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WOMEN**

UN Women in Africa

Overview



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Background – where we are



UN Women Presence in Africa Region:

- Two regional offices in Africa – Dakar and Nairobi
- One multi-country office in South Africa
- 19 country offices
- Programme presences in Somalia, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Niger, Mauritania.
- Total 2015 budget for Africa is approximately 60 million USD

Regional Offices	Multi Country Offices	Country Offices	Programme Presence
Nairobi-Kenya (Eastern and Southern Africa) Dakar, Senegal (West and Central Africa)	South Africa (covering Namibia, Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho)	Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe	Cape Verde, Ghana and Guinea Bissau

Background – how we work

UN Women works through and alongside a range of political, economic and civic actors including:

- **Civil society organizations**, at community, municipal, sub-national and national, principally through the provision of support in the areas of coordination and capacity development.
- **State and non-state actors (e.g. traditional leaders, healthcare workers, parliamentarians, justice sector, men and boys)**, for the purpose of influencing both the design and implementation of legislative, policy and institutional reforms, and behavior and social norms impinging on the situation of women and girls.



Background – how we work



- **Regional political and economic institutions** on both regional and country-level initiatives across a range of issues, i.e. early child marriage and women in agriculture.
- **Private sector actors** as part of UN Women's regional resource mobilization strategy, where increasing emphasis is placed on leveraging strategic partnerships with the private sector, in the design, implementation and funding of programmes.
- **Africa's women and girls present an untapped resource for supporting transitions from conflict to peace:** UN Women works with stakeholders at national and regional levels to develop a critical mass of women mediators to support peace processes.

‘Big picture’ issues in the region



- The region is undergoing continued **socio-economic transformation**, buoyed by a growing middle class and increasingly resilient economies – some rapidly moving to MIC status (e.g. Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda), major drivers of economic growth including agriculture, extractives and services.
- **Wide array of political, security, health and humanitarian challenges**, with several countries facing critical junctures through recent and upcoming **presidential elections** (e.g. Cote d’Ivoire, Tanzania, CAR); **peace processes** (e.g. South Sudan, Mali, CAR); high levels of **violent extremism** (e.g. Nigeria, Cameroon, Mali, Somalia, Kenya) and **endemic state fragility** (e.g. Chad, Somalia) exacerbating high levels of vulnerability of women and girls.
- **Deepening of regional integration** - ‘expanding footprint of regional institutions’, such as the African Union, the Mano River Union and the African Development Bank, among others.

Key gender issues in the region



- **Access to land remains unequal** although women contribute up to 90% of food production, their control of land and productive resources is less than in any other region.
- **Booming extractives sectors are not translating into equal benefits for men and women**, evidence pointing to a deepening of poverty, violence and insecurity, disproportionately affecting women and girls.
- **Impact of conflicts** on women, including sexual violence, protection concerns and forced displacement.
- **Sexual and Gender-based violence** still widely practiced with impunity.

Key gender issues in the region



- **Progress in legal and constitutional reform** taking the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls into account, though implementation remains a challenge (e.g. Malawi, Nigeria).
- **Persistently low level of women's political participation** averaging 15% in the region, ranging from 1.82% in Somalia to 64 % in Rwanda.
- Inadequate capacities of **national gender machineries**.
- **Girls' access to education remains inadequate**, with up to 28 million girls between the ages of 6 and 15 not in school across the continent, hindering their ability to combat poverty, boost development and **participate in political and economic processes**.
- Wide ranging consequences of the **Ebola crisis** on women and girls.

What UN Women is doing

UN Women continues to support national and civil society counterparts in the region in a number of areas, including:

- **Political Participation**, e.g. Women's Situation Rooms in Nigeria and Kenya, non-partisan women's coalitions in Tanzania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Cameroon and Mali.
- **Economic empowerment**, e.g. providing skills and technology women and girls to increase agricultural production, access to markets and market value chain development in Tanzania, Senegal, Liberia, Mali, and Cape Verde.
- **Ending Violence Against Women and Girls**, e.g. support to judicial systems targeting efforts to increase access to justice and end impunity, sensitizing key non-state actors such as religious leaders and men's associations to prevent VAW/G.



