WCA Regional Briefing

West and Central Africa Region
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KEY RESULTS FROM THE WCA REGION
2018-2021

Poto | UN Women/
Women in Climate Resilient Agriculture in WEST AND CENTRAL Africa

1. Women’s access to land
   - Women’s land rights recognized in laws in 4 countries
   - 13500 women accessing land for agricultural investment
   - Gender responsive land governance processes in 4 countries with involvement of more than 300 traditional leaders
   - More than 4800 women understand their rights to land

2. Women’s Access to Finance
   - Closing the gap to access finance for women agri-entrepreneurs
   - More than 3700 women farmers accessing finance for value chain investments
   - A US$300,000 guarantee signed with the Development Bank of Mali for women agri-entrepreneurs, a US$100,000 Guarantee Fund for women established in Central African Republic and a credit line for women rice producers of EUR 500,000 signed with BICIS bank in Senegal
   - Digital micro-insurance services to reduce Disaster Risk Reduction under development in Liberia, Mali and Senegal

3. Climate Resilience
   - Reducing the carbon footprint of the agriculture sector and improving communities’ ability to adapt to climate change
   - More than 17000 women applying climate resilient agricultural production techniques across the region
   - Energy-efficient technologies introduced by women in a range of agriculture value chains, from solar-powered irrigation systems, processing machines or drip irrigation

4. Women’s Access to Markets
   - Getting women ready and connecting them to markets
   - Stronger ecosystem for women entrepreneurship through the institutional strengthening of more than 200 women cooperatives and women-led SMEs and national networks and sectoral federations
   - More than 1900 women certified in organic shea-nut production and transformation ready to access export markets in Cote D’Ivoire
   - More than 200 new agricultural products developed by women along more than 10 value chains
   - Women’s products’ value increasing by between 3 and 10 times as a result of investments in transformation, packaging and branding
Stronger women’s organisations and representative movements and coalitions and opening space at the different peace and security mechanisms and processes at local, regional and international level built conducive environments to the implementation of the WPS agenda created.

Enhanced leadership of young women and girls’ peace advocates and investing in second chance education, especially in humanitarian settings.

Protecting and empowering women to counter terrorism and addressing de-radicalization of youth.

Cross-boarder approach
• **EVAW Laws & Policies Improved** in Benin, Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, Senegal, Nigeria

• **Traditional leaders Engagement** through COTLA: Reduction of FGM and Child Marriages in their local communities in Niger, Nigeria, Liberia,

• **Approx. USD 25 millions in grants** to strengthening Women’s rights organizations support through Spotlight Initiative, UN trust Fund

• Bringing local voices to regional arena: more than 2,000,000 Youth engaged for social norms change.
• Capacity development of UNWOMEN staff (two trainings in Dakar)
• Capacity development of the experts of the region and establishment of a regional experts’ roster
• Two years exhibition in partnership with le Musée des Civilisations noires in DAKAR that showcases women political leaders in Africa and highlights women's political participation and achievements across the continent
• Supporting the legal reforms in the region: Parity and quota laws in several countries including Guinea & Cape Verde
• Knowledge products: Legal Guide & WCA repertoire of the parity laws
• Resource mobilization (PBF & Canada)
ADVANCING UN COORDINATION

Photo | UN Women/Senegal GTG Meeting
KNOWLEDGE HUBS/CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

OVERSIGHT ON CROSS REGIONAL JOINT INITIATIVES

ESARO
Leadership (Governance), Peace and Security
ICGLR, SADC, IGADD

ASRO
Humanitarian Action
Migration & Trafficking; GIR ....

WCARO
WEE and Women’s Movement
UNISS; Lake Chad Basin Initiative; AWLN and Spotlight

African Union office in Ethiopia: Coordination and Reporting on Africa Normative Frameworks (AU, CSW, AWLN etc ..)
Policy advise
Oversight
KM support
Support through **WCA Coordination Network**
(internal capacity building, Elaboration of tools, Experience and information sharing, etc)

**Bilateral support upon demand**
gender mainstreaming UNSDCF, CCA, GEM, etc)

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**UN Women presence**

- RCPs & IBCs
- CGEPs
- PSG & Cross-regional

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**UN Women NRA**

Policy advise on Joint Programmes & Joint Annual Workplans
Oversight
KM support
Engendering CCA, UNSDCF
Guidance on **UNCT-SWAP GE Scorecard**
Support to GTGs
And beyond
MULTI STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

