



Report on the Implementation
of the Women, Peace &
Security Agenda in Africa

2020

WPS Partners:



List of Acronyms

APSA	African Peace and Security Architecture
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
AWLN	African Women Leaders Network
CAF	Country Assembly Forum
CAR	Central African Republic
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEWS	Continental Early Warning System
CRF	Continental Results Framework
CSO	Civil Society organization
CSVMSs	Country Structural Vulnerability and Mitigation Strategies
CSVRA	Country Structural Vulnerability and Resilience Assessments
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
EC	Electoral Commission
ECCAS	Eastern Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Eastern Community of West African States
EGDC ECOWAS	Gender Development Centre
FemWise	Network of African Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation
GBV	Gender-based violence
ICGLR	International Conference on the Great Lakes Region
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority for Development
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IPSTC	International Peace Support Training Centre
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
LNP	Liberia National Police
NAP	National Action Plan
NEC	National Electoral Commission

NGO	Non-governmental organization
OSE-WPS	Office of the Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security
PACAD	The Support to Communities Affected by Displacement
PARET	Return and Reintegration Support Project
PSC	Peace and Security Council
PSD	Peace and Security Department
RAP	Regional Action Plan
R-ARCSS	Revitalized Agreement for the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan
REC	Regional Economic Community
REM	Regional Economic Mechanism
RSLAF	Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAP	Strategic Action Plan
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SLP	Sierra Leone Police
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WPS	Women Peace and Security
WGWPS-WAS	Working Group on Women, Youth, Peace and Security in West Africa and the Sahel

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Preface



Africa continues to be at the vanguard of delivery on the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda. Indeed, building on the first annual report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the implementation of the WPS Agenda, issued in October 2019, I have the pleasure of issuing this second report that covers the period January to December 2019. As is now established, it stems from reports submitted by Member States that have adopted National Action Plans (NAPs), using the Continental Results Framework.

The report is anchored on a consultative approach that includes Member States. This approach has guided African Union Commission (AUC) efforts to bridge the gap between the array of policies and instruments on WPS and their implementation. In the same spirit, an assessment meeting brought together Member States, Regional Economic Communities and continental civil society organizations in Dakar, Senegal, in December 2019 to discuss delivery in the year 2019, including challenges and paths to enhance Africa's implementation of the WPS Agenda.

A significant trait of this report is the remarkable increase in the number of countries that gave account of their undertakings. Indeed, while for the first report, 39 per cent of Member States that have adopted NAPs submitted their reports, the proportion increased to 80 per cent for the second one, with 20 out of 25 countries providing their data.

The AUC recognizes that women's participation and leadership must be considered a primary element of the quest for peace and security, rather than tokenism to fulfil various requirements. Peace is a right that women must access. The report stresses that there is need for systematically incorporating human rights frameworks into all levels of the WPS Agenda to ensure a holistic and cohesive approach to gender issues in all security situations. The political, economic and social endeavours which underpin that peace and development are two faces of the same coin.

Assessing the achievements, challenges and perspectives of Member States in their delivery of the WPS Agenda was a central part of the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, which is the bedrock of the WPS Agenda.

The endeavour informed AUC efforts to accelerate actions for peace in Africa, including the launch of the "SheLeadsPeace" campaign and the convening of the first Africa Forum on Women, Peace and Security in 2020, despite the eruption of the COVID-19 pandemic that caused many disruptions in the course of the year.

Women and women-led organizations demonstrated once more the strong resilience, solidarity and leadership that are determinant in crises and post-crisis responses. All these actions converged towards an overarching clarion call across of Africa in 2020 to Silence the Guns for a peaceful, united and prosperous continent. As we embark on a new decade of accelerating the pace of delivery of the road map to peace in Africa, we must fulfil our promise of leaving no one behind in the transformation of our continent.

Moussa Faki Mahamat

Chairperson

African Union Commission

Executive Summary

This is the second report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda in Africa, covering the period January to December 2019. Reports from Member States inform it, and it is compiled using the Continental Results Framework for Monitoring and Reporting on the WPS Agenda implementation in Africa (2018–2028). There have been various commendable achievements, trends and persistent challenges over the past year.

Findings indicate that the African Union Commission has made significant progress, as shown by Africa's leading position on WPS internationally. For example, the number of women participating in its peace and security structures is commendable; women make up 40 per cent of early warning data collectors and analysts. Though robust legal and policy frameworks are present in most Member States, there are continued challenges pertaining to the localization and implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR1325). Women's engagement in political, social and economic life, especially at the higher levels of decision-making, remains relatively low in most countries, whereas at lower levels their participation is considerably higher. Most Member States showed improvement, but still fall short of the set quotas agreed in the Participation Pillar.

In relation to the Prevention Pillar, the lack of funding dedicated to the WPS Agenda in national budgets resulted in implementation challenges. This also led to the limited development of the laws and other legal instruments necessary to integrate gender perspectives into peace and security policies and programs. In addition, the absence of robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks at both Regional Economic Community and Member State levels impede progress. Most Member States cited training of security forces and the empowerment of women as important measures to protect women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and other forms of abuse. It is essential to highlight that Member States have made significant strides in establishing conflict early warning and response mechanisms that integrate WPS issues from grass-roots levels. Of note is the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), which has developed a regional mechanism with cross-border coverage. The collaboration between the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Member States, and the Network on Peace and Security for Women in the ECOWAS region further demonstrated the importance of trans-border frameworks.

Also, the lack of consolidated data at the country levels resulted in numerous submission delays that impeded timely assessment of the progress of the implementation, monitoring and reporting using the Continental Results Framework (CRF). The various terminologies and different government structures in Member States are not adequately captured, resulting in varied interpretation. Notably, there were some sectors (such as intelligence, prison and correctional services, and foreign services) which most Member States did not report.

The report concluded that women's participation in important fields, such as mediation and negotiation of peace and security, remains low compared to the thresholds set at national, regional and international levels. The Relief and Recovery Pillar measures are more relevant to countries transitioning from conflict to peace, which helps explain the limited data. It was established that there are low levels of participation of women in decision-making in this pillar. The few mechanisms reported for monitoring the implementation of instruments for relief and recovery relied on data from the grass-roots level.

Overall, implementation of activities and projects have focused mainly on the Protection, Prevention, Participation, and Relief and Recovery Pillars. The Continental Results Framework

includes emerging security threats as an ‘additional’ theme, which gives it lower prominence, so that reporting on it was minimal.

It appears that there is no deliberate strategy to align the WPS Agenda with allied frameworks like the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights and Gender Equality, although overlaps occur. Findings show that civil society participation in government-initiated WPS initiatives is limited, despite the various gender-related programmes. Civil society organizations are mostly involved during the development of National Action Plans, but are not involved in implementation.

Recommendations include that the Office of the Special Envoy increase efforts to urge more Member States to adopt and effectively implement National Action Plans to improve the monitoring and reporting on the WPS landscape at the continental level. Member States must allocate funds from their national budgets specifically for the implementation of the WPS Agenda. This can be supported by developing legal instruments that force national budgets to accommodate the WPS Agenda.

Under the guidance of Regional Economic Communities and Mechanisms, Member States must establish regional conflict and early warning and response mechanisms that operate across borders such as that in Karamoja. The level of women’s participation must increase, not only in numbers but also in the quality of their contributions to peace and security. This requires a gap analysis on the existing weaknesses to inform capacity-development initiatives. Emphasis should be on women’s economic empowerment and capacity development, because it has been shown elsewhere that addressing the root causes of women’s vulnerability is the best way of protecting women and girls from SGBV and other forms of abuse. The report also recommended the elevation of the emerging security threats themes to ensure they are structurally embedded into the early warning and response mechanisms of the WPS Agenda.

The African Union Commission, Regional Economic Communities and Mechanisms, and Member States must integrate the WPS instruments and frameworks into other agendas to make them relevant to the different security situations in various regions and Member States. Most importantly, the domestication and implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (2003) and the Protocol on Gender Equality are critical to achieving holistic and effective implementation of the WPS Agenda, because these instruments promote human rights and gender mainstreaming. The inclusion of civil society organizations is important to improve cooperation with the government and other stakeholders on conflict, security and sustainable development. These linkages should be promoted at national and regional levels, emphasizing conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction and development.

1.0 Introduction

The landmark United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 stems from the Windhoek Declaration and the Namibia Plan of Action adopted in May 2000. The Declaration became a precursor to the adoption of the ground breaking UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) in October 2000. Monitoring of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 has been one of the Security Council's priorities. Article 17 of UNSCR 1889 calls for a set of indicators to track the implementation of UNSCR 1325. Internationally, various regional groupings, Member States and organizations have ratified and adapted these indicators to suit their specific requirements. In 2010, the United Nations (UN) adopted a framework on WPS, with 26 indicators, to guide the monitoring of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 within the United Nations systems. The European Union adopted a framework with 17 indicators. Others, like the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, and Security and the Peace Research Institute of Oslo, developed a global index that reveals trends in women's well-being across 11 indicators, thereby providing a comprehensive measure of women's well-being. All these tools reveal relationships between the pillars.¹

In recognition of the importance of women as equal partners in peace, security, governance and sustainable development, the African Union Commission (AUC) adopted the WPS Agenda and other protocols related to gender and security. This background prompted the development of the Continental Results Framework (CRF), with a total of 41 indicators (comprising of 13 indicators for AUC and 28 for Member States) under four pillars of Prevention, Protection, Participation, and Relief and Recovery, plus a theme on emerging security threats. The WPS Agenda presents a comprehensive approach to gender mainstreaming in peace and security to ensure women's participation in conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, and post-conflict reconstruction. It also preserves women's rights in conflict situations and promotes their participation in conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts. Therefore, the WPS Agenda is a gender-mainstreaming approach aimed at promoting women's inclusion as active participants in maintaining peace and ensuring their protection and the integration of gender perspectives into the peace and security agenda at national, regional and continental levels.²

1.1 The African Union's commitment to Women Peace and Security

The AUC adopted various norms and standard-setting frameworks related to the WPS Agenda, including the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa, which reaffirms African leaders' commitment to expand and accelerate efforts to promote gender equality, and their determination to address issues of concern to the women and girls of the continent. The Declaration is also a commitment by African leaders to protect the rights of women, girls and children, as enshrined in the Maputo Protocol (Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Government committed themselves to report annually on progress made in gender mainstreaming, and to support and champion all issues raised in the Declaration, both at the national and regional levels, and regularly provide each other with updates on progress made during the Ordinary Sessions of the AU.³ The African Union Gender Policy and, above all, Agenda

¹ Kirby, P. and L. J. Shepherd. 2016. "The Futures Past of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda." *International Affairs* 92 (2), pp. 373–392.

² Reimann, C. 2014. *Promoting Women's Participation in Peace Negotiations and Peace Processes*. Bonn: GIZ. Accessed 10 December 2020. http://eeas.europa.eu/archives/features/features-working-women/working-with-women/docs/2014-05-08_toolkit_promoting-womens-participation-peace-neg_en.pdf.

³ African Union. 2004. "Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality." Accessed 10 December 2020. <https://au.int/en/documents/20200708/solemn-declaration-gender-equality-africa>.

2063 (in which Aspiration 6 recognizes explicitly the centrality of women in Africa's development) advance the WPS Agenda. The AU Assembly decided to declare 2010–2020 the 'African Women's Decade' to accelerate the implementation of agreed global and regional commitments to gender equality and women empowerment.

The AU's WPS commitments are implemented through several departments and offices. These include the Women, Gender Development Directorate, under the Office of the Chairperson of the Commission, and the Women, Gender, Peace and Security Programme (2015–2020), under the Department of Peace and Security. Under the Agenda 2063 flagship, 'Silencing the Guns by 2020', the AU through the Office of the Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security (OSE-WPS) advocates for women's meaningful participation and leadership in efforts towards promoting peace, enhancing good governance and democracy, respect for human rights, and justice and the rule of law.

In 2014, the AUC Chairperson appointed a Special Envoy on WPS, the first of its kind at the time, with the mandate to "ensure that the voices of women are heard clearly and taken into consideration in conflict prevention and peacebuilding". Her mandate is anchored on the main pillars of UNSCR 1325 with a focus on women's right to peace. The AU Special Envoy has strategically utilized considerable political leverage, participated in high-level engagements (investigations and mediation) and contributed to institutional reform processes. These efforts have helped place Africa at the vanguard of the WPS Agenda, with 6 Regional Action Plans and over 50 per cent of Member States having adopted National Action Plans. However, despite these positive commitments, the monitoring and reporting of the WPS Agenda remains a challenge because commitments are only meaningful and life transforming when implemented.

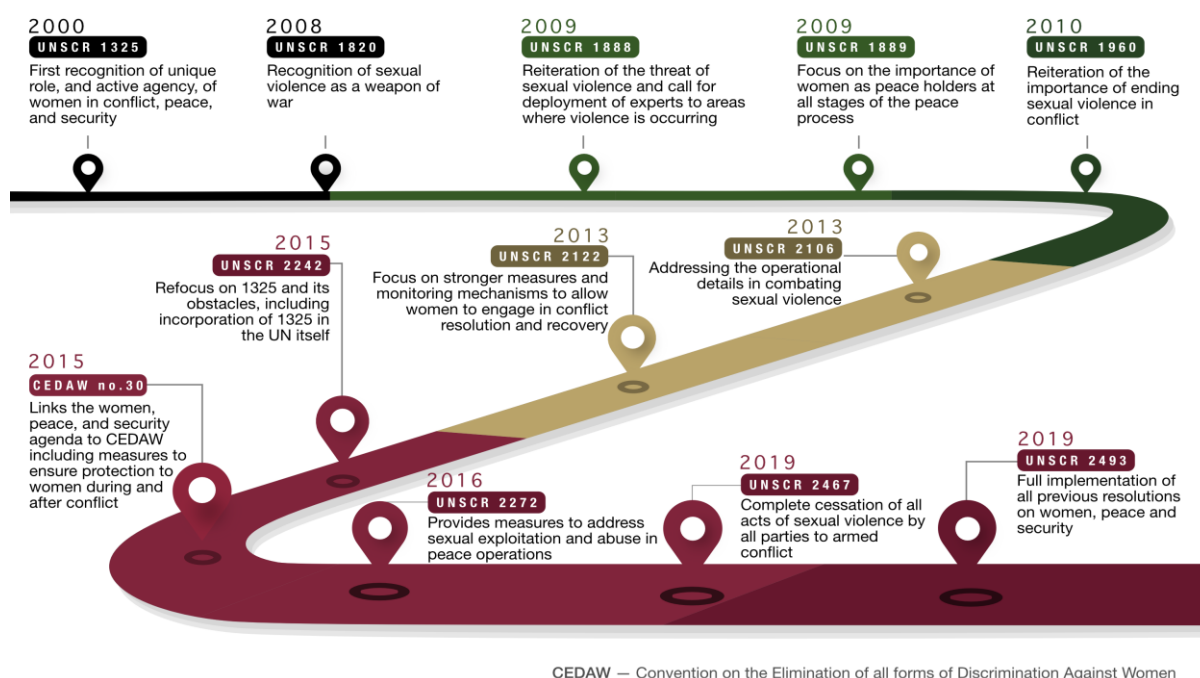
In response to the WPS Agenda implementation gap, the OSE-WPS formulated a Continental Results Framework (CRF) to "monitor the implementation by AU Member States and other relevant stakeholders of the various African and international instruments and other commitments on WPS in Africa". The purpose of the CRF is to ensure an institutionalized, regular, and systematic way of monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the WPS Agenda in Africa. The CRF is grounded on the AU's commitment to attaining gender equality and women's empowerment, which are central to the realization of Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. Therefore, the CRF enables the AU, Regional Economic Communities and Member States to systematically monitor and report on the progress and implementation of the WPS Agenda, thus providing a basis on which the OSE-WPS can generate annual reports. This in turn strengthens accountability and transparency for the implementation of the WPS Agenda in Africa.

2.0 Literature review

2.1 Women, Peace and Security at the international level

United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 was the first resolution to recognize the multidimensional function women have in both peace and conflict. This resolution calls for parties in armed conflict to protect women and to promote women's participation in peace negotiations and post-conflict reconstruction. It recognizes that women and girls are particularly affected by situations of crisis and armed conflict, and declares that their participation at all levels of prevention, resolution, reconstruction, and peacekeeping is essential to achieving sustained peace and security.⁴ Later resolutions solidified the role of women in peace processes; see Figure 1. Internationally, the concept of peace and security is evolving to encompass issues that include environmental sustainability, terrorism, public health, and cybersecurity among other global security challenges. This implies an assessment of vulnerabilities; security increases as vulnerability decreases and vice versa.

Figure 1 – Relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions, 2000–2019



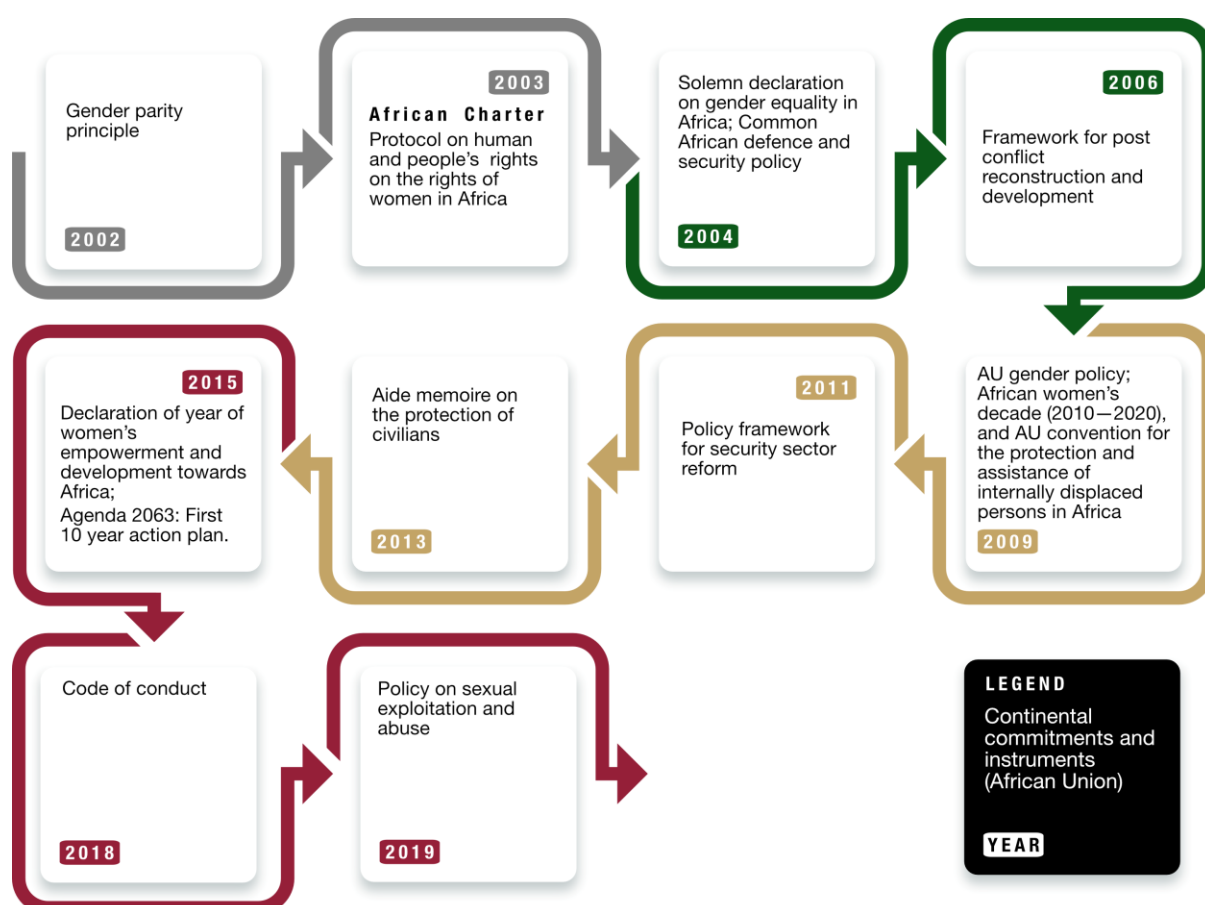
2.2 Women, Peace and Security in Africa

The WPS Agenda in Africa focuses on integrating gender in conflict situations characterized by threats to national security. The African Union (AU), through the Office of the Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security (OSE-WPS or OSE) has been spearheading the WPS Agenda in Africa. The OSE-WPS's mandate is to promote the protection and advancement of the rights of women

⁴ Miller, Barbara et.al. (2014). Women in Peace and Security through United Nations Security Resolution 1325: Literature Review, Content Analysis of National Action Plans, and Implementation. Washington: Institute for Global & International Studies. Available at: https://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/igis_womeninpeaceandsecuritythroughunscr1325_millerpournikswaine_2014_o.pdf

and children, particularly those affected by violent conflicts in Africa. It promotes gender mainstreaming and equal participation of women in peace processes, including in conflict prevention, management and resolution, and peacebuilding. The OSE has been leading in highlighting the importance of increasing women's participation in national decision-making processes that promote peace and security, prevention, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding in Africa. However, it is noted that regional and national gender policies in Africa rarely go beyond making reference to UNSCR 1325 and follow-up resolutions like the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Beijing Platform for Action, and various policies and treaties shown in Figure 2. This leads to few concrete entry points for synergies with the WPS Agenda.⁵ The same study highlighted that policy frameworks to promote the WPS Agenda and gender equality are not well coordinated – while the same decision-making bodies might adopt these frameworks, they are often implemented separately. This results in a gap between implementation (at the level of Member States) and where regional and global WPS Agenda commitments are designed, monitored and evaluated.⁶ This has resulted in Member States advocating for the concrete implementation of the UNSCR 1325, and this has been predominantly through National Action Plans (NAPs).

