANSFORMATION

UN Women has been steadfast in its support of women building peace and social cohesion in diverse and divided spaces in Lebanon, particularly through the establishment of groups and networks of women mediators and peacebuilders and creating spaces for women to dialogue at different levels. In line with the government's National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security for Lebanon, UN Women supported the founding and capacitation of 11 groups of community-level women mediators across the country who are identifying tensions and resolving community

conflicts through the promotion of nonviolence, as well as introducing a culture of mediation in schools, workplaces, family courts, youth clubs, and municipalities. In total, 240 women from across age groups, geographic areas, political and confessional affiliations are engaged in this cohort of mediators. In addition, a total of 40 women leaders started dialogue sessions with more than 130 women from their community on Dealing with the Past. Through this work, UN Women continues to support women address the legacy of the civil war, engage in peacebuilding

and reconciliation and lead cross-community and intergenerational dialogue about Lebanon's violent past and ways to address it. At the national level, UN Women supported the establishment of the first ever Women's Peacebuilding Network in Lebanon (WPNL) comprising of 18 women peacebuilders and mediators. While relatively new, this Network has already conducted a joint conflict analysis facilitated by UN Women in partnership with the university of Zürich (ETH-Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich) and its Centre for Security Studies to increase the knowledge and skills of its members in mediation and peacebuilding through capacity-building and exchanges with other regional and national networks of women peacebuilders. UN Women's support has contributed to the implementation of Lebanon's National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, as well as the upcoming next NAP which demonstrates the continuous commitment of the government and the support of UN Women in this process. Furthermore, 25 senior women from traditional political parties and emerging groups continued to meet through the two-track dialogue process to strengthen mutual trust and explore solutions and joint action to Lebanon's protracted crisis. UN Women's work in Lebanon shows how women can be supported in their engagement and contributions towards mediation, conflict resolution and peacebuilding and how their involvement strengthen peace processes.



Photo: UN Women/Lauren Rooney

BRINGING THE GENDER DIMENSION INTO PEACE-BUILDING AND CLIMATE FUNDING MECHANISMS

Broadly, UN Women supports the integration of gender perspectives into the Peacebuilding Fund through the secondment of a Gender Advisor to the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO). This role has been helped enable the PBSO to strengthen the linkages between gender, peacebuilding, and climate security. Going further, UN Women pushed for awareness-raising and technical support to the UN Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)

Reference Group in the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), which finances a number of pilot climate security projects. As a result, the most recent independent Thematic Review on Climate Security and Peacebuilding emphasized that the efforts towards climate, peace, and security present opportunities to address pressing social challenges, such corruption or the exclusion of women in leadership and decision-making in local communities.

UN WOMEN DRIVING
CHANGE: IMPACT
STORY - **AFGHANISTAN**



SUPPORTING WOMEN PEACEBUILDERS IN AND OUTSIDE OF AFGHANISTAN

“I believe we can get our country back. First, we need to make sure women’s voices are never silenced. We need to tighten the connections—the networks between women inside the country and women outside the country. We need to document everything that is happening to women; we need to put an end to violence in all forms, especially violence against women. Many people left Afghanistan, but the voice inside the country—kept alive by brave women across the provinces—is louder than ever.”

Habiba Sarabi, Former Minister of Women’s Affairs and first woman governor, living in outside of Afghanistan¹⁵

Since the Taliban takeover in August 2021, UN Women has focused on supporting the prioritization and amplification of Afghan women’s voices and needs – both those outside the country as well as those in Afghanistan – by creating regular and reliable spaces for Afghan women to mobilize and engage in direct dialogue with decision-makers related to the Afghan crisis. In 2022, consultations were held with close to 500 Afghan women in various regions– across Pakistan, Europe, Central Asia and at UN headquarters in New York, as well as online with women in Afghanistan – to identify their priority areas and recommendations for how international and regional actors can best support them. This has informed the planning and programming for UN Women’s work in Afghanistan at the country, regional, and international levels. Additionally, UN Women has provided technical support and capacity-building to Afghan women human rights defenders (WHRDs) and peacebuilders, empowering them with skills in diplomacy, women’s rights, strategic

15. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/feature-story/2022/10/no-peace-without-women-afghan-activists-on-why-womens-representation-matters>

communications, leadership, conflict resolution and building social cohesion. As a result, Afghan women have been able to position themselves as effective advocates for women's human rights and meaningfully contribute and participate in peace processes. UN Women has also supported the participation of Afghan women from inside and outside the country in global forums on WPS such as the Women, Peace and Security Focal Points Network meetings and the Global Convening on Women's Leadership for Sustainable Peace on 15-17 November 2022 in Geneva, providing networking opportunities with other women peacebuilders and WPS experts.

“Afghan women are some of the most resourceful and strong women in the world: their resilience is unbreakable. But there has been a lot of work done, and every time we need to start over and over again from zero—and this is what is absolutely killing us. But we have to do what we have to do, and we are going to do it. Simply because they do not want us to exist does not mean that we will stop, because we do exist, and we are here. We are going to do anything in our power. And we have the world standing by us—the world has not given up on us. We are receiving help: UN Women is supporting me to run a centre in Kabul, for example. The Afghan women diaspora is helping;

our women friends all around the world are helping.”

Mahbouba Seraj, Activist and women's human rights defender living in Afghanistan¹⁶

UN Women's Afghanistan Country Office, which has remained present and active in the country following the Taliban take-over, has played a significant role in coordinating and supporting Afghan women's engagement on the international stage, facilitating discussions on women's rights and Afghanistan's future. UN Women co-convened consultations across Afghanistan with 207 women, providing valuable data for high-level meetings during the UN General Assembly. The findings were published in a brief¹⁷ which was shared widely and highlighted in the Secretary-General's Report on Afghanistan. Afghan women were also supported to participate in press conferences and meetings with decision-makers, generating media attention and advocating for women's rights. Moreover, UN Women partnered with organizations like the NGO Working Group (NGOWG) on WPS to ensure Afghan women's participation in Security Council meetings, resulting in increased visibility of women's voices and rights in discussions and decisions related to Afghanistan, including peace processes and sanctions. This effort garnered support from civil society organizations and international coalitions, strengthening the call for mandatory women's participation in UN-led peace processes. UN Women has stood side by side with Afghan women in and outside the country amplifying their voice in international fora, including the UN Security Council, established links to international political debates and decision making so that their suffering under the Taliban regime is not forgotten but addressed by the international community.

16. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/in-the-words-of/2022/08/in-the-words-of-mahbouba-seraj-we-are-the-hope-we-are-the-power-keeping-afghanistan-together>

17. <https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2023/02/priorities-and-recommendations-of-afghan-women-inside-afghanistan>

UN WOMEN DRIVING
CHANGE: IMPACT
STORY - **COLOMBIA**



SUPPORTING THE JOURNEY OF COLOMBIAN WOMEN IN PURSUIT OF LASTING PEACE

In Colombia, UN Women has made significant strides in supporting the country's peacebuilding and recovery efforts, working with women affected by the conflict, advancing transitional justice for victims of human rights violations, security sector reform and supporting women's participation in peace negotiations. UN Women's programming has supported over 5,000 women leaders and human rights defenders and facilitated the socioeconomic reintegration of more than 300 female ex-combatants from the FARC who continue to face threats and barriers to education and employment among other challenges. UN Women's initiatives have empowered these women through productive ventures and training, enhancing their civic participation and economic independence. Funding from the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund has also enabled UN Women to strengthen the capacities of women victims of internal forced displacement

and women peacebuilders, supporting 26 civil society organizations (including organizations of Afro-Colombian women, ex-combatants and transgender women) and benefiting over 2,200 women and young people.

Furthermore, UN Women has been supporting civil society actors from Colombia to gain visibility and traction at the national and international decision-making levels, including within UN Security Council debates. The Security Council's Informal Expert Group on WPS (IEG) – which provides a space for regular consultations between Council Members and the UN on issues of WPS, and for which UN Women serves as the Secretariat – had a very active year in 2022, with follow-up actions after each meeting. With the support of UN Women, the IEG drafted a letter on women's participation in

the new negotiations between the Colombian government and the National Liberation Army (ELN) that was delivered to the Foreign Minister during his visit to New York. One area of critical importance for UN Women is ongoing support of and contribution to Colombia's Special Jurisdiction for Peace (the justice mechanism of the Comprehensive System of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition) to provide gender justice in its judicial decisions. This support is part of an ongoing process with some immediate dividends, but the overall impact can only be assessed over time. Some key activities to highlight include UN Women's continued contribution to transitional justice

milestones throughout 2022, cooperating with the Special Jurisdiction for Peace on four ongoing macro-cases (a grouping of multiple crimes) out of ten current cases. UN Women remains a steadfast supporter of the feminist movement in Colombia, which advocated for the opening of a sexual violence cases unit. UN Women also supported the drafting of a chapter on gender and LGBTQ+ that was included in the final Truth Commission Report. Gender mainstreaming in security institutions was also advanced in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence through the trainings of over 3,000 public servants and civilian and uniformed personnel from the armed forces.