What UN Women is doing



- **Women Peace and Security** e.g. the training and development networks of skilled women mediators in South Sudan, Mali and Cote d'Ivoire, and support to socio-economic reintegration of survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in the DRC.
- **Gender Sensitive Planning and Budgeting** e.g. support to local authorities in the planning and implementation of engendered decentralization policies in Senegal and Sierra Leone.



Indicative Results 2014

Context

- *Moderate increase in women's participation in political processes, decision-making roles and political space ;*
- *Supporting women's participation and leadership during electoral exercises, supported institutional reform and implementation of legislative measures towards achieving GE/WE.*

Results

- The average percentage of women parliamentarians in the region stood at 22.2%, with **Rwanda** ranking 6th country in the world and 1st in the region with 65% and **Senegal** at 43%.
- UN Women supported women's platforms for electoral processes in **Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania and Guinea Bissau**; these coalitions have been instrumental in increasing women's participation in elections in these countries.
- **Malawi and Liberia** had a women's focused "Situation Room" during elections; UN Women facilitated the support of referral mechanisms in cases of violence and discrimination, a platform for rapid response to challenges met by women, including candidates and voters.

Women's political participation: results (continued)



- In **Tanzania**, UN Women supported women members of the constitutional drafting committee and the women's parliamentary caucus. Concluding a two-year process, the final draft of the Constitution was approved to go to referendum, and incorporates specific provisions to advance gender equality and women's empowerment, including the provision for 50-50 representation of women in parliament.
- In **Kenya**, the African Centre for Transformative and Inclusive Leadership (ACTIL) was officially launched in partnership with Kenyatta University, to develop capacities among current and emerging African leaders. In 2014, ACTIL trained 337 participants. Participants from **Ethiopia** have influenced four ministries to establish a shared leadership development centre; in **South Sudan**, the government is establishing a National Transformational Leadership Institute; 28 women parliamentarians from the Federal Parliament of **Somalia** established a parliamentary caucus after the training.



Context

- *Women still have unequal access to economic resources across the continent;*
- *GE responsive economic policies are needed to enable them to secure decent jobs, accumulate assets, and influence institutions and public policies determining growth and development;*
- *Working to promote women's full engagement as key actors in sectors that drive the continent's economy, e.g. agriculture, extractives, energy, health and infrastructure.*

Results

- In **Ethiopia**, UN Women in a joint programme with other UN partners, provided training in business development skills to more than 3000 women.
- In **Cameroon**, UN Women's partnership with the private sector produced a working tool for the private sector for the effective implementation of the Women Economic Principles.
- In **South Sudan**, UN Women worked with IDPs providing training and capacity-building to enable them to improve their livelihoods and contribute to economic recovery. Thirty per cent of the young people that completed a computer skills training have gained employment with business enterprises outside of the displaced persons camps within two months of graduation.

Context

- *Gaps persist in the implementation of laws and in the institutionalization of prevention and protection mechanisms, despite the existence of national legislation and international norms;*
- *Notable progress in supporting multi-sectoral service delivery;*
- *Enhancing governments' capacities to implement relevant laws, policies and strategies;*
- *The involvement of men and boys through the establishment of male leaders and role model networks at national and community levels.*

Results

- UN Women has supported coalition building between actors to united around holistic response to EAW; in **Tanzania** this was illustrated through the formation of a coalition against sextortion comprising of 15 organizations that worked to support community-based research used for evidence based advocacy to raise awareness of the issue at community and policy levels and highlight gaps in legislation.