Figure 2 – Policy frameworks



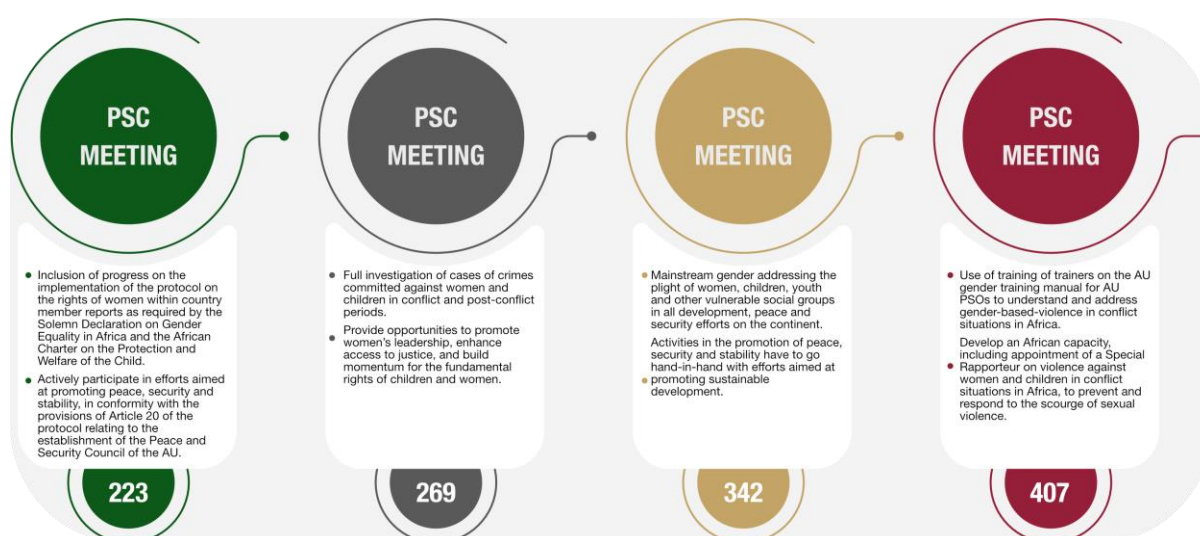
⁵ Desmidt, Sophie and Davis, Laura (2019). Rhetoric and Real Progress on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Africa. Discussion Paper No. 245. Netherlands: ECDPM. Available at: <https://ecdpm.org/publications/rhetoric-real-progress-women-peace-security-agenda-africa/>

⁶ ibid

2.3 The Peace and Security Council

The Peace and Security Council (PSC) is the AU's decision-making organ for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts. It is a collective security and early warning arrangement intended to facilitate timely and efficient responses to conflict and crisis situations in Africa. It is also the key pillar of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), which promotes peace, security and stability in Africa. Additionally, The AU's Peace Fund was set up as a critical pillar of the APSA as set out in Article 22 of the Protocol on the establishment of the PSC. It is funded from Member States contributions. The Peace Fund is structured around three thematic areas; Mediation and Prevention Diplomacy, Institutional Capacity, and Peace Support Operations.⁷ The PSC has continued to make resolutions around WPS. Some resolutions are presented in Figure 3.

Figure 3 – Peace and Security Council (PSC) resolutions



2.4 Continental Results Framework

The monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the WPS Agenda uses the Continental Results Framework (CRF) developed for this purpose.⁸ The CRF draws from UNSCR 1325 and an extensive body of instruments and relevant policies. It was developed by the OSE in response to a mandate from the PSC. The CRF aims to accelerate the delivery of WPS commitments through systematic and sustained monitoring and reporting by Member States. It was validated by Member States and adopted by the PSC in May 2018. There are 41 indicators in total for the AU's CRF, classified under the four pillars of UNSCR 1325 (Prevention, Protection, Participation, Relief and Recovery), and a theme on emerging security threats (Figure 4). The 41 indicators consist of 28 indicators that measure implementation by AU Member States and 13 indicators intended to gauge AU efforts on WPS.⁹ This enables the production of a continental report on the implementation of the WPS Agenda in Africa.

⁷ Peace Fund: <https://au.int/en/peace-fund>

⁸ African Union, Continental Results Framework: Monitoring and Reporting on the Implementation of The Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Africa (2018–2028). Available at: https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/35958-doc-continental_result_framework_on_wps_agenda_in_africa.pdf

⁹ ibid

Figure 4 – Continental results framework pillars

1. *Prevention: Focuses on measuring for conflict prevention, with an emphasis on preventing all forms of violence against women and girls in peacetime, conflict and post-conflict situations. It calls for the integration of a gender perspective into all conflict-prevention measures at all levels.*
2. *Protection: Aim to ensure that women's and girls' rights to security (physical, social and economic) are protected and promoted in conflict situations or other humanitarian crises, including protection from SGBV. This pillar also refers to the need to provide leadership and coordination in the response to SGBV. Furthermore, it emphasises the need to ensure that governments, regional organisations, continental bodies, peace support operations and humanitarian missions establish infrastructure that protect women from SGBV and provide holistic care, including physical security and psychological, legal and institutional support to victims of sexual violence*
3. *Participation: Aims to ensure women's equal participation with men and the promotion of gender equality and female representation in peace and security decision making processes at the local, national, regional and international levels. The participation pillar affirms the importance of female participation and the inclusion of gender perspectives in peace negotiations, peacekeeping, post-conflict peace building and governance. Member States and regional bodies are required to adopt and implement institutional reforms that advance women's empowerment and their active participation in processes that pursue sustainable peace.*
4. *Relief and Recovery: Aims to ensure that women's and girls' specific needs are met, especially in conflict and post-conflict contexts. This is achieved by addressing their needs and strengthening their capacities to act as agents in post-conflict relief and recovery processes. Women's needs in terms of relief and recovery should receive special attention in processes such as humanitarian assistance disarmament, demobilisation and integration programmes, repatriation and resettlement, as well as economic development processes in the post-conflict agenda*
5. *Emerging Security Threats*

2.5 Regional Economic Communities and Regional Action Plans

The Regional Economic Communities (RECs) are instrumental for implementing, financing, monitoring and evaluating Agenda 2063 and its flagship programmes. RECs are critical building blocks for economic integration in Africa and are also instrumental for collaborations in ensuring peace and stability in their respective regions. RECs have a central position – they work with national governments and key stakeholders within their regions and the African Union Commission (AUC) to raise the standard of living for women¹⁰ and implement the WPS Agenda. RECs draw on the AU and United Nations (UN) policy frameworks and mechanisms (Figure 5) to derive Regional Action Plans (RAPs) to implement the WPS Agenda.

¹⁰ ECOWAS Plan of Action for the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 and 1820: Three (3) Years Later (2013). Dakar: UN Women. Available at: <https://www.peacewomen.org/action-plan/regional-action-plan-ecowas>

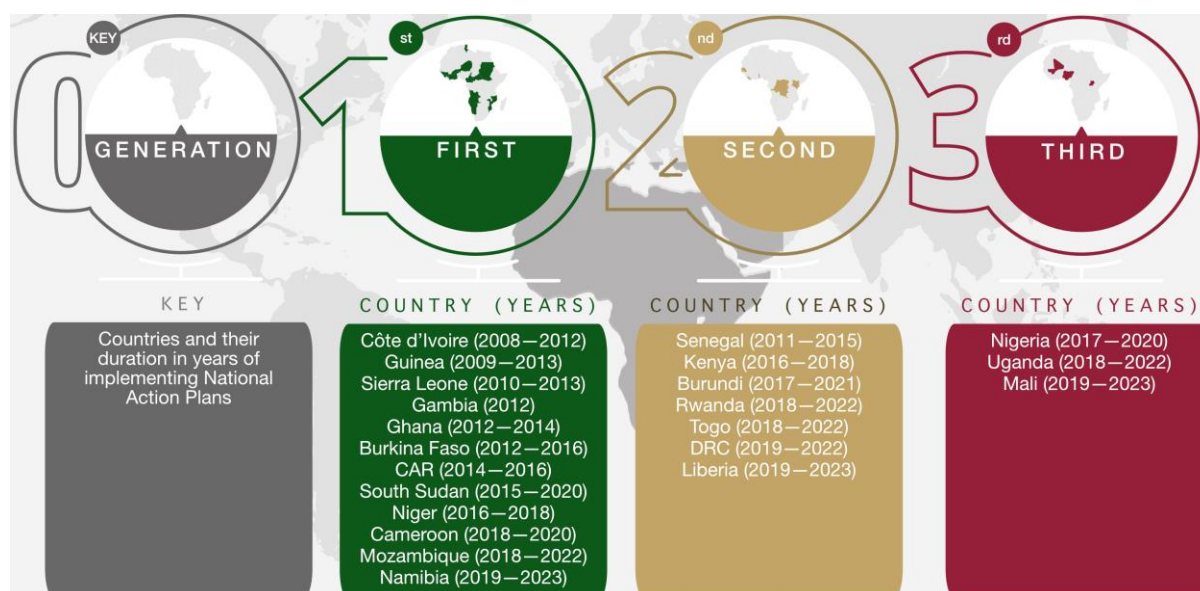
Figure 5 – Regional Economic Communities: policies and mechanisms



2.6 National Action Plans

As at the end of 2019, 25 African countries, as outlined in Figure 6, had adopted NAPs at different times, they range from first to third generation; a total of 12 countries have current NAPs. The African countries that have adopted WPS Agenda NAPs are predominantly conflict-affected countries – for example, those in which civil wars, political, or religious conflicts are currently ongoing or have recently taken place. These countries are mostly in the Great Lakes, West and Central regions of Africa. Three countries (Uganda, Nigeria and Mali) have transitioned to third-generation NAPs, and seven countries have reviewed their first NAPs and developed the second generation (Figure 6 below).

Figure 6 – Countries with National Action Plans, by year of plan adoption



A NAP outlines a course of action that a country intends to follow to fulfil set WPS objectives. It details strategies and priority areas, assigns roles, establishes timelines, constructs indicators, and determines means of measurement and evaluation.¹¹ NAPs for states in conflict have different emphasis compared to countries recovering from conflict. Regardless of a country's peace and security status, NAPs are vital and necessary to translate rhetorical commitments into specific actions to improve the lives of women.¹²

2.7 Women, Peace and Security in conflict, transitional and non-conflict countries

WPS encompasses many factors and spans a spectrum of conditions and geographical areas. Even in peaceful states, women face challenges related to peace and security. These include poor working conditions, exploitation, financial and social exclusion, and discrimination, as well as sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and limited access to sexual reproductive health rights. Such barriers lead to diminished economic capacity and participation. Various security dimensions that affect women in both peace and conflict situations are outlined in Figure 7. When compromised, these security dimensions are often catalysts for conflict.

Figure 7 – Security dimensions

Military

Based on military power and balance of power among states, military security is defined by the absence of threats of military attack by either external or internal aggressors. Women in states that are in conflict or in transition to or from conflict are vulnerable to sexual exploitation, abuse by combatants and other groups and the use of sex and rape as weapons of war.

Societal

Is part of security concerned with ensuring societies can maintain their common values and characteristics like language, culture, tradition, customs, religion and association without coercion and within acceptable conditions of evolution of those characteristics.

Political

The main vulnerabilities that women face in this domain of security include lack of participation and empowerment in decision making processes. This has the effect of excluding their concern from power and political decision-making.

Environment

Covers the maintenance of natural resources to support human existence and sustainable development. Emphasis is on environmental security concerns and the maintenance of the local and planetary biosphere as an essential support system on which human enterprise depends.

Economic

The major vulnerabilities faced by women in this regard emanates from lack of opportunities and economic empowerment. This leads to economic and sexual exploitation, limited access to SRHR, and SGBV in both peace and conflict situations. This gives rise to the importance of issues concerning women's economic empowerment, equal pay and access to opportunities in entrepreneurship

¹¹ Miller, Barbara et.al. (2014). Women in Peace and Security through United Nations Security Resolution 1325: Literature Review, Content Analysis of National Action Plans, and Implementation. Washington: Institute for Global & International Studies. Available at: https://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/igis_womeninpeaceandsecuritythroughunsr1325_millerpournikswaine_2014_o.pdf

¹² Lippai, Zsuzsanna and Young, Angelic. (2017). Creating National Action Plans: A Guide to Implementing Resolution 1325. Washington DC: Inclusive Security. Available at: https://www.inclusivesecurity.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/InclusiveSecurity_NAP-Guide_ME_2017.pdf

3.0 Methodology

This section presents the methodological approaches used in developing this report. The section explains the review of relevant literature and data-collection methods, including the tools used for data analysis. This report is the culmination of broad consultation to assess the CRF's use by the AU, RECs and Member States in their implementation, monitoring and reporting of the WPS Agenda. Country reports from South Sudan and Nigeria were received after the data analysis had been completed and only some highlights from the two countries are presented.

3.1 Desk review

The assessment was based on a set of 41 indicators classified under four pillars of UNSCR 1325 (Prevention, Protection, Participation, Relief and Recovery) and an additional theme on emerging security threats. A review of related literature using systematic review principles was carried out to map out the progress on implementing the WPS Agenda. Various documents informed the development of this report, including AUC reports, UN Women reports, Security Council Resolutions and other strategic documents.

3.2 Data-collection strategy

The AUC Peace and Security Department submitted its report on the 13 indicators that are aligned to the four pillars of the WPS Agenda and intended to gauge the AUC efforts on WPS. Extensive assessments and gap analysis of 6 RAPs and 25 NAPs of Member States that had adopted NAPs by December 2019 were conducted. Three RECs – Economic Commission of West African States (ECOWAS), Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) – submitted regional reports on WPS implementation covering the reporting period. A total of 20 country reports (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda) were reviewed using the 28 CRF indicators that measure implementation by Member States. The report also incorporates findings from the meeting on Bringing Together Regional WPS Forums to Enhance Women's Role and Leadership in Silencing the Guns in Africa. The meeting was held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 29–30 May 2019, and a consultative meeting on assessing the WPS Agenda implementation in Africa, was held in Dakar, Senegal on 17–19 December 2019.

Various data sources were analysed to evaluate the progress on implementing the WPS Agenda using the CRF for monitoring and reporting. Because of travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic this resulted in time constraints, and the methodology was redesigned. As a result, some intended country visits and consultative workshops were not conducted.

3.3 Data analysis

Considering the systematic review approach adopted for the report, the data analysis plan used was based on the CRF, because it is the instrument used by Member States to collect data. RECs and REMs are instrumental ensuring peace and stability in their respective regions, and currently, RECs and Member States have ongoing initiatives that use RAPs and NAPs to enhance WPS Agenda implementation. Within this context, the analysis of the pillars was grouped under the respective RECs and REMs for the individual Member States. In this way the role of RECs and REMs is highlighted and visible. The AU grouping of Member States under RECs was used.

3.4 Limitations of the report

The lack of consolidated databases at country level complicated the assessment of the progress on implementing, monitoring and reporting using the CRF and its results. Limited consistency (ranks in security forces and nomenclature in government structures, for example) resulted in varied interpretations of the CRF by Member States. Not all states provided data on all sectors; these sectors include the number and percentage of women in intelligence, prison and correctional, and foreign services. Member States' varying security statuses made it difficult for them to have consistent interpretations of the CRF, which affected the monitoring and reporting of the WPS Agenda implementation. The COVID-19 outbreak, and the subsequent adoption of travel restrictions, meant that the methodological approach had to be modified. The imposition of travel restrictions occurred before the commencement of field visits to Member States; hence, the country visits were cancelled. Similarly, COVID-19-related disruptions and challenges led most Member States to delay submission of their reports, with Nigeria and South Sudan managing to submit only after the analysis was completed.

4.0 Findings

This section presents the findings on the 13 indicators internally agreed upon by the African Union Commission (AUC). These indicators were designed to assess the AUC efforts on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) using the pillars of the WPS Agenda as guides. Because of this, the findings are presented under the respective WSP pillars as outlined in the Continental Results Framework (CRF), followed by key conclusions.

4.1 Prevention Pillar

4.1.1 Existence of instruments for integrating WPS into peace and security efforts

The AUC has existing instruments for integrating WPS into peace and security efforts at the continental level. These include:

- the Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) policy
- the AU Operational Guidance Note on Gender and Security Sector Reform
- Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes.

Similarly, mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the WPS Agenda implementation were also introduced; they include the Gender Peace and Security Programme, Peace and Security Department Gender Task Force and the Network of African Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation (FemWise-Africa). The African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) 2016–2020 road map recognizes gender mainstreaming in peace and security as one of the crosscutting themes to feature in the various pillars. Several indicators are incorporated in the road map, including evidence of increasing women's participation in processes leading to peace agreements, gender-sensitive peace agreements, and gender-sensitive post-conflict peacebuilding programmes. A critical component of the Prevention Pillar relates to the availability of funding. In this vein, in 2019, 0.25 per cent of the budget allocated to the Peace and Security Department (PSD) by the AUC was devoted to the WPS Agenda.

Text Box 1: Integrating WPS on the continent

1. Integrating WPS on the continent through the Office of the AU Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security

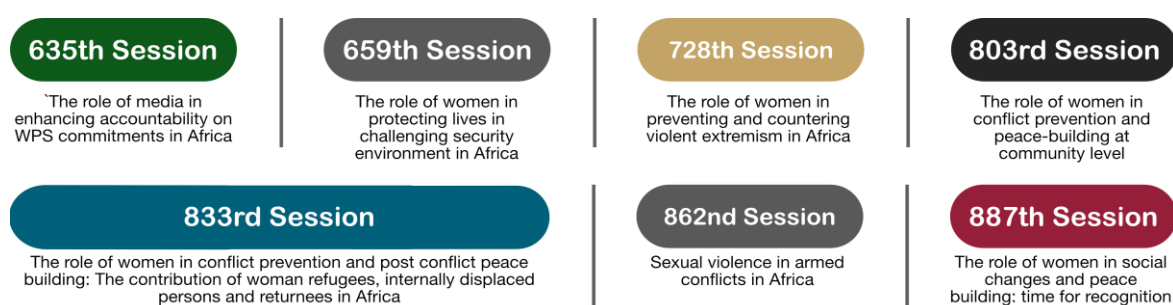
The Office of the Special Envoy has strengthened the provision of access of women-led organizations and civil society organizations to the Peace and Security Council (PSC). In December 2014, after her appointment, the Special Envoy delivered her first briefing on the status of women in conflict situations during the PSC's 476th session.

In May 2018, during the Council's 600th session, the Special Envoy submitted a report on the state of implementation of WPS Commitments in Africa, which currently serves as a baseline to assess progress of the WPS Agendas of member states.

For example, the Special Envoy, in close collaboration with UNHCR, brought representatives of refugees at the Gambela and Kakuma camps to brief the Council in March 2019. During the October 2019 open session, the Special Envoy mobilized and facilitated the participation of Sudanese women-led organizations to also brief the AU PSC on the situation in Sudan.

The Special Envoy's briefings of and engagement with the Peace and Security Council (PSC) have also contributed to the agenda-setting process, as outlined in Figure 8.

Figure 8 – Peace and Security Council Sessions



4.2 Participation Pillar

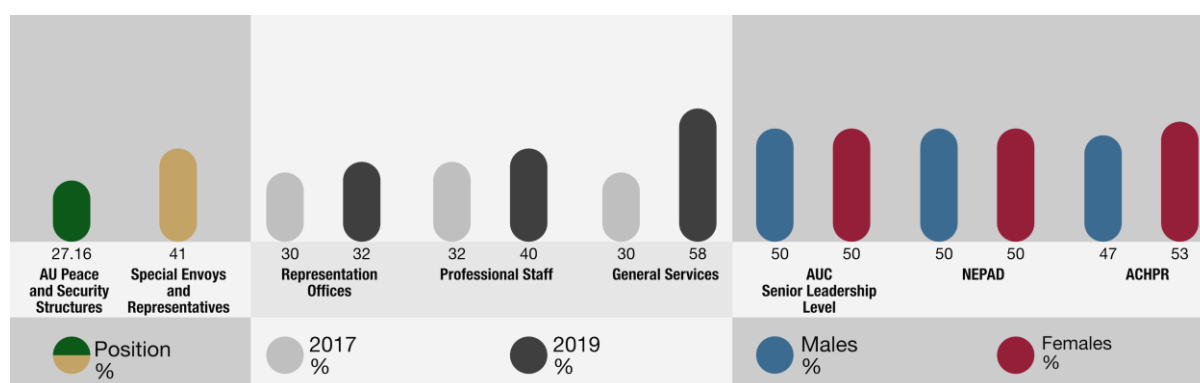
4.2.1 Percentage of women in decision-making positions in African Union Peace and Security

The AU has made commendable progress in implementing the decisions of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government. Though gender gaps remain, by January 2020 the following provisions had been made:

1. The AU staff regulations and rules, adopted in July 2010, give priority to the less-represented gender, provided the candidates hold equal qualifications (Rules 27.5 and 28.g).
2. The AU staff regulations and rules provide for the Women's Gender and Development Directorate to be part of the Joint Advisory Committee on Administrative Policies and of the Appointment, Promotion and Recruitment Board.
3. The AU has strengthened the Office of Ethics by including female staff to help fast track investigations into allegations of sexual harassment, abuse of power, nepotism and insubordination.
4. The AU has avoided gender-biased language in job advertisements and included a statement on gender equality and a pledge to gender equality in all job descriptions.

These provisions have contributed to notable progress towards achieving gender parity within the AU by 2025. Between 2017 and 2019, the percentage of decision-making positions occupied by women in the AUC Representation Offices (including Headquarters, Regional and Liaison offices) rose from 30 to 32 per cent. The fraction of professional staff who were women went from 32 to 40 per cent, and the percentage of general roles occupied by women went from 30 to 58 per cent (Figure 9). Although gender gaps remain in most AUC organs, the AUC has equal numbers of men and women at the senior leadership level, as does the New Partnership for Africa's Development. At the African Commission on Human and People's Rights, 53 per cent of staff are female.

Figure 9 – Women's representation in African Union organs



ACHPR, African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights; NEPAD, New Partnership for Africa's Development

At the Dakar meeting to assess the implementation of the WPS Agenda in Africa, Member States agreed that too few female mediators are involved in peace processes in most peace agreements, although women in civil society have served as observers and witnesses to the signing of the final agreement in larger numbers. Notably, in Sudan, a woman was involved in the negotiations for the transition period. In the Central African Republic, women were included in the dialogue and in Liberia women participated in the peace talks. The Pan-African Network of Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation (FemWise; Text Box 2) has deployed members on long-term missions to support formal peace processes. In 2019, FemWise deployed one member to South Sudan and two to Sudan to support the AU Liaison Offices. The value of women's participation has been clear; for example, in the Constitution-making processes of the Democratic Republic of Congo and in the Liberian security sector reform.

Text Box 2– The role of FemWise-Africa

PREVENTION

FemWise-Africa (Network of African Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation) aims to strengthen the role of women in conflict prevention and mediation efforts in the context of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). The Network provides a platform for strategic advocacy, capacity building and networking aimed at enhancing the implementation of the commitments for women's inclusion in peacemaking in Africa. FemWise-Africa comprises well-known personalities, youths and experts in mediation. About 60 professionals have so far been accredited, and the AU has published an application form for new members to join. Apart from participating in the FemWise-Africa Assembly, organised at least once a year, accredited professionals could be deployed by the AU to support peace efforts in crisis states.

4.2.2 Gender indicators incorporated within the Continental Early Warning System

The AUC Continental Early Warning System (CEWS) data-collection and analysis tools that incorporate gender data include:

- the Africa Media Monitor
- the Africa Reporter
- Africa Prospects
- country structural vulnerability and mitigation strategies (CSVMSs)
- country structural vulnerability and resilience assessments (CSVRAAs).