Photo: courtesy of WPHF

RULE OF LAW AND TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

Throughout 2022, UN Women's ongoing programming on transitional justice directly contributed to strengthening the gender-responsiveness of truth commissions, reparations processes and criminal tribunals and trials, with progress now seen in **Colombia, Kosovo,¹⁸ Mali and South Sudan** as well as other conflict- and crisis-affected countries pursuing justice for past atrocities. For example, in **Kosovo**, UN Women supported the establishment in 2018 of a commission to verify the status of survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and provide them with reparations. UN Women has continued to provide technical and political support to the reparations commission, and as of September 2022, 1,322 applicants (1,261 women and 61 men) have been granted survivor status for reparations, changing the lives of individual survivors and supporting peace and security in Kosovo.

credible information on SGBV over the last decade. This has contributed to putting on the historical record crimes and rights violations that used to be shrouded in silence and has increased the chances that survivors will be able to access justice.

Since 2011, UN Women has partnered with Justice Rapid Response to deploy more than 100 gender experts to investigations and accountability mechanisms – this includes the UN-mandated human rights investigations mentioned above, but also national and regional-level courts and accountability mechanisms, including transitional justice processes. This partnership has also led to significant progress in strengthening the capacity and technical expertise of civil society organizations (CSOs) who work with justice-related issues that involve sexual violence, including to document and address international crimes and serious human rights violations, particularly in Iraq and Yemen.

DEPLOYING LEGAL EXPERTS TO COLLECT EVIDENCE ON SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.

UN Women has deployed gender experts – investigators, legal advisors, forensic experts and others – to virtually every UN-mandated human rights investigation, often called commissions of inquiry or fact-finding missions, to collect and analyse evidence of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and other violations targeting or affecting women, girls and LGBTIQ+ people. These investigations have been responsible for collecting and disseminating some of most

In 2021 UN Women partnered with MADRE to develop a new toolkit on the investigation and prosecution of gender-based persecution.¹⁹ While persecution on the grounds of gender is considered a crime against humanity in international law, it is rarely documented or prosecuted. This tool provides investigators, lawyers, advocates and others who engage in identifying gender-based crimes in conflict and atrocity settings with the necessary framework to identify and document this unlawful conduct. Shortly after the launch of the publication, the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) requested the toolkit's lead author, Lisa Davis, to become

18. All references to Kosovo in this report are understood to be under UN Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

19. UN Women and Madre. 2021. "Identifying gender persecution in conflict and atrocities: A toolkit for documenters, investigators, and adjudicators of crimes against humanity." Available at: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2022/01/identifying-gender-persecution-in-conflict-and-atrocities>



his Special Advisor on Gender Persecution. Davis then worked with the Office of the Prosecutor to develop a Policy on the Crime of Gender Persecution for the ICC, which was supported by UN Women and launched in December 2022.²⁰

implement the WPS agenda. The report was just the first step, and the recommendations outlined are now being taken forward through a new GFP working group on gender justice, co-chaired by UN Women with UNDP and DPO.

UN Women has successfully advanced a gender perspective and the integration of the WPS agenda in the UN’s work on the rule of law as members of the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP), a UN coordination mechanism for the delivery of UN rule of law assistance at country and international levels. In October 2022, UN Women and the GFP published a report outlining recommendations to strengthen the work of the GFP to advance gender justice and

20. ICC. 2022. “Policy on the Crime of Gender Persecution.” Available at: <https://www.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/2022-12/2022-12-07-Policy-on-the-Crime-of-Gender-Persecution.pdf>

UN WOMEN DRIVING
CHANGE: IMPACT
STORY

CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC



PROMOTING EQUAL ACCESS TO PEACEBUILDING AND RECONCILIATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

UN Women in the **Central African Republic (CAR)** facilitated women's participation in the Republican Dialogue for reconciliation in March 2022 and their role in the implementation of the recommendations. The Republican Dialogue was convened by the Head of State in an effort to strengthen the 2019 Peace Agreement. Of the 450 participants in the Dialogue, only 78 (about 17%) were women. However, UN Women helped involve 541 women and girls, including from marginalized groups (for example ethnic minorities, women and girls living with disabilities among others) in the sessions leading up to the Dialogue. UN Women also provided targeted capacity-building to the women delegates who were to be formal Dialogue participants. The

resulting peace accord includes a number of gender considerations. For example, *among the 217 recommendations made at the Republican Dialogue, at least 28 were clearly identified by the women as priority areas during the Women's Symposium and many were proposed by women. In addition, the Republican Dialogue made at least 55 recommendations related to women, youth and/or persons living with disabilities, while issues related to infrastructure, peace, sustainable development have positive impact on the whole society, including women.* These gender-responsive recommendations came as a result of the contributions from the women delegates during the Dialogue and the support provided by UN Women to harmonize their advocacy approach

on the Dialogue's six thematic areas. This was then followed by a women-led, month-long communications campaign about the results of the Dialogue, especially its provisions related to women's empowerment, including outreach missions to rural areas to gather feedback from communities, and a national workshop in Bangui where women from across the country voiced their expectations about the follow-up to the Dialogue. UN Women CAR was one of the first to engage the Republican Dialogue Monitoring Committee – set up by Presidential Order with a mandate to follow up on the implementation of

the Republican Dialogue's recommendations – to organize meetings with women's organizations to increase their understanding of what women are doing in the field, as well as to make recommendations on how the Committee could work with women's organizations. UN Women continues to follow up with the Monitoring Committee to encourage them to follow through with their gender commitments, including to continue to engage women and women's organisations in their work, while ensuring these efforts are reflected and embedded in the country's third NAP on WPS to start in 2024.