- In **Rwanda**, the number of One-Stop Crisis Centers offering holistic multi-sectoral services to victims of VAW was scaled up by UN Women from two to 11 and the quality of services was improved due to skills obtained from different trainings conducted for the multidisciplinary team.
- In **Togo**, following a UN Women supported training of 85 healthcare providers on both treatment of victims of VAW and linkages to international human rights standard, there was a 50 per cent increase in women seeking care for VAW in Vogan locality.
- The **Zimbabwe** National Action Plan to End Rape and Sexual Violence was developed and launched in June, following support at all phases by UN Women, which accelerated the implementation of activities against rape and sexual violence

Context

- *Ongoing critical active conflict situations, notably in west, central (including the Sahel) and east Africa, coupled with the transitioning of fragile post-conflict states, rising violent extremism and the Ebola crisis, with devastating consequences on women and girls and progress in GE/WE;*
- *Supporting range local, national, sub-regional and regional initiatives to ensure the influence and voice of women in conflict resolution and peace processes as well as humanitarian responses.*

Responses

- In **South Sudan**, three women negotiators were nominated by each faction resulting in a national consultative process led to the adoption of a common women's platform and agenda for peace; and almost half of all human rights investigators on the Africa Union led Commission of Inquiry had a mandate to focus on women's issues.

Women, Peace and Security: results (continued)



- In **Nigeria, Burundi, and Guinea Bissau**, hundreds of women were trained and mobilized to monitor and report on the peaceful conduct of democratic elections.
- Thousands of women in **Cote d'Ivoire** were supported to carry out economic activities in the areas of the country most affected by the armed conflict and this has had a noticeable impact in social cohesion and recovery, including the gradual reintegration of returnees.
- UN Women supported the drafting, development, implementation and review National Action Plans for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in **Sudan, South Sudan, Liberia, South Africa, Rwanda, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Senegal, Burundi, the DRC and Uganda.**



Ebola Response

- UN Women led the development and implementation of **UN gender strategies** and worked with national and international partners to undertake gender needs assessments in Sierra Leone and Liberia, resulting in increased attention to women and girls affected by the disease
- At the regional level, UN-Women engaged closely with the Mano River Union and countries within in (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Cote d'Ivoire) to harness women's leadership and social mobilization in containing the epidemic.
- In Liberia and Sierra Leone UN women worked with local radio stations and traditional leaders to raise awareness and aid prevention; produced educational materials to train health workers; supported women's networks, orphaned children, stigmatized survivors and healthcare workers; ensured reflection of women's needs in all aspects of the UN's humanitarian response; provided economic grants for hard-hit cross-border traders.



Context

- *Building the technical capacity of staff and partners to integrate gender in national planning and budgeting;*
- *Progress in institutionalizing GRB at national and local levels;*
- *Strengthen women's movement ability to analyse, advocate, and demand accountability.*

Results

- In **South Sudan**, the Ministry of Gender developed a mandatory National Gender Tracking Matrix to track public spending and resources on gender equality.
- UN Women has begun preparatory work in Africa to promote GE/WE at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.



Main priorities going forward

- **Gender inequality, as it relates to access to land, continues to undermine agricultural productivity.** The evidence is clear that when presented with the same access to inputs and extension services, female farmers in Africa generate more output than their male counterparts. Further, even when civil law codifies women's rights to inherit land, other factors including gender discrimination, norms and customary laws often take precedence.
- **Capacity-related challenges for Governments and partners in the region,** both in terms of human and financial resources, impede the ability of governments to deliver and for CSOs to engage in policy dialogue and development.
- **Limited gender disaggregated data and evidence** hinders making the case for investment in gender equality with ministries of Planning and Finance.
- **Ensuring national and local ownership and accountability to the SDGs** and gender stand-alone goal.



Funding gaps by country

East and Central Africa Regional Office (ESARO) Funding Gap by Country (USD)

RO KENYA	1,860,000
BURUNDI	3,552,089
DRC	3,876,536
ETHIOPIA	1,311,000
KENYA	4,851,508
MALAWI	3,145,199
MOZAMBIQUE	455,000
RWANDA	785,000
SOUTH SUDAN	7,170,008
SUDAN	2,197,362
TANZANIA	772,481
UGANDA	1,717,644
ZIMBABWE	972,500
ESARO	32,666,327

Funding gaps by country



West and Central Regional Office (WCAR) Funding Gap by Country (USD)

RO SENEGAL	1,740,000
CAMEROON	1,950,000
COTE D'IVOIRE	2,892,863
LIBERIA	2,419,822
MALI	4,275,000
NIGERIA	1,083,400
SIERRA LEONE	793,758
WCARO	15,154,843
TOTAL GAP FOR BOTH REGIONS	47,821,170