For example, in the Africa Media Monitor, there is a specific page for gender, peace and security, which uses specific gender-related keywords (indicators) to automatically monitor information from online sources (over 40 thousand articles) using prescribed subject headings and key words. These key words are updated periodically to include new and emerging threats to WPS in Africa. Also, there is an effort to publish a highlight from this page weekly to inform the PSD leadership for early and effective response. The Africa Reporter on Gender has stand-alone indicators for both situation and incident report templates. Where applicable, the data coming from the field are gender disaggregated, which informs the analysis on the impacts of any given situation, especially armed conflict and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) on women, men, girls, boys and other vulnerable groups, including people with disability. Gender is one of the seven markers or drivers of conflict that the PSC insists must be incorporated into CSVRA and CSVMS processes.

4.2.3 Proportion of women working in early warning data systems

The reported proportion of women data collectors and analysts at the AU level is 40 per cent for both positions.

4.3 Protection Pillar

The AUC has implemented several significant measures to educate peacekeepers on respecting and protecting women's rights and preventing SGBV, including sexual exploitation and abuse. These include capacity-building on UNSCR 1325 to develop robust NAPs; gender training for gender focal points in the security sector of the AU Mission in Somalia (participants were selected from the Federal Government of Somalia and the five federal member states, political actors and civil society); training of trainers on gender; training about the response framework for SGBV; and training of female engagement teams.

During the Consultative meeting to assess the implementation of the WPS Agenda in Africa held in Dakar, Member States highlighted an existent gap with limited involvement of academia, health sector professionals including psychological experts for insights into effects of the trauma suffered by women and its impact on attaining the SDGs. Member States further charged the AUC-OSE to address this.

4.4 Relief and Recovery Pillar

Two instruments were added to the AUC policy and legal framework to integrate WPS into PCRD in Africa: the Result-Based Framework for PCRD activities, launched in 2018, and the Quick Impact Projects Policy. The proportion of the AU Peace and Security budget allocated to mainstream WPS in AU-led efforts towards PCRD is 21.23 per cent.

4.4.1 Measures for relief and recovery

The AU Mission to Central African Republic (African Union Liaison Office in Bangui, Central African Republic), in partnership with the Ministry for the Promotion of Women, the Family and Child Protection, organized two activities during the 16-days of Activism against Gender-based Violence: a capacity-building event to enhance the skills and knowledge of actors dealing with issues related to the prevention and response to SGBV; and the launch and opening of the House of Hope One-Stop Centre, a shelter for women victims of SGBV. As a result, 100 residents of the House of Hope received material and food support during the 16-days of activism against SGBV campaign.

La Mission de l'Union Africaine pour le Mali et le Sahel (MISAHEL) organized a capacity-building workshop for civil servants working in national institutions, services and representatives from non-governmental organizations working on prevention and addressing issues related to SGBV. The training brought together 27 participants from various ministries, security organisations, the National Human Rights Commission, the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission, one-stop centres, civil society organizations and AU staff from PSD and MISAHEL. The objectives of the training were to enhance skills of practitioners from national institutions in charge of prevention, treatment and response to SGBV issues, especially as regards international and AU instruments, and to strengthen their capacities to address the specific vulnerabilities and needs of women and children, and to formulate adequate preventive strategies and address the needs and rights of women and girls.

The AU Mission in Burundi initiated microcredit projects targeting vulnerable women and victims of SGBV. This project was undertaken in collaboration with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and the United Nations Population Fund. The main objectives were to create income-generating activities for women, ensure the socio-economic self-promotion of disadvantaged and vulnerable people, and empower women victims of SGBV economically, to build their confidence and self-esteem and enable them to influence and contribute to the economic growth of their communities and countries.

4.5 Conclusion

The instruments added to the AUC policy and legislative framework are mostly instruments to implement the WPS Agenda. Despite the various decisions and policy recommendations that have been adopted, it remains difficult for the PSC to effectively assess the level of implementation of previous decisions and their impact in advancing the protection of women and their agency in the context of peace and security.

The given AUC budget proportion (0.25 per cent) allocated to WPS does not specify the overall total fund or funds of which it is a fraction, which makes gauging adherence to the recommended threshold difficult.

Gender mainstreaming in the agenda and work of the PSC remains a major gap. Beyond the stand-alone open sessions, the gender component is still missing in the regular briefings and reports on conflict situations considered by the PSC. The APSA 2016–2020 road map recognizes gender mainstreaming in peace and security as a theme relevant to all the pillars.

The proportion of women in decision-making roles in security structures is encouraging. It has been shown to be improving through the commendable proportion of women data collectors and analysts. The gender indicators in the CEWS and the WPS information in the early warning reports cannot cover the WPS matrix comprehensively.

Measures to train peacekeepers on respecting and protecting women's rights and preventing SGBV, including sexual exploitation and abuse, have mostly been around capacity development, especially training. The proportion of the budget allocated to mainstream WPS in AU-led efforts toward PCRD is commendable. The measures for relief and recovery being implemented show a mix of campaigning, advocacy, training and support for economic empowerment projects for women and girls; for example, the microcredit projects supporting vulnerable women and victims of SGBV in Burundi.

5.0 Regional Economic Communities and the WPS Agenda

This section presents the findings on the three Regional Action Plans (RAPs) submitted by the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). It outlines the progress made and challenges encountered during 2019. The findings are presented in line with the four pillars, even though not all the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Economic Mechanisms (REMs) reported using them. At the end of the section key conclusions are presented.

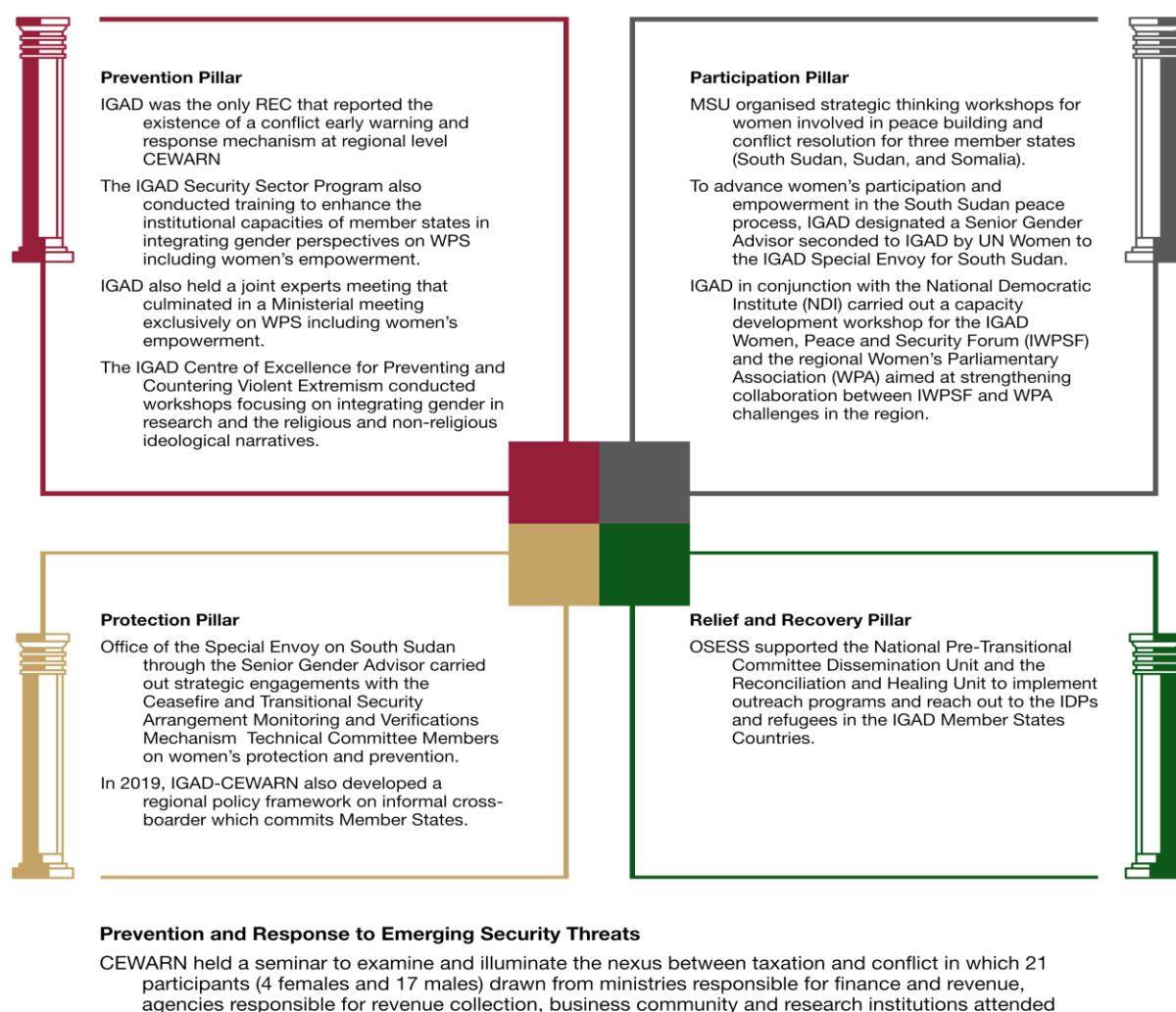
5.1 Intergovernmental Authority for Development

IGAD adopted its RAP in 2013, The RAP was to catalyse the adoption of National Action Plans (NAPs) by Member States, and was aimed at promoting the inclusion of women decision-making about prevention, management and resolution of conflict and the eradication of conflict-related sexual violence. Other policies and instruments adopted by IGAD to promote the WPS Agenda include the IGAD Peace and Security Strategy, the Regional Strategy for the Prevention and Countering of Violence Extremism, the IGAD WPS Forum and IGAD Gender Strategy. The Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism strategic plan is the only platform that integrates gender into the regional conflict early warning and response mechanism.

5.1.1 The Intergovernmental Authority for Development and the WPS Agenda

During the period under review, the IGAD REC instituted several instruments, policies and platforms to promote the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the WPS Agenda. By December 2019, five of the eight IGAD Member States had developed NAPs. Although the Continental Results Framework (CRF) does not explicitly assign indicators on the WPS Agenda by RECs, IGAD's report was based on the four pillars and the emerging security threats theme (Figure 10). This suggests that the REC's WPS Agenda is aligned to the international, continental and national frameworks that build on UNSCR 1325 and are integral to gender equality and women's empowerment as well as the IGAD Peace and Security Strategy, which is an important framework for fostering regional peace and sustainable development. IGAD reported significant progress in the implementation of the WPS Agenda in 2019.

Figure 10 – Intergovernmental Authority for Development, activities per pillar



CEWARN, Conflict Early Warning and Response Network; IDP, internally displaced person; IGAD, Intergovernmental Authority for Development; MSU, Mediation Support Unit; REC, Regional Economic Community

5.2 International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

With support from the Office of the Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security (OSE-WPS), the ICGLR Secretariat developed a RAP (2019–2023) to implement UNSCR 1325. The RAP includes 36 priority actions and 28 indicators linked to the four pillars. The region's gender ministers adopted it on 23 November 2018, in Entebbe, Uganda. The RAP is used for resource mobilization and as an advocacy tool for women's empowerment, and as a regional framework that allows Member States to work together to give women a voice in peace and security.

5.2.1 The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and the WPS Agenda

The ICGLR established a technical follow-up committee to coordinate, monitor and evaluate the progress made in the implementation of the RAP activities and the NAPs for Member States. It ran a capacity-building programme about the collection, analysis and communication of data at Member State level with expert members of the technical committee. The REM has 12 members with NAPs, with Uganda having localized and launched its third-generation NAP. ICGLR reported traction in implementing the WPS Agenda, focusing on mechanisms for monitoring implementation of the four pillars (Figure 11). Activities were carried out in collaboration with the Office of the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region, GIZ, UN Women, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the AUC for the Great Lakes Region and Burundi, the AU, the members of the Women's Advisory Council, FemWise and civil society organizations within the framework of the implementation of the RAP.

Figure 11 – International Conference on the Great Lakes Region activities per pillar

Participation Pillar

- *Solidarity, advocacy and monitoring missions were organised to Burundi and the DRC in June 2019 to promote gender equality and the full participation of women in politics, prevention and resolution conflicts.*
- *Regional Member States undertook to reach the minimum quota of 30% of women in decision making by the year 2020 and to put in place monitoring mechanisms for the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325.*
- *The missions also focused on legislative reforms at the State levels so as to be in conformity with the international legal instruments to which the countries have subscribed and acceded.*
- *Countries such as Rwanda, Angola, the United Republic of Tanzania, Burundi, Uganda and Sudan have already reached or exceeded the 30% threshold.*
- *A technical meeting of civil society organisations and regional ICGLR Fora was held in preparation for the high-level dialogue with the Guarantors of the Framework of Agreement for Peace, Security and Cooperation for the DRC and the region and the Pact on ICGLR on Security, Stability and Development and the Great Lakes Region in Nairobi from September 8-9, 2019.*
- *A planning session brought together CSOs and representatives of the ICGLR Regional Fora in Naivasha, Kenya from December 13-14, 2019. The exercise culminated in the development of a two-year FPS activity plan covering the period 2020-2021 which will also include activities under the responsibility of CSOs.*

Relief Pillar and Economic Recovery of Women

- *Implemented a project entitled 'Initiative for the economic recovery of vulnerable women and survivors of SGBV in the Great Lakes region and Burundi through the granting of revolving micro credits.'*
- *Pilot project to be duplicated in member states experiencing conflict.*

Protection Pillar

- A two-day regional workshop on 'Women and Elections' that brought together multiple stakeholder representatives was held November 12-13, 2019.
- Held a High-Level Consultation of Ministers of Justice in Nairobi from 13-14 May 2019 with support from the OSE on the theme "Combating impunity and ensuring respect for human rights as essential factors for the promotion of peace and security."
- Training of Trainers in the prevention and response to SGBV were organized with the Regional Training Facility of the ICGLR in Kampala and Member States. The TOTs targeted medical workers, social workers, magistrates, lawyers, judicial officers and other stakeholders who work with SGBV survivors in order to improve response to sexual violence in the region.
- Regional advocacy and solidarity missions that included pressing the need for women to participate in decision-making and for the authorities to integrate women into democratic and peace processes.

Prevention Pillar

- High-level consultation of the Ministers of Gender and Justice in Brazzaville (24-27 November 2010) to assess the implementation of the Kampala Declaration on SGBV, validate the Guide on the acceleration of criminal proceedings in matters of SGBV and the report on the state of implementation of the Kampala Declaration.
- Advocacy activities aimed at encouraging regional Member States to fight impunity, respond to the needs of survivors of SGBV crimes and harmonise laws and policies on the protection of women and girls, transcribe the ICGLR Protocol on Prevention and the Repression of SGBV against women and children in national laws and facilitate access to justice for survivors of SGBV.
- Set up and trained a regional network of journalists so that they are able to carry out reports and programs focused on communication for the change of behaviour and attitudes within the framework of the fight against SGBV in the Great Lakes region. The network has developed an action plan for combating SGBV at national and regional level including an action plan aimed at preventing SGBV, eradicating impunity and providing assistance to survivors.
- "Zero Tolerance to SGBV Now and Are you man enough to fight SGBV?" Campaigns were organised in Burundi, DRC and Rwanda in partnership with COCAFEM-GL, Care International Burundi and DRC to promote the prevention of SGBV In Burundi, DRC and Rwanda.
- A Technical Coordination Committee composed of the Executive Secretary's Office, MONUSCD, the centres of excellence of the ICGLR, the Fora of women and young people of the ICGLR, CSOs in the region, academics and gender experts. Committee holds weekly meetings in order to strengthen advocacy and support the Women's Advisory Council and make recommendations to them.

5.3 Economic Commission of West African States

The implementation of the WPS Agenda in ECOWAS is carried out through the ECOWAS Gender Development Centre (EGDC) under the Action Plan on the WPS (2017–2020), which is a component of the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework. The ECOWAS Action Plan aims to consolidate the role and participation of women in the design, formulation, implementation and evaluation of conflict-prevention and resolution processes, peacebuilding, and humanitarian initiatives through strengthening regional and national mechanisms for the promotion and protection of women's rights. The activities of the EGDC on WPS were carried out in collaboration with the Ministries of Gender and Women Affairs of ECOWAS Member States and the Network on Peace and Security for Women in the ECOWAS Region (Figure 12).

Figure 12 – Economic Commission of West African States activities per pillar

Protection

The Benin Chapter of NOPSWECO also initiated a project dubbed "Towards Quality and Accessible justice for All" aimed at contributing to quality and accessible justice to all categories of citizens.

Prevention

The Liberian Chapter of NOPSWECO, within the framework of its project on Strengthening Women's Role in Conflict Prevention and Peace Building, carried out several activities with the financial support of the EGDC. Some of these include; sensitisation and social mobilization of sector Ministries, advocacy campaign on border security as well as setting up of monitoring committees to monitor the movements of people at Liberia's frontiers.

The Togo Chapter of NOPSWECO carried out consultations with State and Non-State Actors with the view to build partnerships around the issue of women, peace and security; and to identify areas of cooperation, training and sensitisation sessions on Women, Peace and Security for its member associations as well as advocacy campaigns for increased representation of women in decision making bodies.

Participation

The Joint ECOWAS/ECCAS/ RESPFECO Workshop that adopted the Implementation of the Gender Dimension of the Lomé Declaration on Peace and Security. The EGDC is a founding member of the Working Group on Women, Youth, Peace and Security in West Africa and the Sahel (WGWPS-WAS), and is coordinated by the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA). ECOWAS also launched West African Network of Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation (FemWise-West Africa) to provide a platform for strategic advocacy, capacity building and networking with a view to implementing the commitments for women's inclusion in conflict prevention and peacemaking process in the region.

Relief and Recovery

In Ghana NOPSWECO organised a two-day training session for Members and Staff of the National Peace Council (NPC), under the theme: "Integrating Gender in Peace-building".

5.3.1 The Economic Commission of West African States and the WPS Agenda

In 2019, ECOWAS through the EGDC, carried out various activities to promote the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the WPS Agenda (Figure 12). A workshop on the Roadmap for Implementing the Gender Dimension of the Lomé Declaration on Peace, Security, Stability and the Fight against Terrorism and Violent Extremism was held, and an interregional committee to monitor the implementation of the road map was established. The workshop objectives were to contribute to the economic empowerment of women and to improve the skills of rural women and members of the Village Savings and Credit Association in entrepreneurship and financial literacy.

At the Dakar consultative meeting to assess the implementation of the WPS Agenda in Africa, the importance of OSE and RECs creating a dialogue platform to drive WPS policy advocacy was identified as a powerful way to accelerate the uptake of NAPs, particularly in the RECs with low Member State uptake rates, such as the Southern African Development Community. In the same meeting, RECs were urged to adopt an integrated approach that incorporates Customs and Border Security in the WPS Agenda as an effective strategy to ensure the protection of women's economic livelihoods and enhance their financial inclusion.

5.4 Conclusion

In 2019, IGAD demonstrated significant progress through measures that drive the region's WPS Agenda. It was noted that most NAPs were developed from the UNSCR 1325 with little or no reference to the RAP. The development of the regional conflict early warning and response mechanism that integrated gender-sensitive indicators with transborder coverage was important. IGAD had been active in training and capacity-building in Member States, including South Sudan and Somalia. The establishment of the Office of the Special Envoy on South Sudan, the Mediation Support Unit and the Senior Gender Adviser, among other initiatives, demonstrates IGAD's engagement with Member States on WPS issues and conflict prevention, management and resolution.

Progress has been made in establishing the various instruments and ensuring that there are mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the WPS Agenda, including building the capacity of implementers. However, these efforts are not trickling down to Member States and ultimately to grass-roots level. There is still low participation of women in decision-making and electoral processes and in mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution, mediation and negotiation. Women who are trained are not deployed in negotiation and mediation missions. There are persistent sociocultural constraints, limited political will from Member States to move the agenda forward, and lack of sufficient funding; for example, there is a lack of contributions from Member States to the Special Reconstruction and Development Fund. The REC also faces personnel constraints at the gender programme level.

Although ECOWAS carried out several activities related to the WPS Agenda in several of its Member States, there was limited coordination in the implementation of these activities, so Member States did not use common approaches. Another observation from the findings suggests that the various activities conducted during the period under review had no clear link to the Member States' NAPs, suggesting lost opportunities to capitalize on synergies. The ECOWAS report was not based on the four pillars as per the CRF. This could be because the CRF does not provide reporting guidelines to the RECs.

6.0 Measuring WPS Agenda implementation at Member State level

This section presents the findings from Member States pertaining to progress on implementation, monitoring and reporting of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda using the Continental Results Framework (CRF), for the period January to December 2019. The findings are categorized under the respective country's Regional Economic Community (REC) grouping using the four pillars and an additional theme as outlined in the CRF. A review of 20 Member States' reports was carried out. South Sudan and Nigeria reported after the data analysis had been completed, so only crucial highlights from these two Member States are presented.

6.1 Prevention Pillar

The Prevention Pillar focuses on measures being taken by the African Union Commission (AUC), RECs and Member States to prevent the abuse and violence against women and children, which increase during conflict. The pillar also focuses on the prevention of all forms of violence, discrimination and abuse of women during peace and post-conflict situations. It highlights the empowerment of women during conflict prevention and management as well as the integration of a gender perspective into all conflict-prevention and management processes at all levels.

6.1.1 Laws and policies

Most National Action Plans (NAPs) focus on UNSCR 1325 (and to an extent resolution 1820), with little reference to other resolutions. These resolutions are not instruments of international law, so there is a gap between the WPS Agenda and the United Nations human rights system. During the consultative meeting held in Dakar, Senegal in December 2019 to assess the implementation of the WPS Agenda in Africa, concerns were raised about the lack of adequate funding for the implementation of NAPs, the limited role of civil society in drafting and implementation processes, the lack of robust monitoring and evaluation systems, the absence of local ownership of NAPs, and poor diversity and representativeness of women and women's organizations in the development and implementation of NAPs. Member States at the Dakar meeting indicated the importance of encouraging States to collaborate with civil society and the WPS Forum in Ouagadougou in 2019 reiterated the same.

6.1.1.1 Economic Commission of West Africa States

A total of 64 per cent of ECOWAS countries that adopted NAPs submitted WPS reports for 2019. Four countries reported additions to their existing laws and policies (see Appendix 8) that integrate WPS in their security establishments. Key actions included introductions or reviews of national gender policies and mainstreaming gender into the security ministries. Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea did not report new laws and policies that integrate WPS into their security architecture, or mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of such laws and policies. Liberia presented a new law and two policies for 2019, and various monitoring mechanisms; for example, Regional Peace Hubs and the Palava Huts Traditional Peacebuilding Program. Liberia, Sierra Leone and Senegal established Women Situation Rooms (Text Box 3).