Photo: UN Women CAR



Photo: Ender Baykuş

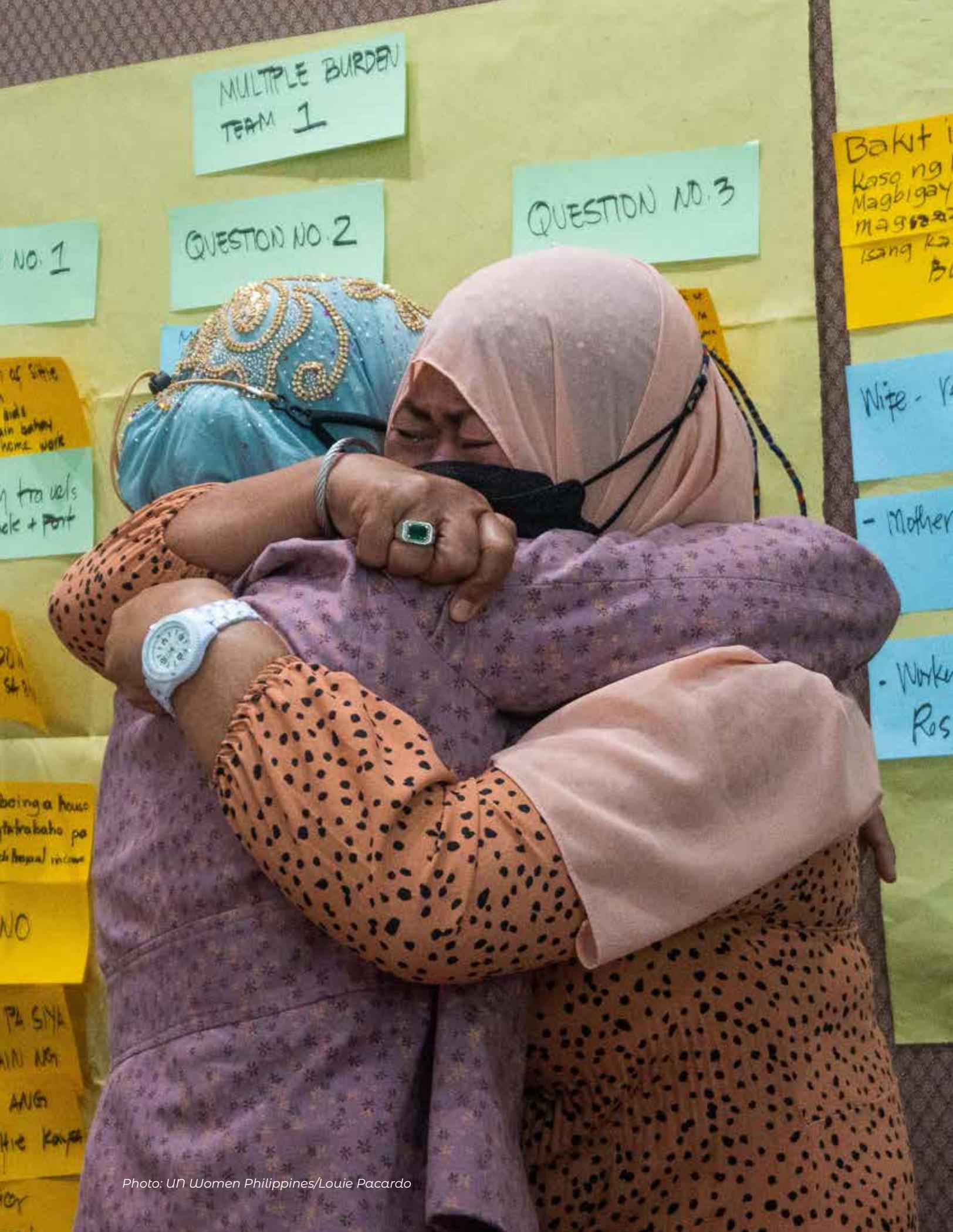
PROTECTION

UN Women supported WPS-focused initiatives, including gender-responsive conflict analysis, in numerous, complex conflict settings including **Afghanistan, Myanmar and Ukraine**.

In recognition of its contributions to crisis response, UN Women was invited to join the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the longest-standing and highest-level humanitarian coordination platform of the UN System in October 2022. Considering that 80 per cent of humanitarian emergencies are driven by armed conflict, there are clear opportunities to advance the WPS agenda within this forum and further highlight the links between UN supported development programmes, peacebuilding and humanitarian relief, including to promote women's resilience to disasters.

At regional level, UN Women continued to provide financial and technical support to the **League of Arab States (LAS)**, and in 2022, a strategic framework and plan of action was developed for the LAS' Emergency Committee for protection of Arab Women during armed conflicts. This action plan aims to highlight the experiences and challenges of women during armed conflicts and provide concrete steps on how to respond to these challenges, including through international law.

In **Tajikistan**, amid local cross-border conflicts and tensions (on the Tajikistan-Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan-Afghanistan borders) and the spill over effects of the invasion of Ukraine and the flow of refugees from Afghanistan, UN Women trained thousands from government ministries, communities and schools, worked with women journalists on fact-checking to prevent more conflict and the spread of misinformation. UN Women also supported the establishment of peacekeeping groups of women leaders.



MULTIPLE BURDEN
TEAM 1

QUESTION NO. 2

QUESTION NO. 3

Bakit
Kaso ng
Magbigay
Mag
Isang
B

Wife -

- Mother

- Work
Res

NO. 1

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HOME WORK

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NO

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ANI NA
AUG
Kie Kapa

Photo: UN Women Philippines/Louie Pacardo



ADDRESSING EMERGING PRIORITIES AND ADJUSTING AND MOBILIZING SUPPORT IN THE FACE OF CRISIS

From the outset of the invasion, UN Women Ukraine played a critical role in raising funds for CSOs to respond to the immediate needs of women and girls fleeing the war. UN Women HQ deployed staff in the initial weeks and months after the invasion to support the drafting of gender alerts and support existing WPS projects to adapt to changing needs. UN Women also deployed experts to international investigations on Ukraine (Ukraine Commission of Inquiry), which contributed to detailed reporting on gender-based violations and abuses in 2022.

In 2022, Ukraine ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) and, with the broad participation of women and women's organizations, they updated their National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 in December to reflect new wartime challenges, including conflict-related sexual violence and trafficking. UN Women began to support the Government's initiative to update and revise the NAP just months after the invasion began, facilitating dialogue platforms, advocacy events

and consultations for women from civil society to express their needs and priorities for inclusion. UN Women also trained authorities at the regional and local levels to adapt their regional and local action plans.

UN Women Ukraine actively engaged young women to advance the WPS agenda alongside the Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) agenda. Over 150 young women advocated for the establishment of Internally Displaced People (IDP) Councils and

inclusion in host communities' Youth Councils, using evidence from a report on the challenges faced by young women affected by the war. UN Women facilitated trainings on WPS, advocacy and leadership for young women IDPs, fostering dialogues between local authorities and these women. An online conference organized by UN Women and CSO Internews further involved 348 participants, leading to a decision to hold a dialogue between youth and the Government on the amendment of the NAP 1325 to ensure its alignment with the efforts to implement the NAP at the local level.



Photo: UN Women/Aurel Obreja



Photo: Courtesy of Tatiana Scutari

SECURITY SECTOR REFORM

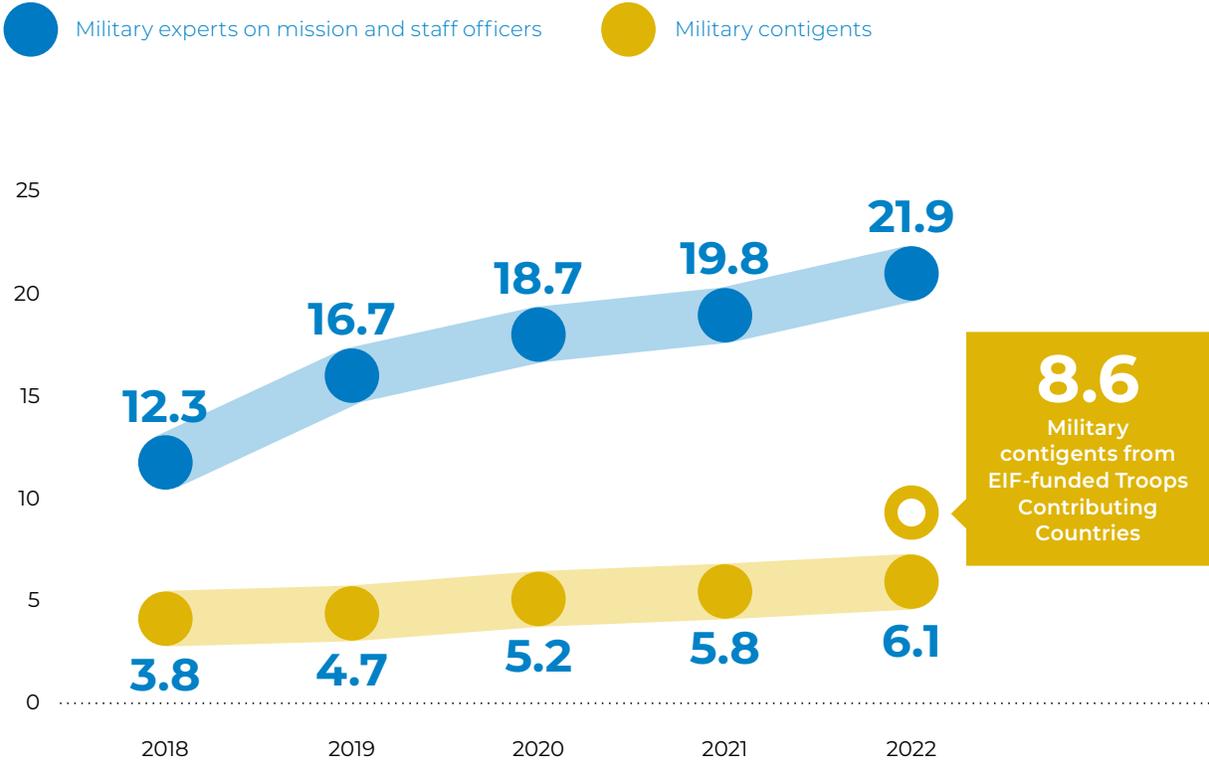
UN Women contributes to an equal gender balance and access to opportunities and advancement among uniformed peacekeepers, after decades of stagnation, both through the management of the Elsie Initiative Fund (EIF) for Uniformed Women in Peace Operations, and the Female Military Officers Course (FMOC).

The Elsie Initiative Fund provides financial assistance, technical support and capacity-building to Member States to help them overcome the barriers that have historically limited women's participation in peacekeeping. The initiative also focuses on creating an enabling environment within participating countries' security and defence institutions to promote gender equality and women's leadership. While there has been an increase in the deployment of women in all contributing countries to peacekeeping missions, there is a slightly higher contribution of women in Elsie Initiative Funded countries. "As of 31 December 2022, the percentage of women deployed by EIF-funded Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) was 8.6 per cent, compared to the global average of 6.8 per cent."²¹

The Female Military Officers Course (FMOC) was developed by UN Women to increase the representation of women in the military components of UN peace operations and has been used to train more than 900 women peacekeepers. Launched in 2015, the FMOC provides opportunities for professional growth, develops technical skills essential for mission success and collaborates with Troop Contributing Countries and Police Contributing

21. Elsie Initiative Fund Annual Report. 2022. Available from: <https://elsiefund.org/blog/>

Percentage of women in military personnel in UN peace operations, 2018 - 2022 ²²



Countries to incentivize the deployment of more women, especially in protection-related tasks. The FMOC has played a crucial role in enhancing peacekeeping effectiveness and credibility through the broader participation of women in leadership and operational roles.

