



# WOMEN & ARMED CONFLICT

“Women are the best drivers of growth, the best hope for reconciliation in conflict and the best buffer against the radicalization of youth and the repetition of cycles of violence.”

— Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Women Executive Director



## The destructive effects of conflict on women and girls: A snapshot



Women and girls bear the brunt of many of the **harmful consequences** of armed violence.

In the last two decades, the use of **violence** against **women and girls** during conflicts, and especially sexual violence, has become more visible.

But aside from increased sexual violence, **conflict exacerbates** many **inequalities** that can last well after a war ends.

Here are just a few examples.

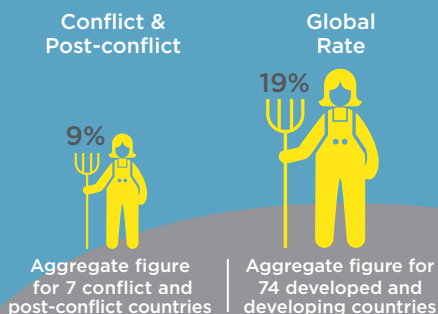
### MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths per 100,000 live births, 2013



### LAND RIGHTS

Percentage of women with legal titles to land, 2014



### EDUCATION

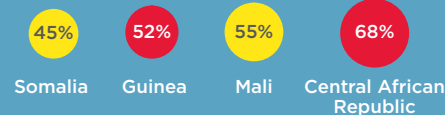
Adjusted net enrolment ratio in primary school for girls, 2013



### CHILD MARRIAGE

Child marriage rates are among the world's highest in many conflict countries.

Percentage of women aged 20-24 who were married before age 18, 2014



## Powerful women, powerful peace

Sustainable peace needs women's leadership and representation at all levels of decision-making.



Women must be full participants in:

- ✓ Peace negotiations
- ✓ Monitoring & implementation of peace agreements
- ✓ Post-conflict planning
- ✓ Peacekeeping missions
- ✓ Recovery programmes
- ✓ Governments & parliaments
- ✓ Security & justice sectors
- ✓ Administration of public services
- ✓ Transitional justice



“Protecting and empowering women during and after conflicts is one of the most important challenges of our time.”

— Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General