PREVENTION
Liberia, Sierra Leone, Senegal




Women Situation Room (WSR): An Initiative for Peaceful and Inclusive Government
The WSR is a women-led approach to preventing and reducing violence during elections, and in some countries assuming a conflict management approach in the post-election period. WSR seeks to reduce cases of violence and sexual violence, and increase the number of women in electoral processes - either as voters, candidates, supporters or observers during elections.
The WSR was first used in Liberia and replicated in Senegal and Sierra Leone.

Nigeria developed a Strategic Results Framework (Implementation Plan) for the National Gender Policy and also developed State Action Plans and Local Action Plans with support from UN Women, the Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Programme, and other development partners. Among other mechanisms for monitoring, it has several committees and multilevel stakeholders for the localization of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act at state levels, and the passage into law of the Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill at national and state levels. The laws and policies developed in 2019 for each of the ECOWAS Member States are presented in the Appendix 8.

6.1.1.2 International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

All countries in the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) reported having introduced laws, policies, instruments and strategies to integrate WPS in their security architecture. These included the review or introduction of national gender policies, review of NAPs and national strategic plans to combat human trafficking, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and other security threats to women, girls and children. Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) integrated a gender dimension into its National Security Strategy (Table 1).



Table 1 – Policies, strategies and mechanisms, International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

<p>Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Gender Policy ▪ Second NAP (2019–2022) ▪ National Strategy on Combating Sexual Violence ▪ Integration of gender perspective into the National Security Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gender and parity commission in the National Assembly ▪ National Secretariat for monitoring the implementation of UNSCR 1325 ▪ Agency for Violence Against Women ▪ National Council for the Monitoring the Election Agreement
<p>Central African Republic</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National policy to promote gender equity and equality and its planned actions, revised in 2019 ▪ Standard operational procedures for combating SGBV revised and popularized (2019) ▪ The passing into law of the Child Protection Code ▪ Law on the prevention and repression of sexual harassment, and the protection of victims ▪ First NAP (2014–2016) ▪ National and strategic action plan to combat trafficking in human beings (2019) ▪ National strategy to fight against gender-based violence, harmful practices, traditions, and child marriage (2019) ▪ The signing of a joint communiqué between the Central African Republic and the United Nations on the fight against sexual violence during conflict (2019) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishment by Decree of the Prime Minister and Head of the National Committee for the Campaign Against Gender-Based Violence
<p>Cameroon</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Gender Policy (2019) ▪ Decree on day care centres ▪ Ratification of the agreement on Vancouver Principles on peacekeeping and the prevention of the recruitment and use of child soldiers ▪ First NAP (2018-2020) ▪ National Strategy to combat Gender -Based Violence ▪ NAP to combat female genital mutilation ▪ National Early Childhood Protection Strategy ▪ NAP to support the participation of women in decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Standard operational procedures for addressing sexual and gender -based violence

6.1.1.3 Southern African Development Community

Mozambique and Namibia submitted reports for the year 2019. The report from Mozambique shows no laws or policies were introduced during 2019 to integrate WPS Agenda into the security system, except for its first generation NAP (2018–2022). Strategies such as solidarity camps on women, peace and safety, and training of security personnel on WPS issues were introduced. Namibia recently adopted its first NAP in 2019; it reported some laws and policies (Table 2).



Table 2 – Laws, strategies and mechanisms, Southern African Development Community

Mozambique	–	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First NAP (2018–2022) ▪ Solidarity camps on women, peace and safety ▪ Training of Ministry of National Defence on WPS issues 	–
			
Namibia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Constitution (1990) ▪ Labour and Social Security Act (2007) ▪ Affirmative Action Act (1998) ▪ Fifth National Development Plan ▪ Vision 2030 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First NAP (2019-2024) ▪ National Gender Policy (2010–2020) ▪ National Action Plan on Gender- Based Violence (2012–2016) 	–
			

6.1.1.4 Intergovernmental Authority for Development

Kenya and Uganda under IGAD reported significant additions to the laws, policies and strategies that integrate WPS in their security structures and had mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of those laws and policies. Kenya promulgated a National Peace Support Operations Policy that includes WPS matters in peace support operations. Uganda reported on the adoption of the Goma Declaration and joining the Global WPS Focal Point Network. It also developed a multisectoral framework for monitoring and reporting on the implementation of commitments and obligations on gender equality, women’s empowerment and human rights. Uganda also designated focal point persons in ministries to support the delivery of the WPS Agenda. These persons are coordinated by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (Table 3).

Table 3 – Policies, strategies and mechanisms, Intergovernmental Authority for Development

Kenya 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sessional Paper No. 02 of 2019 on National Policy on Gender and Development ▪ National Cohesion and Integration Act (proposed amendments in the National Cohesion and Peace Building bill 2018) ▪ National Peace Support Operations Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Second NAP (2016–2018) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Standard Guidelines and Terms of Reference for Peace Structures in Kenya ▪ Kenya Police Standard Operating Procedures on Sexual and Gender -Based Violence ▪ Intergovernmental Consultative Framework for the gender sector ▪ Launched the WPS and Humanitarian Programme in July 2019 ▪ WPS National Technical Committee that coordinates the development of the third NAP ▪ Global WPS Focal Point Network ▪ Multisectoral framework for monitoring and reporting on gender equality, women's empowerment and human rights in Uganda.
Uganda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ratified the Goma Declaration as part of ICGLR ▪ The Transitional Justice Policy 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Third NAP (2018–2022) ▪ The Electoral Commission Gender Strategy (2019) ▪ Focal point persons in ministries to support the delivery of the WPS Agenda 	

South Sudan did not report the introduction of new laws or instruments within the Prevention Pillar but noted strategies and mechanisms for monitoring laws and policies. During the reporting period, the Law Review Commission agreed to prohibiting of “any acts of rape, sexual abuse and torture.” It gazetted a communiqué aimed at bringing an end to all forms of conflict related sexual violence. Their mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the WPS Agenda include:

- An Inter-ministerial Gender Technical Committee made up of gender focal points from government institutions, United Nations agencies and civil society organizations (CSOs). The committee members meet every month to assist in establishing gender committees in their respective institutions, with the aim of mainstreaming gender into their respective policies, legal frameworks and programmes.
- The Gender Coordination Forum comprised of thematic groups of government Institutions United Nations agencies and CSOs that meets quarterly.
- The Inter-ministerial Steering Committee, chaired by the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare with Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Justice as co-chairs. Five ministries meet twice a year to report on the implementation of the country's NAP by government institutions and stakeholders, including donors, United Nations agencies, development partners, international non-governmental organizations and CSOs.



6.1.1.5 Economic Community of Central African States

Rwanda and Burundi reported various policies, strategies and mechanisms for monitoring (Table 4). A key highlight for Rwanda is the Isange One Stop Centres – 495 health centres to support victims of SGBV (Text Box 4). Burundi developed SGBV performance indicators.

Text Box 4 – Isange One Stop Centres, Rwanda

"One Stop" Centres are structures for a comprehensive response, providing psychosocial, medical, police and legal services in a single place, to address gender-based violence. The first "One Stop" Centre was established in June 2009, at Kacyiru Police Hospital, Gasabo District, Kigali. The centre was named Isange Centre, which means "Feel free/Feel welcome", communicating a message of security and openness for the survivors of SGBV.

Table 4 – Policies, strategies and mechanisms, Economic Community of Central African States

Rwanda		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law No. 69/2019 prescribing heavy punishment for SGBV ▪ Review of National Gender Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Second NAP (2018–2022) ▪ Gender-based Violence Crime and Child Protection Division in the Rwanda Investigation Bureau ▪ Gender and Family Promotion Officers at district level ▪ Gender-Responsive Budgeting, including a gender budget statement to improve planning, budgeting, implementation and reporting ▪ Gender Monitoring Office ▪ Gender accountability days ▪ Gender Management Information System ▪ Isange One Stop Centres in 495 health centres to support victims of SGBV ▪ Toll-free telephone lines to facilitate timely reporting and access to information on SGBV cases
Burundi		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Gender Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Second NAP (2017–2021) ▪ National Development Plan (2018–2027) ▪ Strategic Plan to Combat Sexual Gender- Based Violence ▪ National Program for strengthening of women's economic capacities ▪ Gender Sectoral Group ▪ Resolution 1325 Steering Committee ▪ SGBV databases in all courts ▪ Ministry of Justice SGBV performance Indicators

6.1.2 Budget

Most countries in all RECs did not provide data on the proportion of their budgets allocated to the WPS Agenda in 2019. Togo reported that about 400 million CFA francs were allocated to the WPS Agenda in 2019 but did not provide the total budget proportion. Sierra Leone stated that between 0.8 and 1.0 per cent of its national budget was allocated to the WPS Agenda. Senegal reported that 4 trillion CFA francs was allocated towards the WPS Agenda in 2019. DRC reported that 11.22 per cent of the national budget was allocated to strengthening state authority and promoting the rule of law and democracy, and 7.77 per cent of the Defence and Security budget was earmarked for pacification and advancement of reconciliation, cohesion and national unity. In IGAD, Kenya reported that the WPS Agenda in the Defence and Security budget allocation increased to 29 per cent during the period under review. Findings indicate that in most Member States, budget allocations for the WPS Agenda are non-existent.

6.1.3 Women in decision-making in defence and security institutions

Women in decision-making in security institutions contribute to the prevention, management and resolution of conflict, and promote peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction. Throughout negotiation and mediation, the participation of women ensures the integration of gender perspectives into peacekeeping, post-conflict peacebuilding and governance. The defence and security institutions under consideration included the military, judiciary, prison and correctional services, and intelligence services. A limited number of Member States provided data on the number and percentage of women in decision-making positions in defence and security institutions. The two meetings held in 2019 in Ouagadougou and Dakar on WPS in Africa agreed that women contributed significantly to the negotiation and mediation efforts in Sudan, South Sudan, and the Central Africa Republic (CAR). However, gaps still exist; for example, women are still marginalized in mediation and peace negotiation in other parts of the continent.

6.1.3.1 Military

A limited number of Member States provided data on the number and percentage of women in decision-making institutions for peace and security. Liberia, DRC, Burundi and Kenya included the number and percentage of women in decision-making positions within the military. Liberia indicated that 8.5 per cent of senior officers are women, DRC reported that women constitute 4 per cent of Generals, 5.2 per cent of senior officers and 2 per cent of the officers within the military, whereas Burundi reported that the country's military had no women in its decision-making echelons. On the other hand, Kenya reported that women constitute 1 per cent of the Generals and 7 per cent of the senior officers in its military. South Sudan reported that 5 per cent of its military personnel were women.

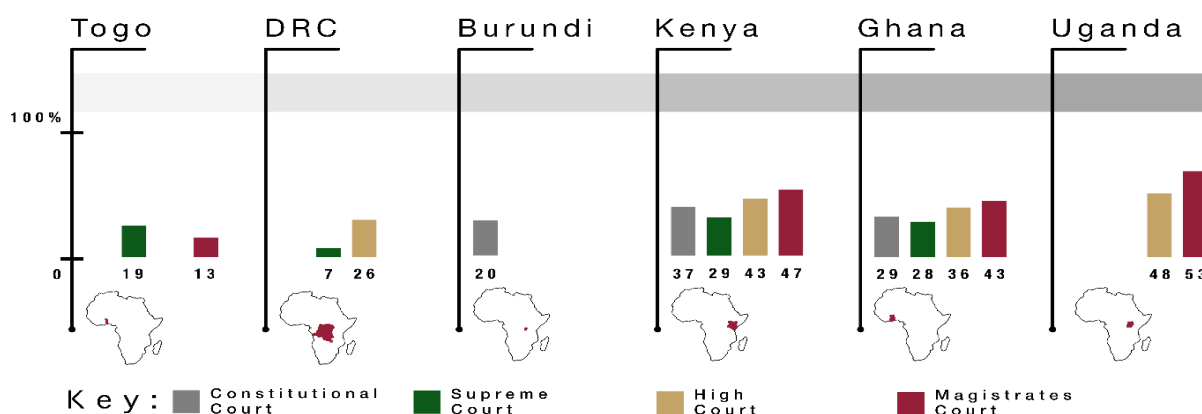
6.1.3.2 Police

Only the DRC, Cameroon, Kenya, Ghana and Uganda provided percentages of women in decision-making roles in the police in 2019. The DRC reported that the highest level attained by women in the police force was senior assistant commissioner, of which 7 per cent were women. Cameroon reported that women constituted around 13 per cent of the senior police officers (those ranked between commissioner and commissioner general). Kenya reported that 14 per cent of police officers of chief superintendent rank and higher were women. Ghana reported that the number of women in decision-making positions in the police force was distributed as follows; two female Directors-General, one Deputy Regional Commander, five Divisional Officers and 25 District Officers. Uganda reported that in the Uganda Police Force 11 per cent of Directors were female, and 8 per cent of Regional Police Commanders. In South Sudan, 10 per cent of the Police Department consists of women.

6.1.3.3 Judiciary

Seven Member States reported the number and percentage of women in decision-making in the judiciary. Togo reported that 18.5 per cent of Supreme Court judges were women, and 13.17 per cent of magistrates. The DRC report highlighted that women constitute 7 per cent of Supreme Court judges and 26 per cent of high court judges. Rwanda reported that women constitute 50 per cent of its judiciary staff, although the data did not provide the breakdown in terms of the staff levels. Other data show that Kenya, Ghana, Uganda and Rwanda have above 25 per cent female representation, and other countries reported representations below 20 per cent. South Sudan reported having 2 per cent of women in its judicial services (Figure 13).

Figure 13 – Women’s participation in the judiciary



6.1.3.4 Prison, Correctional and Intelligence Services

Notably, most Member States (18) that submitted WPS reports in 2019 using the CRF did not provide data on the number and percentage of women in decision-making in intelligence, prison and correctional services. A review of open data sources did not yield any data about women’s participation for any of the 25 Member States with NAPs on the WPS Agenda in Africa. Similarly, Nigeria did not report on women in these roles. Sudan reported that 2 per cent of intelligence services positions and 1 per cent of prison and correctional services positions were occupied by women.

6.1.3.5 Immigration

Togo, Sierra Leone and South Sudan are the only countries that provided data on the percentage of positions occupied by women working in the immigration services; the proportions were 16, 4.7 and 2 per cent, respectively. The Dakar meeting on assessing the implementation of the WPS Agenda in Africa determined the importance of including other sectors in assessing women’s roles in WPS in a holistic way. For example, large numbers of women are involved in cross-border trade and their contribution to the economic development of their nations and in some cases, regions are significant. Yet, these women are often victims of extortion and exploitation. Increasing the number of women in customs and border security would go a long way in enhancing the protection of women cross-border traders.

6.1.4 Early warning and response systems

National early warning and response mechanisms are a critical aspect of the national peace and security architecture. These should be able to collect and analyse data based on a set of indicators, and then initiate appropriate and timely responses to any potential security challenges. For such early warning and response systems to address WPS issues, gender perspectives have to be integrated into the systems through the inclusion of gender-sensitive indicators. This section evaluates the level of integration of gender perspectives into national early warning and response mechanisms.

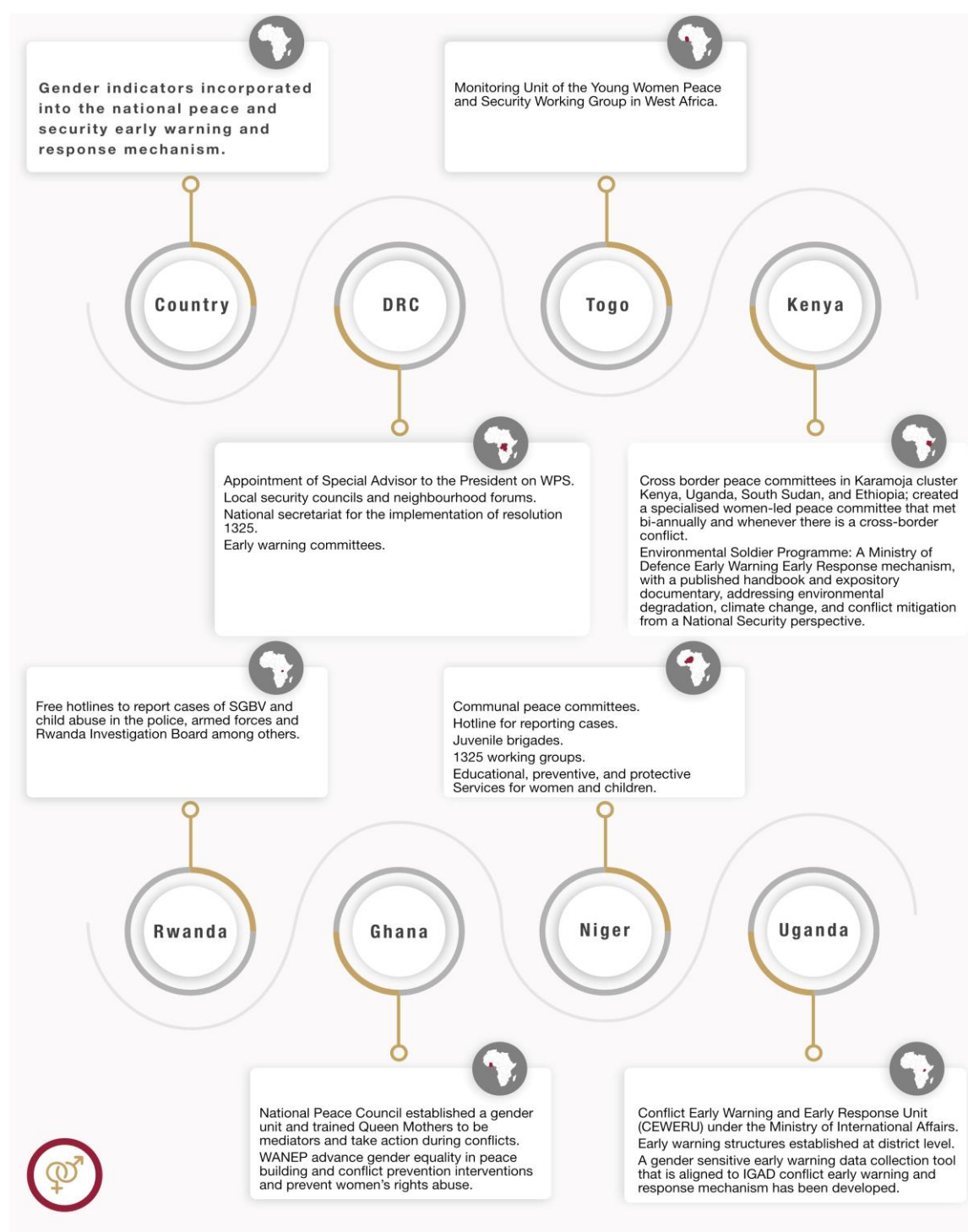
6.1.4.1 Gender perspectives in the national peace and security early warning and response mechanisms

Member States at the Dakar meeting emphasized the importance of embedding WPS issues in early warning systems. Using the CRF, 44 per cent of Member States reported on the existence of a gender perspective in their national peace and security early warning and response mechanisms. These included community-based monitoring units such as the cross-border peace committees in Karamoja cluster (comprising Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan and Ethiopia). Other mechanisms include:

- free hotline reporting platforms (Rwanda and Niger)
- peace committees (Kenya, DRC, Niger)
- the Conflict Early Warning and Early Response Unit (Uganda)
- the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (Ghana)
- the regionally linked early warning system in IGAD.

Togo reported on the monitoring unit of the Young WPS Working Group in West Africa. Liberia reported SGBV observatories and nationwide peace committees, from the village to county level. Figure 14 shows the evidence of a gender perspective in the national early warning and response mechanisms of each of the countries.

Figure 14 – Early warning response mechanisms



Nigeria has gender desks in designated police stations in its six geopolitical zones. Quarterly meetings of the National Advisory Council collate feedback and updates and assess the implementation of the National Action Plans (NAPs) and Local Action Plans (LAPs). The National Emergency Management Agency is also part of the early warning and response system. The gender-related information in their system is mostly provided as gender-disaggregated data in feedback and updates on the level of implementation of NAP, SAPs and LAPs.

6.1.4.2 Women working as early warning data collectors and analysts

Four Member States (Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Senegal and Sierra Leone) from ECOWAS provided data on the proportion of women working as early warning data collectors and analysts in the countries' WPS early warning systems. Côte d'Ivoire reported that 20 per cent and 27 per cent of the people working as early warning analysts and data collectors were women. Senegal (66.7 per cent) and Sierra Leone (15.4 per cent) provided data on women working as analysts, and Liberia reported that 31.7 per cent of data collectors were women. Most Member States (81 per cent) did not provide data on either the existence and evidence of a gender perspective in the national peace and security early warning and response mechanisms or the proportion of women working as early warning data collectors and analysts. This could indicate that gender perspectives are not yet fully integrated into the national early warning and response mechanisms.

6.1.4.3 WPS gender-related information in the national early warning system

In Liberia (Text Box 4), the early warning platform includes 57 conflict-sensitive indicators, 20 per cent of which are gender related (for example, number of rape, SGBV and domestic violence recorded). A total of 29 per cent of the Member States reported on various mechanisms to include gender-related information in the national early warning system (Figure 15).

Text Box 4 – The Early warning platform in Liberia



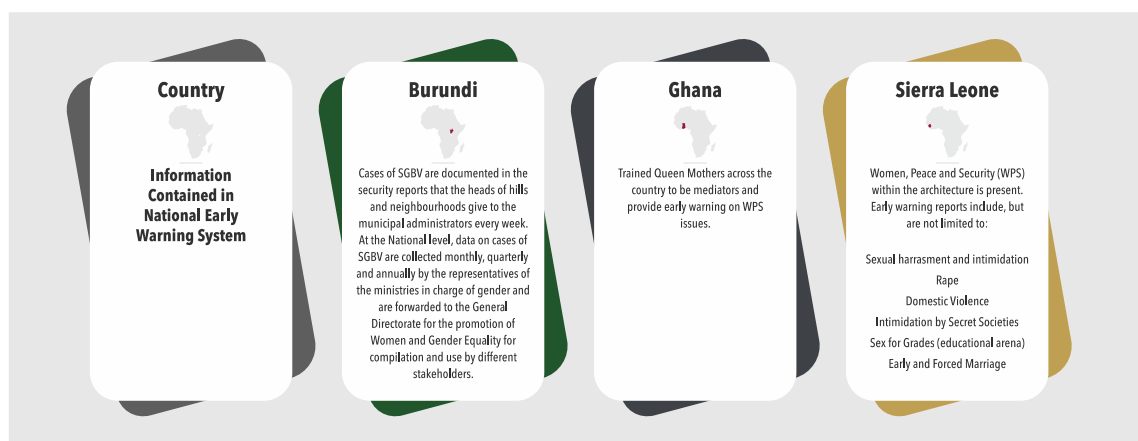
Early warning platform comprising of 57 conflict sensitive indicators, out of which 20% are gender related with specific indicators on the number of rape, SGBV and domestic violence cases occurring and reported at grassroots levels.