In 2022, seven FMOC sessions were conducted to provide training to over 150 women military officers from 100 countries. A 2022 review of the FMOC resulted in the evolution of this training to the Women's Military Peace Operations Course (WMPOC) from 2023 onwards.

22. UN Department of Peace Operations (<https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/gender>), and Elsie Initiative Fund Annual Report. 2022

CHANGING THE CULTURE OF SECURITY SECTOR INSTITUTIONS



UN Women supports security sector reform and change the institutional culture to support women's increased participation and gender mainstreaming in close partnership with the Jordanian Government and the implementation of its second National Action Plan (JONAP II) (2022-2025). Between 2019 and 2022, UN Women provided capacity-building trainings and workshops for 2,528 security sector personnel, on topics such as gender awareness, gender mainstreaming, gender-responsive police and military operations and peacekeeping missions, among other topics. Overall, the percentage of national women security sector personnel increased by an average of 2 percentage points across all security institutions, exceeding set targets. The percentage of women deployed from the Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF) to peacekeeping operations has increased from 13 per cent in 2018 to 16 per cent in 2022 and from 3.6 per cent in 2018 to 10 per cent in 2022 from the Public Security Directorate (PSD). Both PSD and JAF have appointed gender advisors, gender focal points and gender champions

throughout their structures and developed a Women's Leadership Programme to provide professional development opportunities to increase uniformed women's participation and promotion to senior leadership positions.

One additional factor that can be attributed to the success of JONAP II and its implementation is the awareness-raising conducted by UN Women and the Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW) for the first JONAP (2018-2021). They produced a communications strategy to accompany the first JONAP to build awareness of, and support for, the implementation of the WPS agenda and the JONAP, as well as women in leadership, including in security and government. Endline surveys amongst the general public confirmed that the campaign was considerably effective, particularly when it comes to challenging and changing harmful social norms and assumptions on WPS, including a positive shift towards perceptions of women in leadership.



Photo: Abdalla Talb Abdalwhad

PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND TERRORISM

“Malta was proud to partner with UN Women on our Arria-formula meeting of the Security Council on Gender & Counter-Terrorism. UN Women shone a spotlight on the



Photo: UN Women Philippines/Louie Pacardo

importance of promoting gender equality while countering terrorism, as well as the risks and challenges which exist in this space. We must centralise the human rights of all persons, including women and girls, in the law and practice of counterterrorism.”

Ambassador Vanessa Frazier,
Permanent Representative of Malta
to the United Nations and President
of the Security Council

UN Women's support to advance the UN's counter-terrorism and preventing violent extremism agenda is guided by UN Security Council resolutions that specifically highlight and request the inclusion of gender aspects when considering working to prevent and respond to violent extremism. UNSCR 2242 (2015) and 2467 (2019) reaffirm the linkages among WPS, counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism, and aims to address the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls and uphold their rights. In addition to supporting national partners to prioritize gender equality and women's empowerment in their efforts to prevent violent extremism through policy and programmatic support, UN Women has made significant progress in promoting a gender perspective at the normative level through its participation in the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Compact, where it chairs the working group on gender-sensitive approaches. Prior to UN Women's engagement on this issue, there was very little consideration of gender as a key factor in UN CT/PVE strategies and initiatives. However, as a result of UN Women's advocacy, knowledge production and leadership, the 7th review resolution of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (UNGCTS)

in 2021 included, for the first time, references to the Security Council resolutions on WPS, noted women's important contributions to the implementation of the UNGCTS and the role of civil society, acknowledged the risks of instrumentalizing women's rights and called for more gender analysis. UN Women has also been partnering with OHCHR to advocate Member States and provide technical assistance to strengthen human rights and gender equality protections in the review, including the protection for women-led organizations and human rights defenders.

“UN Women has played an important leadership role in guiding UN counter-terrorism responses. UN Women and UNODC have also long enjoyed a strong partnership, particularly in mainstreaming gender perspectives in counter-terrorism policies and practices by first supporting the development of UNODC's Manual on Gender Dimensions in Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism and now partnering with UNODC to support front line responders.”

Kate Fitzpatrick. Programme Officer,
Terrorism Prevention Branch, United
Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

CYBERSECURITY

“We know that women of all backgrounds, girls and gender minorities are at greater risk of online harms, including misinformation, disinformation and hate speech. This is both symptomatic of and exacerbates systemic inequalities in a public life reliant on digital technologies. Australia is proud to support UN Women’s work to embed gender-responsive cyber security practices, promote peace, and ultimately empower women and girls to benefit from the economic and social opportunities offered by cyber and critical technologies.”

Mr Brendan Dowling, Australia
Ambassador for Cyber Affairs and
Critical Technology

Although cybersecurity concerns have been discussed in the context of national security for some time, they are not yet consistently considered in the WPS agenda. Since 2021, the UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific has been working to increase understanding of the implications and risks arising from the intersection between cybersecurity and WPS issues. As a result of UN Women’s awareness-raising and trainings of government and civil society partners in South-East Asia, the importance of tackling cybersecurity as an emerging security issue under gender-responsive peace efforts across the region were

included in the **Regional Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security (RPA-WPS) by the Association for Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)** that was adopted in November 2022. The adoption of the RPA-WPS, with the technical support of UN Women, has furthermore accelerated national-level processes, such as in the Philippines and Thailand, to highlight the links between gender and cybersecurity, including in the context of WPS National Action Plan development.

The project has made considerable progress in terms of strengthening regional civil society’s leverage to lead change in the cybersecurity field at the national, regional, and global levels, guided by conflict-sensitive and gender-responsive principles. In June 2022, UN Women facilitated the establishment of a regional network of 19 CSOs in eight countries. This Network was supported by UN Women to produce a joint Advocacy Brief on Cybersecurity in the Context of the WPS Agenda with 25 key recommendations on how to ensure cybersecurity policy and practice are in line with WPS principles. These recommendations were central to the technical assistance UN Women provided for the development of the ASEAN RPA-WPS and have been a key advocacy tool in engagement with decision makers throughout the region, particularly in the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam.



Photo: UN Women/Ploy Phutpheng

FINANCING CHANGE

UN Women is focused on advocating for more inclusive financing for peacebuilding by advocating for the meaningful inclusion of women peacebuilders in decision-making, promoting flexible and sustainable financial mechanisms, and fostering partnerships with various stakeholders to advance women's rights and gender equality in peacebuilding efforts. UN Women also plays a key role in coordinating and supporting pooled funding (multi-donor) mechanisms to channel more funds directly to local women peacebuilders and women's organizations.

In 2022, the UN Secretary-General's Executive Committee took additional decisions to strengthen leadership accountability on gender equality and WPS. Leading policy initiatives, like the UN system's minimum 15 per cent financial resource earmark for programming dedicated to gender equality and the roll-out of gender markers to track the allocation of such funding, have resulted in notable changes in UN financing. UN Women ensured the voices and perspectives of women peacebuilders and women's CSOs were heard at the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Financing for Peacebuilding on 27 April 2022, both in the roundtables and in the high-level meeting and outcome resolution.