Poto | UN Women/
WCARO Strategic Partnerships (2022-2025)

**Government & National Institutions**
Parliaments, Government of France, Canada, Sweden, European Union, the United States of America, France, Japan, Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, Norway, Finland, Austria, Denmark, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Luxembourg, Italy, Sweden, Belgium, the Netherlands, Turkey

**UN Sister Agencies**
UNDP, ILO, UNFPA, UNEP, UNICEF, OHCHR, UNHCR, IOM, UNDCO though UNCTs and GTGs

**Regional Bodies**
AU, IFIs (AfDB, World Bank, the Islamic Development, IMF), UNOWA, UNOCA; UNECA, ECCAS, ECOWAS, the Lake Chad Basin Commission, the Liptako Gourma Authority, the Sahel Alliance, the Group of Five (G5) Sahel, the Great Green Wall, the Coalition for the Sahel

**CSOs and Intergovernmental Entities**
Regional CSOs networks, COTLA, AWLN.

**Private Sector/Foundations**
Orange, Mastercard Foundation.

**Media and Academics**
COTLA

EU-UN SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE IN AFRICA

- 8 countries (Jan 2019 - Dec 2022)
- 24 UN Trust Fund Civil Society Grantees across 20 countries in Africa
- Regional Spotlight – continental-wide (July 2020 - December 2022)
  - A partnership with AU
  - Focus on implementation of laws, data, evidence generation/sharing on EVAWG, Harmful Practices (including FGM and Child Marriage), SRHR and support to women’s movement/CSOs
  - Programming to end FGM and Child Marriage
- 4 UN Agencies (UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF & UNDP)
ONE GREAT EXAMPLE:
CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION

Photo | UN Women/
1. Land Access

- Land access is occurring.
- For example Malian women have:
  - 77 ha of land with tenure security
  - 67 ha of land rights granted but awaiting tenure security
- Some 5000 women farmers have better understanding of their land rights and tenure security for CSA
- The Land Right Act & Local Government Act signed into Law by President George Weah of Liberia include women’s right to land ownership – thanks to UN Women – Emerging opportunity for appropriation for gender-sensitive CSA, for women economic empowerment

77 hectares of land secured with land rights & tenure security for Malian women
Building on Renewables: Solar energy is used in powering water pumps for irrigating women’s crop fields in remote locations in Segou, Mali
Women farmers and their organizations are acquiring new skills and capacities in Cameroon, Cote D’Ivoire, Mali, Senegal.
Women smallholder farmers are using drones to map and monitor their rice fields in Senegal.
Women farmers’ cooperatives are improving storage, sorting and aggregation of their harvest for market readiness in Mali.
Going Forward
**AFRICAN STRATEGY**

**IMPACT 1**
Governance & Participation in Public Life

- WPP Guidance and support capacity building for Member States
- Joint RM initiatives
- Regional Monitoring Reviews (RMRs)

**IMPACT 2**
Women’s Economic Empowerment

- WCARO+ESARO+ Arab States joint liaison office in Addis on the AfCFTA
- Green jobs
- Joint Mobilisation of resources with ESARO on macro and trade, social protection and green
- Joint RM initiatives

**IMPACT 3**
Ending Violence Against Women

- Spotlight
- Regional Prevention Strategy
- MOU ECCAS
- Facilitate learning opportunities (via Spotlight, CO-level EVAW and knowledge-sharing)
  - Co-convene dialogues and knowledge exchange
- Support COTLA

**IMPACT 4**
Women, Peace & Security, Humanitarian Action, & Disaster Risk Reduction

- Work with ESARO in strengthening Regional Organisations
- Partnership with AU: UNLTs
- Joint Assessments, cf. peace and recovery assessments (RPBA, the Covid 19 assessment CRNAs), Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) and Prevention Resilience Allocations (PRAs) to crisis complex countries
- ECCAS et ICGLR

**COORDINATION MANDATE**
(UNCTs, HCTs, RCPs, IBCs, GEF and ACs Advocacy with other ROs, RMRs)

**Data and statistics**
(Africa UN Data for Development Platform, CGEPs, EWGC with ESARO, training)
THANK YOU