The early warning and response programs and report are highly gender sensitive and responsive based on the composition of the early warning and peace committee groups in the counties. Women's peace and security information is mainstreamed and highlighted in early warning reports coming from the counties because women's representation in Early Warning and Emergency Reports is above the 30% threshold.

Liberia

Gender-related information shared with the early warning system was dominated by issues related to SGBV, domestic violence, intimidation by secret societies, sex for grades (in educational settings) and early and forced marriage (Figure 15).

Figure 15 – Information in early warning systems



6.1.4.4 Gender-related actions contained in the national early warning reports

Burundi and Liberia provided data on gender-related actions contained in the country's national early warning and response reports. This included community awareness-raising actions by local administrators, the police and civil society organizations about the consequences of SGBV and the eradication of habits and behaviours that promote SGBV. The lack of data on gender-related actions in the national early warning and response reports from the majority (88 per cent) of the Member States could be linked to gender-related WPS dynamics and challenges of running the national early warning and response mechanisms.

6.1.5 Sexual and gender-based violence

SGBV against women and girls is one of the major WPS challenges faced by Member States. The CRF views the number of incidents of SGBV against women and girls, as well as their reportage and how they are dealt with, as important measures of how Member States are addressing this issue. At the meeting on bringing together regional WPS Forums, held in Ouagadougou, emphasis was placed on the importance of research about the status of refugees, internally displaced persons, and women and girls in conflict zones. Similarly, the Dakar meeting stressed the challenges caused by low data-collection capacity and the absence of standardized systems. Therefore, this section evaluates how Member States are addressing SGBV against women and girls by determining the number of incidents and types of SGBV reported during the period under review, and how these were dealt with.

6.1.5.1 Incidents of sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls

Of the Member States that submitted WPS reports for 2019, 44 per cent provided data on the number of incidents of SGBV against women and girls during the reporting period. Rwanda and Côte d'Ivoire provided comprehensive data showing all incidents reported (Figure 16), indicating cases that were acted upon, those still being followed up and those concluded, while the other Member States provided incomplete data. Uganda reported the highest number of incidents (53,486 cases). Figure 16 shows the number of incidents of SGBV reported and acted upon in all the countries under consideration during the period under review.

Figure 16 – Number of incidents of sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls

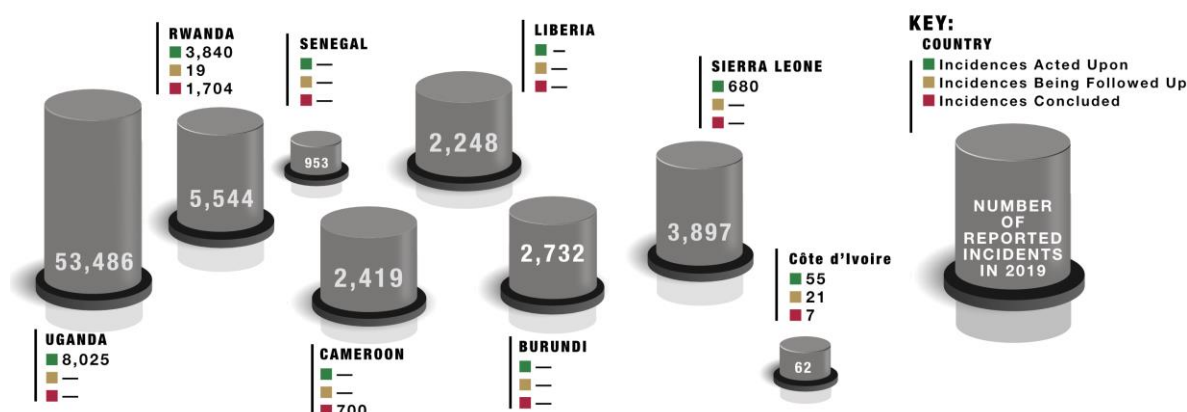


Table 5 shows the recorded incidents of SGBV against women and girls in South Sudan in 2019.

Table 5 – Number of incidents of sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls, South Sudan

South Sudan	Reported (2019)	Acted Upon	Being Followed Up	Concluded
	1869	106	1763	200

6.1.6 Conclusion

The reported laws and policies that integrate WPS into the security infrastructure focused on introductions or reviews of national gender policies, and mainstreaming gender into security ministries. There was limited development of laws and legal instruments to enforce strategies and plans. Few countries have clear mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of these policies and strategies, suggesting a lack of coordination at the systemic level. This seems to have resulted in most countries failing to implement the policies and strategies, especially given the absence of committed budgets for implementation. Liberia stands out as having the most mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of laws and policies that integrate WPS into the security structures; it is also commendable that these mechanisms, like the Palava Huts, are at the grass-roots level.

The majority of Member States did not provide data on the proportion of budget allocated to the WPS Agenda in 2019. Burundi and Sierra Leone comprehensively reported on the proportions of the budget allocated to WPS. Other countries gave proportions for specific components of the WPS Agenda or specific figures allocated for WPS from the national budget. The results indicate a lack of adequate funding for the implementation of NAPs in most Member States.

Notably, most Member States did not provide data on the number and percentage of women in decision-making in the military and police. Compared with the set goals for women in the military and police, the representation of women remains low. However, it was noted that the rank structures and nomenclatures in use in various Member States are different and this diversity impedes reporting. Of importance is the absence of data on the numbers and percentage of women in the intelligence systems and prison and correctional services by all Member States that submitted reports.

Member States reported examples of early warning and reporting mechanisms like the Conflict Early Warning and Early Response Unit in Uganda. Structures have also been established at the district level to put in place the gender-sensitive, early warning data-collection tool that is aligned with the IGAD conflict early warning and early response mechanism and with the cross-border peace committees in Karamoja cluster of Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan and Ethiopia. Liberia has SGBV observatories and regional peace hubs. Only Member States from the ECOWAS region provided data on the proportion of women working as early warning data collectors and analysts in the WPS early warning systems. The gender-related information contained in most countries' early warning and response mechanisms was mainly on SGBV and other sexual-related abuses. The information is relevant and consistent with the respective countries as some are emerging from conflict. Only Burundi provided data on gender-related actions that are contained in the country's national early warning and response reports, and this included community awareness-raising actions on the consequences of SGBV and the eradication of factors favouring SGBV. However, the information shows that most of the reported cases were not being followed to their logical conclusions.

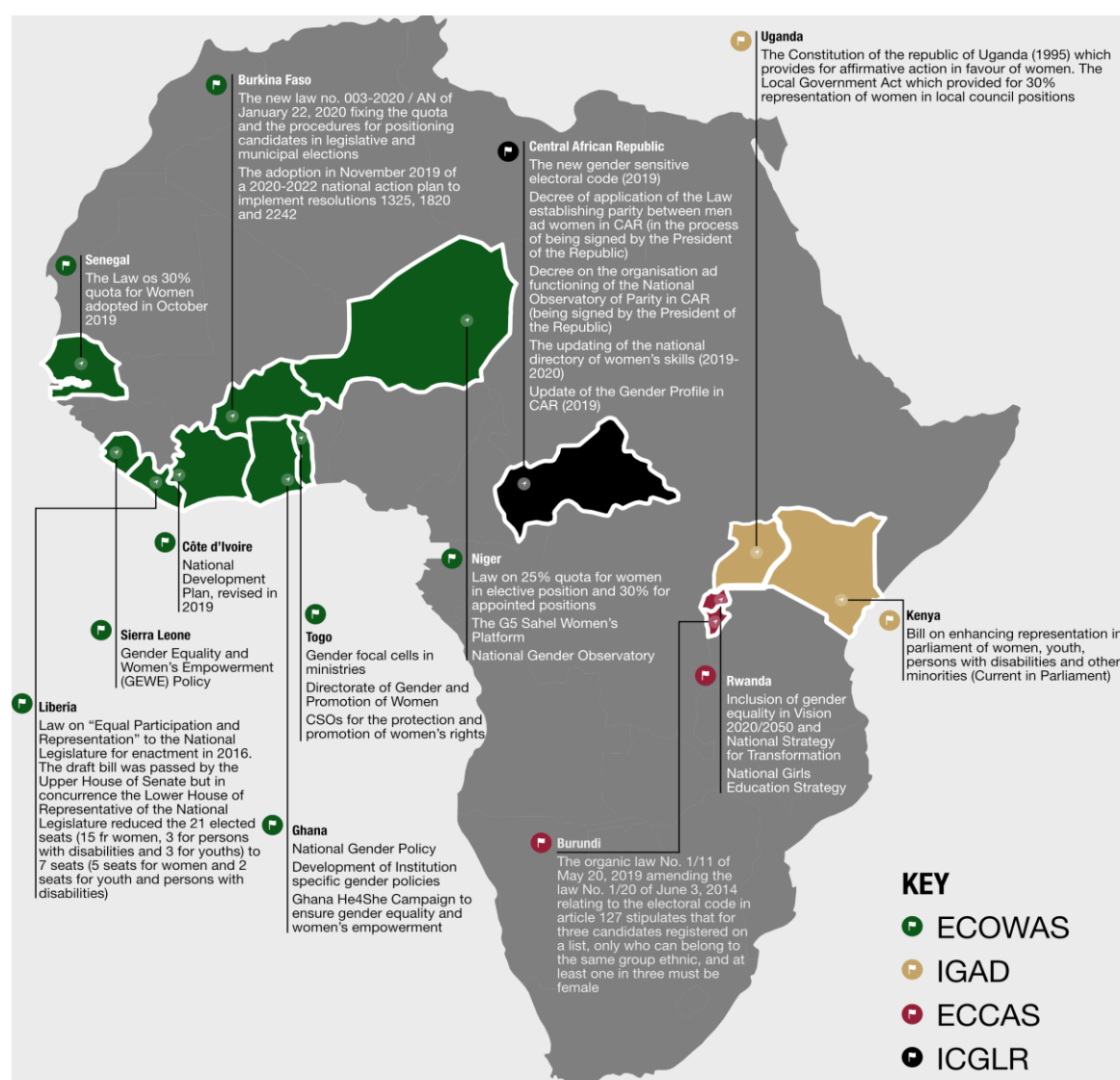
6.2 Participation Pillar

The Participation Pillar aims to promote the representation of women at all levels of decision-making, including peace processes, electoral processes, economic processes and the broader socio-political space.

6.2.1 Laws and policies

In Dakar, Member States agreed on the importance of a two-pronged approach focused on strengthening legislation and popularizing it. In 2019, 13 countries either added or reviewed laws and policies that promote women's participation and leadership in decision-making positions in the governance of peace and security. From the 18 countries that submitted reports, only four countries, namely Mozambique, DRC, Cameroon and Guinea, did not have any new laws or policies. New laws and policies were mainly centred on gender parity policies and quota systems for women (Figure 17).

Figure 17 – Participation: laws and policies



As much as there has been significant improvement in the policy and legal frameworks that promote women's participation, there is a gap in mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the same laws and policies. Half the 18 countries provided mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the laws and policies. For example, Niger and Côte d'Ivoire have National Gender Observatories, and Guinea set up a gender and equity service within the Ministry of National Defence (responsible for monitoring and implementing UNSCR 1325). In Liberia, the Division for Women Empowerment in the Gender Ministry is responsible for monitoring the implementation of laws and policies to promote women's participation and leadership in the governance of peace and security processes (Figure 18).

Figure 18 – Mechanisms for monitoring implementation of laws and policies



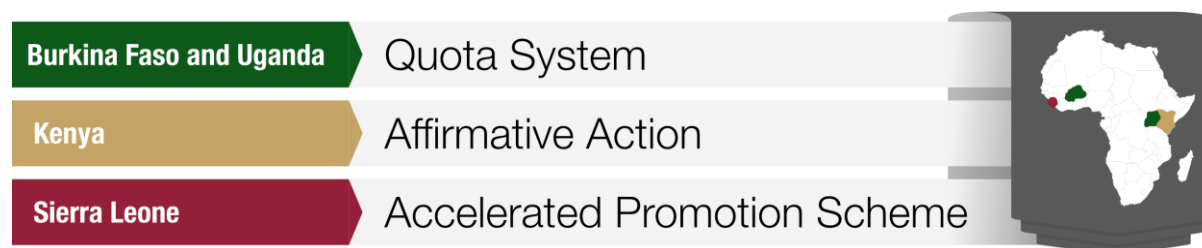
Nigeria has a National Gender Policy with a quota of 35 per cent women in elective and appointive positions for decision-making, including peace and security, and 11 State Action Plans (SAPs) have a pillar for promoting women's participation and leadership in peace and security processes. Mechanisms for monitoring include a monitoring and evaluation framework to enhance tracking of progress on the NAP and SAP implementation. Monitoring committees are in place in the 11 states responsible for driving the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the SAPs at the state and local government area levels. They also conduct regular gender assessments of security organizations (Nigerian Army, Nigeria Police Force, and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps) and the judiciary at federal and state levels.

South Sudan has several mechanisms in place for monitoring the implementation of women's participation in decision-making processes. These include a specialized committee for gender, a women's caucus in parliament, and an inter-ministerial committee that monitors the implementation of laws and policies for promoting women's participation. In addition, there is the Gender Coordination Forum, comprising thematic groups, an inter-ministerial gender technical committee (comprised of gender focal points from government institutions), the Chamber of Women Entrepreneurs (South Sudan) and the South Sudan Women General Association, which monitors women's participation in leadership at all levels. The Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare developed the national key performance indicators (KPIs) for monitoring gender mainstreaming. The KPIs track progress on gender mainstreaming as a strategy to achieve gender equality across sectors and line ministries at national and state levels.

6.2.2 Women in decision-making

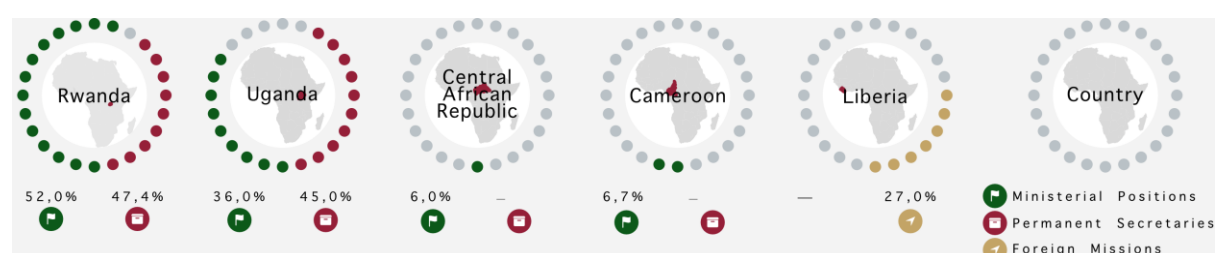
At the Dakar Consultative Meeting, Member States called for improved participation of women in positions of responsibility, particularly in the peace and security apparatus and diplomatic missions. Using the CRF, Ghana indicated that 17.8 per cent of its military observers in various United Nations peacekeeping missions were women, and Liberia reported 27 per cent in its 26 missions. This exceeds the 15 per cent benchmark advocated by the United Nations. No other Member State reported the percentage of women in leadership positions in the foreign and intelligence services. Only 31 per cent of Member States reported on measures adopted to encourage women and girls to join the security forces. Sierra Leone has increased female intake from the previous year by 20 per cent on all its defence and police forces' recruitment drives. Noted measures to promote women's advancement to decision-making positions are shown in Figure 19.

Figure 19 – Measures to accelerate the promotion of women



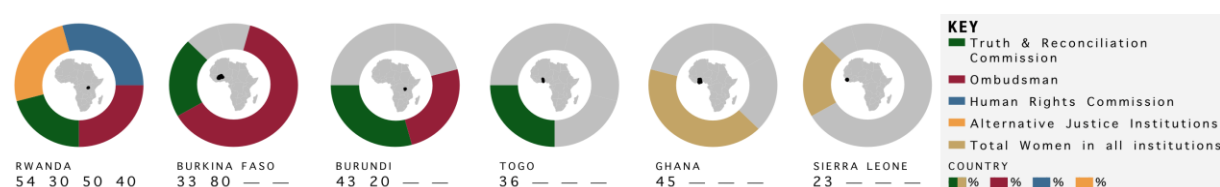
Nigeria reported on the Adoption of gender-responsive operational guidelines by the military, including the admission of females as regular combatant cadets into the elite Nigerian Defence Academy. The report highlighted the gender review of the curriculum of the Nigerian Army Peacekeeping Centre and noted that the Gender Department of the Defence Ministry developed a gender-mainstreaming platform for the Nigerian Armed Forces. The percentages of women in decision-making positions in political and civil service are presented in Figure 20. Findings show that most countries' percentages are low, except for Rwanda and Uganda, which have achieved high levels.

Figure 20 – Percentage of women in decision-making positions



Six Member States provided statistics about women holding decision-making positions in oversight structures for peacebuilding. Rwanda has the largest percentage of women (54 per cent of positions in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, 30 per cent in the Ombudsman's office, 50 per cent at the Human Rights Commission and 40 per cent in Alternative Justice Institutions). Burkina Faso follows closely with figures of 80 per cent for the Ombudsman's office and 33 per cent for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Ghana and Sierra Leone provided only total percentages of positions held by women in these institutions – 45 per cent and 23 per cent respectively (Figure 21).

Figure 21 –Percentages of positions held by women in oversight structures



The percentages decision-making positions held by women in oversight structures for peacebuilding as of 2019 in South Sudan and Nigeria are shown in Table 6.

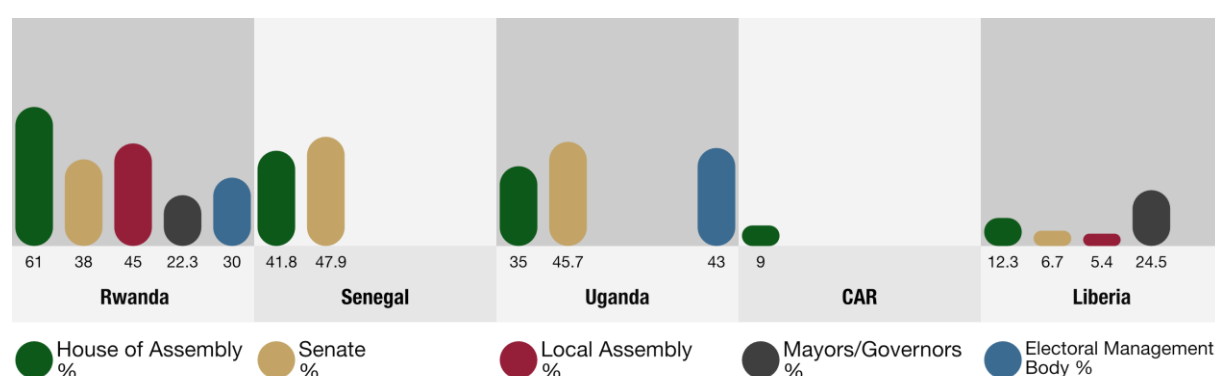
Table 6 – Percentages of positions in oversight structures held by women, Nigeria and South Sudan

Country	Ministers (%)	Permanent secretaries (%)	CEOs in parastatals (%)	Heads of commissions (%)
Nigeria	7	14	13	—
South Sudan	31.4	5.7	0	27

6.2.2.1 Women's participation

The percentage of women in elective and normative positions in political structures and offices is still low, which keeps most Member States below the mandatory 30 per cent quota. Rwanda maintains the lead position, with 61 per cent women in its House of Assembly, 38 per cent in the Senate, 45 per cent in the Local Assembly, 22.3 per cent in Mayor and Governor positions and 30 per cent in the Electoral Management Body.

Figure 22 – Women’s participation in political structures



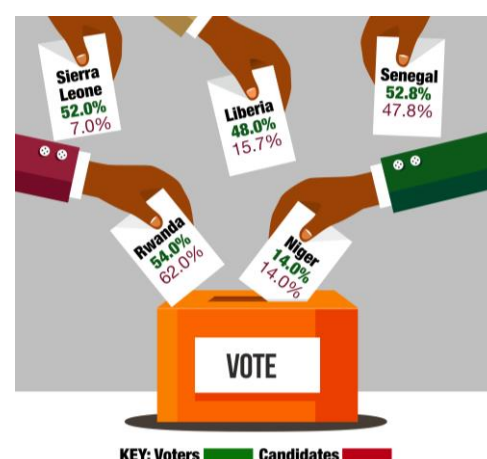
The representation of women in elective and normative positions in political structures and offices in Nigeria and South Sudan are shown in Table 7.

Table 7 – Percentages of women in elective and normative positions in political structures and offices, Nigeria and South Sudan

Nigeria	Seats held by women (%)	South Sudan	Seats held by women (%)
Senate	7.3	Members	33
House of Representatives	4.1	Council of States	4
		Deputy Chair in Electoral Management body	1 woman

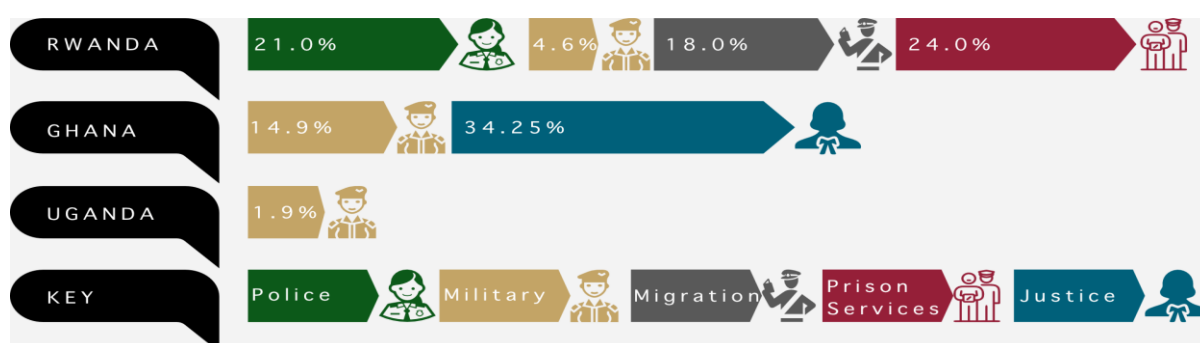
Seven countries reported the percentages of women participating in political processes as voters or candidates, and from the available data, the proportion of women is low. South Sudan has the highest proportion of women voters – 65 per cent of women vote – while 25 per cent of candidates were women. In Rwanda 62 per cent of candidates are women and 54 per cent of women vote. In Senegal 52.8 per cent of women vote and 47.8 per cent of candidates are women (Figure 23).