Photo: UN Women Sri Lanka/Ruvini De Silva

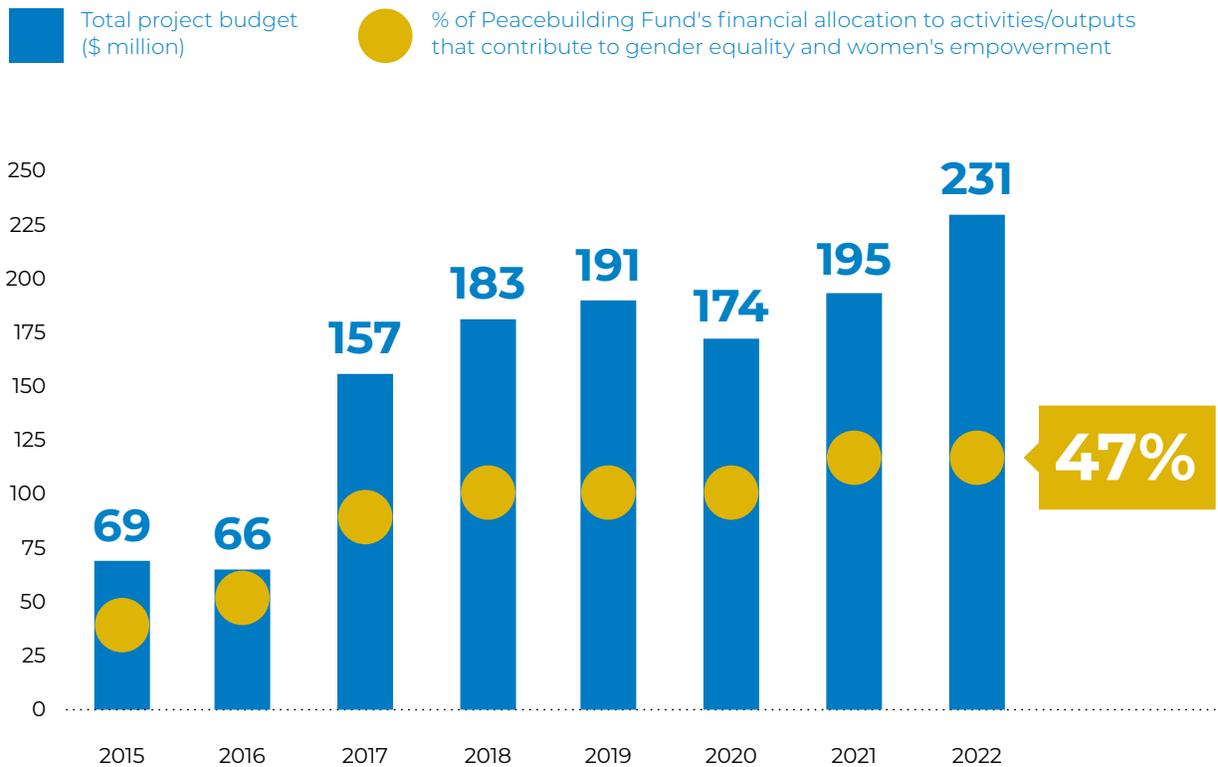
BUILDING PEACE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL - UN SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND

UN Women successfully partnered with the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, which exceeded its 30 per cent gender funding target, by allocating 47 per cent to gender equality and women's empowerment over the past two years. In 2022, the PBF approved a record \$231

million in support for peacebuilding initiatives in 37 countries, of which 47 per cent (\$108.5 million) supported gender equality.

The Peacebuilding Fund's contributions to UN Women programming went from \$500,000 in 2010-2011 to approximately \$4 million per year between 2012 and 2014, to closer to \$15 million per year between 2018 and 2020 and a record \$21.5 million in 2022.

Peacebuilding Fund funds allocated to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, 2015-2022 ²³



23. UN DPPA Peacebuilding Support Office

DIRECT SUPPORT FOR WOMEN PEACEBUILDERS- THE WOMEN'S PEACE AND HUMANITARIAN FUND (WPHF)

The United Nations Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) provides direct, dedicated, and flexible financing to women's CSOs and local women peacebuilders in conflict-affected and humanitarian settings. The UN Women-led Secretariat of the WPHF has constantly sought new and innovative ways to increase access to funds for local women peacebuilders and human rights activists through three unique funding windows, including the window for WHRDs which was launched in mid-2022 that provides individual protection grants to those at risk, and institutional funding for CSOs to safeguard their existence, strengthen their capacity and to adapt to evolving challenges. In addition, the WPHF has established an emergency response process to channel funds rapidly on the ground, with grants provided to

women's rights organizations through UN Women Country Offices in Ukraine, Haiti and Ethiopia. In 2022 alone, WPHF transferred over \$35.7 million to 303 active CSOs of which the majority went through UN Women Country Offices.

ADVANCING GLOBAL NORMS AND STANDARDS

UN Women continued to strengthen and advance the definition of global norms and standards on WPS at the international level. In 2022, 62 per cent of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Human Rights Council integrated a



Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

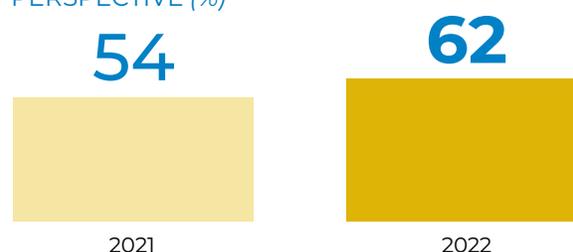
gender perspective. The Secretary-General and his Executive Committee also made 16 significant decisions related to WPS in 2022, following extensive inter-agency negotiations. UN Women had proposed and was tasked to lead or co-lead in the vast majority of these decisions, demonstrating their active role in pushing forward the WPS agenda at the UN.

There has also been a significant increase in attention towards the WPS agenda in the Security Council since the establishment of UN Women, including in the last few years despite the divisions in the Council. Four new resolutions on WPS have been adopted since UN Women was founded, with a noteworthy rise in the inclusion of gender language in resolutions, from 15 per cent in 2000-2005 to 60 per cent in 2022. In addition to frequency, the language on WPS has also become more detailed, more specific and addresses more areas than previous references.

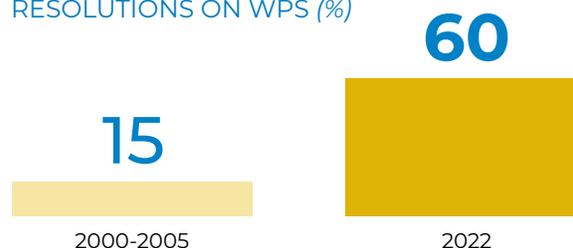
The number of women civil society briefers also increased significantly, from 25 briefers between 2000 and 2015 to over 60 in 2021 and 2022, resulting in enhanced quality and specificity of Council decisions on WPS. The Security Council also held a record five open debates on WPS and invited UN Women's Executive Director to brief the Security Council four times, also a record. Seven of the twelve countries that held the rotating presidency of the Security Council signed on to the Shared Commitments on WPS, which was a pledge initiated in 2021 by Ireland, Kenya and Mexico to make WPS a top priority during their presidencies of the Security Council. The active inclusion of women and gender issues in these debates are important not only for a fairer representation and reflection of our societies but also because different perspectives make the decisions of the Security Council and international fora more comprehensive and efficient. The

active engagement of women resulted in high demand for UN Women's support. UN Women's active role as the Secretariat of the Security Council's Informal Expert Group on WPS and its in-depth discussions continued to play a key role in supporting the inclusion of WPS issues and recommendations in UNSCR resolutions.

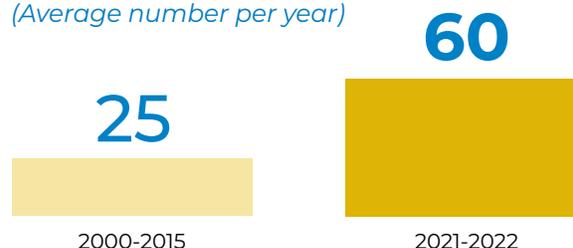
INCREASED PERCENTAGE OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL THAT INTEGRATE A GENDER PERSPECTIVE (%)



INCREASED PERCENTAGE OF THE INCLUSION OF GENDER LANGUAGE IN RESOLUTIONS ON WPS (%)



INCREASED AND SUSTAINING INCLUSION OF WOMEN CIVIL SOCIETY BRIEFERS IN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETINGS (Average number per year)



Amid rising threats and attacks against women in public life, UN-Women collaborated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the NGO Working Group (NGOWG) on Women, Peace and Security to conduct a consultation on protecting women human rights defenders in conflict for them to speak up freely and without fear. This informed the first ever Security Council open debate on this issue. UN Women also partnered with OHCHR and the NGOWG and launched a periodic survey to monitor reprisals against women civil society representatives who briefed the Security Council.

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY ACTION PLANS (NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL)

UN Women continues to be the lead UN entity supporting Member States to develop their action plans, providing advocacy and awareness-raising, coordination of multi-stakeholder consultations and the provision of technical support including for the action plans' design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation frameworks. As of 2022, there were 103 NAPs adopted.