Figure 23 – Women’s participation in the political process



There was limited information on the proportion of women in the various security sector institutions. About 50 per cent of the Member States provided incomplete information that pointed to a low proportion of women in the security services. Rwanda tops the list; its police force is 21 per cent women, while women occupy 4.6 per cent of positions in the military, 18 per cent in immigration and 24 per cent in prisons services. Ghana follows with 14.9 per cent women in the military and 34.25 per cent in the justice sector. Other countries range from 1.9 to 20 per cent in these sectors, while no reports were made on the percentages of women involved in conflict management or intelligence services (Figure 24).

Figure 24 – Proportion of women in security sector institutions



Liberia, CAR, Guinea, Kenya, Ghana and Senegal provided data on the number of women's CSOs participating in government-led peacebuilding processes. Liberia reported nine CSOs working across all processes and Kenya has 100 CSOs across all processes while Senegal has 12 working in security sector reform and five in disarmament. Ghana and Guinea (through the Coalition of Women and Girls of Guinea) cited two CSOs (Foundation for Security and Development in Africa and the Network on Peace and Security for Women in the ECOWAS Region). CAR also cited the Central African Women's Organisation, Réseau des Femmes Ministres Africaines et Parlementaires, Planète Femme, Réseau du Leadership Féminin en Centrafrique, Network of Women Parliamentarians, Association des Femmes Juriste de Centrafrique, AWLN, Coalition of Women for Peace, and the Political Leadership Support Network. However, there was no indication of the government-led processes in which the CSOs participated. South Sudan is the only country that provided data on the percentage of women involved in both security sector institutions (Table 8) and conflict management roles (Table 9).

Table 8 – Proportion of positions in security sector institutions occupied by women, South Sudan

South Sudan	Police	Military	Justice	Immigration	National intelligence	Prison
	10%	5%	–	2%	2%	1%

Table 9 – Proportion of positions in conflict management roles occupied by women, South Sudan

South Sudan	Technical experts	Negotiators	Mediators	Observers	Peace agreement signatories
	N/A	12%	15%	–	5 women

6.2.3 Participation measures

Although women's participation is still below the desired threshold, the majority of Member States have reported measures being adopted to promote women's participation in political processes (see Appendix 1 for detailed measures). Some of the measures adopted include providing breastfeeding rooms and milk at political events in Rwanda, quota system and affirmative action in political representation in Sierra Leone, Côte D'Ivoire and Uganda, and training and awareness campaigns in Niger, Kenya and Rwanda. Women across Africa have adopted mechanisms to enhance the participation of women in electoral and political processes. One such mechanism is the prevention of violence in electoral periods, which affects most women. An example is the Ettu Jamm in Senegal (Text Box 5).

A new development that aims to promote the participation and leadership of women in Africa is the African Women Leaders Network (Text Box 6), a continental women’s movement that aims to galvanize women’s leadership in the transformation of our continent, in line with the 2063 Africa Agenda and the Global Sustainable Development Goals.

Text Box 5 – Ettu Jamm

PARTICIPATION Senegal

Ettu Jamm (Peace Space—3M Mobilisation/Mediation/Monitoring)
“Ettu Jamm” means “Peace Space” in Wolof. It is a women’s platform established to promote peaceful elections so as to protect women and girls from election violence. The platform was launched under the leadership of Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS), with support from UN Women’s Regional Office for West and Central Africa, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA). The “Ettu Jamm” platform implements advocacy and awareness-raising activities through a caravan that travels across 10 regions of Senegal.

Text Box 6 – The African Women Leaders Network

African Women Leaders Network

The AWLN launched in 2017, aims to promote more women into leadership roles through mentoring and peer learning. The platform aims to galvanise their contributions to building and sustaining peace, improving political processes and driving social change, and realising the UN global goals, according to UN Women. The AWLN helps women to participate in politics, to put themselves forward as candidates at local and national level, and support them in the face of intimidation and violence.

6.2.4 Conclusion

Policy and legislative reviews were mainly around gender parity policies and quota systems for women. This shows that Member States are developing measures to ensure women’s participation and leadership in decision-making positions in the governance of peace and security. Various efforts to promote women’s participation in political and other processes are reportedly in progress. However, the increase of women’s participation is slow in some areas. For example, the proportion of women in elective and normative positions in political structures is still low compared to what is enshrined in the UNSCR 1325. The same low proportion is seen in percentages of women participating in the various security sector institutions and political processes as voters or candidates, except for countries like South Sudan, Rwanda and Senegal and in some cases Uganda.

Member States did not provide percentages of women involved in conflict management in various roles. This could be attributed to the gap in mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the laws and policies for promoting women’s participation and leadership in decision-making positions in the governance of peace and security processes. Some CSOs are participating in government-led peace and security processes.

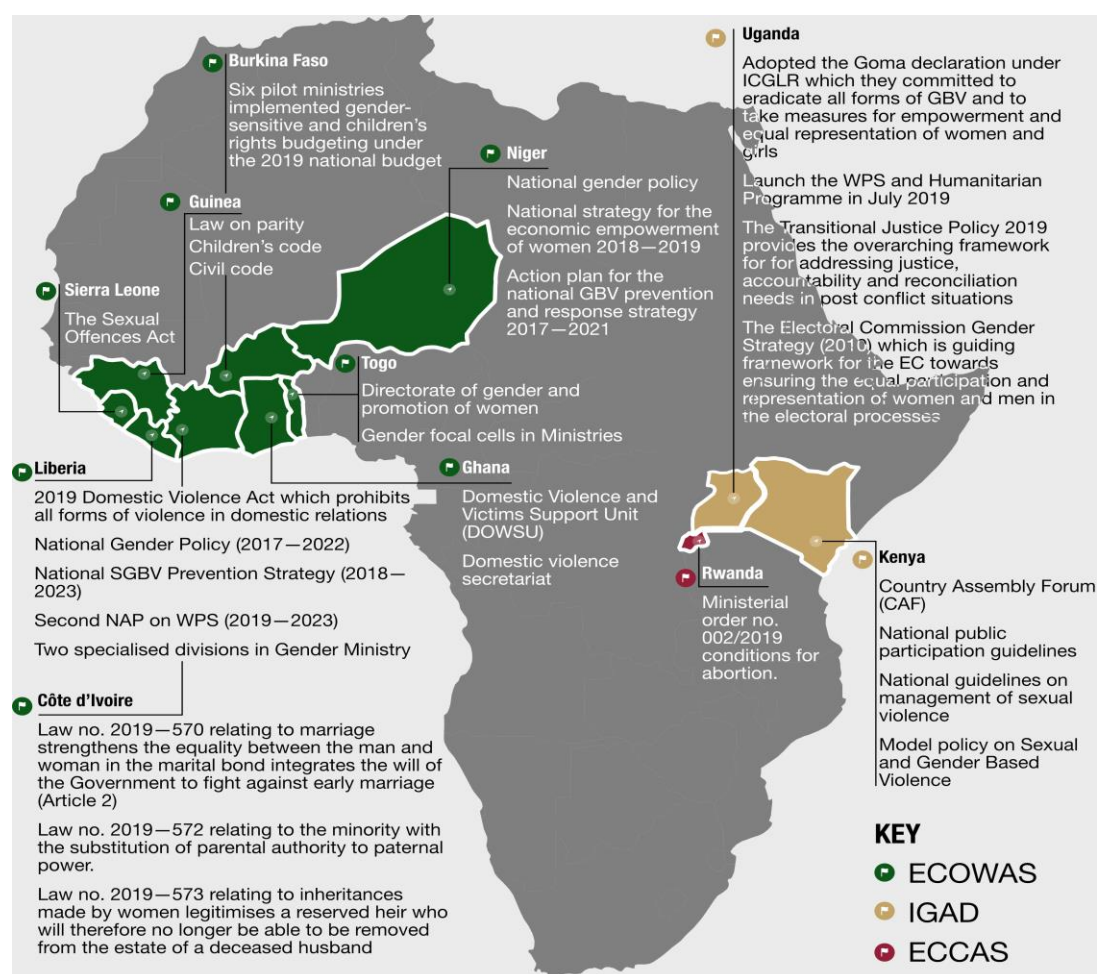
6.3 Protection Pillar

The Protection Pillar aims to ensure that women’s and girls’ rights are protected and promoted in conflict situations and other humanitarian crises. The pillar also emphasizes the need to provide leadership and coordination in response to SGBV. The Protection Pillar highlights the need for governments, regional organizations and continental bodies to support peace operations and humanitarian missions. It stresses the importance of infrastructure and mechanisms that protect women from SGBV and other forms of abuse and provides a holistic approach to the support of victims of sexual violence.

6.3.1 Legal and policy framework for the protection of women's rights including protection from SGBV

Half the countries reported having legal policies and frameworks for the protection of women's rights, including protection from SGBV. These policies and frameworks include national gender policies, gender focal cells in government ministries, and legal frameworks on SGBV, domestic violence and other sexual offences. Côte d'Ivoire introduced three laws relating to SGBV, marriage, inheritance and rape in 2019. Five countries, Mozambique, DRC, Burundi, Senegal and Cameroon, did not provide data for the legal and policy frameworks to protect women's rights. Figure 25 shows the various legal and policy framework for protecting women's rights, including protection from SGBV, that were introduced during the year 2019.

Figure 25 – Laws and policies for protecting women's rights



6.3.2 Mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the laws and policies for protecting women's rights including freedom from SGBV

Kenya, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire and Burundi reported on instituting mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of laws and policies for protecting women's rights, including freedom from SGBV, during the period under review. Kenya and Burundi indicated having introduced various mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the laws and policies for protecting women's rights, including the establishment of the Police for Minors, gender desks at police stations and gender hotlines for the police. Liberia has a department that investigates complaints about all human rights violations and monitors the implementation of laws and policies that protect human rights, and also has a gender unit that monitors the implementation of laws and policies that protect women's rights in the military. The mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the laws and policies for protecting women's rights, including freedom from SGBV, as reported by each country are shown in Appendix 2.

6.3.3 Measures taken to enable security forces to protect women's rights including the prevention of and response to SGBV

All countries except Mozambique and Burkina Faso reported that they had introduced measures to capacitate the security forces to protect women's rights, including preventing and responding to SGBV. The training of police officers on gender issues and protection of women from SGBV, training of troops on WPS and gender issues before deployment and the establishment of platforms for the protection and capacitation of women members of the security forces featured as popular measures. Appendix 2 outlines in detail the steps taken by various countries to increase the ability of security forces to protect women's rights, including preventing and responding to SGBV.

6.3.4 Measures established to respond to women and girl survivors of SGBV

All countries except Mozambique reported measures to respond to women and girl survivors of SGBV. Mostly the established measures focus on increasing access to justice for victims of SGBV, support for the victims of SGBV, the establishment of protection centres and reintegration of victims of SGBV and human trafficking (Figure 26). A total of 28 per cent of the countries also reported on measures taken to train security forces, especially police forces, to respond to women and girl survivors of SGBV effectively. Appendix 7 shows steps taken by countries to respond to women and girl survivors of SGBV.

Figure 26 – Measures to respond to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence



6.3.4.1 Economic Commission of West African States

All the countries in ECOWAS reported the existence of measures to respond to women and girl survivors of SGBV. These mostly involved increasing understanding of victims of SGBV, and the establishment of community protection committees and centres. Notably, Sierra Leone established Rainbow Centres, for the provision of free and comprehensive services for survivors of SGBV. The measures instituted by members of ECOWAS to respond to women and girl survivors of SGBV are shown in Appendix 7.

In ECOWAS, only Togo, Liberia, Burkina Faso and Ghana reported some measures for protecting the rights of women and girls in refugee and internally displaced people's (IDP) camps. These included establishing committees on SGBV, setting up care centres, running awareness campaigns

in refugee camps and providing psychosocial support. The reported measures for each of the REC Member States are shown in Appendix 4.

6.3.4.2 Economic Commission of Central African States

Rwanda and Burundi in ECCAS reported that they introduced new measures to respond to women and girls' survivors of SGBV. These included easing access to justice, increasing support services, and training of security personnel on WPS, including preventing and responding to SGBV. Measures are taken to protect the rights of women and girls in refugee and IDP camps.

South Sudan established Special Protection Units at 28 police stations. They provide access to legal support, including 12 One Stop Centres. The standard operating procedures for prevention, protection and response to SGBV spell out each institution's roles and responsibilities in the referral pathway system.

6.3.4.3 International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

Only CAR and DRC reported the existence of measures to protect the rights of women in refugee and IDP camps during the 2019 reporting period. DRC reported that they conducted peace making operations in refugee camps, and public hearings of perpetrators of violence, followed by heavy and deterrent sentences on security personnel convicted. Appendix 4 shows the measures taken by members of this REC to protect women and girls' rights in refugee and IDP camps.

6.3.4.4 Economic Commission of Central African States

In ECCAS, Rwanda reported on some measures to protect the rights of women and girls in refugee and IDP camps, which included the strengthening of the protection of refugees and IDPs in camps as well as registration and documentation of the refugees and IDPs.

6.3.5 Conclusion

The policies and frameworks for protecting women's rights, including protection from SGBV, predominantly featured national gender policies, gender focal points in government ministries and legal frameworks on SGBV, marriage and inheritance laws. No countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) or ICGLR reported on the existence of policies or frameworks for protecting women's rights, including protection from SGBV, whereas Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire and Burundi reported that they had instituted mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the laws and policies protecting women's rights. Notably, CAR reported a number of mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of laws and policies for protecting women's rights, although with no new laws and policies for the same. This suggests that the country was now focusing on monitoring and improving the reporting on the implementation of the WPS Agenda. Similarly, Liberia has added mechanisms and frameworks for monitoring the protection of women's rights.

Most of the countries cited the training of police officers on gender issues and the protection of women from SGBV as important steps. Other important steps included the training of troops on WPS and gender issues before deployment, and the establishment of platforms for the protection and capacitation of women members of the security forces. Member States, except for Mozambique, reported the existence of measures to respond to women and girl survivors of SGBV. Actions included awareness programmes, the establishment of protection centres within communities, improving access to justice for survivors, and assisting their reintegration. SADC did not present information on measures to respond to women and girl survivors of SGBV. Measures taken by Member States to protect the rights of women and girls in refugee and IDP camps included the establishment of committees on SGBV, registration and documentation of refugees and IDPs, and the provision of both material and psychosocial support to refugees and IDPs. Of significance is the peer-to-peer support network that has been established for 80 refugee women in refugee camps in Kenya, and the establishment of police posts close to refugee and IDP camps.

6.4 Relief and Recovery Pillar

The Relief and Recovery Pillar aims to ensure that women's and girl's explicit relief needs are addressed, particularly in conflict and post-conflict environments. This is done by addressing their needs and strengthening their capacities to act as agents in post-conflict relief and recovery processes. The relief and recovery pillar had minimal data submitted by Member States.

6.4.1 Instruments for gender provisions in peace agreements

As shown in Figure 27, only Togo, Kenya, and Uganda provided data on instruments for implementing gender provisions in peace agreements. However, there is important data, and a lot of measures are being put in place to ensure women and girls who have been affected by conflict are rehabilitated and get an opportunity to fully participate in society.

Figure 27 – Gender provisions in peace agreements

Kenya

- *Deployment of Women Peacekeepers to Missions*
- *Women Mediators, including insider mediators trained and deployed in National Dialogue Agenda Negotiation and implementation of peace agreements to adopt a gender perspective support for peace Agreements in neighbouring countries that contain special consideration for displaced women and girls' needs during post-conflict reconstruction*
- *Mechanisms on implementing and monitoring gender provisions of peace agreements e.g.:*
 - *Gender Sector Working Groups*
 - *Gender eased Violence sub-clusters*
 - *Humanitarian Sector Working Groups*
 - *Court Users Committees*
- *Established Peace Directorates at Country Level*
- *Common Women Agenda (COWA)*
- *Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOP)*

Uganda

- *Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)*
- *The Development assistance to Refugee-Hosting Areas programme*
- *Refugee settlement Transformative Agenda, Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (ReHon) Strategic Framework*

Togo

- *National Civil Protection Agency*
- *National Solidarity Agency*
- *National Coordination of Assistance to Refugees*
- *Traditional Chieftdom*
- *Peace Clubs*
- *Grassroots Development Committees*

In Togo, the NAP incorporates the National Civil Protection Agency, National Solidarity Agency and a program for the national coordination of assistance to refugees. Cameroon implemented various relief and recovery initiatives (Text Box 7).

Text Box 1 – Relief and recovery – Cameroon

RELIEF AND RECOVERY Cameroon

Cameroon has implemented various initiatives such as training, awareness raising, a Bill and National Commission on bilingualism and multiculturalism, multi-year humanitarian response plan, creation of a disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration committee with a view to organising, supervising and managing the disarmament, mobilisation and reintegration of ex-combatants. Other initiatives include economic kits of basic needs, economic empowerment capacity development including psychosocial, legal support and medical orientation for GBV women/girl survivors and those displaced by conflict.

6.4.1.1 Gender budgeting

No country provided comprehensive data on the proportion of post-conflict recovery budgets that is set aside for gender equality and women's empowerment.

6.4.1.2 Education access for women and girls

Rwanda and Liberia are the only countries with post-conflict statistics on the proportion of students in each category of enrolled students that are girls (early childhood education – 50 per cent; primary – 49.4 per cent; Secondary – 55.2 per cent). Liberia reported an overall enrolment of girls in schools of 49.9 per cent.

6.4.1.3 Women in decision-making

Rwanda indicated that 37 per cent of leaders in refugee camps and on committees were women. Kenya also specified that both a Cabinet Secretary for Defence and an Assistant Chief of Defence Forces (responsible for personnel and logistics for relief and humanitarian) should be women. The majority of Member States did not report on the numbers and percentages of women in decision-making positions in post-conflict recovery processes such as disarmament, demobilization and recovery; security sector reform; economic recovery; legal reform; and electoral reform. Only Rwanda indicated 50 per cent representation in disarmament, demobilization and recovery.

6.4.1.4 Post-conflict recovery programmes

CAR and South Sudan provided data on the proportions of women and girls who have benefited from post-conflict repatriation and economic recovery programmes. CAR indicated 13 per cent have benefited from disarmament, demobilization and recovery and 37.37 per cent from economic recovery programmes (Text Box 8).

Text Box 2 – Relief and recovery – Central African Republic

RELIEF AND RECOVERY

Central Africa Republic

PARET Project: Return and Reintegration Support Project in the Central African Republic

PACAD Project: Support Project for Communities Affected by Displacement in Central African Republic

The Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation is working in partnership with UNHCR to offer assistance to women victims of armed conflicts through PACAD and PARET projects. These projects are implemented in the areas most affected by conflict. The projects comprise of three components:

1. Access to basic services and infrastructure;
2. Social safety nets through the transfer of cash;
3. Social support through community mobilisation and capacity building.

South Sudan reported that 3,500 women and girls benefited from disarmament, demobilisation and recovery programmes and various post-conflict recovery processes (Table 10).

Table 10 – Women in decision-making in post-conflict recovery programmes, South Sudan

Disarmament, demobilization and recovery	Security sector reform	Economic recovery programmes	Legal reforms	Electoral reforms
▪ 1 female Deputy Chair	–	▪ Ministry of Petroleum: 3 females in decision-making positions ▪ Ministry of Mining: 2 females in decision-making positions ▪ Ministry of Investment: 1 female in a decision-making position	▪ 2 females out of 7 director positions (1 director and 1 deputy director) ▪ 4 female prosecutors out of 24 ▪ 8 female legal advisers out of 15 in government institutions	▪ 2 females out of 7 positions in decision-making

6.4.2 Conclusion

Most of the instruments for gender provisions provided by the four countries revolve around civil protection, assistance to refugees, women's inclusion in peacekeeping, mediation and peace negotiations. The countries that provided mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of gender provisions in peace agreements utilize similar instruments, for example, their equivalents of agencies for national civil protection, national solidarity and national coordination of assistance. These in turn, support various grass-roots clubs and committees, like One Stop Centres that support victims of SGBV and other abuses.

The limited data on relief and recovery may be attributed to the fact that most countries expected to report on this indicator are those transitioning from conflict to peace. The relief and recovery measures revolve around economic or financial support, and rehabilitating victims of conflict, including those affected by SGBV. Cameroon has implemented more measures for relief and recovery than other Member States. This may be attributed to the prevailing security situation in the country. Similarly, in most Member States, women's level of participation in decision-making in relief and post-conflict recovery programmes is low. Rwanda and Liberia are the only countries that reported on the proportion of girls and women among students enrolled in schools and other institutions.

6.5 Emerging security threats

This indicator determines the extent to which the WPS Agenda is considered when designing and executing programmes that respond to a Member State's emerging security threat, as evidenced by the inclusion of WPS Agenda provisions in the policies and documents guiding such responses.

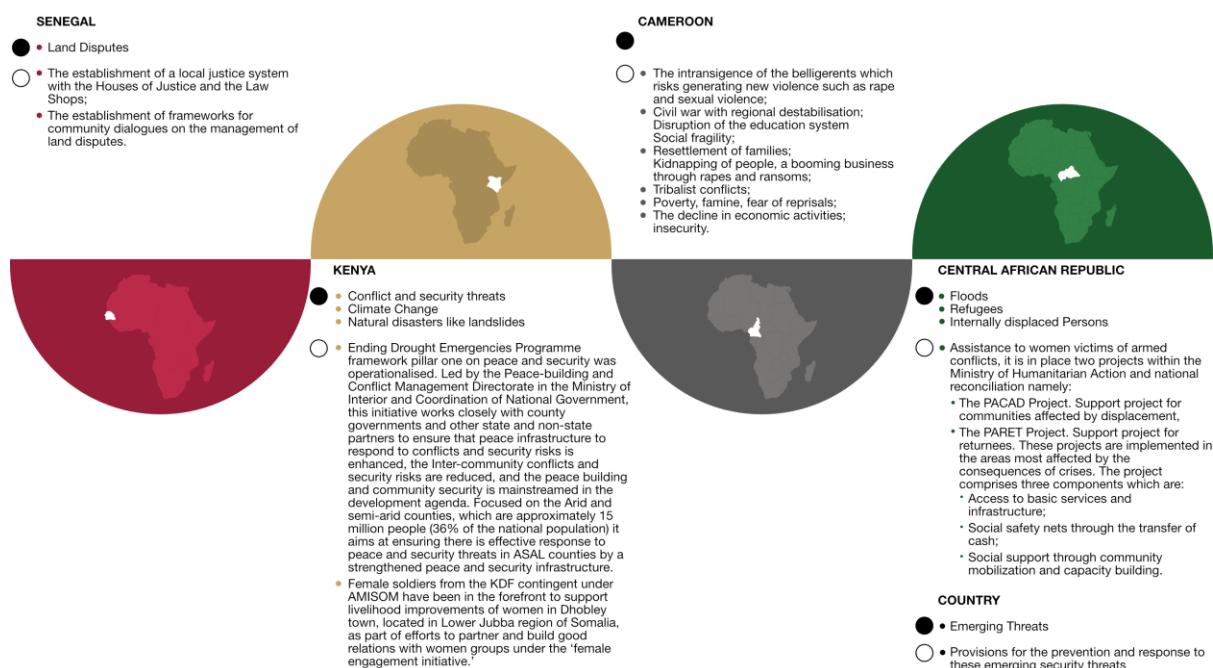
6.5.1 The WPS Agenda and emerging security threats

Emerging security threats include new gender and security challenges that adversely affect the welfare of women and girls. These range from sexual and reproductive health challenges, including rape and physical violence, to threats associated with climate change, natural disasters, terrorism and disease pandemics like COVID-19. These emerging issues have a visible and growing impact on peace and security. Hence, there is a growing need for the WPS Agenda to promote a culture of peace and tolerance, and proactively respond to the causes and effects of these emerging threats.

6.5.2 Prevention strategies

Four countries out of the 20 reported on the emerging threats of concern to their nations and various prevention strategies developed or in the process of development (Figure 28).

Figure 28 – Emerging Security Threats



South Sudan reported the proliferation of guns, the rising youth unemployment rate, and the collection of guns and light weapons from non-organized forces as emerging security threats. The provision of free education, by for example technical vocational colleges and training centres, one of the mitigating mechanisms being introduced.

6.5.3 Women in decision-making

The Member States did not report on the number and proportion of women in decision-making positions in the institutions responsible for preventing and responding to emerging security threats. Nor did they report on the number and proportion of women and girls benefiting from such responses.

6.5.4 Conclusion

Reported emerging security threats highlighted the traditional or conventional threats like poverty, famine, border and land disputes, civil war, floods and natural disasters. However, reports did not bring out current emerging security threats like human trafficking, cybersecurity, health, climate change and terrorism. Compared with the four pillars, emerging threats are not being given prominence in CRF reporting. This could be attributed to their being perceived as secondary or additional to the four primary pillars. This could also be why there are no reports on the numbers and proportions of women in decision-making positions in the institutions responsible for preventing and responding to emerging security threats, and no data on the numbers and proportions of women and girls benefiting from such responses. Early warning systems of Member States are suitable for reporting emerging security threats and should integrate such reporting and respond to them proactively.

7.0 Conclusion and recommendations

This section presents the conclusion and recommendations on implementing the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda using the Continental Results Framework (CRF) for monitoring and reporting as they pertain to the findings of the 13 African Union Commission (AUC) indicators, the analysis of Regional Economic Community (REC) reports and the 20 country reports presented earlier.

7.1 Conclusion

The WPS Agenda in Africa has achieved high visibility through overarching AUC structures, RECs and various Member States' initiatives. There is a high prevalence of National Action Plans (NAPs) to promote the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, with 25 Member States having operational NAPs, placing the African continent at the vanguard globally of advancing the WPS Agenda. Although all the NAPs were derived from UNSCR 1325 and other international and regional protocols, ownership at the grass-roots level remains low for most Member States. It appears the monitoring and reporting of the WPS Agenda would be more effective if there were consultations to ensure political will at the highest levels that would translate into ownership at the grass-roots level.

Findings indicate that though the Special Envoy has undertaken field missions to various conflict-affected countries, the outcomes of those missions are not systematically channelled into the deliberations and decisions of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) when considering country and region-specific conflicts. Further, the approach to gender mainstreaming across the African Peace and Security Architecture remains work in progress. Despite significant progress made towards the institutional expansion of mechanisms for the WPS Agenda, there is no clarity on the approach to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and sexual violence in conflict.

There are policies and international standards and commitments regarding the WPS Agenda. These are implemented with the help of several actors. However, various issues affect the implementation of the WPS Agenda. Findings indicate that the policy environment is progressive and the gaps that exist are known. Member States are actively closing these gaps, and the recognition of the need to scale up suggests that, generally, the policy environment is friendly. The challenges are not at the policy level; rather they are at the implementation level.

The proportion of women in decision-making is increasing, although most Member States have not yet attained the recommended quotas. Women's participation at higher levels of decision-making remains too low. The impact of women's participation in these positions is difficult to measure without an understanding of the challenges they face and the inherent strengths they bring. This illuminates critical questions going forward: What is the added value of women's participation? To what extent do women in decision-making affect the grass roots?

An analysis of the submitted Member State reports suggests that activities and projects have focused mainly on the Protection, Prevention, Participation, and Relief and Recovery pillars. The CRF includes emerging security threats as an additional theme, not a pillar, resulting in lower visibility in Member States' reporting compared to the four pillars. Yet emerging security threats have a direct impact on the four pillars of WPS and inform the design of early warning systems and response mechanisms. The majority of countries that submitted comprehensive CRF reports are in conflict or in transition. The majority of non-conflict countries submitted limited data, especially on the Relief and Recovery Pillar.

The majority of NAPs make no reference to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations or the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (Banjul Charter). The absence

of a direct link between these mechanisms to establish human rights and the WPS Agenda limits the focus to a gender perspective when this should be premised on fundamental human rights. Gender mainstreaming in the WPS Agenda and work of the PSC remains a significant task. Aside from the stand-alone open sessions, the gender component is still missing from the regular briefings and reports on conflict situations considered by the PSC. Taking action on gender-related policies and instruments for the protection of women in conflict remains weak. Although the PSC regularly calls for the ending of impunity for crimes committed against women and bringing perpetrators to justice, there are no mechanisms to follow up these calls, especially in conflict situations.

It appears that to a large extent Member States have robust policy frameworks that make references to UNSCR 1325 (and other global commitments, such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Beijing Platform for Action). However, there is still limited localization of these instruments. This diminishes policy implementation capacities and reduces the influence and contribution of the WPS Agenda at the grass-roots level. This is aggravated by the absence of robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks and lack of committed budgets at both REC and Member State level. Overall, the lack of adequate budgetary support to most NAPs has limited the effective implementation of the WPS Agenda.

Findings show that UN Women, United Nations regional offices and various civil society organizations (CSOs) are key in promoting the formulation of NAPs. However, their involvement in implementation appears to be limited in some aspects of the WPS Agenda, particularly government-led interventions like disarmament, demobilization and recovery and peace negotiations and mediations. In pillars where the CSOs are concentrated like, the Protection and Relief and Recovery pillars, most of the local CSO initiatives are not linked to the WPS Agenda. They are more aligned to gender and women's empowerment initiatives.

7.2 Recommendations

The AU through the Office of the Special Envoy on WPS (OSE-WPS) has done a commendable job to encourage Member States to adopt NAPs – and the continent has the highest number of NAPs in the world. The introduced AUC policy and legal frameworks to provide for integration of WPS into the Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development policy in Africa are critical instruments, and must be rapidly popularized, localized and applied by Member States. Reports on progress could be incorporated into the annual Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality reporting process.

There is need for the OSE to develop a mechanism that coordinates and tracks various decisions and policy recommendations that have been adopted to effectively assess the level of implementation of previous PSC decisions and their impact in advancing the protection of women and their agency in the context of peace and security.

Support must be provided to the Member States that have not yet adopted NAPs; this could increase women's participation at all levels of peace and security structures. There is a need to upscale capacity-development programmes that cover all countries, including those without NAPs. The AUC can further emphasize the importance of the WPS Agenda through gender mainstreaming and allocating a significant proportion of the Peace Fund to WPS operations. This will set the tone on commitment to the WPS Agenda at the highest level, and will influence RECs, Regional Economic Mechanisms (REMs), and Member States.

At the Member State level, there is a need to strengthen the political will for WPS implementation and accountability through increased ownership and leadership. Simultaneously, increased awareness-raising and capacity development by development partners and CSOs, focusing on

relevant ministries and parliaments, will ensure that Member States have the essential comprehensive understanding of UNSCR 1325. This will enable them to appreciate the WPS Agenda and incorporate the WPS components in national budgets, as is being done in other gender-based budgeting processes.

Member States must guarantee the allocation of resources (financial, institutional and manpower) to implement NAPs and regional action plans (RAPs) and ensure that a minimum threshold of, for example, at least 15 per cent of the funds available for military operations are committed to WPS programmes. Resolutions and programmes must cascade to Member States and community levels for localized ownership of the WPS Agenda. Economic empowerment projects must be promoted in Member States because economic disempowerment is a major cause of women's vulnerability.

Although there has been an increase in the numbers and percentages of women participating in peace and security structures, there is need to go beyond the numbers and analyse the extent to which women have added value to the attainment of human rights and women's agency, and how women's participation has assisted women and girls at the grass roots. As the participation of women in peace and security approaches the international and continental quotas, there is a need to shift focus to enhancing their contribution through capacity-building and generating evidence of the value that women's participation adds to the implementation of the WPS Agenda.

The Continental Early Warning System needs a clear set of indicators that illuminate potential, impending or ongoing violence and abuse to ensure adequate planning time for key stakeholders. Some factors to consider in the early warning systems include insurgence or indiscipline among security forces, economic factors, inflation and food insecurity, humanitarian and social initiatives, and increases in female-headed households; teenage pregnancies and school dropouts. Although the gender-related actions contained in the early warning reports are premised on the context analysis of a given situation, support must go beyond individual situations. Political participation and support for women-led preventive measures should be enhanced, including dialogue and mediation – for example, through the provision of psychosocial support for survivors of SGBV and capacity-building to facilitate women's empowerment and action on the threats to peace and security.

Examples from countries can help establish robust institutional frameworks to ensure effective implementation and participation of women; for example, Rwanda has a Gender Monitoring Office, Niger and Côte d'Ivoire have National Gender Observatories, Senegal has a National Social Dialogue Committee and Sierra Leone has Women Situation Rooms. These ideas can be replicated in other countries. Knowledge-sharing platforms can ensure more proactive and consultative frameworks for implementing and monitoring UNSCR1325 and including diverse stakeholders to ensure commitments by public, private, non-governmental and religious institutions.

Besides training, quota systems, various capacity-development measures, and other effective measures can be scaled up – for example, by integrating gender components into various legal instruments (for example, women political candidates may pay lower nomination fees). Forums can be established to bring together women from diverse backgrounds to work collectively to safeguard gender gains and promote strong networking with women's rights organizations and political parties. Advocacy and awareness-raising activities can benefit civil society actors and the populace (including customary and religious leaders, opinion leaders and grass-roots groups). This can enhance behaviour change and promote women's political participation, which are measures integral to the implementation of WPS. It is time more women took active roles in negotiations and mediation during peacebuilding processes.

The CRF must embed the emerging security threat's theme into the early warning and response mechanisms of the WPS Agenda, enabling continuous surveillance and timely detection of security

threats. It is also necessary to localize WPS instruments and frameworks so they work in the different security situations in various regions and Member States. To cement the implementation of the WPS Agenda in national peace, security and sustainable development frameworks, Member States must include women at all levels of WPS systems as drivers of early warning systems through their lived experience.

Development partners and CSOs must actively collaborate and innovate at community level, particularly in the training of women and young people, especially young girls, to provide leadership in political governance and peace processes, mediation and negotiation techniques. In addition, the CSOs should be part of the coordinated WPS reporting, because they play a pivotal role in implementing the WPS Agenda – this will promote inclusivity in the reporting process.

The CRF must be improved to ensure that countries can provide consistent and standardized reports. This entails capacity-building of RECs, REMs and Member States on reporting using the CRF. The CRF as a tool for reporting speaks more to conflict and/or transition situations. It is crucial to develop mechanisms to track negative peace dimensions in non-conflict Member States to report on the WPS Agenda in Africa holistically. In addition, RECs without RAPs must be encouraged to develop and update their RAPs because this, in turn, spurs Member States to produce and implement their NAPs. In the same vein, RAPs must be included in CRF reporting to enable an overarching regional view of the progress on implementing the WPS Agenda.

Human Rights frameworks must be systematically incorporated into all levels of the WPS Agenda to ensure a holistic and cohesive approach to addressing gender issues in all security situations. This entails the inclusion of vulnerable voices such as women with disabilities and survivors of SGBV. It is vital to establish an explicit link between the AU WPS Agenda and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' rights and its cascading to the national level. Human Rights and Gender Equality should be at the core of the implementation of the WPS Agenda. The two are cornerstones for women and girls participating fully in economic activities, political affairs and social endeavours and the removing of the various constraints hindering gender equality and women's empowerment.

Because of the complexity and multi-layered dimensions of the WPS Agenda, the scope of work of the OSE needs more frequent reporting that will enhance the visibility of all the components of the implementation of the WPS Agenda. This could be done in quarterly reporting to the Peace and Security Council.

Endnote and acknowledgements

In December 2019, Member States and Regional Economic Communities convened in Dakar, Senegal to assess the first report of the Chair of the African Union Commission on the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, and report on their undertakings from January to December 2019 to implement their National and Regional Action Plans. Continental civil society organizations participated actively in the consultations. This report is the outcome of the Dakar deliberations and subsequent interactions with Member States and Regional Economic Communities and Mechanisms in 2020. The eruption of COVID-19 at the beginning of the year delayed submissions by Member States but did not deter delivery of their reports. I wish to express my utmost gratitude to Member States, Regional Economic Communities and AUC departments that contributed to this second report of the Chair.

Findings of the report were shared with the Peace and Security Council (PSC) in October 2020, during the open session on Women, Peace and Security, marking the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325, the bedrock of the WPS Agenda. I wish to take this opportunity to recognize and appreciate the continued work of PSC to scale up implementation of the WPS Agenda.

My appreciation goes to the Bureau of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the Department of Peace and Security, the Department of Political Affairs, the Women, Gender and Development Directorate and other AUC departments for their ever-increasing collaboration and support in the delivery of the Office of the Special Envoy's mandate. Special mention must be made of UN Women, for the unwavering partnership, from all levels of the Institution, from the Executive Office to regional, liaison and national offices. Thanks go also to the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations Agencies that contribute to the advancement of the WPS Agenda in Africa. Recognition is also given to the continued support of generous partners, principally USA, Ireland, Norway, Denmark and Germany.

Thanks go to the team in my office, led by Dr Butera Jean-Bosco, Special Adviser and Chief of Staff who coordinates the activities of the Office. Special mention to Dr Hazel M Kwaramba, Gender Monitoring Specialist consultant through a USAID grant, who wrote the report. Appreciation also to all experts for their reviews and inputs in the course of preparing the report. The year 2020 provided WPS stakeholders with an opportunity to renew their commitment to scaling up actions for WPS and peace in Africa. I look forward to enhanced engagement with more Member States adopting National Action Plans and accelerating implementation towards the realization of the Africa we want.

Bineta Diop

Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security

Appendices

Appendix 1: Measures adopted to promote women's participation in political processes

REC	Country	Measures adopted
ECOWAS	Togo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project: "women conquering councils" Political academy project
	Niger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of Law 69/2019 establishing the quota system in elective offices, government and state enterprises Development of the National Programme for the Promotion of Female Leadership An awareness campaign for the promotion of women in preparation for 2021 elections
	Burkina Faso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The establishment of the Women's Network for Peacebuilding The creation of a database to provide a compendium of female expertise Advocacy and awareness-raising activities are carried out by the permanent Secretariat of the National Council for Gender Promotion and the Directorate General for Women to change attitudes in favour of the political participation of women, to benefit civil society and the population.
	Côte d'Ivoire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 per cent women quota in elective posts
	Senegal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Social Dialogue Committee, which started its work in 2020, has 30 per cent women The Literacy and Skills Training Program for the Fight against Poverty The implementation of the rice self-sufficiency programme strengthened the positioning of women in the agricultural sector allowing them to contribute to the achievement of axis 1 of the Plan for an Emerging Senegal The General Delegation for the Rapid Entrepreneurship of Young People and Women, the National Fund for the Promotion of Female Entrepreneurship and the National Credit Fund for Women has increased the rate of access to capital for women, which resulted in the funding of 922 projects with 4,610 beneficiaries The establishment of the Women's Platform for Peace in Casamance
	Ghana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Patriotic Party gave a 50 per cent rebate to women candidates in the electoral process as an incentive for their participation and other parties had similar rebates.
	Sierra Leone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and adoption of a gender policy for the NEC operations which included establishing a gender and disability unit Training of political party officials on gender mainstreaming Ensure gender-sensitive adverts in the recruitment process, and training of NEC staff on gender-mainstreaming policies, Formation of the All-Political Parties Women's Association and the development of gender policies by some Political Parties
	Guinea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A gender and equity service has been set up within the Ministry of National Defence Participation of women soldiers for peacekeeping in Kidal (Mali) The Gender and Equity Department's capacities have been strengthened due to the interest aroused at the level of the said Ministry on gender matters
	Liberia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent National Commission on Human Rights that monitors the implementation of laws and policies that protect human rights Both the ministries of Justice and Gender have Human Rights Sections as part of the mechanisms for monitoring human rights violations in Liberia The Women and Children Protection section at the LNP The Armed Forces of Liberia Gender Unit monitors the implementation of laws and policies that protect women's rights in the military The gender units of LNP, Liberia Immigration Service, Bureau of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency, and Liberia National Fire Service monitor laws and policies to protect women's rights in their respective security institutions At the county level, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection County Gender Coordinators work with partners and CSOs to monitor the protection of women's rights at the local level
	Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing breastfeeding rooms and milk for kids at political events and sites Training of women Incorporation of gender aspects into election manifestos of political parties
ECCAS		

IGAD	Burundi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendment of the organic law on the electoral code specifies that if three candidates are registered on the same blocked list, one must be a woman
	Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transformative Leadership Program for County Women Executives at the Kenya School of Government's leadership training National Democratic Institute is training women politicians and aspirants at national and county levels International Peacekeeping Training Centre has trained women on peace and security at the national and county levels The Political Parties Act ensures that women political contestants pay smaller nomination fees and 30 per cent of promotional resources are provided to women and other marginalized groups in the parliament and in the county assemblies Women Leadership Academy – trains women on leadership skills Women's Think Tank – analyses bills and incorporates women's feedback and concerns into the bills during the legislative process Democratic trust fund for women – aimed at supporting women vying for elective posts Trailblazers Programme – aims to recognize women trailblazers who have excelled in different fields, including shaping the women's movement Establishment of the Common Women Agenda – a forum that brings together women of diverse backgrounds to collectively safeguard gender gains in the Constitution
	South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan R-ARCSS 2018 : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article. 1.4.4 – 35% per cent women representation in the parliament (nine female Cabinet ministers and one female deputy minister to be appointed within the 35 per cent) Article 1.5.2.4 – at least one of four Women Vice- Presidents is to be a woman Article. 1.14.3 – in the Transitional National Legislative Assembly, at least one deputy speaker is to be a Woman Deputy Speaker Article.1.14.5 – at least one deputy speaker in the Council of States is to be a woman, Woman Deputy Speaker
	Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affirmative action provision in political representation The Electoral Commission (EC) Gender Strategy (2019)
ICGGR	Central African Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35 per cent quota system Adoption of the Parity law and the Electoral Code A national strategy, Gender and Elections, was developed in 2019, with the support of UN Women, UNDP and the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund New Electoral Code which promotes the participation of women in electoral operations Active involvement of CSOs, especially women's organizations and human rights bodies, in advocacy and communications actions for a change of behaviour
	Cameroon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A gender strategy in the electoral law was adopted requiring gender to be considered when drawing up the lists Establishment of a training manual for women mediators for peace and social cohesion Organization of ecumenical worship and lamentation of women as advocates for peace

Appendix 2: Mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the laws and policies for protecting women's rights, including freedom from SGBV

REC	Country	Mechanisms
ECOWAS	Côte d'Ivoire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of a department for the promotion of equality and gender in the Ministry of Woman, Family and Child Decree 2019-341 of 11 April 2019 appointing the Director of Gender Equality
	Sierra Leone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sexual Offences Act Implementation Plan (2014) The National GBV Action Plan (2012)
ICGLR	CAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of the family code (in progress) Revision of the law on the protection of women and girls against violence (in progress) Order relating to the creation, organization and functioning of the coordination of the social protection and social safety nets sector (in progress)
IGAD	Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County governments have prioritized SGBV medical attention cases in all county facilities, and provided dedicated staff and units where SGBV is treated as needing an emergency response Capacity-building to improve standard operating procedures at gender-based violence recovery centre committees in the counties has been undertaken to strengthen the capacity of both county governments and health systems to respond to SGBV cases Guidelines for establishment and management of safe houses and shelters developed Mulika 988, Kenya police hotline, established Creation of a national information system to capture and provide SGBV data in the following sectors: health, Kenya Police Service, Office of Director of Public Prosecution and the judiciary Mandatory pre-deployment training for officers preparing to deploy to missions. Basic gender awareness trainings on prevention of and response to SGBV at International Peace Support Training Centre SGBV: free hotline (Dial 1195). The goal of the SGBV hotline and call-up centre at Healthcare Assistance Kenya is to involve community members and survivors in the fight against sexual violence, female genital mutilation, and other forms of violence that are meted out to women and children, by ensuring early reporting of all the cases within the recommended 72-hour window Gender desks at police stations Development of Standard Operating Procedures on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence at the Kenya police Service
ECCAS	South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trained police officers on human rights and GBV Human rights and Gender concept training added to the police training curriculum Judges trained on how to handle GBV cases A manual for investigation of GBV cases by police officer Trained army officers about human rights and gender concepts
	Burundi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of the Police for Minors and the Protection of Morals and its decentralization in six provinces Establishment within the Ministry of Justice and Keepers of the Seals of a commission responsible for the fight against SGBV Establishment of specialized chambers and sections in courts, tribunals and prosecution, as provided for by the law revising the code of criminal procedures Creation of permanent committees responsible for issues related to the protection of women's rights in the National Assembly Creation of permanent committees accountable for issues related to the protection of women's rights in the Senate Establishment of the National Forum of Women, which is an advocacy body for the protection of women's rights

Appendix 3: Measures taken to build the capacity of security forces to protect women's rights, including the prevention of and response to SGBV

REC	Country	Measures taken
ECOWAS	Togo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity-building of female police officers on measures to protect women, including prevention of and response to SGBV
	Niger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> G5 Sahel Women's Platform Established a committee to review the national action plan Capacity-building of women members of the security forces
	Côte d'Ivoire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Council for Human Rights opened its University for Human Rights in the security forces. Promotions during 2019 include eight officers of the Defence and Security Forces who have been trained in human rights and international humanitarian law
	Senegal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training of forms of security workers, including seminars, training workshops and documentation
	Ghana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training about gender mainstreaming of Security personnel at the Kofi Annan Peace and Security Training Centre
	Sierra Leone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) and Sierra Leone Police (SLP) have included modules on gender sensitivity in their officer training programmes for SLP and RSLAF officers From time to time, the Ministry of Gender Affairs and civil society organisations have conducted training sessions for personnel in security sector personnel Institutions on policies and laws relating to SGBV prevention and responses The existence of Gender Directorates in RSLAF and SLP the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces and Sierra Leone Police have also been helpful in building the required capacity for the protection of women's rights in the RSLAF and SLP
ICGLR	DRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform of the police and the army, integrating a gender dimension Establishing a police unit for the protection of women against SGBV Community policing
	Cameroon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training of 450 police officers, 60 gendarmes, 60 magistrates, 60 media professionals, 60 health professionals and 60 social workers to operate in the conflict zones that are (Far North, East, Northwest and Southwest); this training will continue Training of 50 police and gendarmerie officers on the protection of the rights of women and children, the protection of media professionals, and prevention of violence against women during the elections The organization of workshops to support the police and gendarmes to develop awareness-raising messages on the prevention of electoral violence Increasing the awareness of 100 police officers and gendarmes on resolution 2222 of the United Nations Security Council on the protection of media professionals The establishment and conduct of instruction and training modules in international humanitarian law and in law of armed conflict in training schools for armies and the gendarmerie
IGAD	Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County governments have prioritized cases of medical attention to SGBV in all county facilities by providing dedicated staff and units where SGBV is treated as needing an emergency response Capacity-building to improve operating procedures at SGBV recovery centres in the counties to strengthen the capacity of county governments and health systems to respond to SGBV cases Guidelines for establishment and management of safe houses and shelters developed Mulika 988, Kenya police hotline Creation of a national information system to capture and deliver SGBV data in the following sectors: health, Kenya Police Service, Office of Director of Public Prosecution, the judiciary Mandatory pre-deployment training for officers preparing for missions. Basic gender awareness, and training on prevention and response to SGBV (International Peace Support Training Centre) SGBV free hotline (Dial 1195). The aim is to involve community members and survivors in the fight against sexual violence, female genital mutilation and other forms of violence against women and children by reporting all cases within the recommended 72-hour window
ECCAS	Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-deployment training of troops focusing on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda Training police officers in management and prevention of SGBV, with a focus on female officers Training of correctional officers in conflict prevention and management as well as SGBV

Burundi

- Training of defence forces about women, peace and security, sexual abuse and exploitation, sexual violence linked to conflicts, and protection of civilians.