In 2022, UN-Women spearheaded multi-stakeholder efforts to support the **adoption of 8 National Action Plans** on WPS. These included the first-generation NAPs of Morocco, Somalia, Uruguay and Chad (only adopted in January 2023). All of the new NAPs adopted in 2022 had a monitoring framework with indicators. UN Women also supported the

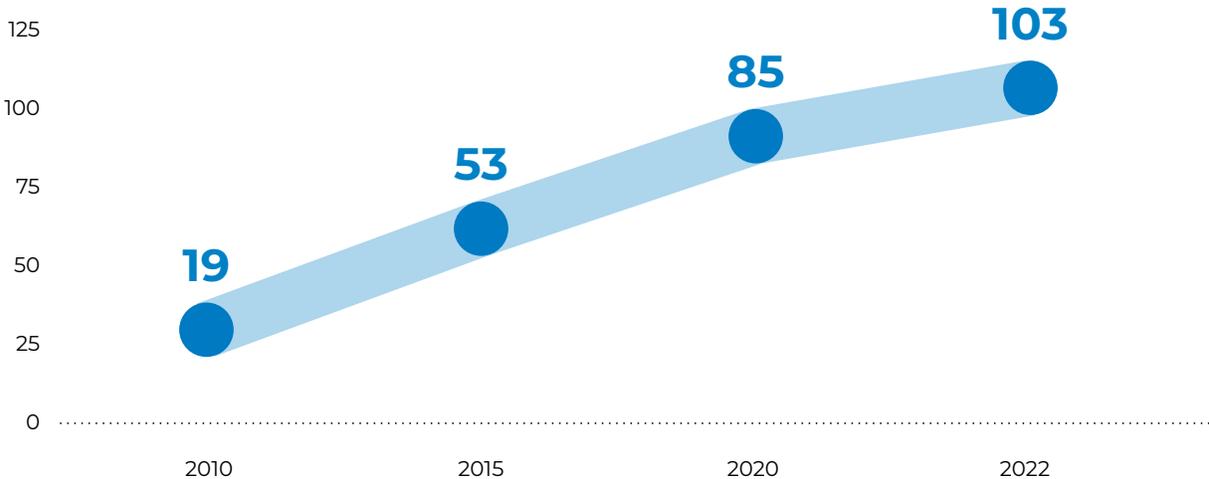
Government of Nigeria to adopt its 4th NAP and the Government of Georgia to adopt its fourth NAP on WPS (2022-2024). The Georgia 4th NAP has a strong youth focus and mainstreams Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda priorities to respond to the needs of conflict-affected youth, especially young women, and their right to participate in decision-making processes related to peace and security. UN-Women's support also extended to ASEAN with the launch of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on WPS, demonstrating successful coordination amidst diverse country priorities and security challenges. In Sri Lanka, despite significant political and economic crises, UN-Women's support facilitated the development of the country's first NAP on WPS, while Nepal saw NAP II's adoption after extensive awareness-raising and coordination efforts.

UN-Women also played a central role in advancing the implementation of NAPs on WPS in various countries around the world. UN-Women's support extended to numerous countries such as Argentina, Ethiopia, Jordan, Nepal, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam, in addition to the revision of Ukraine's NAP. Notably, localization efforts saw the integration of NAPs into municipal plans and policies in countries like Albania, Bangladesh, Botswana, Colombia, Georgia, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Moldova, Timor-Leste, and Uganda, among others. Additionally, UN-Women's efforts in Mozambique fostered a multi-stakeholder dialogue platform, promoting synergy and coordination among stakeholders implementing the NAP on WPS. The transformative journey of NAPs was evident, with a marked increase in monitoring frameworks and indicators and the integration of local action plans. In Iraq, improved M&E frameworks and innovative online platforms were established for NAP II monitoring, and in the Republic of Moldova, humanitarian components were integrated into NAP revisions in response to the Ukraine conflict.

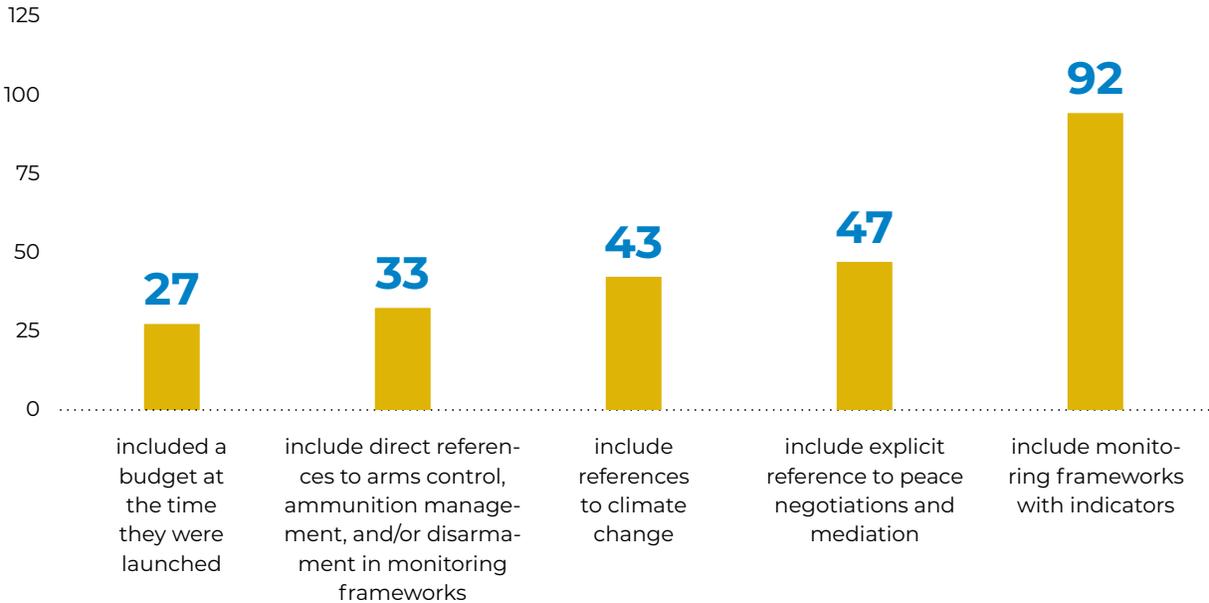


Photo: UN Women Kyrgyzstan

Growth in the number of national action plans on WPS



Among the latest 107 national action plans on WPS²⁴



24. Women and peace and security: Report of the Secretary-General (S/2023/725)

“The guidance and support offered by UN Women through the FPN have resulted in concrete policy changes within our country. We now have a strong legal framework to combat GBV, increased representation of women in decision-making bodies, and targeted support for women-led peacebuilding initiatives.”

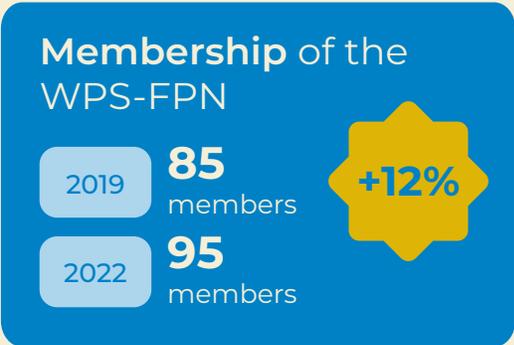
Emily Amlagu Opati; Deputy Director, State Department for Gender, Ministry of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens Affairs and Special Programmes; Kenya

“The WPS Focal Points Network represents a unique platform for States, international organizations and civil society to engage with and learn from each other with the shared objective of strengthening the implementation of the WPS agenda. As the 2022 co-chair, Switzerland worked closely with UN Women and South Africa to enable the development of actionable measures on women’s participation, protection of women’s rights and on national action plans, based on the knowledge and expertise of the wide

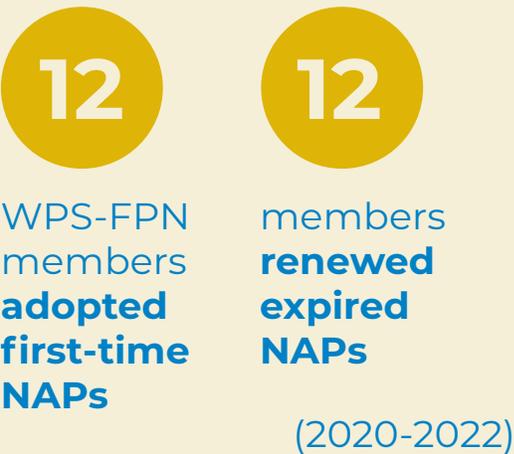
variety of actors participating in the WPS Focal Points meetings.”

Talia Wohl; Senior Adviser of the Peace and Human Rights Division, Eidgenössisches Departement für Auswärtige Angelegenheiten; Switzerland

The Women, Peace and Security Focal Points Network assists Member States and regional organizations to improve and strengthen the implementation of the WPS agenda. As the Secretariat of the Network, UN Women facilitates the Network as a cross-regional forum that provides space in which to share experiences, peer learning and best practices, strategies and tools so as to advance the implementation of all Security Council resolutions on WPS and to improve the coordination of funding and assistance programmes. The Network also encourages information flow with relevant forums, such as the Security Council Informal Expert Group on Women, Peace and Security and the Group of Friends of Women, Peace and Security, and recognizes civil society and local organizations as critical partners. In 2022, in-person capital meetings were held in Geneva and Pretoria by the Co-Chairs Switzerland and South Africa, bringing together over 80 national focal points, 7 regional organisations and over 20 civil society organisations. One key area of the success has been the impact that the activities of the FPN has had on the adoption and implementation of WPS NAPs.