Appendix 4: Measures being taken to protect the rights of women and girls in refugee and internally displaced persons camps

REC	Country	Measures being taken
ECOWAS	Togo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishment of committees on SGBV in refugee camps ▪ Organizing awareness campaigns in refugee camps ▪ Distribution of sanitary towels to women in refugee camps ▪ Provision of psychosocial support
	Burkina Faso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Care Centre for survivors of SGBV received and hosted 1,090 victims of SGBV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 119 cases of victims of GBV – 35 migrant cases in transit – 936 women and children who were removed from the street (336 women and 604 children) ▪ Burkina Faso through the Ministry in charge of Humanitarian Action, has assisted vulnerable people and those internally displaced by terrorism as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1,119,291 people, including 331,870 women, received food assistance (IDPs, vulnerable people) – 103,844 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition were cared for – 677,928 people including, 201,006 women who received health care (IDPs, vulnerable people) – 114,614 children were cared for in the education sector – 343,918 people, including 101,972 women, had access to water, hygiene and sanitation – 84,814 people, including 25,147 women, received support in the protection sector (documentation, psychosocial support, awareness-raising on GBV, etc.) – 105,000 people including 31,133 women, have benefited from adequate shelters – 196,560 people including 58,280 women benefited from essential household items
	Ghana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Refugee Board uses international standards and support from UNHCR to protect the rights of women and girls in refugee camps ▪ National Disaster Management Organisation ensures that IDPs affected by disasters are protected and taken care of.
ICGLR	DRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Peace-making operations to promote peace in refugee camps by police and army ▪ Public hearing of perpetrators of violence and heavy sentences especial on security personnel
IGAD	Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Refugees Act 2006 (proposed amendment Refugees bill 2019) ▪ National Policy on the Prevention of Internal Displacement, Protection and Assistance to IDPs in Kenya ▪ The Prevention, Protection and Assistance to IDPs and Affected Communities Act 2012 ▪ Training of Peace Support Operations actors (military, police and civilians) on protection of refugees and IDPs by the International Peace Support Training Centre ▪ International cooperation arrangements to support refugee programmes in all camps and urban areas ▪ A peer-to-peer support network has been established for 80 refugee women from Dadaab Refugee Camp to share experiences and information related to conflict management, opportunities for self-improvement, and SGBV services available in the camp. The network has built the social capital of the women engaged, which is critical among women and girls affected by violence and conflict as it leads to increased opportunities to connect with like-minded individuals, build trust and explore initiatives in which they can support each other, as well expand access to information and increase the chances of women affected by violence and conflict working together in creative and innovative ways ▪ Strong child protection team coordinated by the children department at the refugee camps ▪ Established police stations and posts near the camps
ECCAS	Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthening the protection of refugees and IDPs ▪ Registration and documentation of refugees and IDPs ▪ Isange One Stop Centres established near refugee camps

Appendix 5: Legal and policy framework for the protection of women's rights including protection from SGBV

REC	Country	Legal and policy frameworks
ECOWAS	Togo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directorate of Gender and Promotion of Women ▪ Gender focal Points in Ministries
	Niger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Gender Policy ▪ National Strategy for the Economic Empowerment of Women (2018–2022) ▪ Action Plan for the National GBV Prevention and Response Strategy (2017–2021)
	Burkina Faso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Six pilot ministries implemented gender-sensitive and children's rights budgeting under the 2019 national budget
	Côte d'Ivoire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law 2019-570 of June 26, 2019, relating to marriage strengthens the equality between the man and the woman in the marital bond; part of the government's fight against early marriage (article 2) ▪ Law 2019-572 of June 26, 2019, relating to the minority with the substitution of parental authority for paternal power ▪ Law 2019-573 of June 26, 2019 relating to inheritances made by women; legitimizes a reserved heir who will therefore no longer be able, in the same way as previously, be removed from the estate of a deceased husband ▪ The new penal code gives a clear definition of rape by giving the various components. Henceforth, having sexual intercourse of any kind with a minor (15 years or under), will be considered rape, even with consent
	Ghana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit ▪ Domestic Violence Secretariat
	Sierra Leone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Sexual Offences Act
IGAD	Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ County Assemblies Forum ▪ National public participation guidelines ▪ National Guidelines on Management of Sexual Violence in Kenya ▪ County Government: Model Policy on Sexual and Gender -Based Violence
ECCAS	Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ministerial order No 002/2019: Conditions for abortion

Appendix 6: Measures for relief and recovery

REC	Country	Measures for relief and Recovery
ECOWAS	Burkina Faso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The financing of microenterprises of 60 beneficiary associations in the North (18) and the Sahel (42) for a maximum amount of 5 million per association: 246,559,854 CFA francs ▪ The funding of individual micro projects for 100 beneficiaries in the North (50) and Centre-North (50), young people and women: 11,870,000 CFA francs
IGAD	Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishment of Kenya Defence Forces Orphans Fund to support the education defence force orphans ▪ Partnership with Financial Consultancy Firms to build capacity for financial management and enterprise skills by young widows, orphans and retired personnel ▪ Empowerment through access to government procurement opportunities and other national affirmative action funds: Women Enterprise Fund, Uwezo, National government Affirmative Action fund.
ICGGR	CAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation between the government and the 14 armed groups ▪ Establishing and organizing the Truth, Justice and Reparation Commission for reconciliation ▪ 41 local peace and reconciliation committees set up ▪ Assistance to women victims of armed conflicts through two projects within the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation: the PACAD Project (support for communities affected by displacement) and The PARET Project (for returnees). These projects are implemented in the areas most affected by the crises. The Projects comprise three components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access to essential services and infrastructure – Social safety nets through the transfer of cash – Social support through community mobilization and capacity-building
	Cameroon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The implementation of the multi-year humanitarian response plan (2017–2020), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – creation of a Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Committee to organize, supervise and manage the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants – creation of a National Commission on Bilingualism and Multiculturalism – measures are taken in the field of education and justice within the framework of the dialogue initiated with concerned leaders and other actors of civil society – cessation of legal proceedings in 70favour of persons imprisoned in the context of the English-speaking crisis – adoption of an emergency humanitarian assistance plan in the amount of 12.7 billion CFA francs – adoption of a special statute for English-speaking regions – initiating the decentralization process – organization of inclusive national dialogue with a view to a consensual resolution of the crisis in the Northwest and Southwest regions – convening of an extraordinary parliamentary session – adoption of a Bill on bilingualism – construction of huts and safe spaces in Buea and Bamenda to house families and displaced persons – 2,000 women benefited from improved stoves and solar lamps that reduce the risks linked to the collection of firewood – 4,000 women and girls and displaced family's survivors of SGBV received economic support kits for shelter and basic needs – one mapping of the risk of SGBV against women in the Far North region is available thanks to a security audit – 16,165 people (refugees, internally displaced persons and members of host communities) informed about SGBV including 11,237 women and girls (7,937 women and 3,300 girls) and 4,928 men and boys (2,684 men and 2,244 boys) – 1000 survivors received holistic assistance (psychosocial, legal support and medical orientation) – 15 magistrates (11 men and 4 women) and 6 lawyers (3 men and 3 women), 15 social workers (9 women and 6 men) and 25 people (15 women and 10 men) from MINPROFF and MINJEC are capable of better managing and dealing with SGBV in the humanitarian context – developing one training manual on income-generating activities and training 533 women to use it – 15,000 women are supported in obtaining official documents (certificates of no impediment and birth certificates) in the Far North region – effective consideration of gender in the humanitarian response

- With the support of UN Women, the government has advanced the integration of gender in the humanitarian response of the United Nations Agencies, both in the planning and in the implementation, monitoring and/ evaluation of humanitarian programs and/ projects. Its intervention since 2018 has been focused on:
 - capacity-building for humanitarian actors
 - support for gender mainstreaming in the emergency response plan for the North-West and South-West crisis as well as strategic planning documents such as the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan
 - the evaluation of gender mainstreaming in programming projects
 - coordination of gender focal points
- As key results obtained useful for advocacy to integrate the gender dimension in humanitarian action, we can cite:
 - 43 gender focal points who can use gender-mainstreaming tools to support the deployment of the humanitarian sectors. This is the guide to mainstreaming gender equality in humanitarian action and the gender and age marker of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee
 - 102 humanitarian actors who know tools allowing the integration of the gender dimension in humanitarian programming and can develop an action plan to integrate the gender dimension into programmes
 - that the emergency action plan for the North-West and South-West regions is sensitive to the gender issue
 - 10 technical sheets adapted from the guide to integrating gender equality in humanitarian action are produced and available
 - 112 program managers and monitoring and evaluation experts from United Nations organizations, CSOs and NGOs can support gender mainstreaming in the preparation of humanitarian planning documents
 - two networks of sectoral gender focal points (Yaoundé, Maroua) carry out activities based on the terms of reference and a workplan focused on thoroughly integrated gender coordination
 - 30 gender monitoring personnel trained
 - the National Action Plan for Resolution 1325 and has been resourced
 - networks of platforms for monitoring women for the holding of peaceful elections have been set up in the 10 regions
 - 32 instructors of the national gendarmerie improved their capacities in taking gender into account in security matters
 - 70 leaders of women's organizations have a better knowledge of the involvement of women in the processes of dealing with violence in the context of conflict
 - 190 women trained in mediation based on a comprehensive manual
 - 120 young people trained in conflict management and prevention and citizen education
 - advocacy with 300 imams
 - organizing awareness workshops for women leaders on mediation
 - 90 women leaders trained in mediation, conflict resolution, early warning, etc.
 - 150 police officers trained to maintain order and peace during elections
 - development of the training manual for women mediators for peace and social cohesion
 - development of the training manual for law enforcement forces with a focus on peace and security
 - popularization of the National Action Plan 1325; around 2 million people informed in 2018 and early 2019
 - development of communication brochures on living together, peace and security
 - implementation of bilingualism and multiculturalism








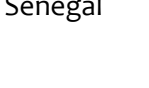
Appendix 7: Measures established to respond to women and girl survivors of SGBV

REC	Country	Measures established
ECOWAS	Togo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued awareness-raising and care for victims of SGBV Provision of legal advice and safe houses
	Niger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socioeconomic reintegration Holistic care centres for victims and survivors Establishment of Brigades for the protection of Victims Establishment of village child protection committees
	Côte d'Ivoire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Council for Human Rights opened its University for Human Rights in the security forces. Promotions during 2019 include eight officers of the Defence and Security Forces who have been trained in human rights and international humanitarian law
	Senegal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training of security workers, including seminars, workshops and documentation
	Ghana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative Instrument on Domestic Violence to protect women and girls who are victims of domestic violence and abuse Human Trafficking law Establishing shelters for survivors of SGBV and human trafficking Launch of the national campaign to end child marriages
	Sierra Leone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of Rainbow Centres in five provinces to provide free and comprehensive SGBV response services for survivors Increase the capacity of the Family Support Unit, the Ministry of Justice and the judiciary to investigate and prosecute reported cases The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has developed a school safety guide and a child-friendly reporting mechanism is established in schools for pupils and teachers to report any SGBV cases. School safety committees have been established in junior secondary schools to respond to reported cases Public education has been conducted on the Sexual Offences Act, which has increased the reporting of sexual violence cases The National Referral Protocols on SGBV and the Sierra Leone Police Standard Operational Procedures for investigating SGBV crimes have provided guidance on the roles, responsibilities and procedures for each agency
ICGLR	DRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of legal clinics and health centres for the victims
	Cameroon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training of 450 police officers, 60 gendarmes, 60 magistrates, 60 media professionals, 60 health professionals and 60 social workers in the conflict zones (Far North, East, Northwest and Southwest); this training will continue Training of 50 police and gendarmerie officers on the protection of the rights of women and children, the protection of media professionals and prevention of violence against women during elections The organization of workshops to support the police and gendarmes with a view to developing awareness-raising messages on the prevention of electoral violence Sensitization of 100 police officers and gendarmes on Resolution 2222 of the United Nations Security Council on the protection of media professionals The establishment and conduct of instruction and training modules in international humanitarian law and law of armed conflict in training schools for armies and the gendarmerie
IGAD	Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some of the measures applied include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> established a national SGBV technical working group that spans all 47 counties. The groups consist of state and non-state actors and convene on a monthly and quarterly basis. This is a platform that strengthens collaboration and partnership on addressing SGBV One-Stop Centres for SGBV in Nairobi and Kilifi development of guidelines for safe and protective safe spaces for women and girls creation of strong partnership with civil society and county governments creation of toll-free lines by government and civil society organizations Conceptualization and execution of a national campaign to end SGBV dubbed “Keeping the Promise GBV Campaign” and Jitokeze (Speak Out) aimed at breaking the silence on SGBV. The campaign’s overarching goal is reduction SGBV through development and implementation of effective and efficient prevention and response strategies. To guide the process, a handbook that seeks to clarify the roles of the different duty bearers in relation to SGBV is in place

ECCAS

South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One -Stop Centres at 11 hospitals to provide a full package of medical, psychological and legal support (2019) ▪ The standard operating procedure for prevention, protection and response to SGBV spell out each institution's roles and responsibilities in the referral pathway system (data collected from registration of SGBV cases gives an indicator of the frequency of occurrences at the police stations, hospitals or clinics) ▪ Special Protection Units at 28 police stations give access to legal support, and this includes 12 One-Stop Centres where survivors receive services in one location: treatment, counselling and legal support ▪ Military Tribunal Court established, in collaboration with Military Justice and Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs ▪ Mobile Juvenile Court established in collaboration with Judiciary and United Nations Mission in South Sudan ▪ Ministry of Justice Established a unit for women and Juvenile within the Department of Public Prosecution to address women's and juveniles' rights and related SGBV irregularities
Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Easy access to justice through the Access to Justice Bureau ▪ Support and service through the Isange One-Stop Centres ▪ Reintegration of SGBV and human trafficking victims into society
Burundi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training of defence forces about women, peace and security, sexual abuse and exploitation, sexual violence linked to conflicts, and protection of civilians

Appendix 8: Laws and policies in the Eastern Community of West African States

Country	Policies and instruments	Other strategies	Mechanisms for monitoring
Togo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Development Plan 2018–2022 ▪ National Policy on Equity and Gender Equality (updated 2019) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Second NAP (2018–2022) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Human Rights Commission ▪ High Commission for Reconciliation and Strengthening of National Unity
Niger 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Gender Policy (reviewed) ▪ GBV Prevention and Response Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First NAP (2016–2018) ▪ Establishment of the G5 Sahel Women's Platform – integrating women from the Defence and Security Forces ▪ Establishment of women protection focal points in the Security Forces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Strategy on the Empowerment of Women ▪ Higher Authority for Peace Building ▪ Higher Authority against Trafficking of Women and Children ▪ National Gender Observatory
Burkina Faso 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law 003-2020/AN (22 January 2020), fixing quotas and modalities of the positioning of the candidates in the legislative and municipal elections in Burkina Faso 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First NAP (2012–2016) ▪ Directorate -General for Women and Gender 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Permanent Secretariat of the National Council for Gender Promotion ▪ The permanent Secretariat of the National Council to Combat the Practice of Excision
Côte d'Ivoire 	--	--	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Periodic gender audit of technical ministries ▪ From the National Observatory for Equity and Gender
Ghana 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Gender Mainstreaming Policy ▪ Gender Policies in Ministries of Defence, Prison, Ghana Prison Services, Immigration and Electricity Company ▪ Children's Act ▪ Human Trafficking law ▪ Domestic Violence Act ▪ 2019 Proclamation of rape and sexual violence as national emergencies ▪ Sexual Offences Amendment Act, 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First NAP (2012–2014) ▪ Gender Offices in the Bureau of National Investigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit ▪ Domestic Violence Secretariat
Sierra Leone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2019 Proclamation of rape and sexual violence as national emergencies ▪ Sexual Offences Amendment Act, 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First NAP (2010–2013) ▪ National Gender Strategic Plan (2019–2023) ▪ The Medium-Term National Development Plan (2019–2023) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Civil Society In-Country Monitoring report ▪ National Steering Committee on UNSCR 1325 ▪ National Committee on GBV ▪ Special Division for Rape and Sexual Penetration of Minors, separate from the Family Support Unit, by the Sierra Leone Police
Guinea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revision and adoption of the Children's Code to consider provisions relating to the age of marriage, sexual exploitation of children, trafficking and trafficking in children ▪ Law on Parity ▪ Revision of the Civil Code ▪ Law 20-05 (10 January) amending Law 65 (21 July) criminalizing rape and paedophilia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First NAP (2009 – 2013) 	--
Senegal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revision and adoption of the Children's Code to consider provisions relating to the age of marriage, sexual exploitation of children, trafficking and trafficking in children ▪ Law on Parity ▪ Revision of the Civil Code ▪ Law 20-05 (10 January) amending Law 65 (21 July) criminalizing rape and paedophilia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Second NAP (2011–2015) ▪ Gender entities or units within the Defence and Security Forces at several 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNSCR 1325 Inter -Ministerial Steering and Monitoring Committee



Liberia



- Domestic Violence Act (2019)

levels (army, gendarmerie, police, water, forests, etc.)

- Second NAP (2019–2023)
- National Gender Policy (2018–2022)
- Land Rights Policy

- Peacebuilding Office
- Regional Peace Hubs established at regional levels to detect and mediate conflict and handle SGBV related cases or complaints
- Palava Huts, a traditional peacebuilding programme that has long been in existence before the civil war to settle the conflict in rural communities and between clans and chiefdoms; the Women Peace Huts where women provide counselling in domestic related cases and mediate conflict in their respective communities
- District Peace Councils
- Community Welfare Committees serving at the specific community level nationwide
- National SGBV Observatories
- Gender and Security Sector National Taskforce to monitor and mainstream gender perspectives into security sector reform
- Gender and Social Inclusion Units in five ministries
- Gender-Responsive Planning and Budgeting (GRPB) Technical Working Group comprising of the Ministries of Finance, Health, Gender and Internal Affairs. Other members of the Technical Working Group include the Government, AU Commission and UN Women. A National GRPB Policy was developed in 2018 to mainstream GRPB into all government institutions
- Several committees and multilevel stakeholders for the domestication of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act at state levels, and the domestication of Gender and Equal Opportunities bill at national and state levels
- The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and its Parastatal – the National Centre for Women Development – coordinate the implementation of gender laws and policies in the country. The Ministry is supported by other agencies, including the Federal Ministry of Justice and the National Human Rights Commission. With the recent creation of the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons was moved from the Ministry of Justice the new Ministry, as well as the National Emergency Management Agency, all supporting the WPS Agenda. Similar

Nigeria



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- Strategic Results Framework (Implementation Plan) of the National Gender Policy
- State and local action plans, with support from UN Women, the Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Programme and other development partners. These states are Adamawa, Bayelsa, Borno, Delta, Gombe, Kaduna, Kano, Kogi, Plateau, Rivers and Yobe states

- structures also exist at the subnational levels
- A 66-member National Advisory Committee for NAP, drawn from the 36 states of the federation, including representatives from the state ministries of women affairs, CSOs, security agencies, women's groups and media is in place. The Committee, chaired by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs, is responsible for driving the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the NAP at federal, state and local government area levels
 - A monitoring and evaluation framework to enhance tracking of progress on the NAP implementation is in place
 - SAP implementation and monitoring committees are in place in the 11 states. The state ministries of women affairs chair the committees, and are responsible for driving the process of implementing, monitoring and reporting of SAPs at State and local government area levels
 - The Nigeria Army launched the SEA initiative in 2019. Various security arms and their affiliated training institutions have also developed gender-responsive policies, with institutional mechanisms to ensure compliance. For example, the Martin Luther Agwai International Leadership and Peacekeeping Centre has incorporated SEA and gender subjects in all army schools and institutions
 - Creation of gender desks in all the Nigerian Armed Forces and paramilitary organizations, each with senior officers at the helm. For example:
 - a Gender Directorate in the Defence headquarters was created in January 2019 to advise the Chief of Defence Staff, the head of the Armed Forces, on gender mainstreaming and related issues in the three services
 - the “1 Women Special Operational Battalion”, created in the Nigerian Army to strictly monitor women soldiers’ and officers’ progress wherever they are deployed to ensure they perform optimally, is strengthened

CSO, civil society organization; ECOWAS, Eastern Community of West African States; NAP, national action plan; SEA, sexual exploitation.