New members during 2022: Niger, Central African Republic, Republic of Korea, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Lebanon, Côte d'Ivoire, Mongolia and Lesotho.



100% of new adopted by Network members in 2022 outlined a coordination process for NAP implementation

Percentage of WPS-FPN members of the global total of UN Member States and territories with a **WPS national action plan (NAP)**



Comparison of WPS-FPN members that have adopted a **WPS NAP** or **Strategy**



All new FPN member NAPs reflected **increased use of good practices** in NAP development and had a **monitoring framework with indicators**



Another significant finding is that, except for a very small number of NAP processes, governments and organizations now incorporate some level of **civil society engagement** as standard practice in NAP implementation.

The reach of the FPN continues to grow. In 2022, the FPN held two capital-level meetings in Geneva and Pretoria respectively, bringing together 330 participants. A key outcome of the Geneva meeting was a joint communiqué of recommendations on women's participation in peace processes, protecting women's rights and recognizing women's agency, and WPS NAPs responding to conflict and crisis situations. The communiqué was unanimously adopted by the 70 FPN members in attendance.

A **new website for the Network** (<https://wpsfocalpointsnetwork.org/>) was launched in July 2021, which serves as a global knowledge platform on women, peace and security and with individual webpages for all 95 Network members. By the end of 2021, the website had registered 4,526 views. In 2022, the website registered 23,523 views, a **420 percent increase**.

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACTION (WPS-HA) COMPACT

The WPS-HA Compact was launched at the Generation Equality Forum in 2021 to strengthen implementation and accountability for the WPS agenda and gender-responsive humanitarian action. The Compact has welcomed more than 200 governments, UN entities, regional organizations, civil society organizations, academia and the private sector as Signatories. The Compact facilitates multistakeholder coordination and monitors Signatory progress across the Compact's five thematic areas of financing, participation in peace processes, economic security, leadership, protection and promotion of women's human rights.



Photo: UN Women/Marina Mestres Segarra

The Compact's first accountability report tracked that in 2022, Signatories spent close to one billion dollars and reached 22.1 million women and girls in Afghanistan, Cameroon, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, South Sudan, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Ukraine, and other conflict and crisis situations. Sixty-six per cent of Signatories completed all the requested reporting, 99 per cent completed qualitative reporting on specific actions, and 70 per cent provided reporting on at least one indicator. Seventy-one per cent of Signatories reported that on average, they had met expectations on the Compact's principles of transformation which foster localization, intergenerational action, inclusivity and intersectionality, and multistakeholder action across the humanitarian-development-peace (HDP)nexus.

CONNECTING, SHARING AND EXCHANGING: A TOOL FOR SUCCESS

UN Women's global team working across WPS, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Humanitarian Action (HA) boasts a vast reservoir of knowledge and experience. UN Women's Community of Practice (CoP) on WPS, HA and DRR, with over 300 members across the organization, aims to provide a space to capture this knowledge and promote knowledge exchange to help build internal capacities and close the feedback loop between country, regional and HQ colleagues to best inform policy and programming practices. The CoP also provides an opportunity to engage with external stakeholders and experts, ensuring UN Women's expertise is informed by leading-edge thinking and practices. In 2022, the CoP convened 19 online learning sessions, reaching approximately 1200 participants and



Photo: UN Women/Satu Bumi Jaya

an unknown number of viewers through two sessions broadcast on UN Web TV. Six of the 19 webinars were open to external stakeholders, including three in continued partnership with DCAF and OSCE-ODIHR on issues such as gender and intelligence services, military gender advisors and the importance of whole-of-society partnerships in preventing violent extremism and countering terrorism. Other sessions open to external stakeholders were co-organized with DPO, DPPA, and the OSRSG-SVC, featuring discussions with women photojournalists working in conflict-affected contexts or the pushback on WPS in peacekeeping operations. At least seven UN-Women country offices reported having collaborated on new projects with other parts of the organization as a result of their participation in these webinars. At least eight UN-Women country offices reported developing new project proposals as a result of insights gained in these webinars, and several of them reported that these proposals had been successful and received funding, including from the PBF.

DATA AND MONITORING

UN Women continues to invest in and support the collection of gender statistics and sex-disaggregated data. On WPS, UN Women has strengthened evidence-base analysis as inputs to the Secretary-General's annual reports, Security Council discussions, policy-making and programming, along with UN Secretary-General's Executive Committee decisions. UN Women, functioning as the Secretariat of the United Nations Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security, spearheaded a task force strengthening UN system monitoring and accountability framework on WPS. Furthermore, through a consultation process of revising the monitoring framework, UN Women prompted the inclusion of robust WPS indicators to measure success in the strategic plans of UNODC and UNDP, culminating in enhanced overall

performance and accountability of UN entities on a global scale. In addition to tracking global trends, the strengthened framework monitors system-wide efforts to realize commitments under the WPS agenda and capture related outcomes by entities.



Photo: UN Women/Ploy Phutpheng

On DRR, in 2022, UN Women developed the Women's Resilience to Disasters (WRD) Policy Tracker, which supports the analysis, stocktaking and monitoring of progress across 193 UN Member States on gender-responsive and inclusive DRR, climate change, and resilience laws, policies, strategies, and plan. The Tracker also highlights key statistics on the degree of gender-responsiveness and inclusiveness on associated policy frameworks. Additionally, UN Women strengthened and supported the Interagency Focal Points Group on Disaster Risk Reduction, which includes 50 UN entities, on the production of sex, age and disability-disaggregated data.



Photo: UN Women/Raveendra Rohana

GENDER-RESPONSIVE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, RESILIENCE, AND PREPAREDNESS

“Gender-responsive and disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction remains a key priority for Australia. We are proud to support the UN Women’s Women’s Resilience to Disasters programme, which is empowering Pacific women as leaders of their communities.”

James Gilling, now former First Assistant Secretary of the Humanitarian Partnerships Division for the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

UN Women’s disaster risk reduction work has been designed to adapt to rapidly changing disaster risk contexts, including in conflict-affected and fragile regions, so as to help women build their own resilience, as well as that of their communities, in multi-risk environments. Strengthening the resilience of women and girls to disasters and threats, including climate change, goes beyond reducing impacts of gender-specific disaster risks to addressing root causes which also contributes to peace and security as well as sustainable development.

Building on the approach of UN Women’s Women’s Resilience to Disasters programme, UN Women expanded its portfolio on DRR from 51

countries in 2021 to 61 countries in 2022 in collaboration with UNDRR, UNFPA, other 47 UN entities, and contributed to gender-responsive DRR legislation, strategies, plans, and assessments in 37 countries covering 764 million people, in close cooperation with national governments and 486 women organisations. UN Women's annual DRR budget has increased from \$ 4.4 million in 2016 to \$ 22.5 million in 2022. By strengthening women's resilience in multi-risk environments in 61 high-risk countries, UN-Women also contributes to advancing climate security, conflict prevention, and the prevention of violent extremism.

UN Women has actively engaged its triple mandate to achieve normative gains in gender mainstreaming of DRR frameworks. The joint advocacy effort made by UN Women, the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), UNFPA and a large network of women's organizations resulted in significant progress for gender-responsive disaster risk reduction at CSW66, the Global Platform on disaster risk reduction, and the **Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference in 2022**. Consequently, the outcome documents of all three conferences called for the creation of a Gender Action Plan (GAP) for the Sendai Framework. Currently, the GAP is being developed by Member States and other actors with technical support from UN Women, UNDRR and UNFPA, while ensuring Member States' ownership and leadership.

UN Women supports knowledge exchange and awareness raising of gender-related DRR through the updated and expanded Women's Resilience to Disasters Knowledge (WRD) Hub, a one-stop shop which includes over 1500 resources and brings together a growing community of more than 874 practitioners and experts. As part of the Hub, the Women's Resilience to Disasters Policy Tracker was launched, which tracks progress in the development of gender-responsive or inclusive legislative frameworks on DRR and climate across 193 UN Member States and helps

analyse comparative progress across regions and countries, highlights good practice. In 2022, the Policy Tracker identified 114 inclusive national and regional DRR and climate policy frameworks.

UN Women continued to work hand-in-hand with the UN system, the World Bank and the European Union to ensure an increased focus on gender-responsiveness in Post Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNAs), including following the devastating floods in **Pakistan** affecting 33 million people and with one-third of Pakistan under water. As a result, the priorities of women and girls were clearly outlined in recovery and reconstruction needs and UN Women was able to mobilize \$ 1.8 million to support women's economic recovery and advance efforts towards the reduction of gender-specific disaster risks.

Women contributed to strengthening the UN system's work in gender-responsive disaster risk reduction and resilience, by identifying critical actions for the UN system to make significant and practical progress on gender equality in disaster risk reduction by 2030 and ensuring the UN system's accountability to their commitment. Of the 25 UN entities that reported against the gender section of the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience, 68 per cent confirmed that they have implemented initiatives with a focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Notable achievements were observed at the country level, including UN Women's support for **Tunisia's** gender-responsive DRR plan, **Bangladesh's** focus on gender in disaster management, and **ASEAN's** strides in operationalizing a gender-responsive approach in disaster management. UN Women's contributions encompassed policy advocacy, practical guidelines, and capacity-building efforts to foster resilience and gender equality in disaster response and climate action.



Photo: UN Women Mali

A key result of the Women's Resilience to Disasters programme has been to promote stakeholder engagement in gender-responsive DRR, including addressing violence and security concerns. As a result of participating in UN Women led training sessions in **Nigeria** and **Senegal** to mainstream gender in and climate change adaptation, **Niger** participants were invited to join the drafting committee of the new national law 2022/61 on Disaster Risk Reduction, to ensure its gender mainstreaming.

In Asia, UN Women UN Women's regional office in Asia and the Pacific assisted the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management and the ASEAN Secretariat in operationalizing the gender-responsive approach outlined in the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response Work Programme 2021-2025. This collaboration led to the development and release of operational guidelines on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) in disaster management, and the collation and publication of exemplary case studies.



“First of all, I would like to highlight the need for a paradigm shift from seeing women as victims of disasters, to seeing them as active agents of change, and as leaders. At the regional level, there's an excellent platform to share what works for women leadership. Last year, the ASEAN Secretariat with UN Women, UNDRR and IFRC organized a roundtable that showcased the enablers for leadership of women, youth, persons with disabilities, in disaster management. So, I want to underscore the importance of high level political will, commitment, and recognition of women leadership and the critical role it plays.”

Dr. Riyanti Djalante, Assistant Director for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance, ASEAN



DISASTER MITIGATION IN LIBERIA

In May 2022, severe flooding resulting from heavy rains affected nine pilot communities participating in the Buy from Women initiative in Bong and Nimba Counties, which are two of Liberia's primary agricultural regions. This flooding had a significant impact on the livelihoods of the residents in these areas. To address the challenges posed by the flood, 1,200 women smallholder farmers who had been adversely affected received vegetable seeds and food supplies from both Bong and Nimba Counties. These interventions garnered support from the UN Women country office and like-minded partners.

These provisions not only improved the food and nutritional security of the affected women but also contributed to an increase in their income. This support helped them secure their livelihoods, contributing to the resilience of their communities in the face of disasters.



Photo: UN Women/Alioune NDIAYE



STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE OF WOMEN AND GIRLS AFFECTED BY CONFLICTS, VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE LAKE CHAD REGION

In the Lake Chad Basin (LCB), the escalating security threats and the COVID-19 crisis amplified violent extremism, fuelled displacements, and heightened vulnerabilities to disasters and instability. This exacerbated risk-drivers such as poverty and inequality, damaging critical infrastructure and rolling back gains, especially

in gender equality. Women and girls, disproportionately affected by the crisis, faced increased exposure to crises and insecurity. Their exclusion from decision-making processes further compounded gender inequality. In response, through the sister programme of Women's Resilience to Disasters programme in the

region including Nigeria and Cameroon, UN Women and partners have directly served 17,107 crisis-affected and at-risk women and girls as well as 4,476 men and boys, promoting their

access to information, tools and services with a particular focus on disaster risk reduction, climate resilient agriculture, livelihoods and protection from violence.



Photo: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

LOOKING AHEAD

Despite the many changes and impacts observed and linked to UN Women's continuous commitment to women's rights, gender equality in the context of peace, security, resilience and justice, challenges such as climate change and disasters, shrinking spaces for civil society organisations, the backlash against gender equality, the rise of authoritarian regimes, violent extremism, armed conflict and violence, military invasions and coups persist and have even increased over the past years. The relevance and importance of UN Women's work through its triple mandate to coordinate, implement and support the normative framework on gender aspects in peace, security, disaster risk reduction and resilience has therefore risen. Collectively, we need to invest even more seriously in the equal and meaningful participation of women at all levels of decision-making, especially when it comes to peace and security, as well as in conflict prevention. The escalating levels of violence and oppression that we have been observing in these past months require a sustainable and severe commitment and effort addressing the root causes of social injustice and inequality by all of us. UN Women is the only entity that not only has the central coordinating function, the normative expertise and at the same time the in-country networks to build the needed bridges between civil society and grassroots movements and global decision making bodies and policies.

For the years to come and with the collective support of its donors and partners, UN Women will be intensifying its work in the following areas:

STRENGTHENING THE USE OF GENDER-RESPONSIVE CONFLICT ANALYSIS, FILLING GAPS IN WPS DATA, AND COMMUNICATION

Gender-responsive conflict analysis is a methodology that UN Women has introduced to several contexts. Only by understanding the gendered implications and root causes of armed violence and conflict, we are able to identify sustainable solutions for lasting peace. Additionally, UN Women will continue filling gaps in WPS data and strengthen data use and communication, particularly on prioritizing data collection on women's participation in peace processes. Collecting data on women's participation and their roles in peace negotiations and implementation of peace agreements for all ongoing processes has been challenging due to the lack of a systematic approach amongst the various actors involved. In response, UN-Women, with partners, has developed a new tool, the Peace Process Tracker, to monitor trends across a set of indicators tracking women's participation in peace processes globally and the gender responsiveness of peace agreements.

INCREASED FUNDING FOR WOMEN'S WORK AND WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS

Increased conflicts and crises increase the need for gender-responsive solutions, which require investments from Member States. UN Women will continue to build on experience to keep peace, security and resilience a top priority for donors, while also leveraging partnerships to encourage more funding to flow through existing channels and innovating to find new ways to ensure direct financial support reaches women peacebuilders and women-led CSOs working to respond to and recover from conflicts and crises.



Photo: UN Women Kenya

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WPS AGENDA

Despite the existence and generic commitment by most countries to the detailed normative framework of the WPS Agenda, CEDAW provisions, recommendations, and elaborate jurisprudence, there remains a critical need for more robust implementation and concrete action at the national and international levels to truly advance gender equality and women's rights. UN Women will continue to provide guidance and support to Member States to put these commitments into practice.

ENHANCING ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Access to justice especially when it comes to sexual and gender based violence, remains a key challenge in most countries. Between the lack of awareness, resources and facilities, too many crimes remain unpunished. UN Women will continue to work towards full accountability for human rights violations, especially those related to conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence.

PUTTING WOMEN PEACEBUILDERS AT THE CENTRE

The crucial contributions of women peacebuilders towards conflict resolution and peace are way too often overlooked and sidelined despite the powerful effect they can have on sustaining peace. UN Women will persist and encourage support for civil society organisations, women rights advocates and grassroots movements in their demands for peace, justice and equality.

STRENGTHENING WOMEN IN SECURITY PROFESSIONS

Women in security sector institutions bring an added value and increase operational effectiveness. UN Women will continue to support women in the male-dominated security domain. In doing so, UN Women will increase its effort to contribute to the gender parity strategy in

peacekeeping missions as well as support national reform efforts of the security sector from a gender perspective.

CONFLICT PREVENTION AND DEMILITARIZATION

Considering the many escalating conflict areas, UN Women strongly believes in much-needed investment in conflict prevention, as we will continue to advocate for and work towards conflict prevention strategies that address root causes of violence, violent extremism and social injustice.

PROMOTING GENDER-RESPONSIVE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND RESILIENCE BUILDING FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACEBUILDING

UN Women will continue to promote gender-responsive disaster risk reduction and resilience across its triple mandate through technical and policy support, provision of gender expertise to disaster risk reduction mechanisms and processes, and by implementing programmes and projects for gender-responsive disaster risk reduction and resilience building, including the Women's Resilience to Disasters programme. These efforts contribute to building conflict-resilient societies.

ADDRESSING BACKLASH, ANTI-GENDER MOVEMENTS AND DEEPLY ENTRENCHED SYSTEMIC BARRIERS TO WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

In the face of years of progress on gender equality, we are now seeing an increasingly coordinated and persistent pushback on these gains. UN Women's commitment to challenging these barriers and promoting women's leadership and decision-making will continue to shine through its programmes and advocacy.



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